

Voice of the People



Vol. 3 No. 2
10P NINE TIMES A YEAR

The British ruling class will appear strong for as long as we the people stay on our knees
Fight growing fascism now! Organise to win state political power!

FORWARD TO SOCIALISM

STAMP OUT THE NAZI NATIONAL FRONT!
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**WITHDRAW THE TROOPS!
RELEASE THE PRISONERS!**
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World Struggles

WHY WILSON'S RETURN TO NO.10 IS NO REAL VICTORY FOR THE WORKING CLASS

OPINION



Three "unacceptable faces" of the unacceptable system of capitalism. All three major parties are capitalist in essence. Wilson's latest legislative proposals present no challenge at all to the power of capital, as Boyne, political reporter of the right-wing "Daily Telegraph" establishes in the news-cutting below. Workers need a new Party

By H. B. BOYNE, Political Correspondent

BY DINT of a Queen's Speech so innocuous, relatively speaking, that much of it might have been composed by the Heath Cabinet, Mr Wilson yesterday cleared his first hurdle in the new Parliament. At

THE GENERAL ELECTION IN FEBRUARY RETURNED THE LABOUR PARTY TO GOVERNMENT FOR THE SEVENTH TIME. THE EVENT IS OBJECTIVELY NO CAUSE FOR REJOICING WITHIN THE WORKING CLASS. THE PLAIN TRUTH IS THAT ALL THREE PARTIES WISH TO PRESERVE THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM, WHICH, BECAUSE IT PUTS PROFITS BEFORE THE REAL NEEDS OF THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE, IS INHERENTLY ANTI-SOCIAL AND THE ROOT CAUSE OF PROBLEMS SUCH AS POVERTY, INSECURITY, UNEMPLOYMENT, ROCKETING FOOD PRICES, RENTS, MORTGAGES, EXPLOITATION AND INJUSTICE.

During that election this newspaper put it to workers and other progressive people in this country that a general election is in essence a competition between the Tory, Labour and Liberal Parties to manage the affairs of the ruling capitalist class, primarily to organise the exploitation of the labour power of working people and the poorer sections of the middle class.

It was also pointed out that whichever of the three parties won the election, the working class would lose. And that whichever Party became the government, capitalism would remain in power. Other publications took a different position on the question of the Labour Party, attacking it verbally then doing a political somersault by asking workers to actually vote for it! (see the article "Why can't the 'left' unite?" on page 9). All that has taken place since that election fully establishes this paper's analysis of the true role of the Labour Party.

LABOUR'S RECORD

During the many years this century when the Labour Party constituted the government at no time did there take place anything even mildly approaching a substantial re-distribution of the wealth of the



country, which is produced by the working class. The Labour Party cannot even be accurately described as a party of real reforms, let alone a party of fundamental change and progress.

The Labour Party remains today a party of compromise, collaboration with capitalism, rank opportunism and deception, a party of minor reforms, and its "reformism" rests upon the central notion of the continuation of the capitalist system.

"In Place of Strife", racist immigration acts, the despatch of thousands of Brit-

ish soldiers to the northern part of Ireland in 1969, general support for US imperialism's aggression in Vietnam.... all these Labour Party policies were merely forerunners of Tory policies.

In the Queen's Speech, which outlined Wilson's post-election legislative programme, the same old opportunism was manifest: a few sops are thrown in the direction of the working class in order to win votes at the next general election, such as some selective food subsidies, temporary restrictions on rent rises, pension increases etc. But as far as capitalists exploiting workers goes, as far as troops and concentration camps in north-east occupied Ireland go, as far as racist immigration acts are concerned, and as far as a corporate-type incomes policy goes ("securing the orderly growth of incomes" as the Speech put it)... IN OTHER WORDS AS FAR AS THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM ITSELF GOES IT IS "BUSINESS AS USUAL".

The support that the racist and violently anti-working class fascist/Tory politician, Enoch Powell, gave the Labour Party is surely one of the most blatant reminders of the anti-working class essence of the Labour Party itself.

THE CENTRAL TASK REMAINS THE SAME

The grip of reformism, i.e. social democracy, and the hold the Labour Party retains, weakening though it is, over sections of the working class must be broken to pave the way for socialist revolution in Britain, for there is not one single example currently or historically of the transition from capitalism to socialism being made in any way other than by a workers' socialist revolution. The working class has no Party to represent its interest in overthrowing capitalism. It must build its own revolutionary Party. That - not relying on capitalist general elections, diversionary frauds - remains the central task, whatever happens next.

Will you be a 'VOP' reporter?

THIS SOCIALIST NEWSPAPER WISHES TO GET WORKERS AND OTHER PROGRESSIVE PEOPLE IN CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES THROUGHOUT BRITAIN TO ACT AS REGULAR "VOICE OF THE PEOPLE" CORRESPONDENTS. "VOP" CORRESPONDENTS WOULD SEND IN NEWS STORIES THAT SHOULD HAVE A NATIONAL AS WELL AS A LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE

FOR THE CLASS STRUGGLE, IN EVERY AREA OF BRITAIN THERE ARE INJUSTICES BEING COMMITTED DAILY AGAINST WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES. IN YOUR AREA THIS WILL BE THE CASE. SO, WHY NOT VOLUNTEER TO BE A "VOP" CORRESPONDENT FOR YOUR AREA. THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU HAVE TO ACCEPT EVERYTHING SAID IN

THIS NEWSPAPER. WRITE IN TO THE ADDRESS AT THE FOOT OF THE BACK PAGE. DON'T WORRY IF YOU'VE NEVER WRITTEN A THING FOR PUBLICATION BEFORE IN YOUR LIFE. IT'S YOUR EXPERIENCE AND THAT OF OTHERS THAT'S IMPORTANT. SO, WHY NOT GET IN TOUCH NOW AND HELP US TO HELP YOU EXPOSE CAPITALIST INJUSTICE.

STOP THE FORCE-FEEDING TORTURE!



AN EYE ON THE RULING CLASS

This paper has always condemned indiscriminate bombing as a political weapon, but unreservedly demands the instant ending of the brutal torture referred to in this article.

This is a posed picture. The Price sisters are being held in Brixton, a mens' prison. Kelly and Feeney are kept in solitary at Wormwood Scrubs and Gartree. Both are naked in their cells

SINCE LAST NOVEMBER - FIVE MONTHS IN FACT - WHEN THEY WERE CONVICTED OF CAUSING EXPLOSIONS IN THE LONDON AREA, THE PRICE SISTERS, HUGH FEENEY AND GERARD KELLY HAVE BEEN ON HUNGER STRIKE. THEY ARE FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHT TO SERVE THEIR SENTENCES IN NORTHERN IRELAND, NEAR THEIR RELATIVES. SUCH A PRECEDENT HAS ALREADY BEEN SET, SEVERAL PEOPLE HAVING BEEN ALREADY BEEN ALLOWED TO SERVE OUT THEIR TIME IN THE NORTH. THEY ARE DEMANDING NEITHER THEIR RELEASE OR A REDUCTION IN THEIR SENTENCE. FOR MONTHS NOW THESE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN FORCE-FED DAILY.

They are held down and an adjustable clamp is placed between the victim's teeth. The clamp is then used to force open the victim's mouth. This is extremely painful in itself as the jaws are pushed back to the maximum position. Through a hole in the clamp mechanism is inserted a rubber tube and with a bit of luck it avoids the wind-pipe to be forced down into the stomach. Anyone who has had something however small stuck in their throat will understand how sickening the feeling is. But the occasional piece of bread or even a small fishbone is nothing to the rubber tube treatment which invariably causing vomiting and convulsive retching. Once the tube is in position a funnel is attached and a type of soup is forced through. The stomach almost always automatically rejects this abnormal injection and back into the mouth rushes the unwanted food. To avoid the soup being lost completely a warder holds is hand over the mouth area hoping that some will find its way back down into the victim's stomach. Bits fall back into the windpipe during the struggle. The whole thing is a brutal business and repeated day in day out it can only be described as outright torture.

Bank and food profits soar

while wages are rigidly controlled



HUGE PROFITS ON THE FOOD FRONT
More and more people are being driven to worrying about the price of food, and many about where the next decent meal will come from.

An important part of many workers' diet is - unfortunately - bread. And with bread prices rising almost every few months in Britain the anxiety being experienced by the majority of people is turned into healthy looking profits and dividends for the largest bread and food manufacturers.

The trading profits of Rank Hovis Mc Dougall rose from £30,000,000 to £38,000,000 during the years 1970-73. Those of Associated British Foods from £40,000,000 to £56,000,000, those of Spillers from £11,000,000 to £18,000,000. Their dividends to shareholders rose by leaps and bounds, up to 40-50% in each successive year.

Between them these companies own and control 70% of the food market. The Weston family owns upwards of 74% of the total shares in Associated British Foods and most of the £5,000,000 in dividends in one of the recent years went to the Weston family.

The pay of Rank's chairman, Joseph Rank was £41,000 per annum, or £800 per week. The average yearly wage for one

of his 59,300 employees is about £1,250.

This is the marvelous, just, democratic and prosperous system which the "Aims of Industry" would like us all to defend. Indeed, it is not surprising that the "Aims of Industry", which has been bombarding us with its anti-working class adverts in the national newspapers recently, has been given £5,000 this year from the profits of the Rank group.

Only socialist revolution, political power for the working class in Britain, can stop this anti-people exploitation. And as long as the working class confines its fight against the capitalist class to demands for a few reforms here and there and a pound or two extra in the wage packet, it will have to put up with the injustices of a system which puts profits before people.

A DIFFERENT SITUATION IN CHINA

A balanced budget, zero inflation and a 4 per cent Bank rate might seem somewhat utopian in these days of billion dollar trade deficits, spiralling inflation and record interest rates. But this is what one finds in China.

Take the profit motive, for example. Every western banker is guided by the principle that his money should go where it earns the most interest. In China this conventional wisdom does not hold; money goes where it is most needed.

A brief visit to Peking would probably convince a banker in the City of London, however, that China's ways are not for him; taking a leaf out of the Chinese banking book would require nothing less than a revolutionary change in western banking practices.

Investment in industry would almost certainly reap the best return, but a Chinese banker who supports this sector at the expense of agriculture does so at his peril: since the Cultural Revolution agriculture has been designated the priority sector. Similarly, while personal loans can go a long way towards boosting a bank's profits, in China they are all but banned.

IT IS INTERESTING TO OBSERVE how capitalist politicians are always blaming inflation on "the reds". However, once again the facts show that where communists have led the people to socialist revolution, for example in countries such as China and Albania, inflation is unknown. In socialist China there has been no inflation since 1949 and food and other prices have remained both stable and very low in price, as the result of a planned socialist economy.

BANK PROFITS in 1973 shot up at an unprecedented rate while for the same period workers' wages were rigidly held down. Lloyds revealed that they made a massive total profit of £130,000,000, an increase over the previous year's high figure of £74,600,000, which is a leap of 75%. Since 1971 Lloyd's bank profits have rocketed by £71,900,000, or 122%.

The "Economist" of 16 February says that stockbrokers estimate that in 1973 the big four capitalist banks, Lloyds, National Westminster, Barclays, and the Midland, will have a combined pre-tax profit of £650,000,000, 62% more than the £400,000,000 pre-tax profit made in 1972, and 128% more than the £285m made in 1971.

Once again the plain truth is revealed that the system of capitalism benefits the few at the expense of the vast majority of the British people, the working class.

The shareholders who grab these huge profits do not work for them. This unearned income on a scale beyond dream for the ordinary working class household. Workers, on the other hand, have to actually earn through their labour power every pound in their wage packet. So, under capitalism those who actually do the work, produce, get the crumbs, while those who merely gamble on the stock exchange come by a life of ease and luxury.

For as long as capitalism exists the tale will remain the same.

Mass action will smash picket laws

REVIEW

—of any brand!

The newspaper cutting below provides concrete evidence of the type of collaboration that takes place between reformist - albeit militant fighters for economic demands - trade union executives and the police. Such collaboration is itself a threat to the working class struggle.

NUM lays down strict code for lawful picketing

By Paul Routledge
Labour Correspondent

A strict code of behaviour for picketing has been drawn up by the National Union of Mineworkers in preparation for the strike, if it begins.

A four-page document sent out to area secretaries by Mr Lawrence Daly, general secretary of the NUM, outlines the law on picketing, and gives advice that "must" be communicated to the miners' pickets.

The advice, drawn up by the union's industrial relations department, says at the outset: "It would facilitate a smooth operation if each area would establish close liaison with the appropriate chief constable, and make the NUM official picket identification badge known to the police."

and, the right of pickets to use militant mass action in pursuit of their aims; and third, to prevent the leadership and organisation of pickets by class conscious, revolutionary workers.



Increased productivity, measured day work, time and motion studies, piece work... anything to increase profits, but don't strike, and don't picket or you will go to jail, say the bosses.

The phoney post-election posturings and "good intentions" of the new Labour government are sugar coated bullets. In

essence the "Conciliation and Arbitration Service" will seek to achieve in other ways that which the Industrial Relations Act - now to be repealed by Labour in order to make it popular with workers - failed to do.

It must be remembered that the I.R. Act and the National Industrial Relations Court - both fascist in essence - constitute only one pillar of anti-picketing laws, and much anti-picketing legislation has been dredged up from the archives of previous class legislation. For example The Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act 1875, was recently used at Shrewsbury to convict pickets from the building workers' strike following charges of conspiracy, with sentences up to three years. This "crime" of "conspiracy", which is extremely vague, carries limitless sentences and is of invaluable use to the bosses' courts and police.

Under the Wilson government picketing workers will still be subjected to harassment and provocation by police and to arrest; to flying squads, Special Patrol Squads and to surveillance by Special Intelligence units of the Special Branch; and the bosses will remain entitled to employ thugs to attempt to terrorise workers and smash through picket lines as happened at the Chrysler factory in Coventry last year.

Only mass action will smash the picket laws. Workers must remain vigilant.

THE RECENT RE-ELECTION OF THE LABOUR GOVERNMENT WILL NOT LEAD TO ANY LONG TERM RELAXATION OF THE CAPITALIST STATE'S ATTEMPTS TO SMASH THE RIGHT OF WORKERS TO STRIKE EFFECTIVELY BY THE USE OF MILITANT PICKETING. THE RIGHT TO MILITANT PICKETING IS CRUCIAL IN THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN WORKERS AND BOSSES, RULING CLASS SUPPRESSION OF THIS RIGHT IS A CENTRAL FEATURE OF THE EMPLOYERS' OFFENSIVE AS THE ECONOMIC CRISIS OF CAPITALISM DEEPENS AND THEY HAVE TO RESORT TO FASCIST-TYPE MEASURES.

Recently mounted attacks have sought to cripple three main aspects of picketing: first, the right of pickets to persuade fellow workers and trade unionists not to blackleg or cross picket lines; second,

It was massive and militant picketing, such as that which took place at the Saltley Coke Depot in Birmingham in 1972, that inspired the bosses' class to try to deny the working class the right to picket



A SONG OF STRUGGLE

The 'VOP' Song

These words were written by a worker from Slough who is also a VOP group member. They are to be sung to the tune of "Part of the Union".

FIGHTING FOR THE PEOPLE

Now I'm a working man
I'm proud of what I am
And I know that the task of the working class
Is to bring the bosses down.
So we've got to organise
Despite their fascist cries,
Build the VOP so folk can see
The truth instead of lies.

Oh.... You don't scare me I'm fighting for the people
(3 times)
Till the day I die, Till the day I die.



...fight for a real future for all our children.

CHORUS

Then the people will be wise
To the tricks of the ruling-class spies
We'll begin to fight with all our might
Against the class that we despise.
A people's army we will build,
The ranks with workers filled,
And we'll face with pride the bosses' side
As history is fulfilled.

CHORUS

With hearts full of just hate
We'll smash the bosses state
And we'll take state power in that crucial hour
And the bosses will know their fate.
We'll build a socialist land
Where the economy is planned
And no-one gets fat on the workers backs
'cause the workers are in command.

CHORUS

So comrades come what may
We'll fight to see that day
When the people have won and the bosses' scum
Have all been swept away.
And now our mighty task
Is to rouse the working class
For the long hard fight that is in sight
Before the world is ours at last

CHORUS



A Worker's Notebook

'them and us'

★ £15,000 has been awarded to a Mr Patrick Shivers by the Belfast High Court, following a suit for compensation against the British Army. At least 14 other former internees will be claiming similar sums for wrongful arrest, assault and torture, committed against them during interrogation. There is no question of the Irish people ever accepting that this army of occupation has the right to arrest anyone, for they are the aggressors. No amount of money could ever recompense the misery caused by British imperialist rule in Ireland.



LEFT: VANESSA REDGRAVE, gimmick candidate of the self-styled "Workers Revolutionary Party".

Trailing on the apron strings of the Labour Party, the trotskyite WRP supports some vague notion of "workers' control".... under capitalism. The examples cited below from Meriden and Briant demonstrate the futility of such theories. Under the bosses' state "workers control" can only remain a myth, a phoney strategy put out by phoney socialists. It is only when the working class wins state political power that they will be able to control their own destinies.

★ **Briant Colour Printing** A sad development in the Briant Colour Printing saga occurred on Nov 18 when the new owners of the factory (the name had been changed to Binart Colour Printing) decided, without prior notice, to close the factory, only 14 weeks after they had taken it over after the 12 month work-in.

★ **Triumph, Meriden** With the workers in occupation, Norton Villiers Triumph declared the factory officially closed on Nov 9. Stewards from many Coventry factories joined the picket line in solidarity. On Dec 3 a mass meeting of the workers accepted in principle an agreement between the rowu and the employers which would mean the setting up of a workers' cooperative, with production ensured at Meriden until at least next July.

★ **Triumph, Meriden** A mass meeting of the Triumph workers on Jan 21 endorsed the proposals of their stewards to run the business as a workers cooperative. Norton Villiers Triumph would give the workers the option to buy out the entire plant, machinery and site next April. But on Feb 1 NVT, after discussions with the DRI, said it could not after all provide the initial funds.

★ **Baynard Press, London** On Nov 9 workers at Baynard Press in London (a subsidiary of ipc) were given one week's notice. On the 12th the 200 workers occupied the factory. ipc agreed, on Nov 14, to withdraw the notices; on Nov 16 the unions said they had won their demands with ipc's policy to close the factory being rescinded.

This paper, of course, supports factory occupations and other militant forms of struggle, but will continue to insist that only with the revolutionary overthrow of the capitalist class will workers have real "control".

IN A confidential memorandum to prison governors, the Home Office has forbidden all prison staff to give evidence before the Jellicoe Committee.

This independent committee was set up in January by Justice (the British section of the International Commission of Jurists) the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, and the Howard League for Penal Reform, to look into the workings of prison boards of visitors whose jobs is to safeguard the rights of prisoners in jails.

It is widely accepted in the prison service that criticisms before internal inquiries are invariably muted; if they aren't the critics don't get promoted.

The veto, signed by the regional director of the Home Office's prison department, applies to prison chaplains, psychologists and prison officers as well as to all grades of governor.

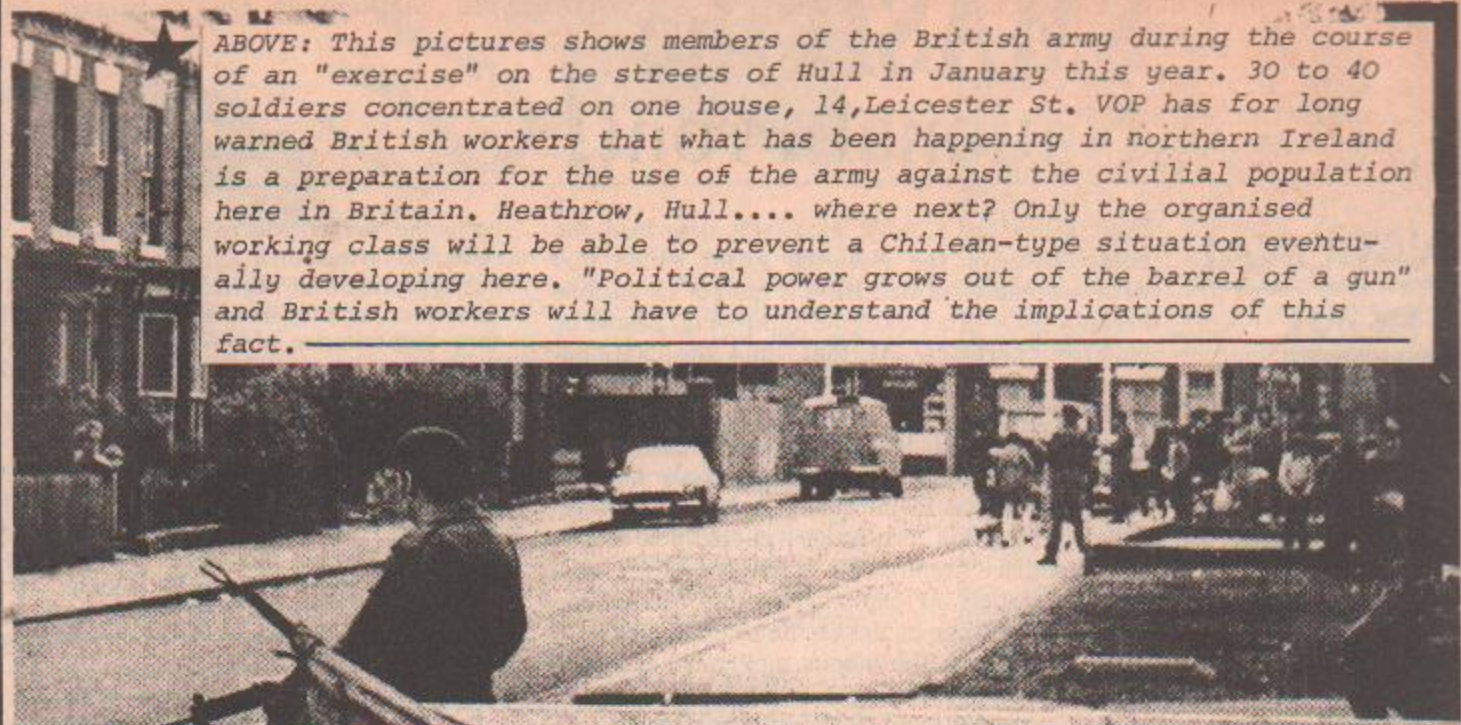
The Home Office says that it has refused to give the committee access to prison personnel because policy must be decided at the highest level. For that reason the only people free to give evidence before the committee are the Director-general of the prison service and his immediate subordinates.

They, therefore, view the ban as a neat attempt to ensure that the recommendations of the Jellicoe Committee will be greatly weakened.

THE VOP consistently supports the struggle for democratic rights by the 40,000 people, mainly workers in British prisons. This extract from a capitalist newspaper shows part of the state conspiracy to conceal the truth of conditions inside ruling class gaols.

■ The 1,400 political prisoners in Long Kesh are being maintained in sub-standard conditions and on sub-standard food. Recent evidence has revealed that even the paltry sums set aside for the camp are being embezzled by corrupt practices in the ordering of food and supplies.

BRITISH ARMY ON THE STREETS OF HULL



ABOVE: This pictures shows members of the British army during the course of an "exercise" on the streets of Hull in January this year. 30 to 40 soldiers concentrated on one house, 14, Leicester St. VOP has for long warned British workers that what has been happening in northern Ireland is a preparation for the use of the army against the civilial population here in Britain. Heathrow, Hull.... where next? Only the organised working class will be able to prevent a Chilean-type situation eventually developing here. "Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun" and British workers will have to understand the implications of this fact.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before duty paid; further duty may be payable on some estates):

Allen, Mr Thomas Arthur Wallace, of Croydon, company director (duty paid, £78,694) £191,992
 Hopper, Mr Fred, of Barton upon Humber, Lincolnshire, managing director (duty paid, £46,686) £303,770
 Jessop, Mrs Gertrude Winifred, of Dewsbury (duty paid, £127,847) £260,177
 Secker, Mr Harold William, of Dore, Yorkshire, steelworks president (duty paid, £45,974) £146,884

Poore-Saurin-Watts, Mr Robert, of Coddington, Herefordshire, unsettled estate, £307,732; settled land, £96,800, making total of £404,532.

LEFT: These latest wills are just one day's sample from the morgue column of the 'Times' newspaper. Hundreds of these parasites die each year, leaving behind fortunes which breed a new generation of parasites and a world of anarchy and chaos which they and their kind help to perpetuate.

Meanwhile, when two old age pensioners are only found, after being dead for several days, by election canvassers it is questionable whether the main capitalist parties would be more concerned about the loss of life than the loss of potential votes. Amazing sums are left by the few to the few, yet millions of working men and women slave away for thirty years paying into pension funds, only to receive at the end perhaps three pounds on top of their state pittance.

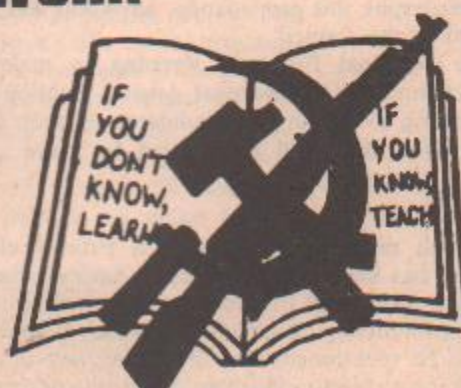
■ The *Daily Telegraph's* colour magazine of 22.12.73 had a feature on how the British eat. Part of the feature included a look at the shopping baskets of six people. These ranged from the £151.59 spent in one week, on food and drink, by company director Malcolm Steven and his wife, to the £2.60 spent by old age pensioner Julia Parker.

■ Both penthouse suites at £35,900 each, on the QE2's 1975 91-day round-the-world cruise, have already been booked (*Daily Mail* 25.1.74).

ON SATURDAY 4 MAY - 2 EVENTS TO ATTEND

★ **"BUILDING REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST BASES AT THE PLACE OF WORK"**

THE WELDING OF THE WORKING CLASS INTO AN INVULNERABLE FORCE FOR THE OVERTHROW OF CAPITALISM AND THE BUILDING OF SOCIALISM CAN ONLY TAKE PLACE BY COMMUNISTS SEIZING THE INITIATIVE IN THE BUILDING OF REVOLUTIONARY BASES IN EVERY PLACE OF WORK, IN EVERY INDUSTRY. WE ENCOURAGE ALL THOSE WHO WANT SOCIALIST REVOLUTION TO ATTEND THIS IMPORTANT MEETING AND TO PARTICIPATE IN A DISCUSSION OF A DOCUMENT PRODUCED BY THE C.W.L.B. (M-L) ON THIS CRUCIAL QUESTION.



"THE ENTERPRISE" PUB, NEXT TO CHALK FARM TUBE STATION, NORTHERN LINE.

★ **"MAY SOCIAL"**
 MUSIC, FOOD, DRINK & A GOOD NIGHT OUT

BAR EXTENSION TILL MIDNIGHT (applied for)

Time: 8.30 p.m.
 Date: SATURDAY, 4 MAY
 Place: MOTHER RED CAP PUB, Camden High Street, N.W.1. (opp. Camden Town Tube)

TIME 6 p.m. DATE 4 MAY PLACE TO CHALK FARM TUBE STATION, NORTHERN LINE.

PLUS FREE SNACKS (Organisers retain right to refuse admission) ADMISSION BY TICKET 50p (or 55p at door)

THE NATIONAL FRONT AND THE ANTI-WORKING CLASS LICE BEHIND IT

“Not race war for the bosses, but class war for socialism”, says this paper



John Tyndall, current "leader" of the National Front, pictured a few years back in Nazi-type uniform during a camp for British fascists and racists. Tyndall and his gang are now frantically trying to cover up their more public Hitlerite past and are seeking instead to appear "respectable" in order to get people to vote for them

The fascist movement in Britain is spreading its poisonous, anti-working class ideas further afield each day. One of the best known of these fascist organizations is the "National Front", which fielded over fifty candidates in the recent General Election. According to election law if an organization puts up over fifty candidates it is entitled to free, peak viewing time on T.V. to make election speeches. The National Front was thus given two five minute broadcasts. Also, the GPO carried a copy of the Front's fascist election message to each elector in the fifty-odd constituencies throughout the country. So,

on the pretext of "being fair to every party" fascist ideas were promoted in the mass media and through the post on an un-precedented scale. By appealing to the most debase instincts in people, and by pretending to be "just ordinary patriotic citizens" the Front collected several thousand votes up and down the country. But it is a safe bet that the vast majority of people who voted for the Front did so without knowing either its real role or the real history of its so-called "leaders". And without knowing who backs the Front with big finances. Below "Voice of the People" prints an

Continued on page 8, col. 3

SMASH the National Front!

Four years ago LABOUR RESEARCH described the composition of the National Front which had been originally formed from a merger of various organisations of an extreme right-wing, fascist or racist character. At that time the National Front was led by A K Chesterton, previously leader of the League of Empire Loyalists, and a member of the British Union of Fascists in the thirties. However, since 1970, not only has the leadership of the Front changed, but also a relative sophistication in policies has emerged. When the capitalist system is in a state of obvious crisis and the leaders of capitalist society are in disarray, the message of the extreme right can evoke a response unless the labour movement is active and on guard. This appears to have been happening with the National Front and here and there it has proved to have pockets of voting strength in both local and national elections. Most of this support has no doubt been derived from its overt racialism—that classic divider of the working class—but its other policy areas should not be underrated for, *in toto*, they add up to a basically anti-working class, anti-trade union corporatism which was seen in the 1920s and 1930s, and survives in Spain until the present.

When A K Chesterton resigned as National Front chairman in 1971, he was replaced by John O'Brien, an ex-Conservative Powellite. O'Brien however, did not appear right-wing enough for other leading Front members and a struggle for power ensued, resulting in the new leadership of John Tyndall. Tyndall was a participant in the 1958 Notting Hill race riots and former member of the White Defence League. National activities organiser, Martin Webster, is the other leading Front member; he was formerly in the National Socialist movement, but tends to dismiss his past Nazi links as "youthful inexperience". The National Front prefers not to be reminded of its past Nazi connections, nor of its brushes with the law. Both Tyndall and Webster have made many appearances in the courts; Tyndall being imprisoned—alongside his then colleague Colin Jordan—in 1962 for organising and equipping a para-military unit ("Spearhead") and in 1967 for possessing firearms; Webster was sent to gaol in 1964 for an assault on President Kenyatta.

On his resignation, O'Brien issued a statement to Front members attacking the new leadership: "These persons see Britain's future best being served by her

becoming a rigidly administered totalitarian police state. To further their aims, they are not above paying hypocritical lip service to democracy. They seek to use you, as they have sought to use me, to realise their authoritarian ambitions." Indeed Tyndall was the author, some years ago, of a book entitled *The Authoritarian State*.

Election record

It was at the 1970 general election that the Front first concentrated resources into standing for parliament. Their ten candidates received a total of 11,449 votes—an average of 3.6 per cent of the vote per seat, with 5.6 per cent of the Islington North votes and 5.5 per cent of the Deptford vote. Since then they have concentrated at specific by-elections, having got some high votes: 2,920 (8.2 per cent) at Uxbridge in December 1972 and, their highest to date, 4,789 (16.2 per cent) at West Bromwich in 1973, where Martin Webster stood as candidate. Their average vote at the 1973 local council elections was 7.7 per cent, with 3,332 (11.3 per cent) at Feltham/Heston; 1,821 (8.5 per cent) at Hayes/Harlington; an average 855 (19.9 per cent) at Blackburn, where 2 candidates stood; and an average of 630 (13.0 per cent) at Leicester where they put up a candidate in all 15 wards. It should be recognised that these votes have occurred where the National Front has concentrated propaganda and manpower to a maximum, especially in areas where immigration and race have been stirred up as issues. In this context it is interesting to note that in the council elections in Leicester, where the Front maximised its efforts to achieve a 13 per cent vote utilising immigration as the main theme, despite this propaganda, an Asian was in fact elected to the council.

The National Front is planning to make even greater inroads into the next general election and is attempting to put up 50 candidates. If they achieve this target, they will be entitled to make a party political broadcast.

Policies

Although much of the National Front's electoral support has been due to whipping up racialism, this is by no means the total of their propaganda. In the fashion of their predecessors, who they would prefer not to be mentioned, they have, in fact, developed a coherent fascist ideology of anti-working class corporatism, national economy and 'nationalism' which occupies much of their propaganda.

Capitalist society is inevitably a class divided society and the labour movement grew up to protect the interests of the exploited class. Fascist movements

have always attempted to undermine the strength and unity of the labour movement by appealing to a falsely unifying 'national' interest which is placed above class interest. This the National Front does. It is the basis of their racialism, their approach to industrial relations and their attitude towards the Conservative Party.

International finance

Hand in glove with the Front's emphasis on 'national survival' goes their constant attack on international capital and finance, and foreign ownership of British capital. In this attack, there is an appearance of radical anti-capitalism, which can potentially act as a basis for working-class support of the Front.



P. Newman was photographed in full Nazi regalia two years back. He is a fanatical member of Colin Jordan's fascist movement. Jordan now wants to link up with Tyndall's gang

Capitalism

But this apparent attack on aspects of modern capitalism tends to conceal the fact that the National Front represent interests which are basically capitalist. While against international (Jewish) finance and capital, the Front emphasises the role of individual incentive and initiative—some good old-fashioned capitalist notions—within the context of the development of the nation's economy. The Front thus proposes public ownership and control of banking, finance, and foreign trade, alongside encouragement of private individual initiative and enterprise in industry and commerce. In this context they support the currently fashionable notion of profit-sharing as extending incentives. John Tyndall makes the Front's position on capitalism very clear:

"By all means let us preserve private enterprise so far as it is compatible with the national priorities for which we stand. By the very nature of Western man, the

continued on page 8, col. 1

NATIONAL FRONT POLICIES

LONG LIVE CAPITALIST ENTERPRISE

SMASH ALL MILITANT SOCIALISTS

KEEP THE IRISH DOWN

REPATRIATE ALL IMMIGRANTS

BUILD A "UNION OF WHITE DOMINIONS"

OUTLAW MIXED MARRIAGES

WORKERS - CO-OPERATE WITH YOUR BOSSES

BRING BACK THE ROPE

YES TO SEX-DISCRIMINATION

REARM THE R.U.C.

BUILD A POLICE STATE

BLACK AND WHITE UNITE AND FIGHT RACISM AND GROWING FASCISM! IMMIGRATION — THE FACTS

● In recent years many myths have been fostered about immigrants from the Commonwealth, particularly black immigrants. Here VOICE OF THE PEOPLE prints the true facts and answers some of the questions most often raised.

ARE WE BEING "FLOODED OUT" BY COMMONWEALTH IMMIGRANTS?

The answer is no. Census figures have established that out of every 50 people in Britain only one was born in the Commonwealth and nearly one other was born somewhere else abroad. This means that of every 50, 48 were born in the British Isles.

Commonwealth immigrants include Australians, Canadians, New Zealanders, and Cypriots. The immigrants who are currently the main target of racists are however the black ones. Before them it was the Irish.

Even when we add to the overall figure of immigrants the number of children born to them in this country they still do not amount to 2 per cent of the population. It is this tiny percentage which, according to anti-working class politicians like Enoch Powell and those who support him in the Conservative and Labour Parties, is making the people of Britain feel like strangers in their own country and is giving them "the sense of being a persecuted minority", as he put it in his infamous racist speech of 20th April, 1968, a theme that he and the capitalist ruling class have increasingly played upon since. What he and his friends say is just the same in principle as Hitler's big lie technique.

BUT ARE NOT COMMONWEALTH IMMIGRANTS STILL "POURING IN" TO THIS COUNTRY?

No. "Pouring in" is an expression used purposely to create prejudice. In point of fact the numbers entering this country are little more than a mere trickle particularly when set off against those who emigrate again.

BUT DO NOT COMMONWEALTH IMMIGRANTS FORM A MUCH HIGHER PROPORTION THAN ONE IN FIFTY IN CERTAIN AREAS?

Yes it is true that they are not evenly spread. Some areas have very few and others more. Although the national average is 1 in 50, in Wales it is 1 in 208 persons, and in London the figure is still only about 1 in 20.

There have always been areas in which immigrants tend to have been concentrated as a result of, among other things, the refusal by many property-owners to rent accommodation in some parts of the country, the inability of many immigrants to pay big rents, the security obtained from living with other immigrants who are also victims of racism and other forms of hostility, and so on.

BUT IS IT NOT TRUE THAT THE INFLOW OF IMMIGRANTS IS MAKING BRITAIN MORE OVERCROWDED THAN EVER?

No. Because more people are emigrating out of this country than are coming into it. At the present time approximately 90,000 more people emigrate from Britain each year than enter as immigrants.

DO IMMIGRANTS MAKE HEAVY DEMANDS ON SOCIAL SERVICES?

No. On the contrary, taken as a whole they make less demands than other people. A special study on *Immigrants and the Social Services* published in the *National Institute Economic Review* showed that the combined cost of health and welfare services, education and child care and national insurance and assistance averaged out £62.40 per head for the population as a whole, but only £48.70 per head for the immigrant section of the population. Also it should be born in mind that without immigrant

labour most of the social services would collapse.

IS IT TRUE THAT IMMIGRANTS GET MORE FROM THE SOCIAL SECURITY THAN OTHER PEOPLE?

No it is not true. The study mentioned above showed that taking all insurance benefits and social security together (including retirement pensions, unemployment and sickness benefit, social security and family allowances) the average expenditure per head of the population was £31.70 but for the immigrant it was £19.20. Moreover, it must be remembered that like other workers, immigrants pay taxes and national insurance.

BUT IS IT NOT TRUE THAT IMMIGRANTS ARE HAVING A DISASTROUS EFFECT ON CONDITIONS IN SCHOOLS?

No, this is not true. For example, one of the major problems in many schools is a shortage of teachers and correspondingly large classes. But immigrants are not the cause of this at all. It is noticeable that a shortage of teachers is greatest in some of the regions with fewest immigrants. Thus in primary schools in the North West region where there are few immigrants there is an average of 29.5 pupils per teacher. In the Greater London area where there are more immigrants the average is 28.1 pupils per teacher.



Also it is a fact that the problems created by language difficulties are over-emphasised. Certainly there is some difficulty, but according to the authoritative publication *Education Statistics* for nearly half the immigrant pupils in British schools there is no language problem at all. For a further quarter their spoken English is reasonably good but their written English is weak. The remaining quarter require particular attention, and only a tiny percentage have no English at all. It should be borne in mind that language difficulties are not uncommon among non-immigrant children and that near illiteracy is quite frequent among a very large number of non-immigrants, even upon leaving school completely.

IS IT TRUE THAT IMMIGRANTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HOUSING SHORTAGE AND SLUMS?

No it isn't. Since more people leave the country than enter they are not even replacing them when it comes to counting heads.

The housing problem in this country, with huge slum areas and a lack of proper social facilities, arises from the fact that this is a capitalist society and the building industry like others produces for profits not the real needs of the people. Black immigrants are not responsible for this system, but more than any other section they are the victims of it. Anyway, many immigrants work in the construction industry helping to make houses.

Widespread racialism by property bosses has forced them to pay higher rents than other people and if they try to buy, to pay an inflated price which has then to be recouped by sub-letting and in some cases overcrowding.

As for creating slums, there have always been slums in Britain, even before

a single immigrant arrived. It would, for example, be a slanderous comment to blame onto Glasgow workers the slums many of them are forced to exist in.

ARE IMMIGRANTS HELPING TO CAUSE UNEMPLOYMENT?

No. The areas which have the least immigrants—Wales, Scotland and the North—have the heaviest unemployment. The areas to which the immigrants have in the main come to, are those with the least unemployment.

ALL THE SAME, NOW THAT THEY ARE HERE AND UNEMPLOYMENT HAS GROWN THEY MUST MAKE IT HARDER FOR LOCAL PEOPLE WHO LOSE THEIR JOBS TO FIND OTHERS.

In the first place, most of the jobs to which immigrants have gone are still unpopular because of generally bad conditions and wages.

Secondly, as has been pointed out, immigrants are not in the areas of the heaviest unemployment.

The third point, and perhaps the most important is that unemployment is being consciously created as part of the plan of the ruling capitalist class to curb inflation which makes it difficult to sell its exports in the face of stiff competition from other capitalist countries. In its present very

deep economic crisis the bosses class is pushing its crisis onto the back of the working class—workers of all colours and nationalities so that now one and a half million people have been shoved into the dole queue. Clearly it is a monstrous lie to blame unemployment onto immigrant workers, who like their non-immigrant fellow working men and women are victims, not masters, of the British capitalist State which is founded and functions on the exploitation of the masses by a small privileged minority which owns the land, industry, banking and commerce.

DON'T IMMIGRANTS SHOW A RELUCTANCE TO TRADE UNION ORGANISATION AND THEREBY WEAKEN THE DEFENSIVE STRUGGLE OF WORKERS FOR BETTER WAGES AND CONDITIONS?

Not at all. Trade unionists operating in all fields are generally of the opinion that immigrants, once they have been approached, are as firm as any other workers in their fight against exploitation. On picket lines black workers are to be seen shoulder to shoulder with their white workmates.

In fact there are several examples of immigrant militancy which resulted in major defeats for the anti-union policies of bosses, one being that of Sikh workers at Woolf's rubber factory in Southall, London, who won recognition from a long-established anti-union firm as far back as 1964.

WHY DO COMMONWEALTH CITIZENS WANT TO COME HERE?

Of course, there must be a very good reason for immigrants to take up their roots, leave family and friends, and in most cases a climate much better than the one here, to come to this country to be subjected to racist attack by the bosses' bigots. The main reason is that they are in a very real sense forced to

come and choice for the most part doesn't enter into it. Forced because their homelands are part of the British imperialist colonial network. Their countries are colonies and colonies are exploited by imperialist powers such as Britain for profit. Profit is taken from the labour power of the colonial people and from exploiting natural resources and by using the colonies as an outlet for the investment of surplus profits. This makes the colonies economically backward and results in poverty, huge unemployment and very little future for the people. Hence, immigrants are more or less forced to leave their countries to get work in places such as Britain.

IF IMMIGRANTS OFFER NO THREAT TO LIVING STANDARDS HERE WHY IS THERE ALL THIS FUSS ABOUT THEM BEING HERE

Once again if we think a little the real reason for the attempts to whip up racialism is not hard to understand. It stems from the fact that we in Britain live and work in a capitalist society. Nobody disputes this. The bosses certainly don't. And one feature of capitalist society is that the class of exploiting employers that rules by holding State political power over the people is always trying to direct attention away from itself as the real source of the problems of working people. This ruling class amounts to about 5 per cent of the population, but it owns about 75 per cent of the wealth of the country. Blaming the many problems that working class families have onto other workers—particularly black workers—is one way the capitalists try to focus attention away from the central fact that they themselves rob the people—white and black—by exploiting them. They try to "divide and rule" the working class by turning white against black workers, and vice versa, so that worker fights worker while the bosses simply carry on collecting their profits free from exposure. Racialism is a tactic aimed at dividing workers, sowing confusion and concealing from the masses of the people the real root of their problems, capitalist exploitation.

SO REALLY IMMIGRANTS ARE NO DIFFERENT FROM US AS WE ARE ALL BEING EXPLOITED?

The only difference is that because the racists are keen to make the immigrant the main target they are often more exploited than other workers. All workers, for example, are exploited, but all workers are not subjected to racialism as well. But the important point is that a worker is a worker, whatever his colour or nationality, and whatever small differences do exist—such as the colour of skin—are utterly insignificant when this fact is remembered. As fascism grows in Britain it is vital to grasp firmly that an attack on the immigrant worker is an attack against the working class as a whole because it aims at dividing and weakening the working class, and divided and weak workers can never defeat their real main enemy, the capitalists. Political solidarity between workers is vital for the building of a revolutionary mass movement and Party in Britain which will lead the fight to smash capitalism and establish the socialist power of the people.

SO SHOULD THERE BE NO CONTROLS ON IMMIGRATION?

As has been statistically shown and logically argued there is neither the need for any controls nor any moral right to prevent people coming into this country, the ruling class of which is directly responsible for colonial exploitation and repression. Immigrants are not the cause of their own problems, the imperialist/capitalist system is, and now is the time for all workers to march shoulder to shoulder forward along the road of socialist revolution which will end this evil system for all time.

This article was also printed in an earlier issue of "Voice of the People"

NF CONTINUED

dynamics of incentive and competition that this system provides are vital to the health of our economic life. But let us appreciate the correct moral and legal basis on which private wealth should rest; it is not an absolute right deriving from divine sources, but a form of custody deriving from the nation in return for services rendered and duties fulfilled. The moment that these prerequisites are not met, the nation, through its elected government must have the power to intervene in the use of private wealth—otherwise it is not sovereign in any effective sense of the word." (*Spearhead*, September 1973).

Race and other policies

Perhaps the Front is most notorious for its racial policies, summed up in their major slogan, Stop Coloured Immigration and Start Repatriation. This slogan tends to be presented in a 'rational' way, but behind lie the familiar philosophies of racial superiority which were central to Nazi anti-semitism:

"Racial equality is an absurdity... the strongest, most intelligent should rule and keep itself aloof from those different to itself." (*Spearhead* September 1972).

"I believe that all people are God's children but that some, like the British, have that special quality which makes them born leaders.

"Already, as a result of government immigration policy there are parts of Britain that are becoming totally alien in character to the British way of life... The pseudo-intellectuals' charge of racialism and prejudice should be countered by patriotism and a love of one's own country." (National Front letter to *Bolton Evening News*, 24.9.73).

National Front policies on education, health and housing are all based on racial segregation, pending the ultimate repatriation of all immigrants. The question of black Britons is hardly mentioned, but



ABOVE: a National Front march in Nottingham - picture shows Martin Webster, National Organiser for the National Front, receiving helpful advice from a local police chief. A short time later the police launched a brutal attack against anti-fascist protesters. It is said that many police officers are members of the NF.



ABOVE: Tyndall, Webster (back to camera) and Francoise Dior, House of Dior heiress who was jailed for bombing thirty synagogues, waiting to meet Colin Jordan as he left prison in 1963. Tyndall was once a member of Jordan's NSG, the armed wing of the fascist National Socialist Movement. "Law and Order" fanatic Tyndall has served several prison sentences for arms and paramilitary offences, the last in 1967. BOTTOM LEFT: Colin Jordan, Tyndall and the thug, Martin Webster, shown walking together.

presumably permanent segregation would be seen as the "solution." On Ireland, the Front supports the hard-core Loyalists, but is anti-Craig; believes that the IRA should be declared illegal throughout the UK; that the Royal Ulster Constabulary should be re-armed; and that the special constabulary should be reinstated. They put up their first Northern Ireland candidate in June 1973 for the Ulster assembly elections. The Front supports the return of capital punishment, believes that anti-sex discrimination legislation is 'ridiculous' ("the right to discriminate is a basic human right"); that mixed marriage should be illegal; that sports clubs with 'mild discipline' should be developed to encourage patriotism.

Trade unions

A significant development of National Front policies is their recently revealed attempt to enter the trade unions. The Front's trade union organiser is Tom Lamb, an BCTPU shop steward, a national directorate member of the Front, and chairman of its Wandsworth branch. The group's major activity is pushing for "an effective force to defend the British working-class from the pro-establishment, pro-coloured immigration trade union leadership, as well as from neo-criminal communist and Trotskyist elements." The first task of this group is seen as demanding "that union's take effective actions to defend the living standards and job security of British workers by putting pressure on to the government to Stop Coloured Immigration and Start Repatriation." The National Front trade union group is also calling for all 'patriotic' trade unionists to contract out of the political levy.

The Front was involved in the formation of TRUAIM (Trade Unions Against Immigration), a racist body, fluctuating in activity.

Linked to their ideas on capitalism, the Front would, rather see worker-employer cooperation:

"Workers' partnership schemes should be established to ensure more participation in the running of companies... profit-sharing for all workers to increase incentive and provide a personal stake in the firm and in the country... future policy should not be aimed at nationalisation in the workers' interests, but a workers' co-ownership with the employers." (*Wolverhampton Express & Star* 9.6.73).

Front organisations

Despite criticisms of the Conservative Party, the Front undoubtedly has supporters amongst Tories, particularly the Monday Club. For example, the Uxbridge Monday Club supported the National Front candidate in the December 1972 by-election, and John Tyndall addressed the Chelmsford Monday Club in February 1973—both events to the embarrassment of Conservative Central Office. Other bodies in which it is active are the Immigration Control Association; the British Campaign to Stop Immigration—based in Bradford under the chairmanship of J Merrick, claiming 4,000 members in Lancashire and Yorkshire, with supporters such as Lady Birdwood (Festival of Light committee member); the Racial Preservation Society, based in Hove; and certain provincial branches of the Anglo-Rhodesian Society.

Relations between the Front and other extreme right-wing groups are cool, a particular bone of contention being the standing of rival candidates in elections. This is one element of their dispute with Colin Jordan's British Movement, which calls for unity of the extreme right. The British Movement see the front as ultra-reactionary, and tend instead to call for 'revolution' and make appeals to youth. Jordan's group was active in distributing racist propaganda during the Mansfield Hosiery Mills dispute.

The National Front's main policies of racialism and "national" (ie white) unity are ones which they are attempting now to spread through the trade union movement as well as other organisations such as tenants associations, in preparation for the next general election, but a general recognition of who the National Front is and what they stand for should lead to these attempts being thwarted through united labour movement action.

Continued from page 6, col 3

article written by the "Labour Research Department," which is a useful exposure of some aspects of the Front and its Hitlerite "leaders". On page seven of this issue VOP prints an article which gives the real facts about immigration and gives the lie to the fascists, who are desperately trying to start a race war in order to divert workers of all colours and nationalities in Britain from organising to attack and overthrow their real main enemy - the capitalist class - which exploits all workers.

Below, in this column, there are details of study and investigation classes which concentrate on the question of fascism and which are part and parcel of the necessary groundwork which must precede the development of a scientific and militant anti-fascist fighting programme.

The fascists of the National Front constitute the most vile, thuggist and degenerate anti-working class elements in Britain. It is of course no accident that they are financially supported by the fascist regimes of South Africa, Spain, Portugal, South Vietnam and other reactionary governments, in addition to receiving help from the most despicable sections of the British ruling class who well understand the value - current and potential - of fascists who might be able to engineer racial strife on a large scale.

One thing is for sure, workers and progressive people in this country must learn from history and fully grasp the lesson that to allow freedom of speech to the fascists is to do nothing short of beckoning their advance, beckoning that is the development of a boss-dominated, fascist corporate state in Britain.

THE TIME IS NOW - NOT WHEN IT IS TOO LATE, PERHAPS - TO STUDY FASCISM AND TO DRAW UP EFFECTIVE PROGRAMMES TO DRIVE THE SCUM OF THE NATIONAL FRONT DOWN INTO THE SEWERS WHERE THEY BELONG, TO SMASH THEM COMPLETELY IN THE INTEREST OF WORKING AND PROGRESSIVE MANKIND.

TOWARDS AN ANTI-FASCIST PROGRAMME



PUBLIC STUDY AND EDUCATION CLASSES ON "GROWING FASCISM"

The anti-fascist classes, organised by the "Communist Workers League of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) will recommence in the Enterprise Pub, opposite Chalk Farm tube station, on Thursday 28th March, at 8pm prompt, and fortnightly thereafter in the same pub.

Part 111 of the course, constituting eleven classes, is divided as follows: classes 1&2 - the crisis of world and British capitalism, historically; the role of the Labour Party; the role of the Trade Unions; the growth of fascist organisations; the role of the Communist Party. Class 3 - the current world crisis of capitalism and imperialism. Class 4 - the British capitalist imperialist system in deep crisis, and the tactical options open to it. Classes 5,6,7, - the various strategies being adopted by the three major capitalist parties in Britain.

Class 8 - fascist organisations in Britain. Class 9 - the role of the Trade Unions. Class 10 - the "Left" in Britain. Class 11 - Cultural/Ideological aspects of fascism in Britain.

All progressive people are invited to the classes. These will be chaired by the CWLB (M-L) which organises and controls all aspects of them.

The results of this work will be used by the CWLB (M-L) to produce a draft statement on the question of growing fascism in Britain, with a view to drawing up a militant, anti-fascist programme, based upon the scientific principles of Marxism-Leninism, without which fascism cannot be defeated.

Your questions answered

ONE OF THE QUESTIONS most commonly asked of revolutionary socialists is "Why can't the 'left' unite?". It reflects a natural desire for the unity of all who wish to hasten socialism. What the questioner often fails to grasp is that although on the surface all the various left-wing organisations may appear to have much in common, in reality there are fundamental differences on a number of questions. On one question above all - how can the working class achieve the transition from capitalism to socialism - there exist two opposing views. One view is that the transition can be made peacefully and that the Labour Party can to one degree or another aid the fight for socialism. A second and diametrically opposite view is that the millionaire ruling class will never ever give up its property, privileges and political power voluntarily and peacefully, that therefore only a workers' revolution can overthrow capitalism, and that the reformist Labour Party is very definitely an obstacle in the path of creating the necessary level of revolutionary class consciousness among workers.

OPPORTUNISM MUST BE STRUGGLED AGAINST

The recent general election shoved to the forefront of the political debate the central issue of how can the working class achieve socialism and what attitude should workers have towards the Labour Party, in particular whether they should vote for it.

The following statements are quoted directly from the general election policy statements of the organisations concerned. They provide a key to understanding why it is that people genuinely concerned to see an end of capitalism cannot find any basic unity of approach with these organisations.

On 19.1.74 "SOCIALIST WORKER", official organ of the "International Socialists" stated the following on the general election and the Labour Party: "...We are for the return of a Labour govern-

Why can't the 'left' unite?

ment. To kick out the Tories is the immediate and vital need. That means to return Labour to power. There is no other choice at this time."

"...we believe that workers should vote for all Labour candidates, whether they be right, left, or centre."

"...it is essential to support the Roy Jenkins or Reg Prentice type of Labour politician against the Tories."

"The manifesto (i.e. the Labour Party's) is in no sense a socialist platform, not even of the gradual, parliamentary road variety."

"We do not believe that the Labour Party is capable of resisting capitalist pressure or that many of its leaders even want to."

"THE RETURN OF A LABOUR GOVERNMENT WILL CREATE THE MOST FAVOURABLE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR CARRYING FORWARD THE STRUGGLE."

The self-styled "WORKERS' REVOLUTIONARY PARTY" (the old S.L.L., in its latest dress) had the following to say in its general election manifesto: "Wilson, Callaghan and Crossland have all made it clear that their only undertaking to the working class is 'years of austerity' - the very thing that is being demanded by that well known socialist, the governor of the Bank of England."

"WE CALL ON THE ELECTORS TO RETURN A LABOUR GOVERNMENT."

In its official organ, the INTERNATIONAL MARXIST GROUP stated on 22.2.74 in 'RED WEEKLY': "But the present leaders of the Labour Party are wedded to the defence of the capitalist system - that is revealed in their every word and deed."

"...SMASH THE TORIES ON ALL FRONTS - VOTE LABOUR..."

In its general election manifesto the "COMMUNIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN" stated that a "Tory defeat, the winning of a Labour government" was the thing to achieve. It also talked of the need for "a new sort of Labour Government, which, this time, will stand up to big business..."

SOCIALISM A SCIENCE

More and more workers and other progressive people in Britain are growing sick

and tired of the opportunist and diversionary jabberings of these groups.

The I.S., W.R.P., I.M.G., are all trotskyite organisations and as such are violently opposed to revolutionary communism. The so-called Communist Party of Great Britain has degenerated into a reformist organisation. Although these organisations are constantly at one another's throats, in reality they share a common base of being opposed to the revolutionary overthrow of the capitalist class and instead, despite their left phraseology directed against the capitalist Labour Party, they advocate, as the above quotations expose, support for that very Party.

Ever since Marx and Engels in their theoretical writings established socialism as a science the working class has had at its disposal tools whereby it could analyse correctly all arguments about the fight for socialism. In other words questions of socialism are questions of science. And the socialist attitude towards unity is thus not a matter of vulgar horse-trading but a matter of science also.

The Communist Workers League of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) differs fundamentally with the above organisations on the central question of the achievement of working class power and on the role of the Labour Party.

Reformism, or Social Democracy, still dominates the political thinking of the working class in Britain. The Labour Party is the main Party of reformism in Britain and until its grip on the working class has been thoroughly broken and a genuine revolutionary working class party built it will not be possible to make revolution and bring socialism to Britain. Hence the Labour Party must be exposed, NOT VOTED FOR!

On the question of the achievement of working class power the C.W.L.B. (M-L) is equally clear: capitalism can be ended in one way only - through a socialist revolution led by the working class and its own revolutionary communist party, the formation of which is the most pressing task for workers and their allies,

The Royal gloss that costs you £274 a gallon

THE ROYAL PARASITES pictured below might well laugh - at our expense! While galivanting around New Zealand in the Royal Yacht Britannia, they decided that part of the yacht needed another coat of paint. London was cabled and 80 gallons of royal blue paint, exclusive in its chemical preparation, were rushed by plane to the layabouts. The cost to the Ministry of Defence, that is to you the tax payer, is 2,184 pounds. The paint cost 274 pounds a gallon and was available only at Portsmouth. Apparently it had been left over after the 1.8 million pounds refit on the Britannia which was completed in August 1973.



TWENTY ONE YEARS DEAD AND STILL THE BOSSES ATTACK JOSEPH STALIN-WHY?

THE MILLIONAIRE EMPLOYERS who are behind the "Aims of Industry" and who pay for advertisements such as the one on the right, are still forced to attack Joseph Stalin, who has been dead for twenty one years. These employers are members of a class which exploits many millions of workers every day in this country. The thing they fear most is the thought of the British working class overthrowing them by revolution. Because Joseph Stalin was in reality a great revolutionary leader, these British bosses hate him and fear that workers here will take a leaf out of his book. Stalin led the first socialist state for nearly thirty years, including the period of the second world war when the Russian people, the Red Army and the Soviet government, all led by Joseph Stalin initiated the historic defeat of German fascism. Khrushchov's vile attacks on Stalin, which were never given mass publicity inside Russia because of the peoples' deep respect for Stalin, and the rantings of trotskyite organisations in Britain, are in essence part of the general capitalist propaganda attack on Stalin and communism. To be attacked by the class enemy is a good, not a bad thing.

Don't be fooled out of your freedom

The Communists who figured so openly in recent industrial disputes are making no secret of their real intentions. They want to destroy the system, society which we live. This is their reason - the only true reason - for causing dislocation in industry and the maximum amount of hardship for everybody. So don't be fooled.

We live in a democracy, which means we have the freedom to choose, to speak our minds when we feel like it, and to vote. It's no surprise that we have voted a Communist into Parliament for twenty years. But many of us by not using other means of voice, or by using them without too much thought, have helped put Communists

into trade union executives and onto local councils. The Communists are not fooling; neither should we. This is the time when all thinking people should think very hard indeed before they allow little Stalin to get on more power. If you agree, then stand by those ministers and others who have been brave enough to speak out against unnecessary conflict.

Britain will receive the results of the Communists and their allies - but only if those of us who believe in our democratic system will, out to see that our point of view is heard.

"The above is a reprint of an article which appeared in the 'Aims of Industry' and is reproduced here with the permission of the Editor, 'Aims of Industry', 1 Finch Farm, Finch Lane, London EC2A 3AE."

Name: _____

Address: _____

Don't let the extremists wreck our freedom and our economy

Issued by Aims of Industry in the cause of free enterprise.

1 Finch Farm, Finch Lane, London EC2A 3AE.



The Relativities Fraud

THE LATEST POISON CARROT dangled by the ruling class to try and entice the trade unions and the working class in general into accepting wage control is the idea of a pay structure based on "relativities". The defeated Tory government actually established a "Relativities Board". The Board was established as a result of a special report on "relativities" by the corporative Pay Board. The fact that it

accept the ruling class attempt to impose a permanent, corporate relative relationship in wage patterns between various groups of workers, in line with the false idea that there is only a set proportion of the national income that can be set aside for the payment of wages. Clearly if workers were to fall for this attempt to trick them it would suit the bosses because they would be able to turn one section of workers against another in the age-old

Industrial Focus

poverishment of the working people of Britain by the ruling class of profiteers, should leave no doubt in the minds of workers as to the development of a corporate state in Britain. The carrot was the "Relativities Report" on the miners' case which promised more "generous" pay for the miners which the government hoped might end the strike and at the same time get the

• THE FACTS-MAKE UP YOUR OWN MIND

SOME PAY RELATIVITIES

	Pay per week
A D Rhea, chairman Vauxhall motors	£ 1,750
Sir J Clark, chairman Plessey Co	1,250
Sir E Drake, chairman British Petroleum	1,170
W E Emmott, chairman Automative Products Association	1,160
O A Aisher, chairman Marley	1,150
E Heath, Prime Minister	440
Sir F Figgures, chairman Pay Board	308
Farm labourer	21.80
Local authority refuse collector	24.12
Underground coal miner (grade 2)	27.29
Female sales assistant, retail food	16.15
Female laundry worker	14.36
Old age pensioner	7.75

Three hard core "muggers" of millions. Left: Marcus Sieff, 30,000 pounds a year chief of Marks&Spencer; centre: Garfield Weston 27,000 pounds a year head of Associated British Foods; right: Jocelyn

• SOME SPECIFIC EXAMPLES



Hambro 37,000 pounds a year chairman of Hambros Bank. These huge salaries are mere pocket money, breadcrumbs in the case of Weston, whose family owns the lion's share of the ABF empire, drawing 5,000,000. pounds annually in dividends.

• THE PICTURE AS A WHOLE

8per cent of the adult population own 85 per cent of the NATIONAL WEALTH!

was drawn up during the recent miners' strike was no accident. It remains to be seen whether or not the new Labour government will employ the anti-working class concept of relativities in some form or another. The working class should be clear on this question so that in the event of the trick being used it can safeguard its interests.

Quite justifiably the miners refused to accept the miserable pittance originally offered them under Phase 3 regulations which had been foisted onto other sections of the working class. The whole basis of Phases 1, 2, and 3 and the idea of a "relative pay structure" is the reactionary notion that workers should be denied their hard-won right to exercise free collective bargaining in pursuing wage claims, and should

spirit of capitalist divide-and-rule.

Workers would be diverted from struggling against their real main enemy, the ruling class of capitalists, and would instead end up fighting each other for "favoured status" in terms of the "relativities" league table con-game. Worker fights worker for a tiny cut of the capitalist cake while the bosses, bankers, property speculators, land owners and trade millionaires laughed their heads off in the lap of luxury.

The ruling class once again used the carrot and the stick. The stick took the form of Phase 1, 2, and 3, fascist-type legislation which, taken together with the fascist Industrial Relations Act, the recent jailing of militant building workers and the systematic im-

trade union movement to accept the idea of pay relativities. The fact that Gormley, Daly and McGahey attended a meeting of the Relativities Board is yet another sign of the willingness of the reformist trade union leadership to collaborate with the tactics of the ruling class.

That the return of a Labour government is no real victory in terms of the struggle of the working class to overthrow capitalism and build a socialist workers' state, is obvious to a growing number of people. It will be interesting to see what the capitalist Labour government will do about an incomes policy, pay boards and the relativities idea. Whatever it does to try and save capitalism the crucial, central task remains the same for us workers: to organise now for socialist revolution, to set about the building of a genuine revolutionary socialist Party of the working class, to work out a revolutionary programme that will relate to the actual problems of millions of workers and their families - a programme that will mobilise the people to fight both for solutions to their immediate problems and, most fundamental of all to fight for state political power and a genuine democratic workers' state.

APPEAL

The workers who make Voice of the People have set a fund-raising target of £1,000. That sum of money would really help to put this paper on a sound financial footing. Just think, if only 200 people gave £5 each the target would be achieved. Of course, not all can afford £5. We ask workers to donate what they can, anything at all. In the coming months Voice of the People workers will approach the people with an appeal for help to raise a £1,000 fighting fund. They will not be asking for charity. They will ask for help in the spirit of working class support for, and solidarity with a paper which serves the people. There are no rich backers for this paper. Those who produce it are just working class men and women. They need your political and financial support and they are going to ask you for it. Please do what you can.

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Growing fascism develops in Britain

AN ARTICLE IN THE "SUNDAY EXPRESS" of Sunday, 13.1.'74, headed "CARR READY TO ACT ON RED LIST WRECKERS", stated that "A top secret list of individuals and organizations whose activists would disrupt life in Britain has been drawn up by Government security officials. It contains more than 100 names of men who may attempt to interfere with any Government plans to safeguard public services during a major crisis. They represent the hard core of industrial and political troublemakers and have left security men in no doubt of their plans to foment industrial strife".

Advertisement

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PLEASE NOTE



If you wish to know what revolutionaries in Britain really believe in and are fighting for then send immediately for the state-ment "WHAT DO REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNISTS REALLY STAND FOR", which can be obtained through the address at the foot of the back page. 5p per copy, plus postage

World Struggles

"The socialist of another country is a fellow-patriot, as the capitalist of my own country is a natural enemy."
JAMES CONNOLLY



THE "WORLD ENERGY CRISIS"

THE CURRENT "ENERGY CRISIS", SO-CALLED, WHICH IS GRIPPING THE CAPITALIST WORLD AND BEING USED AS A LEVER TO SUPPRESS WORKERS' STRUGGLES HERE IN BRITAIN AND ELSEWHERE IS IN ESSENCE A REFLECTION OF THE CRISIS OF THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM. IT IS ALSO A DIRECT OUTCOME OF THE UNRESTRICTED FOREIGN EXPANSION AND RIVALRY FOR WORLD DOMINATION BY THE TWO SUPERPOWERS, UNITED STATES IMPERIALISM AND SOVIET SOCIAL IMPERIALISM (SOCIALIST IN WORDS, IMPERIALIST IN DEEDS).

Naturally, pro-capitalist journalists insist that working people must tighten their belts and prepare for a period of "ruthless austerity". They blame the "drain on energy resources", the Arab people, or the peoples of the underdeveloped countries in general for desiring a higher standard of living. This is all blatant trickery. It is aimed at concealing the real situation and the real causes of it. The fact is that it is in the nature of the imperialists to seek such fabulous monopoly profits, that in exploiting energy resources throughout the world, these parasites have in mind only the mad scramble for maximum wealth for themselves, and are not concerned with a rational use of natural resources.

Under capitalism the rise and fall of certain energy industries depends upon sheer profitability. For example, coal was once called the "food of industry", a main source of energy, and to this day coal deposits are still very rich, but in leading capitalist countries in recent decades coal has declined in importance. The USA boasts the largest coal reserves in the world, but its energy production is only one fifth dependent on coal. Coal cutting has been far less lucrative than oil exploitation. Similarly oil extraction from shale and sand has been neglected for reasons of profit, because it cannot satisfy the competitive and rapacious appetite of the capitalists.

ENERGY SQUANDERED

Capitalism means waste. Large quantities of oil are squandered in the capitalist world and this is down to anarchy in production accompanied by the fantastic luxury enjoyed by ruling class circles. In the USA present oil recovery rates reach only thirty five per cent. In other capitalist countries electricity for non-productive use absorbs one third to one half of total electrical power output. Arms and military expansion spending by

the major imperialist powers, particularly the USA and USSR either in waging, financing or preparing for wars is a steady and massive drain on oil reserves. These are some of the basic reasons why the "energy crisis" has hit the developed capitalist countries, when energy resources have never been so rich, varied and plentiful as today.

This waste can only seek to perpetuate itself through plunder. And imperialism means aggression and plunder. Profits and the economic and strategic importance of oil drive the imperialists to seize oil abroad for maximum profit rather than exploit its existence at home. For this reason oil reserves at home are often left untapped, and the monopolists swarm to the third world for alternative supplies.

The Middle East has become a milking cow yielding fabulous profits to foreign oil monopolies, governments and the ruling classes behind them in the respective capitalist and imperialist countries. Its strategic geographical and political importance lead to continuous contention in this area between the major super-powers. One imperialist power shoves another aside. The USA has replaced Britain, and now more than half of the oil production in the Middle East is controlled by US



US - Soviet social imperialist collusion is a major cause of the current "world energy crisis"

monopolies (direct investments amounting to \$1,800,000,000 in 1972, and profits of \$2,400,000,000). The rate of profit was 130%, or ten times the average rate of profit for all US investments overseas. The temporary and sham prosperity enjoyed by sections within the imperialist countries since the second world war is due primarily to the bloody robbery of the peoples and resources of the third world as well as to the exploitation of the workers within the imperialist and capitalist countries themselves.

SOVIET REVISIONISTS IN A MESS

The Soviet social imperialists are likewise governed by the same laws of profit seeking, and are also engaged in carving up the world and plundering natural resources and peoples. The once great Soviet Union, under the leadership of Lenin and Stalin, is no longer socialist but has degenerated, since the capture of power by revisionist (i.e anti-communist) elements into an imperialist country itself. The Soviet Union is unable to finance the exploitation of some of its own oil reserves and has had to go begging cap in hand to the western imperialists for them to invest in the Soviet Union.

Simultaneously they contend with the US for domination of the oil reserves in the Middle East. Some of the oil from the Mid-

dle East is re-exported at a profit by the Soviet Union to its eastern european satellites, many members of the Warsaw Pact. Its main lever in this unequal trading has been the recent war in the Middle East which has enabled the revisionists to pirate oil, sometimes re-selling oil and natural gas at a 300% profit. To achieve this the Soviet Union has had to pass itself off as the "friend and supporter" of the Arab peoples.

The Arab and other oil producing countries have for long been the real victims of this imperialist plunder. They have been kept backward and industrially undeveloped, while the advanced capitalist nations have continued to grow richer at their expense. It is nonetheless true that the rich Arab rulers, monarchs and petty feudal tyrants will not be prepared to unnecessarily jeopardise the very international capitalist system which keeps them propped up with arms and manufactured goods, as well as providing a profitable area for the investment of royalties obtained from the sale of oil which rightly belongs to the Arab working masses. But these feudal relics are increasingly having to answer to their peoples; their countries are no longer lambs for the slaughter to be bought and sold like milking cows.

The struggle of the Arab peoples against imperialism and the Israeli Zionist stooges should be supported by workers in Britain and across the globe. For only when the imperialist system is destroyed through revolution will the peoples of the world have access to and control of the rich natural resources of the world. Only a socialist revolution in Britain

-not milk and water minor reforms - will smash the attempts of the ruling class to shift the burden of their crisis onto the shoulders of workers and their families.

Only under socialism will the anarchy in production, the waste, social injustice, and exploitation finally be done away with, so that the energies of the people and the resources of the earth can be directed to serve mankind, the real needs of the people, instead of profits.

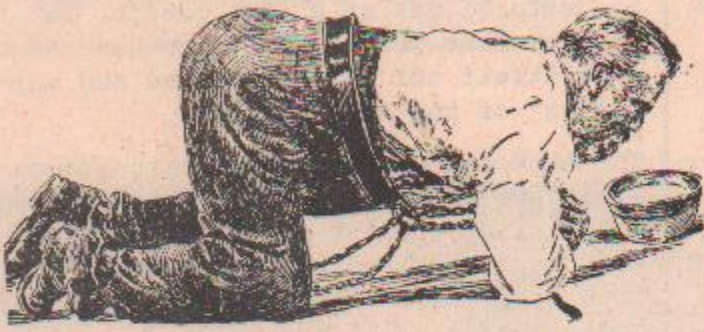
COSGRAVE'S TREACHERY

COSGRAVE'S RECENT DECLARATION that the "factual" status of "Northern Ireland" is that of a part of the UK sets the seal of Leinster House treachery against the Irish people and their right to national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. The sham "freedom" of the Dublin regime is once again exposed as the "freedom" to do what British imperialism instructs. Cosgrave, Lynch and the rest are traitors and will eventually be overthrown. Contrast their treachery with the following statement by the great JAMES CONNOLLY.

"If you remove the English army tomorrow and hoist the green flag over Dublin Castle, unless you set about the organisation of the Socialist Republic your efforts would be in vain.

England would still rule you. She would rule through her capitalists, through her landlords, through her financiers, through the whole array of commercial and individualist institutions she has planted in this country and watered with the tears of our mothers and the blood of our martyrs.

WITHDRAW THE TROOPS! RELEASE THE PRISONERS!



The Fenian O'Donovan Rossa, handcuffed with his hands behind his back and in chains, often naked, had to lap his bread-and-skilly off the floor like a dog, in a dark cell in Chatham jail.



Frongoch concentration camp in north Wales where 1,836 men were interned without trial after the 1916 rising.



Inside Long Kesh political concentration camp



One of the many anti-internment marchers who were ruthlessly bated by men of the 1st Paras on the beach outside Magilligan camp on 6 January 1972. Victims were savagely kicked also as they lay on the beach and rubber bullets were fired at them from close range.



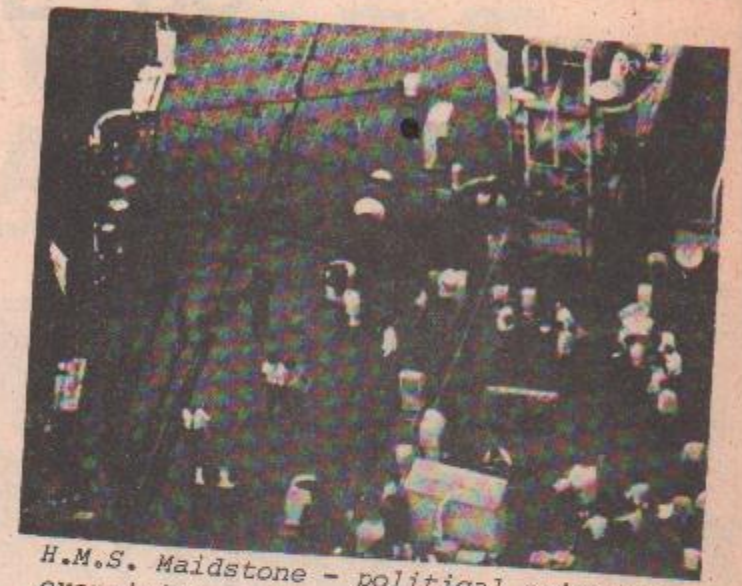
Patriotic women and children tell the troops that they think they are fascist-type invaders in a foreign land

In August 1969 several thousand British soldiers were rushed to the northern part of Ireland on the orders of the Wilson government. The peoples of Ireland and Britain were told by the politicians of the British ruling class that the troops were there to protect the people. That was a lie. They were sent to protect the substantial investments and property of that very same ruling class.

These millionaire investors feared that the demands for democratic rights, for an end to exploitation and mass unemployment, and for an end to slums and low wages, which had exploded in August 1969 into huge public demonstrations, might blossom into an all-out fight to end British colonial rule in Ireland.

DIVIDE AND RULE

In order to try and win the acceptance of the British public for the armed invasion the British ruling class tried to get people to believe that the troops were there primarily to separate different sections of the Irish community and prevent a religious war. Religious bigotry there is in the north, but how ironical it is to have to listen to the political mouthpieces of the root of that bigotry, the British ruling class, crying crocodile tears when for decades that same class has consciously whipped up religious bigotry in order to divide and rule the Irish working people. The "religious war" argument was and remains nothing but a vulgar pretext for an armed, brutal attempt by British imperialism to consolidate its position in the northern part of Ireland. The troops have brought murder and bloodshed. Far more lives have been lost since the invasion than before it. Many of the soldiers donned the khaki of the bosses' army because of unemployment here in Britain. But they have no right to be in Ireland. On Bloody Sunday 13 men and boys were slaughtered in cold blood. In addition, several hundred patriotic men and women are currently held without trial in political concentration camps, such as Long Kesh and Magilligan. WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW IN NORTH EAST OCCUPIED IRELAND IS BUT PREPARATION FOR THE USE BY THE BRITISH RULING CLASS OF THE SAME METHODS AGAINST WORKERS IN THIS COUNTRY. IRISH AND BRITISH WORKERS UNITE AND FIGHT!



H.M.S. Maidstone - political prisoners exercising on the deck of the floating concentration camp



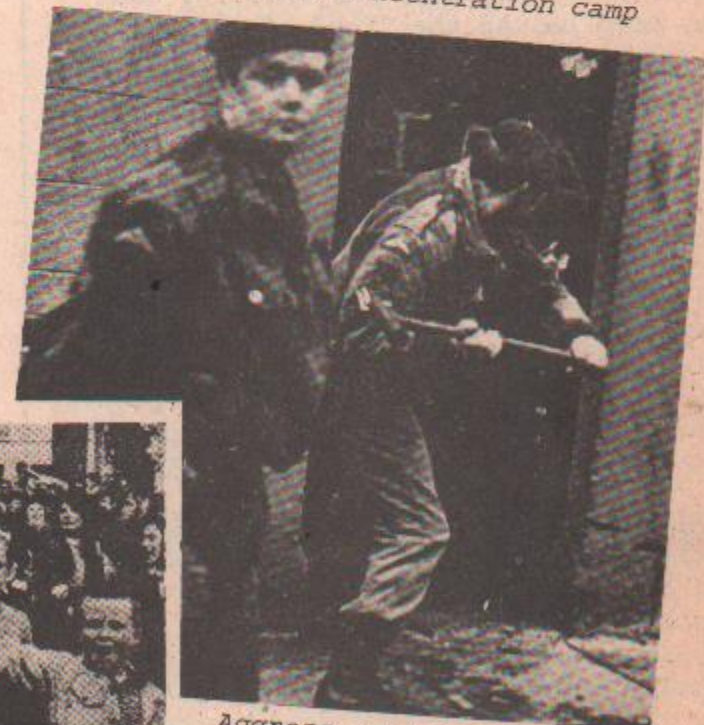
The "protectors of the people" at work



After torture, plus fear, hunger and exhaustion, prisoners were chained together in batches of six, hauled to helicopters and lifted to internment on board the HMS Maidstone on Belfast's dockside. (Associated Newspapers).



Long Kesh political concentration camp



Aggressor troops smash in doors and ransack homes in the Markets area of Belfast