

# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p



Picture: John Sturrock (Report)

Struggle for survival in the docks—page 16.

The Tory dole scroungers—page 3.

And on page two the disgraceful story of the AUEW's John Boyd and his friend Young Winston.

# THIS RACIST BRITAIN

## Here are the facts

### Workers deported

**EBRAHIM DHANJI**, a Peterborough hospital worker, has been told he cannot work there any more.

He is to be deported to Uganda, where he faces victimisation and perhaps, even murder by the government, the fate of so many other Ugandan Asians.

In Selly Oak Hospital, Birmingham, two nurses who have trained here are told they cannot work here. They are to be deported to the West Indies.

The Department of Employment admits: 'We are refusing many applications for work permits by foreign workers. We have to safeguard the jobs of resident people.'

### Baby murdered

AT London's Heathrow Airport last month, **Zahira Galiara**, just arrived from India, was forced to have her baby in an airport lounge after immigration officials claimed her documents were not in order. Security guards stood by and laughed while she screamed in pain.

The baby died.

### Activists hounded

**ASIANS** who fight back against racism are being increasingly harassed by police as 'illegal immigrants'.

Last month the police arrested **Mohinda Singh**, chairman of Kent

Workers Against Racism, in this way.

Last weekend they took **Rupi Ahluwalia**. Rupi is one of the Southall roofers who fought so magnificently against racism in Southall after the killing of **Gurdip Singh Chagger** in Southall this summer. He is now in Pentonville Prison.

### Old woman burnt

A **WOMAN** of 76, **Mohan Dev Gautam**, was dragged from her home in Leamington in September and her clothes set alight. Then her burning body was dumped back in the house.

Before she died, she told her family the attack had been carried out by two white youths.

Racism is rife in Leamington. **Robert Relf**, the Nazi who put up the sign 'For sale to an English family', lives there. But the police are still treating the case as 'suicide'.

You'll find horror stories like these all over Britain. The economic crisis is hitting every worker hard.

A million workers and their families who have come to this country since the war are hit even harder. Why? Because their skin is black or brown.

Racism feeds off economic crisis. It is the most dangerous poison for the working-class movement. It weakens unity and solidarity. It sets worker against worker, and leaves the factories and workplaces open for employers' plunder.

It has got to be defeated.

**Socialist Worker**  
says:

## Fight the Racists

End all Immigration Controls



### THIS SUNDAY: Demonstrate against racism.

Assemble 11am, Speakers Corner, Hyde Park, London. Socialist Worker Rally 11.30am, at Speakers Corner. March to rally in Trafalgar Square. Demonstration called by TUC and Labour Party.

All branches of the International Socialists to support.

### THIS SATURDAY: Demonstrate at the IMMIGRATION CENTRES, HEATHROW AIRPORT, London.

Coaches leave from car park at rear of the Dominion Cinema, Southall, 1.30pm. All London SW supporters urged to attend.



# JOHN BOYD'S SECRET PEN-PAL...

HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

10 August 1976

Dear Mr Boyd,

Hope you've had a good break north of the border. Meanwhile I have persuaded the management to go to ACAS so with a bit of luck and a hefty shove from you at the appropriate moment we can get this all wrapped up (and T too!).

Yours sincerely,

WSC

**JOHN BOYD**, general secretary of the Engineering Union, has secretly been working hand-in-glove with one of Britain's most anti-trade union MPs.

While strikers were waging a nine-month battle at a Manchester factory for the right to join his own union, Boyd was doing a deal with Tory MP Winston Churchill, to 'wrap up' their struggle on terms which can only have been favourable to management.

This scandal has emerged from documents now in the possession of Socialist Worker.

### Strikes

The factory, Automat, in Swinton is run by John Chamberlain, who enlisted the help of various right-wing organisations to defeat the long strike.

Among them were the National Association for Freedom, Aims of Industry and Bradford millionaire Tom Keen, a man who in the past has funded the National Front and who was once arrested for defacing the TUC building.

But Chamberlain's biggest coup was in finding, through the assistance of local MP Winston Churchill, a friend at AUEW Head Office.

On 10 August, Churchill sent Boyd a

letter which shows they were on intimate terms.

Not only did he know Boyd was off for a break in Scotland but Churchill didn't even feel the need to sign his full name to command attention and assistance.

The letter, reproduced on this page proves that Churchill had a job for Boyd—to get the strike at Automat 'all wrapped up'.

For Churchill, that meant on terms highly favourable to the union-busting management.

The letter also indicates that it was intended to 'wrap up' more than just the strike. Note the words: 'We can get this all wrapped up (and T too).'

T of course was John Tocher, Manchester based divisional organiser of the union, and the official responsible for the strike. Tocher, a former member of the Communist Party executive, was the subject of a press witch-hunt at the very time Churchill was writing to Boyd.

Churchill's union-busting endeavours at Automat were not

confined to intrigues against John Tocher. As the Morning Star revealed in July, he was being leaked highly confidential union information concerning the strike.

He knew, for example, the precise voting figures in the ballot for a district levy to support Automat. He also knew the exact amount of money that had come in, down to the last penny.

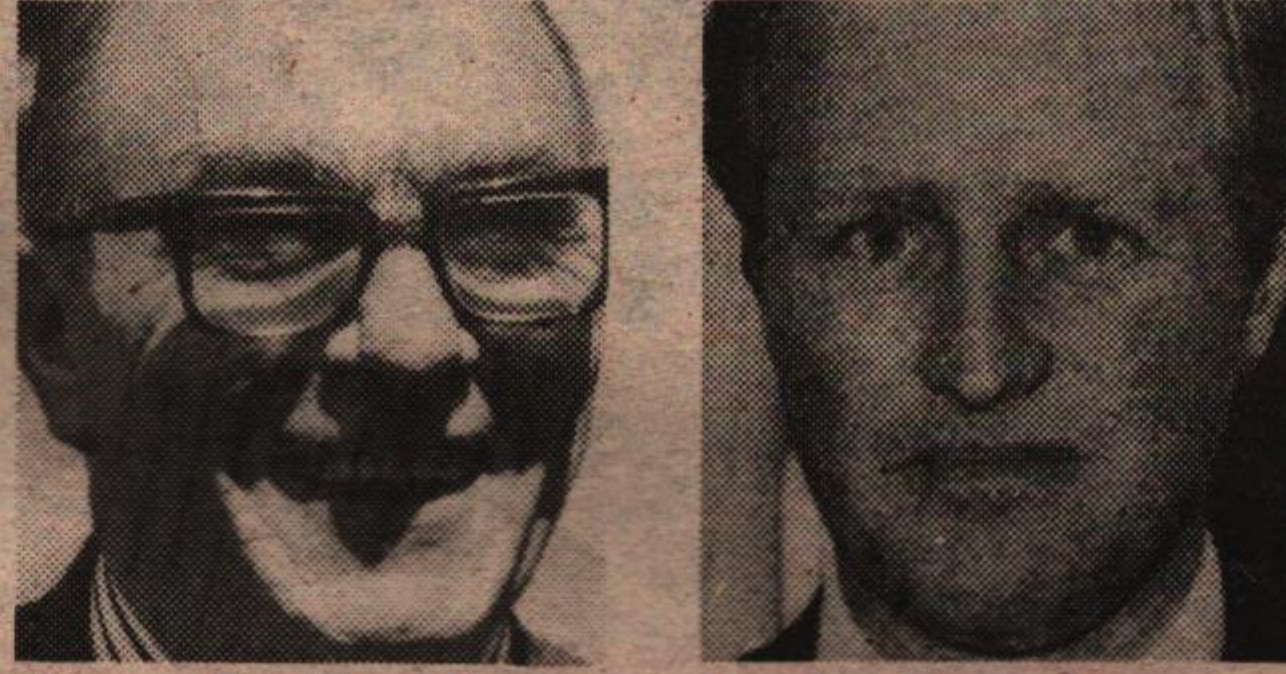
### Outrageous

The fact that Churchill had an intimate association with John Boyd, general secretary of the union at the very time he was getting this information now calls into question his source. Was the information coming from head office? Was it coming from John Boyd?

Whatever the answer, a scandalous situation exists in the AUEW. Rule 22 of the union allows for disciplinary action against any member who has injured or attempted to injure the union or any member.

John Boyd should be made to answer for his behaviour under this rule.

Socialist Worker calls on all AUEW members who care about trade unionism to demand disciplinary action.



Boyd—and his union-busting friend, Churchill

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN

## If you think the National Front are not anti-Jewish, read this...

**DAVE DIREKTOR** is Jewish—and that brought him a savage beating from three National Front thugs in East London two weekends ago.

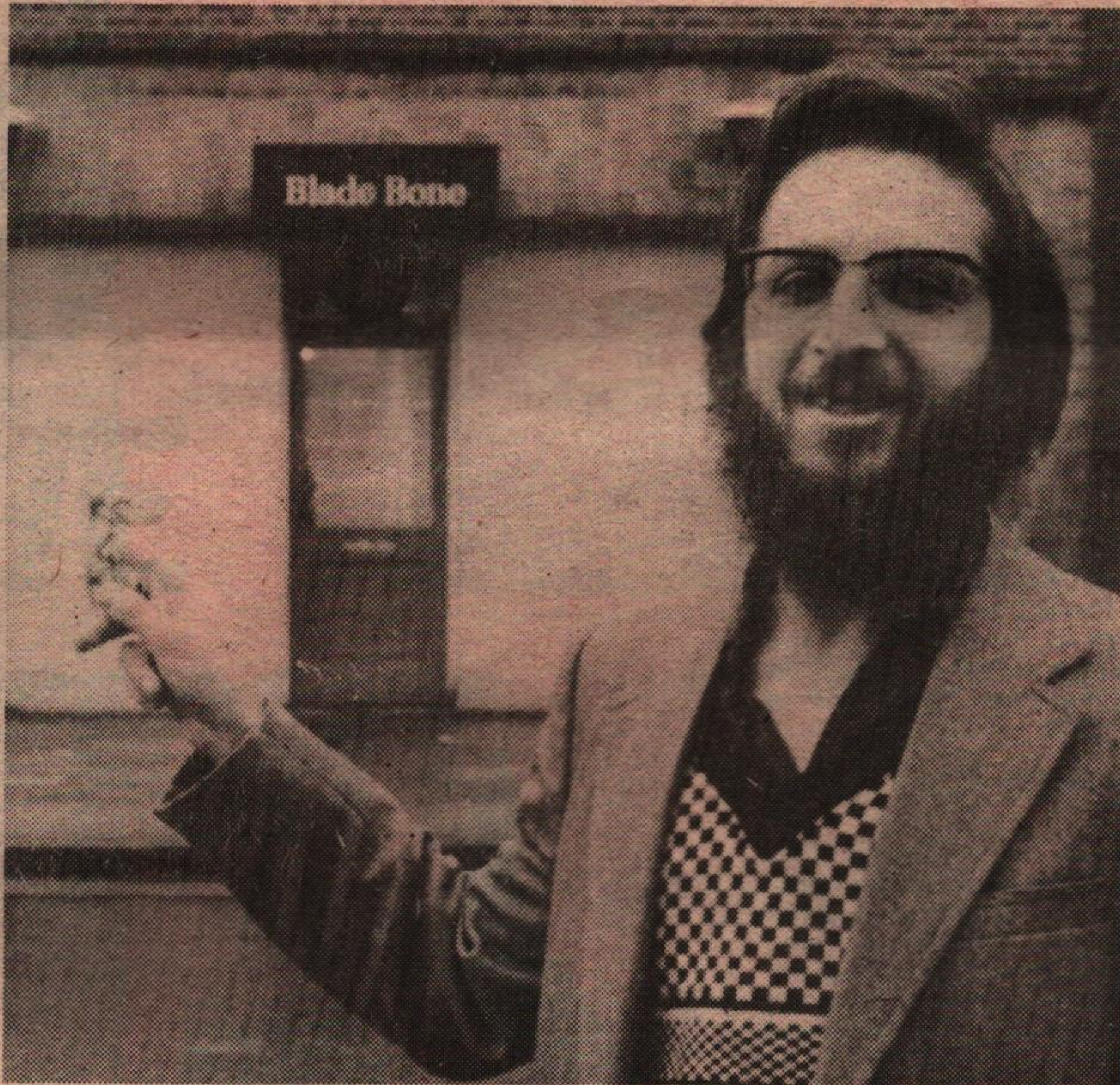
Following the Brick Lane anti-fascist march, he and two friends were making their way home when they were set upon outside the Blade Bone pub, where several National Fronters drink.

Dave had six teeth knocked out and had

head wounds which required stitches. He was also treated to a vile selection of racist anti-Jewish remarks.

Further proof that the Front are full-blooded Nazis who delight in talk of gas chambers and mass murder.

□ Brick Lane Defence Campaign for 24 arrested anti fascists is to picket Old Street Magistrates on 7 December Details from 76 Southwold Road, London E5.



Dave Direktor—and the pub where the NF thugs drink

### Assault that never was

**METRA GLENN**, one of the 20 people arrested during September's anti-fascist demonstration in Walsall, has been found guilty of assaulting a policeman.

Her vicious attack, the court heard, consisted of taking off a Special Patrol Group policeman's glasses while he was trying to arrest a marcher.

For this she was fined £50, with £25 costs.

## RED SMEAR GOES ON... AND ON

**MCCARTHY** is alive and well and living in Harlesden.

The trial now finishing of six young black women charged with assaulting the police has been one long red smear campaign.

Last week, the prosecution barrister referred to a leaflet

which 'was printed by Corbridge Works, a place well-known for specialising in printing for the extreme political organisations in this country'.

Corbridge Works is, of course, owned by the International Socialists.

Other smears followed, causing defence barrister Ian

MacDonald to protest that the prosecution was trying to represent IS as a dangerous underground conspiracy, and that therefore all witnesses were not to be believed.

□ Messages of support and donations to: Brent Defence Campaign, 4 Tavistock Road, Harlesden, London NW10.

tion agent for the Socialist Worker candidate Europe Singh, a fight broke out in which one socialist was pushed through a plate-glass window.

While the fighting was going on, an old man passing by asked which of the two guys on the floor was the fascist. On being told he gave the fascist a hefty kick and walked on.

After escorting the Front out of the area, the anti-fascists were stopped by a police van.

Inside the van were two NF members who claimed a black member of the West Indian Defence Committee has assaulted them.

Despite protests from everyone present that no blacks had been involved in the fighting, the black comrade was arrested.

### Fight

Three others were also seized for trying to prevent the arrest by arguing with the police. Brixton Police Station was picketed by 40 or so anti-fascists until all four were released on bail.

Europe Singh, the SW candidate, told an election meeting last Thursday: 'This election is just the beginning of a campaign against racialism on the Brixton council estates.'

'Such a campaign is essential to prevent the NF establishing a base and to bring black and white workers together to tackle the problems on which the racials thrive.'

## The night Enoch Powell didn't make a racist speech

A GREAT victory! That was last Friday's demonstration against Enoch Powell's appearance on the radio programme Any Questions.

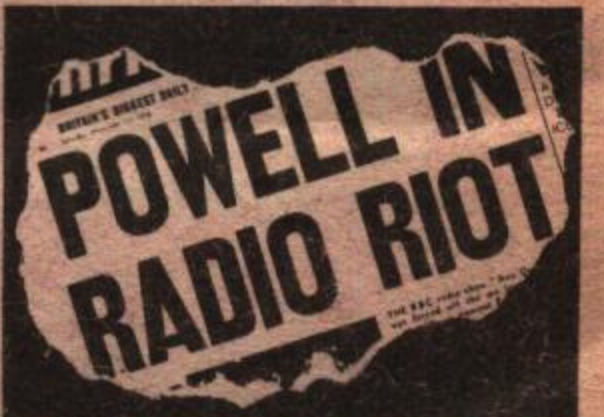
200 anti-racists, including IS members and supporters from Reading, Oxford and Maidenhead demonstrated outside the church in Basingstoke where Powell was taking part in a live broadcast.

### Shock

20 others had obtained tickets and were inside.

Powell has continually called for the repatriation of black workers and their families. His racist speeches have so far led to four murders and countless racist attacks.

Also taking part in the programme was 'left wing'



The Daily Mirror's 'impartial' front page last Saturday

labour MP Judith Hart. When asked why she was appearing on the same platform as Powell, she replied that it was necessary for someone to be there to argue against his views.

But arguments did not prevent those racist murders this summer. Nor will they do so in the future.

### Power

The only way to stop the growth of racism is to make sure Powell, the National Front and their supporters are not given a platform for their racist views.

□PS: The BBC is to launch an inquiry into the allocation of tickets for the programme. We can save them the trouble.

Most of the audience was from the Basingstoke Chamber of Commerce and their friends in the local business community.

No tickets went to local trade unions, which only goes to show how 'free' the BBC's policy of free speech is.

## What a success!

**ROCK AGAINST RACISM** held its first do last Friday. And what a success!

350 people turned up at the Princess Alice pub in East London to hear Carol Grimes and the London Boogie Band, who gave their services to the cause. Carol Grimes was joined from the floor by an excellent young black singer.

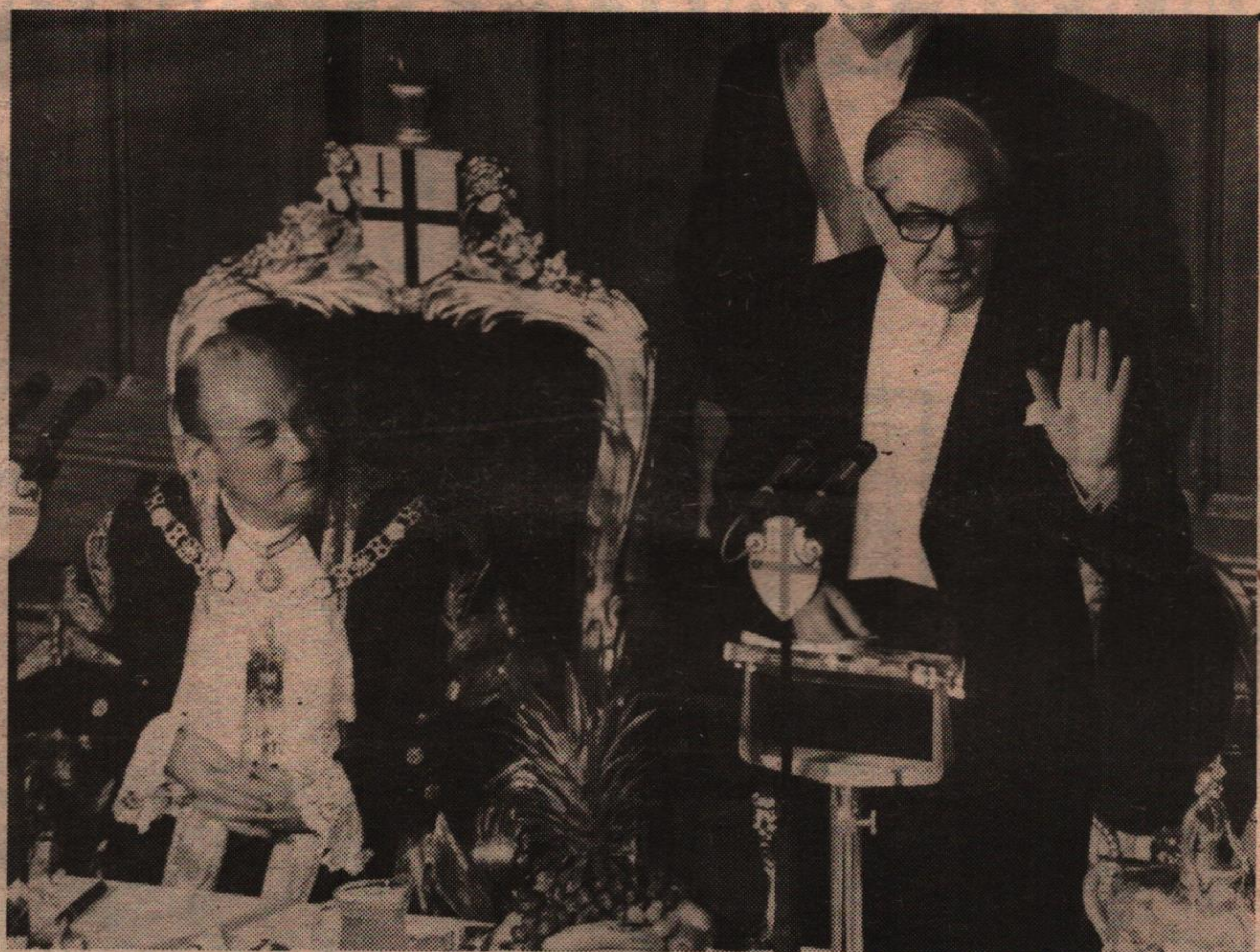
Other benefits and events are planned.



Anti-fascists protesting in Brixton last week against the letting of a school for a National Front public meeting



# AND THEY DARE TALK



THE BURDEN of the crisis, Denis Healey claimed last week, falls disproportionately on those who work, as opposed to the million and a half on the dole.

The burden was heavy indeed for the tables at the Lord Mayor's Banquet in London when James Callaghan spoke there on Monday night. The menu was:

Clear turtle soup with cheese straws; Delice of soul mentua; Breast of duckling with orange sauce, rissolle potatoes and button sprouts; Chilled almond soufflé; King Harry Shoestrings (petit fours); Coffee.

Wines (served in order): Domeque amontillado; Sancerre; Clos de Chene Marchand 1973; Chambolle Musigny 1970; Taylors 20-year-old Bollinger Special Cuvee.

Each bottle of wine, it should be noted, cost far more than the £12.90 which a single unemployed person gets to live on for a week.

# ABOUT SCROUNGERS!

## A MASSIVE campaign is under way to cut the dole.

It is led by Ralph Howell, a wealthy Tory MP who farms 700 acres in Norfolk. He is also an underwriter at Lloyds. The minimum income for a Lloyds underwriter is £75,000 (after all liabilities, like tax). But you won't find these facts on the front pages of the

## One bottle of wine for Callaghan: Cost—£20

## One week's dole for a single person: Cost—£12.90

to people like pensioners.  THE FLAT RATE dole for a married man with two children rose to the magnificent figure of £27.50 on Monday. So what are the papers and the Tory MPs on about? They give the game away when they complain that the unemployed won't accept any

THE government is studying the possibility of taxing unemployment and other short term security benefits. — David Ennals, Secretary of state for Social Services.

job, however low-paid, that is offered to them. The campaign about so-called 'scroungers' is a campaign to force the unemployed to grovel before the Ralph Howells of this world, begging for miserable jobs at 19th-century rates of pay.

IN 1972, social security payments and unemployment benefits amounted to 22.8 per cent of government spending. In 1976, the year which has seen by far the highest level of unemployment since the war, the figure has fallen to 20.7 per cent (Hansard 2 November). So much for the 'burden of the unemployment pay'. So much, too, for the claim that the Social Contract improves social benefits.

about in the papers 'include earnings-related benefit. Where this is received it has been earned by contributions paid by the man when he was working. The supplement only lasts six months and only one in four of men unemployed receive it.'  THREE-QUARTERS of the unemployed are earning less than the figures banded

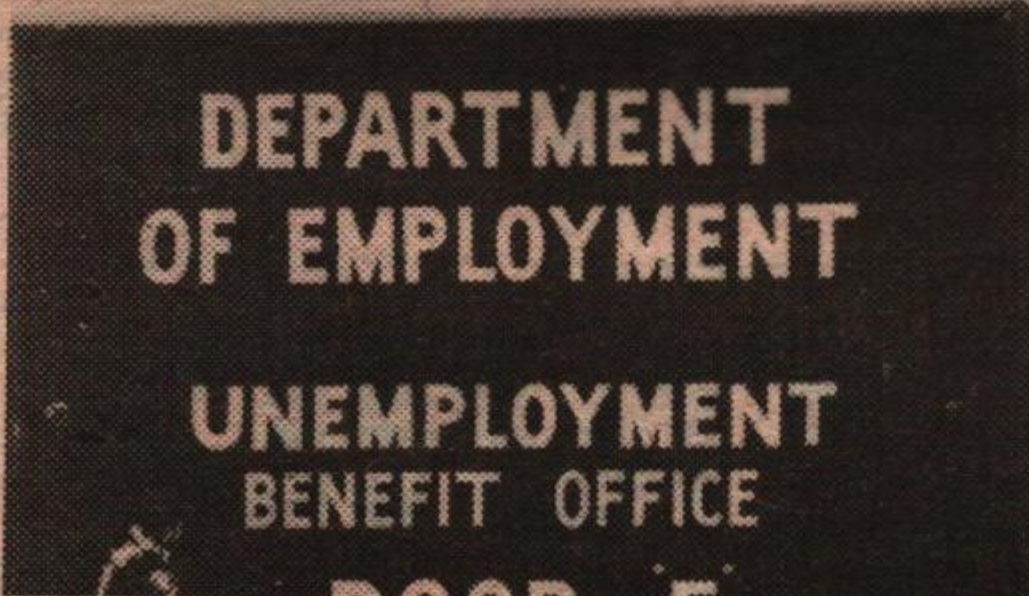
about in some newspapers.  MEANS-TESTED benefits included in the figures are not received by many of the unemployed.  THE INCREASE in benefits just makes up for the loss through price rises of the last year.  ONLY 14 per cent of the £1400 million increase goes to the unemployed—the rest goes

## What the unemployed feel about it



THEOPHILE JULIEN, 64, came to Britain from St. Lucia in the West Indies 16 years ago when the four British-owned sugar cane factories on the island closed. 'They ruined the place in one go,' he said. 'That was the only industry on the island. What else could we do but come to Britain. There was nowhere else.' Since then he has worked and paid taxes in Britain, until two months ago when the tea factory he worked for closed down. He, his wife and 13-year-old son live on about £40 a week, that is £22 for Theophile and his son plus the money his wife earns.

papers or hear them on the television. You won't even get the figures the government itself gives for the pitiful level of dole payments. Figures which reveal how hundreds of thousands of families, millions of men, women and children, are living on the verge of poverty. The Ministry of Social Security have pointed out that:  THE FIGURES banded



Billy O'Bryan and Jimmy Boniface: 'those people in Parliament are mad'

BILLY O'BRYAN, 16, left school this summer and is getting £7.70 benefit. 'I wanted to be a motor mechanic but it doesn't look as though I'll ever get a job. 'I don't think it's worth listening to what these people in Parliament have to say. They don't know what it's about.'

JIMMY BONNIFACE, 22, was getting £15 a week until they cut it down to £11.10. 'The people who call us scroungers are just mad in my opinion. I have no option but to live at home with my parents. 'I have no independence because I can't get a job and I've been trying for six months.'

SW to fight election SOCIALIST Worker is to contest the parliamentary by-election to take place early next year in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire. The election will follow the move of Labour MP, David Marquand to Brussels, where he will get a massive salary as assistant to Roy Jenkins.

TWO BIG demonstrations this week. And both called by official trade union and Labour movement bodies. About time, too, you might think. We certainly do.

## HELP US KEEP UP THE PRESSURE ON AGAINST THE RACISTS

Wednesday's demonstration against the cuts and unemployment comes with the number of jobless standing at well over a million. Yet even now the TUC and big unions like the TGWU are staying away. They will be on Sunday's demonstration against racism. But again

their effort is less than half-hearted. They have not called their members to take action in the period since June, when the National Front have been increasingly active and four black people have been murdered. And they support the

iniquitous work permit system that threatens some black nurses with deportation. That is why Socialist Worker has campaigned on the cuts and on racism, without waiting for Brothers Jones, Murray or, for that matter, Fisher. That is why we ask you

to keep contributing to our fighting fund. Then we will be able to argue the case against unemployment and the cuts and keep up the pressure against the racists. This week we received £258.94 for our fighting fund. Our thanks to:

- Coventry APEX and ASTMS readers £10; St Helens reader £1; Paul Sowden £1; NATFHE members Pitfield St £3.15; M Morris £1.50; Chris Sill £5.0; P Martin £5; Dr J Lewis £6.20; Edinburgh SW discussion group £2; John Ormsby 50p; Iain Coulquhoun £2.50; Central London Education Class £3.80; Martin Baer 50p; P Martin £1.55; P Duffy £2; Chrysler Linwood CAB readers £3.40; P Clark £3; RDL striker £10; V Sugar £5.
  - IS branches: Lambeth Council Workers £8; Norwich £10; Manchester Council Workers £10; Lancaster £6.25; Tower Hamlets £6.20; Bradford £5; Loughborough £8.36; Preston £3; Aberdeen £5; Dundee £4.50.
  - Hammersmith £7.70; Stockport £13.30; S Liverpool £6; Central London £6.50; Sheffield £7.50; Teesside £9.50; Dumfries one US dollar.
- Please send donations and collections to: SW Fighting Fund, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

Another disgrace, Labour MARK HOSENBALL, a young American-born journalist working for Time Out and the London Evening Standard, is to be deported by the Labour government. His presence here is 'not conducive to national security'. Mark Hosenball's 'crime' is that he contributed to the exposure of the activities of MI5, the CIA, and their front organisation, the Institute for the Study of Conflict. The last Labour government engaged in the disgraceful deportation of the injured German student activist Rudi Dutche. Now their venom is to be turned on Mark Hosenball. Socialist Worker invites its readers to join in the vigorous protests against this disgrace.



# BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

# 'Join the real struggle' call to Labour

## ANOTHER 113 NEW MEMBERS

□ MORE AND MORE people are joining the International Socialists. In the first two weeks of November, 113 people signed up—a weekly average higher than the record 50-a-week in October.  
In Newcastle, as a result of the

election campaign, there are 33 more IS members now than there were a month ago. From Glasgow, in the last two weeks, 30 people have sent in registration forms, 20 of them manual workers.

**FOUR** leading members of the Braintree constituency Labour Party in Essex recently resigned to join the International Socialists.

And last week they handed an open letter to their former fellow-delegates on the local Party's general management committee.

### Letter

Their letter, explaining why they quit, was headline news in the local paper. Meanwhile, three socialists still on the GMC are working with the newly-formed IS branch in nearby Witham.

The open letter read:

Comrades, until a few weeks ago the four of us were active members of the Braintree Constituency Labour Party and your fellow members on this GMC.

We have resigned from the Labour Party and, this evening, instead of joining you in dissipating our joint energies in pointless discussion, we are asking you to consider joining us in the urgent fight for Socialism in the real world outside.

### Which end?

Like us, you will have believed the Labour Party exists as a means to the end of achieving Socialism. We believe that, like us, you will discover it is really an end in itself—designed and structured to establish and defend governments which, while mouthing socialism, have no allegiance to it and are not answerable to the Party.

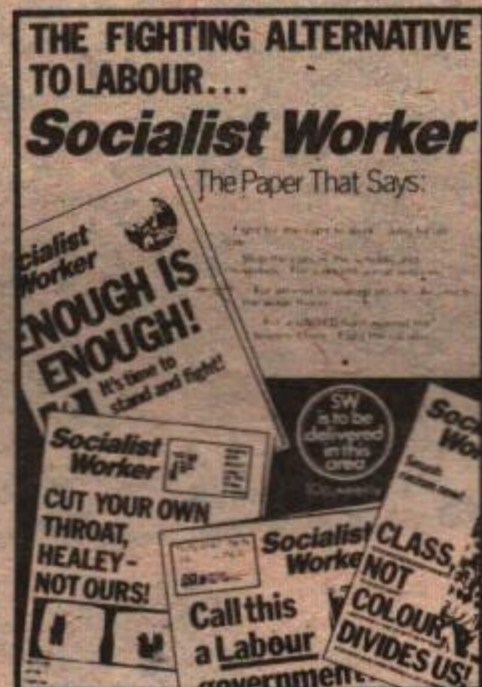
Once again a 'Labour' government is defending Capital against the working



Saturday's conference: The target is ten SW sales for every member



Alan Borrell: accountability is the key



SW leaflets for council estates, £1.50 for 1000. Order from 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

## Now let's push those Socialist Worker sales up, up, UP!

**EIGHTY-FIVE** Socialist Worker organisers came to London last weekend for an enthusiastic and constructive Boost Socialist Worker conference.

Alan Borrell, Glasgow, stressed the need for accountability in selling the paper. The smaller the selling unit, the greater the accountability. He called for smaller selling units in the big cities, with more Socialist Worker organisers.

Most of the day was taken up with short contributions from organisers all over the

country who put forward ideas for boosting sales.

Geoff Ellen from Chelmsford complained about the 'traditional' method of selling the paper: 'Standing miserably outside a factory hiding behind the paper and hating every moment.'

He said that people would sell more papers if they found ways of enjoying it.

### Tips

About 40 papers were sold in East London's Ridley Road market after the sellers had blown up a huge photograph of the front page on racism, and organised an anti-racist petition.

Other organisers outlined a variety of different tips for selling. These are being sent out to branches.

The meeting passed a resolution setting targets for March, 1977: a sale of ten copies per member, and a paid sale of 75 per cent of all copies received by each branch and district.

Hints and reports of how this target is met and passed are welcome for this page every week!

aid the process but, much worse, your urgently needed energies and enthusiasm will be stifled or else used to give the appearance of life to the Party corpse.

**Tonight we ask you, in the name of Socialism, to join us in the real fight for socialism in Britain.**

**TERESA TANT  
TONY TANT  
SUE JOHNS  
JIMMY JOHNS**

people—once again the Party is defending it and (at this time of real conflict) once again the Braintree Constituency GMC is meeting yawningly to discuss... how to expend your energy in selling more 'Tote' tickets or to raise funds in a 'new' membership 'drive' in order to finance the whole process.

### Excuses

We know how tempting it is to excuse the banality of Party

business and the unreality of its 'debates' as a localised 'failing' to be remedied.

If, as a sincere Socialist, you question this myth you, like us, will realise this yawning inertia is the necessary result in a Party determined not to rock Capital's boat by discussing and organising the labour movement for its fight for Socialism.

*To obtain its end of defending a government committed to Capital the Party must stifle the Socialists in its ranks by*

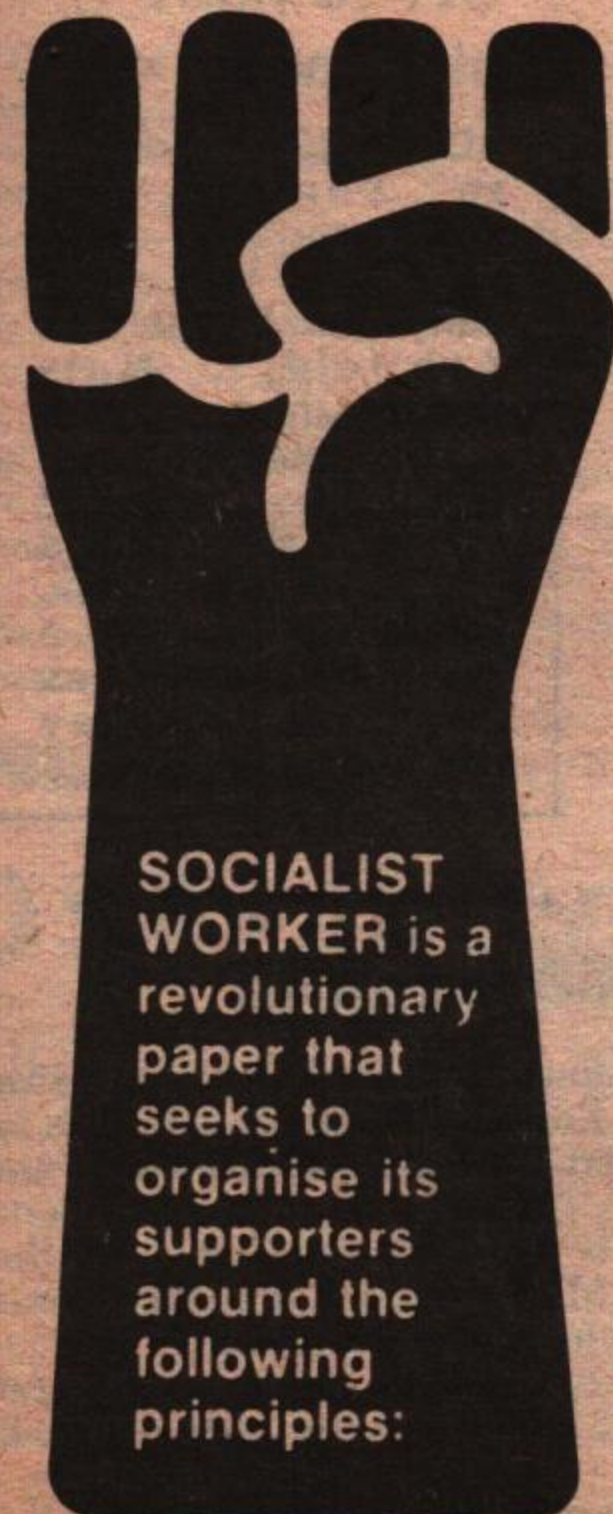
*fostering cynicism, inactivity and an atmosphere of lethargy.*

### Stifled

Comrade, this is an urgent time for Socialists—while Capital is tightening its grip your 'Labour' government, defended by the Party and gleefully aided by the media is paralysing a confused Labour Movement all in the name of Socialism.

Your membership can only

# WHERE WE STAND



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

### 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.**

QUESTIONS ON THE CRISIS



Will things get better?

'OFFICIALS of the 24-nation Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development are forecasting a world recession for the second half of next year', the Financial Times reported last Friday.

The prediction, if correct, means that the hopes of any capitalist government of solving Britain's economic problems are doomed.

Labour and Tories have all been saying that if only we cut wages and public spending, exports will zoom and everything will be all right.

But exports cannot rise if the rest of the world is going into a slump like that of the last two-and-a-half years.

Even the alternative the OECD offers to next year's slump cannot help

They indicate that a slump could be averted if President Carter took action to boost the US economy.

That would mean a continuing boom in America.

But it would be a boom like that in Britain during the last months of Edward Heath—with rising prices, massive speculation and soaring interest rates.

These would hit not only America but Britain.

And price rises on a scale we can hardly imagine now would then be followed by a slump much bigger than the last one.

Yet this is the 'bright prospect', the 'light at the end of the tunnel' for which Callaghan, Healey, Jack Jones and the rest expect us to make 'sacrifices'.

## PRE-VIEW

**THURSDAY**  
Don't miss Paul Foot on WHAT THE PAPERS SAY. He'll be touching on the Docks Bill and the Dole Scroungers.

**SUNDAY**  
TWELVE ANGRY MEN (BBC2) is a stirring liberal drama of the man of conscience who turned round a jury all by himself. Powerful case for reason against prejudice—but worth remembering that it couldn't happen now, with majority verdicts (introduced by Roy 'Fonda' Jenkins).

**MONDAY**  
PANORAMA on the House of Lords might be good for a laugh. I CLAUDIUS (BBC2) is getting much better.



# Strike-to hell with the police!



One and a half million workers struck in Spain last Friday despite massive police harassment. 247 pickets were arrested and face big fines. The government claimed that only half a million workers struck, but much of manufacturing industry was closed down in the major cities.

## WHEN IS A MURDERER NOT A MURDERER?



My Lai: while mass murderers go free, blacks now face execution

## WHEN HE CALLS HIMSELF PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

GARY GILMORE, the man who asked for his own immediate execution, is one of more than 400 people now on Death Row in the United States.

And most of them are black, many facing the death sentence on trumped-up racist charges.

Their executioners have been delayed because of argument over the legality of the death sentence.

If Gilmore dies, it will



Nixon: criminal

prove the sentence is legal and they will follow.

Their deaths, however, will be at the hands of bigger mass murderers than Gilmore.

The man chairing the Utah pardon board judging the Gilmore case is George Latimer. He successfully defended Lieutenant William Calley, who killed dozens of men, women and children in the My Lai massacre in Vietnam.

And the supreme court that recently ruled that the death sentence is 'constitutional' is stacked with judges put there by that other criminal and mass murderer, Richard Nixon.

## The joke's on you, Smith



MORE THAN 2,000 black freedom fighters are now active in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia).

That much has been admitted by the white racist regime of Ian Smith.

Tens of thousands more are in training just across the border in Mozambique. And the white Rhodesian forces are now under attack from at least four different fronts.

Another glimpse of Rhodesia's white 'civilisation' was provided recently by a Canadian mercenary killed while on duty as a lance corporal in the Rhodesian light infantry.

### Trial

This 'defender of law and order' was adjudged to be criminally insane after killing two people in Canada nine years ago.

At his trial it was said that he had 'fantasies about being a John Wayne style gunfighter'.

No doubt he felt able to fulfil those fantasies in Rhodesia.

BRADFORD University Union Council have passed by a large majority a NOISS motion calling for financial aid to the freedom fighters in Southern Africa.

Attempts by the right wing Union president and Deputy President to reverse the decision at an Emergency General Meeting were rejected.

By STEVE BERRY

POLITICAL meetings about Ireland have been banned from London's Trafalgar Square for four years.

But next weekend, 27 November, an exception has been made—for a rally by the Northern Ireland 'Peace Movement'.

And already the press are giving it a big build-up. Why?

### Forced

The answer lies with the movement's policies and supporters.

Launched in August amid a blaze of publicity, its message was simple enough—and it caught the imagination of Catholic and Protestant alike.

But it has recently run into difficulties. It has been forced to say what it means by 'peace'.

And that means different things to different people.

For most Protestants, it means a state biased in their favour.

For Catholics, however, it means an end to the discrimination which they constantly suffer.

### Wrecked

Out of Northern Ireland's population of 1½ million, there are 60,000 people out of work and 450,000 living in what is officially recognised as 'unsatisfactory housing'.

Most of these are Catholics, although they number only a third of the population.

# The 'Peace' Movement



'Peace' leader Betty Williams—and the violence she supports



And so 'peace' for the Protestants is not 'peace' for the Catholics.

This problem has wrecked all previous attempts at peace in Northern Ireland.

The 'peace movement' couldn't sit on the fence for ever. It has chosen to back the sectarian statelet and the presence of British troops.

### Image

In other words, it has chosen to support the largest armed group in Ireland—the British army.

That's why the Labour government are allowing them and no-one else to use Trafalgar Square for meetings on Ireland.

No one should be fooled by the press image of the movement's leaders.

Neither Betty Williams nor Mairead Corrigan is your typical working woman.

Betty Williams has a nice house in a middle class area of Belfast.

Mairead Corrigan isn't do-

ing too badly, either. She's the secretary of the managing director of Guinness, who's given her leave on full pay until the end of the year.

It is important that as many socialists as possible picket the rally to argue a real policy for peace—which means getting the British army out and allowing the people of the whole of Ireland to decide their own future.

# that backs armed terror

## PICKET THE 'PEACE' MOVEMENT

Assemble Noon, Saturday 27 November, Speakers Corner, Marble Arch tube, London.

## SOUTHERN AFRICA SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN



**BULLETIN:** First issue out now. 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 details of local activities. Two colours. £1 for 50.

**COVENTRY:** Wednesday 24 November. General Woolfe pub, Solleshill Road. 7.30pm. Speaker Alex Callinicos and ZIPA speaker.

**SHEFFIELD:** Thursday 2 December. Watch for details.

**BIRMINGHAM:** Sunday 5 December. ZIPA speaker. Watch for details.

**PICKET:** Annual general meeting of Consolidated Goldfields, one of the biggest exploiters of South Africa. Monday 22 November, 11.30am. The Dorchester, Park Lane, London, W1.

**BRIXTON** public meeting: Tuesday 23 November, 7.30pm, Abeng Centre, 7 Gresham Road, London SW2. Organised by Brixton SASC committee.

**DEMONSTRATION:** Saturday 27 November, 1.30pm, outside Brixton Town Hall.

**GRAND FUND-RAISING BENEFIT SOCIAL:** Friday 3 December, 8pm, School of Oriental and African Studies. (SOAS), Malet Street, London, W1, with The Derelicts and real ale.

SOUTHERN AFRICA SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN, 101-103 Gower Street, London, W1.

## IF YOU HATE THE SHAH, BEWARE...

THE HEAD of the Iranian secret police group in Paris was shot and wounded recently. The following day French police raided homes and detained a number of Iranians 'not as suspects but simply as known opponents of the Iranian regime.'

Four have since been ex-

pelled from France and two charged with attempted murder—even though a French group has publicly claimed responsibility.

It is clear that the French government are using this shooting as a pretext to please the Shah, with whom they

recently signed a massive trade deal.

A picket in protest is being organised by the Campaign Against Repression in Iran (C.A.R.I.), on Wednesday 24 November, between 1 and 3 p.m. outside the French Embassy (nr. Knightsbridge tube).



# More profits, more jobs?

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM  
Duncan Hallas

In a capitalist society, more investment does not necessarily mean more jobs. The government itself tells us that, over the last ten years, two million jobs in industry have disappeared.

'A LOT OF US must come up against this argument when we get into arguments about the Social Contract.

'I say that more investment under capitalism does not have to mean more jobs and that making a profit means you get a crisis.

'They say that you have to invest anyway under socialism and you still have to keep wages down to get more money to build more factories etc. What is the answer to this?'

It is certainly true that more investment does not necessarily mean more jobs in a capitalist society.

It may, in certain circumstances, mean fewer jobs as when a new plant

replaces an older one which employed more labour.

The government (and TUC and press and TV) case goes like this. You must have higher profits so as to encourage investment. You must have investment to create more jobs. Therefore wages must be kept down.

## Facts

*This is a plausible seeming proposition. However it leaks at every joint when you test it.*

First, more profits do not necessarily mean more investment in industry. That is not a theory. It is a statement of fact.

The Economist magazine recently reported: 'Investment fell to a new low in April-June (down 3 per cent on January-March) despite a sharp rise in gross trading profits.'

Capitalists do not have to invest their profits in industry. They can buy government bonds—and with interest rates at 15 per cent minimum this may well bring a bigger return.

They can speculate in property—as was done on an enormous scale in the 1972-3 boom—or in currency or in copper or cocoa or whatever. This year profits have shown a big increase without, so far, any overall increase in investment.

Second, more investment (when it does occur) may or may not produce more jobs as has already been said.

Again, this is a statement of fact.

The government itself tells us that over the last ten years two million jobs in industry have disappeared.

Why? Because the productivity of labour—output per man-hour—has gone up and is still going up at around 3 per cent a year on average.

## Permanent

Fewer workers are making more goods and this is, in large part, the result of investment in newer machinery etc.

Third, holding down wages gives no guarantee at all that more jobs will be created—for many reasons including the ones just stated.

The whole Social Contract argument assumes that capitalism is going into a more or less permanent boom.

If that were true, then more profits would mean more investment and more investment might in those circumstances—mean more jobs.

But, of course, there isn't going to be a permanent boom.

## Boom?

The present 'economic recovery', which you may or may not have noticed, is now faltering on a world scale and forecasters are predicting a new slump in 1978-79 or 1979-80.

Capitalism is chronically unstable. It has a boom-slump cycle built into it.

Next year, or the year after, when the next slump gets underway, the government and the TUC will tell us that they have been 'blown off course' yet again.

And they will call for new sacrifices from the workers. Look back at the results of their policies over the last two years.

Social Contract Mark I was going to 'win something extra for the low-paid and protect the purchasing power of the rest of us' (I am quoting the TUC statement of September 1974).

Result: lower real pay all round.

## Mk. II

Social Contract Mark II (£6 limit) was going to prevent unemployment.

'Mass unemployment would cause widespread misery, industrial strife and a total degeneration of our industrial capacity' (I am quoting the government statement of June 1975).

Result: mass unemployment.

Now, after two years of Labour 'getting Britain back to work' (remember that one?) we have faster inflation and falling real pay and record unemployment.

Government answer: cut public services and increase taxes—which will be done before Christmas.

So much for the fruits of the Social Contract.

I will take up the second part of the reader's letter next week.

JOHN LYGATE died of exhaustion. A member of the Communist Party, he had battled all his life for the socialist movement.

But his last struggle—and the one which finally killed him last month at the age of 67—was fought for the freedom of his son.

In 1972, Matthew Lygate was given Scotland's longest-ever jail sentence: 24 years.

It was a political sentence and a political trial. Matthew, a member of the tiny Workers Party of Scotland, had been found guilty of a Glasgow bank robbery in which no-one had been injured.

## Conviction

Conviction rested solely on the evidence of a police informer. Through the window of his shop, he had caught a glimpse of a man, 30 yards away, wearing a nylon mask.

He 'identified' that man as Matty Lygate.

The informer, curiously enough, lived above Matty's flat. When the defending barrister suggested that he had picked out Matty only because his face was familiar, the informer denied ever having seen him before.

And so began John Lygate's last battle. He fought for his son's freedom as he had fought all his life for the freedom of his class: with endless courage and energy.

He had joined the Communist Party in 1931 and devoted himself to it.

## War

During the Second World War, he successfully fought his case to be a conscientious objector, saying:

*'War is capitalism versus the working class. Why should I kill a man I have never met?'*

Later, he moved from Glasgow to Sunderland where, with the help of his two sons, William and Matthew, he turned a Communist Party branch of two members into one of 26 members.

Back in Glasgow, John continued to dedicate himself to the struggle and to the CP.

Then came the greatest blow of his life.

But, now, in his battle to clear his son's name, John was virtually alone.

His own Party's paper, the Morning Star, printed a statement with a headline disclaiming any association with his son.

Deeply upset, John took no further active part in the CP.

## Funds

In the first urgent struggle, to raise funds for the printing of a full transcript of the trial to build a case for the Appeal, only the Glasgow International Socialists and two supporters of Militant responded.

John never gave up the struggle. Until his dying day, he argued that Matty was innocent and was serving 24 years for being a revolutionary socialist.

When addressing the court before being sentenced, Matthew had said:

*'It is given to men to live—and I have lived for the finest cause in life, the liberation of men.'*

So had John Lygate, a man of dignity and purpose. Others must now take up his struggle.

TOMMY GORMAN  
STEVE JEFFERYS

THE MAN WHO  
GAVE HIS LIFE  
FOR THE  
FINEST CAUSE  
IN LIFE...



OUTRAGEOUS rumours are sweeping Tower Hamlets in East London that a group of saboteurs is causing considerable trouble for a local mini-cab firm owned by a member of the National Front. Will goose-chases at 3 am, that sort of thing. Whitehorse Cabs is the name and they can be contacted on 01-790 1181. Say no more...

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? The reasons for the widespread disillusionment with government policy are obvious.

Unemployment is now nearly 500,000 and if, by contrast with last year, we have a bad winter, it could easily reach, by early 1968, the figure of 750,000 predicted by many economists...

—part of a statement by 70 Labour MPs, 20 July 1966. Signatories included Michael Foot and Albert Booth, now Minister for Unemployment.

A NEW illustrated version of the bible has been banned in Argentina because, say the authorities, it is subversive.

The pictures highlight the social injustice of South America.

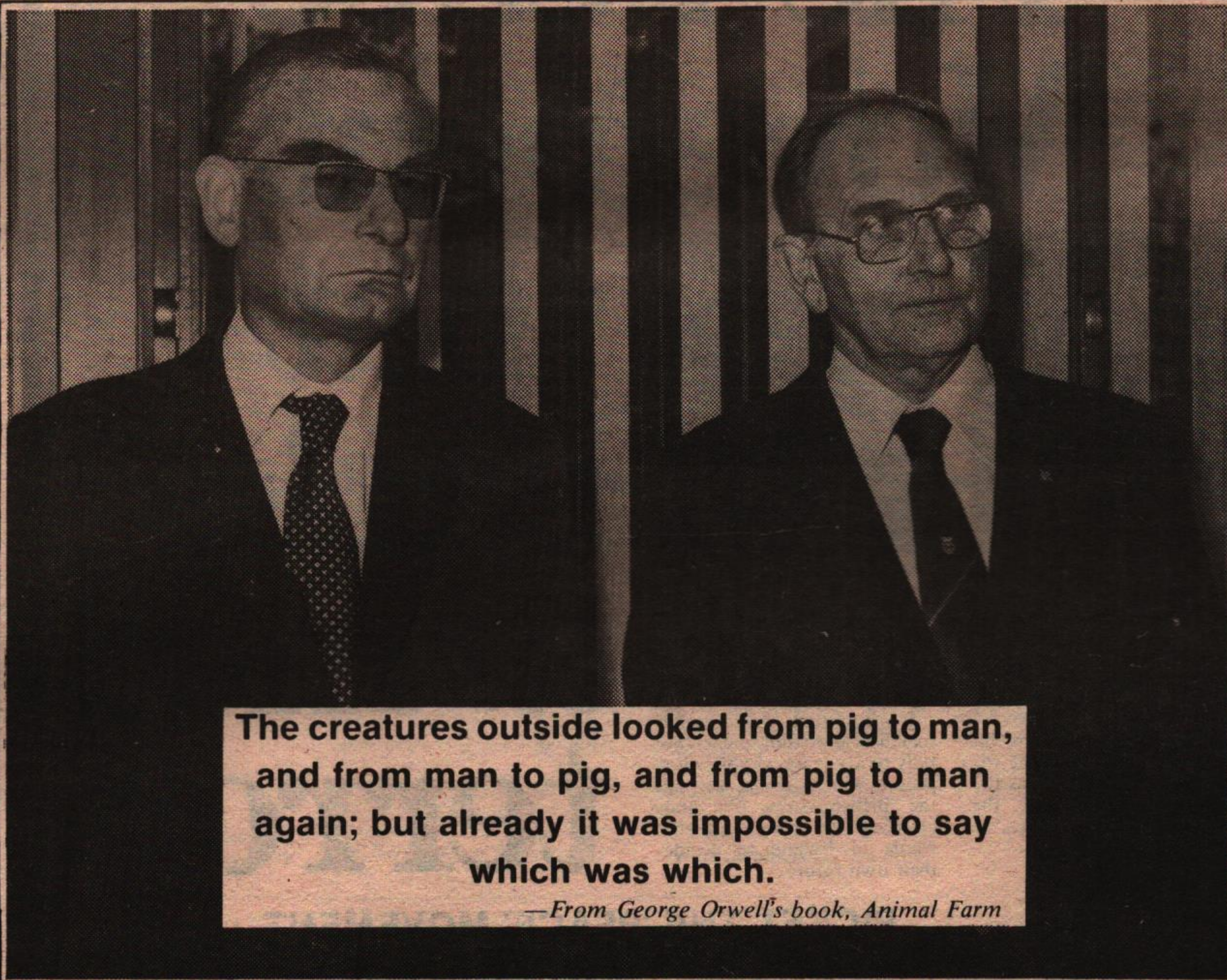
Said Archbishop Adolfo Tortolo of Parena: 'The visual aids show a trend we cannot accept as Christians'. Quite.

NO MATTER if they are totally insane, Peers of the Realm can still vote against the Dockwork Regulation Bill.

The precedent was set in 1905. Lord Townsend was held by a court to be insane and so incapable of managing his own affairs.

The judgement insisted, however, that he be allowed to continue in the Lords.

SEEN entering a National Front meeting in Brixton, South London last week: 25 plain-clothes policemen. Birds of a feather...



The creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again; but already it was impossible to say which was which.

—From George Orwell's book, Animal Farm

Jack Jones with Courtaulds boss Sir Arthur Knight: Jones is on the right

## A leader of the shirking class

'WE SUPPORT the workers, not the shirkers,' said Margaret Thatcher when she was elected Tory leader.

Her Parliamentary Private Secretary, Fergus Montgomery, Tory MP for Altrincham and Sale, obviously agrees.

But Mr Montgomery is always ready to leap to the aid of a true shirker, provided he goes by the name of 'businessman'.

Mr Montgomery was recently quoted in the Daily Mail as 'rushing to the assistance' of a firm called Triplan which was being bankrupted by the Inland

Revenue.

Fergus then got a letter from his old pal, Geoffrey McLean, boss of a Midlands firm called Directorship

Appointments Ltd.

McLean suggested that his firm might be able to supply a director for Triplan. Apparently, Direc-

torship Appointments 'supplies' directors.

According to Geoffrey McLean's letter to his old chum Fergus:

'We have 200 good top managers, most actively holding down top jobs, who want to widen their horizons by serving on other boards as non-executives.

'By and large, they aren't in it for the money. The fees are chicken feed—about £2,500 a year—and not much after tax. It's just for the interest and to keep Great Britain afloat.'

It then emerged that this 'chicken feed' payment was for one day's work a month,

sitting on a board, making suggestions.

Fergus the Shirker quickly sent his pal's letter on to Triplan. But the directors of Triplan are believed to have replied in rather angry terms that £50 a week was rather a lot.

Fergus Montgomery, in his own right, is a director of Quad Finance Co, and paid parliamentary adviser to the Commercial Travellers Association.

Last year, he travelled to South Africa as a 'guest' of the racist South African government.

'Just to keep Great Britain afloat,' no doubt.

## WITHOUT COMMENT

One of the anxieties I had was your membership of this organisation. But I am now satisfied that it is not connected with any military activity—it is primarily a charitable organisation which assists the families of internees or prisoners in Ulster or in this country.

—Judge Sir William Morris, on giving a two-year suspended jail sentence two weeks ago to the treasurer of the Manchester branch of the Ulster Loyalist Association for being in possession of a pistol and ammunition.

## Socialist Worker

### EDITORIAL

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

01-739 6361  
739 0185  
739 9043

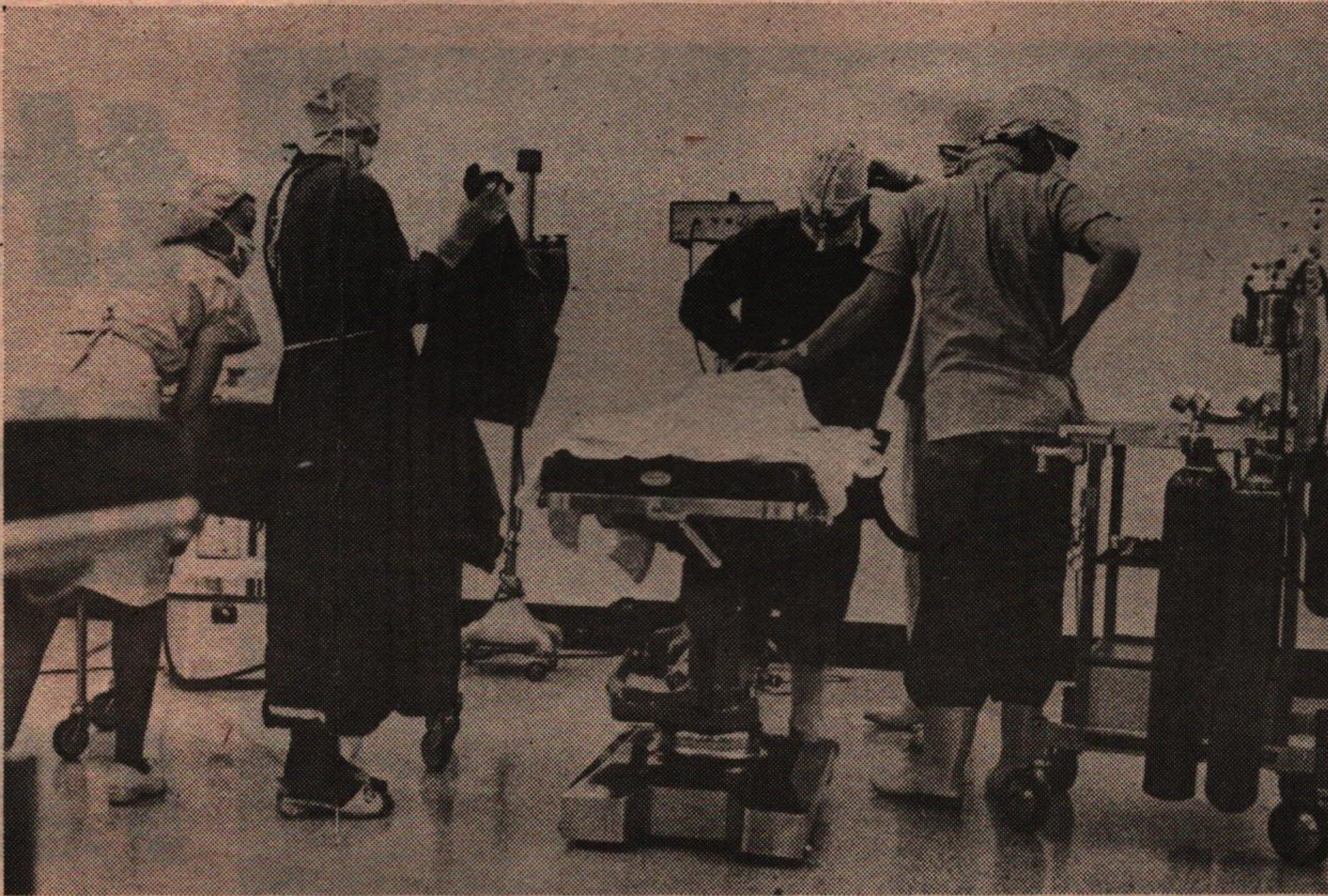
Circulation department: 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN. 01-739 2639. Published weekly except final week of December. Subscriptions: £7 yearly, £3.50 for six months, £1.75 for three months. Printed and published by Socialist Worker Printers and Publishers Ltd (TU all departments), Corbridge Works,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



# stop the cuts!

A Socialist Worker four-page special

# What are they doing to our welfare state?



**WITHOUT any announcement, we are at the end of an era. 'The Cuts' are no longer just a piece of government budgeting, they are the code-word for a social counter-revolution.**

They mean a harsher, crueler, meaner Britain. A dismal new world based on a million-strong army of permanently workless in walking the streets between empty factories and offices.

They demand that the great public services that provide our transport and fuel are run purely for profit

They mean an end to the Welfare State, the health services pruned back to the roots, the education system wrenched round to fit the exact needs of industry, social security payments nearly worthless with the bonus of the Poor Law showing through.

It's the end of cheap food . . . of cheap anything, and the beginning of charges for everything. A world of rationing without ration books, where shortages are caused not by natural disaster but by man-made speculation.

It's those most in need who are the first to suffer. Those who have the least have the most taken away.

The cold have their meters cut off, the sick are forced out of the ever fewer hospitals, the poorest have to endure endless waiting, insulting rules and humiliating cross-questioning.

## Shortage

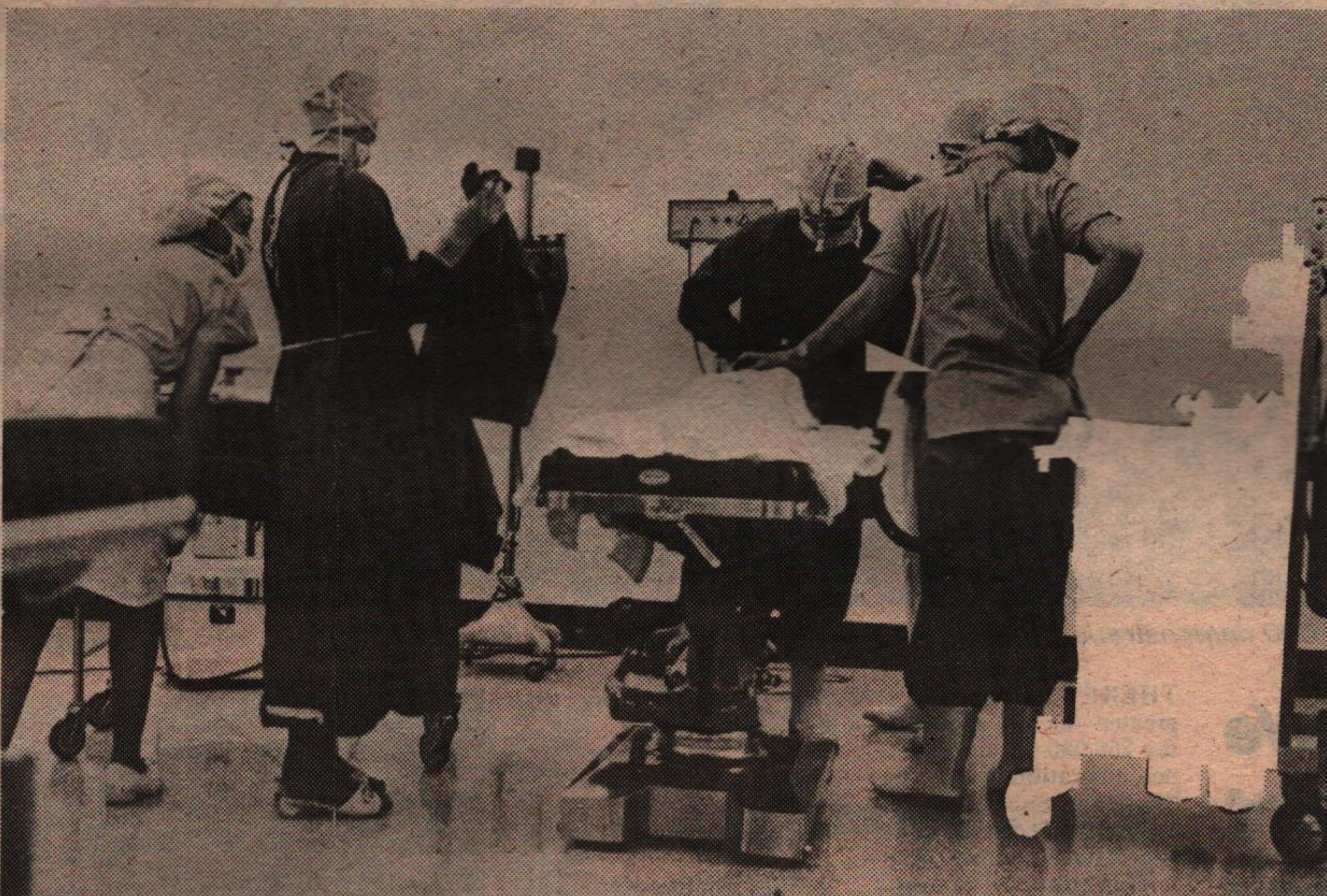
Once upon a time, education was a way of enriching people's minds, planned housing and transport a way of bettering our lives, a national health service was an alternative to medical greed in a field where commercial principles were seen at their worse.

Now profit rules, the IMF gives the orders and common humanity has become an expense account item.

The Electricity Board turned its loss into a profit by increasing prices and disconnections. Computers don't have feelings, they don't weep because 20,000 old people died unnecessarily last year because they could not afford to keep warm.

And the men from the IMF don't come home exhausted in crowded trains to hideous damp tower blocks, don't have to wait, endlessly wait, for a bus, for a job, for a Giro form to arrive. The only health spending certain to increase next year is the tranquilliser bill.

In his book *Hard Times*, Charles



Dickens described Mr Grandgrind, the very spirit of capitalist values, who insists that everything has its price. 'With a rule and a pair of scales, and the multiplication tables always in his pocket sir, ready to weigh and measure any parcel of human nature, and tell you exactly what it comes to'.

We have our new breed of Gradgrinds cutting and chopping away at our lives.

The Gradgrinds of Croydon who slipped texturised soya bean protein into school meals instead of meat and said: 'If it is palatable, which it is, and an economy, which it is, then of course we would consider it'.

The Gradgrinds of the Resources Allocation Working Party whose computers have decided the Westminster, St Barts and Middlesex Hospitals are 'surplus to requirement'.

Dr Rhodes Boyson, who even looks like Gradgrind and thinks poverty is a moral failing and that 'if children go to school suffering with malnutrition it is the job of the health authorities to prosecute the parents'.

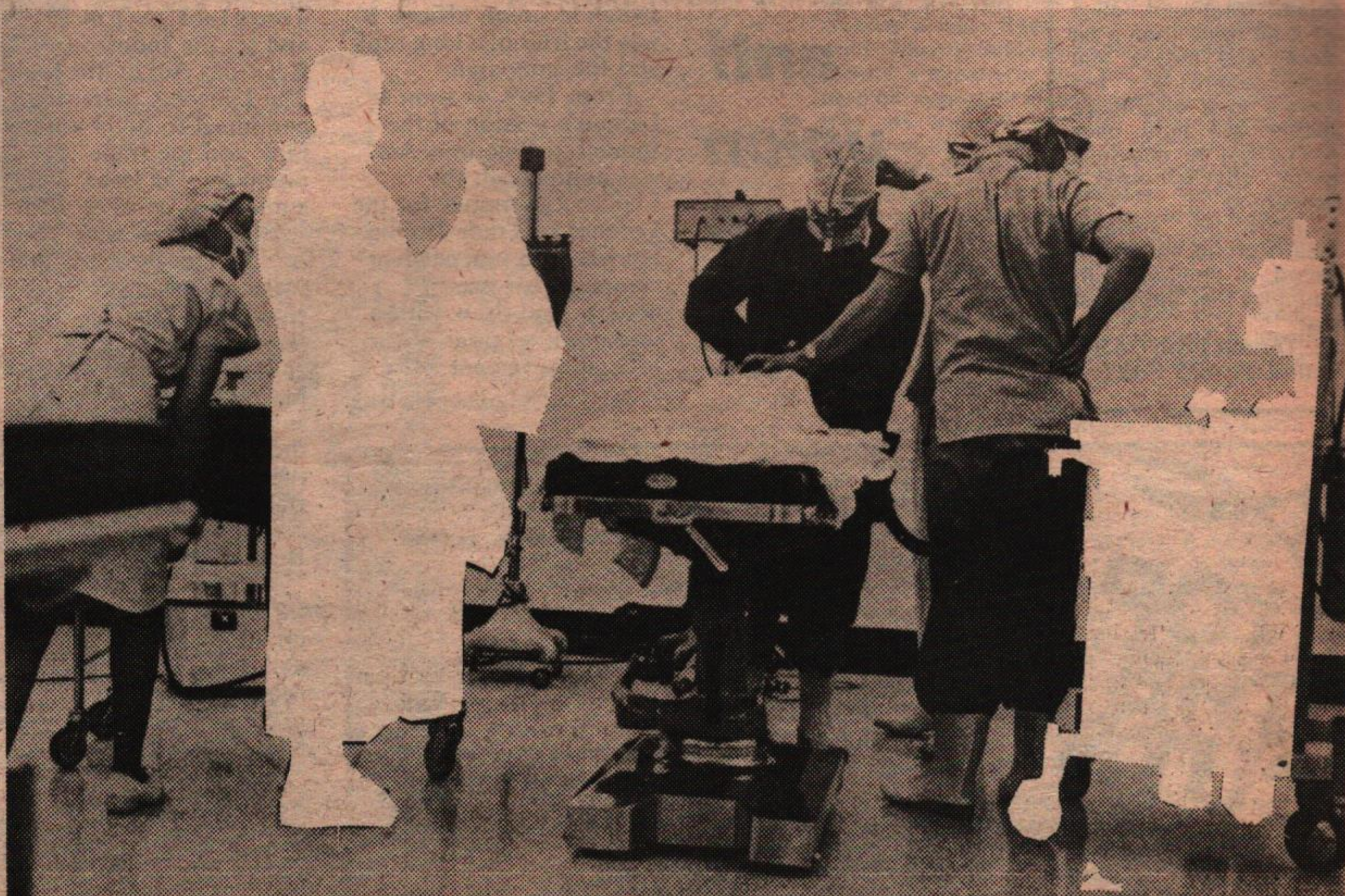
It is against the abolition of the Welfare State by these new Gradgrinds, against their philosophy of 'help yourself, because I'm damned if I will', it is now time to make a stand.

□ 20,000 fully-trained teachers are out of work. Hundreds of schools have classes that even the government admits are too big.

□ 206,700 construction workers are without a job. There are one million people without homes.

□ 1,500,000 people are registered as unemployed. There are only 100,000 vacancies.—15 unemployed workers to every vacancy.

□ Food prices are soaring, tens of thousand of people cannot afford to eat properly. In the Common Market the following food has been declared 'surplus' and is being stored to keep prices up—307,000 tons of beef, 196,000 tons of butter, 66,000 tons of sugar, 1,500,000 tons of wheat, 1,346,000 tons of dried milk.



PICTURE from *Hospital Worker*, the latest in the Kestrel Books series of children's books on people at work, by Sarah Cox and Robert Golden. (£1.95)

**DR GERRY DAWSON**



HOW THE CUTS IN OUR LIVES CAN BE STOPPED

# THERE'S NO POWER

Picture: Gail Clarke - Hall (IFL)



Part of the 250,000 demonstration against the Industrial Relations Act in November 1971

that  
the  
rank  
and  
file

## FIGHT THE CUTS

A film made by trade unionists for trade unionists and all groups fighting the Cuts

This isn't a film about the victims—it's a film made by rank and file trade unionists who are fighting back, who explain how they are organising. 'By linking together local victories from all over the country in one film we hope to give strength to people who think they are isolated and unarmed to face central government', they write.

The film has had more than 100 trade union showings and has now been also re-edited into two separate 25-minute films on Fighting the cuts in the Health Service, and Fighting the cuts in Education and Housing.

□ Hire is free. The only cost is £4 to cover dispatch. Phone 01-794 2825 for details.



A play to spark the fight back

It's what they call the salami treatment—slice off a bit here, then a bit more, and before you know where you are there's none left. Before people will fight back you've got to convince them that's what's happening.

CAST, the socialist theatre group, have completed a chilling half-hour play that will do just that.

□ Details from CAST, phone 01-402 6087.

**We beat their anti union laws**

THERE'S no power greater—as was shown by the 250,000-strong demonstration in London on 21 November 1971 against the Tories' hated Industrial Relations Act.

This giant protest wasn't turned on by the flick of a switch in union offices. It was the fruit of a long rank and file campaign.

From 1969, as soon as Labour's version of the Industrial Relations Act was announced, the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions launched an independent campaign for mass action—and drew with it important sections of the official movement.

It's first big success was

May Day 1969. Supported by the print union SOGAT, the Liaison Committee called the first political strike and demonstration in Britain for years.

The Labour government backed down—but the Tories took over in 1970 and set the Industrial Relations Act on the road. The Liaison Committee continued to build among rank and file trade unionists—its third conference, in 1972, had 1300 delegates, with 324 trade union branches and 91 shop stewards' committees directly represented.

In this way it detonated a movement, bringing the superb solidarity during the 1972 miners' strike and the London dockers' struggle against the National Industrial Relations Court.

Throughout, the top leadership of the trade union movement wavered and intrigued, showing the need for rank and file initiative and organisation on a national scale. It was the rank and file who, through unofficial actions and demonstrations in defiance of the court, forced the Tories to abandon their anti-union laws.



Jubilation on the mass picket as police close the Saltley coke depot

**We brought down the Tories**

WHEN the miners' struck against the Tory pay freeze in January 1972, it was rank and file pressure from the pits that brought about the strike—and it was rank and file support from other workers that helped them win.

The miners had picketed coal and coke depots, power stations, gasworks. They were met by massive numbers of police.

But many power workers and transport workers refused to cross the picket line—and the greatest victory, known as The Battle of Saltley Gates, was when carworkers, engineering and transport workers joined the miners' picket and forced the police to close the Saltley Coke Works near Birmingham.

The miners broke through the freeze—and other workers were able to follow.

That's why, when the Tories took on the miners again in 1974, seeking again to keep down wages throughout the country, the miners were able to force them to a General Election.

And the Tories were defeated.

ADVERTISEMENT

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

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

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

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

*But the cuts can be stopped.*

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

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

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

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

W  
fr  
fi  
ja  
do

THE  
respo  
sprea  
throu  
forced  
ment  
ville  
in sur

The  
presen  
led by  
the fig  
rank a  
stone  
streng

Wh  
picket  
turned  
of the  
ment  
massi  
outsid  
Then  
ionist  
trade  
Why



D

# ... EVER GREATER ...

Picture: John Sturrock (Report)



A year ago: The assembly point for the first big demonstration against Labour's unemployment policies.

WHILE tens of thousands of trade unionists march against the cuts this Wednesday, 17 November, Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, and many other trade union leaders will work as normal.

They have no choice. The protest is against the very policies they have agreed with the government.

The Sun even published an editorial on the demonstration urging its readers to follow the example of Jack Jones, general secretary of the biggest union of all, the Transport Workers. The message was 'STAY AWAY WITH JACK.'

Some trade union leaders will be on the demonstration, but reluctantly. The executive of the teachers' union (NUT) supports the demonstration, but voted overwhelmingly against the call for a one-day stoppage made by two executive members who support the Rank and File Teacher.

The executive of the Engineering Union (AUEW) held back support for the lobby until just six days in advance. There is no way that most branches will even receive letters telling them of the decision in time to act.

If rank and file engineering workers represent their factories and branches on Wednesday's demonstration, they will have come in spite of the executive.



After the demonstration, most trade union leaders and full-time officials will go home and try to forget about it. Some whose unions are most directly affected by the cuts will make more militant noises. But they too will try to dampen down any mass movement.

But the Rank and File will not be able to forget. Nor will we be content with speeches.

Everyone who marches on Wednesday will continue to suffer as the cuts get worse.

It is only continuing pressure from rank and file trade unionists that can ensure that the one day demonstration is turned into a real fight in every hospital, every school, every district.

Over 60 years ago in 1919, the leader of the Sheffield engineers, J T Murphy, summed up what building a rank and file organisation means.

'To thrust more responsibility upon the rank and file is of paramount importance... We must transform the representative into a delegate and establish the power to recall elected persons.

'Immediately we proceed to consider how this can be accomplished we are faced with the caucus-ridden bodies in power, many constitutions and long-drawn-out proceedings for alteration.

'Hence the only possible way to meet the situation is for the rank and file to build an alternative organisation which can exercise its power to urge the trade union leaders forward, or act independently when the circumstances demand.'



## ... and we'll beat these cuts!

26 November 1975 was the start of a movement against policies of mass unemployment, massive rising prices, huge cuts in hospitals, schools and social services—carried through by a Labour

government.

It was the first blow in the fight for the right to work. Since then the Right to Work Campaign has fought for ever wider resistance to these attempts to cut back workers' living standards in order to pay for the crisis.

Again the rank and file were left to fight alone, as the union leaders fervently sold the Social Con-trick. Now, with the growing rank and file anger at the scandal of the cuts, parts of the official movement are being forced to give cautious support for mass action.

The conditions for building a rank and file movement as a detonator for great struggles—and the powerhouse for winning them—are ripe. The size of the action and demonstration on Wednesday will show just how strong we are.



The dockers are released . . .

The response was so fast and so large that the official trade union leaders panicked. Fearing this mass movement would be beyond their control, they threatened an official one-day strike.

The government ordered the dockers' release.

It was a great victory for rank and file action but this time the Liaison Committee for the Defence of

Trade Unions put in no serious appearance or effort. Its organisers were by now mesmerised by the official movement, and particularly by certain allegedly left-wing officials such as Jack Jones, now architect of the Social Con-trick and fervent supporter of the Cuts.

The dockers' stewards, disgusted, withdrew from the committee that they had helped to found.



... and the men and women who did it

an

e

nk

d

e

eed

re

iled

ckers

massive rank and file

use, unofficial action

ing like wildfire

stop the cuts!



# THE VICTORIES

## stop the cuts!

Have the trade union officials suddenly become left-wing?

by STEVE LUDLAM NUPE shop steward, Moorfields Eye Hospital, London

SEASONED militants in the public employees' union NUPE and other unions have been amazed, and some enthused, by the speed with which NUPE's executive and general secretary Alan Fisher, have adopted leftist positions

NUPE militants have seized eagerly on this new line and used it as a licence to take a harder line against the cuts. But the reality behind Fisher's polished performances on television is ambiguous, to say the least.

Early this year NUPE branches were balloted on what position the union should adopt at the Special TUC Congress in May. The executive resolution presented for branches to vote on sums

up the new NUPE posturing perfectly—it stated support for the Social Contract, and opposition to the cuts.

Inevitably, many branches felt obliged to accept this line in order to oppose cuts.

Armed with this two-faced mandate, NUPE voted for the new pay policy.

In July Chancellor Denis Healey announced another £1000 million of cuts, which, proportionately, hit NUPE members harder than the previous cuts packages. Far from ditching the pay policy as threatened, NUPE went on to settle the pace-setting council workers' pay agreement strictly in line with the Healey £2.50 deal.

The union executive also responded to the July cuts by issuing to branches an 'Action Programme' against cuts. The first point was, amazingly, 'Don't strike!'

Having called the 17 November national lobby, the high point of its protest lobbying, the NUPE executive blatantly avoided calling stoppages to support it. Not until the union's London Divisional Council, a lay body, called on its 90,000 members to strike on the 17th, did the executive issue guidance—and then all it did was authorise other divisional councils to call stoppages.

The explanation for these tortuous zig-zags is simple. NUPE is growing at a faster rate than ever before, as workers look desperately for protection to it as 'The Union that Fights the Cuts'.

Every member of NUPE is threatened by the cuts, so the executive's rhetoric has blown mightily to conceal the fact that Alan Fisher is a member of the TUC General Council, that the executive has fallen in line with the rest of the TUC, and the Social Contract which has so far endorsed this government's cuts of a staggering £6,700 million.

### Officials weaken CPSA ban

by MIKE McGRATH CPSA executive member, writing in a personal capacity

AMONG the demonstrators this Wednesday will be many members of the biggest civil service union, the CPSA. The cuts have not yet hit the civil service as hard as the hospitals, local government and education, but the pressure is on.

A good thing, you might think, if you have read the normal drivel in the papers about overpaid and pampered civil servants—except that the members of the CPSA are far from overpaid. The pay of a 21-year-old clerk in a local social security office is a princely £21 a week.

On the surface the national executive of the CPSA has taken a good stand on the cuts. It called for a one-day stoppage on 17 November, an overtime ban and a policy of one worker for every job.

But the full-time bureaucracy in the union has dampened this call. It has sent out a succession of uninspiring and evasive circulars.

The national executive decided at its last meeting to allow exceptions to the overtime ban—on the basis that some overtime was not job-saving or job-creating. This has opened a gap that the right wing and the bureaucracy are trying to drive a coach and horses through.

It is up to the rank and file to ensure that the overtime ban is 100 per cent effective.

### Another 1414 jobs created

A GREAT victory against the cuts has been won by workers in the Department of Health and Social Security. They have proved that an overtime ban really does save jobs.

Their action since September has created another 1414 jobs in contributions and supplementary benefit departments throughout the country.

'We have shown that rank and file action is the way to fight,' said CPSA section executive member Doug Beasley, in East London. 'And we are carrying on the fight against further cuts planned for next year.'

#### OVERTIME

CPSA members banned overtime and refused to cooperate with fraud survey and audit sections. The Department was forced to increase this year's staffing levels by 1414. Another 1000 jobs are likely to be created through the year by making casual jobs permanent.

But the Department wants to axe 5292 jobs next year because of the cuts, so the CPSA members' action is continuing. CPSA reps in each office decide which cases need urgent attention so that people in need don't suffer because of the ban.

The initiative for the action came from Redder Tape, the CPSA rank and file group. Said Doug: 'At the beginning we took petitions and some people went on strike to lobby the section executive and force the action. We held local rallies in East London where there were votes for strike action.'

'As a result the general secretary, Ken Thomas, called off the lobby in Central London. The full-timers have tried to



Right to Work marchers demonstrate outside the TUC in Brighton against the Cuts and unemployment

emasculate our action right the way through.

'The cuts they want to make will affect the visiting work we do. That means no more welfare visits.

'We go to see people who have been on our books for some time to see whether they need extras like heating allowances, clothing or furniture. We often recommend home helps for old people living alone, or meals on wheels. And it's that side of it they want to cut.

'But we have proved that rank and file action works and we have got to go on fighting.'

### Wage cuts stopped

ACTION by school cleaners in the Borders region of Scotland stopped threatened 30 per cent reductions in wages and hours—and won total victory despite a bitter campaign by the press and the regional council.

Members of the public employees unions NUPE and NALGO, gained confidence after Edinburgh Right To Work Campaign started collecting money and giving support on the picket

In Scotland's Central region cleaners have just won a victory against the cuts. Now the council is trying to lay-off part-time teachers instead.

### The cash miracle

IT TOOK two weeks of overtime bans and other sanctions for workers in four Tameside hospitals, in Greater Manchester, to convince the Area Health Authority that they were understaffed.

A staff of ten, mostly untrained, had been looking after the 104 old people in an acute geriatric unit for the 12-hour night shift. But figures produced by management made it look like staffing had never been higher.

Only when they were threatened by mass industrial action did they agree to allocate more money.

### Job for a porter

THIRTY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' UNION NUPE at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Hackney, East London, have proved that money can suddenly appear when the rank and file take action.

For months they had been campaigning to have the hospital switchboard moved away from the reception area in the front hall. The management said they

couldn't afford it.

One night the receptionist was beaten up, and the NUPE staff decided to go on strike.

What did NUPE general secretary Alan Fisher have to say? Exactly the same as the board of governors, which incidentally is chaired by Audrey Callaghan, wife of Prime Minister Jim. Go Back To Work! they said.

But the hospital workers stayed out and won their case. The switchboard was transferred to the basement and a job for a night porter was created.

### 41 jobs saved

STRATHCLYDE Regional Council was forced to drop its plan to sack the 41 workers who ran the educational television service (ETV) in Glasgow.

They were suspended. The NALGO union conference, under pressure from local members, had called a one-day strike by its 10,500 members on Strathclyde.

### Maternity unit won

LIANELLI Right to Work Campaign won support from 3,000 local people in a battle for improved health facilities. By petitioning and lobbying the area health authority they have won a £75,000 maternity unit to be built next year.

### Kitchen saved

'IF THEY close St Matthews' where will we go when we are old? It's because of the patients that we are here on strike.'

Those were the words of an angry hospital porter on strike in East London this summer. Hospital workers were fighting management attempts to close the kitchen at St Matthews Hospital for Old People because they saw

## EMERGENCY HOSTEL SAVED



Demonstration against the Cuts in Bury

BURY Action Group against the Cuts occupied Hillcrest, a home providing emergency accommodation, when the council tried to shut it down.

The occupation lasted five weeks. Then the council surrendered. They are keeping the home open for at least another 18 months, and the action group will see they haven't much chance of shutting it down.

The action group organised massive demonstrations through Bury, picketed council meetings and covered the town with posters. The Bury branch of the local government workers' union (NALGO) helped by following a policy of non-cooperation on the cuts.

The action group organised their own newsletter against the cuts. The first issue sold out of all 2,500 copies.

ADVERTISEMENT

**Nalگو Action News**  
Rank and File Paper for Civil Service Trade Unions

**Redder Tape**  
Rank and File Paper for Civil Service Trade Unions

**COAL STOCKS SCANDAL**

**THE COLLIER**  
Rank and File Miners Paper for the Right to Work

**THE DOCKWORKER**  
REVENUE RANK & FILE

**ENGINEERS' CHARTER**

**THE PLATFORM**

**hospital worker**  
ALL OUT NO RAILWAY WORKER

**POST OFFICE WORKER**  
The challenge of the

**MASSACRE**  
RANK AND FILE CONTACT

Rank and file members of many unions produce regular papers or journals. Here are some of them:  
**THE COLLIER**, 38 Abbey Lane, Cundy Cross, Barnsley.  
**THE DOCKWORKER**, 24 Florence Road, London, E13  
**PLATFORM**, the busworkers' paper is produced in local editions: Eastern National from 26 Sherbourne Gardens, Southend, Essex. London Platform from 8 Buller Road, London, N17.  
**ENGINEERS' CHARTER** (AUEW) from 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.  
**POST OFFICE WORKER**, from 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.  
**HOSPITAL WORKER**, 78 Edith Grove, London.  
**CONTACT** (EPTU) from 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.  
**ASTMS RANK AND FILE** from 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.  
**NALGO ACTION NEWS**, 23 Alpha House, Ashbridge Street, London, NW8.  
**RAILWAY MASSACRE**, from 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.  
**COLLEGE RANK AND FILE**, 52 Woodland Terrace, London, SE7.  
**REDDER TAPE** (civil servants), 46 Pynfolds, Jamaica Road, London, SE16.  
**REVENUE RANK AND FILE**, 17 Bartlett Street, Darlington.  
**RANK AND FILE TEACHER**, 5 Rommany Road, London, SE27.

**SUPPORT THE RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN**  
Full information from Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4, phone 01-802 0978.



**'JOBS VACANT.** Applicants should possess the following qualities: physical fitness; courage; stamina; willpower; initiative; have an inquiring mind; be observant; be calm and patient; and have a keen sense of discipline.'

An advert for 'Captains of Industry' No. According to The Manual of Firemanship, the fireman's bible, these are the qualities required by a fireman to enable him to carry out his duties.

These duties, according to the same manual, also entail saving life; preventing the destruction of property and rendering humanitarian services in that order of priority.

**Other Duties**

The manual does not mention the fireman's other duties, such as polishing floors and doors; cleaning toilets; doing joinery work; electrical work; painting and decorating; maintaining vehicles; building work; and a multitude of other tasks all of which save the local fire authority a great deal of money (which is probably spent on lavish entertainment for councillors) and keeps a great many people on the dole who could otherwise be employed to do it.

For too long, firemen, fed a dedicated hero image of themselves by society, have been conned into being a cheap source of labour.

They have been kept on low wages, long hours and rotten conditions.

Firemen have fought for years to change this situation but have been handicapped by a petty military-style discipline code.

The Fire Brigades Union, led by a succession of equally petty trade union careerists, has never been the force for change it could and should have been.

**Reluctance**

Add to this the local authorities' reluctance to relinquish their cheap source of labour and it becomes clear that only under a socialist society will firemen be free to use their own initiative, imagination and ability to provide a service which would serve the interests of people and not property.

*A look at the standards of fire cover laid down for the fire service partly reveals its true role in society.*

There are three classes of cover, each getting different provision. Class A risks, are main shopping and business centres of large industrial and commercial cities and towns, docks, shipbuilding yards; and large factories.

For them the first attendance is three fire tenders—two within five minutes and the third eight minutes.

Class B risks, are model factory estates; extensive shopping centres and small industrial centres. For Class B, the first attendance is two fire tenders—the first within five minutes and the second in eight minutes.

For Class C risks—suburban terraced property; blocks of flats; towns devoid of any serious industrial risks; small industrial communities 'where the operatives' dwellings are closely grouped together mainly in terraces and rows and practically devoid of breaks'—the first attendance is one fire tender within eight minutes.

**Requirements**

These are minimum requirements and some authorities exceed them. But they do reveal a heavy bias in favour of property.

Fire drills, which, if done on a regular basis, can be effective in preventing loss of life, are regarded by most employers simply as a break in production and, as this costs money, few bother with them.

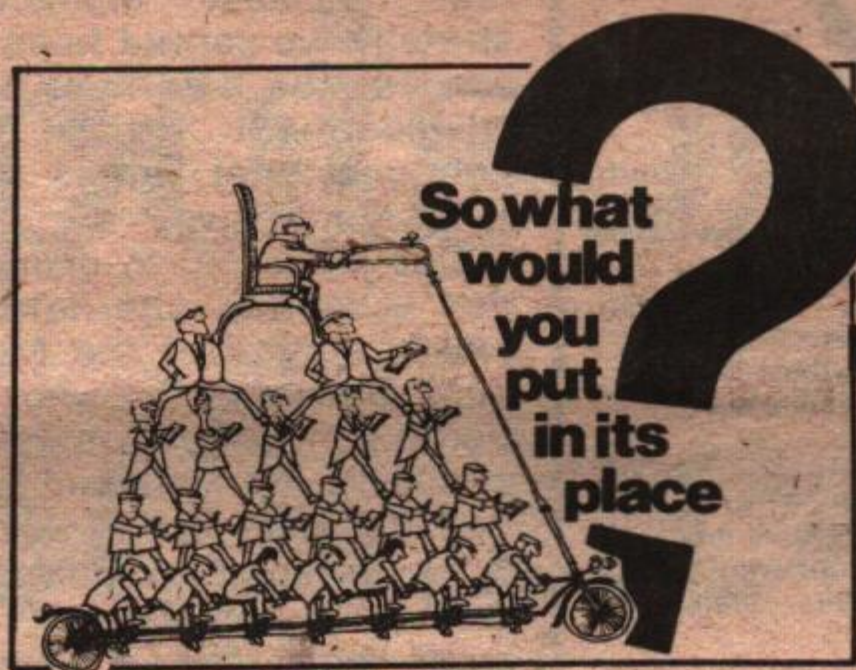
Ideally, firemen could train people who work in department stores or factories to a standard where, with the proper equipment, they could tackle fires in the initial stages and, with the elimination of the time lag in the arrival of the fire service, most fires would not reach the proportions they do.

*In this way, disasters like the James Watt Street fire in Glasgow some years ago, where 22 lives were lost, could be prevented.*

In a socialist society, highly profitable and apparently cheap synthetic materials like

# You can go to blazes...

## FIRES KILL-BUT OUR RULERS PUT PROPERTY BEFORE PEOPLE



By **RONNIE ROBERTSON**

A Glasgow fireman and a member of the Strathclyde Committee of the Fire Brigades Union



To escape being burned alive in her blazing Rotterdam flat, a woman leaps to the pavement below...

“ In a socialist society, highly profitable materials such as polyurethane which give off deadly toxic gases when involved in fire would be subject to far stricter control. The criminally large number of deaths in working-class homes could then be greatly reduced. ”



... and risks possible death—and certain injury—in the process.

polyurethane foam and plastics, which are used in the making of furniture and which give off deadly toxic gases when involved in fire, would be subject to far stricter control.

The criminally large number of deaths which occur because of these materials, mainly in working class homes, would be greatly reduced.

Regulations which lay down standards for building materials; means of escape in case of fire; and the provision of equipment to fight fires, in which architects, like tax accountants, spend their time

finding loopholes in order to cut costs, would be strictly enforced and new buildings made safer to live in.

Our skills as firemen would be used to design for living rather than have us come along in the wake of avoidable tragedy.

The real tragedy of fire in terms of human lives lost is that it strikes mainly at those people in society who already have little or nothing.

Fire hits the old living on bare pensions, the poor and inadequate living in the ghettos, people who cannot afford to pay electricity bills and so instead use

paraffin heaters or even candles which, with cheap furniture, add up to incendiary bombs sitting in their homes.

The role of the fire service in a socialist society will not differ all that greatly from the emergency services provided just now.

**But the role of firemen will be to unite with other working people to eliminate the conditions of squalor, misery and deprivation which not only deny these people a dignified life but also a dignified death.**

**Socialist Worker Lottery**

10p a ticket, 50p for book of six

**1st Prize**  
25" Colour TV set

**2nd Prize**  
Grundig Audio Stereo Unit

**3rd Prize**  
Black and white portable TV

**4th Prize**  
Cassette tape recorder

**5th Prize**  
25 hampers, value £10 each

Tickets from National Treasurer,  
6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2.

Buy and sell tickets now for the Socialist Worker Christmas Draw. All proceeds to the Socialist Worker Fighting Fund. Send all money from tickets to SW Draw, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

*Under the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act, no employee or close relative of an employee of Socialist Worker Printers and Publishers may enter.*



# 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.

**EAST KILBRIDE SW** discussion meetings on THE MEANING OF MARXISM: Every second Tuesday, 8pm, The Murray Hall, The Murray, 30 November: The Struggle in Ireland—a Socialist Perspective.

**EDINBURGH** Socialist Worker discussion group meets every Saturday, 11.30am, Room 9, Societies Centre, 21 Hill Place (off Nicholson Street, opposite Nicholson Square). Open to all SW readers. Further information from Penicuk 72819.

**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: Socialism or Capitalism? Speakers from local IS branch.

Monday 29 November: Which way to socialism in Britain? The politics of IS. 8pm, back room of Colpitts Hotel, Sutton Street, Durham City.

**DURHAM** Socialist Worker Christmas social: Friday 3 December, 8pm, Fowlers Yard, Durham. With CAST in Sam The Man, bar and disco.

**HULL** Socialist Worker public meeting: Is Russia Socialist? Thursday 25 November, place to be announced next week. All SW readers welcome.

**BRADFORD** Socialist Worker Silk Screen day school: Making a silkscreen, using it, all you need to know to set up a printshop, plus poster design. Saturday 4 December, Contact Bill House, (phone Bradford 493734) for details. Social in the evening!

**BRADFORD** Socialist Worker Teachers public meeting: Racism in Schools. Thursday 2 December 7.30pm, Carlisle Hotel, Manningham.

**SKELMERSDALE** Socialist Worker meeting: Building the revolutionary socialist party. Speaker: Tony Cliff, Monday 22 November, 7.45pm, Highwaymen pub, Wigan Road, Digmoor.

**TGWU: Manchester** meeting for all Socialist Worker supporters and members of the International Socialists. Saturday 20 November, 2pm, TU Books, 260 Deansgate, Manchester.

**LANCASHIRE** Regional meeting for all teachers in the International Socialists: Sunday 21 November, 2pm, TU Books, 260 Deansgate, Manchester. Speaker: Tony Cliff.

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

**MANCHESTER IS** Hospital Workers public meetings: Every other Thursday, 8pm.

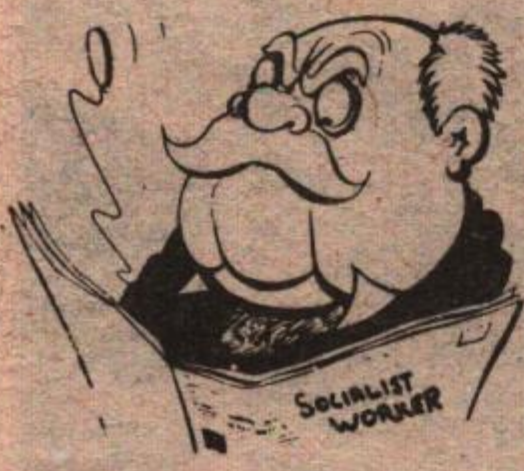
25 November: Portugal one year later. Film and speaker who was on the spot. Meeting to be held at Manchester Poly.

**PRESTON SW** discussion meetings: Every second Thursday, 8pm, The Keystone, Brook Street. All welcome. 25 November: India and Pakistan. 9 December: The police and the state.

**BLACKBURN** Socialist Worker discussion meetings: Thursdays, 8pm, Veteran Hotel, Eanam, Blackburn. 25 November: The cuts and unemployment—their causes and how to fight them. 9 December: Southern Africa.

**CLAY CROSS** Socialist Worker public meeting: Which way to socialism? Speaker: Paul Foot. Thursday 25 November, 8.45 pm, Royal Volunteer, Market Street.

### Socialist Worker EAST OF SCOTLAND RALLY



Weekend 4-5 December, Students Societies Centre, Hill Place, Edinburgh.

LEADING SPEAKERS: Harry Mc Shane of the unemployed workers' movement in the 1930s on the fight for the right to work, Tony Cliff on the fight against racism, Angela McHugh on women's role in industry, Joan Smith on women and the family, John Deason on the Broad Lefts and the narrow lefts, Alan Meyer on the RDL oil rig site dispute, Alan Armstrong on the SNP.

CAST theatre group's plays on the Prevention of Terrorism Act, unemployment, the C.U.T.S. and SAM THE MAN, The

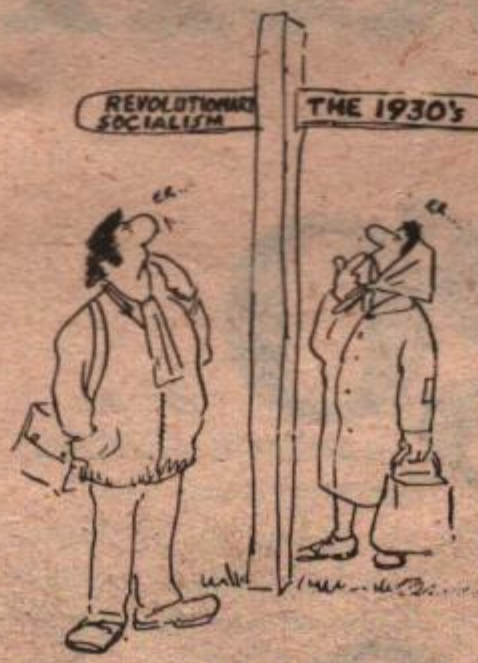
lightrope walker on Labour's parliamentary road to socialism.

FILMS: BOF, Women against the Bill, Attica, The Miners' Newsreel, Chile—the Reckoning, Animal Farm, Blood of the Condor, and others.

DANCE on the Saturday night, 8pm-midnight, with the Dead Loss Band.

CRECHE, FOOD and REFRESHMENTS—and if you break your neck running from room to room there will be first aid facilities in Room 9A.

Tickets £1.50 from Andrew McGeevor, 12 Oakville Terrace, Edinburgh 6.



WHICH WAY ???

### Action in the Unions

National meetings for all members of the International Socialists and Socialist Worker supporters in the following unions:

NUPE: Saturday 20 November, in London.

CIVIL SERVICE unions: Saturday 27 November, in London.

HOSPITAL WORKERS unions: Saturday 4 December, in Manchester.

TGWU: Saturday 4 December, in Birmingham.

Fraction secretaries meeting: Tuesday 23 November 7pm.

For further details of these meetings, contact your branch or fraction secretary or call the IS Industrial Department, phone 01-739 9772.

**NUPE:** National meeting for all Socialist Worker supporters and members of the International Socialists in NUPE. Saturday 20 November, 2pm-5pm, Room 61, North London Polytechnic, Holloway Road.

**CENTRAL LONDON** Socialist Worker meetings on sexual politics: Thursdays, 7pm, Roebuck pub, Tottenham Court Road (Warren Street tube).

25 November: 'We come to bury housework, not to praise it'—socialists and housework. Speaker: Irene Breugel.

9 December: Working women under attack. Speaker: Elana Dallas.

**EAST LONDON** Hospital Workers IS open meeting: British Fascism—the Thirties and now. Speaker: Nigel Fountain. Wednesday 24 November, 7.30pm, Centreprise Books, 136 Kingsland High Road, London, E8.

### Marxism and the Revolutionary Party

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

Friday evenings, 7pm, at the University of London Union, Malet Street, WC1 (nearest tube Goodge Street).

19 November: Inflation and Marxist theory. Speaker: Duncan Hallas.

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

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

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

14 January: State capitalism in Russia. Speaker: Duncan Hallas.

21 January: World capitalism and imperialism. Speaker: Nigel Harris.

28 January: British imperialism and Ireland. Speaker: Jimmy McCallum.

4 February: Shelley and revolution. Speaker: Paul Foot.

11 February: The degradation of work. Speaker: John Ure.

18 February: The crisis of British capitalism. Speaker: Mike Kidron.

25 February: Fighting racism and fascism. Speaker: Colin Sparks.

There will be small group discussions on each topic in the week following each meeting. Give yourself a socialist night out!

**TOWER HAMLETS** Socialist Worker public meeting: The struggle against fascism in the East End in the 1930s—the lessons for today. Speaker: Colin Sparks. Wednesday 24 November, 8pm, Oxford House, Derbyshire Street, London E2. NOTE: 17 November meeting is cancelled.

**HACKNEY** Socialist Worker schools branch public meeting: Marx and the family. Speaker: Joan Smith. Tuesday 23 November, 8pm, Centreprise, Kingsland High Street, London, E8.

**SOUTH EAST LONDON** Socialist Worker meetings on Marxism and Working-Class History. Thursdays at 7.30pm, Charlton House, Hornfair Road, SE17.

18 November: John Laxton in 'Did the Labour Party start out Socialist?' 25 November: Paul Lutener on Rank and File Movements. 2 December: James Hinton on The General Strike. 9 December: Chris Harman on The Russian Revolution. 16 December: Gareth Jenkins on 'Is Russia Socialist? Does it matter?'

**WEST-MIDDLESEX** Socialist Worker discussion meetings on The Meaning of Marxism. Every other Monday, 7.45pm at the Mill Hill Tavern, Gunnersbury Lane, opposite Acton Hospital (E3 bus route, nearest tube Acton Town).

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

29 November: What is Fascism? 13 December: South Africa 3 January: Family Life and Capitalism.

17 January: Racism today and how to fight it.

**LOWESTOFT** Socialist Workers readers' meeting: Thursday 18 November, 8pm, The Norfolk, Denmark Road. Speaker: Ian Gibson.

**BRISTOL** Socialist Worker discussion meetings: Thursdays, 8pm, Baptist Knowles Community Centre, Horley Road, St Werburghs. (off Mina Road, near M32).

25 November: Why we need a Socialist Workers Party. 9 December: Women and Socialism. 16 December: Ireland's British problem.

**CRAWLEY** Socialist Worker public meeting: The Fight against Racism and Unemployment. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Monday 29 November, 8pm, AEU Hall, Robinson Road, Crawley.

### National Organisation of International Socialist Students (NOISS)

**EDGE HILL COLLEGE, Ormskirk.** NOISS meeting: The Socialist Alternative to the Cuts. Tuesday 23 November, 6.30pm, Room 22. Speaker: Chris Jones.

**NOISS** Caucus: For all those attending the NUS Conference composite meeting. Friday 26 November, 11am, in London. Further details from 01-739 1878 or 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2. All NOISS members and supporters at the composite must attend.

### Fight Against Racism

**LEEDS** special edition of Socialist Worker on the Leeds fight against racism. 3p a copy. Bulk orders: 50 copies for £1. Contact 43 Park Street, Leeds 1.

**HALIFAX** Anti-fascist Demonstration: This Saturday, 2pm, meet Gibbett Street, Halifax. All West Yorkshire IS branches to support: Stewards' meeting, 12 noon, 12 Belle Vue Place, off Gibbett Street.

**LEA VALLEY** Socialist Worker social: Friday 3 December, 8pm, Queen's Head Turnpike Lane, London, N8 (nearest tube Turnpike Lane). Music by Peter The Great, disco, bar extension. 60p.

**WOMENS VOICE** Nov/Dec issue out now.

EGA latest Police strike! Nursery campaign news Family debate continues SPUC pickets

Womens Voice wishes SW readers and writers a Merrie Xmas and a revolutionary New Year, when we'll be back with our new fighting WOMENS VOICE.

**EXETER** Socialist Worker discussion meetings: Thursdays, 8pm, Devonport Inn, Fore Street.

2 December: Should socialists be in the Labour Party? 16 December: Internationalism.

**International Socialists BLACK CAUCUS** meeting: Saturday 27 November, 10.30am-5pm, Black members and supporters of IS please keep this date free. Details next week.

**International Socialists GAY** Group meets regularly in London, on Mondays. Phone 790-2545 or 800-8557 for details: 19 Redmans Road, London, E1 3AQ.

**LEEDS** Socialist Worker Youth Movement and Right to Work Campaign **ROCK AGAINST RACISM** concert: Saturday 11 December, 7.30pm, The Lipman Building, Leeds University (behind playhouse), Foxy Maids, Lifemask. Admission 50p (unemployed 25p).

**EDINBURGH** Rock Against Racism concert: Wednesday 24 November, 8pm, Heriot Watt University, 30 Grindley Street, Edinburgh. Dead Loss Band. More details, phone 031-229 3574.

**CENTRAL LONDON** Rock Against Racism: Saturday 20 November, 7pm-11pm, Central London Poly, Bolsover Street, W1. Kartoon Klowns in YES. BUT and Night Train Sounds. 50p with bar.

**BRADFORD** and **SHIPLEY**: Socialist Worker is always available at the Fourth Idea Bookshop.

**MARXIST POLYTECHNIC:** 1-8 July 1977. Organised by NOISS. A week of lectures, discussions and debate around key aspects of Marxism. Want to contribute? Write to 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2.

**PRAGATI**, the International Socialists' paper for Bengali workers. Editorial board meeting: Monday 22 November, 7pm, 42 Albion Drive, Hackney, East London. All London Bengali supporters please attend.

**BRADFORD** Socialist Worker marXmas social: Saturday 4 December, 8pm, Rawson Hotel, John Street. Folk (political/trade union) disco, bar extension. 50p.

**WOMAN COMRADE**, 49 years, daughter 16 years. seek flat/share house. References: Box GS, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London, E2.

**LEA VALLEY** Socialist Worker social: Friday 3 December, 8pm, Queen's Head Turnpike Lane, London, N8 (nearest tube Turnpike Lane). Music by Peter The Great, disco, bar extension. 60p.

**BRADFORD** Socialist Worker marXmas social: Saturday 4 December, 8pm, Rawson Hotel, John Street. Folk (political/trade union) disco, bar extension. 50p.

**WOMAN COMRADE**, 49 years, daughter 16 years. seek flat/share house. References: Box GS, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London, E2.

**LEA VALLEY** Socialist Worker social: Friday 3 December, 8pm, Queen's Head Turnpike Lane, London, N8 (nearest tube Turnpike Lane). Music by Peter The Great, disco, bar extension. 60p.

**BRADFORD** Socialist Worker marXmas social: Saturday 4 December, 8pm, Rawson Hotel, John Street. Folk (political/trade union) disco, bar extension. 50p.

**WOMAN COMRADE**, 49 years, daughter 16 years. seek flat/share house. References: Box GS, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London, E2.

**LEA VALLEY** Socialist Worker social: Friday 3 December, 8pm, Queen's Head Turnpike Lane, London, N8 (nearest tube Turnpike Lane). Music by Peter The Great, disco, bar extension. 60p.

**BRADFORD** Socialist Worker marXmas social: Saturday 4 December, 8pm, Rawson Hotel, John Street. Folk (political/trade union) disco, bar extension. 50p.

**WOMAN COMRADE**, 49 years, daughter 16 years. seek flat/share house. References: Box GS, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London, E2.

**LEA VALLEY** Socialist Worker social: Friday 3 December, 8pm, Queen's Head Turnpike Lane, London, N8 (nearest tube Turnpike Lane). Music by Peter The Great, disco, bar extension. 60p.

**BRADFORD** Socialist Worker marXmas social: Saturday 4 December, 8pm, Rawson Hotel, John Street. Folk (political/trade union) disco, bar extension. 50p.

## Postal Points

WATCHING BBC1's coverage of the by-elections I was disgusted by the report about Walsall North. Philip Tibbenham had an interview with two women—obviously racist and National Front supporters—no other such report or any other candidate was shown.

Jimmy McCallum was the only candidate to be dismissed in a couple of sentences. So much for the BBC's impartiality. Could it be that the ruling class is getting worried?

Pete Halsall, Ormskirk.

AS MEMBERS of the Socialist Worker Youth Movement and the International Socialists who were on the Magpie programme on inflation (letters October 16) we wish to enlighten a few people.

We were told to keep the discussion on a simple level as it was intended for young kids. A lot of people there did not understand the political implications that inflation has.

Three people on the programme were socialists. One did not have the chance to speak because of time. The two points that were raised were quite valid and in accordance with IS principles.

Cathy Dunne, Simon Lang, Kevin Cotter.

**DUNCAN HALLAS** has argued positively for a 'planned economy' as an alternative to the present disastrous Labour policies.

Unless we can expound a real socialist economic strategy we cannot hope to harness the bitterness and bewilderment caused by unemployment into a victorious offensive.

Our job is not to dismiss the economic alternatives which appear in the Morning Star and Tribune as 'reformism'. Our job is to proclaim the independent working-class action which is necessary to implement such alternatives and to point out that a 'siege economy' can only be a stepping stone to international socialism if it is not to be crushed by the international financial mafia.

Gordon Blair, South West London

A Chattin, Bolton

## Trouble Simple -

WE HEARD, on Capital Radio today, an interview in which Horace Cutler claimed that £22 millions are being lost annually by London Transport because of 'Fares Fiddles'.

He offered a reward of £100 to the person who produced the 'most effective' way of stopping this 'fiddle'. We would like to claim the reward for the following suggestion: ABOLISH BUSES

THE COMRADES who oppose all 'compromise' on principle and insist that we do not stand candidates seem to misunderstand the reasons for standing.

It is a matter of tactics. If we want the organisation to grow we must use all the opportunities that the present system affords us to spread our politics and an election campaign is a superb means of doing this.

Kevin Mayes, Brighton.

## 'Surplus' teachers scandal

MILLIONS of people are not aware that direction of labour in Britain is a fact. In Salford and Bury, and in other parts of the country, teachers who are said to be 'surplus' in one school in the area are being told that they must move to another school, even if it is miles away, which is not up to quota.

Of course the directors of education try to pass it off as voluntary. But this is not so. Teachers, especially if they are young and inexperienced are being pressurised and conned.

Bury education authority have even paid at least 17 women teachers short of the national agreement for pregnant women at work. The National Union of Teachers even had to threaten to take Bury to court before the LEA backed down.

A Chattin, Bolton

## RACIALISM IN SCHOOL

I HAVE just finished reading Anna Pacuska's articles on children's books (Socialist Worker, October 30). Recently as a student teacher I went on teaching practice in a Tottenham infants school. Of a class of 27, 20 were black.

You can still get a racist book called Little Black Sambo at public libraries.

I did find some books, which could be used. They were by Ezra Jack Keats. There is a book shop in Stroud Green in London, New Beacon Bookshop, which specialises in books for black children.

C J Owen, Tottenham.

## ABORTION:



I AGREE absolutely with a woman's right to choose whether or not to have children. But surely it is better to emphasise the importance of preventing conception in the first place.

I get the impression that your campaign stalwarts

## We must

ON SUNDAY last I went to Bristol to join a picket of SPUC who had assembled on the Downs. On getting there I found the local National Abortion Campaign organisation's attitude disgusting.

They quite seriously wished to have their rally and not harass and follow SPUC through the streets of Bristol.



## PORTUGAL— One year after 25 November clampdown

Film tour with speaker: Pete Robinson, who spent six months in Portugal during the past year.

YORK: Saturday 20 November, 7.30pm, University Students Union.

BOLTON: Tuesday 23 November, 8pm, Balmoral Hotel.

BRADFORD: Wednesday 24 November, 7.30pm, University Students Union. Organised by Bradford University IS Society.

MANCHESTER: Thursday 25 November, 1pm, University Students Union.

Organised by Manchester University IS Society. 8pm: Manchester Polytechnic, Aytoun Street. Organised by Poly IS Society.

OLDHAM: Thursday 2 December, 8pm, Bath Hotel.



## with fare fiddlers? abolish the buses

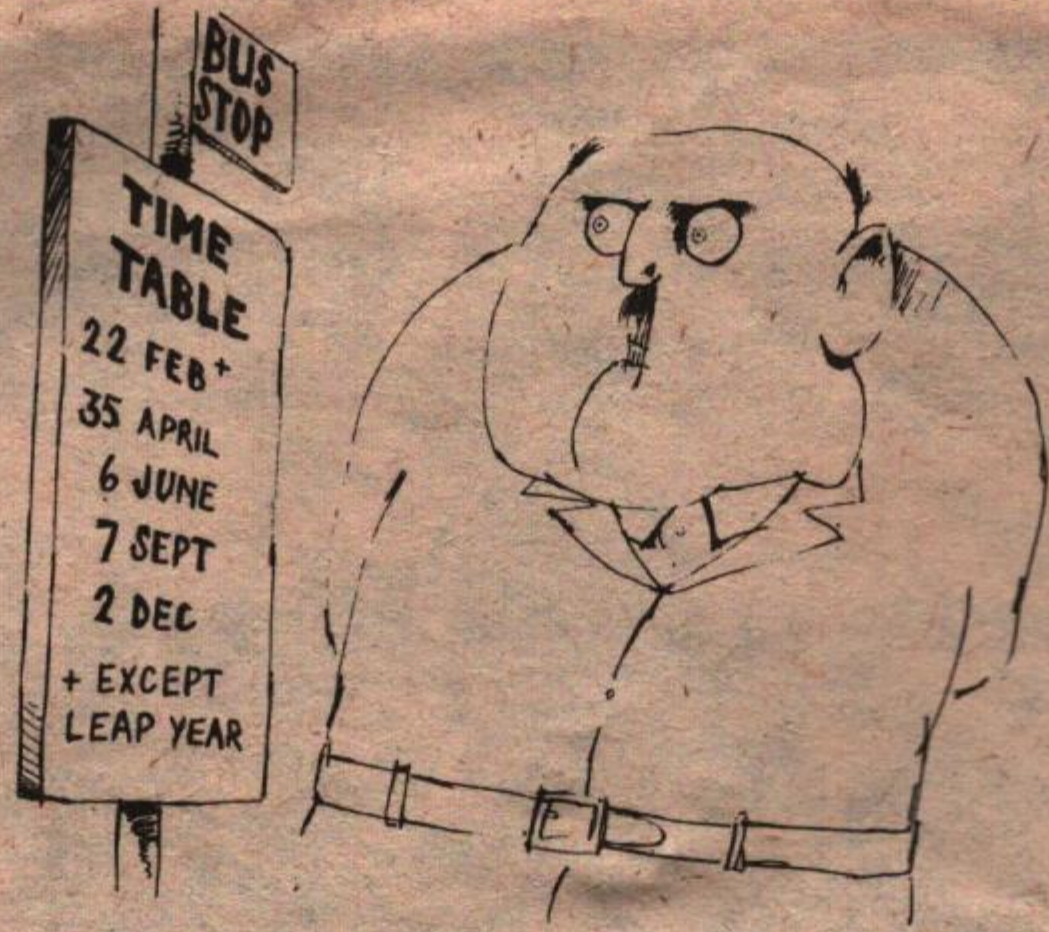
No buses means no bus fares. No bus fares means no fiddled fares. QED. The scheme would have added bonuses. Firstly, pensioners and others would not have to queue in the rain for hours, as at present, and would avoid catching pneumonia, bronchitis, arthritis, and so on. This would reduce the strain on our overworked health service.

Secondly, people would

have to walk to work. This would make Londoners healthier than ever before.

Lastly, drivers, conductors, inspectors and so on could be diverted to work in the overstrained dole offices, where they could help to cope with the millions of people who, being unable to get to work, would become unemployed.

**Roger Crossley, Mike Healey, South London**



## Ponomarev: What a mockery...

WHY DID the Labour Party invite Mr Ponomarev to Britain? The Labour Party claims to stand for the interests of working people, and the principles of socialist democracy, national democracy and world peace. The Soviet government he represents stands in opposition to all these principles.

In the Soviet Union today working people have no right to strike. They have no basic civil rights. In May 1969 the Soviet Secret Police, the KGB, suppressed workers striking for adequate pay at the Kiev Hydro electric project.

Unemployment is above two per cent. But because it doesn't officially exist there is no unemployment benefit.

The Soviet Union has four times sent its troops into neighbouring countries to prevent them from determining their own future. Ponomarev was personally involved in planning the invasion of Czechoslovakia.



Cheers! From Len Murray—but not from us

The Soviet Union spends seven times more than the United States on weapons. The Soviet Union is the main threat to peace and social progress. The invitation to Ponomarev makes a mockery

of the Labour Party's commitment to the principles of socialist democracy, national independence and world peace.  
**Dick Light, South West London.**

# Letters

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

## How profit

DUNCAN HALLAS is assuming that science is produced in a vacuum. But scientific workers are subject to the same sort of ideological pressures as the rest of us.

Another factor is the grant for the work they do. Money isn't paid out for research that may not have any useful implications. Some areas of research are shut off, other areas are distorted in the interests of the ruling class.

### Our needs

We can still use this sort of science under socialism while we develop our own. We will control the technology to suit our needs.

Very true, but there are still areas of science which are so determined by ruling class ideas that they and their technologies will have to be jettisoned. An example of this is the study of intelligence which produces IQ tests.

Revolutionaries cannot support the idea of innate intelligence, even though it has to be 'proved' to be true by the frauds like the near fascist Eysenck.

Intelligence as a concept is used to split black from white, men from women and to confirm the idea in workers' heads that they couldn't

## even poisons science

properly run their factory, estate, or whatever. We know this is untrue.

**Colin Knowles, IS Science Group, Stepney.**

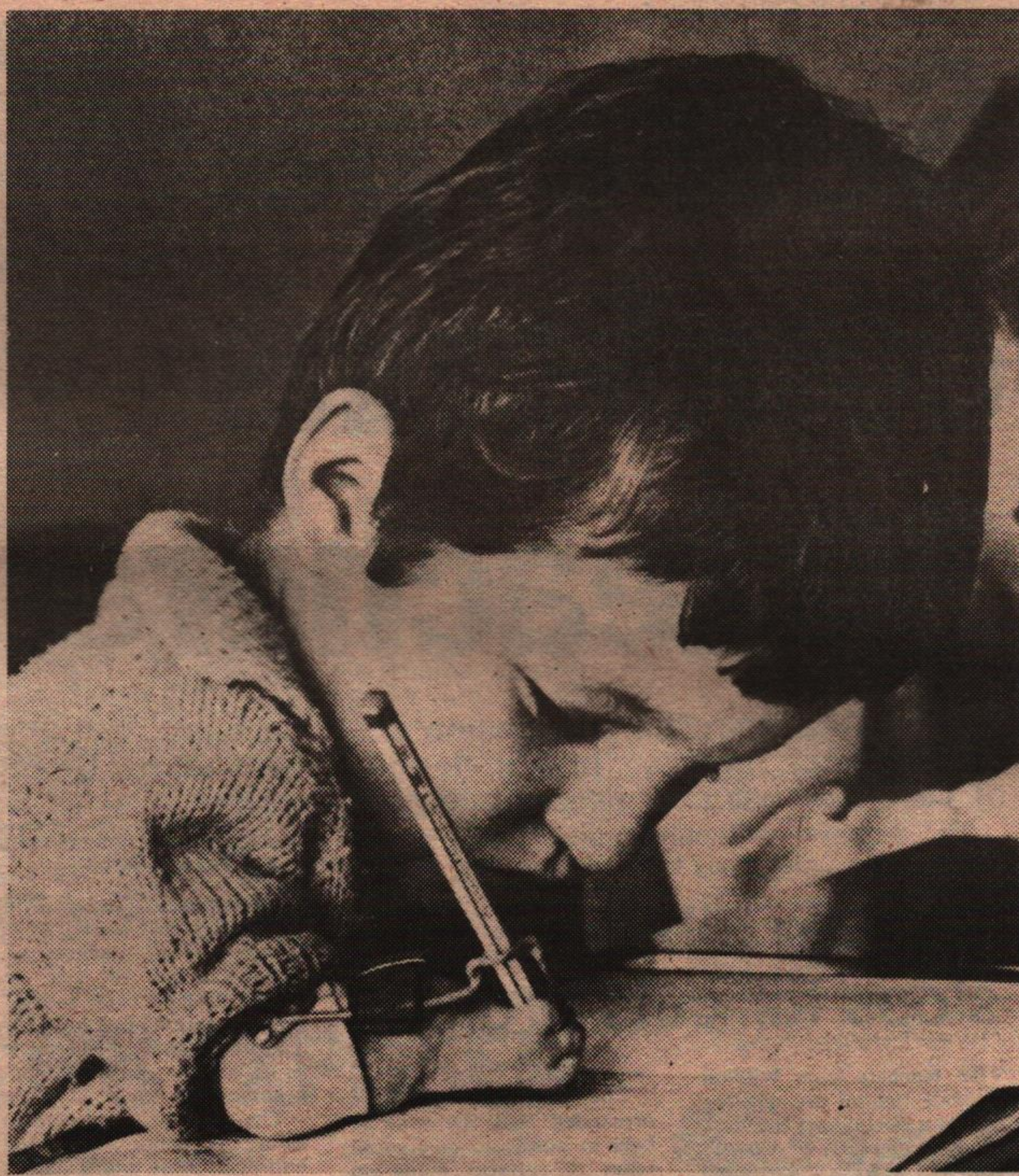
IN DUNCAN Hallas' article in last week's paper (6 Nov) he states technology is neutral what matters is the use to which it is put.

*Technology is not neutral.* In capitalist society there is capitalist technology—the technology of the production line which produces boring, repetitive, unskilled jobs for some and the dole queue for others, the technology of 2-4-5 Trichlorophenol production

which leads to people's lives being put in peril, as at Seveso, the technology of valium and librium the drugs which tranquilise workers into not realising their exploitation and oppression.

The list is endless but the point is clear. Science and technology in a capitalist society reflect the needs and priorities of the capitalist. The hidden component in every scientific equation and technological formula is the economics of capitalist production—the drive for profit and the disregard for workers' needs, health and safety.

**□ Dave Albury, East London.**



Where the scramble for profit leads: a victim of thalidomide

## Menace a doctor ignored

I AM A health and safety rep in L Gardeners in Eccles. My members have continually complained that a cold box process which uses a substance called TLV 25ppm at various times caused considerable discomfort even to the point of a member being so ill that he had to be carried out on a stretcher. He ended up having a month off work.

Management denied that this was the cause, pointing out that the hospital and his own doctor had put him on the sick because of 'a bronchial attack'.

### Cooperative

Other members had to be taken or sent home through this process. The only thing that management say is that it's not the process. These people would have been ill anyway.

We finally got them to agree to improved ventilation. That was eight weeks ago and still no action.

I phoned the Employment Advice Service but the doctor didn't want to know. He reluctantly agreed to come to the factory but said: 'I can tell you before I come that it's safe.' So we'll obviously get no help from him.

I am hoping that our district official will be able to get somewhere.

**□ J Goodier, Kearsley**

## DON'T BE SO GLIB!

are either men, or women who haven't experienced pregnancy and its effects, and think that abortion is a bit like having a tooth out.

Most women who have been pregnant will know that from the moment of conception there are immediate physical and men-

tal changes.

When pregnancy ends, naturally, or otherwise, the process of the body and mind returning to the pre-pregnancy state can manifest itself in various ways, not least of which is post-natal depression which many women know

can be quite devastating.

After abortion this type of depression mixed with doubts and guilt feelings can last a lifetime and have far-reaching effects such as frigidity or inability to conceive again.

By dismissing abortion so glibly I feel you are not educating women responsibly, especially those who have not yet known pregnancy. Of course abortion is preferable to an unwanted baby and I would oppose any threat to reduce its availability, but contraception is a far less traumatic way of controlling one's own fertility.

Abortion is ideally a last resort for a very small number of women for whom numerous and free contraceptive methods available are inappropriate.  
**□ Lindsay Shappard, Plumstead.**

## I SUPPORT SPUC - AS A SOCIALIST

I AM an agnostic, a socialist and a member of the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child (SPUC). According to Dr Gerry Dawson (November 16), I could not be the first two and anti-abortion.

It is a basic aim of socialists to strive for a society which protects its weakest members. At conception a child is genetically complete and time alone makes for clear identification of the human form.

To dismiss the child is to discriminate against him/her because it cannot answer back—is that a socialist view?  
**□ Terry Williams, Glasgow**

## challenge this muck

One woman said that we couldn't heckle them because we were outnumbered. Talking to the converted in a situation like that is useless and it was a good job that there were plenty of Womens Voice supporters there who knew exactly what needed doing.

I don't know how many NAC groups adopt this dis-

gusting policy at SPUC gatherings. One thing's certain anyway. Whenever SPUC mobilise we must be there to challenge their ideas and argue with their less committed supporters and show that there is an alternative to the much they spread.

**□ Chris Barltrop, Southampton.**



Reading books has always been an essential way for socialists to arm themselves for the struggle.

But who can afford books at the price they are today? Also, there are so many books being published on interesting subjects, where do you start?

Bookmarks means to help in both

directions through the Boommarx Club.

For a quarterly sub of £4.50 we will select and send you books at the time of publication. Details of early selections in future SWs. The published value of the books sent in any one quarter will be considerably more than you pay.

The more members we get, the greater the possibilities for reducing costs. So don't just subscribe yourself, persuade your comrades to join, give them a sub for christmas, form a local club discussion group and bring in contacts to spread the word around. Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4 tel 01-802 6145.

**1977  
Big Red Diary**  
pluto  
AA

£1

If you cut out this advert with your order, 25p of your money will be sent to the Right to Work Campaign

Unit 10, Spencer Court, 7 Chalcot Road, London NW1.



## Hospitals strike for half day against the cuts

**READING:** 150 people marched through the town in protest against Cuts last Saturday.

Earlier in the week workers in four hospitals staged a half-day strike in protest at closures in the maternity hospital, a local hospital, ward closures and the closure of a creche.

Although the demonstration had been called by Reading Trades Council, its executive committee had done virtually nothing to organise and publicise the demonstration, so this was left to the Reading branch of the International Socialists and Reading Right to Work Campaign.



Demonstrators marching against the cuts in Reading last week

## OVERSEAS STUDENTS: COLLEGES OCCUPIED

**STUDENTS** are beginning to fight back against government plans to restrict entry of overseas students into Britain further and to increase their fees.

At **MIDDLESEX POLY** students have occupied the administrative block. Joan Rudder told Socialist Worker 'We are demanding an end to the discriminatory quota system, a four years fees contract and a hardship fund. We have asked the National Union of Students to call for occupations in all colleges. That's the way we can win.'

The Middlesex students are angry at a Home Office circular which asks colleges to let racist immigration officers give overseas students academic tests on arrival.

Messages of support to **Middlesex Poly Students, 82/84 Church St., Edmon-ton, London N.9**

At **TEESIDE POLY** more than 100 students occupied the administrative block on Tuesday because of threats to deport 30 overseas students who have not paid their fees.

Telegrams and messages of support to **Teeside Polytechnic Students Union, Borough**

**Road, Middlesborough, Cleveland.**

At **Highbury Technical College, Portsmouth**, 150 students occupied the principal's office and administration offices for 24 hours last Wednesday. Highbury student Pat Stock said: 'We occupied against the cuts generally, in line with the South East TUC week of action. But we also had a local issue of high refectory prices.'

Pat is also a member of the National Organisation of International Socialist Students (NOISS).

### Support

At **MANCHESTER POLYTECHNIC** students occupied one of their precincts last Tuesday in protest against the cuts. They were hoping to stay in until the 17th, but were defeated the next day by a handful of votes at a large union meeting.

A student teacher at the Polytechnic told Socialist Worker: 'We were for more direct action.'

'Over 300 people voted for our motion—that's at least 300 who want to fight the cuts. We have to see the 17th not as a culmination of the campaign, but as a beginning.'

## 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

**SPEAKERS ON IRELAND:** This autumn 65 delegates from labour movement bodies went to Ireland to see for themselves. They represented trades councils and union branches. The delegates are willing to speak at report-back meetings. If you want a delegate to speak at your union branch or trades council, contact Troops Out Movement, c/o 1 North End Road, London W14.

**NALGO ACTION GROUP CONFERENCE:** Saturday 20 November, 10am, North London Poly Students Union, Holloway Road, London N7 and Sunday 21 November, 10am, Central London Poly, 16-18 Ridgeway Street, London W1. Saturday night social at Central London Poly, Bolsover Street, W1, 7pm, with Katoon Klowns, Barry White, disco. All rank and filers and socialists welcome.

**WATFORD Campaign against Racism and Fascism public meeting:** Tuesday 25 November, 8pm, Trade Union Hall, woodford Road (near Junction station). Speakers include Tom Litterick (Labour MP for Birmingham Selly Oak).

**SOUTHAMPTON:** Play by CAST on the cuts in health, education and welfare Friday 12 November, 8pm, St Matthews Hall, St Marys Road. With speaker and discussion. Organised by Rank and File Teacher. All welcome.

**SHEFFIELD Right to Work Campaign:** Stop the Cuts in the Health Service, Wednesday 1 December, 7.30pm, The Lion, The Whicker. Speakers from Hospital Worker and local NUPE and COHSE members.

**FIGHT THE CUTS AND UNEMPLOYMENT film show:** Newsreel Film Collective joint showing of Unemployment—The Gaffers' Strike, and Fight the Cuts! Both films were made specifically for use in the struggle—a chance for activists to see how they can use them. Sunday 21 November, 5pm, The Other Cinema, 25 Tottenham Street, London, WC1. Tickets £1 (80p unemployed, students).

**SMASH THE Right Wing in the EPTU:** Rank and File Contact public meeting: Thursday 25 November, 8pm, Cardiff (place to be arranged). Speakers: Billy Williams, Pip Jones, and a national speaker to be arranged.

**PEACE THROUGH FREEDOM Committee:** Public meeting on Ireland. Speakers: Pat Arrowsmith, Maureen Colquhoun MP, a woman from a working-class district of Belfast, and a speaker from Troops Out. Wednesday 24 November, 7.15pm, NUFTO Hall, Jockeys Fields (nearest tube Holborn), London WC1.

**Standard office TYPEWRITER WANTED** for black workers organisation. Will pay up to £20 and will collect. North London preferred. Phone Pam 348-6922.

**WORKERS' BOOKSHELF:** Socialist mail order book service with more than 300 titles, which includes over 90 pamphlets, ranging from Marxist theory to labour history. SAE for catalogue to Workers Bookshelf, 150 Foster Road, Trumpington, Cambridge.

**CARDIFF Right to Work Campaign public meeting:** Tuesday 23 November, 8pm, The Four Elms, Elm Street.

# Secret panel condemns 30 teachers

**EAST LONDON:** The suspension of 30 teachers at Little Ilford School, Newham, from their union, the National Union of Teachers, has now been made permanent.

The suspension will only be lifted if they sign an undertaking never to take strike action unless they have the approval of the NUT executive.

## Tyndale tribunal stops for cuts protest

THE teachers from William Tyndale School are now on trial at a disciplinary tribunal, meeting in secret at County Hall in London. The tribunal has been organised by the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA).

The most serious charge the Tyndale Six face is called 'indiscipline'—which means going on strike. Even ILEA now call it the 'strike charge', and said they see it as the 'most serious and the most important.'

The Tribunal is already heavily weighted against the teachers. The whole Auld Report into Tyndale has been admitted as evidence. This quarter of a million-word report declares the teachers guilty of misconduct, so they now have to prove they are innocent, rather than the other

way round. The Tyndale teachers demanded that the trial be held in public so they could rebut the attacks made on them, but all proceedings are to be in secret. The London Evening Standard has already carried the headline 'Tyndale Teachers Sacked.'

The ILEA is attempting to set a precedent by setting up a tribunal that can meet in private and try militants. Teachers taking strike action against the cuts or enforcing the 'No cover' campaign could be next.

The ILEA is not getting it all its own way though. There will be no hearing this Wednesday because several of the teachers are official delegates to the 17 November demonstration against the cuts.

## UCATT betrays strikers

HERTS: Full-time union officials are again putting the knife into the long battle against labour-only subcontracting by building workers in Welwyn Garden City.

Their picket of the Marshall Andrews viaduct site began 25 weeks ago—in the same week that the conference of their union, UCATT, voted against this sophisticated form of the lump.

But UCATT officials are more interested in preserving cosy agreements with the

bosses than in fighting for better conditions in the industry. So they have repeatedly tried to block this struggle.

And last Monday UCATT's new full-time organiser in the area, Dave Hardy, instructed a UCATT bricklayer to cross the picket line and start work on the site.

Hardy's action is all the more deplorable since, only a few weeks ago, he voted with fellow Communist Party building workers to support the dispute.

The tribunal that suspended them met in secret even though the 30 teachers all demanded that the case be heard publicly. The request from the union prosecutor for a secret trial was upheld by the panel of four, three of them headmasters.

The 30 were suspended from the union for taking unofficial trade union action.

In common with many other schools they refused to cover for teachers absent for more than three days. This is part of a widespread campaign to force local authorities to employ more teachers and reduce teacher unemployment.

The NUT executive took action against the Little Ilford teachers in an effort to isolate one group of teachers and break the unofficial action.

The constitution of the NUT allows the 30 teachers to appeal. But the appeal against the decision of the executive-appointed disciplinary tribunal goes to the full executive. The executive is judge, jury and executioner.

The appeal is being heard on Saturday 27 November. Members of all trade unions are welcome at the picket of NUT Headquarters, Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1 (close to Euston Station), 8.30am onwards.

The defence campaign has already cost over £200. Contributions are needed. Send to Little Ilford Teachers Support Committee, c/o Brenda Singh, Little Ilford School, Browning Road, London E12.

## BRISTOL FIREMEN HOLD UP CLOSURE

**BRISTOL:** 150 uniformed firemen filled the public gallery at Avon County Council Resource Committee on Monday to protest against the proposed closure of Severnside Fire Station.

Their presence and work-to-rule forced the committee to put off their decision. But the industrial action goes on.

Said Pat Creton, chairman of the Avon Fire Brigades Union: 'We've been fooled like this before.'

Roy Weston, Severnside delegate, said that not only jobs are at stake. 'We all live in brigade house that go with the jobs.'

Severnside fireman Eric Turner said councillors 'just don't know what furore this closure would cause.'

## Site out over cuts

by MICK PRESLAND  
**UCATT convenor, BEDFORD:** 'That this site comes out on strike on November 17th to show our total opposition to the capitalist policies of this Labour government. Cuts in public expenditure can only lead to more unemployment in the building industry and throughout the labour movement as a whole. Our answer should and must be industrial

action.' This was part of a motion passed at a meeting at Shanleys building site on 12 November by a two-thirds majority.

There must be a concerted national campaign in the building industry to build a rank and file movement capable of taking independent action if, as they invariably do, the official movement misrepresents us.

## STC: 20,000 to go

by RICHARD RIESER  
**AUEW shop steward, STC,**

TWENTY THOUSAND jobs will go as a result of the new cuts in Post Office ordering, according to Ken Corfield, managing director of STC (£57,000 a year), this week.

He was speaking after a meeting with Bill Rylands, chairman of the Post Office, Eric Varley, the Industry Minister, union officials and management of STC, Plesseys, GEC and Pyc.

These cuts follow the loss of 25,000 jobs already in the telephone supply industry in the past three years. Now, of

the remaining 45,000, another 20,000 are to go unless a real alternative is fought for.

The trouble is that we have no national policy from the union officials. We can only fight these cuts through a united combine of all factories in the industry—but the officials are just having meetings about meetings.

In the long term we need nationalisation of the whole industry, without any compensation to its present multinational owners. STC's parent company, ITT, have announced a profit for the first nine months of 1976 of 423 million dollars after tax (£256 million).

## Shock lock-out for bakery workers

**SUSSEX:** Workers at Clarks Bakery, Hove, were shocked when they turned up for work to find the firm had closed down. The same shock was felt by the workers locked out of Clarks' 20 shops.

Sam Tuck, a shop steward at the bakery, is a local Right to Work Campaign supporter. Last Thursday he spoke to a meeting of local trade unionists and unemployed workers, including several former Clarks workers, urging the need to build the campaign locally.

'We had no notice whatsoever of the closure. The first I knew was when I turned up on Sunday night and found the gates locked.'

'Workers had been taken on a week before and told they would be in a secure job. One of those locked out had worked at Clarks for 45 years.'

'No one had been paid for the previous week's work, nor received holiday pay, payment in lieu of notice or redundan-

cy. Even our personal belongings and tools were locked inside the bakery in our lockers.'

'In Brighton too often workers only become militant when they lose their jobs. Then they start to ask: "What is the union doing?"'

'But employed workers must realise that they are the union. The membership should tell their union officers: "This is what we want, so this is what you are going to do... we are the union."'

'I support the Right to Work Campaign because we've got to get everyone together to fight, employed and unemployed, to resist the cuts, price rises and unemployment.'

## Courtaulds: 'We'll occupy'

**SKELMERSDALE:** Workers representatives at Courtaulds, which is threatened with closure, have been meeting with management. But Sir Arthur Knight, chairman of Courtaulds, is clear that he intends to shut the plant. He doesn't want government money or help to keep it open.

At a recent Socialist Worker public meeting in the town, Billy Jones, senior steward of the Textile Workers Union in Skelmersdale, told an audience of 50 that the workers in Courtaulds will be forced to occupy the factory.

'We're not letting them close this plant down. We'll occupy and hold the machinery first,' he said.

Representatives of all Courtaulds plants must meet soon to set a course for a fightback against all the closures.

## Work-in bid to save hospital

**LONDON:** Workers at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, near Euston, are now working-in in an effort to stop the hospital being shut down. It is one of only two hospitals in London staffed by women and open only to women patients.

All the patients are being treated as normal, but the staff are organising the hospital themselves. The closure is threatened by New Year at the latest.



## It's make or break for Rolls sit-in

SCOTLAND: The 20 week occupation at Rolls-Royce Blantyre faces its biggest test yet. On Thursday a mass meeting decides the future of the occupation.

The 470 workers have put up a magnificent fight against management proposals to close the factory and transfer work to the bigger Hillington plant, 20 miles away.

They have had financial support from rank and file trade unionists throughout the country, particularly the West of Scotland, but the one thing that would guarantee victory—solidarity action by the rest of the massive Rolls-Royce combine—has not been coming.

### Isolated

The combine committee and convenors in the various plants have been reluctant to argue with their members that Blantyre has to be defended by industrial action. As a result Rolls-Royce management have been prepared to sit out the occupation and allow Blantyre to become isolated. If Blantyre is closed it will be a big defeat for the whole combine and for the engineering industry in the West of Scotland.

It is not too late. The Blantyre workers have shown their determination. If the rest of the combine can be forced to start an overtime ban and organise solidarity strike action, then Rolls-Royce can be forced to retreat.

□ **Telegrams and messages of support needed urgently. Send to John Simmons, 54 Ayton Park North, East Kilbride, Scotland.**

## Strike for the £6

Huddersfield: Management at Hopkinsons have refused to award a £6-a-week rise to their 250 office and supervisory workers, even though company profits have doubled. They are the only major firm in the area not to have agreed on the £6.

Hopkinsons are under investigation by the Foreign Office and Department of Public Prosecutions for illegally supplying parts for a Rhodesian power station.

The 250 TASS members are on strike and sitting in for the reinstatement of office committee chairman Granville Clay and six others who have been sacked during the pay dispute.

Management is using the threat of lay-offs for the manual workers in a vain attempt to blackmail the TASS members into calling off the action.

A TASS meeting this week rejected a so-called 'peace offer' unanimously.

□ **Letters of support and donations to Bill Sales, AUEW/TASS Divisional Office, Vassalli House, Room 1, 20 Central Road, Leeds.**

# Threat to miners' 'early pension' claim

**MINERS UNION president Joe Gormley came one step closer to selling out on the union's claim for early retirement last week.**

by BILL MESSAGE

1980.

British miners are virtually alone among developed countries in not yet being able to retire at 60 or even earlier.

At the national executive meeting on Thursday last week, Yorkshire area president Arthur Scargill proposed an immediate ballot, but was defeated by 15 votes to 8, with two abstentions.

Executive members supporting Scargill were: Owen Briscoe and Peter Tait (Yorkshire), Bill McLean (Scotland), Jack Collins (Kent), Joe Whelan

(Nottingham), Peter Heathfield (Derbyshire) and George Rees (South Wales). One of the two executive members abstaining was Emlyn Williams, South Wales area president.

Gormley wants time for further negotiations with the Coal Board, who have already rejected the claim, with the TUC Economic Committee, who are expected to tell the miners they cannot have early retirement because of the Social Contract, and with the government who have already told them the same.

**Gormley's real purpose is to give these three bodies time to mount a strong campaign with the help of the press and the television to intimidate the miners, sap their confidence and prevent them from fighting.**

Frustration is running so high as a result of the Social Contract that over the past couple of months more local disputes have been taking place in the pits than at any time since the 1960's.

The NCB are trying to use the union's official 'moderate' policy to attack conditions and manning levels in the pits. This is being met with fierce resistance.

Gormley wants a new productivity deal, but the experience of 1974, when the miners threw out a productivity deal after they had won a strike for higher wages, frightens him.

If the miners were to win a struggle for early retirement in the New Year the confidence they would gain would severely damage Gormley's chances of getting a productivity deal through.

But demoralisation among the rank and file would give him the chance to present the productivity deal as the only way miners could get anything extra.

**Vote No!  
call as  
Yorkshire  
miners  
slam report**

PIT delegates to the Yorkshire Area Council of the Miner's Union have rejected unanimously the national executive's report on early retirement.

Arthur Scargill, Yorkshire Area NUM president, told Socialist Worker after the meeting on Monday:

'The meeting rejected the report unanimously. We have also decided to organise a massive campaign on the coalfield to acquaint the membership with the position and to convey to them the importance of voting No to any watered-down Coal Board alternative.'

'To this end, we are sending 400 members to lobby the executive of 23 November to demand that they abide by the conference decision and consult the membership with regard to industrial action—and that means strike action.'

'I told the meeting today that we must either take a stand and threaten industrial action or else drop the issue.'



SCARGILL: The rejection was unanimous

## Cleaners' safety fight goes on



On the picket line: Queenie Webb, Mary Pelling, Lorraine Webb and Ann Nicholson

**NORTH LONDON:** Five cleaners have been picketing the Holbrook Centre of North East London Poly for six weeks, after being told to sweep up asbestos dust left after building operations.

The building is used by staff, students and 30 young children. The management are claiming that the dust is no longer dangerous as it has settled on the floor.

The cleaners are expected to sweep and dust with the lethal dust still on the floor. Instead they are picketing the building to protect everyone.

They are not receiving any strike pay, but the students union, their own union NUPE, the college teachers' union NATFHE and the white-collar union ASTMS are all supporting the picket.

□ **The picket goes on from 7 to 11pm every day. Support the picket and send money to help keep the five cleaners going. Donations to Holbrook Cleaners, c/o Holbrook Hubb, Holbrook Road, Stratford, E15.**

## £2.50 or we stay out, say women

**WEDNESBURY:** 25 engineering union members at Frenger, part of the 10,000-strong Haden Carrier Group, went on strike last Friday. They are demanding a minimum £2.50 rise with no strings.

Convenor Dilys Moseley told Socialist Worker: 'They conned us out of the £6 for a start. With inflation as it is, it's bloody diabolical.'

'We won equal pay in February, and we got a change in the contract which stopped flexibility of workers. A new manager has been brought in to try and keep us in line, but we'll be out until Christmas if necessary.'

## POLICE LIES EXPOSED

Report from the Right to Work trial

THE LIES and incompetence of the police reached new levels in the final week of the Right to Work trials at Hendon in North London.

Brian Brown, an unemployed carworker, was claimed to have left the march and shouted to pedestrians: 'It's all right for you fuckers! Who are you staring at you bastards?' Constable Parker claimed this was why he arrested him.

But all the other six police witnesses confirmed that Brian Brown had been in the centre of the march when police piled in on the final day of its 300-mile journey from Manchester last March.

Brian Brown was found not guilty of threatening behaviour

Roger Milton, from Leeds, was given a suspended prison sentence of six months for kicking Constable Parkes in the head. The magistrate said the inconsistencies and contradictions in Parkes' evidence were due to the kick in the head.

Constable Dines claimed he had witnessed this incident and had helped arrest Roger Milton. He found it difficult to explain why photographs showed him in a totally different place arresting someone else.

When he arrived at the witness box he had 'lost his notebook' and suddenly found a new explanation of why he was in two places at once.

Dines did in fact arrest Kevin Schirn, also from Leeds, for allegedly assaulting Constable Jamieson—but Jamieson was not present when the supposed assault took place and only came to help later. Kevin Schirn was given a two-month suspended prison sentence.

### Guilty?

Martin Brownbridge, from York, was found not guilty of obstruction. Carolyn Conway, from North London, was found guilty of assault and fined £35, with £15 costs.

In all, 15 marchers have had the charges against them dismissed, 27 found guilty.

Three marchers have been given prison sentences. Mike Lynch, an unemployed miner and Labour Party member from Dunfermline, Bobby Buirds, a Manchester plumber, and Willie Dolan, shopworkers union member from Glasgow. All three are appealing.

The recent spate of acquittals does not lessen the threat of the charges against campaign secretary John Deason when he appears at the Old Bailey in May.

## Jailed trade unionist's letters blocked

TERRY GALLOGLY has been in Wakefield Prison for three weeks since he was sacked for organising fellow workers into the Engineering Workers Union (AEUW) and his parole withdrawn.

The prison is refusing to allow Terry to write to his AEUW branch secretary. Because of bureaucratic obstruction from the AEUW in London, the branch secretary needs a letter he can put a branch stamp on to send to the union executive to get them to take up the case.

Inside the prison Terry is locked in his cell all day except for half an hour's exercise. He is not

allowed to work with other prisoners.

He is receiving his letters in the late afternoon, when all other prisoners get theirs in the morning. Letters he writes to his wife Hazel are also being delayed. One was handed in on 31 October. When his wife received it the post mark was 5 November.

The prison governor has rejected Terry's complaints as 'frivolous'. About 30 trade unionists protested outside the prison last week. Now Terry has been told he is being taken off the outside work scheme, and will be transferred to Northallerton Prison.



Hazel Gallogly (right) on the prison picket

# Socialist Worker

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

£7 for one year

£3.50 for six months

£1.75 for three months

(Please tick) to pay subscriptions and postage, so start sending them to:

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

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

**Subscribe!**

(BLOCK CAPITALS)



# The first dockers ever to be sacked?



# DOCKS THE BILL IS DEAD, NOW WE MUST FIGHT

**Socialist  
Worker**  
PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p

ON THE DAY the House of Commons finally scuppered the Docks Bill, the Tory Council at Preston decided to close down the Preston docks.

This is the first port to close since the Docks Labour scheme was introduced in 1946. If the Tories get their way, about 600 workers will lose their jobs. These include 175 registered dock workers.

There is nowhere else for these dockers to go, so the Tories will try to sack them.

If they succeed, these will be the first-ever sackings of registered dockers.

Last Thursday, 600 workers marched in protest through the town. They were joined by shop stewards from London, Glasgow, Liverpool, Hull and Southampton.

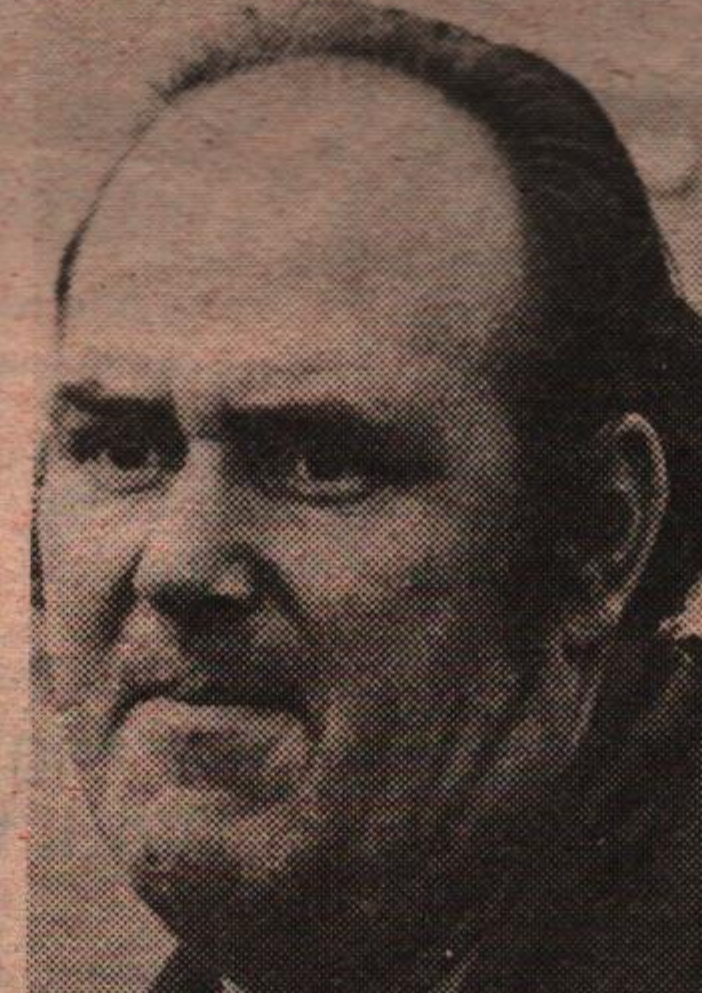
A meeting of the National Port Shops Stewards Committee was held after the demonstration. Teddy Smith, chairman of the committee, told Socialist Worker:

'We felt it important that the decision to close this dock should be discussed by a full meeting of the committee. We have convened one for 11 December.'

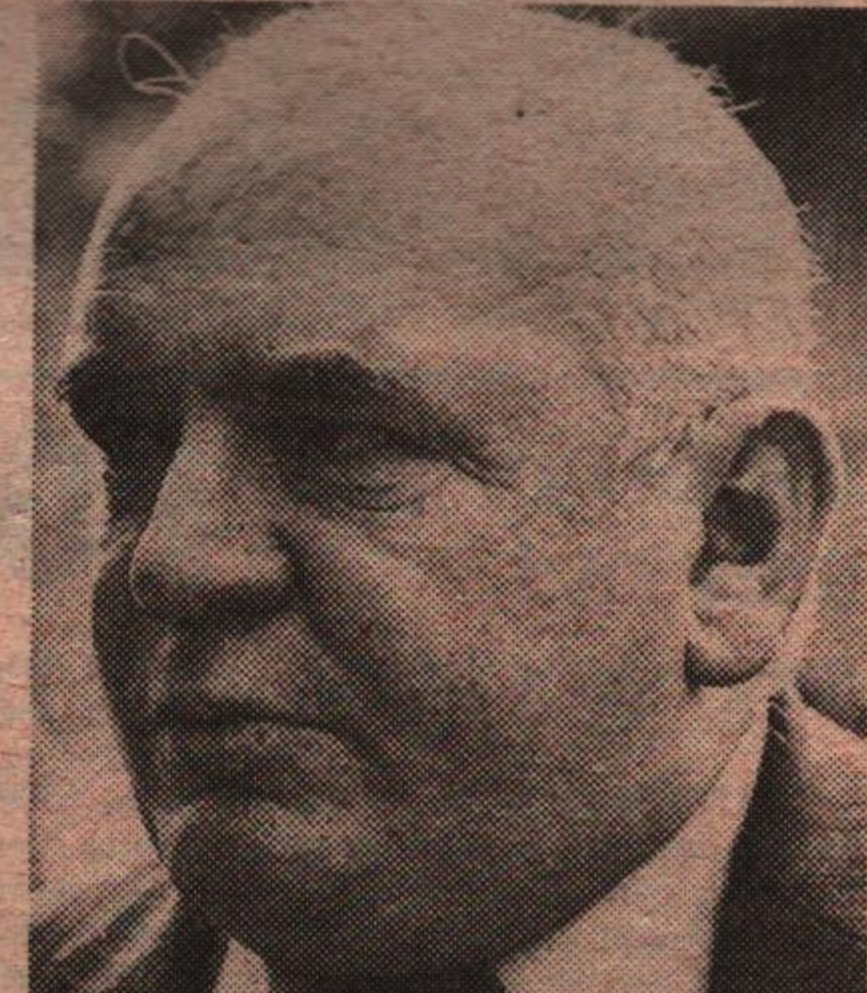
The men at Preston, who have loyally supported the shop stewards committee, are looking for a militant lead from the committee. They deserve it.



John McGowan, docker, and Joe McCallion, crane driver. Joe says: 'It's diabolical: the death of a whole area.'



Joe Ashcroft, docks driver: 'They Tory council don't know anything about the docks. We're the people who know about it.'



Phil O'Hagan, chairman of the Preston port shop stewards committee: 'The closure is political. Tories don't like dockers.'

THE HOUSE OF LORDS and a couple of scabs in the Parliamentary Labour Party have wrecked the Docks Bill.

Our union has called a national docks delegate conference this Monday. Good. It will give us a chance to organise a fight back.

Because fight we must. The Tories and the employers have won a great victory against the dockers. And if we don't hit them now, they'll be shouting for more.

Let's get one thing straight from the start: We're not after nicking other people's jobs.

The Docks Bill wouldn't have taken a single job from anyone. Its object was to bring container and cold storage workers into the Docks Labour scheme, which gives us some job security and protects our working conditions.

**By  
Eddie  
Prevost**  
TGWU shop steward,  
delegate to Docks  
Delegate Conference

The employers have always hated this scheme. They've tried to wreck it by taking dockers' work outside the docks, and giving it to non-registered workers with no job security and poor manning agreements.

The number of registered dockers has fallen from 70,000 in 1966 to 30,000 today.

We want to stop the bleeding of our industry—not by taking other people's jobs, but by making sure that workers in container and cold store firms get our pay and conditions.

When we picketed and blacked the Chobham farm cold store in 1972, the

workers there got a £10 a week rise and a four hour cut in the working week.

That's what we want in firms like that all over the country.

In 1972, we wanted a full-scale strike to bring all container and cold store workers into the dock scheme. Our union leaders begged us to wait for a Labour government which would do the job by law.

### SABOTAGE

Now the Docks Bill has been sabotaged.

What should we do now? Jack Jones, our general secretary, tells us not to strike and to hope for another Docks Bill some time later.

Of course, Jack's job is not at stake. He retires soon. No doubt there's a few juicy jobs lined up for him.

But our jobs are in peril. The employers are rejoic-

ing. They will not rest until the whole dock labour scheme is smashed.

Frankly, I object very much to Jones taking the decision about a strike for us. The Docks delegates must take the decision for ourselves.

If we stay on the defensive, we'll be done over.

The only way we can fight for our jobs is to use our strength. They told us parliament would do the job. It hasn't.

Now we have to do it. I'll be arguing at the delegate conference for a national strike to widen the docks labour scheme to all container and cold storage plants, and to stop the closure of the docks at Preston.

All dockers who are worried about their jobs—and that means all dockers—should be arguing the same.

**THE DOCKWORKER**  
Written and produced by Registered Dockers SPECIAL EDITION

IN THE HOUSE of Commons it was the abstention of 2 Labour MPs that gave the Tories their majority. The 2 were Brian Walden and John Mackintosh. Both these maggots claimed that they abstained on principle: Walden said 'Nobody elected me to vote for a Bill like that. And I won't.' That is a simple lie—both Walden and Mackintosh HAVE voted FOR the Bill: in the previous 3 Readings in the Commons. So why did they abstain on Wednesday night and not before???

You don't have to look too far for the answer. Both Walden and Mackintosh are regulars on television debates. For posing as experts, they make a lot of money: probably around £150 an appearance. Which makes it all the more interesting that when the Divisions that gutted the Bill took place, both Walden and Mackintosh were sitting in the PRESS BAR.

From the latest issue of the rank and file paper, The Dockworker, available from 24 Florence Road, London E13.

**JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS**

Name .....  
Address .....  
Trade union .....

Please send me more information

Send to: National Secretary,  
International Socialists, 6 Cottons  
Gardens, London E2 8DN