

BRITISH JOBS FOR BRITISH WORKERS!

A just cause against the dictates of international finance

A warning to the trade unions: don't fall into the trap of losing public sympathy

The SCN urges the trade unions to implement the new strategic weapon of Advanced Industrial Action (AIA) in securing longer term public support

[Support the Subscription-free Social Capitalist Network] www.socialcapitalistnetwork.org

The projected strikes, down-tools, walk-outs, and other demonstrations of workers at oil refineries, gas terminals, and power and steel plants at Killingholme, Sellafield, Grangemouth, Redcar, Peterhead, and elsewhere throughout the country, are the latest episodes *directly connected* with the debt-fuelled financial crisis.

The impending conflict between so-called "over-paid British workers" and imported "lean, hardworking under-paid" Poles, Portuguese, Italians and others, is a clever ruse of major corporations to instil divide and rule tactics throughout the country in diverting attention from the *real* underlying problems threatening the 90%+ majority of our population.

The unions must *not* fall into the trap of renewing a huge left/right divide splitting the country down the middle, and ultimately, only achieving victory for the interests of the banks and multinationals. History has taught us that ping-pong politics is discredited and *ineffective*.

The danger to the unions, and the interests and livelihoods of the workers concerned, arises from the consequences of protracted strikes, fuel shortages, power cuts, and the breakdown of infrastructures throughout the country. This would soon enrage the broader public and expose striking workers to contempt and hatred.

Meanwhile, Gordon Brown and the Labour government are unhelpful and threaten to exacerbate rather than resolve the situation. Peter Mandelson's suggestion that discontented British workers should seek employment abroad is not only callous and cruel, but grossly insulting. Such a proposal could only have been made by a man who has never married, and has never undergone the lifelong task of bringing up a family. And that such an assertion could have been made on the day prior to the Children's Society report on the hardships encountered by today's children – particularly those from one-parent families – is especially gruelling.

In his role as Business Secretary, he has quickly followed up this absurd suggestion, by proposing to found a "people's bank" based on the 12,000 strong Post Office network, and this reflects a pitiful response in his failure to understand the depth of the present crisis.

Gordon Brown is equally blind to contemporary realities. His reply to the demonstrating workers in raising the frightening apparition of "protectionism" – which indeed it is – is hardly justified as a line of argument. In the world's present situation every nation is entitled to – indeed for its very survival - is obliged to raise import controls in conserving its most vital interests. The world's largest economy, America, has always been protectionist, and the new President, Barack Obama, in his wisdom, is now reinforcing that protectionism.

Britain must now protect and promote all her home-based industries, both urban and rural. The

irresponsible "free traders" or "open market" protagonists, who traditionally have de-regulated everything within their reach, are not only encouraging commercial madness but destroying the environment. Who benefits from Kenyan carrots on the dinner plates of British families? Certainly not British farmers! And certainly not ordinary Kenyan people, 10 million of whom (a third of the population) are now threatened with starvation. Cash crops destroy self-sustainable communities in driving the rural dispossessed into urban slums, whilst filling the pockets of the super-rich controlling the multinationals.

Those so-called industrialists (who are nothing of the sort but mere financial speculators) who scream to high heaven at the mention of "import controls," have no interest whatsoever in fulfilling the legitimate interests of free trade in answering consumer needs, for their sole interest is in rigging the market and promoting a casino economy. It is doubly unfortunate, therefore, that they take in simple-minded people and politicians of all parties with their deceptive rhetoric.

The incessant mantra persists that Britain is dependent on her financial services, but with the breakdown of trust in the money supply, how much longer are these services likely to survive in their present form? Financial services will eventually and inevitably relocate to those centres where the manufacture of tangibles is greatest, i.e. to China, and therefore cannot hope to remain in a country which has chosen to ditch its productive (or secondary economic) sector.

The alleged greed of financiers is hardly relevant to the underlying problem, and so moralising or expressing indignation over this aspect of the situation leads nowhere. The usurious growth of the money markets which is bankrupting people across the social spectrum (i.e. the 90%+ majority) has arisen from the systemic nature of the services themselves, e.g., hedge funds, derivatives, futures options, etc.

The time has therefore arrived for the overhaul of the financial-industrial system: i.e. for the public takeover of the Central banks, for the end of the fractional reserve system, and for the state to spend interest-free money into the economy in relieving taxpayers from the burden of billions. Such reforms are currently advocated by the eminent US Congressman, Dennis Kucinich, and are now being promoted by leading economists and socio-economic thinkers worldwide.

These are revolutionary ideas which augur the end of the financial system as we know it, but they herald in policies and reforms which transcend entirely the divisive left/right politics of the past, in ushering in an age of common consent amongst all people of goodwill irrespective of background. Hence, in serving the interests of today's heterogeneous multi-class middle-middle 90%+ majority, the old discredited ideologies of the past must be swept aside in favour of the scientific doctrines of Social Capitalism.

How does all this tie-in with the demonstrating workers employed at the oil, gas, steel and power plants? It is vital in their own interests, in addition to those of the wider community, that they secure and maintain the sympathy and support of the majority population. How is this to be achieved? It can only be achieved by pursuing two strategies: firstly, through identifying their cause with national interests; and secondly, through a form of demonstration which does not disrupt the industrial life of the country.

The first is to be achieved through linking their struggle with the debt-fuelled financial crisis. Their struggle stems at source from the same circumstances which have priced-out the younger generations from home ownership; are saddling students with life-long debts; have destroyed the supposed benefits of private and company pension plans; and are reducing old age pensioners and others to poverty.

The second is to be achieved through the political strategy of Advanced Industrial Action (AIA), which whilst achieving a high profile in the media will exert minimum inconvenience to the day-to-day resumption of the economy. The strategy of AIA entails the occupation and management of plants by employees in conjunction with high profile educational and demonstrating political activity. The step-by-step strategy in implementing AIA is described in detail in chapters 24-33, or Part IV, of our major book, *The People's Capitalism*. This is the second volume of our seminal 3-volume work entitled, *Social Capitalism in Theory and Practice*. The details and availability of these books are cited below.

Trade unions and their elected officers are invited to contact the Social Capitalist Network for further information or practical assistance in achieving the socially desirable ends of their members.

For further reference and reading -

For elaboration of the analyses and remedies proposed in this paper, together with a description of the reforms necessary to our financial-industrial system, consult the author's 3-volume work cited below. This is a jargon-free book addressed to the thinking lay reader from any sector of society, in addition to academics, administrative officials, elected representatives, and others with political commitments:-

Social Capitalism in Theory and Practice

Volume I Emergence of the New Majority ISBN 978-0-9556055-3-6

pp. xxv/282 Notes, Appendices, Bibliography, Index

Volume II The People's Capitalism ISBN 978-0-9556055-4-3

pp. xx/461 Notes, Appendices, Bibliography, Index

Volume III Prosperity in a Stable World ISBN 978-0-9556055-5-0

pp. xx/473 Notes, Appendices, Bibliography, Indices

Introductory volume:- *Egalitarianism of the Free Society* and the end of Class Conflict ISBN 978-0-9556055-2-9 pp. xviii/317 Notes, Bibliography, Index.

All the above titles may be browsed direct from the SCN's website on **www.socialcapitalistnetwork. org**, together with on-line facilities for immediate purchase from leading booksellers, often at discounted prices. In addition, all the above titles are available from any good bookshop.

Action plan -

You are invited to help in this national and international public initiative in reforming the financial-industrial system for a better world by joining the subscription-free *Social Capitalist Network (SCN)*. Membership of the Network is open to anyone of 16 or over, irrespective of nationality or status, who is committed to the aims of the cause, by submitting a letter of intent which includes: full name, postal and e-mail addresses, and telephone number. Membership may also be accessed through completing a form on the Social Capitalist website cited below. Membership is accepted in the trust that members shall e-mail this communication to as many persons within their circles of contact as is desirable. A print-friendly version is also available for hard copy A4 print outs and may be requested from the address below. It is a condition of membership that under no circumstances must any abridgement or alteration be made to the text of this document or any other document issued by the SCN. Each applicant to the SCN will be e-mailed a membership number. Although the SCN is a subscription-free organisation, donations may be sent and cheques made out to: The Social Capitalist Network, c/o The Secretary, 6 Southgate Green, Bury St. Edmunds, IP33 2BL. E-mail:- social.capitalism@tiscali.co.uk Website:- www.socialcapitalistnetwork.org

© Robert Corfe, 2009