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Peoples News Service

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OUR FUTURE IMMIGRANTS?



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What is PNS?

PNS is a left-wing, non-sectarian news service with the aim of providing information that is not readily available in the conventional press. We focus on issues not covered in the national papers, bringing out ignored or distorted details, doing background pieces and researching into national and international stories. We invite other papers to reprint stories from PNS and ask only that they credit us as a source.

Apart from the bulletin, PNS also provides special services for community papers and the alternative press. We index all the community papers that we receive and this index is available on a separate subscription. (An index to PNS itself is also available upon request for the cost of postage.) We also provide, at a slightly higher subscription rate, special research services thereby, we hope, encouraging people to investigate stories themselves and helping to find out what they need to know from our contacts in London, our file, libraries and so on.

PNS is run by a small collective and nobody gets paid for the work they do on the paper. We want to make PNS larger and give our readers more, but this is impossible unless we get more people to help out.

We particularly need correspondents outside London, but anyone who can help with writing, layout or distribution is encouraged to contact us at Oxford House, Derbyshire St., London E.2. Phone 01-739 4568.

We are holding regular meetings at Oxford House, which are open to anybody, on every other Thursday at 6.30 (July 12, 26 and so on). The deadline for material is Wednesday July 4. All copy for issue 174 must reach us by then.

Articles bylined with (PNS/-) mean that the Peoples News Service collective has edited or rewritten them. Responsibility for what is said in the articles is that of the PNS collective unless otherwise stated.

Why Only 12 Pages?

Unfortunately, we have had to reduce the number of pages in this issue of PNS from 16 to 12. The reason for this is that, while the bulletin and the other functions of PNS have been expanding, the number of people has decreased. One has left the country and several members of the collective have taken full-time jobs and have, as a result, less time to devote to PNS.

In order to cope with this situation and to continue producing a fortnightly bulletin, we have decided to restructure PNS so that more people can get involved - perhaps to a lesser extent. Rather than relying on the members of the collective to provide the bulk of copy for each issue, we are encouraging a greater number of people to send in news and stories to PNS. This policy has already got under way but we still need more contributions to the bulletin. We particularly welcome contributions from people involved in specialised areas such as housing,

health, social welfare, legal rights etc. for which we have neither the time or the knowledge to cover adequately.

We also need correspondents from outside London. If you feel you could contribute in any way to PNS please ring us or write as soon as possible. As soon as we have expanded the number of people contributing to PNS we can get back to producing a 16 page bulletin - who knows, we may even be able to increase!

Our Sources

BV - Bristol Voice
BSB - Back Street Bugle (Oxford)
EEL - East End Link
DSP - Durham Street Press
RAP - Rochdale Alternative Paper
ALAI - Agence Latino Americaine D'Information
LNS - Liberation News Service (USA)

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Subscriptions for 50 issues are £12.00 in Britain and Ireland; £15.00 elsewhere.

Subscriptions which include research facilities and library facilities are £12.50 if you can afford it, or a minimum of £7.50 a year.

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McNEE BARES HIS SOUL

London (PNS Correspondent). Sir David McNee always has right on his side. But when the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police spoke at All Soul's Church, in central London last week (June 18) he had righteousness gunning for him to. He was speaking on 'Policing in the Eighties', one of a series of lectures on 'Crime and the responsible community' organised by the church, and his 300-strong audience were mostly loyal church-goers. A significant minority were there to criticise the Commissioner, and a small group of anti-Special Patrol Group demonstrators gave out leaflets at the door.

McNee said that he was "wholly devoted to the service of Jesus Christ", and commented that the police force was "the greatest social service there is". But Christ and social service notwithstanding, he re-affirmed his call for tougher police powers. "All the necessary powers to deal effectively with criminal behaviour must be clearly within the law. Otherwise the law itself is brought into disrepute", he said. He added that police officers - for the sake of their integrity - "should not have to carry out their duties by stealth".

But he took a stronger line on 'Sus'. Although he acknowledged allegations that Section 4 of the Vagrancy Act - under which 'Sus' charges are brought - were having a detrimental effect on race relations, he said society had the right to be protected against people who loitered with intent of committing crimes. "No law operates perfectly", he said. "But it is satisfactory in the main".

And he added that the reason that race is such a contentious issue was because race relations was "a fertile ground for extremists on both sides who seek to make political capital out of it". There's obviously a lot of these extremists about. On the subject of computers, for example, McNee said that their only effect would be to make the Metropolitan Police more efficient. And he regretted that the issue of privacy and computers "had given opportunities to some, hell-bent on creating a new society they had yet to define". He didn't explain what the opportunities were for.

His speech was overlong, and dotted with religious (the man is a fan of St. Paul), academic and official references in about equal proportions. Things picked up a bit at question time. One questioner, to modest applause, commented that if Sir David had read the ten commandments, his Special Patrol Group was none too familiar with them, and accused McNee of a cover-up over Blair Peach. To somewhat greater applause, McNee naturally denied that there had been a cover-up at all.

Another questioner, who lives near Brick Lane (in the East End of London), asked why the police had done so little about the gangs of white youths who rampaged down Brick Lane in 1977 - suggesting that a black gang could not have done the same thing in a white area. But McNee, sublimely ignoring the fact that less than twenty of the youths were ever charged with anything, said that if they broke the law they would be dealt with.

When politicians have raised questions, they give off an air of "didn't I do well", knowing that the audience is as aware as they are that they have just evaded the question. The frightening thing about McNee is that he does not seem aware that he hasn't answered

the question, just as he really believes that if people behave themselves they won't get into trouble, and the people who do get into trouble are criminals or extremists - the society needs to be protected against that sort of person.

But he believes in his impartiality even more strongly than the BBC believes in theirs. "I should tell you" he told the audience last Monday, "that I am apolitical. I have never cast my vote. There is no political pressure pressing me to do anything in London, but this is the strength of the British police. We are not a tool of government". And he believes that as well.

MORE ATS RAIDS

London (PNS Correspondent). The police are still getting nowhere in their hunt for the killers of Airey Neave but this has not prevented them from continuing their harassment of the Irish Republican Socialist Party members resident in England - as shown by the mounting of four simultaneous raids on the homes of members of the London IRSP support group in the early morning of Tuesday June 19. Each home was raided by a team of nine Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) officers armed with search warrants and dogs.

Most of those raided had just returned from the IRSP Ard Fheis (national conference) in Dublin and found the police already in their homes as they got there. They were questioned for one to two hours and in the case of the woman involved, they pressed her on the sexual tendencies and names of women active in the feminist movement and in political activity around Ireland (see PNS172). Although it has been suggested that this is because a woman did some of the intelligence work for the Airey Neave killing, the ATS had been asking questions about feminists and Irish women in Britain before Airey Neave died.

Only cursory searches of the places raided were carried out in what appeared to be another effort to put pressure on the IRSP members and tar them with the brush of the Irish National Liberation Army - when the police left one IRSP man, an officer said, "We'll be seeing you again". When leaving the flat of the woman who was raided another officer said, "Same time, same place, next week".

One of those held in the series of PTA arrests in May, Jimmy Scanlon, also of the IRSP, has just had his appeal against 'exclusion' rejected and last Thursday was flown to Dublin, having spent the last three weeks in Brixton as a 'Category A' prisoner after about a week in Paddington Green police station. One interesting dilemma for the authorities will be what to do about the fact that he is facing a court hearing over a charge for obstruction, brought after he was arrested with another IRSP member for hoisting a banner about the H-blocks at an anti-racist rally in Trafalgar Square last September.

When, two weeks ago, he was to have appeared in court, his co-defendant said he didn't want the hearing to go ahead without Scanlon. But the police said that he was too much of a security risk to be taken to We'll Street magistrates court. If Scanlon is to face this charge, the government will have to extradite him from Ireland to circumvent its exclusion order. The offence normally carries about a £10 fine.

PADDINGTON GREEN - ENGLAND'S CASTLEREAGH

PNS writes: following the receipt of further details about the above story in our last issue, we must clarify one of the details of the events that took place. In the fifth para-

graph we spoke of "a mysterious phone call... from a section calling itself C 13" received by Peter Grimes. We now understand that this phone call was, in fact, made only in response to a report given to the police that Peter Grimes' life was in danger. This particular phone call was an inquiry as to whether Grimes was in danger of his life and not, as implied by PNS, a further attempt to pressurise him psychologically. We stand by all the other details of that article.

ABORTION BILL THREAT

London (PNS Correspondent). The Scottish Tory MP, John Corrie, is to introduce a Private Members Bill to severely restrict the availability of abortions. The Bill, to be published on Wednesday June 27, is thought to contain measures to reduce the overall number of abortions by tightening up the clauses of the 1967 Abortion Act, reduce the legal time limit for termination of pregnancies from 28 to 20 weeks, and enable fathers to veto abortions.

The Bill has a good chance of being approved by Parliament. The Leader of the House, Norman St. John Stevas, a member of the Tory Catholic 'mafia' (along with Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services), is certain to allow the Bill extra time, giving it a relatively easy passage.

The Bill is scheduled for a second reading on July 13 between 2 and 4 pm during which the National Abortion Campaign (NAC) will be holding a debate in Westminster Central Hall. This will be followed by a rally at Caxton Hall at 6pm, when the result of the second reading will be known.

If the Bill is passed on that reading, NAC will call on the TUC to organise a mass demonstration against the Bill. At the 1978 TUC Congress the TUC passed a resolution calling for a mass demonstration against any restrictive abortion legislation. Meanwhile, NAC are urging people to write to their MPs in protest at the Bill. Most MPs votes on abortion issues are determined by the number of letters they receive.

ADVICE CENTRES: AXE FALLS

Islington (PNS Correspondent). On June 19, as predicted in PNS 171, Islington council voted to accept all the recommendations of its special working group, set up to decide on how to axe voluntary organisations in the London borough. At the noisy eight-hour meeting, punctuated by boos and hisses from the gallery, there was a clear division on the proposed cuts, between the left and right of the predominantly Labour council (there is one Tory on the 60-seat council).

The total list includes four neighbourhood advice centres, the Council for Community Relations, Grapevine (which deals with sexual education), the merger of Task Force and Islington Age Concern, axing the £3500 grant to the North London Claimants Union, the ending of token funding for many other organisations, including the Irish Centre and Islington Consumers Group and cuts in recreation, play and housing programmes.

Right-wing support for the proposals argues that it was necessary to implement the cuts - totalling £47,970 in 1979-80 and £74,330 in a full year - to prevent raising the rates beyond the 32 per cent voted for earlier in the year. Less articulate, but more honest, supporters talked of the need to discourage 'scrounging' and 'trouble-making'. But the opposition says that much of the money could have been got from the increase in the partnership money allocated to Islington (money given by central government to

local councils acting in partnership), and from the savings from delays in starting many projects. Altogether it is thought that over a million pounds had been saved in this way.

It was clear from the way the meeting was conducted that what was at stake for councillors was the relative strength of the left-wing of the Labour Party. Divisions on the issues were constantly split 25 to 21 in favour of the right, and much of the 'debate' was at the level of personal insults. One of the main bases of support for the left lies with the voluntary sector, which explains the eagerness of the right either to axe or bring under tighter control these organisations.

Treatment of the various delegations who presented themselves to the meeting made it clear



that they were less than welcome. None was allowed to make its case, and only one managed to get a say when a delegate shouted his speech at the top of his voice as councillors were filing out for a recess at 10 pm. Earlier, councillor Sybil James, who has emerged as the most reactionary of Labour councillors, set out to physically attack one protestor. He was only saved by the quick thinking of the right wingers, who wisely held back the straining councillor as the man was bundled out of the hall by police.

The implications of these cuts, due to take effect in three months time, are, for a Labour-controlled council, quite staggering. The Council for Community Relations have pointed out that there are many Tory councils who have been waiting for a Labour one to cut its CCR, so that they can go ahead with axing these troublesome organisations from their own boroughs. And it is almost certain that next year the new Tory government will be imposing compulsory cuts on all local authorities. So there is to be a further dose of chopping on the way for the long-suffering residents of Islington.

6 IN NEW 'CONSPIRACY'

London (PNS Correspondent). Indictments served on the 'Conspiracy Six' reveal that further last-minute changes have been made to the charges for the trial opening in September. Most importantly a new charge of 'conspiracy to defraud' has been added to the heap of charges on the six anarchists first arrested in May last year. This makes the third conspiracy charge against the six.

This new charge has never been used before, although the 1977 Criminal Act made it possible "to defraud people...by robbing them". It is difficult to see how this differs from 'conspiracy to rob', and is being interpreted by the support group, Persons Unknown, as a further 'safety net' introduced by the police as they lose confidence in the 'conspiracy to rob' charges. PNS readers will recall that the original charge of 'conspiracy to cause explosions' was dropped without explanations by the police. Blanket charges, often with mutually exclusive offences, are often piled on suspects when the prosecution case is thin - the ABC trial being one of the most famous recent examples.

Further evidence of the weakness of the prosecution case is the addition of two names to the original six, Grahame Rua and Michele Poree. These two have not been arrested because they are out of the country, but the police have made no attempt to get them back. Lastly, Stewart Carr's robbery charge, the only specific charge

against any of the six, has also been dropped.

Meanwhile, Ronan Bennett still languishes in prison, unable to get bail because of his Irish background. Despite the fact that by the time the case comes to court he will have spent at least 16 months in jail without trial, Amnesty International have refused to take up the case for his release. In their rejection of an appeal for help they claimed that the offences he is charged with are not political, and they added that people in Italy spend up to three years in prison before trial. No doubt a comforting thought for Ronan.

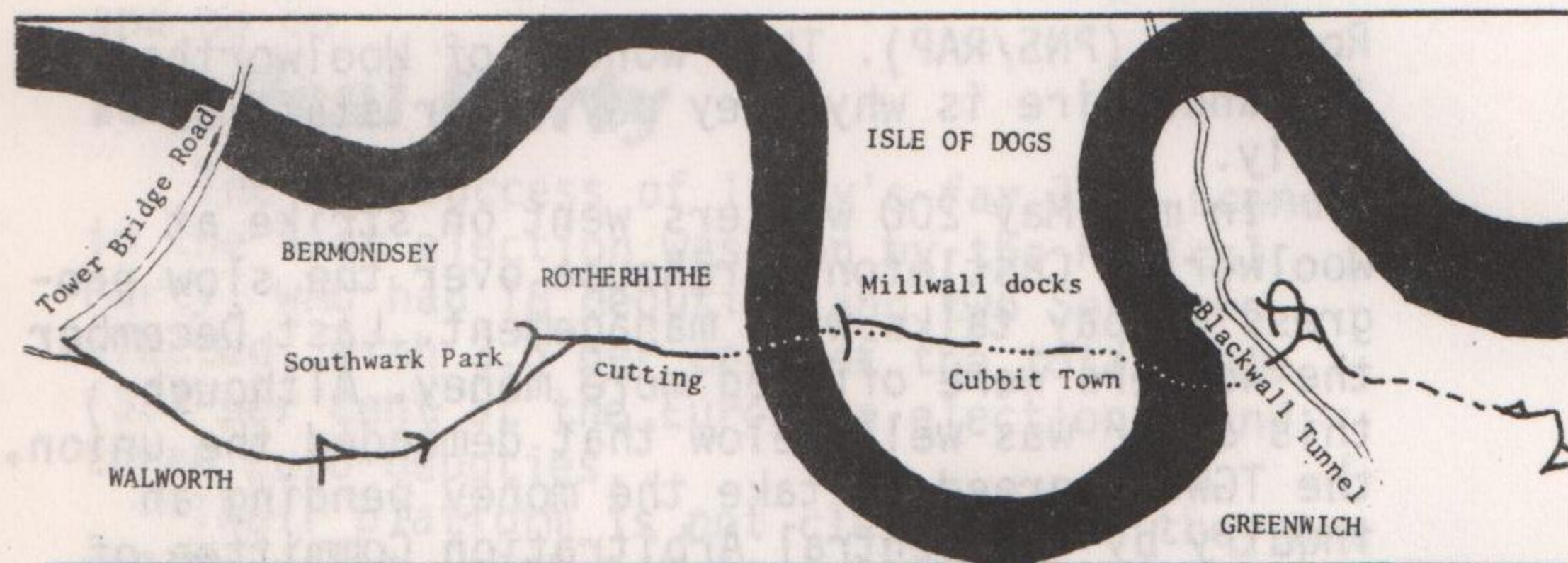
GLC MARATHON MOTORWAY

London (PNS/EEL). The Greater London Council's preparations for the 1988 Olympic Games site in East London have already begun with the plan to build a motorway cutting right through the Isle of Dogs, although no site for the Games has yet been finalised. The motorway will cost £300 million, and a secret report suggests that it will result in the loss of at least 400 homes along its route. An interchange at Millwall Docks, large areas of warehouses would be demolished, and two schools and a community centre would face demolition.

The report recommends doing away with normal planning procedures. The usual easy-access Local Planning Enquiry would be replaced by a Parliamentary Bill; this would make it impossibly expensive and time-consuming for ordinary people whose lives will be affected by the plans to voice their objections. With a Tory GLC and a Tory government, such a Bill could be easily passed.

Ted Johns at the Island Resource Centre on the Isle of Dogs said about the plan: "It will give no benefit to the Island. Even the local council and the Docklands Joint Committee are against it, but Cutler (leader of the GLC) is planning to cut across the democratic process. The implications are greater than just a motorway."

Supporters of the road say that it would speed up the traffic flow in London where speeds average 13 mph and that Londoners spend fourteen per cent more transit time than residents of other major cities.



'OPERATION JULIE' BID FAILS

Oxford (PNS/BSB). The Thames Valley Drugs Squad were recently involved in a drugs raid fiasco near Banbury in Oxfordshire. At least fifteen police from the TV Drugs Squad, the Uniformed Branch, and Special Agent Eugene Walker of the American Office of Special Investigation (OSI) raided a house in Little Bourton. The house had been under surveillance for two months previous but the most dramatic aspect of the raid was that a helicopter hovered fifteen feet above the house throughout. Five American airmen were among those arrested. Inspector Kneasfy, head of the TV Drugs Squad and successor to Inspector Lee of Operation Julie fame, was behind the planning of the raid, but the total haul there was a quarter of an ounce of cannabis worth £8.

After this non-event the police then began an orgy of arrests, presumably in the hope of obtaining the evidence they needed. Over the next two days about thirty people were arrested. Their only connection was that they had visited the raided house in the previous two months. Banbury police station was so full at one point that people were being kept in the bathroom.

During the round-up police broke a window to enter a house in Todmorton, made themselves at home by lighting a fire and helping themselves to rolls and coffee from the kitchen and arrested some visitors who came round with small quantities of drugs. According to the tenant £200 went missing during this time and the matter is the subject of an investigation. Someone has even claimed that a member of the Drugs Squad phoned him and offered to make things easy for him. Over some charges he is currently facing if he would claim he knows there never was £200 in the house.

The police still failed to find any quantity of drugs which would justify the enormous expenditure of public funds, and they allegedly used underhand tactics to obtain confessions. Among other things a couple with their children were held incommunicado for twelve hours and threatened with having their children taken away and put into care.

Most worrying is the pressure being put on the American airmen involved. Five people have been put on 'international hold' so that they cannot return as scheduled to the USA. The OSI refuses to say how long they intend to hold them and refuse to produce any evidence against them. This is part of the generalised intensive harassment of American airmen in Britain over drugs.

The Thames Valley Drugs Squad has an apparently poor reputation in the local police who have been heard to mention that the Drugs Squad contains officers not considered good enough for employment in other parts of the local force.

SUNDERLAND CO-OP FLOPS

Sunderland (PNS/DSP). The attempt to set up a common ownership enterprise following the liquidation of the Ditchburns' Furniture Manufacturing Company in Sunderland (see PNS 168) has failed.

Although a favourable report was received from Durham University Business School and a £15,000 loan negotiated with Industrial Common Ownership Finance (ICOF), Tyne & Wear County Council were reluctant to purchase the bonding shop. By the time they had agreed, potential buyers had gone elsewhere, some of the workers had got new jobs and many of those remaining were put off by the financial commitment being demanded of them by the funding agencies; ICOF, the Co-op Bank and the local authority. It was with great disappointment that a decision was taken to end the project.

It is clear that a great deal of educational work on common ownership needs to be done with local authorities. Even so, the workers at Ditchburns were always fighting an uphill battle. Had they been systematically monitoring and assessing the activities of the company when it was successful, they would have been in a better position to challenge the decision to close the factory. As it was, they were taken by surprise.

Previous criticism of the company still stand but, without any alternative plans, the workers were in an impossibly weak position. There are no short cuts to workers' control and common ownerships are not a magic solution to redundancies.

TRADE UNION NEWS -----

Miners Take On Govts.

London. (PNS Correspondent). Mining unions throughout the world are getting ready to start fighting back against government control and subversion of the various international labour structures in the northern hemisphere.

That was the message that emerged from a controversial world congress of the Miners International Federation meeting in Madrid this month. The Federation, with 34 affiliates throughout the world, has been one of the few International Trade Secretariats to escape entanglement with the CIA. Two factors, in particular, explain their unblemished record. Their retiring General Secretary, Dennis Edwards, has steadfastly refused to accept cash from any other than their own affiliates. It is also the case that their US affiliate remains independent of the AFL-CIO (US equivalent of the TUC); the latter's overseas programme being widely assumed to be influenced, or controlled by, the US government and CIA.

Recent disclosures in the UK, however, about the widespread misuse, by various governments, of existing international labour channels prompted the UK miners' delegation to call on the Miners' International Federation to investigate the extent of government slush funding. It was passed unanimously. The implication is that the Miners' Internationals will now set about the job of checking into the extent and purpose of this government funding. Where they believe that the result is to weaken, or subvert, Third World unions they will lodge protests with the responsible trade unions and government centres.

This plan will almost certainly be given added steel by the appointment of Peter Tait as General Secretary of the Miners' Internationals; his cause was pushed hard by the UK delegation. In the end, however, Tait - who was running against the President of the Belgian miners - managed to scrape into office by only two votes.

Tait is a rare bird in international labour circles; until quite recently he was still working down the Yorkshire pits while doing part-time union duties. A former Communist, Tait is widely regarded as a militant and can be expected to push this investigation with vigour. He will be aware also that this year's UK NUM conference is expected to debate subversion of the international labour movement arising from the publication of the War on Want booklet, "Where were you, brother?"

Post Office Chaos

London (PNS Correspondent). The Post Office has been hit by a series of disputes causing severe disruption as workers in various branches take action over pay and conditions highlighting the parlous state of the Post Office in general. This little-publicised chaos seems most serious in the Northern District Office in London (N.I. on your envelopes) where trouble has flared again with industrial action being taken in defiance of the Post Office Workers Union national executive.

Recently, the Civil and Public Servants Association has been taking action over pay which has resulted in no telephone bills being sent out for the past seven weeks. While the Post Office engineers continue to voice their dissatisfaction with management, supervisors and foremen of the Management Staff Association caused almost total stoppages on June 14 during a national one-day strike over pay because they held keys to all the Post Offices. They may well strike again.

In moves which tend to belie the belief among many that the Islington Post Office workers are much influenced by the National Front, workers have been walking out every Friday on every shift until they are paid for two to four hours pay which was deducted from their wages. This followed a walk-out by canteen workers on May 15 due to the fact that the temperature was at 94 degrees Fahrenheit. Post Office workers refused to work in the absence of canteen facilities and had their pay docked as a result. Their protest, which is supported by the Northern District Office (NDO) branch of the Post Office Workers Union, but not the national executive, has paralysed the movement of mail. They say they will continue the action until their pay is restored.

To add to all this, van drivers in the NDO refused last Monday to collect mail without assistants in the vans - these were axed two years ago as part of rationalisation. The van drivers say that this is because of the letter-bomb scares, and consequently all the post boxes in the NDO have been blocked up.

All in all, the Post Office is in a sickly state, especially in London. Delays on first class mail are running from one day to a week, according to the Post Office, and second class mail is very badly affected - they have told businesses (not, apparently, others) not to post anything in London unless it is very urgent, and nothing at all in the NDO. The recent industrial troubles, the bomb scares, and holidays are only spotlighting the extensive and deliberate running-down of the postal service in general, particularly through 'natural wastage' and redundancies - all parts of the Post Office are openly complaining about serious staff shortages.

At the same time, the dissatisfaction of increasing numbers of Post Office workers, as reflected by the extensive unofficial action in May, is progressively taking the form of costly and disruptive partial stoppages. The workers believe that this form of action is much more effective than all-out strikes, and one London shop steward told PNS, "Strike action is now a thing of the past in the Post Office".

'Wonder of Woolies'

Rochdale (PNS/RAP). The 'wonder of Woolworths' in Lancashire is why they pay their staff so badly.

In mid-May 200 workers went on strike at Woolworths Castleton warehouse over the slow progress of pay talks with management. Last December the workers were offered more money. Although this offer was well below that demanded by the union, the TGWU, agreed to take the money pending an inquiry by the Central Arbitration Committee of ACAS - putting workers on scales ranging from £46.07 to £64.80 per week. The ACAS decision was regarded as unsatisfactory and so the workers went on strike.

In an effort not to spoil the turnover of their high street shops, over half of which are supplied by Castleton along with one other warehouse, Woolworths sent up an industrial relations management team from London to help smooth over the trouble, even though the workers had agreed to go back to work as a gesture of goodwill.

Woolworths is not known for its warmth towards the trade union movement. The wages they pay go a long way to prove this, contrasting sharply with the Castleton management's perks. Eight managers at the warehouse, who could not even be trusted with negotiating with their own staff, have received T. registration Cortina 1.6 litre cars since the beginning of the year.

That's the wonder of Woolworths.

ITALY: EARTHQUAKE TREMORS FOR THE PARTIES

PNS writes: The last issue carried out report of the Italian elections and we are following that up with our own correspondent's analysis of the state of the major political forces in the post-election period. Our correspondent deals here with the Red Brigades, the Radical Party and the PCI (Communist Party) making some remarks in conclusion concerning a possible shift in Italian politics away from the traditional disciplinarian and hierarchical, sometimes called 'Leninist', organisation of the left there.

Red Brigades

There have been reports in the national press of a split inside the Red Brigades, probably going back to the decision to kill Aldo Moro in May 1978. There are reasons to believe that part of the RB membership was against killing Moro. These are now being identified with a 'workerist' or 'movementist' faction inside the RB, as opposed to a hard-line, Stalinist and 'Marxist-Leninist' wing. The dispute is apparently over the tactics to be adopted vis a vis the masses. The 'movementist' wing is stronger in Rome, where there are vast numbers of unemployed youth, not all of whom are completely indifferent to the appeal of the RB, whereas the 'M-L' wing's strongholds are in the industrial Northern cities, especially Genoa, where there are large numbers of workers, still mostly under the influence of the PCI. This 'debate' is visible from the outside via the actions of the different local RB columns. The Genoa Brigade, for instance, killed a PCI factory worker (see PNS 164) - a highly unpopular action. The Rome Brigade, on the other hand, killed Italo Schettini, a widely-hated Christian Democrat landlord who was notorious for his ruthless evictions of tenants. They also addressed market square crowds in Rome and handed out leaflets during the election campaign, without getting caught by the police.

Several journalists have noted that the 'movementist' wing of the Red Brigades has been hit much harder by the police, whereas the 'M-L' wing, and the national leadership is still as mysterious and elusive as ever. A recent 'coup' by the police was the discovery of two people, ex-Potere Operaio (Workers Power) militants, in a flat in Rome, together with a quantity of arm arms and ammunition, and dozens of government-issue papers like policemen's identity cards and so on.

Radical Party

The big success of Italy's far left scene in the last election was won by the Radical Party, who had 18 deputies and two Senators elected, with 3.5 per cent of the total vote (3.7 per cent at the European elections, and three Euro-deputies).

Their platform is not class-based (they are not Marxist), although it must be said that they have never made any pronouncements on strictly class issues. They campaign on issues like defence of the environment (with a heavy anti-nuclear emphasis), civil rights (abortion, divorce, restriction of police powers etc.), humanitarian questions (they recently raised the question of the world's starving children and proposed slashing the defence budget), disarmament, gay rights (homosexuality is just starting to become officially respectable in Italy - recently a delegation of gays was received by Turin's PCI mayor), and the rights of minorities in general.

They define themselves as 'socialist, libertarian and non-violent'. One of their many weapons of struggle has been the popular referendum. In 1975 they collected 800,000 legally authenticated signatures for a referendum to legalise abortion, thus forcing Parliament to

pass an abortion law, and in 1977 700,000 signatures for eight referenda on issues ranging from the abolition of the State/Vatican Concordat to the abolition of military tribunals. Two of these referenda were held last year, and though failing to pass, obtained many more votes from the people than they would have done from the political parties. The tactic of the referendum is particularly significant in Italy in that it means involving all the people directly in decision-making on issues of public interest, and so constitutes a break with the electoral habit of delegating all responsibility and authority to the party apparatuses and leaders. It also has the effect of, for example, enabling Christian Democrat voters to make a pronouncement on an issue in disagreement with their party, and weakens the old "My Party right or wrong" loyalties which are still very strong in Italy.

Now that the Radicals are in Parliament with greater strength, they say they are going to fight for an 'open-door' style of conducting public affairs, so that it will be more difficult for the institutions to bury murky secrets and



scandals (as in the Lockheed affair, for instance). They are in favour of left unity and against the Historic Compromise which means, they say, government by 95 per cent majority consensus. They are going to revitalise the Parliamentary opposition, also by promoting the setting-up of a shadow cabinet (unknown hitherto in Italy).

One of their best-known candidates, the Sicilian novelist Leonardo Sciascia, who was elected several times over as an independent, was accused by the PCI during the Moro kidnap of standing "Neither with the State nor with the Red Brigades". The Radicals are in favour of European unity, and even talk of turning the Strasbourg parliament into a constituent assembly. Their National Secretary is a Frenchman in his twenties, who is living in exile in Italy because the French police want him for conscientious objection.

Their total party paid-up membership was, on a recent count, just under 2000. Anyone, how-

ever, can go to their congresses, take part, and even vote. They have managed to get through to the public by such expedients as going on hunger strike to get TV time, staging 'non-violent occupations' of state radio offices, and so on. Their undisputed leader-figure, Marco Panella, who by the way is not actually a party member, is a masterly TV performer, and - in striking contrast to other politicians - he does not mince his words, i.e. he says things like "This corrupt regime is assassinating the constitution" etc. Since nearly all Italians are traditionally convinced that the government is corrupt, and since the PCI - in an attempt to gain 'respectability' - stopped using such outspoken language years ago, this obviously has a wide appeal.

Half of the Radicals' new votes came from ex-PCI voters, about 20 per cent from ex-Christian Democrat voters, and some five per cent from ex-MSI (neo-fascist party) voters. These figures were gathered from phone-ins by ten thousand citizens to the Radicals' nation-wide network of free radio stations, during the election campaign. The ex-MSI 'contribution' led to the accusation, in particular from the PCI, that the Radicals were not an anti-fascist party. The Radicals retorted that an MSI voter who stopped voting for the MSI but turned to a democratic party of the left instead, was a net gain for democracy and for the left.

About one third of the Radical vote came from young people, as can be deduced from comparing their voters in the Chamber of Deputies with those in the Senate (where under-25s cannot vote). And, very significantly, between two and three per cent of the working-class vote in Turin went to the Radical Party, in precisely those areas where the PCI lost most (whereas the PCI held on to its electorate in middle and upper-class neighbourhoods).

PCI

The PCI slipped a further .8 per cent below the 30 per cent mark in the week that passed between June 3 and 10. Its total loss since 1976 is thus close on five per cent.

This is the first significant electoral setback suffered by the PCI since the war, and is causing what could turn out to be a crisis in the leadership.

Pietro Ingrao has announced that he does not intend to continue being President of the Chamber of Deputies, and this is interpreted as being a preparatory move in a bid for party leadership. In effect, it is hard to find out just what is going on inside the upper echelons of the PCI, since all meetings are held behind closed doors and traditionally end up with unanimous press releases. Internal differences are not advertised outside. However it is plain that they are in a quandary. The Christian Democrats, now without their pro-Historic Compromise spokesperson Moro, and whose electoral losses were smaller than the PCI's, is more adamant than ever that the PCI is to be kept out of government. At the same time, if they go back into opposition that will mean virtually admitting the failure of the Historic Compromise strategy, for the sake of which the rank and file were forced to swallow many bitter pills over the past three years - such as a 'freeze' on all forms of class struggle.

The Christian Democrats have suggested that the Socialist Party join them in a centre-left coalition. The Socialist Party has not yet given a response to this, but after it has, the PCI will be forced to make up its mind as to where

it wants to go.

Structures in crisis

Taken as a whole, recent events in Italy, which still has about the largest left in Europe (46 per cent of the parties have a clenched fist or hammer-and-sickle symbol) point towards the crisis of a certain form of party structure as an instrument whereby the left may advance. Basically it is the party conceived as a close-knit, centralised and hierarchical organisation with a state-like bureaucracy, that is to lead the masses towards their emancipations, and to which the masses delegate authority and responsibility for decision-making. Such structures, usually considering themselves to be 'Leninist', have had more success in Italy than in any other country in the West. Italy has had the West's largest Communist Party, the largest revolutionary left, and the largest armed-struggle underground formations claiming to be 'red'. All three of these sectors have suffered setbacks.

The only portion of the left that has made a big step forward (and thus saved the left as a whole from suffering a major reverse) is that represented by the Radical Party.

Undoubtedly, the Radical Party by no means offers a global alternative to the crisis of the left - which is not a phenomenon confined to Italy, but world-wide, as shown by Asia. It has no body of theory behind it, no class analysis of society, and no economic programme to speak of. All it offers is a few simple, libertarian objectives, directly in decision-making. Over one and a quarter million Italians voted for this new party, many of them young, more than a few working class, about half probably disillusioned PCI voters. And these people are undoubtedly looking for an alternative, whether the Radical Party ends up by providing one or not. This is the significant fact.

Also not without significance for the future is the convergence between the Radical Party and certain elements of the Lotta Continua area of political opinion. Lotta Continua was the largest of the revolutionary left parties and the first to perceive and to be hit by the earthquake in politics, when its organisational structure 'exploded' in 1976 owing to internal feminist contestation.

RHODESIANS BOMB OWN TROOPS

Maputo. (PNS/Facts & Reports). The stepping up of the guerilla war in Zimbabwe has not only led to increased massacres both inside and outside the country by the Rhodesian armed forces, but also to the killing of black soldiers within the army itself, according to reports on the "Voice of Zimbabwe".

The radio station, broadcasting from Maputo in Mozambique, quoted reports from Salisbury saying that the rate of clashes between regular units of the Rhodesian army and the largely black Selous Scouts has increased sharply. The reports say that the practice of dressing the Selous Scouts to look like the liberation forces (in an attempt to deceive the black population and discover guerilla sympathisers) has led to a lot of confusion, resulting in the Rhodesian air force bombing Selous Scout units on more than one occasion.

The reports cited a particular incident at Dombashawa, 40km from Salisbury, where fierce clashes occurred between two units, resulting in the death of a considerable number of Rhodesian troops. The reports also said that most of the victims of such clashes are announced in Rhodesian army communiques as liberation forces.

'LEBENSRAUM' FOR WHITE SETTLERS

Montreal (PNS Correspondent/ALAI). Following the open-armed welcome of the Vietnamese boat-people by the Thatcher government, the next batch of 'helpless refugees' destined for Britain are white Rhodesians. A substantial proportion of the increasing number of white Rhodesian emigrants (2,916 in the first quarter of this year) have found their way to Britain. In the Zimbabwe Information Group's April bulletin a correspondent from the North-West of England reported on "the growing influence of returned and departing white settlers from Rhodesia". Two Rhodesians had been employed as journalists on the Warrington Guardian (a paper with a notably pro-Rhodesian stance), ICI has been training white settler and South African graduate explosives and chemical warfare experts, and Afrikaans can be heard spoken freely at some of the posher garden parties in Cheshire towns and villages. A whole town of returned Rhodesian settlers is said to have sprung up in Hertfordshire.

Settlers seeking another place in the sun have moved to Australia and South America. The Australian government has said that it is prepared to accept up to 6000 white, black or Asian refugees from Rhodesia in the event of a takeover by 'nationalist guerillas'. Rhodesians who want to obtain permanent entry to Australia must sign a sworn statement that they have not "furthered or encouraged the illegal Rhodesian government." The most concrete plans for the resettlement of Rhodesians and South Africans, however, have been made by South American countries and details of these plans have now come to light.

The opening of a South African bank office in Montevideo, Uruguay last April and the purchase of massive tracts of land in the El Beni region of Bolivia by SEFA SA, acting as an intermediary for Rhodesian interests, are the latest events in the already warm relations between various South American governments and their counterparts in Salisbury and Pretoria.

Relations between these countries have become increasingly amicable since 1975 when Chile and South Africa exchanged ambassadors. In the same year General Alfred Stroessner of Paraguay visited South Africa, becoming the first South American leader to do so. In the light of this, it is not strange that found among the ten countries to support the creation of the Bantustan Transkei in the UN are Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruguay and Honduras. The establishment of these relations has been largely facilitated by the diplomatic and commercial activity in Africa of Brazil. The South African, Argentinian and Brazilian air and shipping lines, originally developed to fulfill commercial needs, have facilitated contracts between the governments of South America and southern Africa, united as they are by politically similar positions. They have now been brought closer by the common need to find a solution for the nearly 30,000 white colonial families who, presumably, will have to abandon their possessions in Namibia and Rhodesia.

The colonization plan, worked on by representatives of the governments of Argentina, Bolivia, Uruguay, Paraguay and Venezuela, was discussed at a meeting in November 1976 in San Jose, Costa Rica. This was attended by, among others, Herr Jeldon of the West German Ministry of Assistance and Development (MAD), and representatives of the governments already mentioned. The official theme of the meeting, according to Herr Wischermann, also of MAD, was the relocation of Latin American technicians studying in Europe. However, during the meeting the West German delegation made a surprise offer of \$150,000,000 to any country that would accept 30,000 families of German descent.

The Dutch paper Vrij Nederland contacted Sra. Brutel de la Riviere, the head of the social affairs department of the Dutch delegation to the Intergovernmental Commission on European Migration (ICEM) who, despite considering the negotiations closed, said that, "...it is a fact that various South American countries await with interest the arrival of South African technicians and specialists who may be forced by circumstances to leave the African continent and would prefer



FUTURE IMMIGRANTS ?

South America because of the ample living space." Not only South African whites are involved in this scheme; so are whites from Namibia and Rhodesia. Sra. de la Riviere confirmed that Rhodesians had travelled to South America in search of possibilities, including Bolivia in their itineraries.

In July 1977 Bolivian ex-president General Hugo Banzer Suarez told the international press in Caracas, Venezuela, that no plan for the emigration of white African colonists to Bolivia could be implemented. This was supposed to be the final statement on a subject that had been widely debated both in Bolivia and in the outside world. However, in late January 1979 the Swedish paper Lektir published an article which reactivated discussion of white colonial schemes for Bolivia, particularly eastern Bolivia. According to the Swedish journalists, "A new Rhodesia is presently being constructed in the Bolivian province of El Beni. Extensive tracts of land are owned by SEFA SA."

The journalists also reported that SEFA SA has established a new office in the Plaza Murilla in La Paz, Bolivia, formerly occupied by the Patino family who are influential within SEFA. They claimed to have spoken with an executive of the company, a Rhodesian who would not give his name, who told them - among other things - "When we lose power in Rhodesia the grand exodus will begin. In preparation for this situation we are buying extensive tracts of land in Bolivia. We have concentrated our buying in the province of El Beni which has an area of 113,000 square kilometres. We chose

Bolivia because it is the poorest country in Latin America. In some ways the province of El Beni is similar to Rhodesia 50 years ago. Here all the conditions for colonization by white Rhodesians exist and with our know-how and modern equipment we could create a fine, modern society. Naturally, we would use the Indians as a source of cheap labour but they would also enjoy, to a certain extent, the benefits of the society that we can create." He pointed out that the land purchasing project is feasible, in spite of the fact that the Rhodesian government cannot support it due to internal governmental obligations and international bank loans. Finally, he noted that the Rhodesians who will shortly begin to arrive in Bolivia will be Bolivian citizens.

PORTUGAL: ABORTION VICTORY

Lisbon (PNS Correspondent). A Portuguese journalist, Maria Antonia Palla, was acquitted on June 12 of charges arising out of a TV film on abortion (see PNS 171).

The trial was widely interpreted as an attack both on women's rights and the freedom of the press as the Right attempts to take back many of the gains won since April 1974. But Maria Palla's victory should give an important boost to the campaign to repeal the laws that now bar abortion on any grounds.

Despite the illegality at least 180,000 abortions are performed every year in Portugal making abortion a multi-million pound industry but more than 2000 women die each year from abortions as well.

Although the film was shown in February 1976, Palla was not charged until three months ago with 'assault on public morality' and 'incitement to crime'. The latter charge, according to Palla, means "people are doing abortions because I tell them to. In fact, I didn't say that. I said abortion is horrible, not because it is a sin, but because of the way it is done - it means suffering, humiliation, and fear."

The film was the last in a series "Name: Woman" which portrayed the struggles and gains by women since April 1974, and the problems that remain. Called, ironically, 'Abortion is not a crime', the programme included a lengthy discussion by a group of women as to why they were forced to have abortions. One even said that her doctor had taken her off the pill without warning so that she could become pregnant. Although the discussion was conducted in dim light so the women could not be identified, it must have been the first time that a large number of women admitted in public to having illegal abortions.

The film also showed an abortion being done, by women themselves in a popular clinic, using the Karman suction method with an ordinary bicycle pump. The explanation of the abortion given on the film would have made it clear how easy it is to use this method, and how a properly performed abortion should be done.

The church and the right-wing parties were incensed and demanded Palla be tried. Although the then Attorney-General said on television that the 19th century law against abortion would probably be repealed because it was 'against democracy', it never was. Palla argues that only now has the Right felt strong enough to use the law to attack. She alone, of all the people who made the film, was charged, and she feels that it is because, as vice-president of the union of journalists, she has been an outspoken advocate of freedom of the press and of women's rights. Indeed, in acquitting her, the judge referred to the charges as an attempt to curb press freedom.

Palla stresses that, "for me, freedom of

speech and legalisation of abortion go together. I can report on alcoholism and be against it, but I think liberalisation of abortion is a good thing. In a democracy, we must campaign and arouse public opinion. To legalise abortion is a real, concrete way to make women more free. People who are against the liberation of women are against abortion", she declared.

Male dominance of the parties and unions remains a problem both for Palla and for the newly-formed National Campaign for Abortion and Contraception (CNAC). The Socialist Party, although legal abortion is in its party policy, did not support Palla and does not support CNAC. The Communist Party holds that abortion is not a priority issue and that to stress it will only provoke the Right. Thus, it is only the parties to the left of the CP which are active in CNAC and which supported Palla (although two Socialist MPs did give evidence for her at the trial). "The time has come when they must give an answer to the women who vote socialist and communist. The pressure on the parties will be great."

As the next step in the campaign, CNAC organised a counter-tribunal on Sunday June 24, which was expected to draw over 1000 people, including MPs from various parties. But the government, too, is continuing to act. A woman is to be brought to trial on July 5 for having an abortion - the first woman in memory to actually be charged for this.

WEST STICKS BY SOMOZA

Nicaragua (PNS/LNS/Pour). Emergency western military and economic aid has not served to strengthen the Somoza dynasty in the face of a new guerilla offensive. Nicaragua is seen by observers as a lynchpin of revolution in Central American and whatever happens in Nicaragua will have direct bearing on events in Panama, El Salvador and Guatemala. The US State Department is primarily concerned, according to the Director of Intelligence and Research, that the mounting violence might "transcend the limits of an internal conflict and affect the peace and tranquility of the whole of Central America."

Hence the appearance on May 30 and 31 of US Air Force Hercules planes along Nicaragua's Atlantic coast. The planes are transporting arms, ammunition and other military supplies to General Anastasio Somoza's National Guard from Howard military base in Panama. The US State Department has 'categorically dismissed' all allegations of intervention. A press officer said that such reports were 'totally erroneous', and that the "military program to Nicaragua was suspended some months ago".

Although the US State Department claims that it has suspended military aid, economic aid to the Somoza regime has greatly increased in the wake of the new offensive. In late May the International Monetary Fund (IMF) made a \$33 million loan to Nicaragua. The loan, made on the basis that the regime appeared more stable in May than it did last October, has been criticised by British Labour MPs and US Congress representatives. Last year the British government vetoed a similar loan to Nicaragua. In the United States 42 Congress representatives recently told President Carter in a letter that the IMF loans would only "impede the resolution of (Nicaragua's) political and economic crisis."

The IMF loan followed moves by international banks and multinational companies to bolster the Somoza economy. In mid-April the Belgian branch of the Bell Telephone Company, a subsidiary of ITT, concluded a large sale of communications equipment to Nicaragua. Citibank, the second largest bank in the world, made arrangements to finance the Belgian Export Credit (insurance provided by the Belgian government to cover risks

met by exporters such as expropriation) to the tune of \$12.5 million. The provision of an Export Credit means that the sale was approved by the Belgian 'Office du Ducroire', the Belgian government Export Credit Guarantee Department. Citibank is well-known for its financing of dictatorial regimes on the brink of collapse, such as Iran and Zaire (see PNS 157).

The latest offensive by the Sandinists has widespread popular support. When the National



Guard killed 5000 people last September during the first offensive of the Sandinists, many urban dwellers fled to the Sandinist-controlled mountains where they are now engaged in making weapons, clothing and growing food. Since January some 3000 Nicaraguans have died as a result of Somoza's attempts to cling to power.

PUBLICATIONS

Books, Pamphlets etc.

Don't Mark His Face - Hull Prison Riot (1976), by the prisoners themselves. The National Prisoners' Movement (PROP). 119pp. 60p.

A blow by blow account of the Hull Prison Riot written by twenty two of the prisoners involved. Dots the i's and crosses the t's for those who have been following the trial of the prison officers in York. Includes a useful and interesting glossary of prison jargon.

The Workers Report on Vickers, by Huw Benyon and Hilary Wainwright. Pluto Press. 204pp. £2.40.

This report is the result of the authors' discussion with the workers and shop stewards who work for Vickers. It examines the shop floor response to rationalisation, efficiency, technical advance, and deals with the question of rank and file organisation and the potential of combine committees.

The Red Paper on Housing, by the Socialist Housing Activists Workshop. Available from Tyne and Wear Resource Centre, 13 Swinburne St., Gateshead, Tyne and Wear.

As activists engaged in the housing issues in some of the major urban centres throughout the country, they have become increasingly conscious that with the advent of public spending cuts many popular housing struggles have collapsed in into apathy and fatalism. The Red Paper sets out to show that not only does the housing crisis

GAY PRIDE IN SPAIN

Madrid (PNS Correspondent). To celebrate the tenth anniversary of the gay movement, gay groups from all over Spain are preparing for a day of action on June 24. There will be a week of films with gay themes in Barcelona and on the 24th there will be a demonstration, whether permission is granted from the government or not. There will be mobilisations in Madrid, Barcelona, Seville, the Basque country, Galicia, and other cities. In 1978 the demonstrations in Madrid and Barcelona each attracted nearly nine thousand people. Nearly all the parties on the left, trade unionists and feminist groups participated.

ADS

- * "Islington Girls Project, which is voluntarily organised, is looking for two workers to set up a resource centre/youth club for girls. The centre will provide for the needs of girls in Islington particularly in the areas of recreation, information, and advice, developing skills, and so on. For more information, contact Eve Martin, 10am to 5pm at 272-9446.

J.N.C. Salary and conditions, qualified salary scale 3L including London Allowance - £4767 - £5301. Assistance may be given towards household removal expenses. Appointment will be to the service of the Authority, with secondment to the Project.

Details and forms returnable by June 29, 1979, from the Education Office (CEL5), the County Hall, London S.E.1. 7PB (enclose foolscap s.a.e.)."

- * OSCA Special Projects Team
Six workers required for a new one-year Student Community Action development project based in Bethnal Green, London. Posts only open to unemployed people. £64 p.w. Closing date 2/7/79. Ring 01-739 4568 for more details.

remain an everyday fact, but that it will continue for as long as our lives are dominated by a capitalist system which puts private profits before people's needs.

Periodicals

The Irish Prisoner - newspaper of the Prisoners' Aid Committee. No.5. c/o 2a St. Paul's Road, London N.1. 10p.

Formerly called PAC News and now appearing in a newspaper format, to make it more accessible to those unfamiliar with the PAC's work concerning Irish political prisoners in British prisons. PAC is producing this in addition to the Irish Prisoner magazine.

The Beast. No.1. Clanose Publishers Ltd. (2 Bleinheim Crescent, London W.11 1NN) Bimonthly. 40p (50p inc. post). Sub. £3.00 per year. No.1 June/July 1979.

Aims to cover the activities of all animal liberation and allied groups and promote the voice of the movement. Began as a supplement to International Times. The first issue has features on hunting in America, the Sullom Voe oil spill, torture of pigs, shorts, book reviews, and directory section 'Network'. Very well produced, readable, American-looking magazine.

EVENTS

June

- Fri 29 - Sun 1 Oxford. Fascism Today: weekend conference for anti-fascists. Registration £2.50 (£1.50 unwaged) Registration forms: Oxford ANL, P.O. Box 16, Oxford OX1 2JE.
- Sat 30 London. No Tory Sellout in Zimbabwe! Assemble 2.30pm. Smithfields Market (Farringdon Tube) - march via Fleet Street and Rhodesia House to Trafalgar Square for rally at 4pm. Contact AAM, 89 Charlotte Street, W.1. Tel. 01-580-5311.
- Sat 30 Brighton. Women's Festival. 10am - 6pm (women only). Friends Centre, Ship Street. Films, exhibitions, discussions, self-defence demonstrations, poetry readings. Playgroup for children. Evening: disco with Devil's Dykes, Resource Centre, North Road.
- Sat 30 Leeds. Yorkshire Humberside Regional Socialist Feminist Conference. 9.30am - 6pm. Swarthmore Centre, 3 - 6 Woodhouse Square, Leeds 3. Tel: 0532-789240.
- London. Gay Pride Week. Final Carnival and concert at Hyde Park. Details: Barry Jackson - tel:01-278-5670, 01-263-4918, or 01-373-5497 (eve.)
- London. National Co-ordinating Committee of Overseas Students in U.K. Day of Action. March from University of London Students Union at 2.00pm to D.E.S., York Road. International Cultural Gathering. 7pm - 11p. Holborn Assembly Rooms, Johns Mews, W.C.1. Entrance Free. Details: NCCOS, c/o Overseas Student Bureau, University of Sheffield, Union of Students, West Bank, Sheffield S10 2TG. Tel. 0742-24076 ext 56, or Middlesex Poly Students Union-H.Punja, 01-804-1958.
- Leicester. Campaign Against the Arms Trade national meeting. Friends Meeting House, Queens Road. 11am - 6pm. Details, from CAAT, 5 Caledonian Road, London N.1. (Tel. 01-278-1976).

July

- Mon 2 - Sun 22 London. Fringe Theatre Summer School. Lectures, seminars and experiments on the history of fringe theatre; its developments and achievements and current relevance. £75. Details: FTSS, City of London Poly, Calcutta House, Old Castle Street, E.1. 7NT.
- Mon 2 - Wed 4 London. From Mental Hospitals to what? Conference at University of London Union, Malet St., Details: Richmond Fellowship, 8 Addison Rd., London W.4. Tel. 01-603-6373.
- Sat 7 - Sun 15 London. 11th Communist University. 67 Courses including Black Communities in Britain, China, Third World, the Caribbean area, The Growth of the Right, etc. Evening events with music and poetry. Details: CUL 11, 16 King St., W.C.2.
- Sun 8 London. Save the Whale demonstration. Trafalgar Square. Contact: Tim Clarke, FoE, 9 Poland Street, W.1.V 3DG.
- Mon 9 - Fri 13 London. Five-Day Welfare Rights Course. Organised by the Child Poverty Action Group on National Insurance Benefits, Supplementary Benefit including ECAs, ENPs, the co-habitation rule, rent stop, rent share, fuel debts etc. Also legal aid, income tax, the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act. Course fee £50. Apply to: Clare Dennchy, CPAG, 1 Macklin St., London W.C.2. Tel. 01-242-4913.
- Fri 13 - Sat 14 Welwyn Garden City. Soft Energy Show, at the Country College, 11 Harmer Green Lane, Digswell, Welwyn, Herts.
- Sat 14 - Sun 15 Capenhurst. Stop URENCO event. Details from Stop URENCO Alliance, c/o FoE, 95 Oxford Rd. Manchester M1 7DT.
- Thurs 19 - Sun 22 Bath. Walcot National Festival of Independence. Bath Arts Workshop Festival - a celebration of UDI for Walcot to oppose new road and car parks. Contact Ralph Oswick, BAN, 146 Walcot St. Bath. Tel. 0225-310154.
- Sat 21 - Aug 11 Bradford. International work/Study Camp on 'Violence and Non-violence'. Details: Martin Zukor, IVS Field Office, 188 Roundhay Rd., Leeds 8.
- Mon 23 - Fri 27 London. Summer School. 'Alternative Production - Alternatives to Unemployment'. West Ham Precinct of NELP, Romford Road. Details from CAITS, NELP, Longbridge Rd., Dagenham, Essex.