

Socialist Worker

FOR WORKERS CONTROL AND INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM

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Why Nasser is mourned by his enemies—page 2



Last Saturday London supporters of the Palestine guerrillas marched to the Jordanian embassy.



Heath's general strike challenge must be answered

ACTION NOT HOT AIR

THE TORIES seem determined to force a showdown with the trade unions. Last week Prime Minister Edward Heath said he was prepared to fight the labour movement as far as a general strike in order to push through his anti-union measures.

Heath, speaking in the interests of big business, has thrown down the gauntlet. The only meaningful reply from organised labour can be to hammer out a militant policy of action designed to defeat the Tories' plans.

Action is the key word. Trade union leaders are pastmasters at thundering defiance from the conference platform and then meekly surrendering when the bosses crack the whip.

The Tories know this. They were not worried by the blood-curdling speeches of Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon at the Trades Union Congress last month.

On the contrary, they were heartened by the milk-and-water speech of TUC secretary Vic Feather: 'The trade union movement is not seeking showdowns or confrontations with anyone. This is not our theme.'

And the Heath regime will no doubt have a quiet chuckle at the empty gestures and paper threats issuing from the Labour Party conference at Blackpool this week. No serious trade unionist, concerned at the Tories' anti-union plans, can find any comfort in 'left' union leaders uniting with Harold Wilson and Barbara Castle to 'fight the government all the way'.

Heath is able to bring forward his moves to shackle the unions courtesy of the last Labour government that spent six years hammering the working class through wage freeze, rising prices and threatened anti-union legislation. Wilson paved the way for Heath. The labour movement can expect no real support from the Labour hypocrites.

Across the board

A tough winter looms ahead. The government will attack working people right across the board—on wages, taxes, social services and the hard-won right to strike. In their usual fashion, and following in Labour's footsteps, the Tories are determined to make working people pay for the problems facing the capitalist system.

The trade union leaders must be forced out of the conference halls and into action in the factories. That can only be done by rank and file trade unionists banding together to prepare a fighting anti-Tory programme.

Trade unionists should demand:
A one-day national strike on the day

by THE EDITOR

the government's anti-union measures become law.

A declaration of intent from union leaders that they will openly flout legislation that forces them to call a ballot before taking strike action.

A firm refusal to abide by any 'cooling-off' periods when strikes are called.

Strike action if any trade unionists are threatened with legal action.

Militant action is the only way in which workers can keep abreast of the rising flood of prices. The basic and vital right to strike must not be taken away.

The trade union movement has enormous strength. That strength must be used to the full to defeat the Tories and the bosses.

And that strength lies with the rank and file. They should step up their efforts to build strong shop stewards' and combine committees throughout industry. A powerful grass-roots movement can force the leaders into action.

Rudi Dutschke launches appeal

RUDI-DUTSCHKE, the German student threatened with expulsion from Britain, has appealed to Home Secretary Reginald Maudling to allow him to stay to take up his studies at Cambridge.

Maudling has also agreed to give Dutschke a few weeks' grace to put his affairs in order. Further protests to the Home Office could force the government to back down completely.

Next week JOHN POTTER

of the Pilkington rank and file committee writes an exclusive article for Socialist Worker

Guerrillas not beaten as Hussein signs 'truce'

AS THE DUST settles with the armistice between King Hussein's army and the guerrillas, it is clear that the Jordanian government has failed in its effort to wipe out the Palestinian commandos.

After a week of bloody fighting, the guerrillas still hold the centre of Amman, some at least of the surrounding hills and several towns in the North, including the key centres of Irbid and Jerash.

The guerrillas have their support among the hundreds of thousands of homeless refugees who have rotted for years in the camps around Amman and in the poorer quarters of the city. To carry out the 'peace plan' decided on by Russia and America, it was necessary for Hussein to smash the guerrillas, who would let no Arab government stand in the way of their struggle to return home.

Hussein could only do this by trying to wipe out the refugee population itself. His army was not large enough to do this in hand-to-hand fighting with the guerrillas themselves and there was the risk that conscripts might desert.

Relying on his crack div-

isions of loyal Bedouin troops Hussein attempted instead to liquidate the guerrillas by shelling the camps from a distance. The horror that resulted shocked even the bosses' press in Britain.

But the armed and agile young fedayeen were least likely to be the victims of this butchery. The massacre fell most heavily on the old and the children.

Hussein reckoned on being able to smash the guerrillas after some three days of such 'fighting'. But when the guerrillas still fought on after 10 days, even the Arab govern-

ments were unable to carry on with public silence and private encouragement.

This explains the ceasefire patched up by Nasser a few hours before his death. But all the main questions remain unsettled.

A mixed 'peacekeeping force' of 100 army officers from other Arab states has arrived in Amman, and Arafat is to visit guerrilla forces in Amman and North Jordan to explain the truce terms. These include withdrawal of the guerrillas (and on paper, the army too) from the towns, to be sent to the front with Israel.

This would take the heat off the government and put the guerrillas where the army can keep them under control. But guerrilla broadcasts from Syria claim the fedayeen will not abandon their right to move freely about the country.

It remains to be seen if Arafat, leader of El Fatah, can deliver the goods. The fighting could start again at any moment.

DEBATE OF THE YEAR!

Tony Cliff International Socialists

Ernest Mandel United Secretariat, Fourth International

Friday 30 October 7.30pm 2s 6d
Friends House, Euston Road, NW1.

How Israel aids persecution of Arabs and Jews

'The systematic pursuit of the guerrillas by the Bedouin in Irbid was described by one Israeli as 'a pogrom; you know what that is.' Evening Standard 24 September.

THE BLOODY MASSACRE in Jordan raises the tragic question which lies at the root of the current crisis in the Middle East. How could a movement which claims to solve the age-old persecution of the Jews lead to the infliction of similar horrors on the uprooted Palestinians?

By looking at how the state of Israel was set up we can see the origins and significance of the present struggle of the Palestinians.

Zionism was never merely a movement to find a refuge for Jewish victims of persecution. It aimed to set up in Palestine an exclusively Jewish state, 'as Jewish as Britain is British'.

This meant that Jews were encouraged to go to Palestine not to share the lot of its existing inhabitants, and maybe join them in struggle against their foreign rulers, but to carve out a self-contained Jewish economy employing only Jews, to create a Jewish working class and peasantry.

Boycott

As European Jews had higher living standards than the Arabs, this meant a strict economic separation and boycott of Arab produce and labour. In its turn this meant that the Zionists always looked for support not to the Arab people already living in Palestine (Jews were only 10 per cent of its population in 1917) but to the various imperialist powers which ruled over Palestine, or which wished to.

When Britain got possession of Palestine in 1917 and promised to set up a 'Jewish national home' there, the Zionists became supporters of British rule and opposed independence as long as Arabs were a majority.

The basis of Zionist colonisation in Palestine made conflict with Arabs inevitable and the eventual uprooting of the Palestinians.

Land for settlement by Jewish immigrants was bought by the Jewish National Fund from feudal Arab landlords. The peasants, who had no legal rights in the land, were thrown off it and made homeless.

Land once bought by the Zionist organisations could only be leased or sold to Jews. The Zionists opposed any land reform which would give the peasants more rights and make it harder to take their land.

Dominates

Jewish employers were encouraged to employ only Jews, and Arab produce was boycotted. Zionists picketed Jewish-owned orange groves to keep Arab workers out. And the Zionist 'trade union' the Histadrut, was not open to Arab workers.

Ben Gurion, later Israel's first Prime Minister, said in 1932: 'Nobody must think that we have become reconciled to the existence of non-Jewish labour in the villages. We will not forego one piece of work in the country.'

And Frumkin, another Zionist leader wrote: 'Every new industry is a blessing only if Jewish labour dominates it. Otherwise it is a calamity for the Jewish community'.

The native Arab economy was smashed and large numbers of Arab peasants left landless. As a result, no modern Arab middle class or working class developed and the Arabs remained led by a corrupt clique of feudal landowners.

The next step to the creation of Israel came with the 1930s. As capitalism entered into the crisis of the great depression it found its usual way out in the use of racial minorities as scapegoats.

German Nazism stepped up the persecution of the Jews. The great 'Western democracies', Britain, France and America did not want to know.

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6 Cottons Gardens
London E2 8DN
Telephone: 01-739 1878 (editorial)
01-739 2639 (business)



BEN GURION:
a little hard
of hearing
on the
plight of
the Arabs

Not one country was willing to open its doors to the homeless Jews fleeing from the road which was to lead to Auschwitz.

In the early years after 1917 many Jewish victims of racialism looked to revolutionary Russia, the first country in the world to make anti-semitism a crime. But now Stalin had come to power, and no help was forthcoming from there.

The Zionists at last began to get a hearing among Jews for their claim that Palestine was the only hope. The Jewish population of Palestine rose from 174,000 in 1931 to 553,000 in 1944.

In the 1930s the Arabs of Palestine rose in revolt against the British. The Zionists, instead of fighting with them, supported the British.

Zionist squads helped British troops raid Arab villages and guard the oil pipelines. When the Arabs called a general strike the Zionists helped to smash it.

With the crushing of the revolt, which at one time held down half the British army, the Arabs were weakened. During the war some of their reactionary feudal leaders supported the Nazis.

At the end of the war the only

by Stephen Marks

real forces left on the scene in Palestine were the Zionists and the British. And now the Zionists embarked on the course that was to lead to the creation of their state and the terrorisation and expulsion of the Palestinians.

When the war ended in 1945, hundreds of thousands of Jews were left as the survivors of the butchery of Hitler's death camps. The Zionists used their plight to further their goal of a Jewish state.

As in the 1930s, none of the 'democracies' wanted to be reminded of the problem. They refused to admit the homeless Jews. The Zionist leaders knew that their cause depended on the argument that the Jews had nowhere but Palestine to go. They therefore opposed any attempt to settle the Jews elsewhere.

Forced

In 1947 when a Bill was introduced in the American Congress to revise America's racist immigration laws to permit more Jewish immigration, the Zionists would not support it.

And when in Autumn 1947, 55,000 out of 100,000 Jewish camp survivors in the American zone of Germany applied for American visas, the reply of the Zionist Klausner report was brutal: 'I am convinced that the people must be forced to go to Palestine.'

The survivors saw no other refuge but Palestine and attempted to land illegally in ramshackle chartered vessels. British troops forced them back on their ships and returned them to the death camps in Germany.

Zionism had helped the Western powers to avoid responsibility for the fate of Hitler's victims, and helped them instead to portray the tragedy as a quarrel between Jews and the Arabs, who were shortly to pay

the price for the West's long past of anti-semitism.

In 1947 the UN General Assembly voted for the partition of Palestine into a Jewish and an Arab state. This move was backed by America and Russia to embarrass Britain, which preferred to back the reactionary Arab rulers.

It was also a defeat for the Arabs still two-thirds of Palestine's population, who demanded a united independent Palestine with majority rule. The Arabs refused to accept the plan and the surrounding Arab states backed by Britain, moved into Palestine to prevent it being implemented.

When armistice ended the war and the smoke cleared, Israel wound up with one half more territory than the UN had given it and the Palestinian state provided for by the UN had disappeared. A secret agreement between Ben Gurion and British-backed King Abdullah of Jordan (Hussein's grandfather) ratified the carve-up: what the Israelis did not grab was left to Abdullah.

The losers were the Palestinians. By the time the fighting ended they had lost not only a state but their homes and lands as well.

The Israelis claim the Arab refugees (650,000 out of 800,000 Arabs in pre-1948 Palestine) lost all their rights when they left during the fighting 'of their own free will' or 'because their leaders told them to go.' This is a simple lie.

Careful study of the BBC records of all Arab broadcasts of the period have revealed no trace of the radio messages in which the Zionists claim the Arabs were 'told to leave'.

The Arabs were terrorised and driven out, often at gunpoint. The flight did not reach mass proportions involving the ordinary peasants and workers till after the infamous massacre of Deir Yassin.

This village, known for its co-operation with the Jews, was picked out in cold blood by the Irgun, an extremist Zionist terrorist group. 250 Arabs were killed in cold blood, with the knowledge and protection of the official Zionist forces.

In several places, especially the towns of Lydda and Ramla, the entire

Arab population was driven out at gunpoint.

Since then an entire generation has grown up in exile in the refugee camps, most with nothing to live on except a UN handout of a few pennies a day. The lands and property they were forced to leave behind have been confiscated by the Zionists.

The total amount of land taken from the Arabs came to two-and-a-half times the land owned by Jews before 1948. The laws defining a refugee for the purpose of taking over their lands were so widely drawn that the Arabs who remained in Israel lost up to 40 per cent of their lands, all of which were of course used for Jewish settlement.

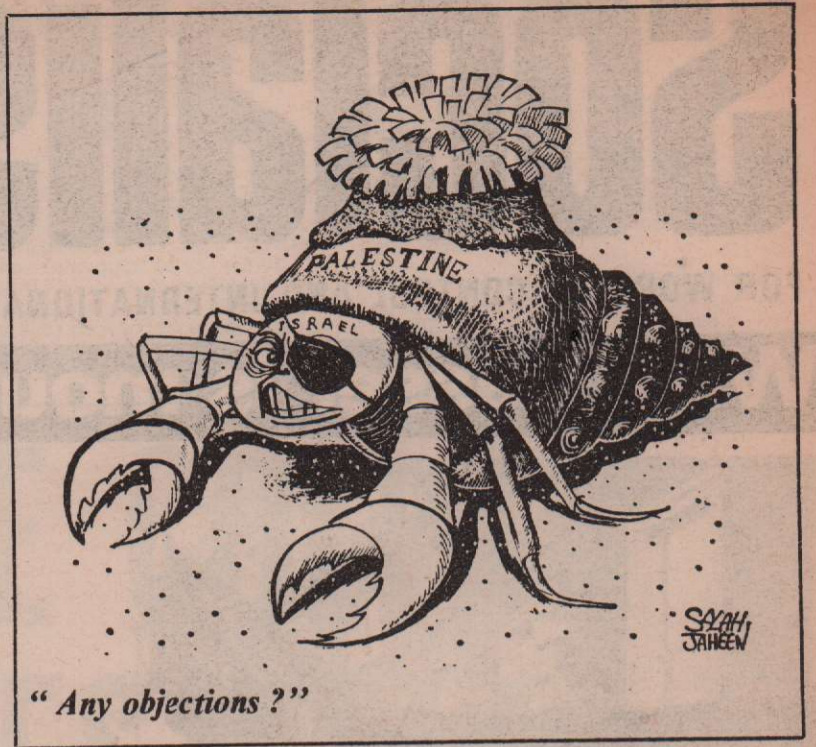
Arabs in Israel are second-class citizens, discriminated against in jobs and employment, subject to military government, their organisations often banned and their militants under police supervision.

Smashed

It is against this treatment that the Palestinians have been fighting for 20 years, relying first on the Arab governments, then since the six-day war taking up the struggle themselves. Just as the feudal ruling class of Arab Palestine sold the peasants' land to the Zionists at the same time as it talked the language of nationalism to placate the people, so the Arab regimes of today have done next to nothing to help the dispossessed Palestinians.

And when the Palestinians, realising this, moved against their own rulers to remove this obstacle from the road to the liberation of their country, King Hussein's army has smashed them with a brutality more than equal to that of the Zionists.

For twenty years and longer, imperialism has used Zionism and Arab reaction alike to protect its oil investments and play its game of divide and rule. The heroic resistance of the unconquerable Palestinians is the living proof that the fight against Zionism, for a democratic non-racialist Palestine, is a vital part of the world revolutionary struggle.



Nasser- mourned by his enemies

by CHRIS HARMAN

IN 1956 Gamal Abdel Nasser was the arch villain of the Western press and of Western politicians. Yet his death this week has been greeted by grief in the same quarters.

They see it as a blow to policies close to their own hearts. Why is this?

Nasser came to power in Egypt in 1952 following a coup by his supporters among junior army officers. These 'free' officers came from the Egyptian middle class—the sons of civil servants, land owners and small businessmen. Their programme aimed to overcome the grievances of their class.

They wanted to see an end to Western economic and political domination of the Arab world—at that time Iraq and Jordan were semi-colonial countries ruled by British puppets. The Sudan was a British colony and British troops occupied part of Egypt—the Suez Canal Zone.

They wanted to see the various corrupt Arab politicians who benefited from this domination removed. Above all, they wanted the resources of Egypt, then in the hands of Western interests, to be used to carry through economic development under their own control.

His attempt to achieve these goals was to bring Nasser into conflict with both the Western powers and with the old Egyptian ruling

class.

In 1956, when the USA refused to loan him funds to build the Aswan Dam, Nasser decided to nationalise the Suez Canal. In retaliation Egypt was invaded by the combined forces of Britain, France and Israel.

Up to a point, Nasser was successful. By careful diplomacy he was able to play the British off against the US, and the US off against Russia.

He destroyed British control over Egypt and later nationalised the property of British and American interests and the old Egyptian ruling class.

Economic power was concentrated in the hands of the middle class. The army officers who controlled the state also controlled the nationalised industry. Their relatives, the middle-sized land owners, owned most of the property in the countryside.

A programme of economic development was carried through. The Aswan Dam was built and the fertility of the countryside increased. Industry grew.

Yet ultimately Nasserism was a failure. It could not solve some problems because of its middle-class base.

After the First World War, Britain and France had carved the Arab world into a multitude of artificial puppet states. An anti-imperialist movement in any of these states could never have at its disposal more than a fragment of the Middle East's massive resources. So any serious movement had to raise the demand for Arab unity.

But this was something Nasser could never achieve. The attempted union of Egypt and Syria fell through as the Egyptian middle class tried to subordinate the Syrians to their own interests.

Nor could Nasser overcome the other major problem confronting Arab unity—the domination of Palestine by Western-supported Zionist settlers. In 1956 and in 1967 the Israelis easily defeated his army.

In the last three years of his life Nasser seems to have turned his back on the aim of Arab unity. Instead he began, with Russian backing, to search for a peace plan with Israel and to concentrate upon developing the Egyptian economy.

This fitted in with the needs of the class from which he came. But it was to be at the expense of the mass of the Arab people.

The 1½ million Palestinians would be left in permanent exile. The masses in Egypt would also suffer. Any attempt to develop the Egyptian economy while leaving the wealth of the rest of the Arab world



in Western hands would only increase the poverty of millions of peasants without land or with tiny holdings.

But Nasser's mind was made up. He went forward with his plans for a compromise with the Western powers and Israel.

He regarded the Palestinian guerrillas as an embarrassment. He closed their offices in Cairo and harassed their representatives. His ally, Hussein, in Jordan went much further and Nasser made only mild protests at the massacre in Amman.

This explains the fact that someone who once seemed to many to symbolise the anti-imperialist movement in the Middle East was so praised in the West at his death.

Brainwashing the kids

'Selfish workers, foul strikers' says key school book

SOCIALIST TEACHERS reject the idea that their job is to produce docile workers for industry. But in secondary schools and further education colleges they are under constant pressure to adapt their teaching to the requirements of big business.

One important way in which the employers' offensive is conducted in the classroom is through school books. Consider, for example the text book *Labour Relations* by W J Hanson, one of a series widely recommended and used in secondary schools as part of history, geography or current affairs courses. It is published by Longmans, one of the major educational publishing firms.

Chapter one of this little book is entitled 'Groups'. It starts innocently enough about the family and classroom friends, but on page two children learn:-

'Many groups in our society are dedicated to helping other people improving our way of life. But there are other groups which seek to achieve their aims by foul means. . . Such groups include criminal gangs, sections of the Communist and Fascist parties and some 'unofficial strikers', for they seek to break up the order in our society and disturb our way of life for their benefit alone.'

Contented

Liberal education demands that on any issue two points of view be expressed. The book therefore contains speeches from 'both' sides of industry - the reactionary worker and the paternalistic employer.

Here is an imaginary machine operator giving his point of view about the shareholders of the company he works for: 'I know they're the real owners, because they have provided the capital for the building and expansion of the firm.'

A contented coal miner says this about nationalised industry: 'Nowadays the management is on our side and, if the government does its part, we all work together as a team.'

The kindly company director says: 'These days we're no longer working for ourselves alone - we're working for the community, for the country. . . We can't sell abroad if wage rises

by **AUDREY KINCAID**

and inefficiency push our prices up too high. We're all in this together.'

And in this happy spirit of togetherness, the children are asked to discuss the following questions: 'If workers demand a wage rise when a firm makes a good profit, should they also agree to a wage cut when profits are low or their firm makes a loss?'

A section explains inflation by telling the sad story of Mr Black, the selfish engineer. Mr Black and 14 other engineers demand and receive a pay rise from £20 to £40 per week (!)

A simple sum is presented showing that: 'The price of goods they produce at once jumps by one shilling so that the firm can continue to make the same profit.'

The outcome of Mr Black's thoughtless action is that either the firm goes bankrupt and Mr Black loses his job, or: 'Other people demand that their wage be doubled'. Costs and prices rise all round. And who are the victims of Mr Black's greed? The old age pensioners whose income doesn't change.

While the children are still worrying about the evilness of Mr Black, the question of authority is raised. The line on who the bosses are and

who should be obeyed is quite clear.

'You are expected to respect every teacher and indeed you should do so for the position of authority they hold. . . What would happen in wartime if soldiers refused to obey their officers?'

'Such disrespect is hardly less serious in industry, where production and prosperity is guided chiefly by men with experience, both at management and union level.'

No doubt is expressed as to who are the villains of industry. 'The trouble makers are minority groups who cause strikes for their own aims.'

The attack on unofficial strikes is maintained throughout the book. 'Many of the worst disputes in industry have arisen when workers have taken strike action against the advice of their union.'

Threaten

To explain to the pupils how unofficial strikes occur, a story is told entitled 'Trouble in the making'. The chief characters in the story are the 'toughman' Macmanus nicknamed the Voice, the creepy 'organiser' Silholme whom nobody knows and the clean cut worker, Ted, who is against unofficial action.

Macmanus's gang threaten Ted with violence if he dares to attend and speak his mind at an 'unofficial meeting'. Of course the 'good' worker Ted understand that 'unofficial strikes mean 'loss of wages to the worker, the disunity of organ-

ised labour and, most damaging, loss of productivity, the main factor controlling the standard of living which we enjoy.'

Unfortunately the author of the book, Mr Hanson, gets himself into a bit of a mess. Having stressed the necessity of obedience to union leaders, he suddenly realises to his horror that maybe the kids will start thinking that 'official' strikes are OK. He rapidly corrects himself.

'At their worst unions have organised unnecessary strikes and supported "restrictive practices" such as deliberately working slowly in order to obtain false rates in "piece work".'

At this stage the 'prize pupil' will realise that only employers in their wisdom know the 'true' rates for 'piecework'. But it is just possible that the reactionary teacher might get a nasty surprise at some of the answers given to the set question: 'When, if at all, do you think employees should go on strike?'

In the closing chapters some fatherly advice is given about unions.

'Having joined the union, which most employers expect you to do, you are given a book of rules. Like all rules they are meant to be read.'

'No person can call himself a trade unionist if he has not read the rules. One important section describes the procedure to be followed when members have a grievance.'

'This procedure has been agreed by the employers and employees. Failure to keep to the agreement leads to strikes which are described

as 'unofficial' or 'wild cat'.

'As a union member you will be asked to pay a small subscription. If your leaders show that. . . trade unionism has an important part to play in helping the management of your factory to improve productivity and thus make a real contribution to the country as a whole, then you will certainly consider your subscription money well spent.'

How damaging is a book like this in schools? It is difficult to say. On the one hand, some teachers and classes will recognise the dirtiness of this particular book.

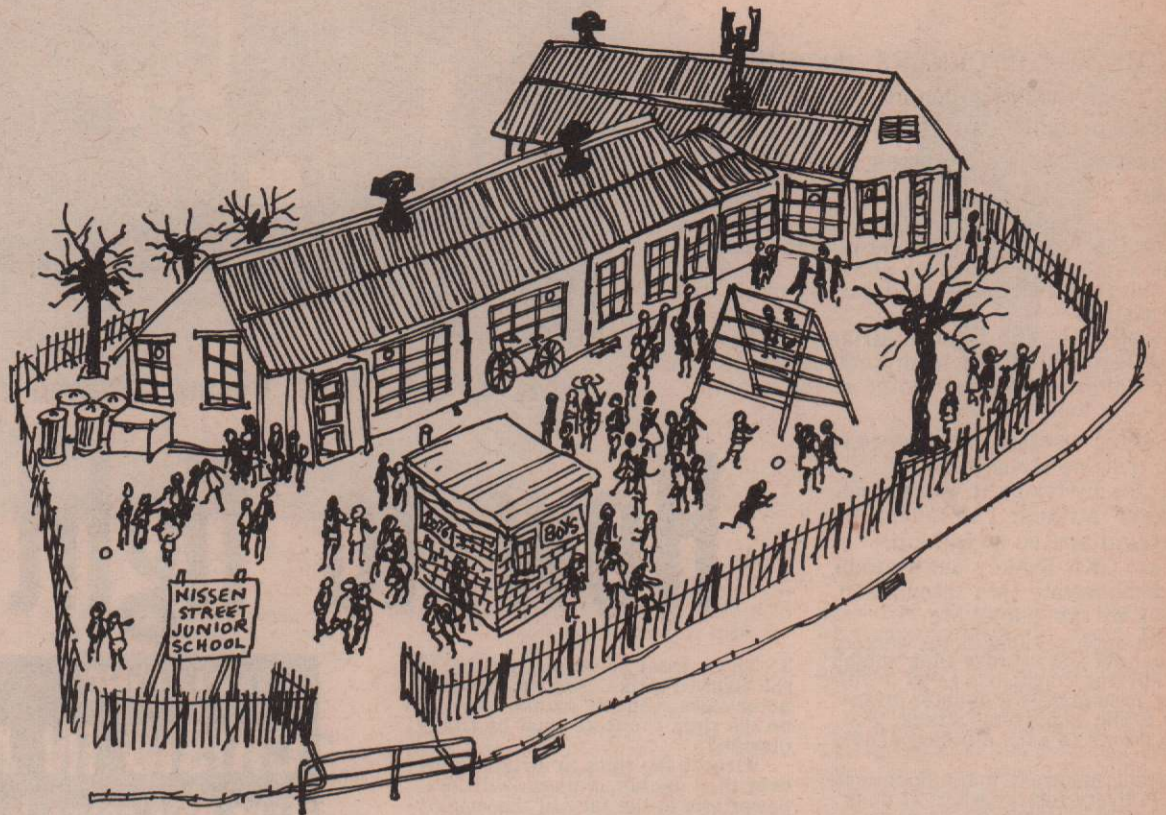
Many children in secondary schools come to reject much of what they are taught as irrelevant nonsense. They will learn about their interests in industry from their own factory floor experience.

Accurate

On the other hand, throughout school, children are encouraged to regard textbooks as their source of accurate information. A challenge to a school book can easily be put down by a sneer from a teacher. 'I suppose you think you're so clever that you know better than the book.'

'Industrial Relations' is sometimes part of an examination course. The general line expressed in this textbook is the one demanded by examiners.

Whether the book is effective or not, it is disgraceful that such a crude attempt at indoctrination should be made at classroom level.



Swedish unions in battle over bonus

AWAY with the bonus system. This will be one of the main demands in the coming negotiations over collective wage agreements between the LO (Swedish TUC) and industry.

'We have the members behind us,' says Aake Nilsson, chairman of the Metal Workers' Union.

It is Sweden's biggest union, with 355,000 members. Ten per cent of them answered a union questionnaire and 91 per cent said they wanted bonus schemes abolished.

Most of the workers do not think this would affect production. The bosses think otherwise and are fighting hard to keep the bonus schemes.

To prove their point, the bosses have quoted a report on an experiment in 10 factories that had done away with bonus systems. The report found that:

1. Workers relying wholly or in part on a machine to do the job have kept production at the same level.
2. Workers not relying on machinery had lowered their production.
3. A machine shop in Stockholm had lowered production by 30 per cent when the bonus was first done away with, but it had risen again and levelled off at 10-15 per cent lower.

Aake Nilsson, thinks the report is

by **Rasmus Rasmussen**

worthless because only production was examined and not the health and well-being of the workers. The stress brought on by the bonus systems and work study is the main reason many workers want them abolished.

The Metal Workers' Union is not alone in the anti-bonus campaign. Other unions support the MMU's initiative which is the result of the struggle of the LKAB miners last winter.

RUMOURS

One of the central demands of the miners was that the bonus system should be done away with and a fixed wage introduced. They forced through a temporary dropping of the bonus system that ended this Thursday (1 October).

The results of the experiment have not yet been published but rumours say production is at least as high in the mines but there has

It is too early to say what the results of the anti-bonus campaign will be. It started with the LKAB miners and spread to other workers in the docks, car factories and engineering.

But it has now been taken up by the union leaders, who are not usually noted for their militancy or interest in workers' problems.

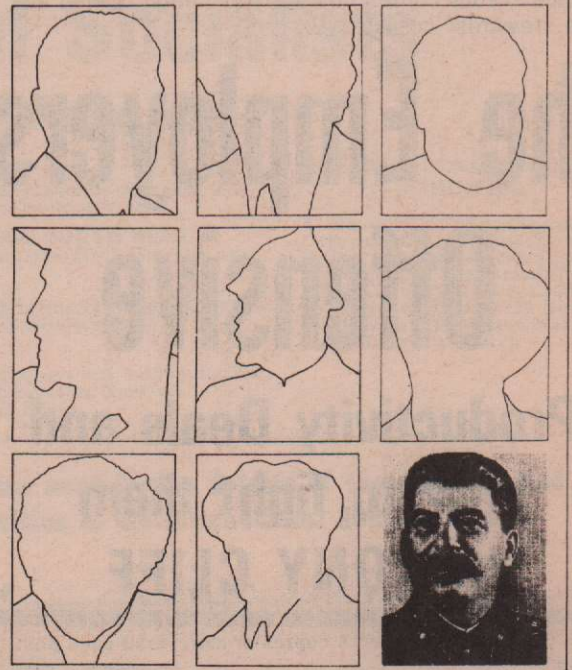
This was shown by the other main demands of the rank and file strike movement which hit industry earlier this year: 'Make the leadership represent the members', 'Make the unions into fighting organisations again' and 'Let the rank and file have a say in negotiations'.

If the Swedish union bureaucrats have been convinced that the bonus schemes are designed to screw more profit from the workers and are detrimental to health then perhaps workers in other countries will draw their leaders' attention to the campaign.

Already in Denmark, where the LO and bosses will soon be starting their wage negotiations, there is a great deal of interest in the Swedish experiment of ending bonus systems in a number of factories.

As an old boilermaker said to me when we walked off a new ship because of inadequate safety precautions: 'There are no pockets in a

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Militant action is the only way car workers can stop the attacks by bosses and government

AS THE MOTOR OWNERS, the millionaire press and the government intensify their attacks on motor workers, the need for a counter offensive becomes more and more urgent.

The employers are attempting to weaken and smash the workshop trade union organisation by:

A: Measured Day Work, the abolition of mutuality and the introduction of productivity deals and job evaluation.

B: Restricting the right to strike by anti-trade union legislation and incorporating the official trade union leaders into joint action against militancy and

C: Taking advantage of the reduced demand for new motor vehicles by trying to smash car workers' strikes. The recent lengthy disputes at Dunlop, Lucas, GKN Sankey and Ferodo all demonstrate this intensified attack by the employers.

The only way that motor workers can defend and improve their wages and working conditions is by developing immediately a counter offensive to the employers' attack. The main points of such a policy should be:

1. Strengthen trade union organisation. In every factory, where it does not yet exist, 100 per cent trade unionism must be introduced as well as joint shop stewards' committees. Combine committees should be formed that effectively fight for and defend each factory in membership. Where combine committees do not really exist individual factories can be isolated and defeated.

Betray

The tremendous militancy of the GKN Sankey strike was betrayed by the refusal of certain trade unions such as the 'left wing' AEF and TGWU to either declare the dispute official or seriously oppose the productivity strings.

It is only by supporting trade union leaders to the extent that they back workers in struggle while regarding the main priority as building the maximum unity between factories that the employers' offensive can be successfully resisted.

2. There must be firm opposition to all productivity strings such as MDW, job evaluation and mobility of labour. The aim of these techniques is to weaken the workshop trade union organisation and it is for this reason that both the employers and government are determined to introduce them.

The principle of all managerial decisions, especially work study results, being individually subject to mutual agreement must be maintained and fought for. Without clauses such as this, speed up of production faces every car worker as does a general worsening of wages and conditions.

3. There must be no restrictions on the right to strike. Any anti-trade union laws, penalty clauses or curbs on the right to strike must be firmly opposed.

Without the right to strike whenever they decide, workers will be powerless in the face of the employers' attacks. Fundamentally connected to the defence of this right must also be the fight for a 'status quo' clause in the procedure and the defence of shop stewards' organisations.

4. Rumours have been circulating throughout the motor industry in the past few months concerning redundancy and factory closures. This is particularly true of British Leyland where Lord Stokes has been regularly issuing warnings of the 'need' to rationalise.

Already at Austin and other factories attempts are being made by management to reduce manning levels. A clear policy of opposition to redundancy and factory closures must be insisted upon and no reduction in the present size of the labour force tolerated.

The motor owners are preparing for a policy of mass sackings and these must be prevented.

5. Throughout the whole of the motor industry the demand of 'parity'—equality of wage rates—is of crucial importance. The wages of Ford and Vauxhall workers are considerably lower than those paid at Chrysler, Coventry.

Within British Leyland there are tremendous disparities in earnings. Twice last year at Leyland, Lancs and Standard Triumph, Liverpool, major and lengthy disputes occurred around the issue of parity.

In the components industry, strikes at Lucas and GKN Sankey have occurred recently around this basic issue. Unless the fight for parity is successful, the higher paid factories will undoubtedly be challenged by the motor owners and work



GKN Sankey: 'left' unions betrayed determined strikers

How to fight — and win

CONCLUDING CRISIS IN MOTORS

Four part series by JOHN SETTERS

will be transferred to lower-paying establishments.

Many of the components manufacturers are accumulating huge profits as a result of imposing low pay levels. These employers continually reject workers' claims for parity.

They should be grateful that workers do not as yet demand parity with them for last year Lord Stokes received £42,148, R Brookes of GKN £36,000, Sir Reay Geddes of Dunlop £35,000 and Sir L Crossland of Fords £31,741.

Clocked in

All motor workers should give practical support to claims for parity. For years motor workers have been plagued by short-term working and lay-offs. They are willing to work but they have been prevented from doing so.

In November of last year, for example, workers at the Austin

East works refused to obey a company instruction not to come to work. Instead they clocked in as normal, started the machines and began producing.

After three hours of panic and what they called 'anarchy', the management removed all the fuses and ended the production. Several days later, of course, one of the Austin bosses was complaining how the 'anarchy' of strikes was causing lay-offs and lost production!

The demand for five days' pay or five days' work is one of the key issues in the motor industry. The recent decision of Standard Triumph workers — one out, all out — is the only way that such a demand can be satisfactorily obtained.

British Leyland workers in particular must beware of certain management plans. The company have said they are willing to discuss lay-off pay provided the unions are willing to discuss the abolition of piecework.

This proposal must be totally

rejected. Five days work or five days pay without strings should be the demand.

Unless car workers launch a determined counter offensive along these lines, together with the important demand of nationalisation under workers' control, the challenge of the employers will be successful.

The gains of 20 years of struggle by car workers will have been lost.

The 'anarchy' about which the motor owners constantly and bitterly complain is not caused by the actions of car workers. It is a direct result of the constant battle for profits and competitive survival in the international markets.

Destroy

As far as the employers are concerned, their offensive is a struggle for power. They want to weaken and destroy the strength of the factory trade union organisation and consequently the constant improvements that car workers have won in wages and working conditions.

The employers are supported by the Tory government and the timid trade union leaders. The only way that these attacks can be stopped is by the militancy of car workers and political action against the economic system under which we live.

Left electricians mount big election challenge as union witch-hunt grows

by an electrician

THE EXPULSION of three West of Scotland militants by the executive of the Electricians and Plumbers Union could be the first salvo in an all-out fight between the union leadership and the rank and file.

The expelled men—one plumber and two sparks—all work in closed shops. But their workmates have agreed to support them and to continue to recognise them as stewards regardless of the union ruling.

The expulsions are only the tip of the iceberg. Scottish EPTU members believe that the union executive is using information from a former militant and intends to discipline more activists in the area.

Disciplinary threats face George Banks, plumbers' convenor at the BP Grangemouth site and Charlie Montgomery, a Glasgow union branch chairman. Both men are due to appear before the disciplinary committee early in October.

Montgomery has been nominated in the election for the Scottish area electrical section of the executive. The only reason for bringing charges against Montgomery is to take him out of the running.

This is an indication of how desperate the right-wing sitting member



LES CANNON: Struggle for the succession

of the executive feels about his chances of re-election.

But Montgomery has succeeded in having the disciplinary hearing put back for a month. Branch nominations are flooding in for him, including the sitting member's own branch in Edinburgh.

All the members expelled or facing charges have taken legal advice and intend to take their cases to court. This seems the right course at present but caution needs to be shown.

The present leaders of the elec-

trical division of the union came to power through High Court action. Militants must appreciate that real change in the union must flow from action by rank and file members.

All this takes place at a time when real change is possible in the EPTU. President Les Cannon is still recovering from a serious illness and there are doubts about his ability to carry on in office.

An internal fight is brewing over the succession and executive members will be seeking re-election for the few positions left in the union in which members are allowed to vote.

'Flashlight', the rank and file EPTU paper, has published a list of 'progressive' opponents to sitting executive members. It is possible that two or more from this list may be elected and upset the right-wing balance on the executive.

But electing lefts is not enough. In recent years the union has moved further to the right.

The executive is now full-time, local area committees have been disbanded, officials are selected not elected and disciplinary procedure is controlled by the executive without an appeals procedure.

A determined effort will be needed to swing the union to a more democratic position. Electricians seeking election should call for:

A return of area committees. All positions to be elected. Withdrawal of all bans and proscriptions.

No agreements to be signed without full consultation with the workers involved.

Right of recall for all union positions.

Bring members at all levels into union decision-making.

The EPTU can be changed but it will only stay changed if the members take their full part in running the union. They can begin by making sure that the progressive candidates get support and votes from every job and building site.

THE KEY CANDIDATES

DIVISION	SITTING MEMBER	PROGRESSIVE NOMINEE	BRANCH
1	J McKEARNAN	H CHICKEN	Belfast
2	W BLAIRFORD	C MONTGOMERY	Glasgow
3	E HADLEY	B CONNOLLY	Sheffield
4	T BREAKELL	E SABINO	Liverpool Central
5	D SHEASBY	HARRY SHAW	Warrington
8	E HAMMOND	F MORPHEW	Dartford
9	H GITTINS	J ATKINSON	Lambeth
10	W BLAIR	F GORE	London Airport

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BACKGROUND TO THE NEWS

COUNCIL WORKERS RAISE A STINK ON WAGES

by BOB LIGHT



Dustmen—how many more bins can they hump?

THE STRUGGLE of 770,000 local government workers for a living wage entered a crucial stage this week when the unions concerned called some sections out on strike. With the Tory government making veiled threats about using the army to maintain 'essential services', the two sides seem to be digging in for a real showdown.

The pay claim is for a flat basic wage of £16 10s a week and it will affect local government manual workers from school-dinner ladies to seweragemen. They are among the lowest paid workers in the country.

Take home pay as low as £9 a week is common and £13 10s is the average for a 40 hour week. Even in London, where wages are higher because of the London weighting, the basic wage for jobs like gardeners or road labourers is only £14 2s a week, while women workers like cooks get as little as £12 11s 10d and daily helps £12 9s 2d.

Even a specialist gardener, after years of experience, gets only £15-10s.

The employers' final offer of 34s a week is nothing like enough. But the government isn't concerned with the needs of ordinary working people. The Tories have sent out a circular to all local authorities telling them to stand firm against the 'unreasonable' claim.

Behind the Tories stand the financiers and shareholders who are getting hot under their starched collars about the current rash of wage demands which they think might threaten their profit margins.

The international loan-club of the ruling class—the International Monetary Fund—in its annual report stressed again and again the need for countries like Britain and America to hold down the living standards of the working class.

With wage claims from power workers, miners, railwaymen and provincial busmen waiting for the municipal workers to spearhead the wage drive, the Tories must seek to make an example of local government workers.

SHEER FORCE

The unions—the Transport Workers, public Employees and General and Municipal—have been forced to make some kind of a stand by the sheer force of last year's strike. Once the Hackey dustmen stopped work, they set light to the grievances of all other sections of local government workers and the strike spread like wildfire.

They took the unions completely by surprise and it took a great deal of energy for them to persuade the men to go back to work.

They won't let that happen again and all three union leaderships are determined to stay in the driver's seat. But that does not mean they will not accept a compromise of less than £16 10s.

Jack Jones, secretary of the TG-WU has spoken too long and too loud about the need for a national minimum wage to back down without putting up some kind of fight. He

lost a lot of face in the docks dispute and he can't afford a repeat.

Nevertheless, he still falls shy of calling for an all-out national strike, preferring scattered stoppages.

It is hard to have any faith in Alan Fisher, of NUPE, still less in the noble Lord Cooper of the GM-WU. It is all too likely that once they have gone through the motions they will seize the first chance they get to back down. This is a wage claim that deserves to be won, that must be won but it is doubtful if the union officials will be prepared to take the action necessary to win it.

It is a claim that, in the final analysis, can only be won by a fight on a political level. The reason for this is quite simple—it lies in the whole system of local government finance. The rates system by its very nature is unfair—it has always been geared to benefit the rich. The old age pensioner is charged the same rates as the stock-broker.

But now it begins to look as if even this rotten system is falling apart and more and more the logic of events is being dictated by the interest rates demanded by bankers and moneylenders.

In the Greater London Council, from every £1 collected from rates and council rents, 18s 3d goes straight towards paying off debts owed in interest to moneylenders, the banks and insurance companies. Clearly of every £1 Londoners pay in rent, the council can only use 1s 9d to provide local services. In some boroughs the situation is worse.

In Waltham Forest, the debt owed to moneylenders is actually more than the total incomes from

rates and rents. For every £1 that comes in, 22s 3d is owed to high finance.

Faced with such a crisis, the council can do one of two things—it can either challenge the power of those who have money to rake in even more at our expense or it can push up rates and cut back the services it provides to the public.

Council rents go up and up again, the quota of houses built is slashed, sometimes even to none at all, public libraries are closed, free holidays for spastics and old people are stopped and a thousand and one cuts are made. In some places these cuts are so petty as to be stupid. In Birmingham, for instance, the council tried to make huge savings by taking out every other light bulb in the Town Hall.

THE CHOICE

The crisis has another result. Many local councils will simply not be able to meet the present wage demand.

To pay, they face the choice of either making even more cutbacks in services or putting the rates up by as much as a shilling in the £ or both. In other words the cost will be passed on as usual to the working man—unless the right of big business to demand their ransom money is challenged.

In this situation, the big danger comes from productivity deals. They are always a swindle—they usually mean cutting down on the number of men and making others work a lot harder for a little more pay.

But in the case of local government, they are even more dangerous.

In the past, some municipal workers, especially dustmen and seweragemen, have won hefty bon-

uses over and above their flat rate by signing productivity deals. But as local government does not produce anything, workers can not agree to produce more.

Productivity deals can mean only a cut in the wages bill, by having the same job done by fewer men. But at the same time, jobs like collecting bins or serving diners or polishing lavatory brass can not really be mechanised. However much he's paid, one man can pick up only so many bins a day. In this situation, a productivity deal can only spell one thing—redundancies which in turn must eventually result in a cutback in services.

But it need not be like that. If the interest payments were done away with there would be more than enough spare money to provide really good services—and still cut the rates by more than half. The municipal workers deserve much more than their £16 10s and it does not have to be at the expense of the working class.

STRANGLEHOLD

The councils are not going to challenge the moneylenders. It should be up to the unions to do so.

But the union leaders, Jack Jones included, are running around not only agreeing to prod deals but asking that employers who refuse to negotiate such deals should be fined.

A pay agreement must be national, all-binding and without productivity 'strings'. To achieve this, in the face of the government hard line an all-out national strike will probably be necessary. But more than this, if this claim is to be really successful, if it is to be won without being paid for by other working class people, then the question of who pays for the increase must be raised.

The claim must challenge the stranglehold of the financiers, bankers and moneylenders. The municipal workers can show the way forward for all the disgracefully low-paid workers of the country.

NEXT WEEK
'When did you last see your wife?'—women on shift work

COTTONS COLUMN

THE South-West London Hospital Board is closing down its mass radiography unit that regularly examines the general public for TB and lung cancer.

The reason for the closure is simple: it costs too much to run. Typical of flinty-hearted, profit-conscious Tories, did you say? But the hospital board was encouraged in its action by the last Labour government which sent a circular to all the boards asking them to investigate the cost of such exercises in public welfare.

The nod was as good as a wink to the godly medical overlords in South-west London. Carry on coughing...



Not suitable

THE STORY going round ASTMS that Clive Jenkins has his suits made in Hong Kong prompts us to update an old story.

Clive is strongly recommended to try a little backstreet tailor in Hong Kong. He duly sends off his measurements and orders six suits.

A few weeks later he flies out to pick them up but when he tries them on they are all far too big. The sleeves hang six inches below his wrists, the trousers corrugate over his shoes and the jackets reach his knees.

'I don't understand it,' he wails. 'The measurements were exact but these suits would fit a man twice my size.'

The tailor sadly shakes his head. 'You know what,' he says. 'In England you're a big man, but in Hong Kong, who's heard of Clive Jenkins?'

Pretty picture

ALAN CLARK, son of telly art pundit Sir Kenneth Clark, is a wealthy landowner. Until recently, a tenant and wife lived in a house on his land.

The farmer and wife had sick parents and they had to leave the cottage to go and stay with them for a while. Mr Clark moved in with

their consent. He said he wanted to do some interior alterations.

A month later the couple announced their return. Mr Clark said that under the terms of their tenancy they were required to live in the property. They had broken the terms and were no longer his tenants.

Mr Clark is a prominent member

of the extreme right-wing Monday Club.

ROBERT BOSCAWEN, Tory MP for Wells, has just bought a new home, Ivythorn Manor, at Street for £40,000. It has 10 bed and dressing rooms, five reception rooms and four acres of grounds.

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Please send further details of the meetings and activities of the International Socialists to:

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Send to IS, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

Off the spike

MY, MY—what a tough time those poor journalists did have in Amman. As thousands were mown down in the streets and the miserable hovels of the refugees were blown to smithereens by the troops of brave King Insein, the Fleet Street boys suffered the appalling indignity of being locked for more than a week in the plush International Hotel.

'My six days of hell!' whined the Mirror man all over the front page on his return. One scribbling hack actually ventured the opinion, 'I hope I never see another bowl of rice again.'

Tell that to the Palestinians.

OUR man in Amman tells us that at the height of the bloody counter-revolution, Jordan Radio was spewing forth the most unbelievable anti-Jewish rubbish, including the interesting snippet that the Syrian 'invaders' were in the pay of a certain sinister Cohen.

Perhaps pro-Israelis who also back the Jordanian monarchy against the guerrillas might care to switch their allegiance to those people fighting for a free Palestine with full rights for Arab and Jew. Or is Insein the lesser of two evils?

Socialist Worker

Big support for Pilkington 'right to strike' march

ST HELENS:- Support is rolling in for the 'right to strike' demonstration called by the rank and file strike committee at Pilkington's glass factories for Monday 12 October.

The demonstration will be against any anti-union laws and in support of the 250 Pilkington's workers who were sacked more than two months ago when they struck for negotiating

rights. This week the Manchester Builders' Forum set up a special sub-committee to arrange one-day strikes in support of the march. Building workers from Widnes, Runcorn and other parts of Merseyside have also decided to support it. A branch of the General and Municipal Workers' Union close to

St Helens may join the demonstration. The GMWU leaders are backing the Pilkington's management against the sacked men.

The march will assemble at 10.30 at Queen's Park and march off at 11.30. The committee has asked local Labour MP Leslie Spriggs to lead the demonstration.

BARBER GETS OUT THE TAX CLIPPER

by JACK MARTIN

BEST NEWS for the British upper class came from sunny Cyprus. Speaking in Nicosia, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Anthony Barber, confirmed that the Tory government intends to go ahead with cuts in British taxation.

Whose taxes does he have in mind? Under Labour, taxation rose more sharply for the £18 - £25 a week wage earner than for any higher income group.

But in the Tory diagnosis of Britain's economic crisis, it is the rich who need to be encouraged by lower taxation to 'work' harder and make more money. Surtax is first in the queue for a short back and sides from Mr Barber's clippers.

The Inland Revenue point out that no one pays surtax on any earned income up to £100 a week. Even with earnings of £150 a week, less than £6 a week goes on surtax.

Yet the Tories claim that surtax does severe damage to the British economy, because it stifles the initiative of Britain's company directors and managers.

Official figures show that old age pensioners lose 20 per cent of the miserable £5 a week pension on purchase tax and other taxes on consumer spending. Yet the Tories intend that these consumer taxes should rise still higher.

Hit hard

Barber is considering the introduction of a Value Added Tax, which would sharply increase the cost of living and hit hard at those with low incomes.

The new government has promised to give priority to easing the taxation of unearned income from investments (to encourage saving, they say). Big business is worried about a narrowing of profit margins over the past 18 months.

The government has assured its big business backers that the gallant Barber will be galloping to the rescue with the abolition of the Supplementary Employment Tax.

Lower taxes mean less spending money for Whitehall. Conservatives everywhere are wondering if Heath can repeat on a national scale the major experiment in Tory efficiency being carried out in the London borough of Waltham Forest.

There a Tory council elected in 1968 has managed to cut council spending by £500,000 a year. Last May they needed to raise the rates in Waltham Forest by only 2.9 per cent compared with the London average of 5.5 per cent increase.

It sounds great—till you learn some of the details.

Day nursery charges up from 11s6d a day to a maximum of 28s.

Attendants withdrawn from nine children's playgrounds.

Free entertainment for mentally handicapped children restricted to one annual party at Christmas.

School dental service cut by one third.

Closed two swimming pools.

Cut chiropody service for old people.

So here's how Conservative freedom works—at the expense of the old, the sick, and the children.

BLUE-WHITE COLLAR UNITY SHAKES BOSSES

SW Reporter

UNITY of white and blue collar workers has shaken the bosses of the Pratt-Whitney engineering group. At the Omes, Barnes, subsidiary plant in West London, 200 engineering workers in the AEF are on strike in support of the right of clerical workers to organise and join the union of their choice.

The whole factory has been on strike for more than a week to back the six clerical workers who joined the AEF a year ago.

Since then a 30s a week increase has been negotiated for the clerks, backed by a powerful factory organisation. Frightened by this unity of clerical and manual workers, the management has attempted to force the clerks out of the AEF.

THREATEN

Production workers see this move as threatening all sections in the factory. One worker told last week's mass meeting: 'If management get away with this, they'll be electing our stewards for us next'.

A complete shutdown in solidarity with the Barnes factory has taken place at the group's major plant at Colnbrook, Bucks. The shop stewards' committee there is contacting other parts of the combine to increase support for the clerical workers.

On Wednesday, a mass meeting in Barnes was addressed by the convenor and deputy-convenor from Colnbrook. The meeting agreed that the management had forced the strike by tearing up agreements in an attempt to disrupt negotiations on wages and conditions. The strike goes on until all the demands are met.

Messages and donations to: Bro Walker, c/o Watermen's Arms, Lonsdale Rd, Barnes.

Fork lift strike hits Ford

SWANSEA:- Ford management caused a 24-hour strike in the fork lift section on Monday when they refused weekend working to drivers and then insisted that other men in the section should shift newly-arrived supplies.

The basic rate is low and the workers rely on overtime to take home a decent wage. The management's action was designed to increase work flexibility, but the whole section stopped in support of the drivers. They pointed out that Ford want it both ways - rigid application of Measured Day Work and wildcat mobility of labour.



Alcoa strikers on picket duty at the Swansea factory

Union officials kick their heels as Alcoa men fight on

by JILL BRANSTON

SWANSEA:- 250 maintenance men at the Alcoa metal works are in the eighth week of strike action and have held several mass pickets.

They have given out leaflets in reply to a company 'news bulletin' that contains a series of lies and half-truths about the strike. The management's version is printed hungrily by the local press which ignores information given out by the stewards' committee.

200 members of the engineering union are on official strike and are supported by 50 electricians who have not been given union backing. The strikers are out to force the giant American corporation to honour an agreement to pay storekeepers 80 per cent of toolroom craftsmen's rates.

The present dispute is one more stage in the struggle against the corporation's attempts to 'rationalise' the wage structure at the plant. A

productivity deal is on the way and the craftsmen have refused to tolerate Measured Day Work or job evaluation.

The bosses want to split the storekeepers from the toolmakers and then force MDW on them.

Complained

In spite of official AEF backing, the workers are not getting full support from local officials. When the strikers called for a levy of all members in the area, one official complained about the extra work involved.

The strikers had to print their own leaflets when the union refused to do it for them.

Financial aid is coming in but more is still needed. Donations and messages to: Bro H W Jenvey, 55 Mynydd-Newydd Rd, Caereithin, Swansea.

Storemen demand full union rights

ACTON:- 13 AEF storemen at Eversheds and Vignoles (Kent group) have been on strike for five weeks. Their demands are:

1. An end to a merit rating system which gives them only £17 - £18 a week.
2. £19 10s for all non-staff storemen.
3. Full union recognition for all the stores.
4. Recognition of their shop steward.

The shop stewards' committee voted unanimously to support the storemen before the strike but no real stand has been taken by the convenor and senior stewards. No mass meetings have been called and the storemen's work has not been blacked.

Earlier this week the management conceded recognition of the storemen's steward but insisted on a return to work before they negotiate. DATA members in the factory have issued a leaflet in support of the storemen.

North London district of the AEF has endorsed the strike but it has not yet been made official.

Donations and messages of support should be sent to: W Hassell, 68 Rothschild Rd, London W4.

Technicians strike for 'parity' with draughtsmen

SW Reporter

NORWICH:- 120 technicians and supervisors in the town's biggest engineering factory, Laurence, Scott and Electromotors, voted on Monday to reject the company's pay offer and come out on strike for the rest of the week.

The men are claiming a rise of between £3 10s-£5 5s a week. The aim is to raise the very low basic levels of pay—some of them get just over £20 a week—to reduce the differentials among grades of ASTMS, the technicians' union, and to establish comparability with draughtsmen at the same firm. Draughtsmen, whose jobs were

similarly graded by the company, have won higher pay because they rejected job evaluation two years ago and because their union has pushed harder against the engineering employers.

After nearly a year of stalling, the company, still confident of the technicians' weakness, offered three months further delay to work out a productivity deal, with nothing definite about money. This time the men

saw the need to fight. After three weeks working 'without enthusiasm' and a couple of stoppages (the first ever) the company offered 30s-35s but then attached productivity strings at the last minute.

This poor offer, which would have widened the differentials and left the technicians way behind the draughtsmen, shows the firm still thinks that the men it calls 'staff' can be taken for a ride.

A local strike fund has been set up to supplement the union's strike pay. Contributions to I. Gibson, 12 Albert Tce, Norwich, Norfolk.

NOTICES

LIVERPOOL IS public meeting: The end of the Labour government and the future of working class politics. Spkr: Paul Foot. Tues 6 October, 8pm, Swan Hotel, London Road.

SOUTHAMPTON IS public meeting: Fight the Tories. Spkr: Roger Protz, editor Socialist Worker. Prince of Wales, Northam Rd, 8pm, Tues 6 October.

REVOLT of the lower paid - Manchester IS public meeting on local authority and hospital ancillary workers' pay struggle. Friday 9 Oct, 8pm, Crown and Anchor, off Stevenson Sq, near Piccadilly.

JUST OUT - Germ's Eye View no 7 - special edition on ancillary staffs pay claim. 8d inc post from J Sutton, 11a

Rowan Ave, Manchester 16.

SKEGNESS RALLY: coaches leave this Friday, 2 October, from Hudson's Place Victoria, SW1. Hudson's Place is off Wilton Rd, facing Woolworth's, adjacent to Victoria Station.

SOCIALIST WORKER Fighting Fund Folk Night: Sat 10 October. The other Nag's Head, York Rd, Battersea 10 mins walk from Clapham Jcn station. 44 bus. Jugular Vein, King Kong Keltic Kalyso Kand, Big Joe Shakespeare, and others. 7.30pm, 7s 6d.

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