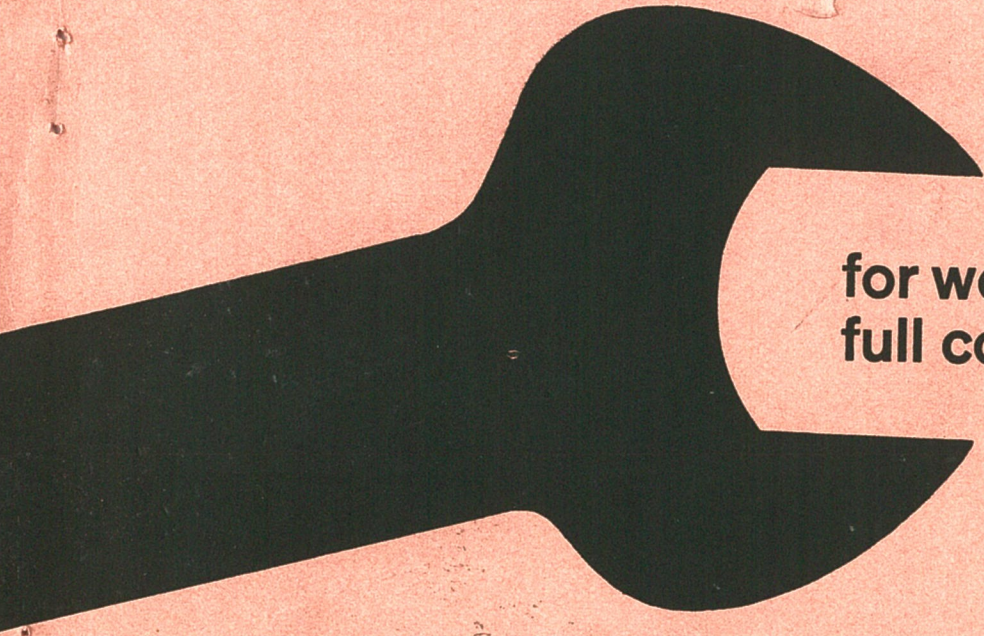


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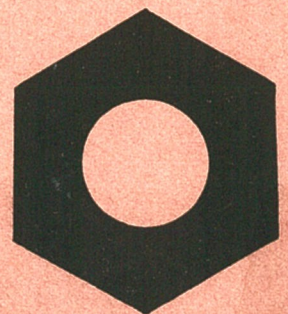


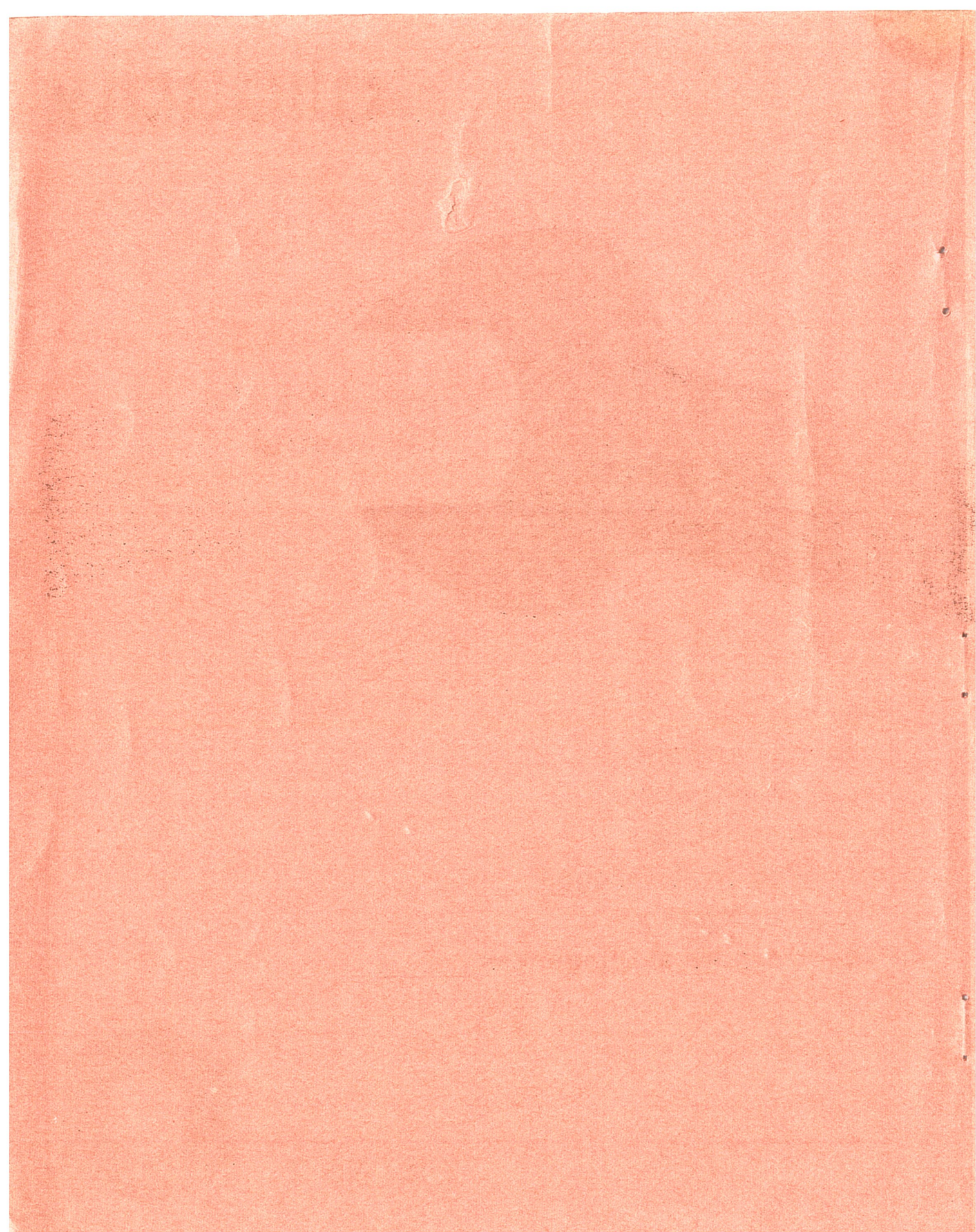
for workers'
full control

May Day
Labour's Blueprint
Kingsnorth Kowboys
Red Faces at LSE
Struggling on at Kelloggs
CP Leaflet Mystery
Daggers Drawn at Dungeness

South London

6d / No 2





solidarity

(South London)

79 Balfour Street, London SE17

MAY 1st IS MAY DAY

1969 promises even more vicious demands by this rotten government for more sacrifices from the working class.

Many thousands of workers are now intending to stop work on May 1st in protest. Some revolutionary party organisations and Left-wing union officials find themselves in the embarrassing position of tail-ending the working class.

Anxious as always to remain representative, they intend to give grudging support for a May 1st stoppage on condition that the workers have a political demonstration.

They mean by this that workers should first of all listen to some Left M.P. or union official make 'militant' speeches, then march through London screaming meaningless slogans, ending with a line-up outside the Department of Unemployment and Productivity with begging bowls in hand.

Workers have grown tired of listening to these stock political speeches and of long walks through London. Many people consider it a waste of time and money; "It wouldn't be so bad if you enjoyed yourself." Well! This year you can.

This year the London Workers May Day Committee has organised a short meeting at Tower Hill, then a march to Victoria Park where there will be jazz bands, pop groups, dancing, fairgrounds, and football.

Workers who've had to face continuous threats of redundancy, of speed-up, of wage freeze, and ever-increasing prices and rents can little afford to take a day off work; but we'll get over it, the bosses won't.

DON'T GO BEGGING TO BARBARA

DON'T GO WHINING TO WILSON

Show the bosses and the Government the contempt they deserve. Come and enjoy yourself, bring the wife and kids, bring your mother-in-law, bring your friends, but don't bring Barbara!

Make May 1st 1969 the day the bosses and Government remember - the day workers turned their back on them and enjoyed themselves.

Meet at 11.30 a.m. at Tower Hill, Thursday May 1st.

DAGGERS DRAWN AT DUNGENESS

This is a report sent in by a member of the TGWU working on Dungeness Power Station. We welcome such articles from workers describing their conditions and struggles. We have added some comments at the end of the article.

DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND CONDITIONS

An atomic power station is being erected on the South Coast (Dungeness "B"). There are several engineering firms involved in the construction, namely:- ICL (who are out on strike at present), WESSCO Engineering, (who have also been on strike for a better rate of pay, but are now back at work, having won the battle), and lastly the main contractors, Balfour Beatty. The latter is the firm engaged in the actual building of the station (brickwork, etc.) and is the one this article deals with.

Conditions on the site are not at all good. Timekeepers trot around the site like SS Gestapo Men waiting to pounce on the men who are rushing to the canteen, a good distance away, in order to get their 10-minute morning tea break. If the men are caught leaving their jobs a minute before time the timekeepers have the satisfaction of deducting a quarter-hour's pay from the poor workers' wages. This practice is known as "quartering".

The responsibility for quartering is in the hands of the Head Timekeeper, Adrian Champion, and his henchmen. One of the biggest culprits is a young timekeeper called Bob, who is trained as a lackey for the Management, and takes an evil delight in quartering as many workers as he can. One wonders if the power has gone to his head, when he does this instead of using his authority with a bit more discretion. It has even been known for workers to be quartered while waiting for materials to enable them to carry on with their work.

On one particular occasion, there was a complete breakdown of electrical power on the site. No one was allowed onto the site and we were sent home, along with the other firms' employees, who were paid the full eight hours for the day. Balfour Beatty however came up with a better idea; they paid us for four hours, with the excuse that it was wet time but, after an uproar from the men, Big Ron, the Shop Steward for the Carpenters, spoke up, and managed to obtain

another two hours' pay. This arrived in our pay packets a fortnight later, making a grand total of six hours' pay. Obviously the missing two hours was insignificant to the Balfour Beatty management; or else they cannot count, thinking $4 + 2 = 8!!!$ Maybe this explains how they came to be in the position of main contractors!

The canteen facilities would be O.K. if you were given time to use them in peace, but 10 minutes doesn't give you much time, - you just shovel the food down!

The toilet facilities need cleaning more often and additional toilets should be provided on different floor levels. This would save time wasted and improve the lot of the workers, because at present men working on the 144-ft level have to walk down to the 68-ft level to use the toilet.

ATTITUDES OF SUPERVISION

Redundancies. The men are totally insecure; in some cases redundancies have occurred and the men have been replaced a week later! The policy of Cunningham, Balfour Beatty's manager, appears to be to get the same amount of work done by 50 men where once there were 70!

The bonus targets need constant revision; certain gangs work hard and have difficult jobs and yet receive a low bonus, while other gangs have straightforward jobs and pick up much higher bonuses. The unfairness of this system should be sorted out as soon as possible by Mr. Burke, the General foreman, but perhaps Mr. Cunningham prefers the situation this way, in order to keep the men divided and constantly at each others' throats. Undoubtedly a unity of workers would present a much stronger opposition.

ATTITUDES OF THE UNIONS

The main union involved is the TGWU. Arthur Challis is the shop steward for the union and there is a growing feeling by the rank and file that he is in league with the management, due to his reluctance to take militant action. For example, when Challis was asked to support the recent one-day token strike in opposition to Barbara Castle's White Paper, "In Place of Strife", he refused to jeopardise his job by taking part, although many union officials on the other power stations, including Kingsnorth, did so. In this complaint we include the District Secretary of Region 1 of the TGWU, Mr. L.R. Perkins, for his complacent and don't-care attitude. This official has very rarely shown his face on the site at all. Surely it is time that he, along with many others of his calibre who hold official positions in unions, were slung out and replaced by men who are more united with the rank and file than with the management. The union representing the workers of Balfour Beatty on this site is a very poor representative for the workers, - ironically it is the shop stewards who get all the overtime.

ATTITUDES OF RANK AND FILE

They are not united at all and are never likely to be under the present very unfair system of pay and bonus, i.e. the target bonus

system. The majority of the workers are disgusted at their representation by the union official, and they know that the management wields a lot of influence over the shop steward. The men are partly to blame for this, in allowing the management to pick and choose a shop steward to suit their own interests. This is where solidarity of the workers is absolutely necessary to provide a substantial change.

SUGGESTION FOR CHANGES

The whole bonus scheme for workers, from labourers to tradesmen, should be revised. The quartering of men by clerical staff should be discontinued, and the men should be allowed to get on with their work without being pestered.

Another improvement would be reduction of the numbers of "red hatted" foremen, who are walking around doing absolutely nothing, and receiving the praise and the wages which were earned through the sweat of the workers.

There should be a change where unions are concerned; if there were a closed shop, this would ensure unity among the rank and file workers; they should be led by a new shop steward, free from any corruption, and there should also be a new district secretary capable of more positive thinking. This region of Kent has been slow and apathetic for too long.

Unity and positive action by the men is the only weapon against the present system on this site.

p.p. Workers of Dungeness

While SOLIDARITY is in sympathy with the sentiments expressed in this article, we do not support the idea of replacing Right-wing union officials by mythical Lefts.

While we support the idea of strikes against Government interference with wages, we do not believe marches and demonstrations to Parliament help one bit.

We believe workers should organise at the point of production as workers, independent of union officials. If union officials or management appoint shop stewards who misrepresent the workers, throw them out or ignore them - elect your own.

Where workers have organised independently and presented a united front against the employer the Wage Freeze has been smashed. But what is more important is that only through job control can workers themselves have any hope of controlling their own interests.

LABOUR'S BLUEPRINT

Under the Chairman of the new Commission on Industrial Relations, (C.I.R.) Lord Woodcock of Oakhampton (salary £11,500 a year), sit three other full-time members: Messrs Leslie Blakeman, Will Paynter, and Allan Flanders (£6,500 each). The C.I.R. was a major proposal of the Donovan Report and was set up simultaneously with the Government's publication of its anti-working class White Paper, "In Place of Strife", as the main new body to implement the shortly-expected Industrial Relations Act that the White Paper foreshadows.

It's not difficult to see why Blakeman got the job, since as Industrial Relations Director of Ford's he's made attacks on workers that put him on the shortlist for Ratbag of the Decade. Comrade Will Paynter, too, Golden Boy of the CP till his "tragic" (the CP's word) somersault from grace in the wake of another ex-darling, Jim Mortimer, has also earned his place. As General Secretary of the Miners' Union he's systematically sabotaged resistance to the run-down of the British coalfields, under Nationalisation, with all the dislocation and damage to individual, family and community life this has meant in an industry that once employed a million men.

BOSSSES' THEORETICIAN

But why Allan Flanders, Faculty Fellow of Nuffield College and Senior Lecturer in Industrial Relations, University of Oxford? What's this cloistered headscratcher to offer compared with the records of Blakeman for U.S.-owned Ford and Paynter for the International Oil Companies? What's his experience of fighting strikes, as compared with those of Paynter and Blakeman in two industries - coalmining and motors - at the top of the unofficial strikes league? What's he doing in the same room as Chairman George, who was indecently exposed for all time when a photographer snapped him half-naked on a beach in Fascist Spain in 1966, just when the seamen were calling for support for their struggle against the shipowners?

Well, while Woodcock and the others have been out front in active service to the boss class for many years, Flanders has been watching closely, recording, applauding, and sometimes tut-tutting their strokes. The leading theorist of the New Industrial Relations, he

is the ever-ready, willing and able backroom-boy-in-chief at the service of our employers as a class.

THE THEORY BEHIND 'IN PLACE OF STRIFE'

Flanders wrote two books that gave a brief but penetrating analysis of the workers' struggle in postwar Britain, and how capital should fight back. These are "Industrial Relations: What is wrong with the System?" (1965), and "Collective Bargaining: Prescription for Change" (1967; both published by Faber). The second is more or less his evidence to the Donovan Commission, and large chunks of it appear in the Donovan Report (June 1968). In the White Paper, "In Place of Strife" (January 1969), he comes through loud and clear again; not least in the Government's decision to drop the wholesale outlawing of unofficial strikes that Donovan proposed. The White Paper's proposals for cooling-off periods and compulsory ballots to bash workers into line with wages policy are much more susceptible to political decision and control than Donovan and far more in keeping with Flanders's ideas. His appointment to the C.I.R. gives those ideas the backing of the British State.

BACK-ROOM DEALS

The main aim Flanders advances in his books is to bring shop-floor bargaining under the control of both national wages policy and management planning generally. This means a three-tier system of industrial relations: national, industry-wide, and company or workplace.

At the top or centre, TUC and employers work out a Government-approved master agreement based on wages and manpower policy. This lays down guidelines on pay, manning, grading, training, etc., that are not to be exceeded by industry-wide agreements. Industry-wide negotiations, conducted as at present by unions and employers' bodies, will be limited by the guidelines in laying down national rates, disputes procedures and so on, as now, but will also be extended in their scope to making "framework agreements".

These will set the pattern and limits for a series of written comprehensive, company-wide (or factory-wide) agreements between unions and firms throughout the particular industry. The company agreement will regulate every possible aspect of job relations, procedural and substantive. Its main form, at least at first, (while workers still have some restrictive practices to bargain away), will be the comprehensive productivity deal. (Flanders is also the author of "The Fawley Productivity Agreements" Faber, 1964; see pp. 238-48 in particular).

Clearly, it's in the "reconstruction of workplace bargaining" that workers will be most drastically and directly affected. The workers' struggle at the point of production is the great obstacle to wage restraint and planning. Though continuing to suffer daily exploitation and oppression, workers have made big gains through militant struggle in postwar years, not least in a larger direct control of their own struggles and thereby in winning rights over

what they previously had to accept as hallowed management privilege.

Putting everything that moves on the shop floor under one big written agreement, says Flanders, will tame the wildcat trend of more and more unofficial strikes, a bigger and bigger gap between national rates and actual earnings, and the spreading downright and utter defiance of management's right to manage. In the last category in particular, it's essential to restore management's powers to reorganise work, under the pressure of international competition, by introducing new machinery and techniques.

PART OF A NATIONAL PATTERN

Of course, says Flanders, this'll mean bosses must swallow some pride and actually admit on paper they negotiate with shop stewards. But shared control through written company agreements is better than no control at all, which is the way things are going if they haven't already got there.

Flanders' ideas are obviously a working out of the way things are going: wages policy and comprehensive productivity deals. What his three-tier system does is make explicit the link between the two through existing and long-established industry-wide negotiating machinery. The emphasis in Donovan and the White Paper on company agreements does not threaten to put national officials of the unions out of a job, as some might think. It is, rather, in accordance with Flanders's scheme to bring industry-wide negotiations and company deals into line through a proliferation of the latter. He stresses employers must take the initiative in this process. The White Paper proposes State vetting and backing for it.

Any suggestion by union officials that productivity agreements are a local affair unrelated to a nation-wide scheme is therefore misinformed (unlikely) or a lie (not unlikely). Any collapse of industry-wide negotiating machinery, says Flanders, would be "disastrous", since in the full-blown scheme this will eventually govern company agreements. And he points a warning finger at the U.S., where company-agreements-only systems mean certain "key bargains" set the pace for the rest of the industry to follow. By integrating company agreements into an industry-wide framework, trade union officials as a body can continue both to serve the cause of industrial peace (the uninterrupted extraction of profit from workers' hides) and take on a new role as guardians of wages and manpower policy (the national coordination of the maximisation of that profit). Flanders compares British trade unions to Parliament as a force for social peace.

Starting from the top, with wages policy, criteria other than productivity for increases above the norm must be stringent. An increase necessary to maintain a reasonable standard of living should be resisted unless incorporated in a comprehensive company agreement, or allowed for under a minimum earnings provision in an industry-wide agreement. Piecemeal concessions, or increases based on a national minimum wage (the late Frank Cousins's favourite recruiting slogan), only jack up wages all round.

Comparability as a ground for increases is out. Right out. It's true that an agreement at any level, national, industry-wide or company, must include differentials, for where would employers be without them? And it's true wages policy is generally supported by millions of mugs because they somehow think it means "a fairer deal all round" (through some mysterious levelling process the mechanism of which, like an honest politician, has yet to be discovered). But quite obviously, if wages policy is here to stay (which it is, says Flanders, not because of social justice but because of the balance of payments), the old idea that you're entitled to a rise just because the other fellow's had one is doomed. Management must sort out company pay structures and cut down the number of rates so there's less talk of this kind; then comparability can be used to get more output: "If you want a payrise the same as he got - work harder like he's doing. Comparability? Certainly - with strings!"

TIT-FOR-TAT WITH T.U.C.

At national level, the T.U.C. should do their bit to help the State apply its powers of compulsion - but discretely. These powers will be used to back a Prices and Incomes Board recommendation on a substantive agreement only after the T.U.C.'s been consulted. That way, the T.U.C. acts as a cover for the otherwise naked State power, becoming an ever-greater prop to the system, and receives a big boost to its all-round prestige. (You scratch my back!) The same will apply, presumably, to the C.I.R.'s recommendations on procedural agreements, though recently Strawberry Jones has laid claim to these too - will they fight to the death will peacemaker Harold intervene, or will shipyard workers have to sort out this who-does-what-and-with-which dispute?

Generally, though, the State is to exercise a softer touch on the reins through the registration of agreements. The White Paper proposes this should be compulsory. Then the Government will recommend ways to overhaul any agreements that have strayed from the straight and narrow. Under the White Paper it is not entirely certain how far the C.I.R. will go here, but the follow-up is the busy little province of the Manpower and Productivity Service of the Department of Employment and Productivity (D.E.P.) headed by Mr. George Catell, ex-Director of Manufacturing, Rootes Motors.

TAMING THE STEWARDS

Down on the shop floor, the aim is to restore management's control over pay and work through what Flanders calls "joint regulation" (a more accurate description is the castration, corruption and integration of shop stewards). Workers can never be brought entirely into line with management objectives, he readily admits. But they can be brought much nearer under certain conditions. These are as follows.

First, the company or plant must be accepted as a negotiating unit and all agreements in it fitted into the overall plant or

company agreement. Rights and obligations of stewards must be strictly set out therein; i.e. workers must no longer retain any vestige of the right to elect at will however many stewards they want, when they see fit, to carry out whatever tasks they desire. (In return, the White Paper chucks in some sops such as pay for stewards' work done in working hours.)

Second, new pay structures must come in. Piecework, in particular, must go. It no longer fulfils its carrot-and-stick function; because workers have found too many ways round it; because an increase in one rate when a job is changed leads to a demand for an increase in another (while workers on time rates demand lieu bonus, etc.); because it works against company loyalty. The new incentive scheme must reward not output but such sketchy items as "effort", "skill", and "responsibility" (on the basis of work-study and job-evaluation), acceptance of "change", and "co-operation" (see Ford's penalty clauses). Again, Mr. Catell and his crew'll come in very handy here with a whole bag of monkey-tricks and suggestions. And, having formulated work standards, says Flanders, management must be capable of enforcing them - more supervision.

Third, workers must cooperate in the new system. They have to come to see the reward for jobs as based on fair and just management, rather than just their own power. Then they'll feel obliged to give a fair day's work. Stewards here will help keep this attitude up, and will be encouraged to do so by being brought into negotiation of written agreements.

The main stumbling block to this is custom and practice, whereby stewards, on behalf of the workgroups they represent, organise the systematic regulation of such things as output, allocation of overtime, manning scales, work sharing, job demarcation; which, laments Flanders, all mean serious underemployment of labour and capital: too many workers doing too little work, so that the wage bill's too high and machinery not used at full capacity. Custom and practice must be negotiated away to give place to forms of job security and higher incomes that are themselves negotiable rather than imposed by workers. Thus management will gain, regain or extend control over whole areas of job regulation, and further help to halt the wage drift.

OFFICIALS GALORE

Only when stewards are committed as negotiators to written agreements that regulate both their own fewer duties and general pay and conditions, Flanders argues, will management have any chance of calling in full-time officials to discipline them and getting away with it. The official is to become an ever more frequent sight on the shop floor (in accordance with present trends), as job organisation becomes ever more bound by red tape. His access is to be guaranteed under the agreement. His hand is to be guided and strengthened by Catell's little reptiles, who'll be able to get on to the shop floor in the early stages of a dispute. The CIR will aid the official by cutting down on unions within one shop and so bringing stewards under union rather than shop floor control.

There is little reason why full-time officials should oppose this trend. Unless they're half-daft they'll welcome it. If unions are to police the new agreements, which cover scores of new job regulations, it will mean - already means - 'a much greater involvement of full-time trade union officials in plant affairs' (Flanders), it will mean 'more full-time officials'. 'British trade unions,' concurs the White Paper, 'are undermanned'. Create two, three, many officials for every existing one! Every tinpot local official will now have his one, two, three or more underlings giving him promotion, power, and, no doubt, several quid more in his wage packet. And so on up the ladder to national level.

Full-time officials will also breed like rabbits when more workers are brought into the unions and under union agreements. This Flanders advocates strongly and the White Paper proposes accordingly: statutory recognition of the right to join a union and State intervention in recognition disputes. To help the unions along this path the White Paper proposes grants from Big Brother through the CIR. To hurry them up still more it proposes stricter conditions for registration and the State rewriting of rulebooks.

THEIR OWN STRENGTH

That is a sketch, necessarily brief, of Flanders's main ideas and an attempt to outline their implications. It isn't possible to go into all the depths and subtleties, but anyone interested further can read his books.

Flanders's underlying social philosophy is, need one add, a belief in the wage system and the ability of masters and men to work out a common destiny under it, given the right institutions. It'd be depressing to see such a shrewd fellow using his talents to increase and perpetuate the exploitation of man by man, and all that goes with it, if there weren't so many like him up to the same game.

A couple of years ago, Flanders might have seemed just another 'expert'. Donovan, the CIR, and 'In Place of Strife' disprove this. By creating machinery to enable him to supervise the putting into practice of his schemes and proposing new laws to force this along, the Labour Government has set its seal of approval on Flanders and a further seal on the workers' wage-slavery.

General agitation can publicise and stiffen resistance to this trend. But the resistance itself will be at the point of production, through workers asserting their right to build and run their own job organisation. They must use whatever means they consider necessary to strengthen and defend it from outside attack and control by bosses, bureaucrats and leaders, who should be seen for what they are, whatever their colour and whatever bribes they offer: exploiters of our subservience for their own personal ends. Workers can look only to their own collective strength for protection and progress.

Mark Hendy

KINGSNORTH KOWBOYS

ICL SUPERVISION ? DO WE NEED YOU?

Following the exposure in our last issue of the activities of certain Foreman and Engineers employed by ICL, Kingsnorth workers have been asking themselves just this question.

Before we look at some of the characters that fill the green and white boiler-suits supplied by International Combustion, we should examine the role and function of supervision in general.

THE GOODIES AND BADDIES

You often hear men on the job saying that so-and-so foreman is always hounding you, perpetually looking for ways and means of making life more difficult, that he's tight with the pencil* and altogether a right bad bastard: You also hear workers praising the qualities of an individual Foreman or Engineer, claiming how good he is with the pencil, how lenient he is with the men who work under him. He fraternises with the lads and tries to be one of them. This type earns the reputation of being a good Foreman or Engineer**.

But is he? The answer is no. Supervision in a company's management set-up is for the sole purpose of enforcing discipline so as to keep control of their employees. The management knows that the employees' interests are directly opposed to their own, which are to extract as much production for as little payment as possible.

It must follow that the Foreman regarded by the men as a decent, human being is, in fact, a bad Foreman in the eyes of management because he cannot be relied upon to look after their interests, whereas they can rely on the 'bad bastard' to do just this. ICL employ too many of the latter type at Kingsnorth for it to be a coincidence.

* Mean on booking condition money etc., under the illusion that he pays it out of his own pocket.

** The Communist Party members on this site have complained that once a Foreman has had his name in this journal as a good bloke, he is prevented from getting employment elsewhere. We have no facts to prove or disprove this. But if they are correct, then the Communist Party members should be well off for work in the future.

SUPERVISION'S ROLE

Management try to confuse the real role of supervision by giving them work over and above their normal guard duties. For instance, to co-ordinate and organise the various groups of workers so that (in theory) the job will progress in an efficient and smooth way.

If this justification for their existence were valid, one might assume that the type of individual required would be someone of high technical ability, having a wide knowledge of the various trades of those working under him. With the exception of a few members of ICL supervision, the opposite is true. The majority have little knowledge of their own trade let alone that of others.

ROGER THE DODGER

A good example of this type of incompetent idiot is Roger Stubbins, Gallery Foreman.

He was originally a Carpenter by trade (he is often referred to as the Wood Butcher). With this qualification he is allowed to supervise Steel Erectors, some of them with more than 20 years experience of the trade, working on the erection of gallery steelwork - as far removed from carpentry as the North Pole from the South.

One example of his incompetence came to light when a charge-hand erector sought his advice on how he should modify a piece of steelwork that would not fit. Stubbins' never-to-be-forgotten reply was: "plane a bit off the end".

It is no surprise to discover that he has influential relations in the Company in the shape of his brother-in-law, Mother Kerry * (ICL's transport manager), thus proving the old saying: It's not what you know, but who you know that counts.

DO-IT-YOURSELF MANAGEMENT

We have said that supervision's existence is also justified on the grounds of ability to organise and co-ordinate the work. If the way they organise the supply of materials is anything to go by, then they're suffering from a very severe disability.

To see little green and white men running around with Walky-talkies strapped to their backs, trying to sound like Broderick Crayford of Highway Patrol fame, defies description. As many of the lads on the job point out: They couldn't organise a piss-up in a Brewery.

Fortunately for the Company, and despite supervision, the men get the job done by using their own common sense and initiative. Examples of how the lads co-ordinate and organise their work, without the aid of supervision, can quite clearly be seen. A gang of men erecting a large boiler plant will work out for themselves, through mutual agreement, the best way to rig the lifting tackle, then carry out the erection of one piece and plan for the next one. They are quite

* One could write volumes about Kerry's incompetence, but due to lack of space we will leave him for a future issue.

capable of reading the blueprints. They don't need telling what to do next, they just get on with it. When a section of Boiler Plant needs modifying, as a result of bad design or some other management failing, they just use their initiative to solve the problem. If they do ask the advice of supervision they are usually told to get over the problem the best way they can. The conclusions to be drawn from these examples, and others too numerous to list here, are that if the men did not use their own common sense and natural abilities in organising their work, but relied upon the orders of Supervision before getting down to it, ICL would soon be bankrupt.

SUPERVISION - TYPES AND HABITS

There are about 60 Engineers and 30 Foremen employed by ICL at Kingsnorth. It would be incorrect to say that they are all incompetent. A minority are qualified tradesmen, capable of making intelligent suggestions. One usually finds this type a little less obnoxious as they don't have to resort to the low habits of the incompetent species (i.e. crawling, grassing, petty power struggles, etc.) to hold down their jobs. But we've made a short list of the more ridiculous types who inhabit the darker corners of Kingsnorth, along with some of their dirty habits.

J. Strickland. Foreman, Integral Pipe Work Section. Spends most of his time playing with his "walky-talky". Gets kicks out of chasing men out of the cabin at starting time. Standing in front of the tea urn to stop late comers from having a quick cuppa before going to work really makes his day. (Perhaps, as one of the lads said, there's a strong case here for a mercy killing.)

George (Jib up) Taylor. Foreman, Ducting Section. Walks around the site making one fuck-up after another. From a distance he resembles a rogue elephant with hinged knees, apparently looking for the elephants' graveyard (we can only hope he finds it soon).

Danny Clifton. Engineer, Ducting Section. To be congratulated for his painstaking efforts in making a complete balls-up of the ducting erected on No. 1. Boiler. For confirmation, ask any of the 4 or 5 erection gangs employed at the moment in putting it right. He is also very fond of blaming others for his mistakes. It has been reported that ICL cannot afford the luxury of his services any longer and have exiled him to Grangemouth, in the wilds of Scotland.

Peter (the Gonk) Hendry. Engineer, (even he doesn't know what section he's in). Spends most of the day down at the main gate looking for victims to sack for being off the job. Most of the lads think he would do better as an advert for John West Pilchards, as there is a remarkable resemblance. (Salmon was suggested but it was pointed out that there are more brains in a tin of salmon!!)

Hunt. Engineer, Integral Pipe Work Section. This one is fairly intelligent. He just hates everyone, including himself.

Max. Foreman Welder. This gentleman's working history is rather interesting. Originally came from Poland. It is rumoured that ICL employed him on the basis of his previous experience in Auschwitz

where he reached the position of Chief Kapo. He spends most of his time on the site hounding the welders. Has a particularly vicious attitude towards anyone displaying tatoo's. It's also rumoured that he spends most of his spare time shining his Jack Boots and converting ICL shower rooms into gas chambers.

THE PONCES' BALLS-UPS

As the men on the site know, one could go on adding to the list of characters employed by the ICL to act like 'screws'. The few we've described are good examples of the type and calibre of supervision at Kingsnorth.

We said earlier that the supervision on this site (as on most Power Station sites) are there for purely disciplinary purposes. But it is their attempt to justify their existence by involving themselves with the work that is most destructive. Very often, a tradesman will take an order from one of these ponces only to find sometime later that he has a right old balls-up on his hands. Not only does this greatly increase the tremendous costs of building a Power Station, but also it adds further fuel to the smouldering fire of the present conflict in labour relations.

If it weren't for the initiative and creativity of the men on this site, the station would not be built. Why should we go on allowing these ponces to discipline us? Its about time we workers got together and took a good hard look at our industry with the view to taking it over and running it ourselves.

IN PLACE OF 'WHITE PAPERS'

In place of Mrs. Castle's 'White Paper', we need Workers' Full Control of Their Jobs. When we are the management, the present conflict of interests which forces us to struggle for 24 hours a day, will no longer exist. We'll have a far better industry - actually run by the people for the people, far better relations with each other, and far better lives. We'll then be men - deciding our own destiny. That's what Workers' Control means.

IVAN ERECTION

STOP PRESS

MACPHERSON FOILED AGAIN

Since the last issue George (The Reptile) MacPherson has been showing us another aspect of his nasty little character - setting men up for the sack.

On this occasion he sacked a man for being off the site but he had no proof that he was even off his job. Roberts, Labour Officer, informed the prisoner on remand that unless he could produce a witness to prove he was on the job at the time he would stay sacked. (ICL do not recognise that in Britain a man is innocent until proven guilty.) At this point the prisoner claimed that MacPherson had been trying to get him sacked for months and was constantly on his back. He

went on to tell MacPherson just what he thought of him, even bringing his ancestry into dispute. The Reptile then threatened physical violence to the prisoner, who immediately called his bluff by suggesting they settle it outside the gate. A large crowd of men, who by this time had gathered outside the cabin, witnessed MacPherson's bottle go, as he refused the offer and humiliated walked away.

In court the following morning he received another bitter blow when the prisoner produced a witness to swear that he was on the job. The prisoner was released. This episode makes two points particularly worth noting. One, that the only way MacPherson can achieve his ambition of getting someone the bullet would be to sack himself. Two, that down the scaly back of this reptile is a very wide yellow streak.

AND IN THE EAST....

IT'S-THE-SAME-THE-WHOLE-WORLD-OVER DEPARTMENT

It seems attempts are being made to force Russian workers - we're not the only ones - through the mill of a massive reorganisation of work and pay. According to "Economic Gazette" (USSR, quoted in "International Labour Review", February 1969), Russian bosses plan a big shake-up on the shop floor. Under a regulation of July 17, 1968, every undertaking in the USSR is to have a department of work organisation and wages.

Duties of this department are to include the improvement of work organisation by means of better time setting, rating, job evaluation, and method study, more favourable conditions of work, the introduction of rational schedules of work and rest, etc. And the department will study and develop wage and incentive systems.

The Kremlin used to put in stooges to carve the job up. This was "socialist emulation". Piecework was called "to each according to his work". It sounds like the new gang have given up such sentimental slogans - or are we soon to hear of "proletarian productivity", "anti-imperialist interchangeability" and "Marxist measured day-work"?

RED FACES AT L.S.E

The Socialist Society at L.S.E., renowned for its leadership in the recent struggle against the School's administration, put on another Big Show in the Old Theatre on February 27th.

The Show never quite got off the ground. It was billed as a "Teach-In On Workers' Control At Fords", although it was obviously meant as the beginning of a re-enactment of the May Events in France.

It was an ambitious Show, because it depended on the ability of a certain group of revolutionary socialists within the Socialist Society to bring in the working class performers.

One of the revolutionary socialists had been appealing to the Ford Shop Stewards Committee for weeks to let him help in the politicization of the Ford workers. Of course if you keep getting in the way for long enough, someone will throw you a bone. Finally after the strike on February 24th they were given the job of duplicating copies of the penal clauses in the Ford agreement. They asked in return if the shop steward, Charlie Gill, (N.U.V.B.) would come and perform for them in the Old Theatre at L.S.E on February 27th. Charlie agreed.

VAGABONDS AND PROSTITUTES

The Liaison Committee For Defence of Trade Unions, a bunch of strolling vagabonds and pavement artists, were performing outside Fairfield Hall, Croydon, and later on the same day at the Gasworks at Westminster.

Some of the revolutionary prostitutes from L.S.E. went out and solicited these strolling vagabonds off the pavements, and the show was on.

Each actor strode onto the stage and did his party piece. Each ended with "Buy the 'Morning Star', the only socialist paper in Great Britain. Build strong Left-wing trade unions by building a strong Communist Party. Keep the unions free." (One is surely in contradiction to the other!)

The monotony was broken only when a slightly different type of actor came on stage. This was an I.S. member, and Ex-Executive Council member of SOGAT. He said he wasn't very happy that day. His term of office was up and he had just learnt that he hadn't been re-elected. But the sight of all these militant students gathered to discuss the class struggle cheered him up no end. He went on to describe how he had smashed the wage freeze in parts of Scotland where the workers had been prepared to struggle. He criticized the

Communist Party for their support of Scottish Nationalism and ended by saying that he also supported the only socialist paper in Great Britain, i.e., Socialist Worker.

Charlie Gill, who reported on the Ford dispute, was perhaps the only person who came as a trade unionist.

The Show flopped because there was no audience participation. The students sat back, and apart from the permanent self-satisfied grins on their faces and the occasional snigger, there was no participation, no exchange of ideas or experience - nothing.

Some had the audacity to suggest that their dispute at L.S.E. was similar to that of the Ford workers, because they had both been issued with writs.

Just as the theatre was the form of entertainment for the young blades of yesteryear, the students at L.S.E. continue to put on these abortive shows in the name of politics. What a load of bollocks!

L.S.E. : RED BASES OR RED FACES?

Many of the students see L.S.E. as another Sorbonne; "If only the workers were politically conscious enough to come here and put themselves in our hands, we might be able to politicize them. We could have our own French Events. The British students could prove they were more revolutionary than their French counterparts."

But this is not France and L.S.E. is not the Sorbonne! Workers in Britain don't trust the students. We don't see them as serious participants in the class struggle.

When workers attempt to have a serious discussion with L.S.E. students they find that they are doing all the talking and the students are the audience. There's no real exchange of either ideas or experience or even politics. Every striker is supported with a question - "What can we do as students to help you workers in your struggle?" If a revolutionary has to ask this question, the short answer is, "Nothing". Every revolutionary has to find his own role in the movement; it will usually depend on his own political consciousness and personal courage and initiative.

The conception of L.S.E. as a Red Base at the moment is ambitious, to say the least. What with the Maoists, Marxist Leninists, Marcuse and Cliff Brand X-ists and Fourth Internationalists, it's no wonder that the students can make no political contribution to a discussion on workers control.

The ideas of workers control can only produce red faces among the self-conscious students at L.S.E.

WHAT CAN STUDENTS AT L.S.E. DO?

What with Adams and the School administration and their own 57 varieties of socialist leadership in the Socialist Society, they have enough problems to occupy them already. If the Socialist Society is the student leadership they have a definite organisational problem much greater than that of the average worker. If they can sort it out, perhaps they will be able to temper their political emotions with

political understanding.

The student does have a potential contribution to make to the class struggle but they must recognise that the struggle takes place 24 hrs. a day, 52 weeks a year - not just when there's a strike at some big plant.

The student should get out of the college and university atmosphere and meet workers socially, discuss their mutual problems and build up confidence in each other. Until then the class struggle is not for student consumption. Neither is it a theatrical show for a revolutionary socialist organisation recruiting campaign.

Workers control is about self management. It is incompatible with a revolutionary vanguard in the shape of a political party or the mindless militants at L.S.E.

ERNIE STANTON

Producers and Directors	-	International Socialists
Stage Manager	-	International Socialists
Settings	-	Founders of L.S.E.
Actors Supplied by	-	The Communist Party and International Socialists
Audience Supplied by	-	Rent-A-Crowd

From an old theme

"The Revolutionary Vanguard"
by A. Leader

SOLIDARITY is the paper of a rank-and-file action group consisting of industrial and white-collar workers and students.

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London S.E.17.

STRUGGLING ON AT KELLOGGS

In our last issue , I spoke of the need and importance of holding and extending our own control of the job on this site. The ups and downs of the struggle continue.

Trouble arose once more over payment to welders and fitters working on Moly-chrome. The welders were being paid an extra $7\frac{1}{2}$ d on their rate for having passed the required test for welding this metal. They were also demanding an extra 2/6d per hour on the site for this work, but at present were only receiving 1/- of it. The fitters also would have received the same payment less the $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. The management had refused to negotiate on this problem which had existed for the past 7 months. So both fitters and welders refused to do the work.

The management then said that as soon as work on the Moly-chrome was started, they would negotiate.

'HELP' FROM THE STEWARD

At a meeting, John Nob-Amie, welding steward BMS, (Boilermakers Society) told the men that they should accept the management's advice because he thought they had a good chance of obtaining the 2/6d. He also stated that as Jock Broadbent was just about to retire as BMS District Delegate for that area, he himself would be able to act as delegate in these negotiations with the management. A vote was taken and John Nob-Amie's wishes (and the Management's!) were carried with only 4 votes against. These four must have realised that if the management were so keen on getting this work started, they would try and get an agreement as quickly as possible whether the work was being done or not. In fact the management said a meeting would be convened sometime within the following week. And as everyone by now ought to know, once the men were doing this job at the rate they had earlier said was unacceptable, they had immediately weakened their case. They eventually got 1/9d, of which only 9d was added to the actual rate. The other 1/-, being termed ' mask money ', (payment for wearing mask) could be knocked off at a later date. This is because 'mask money' is considered to be a condition payment and it could therefore not be written into the agreement.

WHAT ? NO TEARS FOR BROADBENT ?

When we were told at the BMS meeting, (mentioned above) that Jack Broadbent was about to retire, there wasn't a damp eye in the place. And when the men were asked to contribute to a collection that was being made for him, there were loud cries of 'NO!' - and other colourful phrases.

This was not surprising since, the men felt that apart from other things, Brother Broadbent had acted against the interests of everyone on the site (not counting the C.E.U.) during the recent troubles. Especially when he attempted to introduce scab labour onto the site during the eight-weeks strike. So, as many of them said, Broadbent could get stuffed. The Boilermakers did agree to let the collection sheets go round the site, but I certainly didn't see one, so I could write the appropriate comment on it.

THE CHARGE OF THE CHARGEHANDS

The next interesting event was when the chargehands (150 of 'em) who had been pressing for a wage increase for sometime, suddenly gave the management an ultimatum. They said that if their claims were not met by a certain date and time, they would all resign and go back on the tools. The management ignored the threat. So back to the tools they went - agreeing at the same time that if any of them were then offered jobs as foremen, they would refuse. The management as expected, did offer them jobs as foremen and three of them accepted. The rest said they would refuse to cooperate with these three.

Turcott, the raving Site Superintendant, immediately gave orders to one of these nice new foremen (a fitter) to go round to some of the fitters working in his area and get them to play a kind of musical chairs by exchanging jobs with one-another, knowing that they would refuse. When they did refuse, they were immediately suspended off pay. But even management's big chief, Ford, must have been a bit alarmed at this man Turcott's madness. The men were quickly reinstated and this new foreman taken out of circulation for a bit.

COPS CALLED IN AS SUPERVISOR COPS OUT

Trouble over the Moly-chrome and testing broke out again when several fitters refused to do this work because they still didn't accept the payment for it. So they were suspended. Welders working on these jobs were also suspended off pay. Meetings were held to decide what action should be taken. The P.T.U. (plumbing Trade Union) the H&D (Heating & Domestic Union) and the BMS members all agreed to work to maximum safety and to have a collection once a week to make up the wages of the men who had been suspended.

The decision to work to safety, provided us with yet another example of what a completely useless and incompetent idiot Turcott is. When a large number of men, myself included, refused to work on our jobs because we regarded them as unsafe, we were immediately suspended. This was on Turcott's orders and without even going through the agreed procedure of having the Safety Officer inspect the jobs.

While the suspended men were hanging about in the huts, a fight occurred near the process unit. It involved a fitter, Tug Wilson, and a supervisor, Hughie McMahon, (Big Daft Hughie,

as he's known). Tug Wilson had been having a row with a foreman. It had ended in Tug telling him to relieve himself some-way off. The foreman, being a small man, and Tug being on the large side, took his advice. But he returned later with Big Daft Hughie who, being a flash bastard, started to threaten Tug. The precise course of events which are not as easy to describe as from, say, a ring-side seat at the Albert Hall. Anyway, Tug received a hole in his lip in which you could put your finger. He reacted to this with a few crisp steam-hammer punches on the bulk of Big Hughie, who turned round and began to run. But in his eagerness he tripped over and fell face down into about four inches of mud. Tug flying in pursuit, jumped on top of the supervisor and stayed there. Big Hughie, being unable to move, began suffocating. It then took seven men to drag Tug off and a few more to prise Big Hughie out of the mud, by which time he had almost had it.

Two cars containing the fuzz turned up about twenty minutes later. By then, the supervisor and the foreman, who had evidently started the trouble, had been sacked. Nevertheless, the fuzz began to question Tug Wilson in front of the offices. But their hearts weren't really in this job and they didn't seem very keen on hanging around. Perhaps this was because about 200 rather unfriendly men were surrounding them.

MANAGEMENT ON SHIFTING SANDS

At this moment, Kellogs' management began to get really worried. A crowd of men were walking around in front of the offices talking about going in and tearing them apart. Boston, one of the high-ups, got onto the stewards to try and calm the men down. The management had for the moment completely lost control. But in this second the lunch bell saved them.

During the lunch break in the canteen, a lot of discussion was going on about the recent events. We were informed that the management had realised that the large number of us (various trades) who had been suspended over the safety issue, had not been able to have the Site Safety Officer inspect our jobs. So, if we all returned to work, the safety officer would be sent round. Also, our suspensions were lifted and we were back on pay. This had the effect of splitting us up and stopping any large group from coming together.

The management seemed to have got over their fright and were now determined to regain control. We ourselves must take the blame for letting them do this. When they showed that they were worried, we should have got together there and then and worked out some course of action instead of allowing ourselves to be split up.

As a first step in the regaining of control, they brought in their old faithful dogs, the union delegates, Russell, B.M.S. and John Baldwin (John the Con) C.E.U. and meetings were called. Just before our meeting (BMS) took place, Neb-Amie, BMS steward, walked

into a hut used by the Shop Stewards Committee and told them that he was going to recommend to his men that they reverse their decision of the day before and return to working normally. This was completely against the agreed decision of the Committee. But without giving any chance for further discussion, he walked out.

Russell told a meeting of BMS that if we didn't drop our work to safety and go back to working (as they call it) normal, we stood a good chance of all being sacked. In other words the usual blackmail. When the BMS meeting ended, Bob - Amie went round to the hut in which the C.E.U. were having a meeting and called their Steward out and told him what had happened in the BMS meeting.

It is becoming increasingly clear that Nob - Amie is interested only in projecting his own image. The whole time he is talking, its I this and I that - never a mention of we. He has completely undermined the Stewards' committee in the last three months and made it virtually non-existent.

I'm quite sure that John Nob - Amie will never have to dirty his hands in picking up a welding torch again.

DOES THE BLACKMAIL WORK

John The Con told his C.E.U. members that if the fitters, platers and welders were sacked, he would like his lads to stay out of trouble because then they could work with any scab labour that was brought onto the site. During these meetings arseholes gave out all round and the site was almost back to an armistice. Almost, that is, except for the fitters who are still working to maximum safety. But as this isn't working properly either, because most of the fitters are swinging about on girders with one hand behind their backs, the men have just about given in. But whats this ? I look around and see men wandering about looking dejected and fed up with themselves, none of them bothering to do much work. Perhaps Kellogs have not beaten them. Perhaps they will fight back again. If only they could see that the answers to their problems must be found in themselves and not in the Russells and Baldwins of this world.

Our man in the shit

The reaction to our last issue on this site was on the whole good. Kellogs management also took some interest in it. We hear that they sent 6 copies to their head office in the States. Perhaps their management techniques hadn't accounted for this sort of approach. The Yanks are so used to thinking of workers as being led by people over whom they have control, that the thought of ordinary people taking spontaneous action themselves towards control of the job, frightens the knickers off of them.

CHROMIUM OUTPOST

-A POEM

Silently, the dappled grey, knowing well her role,
stalked the midnight marsh like secret water rail.
Ignored by the Heron waiting for the stunted vole,
caring not of contraband on the sodden trail,
dreaming of twining elvers cavorting by the shoal,
watching sun hatched innocence a'plenty to impale.
A clattering of partridge sealed the smugglers' fate,
telling the huddled, over was their wait.

The lament of tortured timbers made raucous symphony
with mortal moans and ocean's mocking boom.
Skirling squeals from scurrying rats who kept company
to the palsied smuggler-fettered in the gloom
thoughts of simple pleasures never would he see.
His children chasing butterflies through the fiorin bloom
of every gentle circumstance to an English day
banished to the savage land of North Americay
to labour under Georgia skys, tilling alien soil,
listening to the Afric chants, cries of misery
from charcoal men entramelled in their toil.
For crimes of native ignorance this is their penalty.
Rob Africans of Africa, rob Africa of oil.

Now the midnight marsh is an oil refinery
another chromium outpost for the new colonial fools
conscience don't disturb me I'm doing my pools

MALCOLM LEE

Malcom Lee is a fitter working for the American firm, Kellogg International, who are the main contractors involved in the construction of a £20 million extension to the American Mobil Oil refinery on the Essex marshes at Coryton.

Malcolm wrote this poem after being told by Turcott, the Site Superintendant; "If you don't like it here, get out!" He was a steward at the time, but he did not get out. Malcolm, 27, born and bred in Essex, said: "It made me realize I was on American-owned territory".

THE CP LEAFLET MYSTERY

The document below was distributed on the February 27th demonstration at Fairfield Hall, Croydon. It was found in areas as wide apart as Kelloggs (Essex), Kingsnorth (Kent), Ford's (Dagenham), and Park Royal Vehicles (North London), to name but a few. Almost immediately it produced mixed reactions. Prominent Communist Party members justified the contents in full; others defended it in part, others a little unsure of themselves phoned King Street for a line.

Apparently it was dumped on at least one construction site but was later distributed by well-meaning militants who were not members of the C.P.

COMMUNIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Instructions for use on Feb.27th demonstration

Ref: BR/1212

Directive to leading
members only.

Shop Stewards and leading members have already received instructions as to the advisability of calling a one-day token stoppage at their place of work. While it is vital that at least 10,000 trade unionists should attend the demonstration, we must emphasize that any more than this would be difficult for the police to control.

Communist Party stewards will be in charge of the March and Lobby. Leading members are instructed to ensure that the demonstration is conducted in an orderly fashion; if any unruly elements appear, members should not hesitate to point them out to the police. Remember we are a Revolutionary Party, but we must also appear as a responsible and respectable Party to the public and particularly to the Trade Union leaders.

When the march arrives at St. Stephen's Gate, Stewards and leading members must ensure that an orderly queue is formed, and that when prominent members arrive, such as John Gollan, Peter Kerrigan,

John McMaban, Bert Ramelson, Gordon McLellan and John Campbell, Party members should make a point of cheering them as an introduction to the demonstrators.

REMEMBER THIS IS THE NEXT GOVERNMENT!

When your turn comes to go into the Lobby, make sure that the maximum number of Trade Unionists attend the meetings with Left-Wing M.P.s organised by the Party. After the initial speech by the M.P., the Party spokesman or prospective candidate will reply, taking care not to disagree too strongly. Following this, a limited amount of criticism of the Government by militants is desirable, but criticism which would totally discredit the Labour Party is to be avoided; remember, comrades, that our aim at this time is to obtain representation within the Labour government. It follows that we must keep Labour in power, whatever hardships and sacrifices this means for the working class.

Questions to be handled with care, either during the March or Lobby.

1. Position of Trade Unions in the Soviet Union.
2. Czechoslovakia.
3. Will Paynter. Should any Left-Wing militants question Will Paynter's acceptance of appointment to the Commission for Industrial Relations, members should first deny that he was ever a member of the Party. If militants persist, and seem too well informed, members should admit Comrade Will carries a card, but explain that he was planted in the Party by either the Engineering Employers Federation, The Economic League, Aims of Industry, or Moral Re-armament, but that the Party has been using him to its own advantage.

Should undeveloped Party members ask embarrassing questions on the same matter, leading members must point out that Comrade Will has agreed to continue buying the Morning Star out of his salary of £6,500 p.a. and, further, to buy one for each of his friends on the C.I.R., including Barbara. Comrade Will has already reported to John Gollan that he has found much in common with George Woodcock, Allan Flanders and Leslie Blakeman and hopes to recruit them in the near future.

Remember that the purpose of this demonstration is to give Trade Unionists the opportunity of comparing the British Communist Party with the other parliamentary parties. This is important as Trade Union members are apparently having increasing difficulty in distinguishing the policies of the various parties.

Our aim is to convince Trade Unionists that they can best advance the Working Class not by militancy at their place of work, but by electing our members to office, in the unions, on the local Councils, and in Parliament.

Signed BERT RAMELSON

Industrial Organiser,
British Communist Party.

Printed by the British Communist Party, Press Office,
16, King Street, W.C.2.

What is the mystery of this standard C.P. document? King Street has denied all knowledge, but they've done that before when embarrassing secrets have leaked out. The "Financial Times" printed this account on March 6th.

CATCHING OUT THE COMMUNISTS

Down at Communist Party headquarters in King Street they are busy scratching their heads at the moment over a document which was handed out to trade unionists lobbying their executive at last week's TUC conference. Purporting to come from the King Street Press office, the document was headed: "Communist Party of Great Britain. Directive to leading members only." After some initial instructions about behaviour at the House of Commons, the directive said: "Remember, comrades, our aim at this time is to obtain representation within the Labour Government."

Then followed a series of instructions on how to handle questions from Left-wingers about Mr. Will Faynter's recent appointment to the Commission for Industrial Relations. "Members should admit that comrade Will carries a card, but that he was planted in the Party by either the Engineering Employers' Federation, the Aims of Industry or Moral Re-armament."

What's more, if "undeveloped Party members" ask embarrassing questions on the matter, leading members are to point out that "comrade Will has agreed to continue buying the Morning Star out of his salary of £6,500 p.a., and further, to buy one for each of his friends on the CIR, including Barbara."

Not surprisingly, the King Street men are not very amused by the document-and are now busy trying to find the identity of the culprit who was handing it out. "We have a copy," their spokesman told me, "and as far as we are concerned, it is a forgery." It seems that two of the six Communists listed as attending the demonstration do not exist, and a third has been in

hospital for the last three weeks. "And what is more, none of our members are 'undeveloped'."

Friends of SOLIDARITY were questioned. C.P. members demanded to know why SOLIDARITY had printed this document.

The mystery deepens. We have no explanations at all to offer the British Communist Party, what we would say however is that the Communist Party has on a number of occasions swept bigger embarrassments under its carpet. In fact, it's rumoured that the King Street carpet is now on the ceiling.

SOLIDARITY wishes to make it quite clear to all that we have no connections with the British Communist Party or their Press Office. Neither do we do any printing on their behalf. Our facilities are available to all workers who struggle against their employer and the system. That invitation is not extended to the C.P.

A READER WRITES:

'I dived straight into your paper, Solidarity, and very interesting reading it makes too! It's good to be able to get straight into the articles without having to carry a dictionary with me, and to do without all those euphuisms.....er.....I mean, high-falutin writings which some papers have a habit of using.

'I found the article, Bleeding Students!, of particular interest for, although I am a worker and not a student, I have encountered similar hostility from my fellow workers whenever I have gone on a demonstration or march. I am subjected to rebukes such as: "Stupid cunts! They ought to lock you all up!" or, "They're a bleeding nuisance! All your fucking marches should be banned!" - Hostility, hostility, hostility! But why?....'

Yes, why? We are keen to know what you think about this and other issues. Please write to us. We would particularly like to know about the conditions and the struggle on your job.

"DAMNED!"

Much is talked about the "democracy" and "freedom" of the Press. But it is clear to everyone that the press does have tremendous power and freedom to mould and manipulate public opinion.

The Press Council supposedly exists to ensure this power is not misused. "Damned!" gives a very good description of (1) how it is misused; (2) how the Press Council protects its misuse against an ordinary member of the working class.

The husbands at King Hill Hostel, Kent, fought for the right to live there with their families. They also fought against the Council's right to evict their families after 3 months and force the children "into care".

Because he was very active in this struggle, "The People" - the national Sunday paper - singled out Mr Roy Mills for a vicious, vindictive, and lying attack.

Despite this attack, the campaigners beat the Council. But "The People" - part of the International Publishing Corporation (the Daily Mirror Group) - knew Mr Mills, a jobless worker, hadn't the money to clear his name by fighting the slander through the courts.

"Damned!" describes how the Friends of King Hill, a group including members of SOLIDARITY formed to aid the struggle, took the case to the Press Council.

The Press Council found for "The People". But in the course of doing so it thoroughly exposed itself for the fake it is. "Damned!" shows the Press Council isn't a "democratic safeguard" but is a cover for the Fleet Street press barons, behind whom stand the rest of the employing class and the State.

"Publish and Be Damned" - title of a book by Hugh Cudlipp, Chairman, International Publishing Corp.

"If an editor publishes and is not damned, so much the better." - Lord Devlin, Chairman of the Press Council.

"Damned!" - an adjudication on the Press Council by Andy Anderson. 43 pages, 3/- post paid from Solidarity (South London) c/o A. Mann, 79 Balfour Street, London S.E.17

Two other pamphlets:-

WHAT HAPPENED AT FORDS. by Ernie Stanton (NUVB) & Ken Weller (AEU). The story of the 1962 strike by one of the victimized stewards. -1/5d.

THE MEANING OF SOCIALISM. by Paul Cardan. A restatement of socialist objectives. The case for workers' control of production. -9d.

Available from our address below. All postage paid.

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