Britain is the world's nuclear dustbin—and that's official. The Euro-Parliament says so. The Government’s own Environment Committee says so. And, just for once, anyone with common sense must agree.

CANCER AND DEFORMITY

What this means is outbreak after outbreak of childhood leukaemias and other rare cancers (often unreported). A growth in the horrifying curse of birth deformities (especially near the Irish Sea, now the most radioactive on Earth). And a growing pile of radioactive waste, deadly for thousands of years.

The nuclear cancer is spreading. Four areas have been shortlisted to play host to a deadly and unwelcome guest—nuclear waste, buried in shallow trenches and left to seep into the surrounding earth and water. The proposed sites are in Essex, Lincolnshire, Bedfordshire and Humberside.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The whole existence of the nuclear industry is an outrage. There are plenty of better sources of energy—coal alone would supply many of our needs well into the future, not to mention the variety of under-researched renewable energy forms available. But nuclear power is preferred for two reasons. It provides materials for the obscenity of nuclear weapons. And it allows the government total control over energy supply, without unions like the RMT, exercising any power over its production.

MAKE THEM LISTEN

The nuclear industry must, for our children's sake, be halted. Where millions of pounds of profit are at stake, this is no easy task. The Euro-Parliament can't do it. The Government won't do it. BUT WE CAN.

Not through grovelling petitions or “asking nicely.” And not through the tokenist street-theatre of Greenham-style protest.

Through intelligent, organised industrial action, supported throughout the community, we can hit the boss class where it really HURTS—in the wallet. Nothing else makes them listen to our demands half so well.
**Budget? What Budget?**

March, as always, saw the budget, which this year wasn’t anything. The Royal Family felt suitably neglected, receiving a mere £15m to live on. The Conservative Party, for their part, have been receiving less than £5m in public money each year for the last 30 years, but seem to manage quite well.

**The Rich**

The wealthier will also be delighted that the Tories have abolished the fourth Tier of Income Tax, and reduced the basic rate of Income Tax. This, together with the abolition of the 25%rate of National Insurance contributions, will result in a tax cut being available to anyone with an income of £30,000 or more.

The scheme will be particularly advantageous for the wealthy, as it will allow them to reduce their tax liability by up to £20,000 per year. This is due to the abolition of the higher rate of National Insurance contributions, which currently stands at 15%.

**The Poor**

For those currently on benefits, there will be no change to their tax position. However, the Government has announced plans to introduce a new tax relief on donations to charities, which could benefit those on lower incomes.

The new tax relief will provide a deduction for donations made to registered charities, with the maximum deduction being 25% of the donation.

**The Future**

The budget also included a number of proposals aimed at the future. The Government has announced plans to introduce a new tax relief on donations to charities, which could benefit those on lower incomes.

The new tax relief will provide a deduction for donations made to registered charities, with the maximum deduction being 25% of the donation.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, the budget was a mixed bag. While there were some positive measures for the wealthy, there were also some negative changes for those on lower incomes. The future remains uncertain, but the Government has committed to exploring further tax relief measures to support those in need.

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**SILENT NIGHT**

The strike continues at Silentnight beds, with an increase in picketing. The plant has produced its first leaflet calling for blacking of Silentnight goods. Some of the union members have also been seen distributing the Napping printers' strike.

**UNI-PORK**

At Uni-Pork, Portadown, 400 workers are on strike against arbitrary sackings in the factory. The strikers have produced a leaflet in support of the workers.

**DUNNES DISPUTE**

An Dún Laoghaire Union of Workers (ADU) has filed a claim for an increase in pay of up to £1,000 per week. The strikers have also produced a leaflet in support of the workers.

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**MICHELIN political sacking**

A worker at the Michelin factory in Ballymena, N Ireland has been sacked because of his political beliefs.

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**QUARRY STRIKE**

Welsh quarry workers have been on strike since August, over cuts in bonus payments. The workers are demanding a minimum bonus of £25 per week, and the imposition of a new production line. The strike action has been supported by the NUPE/COHSE union.

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**A1 FEEDS**

Eleven workers are on strike against A1 Feeds, attempting to force the company to provide better working conditions.

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**BETRAYAL**

TRADE UNIONS — DITCHING STRIKERS AND HELPING THE STABBED IN THE BACK

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**DUNNES DISPUTE**

In July 1984 two workers at the Dunnes store in Dublin were blacked from work for refusing to handle S.African goods, which the policy of the IMF banned.

*The strikers got widespread support and the picketing Dymes stores with some success. But the workers had received their share of rewards: the strike pay was reduced by the annuaries, they received in donations, and made conditional on the strikers closing down their bank accounts. Support groups were told by the union to "suspend themselves" last December the union decided, in spite of the strikers wishes, to end the pickets, and gave the impression in many stricken groups offering support to the strikers that this was over. So, the only outcome of the strike so far has been the possibility that the Irish government may end imports of fruit and vegetables from South Africa. The Dunnes strikers deserve far better than the attacks of the Irish, and the recognition of their struggle.*

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**ECONOMY LABOUR OUTSOURCED**

The decision by the government to outsource the work to private companies has been met with widespread disapproval.

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**MICHELIN political sacking**

Michael Murray, a DAM member and union activist, has been sacked by the company. He has been a vocal critic of the company's policies and has been involved in a series of strikes and protests. The company has given no reason for the sacking.

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**MICHELIN political sacking**

A former employee of the company, who had been involved in a series of strikes and protests, has been sacked without any explanation. He has been a vocal critic of the company's policies and has been involved in a series of strikes and protests.

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What Syndicalists Think About...  
KILLING FELLOW WORKERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

Anarchists have often decried war by stating that organised violence, a machine which can use force and sophistication in weaponry against its own or another people to maintain the status quo of the ruling class of a country. This is an even more apparent when a country goes to war. The whole economy and resource of the nation are mobilised for the war effort.

Mussolini once said, "War is the health of the state". The machinery comes into its own when there is a war, which serves the dual function of reinforcing the ruling class's control over its subjects at home while protecting their interests or extending their spheres of influence abroad, against the encroachments of another ruling class.

The old music hall comedian Harry Price used to define a politician as "a man who gains his living by his country", and in the last two World Wars we have seen the lives of ordinary working class men, women and children sacrificed by the millions.

But the war machine itself has undergone technological changes that make it capable of far worse slaughter. Since the development of nuclear weapons it now threatens the very survival of the whole human species. It has become a self-generating Frankenstein's monster which is not under the power of governments in the arms race, so that in the time of one of these nuclear missiles and bombs which could destroy the world, every world over, and people throughout the world live in fear of the next war.

While individuals in the peace movement pay thousands for personal nuclear bunkers, defending themselves as to their personal survival in a radio-active, burnt-out world, the collective investment of the whole human species has become a self-generating Frankenstein's monster which is not under the power of governments, or the arms race. The war machine itself has become a self-generating Frankenstein's monster which is not under the power of governments in the arms race, so that in the time of one of these nuclear missiles and bombs which could destroy the world, every world over, and people throughout the world live in fear of the next war.

As workers, not a wheel turns unless we turn it. The power to save humankind from annihilation already exists in the hands of individuals, capitalised in the mass of deaths that would return to more "conventional" means of slaughter if the need arises. The latest missiles, the games, the latest nuclear weapons, the dreams of Star Wars, the promises of first strike capabilities...

But because the mutually assured destruction (MAD for short) does not discriminate between combatants and non-combatants, governments are consistently seeking ways to make the kitchen door off its hinges as a protection against the nuclear "blitz".

Governments have an even more pressing reason to seek to maintain their controlling mechanisms. On one hand they promote propaganda and manipulation to the end of creating a movement of people who will seek their own survival in the face of nuclear war, and will try to get themselves to die with their clothes on. But the real nature of the police and legal system was to prevent this. The police in society was to prevent people from coming together in solidarity, to prevent the workers from learning the lesson of work safe.
AIDS: THE SHOCK HORROR TREATMENT

Early last year AIDS hit the headlines as the press began a campaign of scare-mongering and persecution in a severe case of homophobia. This had the required effect of causing panic amongst the population. Gay swigging was immediately imitated with callers worried about AIDS-ever since from mothers to working women from right across the country were calling to ask advice.

DETENTION

The Government replied with the Human Health (Communicable Diseases) Act which provided for the detention in hospital of AIDS sufferers, if the 'wise men' of a magistrate they are not likely to 'take proper precautions.'

SUICIDE

The latest attack has come from the hospitals who are now insisting that any gay coming in for surgery should undergo tests to discover whether they have been infected with the AIDS virus. This has resulted in some gay men being sent home without treatment when their results have come up positive. Problems caused by the test were discussed at the first national conference on AIDS in Newcastle-upon-Tyne in February

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AIDS

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PLANNS FOR THREE PAGE ADS

The Terence Higgins Trust, pre-launching a £2 million media campaign. This consisted of ads in the national press and the high street. The working class must be united. We must stand together against the system which divides homosexuals and lesbians. Far more alarming is the hysteria which made it's way on to the state which has been living with AIDS. The campaign of scare-mongering and persecution of gays and lesbians will be prevented from coming out because of the hostile climate which is being created. The state is dividing the working class by spreading fear based on lies and falsehoods.

EACH AND LIES

Gays and lesbians in the workplace are being subjected to increased prejudice. In addition it means gays and lesbians will be prevented from coming out because of the hostile climate which is being created. The state is dividing the working class by spreading fear based on lies and falsehoods.

FANS' ANGER

Although Red Wedge claims to support the Labour Party and not to be running a direct recruitment drive, such a project can only be regarded as a cynical move to channel music fans' anger towards 'safe' areas.

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THE WORKING CLASS

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THE STRUGGLE

The working class must be united. We must stand together against the state's attempts to divide us be it by homophobia, racism, or sexism. The struggle of gays and lesbians is our struggle. A struggle against harassment, persecution, and bigotry. Gays and lesbians show us the fight and the solidarity on the shopfloor. Clearly the unions have failed to provide information to its members though a number are beginning to take steps in this direction.

CAMPAIN

In March the Government launched a 1.27 million media campaign. This consisted of ads in the press and the news. The state's aim was to divide us be it by homophobia, racism, or sexism. The struggle of gays and lesbians is our struggle. A struggle against harassment, persecution, and bigotry. Gays and lesbians show us the fight and the solidarity on the shopfloor. Clearly the unions have failed to provide information to its members though a number are beginning to take steps in this direction.

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music RED WEDGE and politics

Probably the second most publicised happening on the music scene recently (after Live Aid) has been the rise of Red Wedge, an organisation which aims to increase the political awareness of young people through their enjoyment of music.

This is not to say that the musicians involved (Paul Well, Billy Bragg, etc.) are on a par with Kinnock, Hattersley and the rest. Quite possibly they are contributing towards the type of political understanding that will eventually bring about a better society. Whether they do or not, however, is not the point. What is important in that, as ever, one of the fusions with a vested interest in maintaining the status quo, mainly the Labour Party, is bringing its cynical influence to bear on young people, through a popular medium — in this case music.

Keep them out!

It is unlikely that the majority of people who go to Red Wedge gigs will do so to enjoy the music, particularly in areas where good live music is a rare commodity. No doubt, though, that there will be a lot of people who, like so many others before them, will swallow the well-presented party political propaganda.

This in not an argument for 'keeping politics out of music' — the sort of phrase usually used by the right cynical exploitors of peoples' gullibility. Political cannot be kept out of anything, and music has been used to express peoples' anger and resentment, and to put over messages about the good and bad things in life, ever since it was invented. What is important is to keep politicians out of music.

Told what to think

Party political considerations aside, the artists who are helping Red Wedge would do well to recognise that young music fans have minds of their own. People can still see what's what, and can do without being told what to think by the Labour (or any other) Party, via their favourite singers and bands. The Wedge artists should also think about the words of folk singer Christy Moore in a recent newspaper interview: 'I don't like politicians and I don't want to be associated with them...You could be smaller than a Wedge gig this week and they could be locking you up by the nest.'

DERISORY: Benefits uprating con

The position of the poorest people in society has been emphasised clearly, with the publication of the Social Services Secretary's benefit uprating figure, due to take effect in July.

The government will not be unduly worried by protests that the figures do not come anywhere near bringing the poor to a decent standard of living. But then, why should they? After all, when you're mourning somebody in the face to keep them submissive, you don't worry too much about the odd screen — especially when you know that most people will thank you for it and plead for more of the same treatment.

Benefits will remain at a derisory level. There is no point in directing resources towards people who are not producing more wealth for the wealthy. Far better to just keep them alive (or most of them — hypothermia, suicide etc. are useful allies of the state when it comes to a spot of 'pruning') until they are needed, if ever. Added to this are the useful divide and rule effects of a system which divides the unemployed and poorer-paid sections of the working class against the rest, by ensuring that there is more 'competition' for jobs (i.e. people will work for less or are less likely to find their industrial muscle), and divide the poor into the 'deserving' (e.g. pensioners, people who got laid off after years of work etc.), and the 'undeserving' (the most obvious example being young people who have never had a job). The negligible increases in 'benefits' are not the product of planned but a side-effect of the cuts in local authority policy. They are the state's way of saying 'up yours' to the people, a vicious, calculated reminder of who is wielding the effective power in shaping the lives of ordinary people.

Support back means everybody — claimants, pensioners, single-parents, and those in work — uniting and reuniting that we all owe it to each other to take direct action in our own environment. There is no point in different sections of the working class fighting their own little separate battles, we're all in it together.
Nicaragua Revolution on a leash

Since the Sandinistas took power they have faced several radical unions not affiliated to their own. The industrial worker (a no-strike "boss union") has launched a factory worker under military discipline. Some walkouts, sit-down strikes in industries, and have ingl-unionists being shot or imprisoned. Until then, stories of trade union workforces or by whole workforces or by workers and a corporate takeover of the Sandinista union hierarchy that would be totally subservient to the property must be respected. The property is reflected in the fact that 75% of the country's wealth is in the hands of private individuals, the rest being nationalised.

In Britain the Sandinista union, 300 were sacked when the dockers' union of its championing of workers' rights in the fold of the Communist bloc, and 4,000 Tehran taxi drivers protest in the name of the working class whose executive is composed of Daniel Ortega, a wealthy businessman, Sergio Ramírez, a Catholic priest and several lawyers. The new rulers of Nicaragua are thus as privileged as the religious councils, which the Marxist-Leninist/Capitalist rulers of Nicaragua is largely concerned with, and other materials. Their paper is organised by extracting from the top, the rest being white propaganda.

The new rulers of Nicaragua are just as privileged as the henchmen of Somoza, in that they are conditioned as in the suburbs of Managua. Of course, not so old is the country's wealth in the hands of a single family. Now it's different and the wealth of the country has been divided into the middle class and more adaptable industrialists.

The North American revolutionary organisation has been formed in Australia, the result of a conference held in Sydney at the end of January. The Rebel Worker Group who were the IMA associates have now become the Sydney group of the ANARCHO-SYNDICALIST FEDERATION. Their bi-monthly magazine, REBEL WORKER is available from 70 BOX 95, Broadwater Villas, Sydney, Australia, price $3.00 for 6 issues. The union movement of UMW is organised in a single confession the FIT-CNT, which held itsthemeing last year after more than 12 years of actuality. The Urug-uyan Communist Party sought the mandate of 1965, but the workers were more conscious. The trade unions and industrialists, particularly the members of the Communist Party, were more conscious. The trade unions and industrialists, particularly the members of the Communist Party, were more conscious.

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An acquaintance, seeing me with a copy of a pamphlet dealing with James Connolly, remarked that he had been told to give it up his brand of socialism after living with a triumphant in the USA. I think he was thinking of the Wobbly's (IWW). Connolly had been an apostle of Connolly by all the sides that seem to me as a matter of the corresponding labels have been stripped.Marxist, socialist, Republican, anarcho-syndicalist, etc., but he did carry the union card that allows him to exploit the possibility of political action. I am his way of life, and actions displayed his basic belief in the indiavatism. He said that state ownership had its uses, but the enmity of labor unions not learned closely after the structure of modernism, and syndicalist, like the indiavatism, the union card that allows such a manifestation of political action, his brand of socialism after having a copy of a pamphlet dealing with Connolly's departure to the USA, while so different to James Connolly, James Larkin's fierce, attention-imposing speech, implemented Connolly's idealism.

Amazing energies

James Connolly was born of Irish parents in the slums of Edinburgh in 1868 and died in l916, strapped to a chair in the USA. I think he was one of the earliest influential syndicalist pamphleteers. Connolly was a travelling orator who had to fill the void created by Connolly's departure to the USA, while so different to James Connolly, James Larkin's fierce, attention-imposing speech, implemented Connolly's idealism.

Outspoken

At the same time that Connolly was organising in America and syndicalist views brought to him in Edinburgh in l868, and died in l916, strapped to a chair in the USA. I think he was one of the earliest influential syndicalist pamphleteers. Connolly was a travelling orator who had to fill the void created by Connolly's departure to the USA, while so different to James Connolly, James Larkin's fierce, attention-imposing speech, implemented Connolly's idealism.

EASTER 1916 - our view

How did a prominent socialist and syndicalist like Connolly come to be holed up in the Dub- lin Citizens Army? Does it form the brightest hope of odious? How did the author of influential syndicalist pamphlet like "An Appeal to the Root" exhaust the idea of cross-class nationalist conspiracy which resulted in nothing more glorious than De Valera's solidly conservatives Ireland?

The rising went off at half cock. Connolly had had nothing to do with it. He had no part in the planning or preparation. The rising did not have Connolly's blessing. The rising was not his work. The rising was a failure.

Footnotes

*James Connolly, "Socialism Made Easy", 1914.
*James Larkin, "Irish Transport and General Workers' Union", 1914.
*James Larkin, "Irish Transport and General Workers' Union", 1915.
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*James Larkin, "Irish Transport and General Workers' Union", 1920.
*James Larkin, "Irish Transport and General Workers' Union", 1921.
Dear Direct Action,

I attended the recent Anti-Fascist Action Conference as an observer who was disgusted to see the witch-hunt conducted by the Marxist left against "Class War", claiming they were fascist. Personally I have little liking for "Class War"—knee-capping clowns who give Anarchism a bad name, but I have even less time for the Communist hacks who try and tar Anarchists with the Fascist brush. Compare the record of Communists with that of Anarcho-syndicalists as regards Fascism.

In 1936 Germany, the IWW dockers were regarded by the German fascists as formidable opponents...until the Communists gave them their arms, guaranteeing a Fascist victory. This success was followed by the breakdown of the workers by a friendship pact with Hitler in 1939. And the likes of the CP and now the Trotskyists talk of being synonymous with Fascism.

E Wood, AUEW

NIGERIA

A revolution led by a small party elite will never bring a free society, only privilege for a few few. For the workers it is a long and careful process of securing decent handouts and concessions - eg, improved literacy, which has improved immensely over the past few years. It's great to see Anarchists and syndicalists put across a sensible way that appeals to ordinary working people.

I'd like to suggest more articles on privatisation - NHS, water, etc, along with the more important prongs of the Tory attack on our class, and how we can all fight it.

J. Earshav (Ms), Wetherby.

Next month, May 86, sees the centenary of the first May Day. To commemorate this DIRECT ACTION will contain a free poster, so make sure of YOUR copy - or why not take out a sub?

YOUR shop, organisation or DAM group can send MAY DAY GREETINGS to all our readers in next month's issue. Just send your greeting, with or without artwork, and a minimum donation of £3.00 to Dept DA, PO Box 102, Hull, by April 15th.

YOUR LOCAL DAM CONTACT IS:

KOLONI DAM recently held a well attended public meeting on HEALTH RIGHTS: CUNA with a speaker from the Berlin metal workers Action Committee. They will soon be holding an Anarchist Day (see below).

In BURLINGTON DAM members organised support for the Anti-Police Harassment march in Manchester.

Comrades are picketing the POST OFFICES and they report that this has been quite successful. They have also raised funds for the Contracts strikers.

LUTON DAM have been active recently. They too have a weekly picket of French Connection. In addition they occupied the premises of Ernst & Whinney, the film who negotiated SOGAT, along with other comrades. This gained local and national press coverage.

Leaflets in support of the WAPPING strikers were distributed outside MI Smith leafleting campaign has been held outside THE OCCIDENT to protest against a racist survey being carried out there despite union opposition. Leeds DAM have also campaigned in support of French ONT members in the postal services who are being denied union recognition (see below).

LIVERPOOL DAM have been supporting 11 workers on an NURSES FEED SUPPLEMENTS who have maintained a 24-hour picket since January. They are campaigning energetically against Fascist attacks in the city. They are also beginning a campaign on behalf of Michael Daviess, currently imprisoned in Park Lane Hospital and denied access to political friends.

CENTRAL LONDON comrades have been in support of WAPPING PRINT WORKERS.

MANCHESTER DAM members were instrumental in organising the march against POLICE HARASSMENT still going on at French CONNECTION outlets in the city.

MIDDLESBROUGH DAM have formed a new group in support of WAPPING STRIKERS. They are also engaging in leafleting campaigns and circulating Spanish material about the Revolution of 1936 for a COMMEMORATIVE PUBLICATION.

NEWCASTLE comrades have brought out a new edition of the excellent "SYNDICALIST", in addition to their close involvement in the CONTRACTS strike. Comrades in YORK have worked to raise funds for SILENIGHT STRIKERS and supported their pickets. They held a well attended public meeting on the POLITICS OF PSYCHOLOGY, and are now engaged in setting up a Collective to help oppose the FOWLER REVIEW.

DAM GROUPS PLEASE SEND NEWS OF YOUR LOCAL ACTIVITIES FOR REGULAR INCLUSION IN ROUNDUP.

ANARCHIST DAY

ANNIVERSARY OF MAY DAY THERE WILL BE: AN ALL-DAY EVENT AT BOLTON SOCIALIST CLUB, ON SATURDAY MAY 3rd. SOMETHING WILL BE DISPLAYED, BOOKSTANDS AND VIDEOS, AS WELL AS WORKSHOPS ON UNEMPLOYMENT, SPAIN AND ANARCHO-SYNDICALISM, ANARCHA-FEMINISM, ANIMAL RIGHTS, COMMUNICATION AND BUILDING THE ANARCHIST MOVEMENT IN THE 80s. THERE WILL BE FUNDRAISING<br> BANDS WILL PERFORM IN THE EVENING.

PUBLIC MEETING: RECOVERY MAY DAY THE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HAYMARKET MARTYRS. A PUBLIC MEETING TO BE HELD BY EAST LONDON DAM at Hackel Traders and Labour Club, 96 Renarlo Lane, E8, with speakers from various organ. Leave, 79 Kersley Road, Kersley End, Coventry CV7 8HF.

DAM GROUPS

A NEW DAM GROUP has been set up in BRISTOL. Readers can contact: BOX DAM, 37 STORESFORD STREET, BRISTOL 2.

NEWCASTLE DAM have a NEW ADDRESS They can now be contacted c/o DOH 62 Thornton St Newcastle upon Tyne.

COVENTRY MINERS' WIVES SUPPORT GROUP have been working on a book about their experiences of AS85 strikers and it is now ready for publication. The group are currently agenctly seeking funds and will probably need around £600. Anyone who could help should contact E Sugrue, 19 Thornfield Lane, Kersey End, Coventry, CV7 8H.

PIT STRIKE BOOK

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VIDEO

FURTHER TO LAST MONTH'S ARTICLE ON THE CASE OF MS VENDY SAVAGE, THE WOTHERHAM BRANCH INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S TRUST has an appealing VIDEOTAPE FEATURING MS SAVAGE IS NOW AVAILABLE.

When the tape is purchased the tape costs £1.50 per copy.

Donations

Our very grateful thanks for the following donations to DAM, Middlesbrough DAM, Bolton DAM, Burnley DAM. We will also need more - any hand in pockets, please!!

Next month's copy date will be April 15th. We welcome articles, letters etc but prefer typed copy if possible.

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DONATIONS

AIMS AND PRINCIPLES OF THE DIRECT ACTION MOVEMENT

(1) The Direct Action Movement is a working class movement.

(2) Our aim is the creation of a free and classless society.

(3) We are fighting to abolish the state, capitalism and class and replace them by self-managed, democratic, voluntary associations.

(4) In order to bring about the new social order, the workers must take over the means of production and distribution and own for themselves the means of production and distribution. We are the agents of that revolution. We believe that the workers will use their power to defend themselves against the attacks of the state and capitalism, and to prevent exploitation and domination.

(5) We believe that only the way for the working class to achieve this is by independent organisation in the workplace and community and federation with others in the same industry and locality, independent of, and opposed to all political parties and trade union bureaucracies. All such workers organisations must be controlled by workers themselves and must unite rather than divide the workers movement. Any and all delegates of such workers organisations must be subject to immediate recall by the workers.

(6) We are opposed to all States and State institutions. The working class has no country. The class struggle is worldwide and recognises no artificial boundaries. The armies and police of the state do not exist to defend the interests of those of State, they exist only as the repressive arm of the state.

(7) We oppose racism, sexism, militarism and all other attitudes and institutions that stand in the way of equality and the right of all people to control their own lives and the environment.

(8) The Direct Action Movement is a federation of groups that individual communists who believe in the principles of anarchy-syndicalism; a system where the individual is free and equal, and where there is no state or class domination, and the power of the state is without the citizens of bureaucrats. However, we believe that the individual needs to be educated to see his or her place in the world.

(9) The Direct Action Movement is not afraid of being accused of being "the situationists" - that is, a movement which is always up-to-date, always relevant to the time.

(10) We believe that direct action is the best way of getting what we want, and that only the working class can achieve it.

(11) We believe that direct action is the only way of achieving a free and classless society.

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The weakness that led to Wapping

Murdoch has been planning this dispute for a long time. In an interview with the NEW YORK TIMES he is on record as having said "They (the unions) have been through the process. What we didn't show them was our computer...And they never saw the extent of our preparations for typesetting. Yet the place had hundreds of construction workers and people here all the time. Anyone could have worked it out."

CAREFUL PLANNING

Murdoch's success at Wapping isn't just down to luck, or even careful planning, though there was certainly plenty of the latter. His ability to get away with it reveals once again the fundamental weakness of the unions in this country, as did the failure of the TUC to support the miners.

With their police mercenaries, their anti-union laws and their cruel economic policies, the bosses have in the eighties embarked on a concerted strategy to maintain their privileges by attacking workers, the response of the TUC, supposedly the defenders of our class, hasn't exactly been emphatic. But simply, Thatcher's mob know exactly what they're doing, while our class is stumbling from one defeat to another.

The fact that the print unions, traditionally among the strongest in the land, find themselves impotent before Murdoch, shows just how far the rout has gone.

THE CRITICS

The shape of things to come was plain to see during the Stockport Messenger dispute in Warrington in 1983. The print unions brought Fleet street to a standstill, only to back down while still on top. Eddie Shah ran to the courts which duly handed him the NGA. Murdoch appealed to the TUC for support and when none was forthcoming the NGA leaders had an excuse to cave in. If the labour movement had fought then, it wouldn't find itself capped out at Wapping now.

UNION LEADERS BLIND

Murdoch was allowed to move to Wapping overnight. While the unions were holding a secret ballot on strike action, as is to remain within the law, Murdoch was busy packing. Granted, new technology had weakened the printers' hands, but over the years that the Wapping plant was being built, and made operational, did none of the union leaders ask themselves what it was going to be used for?

UNION SLOW

It's all very well for Brenda Dean of SOGAT and Tony Dubbins of the NGA to cry now about the scab electricians at Wapping, but it was known that EETPU officials were recruiting for Wapping last autumn. While Murdoch was preparing for a showdown, when the writing was on the wall, what the hell were the unions doing?

Now that over 5,000 print workers have been locked out by Murdoch, why is the rest of Fleet St working normally? People still think that Shah and Murdoch are nattering. The other newspapers will have to follow them to stay in business, besides knowing their class interests - we are the ones who let ourselves be isolated and picked off group by group.

The print unions have been content to court "public opinion" (you know, that decaying grey mush inside the heads of SUN readers) and hold a few rallies and token pickets. When an attempt is actually made to blockade Wapping, Dean joins the police in attacking "outside agitators" who dare to act without obeying the union general.

SEQUESTRATION

The unions have millions stashed away in banks (at least until they're sequestered). And yet, in a situation like that at Wapping, they're totally impotent. The COB in Bolivia, COSATU in S. Africa, the Solidarnosc underground go from day to day on a shoestring budget, but they show more imagination, more fight, more audacity than the TUC unions will ever show.

The sacked printworkers will not get their jobs back on the strength of picketing alone, but it can effectively delay distribution of newspapers on 15th March. Lorries were slowed by five hours until 2.30 am. But pickets need to be more organised and purposeful, rather than crowds of sixpence people waiting to be dispersed by the police. The numbers should be spread out to make the best use of them. Talk of "storming the main gate" is the stuff of left-wing fantasy and only serves to boost the adrenalin of little paper-sellers. It won't help workers.

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SOLIDARITY NEEDED

First, all the Fleet stprintworkers should be out. They either fight now or else they'll be defeated group by group later. Mass picketing has a part to play, and must be stepped up, but that won't win on its own. Workers in other industries must show solidarity to ensure that essential services, like mail, electricity and water are kept running. Blacking must be increased and distribution disrupted. Sabotage is a legitimate weapon.

Wapping can be cut off, if enough workers act. Dean and Dubbins had their chance and their softly softly approach has given Murdoch more of a lead than he was allowed to start off with.

But Wapping is only the latest stage in the long retreat of British unionism. Before that came the miners, the COSATU, Warrington, and so on.

We anarcho-syndicalists are supporters of a different kind of union organisation: a unionism that wouldn't be embarrassed by Arthur Scargill because he is foolish enough to take the TUC rhetoric about "standards and fighting" at face value. A unionism that is controlled by the rank and file, with no place for the likes of Hammond, Willis and Dean.

A revolutionary unionism that is nobody's tool, that is not a transmission belt for charlatans like Kinnock and which isn't prepared to wait for the next election to take on Thatcher. A fighting unionism which defends working people and points it toward a better future instead of leading us to the slaughterhouse...SINDICALISM.

DINO
IN COMMEMORATION OF 100 YEARS OF STRUGGLE

THE DAY WILL COME WHEN OUR SILENCE WILL BE MORE POWERFUL THAN THE NOISES YOU ARE THROTTLING TODAY.

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