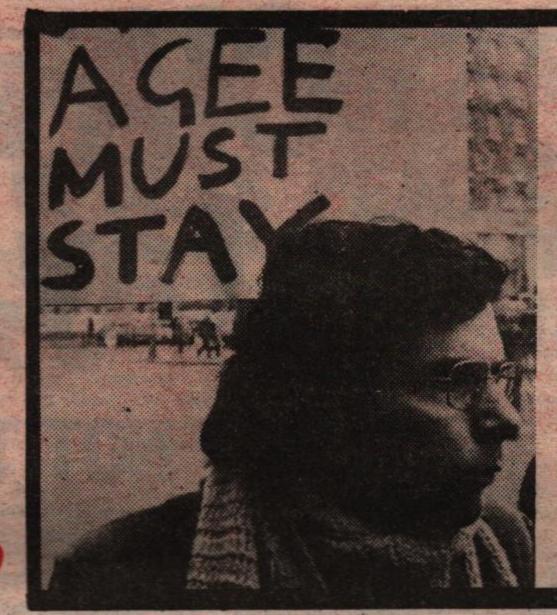
Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p



THE MEN
LABOUR
WANT TO
DEPORT

Latest news from the campaign

□Page Two

This is what the cuts mean: 5 closures in one city

HANDS

THEY hit us this week—those cuts.

Suddenly, out of the blue, we got a confidential report written by a group of £7000-a-year top-line managers.

It's the sort of report which hospital shop stewards are getting all over the country.

It's a ten-year 'plan' for Leeds hospitals. There's one sentence that matters. It says:

'Hospital services offer the greatest scope for rationalisation'.

Savings

Translated into English that means: 'Cutting hospitals is the quickest way to save money.'

So they're going to cut

our hospitals.

Five of them are going to

close down. The Killingbeck Hospital (250 beds) is likely to go in April.

Then the Gateforth Chest Diseases hospital (61 beds), the Haigh Geriatric (39), the Four Gables Maternity (20) and the Marguerite Hepton Orthopaedic (58).

Notice it's the hospitals for chest diseases (bronchitis,

pneumoconiosis and other workers' illnesses) which are the first to close.

The old people suffer next after that. And then

pregnant women.

The report talks blandly of 722 hospital beds being cut out.

But there's 5256 patients waiting to go into hospital in Leeds. Almost as many are on the waiting list as in hospital.

If we let them cut our services like this, there'll be 12,000 people on the waiting list by 1987!

Imagine our joy, then, when we read in Monday's papers that 100 new

By Tim South, NUPE chairman, and five other shop stewards from St. James Hospital, Leeds

hospitals are to be built in Britain over the next five

These hospitals will be, exclusively, for . . . wait for it, private patients.

Perhaps they will be offering the same vital services as the one in Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, which is advertising a package of an 'all in' two-week holiday combined with plastic face-lift sur-

All yours for a mere £500! 'Lose those bags under your eyes!'

To get plastic surgery on the National Health in real-life Leeds, you need at least two bums—or a nose missing—never mind bags under your eyes.

There are 1000 people here queueing to have their faces patched up after accidents on the roads or at work.

And they plan to cut the number of plastic surgery beds from 66 to 50, without batting a bagless eyelid.

Talking of eyes, what

about the case of Brian Parkin, a local engineering worker, who injured his eye the other day at work?

Because of a delay in treatment at St James hospital, Brian now faces permanent damage to his vision.

Memory

As an 'economy measure', the hospital no longer issues appointment cards to out-patients to remind them when to come back for treatment.

They rely on the patients' memory: a memory often dulled by shock or accident.

Brian came too late, and there was no eye specialist in the clinic.

413 patients are waiting for eye operations in Leeds.

The miserable number of 67 beds set aside for eye patients is to be cut to 46.

How many patients will

How many patients will wait in darkness next year?
Makes you sick, doesn't it?

We hope not. Because if it does make you sick, and if you're working class, and if we let them get away with these cuts—there'll be nowhere for you to go.



NURSERY nurses at St James Hospital creche, which cares for the children of many working women in Leeds.

Recently, the hospital management said it had made a 'mistake'. The nurses, it said, were being paid on a local authority nurses' rate.

They should be paid on the Whitley Council rate.
Result? A pay cut of £12 a week. The nurses had a quick answer: They came out on 24-hour strike, twice.

They'll go on taking action until the pay cuts are withdrawn. Says Doreen Collier: 'Management are free to break our contract; but if we broke it, we'd be sacked. They can't get away with this.'

THE WOMAN SACKED

ROSEBANK Nursing Home is a nice private rest home set in the nice part of Darlington for people with nice private incomes.

One of the 35 patients, however, is not so nice. She objected to being touched by Latha Gunatunga, a black Sri Lankan auxiliary nurse.

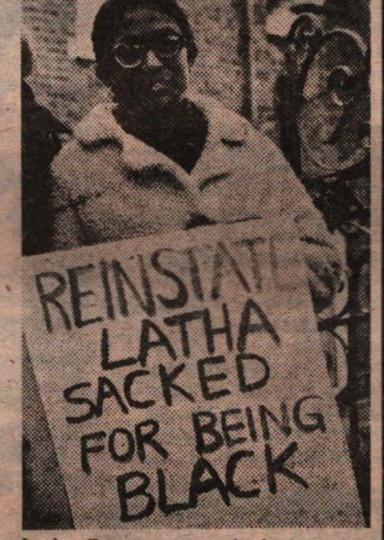
Latha Gunatunga was immediately sacked. This blatant racist sacking was greeted with the condemnation it deserved. By Elizabeth Pearson

Leafletting throughout the town and a picket of the nursing home was immediately organised by women's and political groups.

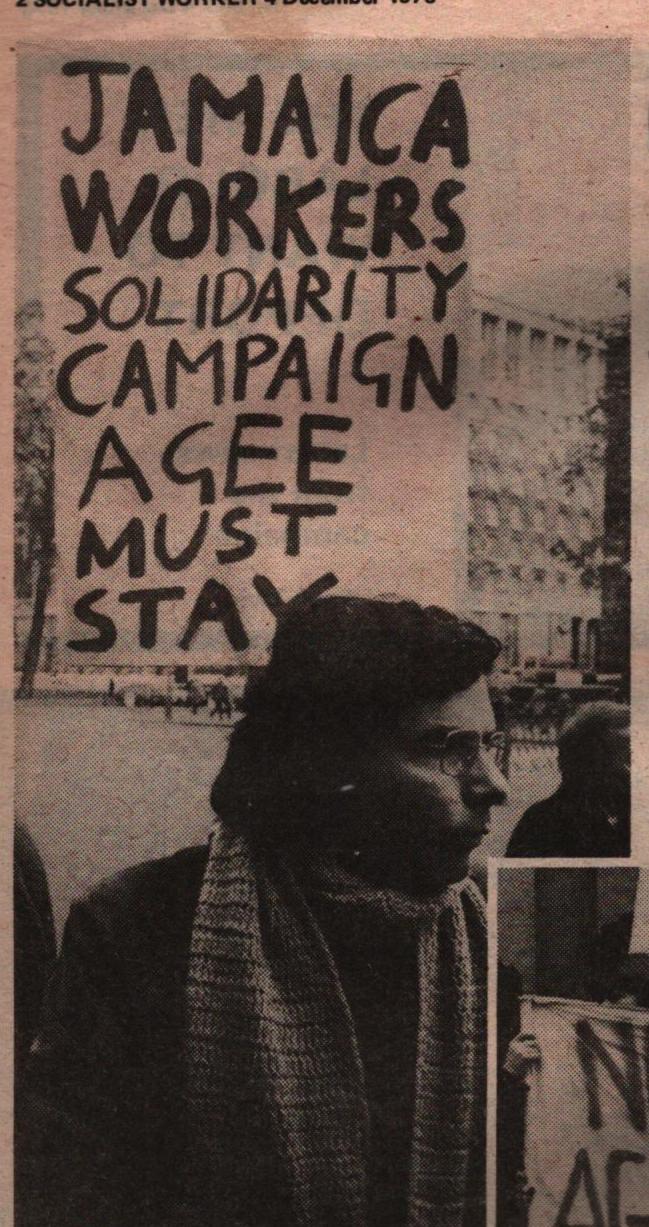
And the demand for Latha's re-instatement is growing

☐ Messages of support are welcome: c/o 2 Blackwell Lane, Darlington, Co Durham.

FOR BENG



Latha Gunatunga: sacked



Clamurderer can stay, says Labour

BUT NOT THE MAN WHO EXPOSES THEM!

THE Labour government has quietly renewed the residence permit of former South Vietnamese dictator Nguyen Van Thieu.

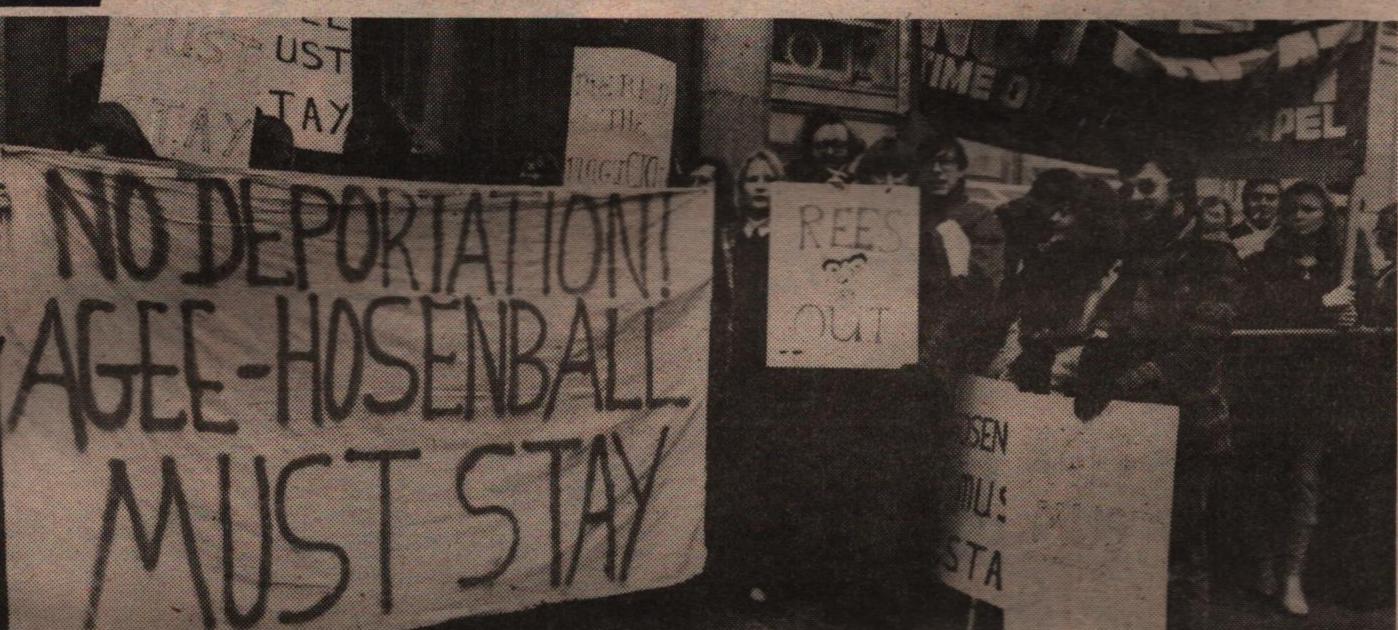
Their decision, taken at exactly the same time as they resolved to deport Philip Agee and Mark Hosenball for exposing the CIA re-affirms Labour's consistency on matters of 'internal security.'

It amounts to this: anyone who exposes the activities of CIA murderers is to be driven out of the country. But those who, like Thieu are CIA mass murderers will be warmly welcomed.

Thieu was the puppet head of the vile South Vietnamese regime. He worked hand-in-golve with another crook, President Richard Nixon. Thieu promoted such atrocities as tiger cages, napalm, mass bombings and killings on a massive scale.

While doing all this, their speculated in opium, engaged in other forms of corruption. He ammassed a vast fortune, some or all of which he managed to get out with him when he came to Britain.

Now, armed with permission to stay from a Labour government, he has set himself up in a luxuury house in stockbroker Surrey and put his son down for Eton.



OCCUPATION VICTORY FOR **OVERSEAS STUDENTS**

Philip Agee (above), the man who has

parts of the world, and demonstrators

picketing the Home Office on Monday.

exposed CIA operations in several

by JOAN RUDDER

THE government launched a new attack on overseas students last week. It announced that their college fees are to be increased to £650 for undergraduates and £850 for postgrauduates.

At the same time fees for British students are to go up to £500 and £750.

But the vast majority of British students get their fees paid automatically by their local authority. Those directly hit by the increase are the 25,000 who have to finance themselves-and most of these are overseas students.

The government has also confirmed the circular put out by the Department of Education and the Home Office which calls on colleges to act as police agents for the Home Office by informing on students who haven't paid their fees and by reporting on student activists.

Students at Middlesex Polytechnic have shown it is possible to fight back against the increasing racism of government policy on overséas students. A two-week occupaion has forced the directorate to concede student demands.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER

These are that there be no quota system for overseas students, that fees be frozen at existing levels and that a hardship fund be set up.

Unanimous

There was a lecture boycott at the Enfield site. The Church Street adminstration building was occupied. A meeting of 800 students on the Bounds Green site, where some of the adminstrative work had been moved, voted to occupy.

When the overseas students at the Hendon site occupied. the director gave in.

Defend Cypriot refugees!

REFUGEES from the Cyprus carve-up are among the latest victims of Britain's revolting immigration and deportation

Last week I and other supporters of the Cypriot Defence Campaign visited one of the new victims. He is Metin Salih, a Turkish Cypriot refugee now in his fourth week of imprisonment in Pentonville Prison, North London. His wife Hulya who speaks little or no English, is in Holloway Prison.

Both came to Britain early in 1974 and married here. They were arrested three weeks ago following an anonymous phone call to the Home Office.

They appeared in court and were recommended for deportation-all in a moment and without being given the slightest chance to put their

Also in Pentanville jail are

by BAMBOS CHRISTOU

12 other Cypriots and Turks being held pending deportation. Throughout Britain we estimate that as many as 800 people are being held, fearful of their fate at the whim of dictatorial, racist Home Office officials.

12,000 Cypriot people came here after the imperialist attacks on Cyprus. The British labour government refuses even to recognise them as refugees! Many are now being told to get out.

But this isn't the end of this disgraceful policy. While the Home Office denies people work permits and the right to live here, they are forced to seek work in small sweatshops at slave wages.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST

Denied work permits, living constantly in fear, they can be exploited with ease. The Cypriot Defence Cam-

paign has been launched to combat this evil. We call on all trade unionists to give us their support. Our demands are an im-

mediate end to all the deportations, recognition of Cypriot refugees as refugees, full rights to work and live here for all workers and an end to immigration controls.

We have issued a petition in Turkish, Greek and English in support of these demands and we are out to mobilise the full

strength of the community in the campaign. Last Saturday we held a street meeting in Haringey, heart of the Greak community in London. The response was magnificent. 54 copies of Cypriot Worker were sold in a few hours. 400

people signed the petition. ☐ PICKET Pentonville Prison and march to Holloway: This Saturday, 4 December, 1 pm, outside the prison, Caledonian Road, London N1 (nearest tube Caledonian Road or Kings Cross).

☐ Send donations and affiliations to the Cypriot Defence Campaign, 90 Mountview Road, London

Meanwhile Philip Agee is having to fight against all the odds for his right to stay in this country.

He told a press conference on Monday: 'Because the charges against me are so sweeping and general I have to spend a great deal of time going over my activities during the past three or four years before I can defend myself.

'This law not only affects me and every other foreigner here. It also affects every British national, because the next step is to bring these charges against anyone.'

The widest possible protest is needed if Agee is to remain free to live here—and if people are to remain free to expose the atrocities committed by the secret service, whether the

CIA in Portugal or the British SAS in Britain and Ireland. The British security services—on which the CIA was originally closely modelled-are clearly happy to help their American friends and hound Philip Agee out of

the country. Socialist Worker calls on readers and supporters to

back the protest demonstration called by the Agee and Hosenball Defence Committee.

STOP THE **DEPORTATIONS!** Agee and Hosenball must stay!

Saturday 11 December, 12 noon, Home Office, Whitehall, London SW1.

☐ All branches of the International Socialists to support. London branches to attend with banners.

£100 fines for Walsall anti-fascists

MORE verdicts of 'guilty' have been returned after the usual farcical magistrates court hearing against antifascist demonstrators in Walsall.

Ken Appleby, Socialist Worker's prospective parliamentary candidate in the coming Stechford byelection was found guilty despite numerous cock-ups in the police case.

Three police witnesses were supposed to give evidence against him. But one was sick and another's evidence was thrown out because he had simply copied the notes of the arresting officer.

Defence lawyer Simon Brand totally destroyed the police evidence, but this still didn't stop the magistrates backing the police and finding Ken guilty.

Simon Bran took the unusual step of asking them why they had reached a guilty verdict. This threw them and

before replying they had to have a three-minute prompt from the clerk of the court.

Bruce Young also got stiched up good and proper. Both men were fined £100 with costs.

Gerry Rowlands, who admitted obstruction, was fined £35 with costs.

Money is desperately needed to help meet these savage fines. Send to Laurie Waterman, 88 Caldmore Road, Walsall.

MEA. REMEMICTON CORE, RESIDENT MALL ENTRANCE. £120 AT THE DOOR £ 1.00 IN ADVANCE FROM S.U. R.C.A. SOP SCHOOL LEAVERS, UNIGHTRADIED

AN ICE CREAM FOR THE NAZIS!

THE National Front has been having a tough time in the Cambridge parliamentary byelection thanks to the activity of the left.

Their first effort at holding a public meeting in the market square was disrupted by a lone member of the International Socialists and the prompt action of a by-stander who took the opportunity to stuff his ice-cream cone into National Front candidate Wotherspoon's face.

The price of this success was two arrests.

The Front's attempt to hold a public meeting in the university was also a farce. They booked 11 rooms to confuse the left, but good coordination meant they were excluded

from any room on college

Protest against them also

took the shape of a pray-in against racism but the left managed to organise some of the would-be knee benders and the meeting the Front eventually held at the Royal Cambridge Hotel, with John Tyndall as speaker, was picketed.

So was their Saturday meeting, where Gaulieter Tyndall was joined by Fuehrer Webster. Refused access, wewaited 200-strong for them to come out and eventually got at them though they were protected by the police.

They then tried to hold a walk-about, which turned into a run-about. In short their campaign has been well and truly screwed up.

WITH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIG

TH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM

Fifth election in 56 years - is it a record?

A RARE event is under way in the Transport and General Workers' Union: an election for a full-time official.

This has happened only five times since the TGWU was founded in 1920.

Britain's biggest union, with 11 giant sections and 11 massive regions embracing 1½ million workers, only elects one of its hundreds of officials: the general secretary. And he is elected 'during the pleasure of the union', that is, for life.

Jack Jones is retiring in 1978. So TGWU members will have the chance to cast their votes for his successor between 21 February and 9 March next year:

Support

Jones is known as the architect of the disastrous 'Social Contract'. He believes the Labour government must be supported at any cost.

And the cost is borne, not by Jack Jones, but by rank and file members of his union.

The Right to Work Campaign has led the national fight against Jack Jones's policies over the past year. It is now supporting the nomination of Tommy Reilly, a Manchester engineering worker, for election as TGWU general secretary.

Tommy Reilly is the deputy senior steward at the West Houghton Metal Box factory, an active member of its 6/123 factory TGWU branch, a member of the Bolton District Committee of the TGWU, and was a delegate to last month's Right to Work Conference.

Every branch is entitled to make a nomination for general secretary, and nominations are going through branches now.

Alternative

The Right to Work Campaign believes that an election campaign around Tommy Reilly can provide a real rank and file alternative to the jockeying for position now going on between the various national appointed full-time officials, such as Moss Evans, Larry Smith, Alex Kitson and Harry Urwin.

□ If you want to join the campaign, nominate Tommy Reilly in your branch, and contact the National Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4 if you want to help in any way.

TGWU members who are supporters of Socialist Worker and members of the International Socialists are meeting this Saturday, 4 December, in Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham, 12.30pm-5pm, to discuss the situation in the union and how they can help build the Right to Work Campaign through the election.



A lone demonstrator who waved a small tricolour and shouted "Troops Out!" was told by a policeman to move away. As he did so a second policeman ran at him and knocked him down.

'Four policemen then carried him away struggling, to shouts of "Scum" and "Give it to him" from people standing nearby.

— IRISH TIMES, 29 November 1976

THE 'Peace People' came to London on Sunday. And what publicity they got from the

press!

Papers that had only ten days earlier virtually ignored a demonstration six times the size against the cuts gave massive space to this demonstration. The Morning Star even joined in the praise.

The Daily Express, which supported the American war against Vietnam from beginning to end, gave a full page to Joan Baez, who opposed that war from beginning to end. Why?

Because Sunday's demonstration was not really about peace in Northern Ireland, despite the genuine feelings of many of those present. It could not be, because its platform included, alongside Joan Baez, people who give full and uncritical support to one of the armed forces waging war in Northern Ireland, the British Army.

'TROOPS OUT OF IRELAND'

UPSETS PEACE PEOPLE

Among those present, for instance, was John Biggs Davison, right-wing Tory MP, at the special

request of the 'peace women'. When British troops shot down 13 people in cold blood in Derry four years ago, Biggs Davison applauded them.

The only people with a genuine policy for peace were some hundreds of hecklers who shouted 'Troops Out'! But the peace women sent the police to deal with them.

And John Biggs Davison's secretary told Socialist Worker how upset he was to be heckled with cries of 'Troops Out!' during the Lord's Prayer



Joan Baez (second from left) with the 'Peace People' leaders last Saturday

THIS IS 'GOOD NEWS' ONLY BECAUSE THIS SYSTEM IS A MADHOUSE

'AT LAST THE GOOD NEWS.'
That headline in the Daily Mail last week summed up the press reaction to a new report by the National Institute of Economic and Social Research.

What was this 'good news' for Britain's workers?

It was that

☐ Real incomes will continue to fall over the next year.

☐ Prices will continue to rise for at least the next six months. ☐ Unemployment will rise still further.

So what is the 'good news' for Britain?

It is that 'profit margins are expected to be rebuilt until the end of 1977'. Only two per cent of Britain's population will gain.

IMF rules, OK? says Chancellor

THERE is a row inside the Labour government, according to several newspapers.

Chancellor Denis Healey is apparently demanding massive cuts of £2000 million in public spending. This is too much for some ministers, ranging from Shirley Williams to Michael Foot and Wedgwood Benn.

Many of this second group call themselves socialists. You might think they are therefore against any further cuts, since these mean rising unemployment and worsening health services and schools.

Unfortunately, this is not the case. According to the Daily Mail, these people would be prepared to accept an 'easier package of cuts, involving £1500 million'.

This is in line with the policy of the recently-elected 'left wing' treasurer of the Labour Party. Norman Atkinson. He said in the summer that people had to



be prepared to see unemployment rise by a couple of hundred thousand as the price of keeping Labour in power.

There could hardly be a better demonstration of the need for a new socialist party.



HOW, you might ask, could a genuinely socialist policy be carried through in the face of the International Monetary Fund?

The IMF is not some supernatural

power that cannot be resisted. It is made up of representatives of the major western capitalist countries. Each country has votes in proportion to its economic power. So in effect the IMF is dominated by the US.

The loan the government is trying to borrow from the IMF is only half what this country wastes on so-called defence every year. It is well under half the amount spent on luxuries every year by the parasites who live off rents, dividends and interest.

Never Sell

What is more, the property that such parasites own abroad is worth thousands of millions of pounds more than Britain's total overseas debt. But they will never sell their property or sacrifice their luxuries to pay such debts.

They insist instead that workers bear the cost through cuts in their living standards, health, education and so on. The IMF, run by people just like

The IMF, run by people just like themselves, provides these parasites with the arguments they need.

The alternative to the IMF lies in an all-out assault on the power, wealth and the luxurious living standards of such people.

But the Labour government, even its 'left wing', cannot fight for such a policy. Each and every one of them believes you can solve a crisis of capitalism by cooperating with the capitalists. Even Wedgwood Benn talks in terms of 'cooperation between the unions, management and the state'.

And that means, under present conditions, surrendering to the demand for more cuts.

Seveso horror goes on

REMEMBER Seveso, the chemical disaster that threatens to cause many women in Northern Italy to give birth to badly deformed babies?

Italy's medical services are still dominated by the bishops of the Catholic Church. It has the sort of attitude to abortion that the anti-abortion group SPUC would like to enforce here.

The result is that last week women from Seveso started arriving in London

to get abortions because they had been refused them in their own country. The Italian anti-abortionists led by the Vatican, insist that 'even under these terrible circumstances, abortion is still murder.'

The deadly chemicals of Seveso are already taking their toll. A worker from the factory died of liver cancer this week.

Our readers continue to send the funds we need so much to step up the fight for socialism. £392.45 has come in to the Socialist Worker Fighting Fund in the past week.

It's a figure that has to be sustained over the weeks ahead. So keep up the collections and fund raising events to keep

なまくりもおかり

SOCIALIST WORKER FIGHTING FUND

your paper fighting for the socialist alternative. Thanks this week to:

Nick Howard £25, Crawley SW supporters £3.50, D Lawrenson £40, Wellingborough public

worker £2, A Beveridge £1, S
Ainsworth £10, Hatfield Poly £4,
Bedford £10, Maidenhead £50,
Norwich £20, Shouthampton
£3.60, Camden Council Workers
£4.30, GLC Workers £2.50,
Central London Workers £4.30,
Outer East London District £93,
Inner East London District £80,
Gloucester £2.12, North London
District £27.50, Barnsley 43p,
Tower Hamlets £2.50.

meeting £2, East London Hospital

Donations to SW Fighting Fund, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

STUDENTS UNDER ATTACK

by LINDSEY GERMAN International Socialists student organiser

THE National Union of Students is under attack from the right.

The collapse of the NUS travel service last week is now being used in some colleges by the right wing press for disaffiliation from the national union.

In Scotland more than half the universities are now disafilliated. The nationalists are now arguing for devolution for the union-in practice a separate union.

It means, inevitably, that the struggle against the cuts will be divided. Yet some sections of the Broad Left in the NUS have been backing the call for a separate Scottosh union.

The National Organisation os IS Societies in the colleges is campaigning to keep the Bid by

national union together. Students need a strong union to fight the cuts in education spending and for decent grants.

Thirty thousand students demonstrated on 17 November against the cuts. In the past two weeks students at Sunderland, Teeside, and Middlesex Polytechnics have occupied to defend overseas students. That is the way tofight the right wing in the

The federation of Conservative Students might make noises about wanting to keep the union together. But they support the cuts and the government's education policies.

No socialist should cooperate with them. We must convince students that NUS will fight to defend student interests, not just engage in cose chats with Cabinet ministers.

The two members of NOISS on the NUS executive have initiated a meeting this Saturday in Manchester to discuss the best way to organise to keep the union together and fight the right wing. The meeting will discuss resolutions to the NUS Oncference in two weeks time, to initiate a national campaign to keep colleges in the union.

OPEN MEETING on the crisis in NUS services and the future of the union. Student unions are invited

to sponsor and send two delegates. Individual observers welcome. Saturday 4 December, 11 am, Manchester Poly Students Union, Cavendish Street, All Saints, Manchester.

Sponsored Manchester Poly SU, Bradford University SU, Andy Durgan and Graham Threlfall (NUS Executive, in personal capacity).

☐ All NOISS members should give this maximum support, and make sure there is representation from every college.

THE INSIDE **COMPANY:** A pamphlet on the crisis in the NUS services and how to solve it, written by Andy Durgan and Graham Threlfall,

12p, including postage, or ten copies for 50p, from NOISS, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

by GARRY BUSHELL

THE president of the North East London **Polytechnic Students'** Union, Andy Strouthous, has been expelled-for supporting a strong union.

Last summer Andy was active in helping to organise an occupation of the poly's Barking precinct in protest against racism and the cuts.

The poly's governors organised a committee to rewrite the union's constitution so as to make all militant action impossible in the future.

The committee rooms were occupied by students, and the governors guaranteed that the proposed rewriting would not take place.

Militant union president

expelled

But Andy was charged and

He told Socialist Worker:

expelled for refusing to order

the students from the meeting.

'The six-person disciplinary

committee voted 4-3 to expel

me. Add that up and you'll see

there's a slight mistake

Scott, chairperson, voted

'Easy to explain. Maggie

somewhere.

against me twice.

He argued that in the college where he's a lecturer there's no organised students union.

'He forgot to add that there are no common rooms or relaxation rooms for the students either. That's what they want at NELP.

'Mrs. Scott is a Labour

Party councillor. I have asked

the local Labour Party to

expel her. A perty which

claims to uphold trade union

organisation can hardly put

up with someone who scabs on

'Another person who voted

for my explusion was B Good.

an elected union officer.

'We are the last organised students union in the area. West Ham's has been smashed. Avery Hill's has been smashed. But we will not be smashed.

'If necessary we'll take this campaing right through the country. We do not recognise the decision of this kangaroo court.'

☐ Telegrams of support to: NELPSU, Livingstone House, Livingstone Road, London E 15.

BUILD THE SOCIALIST

Police ban the case for socialism

A PUBLIC meeting to re-launch the Chelmsford branch of the International Socialists has been banned from the town's Shire Hall by the Chief Constable of Essex.

Essex County Council, who hire out the Shire Hall, have denied that a political ban is being operated. But their 'reasons' for cancelling the IS

the Chief Constable because THE MEN BEHIND THE
RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN of 'fears of extremists'. The next day the Chief Constable and the County Architect issued a joint statement claiming that the press officer had made a 'mistake'.

Chelmsford IS know they are lying. They have launched a campaign on the issue which has won the support of many prominent local trade unionists. The result is likely to be a meeting three or four times bigger than the one originally planned.

booking have been exposed as

lies by the local branch in the

And last week a county

council press officer let the cat

out of the bag. She told a

reporter that IS was being

banned on the instructions of

☐ THE MEETING THEY WANT TO BAN: Hear Paul Foot on The Case for Socialism. Wednesday 8 December, 7.45pm, AUEW Hall, Primrose Hill, Chelmsford. Organised by Chelmsford IS.



WALSALL supporters of Socialist Worker have already collected more than 1000 signatures to a petition demanding that deadly arsenic lead waste at the ISC Alloys factory be removed. The waste, which has already killed one man and disabled six others, is lying on open ground in Bloxwich, cordoned off by a few flimsy bits of rope. One local teacher marched his class along to the fence which is supposed to guard the waste. It was easy to climb.

211 people joined the International Socialists in November, an average of about 50 a week. They included 12 AUEW members, seven building workers, seven EETPU members, 9 NALGO, 9 NUPE, 14 teachers and 31 unemployed workers.

NEWS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

THE newly-formed Lea Valley district of the International Socialists held its first full public meeting last week. It covers the Tottenham, Wood Green, Enfield and Cheshunt areas of North London.

The meeting, with Tony Cliff, got the district off to a magnificent start. Cliff described the crisis as one in which all fighting socialists were being led to the conclusion that we needed a new workers' party.

The 60 workers at the meeting agreed unanimously. To prove it, nine joined the International Socialists, coming from all areas of local industry-one convenor from the GMWU, two members of the Metal Mechanics, one of the TGWU, one AUEW, one CPSA, one ASTMS, and two of the NUS.

THE International Socialists' black caucus met

on Saturday in London. 24 people attended. The meeting agreed that black people were fighting not just against racism and police attacks but also against cuts and redundancies, as the 17 November demonstration and the recent battle at Ford had shown.

The meeting also agreed that the socialist paper Flame had to become the focus for socialist ideas in the black communities. It must

be sold openly on the streets and the money taken in sales has to be sent back instantly.

There was a discussion about the political situation in Jamaica. The meeting approved the formation of the Jamaican Workers' Solidarity Campaign, and resolved to work for a series of meetings

☐ Contact the Jamaica Workers' Solidarity Campaign at 36 St Alphonsus Road, London SW4, phone 01-720 4701.



by Christine Matheson

ABERDEEN International Socialists sell about 200 copies of SW a week, and two copies of the IS Journal per member.

We've been growing steadi-

ly, helped by an energetic youth group and a fighting Right to Work Campaign. But we've succeeded most in our work with women.

Previously we used Women's Voice just for member and close contacts. But recently, we have been going out selling Women's Voice at Gingerbread single parent family meetings, at supermarkets and the like.

WHEREWESTARD a workers' militia.

INDEPENDENT WORKING-CLASS ACTION:

THE Sheffield Star devoted its entire leader page article last

International Socialists. Five leading IS members in the city

were quoted at length about the aims of the campaign.

For once, the Star's coverage was relatively fair and

named and guoted was Steve Childs, a reporter on the paper.

objective. This could be because one of the IS members

Thursday to the Right to Work Campaign and the

SOCIALIST

WORKER is a

revolutionary

paper that

organise its

supporters

around the

following

principles:

seeks to

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 statea workers' state based upon councils of workers' delegates and

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

INTER-**NATIONALISM**

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 coun-

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

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

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

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

party.

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



MY GOVERNMENT, I'm glad to say, has given up.

My government plans to do absolutely nothing during the next Parliamentary session, except fool about with devolution. It will stumble on to defeat. I'd advise all my rich and wealthy subjects to cheer up, hold fast, and wait for a few more months until we can get our dear Tories back in office once again.

IF THE Queen ever said what she meant, she'd have started her speech opening Parliament last week something like that.

Instead, she quacked her way through the shortest list of proposed laws for 20 years, and got back to Buckingham Palace in time for lunch.

Corruption

All next year, the Labour government does not intend to pass a single law in the interests of the working people who elected it.

Eighty-five per cent of all Parliamentary time until next November will be taken up with devolution—that is solving the problems of a weak, corrupt Parliament in London by setting up weak, corrupt Parliaments in Edinburgh and Cardiff.

We've been here beforetwice since the war.

In 1949, the Labour government which had passed many reforming laws brought in austerity measures to beat off a sudden attack of 'economic crisis'.

Fury

It withered under ferocious Tory assaults led by the notorious 'Mr Cube' campaign to keep sugar in the hands of Tate and Lyle.

· Labour stalled and went on stalling until it was driven from office in 1951.

In 1968, a Labour government which had carried through a small handful of reforms again tried to solve an economic crisis—this time by wage freeze and cuts in the social services.









Stumblin

Then, terrified by inevitable by-election defeats, it abandoned even the pretence of advance.

It tried for half a year to reform the House of Lords. When that failed it did what its predecessors had done in 1949: Nothing.

It stalled until a general election in 1970 when a huge majority was converted into a Tory majority of nearly 30.

Now a Labour government with a small majority is struck down by exactly the same paralysis. Now the manifesto of February 1974 reads like a sick joke.

How about this, for exam-

'A Labour government will pay special attention to the manpower needs of all public services now approaching breakdown, particularly in our inner urban areas."

Ribbons

The Labour government

manifesto are socialist aims,

and we are proud of the word. 'It is only by setting our aims high, even amid the hazards of our present economic situation, that the idealism and high intelligence, especially of our young people, can be enlisted.'

Now the aims are set at zero. Why?

Because Labour has been blown off course by forces over which it has no control.

A run on the pound, caused by financiers, stopped the Labour government in 1949 and 1968.

This time, a series of runs on

the social services (three times this year alone).

An investment strike by the oil companies has forced it to hand millions of pounds to oil companies in unclaimed tax.

Investment strikes by industry have caused it to release thousands of millions in corporation tax concessions to companies (and to claw back the money from public ser-

These attacks on the government were not inevitable or accidental.

Ruthless

the Government's first con-. cern was to prevent strike

action by the people most

affected, the dockers. Callaghan, backed by Jack Jones, pleaded for 'moderation'.

So the class battlefield in Parliament is conducted between, on one side, a rampant ruling class, growing ever more confident, supported by industrialists, bankers. newspaper proprietors, judges, army officers, secret

If you cut out this advert with

your order. 25p of your

service men and senior civil servants-and, on the other, a handful of individuals who make up the Labour government and their support in

It is no contest. As in 1949 and in 1969-though much more speedily and viciouslythe Labour government and its supporting MPs are

trampled in the dust. Yet there is a difference between now and 1949 and 1969.

Execution

In those years, the whole Labour rank and file followed the Labour government to its execution.

Today, there are tens of thousands of workers who will not be cracked so easily.

As last month's demonstration against the cuts proved, these people are keen to mobilise against the government to save their services, and their jobs.

In 1949 and in 1968, trade union membership was stagnant. Today it is growing in leaps and bounds.

And there is another difference. Now there are many working class socialists who look for a socialist society not from a Labour government but from the working men and women around them.

They intend to build out of the ashes of this Labour government a new socialist party which will meet the might of capitalism with the might of working class power.

Those people represent the only antidote to the cynicism and apathy which exudes from Labour's paralysis at Westminster.

money will be sent to the has paid special attention to the pound, carefully timed. Right to Work Campaign these needs by cutting them to They were deliberate has caused the government, in assaults by a class of people at breach of pledges, to in-Pluto the head of industry and The manifesto ended with troduce wage restraint (twice the ringing words: finance who will stop at in successive years) and cuts in nothing to prevent a Labour 'The aims set out in this government from passing laws to tax their wealth or weaken their power. The Labour government The philosophy of the Labour Party has left the government impotent to is paralysed, having been counter-attack. The only power capable of matching that of the blown off course by capitalists is the industrial power of the workers. But the Labour Party is forces over which it has committed, before even it takes office, not to use that no control. Out of its It is committed to the notion that the elected government must govern itself. ashes must be built a Thus, when one of the few genuinely reforming measures in Labour's programme—the socialist party to confront Docks Bill—was beaten by a combination of unelected peers and a couple of well-Pluto Press Unit 10 Spencer Court, 7 Chalcot Road, paid, right-wing Labour MPs, the might of capitalism. London NW1 8LH telephone: 01-722 0141



The problem is not one of technology, which some people seem to see as some kind of independent force. The problem is one of POWER.

Technology is neutral

I GUESSED that what I wrote a week or so ago about the antitechnology trend on the left might ruffle a few feathers.

It has, and some of the points raised are well worth discussing further.

First, to clear up some misunderstandings, no socialist defends or can possibly defend the uses to which scientific knowledge is often put under capitalism.

For example, most of us heard about green monkey disease for the first time as a result of an accidental infection at the Porton germ warfare centre.

This vile institution exists to develop methods of killing or crippling human

beings by deliberately infecting them with bacteria or viruses, especially ones which cause diseases difficult or impossible to cure. That is why they are working with green monkey virus.

The intended human victims are Russians, Ukrainians, Poles, Czechs

Prostitute

Those who voluntarily contribute to this work, those who prostitute their knowledge and talents to this end, are scoundrels, vermin.

The man who was infected deserves as much sympathy as a Capone trigger man shot down by rival mobsters.

But those who order or allow this filth to go on are on a much lower moral level. And they are Rt Honourable Gentlemen, members of Her Majesty's 'Labour' government.

The late Heinrich Himmler, the top executive in charge of Hitler's 'final solution'-the extermination of the Jews-once went to see a mass execution by shooting of Jews of all ages and both sexes.

It is recorded that he was physically sick. The extermination programme went on all the same, under Himmler's direction.

No doubt Defence Minister Fred Mulley, and his predecessors Roy Mason and Denis Healey, would be of safely disposing of the ultra-toxic similarly affected by the sight of a few thousand victims of the germ warfare they have planned and promoted.

But that does not alter their guilt in the slightest degree.

FRUITS OF

LABOUR 1

HAROLD STORK is one of

those Social Security claimants the press love to get their teeth into. Since he

got the sack from his job.

he's been better off on the

hour week as a farm

labourer, Mr Stork, who is

61 and disabled, was being

Every morning for 33

years he hobbled three miles

to work and three miles

home again. He milked the

cows, fed the livestock and

swept the yard at the 800-

manor, farmer Arthur Con-

nors, decided that Mr

Stork's ill-health was getting

in the way of his work and.

sacked him without a penny

The National Union of

Agricultural Workers had

allowed Connors to pay him

less than the union rate

But they didn't know that

he hadn't received two in-

creases due to him, which should have made his pay

Now Mr Stork is living it

up at his cottage in Thwing

near Bridlington, Yorkshire,

on his handsome unemploy-

ment benefit-£12.90 and

another £2 in added bonuses

FRUITS OF

LABOUR 2

WHEN Michele Colonna

was II he was 'sold' at the

annual market for sturdy

boys in Altamura, Southern

By the time he was 14 he

was fetching a good price. He

was sold again for £45, ten

kilograms of cheese, 3,000

lbs of firewood, 12

kilograms of oil and 12 of

His buyer was Giacinto

Lorusso, who put the boy to

work on his farm. Every morning he took 200 sheep out to the pastures, returning for food 15 hours later.

He slept locked in the stable

Last year, Michele took

his bosses rifle, walked off

into the country and shot

himself. Nobody searched

for him. His body was

discovered accidentally 15

unprecedented step. They

convicted Lorusso for

In his defence he said that

he bought Michele in the

customary way 'after being

examined and lifted up to

judge his weight.'

'maltreating an employee'.

The Italian courts took an

with the sheep.

days later.

because of his disability.

Then the lord of the

paid a princely £13.50.

acre farm.

compensation.

£30 a week.

still to come.

THEIR

Italy.

salt.

Better off because for a 40

THEIR

The point is that it is precisely 'the power structure of competitive, militaristic societies' that is responsible

for these atrocities. It is not the technology, which is essentially the same whether directed to killing or curing. It is in that sense that I wrote, and I repeat, technology is neutral.

To take another example, fast breeder reactors. There can be no reasonable doubt, to my mind anyway, that they are too dangerous to tolerate. given present methods (or lack of them) and practically immortal waste.

G Birking is obviously right in saying that we should energetically oppose their development at Windscale and everywhere else. Of course we should.

But the problem is not one of technology, which some people seem to see as some kind of independent force. The problem is one of power.

Can we mobilise enough power to stop the lunatics? That is the issue.

Nuclear power, as such, is of immense potential benefit to humanity, provided that safety is put first.

System

Howard Miles writes: Technology and science exist as integral parts of capitalist society and their relationships to other parts of that society depend on the economic system.

Of course. What marxist ever supposed otherwise? And we can say with equal truth that, at the present time, 'the working class exists as an integral part of

capitalist society'. We do not, on that account, try to turn our backs on our own class. And so

with science. Rosa Luxemburg spoke of 'the union of science and the workers' as the worldtransforming power. That is right.

The various anti-science, anti-technology trends amongst sections of middleclass opinion are, in the most literal sense, reactionary; even though some of the people expressing them have, in a distorted way, progressive impulses.

Patronise

We have to tell them the . truth, not pander to their

prejudices. A final word. I am speaking of science and its applications (technology), of man's increasing power over

I am not speaking of fake science, of capitalist ideology masquerading as science, as in 'intelligence testing' or 'ethology' (ethologists say look at apes or geese-that's what you are and always must be, no real change in society is

possible). Spearman and Burt-of 10 fame-and Lorenz and Morris-the naked ape merchants-have exactly the same relationship to science in general as astrology has to astronomy.

Socialist Worker

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...and guess who was left with the crusts

ASSET-STRIPPERS customers. stole the jobs of the bakery workers in Hove, Sussex, who turned up for work two weeks ago to find the bakery and its 20 shops locked and their jobs gone.

Clarks Bread, their employers, were taken over in 1973/74 by a firm called James Warren, which guaranteed 'no redundancies'. Clarks should have known better-but then their financial advisors at the time were Slater Walker, kings of the slippery

Ruling class

WHEN YOU wake up with

a hangover on New Year's

Day, having celebrated the

arrival of 1977 and all that

it promises to bring, spare

a thought for a merry band

in the cause of aeronautic

development, no feat too

daring, for this bunch of

On 29 December they

will board a plane from

Washington to Paris for

the start of their adventure

into the unknown with a

three course meal at the

followed by the first toast

to la nouvelle annee at

Charles de Gaulle Airport.

just-our heroes will climb

aboard Concorde, and

that's when the heat is

The supersonic plane

travels faster than the

Still standing-but only

selfless individuals.

Intercontinental

really on.

No sacrifice is too great

of pioneers.

scroungers only

Hotel,

Warren took one look and started stripping. Clarks was making its money from a frozen food business, but its baking side wasn't doing so well.

So the bakery was split off, its business assets sold for £80,000, its factory and shops taken by Warrenand then leased back to the firm for an annual rent.

Pocket

The shops were then sold off, with Clarks as tenant, as 'an investment'. Warren's pocketed the profits.

Clarks of Hove, thus picked clean, was left with nothing but £100 in share

will have to celebrate a

second time as they reach

somewhere over the

course meal to keep up

their strength, they will

land in Washington just in

time for New Year Mark III

and another round of

revellry and more food at

the French Embassy.

Rank

'It will be the first trip of

its kind in the history of the

world,' says one of the

promoters, 'ranking with

buy yourself a place on this

historic flight for only

£3300 (4,850 dollars).

But, no, surely these

Lindbergh or Earhart.'

After another three

again

midnight

Atlantic.

history.

capital, and a bank overdraft without warning. that was getting bigger. Desperate for cash, they got a £20,000 loan from a man named Geoffrey Pikeironically himself a former protege of slater Walker and a former asset-stripper.

And one morning, Clarks locked the factory and shops

Redundancy pay? Well, James Warren have taken the frozen food business, the factory, and the profits from selling off the shopsthey've got the cream. The workers-some after 45 years work for Clarks-are left with the crusts.



Tony Benn and Perez at a 'working breakfast.'

Some Caviar Mr Perez?

CARLOS ANDRES Perez, Venezualan President, came to London this week to sell some oil for his country, thereby securing a better standard of living for its inhabitants,

Although, of course, there is so far no evidence that this is the case. Despite the oil boom 70 per cent of the population doesn't have enough to eat and half the houses have neither water nor drainage.

But it isn't all hardship in Venezuala. Caviar is selling like proverbial hot cakes and Guinness does a fine trade at £1.50 for a half a pint.

No prizes for guessing which category Mr Perez falls into.

GETTING YOUR PRIORITIES RIGHT...

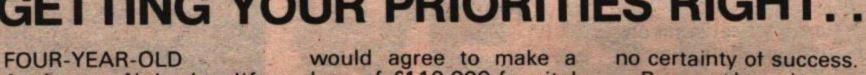
fine people are making an FOUR-YEAR-OLD even greater sacrifice to They are actually paying for the privilege. You can

He is one of hundreds of children whose lives might be saved if the government

would agree to make a loan of £110,000 for vital research.

secretary for social security, Eric Deakins refused because, he said, there is

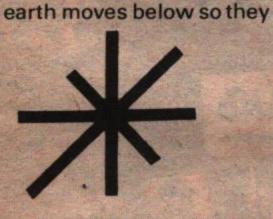
Recently, it was revealed that the government has spent £215,000 on a ministerial flat at No 1 Carlton Gardens. Nobody



Anthony Nolan's life depends on a bone marrow transplant.

But this week under

lives there.



WHO BELIEVES PUBLIC SPENDING SHOULD BE **CUT PART 93:**

Shadow environment Michael minister Heseltine today paid £7200 at Christies for five volumes of The Birds of Great Britain .

Evening Standard Wednesday November.



HAPPY CHRISTMAS LONDON METROPOLITAN POLICE

YOU CAN send Christmas cards this year and do something useful at the same time. The Right to Work Campaign has produced its own cards.

The greeting on the front is 'the best police in the world, giving traditional greeting at Hendon, 19 March 1974.' Get your cards now £1 for

ten cards, post free. All proceeds to the Marchers. Defence Fund. Orders to 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

LA SIT-IN WITH A DIFFERENCE...



When the bosses of a sweet factory in Northern Italy failed for the third month running to pay out wages because of 'financial difficulties', their 700 workers took action

And some action it was too! They staged a sitdown on the tracks of Turin railway station, blocking traffic and winning massive publicity for their struggle.

CHRIS HARMAN, just back from Spain, reports

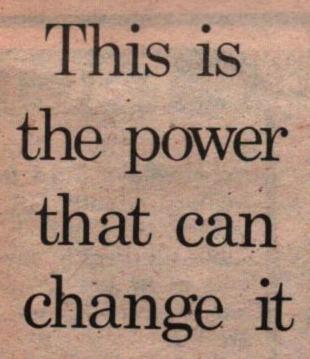
Spain's 'democracy,'

rigged from

'DEMOCRACY comes to Spain.' That has been the claim of the British press since it was announced a fortnight ago that there are to be elections in the spring.

But the 'democracy' promised by the government will be democracy of a peculiar sort. It will be rigged to keep power in the hands of those who ran the

top to bottom



SPANISH THE government's plans can still be thwarted by the popular movement.

Two million workers struck for the day on 12 November.

And the last week has seen a powerful strike of 90,000 state school teachers, partial strikes by firemen, municipal police and even jail warders, and a continuation of all-out stoppages by construction workers.

A new development has been the rapid growth of a women's movment. Fascist laws make adultery by women a crime and there have been big demonstrations in Madrid and Barcelona outside courts enforcing the law.

But the government and the



The power of Spain's workers: a recent demonstration in Madrid protesting at the increasing cost of living

employers have been able to exploit weaknesses of the mass movement. The most important is the willingness of its best-known leaders to hold it back and split it so as to placate sections of the employing class.

The employers are now prepared to tolerate an independent trade union movement provided it is split into weak, rival, politically-based unions, as in France.

Unfortunately, the Communist Party leaders of the biggest single organisation of underground militants, the Workers Commissions, have accepted this, changed its name to the Union of Workers Commissions, and agreed with other underground unions to a divided trade union

This has led to a split in the workers commissions, with a minority insisting on a fight for a united workers organisation in each factory and dis-

Such united organisation has existed in almost every major strike,

The left has succeeded in building more or less permanent organisations based upon such delegate structures in places such as Vitoria, the Basque country and the new giant Ford plant in Valencia.

Picketing is illegal in Spain. The main leaders of the workers commissions argue that this law must be adhered to, otherwise the middle classes will be frightened away from the anti-fascist struggle.

For the same reason, they discourage mass sympathy strikes.

Massive

Yet the lack of massive sympathy strikes has led to three major defeats for Spanish workers in the last few months-for the Motor Iberica (Massey Ferguson) workers in Barcelona, for the 15,000 metal workers in the Barcelona suburb of Sabadell, and for the Madrid transport workers.

The Madrid and Barcelona workers who were defeated did not join the 12 November political general strike.

The policy of holding back workers' struggles, far from strengthening the struggle for democracy, is actually strengthening the governcountry under fascism, and to deny workers many basic rights.

The government's 15 December referendum on the socalled democratic reforms is to be organised just as referendums under the dictator Franco were organised. It is a criminal offence to campaign for abstention.

The government has insisted that there are three sorts of political parties: those that are already legal (the right wing), those that will one day be legalised (the various hues of moderate socialists), and those that are 'illegal'—the Communist Party and the parties to the left of it—'who will be allowed nothing'.

Socialists

seized,

fascists

go free

tinue to break

Para-military police con-

demonstrations which the

government decides it will not

permit, shooting to kill on at

least ten occasions already this

ed groups of the extreme right,

such as the so-called

'Guerrillas-of Christ the King',

are given a free rein to attack

The repression is different

from the hey-day of Franco's

rule. A certain leeway is left

for the opposition to organise.

belonging to illegal parties are

released after four or five days.

and is designed to prevent the

left organising with the same

opportunities as the centre

The government hopes by

these means to ensure that the

men who ruled under Franco

will soon be able to boast a

majority in allegedly 'free'

But the repression remains,

Most of those arrested for

the left.

and right.

elections.

Meanwhile, the small arm-

Only the government will be allowed television time in the referendum campaign, and in the election campaign the right-wing parties will get a further advantage from the vast sums that will flow to them from the big banks with which they are closely connected.

Meanwhile, the more leftwing a party is, the more it is harassed by the armed police. So, for instance, the moderate Socialist Party and the trade union, UGT, backed by the Labour Party and TUC (and possibly the CIA) are allowed to organise more or less freely.

Harass

But those to the left of them are subject to repeated harassment.

Last week, for instance, saw the arrest of a number of Communist Party members for selling their publications in the streets.

No fewer than 150 members of one of the Trotskyist groups, the Revolutionary Communist League, were seized while holding a conference in a Basque monastery.

Hundreds of workers face fines of up to £1000 for taking part in the one-day general strike of 12 November.

firm

Apartheid

spies aid

British

ALL PRETENCE at toleration of black trade unionism has been ended in South Africa.

Last week the regime ordered the arrests of 21 trade unionists and banned them from taking part in any activities. The bans follow the ten

week strike by members of the all-black Glass and Allied Workers Union at Armourplate Safety Glass, at Springs, north of Johannesburg.

Armourplate is a subsidiary of Pilkingtons, the big glass monopoly based in St. Helens, Lancashire.

The South African government was also infuriated by the resistance to British Levland's decision to move their plant in Durban to Cape

The black stewards in Durban wrote to stewards in the Longbridge, Birmingham. British Leyland factory. They protested through the Transport and General Workers Union machine.

Jack Jones promised to raise the matter at the Brighton TUC-but Leyland management promised to sort the matter out if Jack dropped the motion'.

Jack dropped the motion all right and British Leyland, South Africa called in the South African police.

WEEKEND AGGREGATE for all IS members involved in international work: 4-5 December in London. Phone IS International Department for details.

SOUTHERN AFRICA SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN



GRAND FUND-RAISING SOCIAL: Friday 3 December, 8pm, School of Oriental and African Studies, Malet Street, London WC1, with The Derelicts and real ale.

BIRMINGHAM LIBERATION DISCO: Thursday 9 December, Poly South Centre, Bristol Road. 60p on the door/50p in advance.

PICKET OF SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS: Saturday 11 December, 10am, Waterloo Street (near Victoria Square), Birmingham.

POSTER: Victory to the Freedom Fighters! With space for local details. Two colours. £1 for 50.

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

By Kim Gordon (Flame)

JAMAICA goes to the polls on 15 Decemberand the People's National Party (social democratic) government are trying to hang on to power.

Whatever the result of the election, Jamaican workers and peasants face a hammering

Flame, the black sister paper of Socialist Worker, and the Brixton and Croydon Collective have set up a

Jamaica: Organise solidarity!

Jamaica Workers Solidarity Campaign in this country. It aims to mobilise the black

communities in solidarity with

workers back home and to

counter the propaganda of CIA-backed groups such as the Jamaica Freedom League in this country.

Our first action will be a joint picket with the West Indian Standing Conference of the US Embassy on 9 December. We urge all readers and supporters of SW to attend.

☐ For more information, contact: 36 St Alphonsus Rd, London SW4, or phone 739 1878.

PLUTO PRESS XMAS OFFER

Pluto Press are offering these books at HALF PRICE for Christmas to SW readers. Choose two or more titles and add postage.



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Cliff: Lenin I £1.80 (£3.60) + 30p post

00

Cliff: Lenin II £1.80 (£3.60) + 30p post

Harman: Bureaucracy and Revolution in Eastern Europe £1.35 (£2.70) + 20p post

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OC

The Bolsheviks and the **October Revolution** £1.80 (£3.60) + 30p post

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Callinicos: Althusser's Marxism 90p (£1.80) + 20p post

Groves: The Balham Group 60p (£1.20) + 10p

0

Origins of the International Socialists 50p(£1) + 10p post



Offer ends 31 December. Maximum postage necessary £1.

Please state your name and address clearly, and send your cheque or PO

☐ Pluto Press, Unit 10, Spencer Court, 7 Chalcot Road, London NW1 8LH.

> **PLUTO PRESS XMAS OFFER**

We're going for early retirement at 55 by 1980-and so it should be. Tha'd say so too if tha'd seen men at 50 who can't walk and breathe because they've worked in dust all their lives.

-BARNSLEY MINER PHILLIP CLOWERY

"I WANT better conditions and able to go on until I'm 65." better money. This ballot should be 100 percent in favour of industrial action—if every man's right in the head.

'I'm just at the right age to fight for this because I know that I shan't be on men who work in one of Britain's most

PHILLIP CLOWERY: My father's knackered

BERNARD BOTTOM: We must fight

JIM DEAKIN: The offer is bloody stupid

That's what BERNARD BOTTOM thinks about the miners' ballot for industrial action to win early retirement in the pits. Bernard, 32, is a tail-gate ripper at Dodworth Colliery near Barnsley.

He has seen the effect of long years in the pits

dangerous and unhealthy jobs. "My father's just retired at 65. He's got the dust on his lungs and his finger-ends are

'My mate's 40 and he's got the dust. He's worked about six weeks in the past two years. It's put down to bronchitis, but we know what it is.

There's more dust now than ever. It's all because of these new mechanical means of getting coal out.

'Before it was all off a shovel. Manually it was harder work, but if you're fit, hard work doesn't hurt.

'I've been talking to a bloke at Redbrook End on the new face there. He says its bloody awful—tha' can't see a foot in front of thee with dust.

Fight

'Tha' goes to work in clean clothes. At pit tha' puts on old bloody mucky, stinking clothes.

'There's no toilets down pit, so tha' doesn't know what's on 'em because tha' doesn't know where anyone's been to toilet down there.

'We're going to have to fight for the next generation, same as our fathers fought for us.

PHILLIP CLOWERY, 40. also works at Dodsworth Colliery, where he is a maingate stable-man:

Dust

'We're going for early retirement at 55 by 1980-and so it should be too. Tha'd say so too if tha'd seen men at 50, 55 or 60 who can't walk and can't breathe because they've worked in dust all their lives.

'My father's one of them. He's 65 and he's knackered. He started at pit when he were 14 and he's worked nowhere else, but for the past three years they haven't found him a job he's fit to do.

They offered him a job in the washer at pit top, but that's a harder job than what I'm

'In the end they gave him 300 quid and that were it—just 300 quid.

JOHN BRAY., a development worker at Dodworth, wants to see British miners miners there. These business retire at ages comparable to people are making money out those of their counter-parts in of it—that's why they wanted

Common Market, so we might

derground:

little taste of it.

in the teeth.

about the Lord Mayor's banquet.

to the Labour Party, which is kicking the unions

Bill Message and Gwen Jones report from Barnsley, and Cwm,

MINERS

PICTURES: John Sturrock (Report) and Phil McCowen

South Wales

as well get the same benefits as in. We might as well get 'We've had to go into the something out of it if we can.' The National Coal Board has offered to reduce the retirement age gradually to 62 when the social contract allows them to.

throughout

the country are up in

arms over their claim

for early retirement with

For years, miners' union

conferences have passed

pious resolutions in favour

no loss of earnings.

JIM DEAKIN, a 34-yearold faceworker at Dodworth has nothing but contempt for this offer:

'The Coal Board's offer is bloody stupid-it's only what we can get already because we can become redundant at 62 on 93 per cent of earnings, so if they're going to offer us early retirement at 62 then all they're doing is altering 'redundant' to 'retirement'.

'We're selling our health if we accept that the social contract means no early retirement for miners.

'Besides, the government seem to have torn up their copy of the social contract, what with prices rising and unemployment and so on.

'I don't see any reason why we should pay any more heed to it than they

of it.

But, at last, this year's conference set a deadline for negotiations. The executive was told firmly to go for retirement at 60 by January 1977 with further reductions to 55 by 1980.

Negotiations with the



LEN PEMBER: Labour kicking us in the teeth

no

in

str

the

☐ IN SOUTH Yorkshire, miners have a 14 per cent higher chance of dying before they are 50 than other workers in the areaand a 35 per cent higher chance of dying before they are 70.

Their average life expectancy is 65, compared with 70 for other workers in the area.

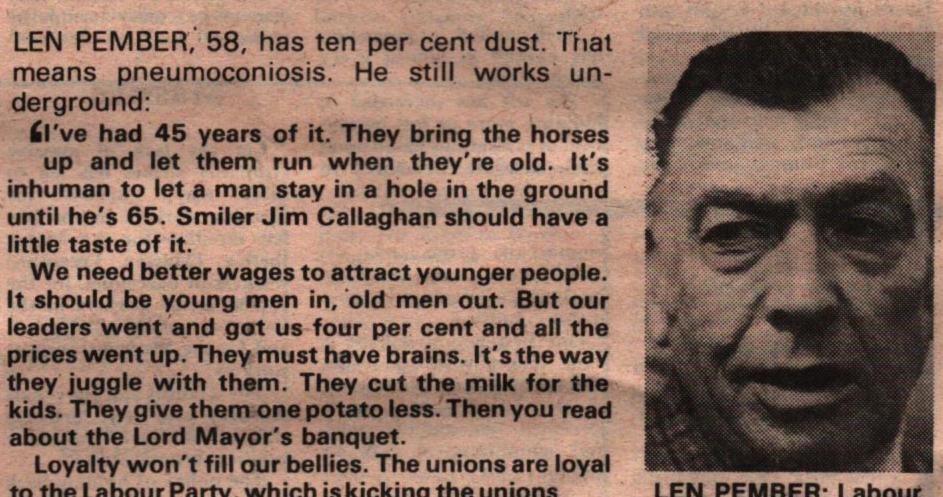
A Yorkshire specialist, Dr Hall, said on television recently that miners should retire at 45. After this age, he said, the risks of disease and injury begin to multiply at an alarming rate.

FACT

☐ ON 21 MARCH 1973, seven men died in a disaster at Lofthouse Colliery. One of them was Charlie Cotton,

Most of his mates escaped. But he died because he could not run fast enough to keep up with them.

Charlie Cotton had emphysema, a crippling chest disease that afflicts thousands of miners. Emphysema leaves the sufferer short of breath and unable to run any distance.



Why hwe want to retire ASTO W

tional Coal Board have v reached deadlock, and accordance with the inctions from conference, **NUM** executive has mbership for industrial

he incredible meanness

the NCB's offer has miners everywhere itching for a chance to get at them.

NCB chairman Sir Derek Ezra has announced that his best offer is a gradual reduction in the retirement age to

62, but only when the social contract permits it and only for men who have spent 25 years underground.

Ezra, who has never worked underground in his life, has already announced his intention of retiring when he reaches the age of 60.



STEPHEN JONES has been working underground for the last ten years. He is 26:

When I come to 55, I'll have been down for 40 years. It's not only the dust. It's the heavy work. A lot of people are on hardship because of back trouble. On average, if you retire at 65, you're dead at 70. If you retire at 55, you'll have more years to enjoy. If they don't negotiate terms, industrial action will have to be taken.



J L TROTT, a member of the deputies union, NACODS, is 56 and still working underground:

6The majority of men who are 55 and over have done 40 years' service. They should be out of it. But it's no good being stuck in the house without a penny for a pint.

The big issue is: what is the retired miner going to live on? There used to be queues of lads waiting for jobs. But now there's no incentive because of the wages. This claim is 30 years too late. We should have had early retirement years ago.?

THIS IS WHAT IMMGRATION CONTROLS' REALLY MEAN

A YOUNG Asian from Southall, with a proven record of fighting racism, has now been locked up in Pentonville Prison for three weeks.

Faceless Home Office officials have the power to throw him out of the country.

He is allowed to see his wife for just 15 minutes a day in a public visiting room.

He is disillusioned and depressed. His 'crime' is that, after he married in this country he told the Home Office that he entered Britain 'illegally'.

He believed he would be granted an amnesty. His honesty was rewarded with the slam of the prison door.

Killing

His name is Rupi Ahluwalia. He worked with a gang of Asian roof repairers. These 'roofers' took part with hundreds of other Southall youth in the street demonstrations following the racist killing last summer of Gurdip Chaggar.

When the police tried to arrest some Indian youth, Rupi intervened—and was arrested and beaten up in a police van.

Rupi was one of the Indians released as a result of the massive sit-in which paralysed the traffic outside Southall police station on the Sunday after the murder.

He appeared in court some months later-charged with assault! The arresting police officer made the following memorable remark to the court:

Illegal

'I had to hit him in the van because he was trying to escape.

Rupi was fined £100 and given a six month suspended

prison sentence. Five months before, in February, Rupi had been to the Home Office to explain his 'illegal' status to them. He was now married and wanted to settle down.

He did not want the grim shadow of 'illegal' status hanging over himself and his family for the rest of his life. He thought the Home Office would understand.

He'd been told that 'British justice' would prevail.

For nine long months, from February to November. the Home Office did nothing. Finally, Immigration Officers



Rupi Ahluwalia: so much for 'British justice'

THIS MAN FOUGHT RACISM -AND MAY BE **THROWN OUT OF** BRITAIN



The protest outside Southall police station which led to Rupi's release: now he's back in jail-and facing deportation

came to Rupi's home in Southall.

Under the 1971 Immigration Act, these men have draconian powers of arrest and detention. They moved Rupi, first to the notorious detention centre at Heathrow for five days and then to Pentonville Prison, where he remains under lock and key.

In other words, Rupi took part in the anti-racist demonstrations in Southall last summer with this threat hanging over his head. His family pleaded with him, warning him of the dangers to his case if he was involved.

He shrugged his shoulders and said he had no choice: he had to stand shoulder to shoulder, he said, with the youth movement that was on the streets demonstrating against Gurdip's death.

Now this courageous man is face to face with the bestial immigration laws designed to demoralise people just like

Ironically, if he is thrown out he is entitled under law to return to live with his wife. But he will have to join the queue of relatives waiting to come in-and that could take at least a year.

That is if the Labour

government doesn't screw even this remaining morsel of humanity out of the immigration laws in the next few

months. A campaign is needed to publicise Rupi's case and to tap the enormous energies of the anti-racist movements that grew up in the Asian areas in the summer.

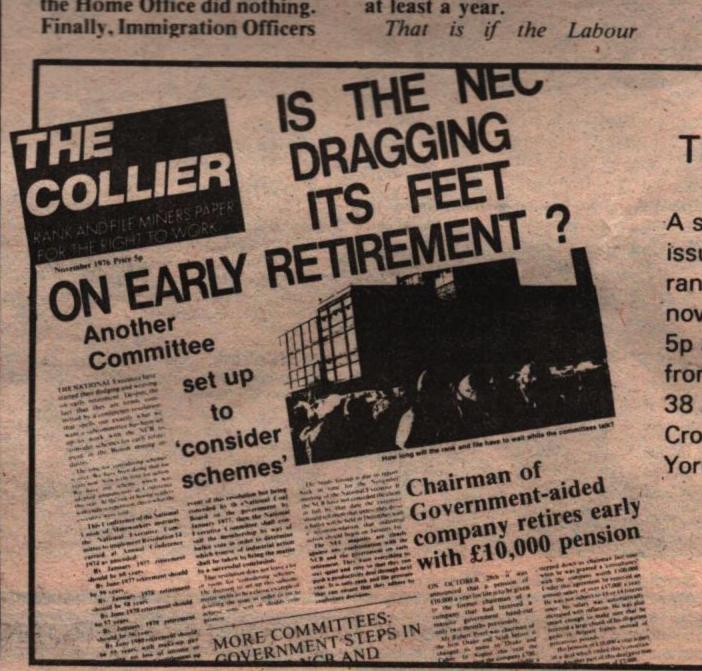
Whatever lingering antiracialist sentiment still exists inside the Labour Party must be utilised to the full to cause maximum havoc at the Home Office and to force Rupi's release.

Refuse

Discreet and private contact which relies on a special favour from the Home Office is no solution.

A Home Office which refuses to investigate its Immigration Officers at Heathrow who laughed when an Indian woman in detention screamed with labour pains is going to do no favours for an 'illegal" immigrant who demonstrates against racism.

JOHN ROSE



THE COLLIER

A special pre-ballot issue of the miners' rank and file paper is now out.

5p a copy plus postage from: The Collier, c/o 38 Abbey Lane, Cundy Cross, Barnsley, South Yorkshire.

BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

Scotland

DUNDEE Socialist Worker public meeting: Northern Ireland-'peace' at what price? A discussion of this week's 'Peace march' in Dundee and the way forward in Northern Ireland. Speaker: Willie Dolan, Thursday 9 December, 7.30 pm, 4 Roseangle (off Perth Road, near Laing's Hotel).

EAST KILBRIDE Socialist Worker public meeting: Nationalism and Internationalism-what we think about a separate Scotland and socialism. Tuesday 14 December, 8 pm, The Murray Halls, The Murray.

EDINBURGH Socialist Worke 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 Penicuik

ABERDEEN Socialist Worker discussion meetings on The Meaning of Marxism: Every second Wednesday, 7.30pm, Trades Council Rooms, 24 Adelphi (off Union Street, near ABC Cinema). All welcome.

8 December: Hungarian Revolution 1956—the struggle against Russian imperialism in Eastern Europe Speaker Gordon Philip.

22 December: History and traditions of the International Socialists-towards the Socialist Worker Party. Speaker: Des Murphy

North East

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

Yorkshire

HALIFAX Socialist Worker public meeting: America—the problems of building a socialist movement. Speaker: John Charlton. Friday 10 December, 7.30 pm, Room A, Library, Harrison Road.

DONCASTER Socialist Worker public meeting: The Need for a Socialist Workers' Party. Speaker Jim Nichol (IS national secretary). Monday 13 December, 7.30 pm, Mason's Arms, Market Place.

KEIGHLEY Socialist Worker public meeting: Fight Racism: Speaker: Europe Singh. Thursday 9 December, 8pm, Star Hotel, North Street.

ROTHERHAM Socialist Worker public meeting: Labour's Blind Alley-and the socialist alternative. Speakers: Jim Nichol (IS national secretary) and Pete Goben (area secretary, South Yorkshire Fire Brigades Union, in a personal capacity). Thursday 9 December, 7.30 pm, The Angel Hotel, Bridgegate

SHIPLEY, West Yorkshire: Anyone interested in forming a branch of the International Socialists, please phone Shipley 593669.

Worker always available at Fourth Idea Bookshop, Bradford.

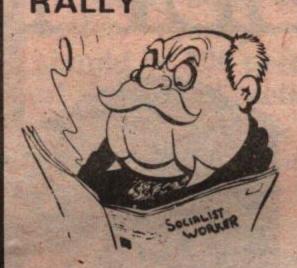
BRADFORD Socialist Worker Silk Screen day school: Making a silkscreen, using it, all you need to know to set up a printshop, plus poster design. Saturday 4 December, Contact Bill House, (phone Bradford 493734) for details. Social in the evening!



Socialist Worker public meetings

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

Socialist Worker **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 tamily, John Deason on the Broad Lefts and the narrow lefts, Alan Meyer on the RDL oil rig site dispute. Alan Armstrong

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

tightrope 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.

SOLIDARITY BADGE

in red, black and white

Socialists (intl Dept), 6

London E2. 15p each

(plus 61/2p postage),

£1.50 for ten (post

free), £10 for 100.

SOUTHERN

Victory to the

solidarity cam-

Socialist Worker public

CENTRAL LONDON: Thursday

9 December, 1pm, Kingsway

College, off Grays Inn Road

Speaker from the Zimbabwe

NORTH LONDON: Thursday 9

December, 8 pm, Lord Morrison

(organised by IS Society).

AFRICA

freedom

Fighters!

Build the

paign!

meetings

People's Army.

from International

Cottons Gardens,



SOUTH WEST LONDON Socialist

Worker Jumble Sale: Saturday 11

December, 12noon-3pm, Chatham Hall, corner of Chatham Road and

Northcote Road, SW11. We need lots

of jumble and help. Phone 767-2537

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

3 January: Family Life and

17 January: Racism today and how

13 December: South Africa

for collection and further details.

Socialist Worker CLYDESIDE RALLY

Sunday 5 December, 6.30 pm-9.30 pm, McLellan Galleries, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.

Presenting CAST socialist theatre group, in the play CUTTING US TO SHREDS, and speakers: Tony Cliff and John Deason (secretary, National Right to Work Campaign) Tickets 25p in advance from IS Books, 64 Queen Street, Glasgow C1, or 30p on the door.

NOISS:

National Organisation of Student International Socialist Societies

MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY International Socialists SOCIAL: Victor Brox Blues Band and disco. Saturday 4 December, 8pm-midnight, The Squat, Devas Street (next to University Union). Admission 60p. unemployed 30p.

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY International Socialists Society: Series of meetings on The Meaning of Marxism. Alternate Tuesdays, 1 pm, QM Committee Rooms. Every other Tuesday: public meetings on various

14 December: Thinking the Right Thoughts. Speaker: Pete Beharrell. 18 January: Women under



SOCIALIST WORKER BADGES: 15p each, or 10p for orders over ten. Cash with orders to SW circulation, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

THE FIGHTING ALTERNATIVE

Socialist Worker

The Paper That Says

TO LABOUR...

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

WILL the comrade who took an

orange address book from TU Books,

Manchester, about two months ago

please phone Rob on 061-764 7972.

CYPRIOT members of the Inter-

national Socialists are available to

speak on the situation in Cyprus and

the fight in Britain against racist

immigration controls and the expul-

sion of Cypriot refugees. Contact

ROOM AVAILABLE in shared house

in North London, Apply Box N. SW.

Litho, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

HEATHER WILLIAMSON is pleased

to say that for once justice WAS done,

and would like to thank John very

BOOST YOUR SOCIALIST

WORKER SALES: Posters for

placards, billboards, newsagents-

'Fight Racism', 'No Hospital Closures',

Stop Unemployment' and blank ones for writing in local slogans. 1p a

poster. Window stickers for

newsganets-'Socialist Worker sold

here', 10p each. Sales leaflets £1.50

for 1000. From SW Circulation, 6

Cottons Gardens, London E2

Andreas on 01-272 8270

much for his assistance.

Gardens, London, E2.



SUPERB LENIN BADGES-15p each. All proceeds to NOISS. Orders for ten or more post free-if not, send stamped, addressed envelope. Money with orders to NOISS, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

HISTORIANS in the International

ASSISTANT BOOKSHOP MANAGER REQUIRED. Apply to the Socialist and TU Bookcentre, 224 High Street, Digbeth, Birmingham 12.

COMRADE FROM MANCHESTER moving to London in January urgently needs a room (North London). Please phone Aileen, 061-445 8904, on Monday nights.

BOOKMARKS 1977 BOOKLIST

INTERNATIONAL PAPERS: We still offer ten issues of any one of the following papers for £1.75, postage included: Workers Power (USA), Workers Action (Canada), The Battler (Australia), The Worker (Ireland). Socialistische Arbeiter Zeitung (Germany), Lutte Ouvriere (France).

BOOKMARKS, 265 Seven

Notices

Socialists interested in re-forming the IS Historians Group, please write to Stirling Smith, 49 Albany Street, Hull. Stamped, addrassed envelope

now available-send a 10p stamp. We give a small amount for secondhand books, so don't hang on to your old political tomes-hand them on. Remember we are open till 8 pm on Wednesdays.

Sisters Road, London N4 2DE. Phone 01-802 6145.

CUT YOUR OWN HEALEY-LEAFLETS for building Socialist Worker sales on council estates. £1.50 for 1000 from 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

The latest issue of FLAME Socialist Worker's sister paper by black workers is out-with Southern Africa, Jamaica, Fords Dagenham and the by-election in Brixton, South London, Copies now from Flame, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2, 8p monthly

Flame is burning now!

London

Local speaker. Wednesday 8 December, 8 pm, Oxford House. All Socialist Worker readers welcome.

meeting: The Socialist Alternative. Speaker: Duncan Hallas. Wednesday 8 December, 8 pm, Essex Road Library, Islington, London N1

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.

International Socialists GAY Group meets regularly in London, on Mondays. Phone 790-2545 or 800-London, E1 3AQ

Worker meetings On Marxism and Working-Class History. Thursdays at 7.30pm, Charlton House, Hornfair Road, SE17.

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?'

HACKNEY Socialist Worker Youth Movement disco: Saturday 4 December, 8 pm, Centerprise, Kingsland High Road (near Dalston Junction). Admission 60p (unemployed 30p).

EXETER Socialist Worker discussion meetings: Thursdays, 8pm_Devonport Inn, Fore Street.

be in the Labour Party? 16 December: Internationalism.

BRISTOL Socialist Worker discussion meetings: Thursdays, 8pm, Baptist Knowles Community Centre, Horley Road, St Werburghs. (off Mina Road, near M32). 16 December: Ireland's British

Documentaries and public meetings on tape and cassette. Ideal for SW discussion groups and education meetings.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO BLACK POWER? Speaker: Fred Hooper (US International Socialists). 50 minutes. £1.40. LENIN. Speaker: Tony Cliff of the International Socialists, 45

minutes. £1.40. CHILE: END OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ROAD TO SOCIALISM. A sound documentary by members of the International Socialists, with Chilean music. 55 minutes. £1.40.

SONGS OF THE PORTUGUESE REVOLUTION (in Portuguese)-including Grandola Vila Morena, the song used on Lisbon Radio as signal for the 25 April anti-fascist coup. 60 minutes.

Socialist Worker Recordings

THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR. Speaker: Norman Cooper (coauthor of Spain in Crisis). A detailed analysis of the background to the civil war-not suitable for discussion meetings. 55 minutes. £1.40.

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

We now have facilities for recording, editing and distributing tapes. If you have a recording that you think is worth distributing, please send it to us. Technical inquiries welcome.

Orders and inquiries to Peter Marsden (SW Recordings), Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London, E2.

BRADFORD and SHIPLEY: Socialist

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 Maiden, Lifemask. Admission 50p (unemployed 25p).

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

LEEDS Weekend School for new member of the International Socialists: 11-12 December (starting 2pm Saturday), at 43 Park Street, Leeds1. Duncan Hallas on The Origins and Development of IS, and on Trade Unions and Rank and File Groups-how we operate. Open to members of all Yorkshire branches. Accomodation and food provided Registration £1, unemployed 25p. Phone Leeds 789765 (Leeds district

North West

PRESTON SW discussion meetings: Every second Thursday, 8pm, The Keystone, Brook Street. All welcome. 9 December: The police and the

MERSEYSIDE Area meeting for ALL members of the International Socialists: Thursday 2 December, 7.30 pm, Triton Hotel, Paradise Street, Liverpool (just off Lord Street, opposite Holiday Inn). Includes discussion on Socialist Workers Party and election of IS national council

> Unions in Action

URGENT CALL to all members of the International Socialists in the TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS UNION: TGWU national fraction meeting: Saturday 4 December, 12.30 pm-4.30 pm, Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham. Agenda: The politics of Jack Jones, Rank and file organisation, Election of general secretary.

COACH from London leaves St Pancras 9 am, £3 return.

South East leaves from in front of Kings Cross Station, 7.45 pm.

HEALTH WORKERS: National fraction meeting for all members of the International Socialists in the Health Service: Saturday 4 December, 11.30 am, 260 Deansgate, Manchester, Lunch will be provided free, but each member should bring £3 pooled fare. All IS health workers urged

COACH from London and





fighting WOMENS VOICE.

WEST MIDDLESEX Socialist Worker Christmas Social: Friday 10 December, 8pm, Park Hotel, Hanwell, London W7. Food, High Flame Band, country and western-all for £1.

CHESHIRE District meeting for ALL members of the International Socialists: Friday 3 December, 8 pm prompt, Wrexham Labour Club, Montgomery Road, Wrexham (by Queensway Sports Centre). Agenda includes discussion on forming of the Socialist Workers Party, local perspectives, election of national council delegate. All members in Chester, Crewe and Wrexham are to attend. Observers from Birkenhead, Warrington and Shrewsbury welcome.

BIRKENHEAD and WALLASEY area: Anyone interested in forming or attending a Socialist Worker discussion group in this area, please contact Birkenhead IS, c/o 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

BOOTLE Socialist Worker supporters meet every Thursday for informal discussion meetings in the Franbar Hotel, 15 St Catherine's Road, Bootle, Liverpool 20 (two minutes from Bootle Town Hall, three minutes from New Strand shopping precinct). All welcome.

OPENSHAW and CRUMPSALL Socialist Worker public meeting: Why the system stinks-and how to fight it. Speaker: Jim Nichol (IS national secretary). Thursday 9 December, 8 pm, Royal Oak, Oldham Road (near Wilson's brewery).

LONGSIGHT Socialist Worker public meeting: The Socialist Alternative to Labour, Speaker, Paul Foot. Wednesday 15 December, 8 pm, Longsight Town Hall, Stockport Road

3LACKBURN Socialist Worker discussion meetings: Thursdays,

8pm, Veteran Hotel, Eanam, 9 December: Southern Africa.

WARRINGTON Socialist Worker public meeting: Can socialism be achieved with Labour? Speaker: Paul Foot. Thursday 16 December, 7.30pm, for further details phone Padgate 811584.

MANCHESTER: Regular informal Socialist Worker/International Socialists get-together every Wednesday, 8.30pm-10.30pm, The Wheatsheaf, Deansgate. Come for a drink and a chat! All welcome.

CHESTER: Thursday 16 December-All SW supporters are urged to support the Chester Trades Council lobby against the cuts. Lobby the county council meeting from 11.30am onwards at County Hall. Transport available afterwards to Warrington for public meeting with Paul Foot at 7.30pm. See your local SW sellers for details.

TAMESIDE Socialist Worker public meeting: Labour rule-OK? Thursday 9 December, 8pm, The Feather Hotel, Old Square, Ashton-under-Lyne.

CREWE Socialist Worker discussion group: Trade unions and Socialism. Friday 10 December, 8pm, The Angel pub, Victoria Street, Crewe.

STOCKPORT Socialist Worker public meeting: The Politics of Homosexuality. Thursday 16 December, 8 pm, Spreadeagle pub,

STOCKPORTGrand MarXmas Social: Friday 17 December, 8 pm, The Navigation pub, Lancashire Hill, followed by a party.

Midlands

WOLVERHAMPTON Socialist Worker public meeting: The Socialist Alternative National speaker. Thursday 9 December, 7.45 pm, The Posada, Lichfield Street

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

3 December: The International Socialists and the Labour Party. Speaker-: Mike Teague (ASTMS). Topics to come: China, Portugal, Trotsky and the united front., Leicester and the revolutionary left, Ireland. Queries and suggestions to Terry Allcott, 106 Knighton Fields West, Leicester.

BLACK COUNTRY Pre-Christmas Social: Saturday 4 December, 8 pm. The Travellers Rest, Woden Road, Heathtown, Wolverhampton. Music

Marxism and the

to fight it

tube Acton Town).

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

Revolutionary

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

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

17 December: The History of the International Socialists. Speaker: lan Birchall. 7 January: The Minority Movement and the Right to Work Campaign. Speaker John Deason.

11 February: The degradation of

18 February: The crisis of British

25 February: Fighting racism and

There will be small group

Give yourself a socialist night out!

discussions on each topic in the

capitalism. Speaker: Mike Kidron.

fascism. Speaker Colin Sparks.

week following each meeting.

Hall, Tottenham, N17. 14 January: State capitalism in Russia. Speaker: Duncan Hallas. 21 January: World capitalism and BIRMINGHAM: Sunday 12 imperialism. Speaker: Nigel Harris. December, 3.30 pm, Digbeth 28 January: British imperialism and Civic Hall. Film on Soweto and Ireland. Speaker: Jimmy McCallum. speakers from the Zimbabwe 4 February: Shelley and revolution People's Army and the

International Socialists. NORTH WEST LONDON: Wednesday 15 December, 7.30 pm, Luncheon Rooms, Ladbroke Grove. Speakers from the

Zimbabwe People's Army and the Southern African Solidarity

sold every saturday morning, 10am-11am, at the New Shopping Precinct

LETCHWORTH: Socialist Worker is

TOWER HAMLETS Socialist Worker meeting: After the Revolution

ISLINGTON Socialist Worker public

LEA VALLEY Socialist Worker

8557 for details: 19 Redmans Road,

SOUTH EAST LONDON Socialist

South East

Speaker: Paul Foot.

work. Speaker: John Ure.

NORWICH Socialist Worker public meeting: The Fight against Racism and Unemployment. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Thursday 16 December, 8 pm, Shire Hall Hotel, Norwich (near Anglia TV building):

SOUTH EAST ESSEX district Socialist Worker meeting (Basildon, Grays, Tilbury, Southend): Saturday 4 December, 1.30pm, in Tilbury (see your SW seller for details). Speaker. Duncan Hallas on Not the dole, not racism, not Labour, but SOCIALISM!

South Coast

SOUTHAMPTON Women's Voice day school: Saturday 4 December, 11 am-4 pm, Southampton University Clubs and Societies Room Sessions on abortion, equal pay, and organising a women's group. Creche available, phone Southampton 31743.

South West

2 December: Should socialists

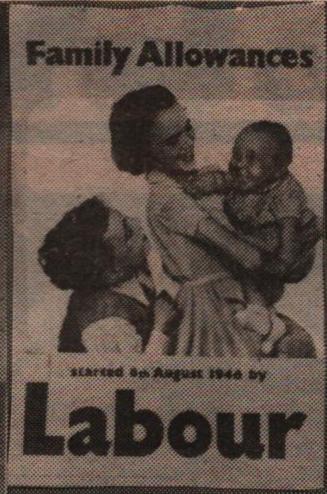
Fine, that's what we all need... but what do you offer us?

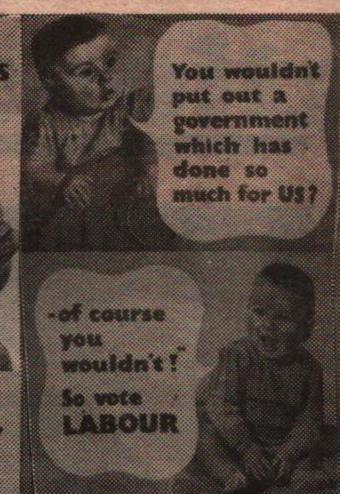




Labour election posters, 1950: Brecht's poem could almost have been written with Attlee, Wilson and Callaghan in mind







WE'VE ALL spent a lot of time in the last few months calling the National Front

'Nazis'. But what was life like under the Nazis, and how could the struggle go on?

A new book, Resistance in Europe 1939-1945*, helps to answer some of these questions.

It's a collection of essays about resistance movements in Europe; some are a bit academic, but others—especially

Josef Garlinski's firsthand account of the underground movement inside the Auschwitz death camp-give a vivid picture of life inside Nazi Europe.

The brutality of the Nazi occupiers is wellknown.

In Poland, if resisters killed one German soldier, a thousand local inhabitants were shot.

But the brutality was class brutality above all. When the Germans occupied territory, the first thing they did was to impose a total wage freeze.

Strikes were banned. But strikers weren't shot-they were deported. Useful labour couldn't be wasted.

Selfish

Even inside Auschwitz, the patterns of class society reappeared. Josef Garlinski

'Life there was a paradox: while thousands were dying of hunger, terror, and disease, some influential trusties drank champagne and lit their cigarettes with dollar

'For a platinum Omega watch, you could get a small onion, for a gold five-dollar piece a loaf of bread.

'In 1942, 1943 and 1944 Auschwitz camp was the biggest black market in Eu-

But even under the worst terror of Nazi rule, some form of resistance was possible. For example, there's the story of the old lady in Paris, who used to go and sit on a bench in a tube station.

Determined

Every time a German officer passed, she would put her umbrella between his feet and fetch him over.

Even inside Auschwitz, resistance was possible. Prisoners built a radio transmitter and hid it in the typhus block of the hospital, where the SS men never went for fear of infection.

But the weight of real resistance fell on the workers. Not only were they the ones who had most to lose under Nazism; but they had the power to make resistance that was more than just symbolic.

The Nazis could ban strikes-but they couldn't stop the level of absenteeism among French miners

The spirit the Nazis couldn't crush

SONG OF THE PATCH AND THE OVERCOAT

Whenever our overcoat is ragged you come running up and say: this can't continue

you must be helped in every possible manner. And, full of zeal, you run off to the bosses while we who freeze are waiting. And you come back and in triumph show us what you have won for us: a little patch.

> Fine, that's a patch all right but where is the whole coat?

Whenever we cry aloud from hunger you come running up and say: this can't continue,

you must be helped in every possible manner. And, full of zeal, you run to the bosses while we who starve are waiting. And you come back and in triumph show us what you have won for us, a crumb of bread.

> Fine, that's the breadcrumb but where is the whole loaf?

We need much more than patches, we need the whole overcoat, too: we need much more than the breadcrumb, we need the loaf itself. We need much more than a job,

ore and power in the state Fine, that's what we all need but what

do you offer us?

we need the whole factory and the coal and the

BERTOLT BRECHT

IAN BIRCHALL

rocketing upwards, cutting production.

In one French factory, workers organised regular sabotage so effectively that they were able to persuade the RAF not to bomb the factory on the grounds that they were doing more damage.

And the biggest set-back for the Nazis in France was when they tried to introduce compulsory labour in Germany.

Thousands of workers refused to go, and flocked to join the resistance instead.

Foresight

What the book doesn't say clearly enough is that there were two resistances, quite separate from each other.

forced into resistance by hunger and brutality.

There were the workers,

But there were also the others, the smooth men who could see that fascism, in the long term, was a monstrously inefficient system.

They saw a new world in which capitalism would survive, propped up by planning and deals with the trade union bureaucrats.

When Nazism collapsed in 1945, Europe was ripe for revolution. Because the workers missed the boat, the smooth men rode to power on their backs.

Millions had died, believing they were fighting for freedom; instead we got the Common Market.

But that's another story, one you won't get from this book.

To find out about that, vou'll have to read the finest book ever written about the Second World War, Gabriel Kolko's The Politics of War.

* Resistance in Europe 1939-1945, edited by Stephen Hawes and Ralph White, Penguin. Available, price 96p (inc. postage) from Bookmarks. 265 Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

☐ To Be A Slave, the paperback publicised on this page last week, is out of print. It is still available, however, in hardback, price £1.50.



1945 - and Buchenwald prisoners stare in disbelief as their rescuers arrive: one prisoner, right, wasn't so lucky. Driven by the will to live, he was just able to squeeze his head and an arm under a prison door before being killed in a fire



THE £50-A-SEAT PARASITES

I WAS enraged to hear Tory and Labour MPs complain on television about the rise in unemployment benefit and seriously consider ways in which to get some of it back, to hear accusations that a rise in unemployment benefit causes a lack of incentive to work-without any mention that there are no bloody jobs to be had.

I was enraged to hear horror stories that a person can be better off unemployed than in a job paying £25 a week-without any attack on the fact that it is disgraceful that anybody should earn such low wages.

I was enraged to hear that the rise in benefit will lead to more 'scroungers' living off the state and taxpayers' money-when later that evening the real scroungers appeared as spectators in the Royal Variety Performance and as partakers in the Lord Mayor's Banquet.

These parasites who can London SW12.

afford £50 a seat to be entertained, and who are invited to stuff their gullets at the expense of the taxpayer, would do nothing to help the unemployed.

To see Callaghan shedding crocodile tears for the unemployed while guests were itching to start their feast and forget the starvation, poverty and humiliation that exists in the real world was enough to make me want to put my foot through the TV.

If I wasn't pregnant I would have loved to have gone and made them all choke on their turtle soup.

For those who are in a better position than me to fight-take up my anger, go forward to build a socialist alternative and bring the revolution nearer. So my kid which is yet to be born will not have to grow up in a society so full of injustices. ☐ MARION FRANKS,

Facts the Sun ignores

CAN a person get more money on the dole than at work?

Yes! On 21 November the News of the World gave 'proof of this by printing the story of a man who was protesting abour getting £3 a week more on the dole than he got at work.

But one little fact didn't quite tie in with the 'slash the lot' campaign: when at work the man was employed for 22½ hours a week!

Recently the Sun gave front-page coverage to a very bad case of 'scrounging'. The man concerned had a weekly wage of £47 (whether gross or take-home pay was not stated, but I suspect it was gross) and the rent for his council flat, after

Because he had run up rent arrears, he was nominated by the Sun as Chief Scrounger of Camden! These, apparently, are the

rebate, was over £14 a week.

worst cases of 'abuse of the social services' that the muckrakers can dig up!

□ JIM PARKES, Walsall.

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



SHAMEFUL SLUR **JUDGES!**

SOCIALISTS should condemn comedian Dave Allen for boosting the cause of British magistrates. On his TV programme last Tuesday he issued this shameless but factual advert for judges:

'If you sleep on a bench in Hyde Park for a night you get a £2 fine. If you sleep on a bench in the Old Bailey for a year you get £18.000'.

A rush of job applications from businessmen tired of an arduous two-day week sleeping in boring boardrooms and golf clubs is expected by Old Bailey experts.

But it's bad news for unemployed workers and trade unionists. A Law Society spokesman has made it clear. 'Ruling class scroungers only need apply.

How about it Enoch? Its better than getting heckled on any questions. GARY BUSHELL, London



These

'scroungers' are starving

WE THOUGHT your recent articles about 'scroungers' and the welfare state were good. The campaign in the gutter press has been a deliberate conspiracy between press barons and top civil servants on behalf of the ruling class.

The 16 per cent increase in social security nowhere near covers inflation.

Food and fuel have gone up by half. One example of the brutal cuts in subsistence is that the Social Security

allow £3 in the weekly money for fuel then make compulsory deductions of £8-£9 a week to pay your bills with. They now also make you pay for

your own clothing grants with 'compulsory savings', although they admit the weekly money is not enough for

this. No wonder they're called the SS! This is an attack on all claimants,

particularly the unemployed. No prizes for working out that this is an attempt to shift the blame for unemployment on to 'lazy workers', and to try to pressure the unemployed into accepting sweated

labour jobs. This is why it is essential that trade unionists at work should link up with the unemployed, since everybody's wages are on the line.

As far as the breakdown of the welfare state is concerned, the SS just ignore hardship now-emergency payments here have stopped and kids just have to starve.

The other weekend they forced a homeless family to sleep in their car after keeping them waiting in the office all Friday afternoon.

The worst case was when they drove a young woman to kill herself after starving her for three days

☐ RICHARD LAVER, Advice Centre, Batley, West Yorkshire.

YOU are overgenerous to some of your readers. It's fine that you print E S Mpofu's letter defending Joshua Nkomo.

But why do you print his suggestions that Socialist Worker has been influenced by CIA agents?

Even worse that these agents have been collecting money off SW and IS and with it bought houses in Britain. This isn't argument. It's contemptible slander and has no place in

your paper. TOM DELANEY. Glasgow.

I HOPE that Peter Shelley's idea for an organising centre for socialist writers of all sorts will not become just one more idea that went

through the Letters page. If there are any other members or supporters of International the Socialists—playwrights, poets, novelists or whatever-who can see the importance of such a group,

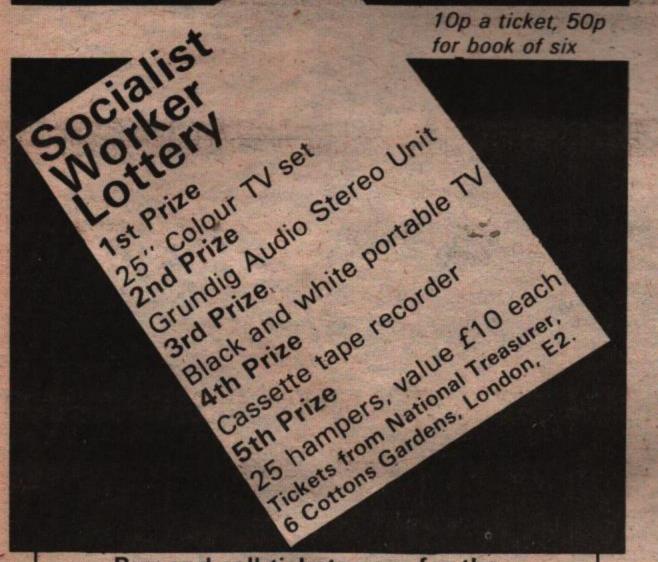
perhaps they could write to me at 7 Burghley Road, Bristol 6.

MARTIN BARKER,

READERS OF Socialist Worker will be interested to know that Lucas management have rejected the alternative plan put to them for the company's future by shop stewards.

The company dismissed the idea that it should diversify into socially useful products. The statement contained the following gem: 'Lucas Arerospace maintains that aircraft are obviously socially useful. We need aircraft for defence." ☐ Chris Stephenson.

The plutonium barrier democracy! hear what was being said.



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.

> Send in money and counterfoils now to 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2.

I WOULD like to take up the question 'Is technology neutral? in relation to what happened last weekend at Brokdorf in West Germany.

I don't believe technology is neutral. Nature yes, but technology here and now is capitalist technology.

The West German government has plans for building an atomic power station at Brokdorf. The local inhabitants had protested and a decision was awaited from the court.

However, with the help of the local government officials and the police, the building firm started work on the site before the court had given its decision. They came in the middle of the night with a convoy of lorries, driving on to the site and then building a high, barbed-wire fence round it, and outside that a moat.

The locals decided to organise a protest demonstration. Between 30,000 and 40,000 turned up to support them (police figures).

These people have been labelled by the police as communists and enemies of

During the demonstration the police provoked a clash.

First by refusing to allow people to drive to the planned site of the demonstration—as agreed by the local authority.

Secondly by hovering just above the demonstrators in a helicopter during the locallyorganised church service (remember the bit about communists), which was to signify the culmination of the protest, so that it was impossible to

The important point is the insight this incident gives into the kind of security measures we can look forward to in all

During the clash the police

used water cannons and tear

gas indiscriminately.

Arhus N. Denmark.

countries with atomic power stations. Are these measures neutral? Are they not an obstacle in the way of socialist revolution? D PETER MYATT, 8200

A film for socialists

IF you read previews of TV films in the bourgeois press, you probably passed up seeing Sacco and Vanzetti on BBC2. So many 'political' movies are 'worthy' but dreary or totally botch the politics.

Sacco and Vanzetti is a brilliantly acted, intense reconstruction of the racist. anti-immigrant, anti-'Red' hysteria and police terror in America following the end of the First World War. More than that, it accurately portrays the victims' socialist beliefs and lives.

At a time when the British

government, through its various magistrates courts, is savagely harassing marchers, young blacks, or anyone who raises up to cry 'enough'; and the very week that the Irish government conspires to murder the Murrays as dangerous 'anarchists', it is truly amazing that the BBC broadcast this film.

If you have an independent cinema or film co-op nearby. get them to screen this film. The International Socialists must try and show this film

SHERRL YANOWITZ and NEIL ROGALL,

right, not yours

TERRY WILLIAMS (Letters, 20 November) has a mistaken view of the abortion issue. It's not a question of whether he would put the potential life of the foetus ahead of that of the woman. The woman herself must be able to choose whether she wants a child or not.

Contraception is preferable to abortion (I speak from experience). But until it is 100 per cent effective, safe, and freely available, to all, abortion will continue to be a

necessary right. One of the aims of socialism is to smash ruling class power and privileges, have always been able to buy an abortion, regardless of legislation. Working class women do not have this right. Support for SPUC means support for the oppression of working class women.

☐ LIZ HALL, Glasgow.



I MUST disagree with some points that you stated concerning the SPUC rally in Chelmsford (SW, 13 November).

You alleged that Christians retaliated to your protest with so-called strong-arm tactics. claiming two people were hurt. Yet you also say 'First we invaded their rally at Chelmsford Football Ground. Then we harassed them along the length and breadth of their march.

Don't you think you were using strongarm tactics too? Please don't discourage Christian Socialists. We need all the support we can get.

A BRADFORD READER

'Socialism would never work as well as capitalism...

READING Socialist Worker a few weeks ago, I spotted a letter from a new member asking: 'After the Revolution, what?"

It reminded me of a marvellous essay on the subject by the American socialist, James Cannon.

Cannon tried to show that once there was production in abundance—and capitalism lays the basis for that—the most extraordinary horizons would open up.

Just think of it. Think of the scandalous waste of millions of acres of arable land kept unproductive by American government subsidies.

Think of the beef and butter mountains in Europe which are but another way of achieving the same end. Think of the unemployment, the waste of human resources.

And think of the stupendous wealth of the tiny minority who control our lives.

Surely we are talking about something that is possible? And more than possible-bloody marvellous.

Socialism would bring about a transformation of human activity in work, education, sports, amusements, manners and morals. All these changes will begin and proceed from the transformation of the system of production as this would clear the way for all other changes.

ABUNDANT

Even at the present stage of economic development, if everybody had a job and there were no waste, a universal fourhour day would provide abundance for all.

Given the leap forward in science and technology that could be anticipated under socialism, a four-hour working day would soon become absurdly unnecessary.

In some sectors of production, it is inevitable that workers in a socialist society would actually produce less. After all, do we really need 20 different brands of soap powder produced by only two firms, all containing the same ingredients and giving the same results?

A recent survey on dog foods showed that every brand is processed from cows' udders, lungs, chicken necks etc into 'meaty' looking chunks. The only difference is the label on the tins.

Yet a vast amount of human resources goes on advertising to convince us that product X is better than product Y.

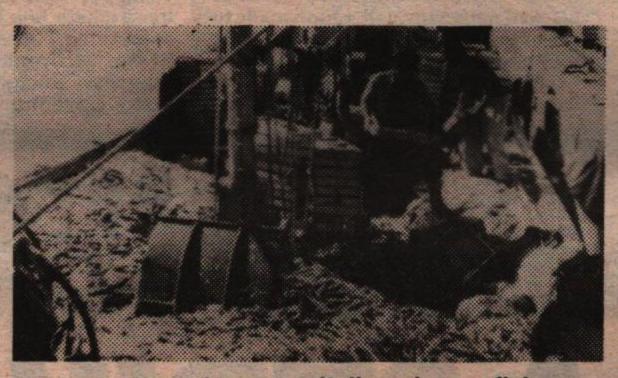
ELECT

Cannon's opinion was that, eventually, the amount of work time required of the individual by society during his or her life need not exceed two years, and that the individual would be allowed to elect when to make this contribu-

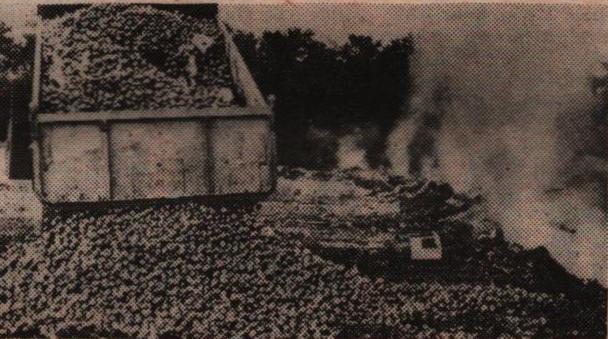
Emerging from capitalism, the transitional society would initially require people to work for wages. But with abundance, or superabundance, of what our soclety produced, the absurdity of a money system would become apparent.

As the great Russian revolutionary Lenin liked to dream, gold could be used to make door knobs for public lavatories. This virtually useless metal has caused thousands of deaths and untold human misery in digging it from the depths of the earth and then burying it in the depths of the earth in 'bank vaults' for 'safety'.

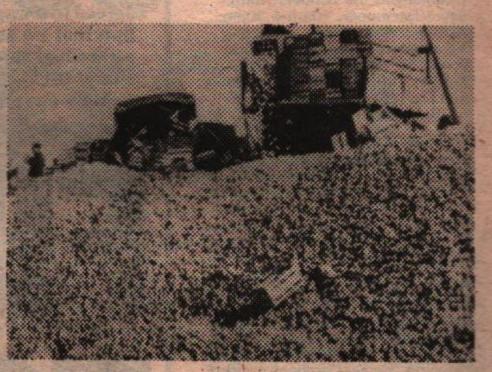
If the notion of the money system disappearing sounds



While millions starve, capitalism dumps fish . . .



and tomatoes . . .



and apples



table, you don't keep account as to who eats how many slices of toast at breakfast or how many potatoes at lunch. Nobody grabs when the table is laden.

Just how lunatic the system is can be illustrated as follows. In 1971 the Rank Research Centre developed a mushroom grown on petrol by-products, with a protein content equal to milk.

This cheap, high-protein mushroom could help eliminate concerned the world's poor can continue to starve.

A non-polluting source of power is plasma fusion, obtainable from seawater which has almost an infinite supply of deuterium for this purpose, and estimated to last at the lowest period 2.7 billion years.

This we can't have, as the research would be 'expensive'. So in the meantime

The rich already do thisnotice the way the 'royal' family's world tours to sunny climes invariably coincide with our winters.

An all-out war against sickness and disease will be the only war we shall know. We will look back in indignation to the past society where most people couldn't 'afford' to be ill.

As all private property will be for personal use, crime would virtually disappear. Who would need to steal when a superabundance was available as a right whenever required?

PARASITIC

No need for jails, police, judges, lawyers, bailiffs, informers, perjurers. This mass of parasitical rubbish will be swept away. Differences and heated debates would arise, but not on class differences.

James Cannon believed that all this, and more, was not idle speculation, but a realistic perspective of a world socialist society. He didn't live to see it.

He died three years ago at the age of 84. His political life spanned 66 years in the struggle for socialism. He said:

DYING

'It is our task to wade through the blood and filth of this outmoded dying system. Our mission is to clear it away and that I think is the highest privilege today, the occupation most worthy of a civilised man.'

Or woman.

against man for personal gain, we

would have the struggle for ideas

to serve and advance the general

People will struggle co-

operatively to change the course

of rivers, control climate, move

mountains, organise migrations

with changing seasons. Why

should the birds be the only

creatures with sense enough to

move south when winter ap-

good.

proaches?

☐ Speeches for Socialism, by James Cannon (Pathfinder Press) is' available, price £1.60 (inc postage), from Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

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.

RANK AND FILE TEACHER CONFERENCE: Fighting racialism in the schools. Saturday 4 December, 10am-4.30pm AUEW Hall, Star Building. Vaughan Way, Leicester. Sponsored by Mid-Leicester NUT. Further information from Rank and File, 12a Upper Totting Road, London, SW17.

TAMESIDE Rank and File Teacher open meeting: Comprehensive Education. Speaker: Michael Duane (former head of Risinghill Comprehensive in London). Monday 6 December, St Annes Hall, Burlington Street, Ashtonunder-Lyne.

NIGG: FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK! Public meeting organised by the Right to Work Campaign. Speakers: John Deason (AUEW, secretary of the National Right to Work Campaign), from RDL, Methil, and from Nigg Bay shop stewards committee. Monday 6 December, 7.30pm, Averon Centre, Alness.

DEFEND THE BRICK LANE 19! Picket Old Street Maggistrates Court, London E2, in defence of the 19 arrested for fighting Nazism in the East End. Tuesday 7 December,

TROOPS OUT MOVEMENT public debate: Peace in Northern Ireland-which way? Platform: Tom Litterick MP, Troops Out Movement, British Peace Committee, and a representative from the Northern Ireland Peace People has been invited. Monday 6 December, 7pm, NUFTO Hall, Jockey's Fields (off Theobalds Road), London WC1 (Holborn tube).

THE MURRAYS MUST NOT HANG! Manchester MEETING: Friday 10 December, 8pm, Milton Hall, Deansgate. Speaker from the Defence Committee and hopefully a

CONCERTS FOR CHILE Presented by the Chile Committee for Human Rights in aid of children's dining rooms in Chile. LONDON: Wednesday 8

December, 7pm, Friends House, Euston Road, NW1. With Karaxu and Bob Davenport. Tickets £1 from 1 Cambridge Terrace, NW1 OXFORD: Thursday 9

December, 8pm, Newman Rooms, Rose Place, St Aldates. With Karaxu, Leon Rosselson and Jack Warshaw. Tickets £1. LIVERPOOL: Friday 10

December, 7.45pm, Mountford Hall, Liverpool University Students Union, Brownlow Hill, Liverpool 3. With Karaxu, Adrian Henri and Pete McGovern, Tickets £1.

JOURNALISTS CHARTER CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM IN THE MEDIA/ Christmas disco: Tuesday 21 December, 8pmmidnight, St Hilda's East Community Centre, Club Row, Bethnal Green, London E2. Tickets £1 from Jean Gray. 01-739 6361

RED LADDER GRAND BENEFIT Friday 10 December, doors open 7pm, performance starts 8pm, St Pancras Town Hall, Euston Road, London N1 (nearest tube Kings Cross). Bar open 7pm-11pm Tickets £1 at the door.

NATIONAL ABORTION CAMPAIGN Benefit Disco: Saturday 4 December, 8pm-1.30am, The Basement, 29 Shelton Street, London WC2. Admission

New issue of CYPRIOT WORKER out now! Articles include: Stop the deportations, fight against racism, the Cypriot Defence Campaign, Why immigration controls are racist and anti-working class, CYPRUS— LETTER FROM A WORKER, Cypriot workers victims of exploitation in Czechoslovakia, The 'industrial revolution' of the ruling class, TURKEY-The general strike and the rise of Turkish workers, Overseas students and the fight

Copies 12p including postage from CYPRIOT WORKER, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

DIARY OF PALESTINE 1977: Illustrated and informative, £1 plus 25p postage from Palestine Action, Basement, 101-103 Gower Street, London WC1

1976-A DOSSIER OF STRUGGLE: Red Notes and Stage 1 Books are preparing a dossier for 1976, but due to limited resources, may have difficulty with the sections covering Women's struggles, the struggle in Ireland, and Immigrant struggles in Britain. Anyone who can help, please contact 1976 Dossier, Stage 1 Books, 21 Theobalds Road, London

Issue 2 of THE LEVELLER out now. Northern Ireland torturers named Struggle for Southern Africa, Understanding the Cuts, Politrock The Derelicts, Repression in West Germany, and Hobsbawm on bandit films. Send 35p plus postage to 155a Drummond Street, London NW1. Subscriptions £5...

WANTED: Actors to form socialist Contact R Honey, 184b Middleton Hall Road, Birmingham 30.

Your number's up, bingo bosses

COVENTRY: In the sixth week of our strike for union recognition, we are beginning to see the management weaken.

They are trying to break our picket line by offering customers a night's bingo for 50p and all drinks at half price. . . but without much success.

A second sign is that they have agreed to a wages council recommendation that we are paid 71p an hour. The owner had said that anything over 56p would break him.

But we are determined not to go back

By Club 1 strike committee

on such conditions. Our main fight is for trade union recognition. As our posters say: 'We're out until the T&G are in!"

But we have come to realise that it's only by our own efforts and the efforts of other rank and file workers that we can win.

We had to fight the T&G for our strike pay. Only after we occupied the union office last week did they agree to pay us each week instead of in a lump sum at the end of the strike.

Despite promises of support from the officials, all of the financial support and the help on our picket line has been organised by rank and file workers.

We were under the impression that the T&G were calling for blacking of the club until we found this week that no blacking has been officially called.

We were even told that the Federation of Licensed Bingo Halls would be blacked nationally and a push made to organise all the bingo halls. But that, too, has been shelved.

We now appeal to all transport workers to black all of Orr Enterprises

establishments-Club 1, Theatre 1, The Rialto, and the Spa Club in Leamington. And we also appeal to have the clubs in the National Federation (all except Mecca) blacked until we have won.

☐ Dance and social in support of Club 1 strike fund. Friday 10 December 8 pm-2 am (late bar) Transport House, Parkside, Coventry. Tickets 50p from Club 1 strike committee, 42 Hamilton Road, Stoke, Coventry, or TU and Socialist Books, Queen Victoria Road, Coventry.

Why Rolls sit-in failed

By Dave Sherry

GLASGOW: The 20-week occupation at Rolls Royce, Blantyre has ended in defeat.

Last week the Blantyre Coordinating Committee narrowly accepted the recommendations of Gavin Laird, the right-wing full-time official of the Engineering Union, to wind up the fight to save Blantyre and to negotiate instead for better transfer terms, so that the 470 workers can be moved to Hillington.

Defeat

The mass meeting inside the occupation accepted this decision but only after the militants narrowly lost a motion to continue and extend the fight.

Responsibility for the defeat rests squarely with the full-time officials and the factory leaderships of the other plants in the Rolls Royce combine.

They consistently refused to call for the kind of solidarity action that could have saved Blantyre.

That feeling was apparent at the mass meeting, where every mention of the words 'fulltime officials' was greeted by derision from the shop floor workers.

'Rehouse us' say tenants

By Norma Reid

NEWCASTLE: Tenants of the McCutcheon Court council flats, who are demanding immediate rehousing, have picketed the flats to prevent further renovation.

Seventy of these damp, verminous, overcrowded flats are still occupied, none by families. Residents signed a petition, deploring conditions and demanding to be rehoused.

On Friday, the tenants demonstrated at the civic centre in Newcastle and were forcibly prevented from

entering it. A statement later claimed that this was because 'a wedding was expected and a

mix-up was feared'. Josie Miller, one of the tenants, -told Socialist Worker: 'The pickets will continue every day until the council give in'.

Another hospital faces the axe

E. LONDON: The 50-bed Plaistow Maternity Hospital is to be shut to 'save money' The area has already seen

huge cutbacks, with the Poplar Hospital and the Invalid and Crippled Childrens Hospital closing.

The other maternity hospital, at Forest Gate, is not big enough to cope with the local demand. Its buildings are old and have only a five-year

life expectancy. Workers at Plaistow Maternity have formed an Action

Committee. They have got a petition out, and are speaking at a public meeting called by East London Right to Work Campaign next Friday (10 December) at Lister Room, East Ham Town Hall, 7.30pm.

200 PICKET HOTEL

OXFORD: The strike by 16 Transport Union members at the Linton Lodge Hotel goes on. A mass picket of 200 local trade unionists and students gave management something to think about last Saturday night.

The five cleaners have been

striking here for nine weeks

after being ordered to clear up

what they thought was white

Social Responsibility in

Science report has revealed

the presence of grunetite in a

sample taken from a

50 supporters turned away

industrial cleaners on Monday

Nicholson: 'Until our

demands are discussed and

action taken, no-one is coming

The cleaners and picket of

Said striker Anne

Now the British Society for

asbestos dust.

Holbrook wall.

into the building.'

morning.

The 16 workers have been

sacked for going on strike over the victimisation of two other union members.

☐ Messages of support and donations to: Linton Lodge Strike Committee, 22, Walton Well Road, Ox-

FIRM CALLINSPIES TO BREAKASTRIKE

HUDDERSFIELD:-Private detectives are being used management Hopkinsons to intimidate 250 strikers.

The 250 members of TASS, the white-collar section of the engineering union, are sitting in to support six members sacked during a pay dispute.

The TASS members disclosed that the firm was sanctions busting with Rhodesia. A police investigation is taking place.

Management have clearly decided on an all-out attempt to break union organisation.

Last week Hopkinsons began laying off manual workers. They started by announcing 160 on Friday, half an hour before the end of the shift.

BLACKMAIL

The workers responded by turning up on Monday and conducting their own sit-in, forcing management to take back three quarters of the workers.

Now all manual workers are back at work.

Management have been hoping to blackmail the office workers into letting down their six victimised colleagues by frightening and bullying the manual workers into denouncing the TASS action.

This week there is new evidence of the management's desperation. So as to by-pass the office workers' dispute they have been working at night, taking blacked paper work into barricaded offices and trying to get orders

through to the shop floor. In attempts to serve writs on the six sacked men to keep them off the factory premises, private detectives have been spying on them and harassing their families.

A LOT of people will be

saddened to hear of the

death last week of Fred

Fred, a revolutionary

socialist all his life, died at

the age of 64 from a

He always liked to talk

about one of his earliest

recollections, of being

taken into the centre of

Manchester by his father

(who was an anarchist)

during the General Strike

and noticing how quiet

everything was, how

everywhere things had

He even at that early

age (14) realised the

power that the working

class had if it chose to

come to a standstill.

massive coronary.

Ford.

and the state of t



Catering workers protesting on the steps of Ealing Town Hall this week against the loss of jobs through reorganisation. More than 100 cleaners marched

through the pouring rain to protest against the cuts. Altogether 750 staff struck in schools and colleges throughout the area.

Neighbours have been questioned and the men's homes visited at the weekend.

TASS are now asking all workers in the power industry and suppliers to black Hopkinsons' products. The most important firms involved

CA Parsons of Newcastle; Aytons of Derby; GEC; Clark Chapmans; and Babcock and Wilcox.

TASS members throughout the country are giving massive support to Hopkinsons workers. £1500 was collected last week in Coventry alone.

☐ Letters of support and donations to: Bill Sales, AUEW/TASS divisional office, The Vassalli House, Room 1, 20 Central Road, Leeds.

CLEANERS SWEPT UP A KILLER DUST

By Gary Bushell

EAST LONDON: Dust swept up by cleaners at the Holbrook annexe of the North East London Polytechnic almost certainly contained Grunetite, a type of asbestos similar to blue asbestos.

Tribute to a fine socialist whose struggle began 50years ago

By Gerry Hobin use it. A couple of years later

he joined the Labour League of Youth. In the early 30s he was involved in unemployed workers' organisation and took part in a march to London

in 1933. He was also deeply involved in the Anti **Fascist Movement before** the war. He used to tell many a story about the way they drove the fascists off the streets in Collyhurst, Manchester.

After the war, he was in the Revolutionary Communist Party. After the

RCP voted to join the Labour Party, he was elected a Labour Councillor.

Years later, he became disillusioned with reformism and left activist politics behind him. When he was 62, he was

victimised by an Altrincham catering firm for organising the union. This rekindled the revolutionary in him and in 1974 he joined the Inter-

He did a lot of work round the Manchester to London Right to Work March and his proudest

national Socialists.

moment was when he led the marchers into the Albert Hall with Harry McShane.

Fred also became involved in the Trafford Worker, a rank and file paper. He was a well respected

comrade who will be badly missed as was shown by the various convenors, shop stewards and IS members from various Manchester factories at his funeral.

On behalf of the IS comrades in Manchester I would like to send our condolences to his wife, Pat.

I wish there were millions of Fred Fords.

Teachers picket outside NUT headquarters in London during the occupation.

OVER a hundred teachers in the National Union of Teachers stormed into their union headquarters in London last Saturday and occupied the room where the executive was meeting.

The executive had refused to meet and speak with a lobby of teachers in support of 30 teachers from Little Ilford School, Newham, East London. The 30 have been suspended from the union for refusing to cover for

Teachers union HQ occupied over ban

teachers absent for more than three days.

During the occupation one black Asian girl from South Africa was approached by a member of the executive who asked: 'Do you understand English? Having people like you here as teachers who are unable to understand and speak proper

English is why we have a situation like this.

After holding the room for an hour, the teachers went downstairs and held a meeting inside the building

Only two members of the executive were prepared to speak to the meeting, the two supporters of Rank and File Teacher, Dick North and Beth Light.

The names of more than 750 NUT members who are operating the same 'no cover' policy as the Little Ilford teachers are being sent to the executive this week.

Teachers from two more London schools, Highbury Grove and Stockwell. Manor, are now facing the same attack as the Little Ilford teachers.

In spite of this the 'no cover' campaign can create jobs for thousands of unemployed teachers

BULDER'S ELECTION ADDRESS SUPPRESSED

THE election address of a candidate for regional organiser in the building workers' union **UCATT** has been supressed.

It is that of Right to Work Campaign supporter and member of the International Socialists John Clifford. He has been nominated by 14 branches.

The 'left-wing' officials who have suppressed the election address claim such addresses are 'not appropriate' for an administrative job. The real

already decided to recom-

mend national strike action to

their branches. The decision

now only needs ratification

from the branches to make it

certain that the 4000 workers

threatened with redundancy

will receive the best support

possible from their brothers

John Nettleton, chairman

of the TGWU site committee

at Aintree, said after the mass

meeting: 'A recommendation

for strike action will be put to

and sisters.

reasons are clear enough from the militant policies put forward in the address, which has now been published by supporters of the Right to Work Campaign.

Here is part of it: UNEMPLOYMENT:

300,000 building workers are now unemployed. The government is proposing further cuts in public spending. Yet millions of workers in Britain live in squalor.

Refusal

'SOCIAL CON-TRICK: This year's conference demanded the 35-hour week with no loss of pay and one National Minimum Rate of £2 per hour. This is the way to end low pay in our industry. One rate would unite members working in the public and private sectors.

'The Social Contract is a Social Con-Trick that has resulted in wage cuts, cuts in social services and loss of our members' jobs.

'ONE UNION: We must fight for more democracy, not less. That's why I support one union for the whole industry with regular elections of fulltime officials every three years. If elected I pledge myself to resign in three years time so that the rank and file can judge my performance.

Concern

'UNITY IS STRENGTH: Stronger shop stewards' organisation is the key to a fighting union. We must smash the lump and the blacklist. I will support the rank and file-and this means full backing for their decisions to take on the employers, whether official or unofficial, as in the current Welwyn Garden dispute.'

The dispute that John Clifford refers to is now

exactly six months old. It is a battle of unemployed union members against the millionaire builder Marshall Andrews, who persists in using subbies on the site in Welwyn Garden City and other sites.

Their fight is a crucial battle for the right to work-the right to work under trade union conditions.

Shortly after union members in Welwyn Garden City launched their campaign against the lump, Marshall Andrews quietly arranged for its sub-contractors to become registered.

This has caused the union officials dealing with the dispute and the top leadership in UCATT to move against the pickets. They have issued statements that there is no dispute with Marshall Andrews, and threatened members with discipline.

Enough

All this is in direct contradiction to the most recent UCATT Delegate Conference decision on subbies. which insisted that the register should not be used as a way of legitimising the lump.

The picket celebrated the six months of their struggle last Friday with a mass picket. 200 building workers turned out in a magnificent display of solidarity.

Six sites staged strike action in support-Mowlems at Broxbourne, Shanley's at Stevenage and Shanley's at Hertford, McInerney at Hertford, Walker and Hawkes at Hatfield, Headways at Hatfield, and Headways of Guessons Road. Delegations came from eight other jobs.

The pickets need solidarity resolutions-but even more they want other workers to take on the subbies on their own sites.

Clayton's Strike

MANCHESTER: Workers on three shifts at Clayton Aniline walked out on a 24hour token strike last week.

All the shop stewards were told by Transport Union officials that they were not to take part in the strike, as the dispute about eroding differentials for working shifts was going against the Social Contract.

This left the men without any leadership, but the strike

Thanks must go to the few stewards who ignored these bully-boy tactics and to other sections which walked out with us to create the company's first strike in 100 years. Considering this long history of non-militancy the fact that only seven men out of over 400 scabbed was amazing.

■ Manchest ENGINEERS **CHARTER** public meeting: Automat and the State of the Union. Speaker: Jack Robinson (AUEW). Saturday 4 December, 11am, Lass O'Gowrie, Charles Street off Oxford Street, Central Manchester.

CAMPAIGN INVADES SHIPYARD

CLYDESIDE: 25 unemployed members of the Glasgow Right to Work Campaign invaded Govan shipbuilders last week.

The yard had been leafletted in the morning with the arguments against overtime working and the need to fight for a 35-hour week without loss of pay. Then 15 unemployed workers marched into the convenor's office and had a 20-minute meeting with convenor Jimmy Airlie and other shop stewards.

Eventually Airlie agreed to raise with the shop stewards the possibility of inviting an unemployed worker- to speak to a shop stewards meeting about the Right to Work Campaign. Ten other unemployed workers held a factory gate lunchtime meeting to explain their campaign.

Courtaulds battle is on

MERSEYSIDE: 'You're not on!' That's the answer of the workforce at Courtauld's Furzebrook Knitting Mill, at Aintree, to the attempt to blackmail workers into productivity deals with threats of closure.

by ROBBIE MARMION

The workers voted overwhelmingly at a mass meeting on Monday to reject plans Courtaulds management had tried to force on

They may now be the first plant in the Courtaulds group to call for a national strike to stop the planned closures all over the country.

A meeting of lay delegates from all branches of the . Transport Workers Union in the Courtauld's combine has

LAWRENCE'S: WE'RE **PART WAY THERE**

by ALASDAIR MacSWEEN

Shop steward, Lawrence's site, Lower Thames Street.

LONDON: We have won some of what we wanted from our three-week strike to stop victimisations disguised as redundancies.

Everyone has been reinstated. Work is guaranteed until after Christmas. And we have a guarantee of three months work or three months pay after that for everyone.

All but ten men are now guaranteed transfers to other

jobs. The ten include three shop stewards. We are still demanding that jobs be found for everyone.

Lawrences have as good as admitted that they are deliberately not transferring the shop stewards. But we are going to keep the pressure on to defeat the Lawrences blacklist once and for all.

We would like to thank the Camden Direct Labour Department stewards for their help, rank and file building workers who supported our picket line in all weathers, and drivers, some not in a union, who respected our picket line.

the TGWU members on the site on Wednesday night. This is the only way to stop Courtaulds from walking all over

'We hope other Courtaulds plants will take up the call for a national strike to defend the threatened jobs.' A national strike of all

Courtaulds workers would put the mockers on plans for closures. It would be a powerful demonstration that a group of workers in one combine could give two fingers to any idea that a big company can take their problems out on their

It would be a great lead in the fight for every worker's right to work.

Socialist Worker

How Booth lied to the dockers

By EDDIE PREVOST (TGWU, London Royal docks

ALBERT Booth, the Minister for Unemployment, is a liar. He showed this when he spoke at the meeting of the Docks Delegate Conference last week.

The government and their cheerleader Jack Jones, were desperate that the dockers delegates should accept the Dockwork Extension Bill, mutilated by the House of Lords. The alternative to accepting the mutilated Bill would have been industrial action.

Booth was the main speaker of the day. He spoke for an hour. His most important point was that the Lords, in their haste to de-gut the bill, had overlooked a loophole that left dockers stronger than under the original Bill.

It is a technical but important point. Under the unamended Bill, there was a

SOCIALIST WORKER EXCLUSIVE

guaranteed five-mile corridor reserved for registered dock work. The Lords had amended that to half a mile in a direct line from 'a harbour or harbour land'.

Booth claimed that this would become a self-expanding corridor. First of all the Dock Labour Scheme would extend to all operations within half a mile of the ports, but once these were inside the scheme, then we could also claim all work within half a mile of the new acquisitions.

Booth called this a 'rolling' definition. Theoretically, in time, the Dock Labour Scheme could expand half a mile by half a mile to cover the entire country. When a delegate suggested that this was a 'leapfrogging' effect, Booth said indeed it was.

There is no doubt that this interpretation swayed the conference, and perhaps even carried the vote in favour of accepting the Bill.

Yet the very next day, Booth denied that he had made that interpretation of the Bill. He is now denying point-blank that he ever spoke about the 'rolling' corridor.

Unsafe

There is absolutely no doubt what Booth said. I personally heard it. So did 99 other delegates.

Even TGWU officials are in no doubt that Booth not only spoke about a 'rolling corridor' but emphasised it at least three times and maybe more.

There is no way this could have been a mistake. Booth had with him two senior civil servants to advise him. And the man is after all a Cabinet Minister and this has been the major piece of legislation under his jurisdiction in the last parliamentary session.

No, it was no mistake: it was a coldblooded lie.

In fact, at the National Docks Group meeting immediately before the conference, Booth made no mention at all of the 'rolling' corridor.

So the whole plan is obvious enough. Before the conference there was talk amongst delegates that Jack Jones had an ace to play: it turned out to be the 'leapfrog' card, and Jones and Booth wanted to keep it as close to their chests as possible until the last possible moment.

The whole thing was a cynical exercise to deceive the Docks Delegates Conference into voting for a government that is now so corrupt and rotten that is has to resort to Nixon-like tricks to stay in office. The conference was the victim of fraud. The result should surely now be declared void, and the conference recalled to discuss the real implications of the dismembered Act, and not the falsehoods of a desperate liar like Albert Booth.

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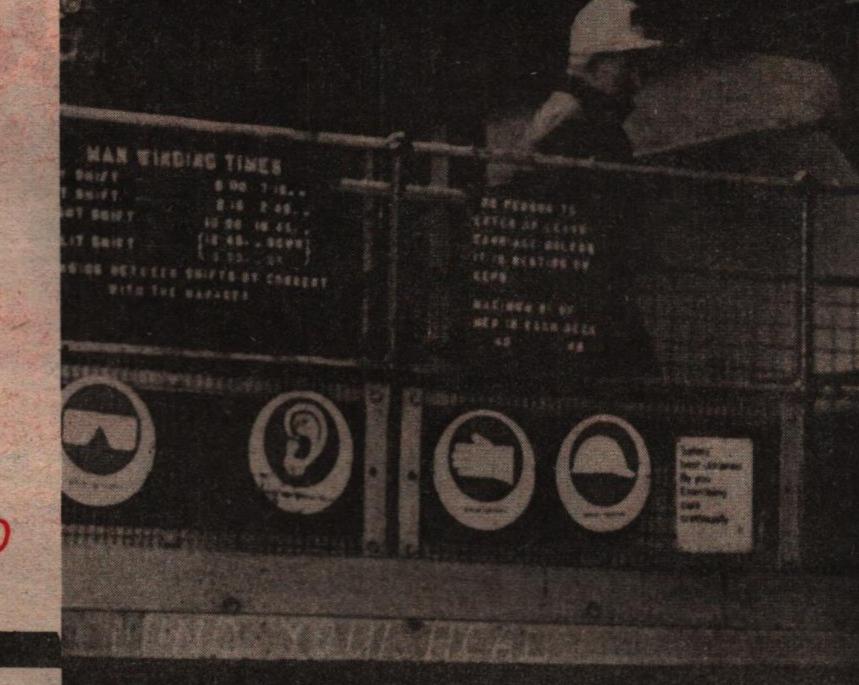
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PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p



WHY WE WANT TO RETIRE **EARLY: Special interviews,** see centre pages

ANOTHER miner was killed on Monday.

Another statistic to add to a mounting toll of death and maining in Britain's pits.

Last year's toll—64 dead, 586 seriously injured—has already been passed this year.

The latest victim—Lee Douglas Taylor of Darfield Main Colliery in Yorkshire-had hardly breathed his last when a Tory MP was rising to his feet in Parliament to express his 'concern'.

Michael McNair-Wilson suggested that MPs should send condolences to the dead

man's family. Yes, and perhaps they might also care to send explanations of why they, and successive Tory and Labour governments, have done nothing to improve the appalling conditions that miners live and work under.

Men who began work underground at the age of 14 50. are still there 50 years later at The ballot is likely to tune. the age of 65.

Next week, the miners are voting in a pit head ballot. A dustrial action in support of the claim for early retirement.

The demand for retirement at 60 in January and at 55 by 1980 will bring them into line with other miners in the Common Market. Even in the miners' full claim. Then,

Retirement at 60 would mean another

20,000 jobs NOW

Spain, the retirement age is of course, the press and the

return an overwhelming 'yes'. If this is so the miners will be attacked on all sides for 'yes' vote will empower their 'threatening the Social Conunion executive to call in- tract', 'wrecking the economy' and 'holding the country to ransom'.

Tory MPs such as Michael

orchestrate the abuse. Only strike action can win

government will change their

They will argue that the miners are a special case which mustn't affect other workers.

Rubbish

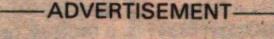
This is rubbish. The McNair-Wilson will steelworkers' union, the ISTC, has already put in a claim for early retirement. Retirement for miners at 60 would create 20,000 new jobs next year alone. Retirement at 55 in 1980 would create jobs for 100,000 workers now standing in dole queues.

Hundreds of thousands of other workers, from engineers to white collar groups, stand to gain from any breakthrough on fringe benefits. A campaign by the miners on fringe benefits can smash a hole through the Social Contract and pave the way for the destruction of the wage freeze.

Photo John Sturrock (Report)

In 1972 and 1974, the miners broke the back of the Tory wage freeze. Millions of other workers benefited.

After the ballot result, trade unionists and socialists in every workplace and trade union, on every dole queue, must take up the argument for the miners.



DROP THE CHARGES!

FREE ALL THE MARCHERS!

Mass picket of the appeals of the Right to Work Marchers: Monday 13 December, 9.30am, Middlesex Crown Court, Parliament Square (by Westminster tube).

organise Bring banners, transport now.

Organised by the National Right to Work Campaign

13 December: Support this crucial picket

THREE Right to Work marchers now face the prospect of Christmas behind bars.

The appeals for all the convicted marchers will be heard on Monday

13 December. The three sentenced to prison are Mike Lynch, an unemployed miner from Dunfermline (six months), Willie Dolan, a shop worker from Glasgow (one month), and Bobby Buirds, a from Manchester (two months).

They were among the 43 unemployed workers arrested when the police charged the Manchester to London Right to Work march in Hendon earlier this year. The police made four separate

charges, three with batons drawn. The marchers need the support of all trade unionists and socialists on the first day of the appeal. The Right to Work Campaign is organising a mass

picket outside the Court House. Every effort should be made to get

official delegations from trade union and labour movement bodies to attend with their banners. But numbers will be

as important as delegations. Local Right to Work Committees are organising transport from all over the country. Details are available from the National Right to Work Campaign

Twenty seven marchers were found guilty of charges such as assault and threatening behaviour. 15 were acquitted. One still remains to be tried. He is the campaign secretary John

All the cases are being organised by the Department of Public Prosecutions, which set up the trial and prison sentences of the Shrewsbury pickets, Ricky Tomlinson and Des Warren.

A mass picket on the 13th will make it much harder for the judges to endorse the prison sentences. And it will make it much harder for the police, the courts and the DPP to try similar tactics on other groups of workers.