

WHO ARE OUR FRIENDS AND WHO ARE OUR ENEMIES ?

On December the 8th, in response to a call for a one day token strike against the latest anti-working class legislation introduced by the Government, workers in Scotland, England and Wales stopped work. In Scotland alone about 150,000 workers were involved in this strike and yet the total amount of workers taking part in the demonstrations in Glasgow, Dundee, Edinburgh, Paisley, Falkirk and other places amounted to around 8,500 workers. That is about one worker in every 17 called out by their officials, actively took part in this strike. Still the organisers claimed this to be a great success while one of them claimed this to be "Our finest hour". The real point of course is not so much the question of how many actually demonstrated their opposition in the streets but what the demonstration was aimed at.

WHO HOLDS POWER ?

The attempt on the part of the organisers to make December the 8th and January the 12th simply an anti-Tory demonstration, is downright deception of the working class.

It is a deliberate lie to put forward the suggestion that the removal of the Tory Government and its replacement by a Labour Government will ease the situation for the working class. Can it so easily be forgotten that not so long ago the workers in this country had recourse to take similar strike action against the white paper introduced by the then Labour Government in 'office'. We say 'office' because whether it be Tory or Labour, They are in office <u>serving the interests of Capitalism</u> which is in Power.

The working class do not forget that this legislation aimed directly at their own militant forms of action is as much part of the Labour Governments policy as it is the present Tory Governments, since it was spawned by Wilson, Castle & Co. and hatched by Heath, Carr & Co,.

A PROBLEM OF CAPITALISM !!

The problem today is not caused by the Tory or the Labour Governments as such, for they are only the mouthpieces of Capitalism. The question today is not which party is in office but WHICH CLASS HOLDS POWER. It is a problem of the Capitalist system of exploitation and vested interest which the Capitalist class attempt to remedy by placing a further burden on the backs of the working class, i.e. by cutting the workers living standards to the minimum required to meet this crisis.

Today world Imperialism and Capitalism is faced with a crisis caused by their methods of production based on exploitation. THIS CRISIS IS THE FINAL CRISIS IN THE HISTORY OF CAPITALISM AS A SYSTEM AND THERE IS NO PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM.

The countries which in the past have been the most exploited regions: AFRICA, ASIA, THE MIDDLE EAST AND LATIN AMERICA are today through revolution either free from Capitalist exploitation or by the direct and revolutionary action of their National Liberation movements dealing death blows to U.S. and world Imperialism, and as such heading for the establishment of Socialism. CONTINUED OVER

BEWARE OF SO CALLED 'LABOUR LEADERS' DECEPTION

The struggle between the Imperialist powers, the U.S.A. - Japan - Germany -Britain and the other COMMON MARKET countries has risen to new intense heights. The struggle for markets is on! The Common Market is one aspect of this struggle. The U.S. and Britain have introduced tariffs in a vain attempt to stabilise themselves.

A similar position has faced Capitalism before today, notably the periods which arose and gave rise to the two world wars. The first and second world wars were the direct result of the contradictions (in this case crisis) facing Capitalist and Imperialist competition for markets and new sources of exploitation. "War is but the continuation of politics by other means" and the Imperialist wars were the continuation of Imperialist politics, of the subjugation and exploitation of the smaller nations by the 'great' powers. The possibility of a third world war emerging from the present crisis of Capitalism must be seriously considered by every worker today. We must not forget the role of the so called 'labour leaders' during the first world war, when these despicable traitors supported the use of workers as cannon fodder for Capitalist profits under the slogan of 'defence of the motherland'.

PREPARE TO AVERT WORLD WAR

The working class in this country and the workers of the world gained nothing from the last two world wars. On the contrary they were the class to suffer most through loss of life (millions of workers died to preserve the profits of Capitalism) and degradation due to the drastic lowering of their living standards. Today the workers and their families still suffer from the effect of these wars. House building, schools and hospitals were all suspended as being secondary to armaments production and the need to secure profits. To date housebuilding and all the other social amenities so essential to the well being of the people are far from meeting the needs of the people.

- THE WORKERS' PARTY OF SCOTLAND (MARXIST-LENINIST), the only party in Scotland based on the revolutionary principles of scientific socialism and the direct successors of Scotland's greatest revolutionary of the 1920s, JOHN MACLEAN, declares that:-
- * This is not the time for reliance on Parliament or parliamentary parties.
- * It is not a time for struggling for workers elbow room but a time to struggle for WORKERS POWER TO AVERT WORLD WAR.
- FOR CAPITALISM TO MAINTAIN ITSELF IT MUST INTRODUCE FASCISM BE IT THROUGH A TORY OR A LABOUR GOVERNMENT.

THEY WILL ABANDON THE PARLIAMENTARY STRUCTURE AND INTROUDCE EMERGENCY POWERS TO DEAL WITH THE MILITANCY OF THE WORKING CLASS AND ITS GENUINE ORGANISATIONS.

- FOR THE WORKING CLASS TOBE VICTORIOUS IN THE DECISIVE BATTLES THAT LIE AHEAD, WE MUST PREPARE NOW AND FORM WORKERS ACTION COMMITTEES THROUGH OUT THE COUNTRY AND IN INDUSTRY.
- ALL THE STRUGGLES MUST BE LINKED UP, I.E. THE QUESTICN OF WAGES, PENSIONS, RENTS. ETC. WE MUST MAKE READY FOR DIRECT ACTION OF THE WORKING CLASS FOR THE ONSLAUGHT AND OVERTHROW OF CAPITALISM AND ESTABLISH WORKERS POWER.

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JAN 1971

To the reader.

For some time now the workers of this country have been lambasted by a torrent of propaganda issuing from Press and Television aimed at duping the workers into believing that they are really well off.

- This is an affluent society or so we are told over and over again. Today there are more motor cars per head of population, more T.V.s, more refrigerators, etc., etc. The average wage in the country is around £24 per week. The one hundred thousand unemployed workers are lazy and don't want to work. It is only stupid and careless people who find it impossible sometimes to scrape together their rent money, electricity and other hire purchase bills, they should save up their money instead of squandering it on food, clothing and the odd night out at the films.
- So there we have it from start to finish, it is the worker who is to blame for all the problems of society - that is, if the Press and Television are anything to go by.
- The truth of the matter however is a different story altogether. Today the working class as a whole are finding it exceedingly difficult to make ends meet. They are oppressed from all sides by high rents and rates, constant price increases, and an average take home wage in Scotland of between £12 and £14 per week. Struggling along beside the worker and in greater plight is the aged and infirm who are forced to thole an existance reminiscent of Dicken days. Meantime while the workers are placed in this position verging on pauperism, the Capitalists, the boss class, the parasite scum, the real culprits who can be attacked as 'those who never work yet never want', are waxing fat on their scaring profits derived from the exploitation of the workers, WHO PRODUCE ALL THE WEALTH IN THE COUNTRY.
- In publishing this broadsheet the Glasgow group of the Workers' Party of Scotland (M-L) are confident that it will serve the working class in their just struggle against the capitalist class, and system, that its purpose is and will be, to combat the constant and unvarying torrent of lies and deceptions being spewed out by the press, T.V. and radio, and also to expose the downright distortions being perpetrated by the so called leaders, of the labour movement, i.e. the pro-capitalist labour party and certain opportunist elements in the labour aristocracy, i.e. the trade union leadership, who in reality are nothing more than the paid flunkies of the capitalist class and whose main job it is, to disorganise, to disarm and so render harmless the revolutionary spirit of the proletariat. The methods which they use vary, the main one being that which confines the workers to the sole question of wages and job conditions. In doing this, they hope to suppress, and reject the question of political power for the working class. We also hope that those who read this broadsheet will send in questions and infomation regarding the industrial and political developments.

Read 'Scottish Vanguard' the journal of the Workers' Party of Scotland(Marxist-Leminist) published monthly and obtainable at addresses published inside.

RED CLYDESIDER Vol. 1 No. 1 JANUARY 1971