

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p

YOUR CHANCE TO FIGHT FOR JOBS

'WHEN I think of the number of people out of work and the way the TUC is just ignoring it, words fail me. People just don't realise how desperate the situation is. I have been on the dole for two years and I want a job.

'This is the first time I have felt that I could actually make a protest. I want to bring it home to the trade union movement that if they would fight for a 35 hour week we could all have jobs'.

Those are the words of Ian Bailey from Coventry. He's been out of work for two years.

He's fed up, and he's doing something about it. So are at least 500 other people, most of them young people, who've already signed up for the London-Brighton Right to Work march.

Ninety of the marchers met in Manchester last week-end to discuss the organisation of the march.

The march will leave the Embankment, Charing Cross, at 11am on Saturday 4 September.

This is your chance to join the marchers. They are calling for a mass demonstration to join them on the road out of London.



Marchers' delegates meeting in Manchester last Saturday: so far 500 have signed up.

The demonstration will swing through Brixton—one of the worst areas in London for unemployment—accompanied by the Cherrypickers steel band.

The march will end with a mass picket of the Trades Union Congress in Brighton on Tuesday 7 September. This will be the only opportunity for the unemployed to make known their anger and disgust with the TUC.

The Right to Work Campaign have booked a special train from London to Brighton are £2—

NEW SCANDAL AT POISON FACTORY

CASE No 1

POISON CLOUDS IN BRITAIN?

POISON FACTORY

INSTRUMENTS THAT WERE probably contaminated by a deadly poison are still unaccounted for INSIDE the Coalite chemical plant where 400 men work.

Part of the plant—at Bolsover in Derbyshire—exploded eight years ago, killing one person and poisoning 79. The explosion unleashed the deadly chemical dioxin which has poisoned thousands at Seveso in Northern Italy.

The company claimed in the local press that instruments contaminated by the blast have been buried in a disused mine shaft. They refused to reveal where

But now shop stewards at the plant have queried this claim.

By
PAUL FOOT

date back before the explosion in 1968.

'Management have said that all the plant was buried away.

Lessons

They have discovered that instruments in use at the time of the explosion have still not been scrapped.

One such instrument, part of a panel, has already been discovered lying about in the company stores!

Hughie Stevens, a shop steward and an instrument fitter in the plant, told Socialist Worker:

'Each part has a serial number and should have the word "scrapped" written alongside it in the company log book.

'There's ten instruments which don't have "scrapped" written against them which

Report

'I've given a full report about this to my shop stewards' committee and we're taking it up with the management'.

On Tuesday, Coalite bosses were still 'making inquiries' into the stewards' charges.

CASE No 2



They looked as if they'd been napalmed

By Dave Sherry

A CHEMICAL explosion rocked a small Glasgow factory last week.

Flames leapt 20 feet in the air. Machinery was blown to smithereens.

Twenty-one workers—most of them women—were taken to Glasgow's Royal Infirmary. Nine were kept in over the weekend.

Burnt

A hospital doctor told Socialist Worker: 'They were burnt around the face, arms and legs. It is not yet certain whether people need skin grafts or how long they will have to stay.

'Their hair was frizzled and they looked as if they had been napalmed.'

The explosion happened at the non-unionised San-Mex chemical factory in Dalmarock.

Eye-witnesses say a series

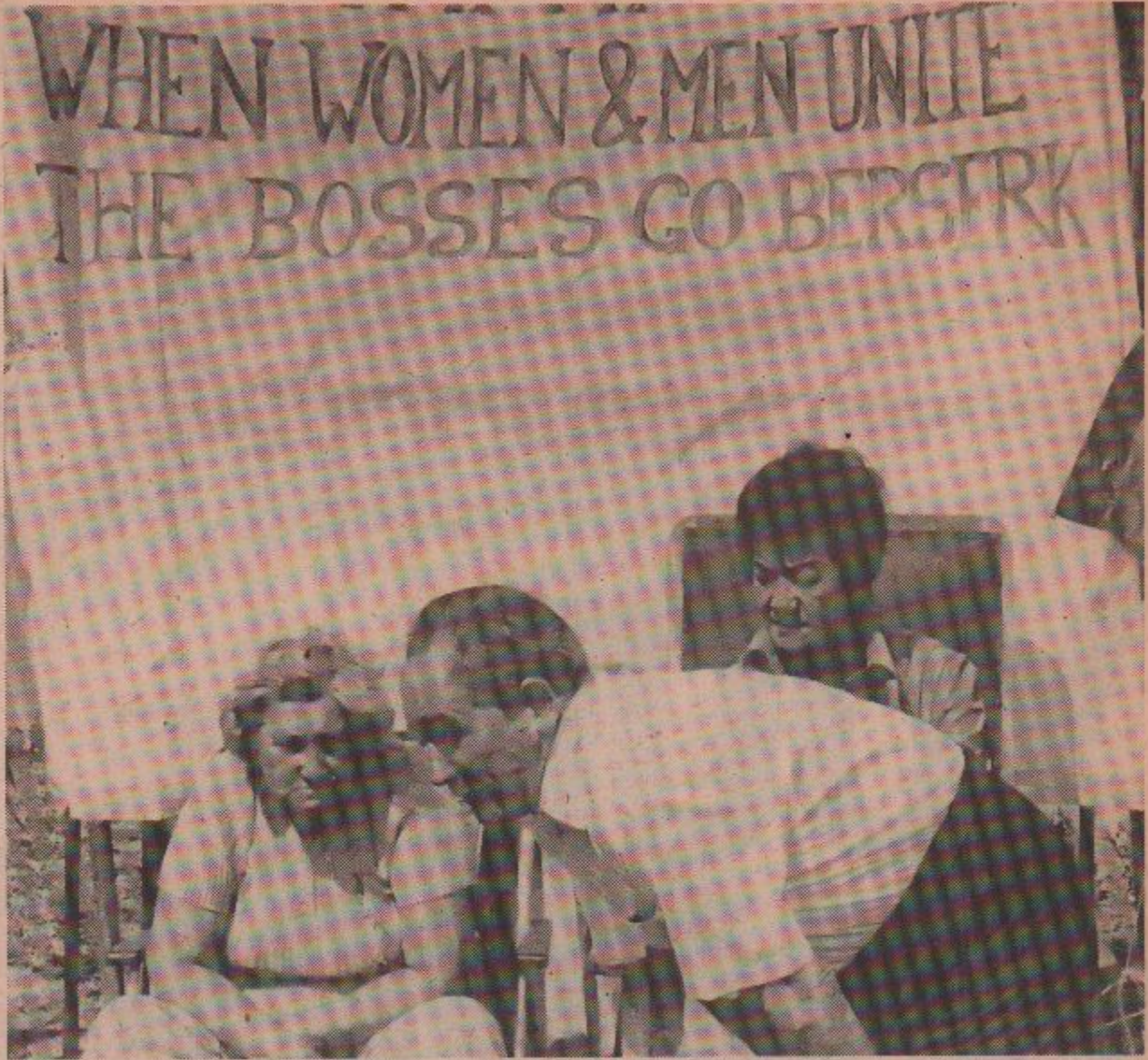
TURN TO PAGE TWO

Two weeks to the big march

MORE DETAILS:
Pages 4 & 5

RIGHT: The banner that says it all: but 1000 staff and non-union workers are still working in the factory at Brentford in West London. Meanwhile, the four-month strike now has to face management's trump card . . .

THE BIGGEST EQUAL PAY STRIKE IN HISTORY



MARGARET RENN
reports from the
Trico picket line

THE BIGGEST strike for equal pay in history is being fought out in West London.

Four hundred women engineers at the Trico factory are now in the fourth month of an official strike.

They are battling against a stubborn employer who refuses to recognise their right

to equal pay with the men who work on the production line.

The figures behind the dispute are simple. The men who do exactly the same work as the women get £6.50 a week more.

Managing director Sidney Atkins has tried every trick to break the strike. He has **BROKEN** the picket line with cowboy lorries.

USED scabs to take parts out of the factory in their cars. **THREATENED** other

Trico women workers at Northampton with the sack if they dare to join the union or show any sympathy for their fellow workers in West London.

Spirit

The spirit of the strikers is magnificent. They refuse to be intimidated by Atkins—or by the scabs.

1000 staff and non-union workers are still working in

the plant. And several men in the toolroom who came out on strike in solidarity have crept back to work.

These are worse than those who didn't come out at all, snorts one of the pickets in disgust.

But, through all this intimidation and scabbing, the women have stayed out, solid.

Now Sidney Atkins is playing his trump card. He's taking the case to an Industrial Tribunal, sure that it will agree

with him that the women are not entitled to equal pay.

And he has every reason to think that. This year, since the Equal Pay Act came into effect, there have been 149 appeals to Tribunals under the Act.

Only 41 have been successful. The other 108 have all found in favour of the employers.

Atkins then hopes to be able to hound the women back to work.

If he succeeds and the strike is defeated, it's not just the women at Trico who will lose.

A defeat would smash every hope of equal pay for thousands of other women.

Picket

But if the Trico women win, women everywhere will know how to get equal pay. Not by chance at biased tribunals, but by using their own strength, organising, fighting.

The strike must be won. Every trade unionist who supports the demand for equal pay must organise a collection at work, and organise a delegation to take it to the picket line.

The women are there 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

At a mass meeting earlier this week, some of those present called for a mass picket next Tuesday, 24 August. This is the only way to squeeze the Trico management now.

Lessons

Last Saturday six women members of West London IS, held a street meeting in West Ealing, and collected £18 for the Trico women in an hour. Street meetings should be organised all over London this Saturday.

Money should be collected on housing estates, at nurseries, everywhere, that women meet.

Take your collection to the picket line: Trico, Great West Road, Brentford, under the M4 motorway. Or send it to the Strike Committee, c/o Southall AUEW District, AUEW House, 1 Woodlands Road, Southall.

They looked as if they'd been napalmed

Cont'd from Page One

of blasts blew the roof off a single-storey building.

Aerosol cans and broken glass were sent flying onto the service road next to the factory.

Paris of the roof—which was made of the killer dust, asbestos—are still strewn across the road, where local children play.

Many of the women workers were wearing nylon overalls, which melted in the heat.

When they were pulled out, they had to be stripped.

Profit

San-Mex bosses—whose 40 workers at the plant take home less than £20 a week—don't seem to have been too put out.

The next day, with 21 workers still in hospital and minus the roof, production for profit continued as if nothing had happened.

Glasgow has scores of small, poorly-organised chemical factories. It also has the worst fire record in Britain. Any trade unionist interested in finding out more about health and safety at work should contact the Glasgow Right to Work Campaign, c/o R. Graham, 3 Lindhurst Gardens, Glasgow G20.

POISON clouds in Britain? Yes—even, would you believe, in our hospital operating theatres.

Patients undergoing operations expire anaesthetic gases into the theatre atmosphere. This causes congenital deformity among young women who work in theatres.

Notice

These dangers have been known for some years, but only now, because of the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act, are the government doing anything.

The Department of

Poison clouds in the operating theatre . . .

By Terry Greene, NUPE (a staff nurse)

Health and Social Security have advised Area Health Authorities to cut the level of pollution and to tell staff of the hazardous conditions.

Reducing the level of pollution can be done simply

by piping expired gases into the extract air duct of the theatre.

This essential safety measure will cost each area of the National Health Service between £10,00 and



CASE No 3

£25,000—a tiny fraction of the vast sums paid out each year to profiteering drug companies such as Hoffmann La Roche, the polluters of Seveso.

But here comes the crunch. The DHSS will make no special financial allocation to health authorities for these alterations.



The San-Mex factory; it was production as usual the very next day

Complaining got us nowhere, so...

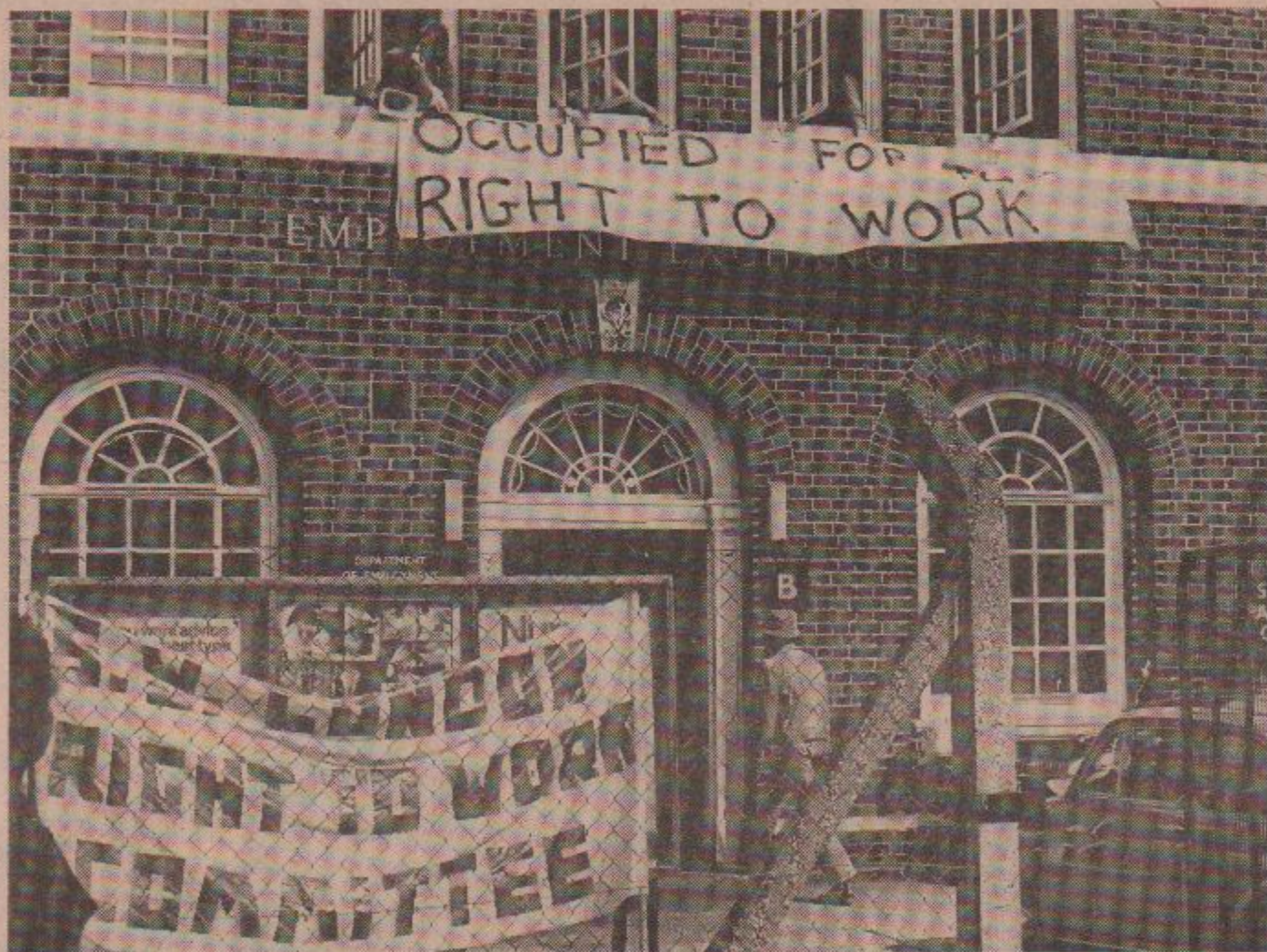
UNEMPLOYMENT IN Brixton, South London has gone up in a year from 4000 to 8500. It takes an hour to sign on at the Labour Exchange, and two hours to be interviewed. Every day the queues stretch outside the gates. Inside the building, it's hot and crowded. Complaining has got nowhere. This week it was decided that enough was enough.

Twenty unemployed workers from South West London Right to Work Committee occupied the managers' offices to demand action. A petition supporting the occupation and demanding improved conditions and reorganisation to shorten the queues was signed by 600 unemployed in just half an hour.

Soon after we occupied, the police arrived. But the manager sent them away. He was obviously worried that we would get a lot of support from people on the dole queues outside.

We decided to leave after the following commitments were made: That the manager would press our demands at a meeting this Wednesday of all London dole managers.

And that delegates from our Right to Work Committee will meet this Thursday with the CPSA reps to draw up a list of demands and discuss joint action to get things done.



Picture: John Sturrock (Report)

ROUGH JUSTICE?

THREE CHILDREN were killed in Belfast last week.

They were run down by a car out of control after its driver had been killed by an army bullet.

In bitter despair, the children's father publicly blamed the IRA for their death.

A few days later in Belfast's Catholic suburb, Andersonstown, ten thousand women and men took part in a demonstration calling for peace.

The British press gave these events massive publicity, claiming they justified calls for the British army to be given a 'free hand'—to be given a licence to use any measure to destroy those it believes are terrorists.

This, apparently, is what the army's top officers want.



Those officers gave an example of last Thursday of how they would like to behave. Soldiers seized six youngsters in Derry and then beat them up.

According to the Daily Mail: 'The soldiers dragged the youths away and punched them in the face and bated them as they pulled them over rough ground.'

'The youths were put up against a wall and one was hit on the legs with a baton and two had their heads banged against the wall. Two of them were bleeding from head injuries... Ulster's top soldiers saw the action.'

FOR THE BRITISH press, this was 'rough justice'. A spot more of it, they claim, will bring what they call 'peace'. Yet there are a few things they do not mention.

First the deaths in Belfast. The children

The only way to end the bloodbath in Ireland is to pull the plug out. And the plug is the British presence.

were killed because the driver of the car was shot by the army.

Had he fired at the army first? No. But apparently he was to blame for being shot dead while driving.

The beatings-up in Derry took place during an obscene annual ritual called the Apprentices March.

Two out of three people in Derry are Catholic. But every year, the most extreme, anti-Catholic Protestants are allowed to march along the city walls, looking down over the majority of the population.

The 'rough justice' of the British army consisted in safeguarding their right to do this.



Another example of 'rough justice' came at the weekend. Majella O'Hare, 12, was walking to church in the village of Ballymore when members of the Third Parachute Regiment opened fire on her with machine guns.

She bled to death in her father's arms as the troops refused to allow a nurse to give her aid. They then claimed that they had been fired at by the IRA—a claim

which no witness would back up.

South Armagh is an overwhelmingly republican area, where the population know that the violence would stop tomorrow if only the British army would stop insisting on occupying it.

The same is true of Derry. If the British army want real, 'rough justice', they should simply withdraw from these areas.



THIS LEADS to the central argument that the press never deal with. There was violence, brutal bloodshed, in the Suez Canal zone in Egypt in the early 1950s. It stopped when the British troops withdrew.

There was a long and bloody war in Kenya in the mid-1950s. It stopped the moment Britain abandoned the attempt to rule the country.

There was daily violence, similar to that in Belfast today, in Aden in the mid-1960s.

Indeed, it is nine years almost to the day that British troops took 'rough justice' against the workers of the Crater district.



Last Friday's Daily Mail: 'Rough justice' means killing a 12-year-old girl and then blaming the IRA.

The violence stopped when the British withdrew.

In Ireland, things are a bit more complicated. Years of British rule have encouraged a bitter, sectarian division within the population.

Protestants have been brought up to feel that British rule gives them an in-built superiority over the Catholics, and some of them are prepared to maintain that superiority. Hence cold-blooded murders such as the bombing of a Catholic pub on Monday night.

Sections of the Catholic population now feel so desperate that they resort to equally barbarous and futile 'tit-for-tat' killings.



The presence of the British army has not stopped such developments. The wave of murders and bombings has grown precisely during the years of the most intense army occupation of the province.

The measures the press wants—increased repression, more beatings-up, more imprisonments, more shootings of the likes of Majella O'Hare—are going to increase the bitterness and hate. They are going to make things worse.

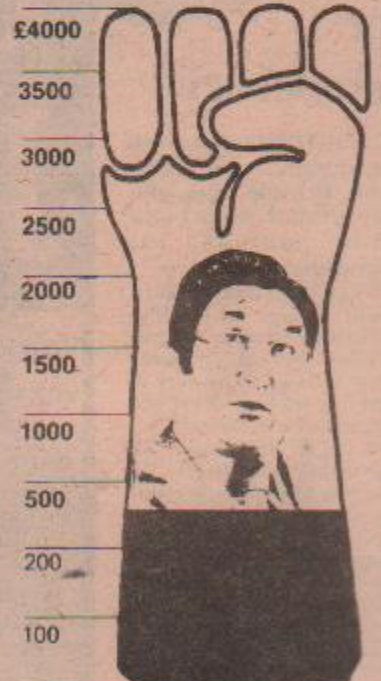
There is only one way to end the Ulster bloodbath. That is to pull the plug out.

And the plug is the British presence, which makes the Protestants feel they can afford to hate the majority of the population that co-exists with them on a fairly small island.

To withdraw the troops will not be a magic remedy solving everything. But we can say for certain that if they had not been there, those three children would not have died, and Majella O'Hare would still be alive.

Defend us against Frank Chapple!

Socialist Worker DEFENCE FUND



A DUMFRIES reader summed up the attitude of many supporters of Socialist Worker over the last week. He sent £10 towards our appeal for £4000 to pay legal charges we owe Frank Chapple and his lawyers to stop us being threatened with bankruptcy proceedings.

And he wrote: 'Much as I abhor giving a single penny to Chapple or his lawyers, it is just not on that anyone will ever be able to smash our paper.'

From West Wickham in Kent came a similar reaction. 'Please find enclosed £50 as a contribution to your Defence Fund, as a token of my contempt for that 'friend of the workers'.



'In my active days,' writes a brother from Newton, 'I did quite a lot of flyposting for the Committee of 100, CND, and the PPU. Now I'm a spastic, so herewith £20 towards freedom of the press.'

From another reader came the message: '£2 postal order enclosed for contribution to the fund. For health and domestic reasons I had to leave IS nearly three years ago, but I'm with you all the way. Keep going strong.'

Socialist Worker readers at Herbert Machine Tools in Coventry took a collection in their shop and sent us £1.60 with 'thanks for an excellent paper.'

IS branches have not been slow in reacting either. From Islington Council Workers came £19.50—as well as a request for six membership forms.

Finsbury Park IS passed a collection sheet around at meeting and raised £7.80 from the nine people present. Lancaster town group sent us £9.20.

Such different contributions raised our total for the week to £398.10—that's an excellent start for our defence fund. But it is not nearly enough to keep the Chapple from the door. Let's see if we can't more than double the figure over the next week.



Our thanks to: Dudley Supporters £5.50; Wolverhampton Supporters £2.35; Perth Australia reader £10; Truro reader 40p; HM Newlove £5; Anon 60p; D Jardine 50p; Dumfries supporters £2.50; Carol Bennett £1.30; D Kirkby £3.50; Pat O'Sullivan £3; M A Constans £2; Chessington OAP £1; Chessington 'Cricketers' £1.35; Rugby reader £20; NWB reader £10; Harlow reader £2; Portsmouth reader £20; Newcastle IS £27; Liverpool South £25; Cardiff IS £50; Wandsworth IS £20; Dumfries IS £10; Lancaster IS £9.20; N London IS £5; Glasgow IS £25; UEA IS £20; Oxford IS £17; Manchester IS £10; Norwich IS £10.

Send donations and collections to SW Defence Fund, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.



The dictators who run a 'movement for democracy'

ACCORDING to its own propaganda, everything about Truemid, the right-wing pressure group in the trade unions, is democratic.

'We refuse to accept,' runs a typical passage in Trueline, Truemid's bulletin, 'that socialism has any meaning except within a framework of liberty of the individual and representative democracy.'

As we've proved on this page in the past two weeks, the Truemid organisers couldn't give a damn for socialism.

As the internal documents which have come into the hands of Socialist Worker make clear, they get their money from the employers. Most of the employers who pay for Truemid are the most bitter enemies of socialism.

One of Truemid's most generous financiers and supporters is Sir James Goldsmith—he got the 'Sir' from Harold Wilson the other day. Goldsmith is an extreme right-wing reactionary. He was, for instance, a strong supporter of the fascist regimes in Spain and Greece. So Truemid has nothing to do with socialism.

Drowned

Its internal documents also prove it has nothing to do with democracy. Indeed, if any trade union tried to run its affairs with a rule-book like Truemid's it would be drowned in a tidal wave of protest about dictatorship and bureaucracy.

Truemid, according to its 'constitution' is run by a 'Council'.

The council has dictatorial powers. It may 'call upon any member to resign' without giving any reasons or hearing charges. If the member does not resign, the council can expel him, again without reason or charge.

Members of the Communist Party—but not the Conservative Party or any fascist organisation—are automatically barred from membership.

The council can also refuse to renew annual membership of any member—without stating reasons. The council controls all Truemid's property and appoints all Truemid officials.

Junta

This junta is, according to the constitution, 'appointed at the annual general meeting.' It can consist of anything between eight and sixteen people.

These people need not be trade union members. Non-unionists, who cannot vote in the branches of Truemid, can sit on the council and control its affairs!

And just in case anything goes wrong, the Council can co-opt five new members without submitting their names to the membership!

In other words, Truemid is run just like a firm and nothing like a trade union. It's controlled by a small, tightly-knit body of people who are never elected by the membership but who have total control over that membership.

How the rats are taking over our hospitals

I'M not sure that workers outside our Health Service really understand what's happening to it.

I work in a hospital and every day things get a little worse.

Jobs are lost, and not replaced. Wards and casualty departments are shut. Student and auxiliary nurses are left in charge of wards at night. Canteen food gets more expensive.

But there is much more shaking the

foundation of the Health Service—and it won't be put right even if we got back the money for the existing Health Service budget.

For instance, the other day, we were sitting in the WRVS during our break—the canteens shut at break time, and the difference is 2p for a cup of coffee in the canteen and 8p for a cup made by our 'voluntary' workers.

As we idly glanced out of the window, we spied a large, dirty, but healthy rat taking a stroll in the mid-morning sun.

The rats were on the move—due to works in the cellars. When we reported our find, we learnt that there had been a stampede of rats above the casualty ward, and the laboratories above the ward were ordered to shut their windows in case of trespassers.

Wild

The rat catcher had been called in—like the cat catcher was a few weeks earlier, because the cats, brought in to catch the rats, were also running wild. A kitten had the bad luck to get stuck in the ventilation shaft over the X-ray department's office, which had to be shut down due to the mess and smell.

Wild life doesn't stop there. A radiographer on call for the X-ray department had to sleep in on call one night—and then take two days off sick, recovering from flea bites.

The latest news is that the fleas have hit the bacteriology department and are moving up the



by PENNY SIMMONS
ASTMS shop steward,
Hope Hospital,
Salford.

laboratories. It's true that Rentokil have a regular contact with the hospital. But when you go to hospital—and there's nothing exceptional about Salford, you know—whose hands would you rather be in, hospital workers' or Rentokil's? Hospital workers are getting fewer and fewer, you know, though there are plenty of new rats in the NHS, heavily disguised in red tape and smart suits. Those of us who are left

are organising to do something about it.

We've called a conference of all Health Service shop stewards against the cuts on Saturday 4 September, and the Manchester Cuts Committee have called another in October to try for industrial action to stop the cuts.

Human

Workers—ask a public sector worker to your union branch meeting or your shop stewards' committee meeting to talk about the cuts in your area. Get ready to join us to fight the cuts.

It's not just our lives that are being overrun by rats, verminous and human. It's yours as well.



Flashback to the days before the 1972 building workers' strike, when the Charter called demonstrations such as this one in Glasgow.

MYSTERY OF THE MEETING THAT WASN'T

NOT for the first time, this month's London Joint Sites Committee meeting was called off before it was started. Officials were heard to admit that the meeting was 'not worth having' because 'there aren't enough of the right people here'.

It seems that the Broad Left in the building unions, led by the Communist Party, are becoming increasingly disenchanted in rank and file organisation, and are quite happy to see the Joint Sites Committee fold.

The Building Workers' Charter movement is also being allowed to drift. There has been no issue of the Charter since the April conference.

The discouragement of rank and file organisation is having serious effects—even on the left's ability to pull votes. In a recent election on UCATT's rules revision committee, the left won only one.

Two right-wingers beat the other left candidate. This

would have been unheard of almost any time in the past ten years.

Even worse is the inter-union bickering between left officials in UCATT and the TGWU. The general secretary of UCATT, George Smith, has launched a campaign against the TGWU in the building industry, and several left officials have joined in, notably Ollie Manning, who is responsible for UCATT in the City of London—and is a Communist Party member.

Trend

Other Communist Party officials, and many rank and file Communist Party members, are disturbed at this trend. They prefer the traditional view that workers in both unions must organise together against the common enemy. But if rank and file organisation is played down, inter-union rivalry automatically follows.



NEWS FROM THE INSIDE

CONGRATULATIONS to the rank and file electricians who produced the summer issue of Rank and File Contact. It's a really first-rate rank and file paper.

It tells the story of Geoff Beddow, who was narrowly beaten in the recent executive elections for No. 6 division. Geoff used to be full-time EETPU official, and strongly opposed the closing of the union's area office at Shrewsbury.

He was promptly sacked. An industrial tribunal found the union 'guilty of wrongful dismissal'. In his summing-up, the tribunal chairman said that Geoff had been treated 'in the most despicable manner.'

All EETPU members should get this journal. 5p plus postage from 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.



At the glittering new London headquarters of the local government workers' union NALGO, a worker was found last week cutting up asbestos board in a small, unventilated cupboard with a handkerchief over his nose.

Members of the office workers union APEX, who use the landing—one of them a pregnant woman—told the man to stop at once and called in the factory inspector. The inspector advised the man to stop work—but he carried on, after being ordered to do so by his employer, Lindsay Parkinson, and a NALGO official, Jim Clogg.

Clogg called the APEX members 'hysterical'.

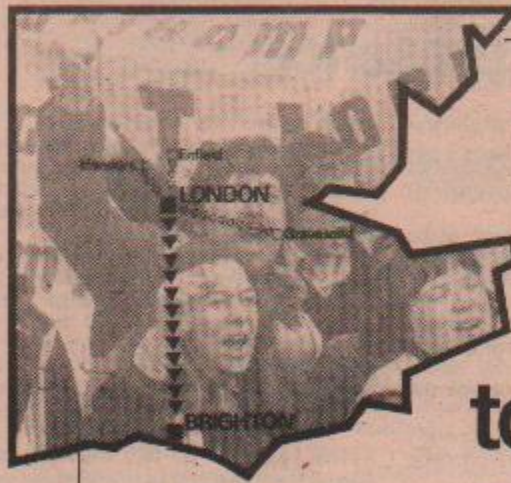
A meeting of ASTMS, APEX and staff union members quickly got the work moved to an open space, and a mask and two weeks extra time for the worker.



THE General and Municipal Workers Union, which has a quarter of a million women members, is sponsoring strip shows.

The union runs the 174 Social Club in the Digmaor Shopping Parade, Skelmersdale, Lancashire.

Last week the management committee announced that the regular country and western shows would be replaced by strip shows.



National Right to Work Campaign

March for the Right to Work

It's no use standing around on the dole queue waiting for the trade union leaders, Jones, Murray and Scanlon, to do something about unemployment. Join the unemployed march from London to the next TUC Congress in Brighton to force them to do their job by getting you one. Unemployed workers from all over the country are assembling in London, on the Embankment, Charing Cross, on Saturday 4 September at 11am. They will be joined by other local marches from Hendon, Enfield and Gravesend. Food and accommodation is being arranged for the march which will take four days.

SUPPORT THE RIGHT TO WORK MARCH

The National Right to Work Campaign appeals to all trade union and labour movement organisations to sponsor the London to Brighton Right to Work march. SPONSOR THE MARCH FOR £1. Raise Collections to help pay for the march. For further details, speakers, sponsorship letters, write to the National Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4 (Phone: 802 0978).

JOIN THE MARCH

- I would like to join the march
- I would like further information about the march.

Name

Address

Send to The National Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4. Phone (01) 802 0978

Open-a new nursery that was left to rot

By Priscilla Strutt

DUNDEE RIGHT TO WORK Committee and local residents turned an empty building into a thriving nursery school this week.

Mothers and their children moved in to occupy the purpose-built Whitfield nursery school which Tory Tayside Regional Council decided not to open, despite desperate need. It is one of three standing idle.

While the occupation got under way, delegations went out into the town to talk to local residents and trade unionists.

The occupation is part of the campaign for the right to work and against the cuts.

All three empty nurseries are in redevelopment areas on the outskirts of the city.

Whitfield nursery has been empty since 30 April. Specially-trained nursery nurses who were to have staffed these schools have been sacked.

Union bosses foiled over march

APEX MEMBERS at FSW in Horbury have defeated the union bureaucracy to support the Right to Work March from London to Brighton.

The branch members voted to send a donation to the campaign and to sponsor a marcher.

But the union's district office wanted to know if the money was coming out of the general fund or the political fund, and tried to stop them taking it out of either.

Half

But the members were determined. They told the district office that they would pay half from each fund regardless.

These are the latest organisations to sponsor the march:

Mirror Group NATSOPA clerical; Flint Building 3 UCATT-Newcastle and Dist. CPSA; Crossfields JSSC; NUPE St. James Hospital, Leeds-Crawley AUEW (Foundry Sec); N. Tyneside Metro, Borough NALGO; Warwick Univ SU; Bicester AUEW.

FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK!
Meetings and Notices

WIGAN Right to Work Social: Friday 20 August, 8pm-11pm, Victoria Hotel (next to Wallgate Station). Tickets available at the door. Everyone welcome. Employed 25p, unemployed 10p.

SEND OFF the London-Brighton marchers: Thursday 2 September, 6-7pm, Trades Council Club, Picardy Place, Edinburgh.

EDINBURGH Right to Work Committee: Performance of Cast, a play about immigration, by Bite Theatre Group. Monday 30 August, 8pm, Crown Theatre, Hill Place, Edinburgh. Followed by social, 7.5p employed, 35p unemployed.

TYNESIDE Right to Work Committee public meeting: Remember Jarrow. Speakers: John Deason (Secretary, National Right to Work Campaign), John Thomson (Jarrow Marcher). Tuesday 31 August, 8pm, Labour Club, Leazes Park Road, Newcastle.

YORK Right to Work Committee: Meet East Wednesday in month, Lowther Hotel, Kings Starth, York, 8pm. More information from G Pegmore, 23 Maple Avenue, Bishopthorpe, York.

SOUTHAMPTON Right to Work Committee public meeting: Join the March. Thursday 19 August, St Matthews Hall, St Mary's Road, Southampton, 7.30pm. Speaker from Right to Work Campaign.

Expense

The decision is a vicious attempt to cut back at the expense of children, mothers and nursery nurses.

At a public meeting in the grounds of the school on Wednesday, overwhelming support was given to the continuing of the occupation.

It was decided to allow primary school children to use the building when the new term starts.

But until then the nursery will be used as a base from which mothers can campaign for support for the right to work and the right to nursery schools.



A fully-equipped nursery—in use for the first time since it was built.



YES, IT CAN BE DONE... EVEN IN SOUTHEND

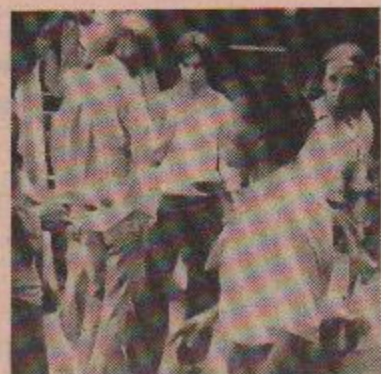
By John Hardy

ACCORDING to people who live there, Southend is pretty right-wing. It's part of commuter land, with office workers who think they've made it.

But, like most other towns, it has a long dole queue that won't go away. So local Socialist Worker supporters decided to have a go.

We've been selling 15-20 Socialist Workers a day on the dole queue and have signed up ten youngsters to go on the Right to Work March.

On our first day in the town centre, we raised £10 in two hours to support them. So even in a right wing town, we can get things moving.



Join us on the 3rd!

NORTH LONDON Right To Work Committee has organised a march through local industrial and black community areas to rally support for the London-Brighton march.

The demonstration, on Friday 3 September, has been backed by several shop stewards' committees, and should be supported by any marchers who arrive in London on the Friday before the main march.

Unemployed workers will be provided with lunch and tea, supplied by local trade unionists.

Lunch

The march leaves Southbury station, Ponders End, Enfield at 11am. The demonstration will stop for lunch at Scotland Green dole, High Road, Tottenham, between 1pm and 2pm.

At 7.30pm the march will meet up with other marchers from East London.

There will be a social with speeches from Paul Foot, a West Indian and a Cypriot worker, and music from Black Slate.

All unemployed marchers will have free accommodation and breakfast on Saturday morning before the main march sets off to Brighton.



ABOVE: The occupation was front page news for the Dundee Evening Telegraph, read by nearly every family in the town. It was also reported in the Guardian and the Scottish Daily Express. One of the mothers occupying was Kim Manzie, an unemployed nursery nurse, who would love a job and a place for her daughter Vicky in the nursery. LEFT: Mrs Chan and daughter Elaine leave for lunch—the doors were locked.

FIGHT for the right to work

What do we want? We want a bloody job!

FIGHT for the right to work. New youth paper. 9p including postage. 10 copies for 25p. Order from: Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4. 01-802 0978.

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM

Duncan Hallas

Can there be a 'peaceful and legal' social revolution through Parliament? Is a bit-by-bit overthrow of capitalism possible? Or will the rich drown it in blood?

Will the rich give in?

A READER in Manchester has been looking at Michael Foot's book on Aneurin Bevan and asks about Bevan's argument that Marx and Engels believed that a 'parliamentary road to socialism' was possible in Britain.

Peaceful

Bevan quoted Engels to the effect that Marx had come to the 'conclusion that, at least in Europe, England is the only country where the inevitable social revolution might be effected entirely by peaceful and legal means.

'He certainly never forgot to add that he hardly expected the English ruling classes to submit, without a "pro-slavery rebellion", to this peaceful and legal revolution.'

The reader says: 'I cannot help wondering why Engels wrote that and if, as is so often done with Marxist quotations, it was taken out of context.'

No, the quotation is genuine and it does fairly represent the view that Marx held in the 1860s and '70s and which Engels shared as late as 90 years ago when he wrote the passage quoted.

Before trying to assess whether Marx was right about Britain then, and whether what he said is still relevant today, let us be quite clear about his meaning.

First, that in general there can be no

question of a 'peaceful and legal' social revolution. England, Marx thought, was the only possible exception 'at least in Europe'.

In a well-known speech made in 1872, in which he mentions the possibility of such a development in 'the United States and England', Marx also said:

Domination

'It is to force that in due time the workers will have to appeal if the domination of labour is at long last to be established.'

Second, that, supposing the working class, in these highly exceptional cases, do take power by 'peaceful and legal means' they must expect a 'pro-slavery

rebellion' by the former ruling classes. The reference is to the American civil war, the 'pro-slavery rebellion' of 1861-65 which the slave-owners launched after they lost control of the White House and the Congress in 1860.

That is, Marx is saying, if the working class comes to power 'legally' it must expect and prepare for civil war. The rich will not peacefully accept expropriation, no matter how legally it is carried out.

The sort of situation Marx envisaged here is like that of England in 1640, when the 'Long Parliament'—which launched the English revolution—was legally elected under the laws of the old regime or that of France in 1789 when the States-General was convened by Louis XVI himself.

In both these cases, of course, civil war quickly followed. The old ruling classes were not willing to lose their power and privileges as a result of mere voting.

Marx then, never for one moment believed in the sort of 'gradualist' piecemeal replacement of capitalism by parliamentary action that the Labour Party 'lefts' tell us is possible.

But why did he think that Britain and the USA, unlike France or Germany, were special cases where possibly the revolution might go forward by legal means?

It was a question of the character of the state-machine. Lenin explained it as follows:

Excluded

Marx's view 'was natural in 1871, when England was still the pattern of a purely capitalist country, without a military machine and, in large measure, without a bureaucracy.'

Hence Marx excluded England (from the necessity of 'illegal' revolution—DH) where a revolution could be imagined... and was then possible without the preliminary condition of the destruction "of the available ready-made machinery of the state".

'Today in 1917... this distinction of Marx's becomes unreal, and England and America... have completely rolled down into the dirty, bloody morass of military-bureaucratic institutions common to all Europe.'

Condition

'Today both in England and in America, "the preliminary condition of any real people's revolution" is the break up, the shattering of "the available ready-made machinery of the state".'

The sections in double quotes are statements of Marx, quoted by Lenin.

Now, as our reader says in his letter, you can't settle an argument simply by quotations. True.

Next week, on the third anniversary of Pinochet's coup we will look again at the experience of Chile.

IT'S THE REAL THING... HOW THREE MEN DIED AND COCA-COLA GOT A £20 FINE

THE SEYESO disaster in Northern Italy has once again underlined the menace of the multinational firm. But there are plenty of other horror stories.

Coca Cola sales in Brazil have taken a dive following a scandal over the deaths of workers in the company's Bonsuccesso plant.

According to evidence given by employees to official inquiries, two black workers drowned last October in a tank of syrup. Their bodies, they said, were not recovered until 24 hours later, by which time more than 10,000 litres of drink had been made from the syrup and distributed.

The company denied the story and claimed it was a lie concocted by their competitors, Pepsi Cola.

Zealous

The bodies of the two workers were later found in two different cemeteries in suspicious circumstances.

An official inquiry was set up under Dr. Luis Carlos de Brito, who promised to get to the bottom of the case 'if it is the last thing I do in life.'

Shortly after he became rather less zealous following a visit by Gerald B. Shaw, Coca Cola's president in South America.

Signs of a cover-up soon began to emerge. But all seemed hopeful when three workers came forward to declare their willingness to testify to the inquiry.

It was not to be. One of the workers was only called upon to give preliminary evidence and a second found himself being charged with slander and then jailed for 'alcoholism'.

Fined

A third never testified. His mutilated body was found in a ditch. His fingers and toes had been burnt off with acid.

Amazingly, the inquiry was then declared closed by Commissioner Godfredo Cesar Marques, who at its opening had said that after 26 years' police experience 'economic power and pressure don't intimidate me.'

The Commissioner wound up the investigation with these words: 'Nothing happened, all the workers at the Bonsuccesso factory can turn up dead and I will not take any notice.'

Coca Cola were fined £20 for failing to meet security provisions and for three cases of excessive working hours.

And now they are planning to sue a journalist who has been investigating the case. The journalist, meanwhile, has received anonymous death threats.

Coca Cola? As far as multinationals go, it's the real thing.



Every government Minister is offered, twice a year, venison from the Royal Parks. Quarters of buck are allocated in the autumn and quarters of doe in the winter. — NEWS ITEM.

COWES: UPPER CLASSES RULE, OK?

THEY'RE so frightfully jolly, those ruling class chappies.

Every year, about this time, they come out to play: at Ascot, Henley and Cowes, not to mention the simply sooper Glorious Twelfth.

Trouble is, they do like to lord it over the working

classes, the lower orders, so to speak.

Take Cowes. Had a spot of bother this year with some bolshies on HMS Achilles, just a few upstart ratings, you understand, but a bit sweaty nonetheless.

The Achilles stood in for the Royal Yacht Britannia as guard ship for the regatta.

And did those blighters cut up rough!

They even had the damned cheek to complain to the local paper that £50,000 had been spent on the ship 'to make it pretty for guests'. Taxpayers' money, they said.

As if that wasn't enough, they said they were treated

like 'second-class citizens'. Well, good God, Binksie, that's just what they are, eh, and let them not forget it.

From all accounts, they even expected to be able to use the gangway ladders. Whatever next! Those ladders were reserved for a decent class of person.

The arrangements for the

hands were quite adequate—they had their own ladder next to the gun turret.

They did have to climb across a wet catamaran to get to it, mind you, one poor chappie was almost killed in the process, but there's nothing like a few broken bones to put a bit of spunk into these people, what?



THE US government are planning to spend £52,000 million on arms next year. If you find that sum a little difficult to juggle around in your head, just try to imagine every man, woman and child in Britain being given £1,000 each. Meanwhile...

WORLD military spending last year was £150,000 million...

EQUAL to the gross national products of Africa and Latin America combined

TWICE as much as government spending throughout the world on health care

FIFTEEN times as much as all official aid to 'underdeveloped' countries

THIRTY times as much (at constant 1970 prices) as was spent on arms in 1913, on the eve of the First World War

FOUR times as much as was spent on the eve of the Second World War.

That's progress...

NOT A FEW eyebrows have been raised recently among the clientele of Doncaster's Vine Hotel. Seems local members of the National Front have taken to meeting there every Thursday. After much earnest chatter about law and order, the Nazis like nothing better than to retire to the bar and engross themselves in that well-known pacifist tract, Guns Review...

We are involved in the struggle to change society. We are not playing politics within the capitalist system; we are seeking to destroy the system.

—John Stonehouse, Labour Party Conference, 1960.

AN INTERESTING scandal is on the brew in France. It centres around the petty revenge killing of a writer on the right-wing weekly Le Meilleur.

Charged with the crime is Dr Claude Birague, a leading Gaullist. It's alleged he hired two gunmen to commit the murder after consulting an as yet unnamed associate.

The associate is believed to be someone well-placed in the government.

Socialist Worker

EDITORIAL

Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London, E2 9DS.

01-739 6361
739 0185
739 9043

Circulation department: 6 Coltons Gardens, London, E2 8DN 01-739 2639. Published weekly except final week of December. Subscriptions: £7 yearly, £3.50 for six months, £1.75 for three months. Printed and published by Socialist Worker Printers and Publishers Ltd (TU all departments), Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS. Registered as a newspaper with the Post Office.

Fury as Spinola



BOMBS: POLICE SEIZED

HOW PORTUGAL'S right-wing 'democrats' operate was shown last week by a series of arrests—for planting bombs. Among those seized were:

- Major Mota Freitas, head of one of the two armed police forces in Portugal's second biggest city, Oporto.
- Joaquim Ferrera Torres, a big industrialist involved in the attempted secession of the wealthy province of Katanga from Zaire (the Congo) 15 years ago.
- Alibilio de Oliveira, another industrialist.



- Antonio Juio Regadas, an agent for another of Oporto's police forces.
- Manuel Teixeira, an acknowledged leader of Spinola's underground movement, the MDLP.

The extreme right has recently started a new political movement, the MIRN. The leader, Kaulzq, recently met with president Giscard of France.

The moderate Portuguese paper Expresso says he 'maintains cordial relations with the economic-financial Bilderberg group.'

This group is run by Prince Bernhard, of the Netherlands. Our own Denis Healey was a founder-member.

is freed to plot anew

ABOVE: Some of the 20,000 workers who demonstrated in Lisbon last week against Spinola's release: the protest was called by the Groups for Dynamisation of Popular Power (GDUPs).

EX - PRESIDENT Spinola returned to Portugal last week.

He had fled after an attempted coup 18 months ago which saw the bombing of Lisbon airport, the strafing of streets and the murder of a soldier.

As he returned, members of the underground organisation founded by him, the MDLP, were charged with planting bombs in Oporto and Lisbon.

Spinola, however, was allowed to go free after questioning by the police, thus showing how rapidly the right-wing is gaining strength.

Views

An increasingly powerful role is played by what are called the 'operationals' or the 'colonels'—middle-ranking army officers of decidedly right wing views.

A number of these officers attended a church service last month to mourn the loss of Portugal's colonies two years ago.

By 'coincidence', the service was also on the anniversary of the death of the fascist dictator, Salazar.

The former heads of the fascist secret police and their torturers have been released from jail.

Parliament was told it had no control over such decisions.

Last week, two of the four regional commanders of the armed forces were compelled to give up their commands because they were not right wing enough, yet they are by no means left wing.

The responsibility for this growth of the right lies with the leaders of the governing Socialist Party.

After the overthrow of fascism, most army officers



A GDUPs demonstration in Grandola last week: the men who freed Spinola would not allow Otelo da Carvalho to attend—he is under house arrest.

were frightened to reveal their extreme right-wing views. They kept their positions in control of sections of the army and bided their time.

Revolution

Then, last summer, their chance came. The Socialist Party allied itself with them so as to gain governmental positions and to ward off any possibility of a socialist revolution.

It was encouraged to make this alliance by other western governments, including our own.

The climax came on 25

November, when the so-called 'nine'—officers close to the Socialist Party—worked with the most right wing sections of the army to disarm and disband the left wing regiments and to purge the left wing newspapers and radio stations.

The Socialist Party now controls the government and its allies run the council of the armed forces. But, increasingly, real power lies elsewhere.

The right wing officers now tell the government that there will be trouble unless their demands are met.

To placate them, the Socialist leaders supported the

candidate of the right, Eanes, in the recent presidential elections.

They also appointed an old friend of Spinola's, Firmino Miguel, to the key job of Minister of Defence.

But each concession made by the government has increased the power of the extreme right to demand more.

Release

When the Communist Party and the extreme left moved a resolution in parliament

protesting at the release of Spinola, the Socialist Party abstained and allowed the right to defeat it.

Fortunately, rank and file members of the Socialist Party are beginning to see through their leaders. In the recent presidential elections, half the Socialist Party's supporters refused to support Eanes, and about a tenth of them voted for the candidate of the extreme left, Otelo da Carvalho.

Unions run by the Socialist Party protested vigorously at the release of Spinola.

This is important, because the left still has the strength to defeat the advance of the right.

The right wing officers are moving slowly because they are still unsure of themselves.

United

They would be thrown completely off course if met with a united response from the workers in the factories and the streets.

Iranians jailed

THREE Iranian students were each jailed for 28 days and ordered to pay costs of £300 at a London court last week.

The trial followed a picket called by the Confederation of Iranian Students when Queen Farah of Iran opened the Festival of Islamic Art at London's Imperial College, last April.

The three were convicted, on police identification, of assaulting the prosecution's key witness. Yet the witness admitted that he could not identify his attackers.

Letters and messages of support for the jailed students from Trade Unions, Students Unions and individuals should be sent c/o N.O.I.S.S. 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

THE STRUGGLE IN SPAIN TODAY

Hear Chris Harman and Spanish speakers: Friday 20 August, 8pm, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square (Holborn Tube), London.

RHODESIAN RAID: THE TRUTH

By Alex Callinicos

THE WHITE racist regime in Rhodesia announced last week that its forces had crossed into Mozambique and killed 300 guerrillas.

The story was loyally repeated by all the main London papers. None asked if it was true.

Yet the story was full of holes. Guerrillas camps close to the Rhodesian border would be well guarded, and the approaches heavily mined.

There would be shelters for protection against bombing attacks.

The attackers would inevitably have suffered heavy casualties.

The press chose to ignore all this. And it was equally silent when the Mozambique government told the true story: the Rhodesian forces had attacked refugee camps, which house some of the 10,000 black people who have fled in terror from Rhodesia.

Six hundred and eighteen of them were slaughtered. This was not the first

Rhodesian attack on Mozambique. In September 1971, troops launched a reign of terror in the Mucumbira area, killing and torturing local inhabitants.

But last week's raid will not solve the Smith regime's problems.

It's forces are now fighting the freedom fighters on three main fronts, in the north-east, east and south-west of Rhodesia. Black guerrillas have, in the

last few weeks, opened a new front in the north-west.

And they are getting great support. Last month, in Bindura, 56 black farm workers were each jailed for ten years for helping guerrillas.

The number of civilian guerrilla sympathisers killed by the regime is growing all the time.

Regime

In two weeks at the end of July and early August, 51 people died in the fighting, according to the regime. Only

12 were guerrillas.

Of the rest, 15 were local blacks killed by the regime's forces for helping the freedom fighters, and seven were blacks shot for breaking curfew.

When the rains come in November and December, there will be a massive guerrilla offensive.

Even the regime's spokesmen estimate that the freedom fighters can put 4000 men into the field then.

The battle to overthrow white power in Zimbabwe may be reaching its decisive stage.

WOMENS VOICE

If you want to know how to beat the cuts in your area, then read this month's Womens Voice. Articles on the Cuts, abortion, Trico, reviews, letters. Get your copy now from your Socialist Worker seller, or direct from Womens Voice, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Price 6p (plus postage).

It is no longer a question of improved education, improved facilities in Soweto or anything like that. The demand is now for the total transfer of power.

—OLIVER TAMBO, secretary general, African National Congress, speaking in London last Friday.

THE BLACK rebellion in South Africa has spread from Johannesburg to the other end of the country.

Young blacks in Cape Town were joined last week by Coloured (mixed-race) school students, who set fire to two of their schools, and by Asian students—an unprecedented unity against apartheid.

The fury of the rebellion has also been turned on those blacks who co-operate with the white racist regime.

In Mafeking, for instance, the Bophuthatswana Bantustan's parliamentary building was burnt down by young blacks shouting their hatred of the puppet black regime.

The South African authorities have reacted in the only way they know. There have been hundreds of blacks arrested.



And in Cape Town, police murdered at least 30 blacks. They have orders from Police Minister Kruger to 'shoot to kill if necessary'.

Meanwhile, the liberal British press pleads for 'moderation' and 'getting together'.

But the gulf in South Africa is not between two groups of workers. It is between the mass of the population, which is black, and the minority which exploits them—which is white.

White 'workers' are so highly paid, so stuffed with privileges, that they are part of the South African tyranny.

It isn't any longer a question of reforms or concessions or liberal advance.

The South African revolution which will put power in the hands of the black majority is the only way forward.

THE A



THE DEFIANCE: Scores of their brothers and sisters have been gunned down, but they refuse to be cowed.

The day I saw horror... just a car ride from a city of riches

By Oliver Duke,
Who left South Africa last year

JOHANNESBURG, where I lived for four years until last December, is a divided city—divided between rich and poor, oppressors and oppressed, exploiters and exploited.

No other city shows its wealth in the same ostentatious manner. White life is wining and dining, expensive cinemas, luxury theatres, fast cars, endless socialising.

Beggar

Going to a down-town cinema illustrated the point for me. Hundreds of expensively-dressed, complacent whites, dripping with diamonds, attired

in slick-cut suits and hand-made shoes, all doing their damndest to avoid tripping over a blind, legless beggar lying on the pavement near the entrance.

Whites don't have a housing problem. Their biggest worry is how many servants they can get at the lowest price. The servant, or rather 'boy' or 'girl', is a multi-purpose commodity: it shops, cleans, cooks, takes the dog for walks, looks after the children, polishes master's shoes and makes sure that madam gets her four o'clock tea on time.

This existence penetrates every black life in Johannesburg—indeed every black life in South Africa.

From the age of six, most city blacks have some sort of 'job'—begging to supplement the family income, or selling weekend newspapers into the

early hours.

The sight of a 'picannin', swollen with malnutrition, selling Sunday newspapers late into Saturday night and Sunday morning, is taken for granted by whites. And heaven help the poor little devil if he gives the wrong change.

Horror

'Home-life' for the blacks is unimaginable horror. I drove into Alexandra, the township which borders Johannesburg's suburbs, to find rows of houses razed to the ground.

The reason, I found out later, was that the government was trying to 'discourage' Africans from living too close to the white suburbs.

One means of 'discouragement', apart from simply pulling down the blacks' houses, was to cut off the rubbish collection, leaving rows of rat-infested rubbish in the streets.

Few houses have running water and even fewer have electricity.

Incident

There are no tarred roads, no street lighting, and, when the air is still, log fires and dust reduce the visibility to less than a few yards.

Every day there is some incident, some sight, some experience which reminds you of the realities of South Africa.

You don't have to look beyond the end of your nose. Most whites can't even see that far.



THE VIOLENCE: In South Africa, as in Britain, this is known as 'maintaining law and order'.

'HELP SMASH APARTHEID'

HELP US smash apartheid. That was the call to British workers last Friday from Oliver Tambo, secretary general of the African National Congress.

Speaking at a Press conference in London, he said: 'Employment which is based on the brutal exploitation of workers in South Africa is employment which can only damage the interests of workers everywhere'.

As he spoke, one group of workers' representatives were taking a giant step towards solidarity with black workers in South Africa.

Two hundred shop-

stewards from British Leyland, representing 100,000 workers in Britain's biggest car firm, were told that Leyland refuse to recognise bona fide trade unions for black workers in their South African factories.

The Metal and Allied Workers Union is the chosen trade union of most black Leyland workers. At the huge Moberi factory, 95 per cent of the black workers are paid-up members.

Yet Leyland, meekly bowing to the will of the South African government, refuse to recognise the union.

In so doing, they are safeguarding massive profits which accrue to Leyland from some of the most

savage exploitation on earth.

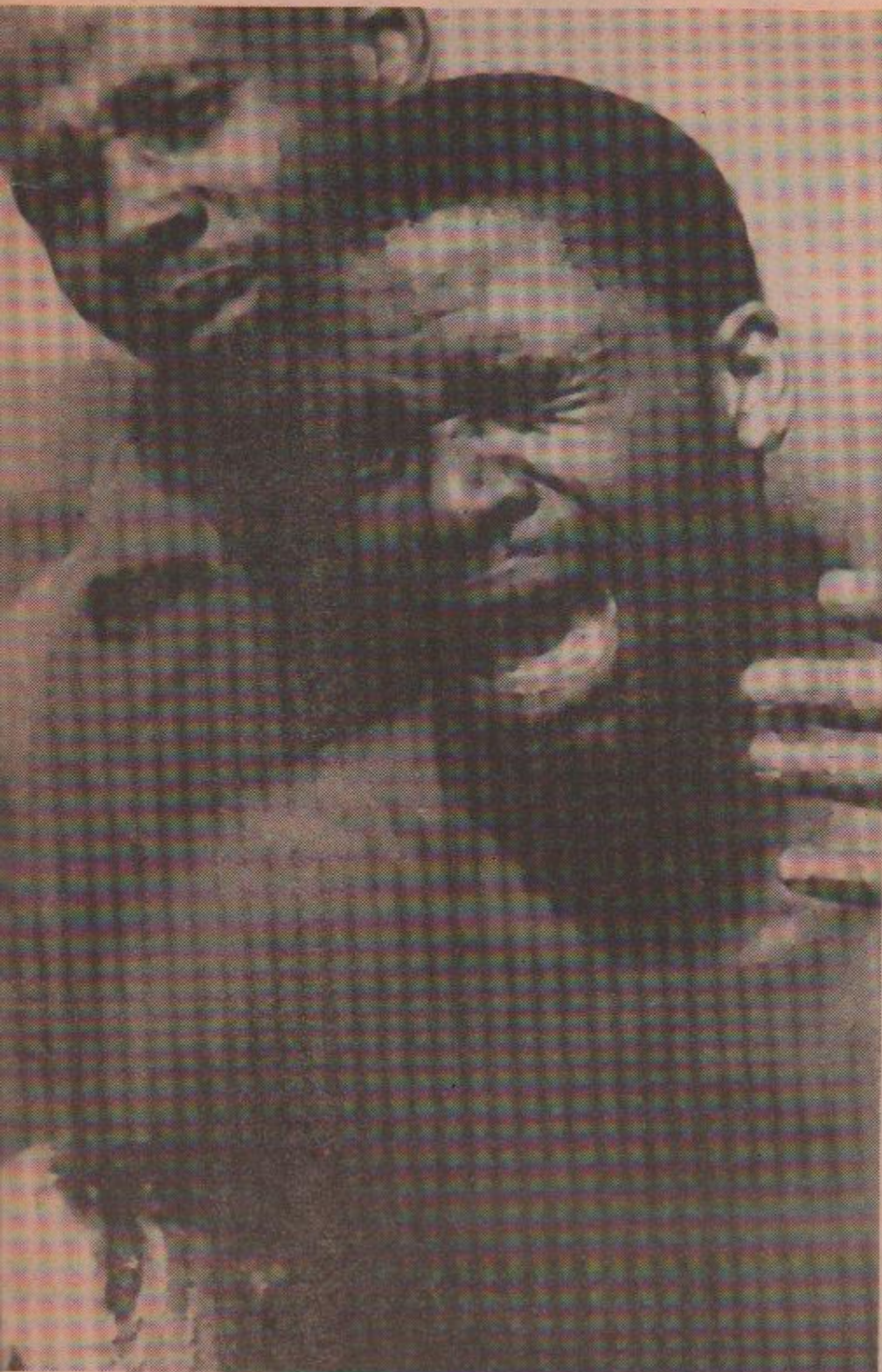
The British stewards have protested bitterly about this refusal of basic trade union rights.

At their meeting last Wednesday, they decided unanimously to black all 'completely knocked-down' cars which are shipped from British Leyland in Britain to South Africa—unless the management recognised the South African unions.

'We shall take this action, unless there is trade union recognition' said stewards' chairman, Derek Robinson.

The stewards should be congratulated on their decision.

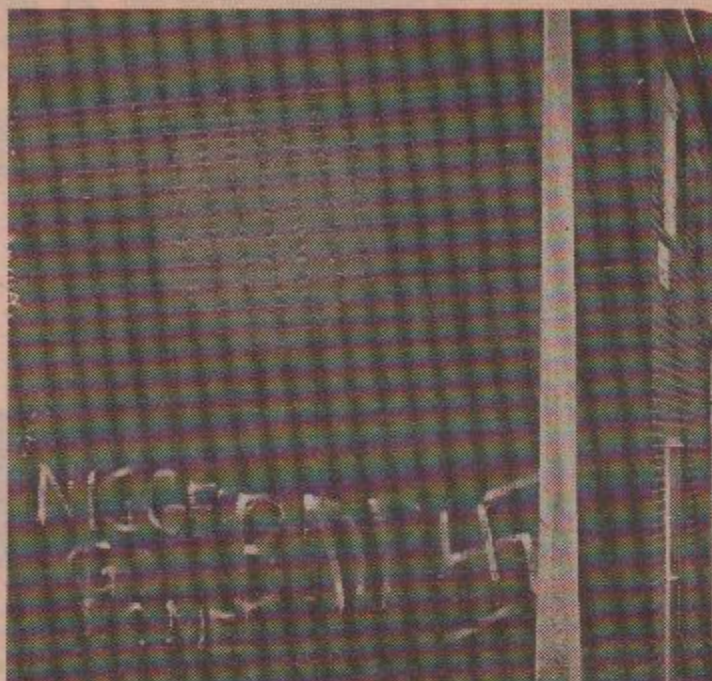
There should be no delay in carrying it out.



SONY: This man dared to protest against apartheid



CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER



The mind of the 'master race' ...

By Fred Milson, Leeds IS

UNDER COVER of darkness, a member of the master race in the British National Party painted 'Nigger Go Home' on the side of a council house in Leeds.

He singled out a woman living on her own with her three children.

The police could not find out who did it, of course. So the matter was reported to the council. But again nothing happened.

House repairs are one of the victims of the cuts and nobody in the Housing Department in Leeds felt that cases of racist daubing warrant quick action. The local Labour councillor could not be found.

We went down to the estate, taking round a petition calling for the slogan to be removed and calling on the people on the estate to help.

Sixty out of 70 people signed. Nobody will admit to supporting the slogan.

A week later we returned and a dozen people off the estate came out to help us remove the slogan.



THE NATIONAL Front turned up on the streets of Bolton recently to sell their racist filth.

Asian and White Socialist Worker sellers went over to show our disgust—and the NF obviously felt confident enough to start a fight.

They had miscalculated, however and we sent them away with bloody noses and minus their racist papers. Last Saturday they returned but the confrontation was brief and unequal.

The 'master race' had to run into British Home Stores for shelter—again minus all their papers.

Nazis on the run

By Andy Moir and Balwinder Singh

THE FASCIST NATIONAL PARTY have raised their ugly heads in Gravesend, Kent. They were shouted down by a crowd of mainly Asian youths last Saturday week when they tried to sell their racist rag, Britain First. But, later that day, four racists attacked the president of the local Sikh temple and threw him through a shop window.

The police were 'unable' to catch the thugs. But a group of Asian lads found out where one of them lived and the police reluctantly arrested him.

Last Saturday we turned up as usual to sell Socialist Worker and to hand out the anti-racistist 'They're Welcome Here' leaflet.

Five police were already wandering about. Fifteen National Party heavies turned up, and the police sergeant demonstrated his impartiality by going into a pub for a drink with some of them.

A group of National Party thugs started insulting some Asians. When the insults were returned, one of the thugs produced an aerosol can of ammonia and sprayed it in the Asian lads' faces.

In the fighting that followed, the National Party wished they hadn't come.

The police arrested one Asian and one Socialist Worker seller. None of the National Party were arrested—not even the one with the ammonia.

The arrested pair were greeted by a picket of 150 Asians and whites when they were released at 6pm.

The local paper, the Gravesend Reporter (or the Gravesend Distorter as it is fondly known), has tried to portray the anti-racists as Asian yobs.

It failed to mention the attack on the president of the Sikh temple.



RATS CRAWL BACK INTO THE SEWER ...

THE NATIONAL Front rats have been pushed back into their sewers in Islington, North London.

Fifty of them confronted six Socialist Worker sellers in the local Chapel Market two Saturdays ago.

They chanted 'Send the blacks back to Palestine'—a nice racist mixture—and 'All the socialists are Jews, you know what we do to Jews.'

Within an hour, 30 Socialist Worker supporters arrived. The Front reconsidered their position.

Were they going to eliminate the Reds, as promised, just like the Jews?

No, they weren't. They hung around for a while in two miserable groups and then disappeared.

Last Saturday, there was no sign of them ...

THE QUIET streets of Oxford were filled with anti-fascists last Saturday. A week earlier the offices of the Oxford Committee for Community Relations had been ransacked. Damage was estimated at £2000.

Similar attacks have taken place in Sandwell, Wandsworth, High Wycombe, Luton and Slough.

We marched to show that there is no future for racists and fascists in Oxford.

IAN McADAM

Socialist Worker says
Don't be fooled:
Unemployment is caused by the bosses & the government, not by black workers!
Houses & Jobs for everyone!

Socialist Worker says
Don't be fooled:
In the '30s they blamed the jews. Today they blame the blacks.
Houses & Jobs for everyone!

Socialist Worker anti-racism stickers—six different types. £1.50 for 1000, 30p for 200 from Socialist Worker, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Money with orders please.

Socialist Worker NEWS...

WE'RE PUTTING THE RED BACK INTO CLYDESIDE



By Geoff Heaton
Glasgow IS

THE LAST two years have been tough going for socialists, even in a traditionally militant area like 'Red Clydeside'.

But times are changing. Nearly 30 people have joined the International Socialists in Glasgow in the last three months.

Although for a while it looked as though we were out on a limb, our hard work is now beginning to pay dividends.

SW ORGANISERS
If you want to alter your order for the issue after the Bank Holiday weekend (no 492), please contact SW Circulation before mid-day on Friday 27 August, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Phone 01-739 2639.

Nine people joined during the student teachers' occupation of Jordanhill College of Education. NOISS, the National Organisation of IS Societies, was the consistent opposition to the weak-kneed leadership of the Broad Left. Other new members include

hospital workers, local authority workers, factory workers and unemployed.

Our recent school in Dundee on the politics of IS was a success. A lot of people are joining from a gut reaction against the waste and misery of capitalism.

They liked the school, where we talked about everything from Scottish Nationalism to organising the rank and file on the shop floor. We plan to have another school in the next month or so.

Socialist Worker sales are up. Last month's sale, despite the holiday period, was the highest for nearly two years. We're selling more than 1000 papers a week—and we hit 1100 last week.

LONDON CADRE SCHOOL

Monday 23 August — Thursday 26 August

Places are still available for active IS members.

Ring Pete Fysh. 01-739-2639

MONDAY 23: Labour Government, Labour Party and the future. How to improve your speaking

TUESDAY 24: Incomes Policies: the experience. Shop floor and trade union work.

WEDNESDAY 25: The Rank and File Movement; theory and practice. The British Communist Party.

THURSDAY 26: How IS works; branches, districts and intervention. Lenin, Trotsky and the Revolutionary Party.

TUTORS: Tony Cliff, Duncan Hallas, Paul Holborow, Steve Jefferys and Jim Nichol

THIS PHOTO, showing Right to Work campaigners in Easterhouse in Scotland, was taken with an Instamatic camera.

It shows how easy it is to take pictures for Socialist Worker. If you have a camera, why not take pictures of that picket line or local demonstrations to send in to Socialist Worker with your reports?

Pictures taken with 'Pocket' Instamatics, unfortunately, cannot be reproduced.

NOW GET CLICKING!

We can supply 20 exposure black and white film for 35mm cameras at cost price, 25p. So get clicking...

Write to Socialist Worker (Photos), Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

WHAT'S ON

Notices for What's On should be posted to reach Socialist Worker by first post on the Monday before publication. Adverts will NOT be accepted by phone. Send to: What's On, SW, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS

GLASGOW Socialist Worker/Cingari public meeting: Stop the Racists! Build a fighting socialist alternative! Speakers: A committee member of the Southall Youth Movement and Azim Hajej (IS Black Caucus). Chair: Angela McHugh (AUEW shop steward, Rawplugh). Wednesday 25 August, 7.30pm, Woodside Halls, Lesser Hall, near St George's Cross.

SOCIALIST WORKER MEETINGS

MANCHESTER Socialist Worker public meeting: The Struggle for Socialism. Speaker: Paul Foot. Thursday 26 August, 8pm, Town Hall Basement Theatre, Town Hall Extension, Manchester.

ORMSKIRK SW Public Meetings: Every Tuesday at 8pm, Civic Hall Committee Rooms.

24 August: Origins and Traditions of IS. Speaker: Nigel Varley
31 August: Workers Power in Portugal. Speaker: Pete Robinson
7 September: Is Russia Socialist? Speaker: Carol Douras
14 September: Class not colour divides us

TAMESIDE SW public meeting: Marriage makes women sick. Speaker: Colin Barker. Monday 6 September, 8pm, Feathers Hotel, Stamford Street, Ashton-Under-Lyne.

NORWICH SW readers day school: Working as a socialist in the unions. Practical school with speakers, group sessions, mock negotiations etc. Food provided. Sunday 29 August, 11am-6pm. The Lamb Inn, Haymarket, Central Norwich. Watch for further details.

SOCIALIST WORKER NOTICES

BRADFORD Socialist Worker Outing: Sunday 29 August, Bradford to Robin Hood's Bay. Adults £2, kids free. Everyone welcome. Phone Terry Ferrar 0274 65913

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

DESIGNER WANTED URGENTLY TO WORK ON PREPARATION AND LAYOUT OF IS PUBLICATIONS. Write, with details of experience and/or training to: M. Norris, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN

All IS members and sympathisers studying at Sheffield Polytechnic next year (76-77) please contact: Johnny Domachie, Sheffield Polytechnic Union of Students, Pond Street, Sheffield.

WOMENS WEEKEND SCHOOL Manchester, 25-26 September. Sessions on: The family, women and socialism; the revolutionary party, public speaking. Please book places now. Phone Margaret Renn 01-739-9772 or write to: 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

TAMESIDE IS ramble: Sunday 22 August. Meet outside Grey Hare Inn, Charlesworth, at 11.30am. Shake off those back-to-work blues! Kids welcome—nothing too strenuous. Phone 061-330 7231 for details.

WILL IS DISTRICTS with spare Robert Relf is a Nazi posters please send them to IS Books, 224 High Street, Digbeth, Birmingham?

TWO COMRADES and 18-month-old son seek like couple plus kids! to share house in County Durham with view to co-ownership. Contact Will and Sheila, 32 Brownswood Road, London, N4.

URGENT: Two comrades desperately need a flat or room/s in South West or North West London. Phone Andrew Regan, 736 0028.

SW SUPPORTER seeks room in shared flat/house in or around Hatfield, Herts, from mid Sept. Humanities student. Phone Denny after 6pm on 020 13 5525.

CRISIS IN ZIMBABWE (2nd edition), 10p including postage from Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

ALL IS MEMBERS and SW supporters, delegated to the TOM delegation to Ireland contact the Irish Sub-Committee, Steve Berry, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2, urgently.

MATERNITY LEAVE: if you have information about maternity leave agreements, copies of agreements, please send them urgently to Margaret Renn, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2

Watford: The door is open...

SOCIALIST WORKER went back to Watford last Saturday for the first time in two years—and scored an immediate success.

Three members of the International Socialists started selling the paper on the pedestrian precinct—and were quickly joined by three other people, one a member of the Labour Party, one a member of the International Marxist Group.

Altogether 16 papers were

sold. The Watford paper sales are an offshoot from the newly-established Hemel Hempstead IS, which now has members in Watford.

Paper sales in Hemel have risen to a weekly 75 in the past month, with 20-25 from a regular Saturday street sale.

In both towns, Socialist Worker has met with great interest, with many people asking for details of our regular weekly meetings.

Public meetings planned for September will be on the fight against racism, and Which Way to Socialism? with Jimmy McCallum, Socialist Worker's prospective candidate for the Walsall North by-election.

Paper sales are, of course, only the start of a long campaign to build SW and IS into a socialist alternative.

But Hemel and Watford show that the door is open.

LENDING A HAND AT TRICO

SIX WOMEN members of West London IS held a street meeting in West Ealing last Saturday on the equal pay strike at the local Trico factory.

Everyone took turns at speaking, while others gave out leaflets and collected money. The response was good.

Some strikers, from Trico came up and chatted to us and lots of local trade unionists gave money.

After an hour, we were all hoarse. But it was worth it. We collected £18, which we then took to the picket line.

□ TWENTY-FIVE people attended the first public meeting of the new Telford IS group last Thursday. The discussion centred around the fight against racism. Another meeting has been planned for this Sunday (21 August) to discuss what action should be taken locally.

HELP US SELL WHERE YOU LIVE

SWANSEA:

11am-12 noon, College Street.

NORTH LONDON:

11am, Holloway Road (outside Sainsbury's) and Chapel Market, N1.

ROCHDALE:

11am-4pm, Yorkshire Street.

NORWICH:

10am-4pm, market end of Davey Place.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD:

The Marlowes, by the market, 10am-12 noon, 1pm-3pm.

HULL:

Monument Square, 11.30am-2pm.

SOUTHEND:

Shopping Precinct (next to Guy Norris) 11am-1pm.

NORWICH:

Davey Place (opposite the market), 10am-5pm.

LEEDS:

The Precinct 11am-3pm.

ORMSKIRK:

Clock Tower, 11am-3pm.

LIVERPOOL:

Church Street 10.30am-3pm.

MANCHESTER:

MOSS SIDE shopping precinct 10.30am-2pm. SALFORD shopping precinct 11am-1pm. CHEETHAM HILL shopping precinct 11am-1pm. LONGSIGHT MARKET 11am-3pm. STOCKPORT: Merseyside shopping precinct 10am-4pm.

WOLVERHAMPTON:

Outside Golden Egg, Queen Square, Saturdays 10.45am-2pm. Sundays 12 noon-1am and 3pm. 3.45pm, outside Walfrun Hall Indian Cinema.

BOLTON:

Precinct, 11am-4pm.

BURY:

Precinct, 11am-1pm.

WIGAN:

Makinsons Arcade, 11am-3pm.

WATFORD:

The precinct, 10am - 12 noon.

SOUTH WEST LONDON:

Clapham Junction outside Woolworths, St Johns Road, Saturday 10.30am-1.30pm. Tooting High Street, Saturday, 11am-12.30pm. Brixton outside Tube, Saturday 11am-1pm and Friday, 5pm-6pm. Stockwell outside Tube, Friday 5pm-6pm. Peckham Rye, Saturday 11am-12.30pm.

WHERE WE STAND



INDEPENDENT WORKING-CLASS ACTION:

The workers create all the wealth under capitalism. A new society can only be constructed when they collectively seize control of that wealth and plan its production and distribution.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

The present system cannot be patched up, or reformed, as the established Labour and trade union leaders say it has to be overthrown.

THERE IS NO PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

The structures of the present parliament, army, police and judiciary cannot be taken over and used by the working class. They grew up under capitalism and are designed to protect the ruling classes against the workers.

The working class needs an entirely different kind of state—a workers' state based upon councils of workers' delegates and

a workers' militia. At most, parliamentary activity can be used to make propaganda against the present system. Only the mass action of the workers themselves can destroy the system.

INTERNATIONALISM

The struggle for socialism is part of a world-wide struggle. We campaign for solidarity with workers in other countries.

We oppose everything which turns

workers from one country against those from other countries.

We oppose racialism and imperialism. We oppose all immigration controls.

We support the right of black people and other oppressed groups to organise their own defence. We support all genuine national liberation movements.

We are for an end to all forms of discrimination against homosexuals.

We are for real, social, economic and

political equality of women.

The experience of Russia demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation in one country.

Russia, China and Eastern Europe are not socialist, but state capitalist.

We support the struggles of workers in these countries against the bureaucratic ruling class.

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

To achieve socialism, the most militant sections of the working class have to be organised into a revolutionary socialist party.

Such a party can only be built by activity in the mass organisations of the working class.

We have to prove in practice to other workers that reformist leaders and reformist ideas are opposed to their own interests.

We have to build a rank and file movement within the unions.

We urge all those who agree with our policies to join with us in the struggle to build the revolutionary party.

If you want to know more about Socialist Worker and the International Socialists, fill in the form on page 15.

A marvellous series
—but did ITV censor
the final episode?

BILL BANNED?



IF YOU'RE
FIGHTING
FOR THE
RIGHT TO
WORK,
DON'T
MISS
THIS FILM

SO Bill Brand finally knuckled under.

The final episode of the Thames TV serial put the lid on the Labour Party.

The left contender for the party leadership retires defeated to his Welsh cottage, the rest of the 'Journal' group is brought into line by the constituency parties, and Brand himself—the socialist firebrand—agrees to 'keep his head down'.

Repeat

For 11 weeks Bill Brand won a massive audience throughout the country. If for nothing else, that should persuade Thames that it's worth repeating sometime.

But the real reason it should be repeated is because its picture of the Labour Party shows the hopelessness of the 'parliamentary road to socialism'.

There's the Left-wing Labour Minister who believes he can turn the party towards socialism by capturing its leadership—and then won't even vote for a minor amendment against the right when he loses.

There's the chief whip, viciously pushed out when the going gets tough but believing the party has achieved great things even as the Health Service is cut back and unemployment itself is used as a tool to get capitalism back on its feet.

Unable

There's the local Labour agent, still strong in his belief that the attacks on the working class will 'breed resistance' yet unable to see that the road to socialism needs an organisation that his party is totally unable to provide.

And there's Bill Brand. He goes into the Labour Party with plenty of illusions and has them knocked out.

He supports an occupation to save jobs—and runs smash into the press barrage. He gets the left-wing Minister for Employment to go to the factory—the Minister says all the right things, does nothing, and the occupation fails.

There's the abortion issue. The party manifesto is committed to easing the abortion laws, but when Brand tries to bring this into practice he finds first the local doctors, then the local press, stirring him—and his local party swimming with the tide.

Oblivious

There's the Commons committee debate over the Further Prevention of Terrorism Act, showing parliament as little more than a public school fourth-form debating society. Besides, MPs on both sides are totally oblivious as Brand points out the dangers to trade union and democratic rights in the increased police powers.

And the final test. For when Brand attempts to meet a right-wing Labour government's reactionary programme with an organised left-wing opposition, the Speaker of the House of Commons simply fails to put the amendment down for a debate—and the whole thing fades into the wind.

Author Trevor Griffiths



Brand on the 'Fight for Work' March: was there more that was cut out?

By
PETE MARSDEN

correctly predicted the change in Labour leadership—writing about 'Watson's resignation before Christmas, when Harold Wilson resigned in March.

But he was wrong about the outcome of the leadership battle. Where the openly right-wing Venables takes over in the serial, in reality the leadership went to the 'moderate' smiling Jim Callaghan. Griffiths misjudged the Labour Party's ability to continue the balancing act.

That balancing act, the ability to 'hold the party together' under any circumstances, even the total removal of any 'socialist' veneer, shows in the way Foot and Benn remain in the government—while Griffiths' left-wingers resign.

But he still correctly shows their impotence, their inability to lead, or even take part in, a revolt against the Labour right.

So there's the final scene where Brand confronts the careerist, right-wing Labour deputy chief whip.

'What are you after, Brand?' he asks sneeringly. 'Socialism,' says Brand. 'Have you heard of it?'

'Sure you're in the right party,' comes the reply.

So what is the alternative to the impotent Labour left? Which is the way to socialism?

In one episode, Brand is asked whether he'll go back to the International Socialists? 'No, I've been through that. That's not the way either', he

replies.

But we are shown the 'Fight for Work Campaign'.

Brand tells an unemployed mate of his to get involved in it—which he does. Brand himself goes on a demonstration shown by using television film of a real Right to Work Campaign demonstration.

Suave

As one of a three-man delegation to the TUC, he meets the suave trade union bureaucracy—the TUC spokesman (Len Murray?)

who places himself immediately with 'Sorry I'm late, brothers, General Purposes Committee, you know'.

But after Griffiths' excellent picture of the Labour Party, the final episode was almost unbelievable.

We see the left challenge simply rubbed out by the parliamentary and party operation. OK. Then what? The most appalling left-wing theatre group that I have ever had the misfortune to watch, following the 'politics of sex' theme that has been the series weakness throughout.

And Brand says it's terrific! Is this a cynical portrayal of the revolutionary left? Ex-student, middle-class, talking to itself.

Maybe, but is that all there is? Surely the 'Fight for Work' Campaign isn't only a demonstration that ends in a hopeless petition to the TUC and a few shots outside a Cabinet meeting in Downing

Street?

The final episode fades out on a letter to Brand from the campaign secretary. 'Thanks for your support', it says, 'we've got membership applications flooding in'.

The title of this final episode was 'It is the people who create'. Surely Griffiths doesn't expect us to take the political theatre group as representative of 'the people'?

Ending

Was there more about the Fight for Work Campaign in this final episode—more that was forcibly removed by Thames Television?

'But Mr Griffiths, this programme is about the Labour Party, after all. I can hear them saying.

If so, it's a sad ending for an excellent series.

Though Bill Brand may prefer his theatre group to the toothless Labour Party, I suggest Labour Party members—and others—who are looking for the road to socialism provide their own ending.

Don't take Bill Brand's word for it. Join the International Socialists and build that road.

THE great thing about THE GAFFERS STRIKE is that it captures the anger and frustration of being on the dole.

It's the latest film from the Workers' Newsreel, most of it made on dole queues and picket lines, talking to people about unemployment.

This isn't a film for armchair socialists. It's part of the fight for the right to work. It's the sort of film that could be used all over the country to build that fight—ideal for starting a meeting, because every unemployed worker in the country will identify with the people in it.

Struggle

It draws the link between the anger of those on the dole and the fight back. One unemployed woman interviewed tells us about how unemployment is part of the system, how it is a wastage of human lives, how people must get together to fight against it.

Then she says: 'Socialism? Oh no, I'm not political.'

She is part of the struggle but doesn't know it. There are thousands like her.

Two things come across loud and clear: that unemployment is no aberration—it's part of a concerted effort by the bosses to beat down the strength of the trade union movement.

And that unemployment has to be fought.

The film does not tell you how to fight—except by saying that trade union strength is there to be used—but then that's our job.

PETE
MARSDEN



SUNDAY

Those who missed the film VIVA MARIA at Skegness get another chance to see it tonight. (BBC-2).

The National Union of Journalists voted in favour of a call for Lord Shawcross to resign as chairman of the Press Council at its conference this year because of his anti-trade union views. He talks about his views on the press in THE BRAIN CONNELL INTERVIEW (Anglia 5.05pm).

MONDAY

Don't miss Tony Hancock in THE BLOOD DONOR (BBC-2). Auberon Waugh's last chance to bash the workers comes in THIS IS WAUGH (ITV 8.30pm). He talks to members of the International Marxist Group and Lord Weymouth.

WEDNESDAY

The story of the man who 'opened up the West' and paved the way for the white man to pour into California on a civilising mission is told in EXPLORERS: THE AMERICAN TRAVELS OF HEDEDAH SMITH (BBC-1). He is portrayed as a hero who held off masses of marching Indians.

FOR 11 ABSORBING WEEKS, IT
HAS HAMMERED HOME THE
FUTILITY OF THE LABOUR PARTY

Postal Points

I THINK it is most important that more IS members and supporters write to their local newspapers to counteract the huge deluge from the right.

It is surprising the amount of influence this can inspire if one gets a letter published. But if at first you don't succeed keep trying. I know from experience that it is worthwhile.

□ SW Reader.



I AM disturbed by the attitude of 'blind forces pushing upward to achieve a socialist revolution' as quoted in your article on George Orwell (24 July).

In our day to day battles we must rise to the challenge of educating people whose state education has tainted their views.

I suggest SW devotes one page each week to educational features. There is no shortage of material in the works of Lenin and Trotsky. This would increase its value as a fighting paper.

□ Tom Wilson, Cleveland.



I HAVE just heard that three wards have had to close in a hospital not more than three quarters of a mile from my home.

The reason given was lack of staff. I am an auxiliary nurse and there are many fully qualified nurses on the dole queue with me who were told there were no jobs for them.

This damned system and its crazy policies makes me sick. Roll on the time when we will have aroused the working class sufficiently for there to be an end to all this madness.

□ S. Sloper, Portsmouth.



INSPIRED by the example set by the seven professional trade unionists last week, I am prepared to stand on an IS ticket for any constituency using my savings to pay the deposit and a fair proportion of the expenses.

Any more volunteers for the next election?
□ Pensioner

THE STONEHOUSE ELECTION - FOR AND AGAINST

I READ with disappointment that you are putting up a candidate in the Walsall election.

Reaffirmation of your sound politics does not excuse this awful tactic.

I do not believe that you need a candidate in a by-election for parliament to build such a fight.

The Stonehouse election is not simply a chance for propagandists. When you have candidates in such an election you neutralise the politics you are arguing.

The fight must take the form of industrial action around the policies of the Right to Work Campaign.

This could be campaigned for according to local conditions without finding IS

candidates for controversial by-elections.

Before long you will be putting up candidates against Benn here in Bristol to show up his bankrupt policies.

Leave the parliamentarians to their games of votes and crosses. The socialist alternative to Labour is not the opportunity to vote for a revolutionary in an election, it is direct action at our workplaces.

Let's have no more of these tactics. Whoever thought up this shallow escapade would do better on a sales campaign for Square Deal Surf.

□ Peter Brown, Bristol

CONGRATULATIONS to Socialist Worker for taking the initiative of putting up a candidate in the Walsall North election.

While recognising that socialism can never be gained through parliament it is clear that suitable opportunities must be taken both to put forward a fighting programme and to counter the divisive, poisonous ideas of racism.

As the Labour Party cut their own electors' throats by implementing Tory policies, many disillusioned workers will look to alternative politics.

We must make sure that the

politics are those of the International Socialists.

□ Mike Skelton, London.

I WAS VERY pleased to see that we are going to stand a Socialist Worker candidate in the Walsall election.

A lot of people have been a little confused about why we are doing it. They wonder if we are off down the parliamentary road to socialism.

I think this means that SW is going to have to repeatedly state why revolutionaries stand candidates.

The purpose is of course to use the platform of the election to get our politics over to a much larger audience than

we normally have the chance to address.

This means we act as a pole of attraction for those workers who are disaffected by the Labour Government's anti-working class politics.

I believe that our recent campaign in Thurrock would have had for more potency if we had put up a candidate.

The other problem is that in the enthusiasm of the campaign, SW readers might measure our success by the numbers of votes we get.

This is very dangerous as it can be demoralising if the National Front get more votes. Votes are not crucial. We'll be lucky if we get 500 but we must be up there presenting a fighting alternative.

□ Ken Collins, East London.

Defend the Murrays

FOR SEVERAL weeks a number of people have been picketing the Irish Embassy on Saturday mornings between 10am and noon, in protest against the death sentence passed on the Murrays in Dublin for allegedly killing a policeman.

The case of the Murrays is part of an international wave of violence used by the state against activists.

We must stand up now and show solidarity with the Irish Working Class. Tomorrow the British security forces which so proudly boast their co-operation with the Eire forces will use those same tactics against us.

□ Murray Defence Group, Box 2, c/o Rising Free

Letters

Write to Letters, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent London E2



THE Irish were not the only people to be shown as ape-like cretins. Pure Anglo-Saxons got this treatment too if they happened to be working class and organising themselves in opposition to the government of the time, as this cartoon illustrates.

□ Eve Barker, London NW5

Comrades, you were magnificent

THE BURNING of the Nazi Relf's racist sign was a magnificent demonstration. You will be pleased, I'm sure, to learn that it had an international impact.

The burning of the sign, and the leadership role of the International Socialists in the struggle against racism in Britain, were featured on national TV news in Canada last week.

There was a full five minutes of uninterrupted film coverage (an enormous amount by the time standards of North American television!), which was almost equally divided between featuring Relf and the National Front on one side, versus the International

Socialists and the burning of the sign on the other.

Jim Nichol's speech, promising that the anti-racist forces would be there to stop the fascists wherever they showed their heads, was prominently covered. The IS was clearly identified as the leading political force in the anti-racist movement.

You can be sure it is an inspiring moment to be able to watch our comrades, several thousand miles away, organizing to smash the fascists into the ground as they deserve.

It is an example we will do everything we can to follow.

□ Dan Posen, IS-USA, Detroit, Michigan.

The danger in your bacon

KNOWING your concern for safety and health at work I thought your readers might be interested in this item I heard recently on the radio.

They were discussing carcinogens in the metal industry, namely nitramines which are contained in certain lubricants. A Swedish professor was interviewed and he suggested very strongly that these lubricants can cause cancer, especially cancer of the stomach.

These lubricants are often bound in the form of aerosol sprays making them doubly dangerous as they can be inhaled directly into the body in the form of tiny droplets. One Swedish metal worker admitted to washing his hands in the stuff before eating his lunch!

Nitrites

The programme also mentioned that the substance is a combination of nitrites (a derivative of nitrogen, and amines, a protein constituent.)

Nitrites can be—and are—used as a food preservative.

For instance, salted bacon is often preserved in this way and being meat, bacon contains amines. So the two can combine and form carcinogen nitramine.

I gather this is a new discovery and obviously indicates a source of danger to working people at home and at work.

□ W. G. Jones, London N7.

Join the growing fight to smash the PTA

SINCE the Prevention of Terrorism Act came into force in 1974, more than 1550 people, most of them Irish, have been subjected to 2 or more days of police and special branch interrogation. Only 36 people have been charged with any serious offence.

Hundreds of people have had their houses broken into in the early hours of the morning, their families held in their homes for several hours watching the police root up floorboards and fireplaces, wreck their furniture and take away private literature, bills and letters.

Many of the 1550 working class people arrested under the Act were picked up at their place of work, usually without the shop stewards committee or trade union branch knowing. It was a case like this, where by chance the shop stewards committee found out about the arrest, that initiated the formation of the Trade Union Committee Against the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

Focus

Over the few months since we started, support has grown for the Committee, and a national focus is needed.

Committees have been set up in Manchester and Liverpool and other areas are

beginning to organise. The Committee has only been on the road for a few months, and in that time we have dealt with over 30 cases detained, mounted pickets, and organised meetings and legal advice for the communities.

The Prevention of Terrorism Act is not a device to stop the bombings or to send home a few Irish activists. In practice, suppression of political activists is its main aim and impact.

Stonehouse and Rowland - 'lepers' of capitalism

WHEN THE urge to wring profits out of the working class drives men like John Stonehouse to use methods such as false bank accounts that are outside capitalism's rules, the Press eagerly joins with the law in casting them out like lepers.

Profiteering is equally evil but within the law, and continues uncriticised, held by their morality to be a good and worthy pursuit.

SW has emphasised the same point before now but it is still hard to avoid being too moralistic in condemning such

people as Tiny Rowland, Ogilvy or Stonehouse.

The only real morality which prevails is that on which the present system of production is based—that is to grab as much as you can for yourself.

Grab

No one should be condemned for acting according to these standards the best militants in the working class do the same, respecting neither laws nor property.

Those who try to act according to some 'better' values just become impotent like so many people in the Labour Party.

Rowland and Stonehouse are no worse than the rest of their class. We oppose them because they cannot pursue their interests except at the expense of the workers.

We can only pursue our interests by smashing that class and then there will be the economic basis for a more social morality.

□ Dave Kirby, Birmingham.

The Fight Against The Racists



The Nazional Front and How to Smash it.

A Socialist Worker pamphlet

10p a copy plus 7p postage (more than 5 copies: post 3p each) from:

SW Distributors, 6 Cottons Garden, London E2.

Divide and rule - the bosses' strength

I USED to be a member of the Norwegian Seamen Union and when I heard about the possibility of a strike by the British National Union of Seamen I decided to write to you.

Ship owners around the world are skilled at playing seamen of different nationalities off against each other. By employing workers with different native languages, the owners seldom have serious strikes.

The ship I used to work on had crew members from 14 different countries. Any attempt to establish an effective trade union organisation became very difficult.

One West Indian cook who had been with the company for several years asked for a rise. He was put ashore in Jamaica two days later.

Because of the chronic unemployment in places like Jamaica there was sure to be someone to replace him.

There cannot be many industries in the world where racialism and lack of workers' unity has done so much damage. Why is the Right to Work Campaign restricted to Britain?

□ Phil McCowen, Wandsworth.

CAN THE working class change the system?

The question was put by a middle-aged Communist Party member to former Morning Star editor George Matthews at a recent meeting in Middleton, near Manchester.

She added, in a cry from the heart: 'I was arguing our politics 30 years ago just as I am today. Yet they seem no nearer to us now than they were then.'

George blamed it all on the media. Certainly it doesn't help to have the propaganda of the bosses swamping you from morn to night.

Yet the real answer goes a bit deeper. Capitalism was successful over those 30 years. Our lives were transformed. Macmillan, the 1950s Tory Prime Minister, could tell us 'You've never had it so good.'

Yet, every so often, the bosses' system goes through a crisis, and every time they seek to recover at the expense of the workers. Hard won conditions and wages disappear overnight. During these times, the ears of the class open to our ideas and solutions.

Dirty

Up here in the boondocks of Lancashire, we often despair at the textile workers in the grey dirty mills. The last 30 years have been one long retreat for them. And yet in these same mills, not a mile away from where I sit writing this article, just such a change took place in the crisis of the 1840s.

What happened was one of the first attempts to link the workers' everyday struggles with a political solution to those problems.

The Plug Plot Riots—so called because of the plugs the workers pulled from the boilers in the mills—started off as a fight back against wage cuts in a period of depression and rising prices.

The political leaders of Chartism, the huge working class movement for real democracy, were sucked off their pedestals by this explosion. They were pulled into the raging streets of struggle. And then, when found lacking, they were cast into obscurity, fit only for historians to study.

In 1842, out of a population of 16 million, nearly one and a half million were on poor relief. Wages were falling, but grain prices, and therefore the price of bread, were rising.

Skilled cotton workers were on wages of 9s 7d a week. Hand loom weavers were down to 1d an hour.

Yet, 22 July 1842 saw the price of grain rise from the May figure of 60s 5d a quarter to 64s 5d.

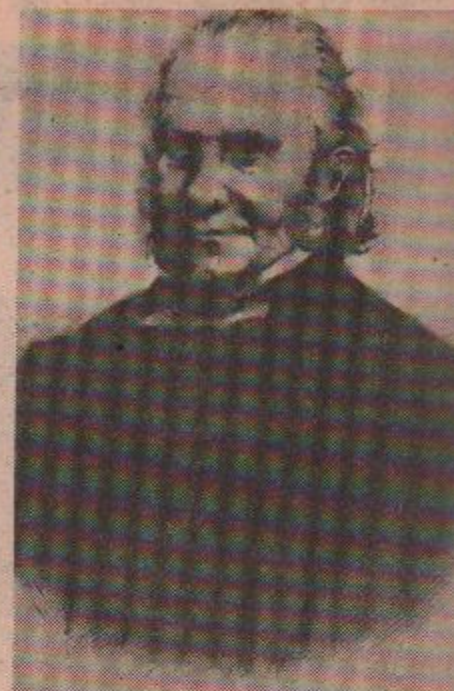
Boilers

Two days later Messrs Bailey of Stalybridge, next door to Ashton under Lyne, informed their spinners and weavers that their wages were being cut. The workers took immediate strike action, pulling the plugs from the boilers as they left the factory gates.

Determined to spread the strike, they toured the town calling out workers from other mills and factories. To sustain them, they helped themselves to bread from any shop that didn't support their strike.

Ashton under Lyne, Hyde, Newton, and Dukinfield joined them on the streets, pulling the plugs from the boilers as they left. Oldham quickly followed as the strikers marched into the town.

Who says we can't change the system?



Thomas Cooper: an inept leader



The attack on the Stockport workhouse—bread is seized—and distributed to the strikers



Feargus O'Connor: opposed the strike

EVERY SO OFTEN, THE EARS OF WORKERS OPEN UP TO SOCIALIST IDEAS AND SOLUTIONS. SUCH A TIME WAS 1842...



Troops leaving from London to put down the strikers' movement

The strikers resolved that the morrow would be the turn of Manchester.

There the strikers closed down 130 cotton mills, and as many dyeworks, foundries, and machine-shops, involving in all some 50,000 workers. The strikes spread.

Workhouse

In Stockport on the 7th, there were riots in which the workhouse was attacked and 672 seven-pound loaves of bread, and £7 in coppers, were taken as a levy by the strikers. At Preston, the next day the military opened fire and shot four strikers dead.

At Salford, troops defending the

Adelphi Works fired and wounded five strikers. By now the strike extended to Bury, Rochdale, Macclesfield, Bolton, and Huddersfield and all the surrounding districts.

Two days later, it had reached Halifax, Bradford, Leeds, and into the mining districts of Staffordshire and Warwickshire, and then into the Potteries and South Wales.

By now, however, under the influence of local Chartists, the movement had assumed a political form. Already on 1 August, a great meeting of strikers from Lancashire and Cheshire on Mottram Moor, near Stalybridge, had resolved that 'all labour shall cease until the Peoples Charter becomes the law of the land.'

During the next week, the motion

was taken up by meetings in numerous factory towns. A conference of Combined Trades, meeting in Manchester to direct the strike, decided to give the motion their support.

Chartist

On 15 August, a meeting of miners in the Potteries, which was addressed by the Leicester Chartist Thomas Cooper, passed the resolution for the Charter. Two days later the National Charter Association also met in Manchester.

Half the leaders, including Feargus O'Connor, feared that it was a trap set for them by the Anti-Corn Law League.

O'Connor commented: 'They have gotten the people out. How will they get them in again?' It was a statement that reformists have echoed down the ages.

The Chartists involved in the strike were able to carry the day. They forced a manifesto pledging the support of the Conference for the general strike. So an important step appeared to have been made.

Under pressure from their followers and the pressure of the events, the Chartist leaders had been forced into supporting a general political strike for power.

Alas it was all a daydream. As soon as the Conference was over, Hanley opposed the strike at a

meeting in Sheffield. And O'Connor, who carried a lot of weight in the movement, came out against the strikers in the pages of the Northern Star.

With the leadership in disarray and at loggerheads with each other, the strike lost momentum in recriminations. The strikers gradually returned to work, the last of them going back in the spring of 1843.

Bellies

The fire in the bellies of the strikers was nowhere matched by any of the leaders. An example of the general ineptitude was Thomas Cooper. After he had addressed a great miners' meeting in the Potteries, a local Chartist, Joseph Capper, put the resolution which was carried with acclaim.

The pumps were stopped in the mines, the Potteries called out on strike, the police stations in Hanley, Burslem, Longton, Fenton and Stoke on Trent were raided for arms. Prisoners were released, police records and poor rate books seized and destroyed.

Parsons

The houses of the local magistrates, coal owners, parsons, and rent collectors were pulled down or set on fire. Yet while all this was going on Cooper had cleared off back to Manchester for the Chartist Conference.

One hundred and thirty years after the Plug Plot riots and the Chartist general strike, that history provides an answer to the comrade in the Communist Party in Middleton.

If only the leadership the working class has had here in Britain in any way matched the potential of the class itself, we would be living socialism instead of preaching it.



By DAVE HALLSWORTH

□ Dave Hallsworth is a Lancashire textile worker, now unemployed following his victimisation by today's bigger but just as brutal Baileys: ICI-Intex. Those wishing to follow up his article could do worse than read the classic contemporary History

of the Chartist Movement by R C Gammage or Chartist Studies edited by Briggs. Both books are available in the public library or from Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4, price £2.75 and £2.95.

UNITY-THAT'S HOW TO SAVE THE JOBS

PONTYPOOL: Four members of the electricians' union have won their jobs back after 43 contract electricians and mates came out on strike in their defence at Girlings.

By Terry James, EETPU

miles away to work for the same boss. They were told the next day that there wasn't enough work but that Ivor Higgins, a co-director of the firm, would give them work in Newport. This work evaporated during the short journey to Newport and they were immediately made redundant.

Higgins told them: 'You've messed up about and, as a result, I've had work taken away from me.' He claimed that Billy Williams and others came on the job solely to 'cause trouble.'

'Causing trouble' and 'messing about' included forming an EETPU shop on the site and at the nearby Cwmbran factory, working to max-

imum safety and demanding (and getting) safety helmets and harnesses—all vital in an industry with a higher fatality rate than the mines.

We also forced the firm to get rid of three employed teachers who were working the lump on the site during their paid holiday period—while 200,000 of their ex-pupils are jobless and wageless. The shop demanded that their jobs be filled with unemployed school-leavers.

Clearly the four lads were victimised for being good trade unionists. The redundancies came after the shop had been told that the whole workforce would be retained until October.

After the four were sacked, the firm took on new labour and introduced excessive overtime working.

Although most of the other lads had never been in a union before, they took a stand. Sterling efforts by deputy shop steward Alan Marshall and the chairman resulted in a magnificent response.

Gate

There was immediate solidarity from the Cwmbran shop stewards' committee. Their convenor told SW 'We will allow no other contractor on the Cwmbran site while the lads are out the gate.'

Following a mass meeting on Friday and meetings with management, the four lads were reinstated.

Now asbestos victims launch a campaign

By Phil Jones

A GROUP OF GLASGOW women whose husbands, fathers and brothers have been struck down by asbestosis are fighting back.

They marched into the local Transport and General Workers' Union offices last week and demanded to see the officials. They wanted them to take action over the failure of the asbestos companies to compensate families for the suffering they have caused. Danny Burnside, a T&G official, had an answer for them—they should make an appointment.

'How can you make an appointment when they don't answer your bloody letters?' was the response from one of the women.

Burnside scurried out of the building and 'nobody else was available.'

'We've finished talking to them, said Anne Cook, whose father recently died of the disease. 'What we need is action. We ought to picket the sites.'



Local

There must be over 500 insulation engineers in Glasgow. Are they going to take it?

The women will be forming a local Asbestos Action Committee. As one of them put it: 'We are concerned about compensation.'

'But we are even more concerned about our men who are still working in these conditions. They are the ones with the power to prevent asbestosis.'

For further information contact: Marie Campbell, 88 Selvicland Road, Penilee, Glasgow G52.

YOU NEED THIS BULLETIN



EVERY shop stewards' committee should have one. Issue No 3 of the excellent Hazards Bulletin is out now.

It covers the latest struggles over asbestos and glass fibre. It's loaded with facts.

Order from BSSRS (British Society for Social Responsibility) 9 Poland Street, London, W1. Phone 01-437 2728.

Subscriptions cost £1 a year for individuals, £3 for institutions. Bulk orders £1.20 for ten copies.

LUMPER FINED

MICHAEL Joseph Ferguson was working on the lump in Leeds in 1972. He fell from a roof and seriously injured himself. Now Leeds Crown Court has awarded him £30,397 damages. The Court held that because he was an employee, the builder—John Dawson and Partners (Contractors)—was liable because they failed to provide guard rails to comply with safety regulations. The builder is appealing to the House of Lords.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

SOME OF the 15 journalists and printworkers occupying the Daily Jang offices in Hoxton, East London.

The paper's owner, a multi-millionaire, refuses to negotiate a pay rise. The workers were getting £40 for a six-day week.

They joined SOGAT in April and have been negotiating for the union rate.

Three weeks ago they went on official strike. Management indicated they would get a rise.

Then, when the head offices in Pakistan intervened, they received letters of dismissal.

So they occupied the printworks. Yehia Syed, father of the chapel (shop steward), told Socialist Worker:

'Our biggest problem is keeping up the pickets. We would like anyone who wants to help to come. We need help especially at night and on weekends.'

They can come upstairs with us. Eat with us. Play cards with us. Talk with us. But we need support in case anyone tried to enter the building.'

Messages of support to: Yehia Syed, FOC, 221 The Vale, Golders Green, London NW11. Help on the picket line to Daily Jang, 52 Hoxton Square, London N1.



1200 HEAR SW CANDIDATE

'WE INTEND to launch a real campaign against racialism in this area. Labour and Tories have promoted racialism. We'll be fighting it.'

Jimmy McCallum, prospective Socialist Worker candidate in Walsall North, was loudly cheered by 1200 Asians in Wolverhampton last week.

He was speaking at the Indian independence day celebrations organised by the Indian Workers' Association. Jimmy had earlier joined IWA pickets outside a pro-Congress Independence Day meeting.

Dictatorship

Two labour MPs, Renee Short (Wolverhampton North East) and Bob Edwards (Bilston) had agreed to speak at the pro-Congress meeting, which expressly supported Mrs. Ghandhi's dictatorship in India. As soon as they saw the pickets, they fled.

In his speech, Jimmy said: 'I am not just the Socialist Worker candidate. I am the anti-racialist candidate. We've had two months of racist attacks on black people in this country.'

'The racist attitude has been encouraged by the policies of the Labour government, especially in the treatment of the families of immigrant workers.'

'Our position is to oppose all immigration controls, confront the fascists and defeat the policies which are giving them room to move.'

He called on everyone at the meeting to join the anti-Fascist demonstration in Walsall on 25 September and to join the Socialist Worker campaign in the Walsall by-election.



Stonehouse? As far as I'm concerned, he's lucky...

JIMMY McCALLUM told Socialist Worker this week: 'I see Stonehouse has had the cheek to say he's going to appeal against his conviction and sentence, and is still refusing to resign his seat. As far as I'm concerned, he's lucky. He never even got charged over the half million quid which the Bangladesh Relief Fund stole from Bengalis in Britain when Stonehouse was a trustee. 'Stonehouse should get out now. And if he doesn't, he should be chucked out. The working people of Walsall should have a chance to ensure that they have NO MORE STONEHOUSES.'

FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK - DIRECT!

BEDFORD: All the brickies and subbies on the Shanleys site have been locked out for two weeks. Our picket has already turned back two sparks and two tilers who turned up to start on the site.

From the beginning, we have made it clear that what is at stake is the way cowboy sub contractors treat workers. The

dispute began over bonus rates, and led to us being sacked and management claims that our work was sub standard.

All the shoddy work was completed before we came on

the site and was passed by the clerk of works.



Sub-contractors will do anything to avoid paying decent wages. As the cuts bite deeper, these cowboys will try to get tougher.

We want to work direct for the main contractors. We will continue to fight for that and ask for every support for our struggle.

Donations and messages of support to M Presland, UCATT Convenor, 44 South Road, Sandy, Bedford.

How to get the info on jobs

YOU CAN GET the statistics of unemployment in your town every month. This hard information can be used in Right to Work bulletins.

Get your Right to Work Committee press officer to write or ring the local Department of Employment office.

Ask it to send you a copy of

the regional figures each month.

NORTHERN REGION: E English, Wellbar House, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4TP. Phone: 0632 27575, ext 260 or 262.

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE: N Witter, City House, Leeds, LS1 4JH. Phone: 0532 38232, ext 345.

SOUTH EAST: E A Burton, Hanway House, Room 225, 27 Red Lion Square, London, WC1. Phone: 01-405 8454, ext 157.

SOUTH WEST: J F Hopkins, The Pichay, Bristol, BS1 2NQ. Phone: 0272 291071, ext 659.

WALES: E H Rudolph, Dominions House, Queen Street, Cardiff CF1 4NS. Phone: 0222 52964, ext 218.

MIDLANDS: Tony Brown, 2 Duchess Place, Hagley Road, Birmingham, B16 8NS. Phone: 021 455 7111, ext 25.

NORTH WEST: C E Wright, Sunley Buildings, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester, M60 7JS. Phone: 061 832 9111, ext 2200 or 2209.

SCOTLAND: A J Ellison, 43 Jeffrey Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JU. Phone: 031 556 9433, ext 395.

Notices and meetings

Notices for this column must be posted to arrive - 7 first past the Monday before publication. We cannot take them over the phone. Send CASH WITH COPY (10p a word) to Classified, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS. No invoices can be sent.

DATETIME DOMINO CLUB invites you to a Grand Bank Holiday Dance at the 157 Centre, Tottenham Lane, London, N8. Saturday 28 August, 8pm-2am. Music by Ding-a-Ling. Plenty of booze and food. Tickets: 75p in advance, £1 at the door. Buses: W3, W7, 41. Nearest tubes—Finsbury Park, Turnpike Lane and Wood Green.

MANCHESTER Engineers Charter Meeting: The Way Forward. Speakers: Harry McShane (AUEW), Jimmy McCallum (TASS), Clive Hartley (AUEW convenor), Foundry Works, Sheffield. Wednesday 25 August, 8pm, Town Hall Basement Theatre, Town Hall Extension, Manchester.

WORKERS OF IRAN: Repression and Fight for Democratic Trade Unions by T Jalil. A new pamphlet by the Campaign for Restoration of Trade Union Rights in Iran, BCM, 816 London WC1 V6XX. Price 75p, plus 10p postage.

CHILE—Don't forget National Demonstration: Sunday 12 September, Assemble 1pm, Clerkenwell Green, London EC1. Organised by Chile Solidarity Campaign.

WORLD REVOLUTION PUBLIC FORUM: The British Situation. Saturday 21 August 2.30pm, Club Room, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London, WC1.

Weekend Educational Conference at the University of East Anglia, on RACISM, IMPERIALISM AND APARTHEID IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. 29-31 October. For further details please contact the Students' Union, University of East Anglia, NORWICH.

Manchester Right to Work Disco: Saturday 28 August, 8pm, Victor Brook Blues Band, Poly Union, Cavendish House, All Saints, Manchester. Extension applied for. Admission 75p, 35p for unemployed.

98 face sack in Tory onslaught

BURY: The Tory council is closing an old people's home, a children's home, two social and occupational therapy day centres, a hostel for the rehabilitation of the mentally ill, a training centre and a nursery.

Ninety-eight workers will be

By Ian Wall

sacked. Bury Council has decided to support the Labour government in the 'national interest' and cut £1 million off current expenditure.

There are more cuts—fewer books for libraries, concessionary bus fares are to be withdrawn, two nursery classes being built are not to be opened. £80,000 is to be cut from maintenance.

This means, according to the council's own report, 'no

guarantee can be given that it will be possible to keep all schools open or to maintain the standards of safety essential in schools'.

300 people came to a Stop the Cuts meeting in Bury. Residents of a home to be closed occupied the Social

Services office.

The National Union of Public Employees has condemned the cuts and is refusing to co-operate.

We will be picketing the Social Services Department on Tuesday. We will fight these cuts to the end.

Dan Dare gets his answer—a strike

WHAT ARE NUPE UP TO?

THE MANAGEMENT of East Midland Allied Press in Northamptonshire are waging a vicious fight against closed shop agreements on three of their newspapers.

Journalists on the Northants Evening Telegraph and two associated weeklies included the closed shop recognition demand in a house agreement claim put in four months ago.

The response of Executive Director Robin Miller—EMAP's answer to Dan Dare—was cuts in the existing agreement and the demand that it ought to be for three years, not annual as it has been.

The NUJ chapel (office branch) thought little of that, so they imposed sanctions on Monday for a week and threatened a strike from next Monday (23 August).

Weeklies

The 75 members are backed by the union's National Executive which has made the action official.

In the meantime, EMAP, which owns another evening paper in Peterborough and weeklies in East Anglia, plus a number of national magazines, has cast itself as the defender of freedom.

What the dispute is really about, they have told the national press, is the effect of the closed shop on 'editorial freedom'.

Conveniently omitted from their high-minded announcements, is the fact that 100 per cent membership has existed on the newspapers for three years.

Dozy

If the closed shop was a threat, it has been threatening dozy old EMAP all that time—and only now have they noticed.

The story behind the dispute is the determination of the employers' organisation, the Newspaper Society, that none of its members will sign a closed shop agreement.

If EMAP doesn't come up with the goods, the opening of their new Kettering plant on 7 September looks like a flop.

STOCKPORT: The 270 binmen on strike for a new bonus system are still solid.

At Monday's mass meeting, no one doubted that the strike would go on until the Tory council backed down.

One question was asked with some anger: Why have the public employees' union NUPE, which is making such a fuss about the need to protect its members, not made the strike official?

The local NUPE office started by giving

the men all their support. Press releases were even sent out supporting the men and attacking the council.

Now, suddenly, the officials are silent—and the strike is still unofficial.

Flying

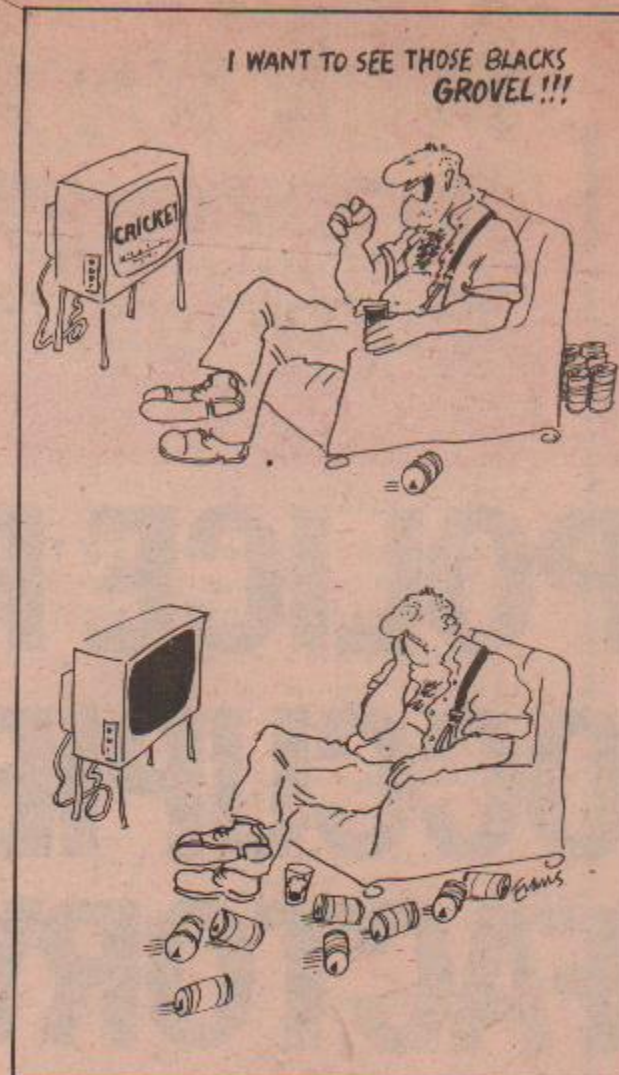
The Monday meeting decided that if the officials refused to support the strike, the rank and file would have to call the tune. The meeting decided to set up flying pickets of binmen at all the main tips.

The Tory council, which is behaving

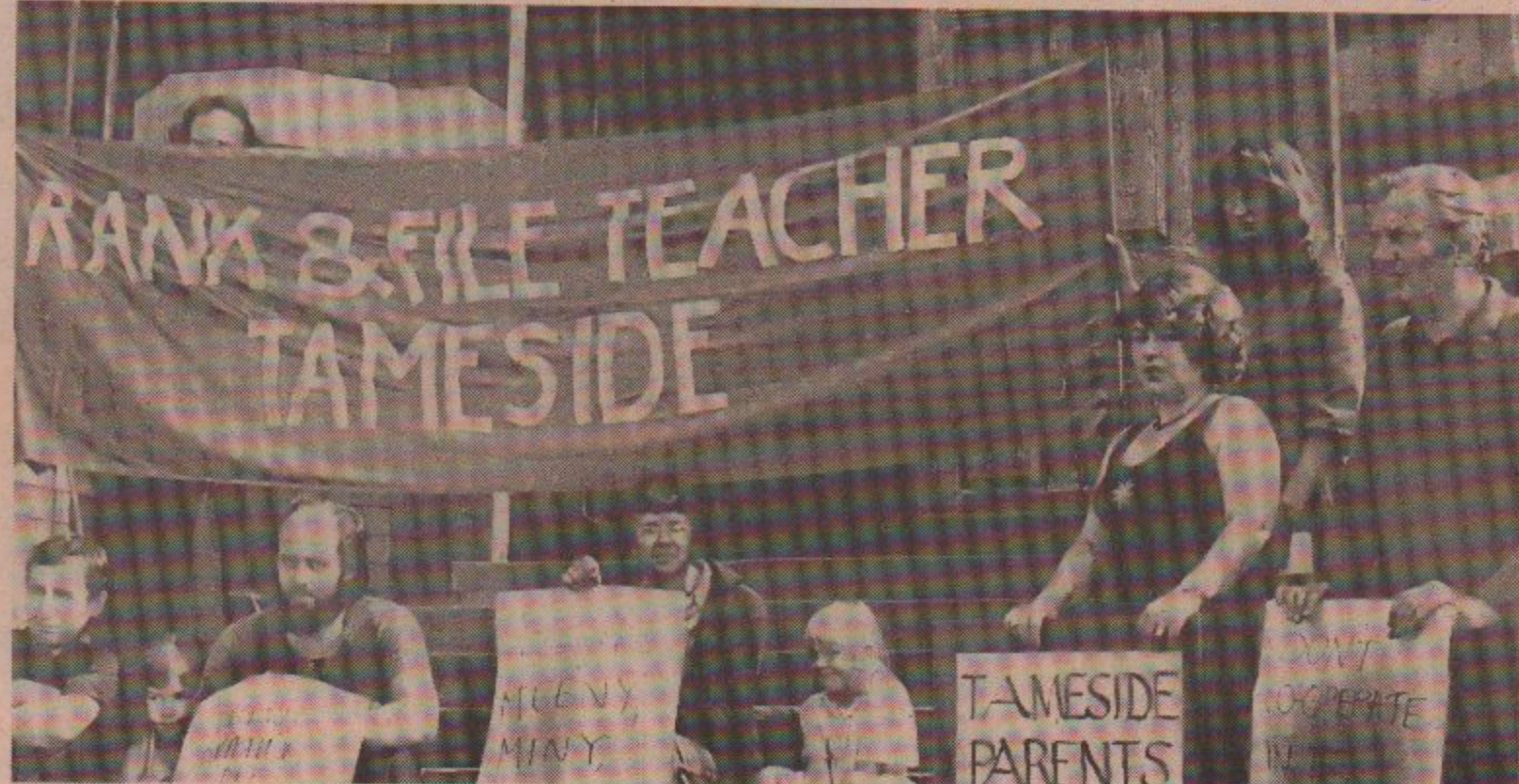
like a wounded rhinoceros, immediately put out a statement claiming that the binmen were practising 'intimidation against the housewives'.

This has infuriated the binmen, who reply that housewives will not be picketed. The flying pickets will be directed solely against scab firms hired by the council to dump the rubbish.

As one striker put it: 'We don't want to intimidate anyone. But we're not going to be intimidated by scab lorries and a scab council'.



Tameside: Even the scabs can't stand it



PARENTS, rank and file teachers, school students and local trade unionists held a day-long picket outside Dukinfield Town Hall on Thursday where the selection of students for Tameside grammar school was going on.

The panel was reduced to eight when even some of the scabs on it walked out in disgust.

It wasn't surprising when we heard that the panel had only

succeeded in selecting 181 pupils for the 240 grammar school places. A brilliant child in all but one subject could well be rejected as not 'grammar school material'.

A public meeting against the Tory council has been organised for 25 August at St Annes Hall, Burlington Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

PAT WHITTERTON, Tameside NUT

Boss who brandishes a knife...

THE STEAK and Kebab Restaurant, Morecambe, is refusing to recognise trade union membership for its workers. Five members of the Transport and General Workers are out on strike.

They finally walked out when one of the restaurant's co-owners threatened a union member with a knife.

Typical

But the real cause is the sacking of shop steward Maggie Clappen, disgusting wages and conditions (typical throughout the hotel and catering trade here) and refusal of union recognition.

Money and messages of support needed from all SW readers who want to organise the restaurant business: Maggie Clappen, 16 Skipton Street, Morecambe.

Seddons victory

OLDHAM: 80 workers at Seddon Atkinson Diesel Engines last week won their fight for a closed shop and a 37-hour working week for 17 of their colleagues.

This victory was won after four and a half weeks strike. The strikers, members of TASS, the white collar engineering union, were up against International Harvesters, the multi-national which recently bought out Seddons.

Nevertheless the strike crippled production and supplies, and the final turn of the screw was the promised solidarity from AUEW members of the Preston plant of Atkinson's.



Management have conceded that there is a case for equal pay. They are reviewing the grading structures, and back pay will be paid from the beginning of the year.

Socialist Worker is interested in making contact with any workers in the International Harvesters combine with a view to strengthening links in the different factories.

Sacked—for being gay

EAST LONDON: A team of 25 social workers in Wapping have been on unofficial strike for over a week in support of Principal Area Office Ian Davis, who has been sacked for being homosexual.

Ian, who has worked for Tower Hamlets council for 17 years, was dismissed after being convicted of gross indecency.

An Industrial Tribunal ruled that he had been unfairly dismissed and recommended that he should be fully reinstated.

But the council's hire and fire committee decided by eight votes to seven that they

would rather buy him off with compensation than reinstate him, because they feared that he may be a threat to 'vulnerable members' in the community.

Hundreds

NALGO members in his department walked out as soon as the decision was announced.

Hundreds of names have been collected on a petition demanding full reinstatement and members in other departments have already taken one-day sympathy strike action.

Ian has been working in the research department at a

much lower salary while waiting for the hearing.

He accepted the alternative job so that he would still be in contact with his colleagues and could continue to fight for reinstatement.

On Wednesday, an emergency branch meeting of the 1300 NALGO members was considering a motion calling for the post to be blacked and for the strike to be made official.

It is likely that other departments will be asked to come out.

They are fighting the victimisation of a gay worker and against the council's refusal to implement the tribunal decision.

Survey

The National Council for Civil Liberties is carrying out a survey into local authority attitudes to gay workers. Tower Hamlets is one council which has refused to answer questions.

Messages of support and cash are desperately needed. Send them to: 196 Cable Street, London E1.

Socialist Worker

Please rush me my weekly copy of Socialist Worker. I enclose a cheque/postal order made payable to Socialist Worker for

- £7 for one year
 - £3.50 for six months
 - £1.75 for three months
- (Please tick) to pay subscriptions and postage, so start sending them to:

NAME

ADDRESS

When completed post to Socialist Worker Subscriptions, Circulation Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN

Subscribe!

(BLOCK CAPITALS)

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p

POLICE RAID OCCUPIED FACTORY

By Neil Davies
THE SAME police force that attacked the Right to Work march and stormed the Carib Club evicted trade unionists from a factory occupation in North West London last Monday.

This is the same police force that eight weeks ago beat up and then arrested six black women who were on their way home in Harlesden.

Dispute

The factory is Smiths in Cricklewood, branching off the Edgware Road, the very place that Right to Work marchers had to hide in when the police attacked the march. ASTMS computer workers had been in dispute with the management for six months over shift allowances, manning levels, basic conditions and a closed shop. After two lock-outs and attempts by management to

break agreements the ASTMS workers began to work to agreed manning levels two weeks ago.

After one week, management locked them out. They immediately occupied the computer complex and contacted the press and television, and local factories. By 9.30 the police turned up.

Altogether there were 50 police with dogs to deal with six workers inside the factory and another 20 on the picket line.

The police shoved the pickets to one side and surrounded the computer complex.

Inside the factory the police, dogs and management, were breaking in through the restroom windows into the rest room complex, dragging

The independent trade union inquiry into the police attack on the Right to Work march at Staples Corner last March has been produced by Barnet Trades Council. Copies are available from Barnet Trades Council, 16 Yew Grove, London NW2.

computer equipment away from the doors.

Outside the police guarded all the entrances. The occupiers were threatened with criminal damage and conspiracy by the manager, backed up by 17 police and five police dogs.

The workers were evicted at 12.30 in the afternoon, and they joined the picket, they immediately began a factory gate meeting, and promised the management that they would stay on the picket as long as it took to win.

Aware

A mass picket is being called for Friday 20 August, beginning at 6.45am.

John Deason, secretary of the Right to Work Campaign, told Socialist Worker: 'At least 50 unemployed workers will be on the picket line. We are only too aware of what the police action means. We are offering the strike committee a roster of unemployed workers to help on the picket line.'

Messages and donations to Smiths Industries Lock Out Fund, Don Hodge, 41 Copper Mead Close, London NW2.

Automat - we're on the march!

500 LOCAL trade unionists and unemployed workers supported the demonstration called by Manchester engineering union shop stewards in support of Automat strikers on Friday.

For over seven months, engineering union members at the factory have been on strike for union recognition.

They have been denounced by the local MP Winston Churchill and abused in the News of the World and the

Daily Mail. Extreme right wing millionaire Tom Keen, a former supporter of the National Front has put in £10,000 into efforts to break the strike.

The Ministry of Employment has initiated a meeting between AUEW full time

officials and the government's Advisory and Conciliation and Arbitration Service, the ACAS, to discuss the strike.

After seven months on the picket line it is hoped that the strikers' demands will be met in full.

700 strike to stop pay cut

by Humayan Pasha, AUEW steward

SEVEN HUNDRED workers at Vandervell Products, Maidenhead, came out on strike on Monday over an attempt by the bosses to steal about £60 from every one of us.

Vandervell produce ball bearings and brushes for the whole of the car industry. It is a subsidiary of the multi-million components giant, GKN.

Profits

Though orders are full and profits soaring, the bosses propose to pay us our five per cent increase for next year in two stages - two and a half per cent in November and two and a half per cent in March next year. This means that every worker will lose at least £60 in some cases even more!

Last year, after appeals to us about the economic crisis, we accepted a two-stage payment. We got half the £6 in October last year, the other half this February.

If we'd got the lot in October, we'd all have been more than £100 better off.

Swollen

On top of that we agreed not to do anything when management unilaterally stopped our cost of living payments.

All these sacrifices have now come to nothing - except swollen company profits. We are demanding the whole 5 per cent increase from August, when it is due to us.

This strike is official, and many lorries are being turned back from a spirited picket line.

AUEW
UNITY IS STRENGTH
STOCKPORT DISTRICT



On the march in Manchester in support of the Automat strikers, now in the 30th week of their struggle for trade union recognition

Picture: John Sturrock (Report)

Rolls Royce workers must spread the fight

BLANTYRE, Lanarkshire: The Rolls Royce occupation is in its second week. 470 engineering and staff workers have taken over the factory to prevent Rolls Royce transferring some of the workforce to the larger Hillingdon factory over 20 miles away.

Management's attempt to transfer eight workers after the 3 week holiday period is the prelude to the complete closure of the Blantyre factory. A mass meeting voted unanimously to occupy.

The threatened closure at Blantyre is only one part of a plan cooked up by the Rolls Royce bosses, which would shrink the number of jobs in the whole combine.

Earlier this year reports from 26 aerospace plants in Britain showed that in 12 closures, redundancies or cut-backs are threatened or are being implemented.

Rolls Royce management are being very cunning. They now realise that they can't take on the whole combine at once and still hope to force through sackings.

Their tactics are simple. Pick off the plants one at a time, fill the workforce at the other plants, and avoid provoking any combine-wide action.

Retreat

The other plants at Hillingdon and East Kilbride are giving support to the occupation. They are banning overtime and blocking any transfers. But this will not be enough to force Rolls Royce to retreat.

Mass meetings have to be held in every plant and where possible, delegates from Blantyre should address them.

The combine leadership have to start producing a regular UK bulletin. This can keep the workforce in all the plants informed.

Bill McCarron, an AUEW member from the Blantyre occupation, said: 'When we meet workers from the other

two plants in Scotland, they ask us what's happening, there have been no mass meetings or leaflets in these plants explaining our case. When it comes to getting information on why we are fighting, they get it from the bosses' press and the television.'

This situation has to be changed. We're relying on the workers in the other plants so they have to know what's going on here. Our fight at Blantyre is the fight of every worker in the combine.

'If Blantyre closes, then Rolls Royce will be in a much stronger position to attack conditions and jobs in the other plants. We have to stop them now.'

To overcome this isolation, and take the argument onto the shop floor, the Glasgow Right to Work Committee has started to leaflet the other two plants.

But the combine leadership has got to spread the fight now.

Donations and messages of support to: John Simmons, 54 Ayton Park North, East Kilbride, Glasgow.

Automat: 500 on the march

WE AT AUTOMAT WANT FREEDOM OF CHOICE

WE WANT THE BALLOT BOX

AUTOMAT AUEW MEMBERS ON STRIKE FOR UNION RECOGNITION 30 WEEK

JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

Name _____

Address _____

Please send me more information

Trade union _____

Send to: National Secretary, International Socialists, 6 Cottons Garden, London E2 8DN