The great social con-trick

The TUC is a little less funny than its performing seal of a leader, Len Murray, Give him a left-wing audience and he bores hell. Compact! Never heard of it. Is that something invented by Helena Rubinstein? Now, however, with the start of the TUC Economic Committee that will "oppose any scrappage for wages when Phase 3 ends," Murray declares that's what the Social Compact is.

The TUC tries to cover its spinless collusion with Labour to run British capitalism by referring to the need to make "priorities," in particular to "help the poor."

Heath's very words! Every extra penny Tony wages widdle was justified on the same basis! Is there any reason to believe the TUC any more than Heath? If they had a record of fighting for the low paid, there might be. But they don't. If they were pulling out all the stops for the nurses right now, there might be. But they're not. If they were supporting the LANCOS weighting claim of NALGO of that of the teachers, there might be. But again, they're not.

Inflation

The TUC's document puts the blame for inflation on the working class, not on capitalism. It is a document designed to make the working class pay not only for rises in pay for the lower paid - if indeed there are any - but for rises in profits for the employers too. Trying to hide behind the progressive slogan of a minimum wage will not work either. First, the one they demand is too small by far at £255 there are only 4 million workers below that, and many above it are in desperate need, too. Then, they don't extend it to everyone; it should include pensioners, the sick and others on state 'benefits'. But most important, there is no reason why we shouldn't fight for a national minimum wage as well as fighting to improve the living standards of those workers whose struggles are above that minimum.

For many unions, the attitude is unfortunately likely to be that the Social Compact is alright for everyone except themselves. It is necessary that trade unionists realise that it is good for nobody but the bosses and the present administrators of the bosses' system: the Labour Party and the TUC.

COST-CO LIVING
SIT-IN BY 6,000

ONE of the biggest sit-ins since UCS has started at the Pleasley factory in Beeston, Nottingham. The 6,000 workers, from every section, have occupied the plant in protest at the employers' decision to put a ceiling of £1.60 on their threshold deal.

The sit-in was the response of the factory stewards to the lockout notice; the management gave out on Friday June 30th that 15 minutes before shop floor workers were due to lock off. It was no coincidence that the notice came 15 minutes after the white collar staff had left, and they were excluded from the lockout notice.

This crude attempt to divide the workers failed since Monday, both staff and manual workers have maintained a mass meeting called on Thursday June 11th agreed to keep up the sit-in, and will meet again on Friday June 14th to decide on the results of the negotiations.

Morrish is high, all the pocket lines are being manned and already a call has been made for the management to be thrown out and the gates closed.

The pay dispute began when the Bewton workers walked out for one day in protest at the management's refusal to raise the ceiling of £1.60 which have imposed on the threshold agreement. But Pleasley workers know that such is the present rate of inflation that the Phase 3 threshold agreement could end up paying out £1.60 before it ends in November. The bosses' own experts calculate that they can expect to have to pay out another £5.20 on top of the £1.60 already paid out. That is why they are jumping in now to put a ceiling on it just beyond the present payout.

The present Pleasley offer will only give an extra 40p. They plead, among other things, lack of money. But leaflets produced by Pleasley's "Rank and File" grouping point out that in 1973 the company increased its profits by 50% on 1972, to £31 million; and in the 9 months up to 31st March 1974, they have stopped their profits on 1973 by 30% for the same period despite 3-day working!

But even if Pleasley's could prove with their figures their poverty, it is of no concern to the Pleasley workers. They face a choice between winning a big enough increase to pay for the huge jumps in the cost of living, or else watching living standards drain away drastically in the next few months.

The Bewton sit-in is the biggest blow in the long series of sit-ins which have been going on for the last few years, from the time of the APM sit-in in the mid-60s. The PayBoard has a new call and a new panic. But what are other sit-ins: workers at Wackmans, Coventry were recently on strike, APEX has called for national action to get threshold cover for 50,000 of its members, and several car plants have taken this or are planning action to get unrestricted threshold clauses in their agreements.

Nationally, the potential pay-out is £600 million on a full year. The Times suggested in an editorial a couple of weeks ago that "immediate legislative action to suspend its operation" might be required. The bosses, their spokesmen and the Labour government are all very worried. The bosses' militants, the Engineering Employers Federation, have a national policy of trying to impose a ceiling of £1.60, and if member firms are forced to retreat, they have been advised to drag their feet in negotiating over every rise in the Retail Price Index which would lead to an extra payout.

Pay Board

And the Labour Government is doing its bit, too. While Shirley Williams merely negotiates a few pence of a week's groceries, Harold Wilson has ordered, through the PayBoard, that workers will only receive cost of living rises for the period after they have signed threshold clauses. Those signing after June 31st will lose the right to claim the £2.00 which is supposed to compensate for a massive 10% rise in their living costs.

The Phase 3 threshold clause, which only came into operation after living costs had risen by 15%, does not pay for the fall in our living standards since Phase 1. Without it, workers will be crucified by the end of this year. That is why the Pleasley sit-in is so crucial.

Stephen Corbishley

"There are the men who are supposed to have bullied and terrified scabbing building workers! They are, (l. to r.) Brian Williams, Arthur Murray and Tony Wadsworth. Their real crime was just playing their part in one of the largest and most bitter pickets mounted during the 1972 builders' strike - a strike that was essential to the survival of the building trade. They were also fighting for the survival of the trade union movement - a movement the TUC so desperately wants to destroy. They were freed last week - unfortunately not by the power of mass action, but because the lack of such action meant that the TUC was able to exact their full revenge."

Photo Workers Press
Clay Cross conference sunk in verbiage

SINK

John Dunn, one of the two people charged with organising the Conference (he is the Secretary of Clay Cross Labour Party) wrote in last week's Militant: 'The main reason for organising this conference at this time is not at all to 'lock the beast' for the new Labour Government but just the opposite: to make sure that the power of Big Business doesn't sink it.'

And it was precisely this approach, one never intended by those who founded the Conference in the first place, that sank the conference last Saturday as ituegos Less队伍建设被faddled的原紹事者们被the new Labour Government but just the opposite: to make sure that the power of Big Business doesn't sink it.

Many resolutions had been sent from Labour Party organisations and trade union branches with specific proposals for action. But the only resolution that the delegates were presented with and permitted to vote on contained only demands on the Government and no proposals for action. This resolution (which appeared to have been drafted by Militant adherents) was printed on the official order paper — yet it had never been put to the Clay Cross Labour Party and prominent members of the Clay Cross CLP before the first time when they arrived at the conference.

The resolution made three demands of the Labour Government:

- Lift all fines and surcharges, and the bans from holding office, imposed on the Clay Cross councillors.
- Release the Shrewsbury picketers and cancel all outstanding legal charges against the Shrewsbury building workers. Repel immediately the 1975 Conspiracy law (This last forthwith and the 1975 Act which constitutes a conspiracy against which the anti-religionists have taken a whole area of the city as an oligarchy).

The Government and trade unions to block "all work which assists the bloody Chilean regime.

BROMIDE

All definite action now, however, all attempts to defeat these and other demands to a practical and co-ordinated struggle by the delegates throughout the Labour Party and the trade union were all smothered by the bromide of "Only a full Socialist programme will achieve the minimum compensation, the bromide of "Only a full Socialist programme will achieve the minimum compensation of the non-payment of the bribe of proven need of the 200 monopolists under workers' control and management will be the way for a peaceful Socialist revolution.

As the Conference went on it sank deeper and deeper into the swamps of bureaucracy and the ritual fittings of a rowdy debate on the most trivial issue of the day: whether one should call for an emergency Labour Party Conference now or not. (Labamth Trades Council agreed to call the only one of 16 amendments to be taken.

While such talk is certainly not the burning struggle between theITHA and the Labour Party it is the demonstration of Labour Party Conference decisions by the Parliamentary Labour Party, and secondly the need for Labour to adopt the Socialist Programme. There were excellent speeches from trade unionists, both about the struggles they were immediately concerned with and the wider issues of the Conference. But, as if to emphasise the difference between the majority of the delegates being workers and stairs, the state diet of truisms than leaders. The real course of the struggle, applause was reserved for generalities about democracy and fighting the right wing.

For instance, Malcolm Vass, engineers' convenor at Strathspey Engineering, who told of their 14-week strike and of their occupation which had been crushed by the police, got only a half-warm round of applause. His later in the Conference he heard a leading bureaucrat of the non-payment of the bromide of "Only a full Socialist programme will achieve the minimum compensation of the non-payment of the bribe of proven need of the 200 monopolists under workers' control and management will be the way for a peaceful Socialist revolution."

The question of Ireland and...

FASCISM AND BIG BUSINESS

"Only one thing could have broken our movement — it's the Conservative and from the first day it had smashed, with the meanest brutality, the nucleus of our movement." — Abolition printer

IN THE Italian town of Brescia last month six workers attending an anti-fascist rally were killed by a bomb which had been planted in a dustbin by local fascists. The Brescia incident is in fact one of many in a decade-long struggle between the fascists and the trade union movement in Italy. For instance, the neo-fascist MSI-ND enjoys the support of 20% of the electorate and has 1,600 local fascist congress members. Fascism has re-emerged as a mass movement — a threat to the organisations, living standards and lives of millions of workers.

As the capitalist system moves once more towards totalitarianism, the legions of fascist growth in strength. In France, the fascist Front National has murdered scores of immigrant workers without a single fascist being charged by the French police. In Italy, amidst a much smaller scale, similar assaults on trade unions and picket lines have taken place — houses and workshops have been burned and backstreet beatings.

Menace

British fascism is a small but growing force. At the last general election Fascist Front polled over 100,000 votes in East Anglia and their ability to physically break up an Irish republican demonstration in Manchester. The fascists are a small menace, determined to smash the labour movement and to force the workers into the lowest depths of capitalism.

Fascism and Big Business by David Quinlin can be ordered from Pathfinder Press, 47 The Broadway, London SE1 8LL. Price £1.40. REVIEWED BY BAS HARDY

Menace

British fascism is a small but growing force. At the last general election Fascist Front polled over 100,000 votes in East Anglia and their ability to physically break up an Irish republican demonstration in Manchester. The fascists are a small menace, determined to smash the labour movement and to force the workers into the lowest depths of capitalism.

Fascism and Big Business by David Quinlin can be ordered from Pathfinder Press, 47 The Broadway, London SE1 8LL. Price £1.40. REVIEWED BY BAS HARDY

Menace

British fascism is a small but growing force. At the last general election Fascist Front polled over 100,000 votes in East Anglia and their ability to physically break up an Irish republican demonstration in Manchester. The fascists are a small menace, determined to smash the labour movement and to force the workers into the lowest depths of capitalism.

"Only one thing could have broken our movement — it's the Conservative and from the first day it had smashed, with the meanest brutality, the nucleus of our movement." — Abolition printer

IN THE Italian town of Brescia last month six workers attending an anti-fascist rally were killed by a bomb which had been planted in a dustbin by local fascists. The Brescia incident is in fact one of many in a decade-long struggle between the fascists and the trade union movement in Italy. For instance, the neo-fascist MSI-ND enjoys the support of 20% of the electorate and has 1,600 local fascist congress members. Fascism has re-emerged as a mass movement — a threat to the organisations, living standards and lives of millions of workers. As the capitalist system moves once more towards totalitarianism, the legions of fascist growth in strength. In France, the fascist Front National has murdered scores of immigrant workers without a single fascist being charged by the French police. In Italy, amidst a much smaller scale, similar assaults on trade unions and picket lines have taken place — houses and workshops have been burned and backstreet beatings.

Menace

British fascism is a small but growing force. At the last general election Fascist Front polled over 100,000 votes in East Anglia and their ability to physically break up an Irish republican demonstration in Manchester. The fascists are a small menace, determined to smash the labour movement and to force the workers into the lowest depths of capitalism.
ITALY — ANOTHER BRITTLE COMPROMISE COMING

The Italian Christian Democratic Party has been the leading party in every Italian general election since 1945. Without a clear victory, a sizable majority could not have its 37th government in place.

But the Christian Democrat leader consistently fails to find a clear majority to build the work of post-war development, which has fostered fascism repeatedly at times, but almost all in the northern industrial cities of Milan, Turin, and Genoa. Meanwhile millions of people in the South remain in centuries-old poverty.

The Christian Democracy has been a cynical coalition of the Christian Democrats and a variety of other parties, but it has been a clear party based on popular support.

The present crisis is brought to the boil by the combined effects of economic chaos and last reforms on the divorce laws. The cost of living is rising, and the trade deficit stands at $10 billion. The Italian Government is a coalition of Christian Democrats, Social Democrats, and Socialists proposed increased value added taxes, higher public social service charges, and income tax on the rich.

The unions replied that the Christian Democrats were not paying taxes (Italian union leaders have been pushed into saying that the Christian Democracy under the banner of Catholicism. But the Christian Democrat leader continues to find a clear majority to build the work of post-war development, which has been a significant part of Italy's recovery. The Christian Democrats are not a monolithic force, and the Socialists and Communists remain significant.

In Italy, the Christian Democrats are in a minority, and the Socialists have been pushing for reforms on the divorce laws. The cost of living is rising, and the trade deficit stands at $10 billion. The Italian Government is a coalition of Christian Democrats, Social Democrats, and Socialists proposed increased value added taxes, higher public social service charges, and income tax on the rich.

The unions replied that the Christian Democrats were not paying taxes (Italian union leaders have been pushed into saying that the Christian Democracy under the banner of Catholicism. But the Christian Democrat leader continues to find a clear majority to build the work of post-war development, which has been a significant part of Italy's recovery. The Christian Democrats are not a monolithic force, and the Socialists and Communists remain significant.

In Italy, the Christian Democrats are in a minority, and the Socialists have been pushing for reforms on the divorce laws. The cost of living is rising, and the trade deficit stands at $10 billion. The Italian Government is a coalition of Christian Democrats, Social Democrats, and Socialists proposed increased value added taxes, higher public social service charges, and income tax on the rich.

The unions replied that the Christian Democrats were not paying taxes (Italian union leaders have been pushed into saying that the Christian Democracy under the banner of Catholicism. But the Christian Democrat leader continues to find a clear majority to build the work of post-war development, which has been a significant part of Italy's recovery. The Christian Democrats are not a monolithic force, and the Socialists and Communists remain significant.

In Italy, the Christian Democrats are in a minority, and the Socialists have been pushing for reforms on the divorce laws. The cost of living is rising, and the trade deficit stands at $10 billion. The Italian Government is a coalition of Christian Democrats, Social Democrats, and Socialists proposed increased value added taxes, higher public social service charges, and income tax on the rich.

The unions replied that the Christian Democrats were not paying taxes (Italian union leaders have been pushed into saying that the Christian Democracy under the banner of Catholicism. But the Christian Democrat leader continues to find a clear majority to build the work of post-war development, which has been a significant part of Italy's recovery. The Christian Democrats are not a monolithic force, and the Socialists and Communists remain significant.

In Italy, the Christian Democrats are in a minority, and the Socialists have been pushing for reforms on the divorce laws. The cost of living is rising, and the trade deficit stands at $10 billion. The Italian Government is a coalition of Christian Democrats, Social Democrats, and Socialists proposed increased value added taxes, higher public social service charges, and income tax on the rich.

The unions replied that the Christian Democrats were not paying taxes (Italian union leaders have been pushed into saying that the Christian Democracy under the banner of Catholicism. But the Christian Democrat leader continues to find a clear majority to build the work of post-war development, which has been a significant part of Italy's recovery. The Christian Democrats are not a monolithic force, and the Socialists and Communists remain significant.
**NAGLO MILITANTS ROCK THE LEADERS**

NAGLO delegates to its annual conference promise to give its leadership a good shaking.

**Meeting in their separate rooms of the Congress Hall on the occasion of the annual conference, the delegates have been informed by their Secretary-General that the strike will be held on August 13th. The meeting was convened by the General Secretary of the Trade Union and decided to call a national strike on August 13th.**

Evidence presented by the Secretary-General of the London Boroughs was under discussion. The delegates have been asked to act upon the evidence taken. Failure to collect rates by the end of the strike period means that rates become invalid and therefore any strike action taken.

This in turn makes it more difficult to operate. Every limited action taken is generally limited in effect. The strike will be held over the agreed areas near to collapse.**

On Thursday the conference was faced with a proposal from the Central Committee to resign. The proposal was rejected by the delegates by a majority of 1,273 to 1,272.

**DONALD**

Said that the strike was to be held on August 13th.

**TOM RAYMOND**

by IAN HOLLINGWORTH

By then it will be perilously close to the end of term and they know that paradise is lost by the Executive unless they are ready to settle before then.

Nine schools came out on strike on Thursday. The News of four of them pledged to stay out for at least a term. The other seven delegates to the strike meeting have been backing up their pressure to stay out. Rail chiefs have been called on the strike and are now considering the implications of the strike.

By the time the resolution was passed, a half bulk of the strike would have been made.

The resolution was passed by the teachers in the afternoon and the strike is to be continued.

**The resolution was passed by the teachers in the afternoon and the strike is to be continued.**

It was also decided that school reps should write to open letters to the NUT on how the result of the strike was obtained. The resolution was passed by the teachers in the afternoon and the strike is to be continued.

The strike is to be continued.

**NAGLO MILITANTS ROCK THE LEADERS**

by IAN HOLLINGWORTH

By then it will be perilously close to the end of term and they know that paradise is lost by the Executive unless they are ready to settle before then.

Nine schools came out on strike on Thursday. The News of four of them pledged to stay out for at least a term. The other seven delegates to the strike meeting have been backing up their pressure to stay out. Rail chiefs have been called on the strike and are now considering the implications of the strike.

By the time the resolution was passed, a half bulk of the strike would have been made.

The resolution was passed by the teachers in the afternoon and the strike is to be continued.

It was also decided that school reps should write to open letters to the NUT on how the result of the strike was obtained. The resolution was passed by the teachers in the afternoon and the strike is to be continued.

The strike is to be continued.

**NAGLO MILITANTS ROCK THE LEADERS**

by IAN HOLLINGWORTH

with distressing reports of the school reps stating that the strike has not been called off and that the school reps have no intention of calling off the strike.

Nine schools came out on strike on Thursday. The News of four of them pledged to stay out for at least a term. The other seven delegates to the strike meeting have been backing up their pressure to stay out. Rail chiefs have been called on the strike and are now considering the implications of the strike.

By the time the resolution was passed, a half bulk of the strike would have been made.

The resolution was passed by the teachers in the afternoon and the strike is to be continued.

It was also decided that school reps should write to open letters to the NUT on how the result of the strike was obtained. The resolution was passed by the teachers in the afternoon and the strike is to be continued.

The strike is to be continued.

**NAGLO MILITANTS ROCK THE LEADERS**

by IAN HOLLINGWORTH

with distressing reports of the school reps stating that the strike has not been called off and that the school reps have no intention of calling off the strike.

Nine schools came out on strike on Thursday. The News of four of them pledged to stay out for at least a term. The other seven delegates to the strike meeting have been backing up their pressure to stay out. Rail chiefs have been called on the strike and are now considering the implications of the strike.

By the time the resolution was passed, a half bulk of the strike would have been made.

The resolution was passed by the teachers in the afternoon and the strike is to be continued.

It was also decided that school reps should write to open letters to the NUT on how the result of the strike was obtained. The resolution was passed by the teachers in the afternoon and the strike is to be continued.

The strike is to be continued.

**NAGLO MILITANTS ROCK THE LEADERS**

by IAN HOLLINGWORTH

with distressing reports of the school reps stating that the strike has not been called off and that the school reps have no intention of calling off the strike.

Nine schools came out on strike on Thursday. The News of four of them pledged to stay out for at least a term. The other seven delegates to the strike meeting have been backing up their pressure to stay out. Rail chiefs have been called on the strike and are now considering the implications of the strike.

By the time the resolution was passed, a half bulk of the strike would have been made.

The resolution was passed by the teachers in the afternoon and the strike is to be continued.

It was also decided that school reps should write to open letters to the NUT on how the result of the strike was obtained. The resolution was passed by the teachers in the afternoon and the strike is to be continued.

The strike is to be continued.

**NAGLO MILITANTS ROCK THE LEADERS**

by IAN HOLLINGWORTH

with distressing reports of the school reps stating that the strike has not been called off and that the school reps have no intention of calling off the strike.

Nine schools came out on strike on Thursday. The News of four of them pledged to stay out for at least a term. The other seven delegates to the strike meeting have been backing up their pressure to stay out. Rail chiefs have been called on the strike and are now considering the implications of the strike.

By the time the resolution was passed, a half bulk of the strike would have been made.

The resolution was passed by the teachers in the afternoon and the strike is to be continued.

It was also decided that school reps should write to open letters to the NUT on how the result of the strike was obtained. The resolution was passed by the teachers in the afternoon and the strike is to be continued.

The strike is to be continued.