

# WORKERS BROADSHEET

# 6

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Over the past few months W.P.P.E. has been discussing the possibility of forming a Socialist Alliance with other left wing groups and individuals. There seems to be a general feeling among the rank and file of many left wing organisations that such an Alliance to co-ordinate activity would be a useful step in furthering the mobilisation of working people for their own emancipation. Of course a Socialist Alliance, if it is to be successful, must have an agreed minimum programme.

A discussion document will shortly be circulated to all revolutionary groups and contacts as a first step towards forming such an Alliance. It will be based on the following points:-

1. The Socialist Alliance will be a FEDERATION of various left wing organisations and individuals in the British Isles agreeing to co-ordinate political activities on an agreed set of aims.
2. SOCIALISM must replace monopoly capitalism as the form of society in these islands.
3. Socialism means WORKING PEOPLE HOLDING POWER in central and local government, with all major industries and undertakings nationalised and under popular democratic control.
4. The present ruling class of bankers, tycoons, aristocrats and big landlords owns major industry, finance houses, banks, land etc., dominates all aspects of life in these islands, and controls the state establishment of government, parliament, the judiciary, civil service, armed forces, police, and mass communications media. This ruling class will not surrender power to the people through constitutional pressures alone. On the contrary the people will have to mobilise in their millions to TAKE POWER BY WHATEVER MEANS ARE APPROPRIATE, meeting force with force when and where necessary.
5. The ruling class of Britain is IMPERIALIST, exporting capital to overseas territories like the Arab lands, South Africa, Hong Kong etc. wherever profit for the investor is highest. The Socialist Alliance must expose this vicious exploitation of overseas peoples by giving all possible support to all national liberation struggles against our common enemy -- the British millionaires.
6. The domestic effect of imperialist export of capital and a massive arms bill, largely spent abroad, is chiefly seen in the chronic balance of payments problem. The imperialist solution for this is freeze-and-squeeze with reduced production, stagnation, restriction, unemployment and failure to develop natural resources of materials and skills. It also leads to attacks on rank and file trade union organisation as the owners try to force down our living standards. The Socialist Alliance must oppose these efforts of imperialism at home, pressing for an EXPANDING PLANNED SELF-RELIANT ECONOMY only possible under People's Power and with the people's ownership and control of their economy.
7. OPPOSITION TO THE INCREASING TAKEOVER OF THESE ISLANDS BY U.S. BIG BUSINESS and pressure for the nationalisation of U.S. firms, the cancelling of all debts to the U.S. including the infamous "war debts", withdrawal of all U.S. troops and bases from these islands, and a complete break from "satellite support" of U.S. imperialist foreign policy. We must break with NATO and SEATO and instead support all the national liberation struggles against U.S. imperialism and its satellites. We must support the struggles of the American people against the rising imperialist fascism in the U.S.A.
8. Active support for the IRISH PEOPLE in their struggle for a united independent people's Ireland. Support also for self-determination by the peoples of Scotland, Wales and Cornwall.
9. Active support for the emancipation movement of BLACK PEOPLE in this country, recognising the direct alliance of this movement with the overseas liberation struggles against imperialism.
10. Support for the WOMEN'S emancipation movement, realising that women are third or fourth-class citizens in monopoly capitalist society. Women will only achieve emancipation under Socialism, and their struggle is one of the most important parts of the class struggle. Their movement must be led by women and the Socialist Alliance must give all support to end the oppression of women by men.
11. The Socialist Alliance, besides an agreed minimum programme, must also have a co-ordinating CENTRAL FEDERAL COUNCIL representative of all affiliated bodies, with a central organ and adequate funds.

# THE VIOLENT AND REVOLUTIONARY SEVENTIES

The war in Vietnam, which all but revolutionaries regarded as about to cease, has not only not ceased, it has spread. In the U.S.A. repression now shoots whites as well as blacks, and the recession on the New York Stock Exchange is already being anxiously compared to that of 40 years ago.

Here in the British Isles, Ireland simmers on the brink of war, while in England public opinion -- which now increasingly means working class public opinion -- has at last woken up to what has been happening for years under the complacent gaze of Mr. Callaghan's police: the street assaults, usually but not always with robbery, of the most defenceless people, the Pakistani immigrants.

W.P.P.E. worked for three years to achieve, with the Pakistan Workers Union, this mobilisation of the attacked in self-reliant self-defence. We shall ensure no less publicity for the way the police continue to treat any Black man. We are also in a position to state, on the best possible authority, from within the prisons, that these contain many Caribbeans who are there principally for the one reason that they are black. There will be another press explosion when the facts are revealed, as they will be this summer.

At the moment our whole imperialist establishment is basking in the sun of the "Jenkins' miracle" over the balance of payments, and Wilson has chosen this opportunity to get himself re-elected. Wilson is likely to succeed, and for reasons explained below, we hope he will do so.

But this phase of self-congratulation is likely to be a very short one. Whether or not the present economic crisis bursts into a world-capitalist crisis, the British imperialist economy will soon once more be crying for help.

And just what was this "miracle" performed by Jenkins and his millionaires? It consists in this: that in the three years 1964-67 the rate of growth of the economy averaged 3.3% and there was continual alleged excess of imports over exports; while in the two years 1967-69 -- the years of Jenkins' "hard slog" -- the rate of growth was successfully brought down to an average of 2% while unemployment was successfully increased, and in this way capitalist Britain achieved a surplus of exports over imports.

Some achievement!

The trouble is that if one country is in surplus, another country is necessarily in deficit, and fights to correct this deficit. At the moment, and for some time past, it is the U.S. that is enormously in deficit, and the dollar increasingly "over-valued". But this is complicated by the fact that since March 1969 the capitalist world has in fact been off the gold standard, and transferred to a "dollar standard". So the over-valued dollar -- over-valued, that is, in terms of other currencies -- is at the same time the peg to which all other currencies are attached. And the peg is continually sliding down in purchase power and this descent is accelerating.

Nixon and his millionaires have no control of their own economy. They have been trying to reduce inflation and at the same time to avoid a serious recession. They have now had a fairly serious recession for over six months, with total production in the U.S. actually falling, about 4 million recorded unemployed, and at the same time deflation has not diminished but on the contrary its rate is actually increasing, just as it is here in Britain.

With the U.S. economy in this state -- and it still represents over half the total industrial production of the capitalist world -- the prospects of a quiet time for the Government and the Treasury are slight. A financial crisis is approaching certain to be more severe than any since World War II. The avalanche is starting to slide.

Here in England the "electoral" position is that the working people have moved from their dominant mood of "not worth voting" to that of "better Wilson than the Tories". In spite of the apparent contradiction, both the earlier rejection of Wilsonism and the new even greater rejection of the Tories have been steps towards an understanding of the reality of politics in our class society. The return of a Tory government would only make things worse, and be a further step to fascism. It is a terrible fact that there is no political party in Britain at present able to challenge Wilson as the Tory leader of British Labour, as the main agent of British capitalism, as the best Prime Minister the millionaires have got. Wilson and Wilsonism have to be fought, and all "the left" ever get to is a little criticism.

That is why once again WORKERS

BROADSHEET proposes a Socialist Alliance of all who want socialism and who fear fascism. We recognise that such an Alliance, to be effective, cannot be made from the top. It has to grow from the roots, and has to be strong to attract support and co-operation.

A potentially revolutionary situation has existed here since 1966 when Cousins, then the most powerful member of the Cabinet, resigned over the freeze-and squeeze policy that finally replaced all the promises of National Planning. And as Cousins then did nothing, that was the end of the Labour Left. The "revolutionary" groups meantime all derided our analysis of potential revolution. They were in agreement with the "French Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist)" who declared in January 1968 that of course there could be no revolution for a long long time. May 1968 was then less than five months away.

Since the autumn of 1968 the New York Stock Exchange Dow-Jones index has been falling, with little recoveries followed by more falls. The index fell about 200 points up to about a month ago. In the past month it has fallen a further 100 points and its present rate of fall has become front page news.

Suddenly all the chronic optimism of the financial columns has disappeared. It is not now revolutionaries who foretell doom, but the brokers and bankers. The U.S. has almost reached the stage when "government in the old way is no longer possible". This stage will be reached here as soon as the U.S. crisis has deepened and spread to involve capitalist Britain with the other U.S. satellite countries.

Have we a revolutionary movement, nationally recognised and ready to meet the emergency, as Lenin and the Bolshevik Party were ready to meet the crisis of 1917 in Russia? We have none at all.

We had better get one, and quickly.

The people will be ready for revolution, but where is the organisation to lead?

Every man and woman who understands the gravity of the situation, and the need to prepare to deal with it, has an obligation to prepare TO LEAD and not merely to follow. As the crisis develops, a few thousand who understand what is happening, and are not afraid of it, can be catalysts to precipitate the needed political development. A few days of revolution, even of the approach of

revolution, teach the whole people more than years of peaceful education. It is in this sense that Blake's "The tigers of wrath are wiser than the horses of instruction" -- written in the middle of the great French Revolution -- can be a motto for the revolutionaries of today. "Do not be afraid of a little disorder."

It is sad that we have no Socialist Alliance ready now to put up a score or two of candidates in this general election, in carefully selected constituencies, to use this opportunity to put before the whole working people the analysis of the imminent breakdown of this racist-imperialist class system, and the need to prepare to replace it with something different and better, with the total abolition of the present divisions of men and women into races and classes, and of oppression of women by men. A human is a human, with rights and duties according to capacities and needs, not according to skin, sex or class.

Well, this opportunity has been missed, but the coming opportunity will be much greater. It will be no less than the opportunity to save our country from going down into Hitlerism under another name, as the capitalist world shambles spreads from Vietnam and Cambodia to the U.S. itself and all its satellites.

We must prepare ourselves, and the only way to do this is IN PRACTICE. One learns to make revolution by making revolution, just as one can learn to cook only by cooking.

.....  
In order to have a real grasp of Marxism, one must learn it not only from books, but mainly through class struggle, through practical work and close contact with the masses of workers and peasants. When in addition to reading some Marxist books our intellectuals have gained some understanding through close contact with the masses of workers and peasants and through their own practical work, we will all be speaking the same language, not only the common language of patriotism and the common language of the socialist system, but probably even the common language of the communist world outlook. If that happens, all of us will certainly work much better.

MAO TSE-TUNG  
.....

O N S K I N H E A D S

The "skinheads" you've seen around are part of a long urban tradition. Some are still at school, many are now out at work. The boots, braces and short hair have always been a handy working uniform; mingle that with a "mod" taste for expensive american-style shirts, and you have the sociologist's dream, an adolescent sub-culture, right on your doorstep.

It's sad that this idiot's label of skinhead, with all its connotations, has stuck. It exposes the dichotomy between the politically "aware" romantics, and the reality of the situation as it concerns a large number of young people today. Brought up among the decaying areas of London, amongst neglected houses and G.L.C. blocks, channeled into overcrowded schools, already destined and conditioned by society's need for a large young working population, the individual's reaction is not as conscious as his middle-class peer's. It is the reaction of defence; the defence of the group identity; the register of frustration on the football stand; the aggression against an alien culture ably stirred up by political opportunists.

Defence is necessary for survival. The person who leaves school at 15 or 16 is a casualty of an elite-building structure. Their conditioning, like Pavlov's dogs, is one of obedience to particular demands of our society. To try and outwit this system is at best difficult, at worst impossible. (This is a result of the polarization of humanity into classes.) The cries that the class system is changing, even breaking down, come only from the "professional" part of the middle class. They, being the more acutely educated of this class, perhaps feel some guilt at their part in our system. Their interest in Sociology, state education and housing the homeless could be seen as an indication of this. Certainly their experience of this "skinhead" phenomenon is distant enough to imply a certain lack of contact between the classes.

The recent unrest in various universities and colleges only seem to indicate a wish for those already privileged groups to improve their particular conditions. Their external politics are mainly concerned with events that occur some thousand miles away. What is happening in the streets outside either invites denigrating comment or provides the basis for a thesis.

If a fundamental alteration is needed in society, these will be the

people who will have to effect the change. If "skinhead" is to be equated with "fascist cunt", mentally if not vocally, then the people who form this equation must be prepared to accept the inevitable reaction.

This article is not intended to be a vindication of "Paki-bashing" or any kind of thuggery that is attributed by the press to "skinheads". In the short-term, the Pakistani community must defend itself against these attacks, and we as revolutionaries mustn't fall into the trap of ignoring these kids or being scared of them. Leave that to the bourgeois. J.O'D.

\* \* \*

We welcome this important contribution. The imperialist establishment are pastmasters at using a rebellious section of the oppressed people to attack another oppressed section (think of the Scots and Irish Regiments over the past two centuries). Revolutionaries must achieve unity of rebellious sections of the people if we are to defeat reaction and achieve People's Power.

At the same time self-reliant self-defence of every oppressed section is essential. In Germany in 1933 the fact that the people attacked by Hitler -- in the first place anyone Jewish or partly Jewish -- DID NOT FIGHT BACK helped Hitler to win and maintain power. The English working people must understand their absolute duty to help all Black fellow-workers to resist every form of discrimination against them, to give tit-for-tat. Only on such a basis can a REVOLUTIONARY unity be established to fight for People's Power, and to abolish racism together with the social class system from which it springs.

We invite discussion of this question, which WORKERS BROADSHEET has always considered to be of the first importance for the development of a revolutionary movement. Ed. Bd.

.....  
• (cont. from p.12) •  
• therefore ready to force the issue. •  
• That is revolution, and that is why •  
• we are revolutionaries. •  
.....

The primary responsibility of black organisations is towards black people. Black organisations cannot be asked to solve problems of the white community. This is up to the white comrades and their organisations and parties. As I see it, our main job is to organise our people and struggle for their interests and against the oppression and injustices they suffer. The revolution in Britain must come mainly from the oppressed people in Britain and the working class. We are only a small part of it.

We cannot tell our people about working class solidarity when his white workmate is always telling him to get back where he came from. White workers have a number of privileges over black workers in this country, and until this contradiction is resolved, there can be no working class solidarity.

We do not consider (and never have) the whites as our main enemy, or as the enemy at all. We agree with you that the imperialist, capitalist system is responsible for the racist behaviour of whites. But we must take into account the physical manifestations of this racist behaviour such as the police, skinheads etc. and fight them where necessary. This does not amount to "classless nationalism which turns reactionary." To draw a parallel, one might have said to the German Jews in the thirties that it was the Nazi regime and not the German people who were their main enemies. Yet it was the majority of the German people that took part in the hunting and rounding up of Jews. In Britain today, it is the government and the system that is the ROOT cause of racism, in the same way as the Nazi regime was the root cause of anti-Semitism.

BLACK PANTHER

\* \* \*

WORKERS BROADSHEET is glad to publish this assessment from a most valued comrade, which it fully and cordially endorses. W.P.P.E. looks forward to the development of a united front of anti-imperialist organisations recognising the need for revolution, and of co-operation of all revolutionaries.

Ed. Bd.

Pakistani workers in Birmingham lost no time at all when "Paki-bashing" hit the headlines. The Pakistan Workers Union (UK) called a meeting to launch their campaign of self-defence even before London, and got enthusiastic response. This has been followed by a well attended meeting in Coventry, at which Birmingham, Wolverhampton and London delegates all spoke, with the chairman of W.P.P.E. as a guest speaker -- an honour which we appreciate and will reciprocate by continuing fullest support to the P.W.U. and the Black People's Alliance, in their splendid struggle to mobilise our Black brother workers simultaneously for self-defence, and as foremost representatives of the whole working people of this country in the necessary, inevitable struggle for People's Power.

This is so because in fact, whether we wish it or not, only the working people can and will change our country into one where racism will disappear. The thorough-going anti-racist will find himself either becoming a revolutionary, or compromising on his anti-racism.

The Coventry meeting unanimously passed a resolution calling for the organisation of self-defence. A speaker explained that this does not imply "vigilante patrols" -- the hostile wording pushed and pushed again by bourgeois editors -- but the organisation of numerous small street and neighbourhood committees for mutual aid and mutual defence.

Unity is strength, in the street as in the factory. The Powellite thugs must be taught IN PRACTICE that an injury to one black worker, or his family, is an injury to all the black workers of the neighbourhood, and will be dealt with as such. The uselessness, or worse, of depending on the police for defence was unquestioned, as by now it should be.

An excellent feature of this Coventry meeting, and of the whole situation in the Midlands, is the close association of all Black organisations, and the beginnings of English practical support as well. There were only two or three "whites" at this meeting of close on 200. One of them, a representative of I.S., promised support. But is it not an indication of the widespread unacknowledged racism in our trade union movement, and among English working people generally, that it has been and still is possible for a black man or woman to be assaulted in the street without passers-by or neighbours going to his aid? What sort of society is this when we do not spontaneously help and protect each other?

A G O O D M A R R I A G E :

THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS UNION  
AND THE ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL & MANAGERIAL STAFFS

In past decades one of the chief weaknesses of the Left has been its failure not only to mobilise white collar and professional workers for revolution, but even to recognise that it should be doing so. This has resulted from a faulty class analysis and sectarianism, which ironically enough "revolutionary" left wingers from professional worker backgrounds have been foremost in propagating -- a kind of infantile "more revolutionary than thou" attitude. In fact this sectarianism has analogies with that of those Russian and Chinese leftwingers of the first three decades of this century who dismissed the peasantry as a "reactionary petty-bourgeois" force and pursued "urban proletarian" forms of struggle solely, with disastrous results.

Indeed white collar and professional workers have many reactionary attitudes -- as have many left wingers for that matter -- but in fact they are strata of the working class in irreconcilable contradiction with the owning class.

The great value of Clive Jenkins' radical trade unionism and the reason why as a trade unionist he is being so successful, is because he has grasped this essential fact in practice.

He has made the crucial distinction between the owning class and the professional and white collar "middle" classes; he has distinguished between ownership and management. He has clearly indicated the vital contradiction there. Without the full support of their managers and supervisory staff the owners are finished. Is it inevitable that the managerial and technical staffs should always support the owners? Of course not. There is increasing evidence that there is a widening rift here which allows the revolutionary left a lot of leverage in the class struggle. Unlike the General Strike of 1926 when middle management, supervisory, technical and white collar workers generally as well as the students blacklegged, in the 1970's a General Strike would count many of these people among its militant supporters and the rest could be at the least neutralised.

The "proletarian awakening" of the white collar workers has been spreading

in recent years to the National Health Service, where the Association of Scientific, Technical & Managerial Staffs has been recruiting technical staff. Recently the Medical Practitioners Union in a ballot of its members agreed to a merger with ASTMS.

The 4,000 strong MPU founded in 1914 has in the past been chiefly active among General Practitioners, pioneering the ideas of Health Centres and a Community-based Health Service. But in recent months it has begun a vigorous campaign of recruitment among Junior Hospital Doctors. This section of the profession is the most exploited group of workers in the country at the present time. Their working hours are usually in excess of 100 hours per week for a rate of pay of about 3/- to 4/- per hour. The BMA proudly announced recently that it has managed to negotiate overtime payments for hours worked in excess of 102 hours per week !

On top of this, accommodation is often appalling in old workhouse buildings without proper amenities, often without food available outside "normal hours". But above all else there is the constant pressure and frustration of trying hopelessly to maintain medical standards in a situation of restriction, shortage of nursing and ancillary staff, and increasing overloading of services.

As an individual the junior hospital doctor is dependent on patronage for future appointments, and therefore his livelihood. So he has kept quiet. As one young doctor put it recently, "They've got you by the testimonials!"

The situation is ripe for a vigorous drive to mobilise junior doctors not only to improve their own conditions but to initiate a countrywide campaign for a Health Service for the people -- a campaign with revolutionary perspectives.

HOSPITAL DOCTOR

Extract from:  
PEOPLE'S WAR -

THE WAY FORWARD IN IRELAND  
Manifesto of the Irish National  
Liberation Solidarity Front  
(Reprinted from "Irish Liberation Press")

A revolutionary party cannot simply be declared. It can come about only through concrete class struggle and must be led by tried and tested revolutionaries and not phrase mongers or vacillating elements.

Imperialism will not give up its exploitation of the Irish people without a last desperate struggle. It would be against its class interest and profit basis to do so. The Irish people must rely on themselves and specifically on the strategy and tactics of people's war applied to the conditions of Ireland.

The building of a revolutionary party cannot, in the existing conditions, be separated from the task of building the broadest possible principled united front to oppose imperialism, which will involve, if it is to win the support of the people, the formulation of a series of policies directly relevant to the social problems and real requirements of the Irish working class.

The backbone and leader of this national anti-imperialist front will most definitely be the working class, the most revolutionary and powerful force. The alliances that it must forge and lead are precisely with those other classes and strata that are to one degree or another also exploited under imperialism. Because there are differing degrees of revolutionary content inherent in each class the question of unity between them is also a question of struggle between them with contradictions within the anti-imperialist national united front always being secondary and subordinate to the principal contradiction between it and imperialism.

In short the working class must exploit all the class contradictions in order to strengthen its position and weaken that of the main enemy.....

The imperialist system is in a state of deep crisis. Workers and oppressed people of the world have most definitely entered into a great and glorious new era in which imperialism is heading for total collapse and socialism is advancing to world-wide victory. The wars of national liberation taking place throughout Asia, Africa and Latin America, the storm centres of world revolution, coupled with the struggle taking place within the heartlands

of imperialism in the major metropolitan capitalist countries are most complementary, indeed vital to the success of Irish national liberation. The liberation fighters in the jungle of Vietnam and on the plains of southern Africa are the true comrades in arms of the Irish working class.

Taking into account the long history of military struggle in Ireland it is important to draw a clear line of demarcation between people's war, and individual acts of terrorism. There is a qualitative difference between the gun leading the people and the people leading the gun. The only class in history powerful enough to smash imperialism is the working class armed with weapons and revolutionary class theory. To say that sporadic acts of individual armed actions can ever be a substitute for the involvement of the masses of the Irish people in armed struggle guided by their class politics is to deny the truth of this and is an attempt to replace the historical role of the working class with that of some other section of Irish society. This notion is totally false and is based upon contempt for the people.

Though imperialism may have a technical advantage for a time, and is capable of resorting to the vilest crimes, including now in Ireland gas warfare against the people, it is in reality a paper tiger that can be smashed, that can be replaced with the political power of the Irish working class.

Led by a revolutionary party, having alone the capacity to make a scientific class analysis of class conditions in Ireland, no force is capable of preventing the unfolding of history in Ireland.

Let there flow the greatest confidence in the Irish working class under whose leadership imperialism will be utterly destroyed, Ireland will be free, liberated, at peace and socialist.

(See "International Column" for WORKERS BROADSHEET comment)

**PAKI-BASHING**

In 1967 our North London Branch started its help to the Pakistan Workers' Union in resisting increasingly numerous attacks on Pakistani workers in the Euston area. We had some success, held two public meetings, and helped to defeat the police prosecution of two Pakistani workers arrested and charged on the usual police strategy, where racism is involved, of also arresting a black man whenever arrest of a "white" is inevitable. But we failed to secure national publicity for this racism of the streets.

Then last winter workers from an East London Hospital were attacked and severely hurt -- first a doctor, then a telephonist. Another doctor in the hospital organised a petition, signed by 80 members of the hospital staff, that got national publicity -- and suddenly Paki-bashing ceased to be non-news, and became for a while a No.1 concern in the press. The police complained bitterly: this had been going on for years, why these sudden complaints? The Pakistan Workers' Union rightly seized the opportunity to expand, and found new support in other parts of East London, where young people of Pakistani, Indian and Caribbean origin had already decided that to rebel is justified, and were determined on a policy of self-reliance and tit-for-tat.

The meeting in East London -- well over a thousand in two crowded halls -- and the demonstration from Hyde Park to Downing Street on May 3rd, supported by large delegations from Birmingham and Coventry, have shown that the Pakistani immigrant workers will no longer submit to attacks without resistance.

The May 3rd demonstration was supported by the Irish National Liberation Solidarity Front (see page 8) and the Black Panther Movement as well as by W.P.P.E. We have here the beginnings of the Anti-Imperialist Front that is needed to bring the anti-racist and anti-imperialist forces into a combined struggle -- and especially to bring English workers to realise that it is the same enemy that supports the attack on Vietnam and Cambodia, that maintains the division of Ireland, that restricts economic growth in Britain, and tries to bring our wages here into competition with the slave labour it helps to maintain by its enormous capital exports to apartheid South Africa.

**MINERS**

The "Mineworker" and "Link Up" are periodicals written, edited and published by revolutionary miners of the North Midlands. Two delegates from W.P.P.E. recently attended a discussion conference called jointly by the staffs of these two periodicals, and were impressed by the warm comradeship, sincerity and revolutionary initiative of their hosts -- mostly workers in a number of local pits.

"The Mineworker's" editorial policy at present differs considerably from that of "Workers Broadsheet". But this is not preventing co-operation. Discussion is continuing and a further report will be made in a later issue of "Workers Broadsheet".

We draw attention to the fact that it is the Yorkshire coalfield, the most prosperous in Britain, that has been the first to develop a revolutionary leadership.

Our Yorkshire comrades are emphatic on the need to work both inside and outside the Lodges. Miners still have a key industrial position nationally, and a long tradition of solidarity possibly greater than in any other industry, and of militancy as fine as any in our country.

How about it, Wales and Scotland?

**THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE**

W.P.P.E. has also been active in its Trade Union work. It has been leading the development of a new Hospital Doctors Group in the Medical Practitioners Union. The M.P.U. has now joined A.S.T.M.S. (the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs). With the support of this vigorous "white collar" Union, and propelled by the initiative and determination already shown by the young hospital doctors, the M.P.U. is now leading a campaign for rejection of the B.M.A. (British Medical Association) collusive plot with the G.M.C. (General Medical Council) to strengthen and extend the G.M.C.'s present Star Chamber hold on the medical profession, and in particular on medical education. The training of doctors should be to serve the people's health, not to maintain a medical racket centred on Harley Street and the teaching hospitals (still outside the N.H.S.) with control of medical education to make permanent its monopoly.

Nye Bevan missed a great opportunity in 1948, when an overwhelming majority of the younger doctors were ready to welcome Health Centres -- already proposed by Lord

Dawson and then accepted by the B.M.A. and the government of the day as long ago as 1920 -- as the key factor for a new, efficient and democratic family doctor service.

That astute professional hoodwinker, the Radio Doctor who is now Lord Hill and runs, or ruins, the B.B.C., succeeded in bluffing Bevan into submission to the B.M.A. Now it is the B.M.A. that has the skids under it. If A.S.T.M.S. is not afraid to support this new young and vigorous M.P.U. leadership, it can lead not only the doctors, but also the nurses, technicians, radiographers, and the whole N.H.S., to a battle not just for better wages and conditions -- a battle which our whole people will support -- but also for a real People's Health Service, efficient, human and beloved.

\* \* \* \* \*

BRENT

Few people as yet realise that this borough of the North-West fringe of Greater London is now a main national

centre of light industry, including engineering. It also has one of the heaviest proportions of Black immigrants in the country, fully comparable, for instance, to Powell's racist base in Wolverhampton.

Brent has a Tory Borough Council, and this Council agreed to let Powell use school premises for a public meeting on May 18th. The Brent Trades Council with active support from Brent CARD (Campaign Against Racial Discrimination) and Brent teachers, led a campaign to stop this Powellite racist provocation. There was a large anti-Powell demonstration outside the meeting in this borough which holds a key position in race relations.

Should not every Trades Council, every Trade Unionist in England follow the example of Brent and start NOW a campaign against every manifestation of racism -- starting with the disgraceful "No Blacks" rule of many Working Men's Clubs ?

Over to you, Trade Unionists, white or black ! Let's drive racism right out of the movement !

RED ROVER

I N T E R N A T I O N A L C O L U M N

IRELAND

The Irish workers in England -- how many is unknown, but certainly a million or more -- now have their own national revolutionary organisation : the recently formed Irish National Liberation Solidarity Front (I.N.L.S.F.). The second number of their journal, "Irish Liberation News", we welcome as an important development for the revolution we so much need, and must take, in England.

We reprint on page a short extract from the INLSF manifesto "People's War -- the way forward in Ireland". We assure our Irish brother-workers, in the name of the revolutionary working people of England, that we shall unreservedly support their struggle against imperialist oppression and exploitation and for national liberation. This struggle is at present most acute in the six counties still under British military occupation, but it is now spreading into the neo-colony of Southern Ireland.

Since the days of Elizabeth -- the first one, not the present one -- and Cromwell, English imperialism has subjugated and exploited the Irish

people, who have in turn continually fought back for their national freedom. This freedom was only very partially achieved in the heroic struggle started by Connolly and Pearse in 1916, that ended with the 1922 Treaty that divided not only Ireland but also the Irish national liberation movement.

Now at last a revolutionary Irish leadership has emerged, with a clear programme of People's Struggle that will give reliable, not false, guidance in the People's War that is inevitably developing to give the whole Irish people real independence, real freedom to develop as a nation, not as a sphere of imperialist capital investment, with or without a military occupation.

The revolutionary struggle that is developing in Ireland will accelerate developments in this sister island of Britain. If we do not see our Irish brothers' struggle as our own, we shall invite the hardening of imperialism here in England, and ourselves suffer all the more its disastrous effects on us as well as on the people it oppresses in other countries, starting with Wales and Scotland. (Let those Englishmen who doubt

national feeling and culture in those sister countries, go there for a time and see for themselves). It is an excellent sign of the seriousness and sense of this new Irish organisation that it is already co-operating not only with W.P.P.E., but more significantly with the Pakistan, Indian and Caribbean movements in this country that are organising the rejection of imperialist racism in London, in Birmingham, in Coventry, in Manchester, and wherever Black men are third-class citizens. The Irish have long known national and racial prejudice: "No Irish need apply". It is good to see practical anti-imperialism developing in this alliance against the common enemy. Come on, you Englishmen! The fight is for you, too! Don't let the cricketing ambassadors of apartheid play on your grounds! And then remember that for every Irishman shot by a British soldier in Ireland, north or south, it will in the end be we, the English people, who will have to pay.

Our basic slogan must everywhere be the same --- People's Power --- in Ireland, in Trinidad, in England.

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#### NIXON FASCISM IN THE U.S.

has in this month of May 1970 already shot and killed --- at home, not in Cambodia or Vietnam --- 12 young people, of whom 8 were black, 4 white, for protesting against Nixon's new war.

But the most dangerous news from the U.S. has been something else: that some building workers in New York spent a dinner hour beating up student anti-war protesters under the benevolent eyes of the New York pigs (American for policemen). We are reminded that some time ago some London dockers --- from St. Katherine's, it is true a specially backward area, but still at that time a dock --- were mobilised (? by the National Front) to demonstrate to the House of Commons for the racist Powell.

The victory of Hitler in Germany 1933 was made possible by the division of the workers. Anti-fascist unity could easily have swept Hitler away in 1932 or sooner (Hitler never got a majority of votes until he had been put in power by the capitalist establishment). Are we going to allow racism in England to divide us as the German workers were divided in 1932?

Students and workers have a common enemy --- imperialism that breeds racism.

All workers have a common enemy --- imperialism that breeds racism.

But especially all "whites" --- students or workers --- must understand that there is apartheid in England. Because we all travel together in buses or trains, because we work together --- so far as black men are allowed to work here --- this does not mean that we are not racists.

There is racism wherever a black man gets treatment different from a white man --- in a club, from police or magistrates, on a housing list, in applying for a job, or just by being kept isolated from his workmates in factory or garage, pit or railway.

English fellow-workers, if we want our own freedom, we can only get it by fighting with all our fellow-workers for theirs too --- and first of all for and with those fellow-workers who are hit by our racist society first and heaviest --- our Black brothers.

And when we say Brothers we mean it --- the world o'er, shall brothers be for all that.

Note, you Englishmen, that it was a Scot that said that. Let us learn from him to scrub out the racism that still stinks among us from centuries of our imperialism.

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#### PALESTINE

The situation is a tragic one, not only for a whole people who have been thrown out of their homes and now have to live in desert barracks on the peanuts of United Nations' charity, but also for thousands who took refuge in Palestine or Israel not because they were Zionists --- many were not --- but because it was the only country that would take them.

Now everyday shows up Israel more and more clearly as a racist and increasingly a fascist state. It is the outpost of U.S. imperialism among the Arab peoples emerging from feudalism and colonialism and already seeing Socialism as their only possible future. The Arabs of El Fateh are fighting their war of national liberation for such a future and have discarded racism.

In such a situation, an Israeli Socialist can only follow the necessary advice of Lenin in the First World War --- revolutionary defeatism. In the case of Zionist-racist-imperialist Israel this line requires enormous courage and

a most penetrating foresight and confidence in one's political correctness, for a Socialist finding himself with such a state as his country.

Let us then greet the initiative of Socialists in Israel who have begun to work publicly on such a line. This line is as necessary for Jews as for Arabs -- indeed even more necessary, if they are to survive. It is comparable to the line that "whites" must take in South Africa, if they are to remain human, and not lose their common humanity by going fascist-apartheid.

In England ISRAC is the journal putting forward the programme of a Socialist Palestine freed from Zionism. It accepts the internationalist and humane programme of **Al Fateh** for a non-racist Palestine.

As the People's War for the liberation of Palestine develops, more and more young Jews will withdraw from support of their increasingly fascist Zionist police state, and see this Leninist line as their only alternative. Then Jews will begin to see Arabs not as enemies but as fellow-fighters for a free Palestine.

The outcome may still be far better than any Jewish Socialist could reasonably have expected. Every English Jew who is a Socialist revolutionary should be linking up with ISRAC and learning to see the struggle for the liberation of Palestine for what it is -- an anti-imperialist anti-racist struggle for national liberation in the interests of all the working people of Palestine, Arabs and Jews.

The day when English Jews begin to fight for a free Palestine, and not for Zionist Israel, will be the start of a struggle for English Jews to be simply men, not tolerated or assimilated outsiders.

#### THE U.S. WAR IN ASIA

The U.S. invasion of Cambodia has been very widely condemned, not so much as criminal, rather as mistaken because of its bad effects on U.S. capitalism. Naturally Messrs. Wilson and Stewart have made no such statement. Stewart continues to applaud everything the White House does with no criticism whatever. No Tory could lick the U.S. boots more enthusiastically.

All this criticism of Nixon for endangering U.S. capitalism -- and thus the whole capitalist-imperialist

section of the world -- is made, naturally, from the viewpoint of capitalism. Nixon is repudiated by an increasingly large section of U.S. capitalism, and this is very good. Nixon, i.e. aggressive U.S. imperialism, is, on a world scale, still the main enemy, and the more forces attack him, the better.

We have already pointed out the grave danger from the support Nixon is still getting from some of the organised workers in the U.S. There, as here, it is essential that the anti-imperialist forces win over, or at least neutralise, the organised workers -- just as they must win them to understand that product of imperialism : racism.

But it is no less important for revolutionaries to note and to stress the opposite effect of Nixon's war policy -- its effect in the main anti-imperialist camp, among those who are in armed conflict with U.S. imperialism. The fascist coup against Sihanouk in Cambodia, followed by the U.S. invasion, has led to a summit meeting of the People's Governments of Vietnam (North and South) with those of Laos and Cambodia, facilitated and fully supported by the Government of China. From that meeting has issued a united front of all those countries to resist the U.S. invasion. Further, the whole recent development has finally confirmed the correctness of the advice always given by the Chinese from their own experience, that liberation in the conditions of the Indochinese War against the U.S. can only be secured by prolonged People's War and that attempts to get a quick result, either militarily or by negotiation, are bound to fail, and can only hinder the cause of liberation.

All this, while strengthening the alliance of all the peoples of Indochina with Peking, has necessarily weakened the influence of Moscow, calling for negotiation and afraid of "provoking" Washington by too much resistance in Vietnam (though not at all afraid of invading Czechoslovakia).

Finally, let us note the advice given by former President Johnson's last Secretary for Defence, Clark Clifford. "The present (U.S.) policy must be changed. The only effective method to accomplish this is sustained pressure from the public. The solution is within our hands -- if we will but use it." Quite so. Government policy has to be changed if we are to survive. And the only way to change it is by "sustained pressure" from the people. "Sustained pressure" has to include whatever means may be necessary to force the Government to obey the people, when the alternative is disaster, and a sufficient number of the people understand this and are

(cont. at foot of p.5)

The defeat of the Cricket Council in their obstinate insistence for their apartheid South African tour has been a great victory both for human decency and for the working people of this country against aristocratic dictatorship. It is a first step towards defeating the crypto-fascists who still largely dominate the Establishment in our country.

But only a first step, behind the flannelled cricketer stands the hard cash of imperialist investment. The Cricket Council and those they represent wanted their freedom to play games with the new Nazis of South Africa to ensure that their more serious game of investment for super profit would continue -- and damn the effects on Britain. In the famous phrase of a director of the Bank of England during one of the recurring crises of sterling -- in a letter he hoped would remain private -- "to sell sterling short makes sense to me."

To invest abroad makes profit and therefore sense to our rich men. So damn the shortage of "investment capital" for British industry, let's send our capital to South Africa to accompany Lord Stokes newly-married son, going to work there "as an engineer".

Those are the kind of people who have the real power, the real say, in this "democratic" England.

Congratulations to Peter Hain, now "press officer" to the Young Liberals, and to all who fought to stop the tour. But let them, if they are serious about apartheid, now show the same zeal to break the commercial bond that so closely unites the British millionaires, and their government, with their South African counterparts.

As Mr. Maudling said -- but soon shut up -- selling arms and other commodities is supporting apartheid every bit as much as playing cricket.

The struggle for Africa between the Africans and the (white) invaders will be a main, possibly the main, struggle of this coming decade. Every democrat, every human, must be on the side of Africa against the new Nazis.

The ups and downs on the New York Stock Exchange, the U.S. export of inflation, the present previously unheard of cost of house mortgages (which incidentally forces up rents), especially the economic prospects for U.S. capitalism and for the capitalist world in general (which is tied up to the U.S.). These are all topics that interest both revolutionaries and the so-far-non-revolutionary man or woman who wants to understand what is happening.

Capitalism is in the middle stage of its biggest economic crisis since 1930. Interest rates have been maintained for a whole year at a higher level than has ever existed -- except for rare very short spells of acute crisis -- since the middle ages. In addition to this, the transition from imperialist monopoly capitalism -- politically analysed by Lenin -- to imperialist state capitalism has greatly advanced and is being rapidly further pushed on by the economic crisis.

An analysis of this NEW CRISIS OF WORLD CAPITALISM will be included in our next issue, together with a postponed article on "Leninism Today", celebrating the centenary of the greatest and most successful revolutionary between Marx and Mao.

This analysis will be in plain ordinary language. It will translate the jargon of the financiers and the economists -- intended to be Greek to the ordinary man -- to make clear what is really happening and for what purpose.

As WORKERS BROADSHEET has repeatedly stated, the political aspect of this new capitalist world economic crisis will be once more to pose the alternatives of fascism -- in whatever form or disguise -- or revolution. And the only successful revolutions over the past hundred years have been those carefully prepared for by an organised party of the revolutionary class.

In the formation of such a party, the first stage has to be analysis of the actual situation and of the nature of the class forces involved and their relative strength. Our analysis of the crisis now approaching its climax in the U.S. will be part of this task of preparing for revolution.

FOUR KILLED AND NEARLY ONE THOUSAND INJURED EVERY WEEK

These are the casualty figures of the Building and Construction Industry.

BIG PROFITS

As wages with about 15 hours overtime only average £20 per week and employment is seasonal, most people wouldn't think that being a building worker was worth the risk.

But it's good business for the owners. The total profits of the 15 largest building contractors, including Wimpey, Taylor Woodrow, Costain, Laing, McAlpine, Mowlem, Turriff & Bovis, tops £38 millions a year. The major firms supplying building materials, such as Portland Cement, Cemen-tation, London Brick Company, Tarmac, British Plasterboard etc., also make big profits -- the top 16 making over £80 million a year.

THE LUMP

In recent years the bosses have introduced a system of employment which increases profits while at the same time depriving workers of insurance against accidents. This is the Labour Only Sub-Contracting or LUMP system of employment.

By pretending that the workers are self-employed sub-contractors, the employer avoids paying his share of National Insurance Stamps and also avoids paying Selective Employment Tax (SET). The worker is supposed to pay his own stamps and tax. In fact many fail to do this and as a result have bigger take-home wage packets. On the surface this looks very attractive, but in fact the worker is WORSE OFF in the long run. He does not receive wet time, site condition money, sickness benefit, accident benefitor dole money and he is not eligible for National Assistance. Others get into trouble over tax and insurance problems. Recently a Lump worker was gaoled for not paying his national insurance stamps.

But most of all the Lump system undermines the Unions and the organisation of workers on the site to protect their own interests. Between one quarter and one third of the labour force in the Building Industry are caught up in the Lump system.

OUR DEMANDS

We building workers must organise on our site as well as nationally to press our demands

1. For strong unions to represent us locally and nationally with our own elected site stewards. There must be no victimisation of stewards or militants.
2. An end to the Lump system -- for full safety precautions on each and every site to be inspected and implemented by fully-trained safety officers, paid by the employers but appointed by and answering to the Unions on the site. No longer must it be accepted by employers that any big job will involve inevitable deaths and injuries for the workers.
3. There must be guaranteed employment for the whole year -- or else full wages during the lay-offs caused by bad weather.
4. It must be recognised that our problems will only be solved finally when ownership and control of the building industry is in the hands of the working people in this country. This means that working people generally must hold POWER over all aspects of national life -- economic, political and cultural.

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READ "WORKERS BROADSHEET" -- the political paper of working people.