

# Wages fight needs Socialist policies to beat Tories

What  
we  
think

GOAL?

AS THE football season begins, abundant tears are being shed about violence—particularly on behalf of the insurance companies. Saturday afternoon battles and wrecked trains and buses have been made the pretext for—on the one hand—'tough' police action and calls for more 'law and order', and—on the other—loud wails of humanitarian regret that the Englishman's sport should be made the occasion for outbreaks of violence.

The press campaign against football 'hooliganism' will gather strength as the season wears on. In the first place, it is a convenient pretext for the constant Tory pressure for strengthening the police and restricting civil liberties. Secondly, the cause of the fighting and 'anti-social' behaviour lies deep in the basic changes taking place under the surface of British social life.

The British ruling class has always prided itself on being able to condition and discipline the British workers. As rulers of the first capitalist power, the British upper and middle classes control the oldest capitalist 'democracy'.

What is this 'democracy'? It is, according to Leon Trotsky, '... a system of institutions and measures by the aid of which the needs and demands of the working masses, reaching ever higher, are neutralized, distorted, rendered innocuous, or are simply stultified.'

What does this have to do with football and Saturday afternoon fighting? The fact is that the economic foundations of British 'discipline' and compromise—the Empire, original industrial pre-eminence, shipping and financial monopoly—have all but disappeared, and the remains are being battered by the waves of world crisis.

The tremors are felt in every sphere of the social and ideological superstructure. As the working class moves towards the necessary revolutionary solution, it will test and reject everything that represents capitalist domination inside the trade union and labour movement. And alongside this process will go all sorts of manifestations of break-up of the old system.

At the end of his book, 'Where is Britain Going?', Trotsky remarked: '... the revolution will inevitably arouse tremendous fervour in the British working class, that fervour which has been so artificially restrained and repressed with the aid of social training, the Church, the press, and has been drawn off into artificial channels with the aid of boxing, football, racing, and other forms of

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They have told their watch-dog in Whitehall in no uncertain terms that this form of wage freeze must apply, without exception, to all industry; including the nationalized sector.

This is what CBI president Partridge had to say on the subject in his letter to members of the CBI:

'Mr Carr reminded us that the government—in common with industrial management and the trade unions—was completely opposed to any revival of a statutory prices and incomes policy.'

'In present circumstances the compelling need was for employers in all sectors—government in respect of the public service, the state-owned undertakings and business in the private sector—to stand as firmly as they can against unreasonable demands and to reach settlements which, although fair, mark a significant downward step from recent inflated levels.'

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The words are those of the leading spokesman of British industry—the emphasis is ours.

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The Association, after interviewing many exporting merchants, reported that a majority of them expect the rate of new orders, export deliveries and the level of outstanding foreign orders to drop in the immediate future with delivery periods and prices increasing.

This report has more relevance to the policies of the Tories and big business in Britain than the euphoric statement of Business Opinions Ltd—which does not reflect real trends in the economy but rather the opinion of city bankers on the Tory government.

The Association report in assessing export prospects for British industry indicates that

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BY A  
CORRESPONDENT

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The same collection of documents also includes records of Kennedy's interviews with top Soviet leaders such as Nikita Khrushchev.

## REVEALING

But because of their revealing nature, many of the documents will not be released for a number of years.

Even so, those that have been made public smash once and for all the great myth perpetuated by Stalinists and Labourites alike of Kennedy the liberal reformer.

PILKINGTON'S  
LATEST

See late news, page four

## Stink in Edinburgh council over sewage

EDINBURGH CITY Council goes into emergency session tonight to discuss what is to be done about the appalling state of the Scottish capital's sewage-disposal service.

Local residents in Seafield have threatened to withhold rates, and medical staff at the Eastern General Hospital have protested in letters to the press against pollution of the beach by raw sewage.

At Colinton, on the other side of the city, two young boys contracted typhoid after swimming in the polluted river Water of Leith. Edinburgh discharges 50 million gallons of untreated sewage into the river Forth every day, covering the shore at Seafield and other areas along the coastline with patches of excrement which attract thousands of flies.

The Eastern General Hospital is within sight and smell of the Seafield beach.

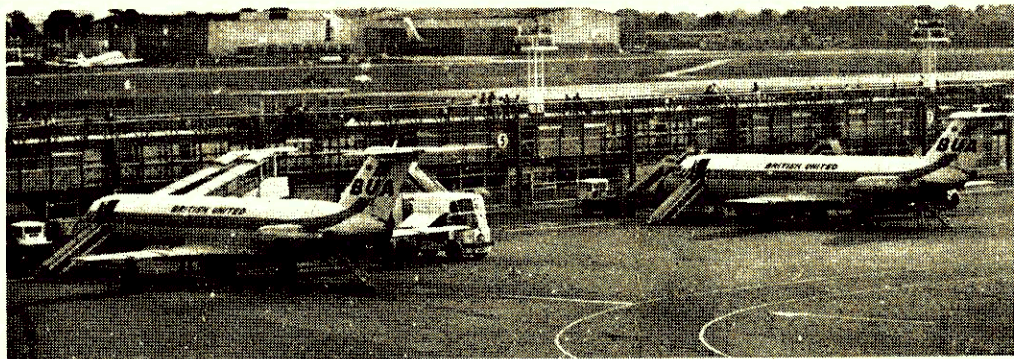
## INFECTION

Notices along the beach warn the public not to gather mussels for food because of the danger of infection and the possibility of salmonella poisoning, and appeal against the dumping of rubbish.

The pollution of the Water of Leith at Colinton is thought to be due to faulty connections in the sewers which allowed untreated sewage to escape into the river.

The city's senior deputy Medical Officer of Health has stated that one of the two boys now recovering from typhoid in the City Hospital definitely contracted the disease while swimming in the river.

Ronald King Murray QC, Labour MP for Leith, has said he will raise the matter in Parliament. But there is little indication that any really decisive measures will be taken to remedy the situation, which has changed little in the past 150 years. The usual discussion is in progress about who should



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## Dangers still face airport workers



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The firm has been awarded ground-handling contracts at Heathrow and is regarded as a threat to the nationalized corporations.

The meeting rejected outright the finding of the Court of Inquiry into the GAS dispute, which attacked Heathrow militants. It also expressed complete opposition to the Tories' plans for setting up a 'second force' airline at the expense of the nationalized corporations.

The factory also decided to black the proposed new airline throughout the world if profitable routes worth £60 million a year are taken away from the state airlines.

They are to set up a joint action committee covering the state-owned BEA and BOAC to co-ordinate opposition to the government's proposals.

BEA stewards' chairman Bill Benson told the meeting that a viable second force airline would mean £100 million. This would mean taking over 40 per cent of the nationalized industries.

'Once it starts where is it going to end?' he said.

'All mergers in the past have resulted in redundancies. The only merger which guaranteed no redundancies and parity of wages was between BEA and BOAC.'

'The problem is security of employment. This way there will be no security of employment for BUA workers either. The Tories are taking this money away and handing it over to their pals, the bankers and the speculators in the city.'

While opposing 'any erosion of the public sector', both Mark Young, secretary of the National Joint Council for Civil Air Transport, and ASTMS secretary Clive Jenkins did not clarify their attitude to the principle of nationalization under workers' control.

Said Young: 'We don't want to see civil air transport become a political football as the steel industry was. We could tell the government to get stuffed and this might be popular down here, but not with BUA workers.'

Such a policy, he insisted, would sever any possibility of a 'united front', which was to include workers in the public and private sectors.

The outspoken determination to stick out for £5 and no strings is the way to take this strike forward and is a blow to the management's hopes of enforcing speed-up proposals in exchange for a small increase.

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This fight involves not just the IH management but the entire Tory government's attack on wages.

Will Paynter, ex-leader of the National Union of Mine-workers and former prominent member of the Communist Party, recently visited International Harvesters in Bradford on behalf of the CIR to assist the management in their speed-up plans; involving a new wages structure, redundancies, and the end of piecework.

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All Trades Unions  
Alliance Meeting  
TONIGHT  
Bradford

7.30 p.m.  
Mechanics Institute,  
Bridge Street,  
Bradford, 1  
Speaker:  
International Harvesters  
shop steward

## ANARCHY

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## Crucial meeting for Birmingham busmen

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

BIRMINGHAM and West Midlands busmen's delegates are attending an important meeting today to discuss the carrying forward of their fight for a £5-a-week increase and against the management's proposed strings.

Pay talks have been proceeding for some time, and at the beginning of July the employers' first offer of £2 with strings was thrown out.

The danger now is that—as rumoured in the local press—the employers may 'moderate' the strings while offering a little more money.

The management's first strings included the introduction of part-time crews 'where necessary' and the waiving of the rule that all new starters must spend a year as conductors.

This would mean the 'casualizing' of the work, undermining union organization and conditions and greatly facilitating the introduction of one-man buses; while destroying hundreds of jobs.

## DEMANDS

Even if such strings are 'moderated' they should be completely rejected.

Acceptance of so-called moderate strings today leads to the imposition of immediate strings tomorrow: just as the acceptance of one-man buses for about £3 10s has brought about new and more dangerous management demands.

The busmen's July decision to strike in September unless their claim is fully met must be maintained and the strings completely rejected.

## Irish border clampdown

TROOPS in N Ireland have begun laying metal spikes on unclassified roads across the border with the Irish Republic in an effort to tighten control over frontier crossing.

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1970: Thirty years  
since Trotsky's  
assassination

SOCIALIST  
LABOUR  
LEAGUE

Memorial  
Meeting

ACTON  
TOWN HALL  
High St, Acton

August 23  
Sunday

Starts 3 p.m.  
Admission 2s

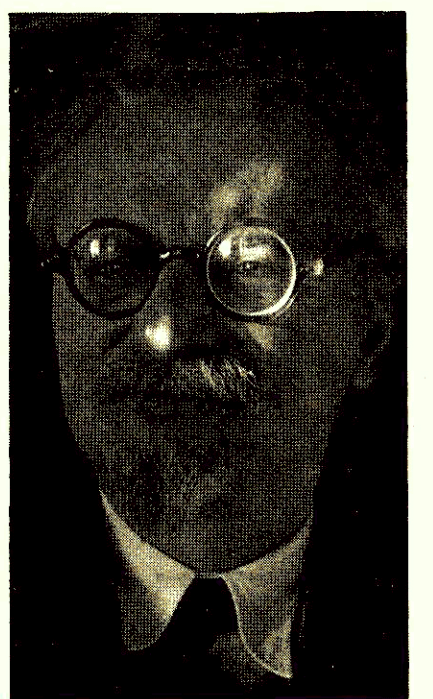
Speakers:  
G. HEALY (SLL national  
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A. JENNINGS (Editor  
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£1,000 August  
Appeal Fund  
stands at  
£185 2s 6d

OUR WEEKEND postbag was a mild disappointment. We received £29 5s 0d, which brought the fund to £185 2s 6d—leaving us with £814 17s 6d to find by August 31.

We know that our readers will not let us down. Push the campaign along in all the areas. Send your donations to:  
Workers Press,  
Appeal Fund,  
186a Clapham High Street,  
London, SW4.



Leon Trotsky's  
last words:  
'I am confident of  
the victory of the  
Fourth International  
Go forward!'

This means:  
Forward with the  
first Trotskyist  
daily newspaper—  
WORKERS PRESS

ALSO: The first public showing of the latest  
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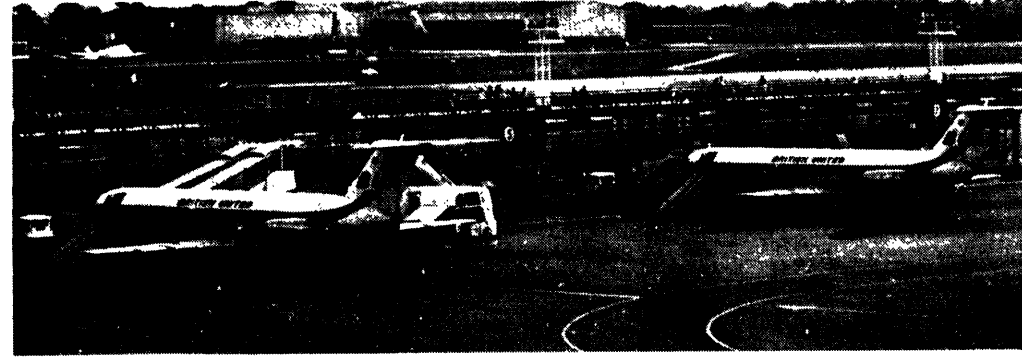
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The Eastern General Hospital is within sight and smell of the Seafield beach. The council itself has made no allocation in its present budget for cleaning up Seafield beach. There is talk of deodorizing the beach and burning the raw sewage patches and of filling in the beach—using it as a tip—to raise the land level. Sewage pipes are being tested in an effort to prevent further leakages.

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Management warned shop stewards more than a week ago that they anticipated short-time because of falling orders.

Workers at the Bathgate plant fear that Leyland's may take the opportunity to break the policy of 'one out, all out' and create divisions in the work-force.

Despite these difficulties, Amalgamated Engineers and Foundryworkers' stewards at Bathgate are going forward with a wage claim and are expected, at their meeting this Friday, to formulate a policy for a substantial increase and average earnings while laid off.

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PAGE FOUR COL. 7

1970: Thirty years since Trotsky's assassination

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

Memorial Meeting

ACTON TOWN HALL High St, Acton

August 23 Sunday

Starts 3 p.m. Admission 2s

Speakers: G. HEALY (SLL national Secretary), M. SANDA (Editor Workers Press), A. JENNINGS (Editor Keep Left).

Chairman: C. SLAUGHTER (SLL Central Committee).

Leon Trotsky's last words: 'I am confident of the victory of the Fourth International. Go forward!'

This means: Forward with the first Trotskyist daily newspaper—WORKERS PRESS

ALSO: The first public showing of the latest Young Socialists' film—'Youth in Action in the Year of Lenin and Trotsky'.

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All Trades Unions Alliance  
Miners' Conference  
Sunday, September 6  
Danum Hotel High St DONCASTER

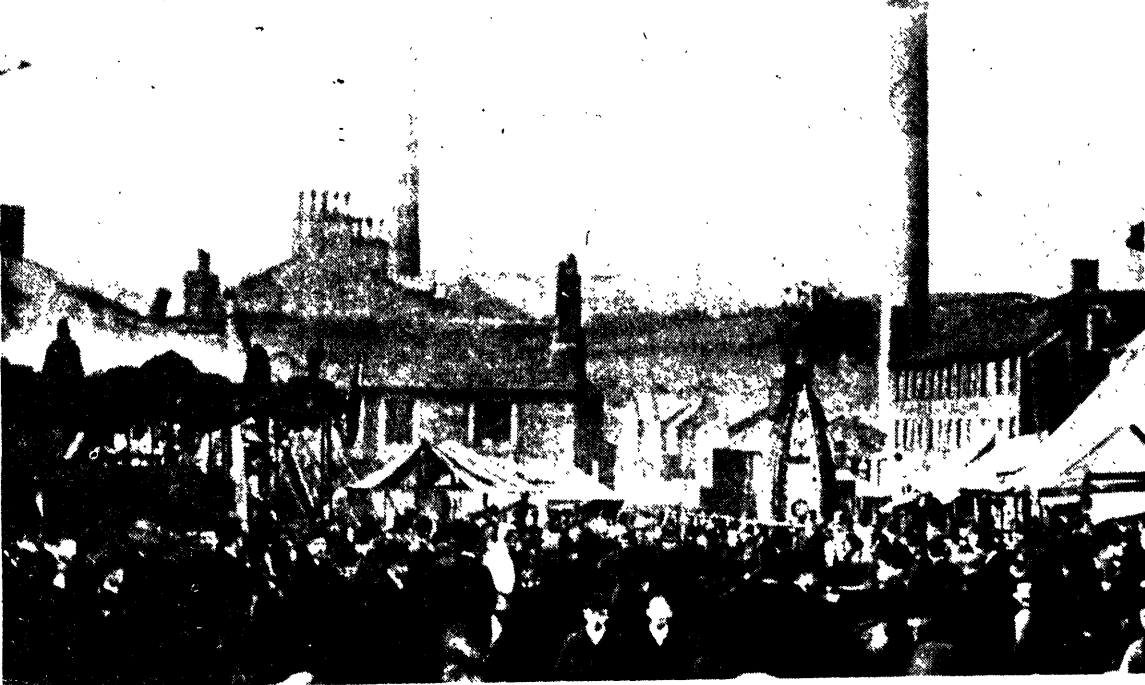
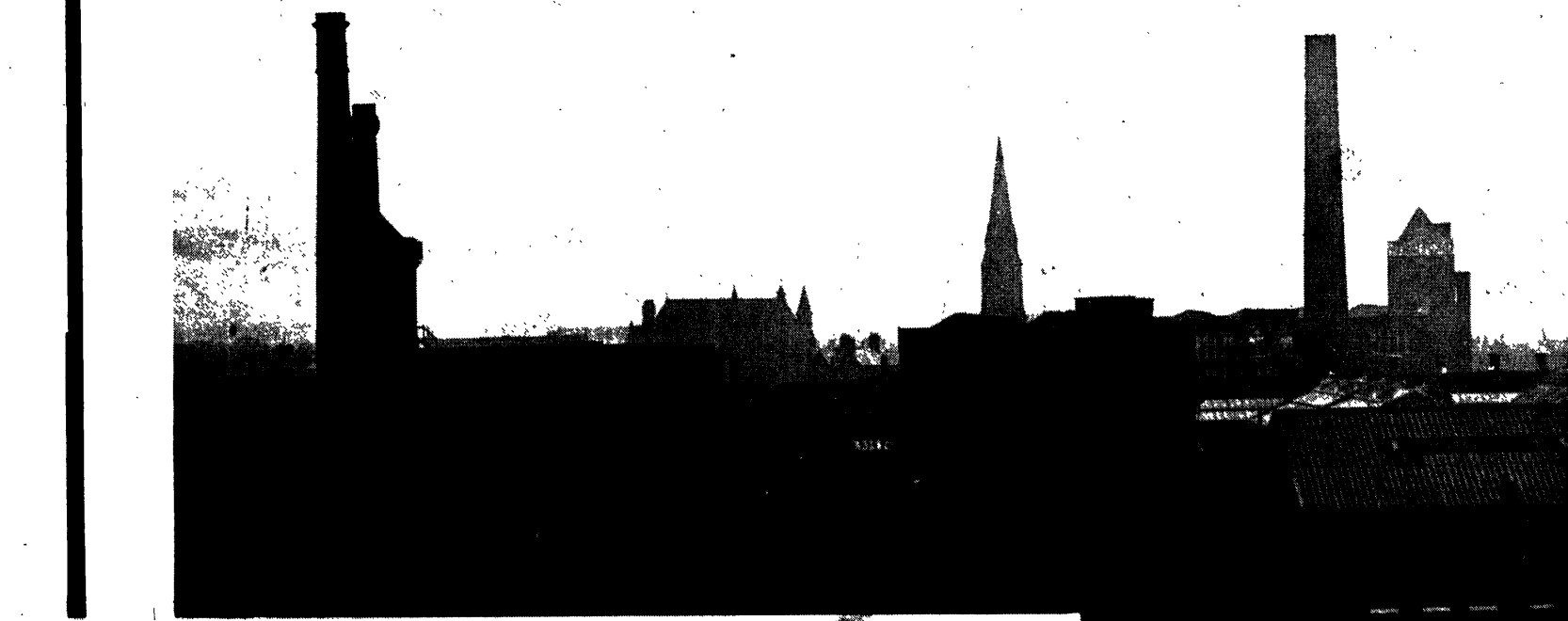
FOR FURTHER DETAILS WRITE TO: T. PARSONS, 61 DERWENT DRIVE, FERRY FRYSTON, NR CASTLEFORD, YORKSHIRE.

# A Northern holiday



PHOTOGRAPH BY ...

Salford, Manchester: Sturdy Victorian mills that have outlived generations of their owners.



Research and interviews by STEPHEN JOHNS  
With pictures by Martin Mayer

## WAKES WEEK: THEN AND NOW

'THE FORCE of habit of millions of people is a terrible force.' Nowhere is this aphorism of Lenin better illustrated than in the mill towns of Lancashire and Yorkshire at Wakes Week. These longed-for interludes of peace that descend each summer on the dour cotton and wool communities; when factories close and the air clears revealing the surrounding fells and moors as real countryside, instead of some irrelevant and incongruous backdrop to the serious, dirty business of making profit in the valley below.

Old customs are transformed and re-appear in modern rituals. Above the rush-cart stands out above the crowded square at Uppermill Wakes (Lancs).

Right: The early Wakes were uproarious country celebrations. Here we have a bill of fare for the famous Eccles Wakes. The industrial revolution smashed the rural communities and their traditions but the workers revived the traditions of the Wakes in the manufacturing towns of Lancashire and Yorkshire.

**Eccles Wakes**

FOR A NEW HAT, FOR A BULL BAIT, FOR A DOVEY RACE, FOR A FURRY!!!, FOR A SMOCK RACE

At One o'Clock, there will be A FOOT RACE FOR A NEW HAT. By Lady who never wears a hat. ...

At Two o'Clock, there will be A BULL BAIT FOR A DOG COLLAR. ...

At Four o'Clock, there will be A DOVEY RACE FOR A PAIR OF PANTIES. ...

At Five o'Clock, there will be A RACE FOR AN EXCELLENT STUFF HAT. ...

At Six o'Clock, there will be A FURRY!!! FOR A REFRESHING HOT CHAIN. ...

At Seven o'Clock, there will be A SMOCK RACE BY LADIES. ...

Gloomy predictions of the death of the celebration are almost as old as the Wakes themselves. In 1888 the 'Stockport Advertiser' remarked: ... the Wakes, the speedy death of which was prognosticated a year or two ago, will be upon us in a few hours with full possession of health and vigour. Holiday customs have, of course, changed. Now the excursion aeroplane disgorges its load of mill-hands and factory workers in Spain or Majorca.

But for most, Wakes still mean mad spending at Blackpool, Morecambe, Southport, Scarborough or Douglas and the coaches go on ploughing up the new motorway taking townloads northwards to the boarding houses. Blackpool alone receives 8,500,000 visits a season and 20 times as much cash from the workers of the northern counties. Habits change slowly because life and work in the grim mill-towns that smear the map within 20 miles of Manchester has changed only superficially since the great industrial revolution. Pay remains low and work hard and the Wakes survive because they are still the only collective respite from the grinding toil in the sturdy Victorian mills that have outlived generations of their owners. During Wakes week time, a precious commodity is in surplus and the people cram their free-

dom desperately into the one or two weeks off work. 'I'm on holiday, out of the mill, and I won't get another while Christmas. I work for the money I save with my hands and I'm proud to spend it—let the bugger go—that's my approach,' says Mr Samuel Webb a Hyde textile worker.

And he's lived through 56 Wakes and been to Blackpool for 30 of them. The whole development of this unique holiday is a warning to those who think mechanically about the working class.

People's habits do not change neatly to fit new economic circumstances. Customs of old are transformed and re-appear in the modern rituals of today. The mass parade along Black-

pool's noisy 'neon-front' is an echo of the uproarious carnivals of Lancashire and Yorkshire that fathered the modern Wakes Week.

Then you come across a picture—Uppermill Wakes (Lancs)—poking out above the Edwardian working-class crowd, gathered in the square flanked by the inevitable black mills, is the rush-cart.

This is a reminder that the earliest recorded Wakes were connected with the re-flooring of the parish church with rushes carried by the villagers in a ceremonial rush-cart.

Though it has long lost its function, the cart still appears in 20th century celebrations. Wakes in Yorkshire are, in fact, called Rush Wakes.

The nature of the Wakes was radically changed, but not destroyed, by the most profound change in British history, the industrial revolution.

In origin, they were probably coeval with Christianity itself. Villagers would gather and pass the night together in prayer before certain holy days. But the Legend of St John the Baptist tells how the flock during these Wakes: 'Fell to lecherie and songs, dances, harping, piping and also glotony and sinne, and it turned holyness into cursydness'.

But despite these admonitions the peasantry refused to be entirely devout and the church was forced to drop the practice. But, the Wakes continued as a secular festival of enjoyment. Its rural character was shattered by the industrial revolution.

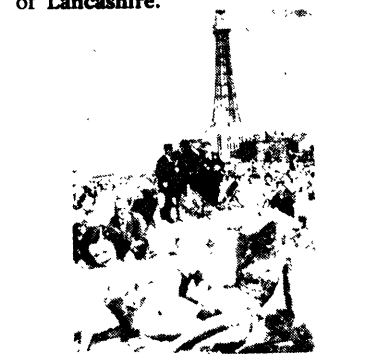
At first, workers driven off the land into the towns of Lancashire and Yorkshire, would travel back to their villages at Wakes time to try and piece together their destroyed communities.

But capital was now king and the rapacious mill-owners of the last century had no holy festivals or rural sports in mind when they began to close their mills for one week out of the 52.

Machines could not go on for ever; they needed cleaning and overhauling. In this respect they were like the operatives, but whereas women and children were easily and cheaply replaced, machinery was expensive and hard to get.

So the custom grew that the mill should shut down in the week Wakes Day fell and the employees get an unpaid holiday.

This development together with the railway revolution and the advent of cheap excursion fares, began the exodus to the coast, turning a sleepy fishing village like Blackpool into the Las Vegas of Lancashire.



Pre-War Blackpool

The petty tradesmen and show managers at the resorts set about gathering in the mammon from the industrial towns with crude gusto and a love-hate relationship was firmly established between them and the trippers.

One tale tells of the famous carpet put down in the Winter Gardens Pavilion, Blackpool, by one of the pioneer entertainment managers, William Holland: 'The trippers,' people groaned, 'they will spit on it.'

Unabashed Bill posted the town with his slogan 'Come and spit on Bill Holland's 100-guinea carpet.' And there was, and is, huge amounts of money at stake in the resorts. Take these two newspaper items concerning Oldham in 1904 and nearly 50 years later: 'Oldham Wakes commenced today, and the saving clubs have been distributing the amount

put by during the year in anticipation. It is difficult to compute accurately the amount that has been disbursed, but a round figure, that must not be accepted as anything better than a rough estimate, at £100,000 may be stated. Savings clubs abound and figures are available from 128.' ('Manchester Guardian', August 27, 1904), and as the article goes on to point out, this was in a year of depression in the cotton trade.

The local trustee savings bank reported over £500,000 withdrawn for the holiday, and dozens of Wakes clubs in pubs and workshops collected another £400,000. (Article in the 'Manchester Evening News', June 23, 1963, headed 'Thousands off on £1m spree'.)

The Wakes is not the holiday beloved of the middle class, who creep away to their 'spot' searching for tranquillity usually to find them and their boats and cars crammed off the roads and highways, destroying their dream of splendid isolation.

I was brought up in Lancashire and spent many a Wakes in Blackpool. I remember feeling puzzled when I talked later to middle-class people. Holidays were — 'getting away from it all', 'peace and quiet', 'being on your own'.

But where was the fun in all this? The luxury of spending money on yourself and meeting others? Their holidays sounded rather morbid affairs to me.

Blackpool is not this kind of holiday. It's a mass purge, not a rest.

You get rid of your money, forget the factory and push work out of your mind, with the noise, mixing, singing, drinking and laughing that make-up the week in Blackpool.

In this respect the workers' holiday is a desperate opposite of his disciplined life on the shop floor. Yet there is much of value in the Wakes holiday — the collective enjoyment, meeting new friends and feeling with them and spending money on, and with, people of your own kind.

Holidays, holiday pay, lower working hours and more leisure time have all been fought for by working people throughout Britain. An extension of these gains and desires to give the majority the time to relax and enjoy life around them, must always be one of the great aims of socialism.

### MRS HAMMOND:

MY FIRST memories of holidays were those we spent at Blackpool. I remember the four of us, three children and my mother who, was a war widow, hopping about a double bed at the digs. You would buy your own produce which the landlady would cook and she would provide the potatoes and salty rice pudding at 3d a day.

You had to be in at 10 p.m. sharp—or else. We saved up 2s 6d in the Co-op and most families would leave 2s under the clock for when they came back. This was for milk, eggs and bread, after this it was all on tick until pay-day.

Entertainment — the big thing was if someone could play the piano, we thought this was great. The big night would probably be Friday when we would all gather in the room and sing with the piano.

I remember the beginning of the fun fair. It started with about two roundabouts and a big wheel. A high spot was the children's playground they opened. Then it was 6d entrance fee and it was a God-send to the parents who could leave their kids there and go off on their own for a drink.

The sands, of course, were very popular since they were

free—you saw no deck chairs then, though sometimes the children would build sand-seats for their parents.

Many of the older people were content sitting in the shelter on the front watching the tide come in and out. Some had never seen the sea before and it was always a source of wonder to them.

The bill was paid on the Saturday morning you left, and if there was any money over there was a big treat for the kids. The shows weren't frequented much by the working class, they cost too much. But they had places called song-halls, rented by the big music publishers.

Singers would come round and mingle with the crowds singing the latest ballads trying to get people to buy the song sheets.

The Wakes was also a big boy-girl affair. The girls used to wear silk pyjama things — the height of fashion — and meet up with the boys and walk about the prom. This was a great source of interest to the older ones.

Now not as many go to Blackpool. It's just too dear for a young family. The prices are very high, it's a big racket really.

Of course in those days not everyone went to the coast.

Some stayed in the towns. When the factories closed it was almost pleasant. The air was clean and young men and women used to make up rambling parties and go off into the hills. The moors around Manchester and Yorkshire are some of the finest countryside in the country.

### MR HAMMOND:

I WAS less fortunate, I didn't go away to the sea until I was 18, then we went to a holiday camp on the Isle of Man, a kind of forerunner of Butlins.

We have to be in for 10 p.m. and if we got drunk we were sent back on the next boat straight away.

I did go away before this, to a camp at Deversdale near Southport. One day I was suddenly told I was going away. Off we went in a red jersey with a stripe round it they gave us. We stayed under canvas, it was frugal and cheap, but a privilege to boys like us.

The one day they marched us off to a cricket match in Southport the first and last I've seen.

There in that red jersey, I knew I was poor like the boys around me and I felt it. It was wrong I knew, but I suppose the people who took us only did it out of kindness.

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### BBC 2

11.00-11.20 a.m. PRICK SCHOOL. 4.30-5.30 p.m. CRICKET. 7.30 NEWS and weather. 8.00 SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE'S SHERLOCK HOLMES. 'Wisteria Lodge'. 8.50 LOOK STRANGE. 'Venice of England'. A voyage to the centre of Birmingham by canal. 9.10 PREMIER. 'Trial run'. A brilliant, ambitious young lawyer agrees to defend a man accused of murdering his wife. Overconfident, he is guilty of an oversight which provides a savage twist to the story. 10.45 NEWS and weather. 10.50 LINE-UP.

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# Wakes holiday

Salford, Manchester: Sturdy Victorian mills that have outlived generations of their owners.



Mr John Rowbotham and his wife Lynda, both textile workers from Brighouse, Yorks, usually come to Blackpool with their children, David (8) and Michelle (5). 'The main thing that has changed here are the prices, things are ridiculously dear now, especially the rides for the kiddies.'

## MRS ROWBOTHAM

WE HAVE come to Blackpool for the last four years with the children, but I used to come before that as a girl. The main thing that has changed here are the prices, things are ridiculously dear now, especially the rides for the kiddies.

We were going to Morecambe, but then someone told us that the sands were all mud there and we didn't like the sound of that. This year we're going into a flat for the first time, we've not even been there yet, I hope it's OK.

One of the reasons for this was because we weren't getting enough food in the boarding house.

## MR ROWBOTHAM

THESE KIND of holidays are mainly for the kiddies, when they get to bed our real holiday starts. We go out for a drink or to a show. I like Blackpool because you can always find something to do and you meet other people like yourself. We will mix with anyone so long as they are friendly.

I take about four weeks off work all told. But there's short time in the textile industry now and we have a lot of 'unofficial' holidays I'd rather do without.

# WAKES WEEK: THEN AND NOW

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Samuel Webb (56) and his wife Margaret (64). Sam has worked in the mill 23 years and holidays for his mean Blackpool, he's been there about thirty Wakes Weeks. 'I get out of the factory on the Friday before Wakes and I have a big feeling of relief. Work is finished and I don't have to go back there for another two weeks.'

Here they are pictured outside their home in Riding Street, Hyde, ready for the coach to Blackpool.

## MR WEBB

WORK HARD and play hard that's my motto. I'm on holiday now, out of the mill and I won't get another while Christmas.

I have been going for 20 or 30 years to Blackpool. When I married Margaret we spent our first anniversary there. My wife didn't like it at first, but she's got used to it now.

We always go to the same boarding house, but this Whit-sun the landlady died and we were recommended to another place.

In the early days you were lucky if you could afford to go at all. My step-father, he worked on the railway, so we had cheap travel. But he wouldn't entertain Blackpool, it was always Torquay, Brighton or Bournemouth for him, but I'll settle for good old Blackpool.

What I really like about the place is that you meet working-class people and the company you keep will be people like yourselves. This is what I like about it.

These other people they go abroad and good luck to them if this is what they want. But its Blackpool for me. I work for the money I save with my



Mr Samuel Webb (Ashton Bros.) Hyde

hands and I'm proud of spending it—no swank.

But it's changed now. In the early days I remember it was very hard to save money. Bed and breakfast was 2s 6d and you could go away for the full week for 12s 6d. The places you stayed at were really slums like you had back home. But it was clean and you were well fed—you were happy.

Towards the end of the week you were looking in your pocket because you had no money. Donkey rides were all

you could afford and of course the sands were free.

Now its a lot more commercialized and a lot more money is being spent. There weren't the amusement machines then. Your parents would leave you on the beach and go for a drink and you were happy.

They still have the savings clubs, but we save our own now. I take about £60 for the week—about £20 of this goes on accommodation. I might not spend it all, it depends on what company you keep—I don't mind the company they can have what they want, shorts, anything, I don't mind spending when I'm on holiday.

A lot of people get big-headed—'We are going to Majorca', they say, but when you meet them when they come back they say, 'Oh the food was terrible, etc.'. It's their own fault, they just go away there so they can say they have been abroad.

I get out of the factory on the Friday before Wakes and I have a big feeling of relief. Work is finished and I don't have to go back to the mill for another two weeks. Those that work through their holidays are welcome to it—that's no life at all to me.

Shelia Place (18), Susan Pells (17) and Angel a Picton (16), three girls from the mining village of Upton, Yorks, enjoy their first day at the resort in the fun-house in the Pleasure-Beach. 'Blackpool's all right if you have plenty of money to spend.'

## SHEILA:

BLACKPOOL is all right but you never have enough money; I think it's a bit dear for what it is. They put the prices up on everything. We bring down about £15 to spend here, we got here this morning and we've already spent 10s.

We came here for a change and to meet other people. We like to go dancing in the evening or for a drink.

## ANGELA:

THE FIRST thing we did was to go to the boarding house and left our cases and then we have been walking round seeing things.

I like Blackpool; there is a lot to do if you have the money. I wish things could be like this all the time.

## SUSAN:

THE THING I hate the most is going back to work.

It's really awful. I dread that Monday morning after the holidays and I just wait for the next one to come around.

I really don't mind work and I like the place I work at, but it's getting back into the same old routine that's awful.

There's plenty to do here and you don't get bored like you do at home. But it all depends on whether you have the money.

I think people should have much more holidays, so they can go away. At home in the evenings there's nothing to do, so we have to travel out of Upton to enjoy ourselves.

# CINEMA

Borsellino directed by Jaco Dery, starring Alain Delon, Jean-Paul Belmondo (Rigon) Paramount Cinema, London

IN ONE of the 'quality' Sunday newspapers, nestling under the serious book reviews, is an avidly-read column reviewing the latest thrillers. It's called 'Crime Ration'.

In two words it offers the British middle class a shattering glimpse of itself as it really is. First their itch for violence, hysteria and extravagance; their burning, servile desire to be one of the 'big boys'; but brought to heel immediately by the traditional sense of propriety, prudence, moderation; the civilized rationing of all excess.

Evidently, the principle of successful journalism for the middle class is the same as for skilled massage—first stimulate, then soothe.

Of over 300,000 serious crimes for which persons were convicted in 1968, 91.8 per cent were against property. Most of them, of course, were not successful.

But whether it pays or not, crime has a definite power to fascinate. It's a shiny thread woven into the fabric of class society; examining it one can see many of the tensions in the rest of the weave.

Crime directly attacks the property of the exploiter, getting behind his bars and locks to grasp the most sensitive spot of all.

## Exciting

What makes crime exciting is not violence or suspense, but something more fundamental—it cracks a living fissure in the sick, dead calm which is capitalism's everyday appearance. Crime is a perpetual opposite of private property.

But at the same time, the aim of the criminal is... to get property! Crime merely introduces a further form of appropriation, so to speak. If turns the criminal into his opposite. For he starts out as the enemy of bourgeois wealth, but the more successful he is as a criminal, the more does he become a man of property.

The lawyer would quibble and say it is not his property, only his possession.

DURING the seven-week struggle of 11,000 General and Municipal Workers' members earlier this year, which has now broken out afresh at the heart of St. Harry, Filkington's St. Harry's empire, thousands of glassworkers found themselves fighting not only the employer, but the full force of the union.

It did not back the strike and the unofficial leaders later formed the Glass and General Workers' Union.

During the post-war period the GMWU has shown a tendency to decline.

Following the Ford strike of early 1969, the Halewood branch was closed when workers moved en masse into the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The GMWU was formed just before the 1926 General Strike as the result of various amalgamations and built up its membership during the depression, in the aftermath of working-class defeats which preceded the Second World War.

Lord Cooper, the present general secretary, has worked for the union since the age of 20 in 1928. His mother came from the family of Lord Dukes, general secretary of the union for most of the pre-war period.

Cooper is a governor of the London School of Business Studies and director of Television Yorkshire and the National Ports Council.

Cooper's predecessor Lord Williamson worked for the union since the age of 14. His uncle was Liverpool district secretary.

Lord Williamson is a director (along with former Labour minister Ray Gunter) of Securicor, the guardians of deluxe private property and, of late, immigrant workers at London Airport.

David Bassett, the national

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Wales: 5.20-5.50. Teleshop. 6.00-6.45 Wales today, weather. Nationwide.

**BBC 2**

11.00-11.20 a.m. PLAY SCHOOL. 4.30-5.30 p.m. CRICKET. 7.30 NEWS and weather. 8.00 SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE'S SHERLOCK HOLMES. 'Wisteria Lodge'. 8.50 LOOK STRANGE. 'Venice of England'. A voyage to the centre of Birmingham by canal. 9.10 PREMIER. 'Trial run'. A brilliant, ambitious young lawyer agrees to defend a man accused of murdering his wife. Overconfident, he is guilty of an oversight which provides a savage twist to the story. 10.45 NEWS and weather. 10.50 LINE-UP.

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Mr John Rowbotham and his wife Lynda, both textile workers from Brighouse, Yorks, usually come to Blackpool with their children, David (6) and Michelle (5). 'The main thing that has changed here are the prices, things are ridiculously dear now, especially the rides for the kiddies.'

MRS ROWBOTHAM

WE HAVE come to Blackpool for the last four years with the children, but I used to come before that as a girl. The main thing that has changed here are the prices, things are ridiculously dear now, especially the rides for the kiddies. We were going to Morecambe, but then someone told us that the sands were all mud there and we didn't like the sound of that. This year we're going into a flat for the first time, we've not even been there yet, I hope it's OK. One of the reasons for this was because we weren't getting enough food in the boarding house.

MR ROWBOTHAM

THESE KIND of holidays are mainly for the kiddies, when they get to bed our real holiday starts. We go out for a drink or to a show. I like Blackpool because you can always find something to do and you meet other people like yourself. We will mix with anyone so long as they are friendly.

I take about four weeks off work all told. But there's short time in the textile industry now and we have a lot of 'unofficial' holidays I'd rather do without.

AND NOW



Samuel Webb (56) and his wife Margaret (64). Sam has worked in the mill 23 years and holidays for his mean Blackpool, he's been there about thirty Wakes Weeks. 'I get out of the factory on the Friday before Wakes and I have a big feeling of relief. Work is finished and I don't have to go back there for another two weeks.' Here they are pictured outside their home in Ridling Street, Hyde, ready for the coach to Blackpool.

MR WEBB

WORK HARD and play hard that's my motto. I'm on holiday now, out of the mill and I won't get another while Christmas.

I have been going for 20 or 30 years to Blackpool. When I married Margaret we spent our first anniversary there. My wife didn't like it at first, but she's got used to it now.

We always go to the same boarding house, but this Whit-sun the landlady died and we were recommended to another place.

In the early days you were lucky if you could afford to go at all. My step-father, he worked on the railway, so we had cheap travel. But he wouldn't entertain Blackpool, it was always Torquay, Brighton or Bournemouth for him, but I'll settle for good old Blackpool.

What I really like about the place is that you meet working-class people and the company you keep will be people like yourselves. This is what I like about it.

These other people they go abroad and good luck to them if this is what they want. But its Blackpool for me. I work for the money I save with my



Mr Samuel Webb (Ashton Bros.) Hyde

hands and I'm proud of spending it—no swank.

But its changed now. In the early days I remember it was very hard to save money. Bed and breakfast was 2s 6d and you could go away for the full week for 12s 6d. The places you stayed at were really slums like you had back home. But it was clean and you were well fed—you were happy.

Towards the end of the week you were looking in your pocket because you had no money. Donkey rides were all

you could afford and of course the sands were free.

Now its a lot more commercialized and a lot more money is being spent. There weren't the amusement machines then. Your parents would leave you on the beach and go for a drink and you were happy.

They still have the savings clubs, but we save our own now. I take about £60 for the week—about £20 of this goes on accommodation. I might not spend it all, it depends on what company you keep—I don't mind the company they can have what they want, shorts, anything, I don't mind spending when I'm on holiday.

A lot of people get big-headed—'We are going to Majorca', they say, but when you meet them when they come back they say, 'Oh the food was terrible etc.'. It's their own fault, they just go away there so they can say they have been abroad.

I get out of the factory on the Friday before Wakes and I have a big feeling of relief. Work is finished and I don't have to go back to the mill for another two weeks. Those that work through their holidays are welcome to it—that's no life at all to me.

Sheila Place (18), Susan Pells (17) and Angel a Plecton (16), three girls from the mining village of Upton, Yorks, enjoy their first day at the resort in the fun-house in the Pleasure-Beach. 'Blackpool's all right if you have plenty of money to spend.'

SHEILA :

BLACKPOOL is all right but you never have enough money; I think it's a bit dear for what it is. They put the prices up on everything. We bring down about £15 to spend here, we got here this morning and we've already spent 10s.

We came here for a change and to meet other people. We like to go dancing in the evening or for a drink.

ANGELA :

THE FIRST thing we did was go to the boarding house and left our cases and then we have been walking 'around seeing things.

I like Blackpool; there is a lot to do if you have the money. I wish things could be like this all the time.

SUSAN :

THE THING I hate the most is going back to work.

It's really awful. I dread that Monday morning after the holidays and I just wait for the next one to come around.

I really don't mind work and I like the place I work at, but it's getting back into the same old routine that's awful. There's plenty to do here and you don't get bored like you do at home. But it all depends on whether you have the money.

I think people should have much more holidays, so they can go away. At home in the evenings there's nothing to do, so we have to travel out to Upton to enjoy ourselves.

CINEMA

Guest reviewer DAVID BARNES

Property and theft

'Borsalino' directed by Jacques Deray, starring Alain Delon and Jean-Paul Belmondo (Right). Paramount Cinema, London.



IN ONE of the 'quality' Sunday newspapers, nestling under the serious book reviews, is an avidly-read column reviewing the latest thrillers. It's called 'Crime Ration'.

In two words it offers the British middle class a shattering glimpse of itself as it really is.

First their itch for violence, hysteria and extravagance; their burning, servile desire to be one of the 'big boys'; but brought to heel immediately by the traditional sense of propriety, prudence, moderation; the civilized rationing of all excess.

Evidently, the principle of successful journalism for the middle class is the same as for skilled massage—first stimulate, then soothe.

Of over 300,000 serious crimes for which persons were convicted in 1968, 91.8 per cent were against property. Most of them, of course, were not successful.

But whether it pays or not, crime has a definite power to fascinate. It's a shiny thread woven into the fabric of class society; examining it one can see many of the tensions in the rest of the weave.

Crime directly attacks the property of the exploiter, getting behind his bars and locks to grasp the most sensitive spot of all.

Exciting

What makes crime exciting is not violence or suspense, but something more fundamental—it cracks a living fissure in the sick, dead calm which is capitalism's everyday appearance. Crime is a perpetual opposite of private property.

But at the same time, the aim of the criminal is... to get property!

Crime merely introduces a further form of appropriation, so to speak. It turns the criminal into his opposite. For he starts out as the enemy of bourgeois wealth, but the more successful he is as a criminal, the more does he become a man of property.

The lawyer would quibble and say it is not his property, only his possession.

But the practical bourgeois, who understands that the fist comes before books, knows that possession is ninety-nine points of the law. What he has he keeps, and he expects others to do likewise.

Both classes in capitalist society can see something of themselves in the criminal. This is what underlies the absorption some artists feel in the 'crime for its own sake'.

For modern French playwright Genet, the thief is a subjective hero, in no way calculating his crimes for gain; the police are his enemy, but at the same time his whole emotional life hangs on the threat they hold over him.

And on other levels, crime holds up a mirror to all men.

The capitalist cannot but identify with the burglar, the extortionist, the racketeer; they are merely speeded-up versions of himself.

Punishment

And at the thought of their punishment, anticipating the historical fate which he senses for himself, a shiver goes down his spine.

For the working class, the criminal cocks a snook at property—but property remains. Crime can exist only as the exception, where private wealth is the rule.

Each particular robbery is a crevice in the permanent, legalized larceny of class exploitation.

But the social contradiction contained within crime cannot be resolved through crime.

The task of the working class is not to open more cracks, but to abolish exploitation—and thus to put an end to crime in that form.

And the middle class, above all, recognize in the criminal their own ambition, instability, their own individualism and their fundamental lack of independence.

More than any other, the middle classes are the criminal classes. It is probably because films and writing are so much in middle-class hands that crime is such a popular theme.

'Borsalino' is one of the better ones among such films.

Whatever shortcomings it may have its criminals are emphatically social animals.

Two small-time Italian wide boys come together in Marseilles in the 1930s.

From small jobs they progress to bigger ones, learning as they go along.

They kidnap a racehorse, but lose the fee backing the wrong one.

A rigged boxing-match backfires.

Then a fish dealer hires them to drive his rivals out and let him monopolize the markets and—with the aid of rotten fish and cats—they are on their way.

What they have they spend, but now they are rubbing shoulders with the big rackets. Marseilles and its pickings are divided between two major organizations.

Drugs, bars, brothels, protection rackets yield their regular tithes, with the police and the politicians turning a blind eye.

Respectability, as they say, is essentially a matter of scale. Almost by chance one of the heroes goes off with the girl of a big operator.

He gets a working-over and the battle is on. Through mass, arson, bravery and cunning

they take over the city in a series of bloody scenes.

At the summit, all the rich pickings are theirs.

Like capitalism itself, they have come dripping with blood into their property.

Belmondo and Alain Delon, as they move up the ladder, blend more and more into the social circles of the rich, donning dinner jackets and moving easily in the casino and the cocktail party. They are on familiar terms with the police chief.

The leading local politician—who lacks nothing in realism through his vivid resemblance to President Pompidou—makes his peace with them, as he did with the gangsters they have removed.

They remain thugs, but they travel first class. And, above all, they acquire the social graces.

Much more could have been made of the film.

Under Jacques Deray's direction Belmondo and Delon are not stretched at all. Their faces are almost unemployed.

Only because they (and especially Belmondo) have the ability to express, without any apparent expression, a whole mood and situation, do they come alive.

As soon as the pair can afford it they adopt permanent cigar-smoking. The brown cylinders become part of their faces.

In whole sequences—during violent gunfights—they seem to communicate entirely by laconic wagging of the cigars.

Satisfying

The colour is rich and satisfying. Marseilles comes alive as a Mediterranean Chicago.

Inevitably, there is a slavish attention to the heroes' newfound luxury, but you always see the muscles under the hide.

There used to be a school of 'criminologists' who held that criminal (and other) 'types' could be discovered by phrenology (analysing the shape of their skulls).

What congenial burglars (defined by their bumps) got up to before the appearance of private property was left unexplained.

'Borsalino' is a film to knock such theories on the head (so to speak) once and for all. It is not a great film, but much better than the usual run of gangster movies.

behind THE NEWS

The General Union

DURING the seven-week struggle of 11,000 General and Municipal Workers' members earlier this year, which has now broken out afresh at the heart of Sir Harry Pilkington's St Helens empire, thousands of glassworkers found themselves fighting not only the employer, but the full force of the union.

It did not back the strike and the unofficial leaders later formed the Glass and General Workers' Union.

During the post-war period the GMWU has shown a tendency to decline.

Following the Ford strike of early 1969, the Halewood branch was closed when workers moved en masse into the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The GMWU was formed just before the 1926 General Strike as the result of various amalgamations and built up its membership during the depression, in the aftermath of working-class defeats which preceded the Second World War.

FATHER TO SON

It developed to its present size of just under 800,000 members with a leadership which has almost been handed down from father to son.

Lord Cooper, the present general secretary, has worked for the union since the age of 20 in 1928. His mother came from the family of Lord Dukes, general secretary of the union for most of the pre-war period.

Cooper is a governor of the London School of Business Studies and director of Television Yorkshire and the National Ports Council.

Cooper's predecessor Lord Williamson worked for the union since the age of 14. His uncle was Liverpool district secretary.

Lord Williamson is a director (along with former Labour minister Ray Gunter) of Securitor, the guardians of luxury of private property and, of late, immigrant workers at London Airport.

David Basnett, the national

officer involved in the Pilkington strike, is the son of a Liverpool district organizer and the grandson of a Manchester official of the union.

Lord Williamson's opinion of militancy was expressed in the House of Lords in March last year in the following terms:

'The sort of anarchy we have recently witnessed can be highly contagious, and it could be quite dangerous if it is shown to be paying dividends... My Lords, no unofficial strike is ever justified.'

A mass meeting of Pilkington glassworkers last May



The bosses have been happy to agree to this state of affairs, being well aware of the union leadership's record.

As Brian Woodward, an official of the newly-formed Glassworkers' Union, commented:

'They [Pilkingtons] have had a happy relationship with the GMWU for years. A closed shop can be a good thing, but in our case it was a bad thing.'

This type of agreement was very much in the minds of the Labour leaders when they were formulating their proposals for trade union 'reform'.

In return for 100 per cent trade union membership, the union leaders were intended to

discipline militants, using the threat of the sack which would follow expulsion from the union.

The Tory government could well overcome its hatred of the 'closed shop', in order to strengthen its proposals for boosting the authority of the union bureaucracy.

The GMWU also supports the collections of union subscriptions by employers. The reason given to the Donovan Commission is in line with its support for the 'closed-shop' principle.

'There is no need, in the interests of maintaining membership, for shop stewards to demonstrate hostility towards management as a method of convincing members of the value of trade unionism.'

ELECTIONS

Elections in the union are at a minimum. The branch administrative officers—replacing branch secretaries since 1965—are full-time officials appointed by the general secretary 'after consultation'. This applies to all officials, who serve a probationary period of two years before being elected to the job for life.

In addition, under union rules, the National Executive Committee can prevent any candidate standing for office if it considers that he is not 'capable of discharging efficiently the duties of office'.

The explosion in St Helens, however, is not just an isolated struggle against an employer and an 'unshakable' union bureaucracy. To view it in this way is to plump for the 'pure' trade union solution and to court disaster.

The fight for democratization of the unions today takes place in a period of capitalist crisis and working-class offensive—a political clash which is shaking the labour bureaucracies to their foundations.

The fight for Marxist leadership is therefore at the centre of the glassworkers' struggle and the rejection of non-political syndicalism.

# More Czech arrests: trials soon?

A NEW SERIES of arrests, according to a report by Prague radio, has been made of people opposed to the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia.

The broadcast spoke of a group of people who produced and distributed anti-state leaflets, grossly offending the social and state system of Czechoslovakia and its allies.

No details of the leaflets' actual contents were given in the report.

Instead, it presented those arrested as common criminals. Several of these persons had previous convictions for parasitism, fraud and embezzlement of socialist property.

A trial is clearly being prepared for the report stated that the public would be kept informed of the whole extent of the activities of these persons when investigations have been concluded.

These so-called 'embezzlers' and 'parasites' may well be used—as is Stalinist practice—for junior partners in a trial of more prominent leaders associated with opposition to the Husak regime and the Kremlin occupation, whose second anniversary falls on August 20.

**WEATHER**  
London Area, SE, central southern and central southern England, E and W Midlands: Mostly dry with sunny spells, wind westerly, moderate. Normal. Max. 20C (68F).  
Channel Islands, SW England: Mostly dry with sunny spells. Perhaps one or two showers near the coast. Wind westerly, light. Normal. Max. 18C (64F).  
NW England, Glasgow area, N Ireland: Mostly dry with sunny periods. Rather cool. Max. 16C (61F).  
Edinburgh: Showers with sunny periods but rather cloudy at times. Wind north-westerly, moderate, locally fresh. Rather cool. Max. 14C (57F).  
Wednesday and Thursday: Outbreaks of rain in many places but also bright or sunny intervals.

# Glassworkers' leaders speak out on sackings

By Stephen Johns

... it must be by personal sensitivity and by watchfulness and initiative that we avoid unnecessary troubles through allowing quite small local issues to lead to great big trouble-spots for us, constructed by those who are very ill-disposed—and we must not forget that there are some such about. (Lord Pilkington, Chairman of the Pilkington Brothers glass monopoly, 'The Times', April 10.)

WORKERS PRESS TALKED at the weekend to 'ill-disposed' glass workers of St Helens, men, who to Lord Harry's dismay, smashed his company's record of 144 years of industrial peace in a determined seven-week strike for a decent basic wage earlier this year.

The dispute destroyed the Pilkington image of grinning paternalism and loosened the family's squirearchical hold over the town from their country seat at Windle Hall, near St Helens.

Men like John Potter, Gerry Caughey, Brian Woodward and Derek Greenough—all committee members of the Glass and General Workers' Union, a breakaway from the General and Municipal Workers—are now fighting a desperate battle against sackings by the Pilkington's management and for the workers' right to withdraw their labour.

There may be disagreement over the forming of a breakaway union in protest against the right-wing G&MWU leadership, who still have the exclusive right to represent production workers in Pilkington's six St Helens glass factories, but their defence of the right to strike must and has drawn a great response from workers all over the country.

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The whole thing was summed up by what one of the workers told a picket the other day.

'He came out of the factory and said to him: "We're in prison in there while you are free outside."

'The management are really getting back at the men now they have the chance; they're walking around in there like little dictators.

'I went down to London, met Feather and the Municipal's Lord Cooper and signed an agreement that there would be no victimization and that the 27 men at the Pontypool factory still out on strike would be reinstated with no victimization. This agreement was broken. Every man who was victimized the day he got back, and we see what has happened now; the men at Pontypool are still locked out, and they are in the G&MWU!

'They have stated in the papers that on no account will I be taken back into the

'The management and this union have had a very happy agreement in the past: management has agreed to automatically deduct the 2s 6d union dues from our wage-packets and operate a closed shop while, in return, the union opposes every strike—that's about the sum of it.

'The way to defeat this union is solidarity.

'But we were able to pick them back off the floor with the news that the dockers were fighting behind us and had put the black on Pilkington's goods; this was great.

'I used to be on the staff at Pilkington's, then I came back to the firm and worked on the shop floor. I wasn't even a trade unionist and I looked after myself; this was my philosophy.

'Then the seven-week strike came along and I realized everyone was getting a bad deal. It made me make up my mind to get up and fight this management and trade union leadership, also to get a more democratic union.

'Things were going to be worse in the future with the Tories in power; we need these things for the fight ahead.'

DEREK GREENOUGH, another committee member, had this to say:

'If this struggle falls through we will have had a seven-week strike and all the fights since for nothing. And we will go back to face what we had in the past and worse.

'The men in the factory now have no one to turn to; there is no voice for them in the G&MWU.

'The employers all over are looking at this dispute, and the Tories have already revealed what they have up their sleeves for the workers.

'The only thing to stop these plans is a general strike.'

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Increased wages can only keep the workers from starvation and destitution—they cannot remove the cause of inflation, stagnation and growing unemployment.

All talk of an 'offensive wages strategy' from the miners' union, for example, is a pedestrian phrase which will not deter the Tories from standing firm on the miners' wage demand. And it certainly will not prevent miners' leaders from beating a graceless retreat when the crunch comes.

'We have talked of taking it over from within and we have been into the rule-book, but it's watertight; they have built a cocoon around them. So we feel that we have to begin by building our strength up outside and fighting them this way.

'Our strategy now is to get back into the factory and begin again from there.

'This will obviously take time. At first I was disappointed when our lads didn't respond to our call. But then I thought, not everybody is strong, men need leadership.

'Then the support we have had from other workers has been a great boost to our morale.

'I'll give you an example. We went along to the transport section of the T&GWU in St Helens, they said they were sorry but could not help us by blacking the glass. Our lads were waiting at another meeting and their hearts sunk to their boots when they heard the news.

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Members of the G&GWU committee: I. to r. — Derek Greenough, Gerry Caughey and Brian Woodward.

G&MWU. After this experience I treat this as an honour; I feel as though I have been awarded a knighthood.'

'I know a lot of people are hoping we will win this dispute,' said G&MWU committee member BRIAN WOODWARD.

'If we can do this, then we can get back into the factory and get off the ground again.

'We must stop this management. Pilkington's are out to crush all militancy in the factory and so are the G&MWU, or why would they state that all applications to join or re-join will be vetted?

'The management and this union have had a very happy agreement in the past: management has agreed to automatically deduct the 2s 6d union dues from our wage-packets and operate a closed shop while, in return, the union opposes every strike—that's about the sum of it.

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# Argentine unions reject wage offer

TRADE UNION leaders in Argentina have rejected a 7-per-cent wage increase for all workers in private industry, it was reported from Buenos Aires yesterday.

The secretary-general of the General Confederation of Labour (CGT) commented: 'Regrettably, once again, the working class's demands have been rejected.'

Trade union leaders insist that recent cost-of-living increases have already eaten up the 7 per cent offered.

**Big setback**  
The rejected offer was intended to cover the period from September 1 to next January.

Its rejection by union leaders is a big setback for the government of President Roberto Levingston, which ousted the bitterly anti-working class Onganía military dictatorship two months ago.

# CIA 'plants' in Athens prison

TWO OF the seven Arab guerrillas released by the Greek military junta last week have stated that US agents—members of the Central Intelligence Agency—tried to extract information from them while they were in an Athens prison.

They told a weekend press conference in Amman: 'We were placed in jail with killers and criminals... Agents of the CIA were also there to get information out of us, but we found them out and refused to talk to them...'

The incident underlines once again the close collaboration between the Athens military dictatorship and the notorious US-imperialist spy system.