

# FORDS

(Continued from page 4)

the militants unsupported by the rest of the work force. This would have made victimisation of the militants easy, and the rest of the work force would be beaten and demoralised.

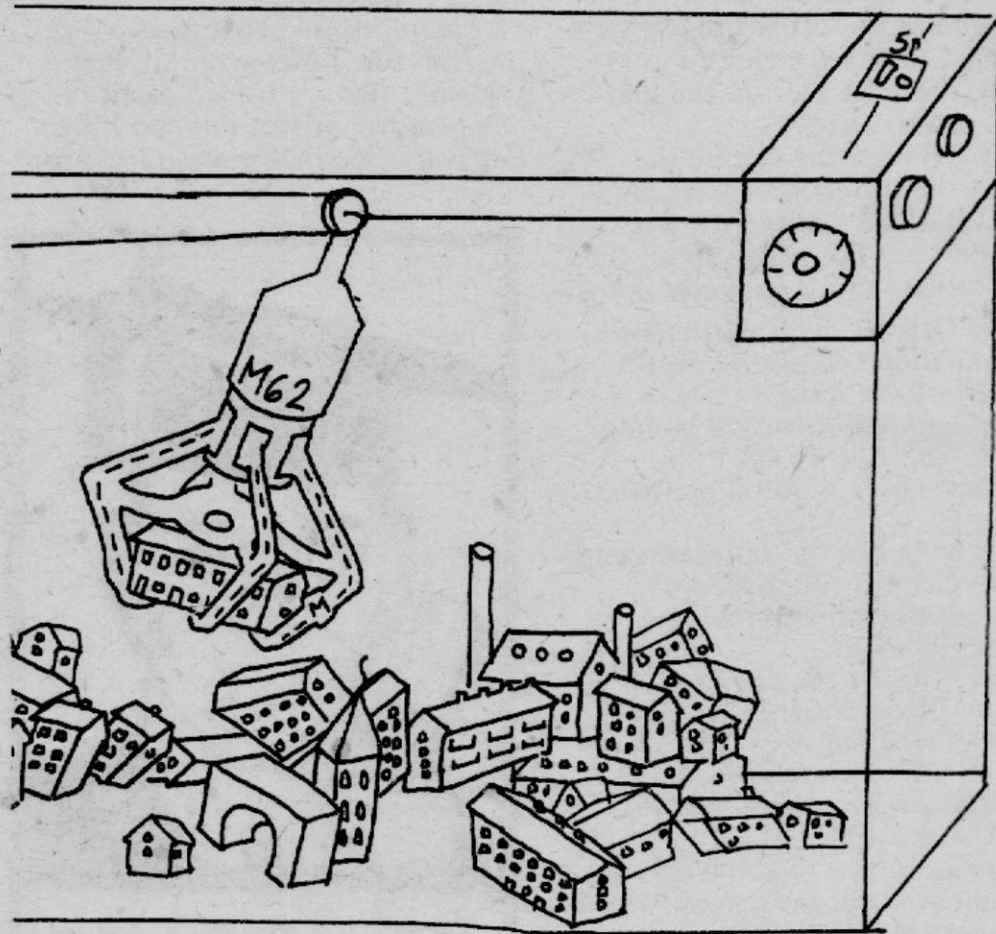
That is what happened in Ford's Dagenham factory in 1962. After a very similar strike in support of a dismissed steward, seventeen more stewards were sacked. Ford won for itself many years of dispute free peace and productivity. For Ford workers this meant a long slide down in the wage league from best-paid car-workers to worst in 1971.

But Ford has an additional reason for wanting a weak and demoralised work-force now; Like other manufacturers, Ford is facing a situation of dramatically increasing costs, fierce competition, and only a slow increase in the demand for their goods.

They must maximise profits, make their cars more cheaply or go out of business. An important aid in this fight is the government's Industrial Relations Bill which they hope will hamstring shop-floor pressure and produce a docile and manageable work force.

But the IRB will only be introduced successfully if the high level of militancy in the country is reduced. This must be Ford's immediate aim at Halewood - to soften up a highly militant and organised factory so that Ford can benefit from the Bill when it is introduced as law later this year.

But the strike in support of Dillon backfired on them. The Ford workers won it and returned to work with a renewed sense of their own strength in contrast to the demoralisation of lower management.



PLANNING DEPARTMENT FUNFAIR

## Pay as you pray?

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statement would have embarrassed the clerical authorities, so the Press was excluded from the deliberations, and the council was persuaded into making no statement on the grounds that the Archbishop was ill.

With this sort of history behind us, how can we believe that the Archbishop - even if he really does want to draw the laity into policy making - will be able to bring it about?

"You don't have to be a priest to bring comfort", says one of the big posters for the campaign. And it goes on to suggest that money does the job for you. The same goes for doctors, teachers and missionaries.

Well maybe; certainly such contributions can be a mark of responsible behaviour. But, for the giving of money to be responsible, the giver must be convinced that he believes in the purpose for which he is giving. Suppose you don't believe that the present Catholic schools policy is sound: then it's irresponsible to give money to those who are persisting in it.

Suppose you have grave doubt about the continuance of the old-fashioned parish system and its extensions to new areas, then don't give money to those who are maintaining that system.

I must bring in a personal note here, or readers will think I'm just attacking the church. I'm not. I'm a practising Catholic. Although I think that the organised church is, and usually has been throughout history, a travesty of what it is supposed to be, I am still a firm believer.

I believe, for example, that the teaching of Christ could still transform the world; break down the barriers between classes and races;

destroy the unfairnesses and inequalities in our society; lead us all to love and trust in one another, in contrast to the present suspicion and fear of others. And I go to Mass, for that declares my faith.

But the Establishment, neither in church nor nation, has never been the agent of real, significant change. That's obvious in politics. Well, apply the same thing to the church.

If we want the church to change we, the people in it, have the power. For too long the clergy have made policy, and the laity have footed the bill. What the laity must do is to refuse to pay the bill until their views about how money should be spent have weight proportionate to their numbers. So, the Archdiocese is in trouble, and money is needed to get solvent.

But meanwhile money is still being spent, and yet more debts being run up. And how do we know that we should want to contribute to what is being done in our name? Help to pay the debt off, as things are at the moment, and you simply help to keep the old order in business. Do you want to be responsible for that? Maybe it would be better all round if the Archdiocese went bankrupt. Maybe that would be the most responsible thing to do to allow that to happen.

It's worth thinking about.



# INFORMER

## Concerts

**JULY 10 Summer Serenade, Inner Courtyards, Bluecoat Chambers.** Bluecoat singers and Liverpool Brass Ensemble. 7.30.

**JULY 10. Gilbert and Sullivan** for all. Technical College, Birkenhead. 7.30.

**JULY 12. Rosny Children's Choir** from Tasmania Bluecoat Hall 7.30

**JULY 18. Orchestral concert.** Bluecoat Hall. 7.30

**JULY 22. Conductors' seminar -** introductory concert. Philharmonic Hall. 2.30.

**JULY 22. Record recital.** Room 45 Bluecoat Chambers. 7.30.

**JULY 26. Southport Dramatic Club** present Salad Days. Nightly at 7.45 until Aug 7. Little Theatre, Houghton St, Southport.

**JULY 29. Conductors' seminar -** final concert. Philharmonic Hall. 7.30.

**JULY 30. Recital by Guildford** Cathedral Choir, Metropolitan Cathedral, 7.30.

**JULY 30. Conductors' seminar -** final concert part two. Philharmonic Hall. 7.30.

## Exhibitions

**ART EXHIBITION BY GROUP 70** Civic Centre, Bebington. Mon 5 - Sat 17.

**ROBERT YOUNG PAINTINGS** Bluecoat Gallery, July 13- Aug 3. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sat: 10-1.

**ELLESMERE PORT ART SOC.** Annual exhibition of members' work. Admission free. Civic Hall, Ellesmere Port. 13-17 July.

**WALLASEY ARTS SOCIETY** Annual open-air promenade exhibition of paintings. Sun 25, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Promenade, New Brighton.

**BLUECOAT GALLERY** Arts council exhibition of Henry Moore sculptures. July 31-Aug 21.

**HESWALL ARTISTS' ASSOC** Annual exhibition of paintings, sketches and crafts by local artists. Parish Hall, Heswall. 31 July-7 Aug.

**WALLASEY ARTS SOCIETY** Weekly exhibition of paintings until end of September. Marine Promenade, New Brighton. 1-5 p.m. Sunday July 4.

**JOHN BRATBY PAINTINGS** Williamson Art Gallery, Slaty Road, Birkenhead. 3-31 July.

## Folk & poetry

**JULY 9. The Wakes.** Westminster Hotel, Barlow's Lane. 8 p.m.

**JULY 10. Mitre Hotel, Dale St.** Leon Nicholson, wide variety of music. 8 p.m.

**JULY 10. Harold Hikins' Famous** Merseyside Arts Association poetry Circus, Birkenhead Youth Workshop theatre, Beechcroft, Whetstone La, 8 p.m.

**JULY 14. The Old Fort Hotel,** Prescott St, (off London Road) - folk and poetry. No charge. 8 p.m.

**JULY 16. An evening of folk** music with Kevin Clarke and Roy Harpe - Williamson Art Gallery, Birkenhead. 7.30

**JULY 17. Liverpool Folk Club.** Coach trip to E F D S S. Six-hour 'folk-in' in London.

**JULY 17. Tuebrook Poetry Festi-** val. St John's Youth Centre, Marlborough Road, Tuebrook. 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Singers and poets.

**JULY 17. Philharmonic Hall.** Folk and Blues Caravan. 7.30. All seats 50p.

**JULY 21. The Old Fort Hotel,** Prescott St. Folk and poetry. No charge. 8 p.m.

**JULY 23. Westminster Hotel, Bar-** low's Lane. The Fishermen plus The Wakes. 8 p.m.

**JULY 27. PUNCCA folk and blues** show. Tuebrook Methodist Church. 7.30. Admission 25p. Free refreshments. In aid of National Society for Brain-Damaged Children.

**JULY 28. The Old Fort Hotel,** Prescott St. Folk and Poetry. Free. 8 p.m.

**JULY 31. Mitre Hotel, Dale Street.** The Yardarm. Popular duo from Wrexham. Traditional and contemporary. 8 p.m.

**AUGUST 4. The Old Fort (as before)**

**AUGUST 7. Mitre Hotel, Dale Street.** The Union Folk. Cheshire singing.

## Children

**BABES IN BOATS** At Sefton, Calderstones, Newsham, Stanley, Walton Hall and Greenbank parks. Daily from 8 a.m. Sunday from 2 p.m. during season until 25 Sept.

**SPLASH OUT!** The following swimming pools are open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mon to Fri. Garston, Harold Davies (Dovecot), Lister Drive, Lodge Lane, Margaret Street, Picton Road, Queens Drive, Steble St, Westminster Rd, William Roberts, William and Austin Rawlinson pool (Speke).

**LARKS IN THE PARKS.** Afternoons at 3 p.m. Punch and Judy puppets, juggling, magic, comedy and music.

**Calderstones Park** July 26-31. Bailey's Mini Circus Aug 2-7. E L Granadas and Lila's Comedy Kanines.

**Sefton Park** July 26-31. Miss M Cox Aug 2-7. Bailey's Mini Circus

**Newsham Park** July 26-31 Verdini Aug 2-7 Bailey's Mini Circus (evenings only). 7 p.m.)

**Stanley Park** July 26-31 E L Grandas and Lila's Comedy Kanines. Aug 2-7. Prof Codman.

**Walton Hall Park** July 26-31. Prof Codman Aug 2-7. Miss M Cox

**Dovecot Park** July 26-31 Idris and Belle Aug 2-7. Verdini

**Long Lane Recreation Ground** July 26-31 Yvonne Carol and performing dogs. Aug 2-7 Ericko.

**MOBILE THEATRE** 26-31 July. Uncle Jimmy

**2-7 Aug Yvonne Carol and per-** forming dogs.

**Prices of seats: Children 2p** Adults 4p. All programmes subject to alteration.

**PETS CORNER AND AVIARIES** Clarke Gardens, Woolton Road. Animal lovers should flock to bus routes 66, 72, 86, 86a.

**GIANT DRAUGHTS** Princes Park, Liverpool 8. For giant kiddiwinks. Any time.

## Theatre

**Everyman, P Layhouse** closed to mid-September.

**GATEWAY, Chester.** Who Killed Santa Claus, by Terence Feeley, Wed July 14. 7.30. For two weeks.

## Sport

**CYCLING.** British Cycling Federation track racing every Wed, 7.30 p.m. Kirkby Stadium, Whitefield Drive, Kirkby.

**ATHLETICS.** Liverpool Harriers and Athletic Club. Training every Wed. 6 p.m., university track, Mather Ave, Allerton. Inquiries: 427-6009.

**SAILING.** Liverpool Sailing Club. Rowing Racing every weekend in Mersey off Speke airport.

**CRICKET.** Liverpool Cricket Club. Grassendale. 1st XI JULY 10- Northern JULY 24 Formby. JULY 29-30 English Schools v. Public Schools. AUG 7 Chester B H

## Odds & sods

**JULY 10. Coach trip to Llangollen** Eisteddfod organised by Octopus Club. 428-5607.

**JULY 16-23 Lake District Holidays** in Langdale. Dangling, rambling or festering - take your pick. 11 gns, including bed, food and entertainments. Phone: Jim Lyon 428-5607.

**JULY 24. One day concert of trad-** itional and contemporary folk music Tupholme Manor Park, near Lincoln. Saturday.

**Featuring: James Taylor, The Byrds,** Tom Paxton, Buffy Sainte Marie, Pentangle, Incredible String Band, Tim Harding, Sandy Denny, Steeleye Span, Ralph McTell, Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee, Dion, Dave Swarbrick and Martin Carthy. Noon till 11 p.m. Tickets in advance £2, on day £2.30. Evening in advance £1.30, on day £1.50. 01-589-749.