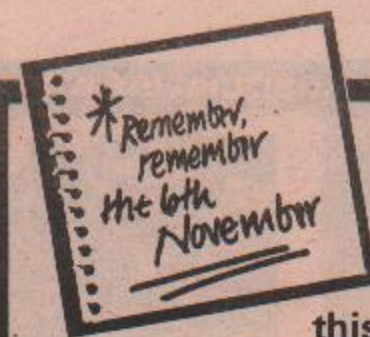


Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p



'It's diabolical they can blackmail the government in

this way, using 600 men and women as pawns. That's why we're

sending a delegation to the Right to Work Conference—to fight for our jobs'

John Nettleton, Courtaulds Merseyside.

CONFERENCE DETAILS — page 5.
COURTAULDS REPORT — page 16.

HEATHROW HORROR

AN 18-year-old woman was forced last week to have her baby in an airport waiting room. Security guards stood by and laughed as she screamed in pain.

They refused to call an ambulance until the baby's head appeared. By then it was too late. The baby died two days later.

How could this happen in modern Britain?

Simple. The woman was black. She was daring to try to come from India to Britain to join her husband, who is a London Transport worker.

In other words, she and her baby were victims of immigration controls.

FIRST CHILD

The woman's name is Zahira Galiara. She married Afzal Galiara this time last year when Afzal returned to his native Gujarat, India.

For five years before that, Afzal had lived in Britain. He is a British citizen, and works for London Transport Underground.

Zahira and Afzal returned to Britain last Wednesday. Zahira was eight months pregnant with her first child.

Afzal was allowed in, but Zahira was told that her papers were out of order and she would have to be deported the following day. She was taken from her

Guards laugh as baby dies

husband and lodged in the immigration hostel at Harmondsworth.

Afzal told Socialist Worker: 'I went back to the airport to see my wife the following morning. She had been moved to Queens Building, near the main airport terminals.

'I asked her if she had anything to eat. She said no—that means she had gone 24

hours without any food at all. She cannot speak English, so she could not ask for anything.

'Almost immediately she started shouting with labour pains. I asked the security guard in the room to get a doctor.

'They brought in a lady security guard who took Zahira off. My wife was crying. I asked if I could go with her to translate—

and was told to sit down and shut up.

'When they came back, the woman said that Zahira had seen a doctor and was perfectly fit to travel.

'Soon afterwards, Zahira started screaming again, terrible screaming. She took off her trousers and lay on the bed.

'I begged the guards to get an ambulance. There were about six of them there, from Securicor. They were laughing and saying that Zahira was very good at pretending. One said he had six children and she had at least two months to go.

'When we tried to phone for an ambulance by the only public telephone, it was cut off.

REASON FOR DEATH

'Then, what seemed like hours later, the baby's head started to come out, and they called for a doctor.

'The baby, a girl, was born there. The doctor said she hadn't long to live. She died a day and a half later, and I buried her at Edmonton.

'I am quite sure that the treatment these people gave my wife was one reason for the baby's death. I am taking legal advice. They will not get away with it.

'They're allowing my wife to stay now in the hope that this will shut me up. It won't. I'm going to fight them back.'



Afzal and Zahira Galiara pictured at their home in North London this week

PICTURE: Phil McCowen

ANTI-RACISTS PROTEST AT AIRPORT

JIMMY McCALLUM, Socialist Worker candidate in the Walsall North by-election, was so shocked when he heard of the racist treatment of Zahira Galiara that he stormed down to London.

With 20 Socialist Worker supporters he went to the Terminal Three building at Heathrow Airport, shouting protests against racist immigration officials.

'This is a protest about a racist murder which happened in this airport. An Asian baby has been killed by the unscrupulous immigration authorities and by immigration controls,' they shouted.

'When people ask for strict immigration controls—this is the sort of disgusting scene

which takes place.'

Not long afterwards Jimmy and Stephen Brown, president of the students union at Brunel University, were arrested and charged with 'insulting behaviour'. There were two other charges—under the Race Relations Act.

Said Jimmy: 'I wonder which is more insulting—allowing a woman to have her baby in an airport lounge without medical assistance, and to let the baby die—or protesting about it.'

When Jimmy turned up at Uxbridge magistrates court the following day, he was told the case had been postponed until December. Local Walsall journalists have been told by the police that the whole matter is 'sub judice' until then—so they're not publishing a word about it.



The protesters inside the airport terminal

Who will rid us of this lunatic system?

LUNATIC. No other word can describe an economic system that behaves like Britain's did on Monday.

The pound declined in value by five US cents in as few hours. As a result prices will rise even more quickly than now.

All because a few rich and powerful people were upset by a newspaper article in a Sunday paper. They decided to move their wealth abroad and the rest of us will now have to pay for the consequences.

Or rather we will have to pay for the consequences if we do what the daily newspapers, the International Monetary Fund and the established political leaders tell us.

They claim we are spending more wealth than we create. Their answer? Create less wealth.

Cut back the social services, increase fares and food prices by doing away with subsidies. Allow more factories to close down and more workers to be put on the dole.

Crawler

Healey and Callaghan are rejecting this plan. But they show every sign of accepting the same economic logic and piling more cuts on top of those already taking effect.

All this gives added urgency to the calls from many public sector unions for a national demonstration and day of action against the cuts on 17 November.

The need now is for workers in the public sector to discuss how to get one-day and half-day stoppages of work, to give added force to their protests.

In other sectors of industry, the call has to be made now for sympathy action through demonstrations, delegations, and where possible strikes.

We have a choice. We can accept the lunatic policies of our rulers and see the social services and thousands of jobs go down the drain.

Or we can use 17 November as the beginning of a huge fight back.

All out against cuts and unemployment 17 November

Answer a racist -and you're out of school

by a Sheffield teacher

WOULD you like to be called a 'nigger'? Sandra Ellis didn't, so she was thrown out of school. When a girl in her class called her that name, Sandra threatened to hit her. For this she has been suspended. The white girl has not been punished.

Sandra goes to High Stores Comprehensive School, Sheffield. This is not the first time that racist attitudes have been obvious at the school.

One black pupil was kicked by a member of staff for 'walking too fast'. The head teacher, Mr Mardell, told a black kid: 'Get to the back of the queue where you belong,' and it is reported that he is trying to cut down on the number of black kids in the school.

Sandra's mother told Socialist Worker: 'One of its feed schools has been told that no black pupils will be taken on at High Stores unless a brother or sister is already there.' For white children, of course, there is no such proviso.

We are now supposed to have a powerful race relations board, that will banish racism from the country. Said Mrs Ellis: 'When I went to see the Race Relations Officer he suggested that I should apologise to the head teacher.' Why should Sandra's mother crawl? Her daughter goes to a school which has a large number of black kids, yet not only are the teachers white but they also appear unsympathetic.

Fight

The only way that black kids in this country will get a decent education is if the fight against racism is carried into the schools. Sympathetic teachers must fight it on every occasion, both in the classroom and in the staff-room. Parents and pupils must organise themselves so that there is no victimisation. **Anyone who has had similar experiences in school, please write to Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2, to let us know how they managed to deal with the situation.**

DEPORTED TO THE ARMY

SUPPORTERS of the Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign occupied the offices of the Ministry of Overseas Development in London last week in protest against the decision to send a Rhodesian Asian student back to Rhodesia, where he will have to do compulsory military service against the freedom fighters.

Eighteen year old Salim Desai had in fact been held in secret detention at Heathrow Airport for 48 days before the disgusting decision to deport him. His father, living in Leicester, was refused permission to see his son before he was bundled off.

DEFEND THE CARNIVAL!

FLAME. Socialist Worker's sister paper produced by black workers is a taking up the campaign for the defence of the 60 black and white revellers who were arrested after the Notting Hill Carnival this year.



A HUNDRED and fifty people marched through Greenwich, South London, last Saturday against the racist National Party and National Front, who are both standing candidates in the local council by-election.

The demonstration was in marked contrast to the failure of the National Party the previous evening, when a public meeting addressed by their leader, Kingsley Read, attracted an audience of seven. It was picketed by 40 anti-racists.

Read screeched at a delegation from Greenwich Trades Council: 'If we had gas chambers, you'd be the first in.'

The by-election is in a solid working-class area, West Ward, right next to the Deptford Ward where the fascists polled as many votes as Labour a few months ago. Yet the Labour Party has refused to support anti-racist action in the ward by the Greenwich Joint Action Committee Against Racism, in order 'not to stir up feelings'.

THE GREAT MUGGING LIE

JUDGE Gwyn Morris hitched a ride on the Enoch Powell bandwagon last week. Not only did he do his best to stir up racist feelings, he went out of his way to give some organisational form for his twisted beliefs. He urged support for vigilante groups in South London.

Doubtless what he has in mind is something like the Ku Klux Klan lynch mobs that have terrorised the Southern states of America under the guise of white law and order.

But who is it who has really been brutally attacked and, yes, murdered in recent racist incidents in London?

The answer three young black people.

So clearly it is black and Asian victims of racist attacks who need to organise to defend themselves, while the racists in the police and the courts concentrate on footpads who exist only in their own imaginations.

POLICE CHIEFS, judges and national newspapers have all been conspiring to give the impression that sections of London are terrorised by 'muggers' and that all 'muggers' are black.

Last week the Daily Mail was warning how dangerous it is to walk across

Peckham Rye Park after dark. The Park closes before sunset.

This week it has been the turn of Judge Gwyn Morris, who claimed that throughout South London elderly white women were being terrorised by black 'muggers'.

He used this as an excuse for giving a seven year jail sentence to a 17-year-old boy, Ronald Crawford. What Crawford had committed was a crime which, when carried out by white criminals outside South London, is called 'handbag snatching'.

Handbag snatching is not a pleasant experience for

the victim. But it is unheard of for it to merit a seven-year jail sentence—which is more than the time served by the Kray twins elder brother Charlie for being an accessory to murder.

The South London police have been backing up the lies about 'mugging' by claiming that there were 5,424 'muggings' in London last year. But only a third of these involved any violence at all.

As for black people being to blame, that lie is easily refuted. There are more robberies involving assault in Glasgow each year than in London, even though Glasgow is one eighth the size of London.

And there are very few black people in Glasgow.

The fact is that petty thieving occurs when people, particularly young people, find themselves plagued by unemployment, dead-end jobs and poverty.

This is the state of affairs in Glasgow. It is increasingly the state of affairs in several parts of South London.

The answer is to end the scandal of unemployment—not to increase the powers of the police to pick on people who happen to be poor, unemployed and black.

When repression is Labour's only policy, there's little hope of peace

by EAMONN McCANN
FRUSTRATION in the Catholic ghettos in the north of Ireland—particularly among younger republicans—is now so intense that another bombing campaign in Britain, perhaps on a more massive scale than before, could come before Christmas.

Such a campaign would be condemned unequivocally by Irish socialists. But the blame would belong to the Labour government which persists in a policy of naked repression.

There was ample evidence last weekend of an explosive reckoning close at hand.

A soldier was killed and 17 injured in shooting attacks in Belfast and South Armagh. Bombs and incendiaries destroyed premises in Belfast, Derry, Armagh and County Tyrone. On Saturday, IRA supporters assaulted a 'peace' march on the Falls Road.

And the south was plunged into constitutional turmoil when the president resigned in protest against a crude attack by Defence Minister Patrick Donegan.

The sustained attacks on the army indicate not just the IRA's ability to keep their guerrilla war going but the determination of the rank and file to step it up. The

assault by children and youths on the 'peace movement', whether one-approved or not, reflected the same feeling.

The peace movement, after weeks of fence-sitting, recently pledged its support to the army and the RUC and is now seen by youth in the ghettos as a propaganda front for the security forces.

Fumbling

The crisis in the south grew out of the coalition government's recent anti-IRA legislation. The president used his power to refer the new laws to the Supreme Court to test whether they were constitutional.

Donegan, a loud-mouthed right-winger, told a meeting at a military barracks that the president was 'a fumbling disgrace' and called on the army to 'stand behind the state'. When the government refused to sack Donegan, the president resigned.

The structure of both states in Ireland is beginning to

crack. Each is an unnatural entity, initially set up to secure British interests and to prevent the unity of all Ireland.

The continuing strength of the Provisional IRA, which puzzles so many observers, lies in the fact that they above all others insist on confronting this fact. Their strength lies in the artificiality of the states they are attacking as much as in their own determination.

The IRA is strongest in the Northern ghettos which have borne the brunt of the

war and where the rank and file can see clearly that Britain is no longer using repression to enforce a particular policy: repression is the policy.

The pressure to bomb in Britain comes from the belief that as far as British politics is concerned lives in Ireland are a dime a dozen—that the only way to bring an intolerable situation to a head is to hit hard where it appears to hurt most.

The tactic would be mistaken. It would further strengthen the far right in the British political and military establishment and give a boost to anti-Irish racism.

And victims, as in the past, would likely be innocent British workers.

But the fact that the tactic is being considered is a direct product of British policy, past and present. And there is no sign of it changing.

TROOPS OUT



5000 MARCH IN BELFAST

NO 'PEACE at any price'. More than 5000 people marched on the Falls Road in Belfast last Saturday to demand a reprieve for Noel and Marie Murray—who are under sentence of death in the South—for peace with justice, and for Troops Out of Ireland.

But the main feeling of all marchers was to let the peace at any price movement know that they were not welcome on Falls Road.

As our banners and bands went up the Falls and as we saw the numbers who marched with

us and the cheering supporters, we felt confident that once again the nationalist community were successfully fighting back.

There was no such welcome for the Peace march, the one that got all the press coverage. Falls Road people did not run to join them.

The march was made up of heavily perfumed middle-class ladies and lots of priests.

They came on three buses from all over the North and the Republic. They sang hymns and asked for peace.



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'They all do it'

LABOUR ministers have been covering up for corruption. That is the simple truth to emerge from the case of John Cordle, Tory MP for Bournemouth East.

Cordle wrote to the corrupt architect, John Poulson, back in 1965 offering to use his political position to get work for Poulson, in return for suitable bribes.

This was known to Labour Attorney General Sam Silkin at least 2½ years ago. Yet he never made the matter public.

When Eddie Milne, former MP for Blyth, suggested some of the facts of the Poulson case were being 'covered up', Silkin

'Allegations'

replied in January last year: 'There are no grounds whatsoever for any such allegation.'

As late as Wednesday last week, Prime Minister James Callaghan was insisting that there was no need for an inquiry into such bribery. Now an inquiry has been set up—but it will meet in secret.

How can this happen?

Because all the time MPs, including Labour MPs, are

ANEURIN BEVAN ON CORRUPTION IN PARLIAMENT, MARCH 1959



selling themselves to big business interests. Usually this does not involve anything corrupt in the legal sense.

But it does involve a much deeper form of corruption eating at the Labour movement—the corruption of those who get workers' votes and then serve the employers' interests.

Last week, for instance, it was announced that the computer giant ICL was inviting 50 MPs to lunch. Only one, Max Madden, seems to have objected. Yet ICL is a firm that has never had any compunction about sacking workers who have voted for those MPs.

James Callaghan was a founder-director of the Hodge Bank—part of a revolting enterprise which, among other things, made money for its

shareholders by second mortgages. At least a dozen MPs took shares in the bank.

What about Sam Silkin himself?

He was a director of a solicitors' firm which arranged a sale and purchase of land at Pontygwindy, South Wales. The sale made a fortune for the property speculators.

Favours

How can anyone justify that sort of transaction while pretending that they are part of a government that wants reforms to the benefit of working people?

Doing favours for big business and getting favours from big business is part of normal political life for a whole chunk of the Labour Party, including many normally considered on the left.

No wonder they feel sorry for those MPs who cross the legal limit between what is corrupt and what is 'not corrupt'. No wonder they try to cover up for them.

The problem of corruption is part of a much bigger problem for the working-class

For years it has been assumed in Britain that the way for workers to change society is to rely on electing MPs. But the parliamentary system insists that once elected, MPs are subject to no control from those who chose them.

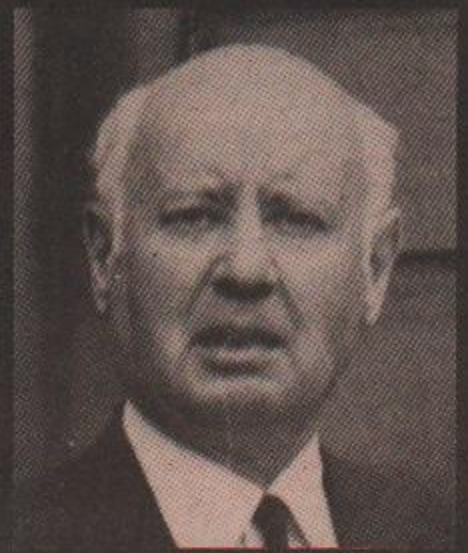
Instead, MPs are paid salaries much higher than the average worker, are encouraged to feel a cut above their constituents, are wine and dined by businessmen, are subject to all the pressures of the employing class.

No wonder they end up siding with big business, not only in its corrupt practices, but also in its demands for wage freezes, unemployment and cuts in health and education.

That is why Socialist Worker's candidates in the by-elections at Newcastle Central and Walsall North next week are insisting that voting for them will not solve anything

What matters is that workers build a fighting movement, a movement that does not put its faith in parliamentary representatives over which it has no control.

POULSON



One man and his friends

□ In 1972 Sir Peter Rawlinson, Tory Attorney General, saw the letter sent by Tory MP John Cordle to corrupt architect John Poulson offering to do various services for him.

Rawlinson was at the time ordering the prosecution of the Shrewsbury pickets. But he took no action against Cordle.

When Labour Attorney General Sam Silkin took over, he too kept the Cordle letter secret. Under Labour, the Shrewsbury pickets remained in jail and, in the interests of the 'rule of law' the former Clay Cross councillors were forced into bankruptcy.

□ In the late 1960s Albert Roberts, the right-wing Labour MP for Normanton, wrote letters to the Maltese government recommending Poulson's services. He then used to Poulson's benefit his influence with the Portuguese fascist regime of Salazar, which at the time controlled Mozambique.

□ Ted Short, then deputy leader of the Labour Party, had received £500 from Poulson's associate, T Dan Smith. He had used his parliamentary influence to stop an inquiry into the involvement of Newcastle Corporation with the building firm Crudens, when Smith was Labour leader of the council and a paid hack of Crudens.

□ The present Tory shadow foreign minister, Reginald Maudling, was chairman of more than one Poulson company, including the one that had Cordle on its payroll. He used his influence, writing on House of Commons notepaper, to get a profitable contract with the Maltese government for Poulson.

□ In 1973 a document was leaked from Scotland Yard by right-wing solicitor's clerk named Paley Phillips. This instructed police to interview eight MPs—Maudling, Cordle, Roberts, Short, Ernest Armstrong (Durham), Ted Leadbitter (Hartlepool), Roy Mason (Barnsley) and Fred Willey (Sunderland).

The document was immediately denounced as a forgery. But Paley had lacked genuine Scotland Yard documents previously, and some of the names on it—such as Cordle—have since proved correct.

The crook who invented the 11 plus

by GERALD ALWYN
THE MAN who fathered the 11-plus and who inspired most of those who complain of 'educational standards' today—was a fraud.

That amazing conclusion has resulted from an inquiry by the Sunday Times.

For years every child in this country was subject to carefully designed tests which 'proved' that the majority were fit only for left-over teaching facilities, poor school buildings and over crowded classes.

The fact that this majority were working class and the minority who went to better schools were middle class, was, according to the prevailing theory, 'no coincidence'. For, it was claimed, the 'lower orders' were 'innately less intelligent'.

Legislation

The man most responsible for this theory was Sir Cyril Burt. It was his influence above all that determined the system of selection set up by the Education Act of 1944.

Professor Eysenck and Jensen, who claim that black and Irish people are naturally inferior, base their evidence on Burt. The Black Papers on Education, produced by people like the right-wing Tory Rhodens Boyson, were proud to see him as one of their inspirers.

Now it has been proved that the figures used to justify such views were fiddled. When Burt's statistics did not fit his theories he simply made them up. He even invented two people who were supposed to have collaborated in his research.

In simple English, he was a crook, a John Stonehouse of the Education World.

Picture: Mark Rusher (IFL)



Election fund: £851 in the first week

£851.55 reached our special election campaign fund this week.

It is money that will be well spent. Our candidates in the Walsall and Newcastle by-elections have already used the election to make clear the socialist position on a number of key issues.

In Newcastle, Dave Hayes was in the forefront of protests against Enoch Powell and Margaret Thatcher. From Walsall, Jimmy McCallum took up the barbarous behaviour of the immigration officials at Heathrow.

Through local radio and television, as well as through

tens of thousands of election leaflets, the candidates have been putting the socialist arguments about the crisis. The fall in the pound this week shows that such arguments are more urgent than ever.

Generous

This is why people have been so willing to contribute to our fund. A reader from South London writes: 'I have been reading your paper for the past five months and I think it's fabulous.'

'Owing to the fact that my husband, a West Indian, has

been unemployed since the beginning of the year, I have been unable to send a donation so far. Today, however, I received £10 as a birthday gift from my parents and I am rushing half of it for your election fund.'

But to campaign effectively we need much more than we have received so far. There is only another week before the by-elections and we want to spend the legal maximum of £3176 on putting the case for socialism, against racism, the cuts and for the right to work.

Thanks to:

Brian Bennet 59p, Penny Packham £2,

T S Viney £10, Anne Chambers £5, Chester IS Day School £6.50, High Wycombe reader £3, Verity Burgmann £25, Andy Milner £25, High Wycombe SW supporters 30p, Camden supporter £100, A Hatchett £10, Donation for anti-racist campaign £100, North London NATFHE members £40, North West London NATFHE member £10, Manchester teacher £5, Leeds NATFHE £20, NALGO reader, Glasgow £5, Birmingham reader £10, A Jennings £5, B Armstrong £2.50.

International Socialists branches: Mansfield £6, Bristol £12, Crewe £6, Tower Hamlets £5, Peterborough £3, Dumfries £4, Grays £13.50, Kingswood £6, Guildford £7.50, Shrewsbury £10, Hemel Hempstead £16.50, Preston £7.50, Inner East London £120, Croydon £5 & supporters £26.75, Newcastle £185, Basildon £6, Ilford £27, North London £5.

□ Donations as quickly as possible please to Socialist Worker Election Fund, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

A pensioners' picket on the home of the Social Security Minister David Ennals last week—in protest against the £2 increase that means a cut in the real buying power of the pension, and at the lack of heating allowances at the start of another cold winter.

BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

Socialist Worker and the International Socialists are continuing to grow from strength to strength with new branches and new member in a whole range of places.

Fifty-four new members joined this week. They include four Engineering Union members, eight Transport Union members, six health workers, six members of the local government workers union NALGO. Two members have joined the Rubery Owne factory branch in Darlaston, part of the Walsall North constituency.



Two Questions for the Working People of Walsall...

1 Are you fed up with voting Labour (or Tory) year after year, then being kicked in the teeth by the people you elect?

2 Will you do something about it?

VOTE SOCIALIST VOTE JIMMY McCALLUM

EXCITEMENT in Walsall over Socialist Worker's special election campaign edition last week. Eight hundred copies were sold. The campaign has won particularly strong support from the town's Asian community, which has collected £261 for the defence of the 22 people arrested on the anti-National Front demonstration a few weeks ago. The campaign is now in its last week before polling day, Thursday 4 November, and tens of thousands of copies of Socialist Worker's election address (left) have been printed. A special CAMPAIGN DAY is planned for Saturday (30 October), with mass action during the day, a disco and food in the evening. Phone Walsall (0922) 614891, for details.

'Time to stop the

rich taking our land'

I HAVE several friends who are as keen on the paper and as keen as I am to join the International Socialists. All of us, I think, for the same reasons—a need to see IS spread to cover the whole of this island...

Here, where the working man still tugs a forelock to the management and believes in the divine propaganda of the Tory press.

Here, of all places, where wages are atrociously low, conditions terrible, cost of living at its highest.

Here, where we are driven from our villages to make

From a reader of Socialist Worker in Chard, Somerset.

room from another retired Colonel or Major.

Shall I sit back forever and watch rows of cottages knocked into one to house the retired South African major and his wife? Shall I watch our smallholdings being bought by London businessmen to use for a laugh at weekends in the summer?

Never farmed... a couple of horses for hunting and running in acres of arable land—a mere whim for the gentry—a heartache and bitterness for those like

myself whose families once farmed these lands for generations until the absentee

owners realised their value on the open market.

It never ends. We are forced into the towns, into disgusting estates and blocks of flats—we who once farmed the land.

Here in the sunny West Country, with our crooked magistrates and police and the ever increasing numbers of filthy rich who will, given half a chance, still quote Edmund Burke:

"The body of the people must not find the principles of natural subordination by art rooted from their minds. They must respect the property of which they cannot partake."

"They must labour to obtain what by labour can be obtained and when they find, as they commonly do, the success disproportional to the endeavour they must be taught their consolation in the final proportions of eternal justice."

Do we wait that long? Do we allow them to continue

their abuse of us, the working class? Shall we let them continue their support for Enoch Powell, Margaret Thatcher and the Nazi Front, their idols?

I know that the International Socialists and Socialist Worker will enlighten all of us here... it's time to start!

SOCIALIST WORKER ORGANISERS

In London, Saturday 13 November, 10.30am. Every district SW Organiser must attend. Details from John Larkham, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Phone 01 739 2639.

SHOCK FOR THE FRONT

NATIONAL FRONT thugs who attacked Socialist Worker sellers in Leeds last Saturday soon wished they hadn't.

They began by taunting two Jewish members of the International Socialists with 'Open the gas chamber door, there's room for more!'

But when they attacked one of the comrades, passers-by saw what happened and came to help. Within seconds five fascists were on the floor. They beat a hasty retreat.

Later some of them came into a pub where IS members drink. Their tuehrer, Brian Spink, was carrying a knife—so the landlord threw him out.

QUESTIONS ON THE CRISIS

Food subsidy? Nothing but lies!

THE press has started talking about 'Common Market subsidies' that they claim keep down the price of food. It is hardly possible to think of a greater distortion of the truth.

The Common Market agricultural system is based on forcing workers to buy food off farmers and food monopolies inside the Common Market, rather than cheaper food from elsewhere in the world.

The Common Market price for butter is two and a half times the price from other countries, for beef twice as high, for wheat one and a half times as high.

At the same time cold stores are being paid huge amounts to stockpile butter, beef and other foods to make the price still higher.

Those who benefit are medium-to-big farmers like our own prime minister James Callaghan, who make much bigger profits than they would otherwise.

'Subsidy'

The so-called 'subsidy' through the Green Pound exists because our rulers are frightened of the uproar there would be if they tried imposing the full Common Market prices in Britain all at once. So the Common Market pays the difference from the higher price to European farmers when their produce is sold in Britain.

European workers suffer, because some of their taxes go to pay these subsidies. And workers in this country suffer, because we still pay more than the world price for food.

The pretence that workers in this country gain is all part of the biggest lie of all—that we are 'living beyond our means' and should pay for the crisis.

Gamblers' £1000m

APPARENTLY there is too much money around. Or so the government says, justifying the massively high level it has set for interest rates and mortgage repayments.

But where has it all gone? Not to workers, whose living standards have been falling for the past year.

The Sunday Times let slip last week where a cool £1,000 million has gone—as much as the total spent on supplementary benefits. 'About £1,000 million got tied up in leading and lagging against the pound in the first half of this year', said the report.

In other words, the giant firms were using this money to speculate against the pound. The result has been a fall in the value of the pound and rising prices. Yet the government, the Tories and the press are blaming workers for this!

WHERE WE STAND

INDEPENDENT WORKING-CLASS ACTION:

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

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

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

THERE IS NO PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

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

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

a workers' militia

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

INTERNATIONALISM

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

We oppose everything which turns

workers from one country against those from other countries.

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

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

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

We are for real, social, economic and

political equality of women.

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

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

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

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

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

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

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

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

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

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

SOCIALIST WORKER is a revolutionary paper that seeks to organise its supporters around the following principles:

Nurses on the dole - as a ward closes

by DANNY BURNETT
NUPE member, West
Middlesex Hospital

'SHORTAGE OF NURSES CLOSES 50 BEDS' was the headline in the local paper this week.

The surgeons' division at the West Middlesex Hospital had recommended the hospital administration to close a surgical ward completely and reduce beds in the other surgical wards by a fifth because of the shortage of nursing staff.

So now people waiting for surgical beds will have to wait much longer.

Disintegrate

Emergencies in the casualty department have to lie, sometimes in great pain, for perhaps an hour, while the bed bureau and the surgeons frantically shuffle beds around to fit just one more patient in.

This is the latest crisis to hit the National Health Service in West London. Hospitals, clinics, casualty and X-ray departments are scheduled for run-down and closure.

Because of the government's orders to slash health spending, our area health authority want to save £250,000 by 1978.

Maltreated

This is why people are having to suffer needlessly—not because nurses have suddenly disappeared from the face of the earth but because the government is not prepared to supply the money to treat people properly.

Chris Potter, secretary of the Hounslow Area Hospital Workers joint shop stewards



PICTURE: John Sturrock (Report)

committee, pointed out that the private patients ward at West Middlesex has remained untouched even though the nurses to patient ratio is much higher.

In the children's ward, children in for tonsils and adenoid operations are being sent home after three days instead of the required five days. Parents are told to have someone at their sides during the crucial remaining two days to check for haemorrhages.

If we don't fight back against this, West London can say goodbye to the NHS.

ABOVE: One of the hospital workers who crowded into a meeting in Hounslow Town Hall called by hospital shop stewards to discuss ways of fighting the run-down of the health service in West London. Thousands of jobs are at stake as some hospitals face closure while others face a reduction in wards and beds. The result will be more suffering for the people of West London.

It's our fight too - airport workers

by IAN MORRIS, AUEW shop steward, British Airways European Division, London Airport.

THE biggest employer in West Middlesex is London Airport. The impact of these cuts locally will affect every airport worker and his family. People feel they're being battered from all sides with pessimism and gloom.

'We've got to try every way of getting the message across.

We've made a beginning here. We have two delegates going to the 6 November Conference. We are fighting for a good delegation from the airport for the 17 November demonstration in London. 'After that we need to discuss with health workers how we can mobilise support to try to prevent the disintegration of the local health service. These cuts affect all of us.'

We're going to Manchester!

THIS is the final week to win support for the 6 November Conference against Cuts and Unemployment organised by the Right to Work Campaign.

Campaign secretary John Deason called on Saturday for all supporters of the campaign, to make a massive last-minute effort to approach shop stewards' committees and other trade union bodies that still have to meet.

He told Socialist Worker: 'This is an opportunity for unemployed workers to come together with trade unionists at work to build a united strategy to resist this government and all its policies. That means fighting the cuts, fighting unemployment, fighting for higher wages. It means fighting for a

massive display of strength from workers in every industry on the national day of action, Wednesday 17 November.'

Among the many organisations voting last week to send delegates to the conference is the Port of London Authority Royal Docks shop stewards committee.

Others were:
Lambeth NALGO, Washington Development Corporation NALGO, Leeds University ASTMS, Southport General NUPE, Lircon Metal shop stewards committee, West London, Mid-Leicestershire NUT, Metropolitan North West POEU, West Berkshire Hospital NUPE, Guildford Trades Council, Charing Cross ASTMS, Marylebone AUEW, Lambeth Trades Council, Central London



'It's time we organised national resistance to the cuts'

STEVEN ROSS (right) is a shop steward of the Public Employees Union (NUPE) at Tatchbury Mount Hospital, Southampton. He is one of seven delegates from the Southampton NUPE Hospital Branch going to the 6 November Conference.

'I'm a health service worker concerned about my and another members' jobs and the standard of care I can give as a nurse.'

'I'm horrified about the growth of unemployment. Lots of my friends are on the dole, but I've lost faith in the union bureaucracy. I can see the need for rank and file members in the unions to organise themselves.'

'The 6 November Conference is a firm step forward in the fight to organise national resistance to the cuts.'

WHAT THEY ARE DOING TO OUR HEALTH SERVICE IN WEST MIDDLESEX.

Hounslow Hospital: 66 beds to be scrapped by March 1977.

Brentford Hospital: 33 beds to be scrapped by March 1977.

South Middlesex Hospital: 97 beds to be scrapped by March 1978.

West Middlesex Hospital: 50 beds 'temporarily' scrapped.

Hounslow Chest Clinic: To be shut completely by March 1977.



Belle Vue Manchester Saturday 6 November

FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK STOP THE CUTS

NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN
Trade Union Delegate Conference Against the Cuts and Unemployment

Delegates from trade union branches, shop stewards committees, districts, trades 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

ADVERTISEMENT

No more Shrewsburys

If the Committee had clear evidence that on 19 March the violence had been caused or provoked by something the marchers had done it would be difficult to say that there had been any interference with the right to protest. But the evidence before the Committee is to the contrary.

Part of the report of the Independent Trade Union Inquiry into the arrest of 43 Right to Work Marchers at Hendon last spring. The committee comprised:

Bryan Stanley, general secretary of the Post Office Engineering Union and a member of the National Executive of the Labour Party; Jack Collins, a Kent miner and member of the National Union of Mineworkers' national executive; Jack Morrish, Group general secretary of the Society of Civil Servants; Syd Bidwell, Labour MP for Southall; Dolly Sewell, a shop steward at Patent Die Casting; Chris Soutar, a trade union convenor at Oliver and Thomas; Mike McGrath, a member of the executive of the civil servants union, CPSA; Ian MacDonald, a barrister; and Vincent Flynn, former general secretary of the print union SOGAT.

The full report is available from 16 Yew Grove, London NW2 3AD. Once you have read it, please act on it.

ADVERTISEMENT

How to get to the 6 November Conference against unemployment and the cuts

COVENTRY: Coach leaves 8am, Trade Union and Socialist Books, 65 Queen Victoria Road.
GLASGOW: Coach leaves George Square, 11pm, Friday evening.
CARDIFF: Coach leaves Central Station, 6am
BIRMINGHAM: Coach leaves 7.30am, Hall of Memory
SWANSEA: Coach leaves Uplands, 5am.
BRISTOL: Coach leaves City Centre, Hippodrome, 6.45am
GLOUCESTER: For details phone Phil Jones, Gloucester 413910
LIVERPOOL: Coach leaves Pierhead 9.30am, Queen's Drive Flyover 9.45am, Golden Eagle, Kirkby, 10am
SHEFFIELD: Coach leaves 9.30am, Wicker Arches.
WALSALL: Coach leaves 8.00am, Hatherton Road, outside St Paul's Hall.
WOLVERHAMPTON: Coach leaves 8.35am, Falkland Road Car Park.
LONDON: SPECIAL TRAIN from Euston Station, leaves 7.45am (£4 return). Tickets from National Right to Work Office.

Information about transport from other areas from National Right to Work Office, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4. Phone 01-802 0978.

Why the fat cats grin

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM
Duncan Hallas

The bankers and speculators are more than happy with the Labour government. But they want still more cuts.

DENIS HEALEY will not change course. So he told the very select guests at that very superior nosh-up, the Lord Mayor's Banquet.

'Bankers and city merchants,' the BBC called them. Bankers, profiteers and speculators would be a fairer way of putting it.

Healey trundled out his usual stuff, including that old favourite 'You can't consume more than you produce.'

His audience was a living refutation of that proposition. The vast majority of them have never produced anything in their lives.

They manage to consume though, and on a splendid scale too, to judge by the number of Rolls, Bentleys and Mercedes always to be seen around the Guildhall when this annual beanfeast is scheduled.

One of the featured after-dinner speakers was a certain Mr Nicholas Goodison who, it appears, is the President of the Stock Exchange.

Uncomfortable

Now you might suppose that this particular non-producer, presiding as he does over what is probably Europe's biggest gambling casino for the rich, would feel a trifle uncomfortable with all the talk about 'sacrifice', 'belt-

tightening' and the like.

Not a bit of it. The fellow had the impudence if the Guardian report is correct, to address the assembled fat cats on—morality!

However all was not sweetness and light at this year's banquet. The fat cats have a great deal to be pleased about. Real take-home pay is being mercilessly squeezed, profits are up 30 per cent, taxation of profits is effectively zero, cuts are beginning to bite into the social services—all by courtesy of the Labour government.

But the fat cats are not satisfied and they put up the Governor of the Bank of England to make that fact plain.

This man, by the way, is supposed to be a public servant. He is paid, and paid

a great deal more than any coal miner or engine driver, to run this particular nationalised non-industry in accordance with government directives.

But bankers have a strong sense of solidarity—'mindless militancy' it is called when shown by dockers or car workers.

Bigger cuts

And so Governor Gordon Richardson acted as the shop steward of the moneymen and told his boss Denis Healey that, though he had done well, he had not done well enough.

There must, said Richardson, be further and bigger cuts in government spending.

True, this will lead 'in the short term' to still higher unemployment but that must be 'endured' in order 'to check the fall in sterling'.

The report does not make it clear whether the Governor proposed that he should be made redundant or have his salary cut in the interests of economy!

The CBI has—surprise, surprise—been saying the same thing.

Long-run

It calls for additional cuts in public expenditure of £3,000 million.

The CBI too, admits that this would cause a sharp rise in unemployment. But 'in the long-run' it will help to create more jobs—so they say.

The economist Keynes coined the phrase: 'In the long-run we are all dead.'

After all, he argued that the way to combat unemployment was to increase government spending.

Healey says that the present cuts are enough, that he will not be 'panicked' into new job-destroying measures.

He will be though, and in weeks rather than months.

The fact is that there are only two real choices. Either a planned economy—Healey and Co call it a 'siege economy' to make it sound as unpleasant as possible—or reliance on the goodwill of the bankers, the profiteers, the speculators; in short on the goodwill of the rich.

A planned economy is, of course, the only rational solution, the only way to eliminate unemployment, control inflation and improve living standards.

Polite way

But a planned economy is only possible if industry and finance are taken out of the hands of the rich.

And that is firmly ruled out by Callaghan, Healey and the rest.

They stand, as they never fail to point out, for 'the maintenance of the mixed economy'.

Which is a polite way of saying the maintenance of the capitalist economy.

And so, as surely as night follows day, they will give way again to the demands of the tiny group of non-elected non-producers who have a stranglehold on the 'mixed' economy.

ANOTHER DEFEAT FOR THE MUGGERS IN BLUE

THE CARIB Club—scene of a mass punch-up by the local constabulary two years ago—has just won another battle with the law.

And it has provided one more example of the open racialism of the police.

In November 1974, more than 150 coppers invaded the club in Cricklewood, N W London for no reason except that its patrons were largely black.

A pitched battle followed. Twelve people charged with various offences have since

been cleared in court hearings which heard how the police had gone in like demented prize-fighters.

But police hatred for the club didn't end there. When it recently sought a licence for private music and dancing until 2am on Fridays and Saturdays, the long arm of the law was raised in an attempt to block it.

In an objection larded

with racialism, Chief Superintendent Michael Keene told the licensing board:

'The areas surrounding this club are rapidly becoming colonised, if that is a word that can be used, and this club was frequented mainly by those out for fun, laughs and kicks—not by responsible people.'

Keene lost his objection

and Carib got its licence. Whether that will keep him and his merry men at bay, remains to be seen.

QUOTE: Germans can at least be thankful to Hitler for smashing the old class barriers.

— from BBC TV's *Tonight* programme, 30 September.



WITHOUT COMMENT

LISTER Hospital are short of walking sticks, walking frames, elbow crutches, neck collars and the like.

The hospital have run short of certain items of equipment used in outpatient or physiotherapy treatment, and with Government-ordered cutbacks in NHS finance, the money is not there to buy them.

They have now issued an appeal to anyone with unwanted items such as Enurex bed-wetting alarms, which they no longer need, to take them to the hospital out-patients department, any time, day or night.

— from the *Stevenage Comet*, 14 October

And while we're on the subject...

A SOCIALIST Worker supporter was approached by a policeman while doing guard duty outside a recent anti-National Front meeting in East London. They had an interesting conversation.

COPPER: Why aren't you inside the meeting?

GUARD: I'm making sure the Front don't attack it.

COPPER: Oh, no need for that. I'm here.

GUARD: Yes, but you are only one policeman.

COPPER: That doesn't matter. The Front definitely won't attack.

GUARD: How do you know?

COPPER: Because the Front don't want to interfere with the police.

GUARD: Why?

COPPER: Because they know we also hate the Commies—I mean, you've got to tell the truth sometimes.

USEFUL ADVICE FOR THE UNEMPLOYED: 'How you get through (the shock of being unemployed) depends on you.... For some, to go away for a holiday abroad would be the most effective way through it.

Perhaps the most effective thing you can do is to tell everyone you are in the market. Tell all your friends. Tell your bank manager, your doctor, your parson, your lawyer and your golf club secretary.

— from a pamphlet produced by Professional and Executive Recruitment

DID YOU KNOW...

That the weekly allowance for a prisoner's food in British jails is £1.20? For prison guard dogs, it is £2.50.



Picture A



Picture B

4. Below are two pictures of the same person, Mr. Dan Smith, Chairman of the Northern Economic Planning Council. Study these pictures and answer the questions

- (i) Write down **one** word or phrase to describe the atmosphere in **each** of the two pictures.
- (ii) Describe, in not more than **two** sentences, the difference in Mr. Smith's dress in **each** picture.
- (iii) What appears to be the atmosphere in **Picture A** between the **two** people portrayed?
- (iv) Say where you think **each** of these pictures was taken.
- (v) What do we learn of Mr. Smith's personality from these **two** pictures?
- (vi) From the background and from Mr. Smith's manner, what may be inferred from **Picture B** that is not the case in **Picture A**?

They don't set exams like that any more, do they Mr Callaghan? From a 1969 CSE paper (in the days before T Dan Smith was

□ IAN SMITH of Rhodesia has 'done nothing but advance the power of communism'. Who says so? The National Front, in the latest issue of *Spearhead*.

□ THE CLOSED SHOP, MIDDLES-CLASS STYLE: As you may remember, the Tameside education dispute was eventually 'resolved' by conciliation. The barrister appointed for this purpose was paid the standard rate: £500 for the first hour, £100 for each subsequent hour. The hearing lasted two days.

THE MAN BRITISH TROOPS PROTECT

CHICAGO, Oct. 7.—The Sultan of Oman, Ghaos bin Said, went on a spree here and, according to a U.S. air freight company, spent \$1.5 million on a shopping list that included the following:

— from the *International Herald Tribune*: the good sultan only stays that rich because he makes sure his disloyal subjects stay poor. He is helped in this process by British mercenaries seconded to Oman by our beloved Labour government. It's called Britain's Secret War.

• Six Cadillac Seville limousines by seven inches to accommodate bars, desks and glass sun roofs, a Cadillac Eldorado, six Mercedes-Benz sedans and two Porsches.

• A \$40,000 ocean-going speedboat.

• \$47,000 worth of women's luggage, 12 tons of automotive tools, and 16 refrigerators.

• Two Florida grapefruit trees and one slot machine.

Circle Air Freight Corp.

leased a Boeing 747 cargo plane and flew the goods to Oman on Monday, at a cost of \$194,500. The Sultan placed the orders through aides several months ago.

Socialist Worker

EDITORIAL

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Israeli arms for Lebanese fascists

ISRAELI tanks, artillery and automatic weapons have been supplied to the right-wing forces in the Lebanese civil war.

This news came to light last week when a BBC correspondent defied Israeli government censorship.

At the same time the Syrian regular army has been increasing its attacks on the leftist forces. Its troops have been taking over key strategic towns from the left-wing and Palestinian forces. It has then allowed the fascist Falange troops of the right to massacre the leftwing workers, peasants and refugees.

The rulers of Syria claim to be bitter opponents of the Israeli occupation of Palestine. Two years ago when the Egyptians made a peace agreement with Israel, the Syrian leaders denounced this as 'treachery'. But now they have been working hand-in-glove with the Israelis to smash the left-wing and Palestinian organisations.

Fascists

But the sordid holy alliance directed against the Lebanese does not end there. For while the Israelis have been supplying American weapons to the Lebanese fascists, the Syrian army has been attacking the left with Russian weapons.

The Russian government has issued statements criticising the Syrians, but it has not stopped its arms supplies. And,

astonishingly, the Syrian Communist Party continues to be part of the Syrian government.

For years it was habitual among the left in the Middle East to speak of Syria as a 'progressive' Arab state, and of Russia as an 'anti-imperialist power'. Today such words are being muttered with bitter sarcasm among the corpses, the mass graves, the burnt-out villages and the shell-shattered working-class quarters, as the left fights desperately for its life.

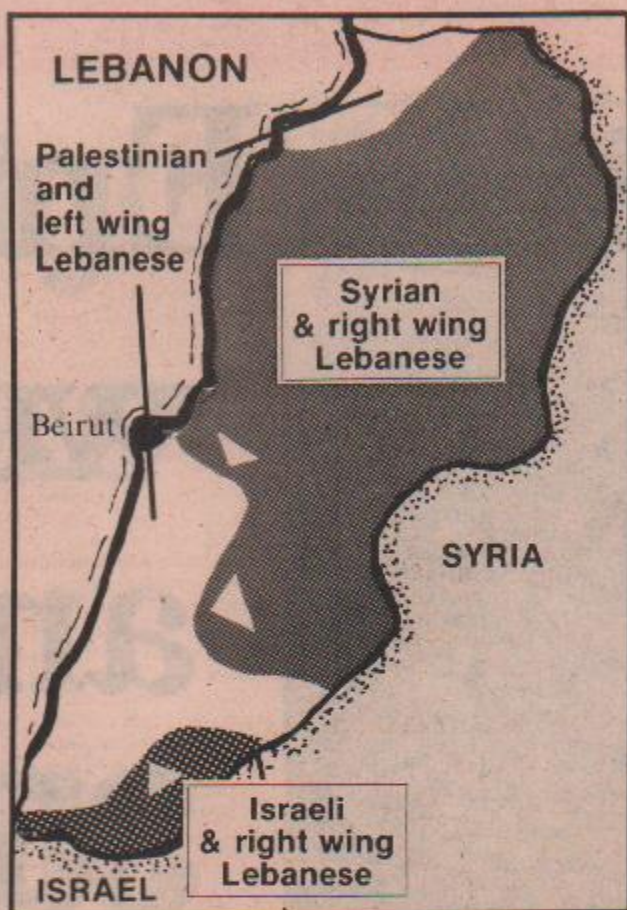
Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians, driven out of the land of their birth by Israeli colonists, now find themselves hunted down as human prey in a country they thought would give them sanctuary. And now they find that all those who used to vow friendship have joined the other side.

The Syrians now seem to have

secured the agreement of the other Arab countries to turn Lebanon into their own client state, ruled for them by a coalition dominated by the Falangists and the right. The Palestinian movement will only be allowed to continue if it acts at the beck and call of its Syrian masters and breaks its links with the left.

But for the left there is one last, desperate hope. There are growing signs of working-class discontent within the very heart of Syria itself.

The war in the Lebanon has slashed workers living standards until the Syrian regime could be very fragile. But, regrettably, past illusions about 'progressive' Arab states prevented the Palestinians and the Arab left working in countries like Syria to build the revolutionary party that could now focus the discontent.



A recent demonstration of striking workers in Addis Ababa. Their slogans oppose the government and support the GPRP.

Ethiopia's killers hit the left

THESE pictures show that even in one of the most backward countries in the world, the industrial workers are a force to be reckoned with. They were taken during recent strikes in Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia.

But the government is doing its best to smash them. It has murdered 1225 of its opponents and thrown hundreds more into concentration camps.

In August alone 20 young people were assassinated by government murder squads. The bodies of another 25, members of the revolutionary left-wing party, the EPRP, were found in a ditch.

The Ethiopian military government claims to be left-wing. But since overthrowing the reactionary emperor Haile Selassie three years ago, the military have continued many of his policies—above all the attempt to smash the national liberation movement in Eritrea.

The government gets arms from the US, and the new US ambassador to Ethiopia, GM Godley, is an expert at murdering left-wingers. In 1969-73 he directed US bombing raids against Laos and North Vietnam. He has spent the past two years as US ambassador in Lebanon, actively helping the fascist Falange there.

ITALIAN COMMUNISTS TAKE LABOUR'S ROAD

NOT ONLY in Britain are the official leaders of the working-class movement rushing to help the capitalist system. The same is happening in Italy.

The government is in the hands of the Christian Democrats, the Italian equivalent of the Tories. But

the party that gets most working-class support, the Communist Party, has been ensuring that the government remains in power.

The pressure of the workers is producing splits within the Communist Party leadership. At last week's central com-

mittee meeting, Giorgio Amendola demanded still more support for the government.

This provoked another veteran leader, Luigi Longo, to say that a 'curious position had developed on the question of sacrifices by the workers.' T

do not think it is a crime for workers to demand that their sacrifices do not re-establish the political and economic set-up that produced the crisis.'

The party's general secretary claimed that support for the government was 'limited, but that 'the Com-

munist supported moves to stop inflation.

His attitude seems to be that it is all right to oppose capitalist governments when capitalism is in a healthy state. But the moment it enters into crisis, then you have to help prop up the system.

Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign

SPARK

BULLETIN

First issue out this week. Articles on Transkei, black trade unions under apartheid, Zimbabwe, Soweto, racism at Heathrow Airport, London. 10p a copy, plus 10p postage.

POSTER

With space for local meeting details. Two colours. £1 for 50.

BADGE

'Victory to the Freedom Fighters', in red, black and white. 15p each, plus 6½p postage. £1 50 for 10 post free. £10 for 100.

Cash with orders please to

SASC, 101-103 Gower Street, London W1.



Dance and give a donation to the defence fund! Yes, this is THE single just out on the new KK label. £1 plus 10p postage from Bookmarks, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4. All proceeds to the defence of the Right to Work Marchers.



Jimmy Carter—the man who claims to have become US presidential candidate without the help of big business—and some friends: (from left) Peter Estes, president of General Motors, Leonard Woodcock, president of the United Auto Workers Union, Coleman Young, the mayor of Motor City, John Riccardo, chairman of Chrysler, and Henry Ford II, chairman of Ford.

In this state, 55 per cent of the electorate are voting to abstain in this election—and we've got to improve on that.' A joker from West Virginia on a phone-in programme last week summed up the profound freedom which has ripped America over the question of what is commonly regarded as 'the most powerful man in the world.'

Jimmy Carter, favourite of the American President, is the candidate of the world's richest and most powerful family: the Rockefellers. In 1972, David Rockefeller, chairman of the Chase Manhattan Bank, set up and financed a new international body.

It was called the Trilateral Commission. Its object was 'to provide more links' between businessmen and their supporters in America, Europe, and Japan.

The first director of the commission was Zbigniew Brzezinski, a geologist. Another top Trilateral supporter was Richard Gardner, a bright young academic of the Kennedy era, who worked in Kennedy's and Johnson's administrations as one of the chief architects of foreign policy.

The bosses who chose Jimmy Carter



Richard Gardner of the Trilateral Commission

posed as a swindler and a liar. They sought out a candidate who could win the 1976 election by attracting as many of the different electoral groupings as possible.

They wanted a Southerner who would win the Wallace vote, yet be a liberal who would win the big Eastern Democrat vote.

They found Governor Jimmy Carter of Georgia, and started to train him.

Brzezinski became Carter's chief adviser, staying in close personal contact with him for almost three years. Gardner headed Carter's foreign policy team. Carter's policies became the policies of the Trilateral Commission.

ABROAD

In 1974, Carter was given a 'special course' in the Rockefeller-financed Brookings Institution, where he learned the art of saying all things to all men, and doing things only for the Rockefellers and their big business friends.

What will Carter's policies mean abroad?

The Trilateral Commission's Latin American expert is Lincoln Gordon, American ambassador to Brazil at the time of the overthrow of the democratic government there in 1964. Ben Stephansky, US Ambassador to Bolivia in the same period, and inspirer of a similar coup there, is also at most Trilateral

Commission seminars on the 'needs to keep business going' in South America.

At home, for all his sentimentality about the sick and the starving, Carter's policies will be directed simply to 'relieving the pressure of the state on big business'.

The Trilateral Commission experts are clever reactionaries.

Gerald Ford and his advisers, who include Nelson Rockefeller, the Vice-President and David's brother, like their politics straight. Ford's much-heralded statement that there is 'no domination' of Eastern Europe by Russia was not a mistake, as some have suggested. It was the expression of American foreign policy in the area, which is to allow Russia full sway in her 'sphere of influence'.

ROBOT

This is Carter's policy too, but Carter's aides are too clever to let their man say it in public.

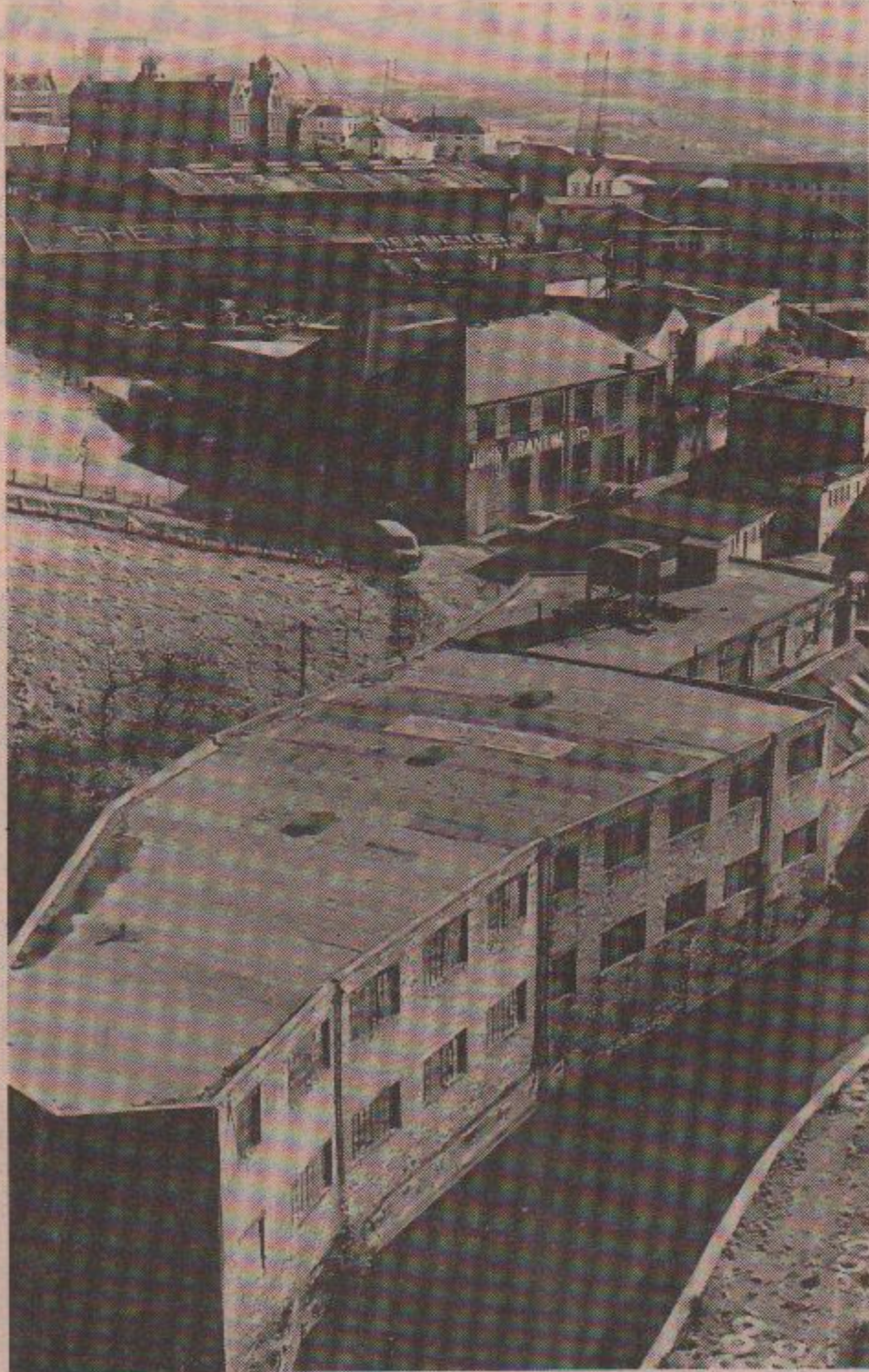
So the two big business spokesmen fight it out for the right to help their paymasters.

They are manipulated robots going through the motions of a 'democracy' in which all power, including the power to nominate the president, lies with unelected corporations and an unelected officer corps in the armed forces.

No wonder the working people of America are bored out of their minds,

BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE! BUILD THE

Newcastle: Empty



Empty factories—and (right) the only secure industry in Newcastle is the industry of destruction. Tanks at the huge Vickers. In every other industry in all Tyneside, where people are making things that other people need, jobs are threatened.

WORKERS
and
35,000
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dole
THAT

BACKGROUND

The US chairman of the Trilateral Commission is Gerard Smith, chief negotiator at the Strategic Arms Limitation (SALT) talks for the United States. The Trilateral Commission's main purpose is to provide a suitable 'political background' for big business.

Its leaders were appalled by the chaotic political situation in 1973, when the president was being ex-



OUT NOW: The latest issue of Women's Voice. Articles on abortion, racism, the family, the women's peace movement, Trico. 7p a copy or 15p (inc postage) from Women's Voice, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2

WANTED: Your help in the fight for socialism

THE Socialist Worker campaigns in Newcastle Central and Walsall North are well under way. Last weekend 668 copies of Socialist Worker were sold in Newcastle Central, 800 in Walsall.

This weekend is the last before polling day, 4 November, and your support is vital if we're to continue getting the case for socialism across to more and more people.

That's why we're asking all dedicated socialists to make sure you give your help NOW.

Members and supporters from Yorkshire northwards should go to NEWCASTLE. Contact 142 Oban Road, Newcastle 6. Phone 0632-657806.

Others should go to WALSALL. Contact Socialist Worker, 88 Caldmore Road (5 minutes from the station). Phone 0922-614891.

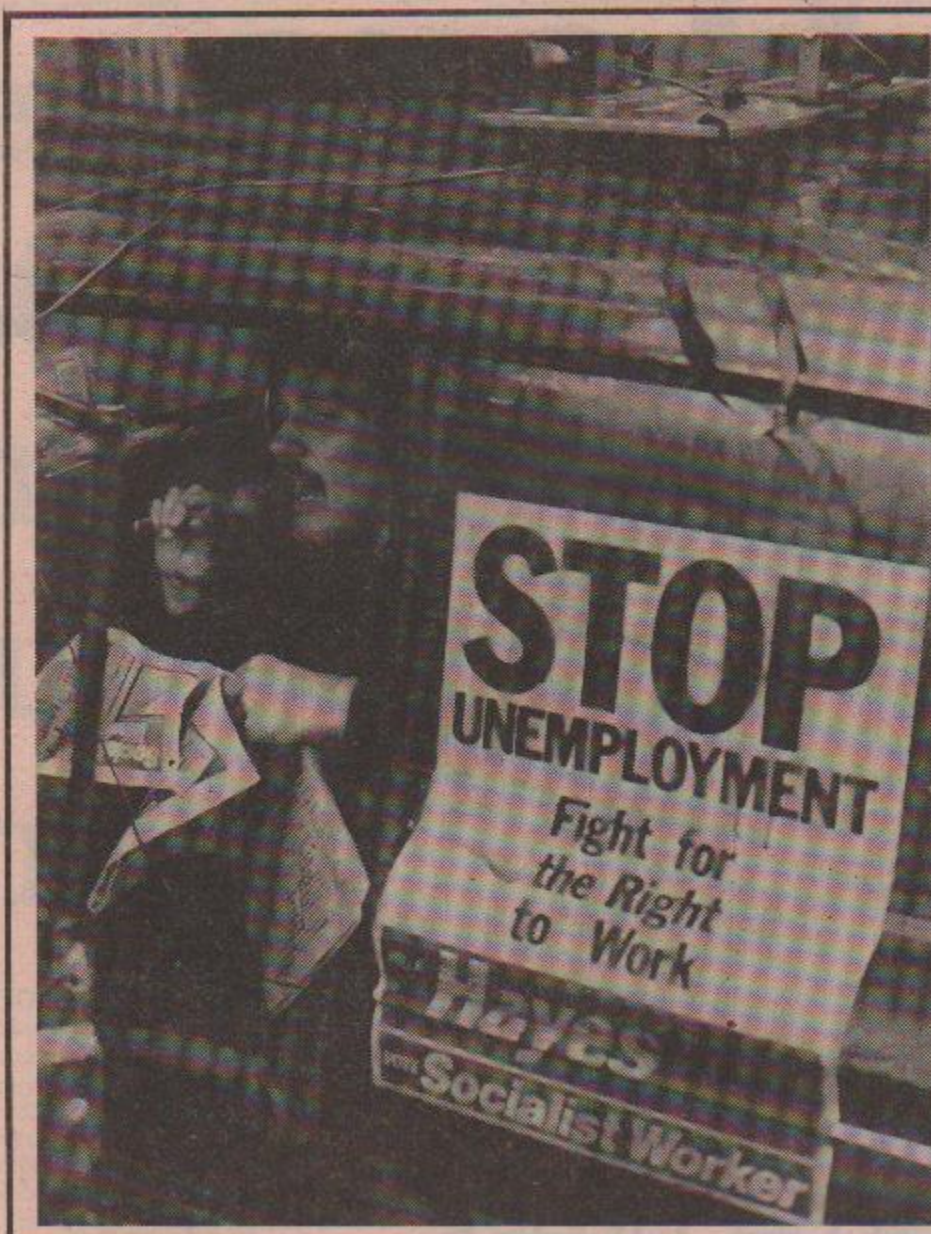


Guests for the dinner with Enoch Powell cross the anti-racist picket line

BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE! BUILD THE SOCIALIST AL

SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE! BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE! BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

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FREE SPEECH?

DAVE HAYES and his campaigners picketed a meeting of the National Economic Development Council in Newcastle last Friday. The meeting was chaired by Edward Short, the retiring Labour MP and former friend of corrupt Newcastle boss, T Dan Smith.

The meeting drew up a forecast to show that in five years' time there could be 25

per cent unemployed in Tyneside.

'What have you done about it, Short?' yelled Dave, through a loudspeaker.

His words clearly penetrated the meeting, for before long a Mr Hunter was rushing out to rip the microphone lead from the speaker (ABOVE).

Mr Hunter then arranged, at the ratepayers' expense, for a city engineers' truck to tow Dave's car away (BELOW).



HARRY BLAIR is chairman of the joint office committee of white-collar workers at C A Parsons' huge heavy engineering plant on Tyneside. Harry, a member of TASS, lives in the constituency. He will be voting for Dave Hayes on 4 November, and he urges all other militants and socialists in the area to do the same.

'Harry Cowans, the Labour candidate, is a very nice bloke,' he told Socialist Worker. 'But he will be completely impotent in parliament to lead a fight against unemployment, or anything else which results from government policies. He'll be voting fodder.'

'Short? D'you know I can't remember a single thing Short ever did in the constituency, not a single political meeting except when he spoke against nuclear disarmament some way back in the 1960s.'

'I left the Labour Party because of people like Short.'

'We'll never build a fight around people who go to parliament committed to the Labour government. We need to build a fight ourselves—and an MP who was looking to us to build a fight could help a lot.'

IT'S WHAT WE'RE FIGHTING HERE



factory in the area, where jobs are safe.

'FOR the first time in an age, the Labour Party is having to stir itself to hang on to Newcastle Central as the mischief makers of the International Socialists race around the city trying to upset the Government's campaign.'

That's the first sentence of the Daily Telegraph report on the

Newcastle Central by-election campaign. They had it almost right. The Labour Party are being challenged for the seat.

But as Dave Hayes, the Socialist Worker candidate, said this week: 'They are the mischief makers. They are the people who are sitting back and letting the employers' and their class turn the whole of Tyneside into a waste land.'

'We are not going to allow that to happen.'

Dave Hayes was born and bred on Tyneside. His father was sacked from one of the countless empty factories huddled together under Byker Bridge.

'Just take a look at this area', says Dave. 'It sums up the cruelty and the nonsense of capitalism. There are scores of empty factories. Many of them still full of rotting machinery, all lying idle.'

'Meanwhile there are 35,000 out of work on Tyneside. 35,000—

that's one in ten of the male population, and probably an even higher percentage for women, though the registered figures don't show that.'

'Idle machinery, empty factories, unemployed workers. That's the profit system for you. But that's the system which the Labour government is propping up. That's why we need fighting politics in this area—on 4 November and after.'

A shock for Enoch Powell

A LOT of fat cats paid £5 a head to go and listen to Enoch Powell speaking at a dinner held by the local Institute of Marketing last Thursday.

Among the guests was ... Socialist Worker candidate Dave Hayes, uninvited and dressed in a hired dinner jacket and black tie.

Dave, accompanied by Ann Paley, an unemployed Socialist Worker supporter, found himself sitting opposite Enoch Powell himself.

Hardly was the egg mayonnaise on the table than Dave was on his feet, pointing at Powell and shouting: 'I find it intolerable that the likes of Enoch Powell should be invited to Tyneside. He was directly responsible for the deaths of Asian people in the summer through his racist speeches.'

After a shocked silence, the dignified gentry of Tyneside started pounding their egg-covered spoons on the tablecloth to chants of OUT! OUT!

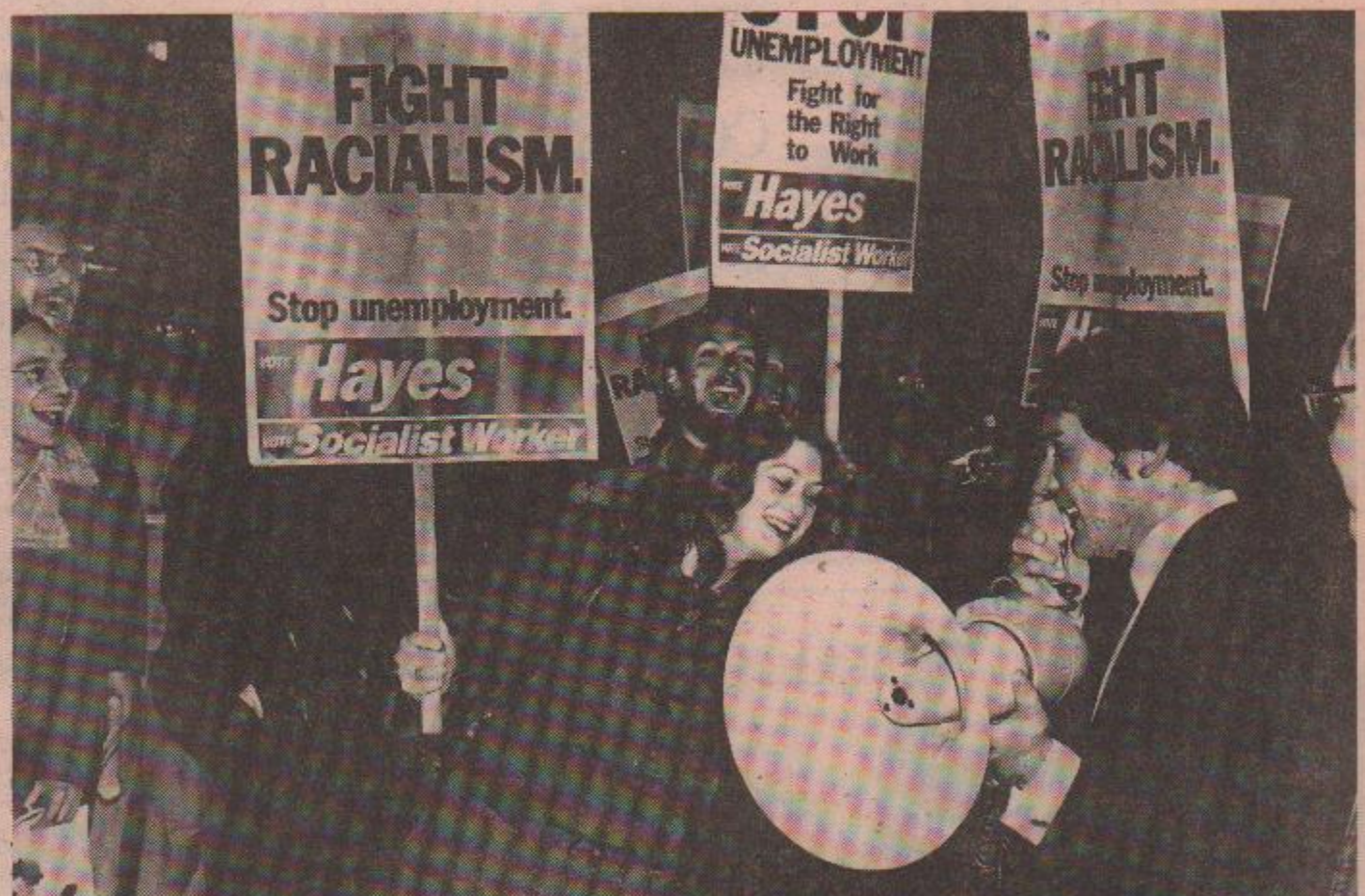
Ann stayed behind and was told by Powell: 'sit down, and eat your meal, pet.' Upon



Dave Hayes in suitably upper-class disguise

which Ann informed Powell in language which was not polite that she was no pet of his, nor ever likely to be. She was removed as well.

Outside the hotel, demonstrators greeted the two with cheers.



Dave Hayes speaks to the protesters after being escorted from the meeting by police

TERNATIVE! BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE! BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

FIGHT TO CLEAN UP ROCK

ROCK AGAINST Racism is a good idea, but it is limited in scope. What we need is an umbrella title for everything—racism, sexism, unemployment.

Rock must become more politically aware, or rather we must fight to make it so.

One of the finest records against racism is Dylan's Hurricane. They don't come much better than that.

And Dylan is not sexist, unless sexism includes men writing love songs to women. His women are always treated as people, not objects.

As for Jim Morrison, he was a master of expressing sexuality (not sexist in itself) in rock.

With the exception of Jagger Caroline Apergius (16 October) has used bad examples of sexist rock.

Worst of all is the exploitation of young girls via groups like The Osmonds and the Bay City Rollers.

In 'It takes a lot to laugh' Dylan wrote: 'I wanna be your lover, baby, I don't wanna be your boss.'

As far as Dylan's attitude goes, that says it all.
 Paul Reeves, Bedford.

CAROLINE Apergius (16 October) refers to Bob Dylan as making records that reek of sexist attitudes.

Let's give Dylan some credit. His songs about Emmett Till, Hezekiah Jones and more recently George Jackson and Hurricane Carter are but a few examples of his views on racism.

Secondly his love songs are not sexist. His songs have more self-criticism than any other singer I know. Incidentally, I believe there is a recording by Dylan called Song For Women's Liberation which might be worth a listen.

G Howard, Stockport.

Fighting racism in the press

A COUPLE of points on Geoff Sheridan's reply to Ian Reineke's article on the closed shop in journalism, (16 October).

Sheridan is wrong to assume that journalists who work for openly racist publications are themselves in agreement with their employers.

The fact is, of course, that journalists like other workers, are victims of bosses' exploitation, represented in this case by editors and their cronies who assume management prejudices and enforce them on their staff.

Rank and file journalists are not a lost cause to be dismissed as a group co-operating willingly with the racist conspiracy within newspapers.

These journalists on the question of race and other trade union issues are receptive to ideas and initiatives taken to break down the

control within the press.

Journalists Charter—the rank and file organisation within the NUJ—is building resistance around a programme of trade union militancy.

The Campaign Against Racism in the Media—which seeks to involve all trade unionists and anti-racist organisations in the struggle—can supplement this work, but only if it is directed at building support within journalism.

Sheridan's views tend to ignore this vital ground floor work that must be done.

To dismiss the rank and file as he does will only alienate potential supporters and set back work that is being done to organise resistance in the NUJ.

The Charter conference in Sheffield this weekend will be discussing these issues.

Aidan White, Journalists Charter secretary, East London.

Leading the fight

HAVING BEEN a member of the Labour Party until recently I am supporting the Socialist Worker candidate in the Walsall North by-election.

For me the crunch came when our local party branch was addressed by David Winnick. I believe he is a sincere man but badly mistaken in certain respects.

His argument is that the Labour government must be kept in office at all costs, to keep the Tories out.

This is futile. The Labour government will fall unless

there is a drastic change of policy. That drastic change can only happen when the Labour Party is thoroughly purged of right wingers.

We are going to have another Tory government in the near future. Who will lead the fight against it? A real fight can only be waged by a powerful socialist movement and although I still have reservations about certain aspects of the International Socialists' policy, I believe that IS can be the nucleus of that movement.

Jim Parkes, Walsall.

Letters

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



Another batch of 'peace-keeping' troops on their way to Ulster

Postal Points

A FEW weeks ago Halifax Communist Party organised a meeting to form a broad anti-fascist committee. They were concerned about the votes polled by the National Front and National Party in recent elections.

I was delegated by the Trades Council. Just before the meeting started four National Front members walked in. I demanded that they leave the hall before the meeting started, but I was told to 'sit down and be quiet'.

The meeting was full. We could easily have ejected the Front. The IS member and Socialist Worker supporters with me find it incredible that no one else felt it necessary to either throw them out, or leave the meeting as we did.
 John Hughes, Halifax

WE WERE surprised that Duncan Hallas' article (16 October) read like the manifesto of the Labour Left.

It sounded like the workers of Walsall and Newcastle were being asked to put their trust in the personal integrity of the candidates and not the strength of 'revolutionary politics'.

We hope this does not indicate the start of a trend towards compromise.
 Ray Hanson, P J Franklin, G N Porter, E J Liversage, Simon A Marshall, D M Jones, Dyfed, Wales.

FIGHTING elections. Whatever next? Are we to be treated to the repulsive spectacle of Dave Hayes and Jimmy McCallum pontificating in parliament, or are we to be embarrassed by a derisory vote running into no more than two figures?

Revolution, not evolution!
 Floda Herlit, Hendon

JUST AS the Zimbabwe peoples army continues to fight against the imperialist Smith regime while other so-called 'radical' liberation movements have taken part in discussions, we in the International Socialists should reject the machinations of the present system and fight the establishment from the traditional workers' platforms in the unions and on the factory floor, not by fielding candidates in elections.
 Yednys Isav, South East London

OUR IMPARTIAL magistrates are at work in Bingley, West Yorks. There were two separate incidents of assaults on the police, both youths, both drunk.
 One was fined £80 and bound over to keep the peace for two years. The other, described as an apple man, was fined £5.

What was the difference?
 You've got it, the second is a soldier.
 Bill House, Bingley

...and the press called it peaceful

In defence of Chairman Mao

I JOINED the army in 1971 when I had been unemployed for some time. I was 18.

On arrival in Belfast, the regiment was assembled in the grounds of a military hospital near Andersonstown where Lt Col McKay, then commanding officer of the battalion, gave an obnoxious speech.

The battalion dispersed to individual barracks, large, heavily fortified encampments throughout the area.

During my four-month stay we lost one man who 'jumped ship in mid-stream' for

Dublin. Another shot a large part of his foot off to be sent home.

The first few weeks, according to the press, were peaceful. They omitted the not so occasional beating of children and other 'IRA suspects'.

Gauntlet

In one case a young Catholic boy was kidnapped from a street corner by a mobile patrol and was taken to a predominantly Protestant area where he was left to run the gauntlet. So much for peace-keeping.

And the army can be equally inhuman to its own men. A soldier was killed in Belfast about the time I was there. His next of kin was entitled to £700 compensation.

His mother received a letter saying that her son was accidentally shot and killed by another soldier and that out of the compensation she would have to pay a certain sum for clothing and equipment damaged by her son.

The British army it seems will not only kill, maim and torture innocent people, it will add insult to injury by treating soldiers and their families in this way.

Alan Campbell, Glasgow.

I WOULD like to make some comments regarding the article by Chris Harman on the death of Chairman Mao.

Mao was present at the birth of the Chinese Communist Party and by skilful (if not ideal) political manoeuvring led his party through the devious and broken political structure of the Chinese mainland at that time.

The charge that Mao formed his army from peasants and not 'in the cities where the workers were' is hardly unlikely to be challenged when one considers that in 1945 the population of China consisted of 87 per cent rural workers and only 13 per cent city workers, the majority of the latter being either capitalists or the scum of the proletariat that Lenin had to deal with.

Idol

The structure of the CCP was far better in respect of true communism than the Russian equivalent. Mao was always a cult figure, not only recently.

I would disagree that Stalin was Mao's idol. His thought is far more towards that of Lenin in 1917-21 before Lenin discovered, as Mao did, that the rest of the world will not just go away.

I cannot personally see how one can be 100 per cent true to any genuine socialist ideals and still continue to live in a predominantly capitalist orientated world.

B R McClellan-Dunn, Fareham.

Women fighting for work

WOMEN FIGHTING, the new Right to Work pamphlet, has been really useful in helping to organise women locally.

In two weeks we have sold 51 copies at supermarkets, evening classes, hospitals and factories.

The women most interested were those with young kids who can't get jobs because of unsuitable hours or no nursery places.

Sandy Ross, Judy Jones, Crumpsall.

CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS to the brothers and sisters in the Highlands on their tremendous fight against the cuts.

As a native of Invergordon I am well aware of the kind of people who control the public services in the Highlands.

Since the area was cleared of people in favour of sheep in the 1800s the working peoples' lives have been dominated by 'laird of the manor' types. You can spot them a mile away.

They usually wear a kilt, speak with a Chelsea accent and expect all and sundry to grovel before them.

Obviously things are changing for the better in the Highlands. It is really tremendous to think that an area which had very little trade union organisation in the recent past is now waging war against the government's vicious cuts.

Bill Geddes, Hammersmith.



RAR's first dance
 Friday 12 November
 at the Princess Alice, Forest Gate
 up the Romford Road E15

Rock Against Racism with
 Carol Grimes and the London Boogie Band
 plus support band and sound system.
 £1 to get in, 50p with your dole
 card. Remember the date and remember to
 come

Any supporters interested in putting on a Rock Against Racism
 write to us at 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2

The awful truth

YOUR article of 9 October left out the vile sexism preached by the Festival of Light mob. A whole article in The Guardian was devoted to their anti-homosexual campaign.

The Festival of Light speaker insisted that male homosexuality (let alone female!) was the biggest sin on earth and all males who feel urged to express homosexuality must refrain at all costs.

Could this paranoia of homosexuals be due to the valid fear that homosexuals prove that female and male behavioural stereotypes are established society lies?

This is just an old ploy to divide workers.

R. Japlin, Cambridgeshire.

Ever wish that blasted prince would turn into a frog?

'LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD' is the story of a girl bordering on mental deficiency who is sent out by an irresponsible mother through the dark, wolf-infested woods to take a little basket full to the brim with cakes to her sick grandmother...

'In the right place a brave huntsman saves the granddaughter and grandmother from the wolf...

'Snow White is also a silly goose who accepts the apple she is offered although she has been warned not to trust anybody.

'When the seven dwarves accept her as a guest the roles become clear. They go off to work while she keeps the house clean, mends their clothes, sweeps and cooks and waits for their return... Cinderella swallows indignity and oppression and has neither dignity nor courage.

Effect

'Female figures in fairy tales belong to two different categories... the good but useless and the wicked'.

That's what Elena Belotti writes in her book Little Girls. Put like that, the characters in fairy tales are clearly ridiculous. But they have a deep effect on children.

We grow up watching how our parents behave and copying them. We dream about being like the characters in fairy tales. On every side children are subjected to propaganda that forces them into traditional roles—weak women and mighty men.

Look through the books in any primary school or nursery. Most of the stories are about boys who do exciting things, have adventures, build dens and help daddy.

Girls in stories smile inanely, play with dolls and kittens, and cook cakes. And always in the background is an imbecile mother who does everything for love and answers insults and abuse with a gentle smile.

Stupid

Traditional fairy tales are even worse. The women are all meek, stupid and beautiful. The men are bold, resourceful and intelligent.

Attempts to correct the balance and produce alternative, non-sexist books for children are therefore most welcome. Unfortunately they are rare. Even worse, they are expensive.

Two of the first came from

ANNA PACZUSKA LOOKS AT CHILDREN'S BOOKS

the Canadian Women's Educational Press. They are designed for children in the three-to-eight age group.

'Fresh Fish and Chips tells the story of a magic mum who goes to catch fish for her children's tea, while dad (a nice touch) peels a great pile of chips.

Mandy and the Flying Map is about a girl who flies off around the town on a map. She meets all kinds of interesting folk, even some unlikely looking female firemen. She returns saying 'Next time there'll be room for two'.

Anti-sexist

A more recent publication from the Readers and Writers Co-operative is a set of four much more self-consciously anti-sexist books. These are translated from the Italian— which presumably caused their astronomical price.

But they are a set of beautifully illustrated books about female animals who get out of playing traditional female roles because they are so boring.

The Ratigans are a family of mice who get flooded out. They have to change their lifestyle because their pots and pans are all washed away.

One little boy commented: 'It's a smashing story and I wish my house would get flooded so that we could do something interesting for a change'. Another girl said: 'It's good—the men have to do the housework! (Full marks, Mum)

Stuck

Sugar Pink Rose is about pretty pink girl elephants who decide to break out, go grey and enjoy themselves.

Arthur and Clementine is about two tortoises. Clementine eventually decides to abandon Arthur after he has piled her up with household possessions and got her stuck in a rut.

Grown-ups often react badly to these books. Men in particular hysterically denounce them as extreme and unrealistic. But all the kids I know read them and enjoyed them.

It would be foolish to imagine that they will charge their ideas overnight. Most of them commented about the pictures and how funny the stories were. But they're a welcome step in the right direction. Hopefully they will

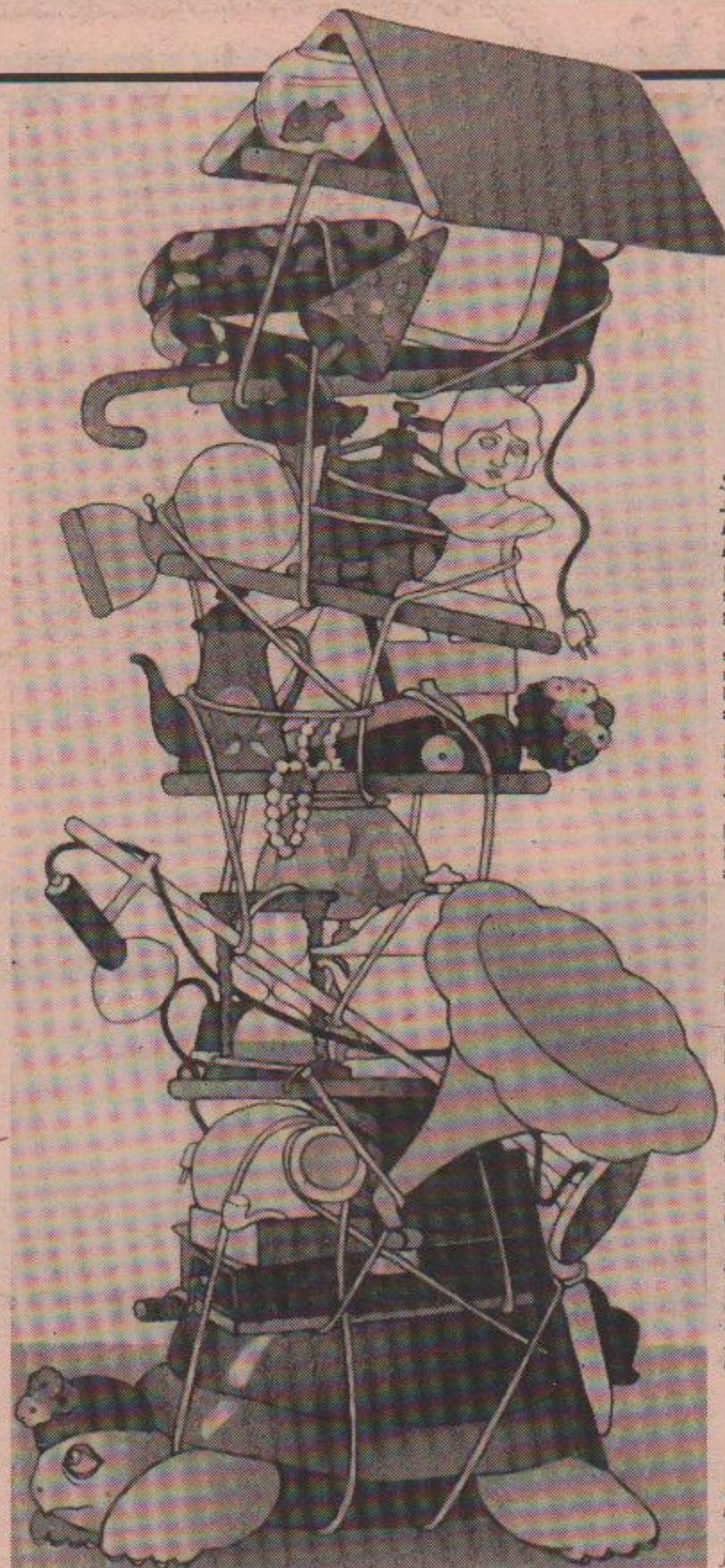
inspire some home-grown feminists to start producing more and cheaper literature.

In the meantime get your library to buy them. Ask your playgroup if they'll get them. Make sure that children get a chance to read them and listen to them and talk about them.

* MANDY AND THE FLYING MAP and FRESH FISH AND CHIPS. The Women's Press, Toronto. £1.50 each from Centreprise Bookshop, Kingsland High St, London E5.

THE REAL STORY OF THE BONOBOS WHO WORE SPECTACLES. A FORTUNATE CATASTROPHE. ARTHUR AND CLEMENTINE, AND SUGAR PINK ROSE. £2.50 each from the Readers and Writers Co-operative, 14 Talacre Road, London NW5.

Also LITTLE GIRLS by Elena Belotti, 85p from Readers and Writers Co-operative.



HEARD ANY BAD NURSERY RHYMES LATELY?

See-saw Margery Daw, Johnny shall have a new master. He shall have but a penny a day, Because he can't work any faster. REMEMBER it? When you were a kid at school, or perhaps it was sung last thing before going to bed.

And surely you can't forget Baa, baa black sheep, beautifully illustrated with a jolly, fat master with shears, a jolly, fat dame with a large sack of wool and a little boy, slinking away with a small bag of wool?

No? Then you've missed the first stage in British capitalism's course for little children. Second stage, learning to read with Janet and John.

Janet and John live in a large detached house with equally large garden. John plays football and with cars. Janet helps mummy and plays with dolls.

STARTERS

In fact you will have lost interest in Janet and John, and in reading, before the end of book 1a.

Look in the bookshops and see if you can find children's books, stories or rhymes which have relevance to your children's lives.

Children like to hear songs sung and stories read to them and they like to see the pictures that go with them, but can you find books containing songs stories and pictures about real, everyday people?

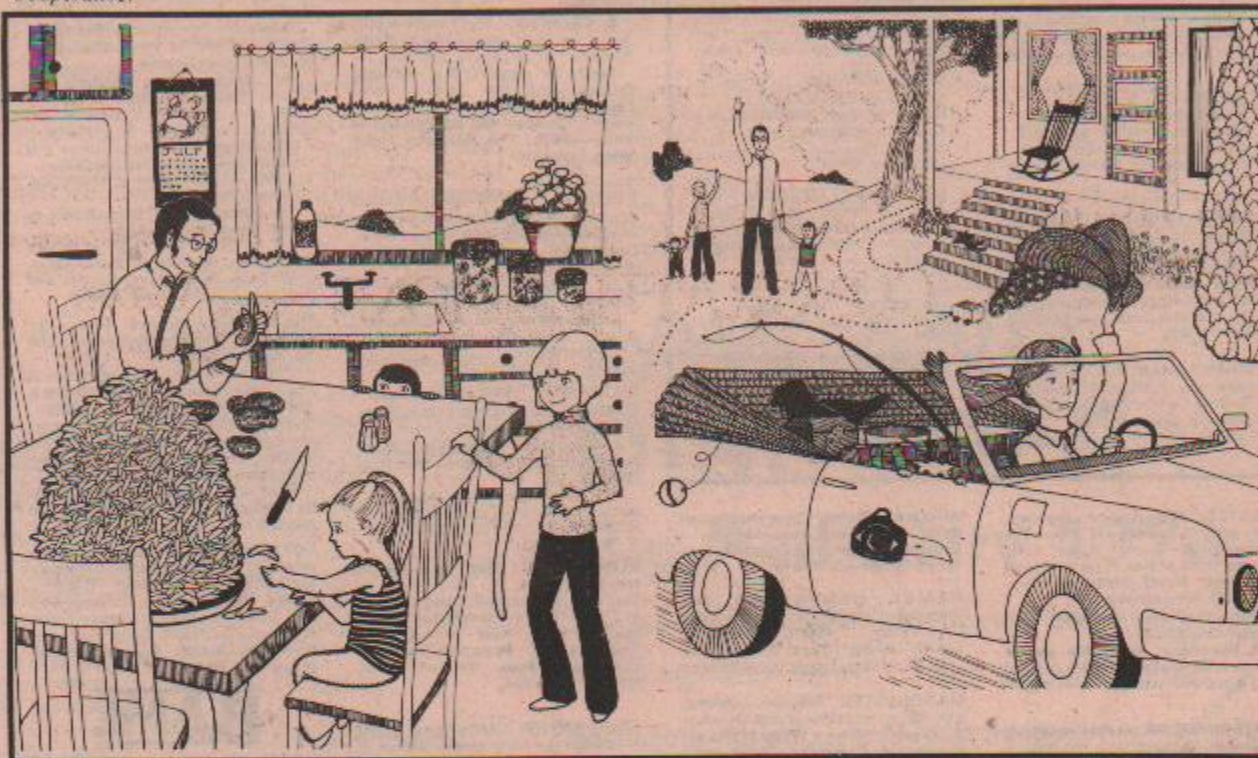
Well, Ezra Jack Keats stories from Penguin are alright, but socialists must write their own nursery rhymes.

How about this for starters?

Baa-baa black sheep have you any wool? Yes, sir, yes, sir, three bags full, NONE for the master, NONE for the dame, And THREE for the little boy who lives down the lane.

MALCOLM POVEY

LEFT: Clementine the tortoise piled up with household possessions BELOW LEFT: Succeeding pages from Fresh Fish and Chips



Abortion: freedom to choose?

THE BOOK Abortion in Demand* is published at a time when the 1967 Abortion Act is coming under renewed pressure from the anti-abortion group SPUC and is in danger of being forced out of existence by parliament. It provides a comprehensive study of the Act and its passage through parliament.

The Act was originally intended to cater for a fringe section of women—those classed as 'socially or morally unfit to care for a child'.

That an enormous demand came from 'normal' women,

who chose abortion not out of economic or social necessity but as a means of controlling their own fertility, placed the middle-class reformers in the dilemma they find themselves in today.

'Normal'

Abortion on demand, free from the restrictions now imposed by the medical profession, would solve this dilemma, but the establishment finds this unpalatable. That 'normal' women should

be able, or even want to secure an abortion, sounds the death knell for women's traditional role in society.

Abortion for a financially secure woman occurs as a right of that woman to control her own fertility, and is essential to her social equality, but there is another side to the coin. Abortion resulting out of economic necessity is a disaster. How many working class women 'choose' abortion because continuing the pregnancy would result in severe financial and social stress? Freedom of choice

means demands for better housing, more nurseries and financial support for women with children, as well as the right to abortion.

Until we achieve socialism women will never be truly liberated. There will be no real freedom of choice and reforms will continue to be offered as aspirins, to ease the disease of which capitalism itself is the carrier—inequality.

CAROL WALLER

* by Victoria Greenwood and Jock Young, Pluto Press, £1.65.



THE new TV season has exploded on our screens with all the force and excitement of a wet roman candle.

FRIDAY

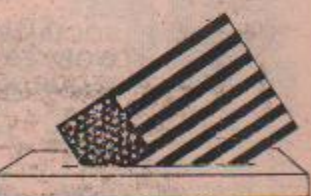
The return of WHEN THE BOAT COMES IN (BBC1, 8pm), only it's been 'repackaged' with its radical writers dropped so it's 'safe' for the massive audience the last series earned.

SUNDAY

CONTACT: SORRY NO DISABLEDS (BBC1) looks at some of the problems disabled people face.

MONDAY

HORIZON (BBC2) has a new look at dinosaurs in the light of recent discoveries.



TUESDAY

From one sort of dinosaur to another—the political dinosaurs of today. At last your chance to watch the outcome of the great 'irresistible bore meets immovable idiot' debates. Political masochists can watch the US election results into the early hours of Wednesday morning.

Beware the chemical trap!

by SYBIL COCK

MR HALES, a middle-aged farmworker, spent one particularly hot day last summer spraying crops with a pesticide. He noticed some discomfort while at work and was sent home by the farmer to have a wash.

By that evening he was covered with painful blisters which didn't go away for over a week.

On trying to claim compensation, he was told that his own carelessness had caused the blisters. To have made a successful claim he would have had to prove that he took every single precaution laid down by the manufacturer while he was using the chemical.

No question of the farmer or manufacturer having to prove that the chemical was safe.

Chemicals are now part of our everyday lives—they're often dangerous, and more

Safety



at work

often than not protection is slight—either physically or legally.

Five years ago in Derbyshire five workers were sent to the doctor by their wives or girlfriends. Each was unable to get erections.

The doctor diagnosed 'psychological problems' in the first case that he saw. Luckily

the second and third cases went to the same doctor, who then began to suspect another cause because he knew they all worked in the same place.

The men all got better after a time and a cause was never established, but it could have been any one of 17 chemicals!

None of these cases provided enough evidence to make out a case against the manufacturers or farm owners.

Farm chemicals have to be stringently tested before they can be sold. If they are discovered to cause a specific disease they have to be used with special clothing.

Wellies

But conditions on farms are not the same as in the laboratories where the rules are made. Mr Hales couldn't wash at work after he took off his overalls and wellies. His blisters could have been caused by the effect of the hot weather on the chemicals—other ones might become dangerous in the rain.

A combination of chemicals can often produce diseases

which were never even tested for. And we never hear of them because the worker affected is afraid of being sacked if he or she complains or takes time off. Doctors often dismiss such complaints as 'a special allergy' or 'hay fever'.

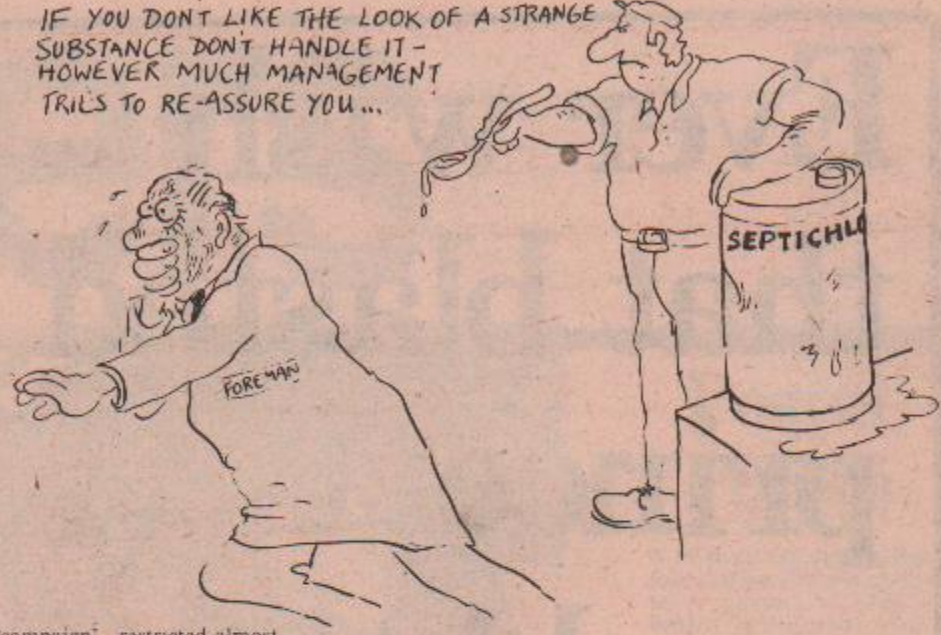
Only after 30 years of agitation and the collapse of three workers in one factory was it accepted that PVC causes liver cancer.

The situation of farmworkers means that they will always have a hard time organising to defend themselves. So it's vital that the farmworkers' union (NFAAW) runs a campaign for its members working conditions and provides proper support for struggles against their often ruthless employers.

The first step is to get a full-time safety officer in the union who will service the development of a strongly organised workforce.

The isolation of agricultural workers is rapidly becoming a thing of the past with the move towards food factories. The union has waged a

IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE LOOK OF A STRANGE SUBSTANCE DON'T HANDLE IT—HOWEVER MUCH MANAGEMENT TRIES TO RE-ASSURE YOU...



'campaign'—restricted almost entirely to the pages of its journal—against the tied cottage system for the past 30 years.

Their initiatives on health and safety must not be allowed to drag on for this time with no results. Health and safety can only be fought for by the agricultural workers themselves.

Socialist Worker will be running a regular column on health and safety at work. Articles, letters and comments for this column are welcome. Write about your experiences in the fight for safety, about ideas you and your workmates have for making conditions safer.

Questions about safety regulations, dangerous substances, or other safety problems are also welcome. Write to: Safety Column, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

Socialist Worker public meetings

Send notices — to reach us first post Monday — to What's On, SW, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.



Socialist Worker meetings

VICTORY TO THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS! BUILD THE SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN!

CREWE Socialist Worker discussion groups: Alternate Tuesdays, 8pm at the Angel pub, Victoria Street, Crewe Town Centre.

9 November: Russia, State Capitalist or Socialist? 23 November: What is Racism?

HARLOW Socialist Worker public meetings: Every Wednesday, 8pm, at Tye Green Community Association, Bush Fair. All welcome.

10 November: South Africa—Victory to the Freedom Fighters! Speakers: John Rodgers (Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign) and a member of Zimbabwe People's Liberation Army.

17 November: Who are the International Socialists?

24 November: What's happening in Lebanon?

TOWER HAMLETS Socialist Worker discussion meetings: Every second Wednesday, 8pm, Oxford House, Derbyshire Street, Bethnal Green.

3 November: The Struggle for Socialism

17 November: Building Socialism after the Revolution.

SOCIALIST WORKER ORGANISERS' CONFERENCE: In London, Saturday 13 November. All district SW organisers to attend. Pooled fare system. Speakers will include Tony Cliff, Jimmy McCallum, and Allan Borrell (SW Organiser, Glasgow District). Further details and conference discussion documents available next week.

SOUTHWARK Socialist Worker public meeting: Crisis in Housing, Thursday 4 November, 8pm, North Peckham Civic Centre.

MIDLANDS regional meeting for International Socialist hospital workers: Sunday 31 October, 1pm, 80 New Walk, Leicester (200 yards from station), Birmingham, Coventry, Peterborough, Shropshire and Leicester comrades to attend. Problems and inquiries, phone 0533-56841.

WEST MIDDLESEX Socialist Worker discussion group: Every other Monday, 7.45pm, Mill Hill Tavern, Gunnersbury Lane (opposite Acton Hospital). (E3 bus route, nearest ub: Acton Town).

1 November: How the International Socialists work.

15 November: The Minority Movement and the Right to Work.

SOUTH EAST LONDON SW discussion meetings on The Meaning of Marxism and working-class history.

Thursday 28 October: The working class and the struggle for socialism. Speaker: Duncan Hallas, Thames Polytechnic, Students Union, Thomas Street, SE18, 7.30pm. NOTE CHANGE OF MEETING PLACE.

Thursday 4 November: Why the Labour movement is reformist. Speaker: Fred Lindop, Charlton House, Hornfair Road, SE7, 7.30pm.

CHESTER SW discussion meetings: Every second Thursday, 7.30pm, The Railway Inn, Brook Street (two minutes from station, just off Hoole Way/Hoole Road). Meetings finish 9.15-9.30. All welcome.

4 November: Fight the Cuts—what is happening locally.

18 November: What the papers say—is it the truth? Why we need to build a socialist workers' daily paper.

BIRMINGHAM: Tuesday 9 November, 7.30pm, Socialist and TU Book Centre, 224 High Street, nearest ub: Acton Town.

1 November: How the International Socialists work.

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BRIGHTON: Wednesday 3 November, 8pm, Marlborough Hotel (off Old Steine). Speakers: Sue Cockerell (secretary, Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign) and a representative to the Zimbabwe People's Army (ZIPA).

ISLINGTON: Thursday 4 November, 8pm, Essex Road Library, London N1. Speakers: Chen Chimutengwende (from Zimbabwe) and Alex Callinicos.

NORTH LONDON: Tuesday 9 November, 7pm, Canteen, Lad-broke House, North London Polytechnic. Speakers: John Rogers (Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign) and a representative of the Zimbabwe People's Army (ZIPA).

BIRMINGHAM: Tuesday 9 November, 7.30pm, Socialist and TU Book Centre, 224 High Street, nearest ub: Acton Town.

1 November: How the International Socialists work.

15 November: The Minority Movement and the Right to Work.

what are we doing? Come and discuss these topics with us. Monday 1 November, 8pm, Duke of Argyle, Argyle Street (off Mill Road).

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD SW discussion meetings: Every second Wednesday, 7.45pm, Rose and Crown, Old High Street, All welcome.

10 November: Troops out of Ireland!

MANCHESTER: Regular, informal SW/IS get-together, every Sunday, 7.30pm. —The Wheatsheaf, Deansgate. Come for a drink and a chat! All welcome.

EAST KILBRIDE SW discussion meetings on the MEANING OF MARXISM. Every second Tuesday, 8pm, The Murray Hall, The Murray.

2 November: The strike union leadership and the rank and file movement.

16 November: The Crisis and the Cuts.

30 November: The Struggle in Ireland—a Socialist Perspective.

PRESTON SW discussion meetings: Every second Thursday, 8pm, The Keystone, Brook Street. All welcome.

11 November: How profit rules all.

25 November: India and Pakistan.

9 December: The police and the state.

EDINBURGH SW public meetings on the international struggle: Alternate Thursdays, 7.30pm, Room 10, Societies Centre, Hill Place.

11 November: Ireland's British Problem. Speaker: Harry MacShane.

25 November: Workers' struggle in Poland. Speaker: Jan Golab.

BURNLEY SW public meetings: Thursdays, 8pm, The White Hart, Church Street.

4 November: Southern Africa

11 November: social contract or socialism?

18 November: reform or revolution?

EAST LONDON Hospital Workers IS open meeting: Centerprise Books, 136 Kingsland High Road, London E8

Wednesday 3 November: Has the economic system got a future? Speaker: Elana Gluckstein (Counter Information Services).

Wednesday 17 November: British fascism—the Thirties and now. Speaker: Nigel Fountain.

LEICESTER SW discussion meetings: Every second Friday, 9pm prompt, Globe Inn, Silver Street.

5 November: Russia and state capitalism. Speaker: John Clossick (INUT).

19 November: Workers' control or state control? Speaker: Alan Mee (NUSMW).

3 December: The International Socialists and the Labour Party. Speaker: Mike Teague (ASTMS).

Topics to come: China, Portugal, Trotsky and the united front, Leicester and the revolutionary left, Ireland, Queries and suggestions to Terry Allcott, 106 Knighton Fields West, Leicester.

CENTRAL LONDON Socialist Worker meetings on sexual politics. Roebuck pub, Tottenham Court Road, London WC1, on alternate Thursdays at 7pm.

28 October: Personal Life in capitalism. Speaker: Joy Leman.

11 November: The abortion campaign. Which Way Now? Speaker: Gerry Matthews.

NEWPORT SW discussion meetings: every Wednesday, 8pm, The Vulcan, Lower Dock Street.

3 November: Public meeting to commemorate the Chartist March on Newport.

10 November: Gay liberation, women's liberation and the fight for socialism.

BLACKBURN SW discussion meetings: Thursday 4 November. Class struggle in Labour History, some examples of the working class in struggle. Thursday 18 November: Marxist Economics. 8pm, Veteran Hotel, Eansam, Blackburn.

DURHAM SW international public meetings: Leading speakers from IS. Tuesday 23 November: Middle East. 8pm, Elvet Room, Dunelm House, New Elvet, Durham City.

DURHAM SW Education meetings: Discussion on Capitalism? Speakers from local IS branch.

Monday 1 November: How do we achieve socialism—by reform or revolution? Monday 15 November: Is Russia socialist? Monday 29 November: Which way to socialism in Britain? The politics of IS. 8pm, back room of Caprice Hotel, South Street, Durham City.

LEA VALLEY SW public meetings: The Fight for Socialism. Thursday 14 October: World Crisis—the socialist answer. Speaker: Nigel Harris.

Thursday 25 October: What is Socialism? Speaker: Duncan Hallas.

Thursday 11 November: Law and Order. Speaker: Laurie Flynn.

Thursday 25 November: Building the Socialist Workers Party. Speaker: Tony Cliff.

8pm, Golden Fleece, Fore Street, Edmonton.

MANCHESTER IS Hospital Workers public meetings: Every other Thursday, 8pm, TU Bookshop, 260 Deansgate.

11 November: Who runs this country? Speaker: Colin Barker.

25 November: Portugal one year later. Film and speaker who was on the spot. Meeting to be held at Manchester Poly.

LONDON Socialist Worker public meetings on marxist theory and the politics of the International Socialists.

MARXISTS AND THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY. Every second Friday, 7pm, University of London Union, Malet Street, London, WC1 (opposite Dillons Bookshop).

3 November: Building the Socialist Workers Party. Speaker: Tony Cliff.

19 November: Inflation and Marxist Theory. Speaker: Michael Kidron.

3 December: The Labour Party and the Communist Party. Speaker: Paul Foot.

17 December: History of the International Socialists. Speaker: Ian Birchall.

6 January: The Minority Movement and the Right to Work Campaign. Speaker: John Deason.

13 January: State Capitalism in Russia. Speaker: Duncan Hallas.

20 January: World Capitalism and Imperialism. Speaker: Nigel Harris.

27 January: British Imperialism and Ireland. Speaker: Jimmy McCallum.

3 February: Shelley and Revolution. Speaker: Paul Foot.

10 February: The Degradation of Work. Speaker: John Ure.

17 February: The Crisis of British Capitalism. Speaker: Michael Kidron.

24 February: Fighting Racism and Fascism. Speaker: Colin Sparks.

HULL SW day school: Sunday 31 October, 11am, Socialist Books, 238 Springbank, Hull.

11am-12.30pm: Why socialism? The International Socialists and the Socialist Workers Party. 1.30pm-3pm: The Politics of Unemployment, the Right to Work Campaign and the building of a rank and file movement. 3pm-4pm: Working as a socialist.

Food, drink and creche facilities will be available. Phone Hull 25929 for more details.

TOTTENHAM SW bonfire party—proceeds to SW by election campaign levy. Friday 5 November, 6.30pm, adults 50p, kids free, unemployed 25p. Sausages, baked potatoes, soup, etc. Booze available. Bring your own fireworks. Details from branch of phone 348-2041.

FLAME editorial board meeting: Saturday 30 October, 11am, Unemployed Workers Centre, 21 Mayall Road, Brixton, London SW9. All members and Flame supporters welcome. For transport details, phone Kim Gordon 01-739 1878.

womens voice

WOMENS VOICE ABORTION OUR RIGHT TO CHOOSE

BADGES available now, 15p including postage, £2 for 20, £10 for 100 post free. Money with orders to: Women's Voice, 6 Cotton's Gardens, London E2.

Fight Against Racism

SOUTH EAST LONDON SW meeting: Stop police harassment! Defend the Notting Hill Carnival! Speakers: Danny Evaristo (ex-president, Greenwich Trades Council, Right to Work marcher) and Laurie Flynn (SW). Thursday 28 October, 7.30pm, Goldsmiths College, New Cross.

ISLINGTON SW public meeting: The origins and nature of racism and how we fight it. Thursday 28 October, 8pm, Hemingford Arms, Offord Road, London N1 (5 mins from Highbury and Islington tube).

WITNESSES NEEDED: Will anyone who saw the incident in front of BHS, Blackburn (anti-racism demo, 11 September) in which Peter Lynch of Blackburn IS was arrested for alleged assault, please phone Robert Lizan 061-226 5911.

URGENT: Witnesses needed. Anyone who saw the arrest of Metra Glen at the anti-National Front demonstration in Walsall, on Saturday 25 September, please phone Jenny on Walsall 614891. Metra is being charged with assault on the police.

PICKET the anti-abortion group SPUC (Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child). SPUC is holding five regional rallies on Sunday 7 November in their campaign against legal abortion. Women's Voice is organising five counter-demonstrations.

BIRMINGHAM: Sunday 7 November, 12.45pm, Calthorpe Park.

BRADFORD: Sunday 7 November, 1pm, Lister Park.

BRISTOL: Rally at Downs, near Water Tower, 1.30pm.

CHELMSFORD: Sunday 7 November, 1.30pm, New Writtle Street, Chelmsford City Football Ground.

GLASGOW: Sunday 7 November, 2.30pm, outside Kelvin Hall. Speakers for the SPUC meeting include James White.

NOTICES

SPEAKERS NEEDED ON IRELAND: Most of the International Socialists established speakers on Ireland are based in London. The IS Irish Sub-Committee needs comrades outside London willing to speak. Please contact IS Irish Sub-Committee, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 (phone 01-739 1878).

NATKKE: Could all members of the international Socialists and SW supporters in NATKKE, also anyone with experience of building in theatres please contact (in strictest confidence) Stage Hand, Manchester TU Books, 260 Deansgate, Manchester 20.

SHIPBUILDERS: Will all members of the International Socialists employed in shipbuilding/repairing or oil rig erection please contact Jim Conner, c/o 64 Queen Street, Glasgow C1. (Glasgow IS Shipbuilders Branch).

GUY FAWKES WAS RIGHT! North London Socialist Worker Social: Friday 5 November, 8pm-11pm, City University (near Angel), London N1. With Linxouise and disco. Entrance 75p (50p unemployed and students).

ACCOMMODATION WANTED: About £5 a week, Islington, Camden, Kilburn. Phone 806 7009.

HACKNEY SW bonfire party—proceeds to SW by election campaign levy. Friday 5 November, 6.30pm, adults 50p, kids free, unemployed 25p. Sausages, baked potatoes, soup etc. Bring your own fireworks and booze. Tickets and details of place from SW sellers.

SWINDON: Anyone interested in helping to form a Swindon International Socialists branch please write to Swindon IS, c/o 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 6DN.

SCARBOROUGH AREA: Anyone interesting in forming discussion group, sales of SW etc, please contact Chris, phone Filey 2867.

REVOLUTIONARY POSTERS from Spain, Portugal and Africa (with explanatory text), for £1.50 (inc postage) from IS International Dept, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

WANTED: WANTED: Comrade, preferably with car, to help SW Circulation on Wednesday mornings, one comrade, preferably with car. Expenses paid. Ring John Larkham 739 2639.

URGENTLY NEEDED: Comrade with driving licence, willing and able to help Socialist Worker every Wednesday between 11am and 3pm approximately. For further details, ring John Larkham, 01-739 2639.

NOISS

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON. IS Society: introduction to the politics of the International Socialists—a series of public meetings. Every Monday, 1pm, Conference Room, Collegiate Building, Gordon Street, London, WC1. All SW readers welcome.

1 November: Internationalism. Speaker: Joanna Rolfe.

NOISS Day Schools on the international struggle for socialism. Sessions include: imperialism, Southern Africa, the Middle East, students and solidarity work, film.

SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES: Sunday 31 October, Bristol University.

MIDLANDS: Saturday 6 November, Birmingham Polytechnic.

NORTH WEST AND WALES: Sunday 7 November, Manchester Poly.

SCOTLAND: 13 November, Edinburgh University.

YORKSHIRE AND THE NORTH EAST: Sunday 14 November, Leeds University.

SOUTH: Saturday 20 November, Portsmouth Poly.

LONDON: Sunday 21 November, University College.

Watch for further details.

International Socialism 92

IRELAND

Mao Tse-tung

NOW OUT: The latest edition of International Socialism Journal. Major articles on Ireland and China. 39p (inc postage) from ISJ, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 or 30p from your SW seller.

SOCIALIST WORKER RECORDINGS

Documentaries and public meetings, tapes and cassettes, for SW discussion groups, whenever possible.

- 1. WHAT HAPPENED TO BLACK POWER?—Fred Hooper, IS International Socialist, 30 mins, £1.40.
- 2. GUERRILLA—Tom Cliff, 45 mins, £1.40.
- 3. CHINA—A 15 minute documentary, with Chinese music, £1.40.
- 4. SONGS OF THE PORTUGUESE REVOLUTION—In Portuguese, including Grande Vozes, the song used on Labor Radio.

All prices include postage. Cheques payable to Socialist Worker Recordings, please.

We now have facilities for recording, editing and producing recordings. If you have an interesting subject or have a great idea for a recording, please contact us. We will be pleased to discuss whether your recording has the right tone and technical requirements.

- 1. Dates and times to Peter, Manchester SW Recording, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London, E2.

'Now we're beginning to feel and act like revolutionaries because we are in a revolutionary organisation.'

'I SAID to my friend Margaret: "You know, I've a feeling we're going down there to be sold out."

'And she was horrified. "You *mustn't* say that, Gerry. How can you?"'

Gerry and Margaret, members of the Communist Party, were on their way to a meeting called in March 1973 by the Clydebank Council to discuss the fight against the Tory Rent Act.

The council had refused to increase rents as the government had demanded.

Porridge

Communist councillor Jimmy Reid had told newspapers that he would 'rather sup porridge with his principles in prison' than give way to the Tories.

Gerry recalls the meeting: 'The councillors were on the platform and all over the hall were influential Communist Party members.'

'One by one they got up and made the same speech. "We'd fought the good fight"—"there's only so much we can do". They told us they were calling off the fight, and raising the rents.'

'I got up and said that I expected this sort of thing from Labour councillors but here were three Communist councillors on the platform selling out the whole working class of Clydebank.'

'I didn't know it at the time, but it wasn't the Labour councillors who decided to end the fight. They'd been persuaded by the Communist councillors to do it.'

The following week, Gerry went to a local Communist Party branch meeting to discuss the sell-out.

Headway

'I remember one woman speaking—a damn fine Communist she used to be once, too. She said that it was the first time we'd made any headway in years, because Jimmy Reid was on the telly. Well, I got up and said:

"Maybe there's something wrong with me, but I thought the Communist Party was all about changing the system of society, and now we've forgotten all about that. All we've got to do now is to get people on the telly."

'Horror all over the room! Only one person made a half-decent statement. I remember looking around and thinking: they *know* that what they are doing is wrong, but there is nobody to challenge it.'

'And I thought, this must be what goes on in Russia and I could see it here in one wee Party branch. I said to myself: "That's me finished. You can't change this lot."

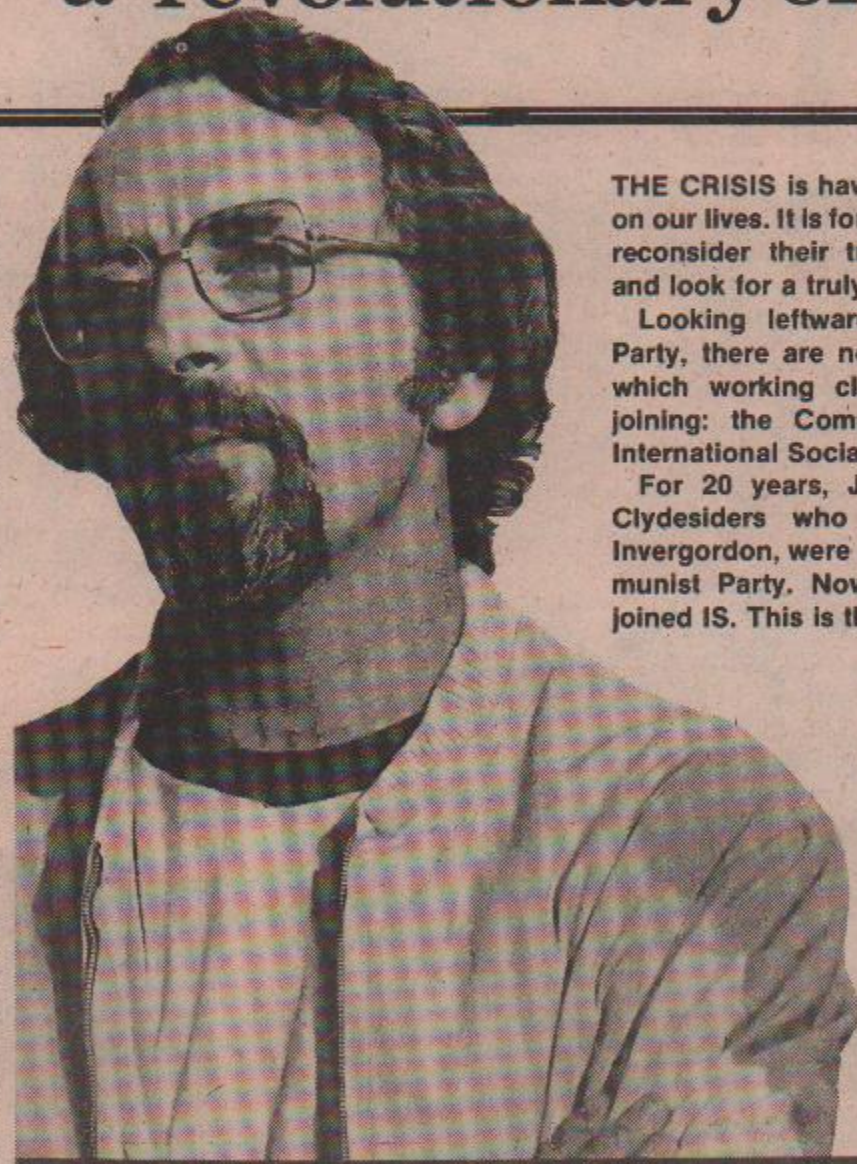
'I decided that night to leave the Party. I went home and told Jim what happened and he left with me.'

Instinct

JIM AND GERRY Blair met in the early 1950s in the Clydebank Young Communist League branch which included Jimmy Reid and Gavin Laird, now a right-wing member of the Engineering Union executive.

Gerry joined instinctively. 'Just by looking around you could see our people just didn't have enough. It was as simple as that.'

Jim was persuaded to join the



THE CRISIS is having a profound affect on our lives. It is forcing many workers to reconsider their traditional allegiances and look for a truly socialist alternative.

Looking leftwards from the Labour Party, there are now two organisations which working class people consider joining: the Communist Party or the International Socialists.

For 20 years, Jim and Gerry Blair, Clydesiders who recently moved to Invergordon, were members of the Communist Party. Now they have left and joined IS. This is their story.



Communist Party by a fellow-worker in an engineering shop on the Clyde.

'There was this lad called Eddie,' he says. 'He was the shop steward and he organised a book club. The apprentices put in threepence a week, and the journeymen put in sixpence.'

'Eddie would go up to the Communist Party bookshop each week and buy books, wonderful books, The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists, of course, and all of Upton Sinclair, books about Robert Burns, Lewis Grassie Gibbon, Jack London.'

'All the apprentices were members of the club, and most of the journeymen. We used to read the books and then argue about them.'

Argue

'Argue—we argued all the day through, and I took my arguments home with me.'

'I came from a very religious family, so I argued against religion and for socialism. And it all had some effect, I can tell you. My two sisters and my mother joined the Communist Party.'

Over the next ten or 15 years most of this activity and agitation slowed to a halt. Neither Jim nor Gerry can identify exactly why.

Gerry says: 'Looking back on it, there were many times when I thought there was something wrong.'

'I remember Finlay Hart, an old Communist, being persuaded to stand once again for the council. Making his speech of acceptance, he said something about how he wasn't going to receive a lot of "hysterical women" up at his door complaining about things.'

'I remember bursting out from the floor, almost crying I was so upset. I said I was disgusted to hear a Communist speak like that about the working class.'

'They smoothed it over, and said that he didn't mean to say what he'd seemed to say, but I never forgot it.

'And then again, during the rents battle, we women wanted to involve the men workers in the area. We decided to go up in a group to the Singers factory and hold a meeting there and give out leaflets to get the men to understand how vital the battle was.'

'Well we were told by the Communist Party official: "Don't go up there, we'll get the convenor down." I was very angry and still insisted on going up there. But you could see the other women weakening.'

Rents

'"Oh, well," they said. "Maybe we shouldn't go, he's got the voice of experience." We didn't go. And we never got the message over to the workers.'

'There are lots of other cases like that which at the time bothered me, but I didn't add them all up until the big rents meetings in 1973.'

JIM HAD similar experiences. He went into Yarrow's shipyard, where he became Engineering Union convenor.

One year he beat the right-winger for the yard convenor's position.

He lost again the next year, but he was strongly supported by the engineers to keep challenging for the position.

Begging

Senior Communist Party members in the yard begged him to defer to a Labour Party man. 'They said he had a better chance of winning. Well, they persuaded me, and I persuaded the engineers. I dropped out.'

'The Labour Party man won—but he was a disaster, no better than the right-winger. And I remember Gerry and I saying to each other at home: "Well, that's wrong, surely."

'I was active in the yard, of

course, and on the branch committee of the union, but there was never any call on me as a Communist Party member. No, I never sold any Daily Workers in the yard, I just bought one at home.'

Hungary

'I grew very disillusioned with the party after Hungary, and again over Czechoslovakia. The rents sell-out was the last straw.'

Jim left the yards four years ago to train as a teacher, and now teaches physics in Invergordon.

A few months ago, he and Gerry were contacted by Easter Ross International Socialists, and went to a couple of meetings.

'You see,' says Jim, 'we didn't leave the Communist Party to become right-wingers, like so many others.'

'So many Communists are so sickened by the Party that they walk out of politics altogether. Both of us have been revolutionaries all our life.'

'Now, we're beginning to feel we can act like revolutionaries because we're in a revolutionary organisation.'

They are not alone. Jackie Blair, 18, has just gone to Stirling University, where she has joined the IS Society.

Cleaners

Alison Blair, 15, went to school the other day in Invergordon, and heard her teacher say: 'Well, we're really teaching a lesson to these striking school cleaners. We're

proving we don't need school cleaners at all.'

And Alison shouted back from her desk: 'Excuse me, but the school cleaners are more important than the teachers!'

The teacher huffed and puffed and changed the subject.

CONSIDERING there are five more members of the Blair family ranging from five up to eighteen years of age, it won't be long before there's enough revolutionaries in Invergordon to start another mutiny.

LAW AND DISORDER

Big Red Diary 1976

There's William Hone in all his glory taking the piss out of the high and mighty... It also contains a great deal about the struggle for real freedom...

Treat yourself. Have one for each pocket!

—Laurie Flynn in Socialist Worker.



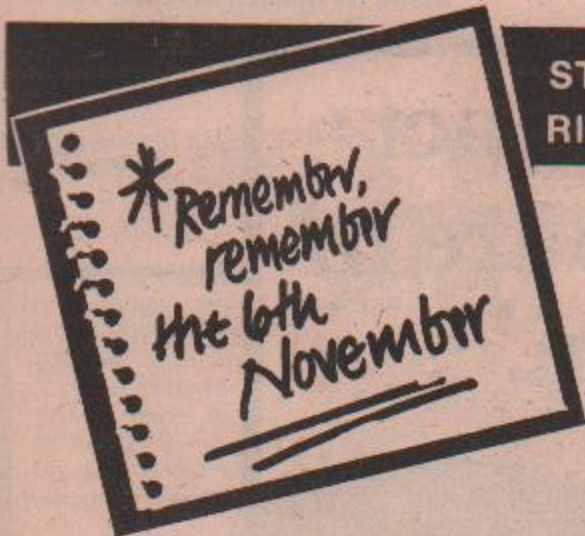
SEND ME A 1977 BIG RED DIARY

I enclose £1 per copy, of which 25p is for the Right to Work Defence Fund

NAME
 ADDRESS
 NUMBER OF COPIES
 (Send to
 Photo Press, Unit 10 Spencer Court,
 7 Chalcoot Road, London NW1.
 Cash with order only.)

Interview by **PAUL FOOT**

STOP THE CUTS... STOP THE SACKINGS... SUPPORT THE 6 NOVEMBER
RIGHT TO WORK CONFERENCE... ALL OUT 17 NOVEMBER



34 face union threat of expulsion

by JEFF HURFORD (North London NUT)

THIRTY-FOUR teachers have been suspended from the National Union of Teachers and face expulsion.

They work at Little Ilford Comprehensive, in Newham, East London. Their school is one of 50 where NUT members are refusing to cover for staff absent for more than three days.

The NUT executive has refused to give official backing to the three-day 'no cover' campaign. Instead at the beginning of October they formally instructed the Little Ilford teachers to end their unofficial action.

At the same time the local authority suddenly withdrew a supply teacher who was covering for an absent teacher. When an NUT member refused to cover for the absent teacher he was reported for

breach of contract.

The NUT members went on strike for the last period of the day.

The executive sent a shower of letters, officials arrived. Finally the teachers were told to sign a document renouncing their unofficial action—or be suspended.

Four signed, two left the union in disgust. The remaining 34 now face a disciplinary hearing.

The NUT rep at the school, Birenda Singh, told Socialist Worker why they decided not to cover.

'Student teachers in their last term at college, facing the dole queue, visited the school last term. That is what caused us to translate the statistics about teacher unemployment into people.'

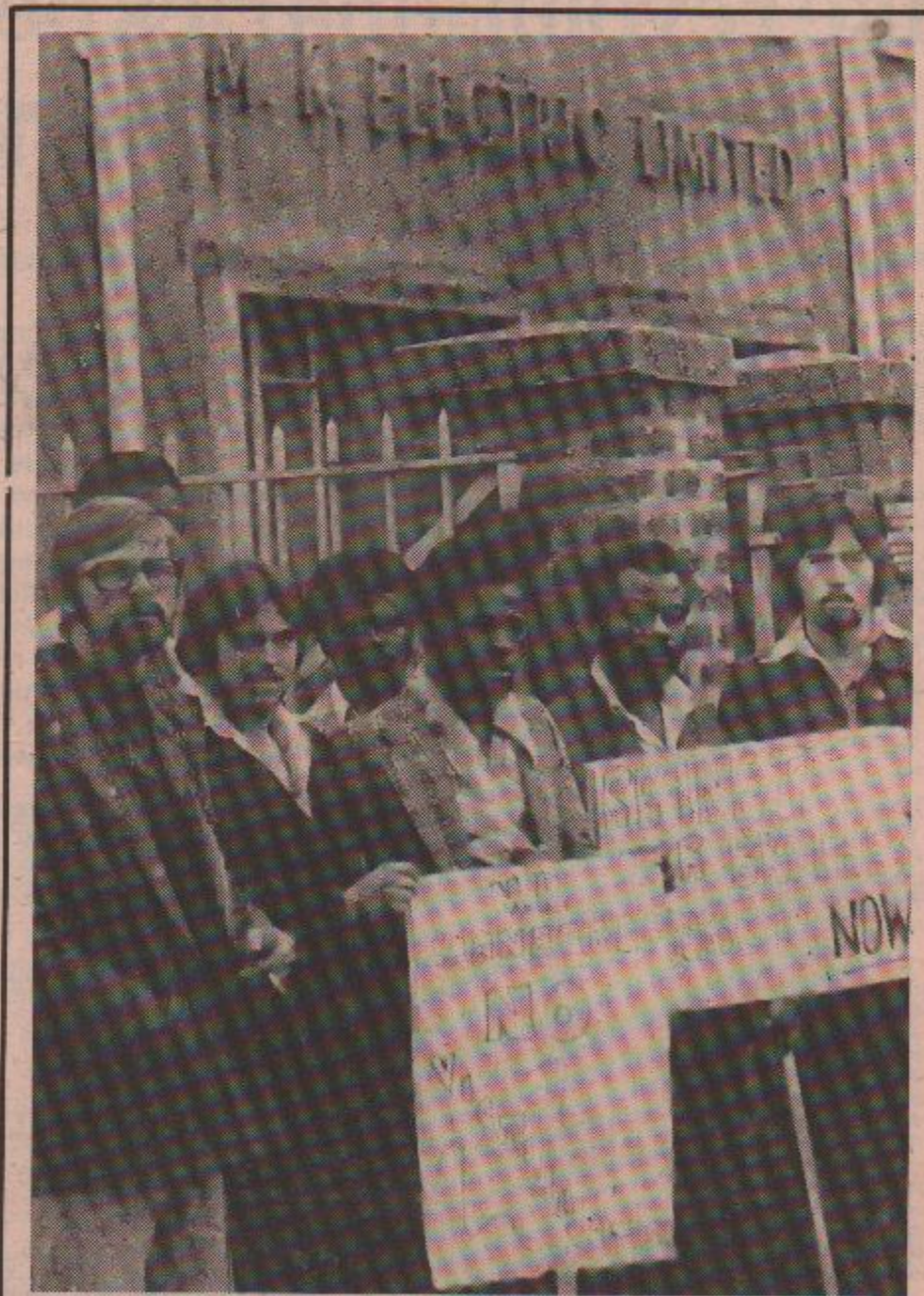
'We began the 'no cover' campaign in the summer. We stopped it when the executive asked. We started again in September because we were so angered at the enormous rise in the numbers of out-of-work teachers.'

Housing office out

EAST LONDON: Sixty members of the local government workers union, NALGO, in Tower Hamlets Housing Department have been on unofficial strike since last Thursday, protesting against the council's refusal to increase staff. Their workload has increased by 15 per cent in the past two years.

The service provided by the department is inevitably deteriorating. The final straw came when an irate tenant smashed the windows of the housing department in protest at the poor service.

Four hours later the staff walked out.



MK:90 FIGHT RACIALISM

NORTH LONDON-90 MK Electric workers, members of the Engineering Union, at the Park Road site, Edmonton, are on strike for the reinstatement of a moulder.

All three shifts in the moulding shop are supporting a black worker victimised after

intervening in a dispute in which a fellow worker had been persistently harassed by a racialist supervisor.

□ Collections and messages of support to Strike Committee, c/o Roger Burns (convenor), 5 Tudor Court, London E17.

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

DEPTFORD Anti-Racist Campaign presents 'Divide and Rule Britannia', a play by Broadside Mobile Workers' Theatre, plus speakers at Deptford Town Hall, 7.30pm, Wednesday 3 November.

THE BESLY AND BRACES ROADSHOW COMPANY Presents: 'England Expects' at: PONTYPRIDD, AUEW House, 3 November.

NANTYMOEL: Berwyn Centre, 4 November.

CWMBRAN: Congress Theatre, 5 November.

LLANTWIT MAJOR: St Donat's Arts Centre, 6 November.

And a performance of the **BELT AND BRACES BAND** at Taff Wells Community Centre, 8 November.

In association with the South East Wales Arts Association. For further details ring 01-485-2872.

WANTED: Actors to form Socialist Theatre Group in Birmingham. Contact: R Homey, 154 B Middleton Hall Road, King's Norton, Birmingham 30.

TRADE UNION COMMITTEE AGAINST THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM ACT Public Meeting: The Irish and the PTA. Speakers: Brian Rose Smith (a solicitor), Annette Gonzales (member of the committee), Sue Malloran (recently arrested under the PTA). Acton Town Hall, 7.30pm, Thursday 4 November.

NORTH WEST LONDON Right to Work Campaign meeting: NO RETURN TO THE THIRTIES, FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK. Thursday 28 October, 8pm, Harlesden Primary School, Acton Lane, NW10 (near Harlesden Station, 187 and 12 buses pass the door, or 226, 260 and 18 go to Craven Park).

Speakers: Bill Deacon (a member of the National Unemployed Workers' Movement in the 1930's, and still fighting), and Jason Meyler (National Right to Work Campaign).

ANSAPHONE for militants held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. London 01-603 2864. Chester 061-832 8102.

CONTACT NO2, the only group for members of the National Unemployed Workers' Movement in the 1930's, and still fighting. Contact: 265A, London N4.

Action

The best way to fight the suspensions is to spread the 'no cover' campaign to as many schools as possible, and to work for strike action on 17 November.

The executive is calling only for token delegations from each area to attend the lobby of parliament.

Last year the executive rushed changes through conference which made it an offence to take any form of unofficial action. But this is the first time they have dared to do anything about it.

Every effort is needed by rank and file teachers to stop Little Ilford being isolated and picked off. Socialist Worker readers are asked to send letters containing as many signatures as possible to the Little Ilford teachers offering support.

□ Support the lobby of the NUT executive on Friday 5 November, 4.30pm, Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1. Attend the meeting afterwards at Mary Ward Hall, Tavistock Place, London WC1, two minutes from Hamilton House.

□ Spread the three-day 'no cover' campaign.

□ All out on 17 November.

□ Move resolutions demanding the executive drop all action through the Little Ilford teachers through associations and school branches.

□ Letters of support to Birenda Singh (NUT rep), Little Ilford School, Browning Road, London E12.

Victory over cuts in Bury

BURY Action Group against the Cuts in Social Services has won another victory. A five and a half week sit-in in Hillcrest, a half-way house threatened with closure, has forced the area health authority to fund the home for another 18 months.

The Action Group will make sure the local council doesn't get away with any future plans to close the home.

The action groups cam-

paign has involved the biggest demonstration seen in Bury for years, pickets of council meetings and postering. They have reversed the decisions to close a day nursery and a training centre, as well as Hillcrest.

Their success has been boosted by the Bury NALGO branch policy of non-cooperation with the cuts.

The campaign has further cuts to fight—an old

peoples home, two day centres and a childrens home are threatened, as well as the right of disabled people to free bus passes.

The action group has been helped by the success of their newsletter. The first edition sold all 2500 copies and the second edition has just appeared. They are sending speakers to Union meetings and plan to have another demonstration soon.

NEWS IN BRIEF

MANCHESTER: Drivers at the National Travels Depot went back to work on Tuesday after a four-day strike. 62 coach drivers in the transport workers' union (TGWU) took action against new tighter bus schedules and attempts to discipline one driver.

The new timings, in particular the London route, are now being renegotiated. The man they tried to discipline will now get full pay for both days he lost.

READING: Members of the white collar section of the Transport Union, ACTS, have been on strike for three weeks for union recognition at Aldermaston Court, a correspondence college owned by Cassell Collier Macmillan.

The strike started when

eight typists were sacked. Six were union members. They included the union branch secretary, Hestor Roberts.

Of the original 40 strikers, 28 remain on the picket line. The rest have returned to work after management told them they were free to join a trade union—yet ACTS have not been officially recognised.

Young printers are being paid as little as £17 per week, while women office workers earn only 40p an hour. That is why the management want to keep the union out.

Drivers belonging to the TGWU are refusing to cross the picket line with supplies, but it is believed that the post is being smuggled in.

□ Donations and messages of support to: Mrs PLuck, 21

Shysock Lane, Baughurst, near Tadley, Hants.

MANCHESTER, strikers from E N Brays are visiting fellow members of the Engineering Union (EETPU) in Glasgow to win support for their struggle against redundancies. They are visiting Inverkip Power Station and other plants.

Police armed with axes evicted the strikers from their occupation but they are continuing with the strike.

□ Support and donations to Phil Kelly, 26 Ludlow Towers, Birmingham, Stockport, Cheshire.

SOUTHAMPTON: After two weeks of selective strikes, a mass meeting of 260 technicians, members of the white-collar union ASTMS, at Southampton University

CLEANERS' OCCUPATION

FIVE cleaners at Holbrook site of the North East London Polytechnic have locked the building they have been picketing. They are sitting in part of the building.

They have been on strike since the new term began in protest at the use of asbestos in a new reception centre. Sheets of asbestos were cut up in the building and the cleaners were told to sweep up the dust.

Now that one of the cleaners has been sacked, they have all occupied the building.

voted overwhelmingly for an all-out stoppage. The University has not implemented a holiday agreement it made with ASTMS in 1974.

The university's reason for not honouring the agreement is that they say it breaks the Social Contract.

Picket Callaghan!

ONLY weeks after joining in the Black Paper chorus attacking teachers, James Callaghan is to be guest of honour at the 21st anniversary celebrations of a London Comprehensive, Woodberry Down.

The North London Right to Work Committee is calling a picket in protest at this. He is responsible for the cuts in education that have put 20,000 teachers on the dole.

The Campaign urges all its supporters—teachers, employed and unemployed, parents and other trade unionists—to attend this picket: Tuesday 9 November, 6.30pm, Woodberry Down School, Woodberry Lane, London N4 (nearest tube: Manor House.)

UCATT boss threatens builders

HERTS: Building workers at the Marshall Andrew site in Welwyn Garden City are now in the 23rd week of their fight for direct employment by the main contractor for all workers on site.

But last week the national leadership of the building workers' union UCATT moved against them. At a mass meeting on Wednesday they were told that if they did not lift their pickets the union would ask the police to escort other union members through the picket line.

Despite this scandalous blackmail the strikers voted overwhelmingly to carry on. Now union general secretary George Smith has taken the first steps in disciplining three of the branch secretaries supporting this strike, which is in fact carrying out decisions taken at the most recent UCATT conference.

The three under threat are Roger Claxton, Bert Bott, and UCATT general council member Bill Claxton.

More resolutions from UCATT branches supporting the men's stand for direct employment are vital for victory.

500 march for dustmen

IT WAS one of Canterbury's biggest demonstrations ever! Five hundred demonstrators marched on Saturday in support of council workers who have been on strike for three weeks against cuts and sackings.

The local trades council called the demonstration, and the Labour Party, Right to Work Campaign and local trade unionists all took part.

□ Support and donations to the Strike Committee, 124 Old Dover Dover Road, Canterbury, Kent.

Threat to RTW centre

SHEFFIELD: The Labour-controlled council is trying to evict the local Right to Work Committee from the empty shop they took over for an Unemployed Workers Centre. Ten Right to Work supporters have been summoned to appear in court on 5 November. The court has also asked anyone else involved to come forward and add their names.

Dozens of trade unionists from all over Sheffield are expected to take advantage of this offer. The court's problem will be to find a dock big enough for all the defendants who are expected.

□ Resolutions and letters of protest to the council should be sent to George Watson, Head of the Labour Group, Town Hall, Sheffield.

**STOP THE CUTS... STOP THE SACKINGS... SUPPORT THE 6 NOVEMBER
RIGHT TO WORK CONFERENCE... ALL OUT 17 NOVEMBER**

Barrier strike in ninth week

WOOLWICH: The 43 platers and welders on the Thames Barrier site are now in the ninth week of their strike to save jobs.

The strike was made official two weeks ago. All transport was stopped from crossing the picket line and the whole site stopped work in support.

Management tried to divide the workforce by sending out letters saying the strike was not official. When that failed they generously agreed to meet all the unions in Central London, on one condition: that the whole site went back to work, the strike was called off and the four sacked platers and welders stayed outside.

Rightly, the boilermakers rejected this apology for an offer. Unfortunately they reckoned without Frank Byrne, the TGWU official. On the basis of that offer he and his TGWU convenor recommended to a mass meeting a full return on Monday.

Pressure

Not satisfied with that, they've told the lads on strike that they'll encourage union drivers to cross the official picket line.

Come last Monday all transport was being turned back, but Byrne will without doubt put pressure on TGWU drivers.

Management have always refused to recognise CEU or the Boilermakers Union—agreeing only to negotiate with the rival unions TGWU and UCATT.

To maintain the TGWU's 'power' on the site Byrne has played the management's game. Result: redundancies and the threat of more to come.

Messages of support to: Barrier Strike Committee, 30 Silverdale Road, Bexleyheath, Kent. Better still take them to the picket line at Eastmoor Street, Charlton, London SE7.

Sheffield jobs battle

SHEFFIELD: Shop stewards representing the 4500 workers in the Edgar, Allen Balfour group of factories met last week to discuss action in support of two factories threatened with closure.

350 jobs are at stake at the Balfour Darwen Tube Division and another 80 at Edgar Allen Tools.

The convenor of Balfour Darwen's Fitzwilliam works, Clive Hartley, told Socialist Worker: 'We agreed to go back to our factories and hold mass meetings to explain what was threatened. We are working towards a mass meeting of all the workers in the group sometime in the next month. It will be held in the Sheffield City Halls.'

'Stewards from Openshaw in the tool groups pledged that they will not do any work normally carried out by the two threatened factories.'

'If we let management get away with it here everyone else could be picked off later.'

'We are calling for support from factories throughout Sheffield. At Williams Catcliffe, near Rotherham, the receiver has just gone in and there's another 200 jobs at stake.'

LLANELLI HOSPITAL VICTORY

LLANELLI: A two-month campaign for better health facilities by the Llanelli Right to Work Committee has won its first victory. The Area Health Authority has agreed to spend £75,000 next year building a new maternity unit.

3000 local people had signed the Right to Work petition demanding improvements at the hospital—and last week the council called a public meeting to warn the people of Llanelli that they were falling under the influence of extremists.

Rolls 'Back Blantyre' call

ROLLS-ROYCE workers in factories across Britain are being summoned to special mass meetings this week to discuss support for the four-month occupation of Rolls-Royce Blantyre.

The Rolls-Royce combine committee

met in Birmingham last week and agreed that all the factory convenors should go back to their workplaces and call immediate mass meetings to put the Blantyre case and win wider support for the occupation.

Already Leavesden and other English factories have sent substantial donations to the strike fund as a result of this decision. Financial

support from the Scottish factories has also increased.

Now this decision has been taken, combine-wide solidarity action must be organised quickly.

Throughout the occupation the determination to win has been impressive. Mass meeting after mass meeting has voted solidly to continue the fight to prevent the factory from closing. That determination can be rewarded by a far-reaching victory if the union leadership are forced to argue for sympathy stoppages.

The stewards have agreed to send two delegates to the Right to Work Conference on 6 November. They see this conference as a means of broadening support for their battle as well as an opportunity to pass on some valuable experience to workers facing similar threats.

Hugh McNie, AUEW shop steward and a member of the coordinating committee, summed up the mood of the occupation enthusiastically when he told Socialist Worker: 'The financial response from the English factories has been great.'

'We have been sending flying squads round some factories in the West of Scotland, leafletting the workers and doing collections at the gate. Tomorrow morning we have four teams going out. If this keeps up we can really win.'

Messages of support and donations to: Joan Simmons, 54 Aylton Park North, East Kilbride.

Swansea Victory

SWANSEA: In answer to a call from the local Right to Work Committee, Swansea University has pledged that experienced lagger will strip the sprayed asbestos coating from its swimming pool.

The Right to Work committee wrote to the university principal pointing out the hazard.

BINGO! SEVENTY WOMEN GO ON STRIKE

SEVENTY women are on official strike at Club One Bingo in Coventry for union recognition. The five members of the strike committee—Ann Coffey, Rita Walker, Pam Brooks, Geraldine Winters and Irene Lacy—have sent this report to Socialist Worker.

CLUB ONE bingo hall is part of the gambling and entertainments combine personally owned by Hugh Orr Enterprises, a Coventry concern with interests in the Midlands and coastal regions.

This dubious empire was founded and built on the exploitation of its employees, who are mostly married women and single parents.

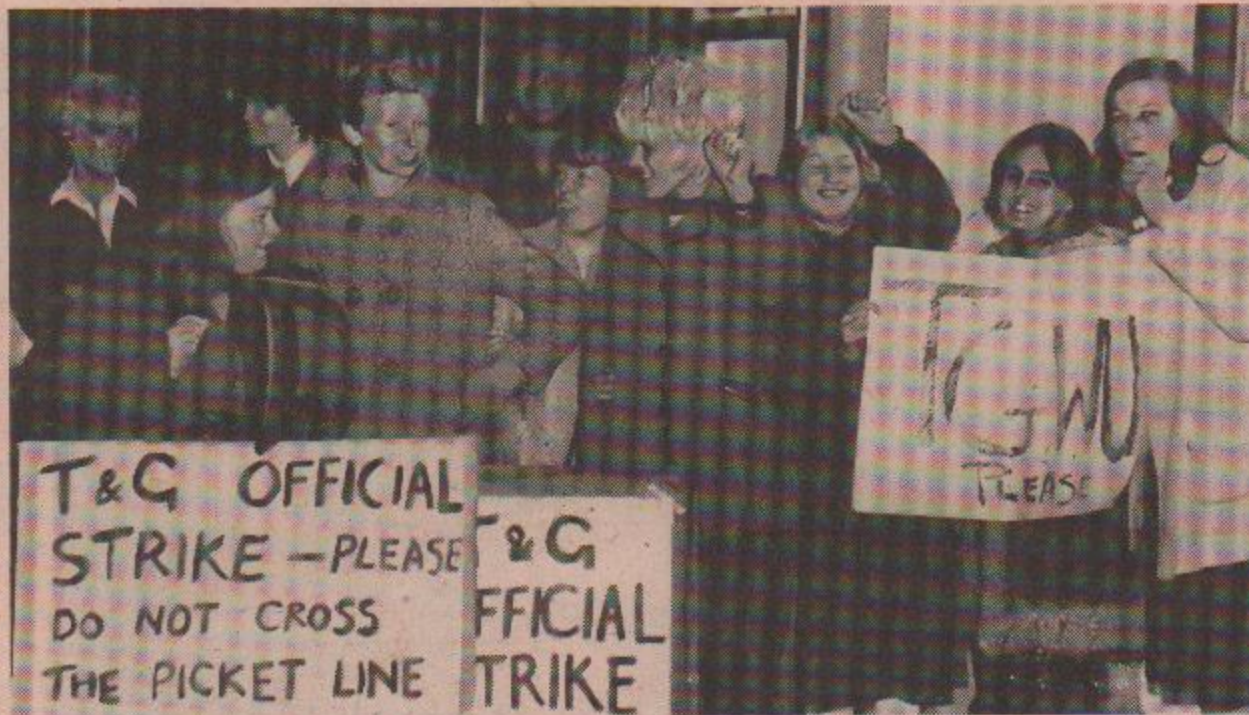
When Club One opened in November 1974 we were paid an average of 50p an hour. Today we get the magnificent sum of 56½p an hour, and 68p for overtime when we are allowed to do it.

To obtain justice we have joined the Transport Workers Union (TGWU). But the management are refusing categorically to recognise, or even meet, the union.

'Lower?'

Although they have previously always said we couldn't join any union, they now say we should join NATTKE, the entertainments union. But NATTKE is no use to us, since it agrees wages lower than we've got already!

We came out on strike on Friday and started by



picketing Club One. The picket was very effective and only a handful of customers went in. On Saturday the club was forced to shut down, but the picket kept going all weekend.

We are also picketing the Rialto Casino, another of Orr's goldmines where the TGWU members—about 60 per cent—have come out with us.

On Sunday night only about 50 of the normal 200-300 customers went in, and we intend to shut that down soon.

We have plans to extend the pickets to Theatre One, which is a cinema, Three C's and The Spa, in Leamington. We will bring them all to a halt if we have to.

Help

We have had great support on the pickets, not only from delivery drivers refusing to cross, but also help on the pickets lines from the International Socialists, the Right to Work Campaign, the Working Women's Charter and individual trades

unionists and socialists.

This support has been a great boost to us and has helped to keep up our morale in the face of constant management intimidation. They even tried advertising our jobs outside Club One on Friday.

We would also like to thank the customers of Club One and the Rialto through the pages of Socialist Worker. The vast majority of them have supported us and have not tried to cross the pickets.

Meanwhile, until we have

won we would welcome any support on the pickets that people can give us.

Club One Strike Committee, 85 Queen Victoria Rd, Coventry.

Ford: No deal on pay...and action at Dagenham

UNION negotiators at Fords announced last week that they wouldn't recommend management's pathetic package deal to their members.

The deal centres on a pay rise of the £2.50-£4 allowed by the Social Contract, but means the loss of cost-of-living payments.

As TGWU chief negotiator Moss Evans pointed out, the

company have not even offered all they could under the Social Contract. In particular they could give more on pensions and guarantees over lay-offs.

Among many Ford plants that have already rejected the deal the Dagenham Assembly plant has voted overwhelmingly against the offer as it doesn't include a guaranteed 40-hour week.

Unless management im-

prove the offer, the plant will consider industrial action against lay-offs without pay and for a guaranteed working week.

DAGENHAM: Prompt union action prevented Ford management from sacking all door-hangers last week.

The workers were sacked after they stopped work in support of fellow worker Ken

West, suspended for his alleged part in the Body Plant 'riot' a fortnight ago. Using the threat of plant closure, and anger against recent lay-offs, the company were able to whip up feelings against the door-hangers.

They could then find enough scabs within the plant to attempt to man up the section and resume production.

Shop stewards and district officials were largely able to prevent this and when other sections blacked cars produced by scabs, deadlock was broken and the door-hangers reinstated.

Ken West is still suspended pending an inquiry.

The company was clearly out to hammer the union and to pave the way for lower manning levels on the new Fiesta. The battle to maintain unity in the plant and to defend jobs and manning levels against the company's attacks must go on.

FIGHT FOR UNION AT AQUATEL

BASILDON: The 26 men and women at the Aquatels leisure centre have come out on strike a second time to win union recognition.

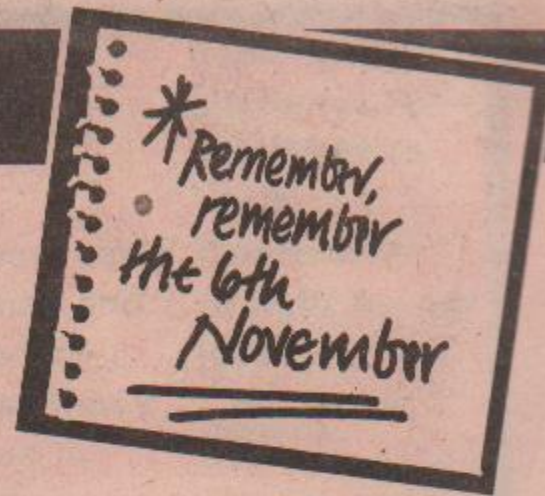
There's been a long series of sackings, no overtime is paid for, there is no sick pay or pension scheme and trade union members are harassed by the management. A branch of the General and Municipal

Workers' Union was formed to fight this and after a four-day strike which won the reinstatement of one member they thought the union would be recognised.

But the managing director has tried to dictate who the shop stewards will be and tried to enforce a contract of employment which is completely unacceptable

The second strike started on Tuesday. They are determined to win written assurances from the management before they return to work this time.

Messages of support and donations to GMWU shop steward, Bill Naylor, 3 North Lodge, Aquatels Recreation Centre, Cranes Farm Road, Basildon, Essex.



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PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p

Two more Right to Work marchers face jail terms

TWO more Right to Work marchers were given jail sentences after being found guilty last week of assaulting policemen.

The sentences, two months for Bobbie Burds, an Elec-

tricians Union member from Manchester, and one month for Willie Dolan, a member of the Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers in Glasgow, were passed by a stipendiary magistrate sitting alone. They were denied a jury trial.

Both are now on bail pending appeal.

Mike Lynch, an unemployed miner from Dunfermline and chairman of his local Labour Party, was sentenced to six months two weeks ago. He, too is on bail. Mike was beaten unconscious by the police before being dragged into the police station during the attack on the Manchester-to-London Right to Work march at Staples Corner in North London in March.

On Thursday two more marchers were tried. Malcolm Besant and Ron Senchak were both charged with assault and Ron with obstruction.

Malcom's case was dismissed. But Ron was fined £50 with £15 costs.

John Glenn and Pat Edwards were found not guilty. Pam Edwards was given a conditional discharge.

For the three found guilty, acquittals would have meant the court admitting that the police deliberately lied. It would mean that the police systematically beat up marchers after they had arrested them.



Bobby Burds - two months.



Willie Dolan - one month



Mike Lynch - 6 months

Punched

Bobby Burds has witnesses, other marchers, that he was repeatedly punched while in the police bus by Constable Mogfoot of the infamous Special Patrol Group.

Many witnesses testified to seeing Ron Senchak being kicked repeatedly while on the ground and punched on the nose by Constable Greaves.

The stonewall stance is obviously the only defence the courts and the police have against the truth. It does not matter that the offensive weapon—a six-foot square black pole as specifically described by the police—with which Bobby was supposed to have assaulted Constable Mogfoot, has never been found.

It does not matter even when the witnesses are totally independent like Mr Milne, a worker in Smith's industries whose office happened to overlook the scene of the attack. This court is not prepared to convict the police of lying.

It got very difficult at one point in Malcolm Besant's trial when Constable Davison (SPG) claimed that when he arrived on the scene the leading marchers were wear-

ing industrial safety helmets. After an embarrassed silence he was gently advised that he really must be mistaken.

Throughout the trial the defence insisted that the police attack was an illegal operation, an unjustified attack on people's right to walk along a public highway and the arrests that followed were also illegal.

The magistrate of course was not prepared to accept that policemen are ordered to act illegally any more than he is prepared to accept that they tell deliberate lies.

But the weight of the evidence was such that he did feel obliged to make this concession to the truth.

'It is not part of my job to criticise the police but it was a great pity that the police felt obliged to intervene in what was a heavyhanded and insensitive manner,' he said.

Enough said mate. I suppose we all want to keep our jobs.

COURTAULDS THREAT TO SACK 3000

by ROBBIE MARMION

COURTAULDS, the textiles giant, plan to sack 3000 workers—and close four factories.

That's 600 on the dole from Furzebrook Knitting Mills, Aintree, on Merseyside, 1500 at Castle Mills, Flint, North Wales, 370 at Ballito, near Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales and 510 at Carmoney in Northern Ireland.

Courtaulds management at Aintree are trying to blackmail the government into giving them more public money through the temporary employment subsidy. They want similar treat-



Flashback to March last year when Courtaulds announced the closure of Empress Mill, Wigan.

ment to the Courtaulds factory in Skelmersdale, which is receiving £1 million to 'protect' 1100 jobs—a subsidy which expires next May.

Aintree is the only plant in the Courtaulds group which operates the integrated dyeing process. It is one of the most modern. It is being threatened with closure if the unions don't countersign the applica-

tion for a subsidy and agree to a productivity deal.

John Nettleton, chairman of the Aintree Action Committee, told Socialist Worker: 'Before we sign we want a government inquiry into why Courtaulds received £11 million subsidy last year and made a profit of £101 million at the same time.

Pawns

'It's diabolical that they can blackmail the government in this way, using 600 men and women as pawns. This is why we are sending a delegation to the 6 November Right to

Work Conference—to fight for our jobs.'

The worst affected plant is at Flint. It was built in 1922 and has suffered from a deliberate lack of investment. The area around Flint is already suffering unemployment at around 15 per cent and is also threatened with the closure of the Shotton steel works.

The Action Committee at Aintree has pledged its support for any fightback by the workers at Castle Mill.

In March last year Courtaulds tried the same

blackmail at the Empress Mill, Wigan. They demanded a new productivity agreement, and after long negotiations agreed not to shut the factory in March 1975.

Insult

In August they shut it down.

Support for the four factories is needed from all Courtaulds workers.

There is no way of telling which plant will be the next if these four go to the wall.

Picture: John Sturrock (Report)

YORKSHIRE MOTORS FIRM TO SACK 215

YORKSHIRE: Brook Motors announced 215 redundancies last week, covering their Huddersfield, Honley, and Barnsley factories—with 158 redundancies at Huddersfield alone (66 AUEW, 43 TASS, 49 ASTMS).

Brook Motors is part of the Brook

Crompton-Parkinson group owned by Hawker-Siddeley. It makes electric motors. Group profits last year were £54 million and half-yearly profits on the electric motors side rose from £24,980,000 for the last half of 1975 to £38,780,000 for the first half of 1976. The redundancies 'will involve mainly departments servicing the production team', says management. AUEW convenor at Huddersfield John Hendricks was adamant: 'There will be no enforced redundancies at Brook Motors. We will fight this all the way.'

He said the firm's order book was healthy and orders increasing. On Friday instructions were

issued by the shop stewards committee that redundancy notices were to be handed to the convenor. An overtime ban was started.

There will be no co-operation with management and no parts for other Crompton-Parkinson factories will be allowed out of Huddersfield.

Keith Handy, AUEW district secretary, has complained that management have not followed correct negotiating procedures. He is in a difficult position, as the person with whom he usually negotiates is on the redundancy list.

Handy left Huddersfield on Friday for a four-day union business trip to London.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT...

The trials will continue for at least another two weeks. Support the marchers by attending the court. Check for details with the Right to Work Office—and for transport to the court, phone 01-802 0978.

The court is Hendon Magistrates Court, The Hyde, Edgware Road, Hendon, London NW9 (nearest tube Hendon Central).

... AND DONATIONS

THE Right to Work Defence Fund needs money desperately to help pay the spiralling costs of the defence.

Among those who contributed money over the past two weeks are four Labour MPs: Judith Hart sent £5, Dennis Skinner £2, Russell Kerr £2, and Joan Maynard

£2. One Splendid donation came from the Kingston Polytechnic Students Union, £50.

Collection sheets are available from the Right to Work Campaign. Send all donations to Ernie Roberts, Treasurer, Right to Work Defence Fund, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

Name
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Send to: National Secretary,
 International Socialists, c/o Contingents,
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