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TAYLOR MADE!

JOHN TAYLOR IS the new Minister of Home Affairs - true they say that he is just a Minister of State and that Chichester-Clark is now responsible for security - no-one is fooled by that. So Porter is sick, Porter was a 'liberal', there are and were no liberals in the Unionist Party, but Porter called himself a 'liberal' and the Unionist Party is an excellent place for a 'liberal' to be sick in.

What does the change mean. It is just one more stage in the careful separation of the issues of 'reform' and 'repression' by the Unionist Party. The Unionist Party will continue to put through a 'reform' programme. It may tinker with some of the more evidently sectarian features of our society. It will not change society. It will not affect unemployment. It will not affect exploitation, low wages, or bad housing. British Parliamentarians - in particular the 'law and order' Tory party will be quite prepared to back the Unionist Party if they put through the 'reform' programme - in return they will allow almost any degree of repression against those genuinely opposed to the whole status quo. Who better to mastermind such repression than Taylor.

OPPORTUNIST

Taylor is a right-wing opportunist - his career started as the sectarian alter ego to Austin Currie at Queens - they often debated against each other. He was elected M.P. for S. Tyrone in 1965. Conscious of his right wing electorate he worked with Craig to oust O'Neill speaking at many meetings with him. He was a member of the Portadown Parliament. Chichester-Clark bought him off along with John Brooke by giving him office.

John Brooke and Taylor have this in common, they recognise that to remain Ministers, to line their pockets they will have to play along with Westminster. To retain electoral support they will have to support and implement repression.

Who will the repression be aimed at. Not at Her Majesty's loyal

opposition the S.D.L.P. Rather at those groups working to create a workers revolution. Look no further than Free Citizen, threatened with two prosecutions in a fortnight. We promise you this, our first anniversary is not far off, we have the ability to come out as an underground newspaper if necessary.

Meanwhile in what may prove to be the last fleeting weeks of 'free speech' we will redouble our campaign against repressive legislation in particular the S.P.A. and the Criminal Justice Temporary Provisions Act.

O'HAGAN'S KILLER IS KNOWN

On the night of Thursday July 30th, a minor confrontation took place between a group of youths and the British Army at New Lodge Road. It was no worse, and in many respects much less intense, than numerous such confrontations which have taken place over the last few months. Yet Danny O'Hagan was shot dead. The questions raised by his death have as yet not been answered.

Within hours of his death the Army issued a bland statement to the effect that he was a petrol bomber. Yet dozens of eye witnesses state categorically that he had no petrol bomb at any stage.

The Army state that an officer gave the order to shoot, yet eye witnesses say that three soldiers opened fire without warning, and without any order being given.

In the few days following the killing the Army carried out a secret investigation and decided to take no action against the killers. A side-effect, though, has been the withdrawal of the 'shoot-to-kill' order (though this has not been made public).

Since O'Hagan's death, some soldiers have openly stated their pleasure at being given the opportunity to 'teach the natives a lesson'. One who has openly boasted of taking part in the killing of O'Hagan is



The funeral procession of Daniel O'Hagan

known as 'Knocker' to his mates in Roger's Company. He rides around in army vehicle No. APC 215.

In a normal society, one would expect an inquest to demand that action be taken against those responsible for killing O'Hagan. But this is not a normal society.

The regulations governing inquests have been framed by the Unionist government to make it impossible for a coroner to compel the appearance of those involved in a killing or to bring in a verdict of murder. This was obvious in the John Gallagher case when most of the Tynan Murder Squad refused to give evidence and the coroner refused to allow the jury to bring in a verdict of murder. No doubt when O'Hagan's inquest takes place we shall witness the same kind of farce.

Such is the state we live in, where people can be murdered by officially-sanctioned and uniformed thugs, their murderers can walk around free, and hundreds of others can be compulsorily jailed (with the connivance of the Opposition M.P.'s) on the perjured evidence of these same professional killers.

We demand an independent inquiry into O'Hagan's Murder not an official whitewashing which passes under the name of inquest.

Shepton Mallet.

END COMPULSORY SENTENCES NOW

The scandal of the compulsory sentence law is at last getting publicity. The efforts of P.D. to get this incredibly repressive Bill before the public's notice was helped this week by the case of the two Portadown juveniles sentenced to six months imprisonment, under this pernicious clause of the Criminal Justice (Temporary Provisions) Act, which states that 'any person' who commits an offence under the Act shall be sent to prison. The embarrassed lackeys of the corrupt regime at Stormont smoothed things over by sending the unfortunate youths to 'Training' school instead. But the injustices that the working people of Belfast and Derry have been suffering under since this Bill became law, are still unremedied. Three hundred people have been charged so far, and face a certain six months or more. Fifty have already been sent to prison. There is no alternative for fine or probation, no matter how minor the incident was which led to the charge. The magistrate must impose the penalty of imprisonment. The most common charge which people face, often on the flimsiest of evidence, is 'disorderly behaviour' - that gets a compulsory six months inside.

The Act is declared to be in force during the 'present emergency'. But there is no limit in the Act, as to when it will cease to operate. It depends on the Unionists. People remember that the Special Powers Act was introduced as an 'emergency' measure for one year in 1922 - fifty years later it still oppresses the working class.

If anything surpasses the villainy of the Unionists, with their so-called 'liberal' elements in enthusiastic support of the measure, it is the role of the supine opposition M.P.'s at Stormont. On the very last day that Stormont was sitting, this Bill, carefully envisaged, was thrown on M.P.'s laps. Without any notice they were asked to pass into law one of the most repressive measures ever to be passed at Stormont. The only voice to object was that of Paisley. But he was playing his own political games, of outwitting the Unionists - he called for even more severe maximum penalties. But at least he did expose the 'bargain' done by the erstwhile opponents of the Justice Bill with the Unionists.

They had agreed to give the mandatory sentences law an easy passage in return for the Unionists bringing forward the 'Incitement to Hatred Bill'. On the principle of 'you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours' - the opposition let pass an Act, the anomalies of which they are now making objections to. The time to object was at Stormont. There they allowed this totally un-

principled law through, knowing it was simply meant as an appeasement to the fascist elements in the Unionist party. This law has one purpose only - it is not increasing the sentences you can get in law - they are high enough already. The real motive behind forcing every person to go to prison is to make 'justice' more apparent, more 'dynamic' to the righteous middle-class critics of the Unionist party, who sit watching their T.V. with the satisfaction that 'firm action' is being taken. Yet again the poor in their slums are the pawns in the Unionist power struggle, this time with the full support of 'Her Majesty's Opposition'.

The precedent has been set with this Bill, of the Opposition M.P.'s 'helping' the crippled Unionists out of the mess which is their own creation. On this performance of trading 'reforms' for repression can be seen the pattern for the future - the future of the new 'coalition' party - the Social Democratic and Labour Party.

With this new law N.Ireland joins Rhodesia and South Africa. For it is only those fascist regimes which could afford to pass minimum sentence legislation, with all the injustices they entail. In Rhodesia the Law and Order (Maintenance) Act 1960 was passed for an 'emergency' and is still going strong - so also the South African Terrorism Act. The 'Law and Order' brigade should be happy with the distinguished company we now keep - for the moment at least.

Why, it might be asked, is the British Government allowing this repression by its Stormont puppets? The answer is not that they have abandoned reforms - but that their primary interest is 'stability'. Stability for British investments. Long term stability requires 'civil rights' reforms, but if in the short-term their Unionist agents - to defeat their own 'right-wing' critics need to make play with 'law and order', the British will back them to the hilt. So the green light is on for repression and Army or R.U.C. will oblige with enforcing it.

RESIST!

Socialists must begin now to militantly oppose these measures. The news that the arch-bigot John D. Taylor has taken over Home Affairs confirms that the immediate outlook is black. We must be prepared to resist, and show our resistance, in this new round of the struggle against the tottering junta at Stormont. The very first demand of all must be an end to mandatory sentences - and an end to them now. But don't expect support from the Social Democrats, any or all of the seven of them - they helped to put it there.

HOUSE
SCANDAL

Last August, about 500 families were forced to leave their homes through intimidation by bomb, bullet or molotov cocktail. At that time the disgraced Stormont government was only too willing to redeem its own good (?) name and promised the refugees they would be rehoused within twelve months.

During that first winter after the burnings, many families had to fend for themselves, squeezing in to the houses of parents, friends and in-laws, houses in many cases which were already overcrowded. The Stormont government was incapable of providing even temporary accommodation for many of them.

But help was at hand to rescue Chi-Chi and his chitterlings from their incompetence. Des Wilson, the director of a voluntary organisation called 'Shelter' which cared for the homeless in England offered Chi-Chi one hundred prefabricated huts, free gratis and for nothing, as a temporary refuge for some of the homeless. Wilson stressed that these huts were temporary saying that they should be used for a maximum of twelve months.

ice-boxes

The government's first action on receiving these FREE huts was to house needy families in them and charge them 12/6d. a week for the privilege.

The refugees accepted the huts, secure in the knowledge that a crash housebuilding project would see them living in real houses before another winter turned the thin-walled huts into damp ice-boxes.

Some time ago, Brian Faulkner, well-known friend of the distressed, stated that the huts were quite adequate and could be used on a semi-permanent basis.

The Housing Trust jumped in on this and upped the rents to 25/4d. a week. Naturally the refugees refused to pay the increase.

rats

There are seventeen families still living in these shelters at Andersonstown, South Link and Glen Road. They are being refused new houses because they have only one or two children or are elderly. Now they fear that the bureaucrats have condemned them to spend years in these huts, on a site where rats are frequently seen.

These families are the victims of last years programs. This year they are the victims of official neglect. We must ensure that Hornibrook and his henchmen are not allowed to sweep this problem under their office carpet, or to dispose of these people's lives without a thought of the consequences.

Joe Quigley & Gerry O'Hare

FREE CITIZEN
COMING
BUSES
by John

about 500 families
have their homes
destroyed by bomb, but -

NDAL
ISING

by
John
Gray

CONFERENCE BUSES, TROOPS & STORMONT

The monthly conference of the P.D. was held in Armagh on Sunday 23rd. Resolutions passed and documents discussed covered policy on a number of important topics - our attitude to repressive legislation, the army, the possibility of a Westminster take-over, transport, P.D. organisation, internal discipline within the P.D. and our attitude to co-operation with a Southern Group, the League for the Workers Republic.

The main debate took place on a resolution about the troops proposed by Mike Farrell:-

Conference is firmly opposed to the presence of British Imperialist troops in Ireland, and believes that their current displays of force and brutal behaviour are grossly provocative. Accordingly we demand: 1) The immediate withdrawal of troops and patrols from working class residential areas. 2) The disarming of troops on patrolling duties (i.e. removal of guns, armoured vehicles, C.S. gas etc).

3) The setting of a date within 12 months for the full withdrawal of British Troops.

Kevin Boyle supported by John Gray moved the reference back of this motion.

Withdrawal

Both sides were, of course, agreed that it is necessary to fight for the ultimate withdrawal of British Troops - it would be a strange Workers Republic if they were still here. K. Boyle argued that the motion concentrated too much on the immediate brutality of the troops, and did not mention their long term role as supporters of the status quo and foreign exploitation. It was a motion which many 'Green Tories' would support. J. Gray argued that the motion was unrealistic, that before demanding complete withdrawal we should build up an effective revolutionary movement in a position to make the demand effective. Mike Farrell said that it did not matter who made the demands so long as we made them for the right reasons. He argued that there was a time when the demand for the B-Specials to be disbanded seemed 'unrealistic'. The reference back was defeated.

Three other important motions were passed virtually unanimously: 1. 'Conference believes that the P.D. should not call for repressive legislation such as the Special Powers Act or Public Order Act to be used against reactionary organisations such as the Orange Order or the A.O.H. Neither should the P.D. defend such organisations if repressive laws are

used against them.

2. 'Conference believes that the P.D. should not defend or protect the sectarian puppet Parliament at Stormont if its London masters decide to suspend or abolish it. The P.D.'s aim is the creation of a 32-county Workers Republic and our only interest in the short term arrangements of the imperialists for ruling N.I. is to lessen the degree of oppression involved.'

3. 'P.D. regards the Social Democratic and Labour Party as a sham organisation which has no claim to socialism. We will have no truck with this new party and will continue our efforts to build a real socialist organisation.'

A document on Transport Policy, the main gist of which appeared in last week's Free Citizen, put forward by J.D. Murphy provoked some discussion. Speakers emphasised that it was important to concentrate on the degree of discrimination against working class people involved in the present Transport Policy.

Organisation

Three motions were carried on P.D. organisation. One emphasising the need to recruit membership, and start new branches, and the importance of paper sales in achieving this. A second referring to the need to re-activate a Queens P.D. The third reading: 'Conference accepts that, in a situation where there is a likelihood that the forces of oppression will use any excuse to harry P.D., members recognise the necessity of deciding on a plan of action' led to some discussion. An amendment proposed by J. Gray adding the words 'and criticising those who break it' was narrowly defeated.

A new Central Committee was elected. Conference over-ruled a Central Committee recommendation to delay elections until September. The new committee is:-

G. O'Hare, Damion Boyle, Gerry Ruddy, J. Gray, M. Farrell, C. Toman, N. Vallely, J. Quigley, M. Rodgers.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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Subscription	£2	1 year
(first class)	£1	6 months
Airmail	10/-	3months
	50/-	1 year

Write to 88 Ladybrook Pk
Belfast

Financial



£££££ HILLERY'S HANDSOME HAND-OUT

An interesting footnote on the speculation about the new Social Democratic and Labour Party comes from usually well-informed sources. It seems that the new party is not as impecunious as would at first glance appear. Indeed our man at the treasury gives us to believe that a sum of money, "in the region" of £10,000 was passed on to the new party by Dr. Hillery - from the ample coffers of Fianna Fail.

NO COMMENT..

Belfast Telegraph, Tuesday, August 25, 1970

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Two rowdy soccer fans are fined

TWO TEENAGERS appeared at Belfast Magistrate's Court today on charges following incidents when a crowd of Linfield supporters marched into the city centre after a football match at the Oval on Saturday.

William McMillan (19), unemployed, of Enniskillen Street, was fined £12, and David Joseph Moorehead (19), labourer, Moss Drive, Ballycraigy, Antrim was fined £10.

They each admitted being drunk and disorderly at Cornmarket on Saturday afternoon.

Inspector Robert Patterson said he was on plain clothes duty following a crowd of about 400 or 500 Linfield supporters who had come over the Queen Elizabeth Bridge.

They were thumping the sides of cars, and in Cornmarket he saw McMillan kick a traffic bollard a number of times. When he spoke to McMillan and made his identity known some of the crowd became hostile and he was kicked several times on the legs.

Constable Louis Craig said he went to assist Inspector Patterson.

"We had to literally kick our way out of the crowd," he said.

The constable said as they were on their way out Moorehead said: "The bastards are not allowed to use batons."

Unity Flats row—2 jailed

TWO young men who police said were seen throwing stones while Linfield football supporters were passing Unity Flats last Saturday were both jailed for six months at Belfast Magistrate's Court today.

Emmanuel Irvine (19), a labourer, of Unity Walk, admitted disorderly behaviour.

The court was told that he was seen as one of a crowd throwing stones from the Unity Flats (known as a football crowd) was passing by. His solicitor, Mr. Trevor Smyth, said Irvine had finished work earlier that day and had been left off from work by friends "of a different persuasion."

WORLD WIDE pattern of REPRESSION!

By now everyone in Ireland is well aware of repressive laws contained in the Special Powers Act, but how many people here are aware of similar legislation that exists in countries of the so-called Free West?

Take W. Germany. There Herr Brandt has just passed an 'Emergency Powers Act' which allows arrest and internment without trial, and the banning of newspapers and strikes. As yet they haven't used it, but they now have it on the books. In France, ever since the May days of 1968, repression has been on the increase. Political parties, groups and papers are all banned, and young left wingers are drafted into the army where they are sent to penal camps manned by ex-French Foreign Legion thugs. In Italy those left wingers who are arrested without charge are kept for months before ever appearing in any court - then they can be remanded for over a year because of the huge backlog of cases - those socialists and anarchists arrested (no evidence has ever been offered) over the bombs set off by fascist agent provocateurs months ago are still in jail and haven't appeared in any court - one, Pinelli was hurled to his death by police from the 4th floor window of police headquarters in Milan.

In Eire they are still trying to pass the infamous Criminal Justice Bill (every bit as bad as the

Special Powers act) and have the Offences of the State Act which allows internment. Their latest stunt is the 'Prohibition of Forcible Entry and Occupation Bill' (1970) designed to protect capitalist landlords and exploiters from squatting. Even to advocate squatting will be a crime.

In America the McCarron Act of 1950 gave provisions for camps to be set up to hold 'troublemakers' whom they wished to keep without charge or trial. These camps are still there, awaiting the youth of the U.S.A. (Hardly reassuring is the official Federal Report on the police which gives their average I.Q. as having dropped from 107 ten years ago to a present day 93 - sub normal - we knew they were stupid, but that stupid?). Every week brings news of more police murders, and youths - especially black ones - are the victims.

This is only dealing with the so-called democracies - we're not even touching on openly Fascist countries like Spain, Greece or S. Africa, nor the totalitarian state capitalist dictatorships of Eastern Europe.

We all know of the repression there, but isn't it nice to know that little ole Ulster is not alone when it comes to repressive legislation.

JOHN MCGOVERN

SOUTH AFRICA

P.D. last January threatened militant demonstrations if the South African Rugby team came to Northern Ireland. We took part in a militant demonstration in Dublin. Because of this we were condemned by many "liberals" who still believe in keeping links with South Africa, with a view to convert them to more "humane" policies.

Our stance has been vindicated by no less a person than the Managing Director of Wates Limited one of Britains biggest building companies. After visiting South Africa, Neil Wates this representative of the British ruling class had this to say.

"Just as I think it would have been totally wrong to connive at Nazism, so also I think, we should not help perpetuate apartheid

Wates found it impossible to talk to Africans, because blacks and whites cannot mix. No key jobs are available to blacks they are reserved for whites. Black workers are kept in labour camps separated from their families.

The 19 million black Africans share 19% of cash income while 3.6 million whites share 73% of the cash income.

The rule of law is in effect a reign of terror. No effective political opposition is allowed. Show trials are now being staged. But despite the iron rule of law nearly 1 million offences were committed in 1968.

Obviously the only solution for their repression is for the blacks to violently overthrow the white rule. We in Ireland in the midst of our struggle can show our practical solidarity with our black brothers by boycotting South African goods. If a capitalist like Wates refuses to trade with South Africa then Socialists should be able to take an even more militant principled stand

Gerry Ruddy

MEETINGS

BELFAST PD MEETING
EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT 8pm
34, BERRY STREET
(off Royal Avenue)

ARMAGH PD MEETING
EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT
Pipers' Club (Ogle St.)

NEWRY PD MEETING
RING NEWRY 2682

FERRANAGH PD
For details ask your local 'Free Citizen' seller.

PORTGLENONE PD
For details ask your local 'Free Citizen' seller.

How PD works

The P.D. monthly conference is the main policy making body in the P.D. Many of our readers who are not members will wonder how our organisation works. Here we give a brief description of the organisation alongside the August conference report.

We have a card-carrying membership. To become a member you have to accept commitment to the views of the P.D. and the demands for a Workers Republic, membership costs 10/-d. a year. All members may attend the monthly conference which rotates round the various towns in which we have branches. All branches and members may put forward resolutions to

the conference and if passed they become official P.D. policy.

Every 3 months the Conference elects 9 members to the Central Committee, each branch is also entitled to send a delegate to the Committee. The committee carries out policy agreed at conferences and co-ordinates the day-to-day work of branches. The committee does have the power to delay any branch activity if it is felt to be contrary to P.D. policy until the next conference.

The Editor of Free Citizen is elected by the Conference, and an editorial board is elected by the Committee from among its members.