

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p

Miracle of the unconscious marcher who attacked police

Friday 19 March, Staples Corner. Fellow marchers tend the injured Mike Lynch



JAIL FOR RIGHT TO WORK MARCHER

ACQUITTED Right to Work marcher Marcus Luck had just left the dock in Hendon on Monday when a six-month jail sentence was handed down against his mate, unemployed miner Mike Lynch.

'You swines', he shouted. 'I've heard of the virgin birth. But this is even more fantastic. How could an unconscious man assault a policeman?'

Well, of course, he couldn't. Mike Lynch, battered into unconsciousness by the police, dragged along the ground to the police station, didn't assault the police.

He was himself the victim of a savage police assault on the Manchester to London Right to Work marchers as they approached Staples Corner in North London last March.

Several witnesses told the court last week how they saw Mike attacked. He was beaten up again inside the police station.

Then, to cover their tracks, the police charged their victim with assault.

So how was Mike found guilty? In a phrase—*Magistrates' Justice*.

Mike Lynch would have been acquitted if he had been tried by a jury. But he didn't have the choice.

With this week's sentences and more trials on the way, the Right to Work Campaign will not be cowed. Mike Lynch will appeal. Cases against the police for assault will be brought.

And above all, the campaign will go on.

FULL REPORT—page five

£ IT'S A MAD, MAD SYSTEM

THE biggest ever fall in the value of the pound in a single day. Massive price increases to follow in a few weeks.

Why?

Not because workers are earning too much. Wages have been frozen for more than a year.

Not because too much is being spent on social services. They are being slashed to the bone because of the cuts.

Millions of people are working as hard as ever before. Huge extra amounts of wealth could be created if the unemployed were allowed to operate the closed-down factories.

Yet instead there are to be more cuts and more wage controls and more unemployment.

Just because of the dealings of a few rich individuals and companies on international money markets.

A mad, mad system where the many suffer so as to solve the problems of the wealthy few.

THE SINKING POUND—page two.

Widow, 76, is burned alive

RACISTS KILL AGAIN

by MURRAY ARMSTRONG

MRS MOHAN DEVI GAUTAM was murdered Ku Klux Klan style in her home in Leamington last Thursday.

The 76-year-old widow was dragged from her house by two white thugs. She was shoved in the garden shed and her clothes set on fire.

Then, with three-quarters of her flesh burned away, she was bundled back into the house to die.

Her murder is the result of a campaign of racist filth which has been stirred up by Enoch Powell and the fascists of the National Front and National Party.

Shock

Mrs Gautam's son, Sadhu, in an exclusive interview with Socialist Worker, said:

'My mother told me before she died that she had been sitting in the dining room when two white youths wearing gloves and masks burst in the house. One covered her mouth with his hand while the other searched the house and gathered some old papers into a bundle.

Horror

'They took her through the kitchen to the shed at the back, piled up the papers and lit them, then set fire to her sari.

'Her legs and her top and her face were all burnt. You could see her ribs at the back. But she was still conscious.

'The doctors were amazed that she did not die immediately.

'When the two men pulled her back in the house they put her on the couch. They shook their fists at her before they left. They never spoke once'.

'The behaviour of the police has outraged the local Asian community.

They have denied that the murder is



WHERE THE RACIST POISON BEGAN

National Front member Robert Reif and the racist sign that stood outside his home in Leamington until the International Socialists burnt it in July. Mrs Gautam's vicious murder shows why such poison should not be allowed to stand a single day.

connected with racism, just as they denied that the Gur-dip Chagger murder in Southall was racist.

They have suggested that Mrs Gautam may have committed suicide. They have asked neighbours if they know of any family problems. Finally they hinted that it may be a case

of theft gone wrong.

'Why could they imagine that my mother should commit suicide?' said Sadhu. 'Especially in this manner.'

'It was certainly not theft. My mother was wearing gold bangles, earrings and finger rings worth more than £100. They were not touched. There was money lying

on the table and that wasn't touched. Nothing in the house is missing.

'The police are handling this like they handle all complaints from the Asian community.

'Last June two white youths tried to break into my mother's room upstairs. They were seen by a white neighbour across the

road. They left big, muddy finger-prints on the water tank and under the bedroom window.

'This was reported to the police, but they did nothing.

'There is no reason on earth why we should have been picked out—except racism. If there was no racism then there would be no cases like this'.

Answer

Shota Teja, a local worker and national president of the Indian Workers Association, commented: 'During the police investigation they have been asking us about our families—wives' names, numbers of children, and the date that we entered the country. This in itself is racist.'

'They are simply digging for information and they do nothing about our complaints.'

'And there have been plenty of complaints during this summer. Shop windows have been smashed, bus crews have been attacked, a man returning from an Asian wedding

TURN TO PAGE 2

The truth about our incredible shrinking £

IN Birmingham, a Baby Safety Research Laboratory which could prevent the disablement of hundreds of new-born babies is to close. The National Health Service hasn't enough money to keep it going.

In West Norfolk, the Tory-controlled council is planning to sack all its office staff. The Daily Telegraph reports: 'Large-scale sackings are being widely canvassed within the town halls as the only effective way of reducing spending'.

In Norwich, K Shoes is sacking 350 workers because other workers in Britain cannot afford to buy shoes.

Among those who won't be able to buy shoes will be those sacked by the West Norfolk

WHAT WE THINK

Council.

But now the Tory press, reaching a new pitch of hysteria in the week of the Labour Party Conference, is calling for more cuts in public spending and more sackings. It seems they won't be satisfied until every hospital is closed down and every clothing factory shut down.

What's the reason for the hysteria? The shrinking pound. The collapse of the pound early this week represents one of the biggest sterling crises this century.

A year ago, the same newspapers told us that the only way to stop the sale of sterling was to freeze wages and accept rising unemployment and cuts in public spending

Wages have been frozen. Unemployment and cuts have been accepted.

Now they are back for more: for more sackings and more cuts.

If not, they threaten, the pound will sink to the bottom of the sea or perform some other gymnastic act of suicide.

But the pound does not sell itself down the river.

Lunatic

It is an instrument of exchange in a lunatic system of international speculation which is entirely controlled by a wealthy unelected minority. They get rich by gambling on sterling, and at the same time bring political pressure on workers' movements everywhere to 'make

sacrifices'.

There is no point whatever in bowing to this pressure. The more the workers accept the bankers' dictate, the more the bankers will put on pressure to ask for more.

Yet the main decision of the Labour Party Conference this week is to concede to the bankers, after a few token protests.

The left majority on the Labour Party executive have produced a document calling for nationalisation of the banks in five years time. Control of the bankers in five years time—object surrender to the bankers now. That's Labour's policy.

Our policy is different. We want the takeover of the bankers without compensation now.

RACISTS KILL AGAIN

FROM PAGE ONE

was attacked on the bridge down the road and ended up in hospital for six days. A woman was harassed on the same bridge coming from the Sikh temple.

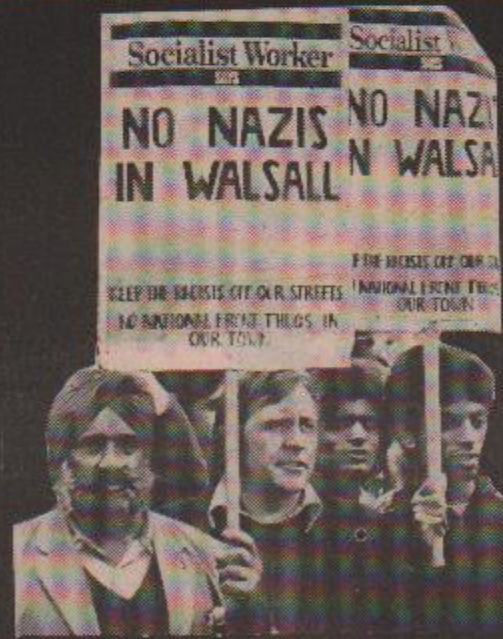
'It is clear that we cannot rely on the police for protection. We must defend ourselves.'

Mota Singh, president of the local IWA and a member of the International Socialists, told Socialist Worker: 'The Home Office are sending an under-minister up here next Wednesday to address the Community Relations Council on the situation. We must make sure that our voice is heard inside and outside that meeting.'

'The voice of Asian workers and of white trade unionists must be heard loud and clear against the racists by mobilising now to picket that meeting.'

WE SAID

NO NAZIS IN WALSALL!



MORE than a thousand people demonstrated against racism on the streets of Walsall last Saturday in protest against the fascists of the National Front.

The Front, which had called a 'national mobilisation', mustered fewer than the counter-demonstrators, who included a large group from the town's Sikh community, marching alongside Jimmy McCallum, Socialist Worker's prospective parliamentary candidate for Walsall North.

About 200 anti-racists left the main march to harass and abuse the Front demonstration, which was closely guarded by police. The anti-racists were attacked by the police, who were assisted in their usual tactics of bashing anti-racists by a truncheon-waving contingent of the Special Patrol Group.

Fourteen anti-racists—but no fascists—were arrested.



...and this was how the police answered



Basques strike for freedom

FOR the second time in a week the Basque provinces of northern Spain were completely paralysed by a general strike on Monday. The strike was for the freeing of all political prisoners and to commemorate five opponents of fascism who were executed a year ago.

Barricades went up in many industrial suburbs.

Other workers in Spain are pushing wage demands. A post office strike has spread from Madrid to many other centres, and in the Barcelona district of Sabadell 70,000 engineering workers are locked out.

The regime of Franco's successor, King Juan Carlos, does not know what to do. Last week it made an unprecedented concession when it withdrew the armed Civil Guards from the industrial centres. But this week its armed police were again shooting at demonstrators.

Its days would be numbered if the economic and political protests were united into a general strike against the regime. But the established political leaders of the working class seem more concerned to negotiate with ministers.

Portugal brings back the landlords

IMPOVERISHED labourers in the southern Portuguese province of Alentejo are being threatened with the full force of the army and police.

Two and a half years ago, when fascism was overthrown the landless labourers were promised land reform. It seemed that the end was near for the handful of rich families who had lived off mass poverty.

But the land reform law only touched half the big estates, so the labourers seized the rest themselves.

Now the land is being taken off them by a government that claims to be Socialist and which is backed by our own Labour Party.

When this government was elected it claimed to support land reform. But it relied on right-wing generals to smash the rank and file soldiers' movement in the armed forces. Now these generals are rewriting the speeches of Prime Minister Soares and insisting that he brings back the big landlords.

NO MORE RACIST MURDERS! BUILD DEFENCE GROUPS!

Meeting in Leamington called by Socialist Worker and the Indian Workers Association. Sunday 3 October, 7.30pm, Bath Place Community Centre

PICKET THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL/HOME OFFICE MEETING

Wednesday 6 October, 7.15pm, The Spa Centre, Leamington

MASS STRIKE IN TURKEY

BY KADIR PECEK

THREE hundred thousand workers struck in Turkey a fortnight ago protesting at the state security courts. There are workers, students, peasants and members of the Kurd national minority for anti-regime activities.

Among the firms affected by the strike were General Electric, Phillips, Grundig, Renault, Bosch and Uni-Royal. Engineering workers, local government workers and textile workers were in the forefront of the strike.

Workers responded to the strike call all over Turkey, despite the arrest of leading workers and the use of scabbing by the employer backed trade union federation.

Remember Michael Foot's 'red flame of socialist courage' speech last year? Since then, unemployment has gone up, prices have gone up, wages have been held down still further—and the social services have been butchered

LABOUR: A BLOODY GREAT CONFERENCE TRICK



That's why socialists like these are quitting to join IS

'THE LABOUR party? The whole organisation is a complete phoney.

'We joined because we thought it was controlled by the grass roots, but it isn't.

'It's controlled by the people at the top. The Labour Party conference this week just proves it'.

Teresa Tant and her husband Tony live in the small Essex working class town of Witham.

Tony and Teresa are working class people with strong socialist politics. They joined the Witham Labour Party hoping to change things in their area.

Teresa goes on: 'I remember when we went to our first branch meeting. We expected at least 100 there—after all, you have this idea of the Labour Party as a big national organisation. There were eight people there.

'At that and other meetings, I noticed that whenever we suggested doing something, everyone just looked at us blankly. They didn't want to do anything.

'Of the 144 members of our branch, only ten ever attended meetings—and just five of us took part in any sort of activity. 'Activity' usually



Tony, Teresa and daughter Alex: 'Labour are phoney'

meant collecting money or organising a jumble sale.'

Tony, a sheet metal worker, chipped in:

'It's a pity really because there are a lot of good people in the Labour Party. I think they're in there because they hope and think that the left will pull the Party round.

'They put a lot of faith in people like Wedgwood Benn.

'We were both influenced a lot by Benn's behaviour.

'I really hoped he would

resign and create a focus for all the discontent with the government. I thought he would rally us all for a big fight for the soul of the party.

'But no. He ran away and avoided the issue over the spending cuts. He loved his position so much that he wouldn't resign.

'I remember feeling sick the day I read he was "too busy" to attend a Party meeting called to attack the cuts. Too busy for what, I wondered.

'And then I wondered what

exactly could I do in the Labour Party, and got the answer: nothing. It's lucky I didn't join when Labour was in opposition or I'd have spent several years finding out what I know now.'

Teresa says: 'We're both in IS now. We joined together. We think the same way and we're both active.

'Tony's the branch secretary and I'm the branch treasurer, and we already have nine members in Witham: that's twice as many active socialists as there are in the local Labour Party.

'It's wonderful to go to meetings with other socialists and to work with other socialists.'

Tony agrees: 'I'd give this advice to all those socialists watching the conference on the telly and feeling sick

'Join the IS and make a real socialist party'.



DENISE COHEN (above) raised the resolution in the Newham Labour Party which first launched the campaign to kick out right-wing MP Reg Prentice. She has now joined the International Socialists. This is why:

I was on the General Management Committee and took part in both votes to re-select our parliamentary candidate at the next election. At one of these meetings, Prentice himself was kept busy running up and down collecting ballot papers.

I was amazed when the National Executive of the party said our votes were invalid, and that we would have to start all over again. We had been scrupulous in following party procedure, but it seemed this was not enough when the cushy futures of party hacks were threatened.

Whenever a good resolution did manage to struggle through the web of bureaucratic objections and obstructions raised by the 'moderates', I soon realised it meant nothing.

It simply laid on a table at some higher committee meeting, because no one really had the need to actually do anything.

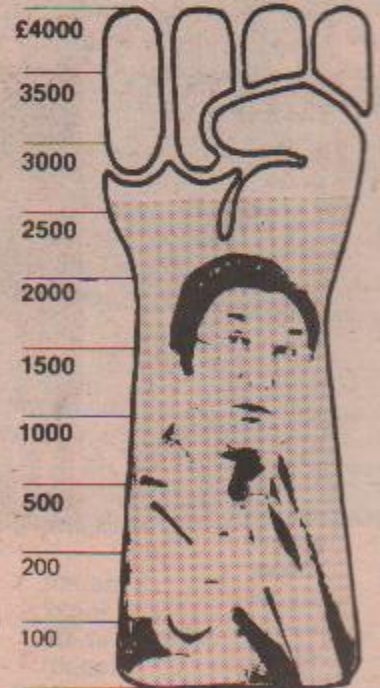
The biggest tragedy to me is not the Labour Party. It is the enormous number of rank and file socialists who have put so much into a dead body, and cannot bear to leave it.

The whole Prentice pantomime is a fruitless exercise. The only way to get what the people of Newham want is to leave the Labour Party and to join an organisation in which the people at the bottom matter.

I am joining IS today, because I believe that they can offer the best solution to the problems of the majority of people in this country.

FANTASTIC! Help us get Chapple off our backs

Socialist Worker DEFENCE FUND



THANKS TO SOME fantastic contributions from individual members, our Frank Chapple defence fund got a great boost last week: £492.45.

One member in Sutton sent us £100 from his savings with the message: 'Good luck in Walsall and Stechford. Good luck with the Socialist Worker. I hope this helps to get Chapple off your backs so you can get on with the building.'

Thanks, comrades. Thanks very much. Thanks to the other comrade who sent us £100, and begged to be anonymous.

Thanks to Lesley Bownes from Margate who sent us £25 after reading about Rock Against Racism in the New Musical Express (see page 11).

But it's not just the big contributions which keep us going. It's also the smaller ones, like the £3 from electricians at the British Steel Corporation's Consett Works, who aren't too enthusiastic about Chapple, their new President and general secretary.

Then there's £4 from SW and Chingari readers at Feniger and Blackburn Ltd in Blackburn, £2 from two pensioners in Essex, Mr and Mrs Mellish, and several other workers' collections which are indispensable to us. Thanks to all of them and to the following:

SW readers Wakefield £18; Lancaster £7; Cambridge £7; Coventry £8.50; Inner East London £100; Middlesbrough £5; B Harner and P Higginson £4; Norwich £2; Westport St London £1 £3; Paul O'Flinn £2; Walthamstow £5; Carlton Ward, Lowestoft Labour Party £5; SE Leach £2.10; K D Harding £5; Mr and Mrs Mellish £2; Ilford SW supporters £1.10; John Clarke £5; Chrysler Linwood SW supporters £7.05; Edinburgh SW discussion group £1; Luton IS £70; Reader in Finland £2; Southwark Teachers £30; Sutton member £100; North London member £100

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

NEW MEMBERS—IT'S A RECORD!

WE URGED readers last week to join the International Socialists and build the Socialist Workers Party.

And that's just what you are doing! In the first three weeks of September, a record 163

people registered as new members.

The new recruitment is spread evenly across the country. There are few areas of exceptional growth—though Skelmersdale with 15 new members and the South West London district with 35

definitely deserve a mention.

The new recruits are almost all young workers, about a quarter of them are black. Most people say their major reason for joining is that IS is the only organisation fighting unemployment and racialism.

The Party that fights racism

SMASH, SMASH the National Front! That was the triumphant cry of 1200 Asians as they marched through Leyton in East London on Sunday. The National Front had been humiliated.

150 Front supporters had earlier staged their march in protest at the opening of a mosque in a disused warehouse.

A policeman—number J627—was openly encouraging people to join the NF march, saying: 'The government was too soft on these immigrants.'

Police arrested two Socialist Worker sellers who had been attacked by

a group of NF bully boys.

About 100 members of East London International Socialists organised a counter-demonstration outside the mosque in support of the Pakistanis and Indians. When the service finished, hundreds of Asians joined the militant Socialist Worker march against the Nazis.

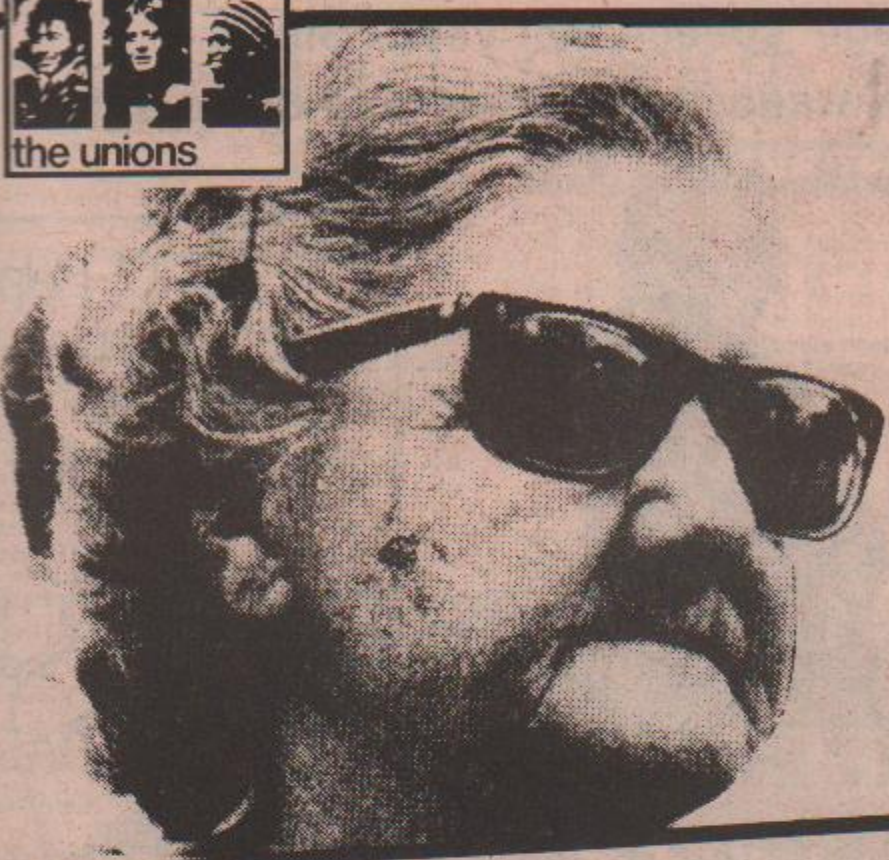
Suddenly the NF, who an hour before had been arrogantly strutting behind their Union Jacks, were nowhere to be seen.

Farouk Ahmed, secretary of the Pakistani Youth Federation said: 'Today we have shown that we are ready, alongside Socialist Worker, to stand up to the racials. We will not be intimidated. We will defend our mosque. Black and white must unite to defeat the racist NF.'

Two hundred copies of Socialist Worker were sold and 3000 'They're welcome here' leaflets were distributed.



Sunday's march: the fascists suddenly vanished



In the teachers' union, 75 per cent of the members are women—but only 8 per cent of the officials. How equal are women in your union?

UNION	Membership		Percentage of women members	National Executive		Full-time officials		TUC delegates	
	m	f		m	f	m	f	m	f
APEX	62,438	75,278	55%	11	4	5	1	10	3
ASTMS	351,000	62,000	18%	23	1	65	5	19	1
AUEW	1,038,720	166,000	14%	9	4	186	1	35	8
eng. Sec.	30,122	20,325	40%	14	1	25	5	10	2
Bakers	42,420	101,059	70%	27	1	24	4	8	2
COHSE	69,451	145,693	68%	18	8	10	1	13	1
CPSA	29,108	17,676	38%	21	2	150	1	11	1
CSU	361,193	52,996	13%	14	1	40	1	64	4
EETPU	73,857	10,243	12%	24	1	272	10	9	5
FTAT	592,073	290,283	33%	30	3	6	1	69	5
GMWU	23,093	31,827	58%	25	3	174	17	13	1
IRSF	357,942	267,221	43%	61	5	28	3	13	1
NALGO	58,118	48,957	46%	21	3	46	2	11	1
NUBE	32,187	30,268	48%	15	1	29	2	29	4
NUFLAT	19,887	52,836	73%	23	2	120	2	30	1
NUHKW	201,847	382,638	65%	20	6	24	2	11	5
NUPE	66,896	197,453	75%	41	7	34	6	17	1
NUT	13,359	96,070	88%	10	5	17	3	31	5
NUTGW	85,000	17,000	17%	22	4	67	3	14	4
SCS	123,876	69,928	36%	30	2	36	2	76	2
SOGAT	128,895	15,571	11%	26	1	480	3	13	2
TASS	1,511,000	289,000	16%	39	1	50	10	12	2
TGWU	55,600	15,705	22%	28	2	11	1	21	5
TSSA	147,679	42,321	22%	14	5	129	4		
UPW	153,653	223,649	59%	16	1				
USDAW									

SOURCE: Equal Pay and Opportunities Campaign

THE CLOSED PRESS

by IAN REINECKE (NUJ)

AMID the flood of press abuse poured on trade unionists every time they talk about closed shops the word 'freedom' always pops up.

'Freedom' is presented as some holy cow to be defended from the hordes that threaten it. 'Freedom of the Press' is a catch-cry in the mould of 'the British Way of Life (as we know it)'

In all the bullyhoo surrounding closed shops and their effect on press freedom the word assumes the status of an institution like 'the nation', 'British democracy' of Hyde Park Corner.

But far from being something which exists independently of people and their affairs, 'freedom' stands for a relation between them. Where it exists, freedom is by someone, from something, freedom to do something.

Decisions

Looking at it that way, we can see what Fleet Street really means by 'the threat of closed shops to Freedom of the Press. If there is freedom of the press, it is freedom by someone. Who is it?'

It is not the journalists. They have no say about what goes into their publications. Some don't even have any say in the use to which their stories are put.

Ask them and they will tell you the freedom to make those decisions rests with the editor.

There is no doubt about who owns the editor—and the freedom vested in him. A long line of tired editors stand witness to the silliness of editors' thinking freedom of the press is really their freedom.

It is not difficult to spot whose it is. After all, any paper you are likely to buy—except Socialist Worker and a few others—is owned by one of the



The ugly face of the ruling class's own closed shop—the legal profession

half dozen proprietors who control the British press.

So if the proprietors possess this freedom, what is it freedom from?

They have freedom from almost every interference in the expression of their views. The ways open to the working-class, to trade unionists and to socialists to express their views are constantly interfered with.

Threat

If they set up soap boxes on street corners—they get arrested for breach of the peace. Write letters to the papers—and grow old waiting for them to be printed. Give their side of the story to reporters—and see it slanted or suppressed.

Start their own newspaper—and get sued under libel laws designed to protect one class.

Press proprietors are free from such interference to do something quite obvious—impose the views of their class on the rest of us.

That view of the world is anti-working class, anti-trade unionist and anti-socialist. By presenting it day after day, week in week out they persuade many other people it is their own view too.

Suppress

Instead of people working things out for themselves, they are presented with only one 'right-thinking' way of examining what goes on around them. To look at the world in a way different to the press proprietors and their class is to be branded an extremist.

When the newspaper bosses talk about freedom of the press they mean freedom by them from any interference to present ruling class views.

A closed shop for journalists is a small threat to their freedom. An organised working-class is a threat to their freedom, militant trade unionism is a threat to their freedom and socialism is the worst threat of all.

Depending on whose view of the world you accept, that is 'a deplorable erosion of liberty', or another good reason for fighting for socialism.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

VOLUNTEERS wanted for the Socialist Worker prospective parliamentary candidates Ken Appleby, (Birmingham Stechford) and Jimmy McCallum (Walsall North)

Both candidates are in urgent need of volunteers to help the campaign. Especially welcome are typists, workers with motorcars and motorbikes. We will be campaigning

throughout October and early November.

□ If you have an autumn week's holiday, why not spend it in the Midlands?

□ Individuals who can spend a weekend, a day or an evening are urged to help.

□ Readers and supporters of Socialist Worker are asked to give time to the campaign.

A chance to knock racism everywhere

THE anti-racist resolution passed by the Trades Union Congress is an opportunity to strengthen the campaign against racism in every workplace and trade union body.

The resolution, printed in full below, specifically condemns the fascist National Front and National Party.

Make sure your union branch, stewards' committee, chapel or trades council takes up the resolution and brings out leaflets and other publicity against the fascists and against all racist ideas. In every union and every workplace the TUC resolution should be used to drive the fascists right out of the trade union movement.

The resolution reads:

Congress notes with alarm the growth of racist and fascist activity in the UK and the support obtained by racist groups in recent parliamentary and local elections.

Congress also condemns the provocative marches and demonstrations organised by the National Front and the National Party which are

designed to inflame racial hatred and intolerance against ethnic minority groups in this country and calls upon HM Government to take positive action within the law to ban them.

Congress is mindful that the twin evils of unemployment and bad social conditions are the product of the system under which we live and are the enemies of all workers, who should unite against them.

In order to combat racialism in Britain, Congress calls upon

(a) All affiliated unions to make every effort to warn members of the evils of racialism and the dangers of a divided working class and to expose those organisations which spread race hatred and incite racial violence and to ensure equal employment opportunities between black and white workers;

(b) The General Council to institute and organise a nationwide campaign through meetings and demonstrations and publicity nationally designed to combat the activities of the racists to set worker against worker.

The company they keep..

IF YOU have £50 to spare, you could meet a couple of trade union officials next month in some interesting company.

An organisation called Industrial and Commercial Techniques is holding three one-day conferences in London's Cafe Royal.

In the plush splendour of one of London's most expensive and exclusive restaurants, and for £50 a day, business executives will be learning how to deal with some interesting problems.

Among the speakers are Moss Evans, assistant general

secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union (TGWU) and the union's chief negotiator in the motor industry, and Muriel Turner, assistant general secretary of the white-collar union, ASTMS.

Moss Evans will be speaking in the session on 'Disclosure of Information', 'Confidentiality and the beginnings of Workers' Participation'. The aim of the one-day session is to show employers how to preserve confidentiality in the light of the new disclosure law and Code of Practice.

Muriel Turner is speaking

on the session on 'Discipline, Dismissals and New Procedures and Codes of Practice'.

The point of this one-day conference is explained clearly in the brochure: 'With Industrial Tribunals able (in some cases) to award as much as £11,760 for one unfair dismissal; with the burden of proving 'fairness' resting on employers; and with appropriate disciplinary and dismissal procedures becoming increasingly essential—this conference is designed to help all executives and personnel managers to cope with their new responsibilities.'



I want to help the Socialist Worker candidates.

Name

Address

Telephone

When I can help

Send to Jim Nichol, Socialist Worker, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

A court says this picture shows Right to Work marchers attacking the police...

WHAT DO YOU THINK?



Flashback to 19 March: Right to Work marchers Neil Rogall (left) and Mike Alderson (centre, brutally attacking policemen's truncheons with his head) at Staples Corner.

THREE Injustices of the Peace gave their verdicts in the first Right to Work trial at Hendon Court in North London on Monday.

Despite the mass of evidence given by witnesses of how the police attacked the Manchester to London Right to Work march at Staples Corner in March, they found in favour of the police.

Magistrates mix with the police every day and they were doubtless determined to protect them.

They found Mike Lynch, an unemployed miner and Labour Party member from Dunfermline, guilty of assault and jailed him for six months.

They refused to suspend the sentence because Mike, like thousands of other working-class kids, had a few previous convictions, all from more than four years ago when Mike was under 20.

The three injustices even seemed anxious to avoid giving Mike bail pending appeal. Yet if they had got away with refusing it, he would have served half his sentence before he even had the chance to appeal.

Thanks to the angry scenes in the court, they eventually granted bail. So Mike didn't go down.

Nor did Mike Alderson, from Bristol, Dave

Defend the Right to Work Marchers

by
JIM
BLAKE

Hayes from Newcastle and Neil Rogall from North London, though they too were found guilty of assaulting policemen. They got three-month jail sentences suspended for two years, plus £25-£50 fines.

Like Mike Lynch, only police witnesses were brought against them. Like Mike Lynch, they too were denied a jury trial.

The Injustices also had it in for Joe Cronshaw.

Joe took instructions from a senior policeman to wait for an ambulance for Mike, who was lying unconscious after the police attack.

On Monday he got a conditional discharge for 12 months for his pains.

Only two of the defendants were found not guilty, though even this was a grave set-back for the police. They were hoping to put all seven innocent men behind bars.

The two found guilty were Marcus Luck and Pete Fysh, both from London. It appears that



Before the trial (from left): Mike Lynch, Pete Fysh, Marcus Luck, Neil Rogall, Dave Hayes, Mike Alderson and Joe Cronshaw.

the three Hendon Injustices simply couldn't stomach all the police lies.

The police were desperate to get Pete Fysh. This was because he made it clear in the police station when first arrested that he was going to take out a complaint against the police.

When Pete got into the witness box last week, he spelled out exactly what had happened.

"I heard a shout 'They've got Deason over by the steps.' The next thing I remember was a blow to the back of the head . . .

'I lost my hearing. My knees slumped and I fell.

'I was then dragged by the arms up the steps of the police station . . . I was dumped into the lobby. I was lying there dazed and the next thing I knew two or three policemen were standing around kicking me.

'I was dumped in the charge room . . . I discovered blood all over my head.

'Then PC Reeve gave me another kick. He swore at me . . . Another policeman came in and stamped on my face.'

Yet Pete Fysh was charged with assaulting the police.

Giving 'evidence' against him, PC Hartshorn claimed that Pete lunged against him with a walking stick. The stick was proved to have belonged to a lame marcher. It was whipped off him and broken during the police attack on the march. It could not have been in Pete's possession at any time.

True

But what is going to happen to these lying policemen? Will they be prosecuted for perjury? Will they be drummed out of the police force? Or will they be let loose again?

Certainly the policemen that the Injustices chose to believe will be let loose again though their testimony was a pack of lies.

Again and again the defence pointed up contradictions in their story. With Neil Rogall, photographic evidence was produced to show that he was still at liberty after the police claimed he had been arrested.

What's more, there was no assault. On his own admission, the policeman Neil was supposed to have hit didn't even have to report his 'wound' to a doctor or look at it to know he wasn't hurt.

Mike Alderson, found guilty of assaulting two policemen, was in fact a victim of mistaken identification. He was said to have been wearing a green anorak by the police. But he was wearing a jacket.

Despite this and extensive photographic evidence showing Alderson being brutally beaten up by the police, the Hendon Injustices found him guilty.

But they saved their full spleen and viciousness for Mike Lynch.

They chose to accept the evidence of PC Basil Spillane, evidence which flew in the face of all the facts, evidence that had Mike carefully carried into the police station when he was dragged, evidence that insisted nothing happened inside the station when Mike Lynch and others were beaten up there.

Trouble

The case against Mike rested heavily on Spillane's identifying two halves of Mike's orange marchers' jackets. But the jacket he claimed was Mike's wasn't his. Pete Fysh swore on oath that it was his.

Mike Lynch proved the point by showing that it didn't have the writing he had put on it. Pete Fysh also gave evidence that he heard policemen discussing ripping up a jacket in the station to frame someone.

Spillane's testimony also involved the production in court of his own ripped and tattered uniform. But photos show him beside a semi-conscious Mike, with what you can see of his uniform totally undamaged.

As defence lawyer Lord Gifford put it in his closing submission to the court: 'The prosecution case is that a Right to Work March that had come 300 miles in an orderly and highly disciplined fashion suddenly, right outside a police station, turned into an undisciplined rabble. This is not in my submission conceivable.'

THE Right to Work defendants need your support in the court at The Hyde, Hendon, London NW9. The trial runs from 10am to 1pm and from 2pm to 4.30pm. Please spare a morning or an afternoon—every supporter in the gallery makes life easier for the defendants.

Second trial begins

THE second group Right to Work marchers went on trial at Hendon Magistrates Court on Tuesday before the same bunch of blatantly pro-police magistrates.

The five now on trial are Tommy Kayes from Glasgow, Steve Kind from Leeds, E. Cameron from Bristol, Jose Trujillo and Kevin Burras from London.

Their trial is likely to finish by the end of this week. Their verdicts will be followed straightaway by a third trial.

The chances are that the O. Bailey trial of Right to Work Campaign secretary, Joe Deason will now also be brought forward.

This points to the need to step up the defence campaign to ensure that there are no more Shrewsburies. It means taking the Independent Inquiry Report to every shop stewards committee and union branch in your area, winning support for the defendants.

Problem

Their report is available from the Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

The strength of the campaign for the Right to Work also vital, particularly the November conference on crime and unemployment called by the Right to Work Campaign. Mike Lynch, the Right to Work marcher who got the most vicious sentence this week, told Socialist Worker this week: 'The real trial for me will be in front of the union delegates at the November conference. The court case was completely unfair. The evidence against me and all the others was very weak. It was a biased decision by three magistrates.'

And suddenly the police disappeared

THE local Right to Work Centre in South London has been smashed up by thugs.

Last Sunday afternoon seven men armed with two choppers, an axe and a saw kicked down the door.

They smashed the windows, ripped posters off the walls and set fire to one of the rooms.

Local residents saw the smoke coming out of the windows and disturbed the thugs. They went inside and put out the fire.

We asked Lambeth Community Law Centre for help. They were told by the police that it was none of their business.

The police usually patrol this area every two minutes. They have not been sighted since the attack, and seem to be taking no action in a clear case of criminal damage and arson. A full 48 hours after the attack the police still hadn't even arrived.

In spite of the attack, the centre is staying open.



A smashed window at the centre

How you can help

MORE than ever the Right to Work Campaign needs your money. We need your money because we have 43 unemployed marchers up on trial and it's not just a question of paying their fines.

We have to pay their fares from all over the country to bring them to the court. We have to board them and feed

them while they're on trial and put a few pounds in their pockets during their time of trial. We have to do this because their Unemployment Benefit is being withdrawn.

We have to put out propaganda explaining their case.

The cost of this operation alone is running at around £100 a week.

We must also step up the

Right to Work Campaign itself. To publicise the 6 November conference means thousands of letters to union branches and shop stewards committees. Posts cost a fortune.

So, brothers and sisters, send us some money today. Send to:

Right to Work Campaign Defence Fund, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM
Duncan Hallas

It was not inevitable—because the isolation of the Russian Revolution was not inevitable either. It depended heavily on events elsewhere . . .

Why Stalinism?

'ARE WE to accept the inevitability of events and deny the ability of the individuals to influence them . . . ?'

Last week, in discussing this question from a reader, I tried to show why marxists have tended to stress the importance of circumstances and deep-seated causes, rather than individuals, in determining what happens.

The point being to show the shallowness of the view that makes everything hang on the 'good' or 'bad' qualities of this or that leading figure and the fact that this 'great man' theory

is really one of the weapons of the conservatives in any society. (Incidentally, relying on memory, I made an absurd mistake last week about Alfred, Aethelred and the Danes—it does not affect the argument though.)

Pursuit

But this emphasis on underlying causes, and 'forces' can, if pushed too far, lead to equally wrong and reactionary ideas. After all, people make things happen.

'History is nothing but the activity of men in pursuit of their ends' as Marx said. So how can the emphasis on

circumstances be right?

Here is Marx's best known statement on the matter: 'Men make their own history, but they do not make it under circumstances chosen by themselves, but under circumstances directly encountered, given and transmitted from the past.'

Human activities, the activity of individuals (or, equally important, their lack of activity) decides what happens, for good or ill.

But the effective choices open to us are limited, restricted by previous events and their consequences—by circumstances. And the pressure of circumstances is normally an immensely more powerful force than the

qualities of individuals.

Consider, for example, the Russian revolution and its outcome—the eventual loss of power by the working class and the creation of a bureaucratic dictatorship: the development of Stalinism. Suppose Stalin had been killed by a sniper's bullet at Tsaritsyn in 1918. Would the outcome have been very different?

Isolation

Hardly, unless much bigger changes occurred elsewhere. Of course we would not then talk of Stalinism. It would be something else; Molotovism perhaps.

But given the isolation of the revolution in a backward country with a relatively tiny working class and an economy ruined by foreign intervention, blockade and civil war; given these things, a bureaucratic dictatorship would have emerged anyway—unless the White Guards won.

Stalinism was very much more a product of these adverse circumstances than of Stalin's will. So Stalinism was inevitable?

Outcome

No, it was not inevitable. It was not inevitable because the isolation of the revolution was not inevitable.

The outcome of the Russian revolution depended, in large part, on the outcome of the revolutionary upheavals in central Europe, above all in Germany, in 1918-19.

That dependence was the inevitable result of past developments—Russian backwardness, German industrial development and so on. But in Germany real choices, real alternatives, were open.

The battle was in fact lost but this was not an inevitable defeat. And the victory of the German revolution would have transformed the outlook for Russia.

Nor was there anything inevitable about Hitler's victory in Germany—an example raised by our reader.

Options

The outcome of the class struggle in any place or time is not determined in advance—except in the broad sense that some options are ruled out, that only a limited number of possibilities are open. There can, for instance, be no going back to feudalism.

Socialists, revolutionaries, act on the assumption that the effective historical choices open now are international socialism—or relapse into barbarism via nuclear holocaust or otherwise.

The outcome is not predetermined. It depends on human action, including the activities of all of us as individual participants.

Socialist Worker

EDITORIAL

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

01-739 6361
739 0185
739 9043

Circulation department: 8 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.

NOW MERCENARY BOSS TRIES LEBANON

LESLIE ASPIN, the man who helped recruit mercenaries for Angola, is at it again. This time he's hiring killers for the right-wing Falangists in the Lebanon.

So far, 15 of them have been signed up—and one, Robert Thacker, has already been killed in action.

Cause

In a recent BBC East interview, Aspin, who lives in Rose Lane, Norwich, claimed Thacker had been fighting without pay for the Christian cause.

Such 'idealism' does not, however, infect Aspin. He operates through a firm called BAB in London's Wimpole Street with Danny Chamoun, the son of former

Lebanese prime minister Camille Chamoun.

(Chamoun, leader of the National Liberal Party, turned up to last week's swearing-in ceremony for Lebanon's new president accompanied by three jeepsloads of gunmen).

In exchange for providing mercenaries, BAB has been given lucrative concessions for supplying petrol to Lebanon through Cyprus and for getting rich refugees out of the country.

Not surprisingly, Aspin has been trying to expend his business to keep up with

these new 'markets'. He invested some of his blood money in a trawler called WFP, which was then immediately found to be in a less than seafaring state.

After frantic repairs, Aspin's associates set sail from Yarmouth harbour at dawn on 5 September, bound for Lebanon. Aspin was to be picked up at Gibraltar.

Sad to say, they never made it. Seven days later, the WFP was wrecked off Coruna, Spain and sank.

Better luck next time, Mr Aspin. You might be on board . . .



ABOUT THESE SCROUNGERS . . . a one-day conference on Personal Tax Avoidance for Directors is to be held at London's Royal Garden Hotel on 13 October. The fee will be £48.60. Make your cheque payable to Tax and Property Services Ltd at 25-27 George Street, Hanover Square, London W1. No riff-raff allowed.

THE PROBLEM of scroungers is not confined to these shores.

Anthony Conrad has just resigned as chairman and president of the giant American firm RCA after it emerged that he had failed to file tax returns for five years.

RCA have quickly pointed out that this interesting development is in no way connected with the firm's finances.

It is merely a coincidence that they are now 'temporarily postponing' the public sale of £70 million worth of new shares.

A DERBY postman, E Monk, has been 'specially commended' by the Post Office for his 'courageous and resourceful conduct during an attempted robbery with violence' last year. He has also been awarded £100.

And last year's Post Office profit? A mere £150 million . . .

GUESS which military junta ordered three days of mourning for Mao-Tse Tung?

Would you believe General Pinochet and his merry band of torturers in Chile?

JUSTICE US-STYLE: Ku Klux Klan members in Montgomery, Alabama forced a young black, Willis Edwards, to jump off a bridge to his death.

Edwards was guilty, the Klansmen explained, of 'smiling at a white woman'.

In their eagerness to bring the killers to account, the authorities took a mere 19 years to put them in the dock.

The judge has, however, now dismissed the charges on the grounds that 'it is not known if Edwards was killed from the fall or from drowning'. The wheels of justice churn on . . .



SAS terror—in Wales

TWO terrorists are on the run. The army sends out its crack troops—the SAS—to capture them.

They question the local population, reminding them to be loyal subjects, to give information.

But the local farmers didn't co-operate. They gave the men food and shelter. They gave wrong directions to the army.

As their homes and pubs were being searched, they

changed Ministry of Defence maps for out-of-date school atlases.

The SAS kept finding flat tyres on their vehicles. They didn't find the terrorists.

No. It wasn't South Armagh. It was in Wales, in Sennybridge in the Brecon district. And it was all a practice exercise!

Exasperated

The men on the run were SAS themselves. After several days of successful evasion of Her Majesty's forces, the 'terrorists' turned themselves into their exasperated commanders.

The Ministry of Defence has taken over vast areas of land in mid-Wales, land usually used for rearing sheep and tourist gazing.

They've put in artillery ranges, grenade practice areas—even an old stone pub to capture

This is where they learn how to kill, how to terrorise, how to stamp out 'rebellion.'

But as they learn, they manage to kill a lot of sheep and annoy a lot of local farmers with their activity (like all-night practice with live artillery.)

So the SAS hasn't succeeded in stamping anything out lately—except sheep in Wales and children in Armagh.

JOAN KELLY

FOOTNOTE: One part of South Armagh where the SAS are less than

welcome is Crossmaglen, a town of strong republican sympathies.

The locals' love for the 'peace-keeping' British Army can be gauged from an inscription penned by a soldier on the wall of the Army checkpoint on the Newry-Omeath road. It reads:

'As I slide down the banisters of life, I shall remember Crossmaglen like a splinter up my backside.'



Bernhard: pay rise

Noble Fleece Prize

GRIEVE no more for Prince Bernhard of Holland. Poverty beckoned when he had to give up his business life in the wake of the Lockheed affair. The loss of earnings was a savage blow, not to mention the loss of bribes.

But now the Dutch

government have rushed to the rescue. They have handed the Prince a 16 per cent pay rise, so bringing his wages up to £3,400 a week.

It's not quite in the Lockheed league, but at least he doesn't have to work for it . . .

Britain's first £200 a week miner

THIS, believe it or not, is Margaret Thatcher, Working.

This highly unusual event took place during her recent visit to Australia.

Our alert photographer caught her in the act down a pit in Broken Hill.

It is, however, unlikely to be repeated. The Iron Lady is sure to be far too busy abusing miners and the like, a demanding job which brings her in rather more than the average pitman is over likely to earn.

A LIVERPOOL woman, Mrs. Creamer of Abbots Langley, got a helpful response when she told the local council how damp was ruining the furniture and carpets in her bedroom.

A bureaucrat advised her: Lay off sex. It was important, he said, that 'you should not engage in any excessive physical activity which could lead you to perspire. That will cause condensation'.

WHY HAVE the National Front taken to booking a room at a YMCA in East London under the name of the British Book Club? Are they afraid of something?

Spot the difference

On the streets of Johannesburg today they (white and black) smile at each other as never before, rather as boxers shake hands before a bout.

Deputy editor Peregrine Worsthorne, reporting from South Africa on Page 21 of Sunday Telegraph, 19 September.

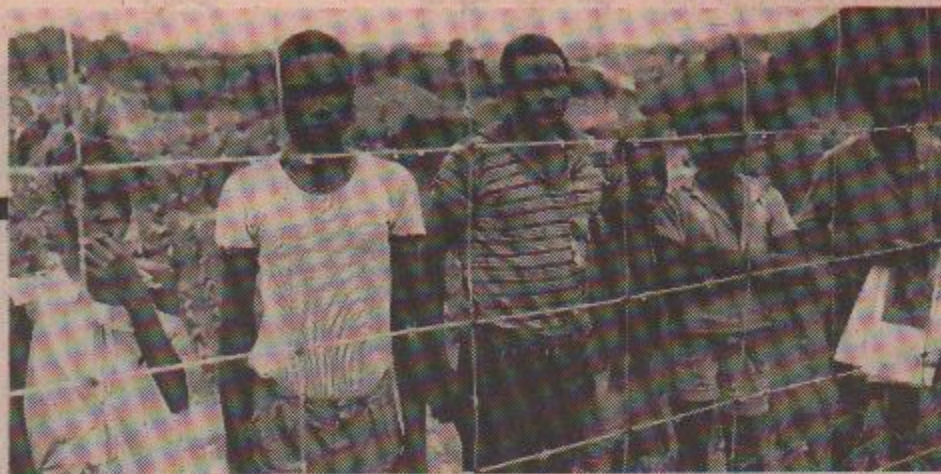
In one of the most remarkable incidents, a

Coloured youth who tossed a brick through the windscreen of a parked car drew an instant response from no fewer than three white vigilantes. Each whipped out a pistol and fired. The Coloured youth died immediately.

News report from South Africa, on Page 2 of Sunday Telegraph, 19 September.

RHODESIA

What the deal would mean



KISSINGER, Callaghan and Crosland have claimed that their agreement with Ian Smith last week will bring a 'new era' to Rhodesia.

But Smith accepted the agreement

because he thinks it will preserve the old order with few changes.

It seems even he will remain with power. He said last Friday: 'I hope to share the privilege of continuing to play an active role in helping to guide the destiny of Rhodesia'.

The agreement talks of a 'black first minister'. But his power will be restricted. The ministries of defence and law and order are to be run by the present gang of white thugs.

And the whites—one in 25 of the population—would have half the seats and the chairmanship of the council of state. This would be able to block any government decisions.

Block

They would be able to ensure that the following things were left untouched:

- The 250,000 whites own half the land—and it is the best half.
- The land belonging to the six million blacks includes all that which is unsuitable for agriculture.
- The white area includes 82 per cent of the land suitable for intensive farming. Of course a few wealthy blacks might be allowed to buy some land from whites. But most blacks will have no chance of getting back any of the land stolen from them in the last 80 years.
- The average white wage is ten times the average black wage. The whites are effectively the upper class, the blacks the workers and poor farmers. This will not be changed by having a few black ministers.
- The commanding positions in the army and police are held by whites dedicated to maintaining white privileges: 99 per cent of the officers of the armed forces are white. The ministers who will give them orders will be white.
- Five out of the ten top companies in Rhodesia are wholly or partly South African-owned.



The war Smith couldn't win

'KISSINGER — stopped a war'. That the headline in the London Evening News last Friday.

What the paper did not make clear was that it was the white racists who were bound to lose.

There are 6000 fully-trained freedom fighters in the Zimbabwe Peoples Army (ZIPA). Most are inside neighbouring Mozambique.

But a quarter are already operating inside Zimbabwe (Rhodesia). And up to 20,000 more young blacks have crossed the border for training.

In a few weeks, the rain season will start. Then, as the Rhodesian Defence Minister Van der Beyl explained, everything favours the freedom fighters.

Smash

The rain-drenched force he admitted in June, produced a situation like the America experienced in Vietnam'.

According to the Sunday Times, Kissinger showed Smith reports last week from three US intelligence agencies and from the South African secret police BOSS.

These indicated that, within a matter of months, the white Rhodesian 'economic and military position' would be facing collapse.

Many members of the liberation forces, ZIPA, know they can smash the white racist power structure.

They are determined not to give in for a deal which entrenches the power of the white minority and the profits of western big business.

THE COMPENSATION

THE DEAL promises 'compensation' for the white settlers, to preserve their standard of living, the highest in the world.

There is no mention of compensation for the Africans for what they have suffered over the last ten years. Thousands of them have been jailed for resisting the Smith

regime. 250,000 tribesmen have been removed from their land to 'protected villages', which are little more than concentration camps.

Thousands of others have had their homes and crops destroyed by the Rhodesians army. But for them there is no mention of compensation.

THE MURDERS

SMITH is directly responsible for hundreds of murders in the last few years.

1185 alleged guerrillas have been killed by the security forces since 1971, according to the regime's figures.

Another 1,035 black civilians have been killed without it even being

claimed that they were guerrillas. 106 were shot for 'breaking the curfew' and 32 for 'running with the terrorists'.

On top of this, 69 Africans have been sentenced to death—but it is not known exactly how many of them Smith has hanged.

THE PLUNDER

A LIFTING of sanctions would offer considerable economic opportunities for both British and Rhodesian businesses...

Industrial companies such as Dunlop, Unilever, Schweppes, Metal Box, and mining groups such as Rio Tinto and Lonrho, have broadened their cor-

porate base and stand to benefit from a return to economic normalcy...

In the financial sector, the banks—Barclays, Grindlays and Standard Chartered—and several insurance groups, will also be beneficiaries...

—from the Financial Times, 25 September

HOW WE CAN LEND A HAND

'The war is not finished. The guerrilla army has not been fighting to have a black prime minister installed in Salisbury while the machinery of oppression and exploitation remains intact.'

—ZIMBABWE POPULAR ARMY, Statement on Mozambique Radio

THIRTY supporters of the Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign chanted and jeered at Henry Kissinger when he arrived in London last week.

He had come to tell James Callaghan how his deal with Vorster and Smith was progressing.

The campaign is fighting for support for the black resistance. Pickets, demonstrations, meetings, leaflets and posters are being organised.

Protest

The campaign recently organised an occupation of the offices of the magazine, Woman's Own, to protest against an article supporting Ian Smith.

It will oppose British government involvement in



Kissinger's wheeling and dealing in Southern Africa, and British big business operations in South Africa.

Already campaign supporters in Glasgow are calling on the Trade Council and local trade unions to support black workers in Southern Africa.

The main office of South African Airways in the city had to be shut and locked when picketed two weeks ago.

The campaign will be fighting throughout the trade union and labour movement and in student unions for:

- VICTORY for the freedom fighters
- FREEDOM for all political prisoners
- RECOGNITION of black trade unions
- STOPPING all recruitment of mercenaries for the racist armies
- PRACTICAL support for the black freedom fighters in Zimbabwe

**Victory to the freedom fighters
Smash Apartheid
Support black resistance in South Africa**

For more details of the campaign, write to: SASC/o SOAS Student Union, Malet Street, London W.1.



The reception that faced 'peace-maker' Kissinger last week

Socialist Worker public meetings

VICTORY TO THE BLACKS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA!
Build the solidarity campaign

Thursday 7 October:
CENTRAL LONDON
Polytechnic of Central London, Cavendish Street, 7pm.
BOLTON
College of Technology
Speaker: Simon Turner

Monday 11 October:
SOUTHAMPTON
University Students Union, 8pm

Wednesday 13 Oct:
DURHAM
Speaker: Bill Message

Wednesday 20 Oct:
NORWICH
University Students Union, 1.15pm

Tuesday 26 October:
GLASGOW

Wednesday 27 October:
EDINBURGH

Thursday 28 October:
DUNDEE

Friday 29 October:
WITHAM:
Spring Lodge Community Centre, 8pm Plus film End of Dialogue

Wednesday 3 Nov:
BRIGHTON

Wednesday 10 Nov:
Sheffield

Thursday 11 November:
NEWCASTLE

Friday 12 November:
MANCHESTER
At the three meetings in Scotland, speakers will include BILL ANDERSON, former South African soldier.

'LET the Health Minister come here and tell his lies to the people of Hackney himself. Hitler tried to bomb our hospitals to the ground, but Mr Ennals has his eye on more hospitals than Hitler ever did. Well, we're telling him enough is enough.'

This challenge to Health Minister David Ennals from hospital shop steward Steve Ludlam brought a huge cheer from the mass rally of health workers in Hackney last Thursday.

Four thousand hospital workers, black and white, men and women, stopped work for half a day—the start of a campaign to stop savage cuts in the area.

Earlier Ennals said in a radio interview that there were 'no cuts', that money is simply 'being redirected to areas of greatest need.'

In Hackney one of the country's areas of greatest need, that means 400 jobs lost, closure of the Metropolitan Hospital and Mothers Maternity Hospital, and the closure of St Leonard's casualty unit after 5pm and at weekends. It means cancelled blood tests and a greater risk of infection.

The day of action, called by the white-collar union ASTMS and joined by the Public Employees Union (NUPE), the Health Service employees union (COHSE), the government workers' union NALGO and the General and Municipal Workers Union (GMWU), was supported by Hackney Trades Council and Hackney Right to Work Campaign.

Local teachers and members of the Electricians and Plumbers Union (EETPU) joined the rally at the Metropolitan Hospital. Workers at Queen Elizabeth's Hospital came out in support.

Who were these demonstrators?

Mainly black workers and women workers, the ancillaries, domestics and part-timers who everyone thinks are bottom of the hospital ladder. Well, they are at the top of the ladder as far as the fight to keep the hospitals open is concerned.



Hackney hospital workers demonstrate against the cuts last week.

4000 STRIKE AGAINST THE CUTS IN EAST LONDON - HERE!



'MIND how you cross the road, if you get run over, there will soon be nowhere for you to go', PAM ROSE called to pedestrians during the demonstration.

Pam, who works in the medical records department at the Metropolitan Hospital, has been a member of NALGO for just a few weeks.

'They want to save half a million pounds on this place. It's just a drop in the ocean', she said.

'We can't afford to have our hospitals closed around here, but we have got to step up this fight and make local people

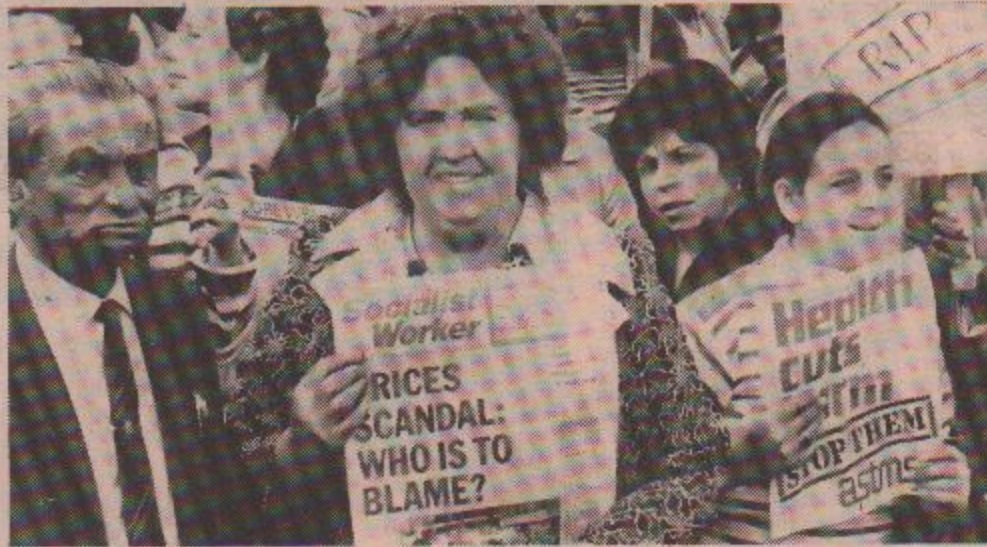
realise how important it is to them.

'They should all be out here with us today. It isn't just our jobs we're fighting for, it's the whole Health Service. If there was an outbreak of polio or typhoid in the area tomorrow, the whole system would break down.

'If we go on like this, in five years time there won't be any hospitals.

'The Metropolitan took 20 admissions at the weekend. What's going to happen to those people when this place isn't here any more?

'I've had to fight to get my son into a school in Hackney. Any cuts affect us all. We have got to unite and fight for our basic rights.'



ANN O'LEARY (left, centre) is a part-time worker at St Leonard's hospital. She is a widow. 'If they close the Metropolitan our part-time jobs will go and we will be replaced by full-timers being transferred. That's what we've heard. Well, I have a child to look after and I can't afford to lose my job. Where am I going to get another one?'

'This is an occupied land, controlled by

by **TOMMY DOURAS** (TGWU building worker)

WHO ARE THE TERRORISTS?

SIXTY British trade unionists visited Ireland—north and south—last week as delegates from labour movement bodies, to see for themselves the situation in Northern Ireland and report back to their delegating bodies. The trip was sponsored by the Troops Out Movement, and a report will be sent to all trade union bodies connected with Troops Out. Two of the delegates here give their account for Socialist Worker.

cleaning up immediately so as to be open the next day.

This keeps up the spirit of the community and is one way of keeping resistance going.

We went from the club to Fort Taggart, where the troops had come from.

Like most of the forts the army has put up all over Northern Ireland, Fort Taggart is built near schools and hospitals. The walls are 30

last night.

Sometimes on their last night in an area the army just move into a few homes and beat up the men in front of their wives and children. This, we were told, is common.

When one member of our delegation, John O'Brien from the AUEW, was having breakfast with a family in Andersonstown, he looked out of the window and saw troops marching across the garden. They pointed their guns at him.

The family explained that everyone had given up their gardens because the troops always marched through the streets. This has been going on for nearly eight years.

We entered Northern Ireland through Crossmaglen, where we were met by Paddy Short of the Civil Rights Association. He showed us around the market hall, burnt down and gutted by the army two years earlier, still with the tricolour of southern Ireland flying above it.

We saw a town full of bullet holes and bomb craters.

Every so often, the troops just rampage through the town, emptying out the bars. In response, the local people

refuse to speak or even acknowledge the army.

People have been beaten up to try and make them say hello to the soldiers.

In one bar on Crossmaglen a man told me that he had to cross over the border to Dundalk to work. Troops stopped him one morning and made him do press-ups and lick the soldiers' boots.

Beyond Newry we went into an Orange area.

To get in we passed a barrier like a railway crossing gate. But inside it was like any average flourishing English market town. Outside, in the Catholic area, it was like a bombed-out occupied city in Europe during the war.

When we arrived at the Ballymurphy Club we met Father Desmond Wilson, a Catholic priest. He said what nearly all of us felt by the end of our trip.

'Get the army out now. Get them back to England or wherever it is they come from. Just get them out.'

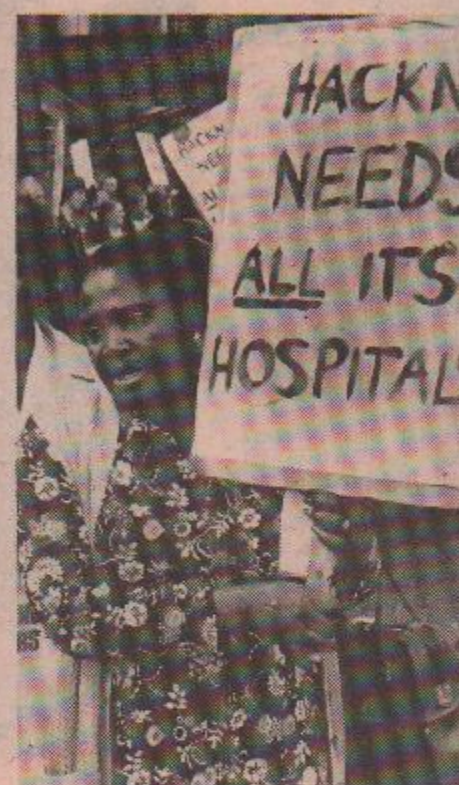
Northern Ireland is an occupied country, controlled by soldiers. If you don't believe it, do what we did and go and take a look.



Everyday life in Belfast. Ten gates block off every entrance to the main street. The troops stand by as a special police force submit to a close search.

We're defending our hospitals

REPORT BY JEAN GRAY



INEZ LAWRENCE is an orderly at St Leonard's Hospital. 'We all want to work. There is a demand for hospital treatment in this area. I just can't see the sense in the cuts. It's a disgrace.'



STEVE LUDLAM, NUPE shop steward at Moorfields Eye Hospital, told Socialist Worker: 'It is vital that workers in the front line fighting the cuts involve industrial trade unionists in the fight. We have actually got to convince people that the cuts are happening, despite the propaganda being put out by the government and the press. That's why I shall be arguing that hospital workers in East London must support the 6 November Right to Work Conference on the Cuts. It is the best way to take our fight to the rest of the labour movement. Although London has been the hardest-hit, we have to impress on people that nationally the situation is as bad.'

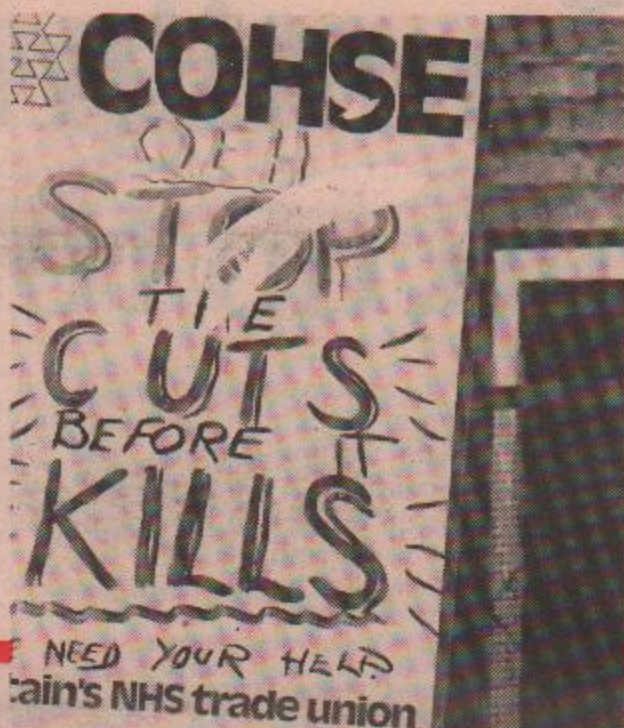
WHAT THEY'RE SAYING



GEORGE WALLIS represents the GMWU at the Metropolitan Hospital. 'A protest has taken just a few days to get started,' he said. 'But there will be more. There is a consultation about the future of this hospital. The closure plan came out of the blue. The Labour government have given us this. They call the Health Service and now they're taking it away at it until there is only the shell left. We're not having it.'



KAMBIZ BOOMLA, a junior doctor at St Leonard's Hospital. 'At Poplar Hospital they started by closing the casualty department, so there were no recognised jobs for housemen. Because there were no housemen, they could not attract any good registrars, so it was no longer used as a training hospital for nurses, and the next step was to close it altogether. If we allow the casualty services at St Leonard's to be cut, we're on the way to losing the hospital.'



Picture: Chris Davies (Report)

soldiers'



HATRED REPLACES TEA AND BUNS

by OSSIE LEWIS (former executive member of the CPSA)

I LAST went to Northern Ireland six years ago at the end of the 'tea and buns for the soldiers' era. Conditions were very different then. There were a few armed soldiers at immigration when we arrived. But they weren't much in evidence, except when we marched to Magilligan internment camp. Now the troops are everywhere. The relations between the troops and the Catholics is very worrying. There is intense hatred building up. I was reminded of the attitude of many soldiers during the war: 'The only good German is a dead one.' We passed along New Lodge Road, where I had stayed six years ago. Today in that road there are numerous

gaps where Catholic houses and pubs have been blown up. We were told that there had been considerable loss of life. Two members of the delegation went to meet the Women's Peace Movement leadership. One was pacifist Pat Arrowsmith. When she came back she explained that they don't have a position on troops out, but think they should 'be kept in the background.' Nor do they have a position on partition. They say they need 12 months to work out a position. Meanwhile they are forming street committees whose political horizon is 'peace'. Among the people attending their bible reading and hymn singing meetings is Lord 'Porn' Longford. There's not much doubt that the Festival of Light, the anti-abortion SPUC, and so on involved in this 'peace at any price' movement.



HACKNEY Socialist Worker public meeting The Labour Government, the Cuts and Racism Speaker: Tony Cliff Thursday 30 September, 7.45pm, Princess May School, Kingsland Road, Hackney, East London.

ADVERTISEMENT

FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK STOP THE CUTS

NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN

Trade Union Delegate Conference Against the Cuts and Unemployment

Belle Vue Manchester Saturday 6 November

Delegates from trade union branches, shop stewards committees, councils and all other official trade union bodies welcome. Credentials and further details from National Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4

The day a marcher met the bully-boys

I WAS one of the 'bully-boys' who went on the London to Brighton march to protest about being unemployed. Since returning to Hull I feel that because I went I have been victimised by the Social Security.

They said that I wasn't entitled to be paid for that week even though I fulfilled the two obligations or rules of getting a holiday form. I won't say what I said to them, but I 'talked' them into paying me.

Then to crown it all there was a knock on my front door a few days after I got back. 'Excuse me, Stan, we're CID officers'.

'Look', the clever one said, 'I won't beat about the bush. We've had a tip-off that you have some stolen cycles hidden in your house. Could we have a look round?'

I said: 'No. As you haven't a search warrant'.

He said: 'Look Stan. You know us, we can do what we like, so if you say no we'll automatically assume you've something to hide, so we'll arrest you for a few hours and search while you're at the station.'

I knew what they meant, so I reluctantly let them have a look round. They made a thorough search of the house and even looked in the loft, which any intelligent person could see wasn't wide enough to take cycles.

They then thanked me for my co-operation.

I've never been searched before, so say it was just to harass me for daring to protest. Well, let me make it clear. They won't stop protesting. Long live the International Socialists!

□ STAN GOODMAN, Hull

WOULD you at the first opportunity put a candidate up for election in Hackney? I know we would not win but we must try.

□ LENA WILLMOTH, Hackney, East London.

AS ONE of the Right to Work marchers, I was disturbed to see a blatant lie printed in SW last week concerning the march. At a time when the rest of the press is attacking the march for being a collection of well-paid agitators, you do our cause no good by pretending that all those who marched were unemployed.

A large number of marchers—certainly I met at least 30 out of the 600—are employed, and we should be proud that they marched alongside us. We will get nowhere if we fail to use the strength of the employed in our struggle.

Whenever I have been present at any event reported by the press, I am always amazed at their distortions. I expect better from SW.

□ JIM MADGE, London W14

No distortion was ever intended. Indeed, our report mentioned several employed workers who had been delegated by trade union bodies to join the march. EDITOR.



THE COUNCIL HOUSE SCANDAL

I RECENTLY received details from Tory-controlled Cardiff City Council 'offering' me the opportunity of buying my council house.

I can now buy at either full market value (£10,000) or at a reduction of 20 per cent—providing I do not sell it within five years. All I have to do is

find the five deposit.

The 20 per cent discount offer would mean an £8000 mortgage. Over 25 years this would cost me £79.16 a month.

However the council state: 'It is normally a condition of a council mortgage that the net weekly income of the applicant must at least approximate the amount of monthly repayment.'

In other words I must bring home £79.16 each and every week.

To arrive at this figure I need to earn a mere £117 before stoppages every week. This figure would put me £71 a week over the limit to become eligible for a council house in the first place.

In other words the 500 tenants on the Pentwyn estate are unable to accept the Tories' kind offer.

The sale of council houses remains another cheap election gimmick. But it is more than just a gimmick. Council housing goes against sacred capitalist principles—private ownership and market competition.

It was because the 'free market' could not provide decent housing at a reasonable price that council houses were built in the first place.

Selling off council houses reduces the number of homes available for rent. This will mean even longer waiting lists for the vast majority who cannot under any circumstances buy a home.

The cuts fanatics argue that public spending must be cut—yet selling council houses actually increases public spending by increasing the amount of income tax relief paid out.

In 1975 tax relief on mortgages cost £1050 million. The larger the mortgage the higher the tax relief—on a £30,000 mortgage the hand-out amounts to £42 a week.

The average council tenant receives a subsidy of £3.50 a week compared with an average £5.50 for the house-buyer.

Cuts

The government plans to cut spending on housing by £665 million over the next three years. An announcement was made in July that all council house building was to stop immediately.

The cuts mean that money from central government to councils to help pay interest on money borrowed for housing has been drastically reduced. The extra will be extracted from the tenants.

62p in every £1 paid in rent goes to the banks and other money-lenders. Many councils have to pay more out in interest charges than they collect in rent. In 1973-74 rents collected amounted to £775 million, but councils paid £954 in interest charges alone.

Increase

To appease the money-lenders, the government's policy is to increase council rents by £3 a week by 1978. For Labour has learnt that it is easier, far, far easier to attack council tenants and make them pay for the crisis than it is to take on the financial institutions.

Figures like these take on more meaning if you translate Britain's homeless as representing the Cup Final attendance for the past ten years. It is not enough to stand and nod your head and agree that capitalism stinks. We must organise and work for its overthrow. Start now by joining the Right to Work Campaign—support the conference against cuts and unemployment on 6 November—join the International Socialists and build the workers' party.

Say No to Barclays Bank bully-boys once and for all.

□ TERRY JAMES, Pentwyn, Cardiff.

Letters

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

Immigration: No, no, no to controls

THE IRISH TOO ARE VICTIMS OF RACISM

I WAS at the victory rally against the National Front in Nottingham a few weeks ago. They're hitting at the blacks now, but in the 1930s in Birmingham the Mosleyites used to beat up Irishmen who managed to find work as they came out of work.

Only last year there were National Front anti-IRA posters in Nottingham.

People don't understand that Irish people are going back to Ireland with no homes and jobs to go to. They're using the Prevention of Terrorism Act to get the Irish out.

We've got to do something, for the police and the Front are both against the Irish. We Irish have got to get together and campaign against the National Front—and against the hanging of the Murrays in Dublin.

□ M Irwin, Nottingham.

ON THE 11 September demonstration against racism in Blackburn I was carrying an SW poster calling for an end of immigration controls. A Communist Party member came up to me and remarked that we must have some controls.

He went on to say that CP policy 'recognises every country's right to decide who comes in and what is needed is humane immigration controls'.

I was surprised to see a letter in the same vein in Socialist Worker (C Mullin, 18 September).

Apology

IN THE report of the London to Brighton Right to Work march, we inadvertently described John Clifford as 'an unemployed building worker' on the march during his holiday to express solidarity with the unemployed. The sentence should have read 'an employed building worker'.

John Clifford is secretary of UCATT Branch BE305 in Wolverhampton and convenor at Wolverhampton Council. We apologise for the confusion caused by our error.

£154m - AND YOU AND I PAID IT!

RECENTLY a breakdown in the expenditure of the Post Office became available to employees. A massive profit of £154 million appeared from a loss of £194 million the previous year.

Sir William Ryland said of this: 'Once again a critical situation has shown the talent, energy, integrity and dedication to service of Post Office staff everywhere.'

Oh yes, elsewhere he says a little bit about help from huge price increases and the £6-a-week pay ransom.

As I work in Telecommunications, I'll stick to that side.

□ Last year 44p in every £1 of expenditure was for wages.

□ This year 4½p in every pound of expenditure is for wages.

□ This year the number of starts—apprentices etc—fell by 1776.

□ This year investment in new equipment rose by £129 million to £917 million.

Of these investments, remember not so long ago that a telephone exchange was built that after it was finished the Post Office decided it did not fit their requirements.

Also remember that the Post Office invested millions of pounds from their

As a socialist, and therefore an internationalist, I couldn't give two shits as to whether someone is 'as English as Oliver Cromwell'. I couldn't give a damn for 'The fact that they were born in England legally makes them such'.

To me, any person who is willing to work is most welcome and any person whose whole purpose in life is to exploit our labour is most unwelcome, irrespective of their 'legal entitlement' to be here.

Any giving way on this point puts us on the slippery slope to the CP's situation, which implies immigrants are the problem, not capitalism.

□ BERNIE WILCOX, Partington

employees' pension fund in a business venture which went bust and everything was lost.

So what does all this mean?

To me it means that when I am working in contact with the public I get the abuse my employers should be getting.

It means my colleagues are working overtime to make ends meet.

It means that the union is sitting back and letting all this

happen.

It shows that the rank and file must fight the bureaucracy of the unions and the bureaucracy of the management to get a 35-hour week and a ban on all overtime.

It shows that employed and unemployed workers must unite and fight for the Right to Work.

□ IAIN CAMPBELL, Glasgow

Thanks for your support!

OVER the past four weeks the Socialist Worker has had reports on the dispute at the Steak and Kebab Restaurant in Lancaster.

Your readers will be familiar with the reasons for the strike action and the events since, so I will not comment on that, but I have been asked by the members concerned to write thanking your paper for the help given in the dispute.

We are particularly grateful for the support on the picket line from the Right to Work Campaign and members of the International Socialists. Also the financial support from the Lancaster IS and a collection made on the Right to Work march.

This last donation was really impressive considering that it was collected from un-

employed workers.

At the moment we are also picketing the Steak and Kebab in Manchester, where again we are receiving support from IS members.

As the members involved in the strike are new to the trade union movement, this support has been vital. We intend to continue this struggle and therefore appeal for continued support and financial assistance to ensure that this small number of people fighting for basic trade union demands are not starved back to work.

Financial donations are desperately needed and can be sent to me.

□ MAGGIE CLAPPEN (Shop steward), 1st Flat, 16 Skipton Street, Morecambe, Lancashire.

STOP THE CUTS
A Right to Work Campaign pamphlet by Paul Foot

Everyone will be hit hard by the extra £1000 million that's to be cut from government spending

FOR CHILDREN, it means crowded classrooms, no meat for your school dinner.

FOR THE SICK, it means longer queues in increasingly decrepit hospitals and probably increased charges for prescriptions, the dentist and the optician.

FOR ALL OF US, it means higher prices as food subsidies are removed.

But the cuts can be stopped.

Portsmouth hospital workers have proved it—they saved 30 nurses' jobs. Merseyside council workers have proved it they stopped 181 building workers being sacked. London hospital workers proved it—they stopped the closure of hospital kitchens.

This pamphlet proves it... buy it now 19p a copy, including postage, or ten copies for £1 (post free)

RIGHT TO WORK CENTRE
265 Seven Sisters Road, London E2.

ROCK AGAINST RACISM



'Hitler was the first superstar. He really did it right.'
(Bowie)

Musicians...fans... we need you

Some of the replies we got . . .

Roderick Little—Middlesborough, Cleveland:

I am 16 and where politics is concerned am left wing, also the biggest love of my life is rock music . . . I should like to help in any way possible

Chris Ayton—Hackney, East London:

I will be only too glad to help, I'm a musician & play in a band

Sara Rees—Gosport, Hants:

I am only 14 and was wondering if you could send me details of ways I could help

Ged McCabe—Geoff Bowler—Chris Branley—Mike Wilkinson—all Billingham—Cleveland:

We saw your letter in MM and are extremely interested in a rank & file movement against the racist poison in rock music.

Mike Hope—Bristol:

RAR should organise anti racist concerts and gather the allegiance of bands who operate close to the roots.

Jan Steele—Kingston, Jamaica:

I'm very interested in joining RAR and enclose names and addresses of more people

Mike Galligan—Bolton

I'm in a 3 piece rock band and any help you need to fight the scum of fascism racism or nationalism—please let me know.

M. Ward—Leeds:

I am a member of IS, I am also a rock fan . . . will gladly help

Tony Evans—Merthyr Tydfil:

What with Eric Clapton & the poor man's Hitler David Bowie, we need someone like you.

M. L. Gould—Aschott, Somerset:

I was overjoyed to read your appeal in the press this week, I should like to join, really.

Poker Band—S. London:

Greetings. How can we as a band support the fight against bigotry as displayed by E.C.?

Melvyn Ashton—Rotherham:

I have purchased myself a teshirt displaying the words Rock against Racism

Kevin Haycock—Sleaford, Lincs:

I thought the whole incident might pass unchallenged, hope to hear from you soon

Ian McCree—N. London:

I have always liked Eric Clapton but tell him he can go fuck himself

Francis Harvey—Clydebank, Glasgow:

You have my full support. Let's unite and keep our music pure and kick out these infiltrates

Dave Halmes—Shoreham by Sea:

Your letter really heartened me just as I was beginning to think no one cared any more.

Good on yer . . . Smash the fascists

Christine Pawlett—Doncaster:

After reading your letter in NME a few times I finally really understood the full meaning.

Whatever you want to do whichever course you decide is best to follow in RAR I'll support

Paolo Rase—Milan, Italy:

Black and white unite and fight . . . as a rock fan you have all my support

AT BIRMINGHAM IN MID AUGUST ERIC CLAPTON SAYS BETWEEN BLUES NUMBERS 'VOTE FOR ENOCH POWELL . . . STOP BRITAIN BECOMING A BLACK COLONY . . . GET THE FOREIGNERS OUT'

This is the letter printed in Sounds, NME and the Melody Maker (LP Winner)

When I read about Eric Clapton's Birmingham concert when he urged support for Enoch Powell I nearly puked.

What's going on Eric? You've got a touch of brain damage. So you are going to stand for MP and you think we are being colonised by black people. Come on . . . you've been taking too much of that Daily Express stuff, you know you can't handle it.

Own up half your music is black. You are rock music's biggest colonist. You're a good musician but where would you be without the blues and R & B?

You've got to fight the racist poison, otherwise you degenerate into the sewer with the rats and all the money men who ripped off rock culture with their cheque books and plastic crap.

Rock was and still can be a real progressive culture not a package mail order stick-on nightmare of mediocre garbage.

Keep the faith, black and white unite and fight.

We want to organise a rank and file movement against the racist poison in rock music—we urge support for Rock Against Racism

Peter Bruno, Dave Courts, Angela Follett, Roger Huddle, Red Saunders, Mike Stradler, Jo Wreford, etc

P.S. 'Who shot the sheriff' Eric? It sure as hell wasn't you!



I used to be into dope . . . then a 'foreigner' pinched my missus' bum . . . now I'm into racism . . . It's much heavier . . . man.

SO BOWIE discovers Hitler and Clapton urges support for Powell. 'Superstars' open their mouths and out comes fascist and racist garbage. Pathetic cover-ups do not alter the fact that they give credence to the ideas of the sewer and make heroes of the rats.

RAR was formed as a gut reaction by socialists and music fans to the unbelievable hypocrisy of musicians who made their money out of black music and then turn against black people.

Rock music—Reggae, Soul, Rock 'n' roll, funk, jazz—is with us every day. Day and night, on the radio, the TV, the pub, the disco, the cafe. It's always there, the music of the black and white urban working class.

But music is not sacred, it's just like everything else in this society—a product of its environment—and money rules, not music. And superstars mean superprofits.

Today's environment is a crisis one. So isolated guitar 'gods' and their record company executives, care little for the world of the unemployed school leaver or the black kid getting beaten up in the police station. It's all down to market exploitation (product wise) and whining about tax problems in the Bahamas.

In the first place rock music, black and white, came from the experience of living under the system. For us it must be part of the struggle to change the system.

As part of that battle Rock Against Racism exists to fight racism in and out of Rock music.

Roger Huddle & Red Saunders
RAR Ad-hoc Committee



Rock Against Racism has a lot to do: Concerts, Dances, Posters, Badges, Stickers. It all takes time and money. There are lots of ways you can help.

Tick the appropriate below:

- I am a musician and would be willing to play
 - I send the following donation £
 - I will give my time, talent and energy
 - Put me on the list of sponsors
- Or just send us a letter of support

Name _____

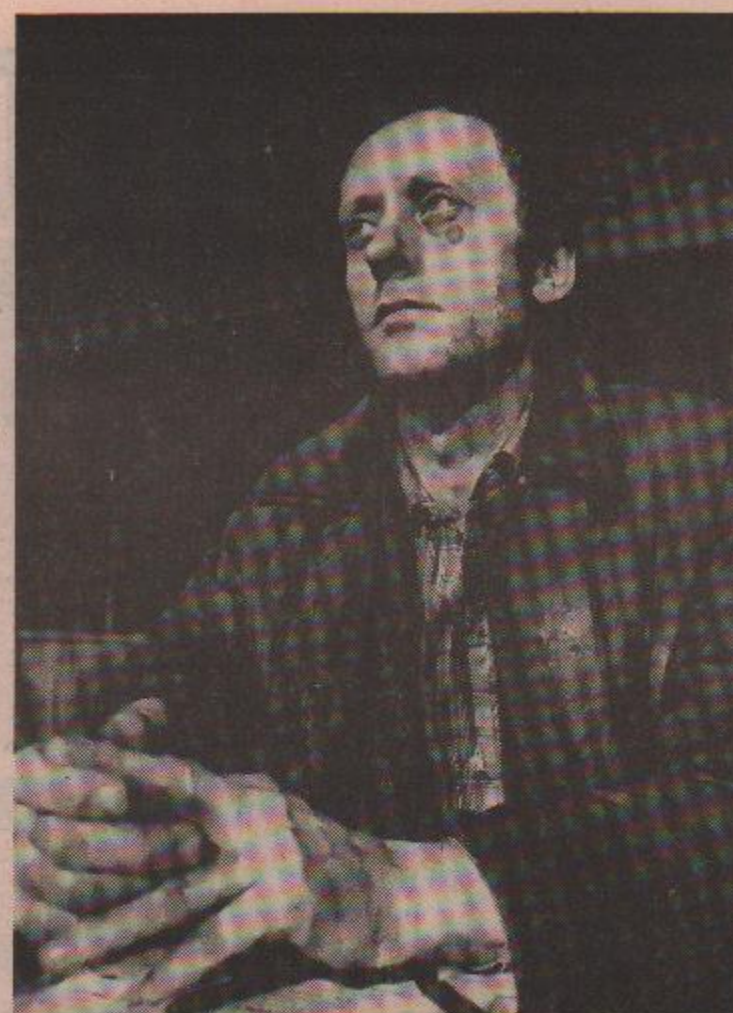
Address _____

Send to: Rock Against Racism, Box M, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN

time we lost.



SCENES FROM THE TV FILM: Gierk conning the workers and, above right, the workers' leader Baluka



AFTER THAT TV FILM, ITS REAL-LIFE HERO EDMUND BALUKA RECALLS THOSE 3 DAYS IN SZCZECIN

Next time we will win

confusion grew. Just before Christmas, confusion turned to anger that nothing was being achieved.

The entire strike committee were sacked in their absence, and a new strike committee was chosen.

I had argued that nothing short of national negotiations would win our demands and was made chairman of the new committee.

I went home for Christmas. Nothing had been won. But the strike was not yet finished. When we returned it was very tense.

Nobody knew what to do, and for days no work was done.

Occupation

Then on 19 January came the incident that led to the second occupation.

The media carried a story that the tube workers had met and pledged to work harder. They were said to have a slogan: 'By extra productivity we support the new leadership.'

In fact it was all faked. The tube workers were furious. They had been accused by their mates of being scabs. They charged out to the main gates and the three days at Szczecin started.

You saw from the TV film how we went back for nothing. The problem is that there is not yet a working class in Poland. The Communist Party is doing its best to prevent a self-conscious organised working-class from coming into being.

Attack

When Polish workers are up against the wall they will act together to fight. It's not enough to start the fight, though. You have to finish it.

In 1970 we attacked. Gomulka fell, but Gierk established his leadership and the repression started again.

When in June this year the workers attacked they won a



The real-life strike committee: Baluka is fourth from right, second row.

battle, but afterwards they couldn't defend their own leaders.

In Radom this year, Polish workers won magnificent battles. Yet today many of their leaders are in prison and hundreds have been sacked.

Until workers understand that every man removed from their ranks weakens them, until they can defend their organisations, they cannot be a true class.

Power

For the workers to take power, they need organisations. Milling workers without organisations will never take power.

The Polish workers are not yet a class but they will become a class. I don't know when. I'm no prophet. But they will.

GRANADA TV put out a marvellous programme last week—a re-enactment of a shipyard workers' strike. For once, it sided with the workers.

The strike was in the Polish port of Szczecin in January 1971. It was the second time the workers had struck. Their first strike, a month earlier, and the street battles that accompanied it had led to the fall of the country's ruler, Gomulka, and his replacement by Edward Gierk.

But the price increases that caused the strike remained.

The climax of the January strike came when Gierk was forced to go to Szczecin and face a mass meeting of workers' delegates. The TV programme showed this beautifully.

Gierk came across as

a mixture of Wilson and Callaghan. The words were an exact translation from the transcript of his speech. But they could well have been from the mouths of our own Labour Party leaders, telling workers to accept price increases and work harder because of the 'perilous state of the country'.

Edmund Baluka, the chairman of the strike committee, was at that meeting. Like most of the other committee members, he was to be victimised in the aftermath of the strike. He now lives in Manchester.

He told Les Kay and Eva Barker the story of those days. It is particularly significant at a time when Polish workers have once again been protesting at price rises with strikes and street demonstrations.

WHY RUSSIA ISN'T SOCIALIST



In 1917, for the first time in world history, a workers' government took power in Russia.

Within 20 years it was dead. Two publications by the International Socialists explain why.

Chris Harman's pamphlet, **HOW THE REVOLUTION WAS LOST**, 22p

Tony Cliff's book, **STATE CAPITALISM IN RUSSIA**, £1.70

BOOKMARKS, 265
Seven Sisters Road,
London, N4.

MONDAY

Part three of **I CLAUDIUS** (BBC 2 9 pm) sees Claudius in his late teens deciding to live up to his half-wit image in order to survive amid the intrigue in glorious Rome.

The people who took part in the six-week General Motors strike of 1937 look back on the events in **YESTERDAY'S WITNESS IN AMERICA: The Great Sit-down** (BBC 2). One of those interviewed, is Genora Johnson, who organised the workers' wives in support.

The men—members of the United Auto Workers were fighting for union recognition.

TUESDAY

Right To Work Marchers will remember the Metropole Hotel in Brighton. This week the four-star luxury is enjoyed by the Tories for their annual conference. Masochists can sit



glued to the box for up-to-the-minute reports on ITV every morning and afternoon.

FRIDAY

In 1878 Annie Besant and Charles Bradlaw were fined £200 and bound over to keep the peace for advocating artificial birth control for the Victorian masses. But they won their case on appeal through a technical oversight on the part of the police.

The future which their book caused, and the trial is the subject of **VICTORIAN SCANDALS** (ITV 9pm).

Firemen make it a quick-fire victory

FIREMEN in East Anglia have won a quick victory over an attempt by Suffolk's Chief Fire Officer to cut down on overtime pay for bank holiday working.

For working a public holiday, firemen are paid at double time and get a day off in lieu.

The Suffolk Chief planned to save up to £2,000 a year by setting a maximum number of riders for public holidays and then telling the rest who were due to be on duty, not to come in.

In this way, the men would lose the day off in lieu which they normally use later in the year, often to give them a full fortnight off in the summer.

It also meant losing a rare opportunity to earn a bit extra at a time when the value of their wages is dropping fast, thanks to two years of the Social Contract.

Problems

Firemen in the other brigades in East Anglia realised that if the members in a small brigade like Suffolk were left to fight by themselves they could possibly lose and the idea would be quickly picked up by their Chief Officers.

One of the problems was that the Head Office of the Union appeared to accept the Suffolk Chief's interpretation of the National Agreement on the subject.

The 2,500 men in the six brigades started answering emergency calls only and then successfully called upon the Executive Council to oppose the move. The employers collapsed the next day!

FIGHT AGAINST 'LUMP' GOES ON

HERTFORDSHIRE: Building workers in Welwyn Garden City and Hatfield are carrying on their 17-week-old campaign against labour-only subcontracting, a sophisticated form of the lump.

The action, launched by the local branches of UCATT, the building workers' union, is completely unofficial. The union leadership

has accepted labour-only subcontracting in national agreements.

Unemployed building workers, supported by a local levy, have been picketing the Marshall Andrews viaduct site in Welwyn Garden City to demand the removal of the subcontractors and the setting up of direct labour with the main contractor.

After 15 weeks' picketing, two subcontractors showed what a mockery the national agreement is. They got themselves registered in London and

so, under the agreement, 'accepted' on the site.

A mass meeting of 170 local building workers were urged last week by the UCATT regional secretary to accept the position.

But the meeting voted almost unanimously to keep the pickets on—and to keep up the fight.

Members of UCATT are urged to pass resolutions in their branches in support of the Welwyn and Hatfield lads—and so help to get rid of the lump in all its forms.

Sit-in to save jobs - and union official lashes out

STOCKPORT: An occupation by three wire men, members of the sparks union, the EETPU, is now in its third week. The wiremen, employed by E N Bray, occupied when threatened with redundancy.

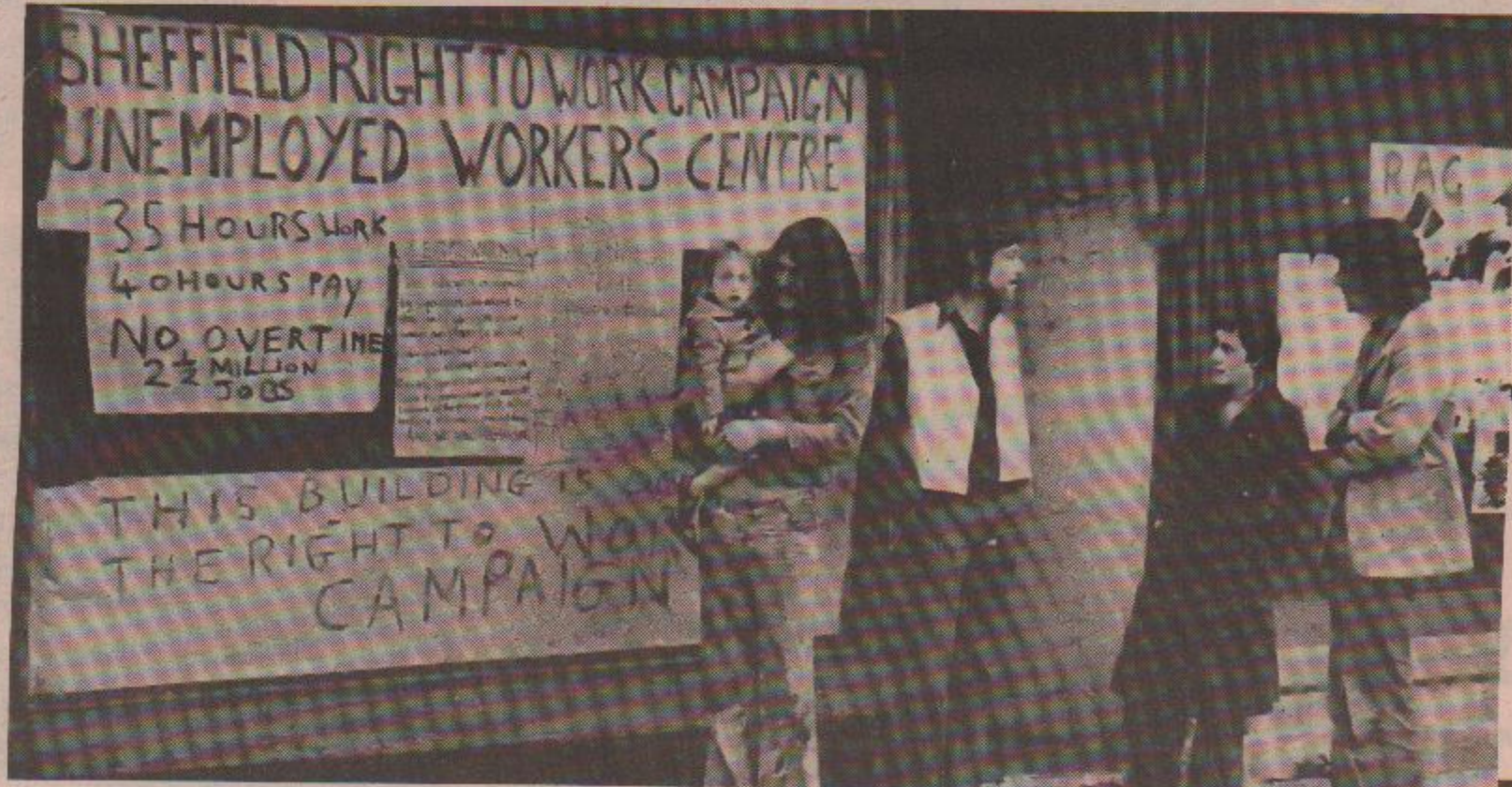
Despite the behaviour of union full-time official Harry Bould, the men are determined to stick it out until their jobs are guaranteed. Bould, best known in Manchester for the way he sold out the Woodall Duckham strike 18 months ago, has repeatedly told the men to accept a severance payment of £150.

He said: 'If you don't accept any advice, then don't come crying to this union for help.'

The workshop is fortified with barbed wire and steel shutters on all the doors and windows.

Each door is protected by 'wiring panels' which would have to be broken to get in. Each panel is worth £2000.

Morale is high, but funds are low. Please send donations to: Phil Kelly, E N Bray's occupation, c/o TU Books, 260 Deansgate, Manchester 3.



OUTSIDE the new Right to Work centre in Sheffield a once-empty building. We are now demanding that the council recognise these premises as an unemployed workers' centre, local activist Dave Mason told Socialist Worker. 'We want every unemployed worker in Sheffield to know there is somewhere they can come to.'

Jeavons strike over

TIPTON, Staffs: The 100 women on strike for equal pay at Jeavons have gone back to work. They accepted a £5 increase—£10 less than their claim—backdated to January. They have a promise of a new grading scheme.

The deal came out of a meeting between management and Terry Askey, Transport Union district organiser.

The women must make sure that they are not cheated out of the things they have won by their six-week strike and the

solidarity of local Asian workers.

Management may construct a grading system which leaves most women on the lower scales with a few sprinkled in the higher grades.

They might try to deduct the £5 from the bonus, which they have done in the past, and there is a chance that the women will have to fight for the 4½ per cent pay increase to which they are entitled on top of any increase towards equal pay.

TYNDALE 6 ON TRIAL

By Jeff Hurlford

SIX TEACHERS from William Tyndale school in North London go on trial this week for their jobs.

The Auld Report on the findings of the eight-month Tyndale inquiry lavishes criticism all round:

AGAINST Rhodes Boyson's friend Dolly Walker for stirring up political accusations against the teachers. She's left for a private school and is immune from action.

AGAINST the Labour-controlled managers for their

intrigues and factionalising. Some of these have resigned, having got what they wanted.

AGAINST the Inner London Education Authority, for its mismanagement and shilly-shallying. One councillor has resigned as chairman of a committee.

But Auld directs his most sustained criticism against the teachers. He admits that there is nothing to suggest that any of them was individually incompetent.

But when they acted as a group to run the school democratically or go on strike—that's when things

went wrong. Despite all the pressure against them the teachers were supposed to knuckle down and get on with the job.

It is typical of what they have been up against that they are the only ones involved who are on trial for their jobs.

That they are all on trial is a result of Labour Party pressure. Originally, ILEA's top official, Dr Briault, proposed charges against Terry Ellis and Brian Hadow only.

This was not good enough for the Labour councillors, so he came back with charges

against all of them.

Even now, four of the teachers are charged only with going on strike—that is what 'discipline' means for ILEA.

It now suits the authorities and the media to pretend that the Tyndale Affair is all about 'educational standards'. Nothing could be further from the truth.

DOUBLE

The major issue of this trial will be a teacher's right to strike. Or rather the right to take unofficial action.

Because in the ILEA's strange double-think, unofficial action disrupts kids' education and is wicked whereas official action—that agreed to by the headteachers on the NUT Executive—is not disruptive. Maybe that's because it's so rare.

William Tyndale was one of the first primary schools to be involved in unofficial action over the London Allowance.

In a time of cutbacks, the authorities need 'good' teachers those who are either docile or frightened. This is exactly what the Tyndale affair is being used for.

LOSE

What happens to the Tyndale teachers will affect all teachers. If they lose, we all lose. Remember the words of the Daily Express, 'Shouldn't we be sacking these appalling Marxist teachers?'

All Socialist Worker readers, not just teachers, should raise support for the Tyndale teachers in their workplace and union. A pamphlet, petition and speakers are available from the Support Campaign, 9 Radleigh St, London N1 01-359 4024.

Notices and meetings

Notices for this column must be posted to arrive by first post 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.

ANGOLA Solidarity Committee discussion forum. Series of four meetings on the Angola revolution. Admission free. All meetings at the Roebuck pub, Tottenham Court Road, London WC1 at 7.30pm.

Thursday 8 October: Women in Angola's revolution.

Thursday 21 October: Angola and African and Caribbean struggles.

THE COLLIER, rank and file miners' paper. September issue now out, warning of consequences of a productivity deal now being advocated by Joe Gormley, President of National Union of Mineworkers. Other articles include undemocratic nature of NUM executive and the plight of black miners in South Africa. Copies 5p each plus postage from The Collier, 38 Abbey Lane, Candy Cross, Barnsley, South Yorks.

INVERGORDON '31: How men of the RN struck and won! Vivid report of mutiny. Comments concerning those times. By Barry Duncan, 60 pages, £1, bookshops or T.B.D., 209 Northumberland Road, Southampton.

WORKING WOMEN'S CHARTER CAMPAIGN has issued a call for a national rally to assess the struggle for women's rights in light of government legislation. To organise we urgently need funds. Send donations to Jill Daniles, 16 Crookham Road,

London, SW6. Also from this address information, sponsorship, publicity and details about the next planning meeting on 16 October 2pm at University of London Students Union, Malet Street, London, WC1.

NATIONAL ABORTION CAMPAIGN Disco: The Basement, 28 Shelton St., London WC2, Saturday 2 October, 8pm-2am. Beer and wine. Entrance 50p.

National Abortion Campaign Day School on positive legislation, ethical questions, facilities etc. Discussion on the mobilisation for National Tribunal in Women's Rights (to be held on 29 January) is also scheduled. Saturday 9 October, 34-6 Bedford Square, London.

NEEDED URGENTLY for political reasons: room for comrades, 23, Inner East London district (or near). Phone Alison 980 0231 ext 13.

COMRADE urgently requires somewhere to live. Contact Drew Regan at Corbridge Works 739-1870. THE NEW PLUTO PRESS catalogue of forthcoming titles and complete back list is now available. Send s.a.e. for copies to Unit 10,7 Chalcat Road, London NW1.

HOSPITAL WORKER out 13 October: orders and money to Hospital Worker, 78 Edin. Grove, London SW10, Phone 01-351-1540.

Durham Women's Aid Group refuge for battered women. 3 refuge assistants wanted, under JCP for one year (one with responsibility for children). Applicants must be unemployed, £2500 p.a. Send 3 copies c.v., names and addresses of 2 referees and letter of application to 88 Rochester Road, Durham City by 15 October.

Campaign for Democracy in the Labour Movement: Central London Rally, Friday 8 October, NUFTO Hall, Jockeys Fields, London WC1. Speakers: Alan Thornett, Keith Vaneas, Tony Kelly

Asbestos? We've got the answer

DOCKER Terry Bellamy decided there was only one way to stop a non-union contract firm from cutting up asbestos outside the homes of 14 families in his street.

He called all the emergency

services. And when the Fire Brigade arrived they proceeded to clear away the mess left behind after a day's work by TAC Insulations.

'They were dressed up like spacemen,' said Terry, who is the spokesman for the families in Biggerstaff Road, Strat-

ford, East London.

'It's amazing that ordinary families can be exposed to this dust, and yet when you call in the firemen, they will only deal with it from behind protective clothing.'

'The council tell us there is no need to worry. They say the dust from asbestos is not dangerous.'

Families in the road have been battling with Newham Council over asbestos since the discovery of the killer dust at council flats in South London earlier this year.

Blue asbestos was discovered in the garages next to the houses. That has been stripped and is being replaced with white asbestos, claimed by the council to be safe.

The families effectively stopped TAC from working on Thursday when they refused to allow them use of electricity for their drills.

Newham Council have now agreed that the sheets of asbestos will only be cut in a shed, well away from the houses and areas where children play.

ACTION OVER KILLER DUST

By Gary Bushell

STUDENTS and staff returning for the new term at the Holbrook site of the North East London Polytechnic got a nasty shock on Monday.

Conversion work over the summer led to the erection of large sheets of white asbestos on walls and doors. It was not properly insulated, just roughly covered with gloss paint. The asbestos had been sawed in the building.

Ledges and lampshades are layered with deadly asbestos dust. Worried cleaners, fed up with asking questions, had refused to clean areas where asbestos was being used. But this still left the health hazard

in the building. Student pickets convened a gate meeting of students and staff. The students voted overwhelmingly to black the building.

It will be locked by the students from Tuesday morning until Poly authorities get rid of the asbestos.

Picket East Ham Town Hall, Barking Road, Friday 1 October, 9.30am. Stop the victimisation of three students by the Poly authorities.

Calling all typists

I.S. NEEDS YOU!!

Efficient typist needed for interesting and varied work. Apply Box T, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2

RDL strikers smeared by scabs

METHIL, Fife: Workers at the Redpath Dorman Long oilrig yard are still fighting to break through the wall of lies and slanders being erected around their four-week-old strike.

They are out over a proposed agreement which would seriously worsen their conditions and safety procedures. As part of their struggle, the strikers staged a token one-day occupation of part of the main administration block last Monday.

Stewards still working alongside scab labour have been the main agents in attacking the strikers.

Response

A delegation visited four of the other oil rig yards in Scotland last week, and got an encouraging response in three of them. But the delegation found that the scabbing stewards from RDL were busy trying to close doors on them.

The shop stewards secretary, McHugh, had phoned around, asking for the strikers to be turned away.

He even promised a full statement from the RDL shop stewards committee on the dispute, but, not surprisingly, it had not yet appeared. It did, it would need to be headed: In Defence of Scabbing.

GLASGOW: 1300 JOBS AT STAKE

THREE major employers in the West of Scotland have announced plans for massive redundancies.

Unemployment in the area already stands at ten per cent.

Now 1300 more jobs are at stake as three factories face closure.

ATTACK No 1 came at Standard Telephone Cables of East Kilbride, a factory which makes machinery for the Post Office, and a subsidiary of the notorious ITT.

Workers were told last Friday that 550 jobs would go

By Dave Sherry

by next year and that production would be transferred to Northern Ireland.

Kathy Dobbie, Engineering Union convenor, said: 'Only a few days ago we were given an assurance about the company's future.'

Apparently even local management had been hoodwinked. They, too, are to be sacked.

The stewards organised a mass meeting and called for an immediate occupation. But the workforce, due to go on a week's holiday, voted against the idea.

Jack McKenna, electrician's convenor, said: 'It's obvious that the workforce are

being tempted by the redundancy payments.

'Many people think they can pick up the money and get another job. But there's one and a half million on the dole waiting for those jobs already.'

'It's still not too late to get those arguments across but the decision not to occupy immediately makes this an uphill fight.'

'Certainly the management have timed it cleverly. They announced their plan on the day that we were to go on a week's holiday.'

'We can't let these jobs go. It's the stewards' job now to argue the fight.'

ATTACK No 2 came at the Personna razor blade

factory on the Hillington industrial estate.

Personna, a subsidiary of the giant Philip Morris multinational, employs 280 workers. On Friday they were told that the factory would close at the end of the year because of falling orders.

Last year the workers occupied the plant for 11 weeks in a fight to save jobs. But in the end they were forced to accept voluntary redundancies.

Stewards were meeting this week to discuss how management's plans can be fought when the workforce returns from holiday on Wednesday.

ATTACK No 3 came from Rolls-Royce. They released details of a plan to cut back on 400 jobs in their Scottish division.

This threat is obviously intended to undermine the growing support for the two-month-old factory occupation at Blantyre.

The only way these attacks can be fought is by a united response from the whole trade union movement in the West of Scotland.

Silcock 'deal' thrown out

COVENTRY: In the fourth week of their strike, the Silcock and Collings car delivery drivers have rejected a deal cooked up by ACAS, the government's supposedly independent arbitration service.

The deal would have put the 80 men on the dole for one week in five. At a mass meeting on Monday, the 80 drivers, who are striking against the sacking of 17 of their workmates, rejected the ACAS deal of worksharing and dole, which was recommended to them by Transport Union official John Joynton.

Struggle

They now intend to ask for solidarity action from the rest of the 800-strong Silcock and Collings workforce. The strength of this solidarity strike can immediately win the reinstatement of the 17 men since all deliveries from Triumph in Liverpool, all Chrysler deliveries and 70 per cent of Ford deliveries would halt immediately.

Meanwhile, the second dispute involving all the other car delivery drivers continues. 400 workers at Toleman James, car transport BRS, Autocars, and Transporters Ltd, are on strike because of the refusal of Toleman James to hire more drivers after winning a new contract for the delivery of Ford cars.

Engineers Charter/Right To Work public meeting FIGHT THE CLOSURES FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK
 Speakers: Jack McKenna (TGWU convenor, STC East Kilbride) and Willy Lee (AUEW shop steward, Chrysler Linwood), Blantyre Miners' Welfare, Saturday 9 October, 11am.

STOP THE CUTS Public meeting organised by the Rank and File public sector bulletin, Fight Back, and Glasgow Right to Work Committee, City Halls, Albion Street, Glasgow, Tuesday 12 October, 7pm. Speakers: Harry McShane and John Deason (secretary, National Right to Work Campaign).

And STC hit London, too

By Richard Rieser, AUEW shop steward, STC New Southgate, North London

STC WANT to sack 450 workers here by next June. We are still recovering from the loss of 300 jobs through

voluntary redundancy.

A mass meeting voted to oppose the redundancies. But this majority was only won on the third vote. Many workers just want to take the redundancy money and get out.

But there is some determination to fight. A delegation is being sent to picket the Labour Party Conference.

But we will need action across the whole combine to force the government to take over from the fantastically rich ITT.

If every pensioner were given a telephone, it would relieve untold suffering, and it would create jobs for thousands of workers who now face the sack.

IS MEMBERS FACE TRIAL

TWO MEMBERS of the International Socialists, Micky Fenn and Rodger Burridge, have been committed for trial at the Old Bailey on charges of causing an affray, grievous bodily harm and actual bodily harm.

The charges arise out of an incident in Newham last December.

Four members of IS were driving past the Newham Rights Centre where Roger Burridge works as a lawyer, when they saw two people sticking National Front stickers over a copy of the Race Relations Act displayed in the window.

When Roger Burridge and Micky Fenn approached them, one of them exclaimed 'nigger lovers' and threw a punch at Roger. The second one punched Micky in the face. A fight broke out and the two NF members ended up in hospital, one with a broken jaw.

This incident took place exactly one week after 30 NF members smashed up a meeting in Manchester, breaking a 55 year old woman's arm and cutting a man's face so badly with a broken bottle that he needed 19 stitches.

It took place next door to a police station and possible charges were sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions. The result—no prosecution.



On the picket line at Chamberlain Phipps: hope from North London

WE FIGHT ON!

NORTHAMPTON: The four women sacked for being members of the engineering union at Chamberlain Phipps are still picketing the factory.

They were sacked after persuading 104 of the 147 workers to join the AUEW. Management claimed a closed shop with the footwear union.

NUFLAT.

When the four women refused to leave the AUEW, they were sacked. Reg Ward, AUEW district secretary, and the local AUEW district committee, disowned all the AUEW members in Chamberlains, and have refused to fight the four women's case for reinstatement.

The women are hoping for

support this week from the union's powerful North London District Committee.

Vic Swift, North London District Secretary, told Socialist Worker: 'We will be looking into this very seriously.'

The North London district are interested because one of the sacked women—Muriel Bamford—is still a member of the local Mill Hill No 2 branch.

Barney Fogarty, AUEW Branch President at Frigidaires where Muriel used to work—spoke for the four women at the Northampton District Committee last Thursday.

The right-wing committee still refused to support the women. They sheltered under the Bridlington agreement which prevents 'poaching' between unions.

But most of the workers at Chamberlains were not union members at all—11 years after the alleged closed shop with NUFLAT had been signed!

Donations and support to Muriel Bamford, 14 Spanslade Road, Billing Brook, Northampton. Phone 060423-3391.

Busworkers fight cuts

LIVERPOOL: Busworkers at the Litherland depot are striking every Saturday in protest against the massive cuts the Merseyside Passenger Transport Executive is trying

to introduce. Busworkers at the Bootle depot run by the Ribble bus company called their buses off the road last Saturday in solidarity.

Ribble crews in Aintree refused to pick up passengers in the affected areas.

Litherland is facing closure. The fight back has forced the MPTÉ to put the date back.

Cuts in Liverpool already amount to 15 per cent of the service. The total planned cut-back is half of all services.

As John Ryder, Transport Union chairman at Litherland, put it: 'You won't be able to travel around Liverpool on a bus. All you can do is get a bus to the nearest railway station.'

The busworkers will need help from trade unionists and tenants groups in their fight

WALK-OUT OVER SPARES

WEST LONDON: Shepherd's Bush garage struck last Wednesday in protest against spares shortages which are crippling London Transport. On one route, 20 buses out of 32 were unusable because of defects.

After a meeting, management agreed to give Shepherd's Bush top priority for receiving spare parts. During the week six new engines and two gear boxes were delivered to the garage, but four of the engines were later taken back.

Platform staff voted almost unanimously to continue striking one day a week until the situation improves.

DEMO

Two weeks ago, the Scottish TUC announced plans for a giant demonstration against unemployment in Glasgow. So far no date has been mentioned.

A meeting is urgently needed of all West of Scotland shop stewards to organise this demonstration quickly and to support solidarity action for the workers at STC, Personna and Rolls Royce.

The Blantyre workers have shown the way to fight back by occupying the plant. The workers at Personna and STC must follow their lead.

The Glasgow Right to Work Campaign is pledging full support to these three struggles and will be asking delegations from the three plants concerned to take part in the march against unemployment from Easterhouse to the City Centre on 12 October.

TONY WILLIAMS

By Maggie Jones
 1 MET 20-year old Tony Williams just two weeks before the London to Brighton Right to Work march.

He worked now and decided to march down to the TUC to tell them.

Last Saturday he was there in the shopping precinct with his fluorescent waistcoat and his Right to Work badges.

Tuesday morning he was due at the dole queue to tell the rest of Gloucester's unemployed that he was fighting unemployment and asking them to join in. But Tony didn't turn up.

Later that day, his mother found his friends and explained that Tony had died suddenly the night before of a haemorrhage.

His enthusiasm has inspired us in Gloucester and those he met on the march. We feel deep sympathy for his family at the loss of Tony.

Scottish cleaners win vital support

SCOTLAND: Highland cleaners have received massive support for their five-week-old strike against the Highland Regional Council's attempt to cut their hours.

Councilors faced a huge lobby when they arrived in Dingwall for a meeting on Monday. Another demonstration is planned for Fort William on Friday.

Backing for the cleaners so far includes:

Teachers refusing to work with newly-employed cleaners

Pupils at Lochaber High School sending a letter to the council expressing their support for the cleaners

Donations from Nigg Bay shop stewards committee.

Ardersier, Invergordon BMU, Easter Ross Right to Work Committee

Transport Union tanker drivers refusing to deliver fuel to schools.

Parents picketing schools to ensure strikers are not replaced.

The strike has spread to remote areas of the Highlands. NUPE branch secretary Bob Jackson is approaching every union in the region for support.

Aberdeen Right to Work Committee are asking SOGAT and NGA print workers on local papers to black ads for new cleaners.

Brian Corbett, secretary of the strike action committee, said: 'We will bring the council to their knees over this attack on the lowest-paid workers.'

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PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p

HOW THIS VITAL STRIKE CAN BE WON

THE CAMPAIGN to break the deadlock in the four-month-old Trico equal pay strike has been given a boost.

The Joint Representative Committee at Chrysler Linwood, made up of senior stewards from all the unions, decided last week to call on the shop-floor to black South African wiper blades.

Since the blacking of products throughout most of the car industry, Trico management have been arranging alternative supplies, so they don't lose their contracts with the big car firms.

The South African blades are supplied to Linwood. Sources for other car plants include Trico's non-union plant in the United States.

The European metal workers federation has written to the Engineering Union asking what it can do to help

the strike.

The local Southall district secretary of the union has written back asking them to black these alternative supplies.

But unfortunately the penny hasn't dropped with many union officials and convenors in this country.

In the major car plants, workers are getting no instructions from their own unions to implement blacking.

This has allowed Trico to defy for four months an official strike by one of the most powerful unions in Britain.



As a result, 300 women workers in West London are still outside the gates after 18 weeks, just for demanding the elementary right of equal pay!

The big car firms are putting up with the inconvenience of relying on alternative supplies. They know a defeat for the Trico women would make it less likely that their own women workers will demand equal pay.

The Engineering Employers' Federation is aiding Trico management for the same reason.

Trico is a test case for the whole engineering industry. Yet union officials are treating it as just another routine dispute.

The strike should have been won weeks ago. It only needed the industry's two big unions—the AUEW and the TGWU—get together and put a tenth of the energy into blacking that the employers have put into getting alternative supplies.

But their officials have been passing the buck and letting Trico management get its way.

The London Confed could have organised meetings of all its shop stewards to launch mass demonstrations and sympathy stoppages.

It could have pointed out that equal pay was at stake not only in Trico, but in every engineering factory in the country.

Such action would have soon had the Engineering Employers' Federation putting pressure on Trico to end the strike.

Instead, the strike is being allowed to drag on and on.

This is a scandal that rank and file activists in the industry and women workers serious about equal pay should bring to an end.

The Engineers Charter has produced a national leaflet campaigning for sympathy action throughout the union.

It should be taken into every branch and district of the union.

Fight

The message has to be hammered home: If the Trico women lose, every woman engineer loses.

The Right to Work Campaign has launched a campaign of mass leafletting in the car factories. This week, workers at Ford Dagenham, at Longbridge, at Chrysler and elsewhere were due to be leafletted with explanations of the dispute and calls for the blacking of the alternative wipers.



The Trico stand at the commercial Motor Show: the firm could have been brought to their knees long ago.

A Conference for the Tricos of the future



A Trico strike meeting: the dispute shows the desperate need for rank and file organisation.

THE TRICO dispute shows the desperate need for a rank and file organisation.

Only that could bring together workers from different unions and different sections of industry and so prevent employers dragging out strikes for 16 weeks and longer.

The Right to Work Campaign's delegate conference on 6 November will be about building such an organisation. It will bring together hundreds of delegates from every industry in Britain.

There will be car workers there from all the major combines and from many of the components firms. They will be able to discuss the lessons of the Trico dispute and how to build the general campaign for equal pay.

But they will also be able to join with hospital workers,

teachers, civil servants, and representatives of the unemployed on how to fight against the effects of the social contract—unemployment, the cuts and falling living standards.

Thousands of trade union bodies have been circulated about the conference.

Already the campaign has had replies from the first bodies to send delegates. Among them are:

- CPSA, DHSS, Manchester; East Northants, NUJ; ASTMS, GEC, Coventry; Oxford Area, CPSA; NUPE, Fenchay Hospital, Bristol; AUEW, Whitley No 2, Wakefield Trades Council; Holloway School, NUJ; Guildford, FEETPU; I&G 1.6 Docks; Lambeth Teachers Association; Coventry No 1, ASTMS; Crawley Teachers Association; Glasgow Rawplugs SSC; Edmonton No 1, AUEW; York No 9, AUEW; Smeibwick AUEW; Leicester Electrical, ASTMS; Ealing Technical College, NATFHE; Northampton WE.

Make sure your trade union body joins the list.

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