

# BATTLER

VOL. I NO. 1 TEN CENTS

A VOTE FOR LABOR IS THE FIRST STEP TO

## FIGHT THE LABOR LEADERS!

Continued on page 5



but --look who's pushing

## SOCIALIST WORKERS ACTION

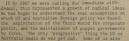
### EDITORIAL

# Moratorium **Demobbed?**

by Ron Flaherty

A ceasefare or persanent peace in Vietnam will not seen an end to American power in Southeast Asia. The Monte Monte Monte Monte Monte Monte Monte Monte Monte I was a considerable and the service of them the Straing distance of Hemoi in Okinawa, and the fature of Laos and Cambodia is an open question. The Phillippines are an American Gollow, Vital for us: Australian forces in Mainjust, for free being a peace-term of the peace of the Monte Mo







but we can never do so if we exclude them from our movement in advance.

### Immediate Withdrawal: Strengths and Weaknesses

The siage "immediate withfread" has been the new widely adopted, and there is no doubt that it has noblized large numbers of people in the contrast of the size of The slogan "immediate withdrawal" has been the

Another critical weakness of the anti-war movement both here and abroad, has been its lack of a class approach. Mills learge numbers of soviers are to be tround in the bigger marches, seldon have they marched a nowhere. Mills indicate the war, mover have they been urged to etop production to stop the war - st is a set and the seldon that we have they been urged to etop production to stop the war - st is in set ability to otap production. that the attempts of the survivag olass files. Those union Inedex with other marched in overy demonstration but have never posed the question of anti-war title action bear a great responsibility in this regret.

### **Forced Compromise**

N.L.F. has been forced to compromise in the last was massive American firepower, and we should expose the cynical invillingness of the imperialists to accept even this compromise, there is no reason where we should demand anything less of our own government than they get out of Vietnam, NoU.

### **Take From Here**

We believe there are two crucial tasks facing the

 To develop within it and eventually outside a strategy for an anti-imperialist movement. This does not mean N.L.F.-flag-waving, which has mo nam, we should be demanding: US AND AUSTRALIAN WITEDRAWAL FROM ALL FOREIGN

AUSTRALIAN COMPLICITY IN IMPERIALIST VEN-

TURES IN THE THIRD WORLD

BOOMMIC DISENSAGEMENT OF WESTERN CAPITAL FROM
THE THIRD WORLD! He call for workers'owntrol of plant and resources.

To draw workers into the movement, we will need rallies in working class areas, a network of anti-war committees in workplaces, and an attempt to link up existing rank and file groups in industry around anti-imperialist and

2. To transform its activities and membership t

The YSTA started its life in 1948 as a break-away group from the Victorian Teachers' Union. It named itself the Victorian Secondary Masters' Professional Association: the name shows that its origins were sexist and elitist. Its politics were right wing and its policies were conservative.

1. Whether the VIU should fight for a re-establishment of the 12 per cent wage differential between primary and secondary teachers; some secondary teachers thought they deserved more money than primary teachers.

### Fight for recognition

## RELUCTANT MILITANTS - TENSIONS IN THE V.S.T.A.

By Ross Lindsay

### Call for stronger action

### "Prospects Are Bleak"

- Make every branch a strong branch. School-based Control of Entry procedures, improved communication between leadership and branches. (This is an ext-sion of number one).



V.S.T.A. - T.T.A.V. MASS STOP-WORK



## IUNT THE Johnston

r Yietnam Mar winds down and almost all Austroops have been withdrawn, the issue of tion has become a more crucial one for the recisely because it must now stand on its ther than as part of the general opposition

Since the last Federal election, there has been a paring awareness among the Australian public of e-logical issues. There is now a wide range of con-rvationist groups, and one, the United Tasannia out, has run candidates for public office. Do such midiates deserve our support?

Politically the members of these groups range from leading-heart liberals to some moderate left-wing-re, but they are all siddle class. They are not in se same plight as working class feabilist unable to el refuge an the reviatively clean middle class re-idential areas. For workers it is not just a ques-tion of the eventual fate of the world, but their

### POLLUTION

These groups may agreed some evarences of the policies problem, although there was conspicuous silence the causes of sensory pollution in achool shall be the causes of sensory pollution in achool shall be achieved to be sensory to be sufficiently as a sensor processed and the sensor of chemical processes and relates quantities of a in their efficients. These untreated efficients of the shall pay and contained the sensor of the senso

hypothiq now.

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candidate for forther than has forced shillman's
hand. Johnston was membrated because the Sourlist forth said a sajority on the control of the control
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showston as a draft realiser was [a,b] conception
the law. Johnston's nometical issue, and shillan
to his unsuccessful attempts to have him dropped as
a candidate had not made clear his opposite of
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by presiding to shelish the hartonal Service Act.

what make this particularly galling for Miltian is that with my other candidate Labor could have girled up raily-wang (perhago labor). The could have girled up raily-wang (perhago labor). The could have garden to the country of the



Labor condidate Barry Johnston watches his lea-der support his campaign on TV with a public ap-peal for his resignation. Barry in turn suppor-ted Cough's campaign with a press conference an-nouncing his continued condidacy.

storing the days when Australian censorship was ri

### FIGHT THE LABOR LEADERS continued from page one

Of course whether or not tabor is elected will not depend on the propaganda - such less the vores -of the introduction of propagation of the introduction of the introduction of the internation of the introduction of the internation of the introduction of the intro

inemployment and uncontrollable inflation, both simultaneously on the increase around the world, have become the schilles her of the Schalon government and the schilles her of the Schalon governments simply because verters see that both their poly and the value of their ways practets are threatened. The trouble is that labor has never said world the schilles of th

### SOME BASIC STEPS

The short-term solution is to force the boss to cut his rate of profit, and to maintain full enployment by shortening hours; the long-term solution is to replace the unjust and unstable capitalist system with a socialist economy. The AIP learning committed as it is to maintaining capitality.

1. In famil the right of every worker to a dob. There must be no more anothing - - firms which cannot give job executify to this. - firms which cannot give job executify to the control of the contro

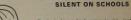
The labor leadership must support struggles for a chirty-hour, four-day usek for forty hours' pay. If a box claims that there is not enough work to go around at some point, the government must make cer-tain that this does not mean less jobs.

3. The right of workers to maintain and improve their standard of living. Workers made real gaint during the now-ended boom perceives and real gaint during the now-ended boom perceives cannot accept that he-came the system of private ownership is breaking down, they should see their standard of the standard down, they should see their standard of the acceptance of the standard of the translations of sex or age. It must also entered a maintain on this purchase dolls.

As part of its election campaign, the ALP, through the Fablam Society, released a book called Towards or New Australia, in which almost all of Labor's major policy upokessem described what life would be like under a Labor government and detailed policies for describe what life would be like for workers and reads unbinative under his proposal for industrial reads unbinative under his proposal for industrial reads unbinative under his proposal read to the Trade Bloom newwest was de had he warmed to the Trade Bloom new reads and the AID warmed to the the reads of the three sections and the proposal have successfully fought from the there also over. Common's proposal shows concern from the three warmed to the the read of the three minimum to accept punishment for strikes declared likepi likepi by the courts. Common's proposal has been an attempt upon the proposal has been an attempt upon the proposal section of the proposal sec of the implementation orders to gight them: one right to strike is a basic right at any time. In a time of economic crisis it is the workers' first defence against unemployment and rising prices. In Britain the labour movement forced the Wilsom government to abundon penal cluses against the unions. The labour movement can do so in Australia also but only if it

der in yet acother war for the boss.

In the last for years, occluy has been forced to take notice of groups of people it has always relegated to second-rate status. Nesses, Nachos and greate have all began to dessed their rights. The acoustic have all began to dessed their rights. The and fully support the expirations of these proper, has made some promiser on specific issues. They will and fully support has drights to the black in paintain the second of the second second probably ground and rights to the black in paintain the second probably ground in digital to the black in paintain the second probably ground in the paintain of the paintain the second probably ground the paintain the second probably ground the paintain the second probably second probabl



The Nortrains school system is old, inefficient, discussion with education. The sound was times, and has morting to do with education the season of the sound to the education that the season of the sound to the season of the season



### VIETNAM TO NIUGINI

Throughout its history the Australian suling class as cherrilly countried Australian workers to die in imperialist wars. Was and in the interest of British and over recently American copies, in the Particle of Australian capitalism is Southeast Asia and the Facific. One of the reasons lador will be elected in the growing evolution against the latest and unnuclearly and the second imperial to the proving the control of Australian to the proving the second in the countries of Australian military bases overseas, and foreign bases in Australia. A mass novement would demand that Labor owner emperialist proving the properties of the countries of the



1972 is a year then questions of real separate performance of the series where continue to the performance of the performance o

BUILD A MASS MOVEMENT INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE LABOR PARTY, TO FORCE THE LABOR LEADERSHIP TO DEFEND THE WORKING CLASS!

DEFEND THE RIGHT OF EVERY WORKER TO A JOS! THIRTY HOURS WORK FOR FORTY HOURS PAY!

NO PENAL CLAUSES! DEFEND THE RIGHT TO STRIKE EDUCATIONAL DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOUR OF THE WORKING CLASS!

FREE ABORTION ON DEMAND: FREE CHILD CARE: NO AUSTRALIAN IMPERIALIST INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC!

AND RIGHTS AND REAL EQUALITY FOR SLACK PEOPLE!

## THE ODOUR OF CAPITALISM



to get its own ends. A \$1,000,000 to Standard Gil i like a \$1 fine to a \$100-a-work wage earner. And what Liberal or Labor government in Australia would

### SOLUTION

It will require a fundamental reorganization of a ciety to effectively combat pollution. Internation corporations are too powerful to be frightened by such small and unchesive groups who are not will to come to grips with the pollution problem

to come to graph with the position products of the pollution pro-less: ownership and control of the neams of produc-tion by irresponsible private businessens concerns only water to be made to product on the result of the man of production there will be a end to pollution, because pollution derives feet the basic restures of capitalisms the deserva-tion of the season profit (even at the ex-spaceing not the seasons profit (even at the ex-pense of polsoning their own environment), and the desire for endoiss and minduse capasiton. The an-formed, they are part of its very nature.

A revolution by itself will not remove pollution but there will be no end to pollution without the overthrow of capitalism.

### REVOLUTION

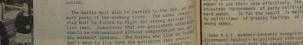
In the meantime these groups should be supported for the modest good they do, but without wasting washing to the tense. Certainly there can be an its simes that these groups can really achieve soy factors. The rebel unions in their opposition to the ethyleme gas pipeline have already according to a various conservation for production to the composition of the composition

Against all those who oppose the attempts to win clear empirorment to must not be determed. We have the whole world to garden, and only death on as wife habitable garbage tip if we lose.

Some W.E.L. members probably recognize piecessal government handouts as political side-stepping, and it is to be hoped that the organization became radical enough to attack the problem in green chight, to do so it must tear to help an of political lobelying and attempt to organize women's political recognize on a mass scale.

M.E.L. exerts pressure on candidates contesting swinging seats and on government annisters and sha-dow ministers. It gives preferential treatment to some women candidates, depending on the general pol-icles of their parties.

The Momen's Electoral Lobby was formed early this year with a definite plan; to determine them the state of t



### THE FAMILY FACTORY

## What is the party line on love?

By Janey Stone

These attitudes toward sex fit much of the counter-culture's attitudes toward women in general, many somen in communes find themselves put in chaof baking break and naking yeghurt and (as the "earth souther") raising the children?

### AFTER REVOLUTION

Alexandry Kottored went tartner nost of the ob-shevaks in her ideas. She wrote pumphlets on free Nam love and sexual liberation. Ktora Zetkin, a lead-er of the German Social Democrats, and a friend su-supporter of Lenin, was an ardent fighter for the

### SEX-AFFIRMING

## the moment for the post dark elsey set to an year that the set of the post of the set of

### A Rank and File View of the N.C.C. and Grouper Unions

By Ted Kehoe

The striking thing about experts on the D.L.P. and the N.C.C. is that nearly all the experts are either tissed, hysterical or ex-forupers who are still loyal Roman Catholics. Consequently one never obtains an objective view of Grouper activity: the causes, the consequences, the way to fight them.

The question to ask firstly is where they came from. It must be understood that historically, the Catholic novement in Australian politics has been, and to a large extent still is, a major source of "raing class militancy. For example, by 1800 there here 6000 frish convicts in Australia, mostly Roman Catholic, and not at all firefundly to the author-

Come Dr. Hammia, come Dennya Jackson, come Catholic Action, result; Santamaria. The demappers of righting Catholicity, who first raised his out; face at melbourne thiversity in the 10% as a ferrent disciplent of the compared to the compar



Santamaria formed the ruthless Catholic Action

The culmination of Santamaria's scheming came

he result has been that we union still trelly in their control have progressively diminished in embership (by comparison with the growth of other unions) and NCC leadership has demoralised those who remained in these unions. I speak of course of the rederated Ironworkers and the Federated Clerks.

Let's have a look at their treachery in the Pedera-

### SLANDERED INTO SILENCE

dergo. For instance, if a weman shows fight and de-termination (as any good minimize sould) has a translation (as any good minimize sould) has a complete any sound rose in general bounces. The to complete that No Erroch (but is also DIP-ton the sound of the sound of the sound of the sound of representative were. See was quickly assured and representative were. See was quickly assured that the had not (on mene given) and was three-tant that the sound of the sound of the sound of representative were. See was quickly assured that the had not be not sound as a three-table borst out with "I suppose you think I've got a cheek, wanting to how who to call in emergencies, but... See was you were haved a, bloody-server'd and generally bitted about thoses.

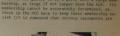
The tactics here are old but proven and effective. That weam will not speak in public again. Her That weam will not speak in public again. Her was the sent factor of the speak of the spea

Three months ago's meeting a woman who had been sacked from Tattersalls on tramped-up charges. She was told by the union that nothing could be done because "we are not a militant union". In other because "We are not a militant union". In other words, management can sack when they like for any reason, without fear of the union defending its meabers. When one member spoke out about this at the meeting, be was accused of "Maving am affair" with some brazen Momen's Libber and, having had both her and his character cut to pleces, was refused

### POLITICAL BASTARDY

### THE LOGIC OF FACISM

difference, apart from size and intensity between nuclear and conventional weapons. The horrafic absurdity of this should be apparent, but it seems to have popular appeal.





Mannix: a politiciam for Christ's sake!

sorm before egreet). Much of this subscribt is then feet be evering fairs, but they are yield by executive right of vets and out by even the sen-blance of workers 'denorary six in the ALF. This show the faciat sentially. Mothews in one of his impair a choice of the control of the ALF. This right which they their more not of mine af-fairs and lowe then to the escentive whose concern-ies it. In the control of the action of the ac-ries of the control of the action of the ac-petity of the action of the action of the ac-tion of the action. Twendow for his to building,

### CLASS TRAITORS

Why do people allow these working class traitors to continuously destroy good human beings fighting for their own right to live as they feel is right?

Way does so much of the trade union movement dis-play so much covariate in the face of MCC stooges? (The truth will destroy the SOU/DLP as they are built on elander and lives!)

1. Recruit membership to the union, on the basis of joining to fight the leadership.

Always, always tell the truth. No lies, no de-ceptions, and eventually their slandering campaigns will destroy thomselves, as they are discovered for

### V.S.T.A. continued

Teachers in many countries have become a strong pro-



PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS' ACTION GROUP

## and now the supporting acts . . .

THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF AUSTRALIA



THE AUSTRALIA PARTY

The Australia Party is no more a party of the than the American Democratic Party. Its original back to 1966, when both the Australian Party that Liberal Reform Group were formed.

The Australian Party was based around a group . The Australian Party was based seconds a rown, comberrs accidents and professionals. The yields a certain amount of the work of the professional accidence of the Liberal Party, principally formed by the professional accidence of the Liberal Party, principally the Trapper of the Liberal Party of the Liber

Their position was strong opposition to tay and the strong opposition to tay and the strong of the s

Subsequently (1989-70) the Australian ratty, to Liberal Refore froup and certain independents use, mated in the Australia Party, combining the LDC, morey and public figures with the Australian Party rank-and-file organisation. The chief rassems to 15 THE COVERDMENT'S handling have gained something of a left-wine proportion to the Vietnas var, and their subsequently of the British Leyland coltable possible to the Vietnas var, and their subsequently of the British Leyland coltable possible to the Vietnas var, and their subsequently of the British Leyland coltable possible to the Vietnas var, and their subsequently of the Proposition of the procession of ture victims of the reces-

because certain opportunistic left groups have slond? Levyland is not the gittained opposition to American investment asynfirst company to get itself greatly opposition to American investment asynfirst company to get itself greatly opposition to the greatly opposition to the state of the summary of the su

Little van the worke worke for two-little by \$47\$ course, Kep Enderby, Minteriors were since the shattella Entylaid \$47\$ course, Kep Enderby, Minteriors losing our country they are talking for their latter for Manufacturing, tells
wership. Barton and Thomas do must his his built differently. He argues
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onership of the country seams observing at bails had if the government had a
saysve. The way to gain control is for worker to
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arts then Leyland would have
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and to close completely and Dave Asmad to close completely and

volved in making buses and assembling Mini's would have lost their jobs as well. Garbage! Buses and Mini's are profitable. P76's and Marinas weren't. Besides, Enderby's proposals do nothing for the 3,000 and more workers who are going to lose their jobs at Leyland, not workers in industries supplying component parts to Leyland.

WHAT ABOUT OUR JOBS?

stuff their cars...

Joe Thompson, NSW secretary of Vehicle Builders' Employ-ees Federation, came up with a much better proposal for Leyland's wreckage. He thinks

it should be nationalised. We agree. He also said that the government should buy the fac-Leyland. We don't agree. We

real way to fight the saings. Push for national tion -- without any comp. tion -- under workers

Volume 1, Numbe

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To get this means a fig don't think we should have to and at this stage its un BUY it from our taxes. Ausly that the VBEF is prep The Labor Government may tralian workers didn't design has also advised Leyland work- able to get away with ma a present to British Ley We must be organised to

**GEORGE WHO?** 

By Ron Flaherty



reform. Most Americans are pretty sick of paying the bill for American militarism, and McGovern

Account the Collect: When the nomination spared within reach, Modovern word to nontraine opposition from party leaders and big bosiness; in a selectionant in the Nail Servet Journal, he pointed out the limitations to his don tax reforms, state "I would leave that at 48%. Further he virtually promised to scrap any proposals that big bossness ignite like." A president can't commod."

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Name Address		

BATTLER

Harold Wilson's

HAROLD WILSON and his ocial Contract have just gen re-elected in Britain. british workers have a oretty fair idea of what his means for their living andards, but the result of hese elections will be elt in Australia too.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES Wind you, it wasn't much of victory. Labour has a 3at majority and got its cond lowest percentage of ie vote in the last ten ections! The British workg class voted Labour be-use all the other parties re explicitly anti-working ass. Unionists aren't going vote for parties running a "bash the unions" plat-

> out Labour's win doesn't 'rkers' living standards -ere's a deepening economic isis in Britain, and the ly way out for the ruling ass is to attack workers.
>
> e Tories did this, and
> bour has different ways
> doing the same thing. But

having Labour in office means that the fight can and will shift to the factories and offices, and to the in-ternal life of the trade unions. It means that the growing rank and file groups of workers in Britain will have to concentrate on smashing the Social Contract at their places of work.

The Social Contract -- or Con-Trick, as radical British workers call it -is an agreement between the Labour government and Labour-supporting unions (some of which are led by

members of the British Com-munist Party) to hold down wages. Under the Con-Trick, wage rises are guaranteed, but they are less than the rate at which prices rise.
These agreements would operate for at least twelve months. The idea behind the Con-Trick is that workers are supposed to be able to rely on getting wage rises without taking industrial action which disrupts

the ridiculous P76! Thompson ers to resist dismissal. Not to leave the factory when it closes. At the time of going

The point is, of course, that under these conditions, the rises never are fair.

If all of this sounds like Australian Labor Minister Cameron's proposals on wage indexation, it's no coinci-dence. The fact that Wilson won an election on the Social Contract and was able to get co-operation from "Left" trade union leaders will not go unnoticed in Canberra. Australia has an economic crisis of its own. It's not as bad as Britain's, but it's getting worse. Cameron, Crean and Cairns are going all out to sell wage indexation as an alternative to conventional deflation strategy. Convention-al strategy has already caused the worst unemployment in Australia since

sure they don't make pre

of our future next time

ehind the Mainline Crai

W.A. General Strike



### Two years later....

It's been a long time between issues for the Mattigs. Our first lease appeared on November 1) are on exceeded being published in the property of the property

The property of the property of the political the lattler, and the property of the property of

But it soon became obvious that we had neither the theoretical unity or sufficient experience of real struggle to maintain a regular publication. So we began a process of two years discus-sion, debate and study.

### Where we've been

This was not done in the abstract. At the same time our mombers have been involved in three on-poing rank and file groups, two student groups and how actively participated in the women's liber-insurance workers, and heavily involved in various struggles of the VETA. At the time this issue was prepared SNAG members were leading warrily, and against sackings in insurance, During the same particle was a superior of the same particle and the same particle and the interest was a superior same and the same particle and the interest was such as a superior same and the same particle and the interest was such as a superior same and the same particle and the interest was such as a superior same and the same particle and the interest was superior same and the same particle and the interest was such as a superior same and the same and th This was not done in the abstract. At the same time our members

Where We are

We believe that that time has now come. It is increasingly clear
to SMAG militants that we can no longer wage struggles in our own
industries and universities without attempting to link them to the
broader struggles of other areas of the working class. That is
present may be considered to the conting class. That is
present may be considered to the conting class to have a
voice and sense of unity between fights in different areas and
different countries. Today we are facing a situation where our
different countries. Today we are facing a situation where our
lains attacked by growing usemployment. Internationally from
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for political stability are collapsing like houses of cards, unfor political stability are collapsing like houses of cards, untop the conting of the conting of the conting of the countries
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Edited by Dave Nadel. Correspondence to P.O. Box 187, Fitzroy 3065.

## C.U. LATER!

on FRIDAY the 37th September, 256 of the 1000-odd clerks at the call into Zenirance Group were handed a cheque and a plink piece at per saying "Good-bye". In the content of a national situation (reason) that sees an artra 1000 extra unemployed every day, these ratrenchments don't good very constable, but they are. The whole at Insurance Industry in Assertla is in trouble, and these sacking are just the tip of the 1000-or.

For a start, they are the first large scale sackings in the industries the Depression...30 years ago; All that talk of a safe inservance job was superficially true. Not any more. As well as the Oscilation, the Australian Underwestering, sacking 30 peopley that the same in the same

The Australian General companies The Australian General companies (usually not very big) are in real trouble and the huge British groups have just realised that they are not making enough money.

The CU in its Stock Exchange release blamed an underwriting loss of \$17 million for the sack-ings. But this is a lie. First, ings. But this is a lie. First, this loss was cut to § million after reinsurance arrangements, and only \$360,000 after its investment profit. It even paid a dividend to its parent company in the UK, just after the decision to sack had been made (apsion to sack had been made (ap-parently last May). However, the CU introduced some new ac-counting procedures in 1972 and if it had prepared accounts the way it used to, it would have made a \$4.5 million profits

### losses

However, they really did lose money underwriting. But it is precisely underwriting losses that are meant to be met from "accumulated reserves", and the

The truth is that the Corner-cial Union is not making enough money...but neither are insur-ance clerks...ospecially the ones that were sacked. The mack-ings are to allow it to ration-alise its operation to become more profitable in the future.



The development of a strong un-The development of a strong un-tion in insurance has been impos-sible mainly because of the ap-sible mainly because of the ap-dustry and the atrosphere that the company will take care of you (with cheap housing) loans, ou (with cheap housing loans, but this illusion has now been shattered, as the CU was seen as one of the strongest and nost se-cure companies in the industry.

But over the past couple of years, an uneven militancy has years, an uneven militancy has years, an uneven militancy has been applied to the second years of the second years may noney values and forced us to make repular and forced us to make repular and substantial wage claims.

The national AISF is led by conservatives. So far, they haven't done anything to get back the jobs that were lost to stop further sackings. In fact, the only resistance has been from our Sydney branch, where there is an overtime by at CU -- and in Melbourne when the fight has been taken up by

MIC first became active in 19 when they forced the union to launch an industrial campaign launch an industrial campaign for equal pay, by collecting a embarassingly large number of signatures on an equal pay per tion. It took months for the AISF leaders to demobilise the campaign. They were forced to in December, only to get a ten porary settlement and call off the strike after work the eve-

### M.I.C.

After that setback, rank an After that setsade, rank was file activity was at a low sh in the union until the event at CU. While the union leads mumbled to themselves, MIC rushed to produce thousands of leaflets, and to picket the M bourne CU building with mega-phones. Their leaflet called for nationalisation of the com pany, and added:

"However, we are not interes in being pushed around eithe by government bureaucrats, know nothing about insurand or by the same bosses that caused the current situation We demand that the governmenationalise the business and then place it under the deso-cratic control of the people who work there ...we know he to do the work and we have live with the decisions the are made, so we should be making the decisions."

join the fight

But the sackings will continue the superially if the union is nothing and tries to neget while doing it — and we then get have yet and the superial will be union to defend then they as learn the lessons of last yet struggle. Join the MIC capalagine, these and any future sackings and protect our of jobs.

### CLUW for Working Women

3000 women standing, arms out-stretched and hands clasped, singing "Solidarity Forewer" is a truly inspiring sight. This is how the founding conference of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUM) ended in Chicago

CLUW was set up because of the problems women so often have with unions. To start with, fewer women are unionised. This rever women are unioniced. This is particularly a problem in the USA, with only 12% of working women organised. Even where there is a union, it's generally un by men, who are usually unwilling to take up issues of particular concern to ween.

So the formation of CLUW has been a tremendous step forward. Although it is dominated by women whose interest seems to women whose interest seems to be to use it as a lever to improve their own personal pos-tions in the bureaucratic hierarchies of their unions, many rank and file women have been involved.

The struggle between the women union bureaucrats and the rank and file women has concentrated on such questions as: whether CLUW should be action-oriented and whether (given the low rate of female union membership) CLUW membership should be re-stricted to trade union members or open to all working women.

Despite the heavy-handed and bureaucratic tactics of the leadership, local branches have heen formed all over the country and many have been active.

In New York, women trade union-ists involved in building the local branch of CLW held a mass picket line in support of the United Farmworkers' lettuce boycott. As one of the organisers of the demonstration said:

"CLUW, in its statement of purpose, supports organising the unorganised. The farmworkers unorganisable, are a part of the trade union movement." The issue of support for the farmworkers has been one of the major bones of contention be-

In Seattle, the local CLUW

branch helped win a seven-month strike of restaurant workers. The owners had reacted violently The converse had reacted violaties to the picketers, hurling rocks and aggs and screaming observations. They hoped to provoke the men into retalistory action by how and injunction against picketing. The show of unity at the rally organised by CLUM was undoubtedly a significant factor in the concers sudden decision to settle.

So far, the example of CLUW shows the danger of relying totally on union leaderships, male or female; more importantly, it shows the tremendous potential of an organisation of working

by Janey Stone

### MONASH CONDUCTS CLASSES AT OAKLEIGH JAII

role of assessment. The occupa-tion had become a last resort after the failure of months of "negotiations" through the right channels to even win minor ra-

The occupation, once begin, device of the control o ratic decision-making could



As Ninders earlier this year, be Meanist-led occupation all but Erroke on the question of sexism. Many women left the compation in disputs the bind compation in disputs the bind treated like beavier. This too was different at Monah. From the start, both scess shared the applitual beavier. The bind of the compation of the bind of the leadership level, formed a caucus (with no apposition) which also discussed the problem of the campaign that the campaign that the campaign that the occupation discussed that the occupation discussed the problem occupation discussed in the occupation discussed the problem occupation discussed the problem occupation discussions later.

As the occupation progressed, our demands crystallised in discussion. It became obvious to everyone in the building that for students to control assessment, for assessment to

be used for students' learning rather than bosses' profits, we (with staff) would have to

The campaign began in April over discontent with the discontent with the discontent has personal could be a sense. The sense was a sense of the sense where the last few years, and more precently at Filanders, the to put this discontent into a social content — assessment as a weapon of the capitalist synethes. We librate this begand in the sense we have the sense was a sense of the sense was a sense of the sense was a sense of the tem. We linked this to demands for open admissions, a campaign which is also being fought in the high schools by the Victor-ian Secondary Teachers' Associ-ation. We recognised that the most reactionary feature of university education is its re-strictive nature. All means of selection current-

AT NOUARH Last month, students incured a lesson not offered on was conducted by pro-Vice Chancellor, John Sawn in the Monash and on September 26. Also present were students who had been continued to the control of th

Socialist Workers' Action Group, had been arguing throughout the five month long campaign on assessment that culminated in the occupation, that university assessment in one face of state power; that examinations in the

context of the whole competitive nature of institutionalised

nature of institutionalized learning are more than a (highly inadequate) form of testing how much we've learned. It's a way of disciplining and controlling education for the boss and the state. Just as exams at high schools and techs are aimed at

schools and techs are aimed at creating obedient factory and office workers, so exams at unis are aimed at creating uncritical teachers and technicians.

When John Swan called in the cops to arrest 77 people, he made our point very clear. Or as we said in our broadsheet ward lines the next day: "If

assessment

Hard Lines the next day: they can't fail us, then they'll jail us,"

east side of two who cet into university, it was clear to u-that education at all ievels should be a right rather to called on the Federal Government to provide the necessary finance, all the control of the control of the called on the Federal Government of the control of the control of the called on the Federal Government of the control of the control of the called on the Federal Government of the control of the control

We saw the abolition of phony entrance requirements as an es-sential element of our strategy for changing the university.

As the campaign accelerated, a As the campaign accelerated, a broader group called Assessment Action was formed which put out leaflets, organized meetings and street theatre, etc. The policy adopted by a 650-strong student general meeting on the day the occupation was decided on the same assurptions as the account of the same assurptions as the second of the second of the second of the same assurptions as the by Tess Lee Ack

Ultimately, it became a que of the running of the univer as a whole, and its role in carry. Is we said at the material was a subject to the said at the material was a question of power."

Two days later, September 2 the Professorial Board, whit runs exademic affairs in the versity, met and refused to lously consider our demands. This was typical of the Ante we'd encountered right throw At aims o'clock that night, extended the occupation to i extended the occupation to 1 clude the Council Chamber (s of power on cuspins, because of the council Chamber (s of power on cuspins, because the Professorial Board). A tile over 4 hours later, Swan the cops arrived, Sevendy-a the cops arrived, Sevendy-a the cops arrived, Sevendy-a with besetting a building unit hoseit of the Supmany of fences Act—and that was brooked in the Supmany of fences Act—and the supplemental than the council of the supplemental than the supple

On Monday, Admin pulled out stops to defeat reoccupation Two lecturers in Engineering which had had very few stud-involved in the occupation, missed classes early with cific instructions on how vote.

Matheson undertook to drop charges if there was no re-pation. (As one activists ) ted out, that's like kicking canadoxy, the north man finding canadoxy, the noffering to dage the leg if they sont equals, see the restance to make the see and the see

## Debauching the Currency

Tom O'Lincoln

JOHN MATHEM FITTE - who is more or less responsible for modern capitalist economics -- once wester this about Historian "There is no subtler, nor surer means of overturing the existing section in the currency. The process angular mathematical and to debugoth the currency. The process angular mathematical and the control of the currency of the process angular mathematical and the section of the control of the currency of the control of th

That wasn't always true — things were quite different in the early days of the system. Throughout the 19th Century Prices went down at eachily. A gound of yarn, for example, cost about it shillings in methals 1882. At the same time, the work week year, the had same time, the work week gradually shortness, and the property of the same time, the work week gradually shortness, and the year of year of year of year of years of the year of years of yea

Since 1900 or so there has been a continual tendency for profit rates to fall throughout the world. This is part of the decay of the capitalist system, a decay which has been re-lected in two world wars and a terrible de-

Each nation struyzles to been profits up-for its industries and resources of other na-tions, and the result was vorid war. Another method to belter falling profit margins was resourced by the second of the con-sistent was a crisis of overproduction that caused the great depression of the

In each case it was the falling rate of profit that lay behind the problems. This was partly why the ruling classes of Gornardy and Italy turned in desperation to fascism: to mean the power of the working class and sweat higher profits out of the greater exploitation of labour.

Capitalism was lucky to get out of the de-pression. In fact it was only the Second would war with provide the secondary of the cond was the provide the secondary a boost. After the was, arms spending continued because of the Cold Mar. A United Nations study found that something like \$120 billion was being spent on arms in the world. That was equiva-ted the condition of the cold was a secondary total output of goods and services! This salps to produce a wardewide somewic boos. helped to produce a world-wide economic boom. It also led to inflation.



As we said, inflation became a problem much earlier. In fact, prices have rices so considered in the state of the state of

America had the worst problem with inflation because it was the main arms producer, Final-ly it had to cut back, But as the US cut back the portwar boom began to come to an end, And capitalism found itself faced again with the old problem: a squeeze on profits.

### 'managed prices'

Their sagger was massive inflation. The big-gest companies began to simply put their prices because they are virtually monopolies. This is called "managed pricos". For a period of time that seemed to solve the problem.

But in the past year or two the public has got pretty sick of it: The unions carried out strikes for substantial rises, while vo-ters threw out one government after another. In Australia, Whitlen was forced to an early

Businessmen, too, are nervous about inflation for it destroys confidence in the currency and the economy generally. They are sfraid no one will want to invest in Australia. They demand that the government solve this problem which the businessmen themselves have caused. And they demand that it be solved at workers' expense. The solution? Cut wages.

become the scapegoats. The same media who told us about the "consumer society" a few years ago now tell us to show some "restraint". The unions are accused of damaging the national interest when they go on strike.

This makes a kind of sense from the business-mar's point of view. If they can keep wages down, Australian profits stay high and Austra-lian business can compete against forcing coun-tainess. Assumed to the control of the country wages. Assumed to the country are to service workers. Workers in each country are to searchies of the 'national Interest'.

### militancy

We would be crary to go along with that. And we havest. In Strain the Tories were kicked on British workers In to force searcifices on British workers In the force searcifices got a scare in the last elections. In Australia, we've had a wave of militant strikes. If this sort of activity continues, we can work of the price for "curing inflation" pushed onto give price for "curing inflation" pushed onto give price for "curing inflation" pushed

That is what terrifies the ruling class. That is what makes the press so hysterical about the unions. They are beginning to realise that in today's world, the rate of profit — awards to the survival of the system — awards to the survival of the system — from the configuration of the system — from the configuration with the working class.

And that is a confrontation that they cannot be sure of winning. If we are sufficiently organised, the working class could seize the opportunity to smash the capitalists and their rotten system for good.

WHEN Dick Baker's swashbuckling adventure

NMEN DICK Baker's evashbuckling adventus.
Mainline first began to get the season of th



### Gallagher's Fight

"It couldn't happen to a nicer pack of bastards" -- Norm Gallagher (Federal Secre-tary of the BLG) on the Mainline collapse,

"Watts is a company that's interested in the future of the building industry in this country." - Gallagher on E. A. Watts, the company that took over the Collins Place project.

What did Watts do to deserve much praise force a lieft-wing' union official? Desert to the second of the few companies that work they were invested and dogmen between jober The UE leadership in victoria and federally knows this perfectly law in the companies to the "foreign" develoc' Assertlin boses to the "foreign" develoc' Assertlin boses to the "foreign" develoc' The session of the noily ome to exploit Australian workers. According to Callagher: The session of the matter is that Haldise was a

For Gallaghor, it's nationality that's impor-tant. But for any union, the first concern should supely be with the interests of its own members. The bosa's national background is irrevelant — all employers are in business to irrevelent — all employers are in business to make as big a profit as they cam, and that make a big a profit as they cam, and that is a second of the control of the control if they cam, union officials like collapse and his boys on the referal Hanagement Commit-tee and the Victorian Executive are not only come business to the control of the con-posed of the control of the control of the grown business of their members for a chumany clationship with diskum ausias bosses.

Callagher views his union post as a spring-board for his personal manoeuvres. For all his lamboyant statements, he really has no-thing to say about the problems in the build-ing industry, and no strategy to protect jobs.



## A NicePack of Bastards...

by Bob MCCue

In June 1969 Mainline, the Sydney-based in the project alone amounted to search of the project and the p

Nainline, like many other property deals fini blow was a \$75,000 cheque (which and most of the hire purchase companies, is the repayment of a short-term ions) to ord, achieved its exceptional growth rate as \$1.00. Lid. At any Line a further \$70,000 sait of its ability to attract large moved of the hire exceptional growth rate as \$1.00. Lid. At any Line a further \$70,000 sait of its ability to attract large moved of movey to finance its operations.

For exemple, Mainline spent \$17 mills of the state of the s

For example ...

The example of the property of the proposition to the description to the description of the period to the period of the perio

It is now up to be mar rook and file to anterior by the out and the botter box "militart" they may appear, whose union officials have been "expressingle" their members from offices rather blass with they investably become isolated from the rank and file, and start grooming their one to see a besse brittphice as being more im-portant than the class he belongs to, it's time to dump them.

### sabotage

Gallagher and Co. are sabotaging the union on a number of fronts by:

\*Attempting to smash the NSW branch.

The NSW branch's application for registration as a state union under the Federal Arbitration Act (as the Australian Suiders' Labourers' Federation) may well out-maneouvre Gallagher, and at worst will stall him for a while, perhaps allowing a fight to get underway.

The HL's must strengthen their organisation, both on the job and in the union, so that Gallagher cannot get may with making deals with the kangaroo-capitalists to eluminate the hard won right to fight the hosses, all hosses now that the unions are coming under general strack.

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THE BATTLER 19 October 1974

### Feminism/ Socialism Conference

Janey Stone \_\_

at is the relationship between a socialist sowment and the same is likewise and the same is likewise too this at the ret sational conference on Socialism and Noomer's Libertion on tabler 3 and 6. Many weeks the contains between the two weeks was long overdue, both of strategies for linking up in common light against exploitation and opporation.

opics of discussion included opics of discussion included to nature of the authonomous men's movement and the role of the family. Debate was particuly hot around the question of other all women can be united round their oppression as women id to what extent class divisins should be taken into

infortunately, much of the dis-ission was confused, partly be-suse of the unexpectedly large

At the end of the Conference, any new action and discussion roups were formed. One of hese is a group which hopes to onfront a problem which is of or concern to working women the moment. Women have always in regarded as a reserve laour force -- one which can be ent back to the home when not seded. The current unemploy-ent figures hide the fact that pected to quietly return to heir role as housewife. This was the Government money on memployment benefits, but the men lose out. Perhaps the new youp will be able to mobilise

### Monash ...

One fight in the Faculties hat has had some impact since he occupation is in Medicine, raditionally the most conservative Faculty. Med students thise Faculty. Med students woulded in the occupation have lines been able to mobilise ominon in their courses and finely year students will probate to examinations. The probate of examinations, 2 of the total number encoting cracked on Partiament House prosting against the dropping of case for a teaching hoppital : Monanh, and current forms of teachers.

Monash students have learned one useful leasons this year, a have learned a lot about here power lies in the university and the role of the state shind that power. We have lao learned the power of direct tion and what we have to do or real changes.



## tooth and nadel

The scuttling of Alan Bond

JUST BEFORE Alan Bond made his JUST BEFORE Alan Bond made his ill-fated attempt to win the A-merica's Cup an article appeared in the New York Times, which was reprinted in the Australian pa-pers, suggesting that the New York Yacht Club members did not consider Alan Bond a suitable person to hold the America's Cup. person to hold the America's Cup. This was not because Bond was a foreigner but because his wealth was several generations (at least) newer than most NYC members, and was made in speculation and land development. The late Sir Frank Packer who made two out of the three previous Australian challenger was consistent. Australian challenges was considered a far more suitable cup-challenger. Packer's money came from lying to workers (the Sydney Telegraph, which Packer sold to Murdoch in 1972, and the Channel Nine network which his sons still own), belittling

women (the Australian Women's Weekly) and exploiting Pacific workers (certain Fijian Mining with Labor's depression Treasur er Ted Theodore). In other words Packer was a liar, a sexist and

an imperialist and a very suitan imperialist and a very suit-able challenger for the New York Yacht Club. The problem about Alan Bond was probably less how he made his money, but the in-security of his fortune. If that's so the NYYC were right.



It now looks very much as if Bond's Cup challenge was a des-perate attempt to hold together a thoroughly unmound financial empire. Virtually immediately after the Southern Cross went down for the fourth and final time, pieces of the Bond empire began to fall.

The first to go was Underwriting a range of the was a part of the control of the

This time it wasn't voluntary. U and I employees were told to bring their cars to work the night before, and were paid off and out of the building by 10 am.

The Insurance Commissioner is threatening to use his power to appoint a "judiciary manager" to run U and I (which is BUST) for the first time in history. To avoid this, Bond's "men" are in the process of being thrown off

Why did the boat-race mean so much to Bond? At the time of the race the Bond Corporation was worth around \$800,000. It was owed about \$94 million that it couldn't collect in a hurry, but it in turn turn owed about \$94 million which it could be asked to repay at short notice. Its maor asset was Yanchep Sun City development in Western Australia. Had Southern Cross won the Cup, Bond would have been able to turn

Yanchep into a Newport Rhode Isrich, and none of his creators would have been in any hurry for repayments. As it was, however "."U and I is only the first Bond enterprise in trouble. Bond picked up the Robe River Company for a song during the Min-Sec crash. He is likely to be forced to get rid of it even

Before you go off shedding tears at the sad end of a daring sportsman, you should note that the potential bankrupt is the Bond Corporation as distinct from Alam Bond the man. Re'll shall we super be appented by the New York Yacht Club now, but his personal future is secure. Which is more than can be said for the former (and soon-to-be-former) employees of the Alan

SPEAKING of Sportsmen, Melbo Football fans are not impress by the greed of the VFI direc-tors, the cowardice of the bourne TRC or the inflexibility of the ABC. At the end of is season, the Trades Hall Count threatened to black ban the finals if the Grand Final va not televised. The VFL direct in turn promised to allow the Grand Final to be televised it twas a sell-out. It was, gight until a few days before the game the THC executive mag tained its attitude that unite. the district of the control of the c

So what about the black ban Well, it seems that THC decided that the VFL's price, which is a lot higher than any other sport in Australia asks for an televising, was a reasonable price, So the pensioners and the large number of working class followers who couldn't go or hadn't been able toget tick. ets didn't get to see the game,

The price, like most things in football financing, was far from reasonable. The vast majority of fans and players of Australian Rules football are working class or lower middle class. The VFL officials are almost all businessmen. It costs a lot more to get into Aussie Rules game in Melbourse than, for example, a British so cer match. Despite this crowd are much larger, even without to king into account our smaller population. Yet Australian for ballers get a fraction of the money that soccer players get VFL ground facilities are infer ior. So where is the money

It would probably be a waste time asking men like VFL Presi-dent Sir Maurice Nathan (Chain of Courage Breweries and Pater son's Furniture). It would als be useless talking about finals tickets and improved facilities to men like Richmond President to men like Richmond President Iam Nilson (of Nilson Removal-ists) or Fitzroy President Em Joseph (of Golden Fleece Petrol H. C. Sleigh). They have an trouble getting tickets or com-fortable sholtered seats. There would be not point in Trade Unionists telling the SE executive exactly what we cost

executive exactly what we consider to be a reasonable price in televising the Finals.

Sack workers,

hit unions: shareholder

The man with the solution to Australia's economic problems Sir (cur?) Ian McLennan, Chair man of Broken Hill Proprietory Limited. HHP is Australia's richest and most profitable in cally owned company and one of the two Australian companies that make it on the top one a dred Chart of the world's rich est companies. Most business men, not to mention the Libera Party and even sections of the ALP, actually thing the Party and even sections of the ALP, actually think this very but you have to have the self-confidence that comes from eightly warrs of successfully ended to the come out and any it as openly that. BUP doesn't have to very about public relations, it out the Liberal Party and has the ALP independing intrinsicated and the company of the

Dave Nadel

## AFTER SPINOLA?

A NATTY CONFRONTATION is brewing in Portugular, and the Fortuguese workers are not prepared for it fault, but the fault of their miserable "leaders". Two weeks ago the Portuguese sight tried tried to the portuguese sight tried its aim was to intimidate the Left. Instead the demonstration workers to interest the best of the portuguese of power in the country. This defeat for the Right forced Oser-green the Left of the State of the resim.

Spinola owed his authority to the Armed Forces Movement which last April overthrew the Cactano dictatorship. The reqime, set up by the fascist Salazar in 1926, and led since 1968 by Mar-cel Cactano, had been unable to defeat the resistance movements defeat the resistance movements in Mozambique, Guinea Bissau and Angola. Finally, a variety of forces decided to abandon the attempt to hold the African col-onies and Caetano was deposed to make way for some kind of settle-

His replacement was Spinola, a pupil of Hitler and Franco, who had a sizzling reputation for brutality and bloody massacre in Africa but who was smart enough

spinola had to fight whole sec-tions of the Portuguese estab-lishment, who were still bene-fitting from the wars and from the Castano regime. To weaker

Serpico

SERPICO is an almost tragedy based on a real tragedy. The al-most death of Frank Serpico, a New York City cop who tried to live up to a sense of justice in a police force which dispensed

a police force which dispensed exactly the opposite, is what makes it an almost tragedy. The real tragedy is the corruption which runs through the veins of capitalist society and which the

police rely on for an occasional

By film standards, "Serpico" is a brilliant film. The acting is remarkably tight, the plot is tense and as it grows more tense, the insights the film is based on gradually expand.

Al Pacino, fresh from "The God-father", shows a wise perfor-mer's desire to avoid glorific-ation of his character. His Serpico is honest...yet not

Serpico is homest...yet not a naive, sensitive, yet not a blushing tin badge with no meat beneath. He does not portray a conscience-stricken cop, but an ordinary man, constantly sur-prised by the extent to which his corrupt cop comrades regard his as serial.

Anyhow, people whose conscien-ces can be stricken usually re-main oblivious to pretty nasty messes before they afford them-selves the luxury of getting

him as weird.

Mark Matcott

film review:

sion to popular pressure, he was forced to act against the secret police. With their defeat the atmosphere of terror and repression that had been a way of life for decades in Portugal came to an end.

on end.

A popular explosion resulted.

Forty years of discontent came to the content came to the came to the

beyond the CP

But the rightists, especially the ex-secret police, are not happy about this deal with the devil. They want to take direct action to suppress the working class. Meanwhile, the workers class. Meanwhile, the workers have begun to nowe beyond the Communist Party leadership. Into August, workers on the Lisare and the communist Party leadership and the August as the communist a truck and occupied their places of work ower demands which included the sacking of the editor. The army moved to exist them, supported by the Communist Party which accused the strikers

of "threatening the unity of the people". On September 4, workers in all national newspa-pers went on strike in solidar-ity. They too were denounced b

On September 11, 10,000 dock-workers stopped work in support of wage demands and the sacking of a fascist administration. The government banned the strike, and the CP agreed with them.

Despite this double-barreled re-pression the strike movement has gathered momentum.

That's the reason the right wing fried to much in wend forces have been a sent in wend forces Howevern banned the mach, but that inst the only reason it was stopped. It was paralyzed by the rillysy workers, failthead the country were told to keep a the country were told to keep the country were told to keep a cold-out for demonstration, and to turn them back.

That means Portuguese workers are beginning to establish their own authority, independent of the government. They have to do that because neither the Armed nist Party can be relied on to represent them, and because the whole state machine itself is working against them. Their ac-tions have already forced Spi-nola from power.

But his replacement, General Gomes, is also a fierce rightist. The workers will be facing hit-ter struggles in the future.

Tragically, the only political leadership that is established in the working class is the Communist Party, which is work-ing overtime to sell them out.

Two Souls of Socialism, Hal Draper, 25¢

Party and Class, by Chris Harm

Nomen in the Chinese Revolution by Laurie Landy, 600

The Deep Roots of Inflation, Art Fox, \$1

ary Party, popular broadsheet Why we need to build a Revolut



America seems to have a hard time with mirrors, every time it seem itself, like the pic-ture of Dordan Grey, it seek-quite and the picture of the pic-rakers have to cope with this. one hystorical outburst was "The Exercist", "Sexpico" is in the veteran tradition of well it's all very oly, but sooms or later some hour and save the Guy will come along and save the

one of the major strengths of the film is its honesty, its re-alistic portrayal of corruption - a police force where the hon-est cop is an outcast. Two people pull a knife on Serpico, one a young rapist, the other a New York City detective.

New York City detective.

To his credit Sarpico sees through the corruption, he understands that it is not enough to "throw a few flunkey cops to the wall while (Commissioner) Delaney and those guys (including the Mayor) have known for years."

But the film is only half hon-est; this important insight... that corruption filters down... that the ranks of hell have

among them...is completely stomped on.

Hollywood being the propaganda capital of the American ruling class (a few poor rebels notclass (a few poor rebels not-withstanding), Sepjeco seems to add up to "yes, we know the sys-tem stinks, but we're doing the best we can, Look, there's "1-ways a tiny Messiah around the corner."

Too damned right; except that most self-respecting tyrannies crucify their messiahs! Serpico was shot while on duty in New York by one of the thickes.
Whether it was a putup job or not is beside the point...hun-dreds of cops wanted him dead.

Now could Serpico have made any dent in the corruption without the support of fellow cops? How could be get such support when the very laws they enforce are cruel and oppressive: the property laws of capital? Why help Serpico when their own screw can vary from \$800 a month to \$4,000 a time?

Serpico (Pacino) at one point says that if every cop just did nothing but police work for a week there would be no crime.

He may be right in police terms, but cops don't <u>cause</u> crime. They may indulge in a little from time to time, though.

It's not even the higher rank-ing cops that have to be dealt with, but their even higher mas-

The film begins with an almost



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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY Alexandra Kollontai

Write to SMAG Literature Service PO Box 187, Fitzroy 3065, THE BATTLER 19 October 1974 7

E THUM 100,000 Mest Australian workers struck on to dotober spainst the laboral overnment's Emergential in the so-called visions and the so-called visions attack on the rights workers. It gives the Minister the power to sus-called visions that the power to sus-called visions that the solution of the s police -- or any thug private army the Minister s up -- can stop and search or enter premises and

## General in WA

from Tony Horne



Pt Australian workers in the front-line but workers are under at-In any national oke WA would be the link, and the exis-se of such a law in one e makes similar bills esperately needed mi-

nt and determined leahip. It did not come, ding. Its success them rigid. Fifteen

sand of us marched migh Perth. But they hed us up to the top e hill and promptly ated us down again. A of the Labor leaders, y the likes of Hawke

in whose own previous iet approved the bill waft form! The strike il the bill became

hek, we were asked to she for 24 hours, and is another stroll

March "leaders": (from Cooley, Opposition leader Tonkin, TLC Secretary Coleman, Hawke.

Militants were disheartened. The strike was still magnificent, but the march showed the weaknesses of the leaders. With the whole state blacked out and at a standstill only 17,000 marched -- a large number, but it could have been twice as many.

If we're going to stop the assaults on our rights we have to face the facts: we can't rely on the ALP leaders, and the union bureaucrats are too lovey-dovey to cross them. The union members themselves will have to take the initiative, and take the initiative, and to do that they should begin setting up rank and file groups in every factory and industry. Militants should also try to establish contacts between workplaces, so that some

While the officials lead the fight we should sup-

## <sup>E</sup>Battler

port them, but when they abandon it we must be or-ganized, ready to act indepently. Unionists and ALP members should demand that the Labor Party is pledged to repeal the law

But the most important fight should be here and now. The next week may see a real trial of strength, not the shadow boxing of the Labor lea-ders. St. John's ambu-lance men, faced with 72hour-week rosters have drawn up their own schedules, which the bosses are trying to sabotage by There'll be an all-out strike at the first sign of victimisation, and the fire-brigade, wharfies, and students have already promised instant sympathy strikes. Just the situtry to use the laws -- not on the saboteurs but on the men fighting for a decent service. But the law is a matter of power, not paper -- the strength of the independence and organisation of the workthe working class.

### Thompson Hides from Teachers

Tom O'Lincoln

"WE'LL BE BACK, Thompson," shouted two thousand teachers on the steps of Parliament House. The demonstra-tion, which had failed to force Education Minister Lindsay Thompson out of hiding, was the high point of the first day of an indefinite VSTA strike. The strike is the boldest action by the VSTA in its history.

The issue is victimisation. Hundreds of teachers missed out on promotion because they supported VSTA policy
-- which is to boycott inspectors. The VSTA insist that if anyone is to judge a teacher's competence, it should be the people in the school, not the agents of the Education Department bureaucracy -- who are known to favour the most conservative and docile for pro-

The VSTA is also on record as favouring the abolition of administrative hierarchies and a democratic reorganisation of the schools.

Finally, after several gional strike meetings called for statewide and the VSTA leaders decide take the plunge -- they called for the first in nite strike in our histo and for mass demonstrati This is a huge step for Association's executive which last year spoke fer fully of the consequence demonstrating, and claim members could not be relu upon to carry out an exte ed strike over Helen Gam

### immediate march

The demonstration was planned for Wednesday, by two separate resolutions from the floor also dense an immediate march on Ton day. Here the executive cold feet, but the meeting position. And nearly even body did so.

The sight of conservation leaders like Vic Colvin leading chants at a demostration shows how far the VSTA has come from its o "professional" approach. also a good sign that the have arranged for teacher to address factory meeting And the VSTA has decided look into affiliating to ACTU. Secondary teachers may be about to take their place as a conscious part of the workers' movement, In any case, a new level militancy has been reached

We will be back, Lindsay

### Social Con-Trick

Bob Hawke is already usu the words "Social Control here. So far, what he is doing is trying to bargel with Cameron over the ter of co-operation. If Labor promises tax indexation, then he will accept wage indexation under some kind of Social Contract. The "left" ACTU leadership is looking for an acceptable "compromise" that it can sell to its members.

We must not accept any social contract.

We can learn from Brital militant trade union actis can win wage rises. For the to happen here, we too nee to form rank and file gro-to fight in the union more ment, to force trade union leaders to reject any attempt to impose a Social Contract, whether the attempt comes from Whitls Cameron or Hawke.

Dave Nadel

GOVERNMENT PROMISES JOBS NEXT YEAR BUT



10 cents

## THOUSANDS FACE SACK NOW!

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS' ACTION GROUP

IT'S GOING TO BE A LONG DRY SUMMER HOLIDAY for a lot of swell to a horrifying 399,000. That's 5%. SIX PERCENT! That means that three people out of every lifty wanting jobs and the state of the second secon street looking for jobs in Sunshine and Doveton.

Meanwhile, now that the horse has bolted, the Whitlam government is getting stable door. The measures announced by Whitlam on Tuesday November 12 will, reckoning, take until next year to have any real effect. The effects that they're likely to have are apart from that, what are the unemployed, the soon-to-be-unemployed and the never-to-be-employed supp-osed to do while they wait for Whitlam's measures to



The point about Whitlam's tax cuts, weakening of the Prices Justification Tribunal, aid to industry proposals and the rest of the measures "aimed to reis that they are just part of the international merrygo-round of rapid inflation followed by unemployment aimed (unsuccessfully) at cutting inflation and then rapid inflation again. It's an attempt to correct a fundamentally unsound system without changing

And we are the people who are expected to pay the cost of keeping the merry-go-round moving -- workers, families on low incomes, pensioners and others on small fixed incomes. In a period of high inflation period of high initation like we're going to have next year (it's bloody high now, but it's going to be worse next year) wages and pensions drop in real terms dards plummet. When the profits, workers lose their jobs. Either way we lose. Unless we fight back. Whitlam's mid-November package deal was a rescue operation for the bosses, not us. It was almost exactly what the Libs have been recommending, and we know what part of the Australian community they speak for! Apparently Labor speaks for them too, Now we know what Snedden meant in May when he said after the elections: "We didn't win, but we didn't lose!"

We do not have to wait until Whitlam's measures inflation then. We can fight right now. Companies like Ford, which are laying off workers to protect record profits, can and should be stopped. If Ford reckon hundred, they should cut the hours of work without cutting wages. Workers can force companies to do this by refusing to accept sackings. If part of the workforce is to be sacked, then the company should be faced with the threat of a strike by the entire workforce. by the entire workforce. It companies cannot afford to maintain full employment was abortening and the state of the workers on the job. In the workers on the job. In the case of super-rich companies allte would be very employed and BHF, the reality workers on the job. In the state of the st ssing. There are companies that really are on the point of bankruptcy. Some of them have collapsed in

should be nationalised -and the government shouldn pay compensation to the owners either. At the mome the government is doing the reverse: the businesse are allowed to collapse an the owners get compensation while the workers go on

not to

mention

your profits

YOUR PAY CUT

YOU MAY SAVE

SOMEBODY THEIR

We voted Labor into office to fight for us because it is a party based on the trade union movement. Right now it is using its union it save the bosses. So we have to fight for ourselve

OFFICE LIFE COURT DENIES UNION IF THE LEADERS WON'T

H.S.C. BOYCOTT

Whitlam prepares Social Contract... page ei

3 THE BATTLER 19 October 1974

### Crisis, but who's to pay?

At the time of writing, there are extrines threatened in British share the stand in British share and strike the stand in British share are shall share when share are share at the share are share as the share

Lowertable response to Freathent Inscards autority program, take he as almost perpetual cabinic relais. In Perturbal, the arry and the Community Farty together prity begans of the arry and the Community Farty together prity because of its military policies, he as balance of payments crisis of truly monomial proportions. In the United States, the relais of the military policies, he as balance of payments crisis of truly monomial proportions. In the United States, the relation of the community of the proposed states of the p

In a word, the trouble is called inflation, it's a problem of the capitalist system. It's becoming a problem for the world's working classes. All over the capitalist world, governments and houses are trying to solve the problem by cutting wages while railing per expensions. In the capital per capitalist p

### we can't afford this!

Memoralie in Australia, things have been strongly quist. In the control of the co rather than action by the union leadership.

For the most part, there have been continued wage riess, but it is clear from the language of the labor Cabinst that we will have to fight much but beginning the language of the labor Cabinst that we will have to fine much be language of the language of

life on the gold coast ...



## OFFICE LIFE bosses' fantasy; woman's night

-mare

by Anne McCue

Working in an office isn't exactly one of the most exciting and rewarding ways of earning one's daily bread - especially if you're a woman.

Just by looking at the employment adverts in the daily paper, it's clear that today's "Age of Equality" has a double standard - one for females and the other

The majority of female employment adverts tolk characteristics of the control of

Job interviews usually follow this line. Most women are asked about boyfriends, husbands,chil-dren, hobbies,typing and the age old question - "Do you think you'll be abld to cope with two jobs at once?"

It would seem that families aren't intended to mean very much to men, for they are only questioned about them after the

It can take a while for the subtle forms of discrimination in jobs to come to the surface. For instance, in my first job I did not consider that any favouritism towards the male sex existed. There was interesting work, equal pay, promotion - for both sexes.

However, after a few months the three females in my section were sent on typing courses (to help out with the occasional urgent letter, we were told) and funnily enough the four males weren't.

Since the seven of us had mat-riculation qualifications, it that there of us had been sent that there of us had been sent was because we were all female, was because we were all female, yellow the sent of the sent was no see discrimination. All was no see discrimination. All was no see discrimination. All yo to 'touch typing' but all four had refused. First leson of fighting against the forced of fighting against the forced rice of typis within and with-out the sent of the sent of the sent yellow the sent of the sent of the sent yellow the sent of the sent of the sent yellow the sent of the sent of the sent yellow the sent of the sent of the sent of the sent yellow the sent of the sent of the sent of the sent the sent of t

If you take the typist's role

Attractiveness in a secretary Attractiveness in a secretary is an essential ingredient, mainly because of the prestige it gives to the boss (who most probably doesn't even need a woman doing his dirty work eight hours a day).

sers to work. Why? Because pros-pective male employees are a little nervous before an inter-view, and what better way to make them overcome that feeling. view, and what better way to the steep overcome that feeling has belowing off a good pair legs. It didn't matter to his that I preferred to wear trousers, and felt more comfortable in them, and that I didn't like men myeing me up and down. To his, he was the boss and I was his property for sight boars. his property for eight hours

Life as a secretary can be very lonely and frustrating. All the



work is concerned with the bosses' interests - there is no opportunity to be creative. Getting interested in your work means adopting the bosses' interests as your own, and eventually identifying with them. As a secretary you are physically isol-ated from other workers and generally only meet other members or later you end up thinking like

/ 343 LITTLE COLLINS ST. 67-5128

When the union came to our first and started enrolling members, very few of the secretaries would join because of their close the omanagement. Yet they received no managerial benefits given to the promising members of the company and had no hope of getting on the management bandwagon.

A number of other women were A number of other women wers reluctant to join the union for different reasons, Many of the there for ten years, were still classed as "temporary" and this felt insecure — they dign't want to give the boss an excus-to sack then, by going on strike or even by joining the union in the first place.

So we started meeting occasionally to talk about discrimination whether the union could help as and related problems.

The group enabled us to work the control of the con

FOR TWO YEARS, non-academic workers at Konash University have been trying to organise a union. When they started having some success, the University Administration moved in. Now there are victimisations in the air.

## MONASH WORKERS FIGHT! - for a UNION

by Jeff Soar, Monash University sub-branch, MOA

66 You are employees of this university and you will do what I tell you!99

That's what the Vice Chancellor of Monash, Dr. Matheson, told me last Friday. My crime? Trying to organise Monash workers into the NOA.

For years, we've had no real For years, we've had no real union at Monash, just the power-less General Staff Association. A few clerks were also members of the Federated Clerks' Union (FCU). Last year, the GGA suggested we join the Municipal Officers' Association and the MOA started recruiting and lod-ged a claim with the University for a new award.

For a while, the Administration negotiated with the MOA, but when the sub-branch grew to over 300 members, it suddenly broke off negotiations. The next thing we knew that the most thing we knew that the most all puts and claimed that Monaha clarks should be in the FCU and not the MOA.

But instead of telling us that me should be in the FCU, the union went straight to the Monash Administration to the Monash Administration to the lateral telling the straight to the lateral telling the straight to Admin And then, shortly after, the Admin came out on the side of the Clerk's Union and state of t

### strikes .... and support

The MOA held meetings of sub-The MOA held meetings of sub-branch members, we protested and argued and even went on strike! We received some support from students, mainly from the Hard Lines group). But we weren't yet strong enough to force the Admin to listen to us.

In the end, I got in touch with Patricia Matson who is the editor of "Glerk and Dagger". She showed me some old copies of C & D and told me a five the New York of the Copies of C & D and told me a five the Poul Bedseich white of the Copies of the Copies

I reckoned that the Admin had done a deal with the FCU, asking them to do what they could to stop the MOA. So Norms Sullivan (another militant) and I put out a leaflet saying just that and also mentioning some of the FCU sellouts.

Meanwhile, the PCU had taken its demarcation lispate to the Industrial Court, and on october and the PCU had taken its demarkation of the PCU had the NA had no right to organise at Moosah and ordered it to stop. It even said that there was a prima facient that the property of the PCU had been been as the Industrial Court is not concerned with the interests of workers at Monach. It just wants to maintain Thomsterial Poscar to maint to maintain "Industrial Peace" so that the bosses have got it all over us. That's why it is in love with the PCU leaders, who promise peace for the bosses and nothing for clerks.

Nowever, instead of fighting the court order, the MCA went that we age, to stop recruiting new members into the union. The MCA leaders were trying to prove but "reason" doesn't pay the rest. He wanted to fight be order by doubling our organising efforts.

since the union wouldn't do it.
we decided to do it ourselves.
We organised a rank and file
group and called it "Monash
Workers Action" and started
signing up workers into the MOA.

All this activity was clearly upsetting the university's Administration. I was told that "there may not be enough money to employ you next your and both Norma and I received personal letters from the Vice Chancellor about our leaflet. We said

Chancellor about our reduced.

He said:

"I do not wish to debate the
matters you discuss in the
body of your pamphlet, but
I must take exception to your opening sentence."

### 'reasoned discourse & rational debate'

We wrote him a very polite rep-ply, politing out between the politing out between the politing of the month of conditions at the iniversity, his response to their direc-tion of the condition of the discourse and retinoni debate (i.e. talk), but he has end of our want to debate the consider of our leaflest Obviously, but of the condition of th

### S.W.A.G. needs money!

### U.S. Electors Trade in Used Ford for other Lemons

The US elections held this the control had to a huge victory for the sepullions realing of the sepullions realing of the sepullions realing of the party of union-bashing, inflations epiloyeest, and Nateryate. It is a victory for the party of union-bashing, inflation, union-bashing, inflation, war, or a sepullion of the control of the



As militants at Monash, we face two major tanks. The first is to convince Monash workers that they are NOT privileged that they are NOT privileged that they are NOT privileged to that it is jittle different to any other boss. The second is to build the NoA and especially our sub-branch into a militant and fightles or more than the second defends our description social, secondary has the way to go all

Schooldays", Matheson demanded to see two of the militants in

The Administration is well aware that, if it can smash the NOA, it is effectively destroying the unionisation of non-market and the state of the sta The Administration is well

economic and political. We think that the way to do all that is to build a strong rank and file group that agrees on what's needed. As a first step, we've organised a group to fight the court order and organism that the court order and organism that the court of the strong sall this measure, in the final analysis, a militant and ware union is our only deface.

## making the bosses' life difficul

WORKERS down at Uniroyal, Dande-nong, know what to do about seckings. They don't wait for them to happen and them fight them; they physically prevent the boss from sacking them. the boss from sacking them. They found out that forty per-cent of the tradement and a higher percentage of the process workers would be sacked as Uni-royal transferred part of its operations to Edwardstoom, I (lower wager) and men site rub-ber based stearing wheels.

When a worker refused to do

NOT TIME IN DELECAT, DRA, an early of two mounted geometric process to get the control of the co

There is a full-scale bureaucracy sitting at the top of the unions, which enjoys outrageous privileges and power at the expense of tank and file workers. Some of the officials are personally corrupt, but the problem goes much deeper.

The bureautracy is a power-broker bet-ween two classes; the workers and the employers. They have to defend workers' interests up to a point for without the organized union movement they would have no-reason to exist. Yet they cannot seems them consistently, for to do so would mean

challenging the power of the employers, we therefore the capitalist system itself and what they're after is power and privilege within that system.

But workers have no interest in maintain But workers have no interest in maintain, ing the system. We have to challenge the employers power in order to decend our the conference of the conference of the conference of the conference order or the conference or the

## If the Leaders Won't Fight... rank & file strategy - by Tom O'Lincoln

rank and file GROUP in the VSTA

A couple of years ago a few teachers set a rank and file opposition group in the motorian Secondary Teachers and the following the file of Some of us were members of the Socialist rhers' Action Group, but Teacher Action is always independent.

we understood there was something wrong th the leaders' whole approach. It an't a question of cowardice, or corrupt-n, or even a thirst for power. Our union m, or woen a thrist in jove. Out union in this enough to support a parasitic reaucracy. It was a matter of a limited all conservative view of the world, and a lok of confidence in the membership. That take of confidence was often shared by the

They were militant, but only on a limited abber of "professional" issues, and only ing limited tactics. At the same time say consistently resisted democratic storms within the Union.

The leaders saw a rank and file that was let leader's sew a raint and a lic that was its that was its that was its let leader you all about it. The members saw a leader ip that would not sobilise them consistily, nor on a stetewide basis. As a suit they had a limited view of what the lion could achieve. They tended to leave a running of the companion to the leader e running of the companion to the leader. sip, who were quite happy to have things appen that way.

### boldest action

our group, Teacher Action, wanted to brook at of this pettern. We did not do too "hij", There is no doubt that teachers "hij", There is no doubt that teachers the same of the

The Centre of Our work was to call for the Centre of the Interior in every area. We not consider that the Interior is the Interior in the Inte

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broader social issues, for the education system is part of society and cannot be changed without the whole society changing.

A number of our specific proposals were A number of our specialty proposals were adopted, sometimes over the angry opposition of the established leaders, Some of us were elected to official positions. But more important than anything, we helped to give shape and awareness to the general radical feelings of many teachers.

redical feelings of many teachers. We learned a number of things that are important for setting up rank and file groups. The first is that you must enhance the first is that you must enhance the setting of the first include the control of the first include members, attended seekings and discussions, led strikes at our schools, collected for the strike fauld. This meanty, in the long run, that even those people who disliked our radical ideas were willing to listen to what we said about the union. It meant the leaders were unable to isolate us with red-baiting and slander (and some of

### independent

The second thing is that you need an independent publication. We produced a regular bulletin of about 6 pages, and a series of leaflets. This allows you to work out your ideas systematically, analyse and criticise the leaders, and provide a visible focus for all the people who are unhappy with the

Third, don't wait for official approval to put your ideas into action. If the leader-ship won't call a demonstration, call one sembership meetings (like the AISP) call your own meetings at which union business is discussed. This way you prove your ideas will work. You also put the leaders on the

Finally, you must understand from the start you are fighting for the leadership of the union. You are putting forward a whole new approach. You need to find issues that highlight the weaknesses of the existing officials, that force them to become more militant or be exposed. You urge mem-bers not to rely on them. And you stand for union office when you have the base to

### involvement

In standing for office your message is not: "vote for us and your problems will be solved". No leader can do that. Your message is: "a vote for us is a vote for every member to get involved in running and building the union".

Don't expect overnight success. In rost was a succession of the control of the co

But the mobilisation will come, for the ground crisis in the economy demands more than the state of the state

### rank and file MOVEMENTS UK

The years between 1914 and 1930 were revolutionary years. The imperialist war led to huge social upheavals, especially in Russia

The official labour leaders not name you declarations against the war right up to August 1914. Then they collapsed and became enthusiastic supporters of the struggle which pitted workers of one country against the for innerial glory and capitalist



Any serious Campaign for the interests of by contents, then as now, had to be organized by dragging and self-outs of the official leaders. The British workers built two important national rank and file movements during those years. We can learn a lot from their successes and felicres.

The centre of antivar resistance was the "Med Clydeside", where committees of shop-union leaders of the committees of shop-union leaders did not want to interfere with the war effort, so it was left to the Clyde Moches' Committee to defend viction Clyde Moches' Committee to defend viction the shippard workers in 1915, and out of the shippard workers in 1915, an

"We will support the officials just as long as they rightly represent the workers, but we will act independently immediately they misrepresent them".

The original Clyde committee collapsed after 6 months but within a year a new committee energed out of a successful strike in Shefffeld, and a few months later a large engineering strike in Manchester led a large engineering strike in Manchester led the strike committee of a National Administrative Council of shop stewards.

The shop stewards novement was an impressive development. It was led in many places by trade union officials. But is also had some desperate weaknesses, mainly political.

despecte weaknessee, mainly polithmal now
The original clyde struggle had grown out
of the attempts of skilled workers to protect
their special status. The operations was atttheir special status. The operation of the skilled
women, to replace skilled workers and free
them for military service. For the skilled
women, to replace skilled workers and free
them for military service. For the skilled
was closely related to resistance to conscription and the war. Thus the anti-war and antitional interests. The hope Marchest to see
the skilled
which launched the national movement began in
refusing to train who were sacked. . . for
excitant part of the skilled
workers from erecting a united sovement of
all workers from erecting a united sovement of

Thus the tremendous militancy of the movement was not matched by a clear sense movement was not matched by a clear sense among the stewards fought to bring unskilled workers and women into the movement and direct it against the war. Yet they possible the sense of the sense worker and concentrate their work and extend it, and in many areas workers fistly refused to strike over political issues.

Inspired by the peace proposals of the Inspired by the peace proposals of the Russian Bolahevik government, a rally of 10,000 engineers in the Albert Hall had 10,000 engineers in the Albert Hall had struggle against conscription. But workshop meetings in Manchester and Sheffield voted against any strike action over the war. The national leaders hesitated to go ahead with the strike, and the momentum was lost.

The shop stewards movement declined in the The shop stewards movement declined in the following years, mainly because of immense unamployment after 1922. It became a bitter unemployed leaders of 1922. However, many of the best stewards went on to form the revolutionary political organisation that had been so bedly missed in 1917; the Communist Party.

The new party was small, no more than 4,000 members, but it had some leading militants in its ranks like the boilermake



### rank and file CONFERENCE UK

IT IS NEARLY FIFTY YEARS since the decline TI IS MEANINY PIPTY YEARS since the decline of the Minority Novement in Hittin Workers. Now, when Britain to facing new economic crises, we can see the beginnings of a new crises, we can see the beginnings of a new (England), the Second Netional Rank and File Conference will be held. The British International Socialists, who have helped set up industries and unloss, have been organising to make the Conference a major step towards and file workers iighting movement of rank and file workers iighting movement of rank

At a time when the Wilson Labour government and the Trade Union movement are collaborating in an agreement not to fight, called the Social Contract, it is more

Three British Trade Union members explain why the Conference in November is important:

GMIG DOUGLAS, a steward on Brown Bayley's site in Sheffield and President of Rotherham ANDM Construction branch:
"Militant worders are as deep to explain and how they think others can give easier and how they think others can give easier ance. I intend to seek a commission by all delegates to resew their efforts to keep lamp labour out of bakr forts to keep continued to the state of the second second state of the second state of the second state of the second secon

insisted that it was vital to build a rank and file movement "to create, to marshall, to integrate the opposition forces" to challenge the bureaucratic leaderships of the unions. The sim was to build sceething like the shop stewards movement:

The many streams of the rising forces of the workers must be gathered together into one powerful mass movement which will sweep sway the old leadership and drive forward relentlessly to the struggle for mover.

relentlessly to the struggle for This romantic view was unrealistic. The power of the bureaucrate was growing, not declining, and unemployment was so high (ten declining, and unemployment was so high (ten and unconfident. But the fact that the season of the confident was the confident will a movement big enough to influence the Conercil Strike of 1928.

demokral Tribo on 1924.

The Communities camplinged for a Minority
The Communities camplinged for a Minority
cryanise the minority of very militant workers to mobilise the rest. The Minority
ers to make the communities of the minority
in August 1924, with 170 delegates classing
to expressed 100,000 websore. There were
in August 1924, with 170 delegates classing
to expressed 100,000 websore. There were
communities to express the communities of t

### councils of action

A certal demand of the Minority News-ment was for Councils of Action. Tuse were committees linking the various sections of the union covenent, which had grown up in coverage by the official union leaders who coverage by the official union leaders who covered by the official union leaders who will be used to be a second of the covered trees with considerable success.

Throughout 1925 there was a general growth in working class militancy, which reached its peak in the General Strike of 1926. On May 1, 1925, the Communist paper Morkers' Meekly mentioned "reports from all over the Country of the formation of councils of action to co-ordinate the forces of workers in demanding wage increases".

in demonding wage increases."

In 1925 the Trade Union Congress called a

In 1925 the Trade Union Congress called a

Kight-wing likeher notwithstanding, this was

no revolutionary strupple. The miner there

Life and death matter, the trade union

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The Tenchartle areas:
"It was not till the 4th that a neeting was held to set up a Circellongtill the till the till

The Hoscastle council was in a position to a control of the council was in a position and heavy the council of the council of

The Party was abundantly the policy of "meeping away the old leadership and drive ing forward to the struggle for power with a new reliance on the "left" trade union officials, who it said "have sufficient courage to stand firm on the demands of the miners".

When they proved to have no such thing, the opportunity to seize leadership of the strike from them through the Minority Movement and Councils of Action had been lost. In the following years the Party allowed the Minority Movement to slowly die.

Today a new rank and file movement is developing in Britain, and the possibilities for one in Australia are developing also. We need to learn from the successes and failures of the British movements of 1914-26.

The old movements had great weaknesses. The shop stewards sovement newer overcome workers, nor the resistance to the training of vomen. It lacked the political organisa tion to move the mass of militants beyond a narrow concentration on economic issues and special privileges.

The Minority Movement was built by a political party, but not in revolutionary publical party, but not in revolutionary universal process of the community of the community of the process of the militant rank and file novement in favour of lining up with "left" union bureaucrats.

### fighting movements

But in other wory those sovements provide a model for today. They well at late or rowments, that were willing to take up every issue that concerned workers. They were loyal to the unions, supporting those were loyal to the unions, supporting those but hilding an independent organization to move beyond them when they refused to flight. They willed on the initiative of the workers.

ment grew out of one local committee. When workers form rank and file groups in their own unions, they are working to create the beginnings of a mass rank and file movement

industries. The Social Contract will need to be exposed by a united effort of all



NEWN STONE, executive sember of the national Union of Teachers tacks on our pay and standards of living. Norking people, includ-ent patches, are obang to have to fight extra hard to strengthen the links between row had fill tread unionists. The Conference provides a feeting the conference of the conference provides a feeting the conference of the conf

JDOW McCALLUM, TASS, John Brown Engineering, (The recent Scottish disputes)... "have one

thing in common, but now is afficial, a bureads or sensite trade union officials, particularly from the Transport Northers' Union, have come to Social and to tell their embers about the virtues of the social contract. Fortunately, the workers in Social contract to the social contract and are taking their action now before the freeze. Hay are rejecting that the social contract and are taking their action now before the freeze. Hay are rejecting that it is a social contract and are taking their action now before the freeze. Hay are rejecting that hiter appriance what the Labour powers not appear to the social contract to the dust the social contract to the contract must be covered to the social contract must be overcore, thinks must be ball between and impose disputes and disputes.

muit be overcome, tinis muit be built betwee each dispotes.

each dispotes are considered to the horizontal policy of the trade union sovement.

Toward this stribe movement underlies the need for rear trade to the horizontal policy of the trade union strength and till organization of trade unionists existed, each of the dispotes could not servey and sasistance.

The opportunities for building a rank and till organization how distributions are not trade to the consideration how distributions are not trade to the consideration of the trade to the consideration of the trade to the trade trade trade to the trade trade

THE BATTLER 16 November 1974 5



## tooth and nadel

### ernard the well-enDowd

mand Down, head of the Hickory and Down, head of the Hickory and History and H



Portait of a Whinger

### Yours for the Askin'

VERY PROMIDENT member of the Milberal Government used to the owner of a wery profitting to the owner of a very profit with the constant and the profit of th

the casino is very close to the Eastern Suburbs Railway line currently under construction by the government to which the former casino owner belongs. The property is now worth more as real estate than as a gembling

jects any attempts to use his fame to get shead (insocially. There are, after all, other the same and the same are all the same are s

Petersen's main claim to fame is his success with women, who find him irresistible. When he

### Inflation or

the sack: Crean puts it bluntly

NEW YORK, Sept. 30. - The urer (Mr. Crean) bluntly rated AUSTRALIA'S TREASURER PLAYING CLAIRVOYANT.

He thought he was threatening workers with wage cuts to save their jobs. Actually he was out-



### Last of the Big Spenders?

On his trip to Australia where he was trading Uranium for beef, Japanese Filme Minister Kakuel Faminese Filme Minister Kakuel Faminese Filme Minister Kakuel Faminese Hander Sydney Opera House. It's not surprising that he took every opportunity to sight-see that he could, because it is unlikely he'il be paying too many more State sponsored visits to Australia.

Tanaka is about to vanish through the well known Watergate. He and his Liberal Democratic Party are in trouble for spending a little too much money in last July's Upper House elections. There was Upper House elections. There was a general rule in Japanese politics called the "five in, three out"; which meant that you had to spend 500 million Yen to guarantee election, 300 million Yen was

Last July, that got changed to "ten in, eight out". One of Tana-ka's candidates overdid it comp-

The Mitsubishi Company spent rather a lot as well, but foiled to intinidate or bribe its employees into voting for its candidates. That of course was also Tanaka's crime. He spent all that money and came back with a reduced vote anyway.

JAMES BOND IS ALIVE AND LIVING ;



This wonderful machine, adverti ed in the Financial Review (wher else)) guards business executive elsei) guards business executives against unsetrupious competitors. against unsetrupious competitors prove their loyalty by smallouing prove their loyalty by smallouing and competitions have to make substance to the small provided the small provided by the daily price rises, you can marvel at technologies, and the small provided by the daily price rises, you can marvel at technologies, and the small provided by the

## Petersen: the sophisticate's Alvin Purple

FOUR IRS IT that The Burstell syed on sexis: ideas in the Ling of the sexploitation are "Alvan Purple" in order to see enough money to make a strip bard to be sexual to be a sexual to be

a quite likely that "Peter" will astablish both '
reall's and Australia's growpreputation on the movie 
see David Williamson much 
me either. Apart from a for 
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THE BATTLER 16 November 1974

a working class woman who did the same thing at a bucks party that the girl will chicken out, but his willity overcomes her excepts and the demonstration occt. The whole epixode shows how little understanding wil-towers illeration - may do women's likeration - when the probably reflects on their fan-tasses as such as on their politics. Tony Petersen first comes on as the working class kid made good. Formerly one of Melbourne's football greats, he has renounced his career as "boring" and re-jects any attempts to use his

Peterson's wife Suzie meanwhile books nothing of his extra- be a sure of the sure of the sure of the sure of the leaving her behind and that he sure of the leaving her behind and that he sure of the ticularly when she questions ho their relationship is standing up under the strains, Petersen replies: "Don't be stupid." He suggests that she go out and develop her own interests, but the suggestion is as far as it goes. He has no understanding of her or why she feels the way she does.

### enraged

Pat announces she is going to England to take up a position at Oxford. Petersen is so en-aded that she has dared to make an independent decision without consulting him that he repes her — exit Pat.

Petersen goes out and gets drunk, picks a fight with the cops and gets beaten up. We have to compare this with his experience of the second of quote Shakespeare while repair-

### 'working class hero'

Characters such as Petersen may exist, and there can be no quarrel with portraying them quarrel with portraying them control of how they are judged. Burstall and Williamson obvious-persis vices for the present of the present and understated (even blee Vices father doesn't critical with the control of the present and understated (even blee Vices father doesn't critical with the control of the present and the control of the present and the control of the present and the control of the present and the presen

Burstall has made a film which will gain him money and prestige -- he is also establishing him-self as a first-class sexist.

Tess Lee Ack

## LETTERS

About that Conference...

IN REGARD to your report of the Peminist-Socialist Conference, I think it is necessary to re-emphasize some points which were mentioned in order that a clearer impression be given as to the direction or lack of direction of the Conference.

Janey Stone mentions the fact that "many women had felt that the need to clarify the relation-ship between the two movements milp between the two executions was long overduce "Movewer, I feel it is necessary to add that the control of t

Undoubtedly this would account for the heated discussion which

developed around the question of whether all women can be united and to what extent class divisions and to what extent class divisions when the country of the autoputation should be taken into accounts for the autoputation in the country of the autoputation of the autoputation of the country of the autoputation of the country of the autoputation of the so doing refer to the working class and to unions. This would cause and to unions, this would cause the country of a state of the country of the c

In conclusion, I am unconvinced on the extent to which any con-herent and organised follow—up will becur. My sain concern at lapact of the Conference, not upon those who see it as a success, but more importantly, upon those who may feel somewhat distilusioned by it.

ranking type basis. Experience and age, socio-economic background...in order to make tertiary institutions more representative of society as a whole. But

ultimately the VSTA says if there are too many applicants, they should be balloted.

they should be balloted. Even if you could demonstrate that some people are more capable than others (and clearly that's true in some specific areas), you can't say this means that they've got more right to access. Air all the everybody's money that finances these clucational facilities.

The other thing is that every method that's been devised has turned out to be socially blased, they pick out the sort of people who've had the best social and economic background.

He said that the VSTA was still He said that the vSTA was still planning to launch a boycott of Higher School Certificate exams in 1975, and the boycott would be supported by "sany teachers and some schools". The life course, if the policy is overturned at the coming general

### Interview with Tim Mahar of the VSTA: DEFEND THE H.S.C. BOYCOTT!

MUNI DO THE THE AGE AND AND THE MAN AND THE MAN ADDRESS OF THE MAN ADD

The Anti-Ballot Committee (which itself is a solley crew or people itself is a solley crew or people volvement in the VSTA) has touched on a serious feeling of discontent over the union policy, argument be present executive, two of whom were recently defeated in Central Committee defeated in Central Committee that the control of the committee of the control of the

We spoke with Tim Mahar, a member of the Central Committee and now of the leading advocates of the Leading advocates of the Leading advocate, asking a lot of questions the public might ask. For example: The VSTA policy says entry to university should be unrestricted. But what about the ballot?

The VSTA has gone on to say that if selection is necessary and there are not enough places it should be made on some non-merit, non-merit, non-

reviewed by Chris Simpson

WOODY ALLEN'S predicament in <u>Sleeper</u> appears to be simple; he went into hospital in 1973 and woke up in 2173, He has been illegally revived and his prob-

illegally revived and his prob-lens get worse when he becomes involved in an underground organ-ization, and then is captured by security forces. Adjusting to life in 2173 is difficult - for ins-tance there are innocent-looking instant puddings which can turn masty.

But Miles' (Woody Allen's) pred-icament is actually worse than it appears. Although the film is a comedy, and there are plenty of

Sleeper

Tim appeared hopeful that the anti-ballot forces would be de-feated at the general neeting: 6
If people are prepared to
listen to the arguments for

funny lines, the situation itself incre funny. The world in 2173 is more or less the same as the present. It's a tragic view to take, that in 200 years the world will be basically unchanged. It's also improbable. Without major social changes we won't just have a few more police by 2171.

funny comments Like many comedians, Woody Allen can make funny comments about a lot of things, but what he can't do is suggest real solutions to real problems.

In fact, he doesn't even recognise the real problems. His future world, for all its police and authoritarianism, is sleek, well-fed and relatively happy. The skies are unpolluted blue

The cries of glee at a growing and strengthened women's liberation saids, it is time that women in the movement realised the need to direct the struggle for liberation into obvious areas where their liberation is, of necessity, a threat.

I agree completely about the hostility towards socialists, the rhetoric, the lack of direction, and the demoralizing impact the conference must have had on many socialist women's liberationists.

In attempting to avoid sectarianism in my article, I left out serious criticisms which I had made elsewhere. I am pretty embarassed about it and am glad Joy's letter has corrected the omissions.

and against having the policy there is no one who could vote against it..on the arguments that I've heard. There are just no arguments.



Perhaps some of Tim's confidence is just based on his conviction that this simply is a vitally important policy for teachers.

Important policy for teachers.

Together with the policy apporting the running of apporting the running of executives it's one of the most important policies in give executives it's one of the control of the control

The supporters of the policy are not atting fully by. Dozens of them set in early movember to make the support of them set in early movember to make the support of the set in early movember of the policy and to visit branches and acque for it. Dozenskes of acque for it. Dozenskes of acque for it. Dozenskes of the support of the support of the support of the support of central considerable number of central considerable number of central considerable number of central considerable submert of the subm

IT'S NO USE JUST TALKING ABOUT THE WORLD. The point is to change it. If that's what you want to do...join us!

and the forests and rivers are still there. Technology is shown in its most attractive forms-shiny cars and useful qadget-and its sinister aspects played down. (The guards' flame-thrower never works, for example).

Allen uses humour as a defence against life, as he says in the fils. All very well, but what are me to do ? I don't think I'd be laughing if the police were

Coming for me. Allen rejects political of-utions (the underground security of the con-tract of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of

### Socialist Workers' Action Group

N.A.G. is a revolutionary socialist organisation, open tall who accept our basic prin-riples and are willing to work actively to achieve them. Some of these basic principles are;

NUMBER'S POWER as the solution to Australia's economic and so-portal crisis, only the organised sorking class has the power to treate a society free of exploi-tation and oppression, based on workers' control of industry and the state.

RANK AND FILE ORGANISATION. We work within the mass organisa-tions of the working lass, such as the trade unions, and fight to bring them under rank and file control. To be able to light where the paid officials are untilling, workers seed for rank and file organisations

REVOLUTION NOT REFORMISM. While APPOLITION FOR REPORTER. While reforms cannot transfer society the struggle for them is impor-tant in building a movement which can. Reforms can bring short term gains for workers and the oppressed, but the working class needs to build a revolu-tionary party to seash the capitalist state and replace it with democratic workers.

UNCOMPROMISED STRUCTURE MARINET SEXIS AND BATIN, which are pillars of the capitalist system. We fight for full equa-lity and liberation for women, nigrant, blacks and all op-pressed groups. We stand for full freedom of sexual oppus-sion, including an end to the social oppusation of homomental

INTERNATIONALISM. We fight to INTERVATIONALISM. We fight to build an international revolu-tionary movement, opposed both to capitalism and to the bureau cratic ruling classes in the USEN and China. While defendin the rights of nations to self-determination, we oppose national chawlaim and work to over come national divisions.

come notional divisions. INDOCRAY. Democracy in this is soliety is very limited, yet in a soliety is very limited, yet in the soliety is very limited, yet in construct the soliety of crush movements for change. Therefore the soliety of crush movements for construction and the fight to extend it are basic to un revolutionary outlook. In such as the USSM, the need for evolution to fight for democracy to interpolation from the Light for consistent that Light for consistent that Light for consistent that I would be solved the soliety of the sol

leader of a querilla band and eventually the president of a South American country. Such a conception of change is current doing the rounds of the so-cat counter culture. Basically it!
wishful thinking - "none of us wighted trinking - none of a need do anything - the system too strong for us, but one day Superman, Visitors from Outer-Space or perhaps a Great Leads will come to sure us all. No wonder many people get disillu-loned with this notion of

THE SATTLER 16 November 1974

VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT has announced that is intends to question and build the controversial Resport to Post Station the SEC. It should be pretty funny plantching parliaments in overalls building a party plant. And if the Gb ban by fifteen unions holds past, then Marer and his ow will be the only ones willing to work on the site.

## **Battler**

## GLORY WITHOUT POWER HAMER PREPARES TO LOSE FIGHT OVER NEWPORT



solid and our Union leaders uphold the ban, swport might look like this for a long time.....

disaster".

That's why the Builders' Labourers' Federation imposed the first major ban on the project. Other unions



to make it happen "his way".

joined the ban. When Norm

Yhe SEC plan is that the world generstorm in a teacup. However, close reading of the EPA report shows that the EPA thinks that the SEC's pollelctric power by burning scheme has been denoun-1 by conservationists as ted with widespread oppoion, the government went the Environmental Protecon Authority, a State rernment-controlled body, I forced it to give the Natural Gas to be burnt ject a pollution clear-

> One of the SEC's top engineers has come out strongly against the project, claiming:

"I firmly believe that the Newport Power Station would be an environmental

Gallagher decided to take over the Builders Labourers' NSW branch from its memberution figures are completely ship, he lifted the BL ban. wrong. For example, the EPA However, the other unions, led by the AMWU, have remaiexpects the plant to produce as much ash waste in a day (from oil) as the SEC claims ned solid. So the project stays on the drawing board, despite the fact that the in a year! And even the SEC unions have already approved admits that it would be alfour other alternative directly by consumers, rather than converted to electricity first (at Newport).

The controversy and the black ban are hurting the SEC. If the power station is re-sited, it will cost an extra \$100 million, and take a further five years to complete. Even "worse", the delay will hit the SEC's plans for expansion and further empire building.

Then, just a few days ago,

the Victorian State Cabinet decided that the project would go ahead. The Premis Dick Hamer claimed: "It's a question of who is runny Victoria." And he's right, Disasters and Death Machine like the Newport Power Station are exactly what we can expect if we continue allow the interests of profit to run Victoria or any part of the world.

For the SEC, the \$100 million is more important than the damage and loss of human life that will result from Newport going ahead. For the government, the whims of private industry and its demands for more energy to waste are far more important than the health of the workers living in the western suburbs who will suffer and die of the bronchitis, emphysema and possibly even brain damage that Newport will cause.

"government for the bosses". their political parties HAVE TO step in and say....
"We are not going to let

And if the union leaders and ALP politicians back down over Newport, we have to be ready to take over the fight ourselves.

It IS a question of "Who's running Victoria?"....and it's about time WE were.

Phil Griffiths

### Whitlam prepares Social Contract

spar from Whitlam's Nove ent is preparing for a cial Contract. Whitlam

. The Authority had no

e. But its report and

e SEC has been running bund trying to make the

of legal limitations

ses by proposing tax cuts take effect in January. also promised that the vernment would push wage exation. He didn't say it aight out, but it is clear at wage indexation would part of the deal. Trade onists would only get it the cost of promising not strike or make wage claims

iat would be the basis of Social Con-Trick, And next year, we'd never

keep pace. For another Whitlam is is not calling for equal sacrifices all round. That's just sugar-coating. Workers are called on to make the sacrifices. Meanwhile, bosses are given huge presents by the new measures. The Prices Justi-fication Tribunal which never had many teeth is getting a dental job to remove the rest. Whitlam is going to ask it to "give consideration to retaining rates of return on capital." ordered to protect profits. So much for an effective curb on inflation. It's all expected to come out of our wages.

Three quotes from Whitlam give a good guide to what

the government is planning. He repeated Crean's state-ment that "one man's wage rise costs another man's job." That's only true if increased wages are not to be met out of profits. Does Whitlam consider profits untouchable?

It looks like it: "The prosperity of the private sector is basic to the government's social objecthat means "We're looking after the bosses." And what's Gough doing for the workers? "Trade Unions must not make unjustifiable wage claims," In other words, the aim of the Labor govern-ment is now to content ment is now to control inflation by protecting profits and holding down workers' wages.

If this is the way the government thinks, we're

lucky we didn't get hit a lot harder. The reason we didn't is that the government still feels the press ure of the trade union movement. It was forced to cut taxes substantially for lower income earners.
Whitlam is making gestures to trade unionists because us to co-operate. Specifically, he wants trade union leaders to co-operate in a

If union leaders volunteer not to make "excessive" wage claims, then to maintain our living standards, we'll have to strike illegally -- every time. This
is what is happening in Brit
ain where they have a
Social Contract already. We've got to stop Whitlam and Hawke imposing the Con-Trick before they get

December 14, 1974.

Queensland defeat, Budget retreat: Labor voters want to know

The Whitlam Labor government came to power in 1972 with an ambitious program of reforms. Today most of that lies in ruins, and with it the hopes of most Australian working people. WHY?

We voted for Whitlam to protect our jobs and to rebuild social welfare and public services. But now the National Health Scheme and the National Compensation Scheme look doomed. The government has ignored blacks, backed down over state education, and run away from the fight for legal abortion. Due to high interest rates, there's a shortage of housing for workers. WHY?

THE PROPERTY OF

Housing Commission Hell - centre pages

F F 1880 1 1880 18 50 184 50 1850 18 1850 187 187 187

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We voted Labor because we wanted to defend our unions and the gains in wages and working conditions we had made in the past twenty eating at our wages, unem ployment deliberately designed to weaken our unions -and the penal clauses are still there to be used against those unions that do

At the same time, Super-gough, the brilliant and heroic Prime Minister of 1972 is being baited and ridiculed even by Snedden. His government is a shambles and a trivial thing like the Morosi affair can b

used to make him look sick. The ALP has just been slau-ghtered in Queensland. WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE GOVERNMENT?

Whitlam was elected in the midst of an economic boom. His job was to reform the existing capitalist system without harming profits. The employers expected him to make Australian business more efficient and more competitive overseas. But he got caught short by a recession. Business confidence plunged with unemployment and inflation. The employers demanded that something be done.

. .....

However, they did not de-mand that their own profits be cut. They did not demand that their own incomes should be taxed. They did not suggest that employers should make sacrifices. They demanded, and are still de-manding in an ever louder



Matcott norus that THE WORKERS BE MADE TO PAY FOR THE ECONOMIC

Whitlam would like to do that for them, but he is not leading the Liberal Party. His own party is based on the unions, and is sensitive to the pressures of Australian workers. He is caught in a double bind.

If he does not do what the employers want, they will ont him thrown out of government. You can already see the press beginning to raise a howl about the "lack of leadership". Whitlam fears

wages and jobs of workers more than he is doing alre he will face a rebellion i his own party, the party o the labor movement. He is So he flounders. He may just keep floundering unti next year when Snedden for

for an all-out attack on working class. Either way,

it is clear we can't look

the press can swing voter: back to the Liberals. But

if he tries to attack the

him to fight for US. On the contrary, we have by demanding action on wag and jobs from our unions. Where the official union arse. We can also fight Whitlam inside the Labor Party. What is needed is that insists on solving t economic crisis at the ex-pense of the employers. That is why THE BATTLER is published -- to join in

### about those black spaces...

Our printer asked us to remove the names of two companies we slammed (in articles on page : for mistreating casual workers He knows the libel laws favour the employers in these things. The facts are all true, but the names have been removed to

THE BATTLER November 16 1974

### Stupid bombings -

### disastrous consequences

The poskings in hirminghas were a complete minister; for the price, both in Treland and in the control of the title workers, for complete ministers, and the control of the category in the category

The Socialist Morkers' Action Group, who pollish the <u>Battler</u>, and one hundred percent amport of the strugglers of the shange was set to the struggler of the shange was set by hundred so I was that the stage for the whole was set by hundred or years of terror carried out by a Sciilah Soross in that country, and the cruel partition of a north from the South, we are not the insediate withdrawel of

But we are one hundred percent AGAINST the use of individual terror as a tectic in the struggle.

Terror against whole populations, such as some elements of a IRA have been engaged in for a long time now, drives British reces into the arms of their government, into supporting itish imperialism. After the Birmingham bombing, workers who had become sympathetic to the Irish cause began to say that they'd rather live in a nice safe police state. There were anti-Irish marches in working class districts.

The effect can only be to divide worker against worker in stritish cities, at a time when they desperately need unity to lefend their jobs and living standards.

The effect of this sort of ferror campaign is not necessarily my less disaptrous on the Catholica in greaded. When small groups of terrorises carry out daring raids and risk their lives may appear heroit, perhaps. But this invention carries a de-man of the company of the company of the company of the networks of the company of the company of the company of the man-dervile, not for the participation of ordinary working and are-dervile, not for the participation of ordinary working

The worker who does not feel like a hero reasons that revolution has nothing to do with him or her. But without involvement of the mass of workers, there can never be the kind of socialism that we want — a democratic society where the workers themselves

The bombings in Birmingham were stupidity of a dangerous kind it is to be hoped that the rank and file of the IRA will now begin to great their leadership to abadon these tactics, so that the struggle for independence can proceed in a democratic way and point in a socialist direction.

### High rise rent rise

SUBSCRIBE NOW	Ill drink to that.
Address:	

THE BATTLER is published by the Socialist Workers' Action Group, and printed by Aldine Press, 45 Porter st., Prahran

### Belfast to Birmingham:

THE WAR IN IMELAND came to Britain last month. The Birmingham bombing which killed twenty people was followed by Home Secretary Roy Jenkins: "draconian laws infringing civil liberties" (his words). The laws are less dictatorial than those in force in Ulster which allow acry searches without warrenty and

The newspapers made the bombed area of Sirminghes sound like a war of Sirminghes sound like a war of Sirminghes sound like a war in what they don't mention is that Uister — especially the catholic areas — looks like the occupied of the sound sound the same and the falls and sound sound the same area of the Falls Road area do not contain a single building without builet marks. Aceas is ladged by the Sirtish Areas of Bogside have simply been bulldozed by the British Army, Army wehicles parton Nor-thern Irish streets, and the drivers develop itchy trigger fingers very easily. A simple walk out of your home suburb into the centre of any of the

This does not excuse the bomb them part of ireland is an occupied country. The British government are terrorists as much as the Birmingham bombers. Only you don't read that in the



by Dave Nadel

& Laurie Flynn

the oracle and in uniform who were sent to ireland to try to terrorise the Iris people into submission. They failed: but not before they had committed a series of atrocities in almost every town and city in Ireland. BELOW: BLOODY SUNDAY: January 30,

Derry, demonstrain against the British army, demonstrain against the British army, were shot down in cold blod by men of the Parachute Regiment. The Parachute Teach army through the British army after a court of inquiry.



Here in Australia, the struggle in Ireland seems remote. The in Ireland seems remote. The well or et hand to been property as so, and the seems remote the seems remote the seems of the Palesarianas. Men British troops defend their seems of the Palesarianas when the colony, there were no mass demonstrations, as well on the seems of the seems that it's some kind or religious barney between the Masons and the Micks with a group of violent nuts on both sides stirring it up. And the long-suffering British Army comes across as a peace-loving umpire.

The truth is that the way the people of Birmingham felt last month is how the Northern Ireland Catholic community has been feeling every day for more than five years.

up rigged against them. The whole political and social free work within which they were supposed to live their lives will supposed to live their lives wrigged. For the Orange state of Northern Iroland was specifically designed to guarantee the Protestants a built-in and permanent majority.

manent majority.

As the British Army smashed into people's houses, ostensibly searching for arms, as they dragged off still more sons to the internment camps, as they committed their everyday brutalities, so they re-makened all the bitter memories of Irish history.

And truly it is a terrible history — a history that wol breed determination and hatred for England among the calest and most moderate of people.

and most moderate of people.

For more than 300 years, this
with wealth and power in Brital
have brutally exploited, bled
and butchered Ireland. Even for
day they are at it still, tryin
other permutations to win the
upper hand, and pretending that
it is all part of a "civilisis"
mission".

continued on page 7

If it's easy to sack you, you're

## TREATED LIKE MUCK!

"SOME OF the bosses have the attitude that because you work in a factory you're muck. And they can make life very unpleasant. As long as they get production out, that's all that

We hear all the time about how a woman's place is in the home. But many of the people who so loudly tell us this have another selfable for women. As long as it is low paid, has bad conditions, and preferably a weak union, a job can be women's work. Because the hoot important thing is that the women can be easily fired-

The unemployment situation has hit married women particularly badly, mainly because it's so eary for bosses to use wide spread ideas about women's "true" role to their own advantage. The "government finds these ideas convenient too - married women are selected by the property of the pr

metal workers' bulletin) shows the problems of working women very clearly in its interviews

who were recently fired.

"Married women have financial countries to they are afraid the married to the property of the married they might place their point of the married to the married to the married to a set there are Maryaret too "as there are Maryaret too as there are don't take women after work they don't take women after won job".

aither toe the line or no pobThat's one of the reason why
women workers have a reputation
The line of the companion of the line of line of the line of l

In the factory it's as though you're a useful piece of machinery. According to Janet, am trouble is very common among line workers:



### Janey Stone

job continually, but you do because you get fast at it." If the property of failty and you complain, you failty and you complain, you failty and you get sick as a result of work you get sick as a result of work you can be not seen to complain you've not not it this means you've no longer if this means you've no longer if this means you've no longer if this means you want to be proposed to be not not you become disposable, As you become disposable, As you become disposable, as you become disposable, when it came to the plant, they went through the recomp the recken when it came to the plant, they went through the recomplishing words with them, and they went through the recomplishing words with them,

What does the Union do about all this? In the cases of these three women - nothing. Worse still, in Margaret's case, the shop steward was her immediate boss and was out to save his own skin".

### Shocking Condition

The electronics industry, like clothing and textiles, involves a large number of very small factories. This is very inefficient that the bosses and it means they have to keep their workers they have to keep their workers conditions in these places are like something out of the lest construct.

Century.

Margaret worked for a small electronics firm call <u>Selectronics</u> employing about 30 women and 4 men. There were no canteen facilities, and no hot water at all. The tollets were disgreceful—only two pen tollets, supplied details to the collets were the supplied of the thinking hot in summer (no coollon waters, of course) and

### from one Battler to another ...

THE BATTLER is a two-way paper

on the job (eithough the men were They even had to fight to be allowed to smoke during the breaks.



On top of all this, the women have their other (unpaid) job, have their other (unpaid) job, they are responsible for the section, but also while they're at work. Many women work night shift because it is easier to work. Many women work night shift because it is easier to work. While the day while their husbands are at work (glesp, law of the day while their husbands are at work (glesp, law of the day while their husbands are at work (glesp, law of the day while their husbands are the day while their husbands are the day while their shift of the day while their shift of the proposed an amount out of her pup backet, show the day women and the factory owner, and this as well as the factory owner, in this as the factory owner, in this as an inch unless they're forced.

### Casual workers —

## greatest way to make a quid -especially at a time when there's increasing unemployment.

Employers take advantage of the fact that casual workers are not usually organized into Unions, Which means they don't extend to assuals the same rights and con-datuals the same rights and con-tains that organized workers have forced them to concede.

Many companies are getting out of their "difficulties" in maintaining or increasing profits by retrenching large numbers of by retrenching large numbers of workers especially militants. This is a great help to those bosses who are looking for some series. With a large pool of workers. With a large pool of retrenched workers and school retrenched workers and school are able to the series of the series of a causel basis. That means they can fully exploit the poor-

This is the ad I answered --there are a lot like it -- there are thousands of students look-ing for them. And there's a good reason for it all.

With unemployment figures as high as they are, the bosses are given the pick of the field as to who will do their shitwerk. Usually they are full-time work. Usually they are full-time accounts who, if they are under accounts who, if they are under a they are they are like me, they howe to be paid \$2 they are like me, they

### Casual treatment

And the threat of being sacked,

On top of all this is the Kman runh. It's a good time to increase profits not only through pushing consumerian to the hilt, but had not become less important because "these goods have torce Xman" and its only "temporary" and its only "temporary" anyway. And if it can done with temporary causal island; so much the better.

I realised a lot of this after I started working at the ware-house of Richmond.

((WANTED: Students, about 19, for factory labour, Apply Pty. Ltd. Malvern.))

stand in the same place drilling holes in strips of swiat. Twey will also learn the cardion, rule, the profit as a priority downst were profit as a priority downst were profit as a priority dispass to were profit as a priority area of the profit as a priority dispass to the profit as a priority dispass to the profit as a priority dispass to the profit as a priority of the bit than my eyesight, and there's no eyesight as but when you're in a small shop and there's no eyesight.

## The jobs were actually advertised as "part-time" - from 9.30 a.m. until "the last truck is unloaded" supposedly about 1.00 p.m. This was to get us used to the idea of not having a meal break or smoke, which doesn't normally go with part-time jobs of about 4 hours.

But after the first day, we were asked to start at 8:30 a.m. and found that we were not finishing until around 1:00 p.m., and the start of the start

Perhaps to make the job sound attractive we were told the rate of pay would be \$3.25 an hour. on pay day we suddenly discovered it was only \$3.00. "Oh, sorry boys, we made a mistake".



Even the owner-drivers - no

getting. They get \$200 a week. That sounds pretty good until you realize they are working a 12 hour day and have to pay for ALL the running expenses for their trucks.

is typical of the so-called "middle-man" company which forms links in the chain of companies in between the producer and the consumer. The manufacturer, the wholesaler,

And in an "effort" to keep prices "down to a minimum" casuals like us at the second of the second work 7 hours without a hreak, after being sucked in on premises of shorter hours and higher pay than we're actually

LATE NNSE. After writing this I confronted the boas and demands he's got to give us one effect 5 hours work. We got it, because have if we help to a defect 5 hours work. We got it, because have if we help to a defect a deed, and the bluon (Noteman and Fackers) when the bluon (Noteman and Fackers) the bluo of the bluon (Noteman and Fackers) and the bluo of the bluo

by Phil Ilton

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2 THE BATTLER 14 December 1974

is State Housing Commissions were established supposedly to prevent the issent of tenants by evaricious landlords. Now the Commissions have was become among the most arbitrary, evaricious landlords.

now WMMST 70100 is the feeling of insecurity. It shackles people, robs them will their initiative and self-respect, conderns them to helplessness. Our job is to heak through the feeling that nothing can be done". - Pat Tomolty, treaster billion, Victoria.

# A HOME OF YOURDWN

May. During the Boom of the fifties and six ties it was almost possible for most people. Only the poorest in society were not able to make payments on a housing mortgage.

As a result the Housing Commissions changed. Their role came to be seen as providing acceptable accommendation for the lower propiet of the commission of the commendation of the commenda

You can see all this in the way the Com-missions operate. They look down on their tenants, who have few or no rights. Migrants and single mothers are abused and the Comand sangle mothers are abused and the Com-missions have developed inhuman bureaucracies. This article is mostly about the Housing Commission of Victoria, but it could just as easily be about any of the other state 2m

> "FOR A LARGE section of the Housing Commission community, a threat of eviction is the end of the bloody world". (Pat Tomeltv)

The Housing Commission knows this and the threat of eviction is the Club that the Commission has developed to beat its tenants into submission. Every year, the Commission issues round 6000 Final Notices to tenants who are a few fauge behind in their rent. The Commission evicts around 20 tenants each year. Yet 500 leave owing more than \$50 in rent. How many of these have been intimidated into leaving early by the Final Notices and Court cases? Probably post.

The Commission is supposed to help tenants with money problems. In fact it punishes people on low wages or on strike. Then it clobbers them with the full weight of the law

The Commission is equally brutal if you guidely want to pay back your arrears. (If you don't, you are soon thrown out onto the streets and your belongings stolen by the

Moot because only get into arrans when the co-mest is financial intificulties, but he co-mission is immediately on their back to pay mage than the rest they cart afford to make up the arrears. And it doesn't just want a property of the companion of the companion of the to repay all due one an othertaking from you tenance have been scared into agreeing to \$40 a week certail

But once you've agreed to pay off your arrears on the Commissions tough terms, it gets MOZIES. Whilst you are actually paying them back, they continue the legal case and actually TAME YOU NO COURT...even though you have agreed to pay back your arrears and you have been doing it.

Then the Estate Officer comes round to see you and persuade you not to go to court. The Commission gets a Court order that allows it to evict you at any time (provided you are still in arrears). Your last rights and security are stolen!

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The Commission does nothing to help you in times of trouble and desents care what happens if you are forced into private yousing (which is twice as expensive Ir so just concerned with getting your money and keeping you under control.

Owing rent is not the only way to get evicted. The Commission forces tenants to sign a "conditions of tenancy" document. It gives them power to evict for no reason at all gives them power to evict for no reason at all and with only a week's notice, and contains a list of prohibited activities. Further at the state of the state officer. That gives the state officer the power order to the state officer that gives the state officer the power to throw you cut of the State officer, step their noise of the State officers, step their noise out and just do their job, but many are known to have harmsead tenants, especially single women, and made their lives pure hell when they don't obey the officers were hell when they don't obey the officers workers.

Despite its eloquent crap, the Commission does not give a damm about the housing conditions of poor workers. The tenants have never been consulted about making the flats confortable, or asked what facilities they needed. There are not enough lifts in the high-risers they are always breaking down as take ages to repair and then break down again. All the flats are stinking hot in summer because you can't open the windows more than a

There are no child minding facilities, recreational facilities, the laundries are inadequate and the Cormission has only installed domestic anchines which break down under the load of many families' washing each case tenants develop nervous problems. There is no privacy as suyone can wander off the street and through the flats. Small children cannot reach the bottons for the top floors in the lifts. Actually they are not supposed to operate them on their own and they are not supposed to particularly the supposed to particularly and the property of the latest own and they are not supposed to particularly and the property of the latest own and they are not supposed to particularly and the latest own and they are not supposed to particularly and the latest own and they are not supposed to particularly and the latest own and the latest own and the latest own and they are not supposed to the latest own and the latest There are no child minding facilities, luxury of being with the children while they

The walk-ups are damp and there is a lot of mould - one woman even found a mushroom in the carpet under her TV - it wasn't left



Photo of Hamer's home. 39 Monomeith Ave, Canterbury

REPORT Phil Griffiths

INCRID COTTINGER lives in a block of Housing Commission "walk-up" flats on the Kensington estate, with her three teenage children. She is active in the Housing Commission

Living in the walk-ups costs a lot in heating...we all have a problem with damp". (The laundries are on the top ficeo; "Mruga couldn't afford heating, so all my clothing of truined. The mould got in and the stains just wouldn't come out. When you wash, the mould leaves holes".

ON HORDAY, 25th NOVEMER, Did, high-rise flats to be built for my victorian Premier, opened the last night-rise flats to be built for my victorian Premier, opened the last part of the Langdon Park estate ignomission of Victoria. They are Minister for Rousing (Vance Dicks)During the opening ceremony, the Palaces, and Homer went on to ga be flats little muchighms places and Horn to the property of a place will go it with a substantial police contingent.

After the ceremony, guests were d with a supper of lobster, beef,

by the fairies. Children are not safe a can you see the Housing Commission handing high rise flats (about 10 have died fra your list job without a fight? Can you see the heating and sometimes the heating it learns a demand their right; the Commission is ing during hot days and off during collapoing to hit back...hard. And it has the leth heating controls never work.properlyal powers. The police are on its side and so are the Courts and the law. They've proved the courts and the law. They've proved a control and the courts are the courts and the law.

complain the Commission is self-righteou

"Society" looks on Commission bename the property of the season of the property of the season of the

"SOCIETY HAS judged that the "SOCIETY HAS judged that the problem with the flats is the buildings. Actually the build-ings themselves aren't too bad. The real problems are social problems". (Pat Tomelty)

The people who live in the flats are no-hopers, What's more, they care about decisions made because they have to it them...they should have control over the co

"The tenants need control of the flats....sooner or later we are going going to be forced to take over"

complain the Commission is self-righteen
plous, bumbling, incompetent, slow and
pletely bureaucratic. It's always the
their rights. The Tenders, alkedyed small
enant's fault that the machines break
or windows get broken;

"THE REAL PRESSURE of living in
the flats is the attitude of the
Commission and its officers",
Commission and its officers,

"THE TRANSPORT OF THE TRANSPORT O

December out of save ecosystem of the property of the property

It is criminal that it was left only to the spoodwill of the Brotherhood of St Laurence to help the Tenant's Union with an office and telephone. The ALP has limited its activity to smpty debate in parliament instead of organising for a working class solution to housing problems.

Except for a few individuals, the Trade Mion revenent has done nothing to organise Ministe and fight for dearnt boutmariston that and fight for dearnt boutmariston enants have already begun to organise for control of their own housing. They have a right to expect our support. As the Secretary of the heant's Union said;

Does your home lodike this?



tion threats. "Final Notices come like confetti. If you pay Monday instead of Thursday or Friday, you get a final notice.

"Now I just ignore them. At first, I was scared. I kept running to the Estate Officer. When I heard that everyone glae got them, I started ignoring them. They were all for \$4 or \$7".

"Well over 70% of tenants on this estate are single women with children and they are very scared of eviction if they fall behind an their rent. They are scared of coming out and saying that the union is a good

thing."
The single nothers are also worried about the safety of their children. If the kids want to go out and play, much as to go with them. Children could be OK in the walk-ups if the Housing Commission put a fence around them and the sand pit."

"A while app, the Commission schally put a fence around the sand pit, but it was not strong mound. A child pulled as it strong mound. A child pulled as it sinch take the ground. I shall be suffered to the strong that the sand pulled it all down." They won't put it back up. A friend at line had her soo bitten in the face by a charmed the soon that the sand the s

Maintenance is a problem. Mr. Dickie says that naintenance is carried out is three days. This is definitely not so. Mr. Dickie is very ill-informed. Maintenance that the four to eight weeks. I personally the unit of the days because the maintenance and hows I'm in the union."

"If you go to see the Estate Officer after work, he abuses you. His work finishes at 4pm."

We asked Ingrid about the Tebants' Union. "The union can help us get some say in the running of the flats. Some tenants now realise that if they stand together, they can achieve something".

On her own future, Ingrid said: "One On her own future, togetd said: "One thing worriss see. I'm gettle on, I cam't afford anything else. I'm not eligible to get a house because I have only theme child the attack of the children of the childre



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## tooth and nadel

Sick & Tyred

one [last July] the company star-ed an anti-mickic company where orders could do prises if they could do for three months. How they don't mend prises. Fear unemployment works just as well-blis Davis, Goodyear's public fairs manager said the company longer medded to encourage the there not to take sick laws.

changed completely since July" he said. "Now we are trying to get rid

Me said employees had reblised the company might consider the deciding on possible extremchasts. In other words...if you you'll be sacked, Whether you have a hangover or the bubmit playee you'll be sacked, Whether you have a hangover or the bubmit playee you'll be suched, Whether won the personnel had not been their jobs should go and possible you'ver workboomed readers and the property of the personnel manager all over the personnel manager all over the personnel manager.

### Watts up, Norm?

Sweated labor

There is equality in North
Korea, where, through the policy
of "mell-reliance", and the glorious leadership of Kis II-oli,
(whose mell-ren Meso Intult)
(whose mell-ren Meso Intult)
(proper are steadily moving
isving, of course, wages are lowy, even by dapanese are account of the course,
(where is a second of the course of the course,
the course, wages are lowcourse, and the course of the course of the course,
the course, wages are lowinterpretable of the course of the course of the course
the course of the

Which is no doubt why the leadership recently paid \$US23 thousand for five luxury saunas from the Tyles Sauna company in Stockholm. The saunas came equipped with steres and support of the saunas of

tems and carpets and padded fur-niture - to encourage "molf reliance". They could have lought ordinary seames for 20% of the part of the part of the Syen Olaf Yansoon, manager of Tyloe, "instead they wasted their money on luxuries the ordinary people would not use." As we said, they're moving towards socialism and equality in North Korrai

A few months ago, before he went A few months ago, Detore went to NSW to set up a scab union, Builders' Labourers' Federal Sec-retary Norm Gallagher released a pamphet on the Mainline crash. He canned Mainline as employers He canned Mainline as employers because they were foreign owned. (Horn prefers Australian bosses — he hates American ones, Host et al., 1988). The head of the hea American interests some years ago. Still, Norm has never been known to let the facts interfere



Rourke Street shoppers may be Bourke Street snoppers hay be enazed at the unexpected helpful ness of certain Myers shop assis-tants helpfun customers choose between brands. There's a reason for that helpfulness — they do work for Myers. In certain depar work for Myers. In certain degra-ments (like commetics) Myers "friends" are clearly labelled; belonging to various companies. In other departments — such as an employed by Myers. The others are employed by Myers. The others are not labelled as being employed a particular company, but they are them you said them without they are. Men you said them without the to their company's products,

Myers cuts overhoads very nies ly by this egreement, they still pocket the difference between the wholesale and the retail price, and as well. Which is why the ce-rent attempts to reduce part ti-mers' hours by an hour a day on the grounds of poverty stimes. If there's one company that isn't ge-ing broke in the current recessi-ties the occupancy that isn't ge-ture the company that isn't ge-ing broke in the current recessi-ties the occupancy that germany

involved shape his decisions.

AH, HERE COMES

THE MORNING SHIFT /

Without Map or Compass' reviewed by DILYS KEVAN

VITHOUT MAP OR COMPASS -stralasian Book Society, 1974. But if the masters won't see eason, then all we can do is ight "en." (Amelia Jukes)

has of course they never do.
o the working class has to
regarded the course of the cou

The highlight is a massive lisent strike. Started by railway
cortex, it soon spead to cover
cortex, it soon spead to cover
the issues were quite simple...
penny an hour more and recopspies, but too such for the
states. The warms of the Ogspies, but too such for the
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the o

embark on an education program involving speakers from the Labour and fluon sovements. Fred Jules goes to meetings. Fred Jules goes to meetings the local peach secretary, to help her take the minutes because at that tage she can hardly read or write. The culmination of her development within the Guild comes when she is made at a mational conference.

Matcolf

Fred's own politics are heavily Fred's own politics are heavily influenced by his mother, who influenced by his mother, who have been appeared by the political by the politic

As Fred gets older, he looks for some direction to his life. For some direction to his life. It is white he seems to forget and the some some direction of the some old friends who don't approve of his them. It is not some old friends who don't approve of his them he is sacked, and realizes where his real interest lie. And this is where his problems. There is little he can do. He works for the Labour Farty, but such as the some direction of the labour farty, but such as the some directions and the some directions are some directions.

Militants sent back to classroom

The best parts of the book are those about Fred's childhood --

DEFEAT BUT NOT DISASTER. VSTA militants lost their fight to defend the union's Open Admissions policy on December 1, but it was close. The final vote count was about 190 to 160.

Sepreture of the policy, which called for open entry to testically one of the policy o

But the policy was not over-thrown by the Anti-Ballot Committ-wen It was thrown out by the committee of the policy was a supply were not convinced as a supply were not convinced as a policy was which they know had very realizal implications. That the vote was so close indicates that a lot of excellent spadework had been done by realical teachers.

The most important lessons from

the fight over Open Admissions the fight over Open Admissions are straightforward. First, thost among the radicals who imagined they were riding a wave of mass support have been forced to look reality in the face. Teachers are much some added than they trend will continue. But the bulk of VSTA members remain tied to relatively traditional

Second, if battles like this are to be woo, and most members won over to reducal years the won ever to reduce the second Second, if battles like this

It should also be said that certain Executive members, notably Bernie Blood and John Harris, who supposedly "support ed" the open admissions policy, ed" the open admissions pre-were silent all day on Decombe!

1. Is it possible that they
were secretly relieved to be
rid of something that strayed
from their confortable "profes"
ional" view of what the VSTA
should be?

by Tom O'Lincoln

### if they act O'Lincoln like this WHY LABOR?

"ME VOTED for a 35 hour week and we didn't get Mt." This's what as woman told us when we were out selling Battlers in Sanchine last month. She had a right to be disappointed. Although the fancy slogman and doughl's personality had influenced some voters, most workers voted for the ALF because they thought it was their party—a Labor party. They expected Whillam to represent their interests.

Things have not turned out that way. The Whitlan government has reached the stage now where it is praising the business community, telling the unions to "centrain themselves, presiding over the worst unemployment since the war...and telling us inflation is our fault for being greedy.

centre of the fight of workers against Scullin. Lang, himself was an opportunist who got scared at the size of the movement that seas growing up around him, but he point is that the fight took place within the Labor Darty.

The value in having Labor government lies in this: when Hugher, or Scullin, or Chifiey or Whitlam begin to attack the unions and the working class, we can fight them inside the ALP as well as through our industrial

Whitiam knows this. He does not like the fact that he, a politiciam who supports the mental to be of friendly seems with business, is sitting atop party based on the unions. So far he has found it difficult to carry out the anti-union policies he wants because he mest estimate he mests resistance

within his own party.

In 1973 he tried to get the

In 1973 he tried to get the power to freese wages in a referendum. The unions fought him, and what the too. He got heaten. This year he began to scrap tariffs without providing jobs for the worker who would be retrenched. In many cases he was stopped by the unions, and their supporters in the past;

Workers' Party

This mense is which the ALP is a workers' party is very important. It's not as if the working class has any other party at this stage of the game. To make the most of the ALP, however, means it's vitally important to understand the role played by Whitlem and his fellow party leaders. This sense in which the ALP

The aim of a politician is to get alected and stay in power, society you have to be respectable in the eyes of the people who have power, like his basiliary to be a people when the people with the control of the people will be allowed by the people when the control of the people will be allowed by the people when the control of the people will be allowed by the people when the people will be allowed by the people will be compared to make the unit of the people will be people with the people will be people will be allowed as the man who may be allowed by the people will be allowed as the man who may be allowed by the people will be allowed by the people willi

Sadly, all of that was 100 per cent predictable. The Labor leaders have been doing things like that for nearly a hundred

In 1916, another brilliant and arrogant Labor Prime Minister named Billy Hughes tried to force conscription down the throats of Australian workers, and was willing to desert the ALP altoge-ther when he couldn't get his way.

ment presided over a pay cut handed out by the Arbitration Court, and expelled Jack Lang for fighting the Federal govern-

In 1949 Ben Chifley used troops to break a coal strike in New South Wales.

After each of these events, the voters throw Labor out of

LEFT: Billy Hughes: The Labor PM who tried to bring in conscription. RIGHT: Jimmy Scullin: The Labor PM who cut workers' wages.

office, just as they may be getting ready to do now. Not surprisingly, for the working class was bitter and demoralised, and the loss militant workers

Liboral.

These events show that the Laborate Party is not a party of their Party is not a party of their Party is not appropriate their Party is not appropriate their Party is not party in the southern party. It is not do on ceremonial soccasions), or the workers, does not make it a workers, does not make it a workers, but you know that he workers party. King George V used to say that "we're all socialists these days".

habor fact that workers vote that the workers was the control of t

In 1916, the unions were able to selse control of most of the party organisation to defeat mughes' conscription referendum, and to expell pro-conscriptionsets. In 1931, it was the NSW Labor politician who became the

because the Labor Party is based on the unions — can dampen and restrain the struggles of workers

This notion of convincing working to "cooperate" with the unployers can be made to work, and the second of the cooperate with the unployers are prepared to make employers are prepared to make employers are prepared to make employers are prepared to make a convenient of the unions enjoyer. In a period of unions enjoyer, In a period of the cooperation of

### Whitlam's Choice

Now Whitlem has a choice. He can support the workers, but that would cost his fitness are ployers (like Rupert Murdoch). He can come out and support the bosses, and bash the unions—between the can come out and support the like the Liberals and parbably cost him the election.

or he can flounder around, hoping to stay in power by the sheer force of his personality. That is what he got away with last May, but there is a limit to it.

Whether he flounders till the voters get sick of it, or whether he comes around to a full-scale union-bashing cempaign, either way he won't solve our problems. What is important is two things.



value of the resistance the unions are putting up right now within the ALP to his attacks on them. This resistance should be stiffened.

Second, the fight against him the ALP opens up the possibilities for a political novement to develop that will net out to develop that will set out to solve our problems — by waging a consistent campaign for the rights and interests of workers, and challenging the power and interests of the

### Socialist Workers' action O roup

RAWK AND FILE ORGANISATION. We work within the mass organisa-tions of the working class, such as the trade unions, and fight to bring them under rank and file control. To be while to fight where the paid officials are untilling, workers need the own rank and file organisations

NANOVATION STORMENS, While reforms cannot trunsfers society the struggle for them is impor-tant in building a novement which can. Asforms can being and the oppressed, but the working class needs to build a revolutionary party to smash the capitalist state and re-place it with democratic work zers' consents.

UNCOMPROMISING STRUGGLE AGAINST SEXISM AND RACISM, which are pillars of the capitalist system. We fight for full equa-

INTERNATIONALISM. We fight to

### Ireland (from page 3)

That 100-year-long "civilising mission" started with Crownell, and his massacre d 10,000 height ple at Doopheds. It combon the protestant sections, the development of rackrening landlordism that laid waste the country side and forced the Erich to face.

To included the stage managements

It included the stage manage-ment of a famine that killed one million people while grain was being exported for profit.

Throughout, it involved the most systematic violence.
Fifty years ago, that violence involved the murderers in the

Block and Tans. Today it involves British-planned bomb provocations. It involves Profession murder gangs given free licence to oper-ate by the troops. It involves the army itself with Bloody Sun-day and other killings.

It is this appalling history that drives young people to the desperte planting of beechs. And control, there will always be people driven to despair, sees to the maining and tilling of their innecent fellow busses beings.

The possibility of more IRA bombings will continue until there is a widespread and powerful campaign for the withdrawal of the troops and for the self-determination of Ireland.

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## ${f Battler}$

## SACK DEXTER!

from Mick Armstrong in Canberra

Last week, Barrie Dexter kicked Charles Perkins sides. Dester is the perment which ead of the Aboriginal pairs. B. Dester is the permanent white head of the Aboriginal yairs Department. Perkins is the most senior black outsil in the Department. The sideways like the best of the perment of the perm In Perkins' case, the transfer was away from Consulta-on and Liason to Special Duties. It followed Perkins'

ge Dexter with racial rimination against the iginal people of Aust-a. He intends to bring charge before a commitof the Department of r and Immigration, which set up to investigate laints of discrimination

his statement, Perkins on existing for our y which controlled the urtment and which was .nding the aboriginal

he Aboriginal Affairs artment spent \$17 mill-less than their budget ocation and handed back the difference to Consolid-

ated Revenue. While Dexter is busy patting himself on the back for saving Treasury money, black kids are dying in Wilcannia. They have been living in temporary housing for most of this year, in conditions that breed disease. Their previous homes were destroy. ed in the floods early this year, and nothing had been done about re-housing. Dexter considers saving money more important than saving black lives -- "grin-ding the aboriginal people into the dirt."

Once again, Labor is in trouble over Aboriginal Affairs. In 1972, blacks had high hopes for Labor. But it soon became obvious that most of the reforms would be token ones. Little was done to antagonise the mining companies and other

exploiting interests, oppoto real reforms s

The Department should be The Department should be brought under black control. This will not solve all the problems of blacks, but it is quite clear that blacks have a better idea of their own needs and welfare than people like Dexter. Due to the preise of the average of racism of the education the racism of the education system, there are probably not enough black doctors, lawyers and accountants to fully staff the Department right now. But if white experts are still needed, they should be made respons-tible to blacks.

### Free Speech

The way Perkins has been treated also shows the lack of free speech for public servants. The thinly veiled warning by Senator Cavanagh on This Day Tonight concern-ing Perkins: "His position will have to be looked at will have to be looked a in the future" shows how Labor has again failed to up to its pre-election

As it turned out, Perkins was kicked sideways for his attack, rather than being sacked, fined or demoted. This was because he has friends in Cabinet who would be embarassed if their sole black bureaucrat was axed. I wonder what would have happened if a typist from the Department had made the same

If you work for Ford or BHP and you call your boss an exploiting capitalist bludger, you'll get the sack. If you're in the Public Service and say exactly the same thing, you'll not only be sacked, but be fined



Charles Perkin

or even jailed as well.

Back in those heady days o December 1972, we Public Servants were told that we would be given the same freedom of speech as every other Australian. Well, we waited for eighteen months before a few minor changes were made, But even after these reforms information such as how many paper clips my Department uses each year.

Admittedly it is partly our own fault. We have not yet worked to build rank am file groups in our union, which at the moment is a timid and gutless one. The membership could and should force the water to fight for the rights of its members, rather than worrying about pay rises for a few fat cats

i the fight to retain liquidity, there's got to be "Ficiency, and there's only one thing that's expendable."

—— Steele Hall, 2/12/74.

### O.B. threatens jobs

Steele Hall was addressing a meeting of about 350 em Steels Hell was addressing a meeting of about 350 en-pyers, Called by the Movement for the Survival of Busi-ian and Industry (S.O.B.) This movement was formed two and the steel of the steel of the steel of the steel a people who went to the meeting are worried about their statesses and declining profits, which they blame on the Job Townsmont's economic policies. Their demands in-ude a twelve month wage/price freeze and the introduction penal clauses for any strakes within the next year.

or big business, the prob-or is that their profit hes are being cut -- but hes are being cut -- but g are etill in business "still making money. Their mounce is to take over more packe market and increase ociciency". This becomes reproblem for small busi-mes, which are hit both his competition of blig and competition of blig market whose wassary uness and the militancy of workers whose wages are glost to inflation. We even when small business to broke, their owners are the miles better off than he workers they fired. "I don't care about the ures of the unemployed at moment" said Ian Spicer,

Secretary of the Victorian Employers' Federation. With a job like his, he doesn't

Both Spicer and Steele Hall have no doubts that the bosses' interests are different bosses' interests are different between the bosses' interests are different between the bosses' interests are different between the is no not seen as a partial "solution". Spicer, for example, wants to see SOB was to be seen the bosses' thought the seen to be solved to be seen the bosses' though the trade unions. He put it very clearly — it's a class was, and you can only be one side. Steele Hall, on the Both Spicer and Steele Hall



ment of National Unity to combat the current economic problems. He advised the meeting not to appear sectional, but rather to appeal to the community as AUSTRALIANS. In Britain recently there have been similar calls -- and it's important to see where this kind of thing starts. If it comes from the bosses, it's obviously going to be in their interests. At the mom-ent, it's just part of Steele Hall's "I'd make a Steele Hall's "I'd make a great Prime Minister" cam-paign, but when the economic situation gets worse, it will be taken up by others.

Both these solutions are equally dangerous as far as the working class is concern ed. Both call for all-out attacks on our living stan-dards. Both call for solid-arity among bosses -- though they will try to con as many workers as they can.

For the moment, they're calling for "moderation". This means that while prices rocket around us, we should be "moderate" and go broke in the "National Interest". After all, it's for our own

In an economic recession, the big bosses get squeezed, the little bosses get squeezed zed out and the workers get thrown out of work. But thrown out of work. But workers fight back! Boyland business can easily convince small business that it's the unions who are to blame. That's what SoB is about. Owners of small firms will be used by their own enemy to attack the unions before they themselves are crushed they themselves are crushed by big business competition

These two-bob capitalists have to be convinced that big business is to blame, and that they have no future in the capitalist system they are part of.

by Tess Lee Ack