

# *Direct Action*

WORLD  
LABOUR  
NEWS

For Workers' Direct  
Control of Industry

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# BAN OVERTIME

Overtime has been making the news lately on the industrial front. Busmen and engineers have banned it in support of claims for improved wages and conditions. Lorry drivers in Swindon have demanded a guaranteed amount of overtime. Miners in South Wales have refused to work an extra shift on Saturdays. The reason given by the miners was that their increased gross earnings would be used as an argument against them at future negotiations for wage increases. The bosses have already adopted this tactic in the engineering industries 18 month long negotiations. When a union delegate claimed that even some employers might be ashamed of the low rates paid to British engineers in comparison with the rates of workers in similar industries in certain other countries the employers side answered that this did not take into account the size of the "actual pay-packets". Gross earnings - including overtime - are now being used as a basis of discussion by the employers in wage talks. Overtime earnings are now an acknowledged part of the wage structure for millions of workers.

While the Tory press chatters about the so-called "affluent society", the idea of the 5 day week and the 8 hour day has been quietly buried. People like the Welsh miners see what is happening and fight back.

The British working-class are the only people in the English speaking world today - except the Irish - who have not got the 8 hour day and 40 hour week. Native African builders labourers in South Africa have a 40 hour week. New York electricians have a 25 hour week. A New Zealand building worker makes as much money in 40 hours as a British worker does in 60, and while the London worker is building office blocks at the weekend the Kiwi is messing about in a small boat, drinking beer, hunting deer, or digging the garden. On the other hand, in Germany and some other European countries the boss starts at 7.30 or 8.0 with the rest of the staff. In Britain the boss keeps "office hours", rolling in at 10.am.

It is sometimes said that over time does not pay. Obviously it must pay to some extent, or nobody would work it except the kind of idiot who goes on working after he wins the pools. For one thing, there are the overtime rates, usually between time and a quarter to time and a half, and double time on Sunday. Unfortunately there is also pay-as-you-earn Income Tax.

PAYE works on a sliding scale. The highest rate of taxation is 7/9d in the £. In other words, you are clipped about 40% if you come into this bracket. If you are single and make more than £9.10.0d. per week, you only take 12/3 of every extra quid you make. If you are married it starts when you go over £11.10.0d. If you are married and have one child it starts when you make more than £13.10.0d. You can make an

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# PARENTS TAKE — DIRECT ACTION —

by ANNE KENNEDY

THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF GLASGOW decided in August to send the children of Belsyde School and its annexe, Cloan Avenue, in Drumchapel, a large housing estate in Glasgow, to a school in Knightswood, another large housing scheme on September 30.

The parents of the Drumchapel children, whose ages range between 5 and 11 years, objected, as the school in Knightswood was two miles away and to get there the children would have to cross over the Forth and Clyde canal by an old, narrow wooden bridge and walk down a narrow country road with no pavements and open fields on either side of it. A school bus was not provided, as a school has to be over three miles away before one is laid on and no service buses operated on this road.

The parents sent a letter of protest to the Education Committee, but when, as was to be expected, this had no effect, they told the Committee that they would not send their children to the school. When the day came for the children to go to their new school, the parents and children marched through Drumchapel with banners and posters, protesting about the stupidity of the Corporation. By this time sympathy had grown to be quite strong in Drumchapel and several hundred mothers marched with the original hundred, who had started the protest. The minister of a local church gave the mothers his church hall, so that the children could be kept together. The mothers have been teaching the children themselves, so the Corporation could not complain of them not receiving any education. Teachers of schools round about helped out by giving the mothers school books and by taking classes in the evening and during their lunch hour.

During the beginning of the second week, Corporation officials made a surprise visit to the hall, to try to evict the mothers, but the mothers told them where to go in no uncertain terms and then barred themselves inside the hall, with the children, until the officials had gone away. They tried again to get in, but the minister of the church told them to get out of his property, or he would call the police. The officials immediately left and did not bother the mothers again.

On October 11, three of the mothers appeared on television to explain why they were not sending their children to school. Two members of the Education Committee were also invited to appear on the same programme, but refused to do so. Another two were invited, but claimed to have prior engagements. Up to

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# BUSMEN FIGHT BACK

Seen any red buses lately? I have it from a well informed source, that the London buses are now running a country bus service, one a day and two every Friday for market.

The overtime ban has blown the L.T.B. case sky high, up till the beginning of November, the ban took 1,000 buses off the road, which in effect means that every seventh bus is run by a crew on overtime.

The busmen's demand for an increase of 30/- a week and - you guessed it - a 40 hour week. A 30/- increase will bring a bus driver's basic wage up to the princely sum of £13.10s per week, what a fortune for lugging a ruddy great bus through the traffic jammed streets of London, and the slave at the back, he takes all the kicks, and boy is he getting some lately, all for less than £12. per week.

The L.T.B. announced that they had reached a conclusion on the claim but were now in consultation with the Government which as far as the busmen are concerned is the 'kiss of death'. The Government are committed to old Nicks' 3%, so once again a nationalised concern is in a side head lock, the busmen are applying a first counter move.

The L.T.B. are bleating about cost, let's have a brief look at this, now stinking, 'red herring'. During 1962 revenue from bus fares increased by £1,848,000 over 1961. In April of that year the busmen received a wage increase of 6s.6d. a week at an annual cost to London Transport of £676,000. During the past two years passengers have paid £6,964,000 in fares, busmen have taken in £676,000 in increased wages, which means every £1 paid by passengers busmen received 2s. in increased wages and 18s went to London Transport, not bad eh?

Looking at the other side of the coin, £7½ million is paid in interest to parasites plus £4 million to the Government in fuel tax, £11½ million down the drain at the expense of busmen's wages and high fares. Over the last 10 years two million passengers have been lost, because it's either quicker to walk or cheaper by taxi. Passengers and busmen are in this struggle together although the majority of the former are reluctant to appreciate this fact.

The scare to date is that the government's committee of enquiry is to publish an interim report, with an expected stop-gap pay rise, if they don't, busmen will certainly 'work to rule' which will knock the bus service for a further six. Do the learned gentlemen sitting round the table know what to expect, if they don't come across, busmen are fed up playing 'pat a cake'. One effective tactic busmen haven't tried, running the buses and not collecting the fares, thereby giving the travelling public a service at its true value, that would certainly shake the 'erberts at Broadway and Westminster, into seeking honest common sense.

To gain their full just demand busmen will have to fight hard, they must have assistance from all transport workers, their fight today can be yours tomorrow.

Bill Christopher



# THE SAME

## SWAZILAND GENERAL STRIKE

Prior to the general strike, workers at Big Bend sugar plantation had struck for some weeks for better living and working conditions and for more pay. Readers will note that the struggle was in part over living conditions; it must be explained that in southern Africa many workers have to leave their wives, family and villages to find work, which can be hundreds of miles away. There the men live in compounds - concrete barracks - the whole time except for infrequent visits home. There are reports that men were being beaten at work. The strike was unsuccessful; but to strike at all in that part of the world is news.

Some weeks later the miners at Havelock, the world's biggest asbestos mine, gave notice that they would strike at the beginning of the next week for more pay. The management agreed on the Sunday morning to a 53% increase. This came to £2 more a week! The majority were delighted, but not so the stooges in the mine of various Swazi politicians, who for their own reasons had persuaded the men to threaten strike action, by making them conscious of how they were being exploited. In fact they were mainly interested in building up support for themselves from the miners in next May's first general elections, and also to smash the constitution imposed by the British Government; this is why they needed the strike regardless of the miner's wishes.

For these reasons a meeting was called by these politicians outside the mine on Sunday afternoon at which the miners were lectured that the management could easily afford £2 more a day, and that the strike should take place. It began the next morning and spread to Big Bend. The small Swaziland police force was split between Havelock and Big Bend to try to break the strike. This left Mbabane, the capital, wide-open and the politicians then brought people out on general strike. They did not limit themselves to verbal persuasion, the miners and other people were bribed, threatened and beaten up. They were successful particularly in Bremersdorp, Manzini, a white farming area, and Mbabane where it was 99% effective amongst the Swazi population. White women found themselves in the unheard of position of having no servants.

The strike lasted four days, until the British troops were flown in - 24 hours later and there would have been a bloodbath, as feelings had been stirred to such an extent by the hysterical speeches at mass meetings.

At Havelock, the arrival of the troops did not break the strike for 21 days. At the time of writing, only 50% of the strikers have been reinstated at Havelock, the remainder are in gaol, refuse to return, or are not accepted as they are considered agitators. The management have now



# OLD STORY

employed new labour as replacements.

The trials of people arrested during the strike are still taking place; the shorter sentences have been between six months and one year for not giving the required three weeks strike notice. British judges have now been imported for the incitement and intimidation cases, sentences started at three years and are going up steadily. The glorious British army remains, entertaining the population with parades (in full battle kit) the Gordon Highlanders have been replaced by the Loyals, who will remain at least until general elections are held.

In the last two years, racial integration has occurred in the country. There are now mixed townships and a handful of Swazi children in Mbabane High School; coloured people can now go to the pubs. Previously, Swazis were forbidden to buy liquor which naturally resulted in much poteening. The proposal to open pubs to them was met with horrified indignation from the white population, who expected an orgy of drunkenness, rape and murder. The Swazis don't use the pubs much and the drunkenness which did exist amongst them has largely disappeared.

The South African government has naturally reacted against the existence of a multiracial state right on its borders, and recently drew up a blueprint for bringing Swaziland into South Africa as a Bantustan. This is eagerly supported by Sobusa, the feudal chief who is greedy for real power, not the mere pomp and circumstance the British have allowed him, and although he has great sway over the Swazi, they fear the Nationalists in the Republic more than they respect him. They can see what is happening to coloured people across the border.

The feudal system is a major factor in the lack of any independent expression of Swazi aspirations, so much so that when the government attempted to introduce social-democratic trade unions on the British pattern, the workers would have nothing to do with them, until their chiefs, who hardly have their interests at heart, were brought in as intermediaries between them and managements!

All this may seem depressing to syndicalist readers. We see a picture of Swazi workers exploited by white capitalists, who only moved in when they realised how rich in potentialities Swaziland is, men like Bob Stevens and Carl Todd:

Two d's in Todd,      How odd!      One was enough for God

We see them imposed upon by the colonial administration; used and abused by the Swazi politicians; and sold down the river by their paramount

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# Fraga: Get out, Fascist!

FRAGA IRIBARNE, Franco's fascist minister of information and tourism, arrived at the Spanish Embassy, Belgrave Square, London S.W.1. on Sunday November 24 at 3.20 pm., driven up in a large, black car with his body-guard and followed by another car loaded with about a dozen suitcases for his four-day visit. (perhaps the cases were full of hand-outs for the Daily Telegraph). Also at 3.20 pm., by a happy coincidence, there arrived at the Embassy a deputation of five, from a protest march, well over one thousand strong, that had been halted at the corner of Belgrave Square by a police cordon. The deputation, including a member of the SWF's National Committee, handed in a letter expressing solidarity with the Asturian miners and protesting at the barbarities of the Franco regime. The march was organised by the CNT in Britain. Outflanking the cordon, a number of red & black banners were taken to a vantage point in the Square, where they were clearly visible from the Embassy windows, through which the fascist creature from Madrid peered out angrily.

During Fraga's four-day visit, posters with the message, "FRAGA: GET OUT, FASCIST" and including details of his activities, appeared in London and pickets were mounted at the various places where he had official engagements.

## 'Parents take Direct Action' continued from page 2

now the mothers have been having their own way with the education of their children.

The same thing is happening in Knightswood where the children are being sent to a newly-built school in South Blairdardie near Drumchapel. Again the parents are educating their own children. The Education Committee issued a statement last week that the school for Knightswood children would only house them for the next year and then it would be given to the Drumchapel children - utter chaos!!!

This is a beautiful example of bureaucracy in action and of mutual aid and spontaneous organisation springing up to counter it. Unfortunately the mothers are not expected to hold out for very long as many of the children have to sit their Qualifying Examination (the Scottish equivalent of the 11+ next spring. The teaching imparted by the mothers may not bring the children up to the required standard and their subsequent education may suffer.

THE SAME OLD STORY Continued from page 5. chief. Perhaps hope now lies in the rank-and-file Swazi's experience. He is learning to distrust all the forces of authority. Will he see that his future, like ours, depends on realising the power that lies in his own hands?



# SWF CONFERENCE

THE FIFTE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of the Syndicalist Workers' Federation, British section of the International Working Men's Association, was held in three sessions at the A.C.T.T. Hall, Soho Square, London W.1. on Sunday, November 10. Eighty-three delegates and individual comrades were present from London, Bristol, Glasgow, Dublin, Manchester, Merseyside, Rochdale, Sunderland, Birmingham, Cambridge, Oxford, Stockton-on-Tees, Southampton, Harlow (Essex), Brockenhurst (Hants), Seaford (East Sussex), Tunbridge Wells and Maidstone (Kent). Apologies for non-attendance were received from a number of other localities, including Inverness and Edinburgh.

Three comrades of the CNT in Exile represented the IWMA Secretariat and there was a strong delegation from the CNT and FIJL in GB. The "Freie Arbeiter Stimme" Group (London) was represented by two comrades. Messages of greeting were received from the IWMA Secretariat, Intercontinental Secretariat of the CNT of Spain, Commission of Relations of the CNT in GB, Industrial Workers of the World General Administration (Chicago), French CNT, Italian Syndical Union (USI) and the Regional Workers' Federation of Argentina (FORA).

A number of amendments were made to the SWF's Aims & Principles and Organisational Basis, including the introduction of a clause pledging active support to the struggle against militarism and war. A copy of the revised statement is enclosed with this issue. Conference took note of the proposed formation of a British Federation of Anarchists and nominated two delegates to attend its inaugural conference as observers.

IT WAS AGREED THAT, FROM JANUARY, 1964, 'DIRECT ACTION' SHOULD APPEAR AS A MONTHLY PRINTED PAPER, INSTEAD OF PRINTED AND DUPLICATED ON ALTERNATE MONTHS.

A number of new pamphlets were projected, including one on the various techniques of industrial struggle.

A long discussion on industrial policy resulted in the following two resolutions:

"Conference calls for a 40-hour week for everybody, to be fought for by a national overtime ban."

"Conference condemns participation of the trade unions in NEDC as a sell-out of the rank-and-file members of the unions in their struggle for higher living standards. It deplores statements at the recent T.U. Congress, pledging support for a wage freeze under a Labour Government."

It was decided that an active propaganda campaign should be mounted during the coming General Election. An anti-parliamentary pamphlet was in preparation for use during the elections:-



"Conference mandates the SWF National Committee to seek contact with other organisations, to mount an anti-parliamentary campaign during the coming General Election. This campaign shall stress the positive alternatives to the parliamentary set-up and not be purely negative in character."

Dealing with general social policy, it was resolved:

"Conference calls for a complete boycott of trade and tourism with Spain, Portugal and South Africa and the SWF shall conduct an energetic campaign to this effect."

"The SWF encourages support for local tenants' associations along direct action lines, against evictions and rent racketeering."

"Conference sends greetings of solidarity to its comrades struggling for the overthrow of State oppression and capitalist wage slavery throughout the world. It remembers especially the persecuted, jailed and executed comrades in Franco's Spain, Salazar's Portugal, Verwoerd's South Africa, Castro's Cuba, Bolshevik-dominated Eastern Europe and China, together with those who, despite enormous difficulties and dangers, continue to work for our common ideas both inside these countries or in enforced exile."

"It expresses its indignation that in De Gaulle's France, the Spanish anarcho-syndicalist youth movement, the Federacion Iberica de Juventudes Libertarias, FIJL, has been proscribed and many of its members held in prison on a Franco-inspired charge of belonging to an 'association of criminals'."

"To libertarians in all countries it pledges its support in the universal movement for freedom, equality and human dignity. It recognises that this movement is one and indivisible, whether directed towards day-to-day gains in the class struggle, for racial integration, for freedom from the ever-present threat of nuclear war, or against totalitarian barbarism."

On the proposal of the retiring national secretary, Jim Pinkerton (Manchester), it was agreed that the National Committee be moved to London and the following committee was elected: Bill Christopher (general secretary), Mark Zandy (treasurer), Brian Hart, Mike Callinan, Tom Brown, Sean Gannon, Wynford Hicks, Ken Hawkes.

Conference devoted a session to full consideration of the Agenda of the IWMA's XII Congress (Paris, November 30). It was agreed to urge fusion of the IWMA and IWW, to ask the SAC (Sweden) and NSV (Holland) to rejoin the IWMA and to propose the IWMA's affiliation to the recently-formed neutralist and anti-war international. As General Secretary of the IWMA the SWF would propose ROQUE SANTAMARIA. A delegation to the Congress was nominated.

A collection among delegates for the legal aid fund to FIJL members awaiting trial in France realised £12.



# That Man Again!

Edward Martell, whose anti-working class activities we detailed in the last issue of DIRECT ACTION, is spreading his net wider. Last week, when in Belfast for a debate, he made contact for the third time with the owners of the daily newspaper, THE NORTHERN WHIG, which ceased publication September 24, following a strike of the NUJ Chapel, officially recognised, against the sackings of six journalists and a librarian - despite explicit promises by the management that no staff reductions were intended.

Martell contacted the management after the start of the strike on July 9. He is obviously interested in smashing the organisation of the Belfast printworkers and a takeover bid for the "Northern Whig" cannot be ruled out. He and the Cunningham family, who run the paper, would make an unholy alliance. . . the Cunninghams acted as pirates during the strike, destroying property of journalists that had been left in the building and opening all personal mail to them. Against the Cunninghams and Martell, the Printing & Kindred Trades Federation must present the solid front that they failed to erect during the NUJ strike in Belfast.

## BAN OVERTIME Continued from page 1.

extra £2 for each child under 11 before you enter the top bracket, but obviously for most people, all or nearly all overtime earnings are taxed at 7/9d in the £. A single man who works weekends and evenings to make a total of £20 will lose £4 in tax. A married man with one child who does the same to make £24 will lose £4.

The system is completely evil. Wages are too low and the seemingly easiest way to improve them is to get a few extra hours. Employers then argue that your weekly take-home pay is now enough for you. One thing is sure, the hours will get longer, the value of the pound will shrink, quicker than your hourly rate will increase.

We Syndicalists want a society in which all industries are owned and controlled by the workers who already operate them. At first we may decide our own wages and conditions, but the objective is to abolish the Wage System entirely. Production will be for the use of people, not for the making of profits. We will get a work bench fixed up for the ex boss - if he wants to go on eating.

Meanwhile here in Britain in 1963 we back the Welsh miners in their stand against the Saturday shift. We are sorry for the drivers in Swindon. We call on all trade unionists to fight now for an 8 hour day and a five day week for higher wages. We call for a campaign in the shop meetings and the branches to warn the working-class how overtime has undermined their wages and conditions in recent years. By taking industrial Direct Action, whether by overtime bans, go-slows, work-to-rule, lightening strikes, or any of the other weapons in the Syndicalist arsenal, the workers of this country could achieve a 40 hour week, the abolition of chronic overtime, and an all round increase in the standard of living.

Sean Gannon



# 'Snoopers Unlimited'

Earlier this year Complete Security Services Ltd., sent a confidential circular to employers. (November D.A.) It was reported on July 23rd that the circular had been withdrawn.

Complete Security Services Ltd., was registered in July 1962 as a Company "to carry on business as security experts, guards, watchmen, escorts, messengers and servants for any purpose... to supply investigations and enquiry agents, and to obtain and supply advice, information and statistics of any kind," etc. The company had four directors, but in June 1963 three of them resigned.

The Company has an issued capital of £100 of which £90 are held by Security Services Ltd., Cheapside House, 135-147, Cheapside, E.C.2. The directors of Security Services Ltd., include:

Mr. L. Robert Carr, Tory M.P. for Mitcham since 1950. He is deputy chairman and joint managing director of Metal Closures Ltd., (a £4 million company for making seals and closures for bottles), is on the London Board of Scottish Union and National Insurance Co., and was until May 1963 also on Securicor Ltd.

Gen, Sir George Erskine, Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Jersey. As such he is the Personal Representative of the Sovereign in Jersey and the channel of communication between H.M. Government and the Jersey Government - salary £2,500 a year. He is Vice-Chairman of Securicor Ltd. Previously he was Commander-in-Chief East Africa in charge of operations against Mau-Mau in Kenya 1953-55

Sir Philip B. Margeston, retired Assistant Commissioner of Metropolitan Police, Chairman of Securicor Ltd.

Mr. Keith D. Erskine, of Bexhall Erskine Co., Solicitors, he is Chairman of Associated Hostels Ltd., Chairman of Metal Closures Ltd., and on 18 other companies including Securicor Ltd.

Security Services Ltd., is in turn owned by the Kensington Palace Hotel Ltd., on the Board of which sits Mr. Keith D. Erskine, Mr. Denis M. Erskine and Mrs. A.J. Erskine.

The Chairman of Kensington Palace Hotel Ltd., made the following remarks in his annual statement March 1st 1963:

"I said last year that by Easter 1962 we would be operating 250 armoured vehicles and this target was achieved, and we now have 350, even so, cash carrying is only a minor part of a well-organised security business. We have also established complete coverage of the United Kingdom with some 90 branches and we are now carrying out the greater part of the industrial security business in this country."



# TOURISM HELPS FRANCO

From two Direct Action Correspondents in Spain

PLENTY TO SEE--BUT NOT TO EAT. That sums up the gap which divides those who tour Spain from those who live there. For, while Franco counts out the revenue the foreigners deposit annually and adds it to the credit side of Spain's Balance of Payments, most other people here have a struggle to get a balanced diet out of their incomes.

Yet, taken on the strength of the tourist centres, the impression is prosperous. Sweating Spaniards fill the building sites of the Mediterranean coast, constructing holiday apartments and providing "all mod. con." for foreigners on vacation. Inland workers leave wives and wheatfields, to travel 100 miles or more to the coastal building boom. Once there, workers earn all of £3 or more for a 48-hour week. Skilled workers might knock out £4 on the basic week. Of course, with the dictatorship determined as it is to see the tourists don't go short, there is always overtime. . . .

But if the official figures are to be believed, the cost of living rose 10% in the year ending March, 1963. The tourists, for their part, must take much credit for the shouldering-up of prices. Being better able to afford high prices, they have sent food costs soaring, presenting difficulties for the local people. A bricklayer pointed out to me that tomatoes grown on the Costa Blanca were half the price, after being transported to his home town, Valencia. His argument was that towns which get only a through trade of tourists, like Valencia, don't suffer as much from seasonal and often permanent high prices that tourists encourage.

Not surprisingly, there is little love lost between the Spanish people and their foreign visitors—even though Government Press and propaganda tells them regularly that most improvements that come their way do so because of tourism. How else could the authorities justify the vast expenditure which goes into putting a roof over the touristic head, when this is still a country where people take up residence in caves and still more set to work with hammer and nails and anything else they can find, to help provide a shelter on Spain's shanty estates?

Still, apart from being Franco's blue-eyed boy, the tourist industry is coming to his rescue when he needs it most. But for the tourists doing their annual good turn, the dictatorship would be facing a Balance of Payments crisis. A crisis caused not by any increased spending on the part of the workers, but due to the kick-off of industrial capitalism in Spain. The culprit is an excess of imports, but not the sort bought by the average family. As The Times stated earlier this year, "a large part of the current spate of imports consists of capital goods such as machiner..." In the Government's view, much of traditional Spanish agriculture is uneconomic. In short, even in an underfed country, there is still more profit to be had from manufacturing motor cars and such



like for export, rather than in producing food. Consequently, the regime in Spain has now set about luring foreign investment to reform the economy on a more industrial basis.

On the face of it, the advantages for foreign firms are splendid here. Employers could scarcely discover a more favourable set-up this side of the Iron Curtain than Spain, where strikes are illegal, trade unions State-controlled and a generous supply of cheap labour ever ready at their disposal. The unions themselves are worse than useless and are known to actively compile blacklists of those who speak up for their workmates. As the unions are in effect the Spanish version of Labour Exchanges, they are able to prevent militant workers from gaining employment in their respective provinces. With the administration of the unions in the hands of Franco's followers, through their party, the Falange, it presents a powerful dissuasion to workshop progressives.

But it is in the fallow fields and arid areas of the interior, where the skin-deep character of Franco's facelift really comes into its own. In the country the horse still stumbles before the plough and the peasants never tire of asking why we should choose to live in Spain. Not that we need their queries to realise that there are bones on the butcher's slab and that the natives are burning the branches of trees as fuel. Or that Spanish agriculture has been allowed to rot--though not for want of attention by those who work there and pull their guts out, while others reap the benefit. The fault is that of negligence and lack of irrigation by those who own the land, some of them controlling estates the size of counties. There is even some doubt whether the apparent failure of this year's olive crop was due to the weather or the result of shady deals and oil stockpiling by the owners, out to screw the customer for as much as they can get. It is the feeling of futility and helplessness which drives the landless peasant to the coast, away from the children rolling in the unpaved roadway, their elders seated in dark doorways and away from the funeral processions which haunt these streets.

In Spain, as elsewhere, the real issue is the balance of power between the people and the State. The Balance of Payments of a nation only has its place in the accountancy of the ruling class and was never intended to increase the well-being or fill the bellies of those who work. As such, the droppings of foreign tourism and business men in staffing their factories from a defenceless labour force serves the security of the State, rather than the citizen, for any gain in their direction will be more by accident than design. Meanwhile, as the Government Treasury strives to keep its books straight, the rest of Spain--outside the cosmopolitan restaurants--console themselves with the assumption that the nearer the bone, the sweeter the meat.

**CALLING ALL COMRADES:** From our next issue, January, 1964, 'Direct Action' will appear as a monthly printed paper. This means greatly increased costs--and comrades can help by getting more subscribers and taking extra copies for sale among contacts and workmates.

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