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THE WORKER

STRIKES SWEEP BRITAIN!

WORKERS OF BRITAIN IN ACTION

REVOLUTION OR REVISIONISM?

ON NOVEMBER 7, 1917, the workers of Russia, led by a Communist Party under Lenin's revolutionary direction, overthrew their class enemies and took power. The first workers' state in history had been born.

The possibility of workers taking power by revolutionary means had been established for all time.

But Russia today illustrates another possibility. Workers having won state power can lose it, if they are lacking in vigilance and if their own vanguard party abandons a Marxist-Leninist line and becomes revisionist.

What is revisionism? It is compromise with the class enemy. It begins with doing deals with the enemy and ends in outright class collaboration. Internally it is coming to terms with capitalism instead of fighting for socialism. Externally it is coming to terms with imperialism instead of supporting the anti-imperialist struggles of the oppressed peoples and nations.

Revisionism, the policy of class collaboration, can lead to the restoration of capitalism in socialist countries and can frustrate the fighting spirit of workers in countries like Britain with a socialist revolution still to make. In Britain revisionism takes various characteristic forms. It pretends that it is possible to use the social institutions of the class enemy for revolutionary purposes — Parliament, local government or even the Trade Union structure.

The revisionist C.P.G.B.'s British Road to Socialism is an obvious example. It fails to provide a political lead at a time of rising working class militancy and allows the struggle to exhaust itself in reformist demands instead of challenging the capitalist system. It bows to jingoism and refuses to unite the struggle of workers in Britain with the anti-imperialist struggles of the people of Ireland, India, the Middle East or Zimbabwe. When over more British troops are sent to Northern Ireland, it is the worst sort of class collaboration not to take action, not to demonstrate forcefully that everytime a club is wielded against workers beyond these shores it is the same as though it were used to beat down workers' resistance here in Britain.

Revisionism is not simply to be found in political parties that profess revolutionary principles and betray them. It is to be found in individuals, too, who talk revolution but do not act as revolutionaries. Everytime we fail to stand up to the class enemy through fear or through thinking we can do a deal with him, we are guilty of revisionism. We have to conquer the revisionist tendencies in ourselves to fight successfully against revisionism as a reactionary social force.

This November marks another great socialist birthday — the 25th Anniversary of the Peoples' Republic of Albania. Albania is a small country but its courageous people under Enver Hoxha's leadership have never compromised with the class enemy. In the anti-fascist war of liberation they defeated the occupation forces of both Italy and Germany without any outside help. They foiled all the designs against their national sovereignty of the revisionist Tito. They have stood up resolutely against the imperialist powers, Britain and the U.S. When Khrushchev attempted to impose colonial status on them, they firmly repudiated Russian imperialism and refused to be cowed by threats or economic boycotts.

Inside Albania too there has been a continuing and successful struggle against revisionism. Comrade Enver Hoxha in his report to the Fifth Party Congress stressed the need for vigilance against the revisionist line of restoring capitalism. The workers of Albania under the guidance of the Marxist-Leninist Party and their great leader are achieving tremendous socialist victories.

We in the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) salute the Albanian people on this great occasion. The best acknowledgement we can make of their victorious celebration is to take them as our model in fighting for socialism and against revisionism in Britain.

THIS industrial action is a direct response from workers to government policies aimed at making the rich richer and the poor poorer. The rich complain about high taxation but have the means built into their system to pass their taxes on to the workers who can only pay up and see their living standards steadily eroded.

It has always been the contention of Marxists that the 'moderates' achieve more chaos than revolutionaries. Their ever continuing practice of ducking a fight that means something always brings in its wake numerous more fights which sow confusion and achieve little in the long run.

The 'moderates', the Trade Union bureaucratic establishment, never challenged the basic politics involved in 'In Place of Strife'. They never challenged the idea that workers must be disciplined to the advantage of the employers, they only cajoled the government into letting the T.U. bureaucracy exercise the discipline. They took it on, passed it to the General Council who in turn passed it on to Victor Feather and his staff. And the answer of the workers whom these all claim to represent is that they can all go and get stuffed. — Government, employers, T.U. Bureaucrats — the lot.

This is evidenced by the figures for strikes in past months. In the first 9 months of this year 3,989,000 days lost in more than 1,870 stoppages. And Lord Robens sounds off about chaos and Mr Hegland of Standard Triumph about anarchy.

It has been said that the workers pay slip is rapidly becoming just an explanation of where his wages have gone rather than how much he has to come. Those who bleat about chaos and anarchy and workers imposing demands on pain of strike impose their own demands on workers who are expected and in fact must, pay up or simply go without.

When a worker puts down his 3/- at the railway ticket office and is told that it is now 3/6, an increase of nearly 17%, he must pay or walk. When landlord or council tell a worker that the rent is up by 25% he must pay or quit, when the food purveyors slap increases on the prices he can pay or he and his family can go hungry. That is the simple method by which the capitalist class imposes its demands, there is no negotiation, just dictate. But when workers take action and the employers resist instead of paying up, that is chaos and anarchy.

WHAT THE STRIKE FIGURES SHOW

The strike figures only show that workers are realising in ever increasing numbers that there is nothing wrong in their laying down a price for their work if that is how the game is played in this society.

The Dustmen are lectured about 'social responsibility' when they demand a wage rise and withhold their labour in support of it. Everyone suddenly realises how useful dustmen are. In a society where a long haired post-singer can get more in a day than a dustman can earn in a year who can dare to speak about social responsibility.

The Dustmen, and rightly so, said 'if you are not prepared to pay us for our work then go without it' just like the dentist, actor, lawyer and all.

During these past weeks more and more workers have gone into action in support of their demands, whether it be wages, shorter hours or whatever. A significant feature has been the disregard for the Trade Union hierarchy and the government. Exhortations from both have been of no avail. It leads one to wonder how the goads would have coped with all the dustmen, engineers, ambulance drivers, motor workers, bakers and all if the TUC had just told Wilson to get on with his legislation instead of taking on his dirty work themselves.

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Women strikers at the Birmingham Sound Reproducers Factory at East Kilbride just before their pickets clashed with police.

WOMEN FIGHT FOR RECOGNITION

THE dispute at this factory in East Kilbride for that most elementary demand — Trade Union recognition — now enters its 12th week.

Why does it take 12 weeks and longer to smash an anachronistic capitalist? Because the State — the Labour Government — has consistently aided and abetted this fledgling of the capitalist class.

They, the Government, have always opposed the growing strength of workers. They, the Government, fear the working class and seek to castrate the trade unions of Britain, albeit their Party demands that the workers in the unions shall replenish the coffers of the Labour Party for the coming election by an increase of dues by 50 per cent!

'The Party with a soul! As Wilson says, "After all, our Ideals (?) are the same as yours."

Are they? The Ideals of Wilson and his Government are those of Capitalism. He seeks to pass laws against workers and their hard built Unions. In the fight he, in default, asks the TUC General Council to do his dirty work for him.

In place of Strife — substitute Programme for Action. Both are the same.

But does he seek to legislate against this Employer? Does he seek to fine him or clap him in prison for refusing something which was won against the State and State Law 100 years ago?

He met the strikers at the Gorbals By-Election meeting generously contributed to the strike fund and said he backed the principle!

Meanwhile, this company has been chivvied by the workers from one province to another in this country and chased out of Northern Ireland by the trade unions — not before, of course, this little capitalist secured large sums of money by way of subsidy to establish a factory in Northern Ireland and again in Scotland.

B.S.R. are missionaries for anti-trade unionism.

This little entrepreneur has refused to meet the full majesty of the state machine with its accommodating reformist policy, but like all reactionaries he reckoned without the masses.

One thousand women have taken up the battle backed by the full authority of the one-and-a-quarter million AEF.

Many an employer has come to quake at the wrath of women workers.

Now the C.I.R. in the person of L. Blake-

man no less, has been despatched to paper over the cracks. He, no doubt, was selected to proffer the abortion of trade union recognition which was first imposed on Ford workers one quarter of a century ago.

Fat chance, all of them! B.S.R. licked. Recognition will be forthcoming. Let the workers who struggle so valiantly to achieve it make sure it is full blooded recognition, i.e. they who work at that place shall represent the workers and call the tune.

Women are in revolt.
It is justified to rebel.

"The general crisis of capitalism is not an immediate act, but a long period of tempestuous economic and political upheavals, a period of fierce class struggles — the period of the collapse of capitalism as a whole and of the birth of socialist society."

V.I. Lenin.

ALBANIA'S 25th ANNIVERSARY

Join in celebrating the great revolutionary occasion of Albania's Twenty Fifth Anniversary.

Under the leadership of Enver Hoxha and the Albanian Party of Labour the people of Albania have scored tremendous socialist achievements in the 25 years since liberation from fascist occupation. Developments in agriculture and industry have far outstripped even the most optimistic promises of workers fired with revolutionary enthusiasm. But it is in the field of human relations based on socialist morality that Albania demonstrates the true meaning of eliminating exploitation from society.

All those with respect for a truly great courageous people and a belief in socialism will want to participate in this celebration.

Holborn Assembly Room (behind Holborn Library, off Theobalds Rd, WC1. 7 p.m. Saturday, November 29th.

ALBANIAN DELEGATION REPORT

ON September 1st six members of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) arrived in Albania as guests of the Albanian Party of Labour. We saw preparations going ahead for the celebration in November of the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the Peoples' Republic of Albania in 1945.

Our welcome was most cordial and when we expressed our thoughts relative to the smallness of our Party in the oldest industrial country in the world, our hosts reminded us that their Party was also small at the beginning, only 200 members in 1941, and founded under conditions of illegality with the country occupied by the Italian fascists. We learned much in many long talks with leading Albanian Party members of the problems in the formation of the P.P.L., its leadership of the partisan war of liberation and the successful struggle for power. Our discussions revealed how a small party with courage and Marxist-Leninist politics had triumphed over almost insuperable odds.

Albania with a population of less than 3 million was until liberation a wholly agrarian country and one of the most backward even in its agriculture. In 25 years the country has not become a modern industrial country and its agriculture is nowhere near as mechanised as Britain's, but massive achievements have been made in the most difficult conditions.

Visiting reporters have made snide comments about such things as the plumbing



Tag Roycraft, leader of the delegation to Albania, greeting on behalf of the CPB (ML)

but there was not one plumber in the country before liberation, not an inch of railway, no electricity; in fact, the transition has been from a feudal economy to socialism. They pay a considerable commitment to socialists who comment adversely on housing and standards of living in Albania. No capitalist or revisionist country for that matter has done more to raise the general standard of living than Albania, and what Albania has achieved has been from the worst position and in the shortest time.

Completely new towns have been built and with them new industries. In these new towns, houses and flats are of a high standard, the roads wide and tree lined where people can walk without fear of traffic.

The capital, Tirana, has been developed enormously with eight times its prewar population, its houses and flats modern and attractive and what was little more than a village extended and made into a very attractive city.

Of course visitors from abroad notice lack of many things common in capitalist society - notably cars, but what is also outstanding is the consequent lack of what goes with unrestricted motor vehicle traffic. There are no such things as traffic jams, there is no road problem and death and injury from road accidents virtually nonexistent, people find pleasure walking on the pavements and in the roads and stop to talk to friends and what little traffic there is just finds a way round them.

The lack of the familiar trappings of the so-called affluent society doesn't mean that life in Albania is dull. On the contrary we find everybody, young and old full of life, proud of their achievements and confident of their future, because they realise that Marxist-Leninist leadership is not just concerned with producing things in greater quantity and quality but are progressing rapidly to an objective never yet achieved by any nation, the new socialist man.

This may sound high talking in our kind of society. Certainly such expressions as 'social interest before self interest' coming from any capitalist politician would be greeted by nothing but resounding raspberries and with very good reason. From the lips of a Koxayin or Tito such expressions would be equated with the headlong growth of the new rich and privileged class sponsored by their revisionist policies. In Albania we saw living evidence everywhere of the development of genuine

socialist consciousness and its effects on the whole face of the country and the economy. This is particularly noticeable in terms of the youth. We found in all spheres of activity youth playing a most active role. A country without a 'youth problem' is almost unique in the world today. In Albania youth are at the forefront in overcoming problems. In factories we, most of us engineering workers, were astonished at the high level of skill displayed by young workers, male and female. The Tirana tractor spare parts factory was an eye opener in many respects. Equal pay of course; but as well as almost complete absence of differentials, The highest paid, the director, getting 30% above the factory rate, which is exceeded by workers exceeding their production targets. The work is performed with no regard to age or sex except that those over sixty retire. We saw girls of 18 and 19 years of age doing jobs normally done in Britain by craftsmen with years of training and experience - such jobs as jig boring and universal milling. In positions of responsibility in all spheres in industry and agriculture the youth were very prominent.

The success in the campaign to root out bureaucracy and equalise pay has had the effect of transforming attitudes to work with benefit to all. This contrasts completely with the Khrushchev policy of profit, material incentive, and the development of bureaucracy and privilege. Examples which

impressed us very much were those projects undertaken with enthusiasm by the youth organisations, these include the building of railways and planting of tens of thousands of fruit trees, all arduous work, all voluntary and unpaid. This is not just a question of economics, the greatest benefit is political and ideological. It brings together young workers from town and country from all regions to work, play and study together and is part of the struggle to ensure the continued advance to Communism and insure against reactionary ideas leading back in the direction taken by the revisionists.

Our delegation will be producing a fuller and more detailed account of all we saw and discussed in the three weeks we were in Albania. If this report deals so much with the role of youth in Albania it is because this aspect of life made the greatest impact on us. In 1941 a youngster named Enver Hoxha took the lead in establishing a Party of a new type, the Party consisted mostly of youngsters and they were chided for this.

These young people built the Party, offered and led the Partisan Brigades, led the revolution and established a Socialist Republic.

Enver Hoxha is no longer young in years but as leader of the Party has successfully enrolled the youth in the struggle to defend the Socialist revolution and ensure its advance.

In November our Party in Britain will join with the Albanian comrades in celebrating their anniversary. In doing so we will remember their small beginnings, their courage and will know that with Marxist-Leninist politics in command we must, like them, triumph.

Report on a recent visit to Albania by Denny Ryan.

"The building of socialism under workers' control: revolutionary working class solidarity" and other points will be considered.

Discussion and Questions.

Thursday, 13th November 7.30 p.m. Black Horse, West Street, Old Market, Bristol.

Meetings sponsored by Bristol Branch, Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist)



ON NOVEMBER 7, October 25 by the old Russian calendar workers throughout the world will be celebrating the 52nd anniversary of the great October Socialist Revolution.

The events of fifty two years ago demonstrated to the world that a whole new historical epoch had been ushered in, for the first time in history (except for the short lived and heroic Paris Commune of 1871) the workers had seized hold of state power. The oppressed majority were no dictating to the oppressing minority. This caused cries of horror and indignation from the capitalist exploiters throughout the globe. The great imperialist powers of Britain, France, the US and Japan all sent aggressor troops to collide with internal reactionaries in an attempt to overthrow the new Soviet Republic. But the imperialists were soundly defeated by the Workers' and Peasants' Red Army, thus showing them to be the paper tigers that they really are.

Not only did the imperialists cry out in horror, so did the fake socialists of the Second International, for the lies and illusions they were peddling about the peaceful transition to socialism through winning 'democratic' parliamentary elections were totally exposed. Workers throughout the world were learning the lesson from the October Revolution: that only by building a disciplined Marxist-Leninist workers' party and forcibly smashing the bosses' state machine could the way forward to socialism be achieved.

Under the leadership of Lenin and Stalin, the Soviet working class in alliance with the peasants showed that by building on the basis of self reliance a great socialist state could be created despite of foreign capitalist encirclement. The fact that revisionists have since recaptured state power and restored capitalism in the Soviet Union, turning it into a reactionary imperialist power, can never tarnish the glory of the October Revolution. Furthermore, the lessons of the Proletarian Cultural Revolution in China, which smashed the attempts at capitalist restoration and consolidated workers' state power, means that if a correct struggle is waged against revisionism, further tragedies like the betrayal of the October Revolution in the Soviet Union can be prevented. As Mao has said 'The road of the October Revolution is, fundamentally speaking, the bright road of progress for all mankind.'

The total production of coal in Albania during the year 1958 is now extracted in two days. Working with revolutionary enthusiasm in order to meet with the best possible successes the Jubilee of the 25th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Homeland and the Victory of Popular Revolution the workers of the coal industry are overfulfilling their most ambitious pledges.

CPB (ML) RESOLUTION ON CHINA

THIS meeting, called by the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist), marks the Twentieth Anniversary of the founding of the Peoples' Republic of China and sends warmest revolutionary greetings to the great Communist Party and people of China, headed by Chairman Mao Tse Tung.

On October 1st, 1949, the Chinese people stood up, having ripped off the chains of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat capitalism. In the twenty years since, China has advanced from strength to strength, scoring great successes on the economic, cultural, political and ideological fronts.

Her greatest triumph has been the epoch-making victory of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. The Russian Revolution in October, 1917, guided by Marxism and Leninism, showed the world that the proletariat could successfully seize state power. China's Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, guided by Marxism, Leninism and Mao Tse Tung Thought, has shown how, by continuing class struggle under socialism, the proletariat can consolidate its dictatorship. In rooting out the Liu Shao-chi revisionist clique from inside the Party and state apparatus the Chinese people have not only assured the future of China's proletarian dictatorship but have taught the workers of all countries a political lesson of universal significance.

The road traversed by China is the road that British workers also will have to take. As British imperialism's collapse accelerates from day to day the British monopoly capitalist ruling class is more and more revealing that the iron fist of fascism lies under the velvet glove of

BRITISH TROOPS OUT OF IRELAND

IRISH resistance to the British military occupation of the North is growing. The last month has seen increasing hostility from the broad masses of the people to the British troops, which exploded on the night of October 11 in Belfast into a three-hour gun battle. This was the first occasion on which it has been officially admitted that British troops have opened fire. The fact that they fired on a protestant crowd, who shot back and killed a member of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, is not surprising. The protestants have been granted a somewhat privileged position in the past in return for their loyalty to Britain, but British imperialism will sell out even its most devoted followers at the drop of a hat if it suits its class interests. The protestant workers are learning the hard way that their real enemy is British imperialism. And the logic will be inescapable that their real friends are the catholic workers and peasants.

As the opposition mounts, more British troops are being sent to Northern Ireland. At least ten battalions are there now. Defence minister Healey has revealed that these troop movements have put an intolerable strain on British imperialism's military commitments elsewhere, especially in Germany and the Far East. In this situation Britain is desperately seeking a way to quickly pacify her oldest colony. This is why there have been recent feverish manoeuvres, involving the Lynch government in the South as well as the Stormont clique in the North, in which the idea of some kind of 'federal' structure linking the two halves of Ireland with Britain has been dreamed up. But in the long run it will be the Irish people and not the ruling cliques that will decide Ireland's future. That future will not be in a federation but in a united Ireland freed finally from the domination of British imperialism.

ARAB PEOPLES STRUGGLE

(From an article in the Albanian Party Paper Zeri i Popullit)

'THE SUPPLY to Israel of F-4 Phantom jets by the United States reveals yet again to the Arab peoples who is hiding behind Israel, who is inciting and supporting them. It showed again the real features of the U.S. imperialist as the most savage enemies of the freedom and independence of the Arabs.'

'Israel being supplied with these military aircraft comes at a time when the chiefs of U.S. imperialism and Soviet revisionism are striving to utilize the U.N. session, just opening in New York, as a place for further bargaining at the expense of the Arab people.'

'The Arab people, however, do not allow themselves to be frightened by the efforts of the imperialist-revisionist and revisionist enemies. They are closing their ranks. They are becoming ever more vigilant and are realising that their aspirations - driving the Israeli Zionists out of the occupied territories, defending the freedom and independence of their countries and bringing real peace and security to the Middle East - can never be achieved through bargaining and resolutions at the U.N. or in the imperialist-revisionist chambers.'

'The Albanian people have been and will always be loyal and determined friends of the just struggle of the fraternal Arab people against imperialism, Zionism and their canouflaged enemies the Khrushchev revisionists.'

social democracy. The concentrated onslaught on the working class organised and carried out by the Labour Government can only be met by a great working class offensive. Workers in Britain are learning to apply the scientific principles of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tse Tung Thought to their own revolutionary struggle.

China is indeed the great red bastion of world revolution, the rear area of which all the revolutionary forces of the world can rely in their own struggles. Imperialism has identified China as its principal enemy, the stumbling block which must be removed if imperialism is to survive. Imperialism had hoped that revisionists inside the Party would subvert the leadership and bring China on to the capitalist road, but their hopes have been dashed by the victories of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and the Ninth Congress of the Communist Party of China. They are therefore resorting to threats and nuclear blackmail. Should U.S. and Soviet imperialism dare to launch a war of aggression against China they will confront not only China but the people of the world, and China will be imperialism's burial ground.

LONG LIVE THE MILITANT FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF BRITAIN AND CHINA!
VICTORY TO MARXISM-LENINISM-MAO TSE TUNG THOUGHT!
LONG LIVE MAO TSE TUNG - A LONG, LONG LIFE TO HIM!

Committee of Britain, (Marxist-Leninist), October 6th, 1969.

STRIKES SWEEP BRITAIN

During recent weeks: 1,150 workers out at Standard Triumph affecting 9,000 others for a claim of £4.5.0 increase to secure parity of pay with the company and compensation for lay-offs.

1,250 out at C.A.V. part of the Lucas combine, for increased pay.

125,000 miners out for shorter hours. When will they learn that backing Labour Government policies and electing to office the darlings of the 'Left' still leaves them to fight for their own corner, and they have to take on their 'friends' as well!

H.M. Stationery Office - 850 out for better wages. They stopped the government printing its policy but now have to fight the TUC operating.

Rolls Royce - E.Kilbride, 1,600 out over the suspension of a woman member carrying out union policy instead of the dictates of the employer.

10,000 bakers out in Merseyside and Manchester for £2 wage claim instead of 25/- to 30/- negotiated by officials.

B.S.H. East Kilbride 800 out, mostly women, for Union recognition from this American firm.

15,000 Vauxhall workers out at Port Eileanmore over a pay and productivity deal.

The Rank Organisation, while announcing record profits for the eighth year running £11,258,000 Net taxed profit, offer wage settlements with strings to workers at the Highbury and Camden Town factories, the settlement offered falls well short of the claim and has the effect of dividing time workers from piece workers. The workers are out at the time of going to press.

300 Drivers and loaders out at Boots Pure Drug Co.

These are only a sample of the struggle going on on the industrial front. Stagnant - a common feature like the strike of Blastfurnacemen at the Steel Co. of Wales is the disregard for such niceties as the 'official' or 'unofficial' tag and the short shrift shown to the 'peace-makers'.

In all these struggles of workers sacrifices are made by all those who take part. It is time to ask what return they get or will get from all the struggle and sacrifice. Of course it is always right to fight, whichever government, with or without 'official' approval from the T.U. bureaucracy but are the gains commensurate with the struggle? The gains are short lived, they can be taken away by all the means employers have of wheedling and dealing.

To achieve real lasting advance the struggle must take on a political character or be doomed to move around in circles getting nowhere.

The struggle must advance to the level where we do not simply demand that the employers give BUT THE EMPLOYERS GO. For as long as there are employers there will be struggle against employers but the gains illusory and short lived. It would take little more action, as long as it is not purely spontaneous and sporadic action, to get the employers out than to make them cough up a wage increase.

If all the action by workers this year alone was directed at the employers and government all at once, with a clear political objective, we would never have to bother with employers again.

TRANSPORT WORKERS IN ACTION

THERE IS currently a strike of Maintenance Craftmen (AEP) at London Transport, supported by craftsmen of other Unions.

This of course, is not the least of the Transport Board troubles for they are assailed by the strike action of the guards of trains by ASLEF and NUR members, the most advanced section of that union - not to mention the anger of passengers concerning fare increases.

When are we to have a strike by the consumer, by passengers, - not by refusing to travel by refusing to pay and insisting on travelling.

This by the way - We are at pains to report on the Maintenance Strike and we go so before we get the usual liberal twaddle about discrimination, restrictive practices and craft prejudices.

What are the facts? London Transport Board agreed years ago with AEP, then AEU, to employ, through the Union as Maintenance men, apprenticed indentured and/or time served members for this work. They now seek, by back door methods, to de-skill and subsequently reduce rates of pay by demanding freedom to introduce semi-skilled in the field. In this they are aided and abetted by the 'leaders' of the NUR.

All depots are involved save, at this time, the Signals Section. The action of the AEP members requires full support, financial and otherwise, of all London workers. We must tell the Transport Board, and indeed the 'leaders' of the NUR who seek to turn that Union into a Company Union, they shall both be defeated. Those who collude with the employing class shall be seen as the enemy and treated as employers.

Incidentally, the action of AEP members is approved by the Executive of that Union. It would be no less just were it not so.

LABOUR GOV. WORKERS' ENEMY!

ON OCTOBER 2nd the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) in association with its Sussex branch held a meeting during the 'Labour' Party conference. Many workers, students, friends and comrades attended in response to the general call set out in posters - "Don't be fooled again by the 'Labour' Party."

The main speaker, Reg Birch, Chairman during the Labour Party Conference because Labour "unfortunately still has in its number good workers. There are still there people who have slogged all their lives having been gulled that you shall achieve Socialism by the ballot box, that there is a neat way, a British way, a kind of English cricket way to do it. But come that joke of an election when the question shall be Box and Cox we shall say then waste not your time on those politicians and their false promises."

There is no difference between a Labour Party and a Tory Party today - both expect that they must make the system work, and work against us. The Labour Party are architects and innovators for capitalism."

"It is what we will give to the nation as a working class that matters," not the pious claims of the capitalist politicians."

Speaking of the Ford strike and other recent important industrial actions Birch continued "The British working class is the oldest and most advanced working class in the world... No one can tell this most advanced working class how to fight for itself but you know that win, lose or draw in that battle you have advanced nothing in terms of yourself as a class."

Our Party "Must show that it is no harder to take the thing to its proper political level than it is to fight for those economic gains."

It is our job to show that there is no primrose path to socialism Birch continued. If we and the working class fall "the workers will become disillusioned, they will turn away because of our cowardice, they will in the end come to find one day that because they didn't get around to seizing power themselves that a new extension of capitalism will have come about - fascism."

"The working class will not have it any more. They will judge by who do!"

Ted Roycraft, trade union leader and member of the Secretariat CPB(ML) began by calling the Labour Party Conference "National Rubbish Week." The conference was "surrounded with a great air of fantasy."

Their debates do not have any real effect on the decisions made by the Labour Government which are "based upon the requirements political and economic of monopoly capitalism." In contrast "our meeting breathes an air of reality."

The real strength lies with the working class, not in the conferences and resolutions of the misleaders, whether Labour or the TUC. The 'Labour' Party and revisionist 'C'PGB spread the illusion that the existing institutions set up to serve the interests of capitalism can be made to serve the interests of the workers by means of a fiddle at the top, that a "machine that is set up to oppress can be made to serve the interests of the workers."

"All the rules laid down in this country politically and economically are laid down by the employers and we as a Party

COUNCIL WORKERS STAND UP

WHEN refuse collectors in Hackney struck for a £20 basic wage few visualised the resounding consequences to follow. As other London Boroughs joined the strike it gained momentum until many principal towns and areas throughout the country were affected.

What had started as a small localised strike ended as a major victory for all Local Government manual workers. Refuse collectors in London secured a £2,10.0 Flao. All other grades of Council workers received increases. Labourers in London, for instance, received an extra 37/6d. There were also adjustments made to overtime rates. In other words, Council workers won their biggest wage rise ever and showed the way for other sections of workers.

The problems that confront Council workers who wish to make their strength felt are numerous. Firstly, there are three unions: National Union of Public Employees, General and Municipal and the Transport and General. Secondly, Council workers are distributed over wide areas in small depots and even in ones and twos. Thirdly, except amongst refuse collectors, there is no tradition of militancy amongst the other grades.

In spite of these difficulties the strike snowballed, with shop stewards in local depots taking the initiative in calling the men together, or, as in many unorganised places, men belonging in any of all three



Reg Birch, Chairman of the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist), at the Brighton meeting exposing the anti-working class policies of the Labour Government.

will not be bound by them... We are not going to play it according to their rules."

The so-called left-wingers in the Labour Party have carried out a "headlong retreat in the sole interests of monopoly capitalism."

We must be realists in terms of political objectives, Roycraft continued; we cannot vote employers out of existence, they are still there after strikes and elections. "We are for socialism. We don't believe it can be attained by peaceful means. We face the threat of fascism in England and in the world. We have to counterpose to that not the palliatives of social democracy but a clear path of revolution. The only solution for the working class, the only way they can attain all their political and economic objectives is by the revolutionary overthrow of the rule class in Britain and replacing it by the dictatorship of the working class in this country."

Michael Klein Sussex Secretary, spoke of Labour's broken promises on wages, rents, interest rates, prices, equal pay for women, and criticized them for the rising cost of living, record rates of unemployment, speed-up, and taxes on working people. He pointed out that "historically in the U.S., Germany, and now in England it is the Social Democratic parties and their Corporate State that have most effectively acted for the employers to disarm and co-opt the trade unions, to attack the intermediate strata, to confuse demoralise and then smash the working class. For every development of organisation and strengthening of monopoly capitalism and its dictatorship, whether compulsory conciliation committees wage freeze or TUC self regulation, is done in the name of so-called "socialism" and "the national interest."

"To expect the capitalists to give up one of their two parties, their most effective one at that, is like expecting them to give up state power and the fruits of exploitation without a revolution. There is no lesser evil; it is time for a new start."

In the lively discussion that followed many people agreed that a new start must be made to develop a workers' party that will take state power and build socialism and that that party is the Communist Party of Britain, Marxist-Leninist.

unions or no union at all, talking things over and walking out spontaneously. In some areas of London, amongst other grades, there were as many non union members on strike as members.

Almost overnight shop stewards and liaison committees had sprung up all over London and the provinces. The whole situation had become most embarrassing for the leadership of the three unions and it was with a view to ending the revolt against Government policies and their own bankrupt support for the Government that two of the three unions promptly settled for the management offers, and without any consultation whatever with the rank and file members.

But all the same, a major victory had been won.

The union leaders are very aware of the fact that more money can be squeezed out of the employers. The editorial of the current issue of N.U.P.E. journal urges workers to squeeze more out of the employers on a local basis in the form of productivity deals. But the workers will not be fooled by this cunning attempt to implement Government policy.

During the struggle workers have learnt in the most practical way possible that unity is strength; that organisation at depot basis and in shop stewards committees are imperative for the future.

MERSEYSIDE REDUNDANCIES

IN OUR October issue, we carried a report from our Liverpool comrades concerning the struggle of G.E.C. Merseyside workers against redundancy.

We must thank them for their initiative, for it is what is required from all comrades everywhere in connection with the day to day struggles of the working class.

Further, we must endorse the general point they make: There is no substitute for a correct mass line - from the workers to the workers. No one can lead workers who is not prepared to learn from them.

However, it is not correct to allow the analysis they make to go by without comment.

In describing the failure to effect the take-over, they correctly explain the weaknesses in that this was activated in somewhat of a vacuum and in a semi-committee, secretarial manner.

Let it be clear that the call by the workers for a take-over commands and demands the full support of this Party and the maximum activity to secure solidarity action by all workers, particularly in the immediate environs, to ensure its accomplishment. That there were weaknesses is self-evident.

In the first place, no mass of workers must ever give to a leadership, for example, an Action Committee, a mandate to 'do whatever it saw fit...'. If a mass of workers do say this, then they are not serious. No action can ever be embarked upon without the fullest participation of the mass to be involved in consultation, agreement and implementation of the strategy and tactics to carry out decisions based on conviction, fought for and won.

It cannot be argued that one kind of action is better than another, based on its acceptability by the most timid. Nor is a strategy applied on the lowest common denominator.

To add that a 'sit-in' would be more palatable is to beg the question. To advance the numerous difficulties surrounding the carrying out of a particular action is not a reason for not trying.

Objectively, there is in this setting very little difference between a call for take-over or a 'sit-in'. Both demand the maximum conviction of the workers and a 'high level of consciousness among the men'. As for the suggestion of 'rightening legal consequences, possible loss of redundancy pay for industrial misbehaviour', etc, such would have arisen in either event.

Equating a call for a take-over with 'workers control' is confusing and associates a necessary tactic in the struggle, i.e. 'Take over', with the insouciant ultra-left infantile prattle about 'workers control' coming from the amateurs and worse, which is nothing more than a call for class collaboration. Workers control cannot come about within capitalism, only by smashing capitalism and establishing the dictatorship of the proletariat."

The call for a take-over must be well-considered. It is also true without qualification that to carry it out required, as our comrades say, the 'support of the men'; but it must ever be remembered that just as strikes begin and end and start again, so must take-overs - the process is continual.

A call for take-over in this setting, whilst not so lofty or significant, can be compared with our comrades of the NLF in Vietnam who took over the US Embassy in Saigon. It is an indication of power and the promise of more. One must not bother with the difficulties, real or fancied, of administration. Nobody in Saigon bothered to administer the US Embassy, and in departing they gave notice of return.

No, the call has been made. It was not successful - indeed, for some of the reasons our comrades advance. Having been made, it will arise again. Let us be ready.

Reg Birch, Chairman.

SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE

All-night vigil in Parliament Square (Opposite Parliament)

Sunday, November 9 from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

COME AND SHOW BY YOUR PRESENCE YOUR DETERMINATION TO OPPOSE BRITISH IMPERIALISM'S CONTINUING EXPLOITATION OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

Support Zimbabwe National Liberation struggle against Smith's fascist gang and his imperialist masters.

Vigil organised by ZIMBABWE AFRICAN NATIONAL UNION (Z.A.N.U.)

STATE CONTROL OF EDUCATION

THE RECENT report by the Parliamentary Select Committee on student unrest reveals the authorities as worried because "student protest, in its extreme form, challenges the structure of society itself." To deal with the situation they recommend the same sort of tactics as those used against trade unionists. First the big stick is waved - the threat of new laws against strikers - then there is the apparent concession which still gives unprecedented state control, and incorporates the TUC into the growing apparatus of the corporate state.

In education this plan turns up as Edward Short's threat to sling "academic thugs" out on their necks and hints of new laws against sit-ins. Now we have got the apparent concessions, with the Report coming out against new laws - because all the powers needed already exist. All higher education is to be brought under the control of a Higher Education Commission, putting a formal end to the "binary system" - the division into universities and "the rest," but doing nothing to end the real inequalities, the appalling conditions in teacher training colleges, technical colleges etc.

To stop Student Unions taking militant actions as at the LSE where the Union voted to remove the iron gates, their constitutions are to be controlled, and they are to be threatened with having their money cut off. Discipline is also to be centralised. Some people will bleat about "academic freedom" and "independence" but the bosses are determined to have complete control over higher education to make it satisfy "National manpower needs" to churn out recruits for the big corporations.

To keep students quiet they are offered "participation" in meaningless committees, which fits in perfectly with the "Student Power" demands of some fake revolutionaries. But the only way to fight the growth of the corporate state is to build a massive united movement of students and workers, under working-class leadership, to smash the whole system, not just nibble at bits of it.

THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND WILL WIN

(from an article in L'Humanité Rouge)

"The Wilson Government, agent of British imperialism, has poured troops into the North to prop up its embattled Belfast puppet. As for the reactionary Government of Eire, it persists in its treason. Instead of resolutely defending the population of Northern Ireland it contents itself with making mild declarations and contacting - U Thant!

"The Irish peoples' revolt will spread, despite all these manoeuvres. In 1916 Lenin wrote: 'A blow delivered against the English Imperialist bourgeoisie by a rebellion in Ireland is a hundred times more significant politically than a blow of equal weight delivered in Asia or Africa... The misfortune of the Irish is that they rose prematurely, when the European revolt of the proletariat had not yet matured.'

"Today, in spite of revisionist treason, the colonial and dependant peoples have risen, the colonial empires are crumbling, the imperialists, particularly British imperialists, are at bay.

"The time has come when the Irish people, face to face with the Labour Government imperialists, the reactionaries in Dublin and the puppets in Belfast, will march forward again toward the reunification of their country..."

"The Irish people have already in large part overcome the religious antagonisms stirred up by the imperialists and reactionaries. They will learn to provide themselves with a vanguard revolutionary organisation, a party basing its practice on the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism, which will succeed and avenge the Irish workers and peasants who have fallen in their hundreds of thousands in the centuries-old struggle against British imperialism."

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DON'T BE AFRAID OF CHAOS

THE dustmen's strike and the one-day stoppage on the London Underground, like the May-June strikes last year in Paris or the strike wave in Italian cities now, remind us that no highly industrialised country is ever more than one week away from complete chaos. This is the power workers hold in their hands. When the life of a great city is brought to a halt by the action of workers, who can get it going again? Not the bosses. Not the bosses' stooge Government in Westminster. Not the TUC nor even the trade union hierarchy. Only the workers themselves who having withdrawn their labour agree to go to work again.

Over the last few weeks we have heard loud walls from the heads of British industry and from Government spokesmen about the anarchy of workers' industrial action. Why wasn't Barbara Castle doing something about it? Why wasn't the TUC doing something about it? Why were the leaders of the major unions not taking action against unofficial stoppages? Was the country to sink into chaos?

The joke of this complaint is that big business and the governments they control are constantly creating anarchy in their scramble for profits. What could be more chaotic than the whole system of international currency deals or the constant mergers and closures of British firms? The bosses don't want to end this kind of anarchy. They just want a nice orderly work force content to be robbed of the value of the goods they produce according to the rules laid down by the bosses themselves.

This kind of order is fatal to the working class. They can take to heart Mao Tse Tung's slogan at the time of the proletarian cultural revolution: 'Don't be afraid of chaos.' Where the boss wants order, create chaos. Not as an end in itself. Create chaos to destroy the capitalist system of anarchy. Create chaos to replace this anarchic system of exploitation with real economic order - with socialism. Only under socialism when exploitation has been ended can there be an end to anarchy.

"Marxism consists of thousands of truths, but they all boil down to one sentence. 'It is right to rebel.' For thousands of years it has been said that it was right to oppress, it was right to exploit, and it was wrong to rebel. This old verdict was only reversed with the appearance of Marxism. This is a great contribution. It was through struggle that the proletariat learned this truth, and Marx drew the conclusion. And from this truth there follows resistance, struggle, the fight for socialism."

Mao Tse Tung.

Workers have not to be afraid of chaos. But they must create chaos with a purpose - to overthrow the system of capitalist disorder and replace it with workers' order. For this they require a programme of scientific socialism supplied by a revolutionary workers' party based on the only line that has ever yet succeeded in making workers' revolution - Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tse Tung thought.



Enver Hoxha, the great Marxist-Leninist leader and revered Comrade of the Albanian people, at the time when he guided the liberation forces to complete victory over Italian and German fascist invaders - just before the setting up of the Peoples' Republic of Albania whose 26th Anniversary is being celebrated on November 29th.

NEW ALBANIA SOCIETY

Chairman: Professor Cyril Oxford, F.R.S. (London University)
Secretary: Joanne Seymour.

AIMS: "To encourage friendship between the Albanian and British people."

"To disseminate knowledge about the country, its history, people and socialist development."

"To encourage personal scientific and cultural contacts."

"To study the political, economic and cultural policy of Albania."

Anyone wishing to become a member of the New Albania Society (annual subscription 10/-) should write to the Secretary, Miss Joanne Seymour, 217 Westbourne Grove, London, W.11.

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17th-26th NOVEMBER

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WEDNESDAY 26th 7.30 p.m. - Evening of revolutionary drama, music and poetry. Performers include "The Critics" group. Admission 2/-.
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Organised by London Revolutionary Socialist Students Federation, in conjunction with Polytechnic R.S.S.F.

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NAME

ADDRESS

Correspondence

To THE WORKER:

Dear Comrades,

As you know there is a strike where I live in the south Yorkshire coalfield. I left the pit last March but I know what all the trouble is about. This thing about surface men working 8hrs, 35mins. is only the straw that broke the camel's back.

The other things are sending coal face-trained men to lower-paid jobs in the pits while the coal face team is left undermanned. This means not only the N.C.B. paying out less but getting more profit since the coal face workers have to work faster and harder to keep up with the coal cutting machinery. For example, one man brings over hydraulic roof supports, when according to agreement with colliery management two or three men should. It is much safer with more than one on the job.

There is also this 1966 power loading agreement which Will Paynter and Co. worked out with the N.C.B. The Union National Executive and the N.C.B. said 'Look here, some of you are high paid earning £5 - £6 plus bonus a shift, and some in places like south Wales and Scotland are only on 75/- plus bonus a shift, so let's even the wages out.' As soon as they had achieved this, the N.C.B. shut down the pits which had been on 75/- plus and left open the pits which had been on £5 - £6 but were now cut back to £4.5.0!

There is also the number of gaffers now to what there used to be. Since we were earning less money we weren't working hard, so to make sure we work harder there are gaffers everywhere watching the miners.

Yours fraternally,

D.R.T.

Carlton-in-Lindrick.

Nottn.

MINERS STRIKE

THE Yorkshire Miners' Strike has blown two national myths sky high. One, that miners have been getting so much better treatment than other industrial workers - good rates of pay and improved conditions of work. Two, that this special treatment results from the 'nationalisation' of the coal mining industry which took the pits away from private owners and placed them in the hands of the people.

The myth of special treatment has been used as sugar-coating on the bitter pill of pit closures. The threat of close downs and of switching power plants from coal to nuclear fuel, as at Drax in Yorkshire, has been used as blackmail to keep the miners in line. Thus Lord Robens has been able to make his patronising bonfire 'The men have been as good as gold for the past nine years', while he has been in office!

The myth that taking over a bankrupt industry at tremendous cost to the public in terms of compensation represents taking it out of the capitalist system is exploded by a look at the National Coal Board's relations with private industry. Over and over it has given expensive contracts to private industry in connection with pits it was just about to shut down. When Lord Robens had to give the miners a rise, he pointed out that the increase in their wages would have to be met by putting an extra burden in terms of higher coal prices on the rest of the working class.

The N.C.B. has been cutting the labour force in the mines by pushing workers from small, uneconomic pits to larger ones and then organising redundancy there - all because for an imperialist country like Britain there are greater profits to be made out of exploiting the oil in someone else's country than in properly developing the resources here.

"Changes in society are due chiefly to the development of internal contradictions in society, that is, the contradiction between the productive forces and the relations of production, the contradiction between classes and the contradiction between the old and the new. It is the development of these contradictions that pushes forward and gives the impetus for the supercession of the old society by the new."

Mao Tse Tung.

Radio

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Daily Broadcasts in English from Radio Yanco:
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8.30 p.m. - 9.00 p.m. 31,42 metre bands
7.30 p.m. - 8.00 p.m. 31,42 metre bands
8.30 p.m. - 10.00 p.m. 31,42 metre bands
11.00 p.m. - 11.30 p.m. 31,42 metre bands
(The 9.30 p.m. - 10.00 p.m. broadcast can also be heard on medium wave, 216 metres band)

Daily Broadcast from Hanoi:
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