

# UKIP - a barrier to unity

**UK Independence Party leader Nigel Farage has boasted that a young Margaret Thatcher would have joined UKIP.**

Mr Farage described UKIP as "the true inheritors of Thatcher" on European policy. Odd then that she spent 90 per cent of her career promoting Euro-federalism, even drawing up the infamous 1986 Single European Act which gave us the single currency and the beginnings of an EU army.

report by **Brian Denny**

Moreover Thatcher was one of the most divisive and destructive prime ministers this country ever had, shutting down industries wholesale, including the steel and coal industries, in the name of big business and the EU.

UKIP seek to appeal mostly to disaffected Tories but in working class areas claims to support the welfare state. Never mind he was caught on camera at a meeting calling for the NHS to be replaced by an insurance-based healthcare system.

UKIP also supports many EU policies including irrational railway directives that demand that national rail structures are first split up between infrastructure and operations then handed over to the private sector.

Britain has suffered under EU rail directive 91/440 for over 20 years yet UKIP MEPs have been campaigning in the European 'parliament to have this rotten and disastrous concept imposed on all member states. In 2012 UKIP MEPs John Bufton and Roger Helmer have submitted written questions to the Commission asking "will the Commission set out the role of resistance to railway liberalisation and maintenance of the role of the states in exacerbating the debt problems of member states".

The Commission used the opportunity to enthuse about how it was harassing member states to hand over rail networks to the private sector as demanded by EU directives.

UKIP's heavy reliance on EU funding has also led to it getting into bed with far-right groups in Europe to ensure the filthy lucre keeps rolling in.

Following the 2014 European elections, UKIP reconstituted the Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy (EFDD) group but the Latvian MEP Iveta Grigule left, which meant its membership no longer met the required seven states for Parliamentary groups.

EFD restored the requisite seven state diversity by recruiting Robert Iwaszkiewicz, one of four representatives of the far-right Polish Congress of the New Right.

This right wing party claims to hold libertarian views supporting the decriminalisation of all drugs, the abolition of income tax and all social programmes. However it also opposes government-recognised same-sex marriage and advocates restoration of capital punishment.

As a result UKIP and the EFD now has access to millions of Euros from EU funding.

Ultimately UKIP has only succeeded in convincing millions of working people that opposition to the EU is associated with the Tory Party which has never been the case. The UKIP narrative claims that true Tories would be UKIPers yet the Tories took us into 'Europe' in 1973 and has been campaigning to keep us in ever since. Yet questions of democracy, self-determination and against imperialism are arguments from the left and ones which UKIP largely ignore because it does not understand the connections between these issues.



Stop TTIP  
pamphlet  
review p9



Scotland's right to self determination - p4



The need for a joined up rail system p6

**PUZZLES**  
**PAGES 10-11**



**Four page insert—World War 1**  
**Part V: 1916-1919 - Mutinies and revolutions**  
**CETA is similar to TTIP p7 EU Army p8 & Germany**

Diary date

**CAEF**

**AGM**

**& Public  
meeting**

**Saturday**

**11 April**

**11am-4pm**

**Comfort Inn  
Station Street**

**Birmingham**

## **Outstanding response by members and supporters to appeal and circular letter**

We thank those of you who have sent a donation in response to the circular letter. Some donation were very generous. Also thanks to those who have renewed their subscriptions to CAEF or for the *Democrat*. This is a strong indication of the strong support for our campaign and our paper. over the past period and especially for the immediate dangerous period with TTIP and other as yet secret plans.

Our apologies to those few who received empty envelopes due to a minor mix-up by hard working volunteers. We hope a second posting to those we so far know didn't get the letter has rectified this error. If you received an empty envelope or didn't receive the circular please let us know.

As we go to press the total donations received add up to nearly £1200

## **A call for action and support**

### **CAEF Conference**

For members, supporters and  
affiliated organisations

To discuss action to be taken in run up to General Election,  
campaign against TTIP and the EU,  
and work in the labour and trade union movement

**Saturday February 14**

**11am to 4pm**

Lunch refreshments will be provided

**Comfort Inn, Station Street, Birmingham**

Alongside Birmingham New Street Station

# Past, Present and Future

The beginning of the era of European empires and 19<sup>th</sup> Century imperialism started in 1865. This was the 'Scramble for Africa' where tribes and embryo nations were ignored and carved up. Straight lines were drawn on the map of Africa to decide who had which bit. There was no involvement from the inhabitants of Africa. An interstate dispute settlement committee was formed to avoid clashes. Armed forces marched in to claim their territory and millions killed in order to gain control and exploit the resources.

The British Empire became the largest dose of imperialism the world had experienced with areas appropriately coloured red on maps. There were other empires.

An arms race developed between the European powers to defend, consolidate and expand their empires. This was egged on by Britain and Germany which had lost out in the Scramble for Africa. This led to the impending clash between competing imperial European powers.

All the time there was plenty of opposition and understanding amongst the growing labour and trade union movements. The left formed international solidarity to oppose the thrust to war and held in its hands the power to stop war. Workers produce manufactures and could down tools and stop transport systems. The understanding and theory was in place but the left in general became divided despite heroic efforts of some leaders and paid a heavy price.

The First World War wasn't stopped, with dreadful consequences and millions killed in the first industrialised war where men were simply cannon fodder. Opposition grew where mutinies and revolutions brought the war to an end but not before the imperialist intervention forces in Russia were de-

feated. Monarchies fell and a couple of empires were broken up. The so-called ceasefire of 1918 lasted until 1939 in which fascism was used in Germany to use war to expand. The Second World War took place and again millions were killed. Soviet forces tore the guts out of the Nazi war machine. The map of Europe changed again into the socialist east and capitalist west. Those who fought in this war wanted a better life and to take charge of affairs. To avoid revolutions in Western Europe discussions took place amongst the ruling classes as how best to do this. A stage in this process was the Rome Treaty with the aims of a European Union with a common currency and centralised government. Several treaties later and an expansion of Member States the EU is brought into being.

From the beginning left forces, including the labour and trade union movement, have opposed this process. This opposition was eventually overcome in the 1980's by splitting the left. This split remains today. Now we have the latest version of capitalism which is crypto imperialism in the form of so-called trade partnerships. These are TTIP, CETA and ISDS. The latter is a carbon copy of the inter-state dispute settlement body in the Scramble for Africa. Crypto imperialism wants an end to the powers of national governments and all forms of democracy just as it



stopped the development of nations and nation-states in Africa and around the world.

Today's task to ensure a rational future is to bring an end to wars and the interference of one nation-state in the affairs of another which involves wars. This means a vigorous campaign to stop TTIP and all the other treaties. This will in itself expose what the EU is really about and enable a successful stage where Britain leaves the EU. An understanding of what imperialism and capitalism are is required. The key importance of nations and their right to self determination is the basis of the struggle which the left and the labour and trade union movement must take part in and lead. If this is not done we will all be pushed further back to feudalism.





# Scotland's right to self-determination

*Michael Chant—CAEF Executive Committee member*

**T**he total electorate when the people of Scotland voted on September 18 was 4,283,938. Of these, 1,617,989 voted "Yes" to the question "Should Scotland be an independent country?". This was 44.7% of 3,619,915 valid votes cast on a total turnout of 84.6%.

This represents a massive vote reflecting the sentiment of the people of Scotland to end the rule from Westminster, and is an enormous slap in the face for the ruling circles who went into desperation mode as the referendum date approached. Many recognised this desperation as a fraud and a bluff, as indeed it now appears, with Gordon Brown even calling for a petition to be launched to ensure Westminster's hollow promises are kept.

It is also clear that this desperation in fact did little to alter the trend to vote "Yes", though the fear tactics may have consolidated those that had already decided to vote "No", such as over the ill-founded fear that pensions may suffer under Scottish independence. The opinion polls, as cited in the House of Commons research paper analysing the results, in fact showed an almost continuous rise in those determined to vote "Yes" from the beginning of 2014, as those who were previously undecided made up their minds, while the "No" vote remained steady. This overall trend remained right up to polling date, accelerating as September 18 approached.

Thus the sentiment of the people

of Scotland that they should be able to determine their own affairs in a manner which they are competent to decide was very evident and almost won the day against all the predictions of those whose interest it was to maintain the status quo.

As everyone is pointing out, political affairs in the United Kingdom are not going to remain the same, even though the "Yes" vote was a little over 5% short of prevailing. In other words, a space for change in the political system and institutions has opened up, and it is up to those in whose interests it is to bring about democratic renewal and a system based on the rights of the people to determine their own affairs to occupy this space.

The right of the Scottish nation to self-determination cannot be taken away. There is no way that the Westminster-based parties can claim that following the referendum it will be business as usual. David Cameron has sought to utilise this space in the interests of the ruling elite, claiming that there must be "English votes on English affairs". One of the crucial arenas in this respect is on the issue of human rights, with the Conservative Party banking on blocking the opposition of MPs from Scotland to Britain's repeal of the Human Rights Act which enacts the European Convention of Human Rights into British law. Thus the cartel parties are doing everything they can to sabotage the demand for change and the guarantee of rights

that the Scottish referendum campaign represents.

One of the most marked features which has come out of the campaign is the demand for the people to participate in political affairs. This was particularly noticeable amongst the youth, especially the 16-17 year-olds who were eligible to vote for the first time in the referendum. Some polls showed a large majority (71% according to a survey by Lord Ashcroft) of these youth voted that Scotland should determine its own affairs. Other surveys showed that right up to age 54, there had been a majority who voted "Yes".

There is a battle brewing over the constitutional arrangements which stand in need of renewal. A Constitutional Convention has been suggested. At stake is the arrangement in which ultimate power rests with the sovereign in parliament.

It is also evident that areas with a high working class population, such as Glasgow, were in favour of exercising the right to self-determination. This points the way forward for the working class throughout Britain to join with the working class of Scotland to fight for the next step along the road towards a modern sovereign state of Scotland. This is the right of the Scottish nation-building project. Sovereignty based on rights and the people holding decision-making power is the future and this is the nub of the struggle which the Scottish referendum has opened up.

# European Alliance of EU critical organisations and Movements-TEAM

TEAM adopted a strong resolution against TTIP at the AGM held in London on Sunday 16 November.

The alliance originally founded in 1992 currently consists of around 40 affiliated organisations and observers from across the continent of Europe.

Delegates in attendance included those from the Danish People's Movement, Irish People's Movement, Norwegian, Swedish and Finnish organisations and those from Britain.

A Board (Executive Committee) was elected and John Boyd was elected Co-ordinator/Chairman. A part time secretary will service the Board.

Other decisions taken included an in-

struction to the Board to rejuvenate TEAM and bring forward proposals to transform TEAM into an information and network body. This will require the TEAM website to be re-launched and be able to facilitate all affiliated organisations to upload their material in their own language as well as English.. Different views, national reports on common or local problems will give a clear view of what the EU is putting in force and has planned.

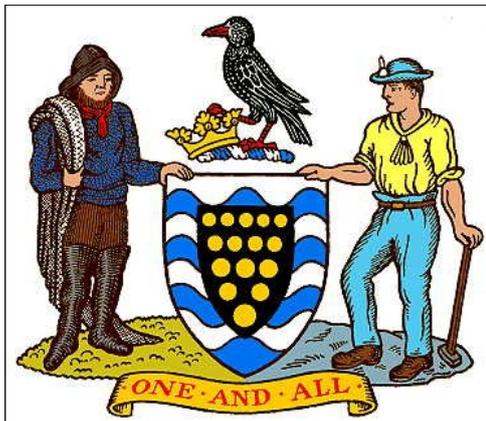
The objective is to have this powerful tool available early in the New Year where everybody interested from the continent of Europe and other parts of the world can browse the website.

## Cornish recognised\*

"...the Cornish have at long last been recognised under the Council of Europe's *Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities*. The change puts the Cornish on the same footing as other Celtic peoples such as the Welsh, Scots and Irish.

"The Convention stipulates that there should be respect for the 'ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity of each person belonging to a national minority.'" (Statement by the Scottish Republican Socialist Movement)

Dick Cole, leader of Mebyon Kernow (Party of Cornwall) has described this recognition as a "fantastic development" and a "proud day for Cornwall".



Cornish coat of arms with a fisherman on the left and tin miner on the right



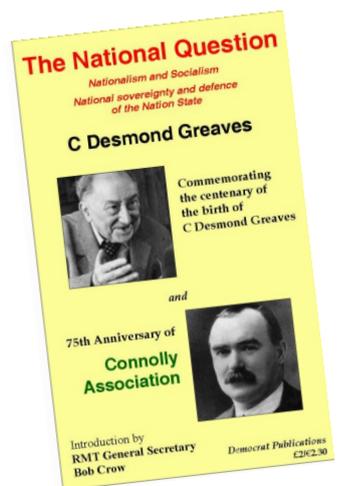
This follows on from the disclosure that some 84,000 people declared themselves Cornish in the 2011 Census and increasing evidence of what the *Independent* (23.4.14) describes as a "robust revival" in interest in speaking the Cornish language".

\*The Council of Europe is nothing to do with the EU and is an older body of 47 nation-states and includes the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR). The EU would like the ECHR court to be replaced by the EU's European Court of justice. The Con-Dem government would also like to withdraw from this Convention. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

**Note.** In the past the Democrat carried articles by the Cornishman Royston Green. These will be posted onto the website as soon as practical as they are not yet in a digital format.

## Nations

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## Miles-n-miles

# There must be a joined up national railway system

Many people are not aware of what Network Rail is, never mind what it does. It was born out of European directive 91/440 to split rail operations from infrastructure. The Conservative government at the time, set up the private rail industry in such a way as to make sure it was never put back together. This included infrastructure owner Railtrack plc. The Labour government took Railtrack into Railway Administration, from which it was bought by Network Rail Ltd. The new company was designed as a "not for dividend" private concern, but in most people's minds it was a "not for profit" company.

Any surplus Network Rail makes is ploughed back into the company to invest in infrastructure improvements. But the bulk of funding was, and still is, borrowed against its own infrastructure. The remainder is obtained through selling train paths to the train operators. In 2014, Network Rail was effectively nationalised due to imposition of pan-European accounting standard ESA10. As a result of this change, Network Rail's debt is now UK government debt. The company financial cycle is in five year "control periods", each negotiated afresh with the UK government (currently Office of Rail Regulation). Both Network Rail and ORR are effectively divisions of the Department for Transport, which has the self-imposed responsibility for letting contracts to run passenger trains.

Network Rail maintains an office in Brussels, so it can react to and influence EU business. The list of

regulation is phenomenal, but of note is the Inter-operability Regulations which govern every rail asset. New control systems and signalling are required by these regulations in the form of European Rail Traffic Management Systems (ERTMS). The first true ERTMS system is now installed on the Welsh Cambrian line between Shrewsbury and Aberystwyth/Pwllheli, with two major projects to follow for the Great Western and East Coast Main Line routes. However, technically, ERTMS specifications were not fully completed, which means much has to be worked out. No two countries will have the same signalling! Much of continental Europe is running ERTMS control for its trains. When the rail routes in Great Britain are equipped, each train operating company will be required to fit ERTMS equipment to its trains. Since there is no economic benefit in this, the UK government will have to fund this fitment through the franchising system. ERTMS was largely designed around brand new railway, but in the UK very little brand new railway is being built. One can assume HS2 will be equipped with it from the start, but fitting it to existing lines will be difficult.

Outside of Network Rail, the public is bewildered by the multitude of train operating companies, fares and conditions. Remembering that 91/440 was not enforcing privatisation, no country other than the UK has so many different operators. Franchising as it is known has to



Network Rail Apprentices

conform to European competition rules, and each new franchise opportunity is advertised in the Official Journal of the European Union. Victors of the franchising spoils include Deutsche Bahn (German national operator) and Nederlander Spoorwegen (Dutch national operator). The UK doesn't have a National train operator to compete back at these on home territories. The nearest one being was Arriva (then a UK plc) which won business from both NS and DB. DB then bought out Arriva. The recent letting of East Coast franchise lead to strong rumours that the franchise had been won by Abellio (a subsidiary of NS), and people reasoned that the franchise system was flawed, in that it could not allow a nationalised company from the UK to run it (ie Directly Operated Railways subsidiary of DfT), but could allow a public European company to do this.

There is the European Rail Authority in Lille where bureaucrats work out the details of EU directives and regulations.

Overwhelmingly the electorate in Britain want a national joined up rail system and are opposed to privatisation. Rail unions including RMT advocate this. In the run up to the General Election the left should make it a priority and so should the Labour Party.

Answers to double meaning quiz on page 10  
1. Dose: 2. Appropriate: 3. Permit: 4. Desert: 5. Defect: 6. Conduct:  
7. Entrance: 8. Sewer: 9. Sow: 10. Incense: 11. Resent: 12. Alternate:  
13. Moped: 14. Race: 15. Recreation: 16. Bass: 17. Contest: 18. Buffet:  
19. Polish: 20. Wound

Countries  
1 Nepal: 2. Yemen: 3. Tonga: 4. Ivory  
Coast: 5. Slovenia: 6. Eritrea: 7 Romania:  
8 Belgium: 9. Bulgaria: 10. Surinam:  
11. Singapore: 12 Cameroon: 13. Portugal:  
14: Thailand: 15. Argentina

# First World War

## Imperialist parallels then and now

### Part V 1916-1919 Mutinies and revolutions

*A Democrat insert*  
 We are being bombarded with books, papers, radio and TV programmes, and events to mark the First World War. The bulk of this material concentrates on the war and carnage in the trenches. Our objective is to put a different point of view.

"Let the bourgeoisie rage and fume, but only people who shut their eyes so as not to see, and stuff their ears so as not to hear, can fail to notice that all over the world the birth pangs of the old, capitalist society, which is pregnant with socialism, have begun" *Lenin 1918*

#### The Russian revolution

By 1916 social unrest, strikes, rampant price inflation, shortages of the necessities of life grew relentlessly under the draconian autocratic rule by Tsar Nicholas II. Russian soldiers began to mutiny, shot many of their officers and left the front to demonstrate in the streets.

This potent combination of mounting social unrest brought down Tsarist autocracy and led to the 1917 October Revolution. The Bolsheviks took power and developed Soviets under the legendary slogan "Bread, Peace and Land" to cover the immediate, simple aspirations of workers, soldiers, sailors and peasants. The Bolshevik leader Lenin immediately denounced the war and sued for peace: "The so-called Great Powers have long been exploiting and enslaving a whole number of small and weak nations. And the imperialist war is a war for the division and re-division of this kind of booty".

The Bolsheviks called for a unilateral armistice, but other combatants refused, determined to fight until the bitter end. The revolutionary government agreed a peace treaty with Imperial Germany, the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk signed on March 3 1918. This included harsh reparations to be paid by Russia under threat of advances by German and Austrian forces. However, these reparations were not carried out following Germany's 'surrender' in 1918. The Bolsheviks also published the secret treaties between Russia and the Western Allies, exposing the origins of the imperialist war and encouraging international opposition.

#### Ireland

Although the British War Cabinet introduced conscription in 1916 to fill gaps at the war fronts they didn't introduce conscription into Ireland. The population would not have put up with it but Connolly had warned that conscription would be put in place piecemeal in the provinces starting with unionist Ulster. After the Easter Rising opposition to the war became more pronounced. Therefore the decision by the British government to introduce conscription in the spring of 1918 backfired spectacularly. A key element in the fight against it was the general strike of April 23 1918. Even the *Irish Times* asserted: "It was the voice of labour, not the voice of religion or politics, which stopped the wheels of industry".

The Conscription Crisis of 1918 had long-term repercussions, uniting several nationalist parties and Roman Catholic Church in opposing the draft. This polarised opinion in Ireland and in the December 1918 election, the Irish republican party Sinn Féin won a landslide victory. On 21 January 1919 they formed a breakaway government and declared independence from Great Britain. On the same day it published its Democratic Programme, a declaration of economic and social principles adopted by the first Dáil.

The programme outlined a socialist policy which included: the public ownership of the means of production, natural resources and "wealth"; state provision of education for children and care for the elderly; ensuring that children receive food; promotion of industrial development as well as the



Liberty, equality and fraternity  
 Russian Revolution banner



Ireland election 1918

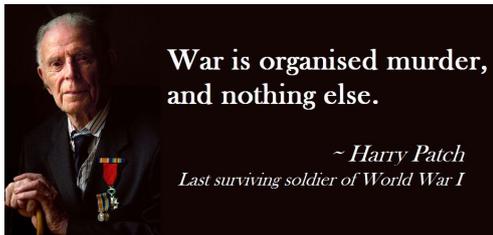




IRA - Hogan's flying column



Above Indian troops cleaning rifles  
Below Indian troops being executed  
for mutiny



War is organised murder,  
and nothing else.

~ Harry Patch  
Last surviving soldier of World War I



"What's that? U boat blockading New York? Tut! Tut! Very inopportune." *Punch* 18.10.16

Every trick in the book  
was used to get men  
to enlist. People were  
employed to give ten  
minute emotional  
speeches in cinemas.



exploitation of natural resources.

It was also the same day as the outbreak of the Irish War of Independence. This was a guerrilla war fought from 1919 to 1921 between the Irish Republican Army and the British government and its forces in Ireland.

### British mutinies

It is difficult to estimate the full impact of the Russian revolution but from 1917 right up to 1919 there were widespread military mutinies, strikes and riots. At Etaples and Boulogne, between September and December 1917, demonstrations and strikes by troops in protest at their appalling mistreatment by the top brass resulted in scores of Chinese and Egyptian soldiers in the British Expeditionary Forces being shot and wounded after they refused to work and tried to break out of camp. Even more serious and widespread mutinies erupted in 1918 when a total of 676 troops were officially court-martialled and sentenced to death for acts of sedition and mutiny. Though not all these death sentences were carried out, unofficially many other rebellious soldiers were summarily shot on the spot.

The first of the big mutinies in Britain occurred in early 1918 when machine-gunners in the Guards staged a mass strike at Pirbright in Sussex. By the end of the year, the number of rebellions grew. On November 13 there was mutiny at Shoreham when troops marched out of base camp in protest at brutality and degrading treatment by their officers. They won. The army responded by demobbing a thousand soldiers the following morning and another thousand each week thereafter.

At Le Havre, Royal Artillery units rioted on 9 December 1918, burning down several army depots. The most sustained mutiny by troops took place at army camps surrounding Calais. Unrest within the units stationed there had been building up for several months beforehand over issues such as cruel and humiliating punishments, the censorship of news from home, and bad working conditions in the Valdélièvre workshops.

In January 1919 these grievances exploded into agitation for improved conditions and speeded demobilisation. At Valdélièvre camp, troops elected a Soldiers' Council and called for a general strike. They refused to go on parade at reveille. Instead of their normal guard duty, troops set up picket lines and defensive positions throughout the camp.

Harry Patch, the last British veteran of the trenches, was part of that wave of revolt. He and his mates were still in uniform three months after the Armistice. When they refused to parade, an officer threatened them with a gun. "He came out, click, click, went the hammer on his revolver, and crash, crash, went back about 30 rifle bolts, mine included, before someone shouted, 'Now you shoot, you bugger, if you dare'...." Had he not backed down, he would have been shot, there's no doubt about it. All those rifles were loaded, one round each. Anyway, down went the revolver and he scarpared back to the mess". The officer was removed. There were no more parades. Demobilisation followed promptly. "The army was keen to get shot of us. Most of us were down for immediate demobilisation and we had decided ourselves that we were more or less civilians, and that army rules no longer applied to us".

### The United States

Woodrow Wilson ran for re-election as US president in 1916 on the slogan "He Kept Us Out of War". However after he was elected events quickly spiralled into war. The Zimmermann Telegram and resumption of unrestricted submarine warfare by Germany provoked outrage in the US and Congress declared war on April 6 1917. Conscription was introduced shortly thereafter, despite widespread opposition, mobilising over four million men.

The US government used the same jingoistic tactics as used in Britain to whip up support for conscription. However the US objective was to muscle in on the imperialist consolidation and plunder of the world when the go-

ing looked good. Huge profits were made by US arms and explosives industries which at the same time reduced the need for British, French and Russian industries to manufacture arms.

The Espionage Act of 1917 was passed to prevent spying but also contained a section which criminalised inciting or attempting to incite any mutiny, desertion, or refusal of duty in the armed forces, punishable with a fine of not more than \$10,000, not more than twenty years in federal prison, or both. Thousands of anti-war activists were prosecuted on authority of this and the Sedition Act of 1918, which tightened restrictions even more. Among the most famous case was Eugene Debs, chairman of the Socialist Party of the USA, prosecuted for giving an anti-war speech in Ohio. The US Supreme Court upheld these prosecutions in a series of decisions. Conscientious objectors were punished as well. They were placed directly in the armed forces and court-martialed, receiving draconian sentences and harsh treatment. A number of them died in Alcatraz Prison, then a military facility.

Around 300,000 US men evaded or refused conscription in World War One. Aliens such as Emma Goldman were deported, while naturalised or even native-born citizens, including Eugene Debs, lost their citizenship for their activities. Helen Keller, a socialist, and Jane Addams, a pacifist, also publicly opposed the war, but neither was prosecuted, mainly because they were popular figures.

### French mutinies

French Army mutinies on the Western Front began in April 1917 following the news the Russian Tsar had been overthrown. General Robert Nivelle had also promised a decisive war-ending victory over the Germans within 48-hours at the disastrous Second Battle of the Aisne. The shock of failure of the battle led nearly half of the French infantry divisions to mutiny.

The new commander General Philippe Pétain promised no more suicidal attacks, providing rest for exhausted units, and moderate discipline. However he ordered 3,400 courts martial and 554 mutineers were sentenced to death but over 90 per cent had their sentences commuted. This episode, kept secret from German forces and the other Allies, was only exposed in 1989. These soldiers were finally rehabilitated by the French government in the 1990s.

### German mutinies

As we have seen the peace movement in Germany had grown in strength based on trade unions and socialists who adhered to the Second International position to oppose the war. The carnage was seen as intolerable and pointless. Troops on the Russian-German front fraternised with the Russians who encouraged the German soldiers to have a revolution of their own.

On 24 October 1918, with the German army in retreat, the right-wing Prussians who ran the German navy launched a suicidal mission from the base in Kiel. However the disciplined crews of the German battleships simply took over the bridges ran up red flags and pointed the guns of rebel ships at the hulls of those that did not rebel.

On 4 November 1918 they set off in their thousands for the industrial centres of northern Germany under arms. When they reached Berlin, the first thing the insurgent sailors did was try to seize its radio tower to send a message of solidarity to Russian sailors at Kronstadt in the eastern Baltic Sea, who they had been fighting until a year before. Workers set up a republic in Berlin taking the Dublin uprising of 1916 against the British Empire as an example.

By November 9, the Kaiser had abdicated and only the declaration of a republic, with a Labour government and the promised "socialisation of industry", prevented outright revolution.

### Armistice

When looking at the many war memorials to the First World War erected in every village, town and city around Britain people are often baffled by those marked 1914-1919, surely the war ended in 1918? It didn't. The Armistice between the belligerents signed on 11 November 1918 was only a ceasefire. It is clear that resistance to the war, social unrest, mutinies, revolutions and the



Eugene Debs speaking at a rally in the USA



Emma Goldman speaking in Union Square against conscription



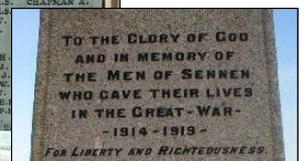
1917 French Mutinies Execution at Verdun



Armed German sailors and soldiers in Berlin—the Spartacists

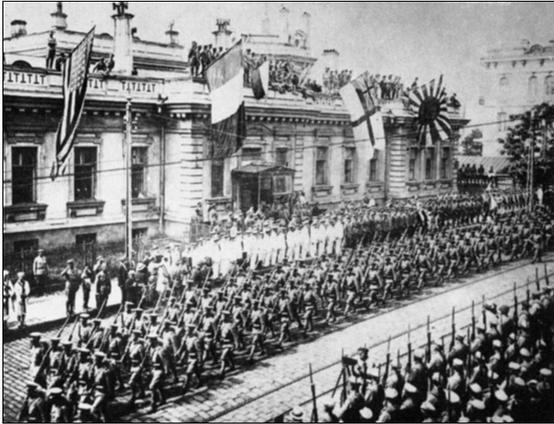


Same war different dates!





Matthias Erzberger and General Foch at and in coach where Armistice was signed



'Allied' intervention troops in Vladivostock 1918



"Thanks for that, here's a medal and we might find you a job" French Cartoon

**The series has been expanded to six parts—part VI will be included in the next issue of the *Democrat***

All six parts of this series of inserts are to be compiled and expanded into a pamphlet. This will take account of further research.

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killing of so many workers caused the imperialist powers to come to some kind of mutual agreement in order to quell further unrest. The Armistice was signed on behalf of the German government by Matthias Erzberger who had spoken out against the war from 1917. He was assassinated for this act by the right-wing terrorist group Organisation Consul in 1921. Another reason that the war officially ended in 1919 was that Western forces invaded Russia in 1918 in an attempt to resurrect the Eastern Front by defeating the Bolsheviks and stop the spread of socialism in Russia. In Britain the pro-war and leading imperialist Cabinet member Winston Churchill said this "revolution had to be snuffed out at birth". Troops from 14 countries, including four from the British Empire, were sent to intervene in the Russian Civil war from 1918-1919 between the Red Army and 'White' forces.

Over 13,000 US troops and 70,000 Japanese troops were also landed in Vladivostock. Following the Armistice, 12,000 French troops also intervened alongside German and Greek troops in Southern Russia. However Western forces withdrew by 1919, defeated by disciplined Soviet troops, local resistance and resentment amongst invading troops who simply wanted to go home.

Despite the armistice the British Navy blockade of Germany continued and was intensified for another eight months, imposing mass starvation across Germany which harboured a brooding resentment that would manifest itself in later years.

The terms of the final peace treaty, drawn up largely by Britain and France, were announced in June 1919. Germany was not consulted about the terms of the Treaty of Versailles but had very little choice but to sign. The treaty demanded that Germany pay reparations for the damage caused by the war. The exact figure was not agreed until 1921 when it was set at £6,600 million, an enormous amount.

German territories and colonies were divided up among the victors, Alsace-Lorraine went to France, Eupen, Moresnet and Malmedy went to Belgium, North Schleswig went to Denmark, West Prussia and Posen went to Poland, Memel went to Lithuania and Danzig became a free city controlled by the newly-found League of Nations.

Russia had already signed a peace treaty with Germany. However, in practice Russia had walked away from the Treaty because of the impractical and draconian reparations expected.

The victorious imperialists also 'confiscated' the German colonies and added them to their existing empires. Other delegates to the Peace Treaty were ignored and did not sign either - they weren't even invited to do so. These delegates included Ireland, Egypt and other nations which had fought on the side of the major imperialist allies were simply ignored. The million enlisted soldiers from the colonies were told to go back to their farms as there was nothing for their support but a medal. Any notion of their nation having the right to self-determination was contrary to the doctrine of imperialism.

Imperialism was also consolidated following the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman Empires which laid the seeds for the turmoil in that region today.

In practice the ceasefire of 1918 lasted until the 1930s when the German ruling class adopted fascism with dreadful results, sparking another World War where once again millions lost their lives.

**Part VI continues through the 1930's to the parallels with the EU**

# STOP CETA

**DON'T LET CORPORATIONS MAKE THE RULES**

## CETA is similar to TTIP

Report in Irish People's Movement Newsletter

The Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) is an agreement—very similar to TTIP—between the EU and Canada. It must still be approved by the EU Council and Parliament; if approved, it will begin to come into effect in 2016.

Only this week Germany dropped its objection to the controversial Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) in the agreement, clearing the way for the deal to take effect as planned. The minister for economic affairs, Sigmar Gabriel, previously a vocal critic of the agreement's investor state provisions, now says his country won't stand in the way of ratification.

But it may yet hit a snag, as its fate may hinge on an obscure case due to come before the European Court of Justice that relates to a similar deal the EU recently struck with Singapore.

At issue is whether EU trade deals containing investment-protection provisions can be approved simply by EU institutions or whether they also re-

quire ratification by each of the EU's twenty-eight Member States. If the latter process applies, the Singaporean and Canadian deal could be held up for years as politicians in each EU country debate the pros and cons of the agreements, with the outside possibility of referendums.

Following the conclusion of negotiations on CETA in September, Canada and the EU are proceeding with legal checks and translations, aiming for agreement to be ready for ratification in the first half of 2015. But the EU Commission in a memo of 26 September stated that: "CETA will be sent to the Council for authorisation for signature ... For the consent vote in the European Parliament, and if necessary the approval of parliament of the member State".

The EU-Singapore agreement contains an investment chapter similar to threat in CETA and TTIP, and both include a mechanism for settling disputes between foreign investor and states.

## Movement grows against TTIP and associated treaties, agreements and 'partnerships'

The TUC and General Council of Trades Councils have passed resolutions against TTIP. Several trade unions and War on Want are leading the No TTIP Campaign. TEAM and the Connolly Association have passed strong resolutions rejecting TTIP.

Tory and Labour MPs are issuing patronising 'standard letters' for constituents who raise concerns about TTIP. The Government is concerned about petitions initiated by 38 Degrees. Write and tell your MP to oppose TTIP and all the rest of the plans.

## Definitions

### Watch your Language

*"Hard working people and Taxpayers" etc*

Government ministers, especially the Prime Minister and Chancellor, George Osborne, along with their millionaire cabinet colleagues trot out mantra after mantra.

We've just had 'hard working people' than we have recently heard 'hard working taxpayers'. Other mantras have included 'we're all in this together' and 'we need to be fair. It is obvious MPs on the government benches have not tried to attend closed down or overworked A&E departments or use other NHS services. Except to say they have hard decisions to make but for whom

The latest mantras in the run up to the General Election are to soften up the electorate for yet more severe cuts, more austerity along with loss of public services. They say the public sector has to be reduced to balance the books. That when Britain is one of the richest nation-states in the world.

So, where is all the money including that given to 'rescue' the banks?

Now we are being bombarded with Tory publicity from Parliamentary candidates which starts by stating: 'What matters most to you?'. This is followed by a tick box paper with Aunt Sally questions. Nothing about privatisation of the NHS or a national rail system and so on. AND nothing about TTIP and the other Treaties which they do not want to draw any attention to—but we will!

This is a fishing exercise laced with honeyed bait to see how they can use spin in true Mandleson style to gain votes and paint a rosy picture in the distant future.

### Germany's path to an EU Army

The German government is accelerating the creation of an EU army by means of bilateral military cooperation. The German-Polish "declaration of intent" on military cooperation of the two countries' armed forces is the most recent example. The agreement includes the exchange and joint training of officers as well as "placing combat battalions under the other's command."

Poland's military already has more than 130 German-made Leopard 2 battle tanks with another 120 due to be added by 2015. A sales contract to this effect was signed last year, only a few months after an agreement "reinforcing" cooperation between the Navies of the two countries was signed.

At the time, German Defense Minister Thomas de Maizière (CDU) spoke of a "totally new quality" in the military cooperation between Germany and Poland. His successor, Ursula von der Leyen (CDU), has gone a step further and had her ministry declare that the intended German-Polish military cooperation is a "trend-setting milestone for the development of European integrated military structures."

(Newsletter 31.10.14)  
<http://www.german-foreign-policy.com/en/fulltext/58796>

- 14. Orange:15. Cherry:
- 13. Gooseberry:
- 11. Mulberry:12. Banana:
- 9. Currant:10. Lime:
- 6. Apple:7. Lemon:8. Olive
- 4. Pumpkin:5. Shoe:
- 1. Fig:2. Pear:3. Mango:

Fruit clue answers

## 'West' under pressure

Transatlantic circles are warning against a global "disengagement" by the West and are calling for a renewed cohesiveness between NATO countries under US leadership. The fact that Russia was able to take over the Crimea and that China can obstinately maintain its position in disputes over several islands and groups of islands in Eastern Asia, is also a consequence of weak Western leadership, according to the "German Marshall Fund of the United States" (GMF).

The 'West' must draw lessons from the current "global disorder." However, German experts demonstrate a bit more restraint in their appraisals. According to the latest edition of a German military journal, the current intra-Western tensions have primarily arisen from the fact that in the course of its development the EU has "inevitably become a competitor to NATO." It cannot be excluded that



Chinese Battleship

this could cause a serious "rupture in transatlantic relations" and that NATO could even disintegrate into conflicts. However, as long as the EU does not have strong military power, it should "grit its teeth and continue to flexibly attempt to benefit from US capabilities." This must also be seen in the context of the fact that western hegemony no longer seems assured. Moscow has announced its intentions to carry out joint manoeuvres with China in the Mediterranean, thus breaching another western hegemonic privilege.

(German Foreign Policy Group 1.12.14)

More can be found at:

<http://www.german-foreign-policy.com>

## Driving force for the EU Army

Military experts of the SPD group in the German Bundestag are calling for an EU "military academy" and "permanent military headquarters" along with other steps toward establishing an EU army. "As Social Democrats, we want to be the driving force in Europe of a parliamentary controlled European army," declared its "Working Group on Security and Defense Policy" in a position paper.

The paper was presented last week by the SPD parliamentary group's defense policy spokesperson Rainer Arnold. The

EU is "a global actor" due particularly to its economic influence, the authors explain. Its foreign and military policy, on the other hand, is inadequate and "urgently in need of improvement."

These demands are being raised at a time when the Bundeswehr has begun to establish "European" military structures through bilateral and multilateral cooperation projects, and when Germany's Minister of the Economy is calling for the establishment of an EU armament industry with a strong German base, independent of the USA. Already a few years ago, SPD politicians called for reopening the discussion on the EU's war and peace decision-making authority, and possibly taking this authority away from the national parliaments.

(German Foreign Policy Group 8.12.14)

More can be found at:

<http://www.german-foreign-policy.com/en/fulltext/58810>



## Against TTIP and rule by transnationals

**T**his new *Stop TTIP* pamphlet describes the fearsome menace of free market power as it sets out to destroy national sovereignty in the name of the shameless pursuit of transnational corporate profit overriding democracy and national governments.

The key elements of TTIP which was "launched by the US president Barack Obama and the EU Commission President Manuel Barossa at the G8 meeting in June 2013. are succinctly itemised in the section headed: TTIP THREATENS DEMOCRACY as follows :

"Although branded as a free-trade agreement, TTIP has little to do with lowering tariffs, as tariffs between the US and EU are already generally low. The central aspects of TTIP are: 'regulatory harmonisation', bringing together US and EU regulation in a way that is essentially deregulatory. Investor state dispute settlement (ISDS), allows transnational corporations to sue governments for regulation which limits their profits and transnational corporate access to government spending... Thus they undermine democracy."

The author reveals how a culture of secrecy has concealed the truth about the effects of the most dangerous elements of TTIP: in particular "Regulation Harmonisation" which will downgrade health and safety provisions to enable greater profits to be made, and it is that manic drive for profit which underlies the ISDS (Investor State Dispute Settlement). This means that a dispute between a sovereign government and an investing body will be heard by a panel of lawyers in the pocket of the transnational corporation. A few examples from a list of such legal conflicts are as follows:

The government of El Salvador is being sued by the Australian/

Canadian gold mining firm, Pacific Rim, for trying to protect its main water supply from contamination.

The biggest ISDS award so far - \$1.77 billion in 2012 to Occidental Petroleum for Ecuador's termination of a contract, has now swelled to over \$3 billion with the addition of compound interest calculated from the date of that country's 'violation'".

It is clear that only Transnational Corporations can benefit from ISDS at the expense of domestic enterprises, and that regulators will be afraid to resist due to the "Chilling effect" of substantial pay-outs to transnationals from legal settlements. Public services will be hit hardest including the NHS already diminished by privatisation. The author observes that :

"With TTIP , no future public services could be initiated such as those initiated in the post WW11 welfare revolution in Britain and there could be no renationalisation of eg the railway network, even with overwhelming public support.

This pamphlet examines the flaws in the Economic argument for the allegedly beneficial improvements of TTIP, the most harmful of which is: "falls in employment from 660,000 to 1.3 million jobs." Part of this will be caused by the free movement of cheap labour under the EU 'Mode4 : eg "an Indian company established in the US like TATA Consultancy Services would be able to bring skilled workers from India into the UK under TTIP."

The role of the EU bureaucrats in promoting this iniquitous enterprise is revealed as is the treacherous pro EU "Commons European Scrutiny Committee".

The author asserts that the way to



defeat this sinister and deadly attack on national sovereignty, democracy and ultimately the working class is to expose it via the various forms of media : "shining light on Trade Agreements can destroy them as happened with the Multi labour Agreement on Investment (MAI) , the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas (FTAA) and the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA).

This pamphlet with its extensive research closely supporting the dynamic thrust of its political argument serves to illustrate in all its menacing detail the severity of the peril to the working class of the world posed by TTIP and its associated spin offs. This pamphlet should be read by all involved in the struggle to free us of transnational aggression and could be a stocking filler for those who would be interested!

Published by Stop TTIP Campaign.

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*Democrat Press,  
PO Box 46295,  
London W5 2UG*

**Quiz No. 143**

What are the following?

1. COURT
2. Reawithson
3. ALLworld
4. KNOW it NO
5. PPPPPP BU
6. ccrreeaamm
7. boy →yob
8. x + 2x + x
9. XQQME
10. Ilkley

**Answers No. 142**

1. Change for PE
2. Lessen Plan
3. Sent to the head
4. Mixed year groups
5. Line up
6. Teacher is always right

**FROM THE CLUES BELOW IDENTIFY THE NAME OF A FRUIT**

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. A concealing fruit         | 12. Beware of its skin                   |
| 2. A couple                   | 13. Unwelcome third                      |
| 3. Male turn                  | 14. Clockwork                            |
| 4. All Hallows eve favourite  | 15. Found where there is icing           |
| 5. Dilatory                   | 16. I am a rearranged lemon              |
| 6. Downfall of Eve            | 17. Interfering busybody                 |
| 7. On arm bandit's favourite  | 18. Mumbling                             |
| 8. Peaceful offering          | 19. Sentence offspring to eternal misery |
| 9. Flow                       | 20. Favoured Wimbledon drink             |
| 10. Sailor's favourite        |  |
| 11. Food of very smooth worms |  |

Fruit clue answers on page 8

**FROM THE CLUES LISTED ON THE RIGHT CAN YOU GET THE ANSWERS?**

**EACH ANSWER IS A WORD WHICH IS SPELT THE SAME BUT HAS A DIFFERENT MEANING**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Performs in action <i>Female deer</i>                   | 12. Another choice <i>To switch back and forth</i>                   |
| 2. Suitable <i>To take possession</i>                      | 13. Motorised bike <i>Sulked</i>                                     |
| 3. To allow <i>A pass or license</i>                       | 14. The human family <i>A trial to find a winner</i>                 |
| 4. Barren, sandy area <i>To abandon</i>                    | 15. Entertaining or relaxing pastime <i>Something that is remade</i> |
| 5. To switch to the other side <i>Flaw</i>                 | 16. Musical instrument <i>Type of fish</i>                           |
| 6. To direct or guide <i>Behaviour</i>                     | 17. To argue <i>A match of skill</i>                                 |
| 7. A way in or doorway <i>To delight and captivate</i>     | 18. To pound or pump <i>Place where you serve yourself</i>           |
| 8. Waste water pipe <i>One who stitches</i>                | 19. Eastern European people <i>To shine</i>                          |
| 9. Plant seeds <i>Female pig</i>                           | 20. Coiled up <i>To injure</i>                                       |
| 10. Perfume burnt in a religious ceremony <i>To enrage</i> |  |
| 11. To feel anger towards <i>Sent again</i>                |  |

Answers on page 6

*SOLVE EACH ANAGRAM TO NAME A COUNTRY*

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. PANEL       | 9. GLIB AURA   |
| 2. ENEMY       | 10. INUSRE MA  |
| 3. TANGO       | 11. OPERA SIGN |
| 4. SOOTY VICAR | 12. ROMEO CAN  |
| 5. VINO SALE   | 13. POLAR TUG  |
| 6. RARE TIE    | 14. A THIN LAD |
| 7. I'M ACID    | 15. NEAR GIANT |
| 8. BIG MULE    |                |

*Answers on page 6*



***Campaign against Euro-federalism***

To join the *Campaign* I enclose £15 membership fee (£10 for unwaged)

Please make cheques or POs to **CAEF**

Name ..... Date / / 2014

Address ..... email address

.....

..... Postcode .....

*I agree to abide by the rules of the Campaign* .....

*CAEF objectives, aims and rules can be found on the CAEF website or by request*

*As a member you will be sent copies of the Democrat*

**Return to CAEF, PO Box 46295, London W5 2UG**

[d130]

**Useful Websites**

*CAEF does not necessarily agree with everything in these sites*

Campaign against Euro-federalism with data from current, many feature articles and back issues of the Democrat.

**[www.caef.org.uk](http://www.caef.org.uk)**

*EUobserver* reports daily on EU matters with links to other newspapers and sources.

**[www.euobserver.com](http://www.euobserver.com)**

Scottish CAEF:

**[homepage.ntlworld.com/foster-prendergast/scaef/index.files](http://homepage.ntlworld.com/foster-prendergast/scaef/index.files)**

Stop TTIP

No2EU yes to democracy:

**[NO2EU.com](http://NO2EU.com)**

TEAM the European alliance of EU critical organisations.

**[www.teameurope.info](http://www.teameurope.info)**

Democracy Movement, a broad movement with a large number of supporters:

**[www.democracymovement.org.uk](http://www.democracymovement.org.uk)**

Campaign for an Independent Britain (CIB):

**[eurofaq.freeuk.com](http://eurofaq.freeuk.com)**

Labour Euro-Safeguards Campaign, for Labour Party members:

**[lesc.org.uk](http://lesc.org.uk)**

Peoples' Movement Ireland:

**[people.ie](http://people.ie)**

National Platform of Ireland:

**[nationalplatform.org](http://nationalplatform.org)**

German foreign policy group of journalists:

**[german-foreign-policy.com](http://german-foreign-policy.com)**

Open Europe—an influential think tank of leading business people:

**[openeurope.org.uk](http://openeurope.org.uk)**

Corporate Europe Observatory (CEO):

**[eulobbytours.org](http://eulobbytours.org)**

*Data on other sites welcome*

## Campaign against Euro-federalism

The Campaign opposes:-

- the EU Constitution which handed over more powers to unelected and unaccountable bodies and reduced further the influence of Britain in the EU;
- the so called trade treaties such as TTIP, CETA and ISDS which are grave threats to all forms of democracy and national independence,
- the introduction of a Common Foreign and Security Policy and an EU Foreign Secretary;
- the formation of a European Army and battle groups as part of rapid reaction forces which are a threat to peace.

The Campaign is a democratic organisation and primarily oriented to the labour and trade union movement and people whom these organisations normally represent, including democrats, socialists, trade unionists, students and pensioners.

The Campaign is for democracy and accountability, independence, jobs, the pound and against racism.

## The Democrat

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## Arthur Smelt says Keep our NHS Public

Increasing numbers of people are realising there is little difference between the major political parties. Those who do are frustrated and disappointed.

At election time, those who still have patience to vote will see New Labour or the Tories become the Government.

As time goes by one fiasco follows another, disillusionment sets in and at the next election voters hope for change.

When there is a Tory majority, New Labour are blamed for anything that goes wrong which might connect with their term in office. When New Labour are the majority, blame is reversed.

There is little wonder when a party like UKIP comes along, a proportion of those bothering to vote will choose UKIP out of desperation without any real knowledge of what UKIP is all about other than EU withdrawal and immigration.

The NHS is a glaring example of how rampant capitalism is being assisted by government to channel public funds into private pockets.

EU rules for Member States stipulate that governments must limit public expenditure to 3% of GDP otherwise, they would be penalised.

This was the green light to fiddle the book-keeping by arranging private investment on public projects.

John Major was in power when PFI was introduced but it was New Labour under Blair and Brown that private sector money was used to build, amongst other things, new hospitals which placed the NHS in private hands to the tune of billions of pounds with more than 700 PFI contracts. Public money will continue to be paid back with interest and charges to the public sector for 30 to 50 years thereby costing the public purse billions. In addition to the financial wheeling and dealing, maintenance costs are utterly ridiculous. One hospital was charged £300 to change a light



bulb and there are lots of similar more outrageous examples.

Financial wheeling and dealing is not the only problem. Top heavy management, incompetence and financial waste need urgent attention. All this and constant changes lead to low morale amongst the front line workforce. As we have seen recently, when front line staff request decent pay and working conditions, they are threatened with cuts and severe reductions in staff numbers. This in turn has serious repercussions in the quality of care which hits the most vulnerable in our society, not to mention the extra strain it will bring to existing staff. There are already serious problems in this area.

One private company which sold half its PFI stake, made 200% profit. This is totally obscene in view of the above and is one reason why the NHS is in the state it is.

In recent times we have seen the sale and fragmentation of British Rail, resulting in low investment, high fares and poor service. There are other examples

such as postal services and now the UK share of Eurostar is to be sold. Eurostar made £19 million profit last year.

The latest outrage is the handing over without tendering of the East Coast main line to privateers including Branson's Virgin and Souter's Stagecoach outfits. Profits will go to them instead of the Government!

Sadly we live in a society awash with contradictions which, unless there are political and economic moves to rectify, then the ensuing chaos will be unacceptable to ordinary citizens. Politicians must respect and represent the interests of people who voted for them, not the oligarchs and their own self-interest.

