

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p

**NO RETURN TO
BACK-STREET
ABORTION**

**Demonstrate against the Benyon Bill this
Saturday, 14 May.**

LONDON: Assemble Belvedere Road, SE1, 1.30pm.
GLASGOW: Assemble Blythswood Square, 11am

The never-ending crisis

FIFTEEN million are unemployed in the world's seven most prosperous nations. Many of them are teenagers driven straight onto the dole queue from school.

The amount of wealth available to satisfy human needs is a seventh less than it need be because of the crisis. Yet real wages and social services are being cut in country after country because there is not enough wealth to go round.

Even in the wealthiest country, the USA, another three-quarters of a million people fell below the poverty line in the last year.

The Common Market predicts a further ten per cent increase in the number unemployed in its nine countries.

And now Callaghan warns that a world economic crisis could be on the way before the last one has ended.



LEFT: Queuing for jobs last November in Detroit—the heart of the richest country on earth
BELOW: The men who are worried by the crisis—because they have no idea of how to solve it

These men can't solve it



THE LEADERS of the most powerful western countries met in London to discuss the crisis at their much-vaunted 'economic summit' last weekend.

And they agreed, in effect, to do **NOTHING**. According to the Financial Times all they decided was to 'endorse the status quo'. The Guardian put it even more abruptly. They came up, it said, with a 'wait and see policy.'

They are going to wait and see more factories close down, more workers thrown on the dole, still less wealth created, more hospitals and schools closed down because there is 'no wealth' to pay for them, more families driven by rising prices below the poverty line.

While they wait, they will also see to it that more beef and butter mountains build up, that wine and olive oil and milk lakes get wider and deeper.

The Americans will continue to burn field after field of wheat because it cannot otherwise be sold at a profit. The French will continue to dump apples. The Brazilians will continue to sit on mountains of coffee. Our own government will continue to mix grain with oil to make it unusable.

These men are used to waiting and seeing. Since their first 'economic summit' in Rambouillet a couple of years ago, unemployment has shot up from a million to a million and a half in this country.

They know there is no way they can solve the economic crisis.

The best they can do is to create artificial shortages that enable gangsters and parasites to laugh all the way to the bank.

CALLAGHAN, Carter and the rest of the gang are worried by the economic crisis all right.

They're worried because it threatens their power.

Carter said on Sunday: 'All our reputations are at stake.'

Callaghan warned that 'the political systems of some countries could not survive' continued crisis.

But that does not mean they can do anything about it. For the system based upon profits and blind competition can no longer function without unemployment and inflation—regardless of what the Carters and the Callaghans do.

As the Financial Times put it on Monday: 'All governments are now more conscious that inflationary

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WORKERS PARTY**
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on the back page*

growth is likely to aggravate the unemployment it was intended to alleviate.'

In other words, they cannot get the system out of the crisis because that would mean a new crisis.

That is why we need a *change of system*.

The one alternative that won't be tried by former banker Callaghan and peanut millionaire Carter is the socialist alternative.

In a world where those who created the wealth also controlled its production and use, there could be no unemployment.

No worker would ever *decide* to leave factories shut down next to queues of unemployed workers, with a police guard to keep them apart.

That happens now because the decision-making is left to blind competition and the drive for profits.

The economic summit could not solve the crisis. But the workers of the world could—if only they kicked out the parasites and began to introduce socialist planning.

In every one of the countries represented at the summit, some workers are beginning to see this and are making efforts to build new socialist parties opposed to the status quo.

That's what we are trying to do through the Socialist Workers Party in this country.

Answer the farce of the economic summit by joining us.

Socialism CAN

by JOHN ROSE

TWO upper class Englishmen are sitting in separate courts at the Old Bailey this week presiding over the fates of young black workers.

In Court 16 sits Mr Justice Campbell. He's listening to the statements extracted by white policemen from young West Indians who went to the Notting Hill Carnival last summer.

In Court 2 Mr Justice Lawson has already told the killers of Gurdip Singh Chaggar, the Indian student stabbed to death in Southall last summer, that they 'were not motivated by racial prejudice.'

On Monday he passed sentence on young Indians allegedly involved in an 'affray' with Gurdip's killers, jailing one and giving suspended sentences to two others. He did this to satisfy himself and the Southall police that the killing wasn't really racist.

What on earth do these old men know about the lives of young blacks in this country? What do they know about how economic stagnation and the ever-threatening menace of racism has made the business of growing up here such a misery?

Luxury

They have lived their lives in the lap of secluded luxury. How do they know what it means not to fit in because your skin colour happens to be different and because you haven't enough pound notes in your pocket?

What right have they to judge anyone, for that matter? They were not elected to their enormously powerful posts.

We have been brought up to believe that they are fair and just. But who, in the end, judges them? Who judges their contribution to the welfare of society?

Perhaps it is an accident that these two trials coincided at the Old Bailey. Yet both grew out of the mass movement of young blacks that took to the streets last summer, not least in Southall and Notting Hill.

That movement developed in response to a tidal wave of racism that devoured five black lives before it subsided. Now our rulers want some of those that took part to pay the price. The law is being set in motion to halt the radicalisation of young blacks in its tracks.

It's the

law against blacks

COURT 16: The legal mincing machine starts its bid to stop the Carnival

IN COURT 16, the legal-mincing machine is moving into action against 18 young blacks aged 14 to 20, the Islington 18. Charged with conspiracy and theft, they are being made to pay the price for the police riot at last year's Notting Hill Carnival.

Their sentences will be announced just before this year's Carnival.

Some have already been in the dock. They are directed to go through their statements by the judge.

If sometimes they stumble it is because they remember how they made them in the first place.

They remember the white police arriving at their homes. They remember the abuse heaped on them and their parents as their few belongings were ransacked.



ABOVE: The placards tell the sorry story on this picket on Day 1 of the Islington trial. These are some of the parents of the young West Indians now standing trial at the Old Bailey. They were protesting at their total lack of control over the legal machine that is now riding roughshod over their sons.

Incredibly, neither parents nor sons have any say in how the defence case is being presented. The cases were dished out to several different law firms some months ago. Now these lawyers are ignoring the wishes of the youngsters, the parents and the Islington 18 Defence Committee for a united legal defence.

Brownshirts wearing swastikas

by SUE BUCKLE

RICHARD SCOTT a Communist Party member, was stabbed in the back on election night in a Leeds pub. He was stabbed with a broken bottle, which narrowly missed his spine.

His attackers were Nazis wearing Khaki shirts with swastikas on the collar. One was dangling a metal swastika.

Other socialists were attacked and abused by these scum members of the Leeds-based British National Party. Three socialists needed hospital treatment.

The BNP are openly Nazi—many have convictions of violence against blacks, Jews and socialists.

'As soon as we walked into the pub we saw these thuggish-looking characters eyeing our red rosettes,' said Barry Cooper, one of the Communist Party candidates.

'Within minutes the fascists had provoked a scuffle and the barman closed the bar.'

'One of the fascists came over to the group I was with and raved on about the links the BNP have with the Ku Klux Klan.'

COURT 2: To prove a killing wasn't racist

IN COURT 2 is the trial of the young white boys who killed Gurdip Singh Chaggar in Southall last summer.

There are no conspiracy charges involved in this trial. Indeed the most important perpetrators of this and other racist killings aren't on trial at all.

Enoch Powell, the cynical racist who specialises in inciting white people, hasn't been charged. Nor have any of the newspaper editors, who ran racist articles after racist article to fan the flames of the prejudice that struck Gurdip down.

The parents of Gurdip hit out at the four-year sentence given to their son's killers. Contrast the few years for killing a black boy with the 20-year sentence for 'mugging' black Birmingham teenager Paul Storey got in 1973.

'It's a small rap on the knuckles,' Mr and Mrs Chaggar told the Southall Gazette.

The killing certainly was motivated by racial prejudice, whatever the Judge may think. Most witnesses told the court of the shouting and racial abuse that accompanied the stabbing.

Indeed Roger Barndon, a prison officer from Brixton, came across a note scribbled by one of the killers, Robert Hackman. It read: 'Bob was in for murdering a Paki in Southall. I stabbed him to death and I am not sorry for doing it one little bit.'

This is not all. Four young Asians went on trial at the Bailey this week. Two had gone to the police to give evidence concerning the killing and ended up on charges so that the Southall police could pretend this wasn't a racist killing but a 'gang fight'.

Meanwhile the Southall police continue to ignore racist attacks on young Indians.

Four months ago, for example, Yog Raj, a 21-year-old truck worker at Ford Langley, was set on by three white youths in the middle of Southall at midnight. One brandished a knife, aimed it at his head and luckily only cut his cheek.

They punched him badly and he was in hospital for a week. His teeth were broken and his whole face swollen.

'I went to the police,' he told Socialist Worker. 'But they just didn't believe me. They said that white people don't carry knives.'

LEGAL AID DENIED

THE magistrates have taken up where the police left off in the cases against 74 anti-fascist demonstrators after the rally against the National Front at Wood Green, North London, last month.

Many face the most pathetically framed charges. Yet it seems they are not even to be allowed to defend themselves. Of the dozen cases so far before the Tottenham Magistrates, all have been refused legal aid.

One defendant's only income is £10.30 a week dole money! Normally all such cases receive legal aid—the magistrates are clearly stepping up the pressure by placing a blanket political restriction on all legal aid appeals.

This makes the Defence Appeal doubly important. We need more donations like that of the Belling TGWU factory branch—£25.

□ Please send all money collected to Defence Fund, c/o 28 Middle Lane, London N8, NOW!

□ Collection sheets, from the Fund, from Flame and also in Greek, available from Lea Valley SWP, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4. Please make a big effort, the comrades must have a full defence.



Fascist thugs attack socialist

BUILDING WORKER Paul Chamberlain was attacked by National Front thugs at a meeting at Speedwell School, Bristol.

More than 100 people tried to 'block the entrance to the Front meeting. They were joined by 30 pupils from the school carrying placards saying, 'No Nazis in our school.'

But 50 police protected the Nazis.

Paul Chamberlain was one of the few people who went into the meeting, 'to see what it was like'. He told us he had no intention of causing trouble. 'But after a while I just had to take down those obscene posters.'

Paul was jumped on by several known local NF thugs, knocked to the ground, punched kicked in the face before being carried from the hall.

In Gloucester, hundreds of school students joined an anti-fascist demonstration called by Gloucester Socialist Workers Party to oppose a National Front public meeting in Lindon Road School.

John Tyndall and other well

known Nazis were spat on and punched as they struggled into the meeting protected by a heavy cordon of police.

In the school playground the chant went up 'Lindon School out on strike. Smash the National Front.'

Two black brothers were arrested after the demonstrators marched through the streets chanting 'Black and white unite and fight, smash the National Front.'

The next day the school students organised a demonstration in the school and made placards opposing the NF more than 300 marched into the playground shouting anti-fascist slogans.

Earlier in the week the second year had marched out of registration shouting 'Smash the National Front'. One student was caned for carving anti-fascist slogans on his desk.

PAMPHLET ON THE DEPORTATIONS out now, in English, Greek and Turkish, 28p including postage for one copy, £1 for five copies, from Cypriot Defence Campaign, 90 Mountview Road, London N4

Back to the Tories?

THE TORIES will win any election held in the near future by a large majority. That is the simple conclusion to be drawn from last week's local election results.

Large numbers of Labour voters simply refused to go to the polls to vote for the party of a government that has pushed up prices, rents, unemployment, that has carried through cuts in public spending beyond the wildest dreams of the Tories a mere two years ago.

And a minority of former Labour voters even went into the polling booths in support of Thatcher and the Tories, such is their disgust with the politicians they put into office three years ago.

The present Labour policies are preparing the ground for the return of the Tories. The real question is: what are we going to do about it.



One person who can afford to laugh at the price of meat...

Tory leader Margaret Thatcher shopping for votes last week.

...and Labour prepares the ground

THE Heath government back in 1974 had a substantial parliamentary majority. It had another 18 months to go before its time ran out. Yet it was forced out of office.

Why?

Because of a powerful movement within the working class—a movement whose support guaranteed victory to the miners' wage claim, a movement that had already virtually destroyed the Industrial Relations Act.

The Social Contract has meant every effort by trade union officialdom to tie down that movement. The number of strikes and the number of workers involved in strikes last year was the lowest for 10 years.

But this year the picture has been changing. A growing fight back is shown by the strike figures—the number of strikes in the first three months of this year was the highest for this period since 1973. And the number of people involved was

Socialist Worker

WHAT WE THINK

nearly twice as high as a year ago.

But the heavy hand of official union support for the Social Contract is still having its effect. The trade union officials are at best giving token support to strikes, without trying to get active solidarity. At worst, as with the Heathrow, Leyland toolroom, and now Port Talbot strikes, they have actively opposed the actions of their members.

Left to sweat

The result is that the average strike is lasting about four times longer than a year ago. Workers who take action are being left to sweat it out against the combined forces of the employers, the

government, the press and the trade union full-timers.

If we sit back and accept this state of affairs, we will end up not merely with a Tory government, but with a rank and file that is tired and demoralised after a series of defeated struggles.

It is this that gives urgency to the campaign for united action against the Social Contract. That means support for every group of workers fighting now—from the Port Talbot electricians to the Grunwicks workers (out nine months), the Kettering journalists (out six months), the Trust House Forte workers (out five months).

But it also means preparing a really united fight against the Contract.

Some are saying this means waiting until the main union conferences vote for action. On present form that will mean waiting forever—for even conferences such as the engineers and the civil servants, which have voted down the Contract, have refused to commit

their members to a fight against it.

The best form of action is for every group of workers to push now for struggle around an interim wage claim on 1 August. That could ensure that before Phase Three even begins there are several powerful contingents of workers waging a united fight to kill it.

Beware the Nazis.

NOT ONLY the Tories picked up votes from Labour last week. Even more ominous was the success enjoyed by the Nazis of the National Front.

In Greater London alone they picked up more than 100,000 votes. Most were in what are normally thought of as solid Labour areas, such as Tottenham, Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham.

These are the areas where the effects of the wage controls and the

cuts have been most marked, where tens of thousands of workers are being pushed below the poverty line.

Often in Labour circles you hear a half-racist argument to the effect that 'immigrants' cause support for the fascists—as if the fascists would disappear if there were no immigrants.

But the fact is that in London, in areas near quite large black communities, such as Ealing, Hammersmith, Kensington, Acton, the Nazi vote was relatively small. It was highest, not necessarily in areas of highest immigration—but in areas of highest poverty.

Such results prove conclusively that the fight against the racists is inextricably linked with the fight against the Labour government's Tory policies.

Determined fight

Fortunately there is another lesson to be drawn from the election results. Where there has been a determined fight against the fascists, their vote has been cut.

In Blackburn the two Nazi parties got very low votes, with Kingsley Read of the National Party getting only a third of the Liberal vote and the National Front candidate coming bottom of the poll.

In another former Nazi stronghold, Leicester, the National Front vote fell from 15,000 last year to 10,800 this. In Hornsey, North London, where the Front were nearly stopped from marching a fortnight ago, their vote was also down.

But we cannot afford to be complacent. Hundreds of thousands of people are still prepared to vote for open admirers of Hitler.

This will only change when a real socialist alternative is built, one that offers a fight against the government policies that have created poverty, unemployment and deteriorating social services for black and white alike.



Kill the Benyon Bill.

THERE is good news for the readers of Socialist Worker. The Benyon parliamentary Bill, which threatens restrictions that will drive many working-class women back into the hands of the

backstreet abortionists, is running into difficulties.

Its sponsors are having to fight desperately to prevent it 'dying' through lack of parliamentary time.

But the Bill is not quite dead yet. And if it dies, that will not prevent scores of bigotted MPs from queuing up next year for the chance of depriving women of their right to control their own bodies.

That is why we urge all our readers who can to join the demonstration protesting against the Benyon Bill called for this Saturday.

□ Details of the demonstrations—page one.

□ Coaches—page 10.

Labour MP Tom Cox got a shock when he visited his constituency in Tooting, South London, last Friday. He was met by a demonstration protesting at his support for the Benyon anti-abortion Bill, it had been called by the National Abortion Campaign and Women's Voice, and backed by the Balham Union of Parents.

Will this student go to jail for doing his job?



Andy Strouthous: expelled, banned—and now facing jail

AN ATTEMPT was due to be made on Wednesday to imprison Andy Strouthous, a member of the National Union of Students' executive.

His crime? Being president of the students union at North East London Poly.

In an effort to stop him acting as president, for which he has twice been elected, a court order had forbidden him to enter the college premises.

Refused

Quite rightly, Andy refused to accept the order, which was an attack on the right of any union to elect its own officers.

The order was sought by George Brosan, the Poly's paranoid director, who has been trying to smash the

By
LINDSEY GERMAN

SWP student
organiser

students union all year.

He thought he could do this by expelling Andy—but Andy has just been re-elected on a reinstatement platform, with an increased majority.

He still has the support of NELP students, which is why Brosan is now trying to get him off the premises.

Andy is the latest in a long line of students to appear before the courts as college authorities try to destroy militant action.

There were many injunctions to stop the occupations last term, with an unsuccessful attempt to jail student leaders at the School of Oriental and

African Studies. Last week, North London Poly governors took the students to court in an attempt to stop publication of anything they may have found in the administration office during their occupation.

Ancient charge

On Monday, four students from Middlesex Polytechnic appeared in court charged with resisting the sheriff—an ancient criminal charge dug up by the authorities, which could lead them to the Old Bailey.

The leading militants at Bristol University are under threat of possible expulsion for occupying.

If the authorities find they can use the courts to smash students, there will soon be a flood of cases. That is why it is so important to defend Andy—and any other student who is victimised.

If Andy goes to prison, members of NOISS, the student organisation that supports the SWP, should argue for a massive campaign of solidarity action in their unions—including pickets of the prison, demonstrations and solidarity occupations.

£40,000 FUND

£37,842 SO FAR

CHAPPLE'S TRYING IT ON AGAIN

MR F CHAPPLE is on the warpath again. We reported that he was trying to sue our printworks for a rank and file magazine we didn't print, the EETPU Rank and File Contact.

His latest effort was to complain to the Director of Public Prosecutions. Quick as a flash, two men in blue turned up at the London offices of the Right to Work Campaign to investigate the printing of the magazine.

We should not treat Chapple as a joke. He has, through many libel actions, almost put out of business other progressive printing works, notably Ripley Printers in Derbyshire.

Our strength is in showing to the likes of Chapple that the rank and file are behind us and there is no way in which we will close up shop.

Many of you have left it to others. Maybe you always had the intention of sending a donation, but didn't get round to it. Now is the time.

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

Thanks to:

- Milnava Est. Ainess
- Brighton
- Anon Edinburgh
- Lea Valley
- Dave Orwin—Derby
- Liverpool Teaching Hospital SW readers
- J Auburn—Bristol
- M Dufour—Quebec
- K Lloyd
- Exeter University
- Y McGregor—Norwich
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- Stuff the Jubilee Badges sale—Camden
- Ashfield
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- J Ross
- Anon—East London
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- Clive Macdonald—York
- University IS Soc
- York University IS Soc
- Doncaster Supp. & Womens Voice Meeting
- Ferrant—Manchester
- Branch ASTMS
- Hackney Hospital ASTMS
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- Title Hill College SW readers
- NUPF Catering Staff
- Hammersmith Hospital
- Nigg Bay Oil Construction yard SW readers
- Finsbury Park
- Howard Rotavators—Helesworth
- Thomas Smith & Son—Ridley
- Hackney
- Mike Taylor—NIFHE
- Edinburgh—anon
- P Court—Sutton Coldfield
- Durham
- John Willis SE15
- N Macdonald—NUJ
- Bedford
- Balham & Tooting
- Avery Hill Students
- R Dalling
- Lewisham Womens Centre
- Deptford
- J Kingston—SE London
- Brentwood
- S Parks, Leeds

FROM TWO MEMBERS TO TWO BRANCHES . . .

SIX MONTHS ago, there were no SWP members in the Potteries or South Cheshire.

In October, two of us began a paper sale in Crewe and set up a successful public meeting. This gave us 16 members in Crewe and two in Stoke.

Now, only a few weeks after we first sold in the Potteries, the Stoke comrades have set up a branch, selling 50 SWs and 20 Flames.

Both branches are fighting to increase SW

By Alan Gibbons, Crewe SWP
and Pete Blakemore, Stoke SWP

sales and win the argument for a socialist alternative in the North Midlands.

To get our ideas across, we have produced a special poster with the help of a comrade in the print union, NGA.

We hope to use bold and imaginative propaganda to support our work in the unions and the community and so build an effective Party district.

Ewart McCullough

EWART McCullough, a respected member of the Socialist Workers Party in Brentwood, Essex, died last Saturday. He was 31.

Ewart had not been well for some years but not until he was rushed into hospital after severe haemorrhaging last week was it realised that he was suffering from leukaemia.

Ewart, unemployed for several weeks after being sacked, was in the thick of the fight for socialism to the end.

Only a few weeks ago, he was out in Romford taking on the fascists of the National Front despite being heavily outnumbered.

Comrades who knew him will want to send their condolences to his parents.

Our best tribute will be to fight that much harder for what he believed in and struggled for.

ANOTHER six people have joined the Socialist Workers Party in Grimsby since the end of our recent by-election campaign there. 49 people joined during the campaign, which was launched by a branch of just six members.

Meanwhile, 150 Socialist Workers were sold inside the town's factories last week and another 150 on the estates, by supporters and members selling to neighbours.

1000 copies of Socialist Worker featuring a special front-page on the fight against sackings at C A Parsons were sold in New-castle.

WE NOW have two SWP members in Brora in Sutherland.

We recently helped to set up an estate sale for them. Brora has a population of about 3,000 and we took 40 papers thinking we would return with most of them.

Yet we sold out in 45 minutes, with a large part of one estate still to be covered.

Our two members, Mick and Gina Dodds, have now taken out a regular order of 50 papers. They hope to expand sales into the neighbouring towns of Helmsdale and Golspie.



Rank and File DIARY

HEALTH WORKERS ALMANACK: Essential reading for all who care about the NHS. Information and practical advice for all hospital trade unionists. Order now from Hospital Worker, 19 Red Post Hill, London SE24 or phone 01-733 8443—or contribute to the next one.

NALGO ACTION NEWS: May edition out now. Articles on new wage claim, the overtime ban, strikes in Buckinghamshire, Lambeth and Tower Hamlets, blacklisting. 5p a copy plus 7p postage, from 23a Alpha House, Astbridge Street, London, NW8.

GLASGOW Right to Work Campaign: Stuff the Jubilee DISCO DANCE—Wednesday 1 June, 8pm-1am (late bar till 1am), Highlanders Institute. Tickets: employed 75p, unemployed 50p, from 64 Queen Street, phone 041 221 3426.

History Workshop Conference on RANK AND FILE MOVEMENTS: Speakers include Harry McShane and Jack Dash. Saturday/Sunday 21/22 May, Ruskin College, Oxford. Tickets £2.50 (excluding accommodation) from History Workshop Collective, Ruskin College, Walton Street, Oxford.

DOWN THE ROAD: an exhibition of 38 photographs by Bob Golden taken from the book of the same name.

Available for hire to trade union branches, schools, colleges, public meetings. Fee £5 plus carriage. All proceeds to the Right to Work Campaign. Speakers can be arranged to introduce discussion.

Write to Down the Road Exhibition, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4. phone 01-359 1371, evenings.

WHERE WE STAND

INDEPENDENT WORKING CLASS ACTION

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

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

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

THERE IS NO

PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

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

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

delegates and a workers' militia.

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

INTERNATIONALISM

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

We oppose everything which turns workers from one country against those from other countries.

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

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

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

We are for real, social, economic and political equality of women.

The experience of Russia

demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation in one country.

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

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

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

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

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

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

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

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

If you want to know more about Socialist Worker and the Socialist Workers Party, fill in the form on page 16.

Even the judge agrees: JOHN DEASON IS INNOCENT



FEELING GLUM
... City of London
Police Commissioner

The frame up that flopped



FEELING GREAT
... John Deason

PICTURE THAT NAILED THE POLICE LIES

THE POLICE case against Right to Work Campaign secretary John Deason collapsed in confusion and contradiction at the Old Bailey last week after just a day and a half.

Before any defence evidence had been given, the judge stopped the trial and told the jury that the police case was so bad that John Deason must be acquitted.

It has taken 14 months for the legal system to discover that the original police case was non-existent. During that long wait for the trial, police pressure did



The megaphone supposedly dented by John Deason over a policeman's head—and the policeman with it in his hand
... UNDATED

not let up.

They made 17 visits in four weeks to John's home, several after 11pm over an alleged careless driving offence.

On one occasion two uniformed policemen broke into the back of his kitchen. Yet the driving case seems to have been dropped.

All the claims that the Right to

Work marchers were violent bully-boys have now been exposed as lies.

Forty-three of the 80 marchers were arrested at Hendon when the police made four baton charges into the march. Nineteen have now been found not guilty.

But Mike Lynch served three months in prison for the crime of being beaten unconscious by police truncheons. Other marchers appealed against prison sentences and had to wait many months to know what would happen to them.

The police case against John Deason was a mass of lies and confusion. Police sergeant McClyment claimed he was hit with a megaphone so hard that it was badly dented.

Admitted

Pictures produced in court proved this was a lie. They showed the sergeant holding the megaphone, undented, after John Deason had been arrested.

Under questioning, McClyment admitted that he had been lashing out at marchers with a stick he had armed himself with. The judge even suggested that McClyment might have been using the megaphone to hit marchers.

The police were unable to fake the sort of case they produced in the trials of the Shrewsbury pickets. Massive pressure in defence of all the marchers ensured that.

Every move the police made was watched and scrutinised by hundreds of trade union bodies. Six police witnesses who were supposed to give general evidence about the march were dropped. The police were frightened to argue about the march in open court.

Mass picket

'Manufacturing' evidence became difficult for them after Barnet Trades Council organised an independent trade union inquiry which concluded that there had been an unprovoked attack on the right to demonstrate.

On the mass picket last Wednesday, some 2,000 trade unionists, carrying the banners of more than 20 shop stewards committees and 14 Trades Councils, as well as other organisations, marched to show their support.

Speaking at the rally in Smithfield Market, Shrewsbury picket Ricky Tomlinson said: 'The unofficial movement has done more for John Deason than the official movement did for me at Shrewsbury.'



One of the many trade union banners on the picket of the Old Bailey: 2000 marched in support of John Deason

ANOTHER MARCHER WITH SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE . . .



Shrewsbury picket Ricky Tomlinson addresses the victory rally after John Deason had been freed

WHY PAISLEY FAILED

IAN PAISLEY has failed to take control of Northern Ireland.

His strike last week failed to match the success of the previous strike of right-wing Loyalists three years ago.

This was not because of any show of determination in opposition to the stoppage by Northern Ireland Minister Roy Mason, or by the province's police, the RUC.

The strike failed because most right-wing Loyalists think they are achieving their goal by other means.

Paisley and the armed Loyalist gangs wanted all Catholic resistance to the present Six County set-up flattened forthwith. They accused Mason of pussy-footing.

But the accusation didn't stick—and little wonder. Mason's record of tolerating perjury and torture and giving a free hand to the SAS,

the British army's undercover thugs, was sufficient to impress even some of the leaders of the law and order brigade.

The result was that the stoppage quickly began to crumble on the second day.

It rapidly became apparent that the UDA, the hard men who seemed set to intimidate the doubters, had nowhere near the numbers claimed.

CRUNCH

The 'supreme Governor' Andy Tyrre had boasted of 15,000 members in Belfast alone, but could mobilise only 1000 when it came to the crunch.

The reason for the UDA's decline has much to do with internal feuding over the past three years.

But just as important is the widespread feeling that since the British government is not going to insist on democracy in the North, there is less need to organise to prevent it.

That Mason could be trusted to deal with 'subversion' was emphasised on Thursday night when he met Loyalist workers from the crucial Ballylumford power station and promised—in writing—to be even tougher on Republicans.

He offered to increase the number of full-time UDR men. (Protestant sectarians dressed up in army gear), to double the number of SAS in the North and immediately to implement a long-standing plan for another 1000 in the RUC by the end of the week.

Paisley's insistence that Mason was soft on

Republicans seemed to most Loyalist workers literally incredible.

One result of it all is that Official Unionist leader Harry West and his guru Enoch Powell are being presented in comparison with Paisley as eminently moderate men to whom a Labour government might reasonably devolve power.

Paisley's personal standing suffered badly in the stoppage.

SECRET

But it would be a mistake to underestimate the significance of his hard-core support. Even after Mason's assurances, 171 Ballylumford workers voted in a secret ballot on Friday to support Paisley, against 286 who sided with Mason.

The politics Paisley represents are the fundamental basis of the Northern Ireland state and will exist as long as it does.



Right to Work Campaigner Billy Castley (above left) after being released from Walton Prison last Friday. He was greeted by Ricky Tomlinson and his wife, Carol. Billy, framed by the police, achieved a reputation inside the jail for standing up to the authorities and was well respected amongst the other prisoners.

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM

Chris Harman

In the past two years profits have risen about twice as fast as wages. So why is there so little investment.

Profit and investment

IN last week's column we saw that there still seems no end in sight to the world's 3½-year-old economic crisis.

What is the reason?

A committee of top industrialists and bankers from 12 of the biggest Western economies gave their views through the intergovernmental body, the OECD last week.

They blame 'a sharp fall in profits' in every country. This is not a new view. It is one you often hear from businessmen and government ministers.

Low profits, they say, stop industrialists investing in new factories and machines. There is unemployment in the construction, the machine-making, the iron and steel industries. This in turn means less demand for

goods produced by workers in other industries.

There is only one thing wrong with this argument. Trade unionists who have read the balance sheets of their own firms will point out that profits have zoomed upwards in the past couple of years.

Profits

Employers claim that the proportion of the national wealth going to profits is smaller now than ever before.

Even some left-wing writers have fallen for this argument—for instance, the Penguin Special 'British Workers and Profits Squeeze', Glynn and Sutcliffe. But the economist M. A. King showed two years ago that a fall in the level of taxation on profits had

more than made up for the increased cost of raw materials. The proportion of the national wealth going to profits at that time had not declined.

Since then we have had two years during which profits have risen about twice as fast as wages.

So why is there so little investment?

The short answer is that when industrialists decide whether to invest or not, they worry not just about the total profit they make. They above all worry about the rate of profit.

If you are preparing for a car journey, you do not only have to worry about how much petrol is in your tank. You also have to worry about how this amount compares with the size of your engine—with how many miles to the gallon you can do.

Similarly, the capitalist compares the

total amount of his profit with the total size of his investment. If the amount of profit rises, but more slowly than the total cost of factories, and machinery, then the rate of profit falls.

Breakdowns

No profits can absorb an ever greater amount of the national wealth, but not be high enough for the capitalists.

Karl Marx argued more than 100 years ago that not only could this happen—he said it was bound to happen. He argued that the very operation of the capitalist system produced unremitting pressure for the rate of profit to fall. As profits are the fuel that keeps the system going, this meant more and more breakdowns in the system.

Marx's argument went like this:

When capitalism is working smoothly—as in the 1950s and 1960s—two things happen. First, most of the profits made are invested in new machines and factories, so that the total amount of investment grows ever larger.

Secondly, competition causes each individual employer to try to cut back to the minimum the number of workers he employs.

The result is that the amount of investment grows much more quickly than the number of workers.

— This is what's been happening over the past 10 years. Despite the crisis, the amount of investment in Britain today is higher than in 1967. But the number of workers in manufacturing industry has fallen by about a million—from 8,200,000 to about 7,200,000.

Leisure

In a planned socialist economy a decline in the number of working hours required to produce the national wealth would be a great boon. It would mean a shorter working week and more leisure.

But under capitalism it produces grave crises. For capitalism depends on profits—and as Marx pointed out, the source of profits is the labour of workers. Fewer workers mean fewer sources of profit.

If the total size of investment grows more quickly than the total number of workers, then it also grows more quickly than the source of profits. There will be pressure for the rate of profit to fall—a pressure produced by the successful operation of the capitalist system.

That was Marx's most important single conclusion, the more successful capitalism is, the more it cuts its own throat and is thrown into crisis.

That is why throughout the world—not only in Britain—businessmen are complaining profits are too small for them to invest. The only way out they know is to try and get more profits by cutting wages.

They have done this in many countries through incomes policies of one sort or another. But the crisis is still far from over.

CHARLIE'S ANGELS

'SOCCER hooligans and chaps with motor cycles should join schemes like the League of Venturers,' advocates the world's best known social worker Prince Charles.

By coincidence the latest edition of Searchlight, the anti-fascist magazine, gives some background on these 'youth organisations'.

Lethal

In 1967 reporters from Searchlight visited Philip Smith who ran a League of Venturers group in the New Forest. The investigators posed as right-wing social workers wanting to set up a similar group in London.

Smith explained that he had been an armourer in the services and could easily convert weapons from non-lethal to lethal. He had also worked for Baptys who supply the film industry with real and mock weapons.

There is no shortage of that ruling class beverage—coffee—in Tokyo. Certainly not if you want to bath in it. Every day two round pools containing 22 tons of top quality Brazilian coffee are used by 100 bathers at the Koso Sauna Centre. It apparently knocks off the weight and relaxes muscles.

The man who owned Baptys, the late Mark Dineley, was one of Hitler's trusted National Socialist. He was invited personally to the Nuremberg Rallies.

Smith said his boys were into the Duke of Edinburgh scheme but he had suffered a setback when someone informed on his use of arms. Two men who he believed to be military intelligence had confiscated his arms.

The journalists have a memento from their in-

vestigation, a dagger issued to Smith's group which is an exact copy of the Hitler Youth dagger—all that's missing is the Swastika on the handle.

Smokescreen

They also visited one Ian Souter-Clarence, a friend of Smith's who ran a group called the Vikings in nearby Poole. A former member of the British National Party, he told them:

'Never be openly political.

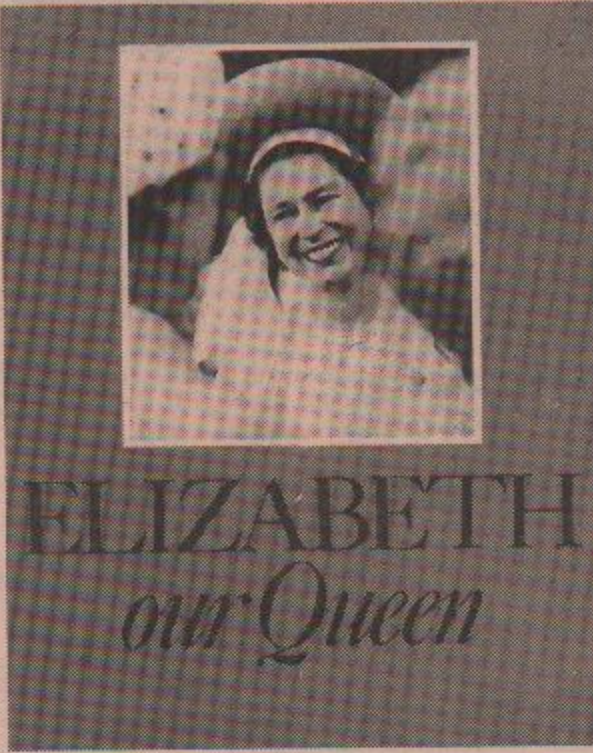
Drop hints to guide the youngsters in the right direction and find an adult helper who is also a fascist.'

The Duke of Edinburgh scheme, he said, provided a complete smokescreen and meant grants for the local council.

Despite the fact that the journalists made statements to Scotland Yard the local police weren't interested in taking action. The local council did refuse further grants.

Stuff the Jubilee

DELEGATES to the National Union of Journalists annual conference were presented with these jubilee brochures on arrival at Ilkley Warehouses Limited. The less 'patriotic' showed their appreciation by making a massive demand for Stuff The Jubilee badges.



'Ere, 'ere what's all this then?



Door to door Nazis

□ FIVE PEOPLE whose names appear on the Bristol National Front election candidate's nomination papers have signed statements calling for an investigation into methods used by the NF to obtain proposers.

To stand in an election a candidate has to be proposed, seconded and backed by eight other signatories.

It appears that the NF in Bristol have been getting the necessary support by door-to-door canvassing, and either withholding information about themselves or openly telling lies.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

There's nobody more left wing than me but...

Terry Duffy, right wing candidate for Hugh Scanlon's job in the AUEW, speaking at Wolverhampton Trades Council. He went on to attack the Heathrow engineers and argue for the preservation of the social contract.

'IMMIGRATION. A halt must be called immediately. Those here must be encouraged to go home to their countries of origin...

'EDUCATION. Comprehensives have failed, the inevitable result of woolly Liberal and Socialist thinking. The bright child is held back because of the dunce. This pattern must be reversed.

—from the election leaflet of the Greater London Council Independent 'Liberal' candidate for Feltham and Heston.

Muggers in blue? Surely not!

DENNIS Skinner, the Labour MP for Bolsover, told an interesting story at the picket in support of John Deason. After freeing the Eton educated bank robber, the courts took another interesting decision concerning the new Tory MP for Ashfield, Timothy Smith. He was educated at Harrow and Oxford.

After a mad car chase through the City, Smith was stopped by the police. He attacked them and was charged with 'wounding the police'. The courts acquitted him, because Smith explained that he thought he was being chased by a car load of muggers. And of course it didn't need a mass picket of the Old Bailey to get him off.

THE BIONIC Men caught with their wires showing, or radio freaks who couldn't tear themselves away from Jimmy Young even on the May Day demonstration in Hyde Park?

Send your answers, on a postcard, to Special Branch, New Scotland Yard.

□ POLICE officers involved in riot training at an army depot in Middlesex were injured during the course.

One PC was taken to hospital with a fractured neck after being hit with a brick, others had cuts and bruises.

The exercise, according to the Newham Recorder in East London, was inspired as a result of 'riots' at Notting Hill carnival last summer.

Said a police spokesman: 'It may seem callous, but it has to be realistic if it is to be of any value.'

....and now the bad news

THIS IS HOW the South East London Mercury exposed the racist filth of the National Front and National Party in the week before the Greater London Council elections. Unfortunately not everyone in South East

London is prepared to confront the fascists—notably the Management Committee of the Albany Community Centre.

Following assaults on Bola Femi, a Nigerian student, and busman John Francis at the Kings Head

pub in Deptford, the local Socialist Workers Party branch decided to hold a big public meeting and booked the Albany. The police had taken no action, despite having one of the attackers pointed out to them.

But the committee which includes Communist Party member John Bull, has decided to ban the meeting because of the possibility that the Front might turn up too.

They claim the anti-fascist leaflet used to publicise the meeting is 'written in such a way in both content and style as to invite violence on our premises.'

On this basis anything which strongly criticises the Front and their operation must be suppressed as 'inviting violence'. All the Front needs to do to silence its critics is to break up a couple of meetings and threaten to break up the rest.

The SWP branch has called for a meeting with the management committee and is planning a picket of the Albany followed by a march through Deptford, to an alternative venue.

Mercury

Mercury election day plea

YOU'D BETTER BELIEVE US...

The National Front and National Party are making an offer you MUST refuse

FOR THE first time every voter in SE London has a chance to vote the National Front and National Party.

CLEAR OFF!

Socialist Worker

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These men were SLAUGHTERED

1500 workers slain as police open fire in Ethiopia



May Day marchers in Addis Ababa last year; this year they were gunned down

MORE than 1,500 workers and students were murdered when police opened fire on a May Day demonstration in Ethiopia's chief industrial town, Addis Ababa.

This is the latest slaughter in an attempt by the military junta, the Dergue, to 'clean up' the strongholds of the EPRP, the revolutionary party which has the support of most workers in Addis Ababa.

The present leader of the Dergue, Colonel Mengistu, took power in February, arguing that the previous leaders of the Dergue had 'gone soft on repression'.

The new policy led to the immediate assassination by Mengistu's men of the leading activist in the Addis Ababa Cement Factory Union.

The next day 25 workers at the factory, including a pregnant woman, were marched out and shot.

They had all refused to identify revolutionaries on the shop floor.

The same day, 44 political prisoners were executed in the prisons.

Cubans

The Dergue is now trying to organise a 200,000 'People's Army'. It is to be sent to three provinces where opposition to the Dergue is strongest: Gondar, Tigre and Eritrea.

Their orders are to eliminate the population in these areas.

The Cubans and East European military advisers have offered to train this new army of genocide.

Because of this, western newspapers are trying to paint Colonel Mengistu as a Marxist and a socialist.

This sort of propaganda suits Mengistu as he prepares to slaughter the workers' organisation that is fighting to bring about socialism in Ethiopia, the EPRP.

THUMBS-UP FOR MASS MURDER

ETHIOPIA is in the grip of civil war.

Since Emperor Haile Selassie was overthrown three years ago, the country has broken into three groups.

There are various extreme right wing groups, many in the pay of the landlords who benefitted from the Emperor.

On the left the workers are organised behind the EPRP, the revolutionary workers organisation. The EPRP now has the support of the majority of workers in the capital city and industrial centre, Addis Ababa.

The military junta, the Dergue, seized power in 1974 when resistance from workers and students made it impossible for the Emperor's old regime, based on a few rich landlords, to continue.

The Dergue is composed of businessmen, officers and bureaucrats whose class in-

terests are clear. Until they got better terms from the Russians last month, they kept up Haile Selassie's 20-year-old arms treaty with the United States.

When the Dergue weakened in the face of attacks from socialists and the EPRP, the United States cut back on its support. All military aid has now stopped. The Russians were only too glad to step in.

Ethiopia controls a colony called Eritrea where a war for national liberation has been raging for years.

Slaughter

Eritrea is on the Red Sea opposite Saudi Arabia and has enormous strategic significance for the Americans and the Russians because it controls one of the entrances to the oil fields of the Middle East.

Immediately after the slaughter of May Day,

Colonel Mengistu went to Moscow to ask for military aid from the Russian government.

The Russian President Podgorny, hailed the slaughter as evidence of the Dergue's determination to move towards 'socialism'.

The Russian, Cuban and East European advisers will have some strange friends as they prepare the new 'People's Army'. The Israelis also have military advisers organising the Dergue's forces.



Haile Selassie: one barbarian followed by another

Now protesters face execution

FORTY people, many of them Ethiopian students in Britain, joined the emergency picket of the Ethiopian Embassy called by the Socialist Workers Party last Friday.

In Moscow, while the head of the Ethiopian military junta, Colonel Mengistu, and the Russian Communist Party General Secretary Mr Brezhnev, organised the sending of arms to help the slaughter in Ethiopia, 60 Ethiopian students occupied the Ethiopian Embassy.

They were supported by a

demonstration of 300 students.

Hundreds of police stormed the building and arrested the students. They now face extradition to Ethiopia and almost certain execution at the hands of the military junta.

Demonstrations also took place last week in France and Holland. In Washington, 500 Ethiopians staged a 72-hour hunger strike outside the Ethiopian Embassy.

□ Telegrams of protest to Ethiopian Embassy, 17 Princes Gate, London SW7.

STEEPED IN BLOOD... FIRST AMERICA, NOW RUSSIA

THE UNITED STATES has failed to drown the Ethiopian revolution in blood. Now it is the turn of the Soviet Union.

As American military advisers were thrown out, the Russians arrived.

Neither of the two great super powers will stand by and allow the workers of Ethiopia to seize power.

WHAT WE THINK

But the lesson of Ethiopia is that even in a backward country, workers can organise and fight for socialism. Last week's massacre was a desperate attempt to destroy this struggle.

The Dergue only came to power because the workers and students in

Addis Ababa smashed the old regime of the Emperor Haile Selassie.

Now socialists throughout the world must rally to the defence of the EPRP as they face the onslaught of the military junta and its Russian and Israeli supporters.

SPARK



RHODESIAN MURDERS

SPARK—bulletin of the Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign: latest issue now out.

17p, inc. postage, 10 for £1 (post-free) from SASC, 101-103 Gower Street, London W1.

IMPERIALIST TROOPS OUT OF ZAIRE DOWN WITH MOBUTU

Picket the French Embassy, Friday 20 May, 12.30pm - 2pm, 58 Knightsbridge, London, SW1. Organised by African Students Union (London) supported by SWP.

WEEK OF ACTION ON ZIMBABWE: 9-14 May, supported by the Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign.

Picket BP/Shell against sanctions-busting, Friday 13 May.

LONDON: Shell Centre, South Bank, 12.30pm-2.30pm. Meet Waterloo underground.

LEEDS: Town Centre House, Merrion Centre, Leeds 2, 12.30pm-2pm.

NEWCASTLE: Newgate House, Newgate St., Newcastle 1, 12.30pm-2pm.

BIRMINGHAM: Alpha Tower, ATV Centre, Birmingham 1, 12.30pm-2pm.

MANCHESTER: Shell Offices, 7 Oxford Road (next to Radio Manchester) 12.30pm-1.30pm.

SOUTHAMPTON: New Street, Noon-1pm.

Saturday 14 May: Zimbabwe Forum and Social. Further details from SASC, 101-103 Gower Street, London WC1, or Zimbabwe Ad-hoc Campaign, c/o 247 Pentonville Road, London N1 (01-607 1270).

Parsons workers

show their power



THE PEANUT FARMER came to Tyneside last Friday.

Here in Britain for a summit meeting on the world crisis, US president Jimmy Carter ran right into one chapter of it outside Newcastle's civic centre.

Seven thousand workers from the threatened C A Parsons factory in nearby Heaton turned out en masse to demonstrate to the president and his junior partner, James Callaghan, that they didn't intend to be given a one-way ticket to the scrapheap in the government's latest bid to 'slim down', 'rationalise'—or rather decimate—the major power generating industry.

The Parsons workers' corporate committee called the demonstration as the opening salvo from the big guns in their campaign to keep the factory open and at present manning levels.

As soon as their decision to demonstrate at Callaghan and Carter's civic centre ceremony was announced, massive pressure was brought to bear to get the demo called off.

The word came down from Callaghan to

the North East's Labour MPs the demonstration might be 'taken over by extremists'. And sure enough the MPs worked hard to prevent any independent action by the workers themselves.

But the left on the C A committee stuck it out and the demonstration went ahead.

It was just as well. For the demonstration injected a massive dose of spirit into everyone concerned. With this and many further initiatives a successful fight to defend the right is impossible.

The demonstration last Friday paraded the town and got a marvellous response from the people in offices, factories, the streets. This makes it all the more scandalous that it was almost completely blacked out by press and television.

And it put the fear of God up the FBI, MI6 and assorted security forces who were there to protect the president.

So much so that they sent out a team to measure the runway at the airport all over again. Then they installed a security system to prevent any protesters getting near either Jimmy Carter or James Callaghan. They also had sharpshooters posted in every conceivable building area, ready for action.

Such is the seriousness with which the working-class protest!

EVERY single Parsons worker was on the demo. The women workers were particularly spirited. Their banners demanded the commissioning of the rest of the Drax B power station now.

Attempts to turn the demo into a 'Welcome Jimmy Carter' occasion and by extension a welcome for Desperado Jim Callaghan had been resisted.

The 'Power to Parsons' slogans, too, came in for a bit of practical criticism. 'Power to Parsons workers' shouted some.

WORDS
Laurie Flynn

PICTURES:
John Sturrock

(Report)



AT THE heart of the Heaton factory. Machines built by workers and workers using those machines and their own skills and talents to make electricity possible.

Various vandals from the government and employing classes want

to destroy all this. Yet we need electrical power. We need less, much less unemployment . . . not more. As well as the thousands of jobs at Heaton, around 16,000 jobs indirectly depend on the plant.

They will never be protected by pious

speeches from the Tories or Callaghans of the world. These are the people who've helped create and perpetuate mass unemployment.

They will never give you the right to work. That you have to work and keep for yourself



Squeezing the poor

THE TRUTH ABOUT TAXES

WHO'S hit hardest by taxation? Ask virtually anyone this question and they'll answer: 'The rich'.

It's the managers who are always complaining that their 'incentives' have been destroyed by taxation. It's those who earn hundreds of thousands a year who say they're leaving the country because of the tax load.

It's the well-to-do who complain that the 'welfare state' is squeezing out their wealth to give to 'scroungers'. It's the Tory Party that complains loudly about 'excessive taxation'.

But a new paperback on poverty and taxation, titled *To Him who Hath**, challenges all these assumptions. It shows that the tax system takes more from the poor than from the rich. It also shows that this trend has got worse over the past 20 years.

average male industrial wage paid no income tax. In 1951 they paid about 10% in every £1 of their earnings in income tax. By 1972 the figure was about 25p in every £1!

By contrast, anyone earning one hundred times the average earnings paid 90 per cent of their earnings in tax in 1951, but only about 70 per cent in 1971.

Taxation on the rich fell—and was paid for by more taxation on the poor.

□ Tax allowance: help the rich much more than the poor

The government has said it will improve tax allowances if workers accept another year of wage controls. But those who benefit most from these allowances are the very well-off.

For someone earning the average wage or less last year, the basic tax allowance was worth £4.95—but for someone earning five times the average it meant another £10.60 in the pocket.

Tax relief to housebuyers totalled nearly £1000 million last year—most of this went to those who bought the most expensive houses. Non-paying surtax who buys a £15,000 house on a mortgage get a £24,425 reduction in the amount of tax he has to pay!

□ The poor pay for the welfare state

The burden of National Insurance contributions is much greater for the poor than for the rich—with the worst-off tenth of the population losing a twentieth of their total earnings in this way, and the best-off ten per cent losing only a fortieth.

Rates also hit the poor more than the rich—despite the widespread belief to the opposite. In 1974 a family on the average wage paid about 4.7 per cent of their income in rates. But a family on more than twice the average wage paid less than 2.3 per cent.

When you take into account other forms of taxation, the picture gets even worse. For taxes on spending—such as VAT and tax on beer—hits low-paid families much more than the rich.

□ Tax fraud costs the government much more than 'social security scrounging'

In 1974 total discovered social security fraud cost £2 million. The total amount of tax evasion and fraud is unknown—but we do know that for every £1 paid in death duties something like £3 was avoided, that about £1000 million a year in income tax is avoided by using tax havens such as the Channel Islands, and that a quarter of a million self-employed people claim they earn only £25 a week, although clearly most must earn much more.

This book is invaluable in giving such facts. The only weakness is at the end, where it pretends that something can be done about this sort of a social revolution. But you can use the information it contains to draw very different conclusions than those drawn by its authors.

**TO HIM WHO HATH*, by Frank Field, Molly Meacher and Chris Pond, Penguin Books, £1. Available at £1.10 including postage from Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

CHRIS HARMAN

RIGHT at the front of the 7000-strong demo came the CA Parsons apprentices, dressed in their boiler suits. 'What is our future?' they demanded to know again and again.

They adapted football chants and songs for the occasion. One went: 'Arnie Weinstock ain't our friend, ain't our friend, ain't our friend. He shuts factories.'

The song underlines the fact that the Parsons workers are absolutely sure that a takeover by GEC means massive redundancies and in all probability the stripping of the Heaton factory.

The whole power-generating industry is in deep crisis. Already there have been large redundancies at Babcock and Wilcox and indeed at GEC.

The reason for the crisis is twofold. Capitalist control and priorities in the Electricity Generating Board mean that the top men there simply refuse to see workers' livelihoods as any sort of priority.

Secondly, the overall crisis of the system means that with massive unemployment and the soaring price of electricity, demand for power is very low indeed, so there are few new power stations or expansions to provide jobs.

There is however no God-given necessity that Parsons, GEC and Babcocks workers should pay for a crisis for which they have no responsibility whatsoever.

A real mass fight for the right to work could take the industry out of the hands of private speculators altogether and force the government to protect the jobs of every worker within it.

True, this is not the experience of nationalisation on Tyneside. Here nationalisation is

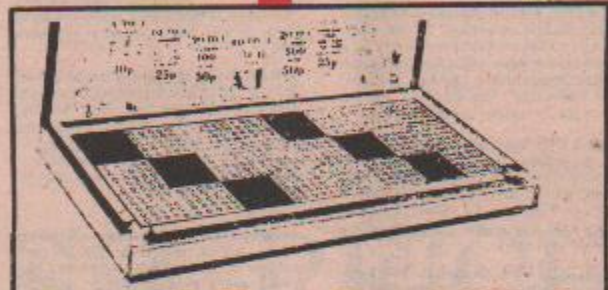
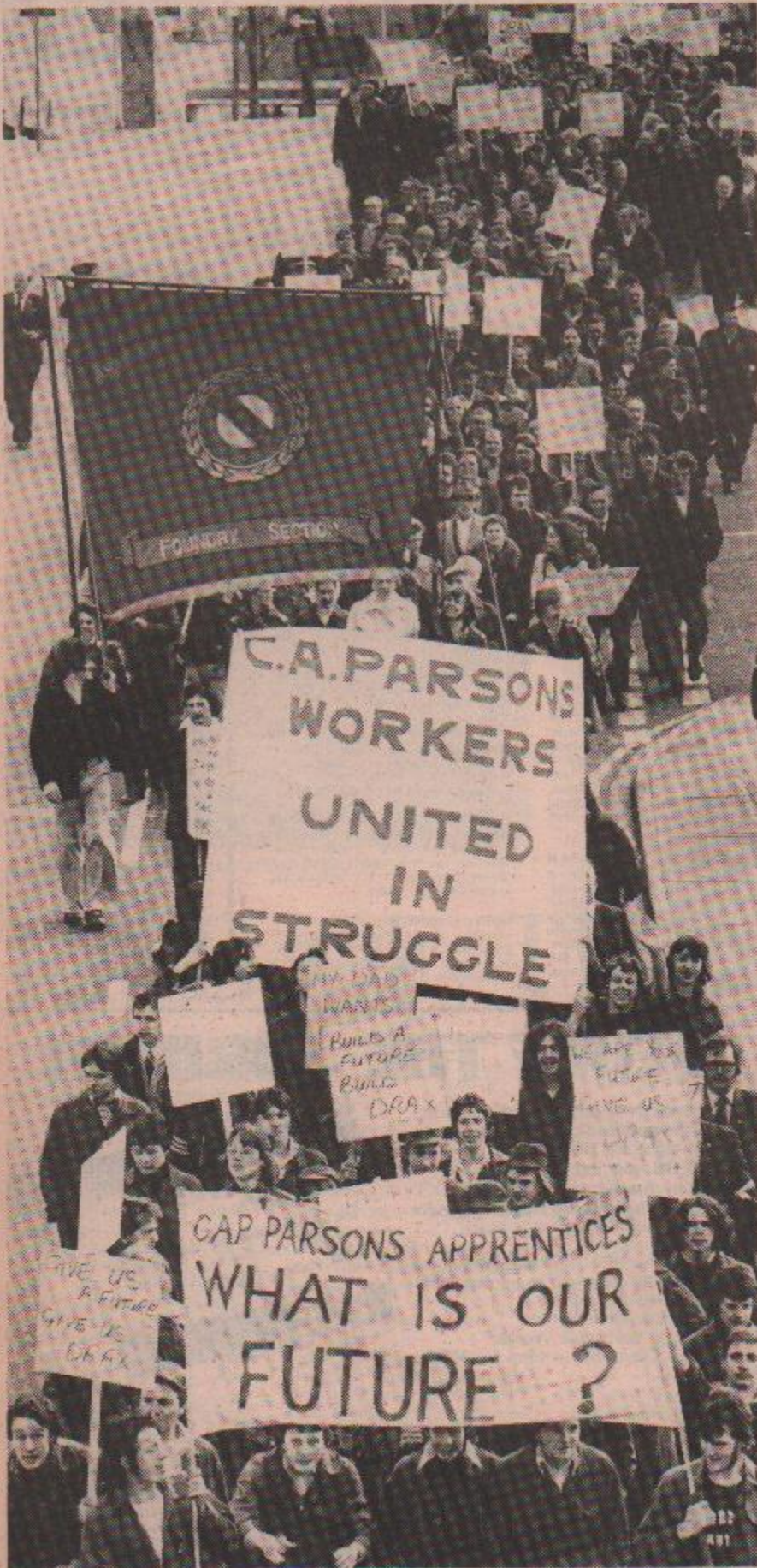
identified with sackings in the pits in the past and sackings in shipbuilding in the future.

But in both these industries nationalisation wasn't accompanied by any real control by the workers. Nationalisation as the fruit of militant struggle now could be entirely different.

The demand for nationalisation of the industry is calculated to unify the workers in the industry rather than perpetrate preferences for this or that employer.

Tyneside is on the line employment-wise. There is deep fear and forboding.

All this means that a struggle of UCS proportions is a real possibility on Tyneside. It is a spark that would undoubtedly light a flame to inspire workers throughout the area and beyond.



RAISE FUNDS INSTANTLY

A guaranteed £13 clear on a £2 outlay. Our pocket-size punchboards will raise quickly the much-needed funds for your local Right to Work Campaign, rank and file trade union organisation, or branch of the Socialist Workers Party. It contains 600 tickets at 5p each, with 43 winning numbers. Takes in £30—pays out £15, winnings paid on the spot. The board only costs you £2, so you make at least £13 clear. OK under Small Lotteries Act—no legal problems. Easier, faster and better than raffles or draw tickets. Give it a try—you can't lose.

ORDER FORM
 Please send by return post --- punchboards, price £2 each postage included. Enclosed total cheque/postal order to value of ---
 NAME
 ADDRESS

Please print address clearly in **BLOCK LETTERS**.
SEND THIS FORM TO:
 Rank and File Organising Committee, 1 Irving Street, Dumfries, Scotland.

BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

Scotland

PAISLEY and CHRYSLER LINWOOD Socialist Workers Party meetings on The Meaning of Marxism: fortnightly on Tuesdays, 7.30pm, Paisley Trade Union Centre, 17 May. Scottish nationalism—a sidetrack. Speaker: John Leopold (ASTMS).

DUNDEE Socialist Worker meetings on The Meaning of Marxism: Wednesday 7.30pm, Socialist Worker Bookshop, 128 Victoria Road. 25 May, Is Russia socialist? Speaker: Bob Fotheringham.

GLASGOW Socialist Workers Party Women's Voice meeting: Education and the family, Wednesday 18 May 7.30pm, Iona Community Centre, Clyde Street.

SCOTTISH WEEKEND SCHOOL: 4-5 June at Stirling University. Sessions on: Organising school students, Right to Work Campaign, Apprentices etc. Details from: 64 Queen Street, Glasgow.

SCOTTISH speaking tour by Barney Mokgatle from Soweto, South Africa. Victory to the Freedom Fighters!

STIRLING: Monday 23 May, 1pm, Stirling University, and 8pm, Stirling Labour Club.

ABERDEEN: Tuesday 24 May, 8pm, Music Hall, Union Street. NOTE CHANGE OF PLACE.

GLASGOW: Wednesday 25 May, 1pm, Strathclyde University Students Union, and 5pm, Blairtummock House, Wardie Road, Easterhouse.

EDINBURGH: Thursday 26 May, 8pm, Societies Centre, Hill Place.

DUNFERMLINE: Friday 27 May, 7.30pm, Carnegie Baths.

AYR Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Labour or socialism? The case for socialism. Speakers: Willie Lee (AUEW shop steward, Chrysler Linwood) and Henry Marlies (EIS Trades Council delegate). Wednesday 18 May, 7.30pm, Lousen Hall.

KILMARNOCK Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Labour or socialism? The case for socialism. Speakers: Peter Bain (chairman, TGWU stewards, Chrysler Linwood) and Dave Sherry (SW). Thursday 19 May, 7.30pm, Grand Halls.

EDINBURGH Socialist Workers Party Women's Voice discussion groups on Women's Politics, Saturdays, 11.30am, Room 6, Trades Council, 14 Picardy Place (top of Leith Walk).

21 May, Raising the Roof!—Rent and housing struggles.
28 May, Food prices—climbing the butter mountain.

GLASGOW Socialist Workers Party COLOSSAL CHARBANC CAPER (bus run to Ayr). Sunday 22 May, leaves George Square, 10am. Adults £2, women free! Tickets from 64 Queen Street (phone 041 221 3426).

North East

DURHAM Socialist Workers Party public meeting: How Capitalism affects everyday life. Speaker: Chris Philpotts. Thursday 19 May, 8pm, Colpitts Hotel, Sutton Street, Durham.

HALIFAX Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Smash the Social Contract. Friday 27 May, 7.45pm, Room A, Harrison House, Harrison Road (next to police station).

LEEDS Socialist Workers Party CPSA, NALGO meeting on The Case for Socialism. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Wednesday 18 May, 8pm, Leeds Trades Club, Saville Mount.

LEEDS Socialist Worker Party TEACHERS FOR SOCIALISM meeting. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Thursday 19 May, 8pm, Leeds Trades Club, Saville Mount.

BRADFORD CENTRAL Socialist Workers Party branch meets every Thursday, Textile Hall, Westgate.

12 May, What is Marxism? Speaker: Chris Hall.

26 May, Is the Labour Party socialist? Speaker: Richard Cawood.

MINERS FOR SOCIALISM: Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings for Yorkshire miners. Both at 7.30pm at the Devonshire Hotel, Barnsley (next to bus station).

Sunday 15 May, Understanding the Crisis. Speaker: Duncan Hallas.

Sunday 29 May, Nationalisation and workers' control. Speaker: John Charlton.

WIGAN: Details of coach from SW sellers.

EDINBURGH: Leaves Waverley Bridge, 9am, 70p employed/30p unemployed, Creche available in Edinburgh, phone Myra 229 9591.

SOUTHAMPTON: Leaves Cenotaph, 10.30am.

WEST MIDLANDS: Coach £1.50, children free. DUDLEY: 9am, The Smiling Man car park, Hall Street.

WOLVERHAMPTON: 9.30pm, Flakland Street, car park.

WILLENHALL: 10am, Gomer Street.

WOMEN'S VOICE ABORTION STICKERS: Red on yellow, 50p for five sheets of 12.

WOMEN'S VOICE ABORTION LEAFLETS: For 14 May demonstration, £1.50 for 1000. Cash with orders to WOMEN'S VOICE, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

TRANSPORT to the abortion demonstration, Saturday 14 May. **BIRMINGHAM:** Leaves 9.30am, Hall of Memory, Broad Street.

WOMEN'S VOICE ABORTION STICKERS: Red on yellow, 50p for five sheets of 12.

WOMEN'S VOICE ABORTION LEAFLETS: For 14 May demonstration, £1.50 for 1000. Cash with orders to WOMEN'S VOICE, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

Socialist Worker public meetings

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

Socialist Workers Party EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Saturday 28 May, 11am-5pm, Polytechnic of Central London

Shaun Doherty on BEING A SOCIALIST TEACHER

Paul Ashton on THE NEW BLACK PEPER

Workshops on HAVE STANDARDS FALLEN? WHAT IS COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATION, and other

PLUS National meeting for all teachers in the SWP—supporters welcome.

Sunday 29 May, 10.30am-4.30pm, Polytechnic of Central London.

Socialist Workers Party Midlands and South WHITE-COLLAR WORKERS CONFERENCE

Saturday 21 May, 10am-5.30pm, Holborn Library, London WC1.

Agenda: Building rank and file organisation, white-collar SWP workplace branches.

HULL Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Smash the Social Contract!

Speaker: Tony Cliff. Wednesday 1 June, 8pm, Room 8, YPI, George Street. Admission 10p.

North West

LEYLAND Lancashire, Socialist Workers Party branch meets every Friday 8pm, Eagle and Child, Church Road. Anyone interested in finding out more about the SWP is welcome to come for discussion and a drink.

MANCHESTER Socialist Workers Party lectures on Socialism: The Cattle Hotel, Oldham Street. Admission 20p.

Monday 16 May: What do we mean by revolution? Speaker: Duncan Hallas.

PRESTON Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Thursdays, 8pm, The Keystone, Brook Street (off Fylde Road). All welcome.

19 May: What went wrong in Russia?

WIGAN Socialist Workers Party day school: The SWP—What it stands for, and the revolutionary socialist in the Workplace. Sunday 22 May, further details from SW sellers.

BOOTLE Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Social Contract or socialism? Why we need £15 a week extra now. Speakers: Eddie Prevost (TGWU steward, London Royal Group of Dockers) and Paul Holborow.

Thursday 26 May, 7.45pm, Walton Trades and Labour Club, Rice Lane. Walton. Admission 10p.

CANTRIL FARM Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Social Contract or socialism? Why we need £15 a week extra now. Speaker: Duncan Hallas. Wednesday 18 May, 7.45pm, The Harvester, The Willens, Cantril Farm (by shopping centre).

BIRKENHEAD Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Social Contract or socialism? Why we need £15 a week extra now. Speaker: Duncan Hallas. Tuesday 17 May, 7.45pm, Pier Hotel, Woodside, Birkenhead (by Woodside Ferry).

MANCHESTER Socialist Workers Party industrial workers meeting for members and supporters: Tuesday 17 May, 8pm, details phone: 061-832 8102.

SOUTHPORT Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Social Contract or socialism? Why we need £15 a week extra now. Speaker: Duncan Hallas. Thursday 19 May, 7.45pm, Mount Pleasant pub, Manchester Street, Southport.

WARRINGTON Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Alternate Wednesdays, 8pm, Bowling Green Inn, Liverpool Road (by Crossfields). Next meeting 18 May. All welcome. For further information, phone Padgate 811584 or Newton-le-Willows 21284.

WALSALL Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Alternate Wednesdays, 8pm, Bowling Green Inn, Liverpool Road (by Crossfields). Next meeting 18 May. All welcome. For further information, phone Padgate 811584 or Newton-le-Willows 21284.

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TROOPS OUT NOW!

Film and speakers on Northern Ireland, national tour organised jointly by the National Organisation of International Socialist Societies and the Troops Out Movement.

- WEST LONDON:** Friday 13 May, 1pm, Brunel University.
- EXETER:** Friday 13 May, 7.30pm, University.
- MERSEYSIDE:** Tuesday 17 May, 12.30pm, Liverpool University.
- LANCASTER:** Tuesday 17 May, 6.30pm, University.
- BRADFORD:** Wednesday 18 May, 1pm, University.
- SHEFFIELD:** Wednesday 18 May, 7pm, Polytechnic.
- CENTRAL LONDON:** Thursday 19 May, 12.30pm, Kingsway Princeton College of FE, 5.30pm, SOAS, Malet Street.
- NORTH LONDON:** Friday 20 May, 6.30pm, North London Polytechnic, Kentish Town.

Wales

NEWPORT Socialist Workers Party public meeting: The Fight against Phase Three. Speakers to be announced. Monday 16 May, 7.30pm, AUEW Hall, Stow Hill.

BANGOR Socialist Workers Party public meetings: Fridays, 8pm, Liverpool Arms, High Street, Bangor. Everyone interested is welcome. 13 May, Socialists and the environment.

Midlands

WILLENHALL and WALSALL Socialist Workers Party meetings: Every Tuesday, 8pm, The Falcon, Gomer Street, Willenhall. All welcome.

17 May, Working as a revolutionary socialist on the shop floor and in the trade union branch.

WALSALL Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Smash the Social Contract! Speakers: Jimmy McCallum (former TASS convenor, John Brown Engineering, Cliveside) and a local trade unionist. Tuesday 24 May, 8pm, Red Lion, Park Street.

STOKE-ON-TRENT All interested in local socialist discussion meetings and/or helping local activities of the Socialist Workers Party, please contact Stoke SWP, c/o 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

LEAMINGTON Socialist Workers Party supporters discussion meeting: Fascism, Wednesday 25 May, 8.15pm, Stoneleigh Arms, Clemens Street.

South East

MAIDSTONE Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Mondays, 8pm, The Old Palace, Mill Street.

ESSEX Socialist Workers Party day school: Rank and file organisation—why we need it and how we can build it. Speakers include Duncan Hallas and Kevin Prior (AUEW shop steward, Heathrow Airport). Group discussions on women, docks, print engineers, public sector, buses, Ford, Iremen. Saturday 4 June, 10.45am-4.30pm in Chelmsford. Plus Anti-Jubilee Disco in evening. Details from Chelmsford 59129.

SOUTH LONDON Socialist Workers Party public meetings: The Stirling Castle, Camberwell Church Street (near Camberwell Green), London SE5. All at 8pm.

Thursday 19 May, The fight against racism. Wednesday 1 June, Why we need a revolutionary socialist party.

SOUTH EAST LONDON Socialist Workers Party public meetings: Alternate Wednesdays, 8pm, Charlton House, The Village, SE7. Speaker: Nigel Harris. 25 May: China.

Socialist Workers Party GAY GROUP meets alternate Mondays in London. Contact Penny Old (01-405 2705) or Richard Terry, 19 Redman's Road, London E1 (01-790 2454).

CROYDON Socialist Workers Party public meetings: Every Thursday, 8pm, Ruskin House, corner of Colombe Road and Park Lane.

12 May, Homosexual oppression. Speaker from SWP Gay Group.

19 May, The Spanish Civil War. Speaker: Mike Marriott.

26 May, Nationalism. Speaker: Duncan Hallas.

CENTRAL LONDON Socialist Workers Party meeting: Organising Women in the Metropolis. A discussion with Diane Watts (North London Women's Voice group), Lindsey German (SWP Student organiser), Anna Potrykus (white-collar) and Martin Larkham (shop worker). Tuesday 17 May, 7pm, School of Oriental and African Studies, Malet Street, WC1 (nearest tube Goodge Street). Open to all SWP members and supporters.

LEA VALLEY Flame/Socialist Worker public meeting: Racism and how to smash it. Defend the Wood Green 74. Wednesday 18 May, 8pm, Earlsmead School, Broad Lane, London N15 (near Seven Sisters tube). Speakers: Steve Matthews and Tony Bogues.

ISLINGTON Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Law and Order. Speakers: Peter Chappell (George Davis Defence Campaign) and John Deason (Right to Work Campaign). Wednesday 1 June, 8pm, place to be announced.

HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON Socialist Workers Party public meeting: The need for a rank and file movement. Speaker: Gerry Marsden. Thursday 19 May, 8pm, Centarise, Kingsland Road, London E8. All SW sellers welcome.

NORTH LONDON Women's Voice public meeting: Costa del Trico, the Women's Theatre Group play about the long-running Equal Pay strike, followed by meeting and discussion on Equal Pay. Monday 16 May, 8pm, Stroud Green School, Ennis Road, N4.

BRIGHTON Socialist Workers Party fund-raising jumble sale Saturday 14 May, Presbyterian Hall, North Road.

SW Notices

BE A BOOKSHOP MANAGER! Enthusiastic and responsible comrade wanted for thriving SWP district. Start June. Write to Socialist and TU Books, 224 High Street, Digbeth, Birmingham 12. (phone 021-643 5717).

COMRADE URGENTLY NEEDS ROOM. PREFERABLY IN SWP house/flat, North or Central London. Phone Eli or Terry, 01-603 1260.

NEW LEAFLET for Socialist Worker estate rounds, etc. Two colours, A5 size, £3 per 1000, from SW Circulation, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Cash with order only.

URGENT! Comrade needs accommodation in South London. Phone Lynden, 0442-52186.

STATE AND REVOLUTION—a 30-minute recorded cassette designed to introduce socialist discussion. A brief introduction by Harry McShane, former secretary of the Scottish Unemployed Workers Movement in the 1930s. £1 including postage, from SW Recordings, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2. Send stamped addressed envelope for full list.

SOCIALIST WORKER CIRCULATION is looking for a comrade to work 25-30 hours a week. Applicants should have some office experience, be prepared to work very hard and efficiently, and be able to type. Details, phone John Larkham, 01-739 2639 or write to SW Circulation, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2.

ANTI-JUBILEE POSTERS: Red and black, 30 for £1 (£1.50 if by post) or £3 for 100 (£4 if by post) from SW Recordings, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS.

ANTI-JUBILEE BADGES: Red and black, 20p each, ten for £1.50, 50 for £7.100 for £13, from Sherril Yanowitz, 116 Fortune Green Road, London NW6.

CASH WITH ALL ORDERS PLEASE

SPOT THE SCROUNGER

TO HELL WITH THE SOCIAL CONTRACT!

May issue of FIGHT, paper of the Socialist Worker Youth Movement, out now. Single copy 10p (including postage). Orders over 10, 5p each, post free. Orders to: SW Books, 64 Queen Street, Glasgow.

The new hours of TU BOOKS, Basement, 260 Deensgate, Manchester, are Monday-Friday 12 noon-2pm and 4.30pm-6.30pm, and Saturday 9.30am-12.30pm. Volunteers and cans of paint needed.

WANTED! A DUPLICATOR—phone Jim Tierney, Alfoa 723304, as soon as possible please.

WANTED: Room in East London area. Please phone Anita, 01-985 7567.

Socialist Workers Party EASTERN EUROPE group is buying a Russian alphabet type face for the typesetting machine at Corbridge Works, to produce leaflets etc in Russian to help with our solidarity work. It costs £25. We are appealing to comrades to make donations toward the cost. Donations (East Europe Group) 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

LUTTE OUVRIERE FETE 1977, Saturday 28 May to Monday 30 May, north of Paris. Food, booze, music, films, debates, etc. SWP bookstall. SWP members who speak French and are prepared to help with our political intervention in debates especially welcome. We also need to know if there are any cars going with spare seats, or whether to arrange a coach. Anyone going or interested in going, please contact LD Fete, c/o 9 Grove Dwellings, Adelina Grove, London E1.

NOISS National Organisation of Student International Socialist Societies

NOISS WOMEN'S CAUCUS: Sunday 15 May, 11am, Central London Polytechnic, New Cavendish Street, London W1. Two delegates from each IS Society, plus unlimited observers. If you want accommodation on the Saturday night after the abortion demonstration, phone 01-739 1878.

MARXISM 77—HELP WANTED! Can you spare some time between 1.8.77 to help organise the running of Marxism 77 at North London Poly (on rota basis). Phone Lindsey German, 01-739 1878.

NOISS social Saturday 14 May, 8pm, Roebuck, Tottenham Court Rd, London WC1. Benefit for Women's Voice. Disco and bar, tickets 20p on the door.

EDINBURGH Socialist Workers Party Grand Folk Night: Saturday 14 May, 7.30pm, Heriot-Watt Students Union, Grindlay Street. Groups include The Laggan, The Lovellies, George Duff, Billy Jones. Two bars, raffle etc. Tickets 80p (40p unemployed) from Andrew McGeever, 12 Oakville Terrace, Edinburgh (phone 031-554 6310).

EASTER ROSS Socialist Workers Party jumble/brag and buy sale: Saturday 21 May, 2pm-4pm, Averton Centre, Alness.

Socialist Workers Party INTERNATIONAL FUND-RAISING SOCIAL Friday 20 May, 21, Bryanston Road, London, N7. Food served from 9pm to 10pm only. Exotic Middle Eastern food, £1 for as much as you can eat! Drink, music, fun for all! Tickets in advance from Eli and Terry, and at the door. Phone 01-609 1260. Come early.

TOWER HAMLETS Socialist Workers Party Social: Saturday 21 May, 8pm, 19 Redman's Road, London, E1. Food, raffles, beer. Admission 50p plus a bottle. All SW readers welcome. Proceeds to Fighting Fund.

HITCHIN Socialist Workers Party socialist night out: Come and see CAST perform their play SAM THE MAN, about the left Labour MP trying to walk the tightrope of the parliamentary road. Friday 13 May, 8pm, The Nightingale pub, Nightingale Road. Tickets 50p (25p unemployed). Proceeds to SW Fighting Fund.

LEA VALLEY Socialist Workers Party Jumble Sale: Tuesday 31 May, 8.00pm, (YWCA Hall) 628 High Road, N17. Refreshments available. Please phone: 808 3057 or 808 3200 with any offers of jumble.

NALGO: Meeting for all SWP members in NALGO in Scotland. Saturday 14 May, 2.30pm (after abortion demonstration), 64 Queen Street, Glasgow, G1. For information, phone 041-221 3426.

AUEW National meeting for all SWP members in the Engineering Union, Saturday 28 May, 12 noon-5.30pm, The Mire Hotel, Cathedral Gates, Manchester 3.

TEACHERS: Any teacher in the SWP who has not received a fraction bulletin recently send address to: Jeff Hurford, 18 William Street, London, N7 (phone 01-607 8067).

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TEACHERS: Any teacher in the

'When the fields are white with daisies, we'll return'...



The Great Dublin Lock-Out of 1913: Above left, police attack strikers on Bloody Sunday, August 31, and (right) crowds get a food ship sent in solidarity by British workers



Jim Larkin, the impassioned orator

STRUMPET City* is a powerful working-class novel.

It is set in Dublin in the turbulent and violent years before the First World War.

Secure employment is impossible to find and even the local beggar, Rashers Tierney, finds his trade ruined by the influx of the unemployed.

Mushrooming

Meanwhile, for some, life is considerably better. The Bradshaws live lavishly on the rent they receive from the tenants of a dilapidated tenement block.

When the block collapses, killing many of the tenants, the Bradshaws' conscience forces them to rush off to live in Italy.

But perhaps it was more than mere conscience. Dublin was not a pleasant place for

the rich in those days.

Strong trade union organisation was threatening their profits and sympathy strikes were mushrooming.

With leaders like Jim Larkin and rank and file workers such as the character Bernard Mulhall, solidarity was top of the agenda.

This quickly forced the bosses to give way and many improvements were won.

Meanwhile, of course, similar events were taking place in Britain, with workers' leaders such as Tom

Mann, Guy Bowman and Noah Ablett coming to the fore as syndicalist feeling influenced a wave of mass strikes.

In 1910, the South Wales miners' strikes began; in 1911 the dockers and seamen were out and the railway 'servants' struck; in 1912 the first national miners' strike began.

Blacklegs

In nearly all cases there were violent clashes as the police and military acted for

the bosses and blacklegs. Many workers were shot, some killed, and the army would bayonet-charge the crowds.

The workers fought back, often with their own weapons, and as sympathy action spread the bosses gave way. As this movement grew, the bosses decided that a confrontation was the only way to break the workers' demands.

In Dublin this was led by William Martin Murphy, the

head of the employers federation, who initiated the Great Lock Out of 1913.

The true nature of the state then revealed itself to many workers as squads of police heavies stormed working class homes and smashed furniture and possessions.

Peaceful demonstrations were attacked, blacklegs were heavily protected and Larkin was arrested.

To read *Strumpet City* is almost to live through such struggles. Such an experience must be one of the most emotional and educational possible.

Blacklist

As Lenin once said, 'Theory, my friend, is grey, but green is the tree of life.' Nowhere is this more obvious than in *Strumpet City*.

The passion of the characters such as Rashers, Mary and Fitz, Mulhall, Pat and Lily is a testament to the fact that when we hear politicians and union hacks talking about the 'mass movement' it is not the monolithic mob that they would like it to be.

It is a movement of real people who can think and act for themselves, no matter what obstacles the bosses put before them.

Soon after the defeat of the Dublin lock out, after the sell-out of the British TUC and the introduction of the blacklist, the characters in the novel are talking of the future...

Down

'What about the Union?' Pat asked.

'Down but not out', Quinn told him, 'We'll rise again.'

'When the fields are white with daisies we'll return,' Mick prophesied.

Somehow I think they're dead right!

**Strumpet City*, by James Plunkett (Panther) £1.20, inc. postage, from Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4. *Grapes of Wrath*, reviewed on this page last week, is available from Bookmarks price £1.12 inc. postage.

STEVE FOREY REVIEWS A NOVEL ABOUT THE GREAT DUBLIN LOCK-OUT OF 1913

RISE OF THE BRITISH REICH

By PETER MARSDEN

'THE RISE of the . . . Movement signifies the nation's protest against a state refusing the right to work.'

Which movement?

The chilling answer is: the Nazi Movement. The words were spoken in 1932 by Gregor Strasser, a Nazi deputy in the German parliament.

The quotation appears in the script of the play *Destiny*, by David Edgar, which opens in London this week.*

The quotation—and the play—go to the root. The Nazis in Britain today, as in Germany in the 1930s, may be ruled by thugs—but their growth is the direct result of a system that offers working people only unemployment, cuts in wages, cuts in living standards.

Destiny follows the growth

of the National Forward party. You'll recognise the initials: NF.

There's Turner, the antique dealer forced to sell out to the property sharks. It's a British company, but using a Pakistani front-man, so Turner becomes a racist.

Hate

There's the pub-room meeting, where people address each other as 'comrade', talk about working in the trade unions and tenants groups—and end up unveiling a portrait of Adolf Hitler.

There's Baron Castings, where the moulders are on high-paid piecework, but the rest are on fixed rates.

The moulders are all white. The others Asians—lowest paid, least chances of promotion, first to go. Management speeds up the track—so they come out on strike.

There's Tony, on the dole, bitter, needing a scapegoat. He sings a song titled 'When the English began to hate'.

And the threads draw together.

There's a really powerful scene where the Nation Forward organisers, Cleaver and Maxwell, coach Turner as their candidate for the Taddley by-election:

'Mr Turner, I wonder, could you tell us just a little more about this common interest, between the multinationals and the blacks?'

'Well, it's them that attracts them. Them as advertised in all the papers over there. . .'

'I see. Now why would they do that?'

'Yes, to undercut the wages of white workers.'

'Only wages?'

'That's right, to take the jobs that would normally be given to the whites.'

Then they challenge him:

'Come on, Turner, you're just fascists in sheep's clothing. Look at Cleaver's Nazi record! . . . You're just tinpot fuhrers, out to overthrow democracy!'

'That's not. . .'

'Come on! Question! Answer it!'

'If you'll just let me. There's a simple answer. We want

more democracy, we think that at the moment we're controlled by an, undemocratic, cosmopolitan elite of Wall Street puppeteers. . .'

And later we find their definition of democracy:

'What serves—is in the interests of—the race?' says Turner.

The police stand by as Nation Forward smash the Asians' picket line, beating up trade unionists, white and black.

Feeble

Says Turner in a speech: 'Our aim—unlike their aim—is not destruction. Our aim's making strong. We don't want weaker unions, but stronger.'

In the service of the race, of course.

And the opposition? They're there. The Tory

candidate. The left-wing Labour candidate. And David Edgar really exposes their 'stand against racism' for the feeble half-and-half shilly-shallying it is.

But the fascists don't stand unopposed. The climax of the play is really powerful, but I won't reveal it here. Go and see it.

In fact, take a coach. Take your mates, take the local anti-racist committee, take the whole local labour movement if you can.

* At the Aldwych Theatre, London on May 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 24, 25, 28, 30, 31, June 2, 3, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15. Reductions for block bookings of 15 or more—phone 01-835 6404 for details. Script available, price £1.10, inc. postage, from Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

Letters

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

POSTAL POINTS

IN their book *Direct Action* (1919), W Gallacher and J Campbell outlined the need for a rank and file organisation, because 'The present trade union organisation removes the official away from the atmosphere of the workshop life and enmeshes him in the red-tape routine of some district or head office.'

They also predicted: 'When strikes were small affairs, the state could hide its true character and assume the pose of a neutral body, leaving the organisation of the employers to cope with the workers. But as working-class organisation becomes more powerful, the master class will be forced to supplement their organisation by calling for state aid. The state will then be dragged into the open and forced to reveal itself in its true colours.'

Funny how these echoes from the past still ring true today?
□ MATT SALISBURY (AUEW), Hitchin.

I AM doing a study on eyestrain in connection with workers using Visual Display Units (VDUs) but unfortunately have received only negative reports from management-inspired sources. If anyone knows of reports on eyestrain/VDUs I would be grateful for a copy
□ C REDDY (FoC, Reuter NATSOPA), 85 Fleet Street, London EC4.

JOURNALISTS who were victims of the self-confessed 'cold-blooded sacker', Jocelyn Stevens (Fifth Column, 7 May) might be interested to know how Stevens was mourning the loss of the *Scottish Daily Express* back in April 1974.

Wonder boy and his entourage were whooping it up on the ski slopes of Isola in the South of France—obviously feeling the pinch... of their ski-boots.
□ SW Reader, East London.

WITH a huge beef mountain they won't let us near, and bacon soon to be stored along with the gold and convertible currency reserves, our rulers have come up with a new meat that we can all afford—horse flesh.

But before it's introduced they have to get us ready for the idea—it's started already on the radio. First there's the 'noble beast' argument: 'Of course the horse is a noble beast—but it's no more noble than a cow or a sheep.'

Before too long that becomes 'You'll eat what you're given—and like it mate!'

So next time you wander into the butchers, don't be too surprised if you find a horse or two strung up on them hooks, between the chickens and the lambs. And don't say I didn't warn you!

□ FRANK CONWAY, Manchester 14.

Hospital killed at birth

GLASGOW readers of *Socialist Worker* will have been surprised to see on television that a new Geriatric Day Hospital has been opened at Lightburn Hospital.

particularly in Glasgow. But it isn't all wine and roses. My studies as a medical student have taken me to Lightburn and I've seen what the television decided we shouldn't be shown.

Because of cutbacks, the hospital has not been given enough

ambulances. So it will only ever be able to run at half its possible capacity.

The centre has excellent facilities for radiography and chiropody. But it doesn't have a radiographer or a chiropodist.

There is only one

physiotherapist, who will have to be very nimble on the feet as there are rooms and facilities for far more.

The cuts have managed to kill this hospital at birth.

□ A medical student, Glasgow.

Trade Unionists tour empty wards

REPRESENTATIVES from 30 local trade unions toured hospitals in Brent, North West London, last week to see the effects of the cuts. The tour was organised by the Save Our Hospitals Campaign and Brent Area Health District NUPE.

At the closed St Monica's Hospital, we saw the recently installed fire escape and the plastic-coated roof, which management apparently paid for twice and which cost £6,000. More than £20,000 had been spent on improved fire precautions just before the closure.

Talk, talk, talk about TV—but not SW

'DID YOU see that programme on the box last night where... How often is this the dawn chorus in your factory, office or school? In my office TV is the biggest conversation piece by far.

It amazes me that *Socialist Worker* not only doesn't have a decent telly column, but has even axed the puny preview which used to appear.

Perhaps SWP members are too busy selling papers and leafletting to watch TV. Most workers spend an enormous amount of time glued to the box.

Socialist Worker needs a telly column, or better still a telly page. Can anything be done?

□ GORDON BLAIR, Wandsworth, London.

At Willesden General Hospital there were two upgraded wards which have fire escape doors, too narrow to remove disabled patients. There were three empty wards in a disgusting state.

One of the trade unionists discovered a book which he had taken to his grandfather in that ward three years previously. It was among a pile of good books covered in dust.

Vandalism

He demanded the book back from the management and said he would find a hospital still open and give it to the patients.

The relatively new accident and casualty unit stands empty. It had been closed since last September.

At Neasden Hospital the empty infectious disease wards are being vandalised. More than half of this hospital, which was originally an isolation unit, is now closed.



ABOVE: Inside yet another threatened hospital—Hounslow, West London.

The new roof on the closed B Ward was seen and compared with the poor conditions of C Ward roof, which is now housing geriatric patients.

□ STAN BISHOP, secretary, Brent Health District NUPE.

STUFF THE ... FRONT!

HAVING been forced off the streets, the National Front have taken to riding round in cars in Bradford.

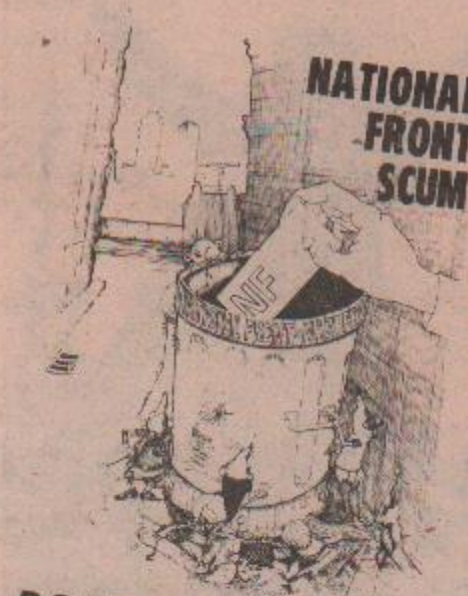
Noting that the cars were flying Union Jacks, and that some of Bradford's buses had been painted silver to celebrate the Jubilee, we

thought it would be patriotic to help paint the Front's car silver too.

We had a shot when it stopped at some traffic lights in the town centre. Regrettably the can of paint slipped, much of it going over the Front's windscreen, leaving the car rather mottled.

We can understand the Front's justifiable anger that this paint, which is of a high standard and difficult to remove, was wasted on only half the car.

□ SWP members, Bradford.



An anti-fascist poster produced by Hackney Anti-Racism Campaign. 20 for £1 from HARC, c/o 245 Mare Street, London, E8.

DON'T VOTE FASCIST

Science for socialism

ADMITTEDLY, President Carter's sudden concern for humanity by his exhortation to conserve energy and retreat from the plutonium economy appears totally phoney.

Whatever Carter's motives

however, Socialists should be aware that the issues raised are of the utmost importance to all working people.

One can sympathise with the plight of workers compelled to make weapons to kill

other workers, those making luxurious aircraft in which they can never hope to fly or others having to generate electricity for which there is questionable demand by means of fast breeder reactors.

Such workers need to protect their jobs. Under capitalism they have little choice because it dictates their terms, not them.

This is why it is vitally important for workers in the potentially and actually destructive industries to grasp the initiative by planning for alternative products like the Lucas Aerospace workers have done and building such demands into their normal bargaining procedure.

If they don't, nobody else will and the ultimate price for capitalist exploitation will be paid by workers worldwide. Flixborough, Seveso and Bravo/Ekofisk are merely rehearsals.

□ Mervyn Bryant, Watford.

KEEP OUT THE KKK!

FASCISTS and other ultra-right reactionaries have just formed a branch of the National Association *From Freedom in Ilford*, and yesterday I destroyed the first sticker of the Ku Klux Klan that I have ever seen in my life. Since the emergence of these two has been apparently simultaneous, one is bound to wonder if they share a common membership.

According to the *Sunday Telegraph*, Robert E Scoggin, the grand dragon of the South Carolina realm of the KKK, is coming to Britain this spring to enrol and enrol 500 new

members into an English section of the Klan. Being a socialist, I am against any form of immigration control, but cannot see why such freedom of movement should be offered to fascists and other racists.

Should the government be foolish enough as to allow this little bastard or his wife, who is also in the KKK, permission to come here, I trust anyone knowing details of their arrival will inform *Socialist Worker*, so we can take the necessary action. PROTEST NOW!

□ DEREK RICHARDS, Ilford SWP, Essex.

WHY YOU SHOULD BE A SOCIALIST
PAUL FOOT

NOW BACK IN PRINT

We socialists are not fanatics or time servers. We are socialists because we see the prospect which life holds out for all working people.

We want the commitment of workers who laugh and live and want to end the wretchedness and despair which shuts love and laughter out of so many lives.

We do not have to spend the rest of our lives, and leave our children to spend the rest of their lives, wrestling in the struggle against a mean and despotic ruling class.

Society can be changed, but only if masses of working people abandon the rotten shipwreck of the 'leave it to us' reformers, and commit themselves to change from below.

This pamphlet puts our case. Will you read it?

Please send me ... copies of **WHY YOU SHOULD BE A SOCIALIST** at

- One copy for 50p
- Five copies for £2
- One copy of the book, plus *Socialist Worker* each week for the next two months for £1.50.

Please tick appropriate box - all prices include postage.

NAME

ADDRESS

I enclose £..... (cheques and postal orders made payable to SW Distributors please).
SEND THIS SLIP TO: SW Distributors, 6 Cottons Gardens, London. E2.

Rhyl: 'We're going to win'

RHYL: The strike by construction workers at the East Parade Leisure Centre is now entering its 16th week.

The men stopped work after six of their colleagues were sacked for refusing to work overtime on a concrete pouring job.

Fairclough, the main contractor, said this was gross misconduct, which means instant dismissal, yet the men were not sacked until the next day.

Pat Cooney, a UCATT steward and one of the sacked men, told Socialist Worker: 'On the site we only work a flat week. We think it's wrong to be working overtime when so many people are out of work.'

Solidarity

Billy Parkinson, another steward, said: 'The case is going to a tribunal, and we believe we're going to win. Toilet and canteen facilities on the site are bloody awful, and the only way we'll go back there is when the six are given their jobs back.'

As there is a waiting list of nearly 125 cases to be heard, the men expect to be out another seven to ten weeks. Financial support is really important.

Messages of support and donations to: Billy Parkinson, 74 Millbank Road, Rhyl, Clwyd, North Wales.

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.

POLITICAL CENSORSHIP—an international perspective. Panel includes Jan Kavan (Czechoslovak student leader), Eric Abraham (South African journalist, exiled 1976), Carlos Fortin (imprisoned Chilean Ambassador to US under Allende), Thursday 26 May, 7pm, ICA, Nash House, The Mall, London, SW1. Admission 85p.

WHICH WAY FOR THE CHARTER CAMPAIGN? WWCC national conference, weekend 21-22 May, City University, St John's Street, EC1. Credentials from 1a Camberwell Grove, London, SE5. Phone 01 703 4173.

MEETING OF ACTSS LEGAL WORKERS BRANCH Friday 13 May, 7pm, Transport and General Workers Union HQ, 203 North Gower Street, London WC1 (near Warren Street tube). All workers in solicitors' offices welcome.

REMEMBER SOWETO! 16 June 1976. DEMONSTRATION on 18 June 1977. Assemble Speakers Corner, 1 pm, Rally Bullring 3pm. Called by National Union of Students, supported by the National Union of School Students and the Anti-Apartheid Movement. Contact NUS International Dept, 3 Enderleigh Street, London WC1 (phone 01-387-1277) for details and publicity material.

WEST LONDON ANTI-APARTHEID GROUP public meeting, Rhodessa, Wednesday 11 May, 8pm, Westway Letchworth Club (near Ladbrooke Grove tube). Speaker: Jeremy Brickhill (ZAPU representative).

WORKERS SAY NO TO THE SHAH—Labour law and strikes in Iran, by T Jaili. Foreword by Bob Wright (assistant general secretary, AUEW). New book published by Campaign for Restoration of Trade Union Rights in Iran, 818 BCM, London. WC1V 6XX. 130 pages. £1.50 from left bookshops.

Support the Lesney strikers!

NORTH LONDON: Lesney's, makers of Matchbox Toys, won the Queen's Award to Industry for the fourth time on 2 May. Eight days later, they were expected to announce doubled profits of more than £12 million.

But while management were being feted for their achievement, the workers were involved in two mass disputes, each suggesting that Lesney's are looking for a confrontation with the union on their sites.

Negotiations

DISPUTE NO 1: Toolmakers have been negotiating since September over pay rates. Last week, after months of delays, management announced that their working party had presented its findings to the Lesney board.

The board required that joint discussions take place when there is a knowledge of Phase 3—and then refused to present any of the working

By Pat Horridge, AUEW convener, Enfield Toolroom
Dave Garwood, AUEW Enfield
Martin Brownbridge, AUEW Foundry, Eastway

party's findings to the workforce!

The toolmakers were faced not only with a dispute against the Social Contract and any Phase 3 deal, but with a management unwilling even to reveal their interim discussions.

Stewards of the engineering and design division then voted for internal action, including working to job description, and strike action of any worker suspended without pay.

This action was implemented last week when a progression toolmaker at Hackney was suspended for refusing to carry out labouring duties.

Toolmakers from five sites—Hackney, Stratford, Tottenham, Enfield and Rayleigh—then struck and were soon given support by the repair toolrooms at Rochford, Hackney and Peterborough—also

now on strike—and by the IPD at Homerton.

DISPUTE NO 2: Maintenance workers also AUEW on the Hackney Eastway site voted to strike for a week after six sheet metal workers were suspended. These workers usually do lining of foundry bins, not their normal work, during overtime.

But management told the six to do bin lining during normal working hours. When they refused, they were suspended—and the rest of the maintenance workers voted to strike.

Management refused to take the dispute through agreed procedure. By Monday, the whole of the Eastway production workforce had been laid off.

These two blatant attacks on the Lesney workforce have been backed up by management's refusal to

concede demands for a closed shop, and by crude provocation—foundry workers have been incensed by the attempt to promote a non-union member to a job won by the union.

These are clearly attempts to soften up the unions to stop us getting any decent wage increases. And for our toolmakers, there is the problem of fighting yet another management hiding behind the crumbling Social Contract.

If the recent Leyland and Heathrow disputes are any indication, AUEW officials will work overtime to force a return to work. We cannot allow this to happen.

We call on all AUEW members to show the solidarity which can bring us a full victory. We want to visit every factory in North and East London asking for support.

With Lesney's double profits, we want our share of the cake.

Messages of support and donations to: c/o Bro P. Horridge, 11, Bideford Rd., Enfield Lock, Enfield, Middlesex.

Killer dust scandal

By an asbestos shop worker
BR Doncaster

DONCASTER: Congestion in the Asbestos Shop at the British Rail Engineering works is so bad that the workers have to disconnect their air pipes to untangle them before they can move about the shop.

The air pipes are 60 foot long. They connect with the special protective suits asbestos workers wear to protect them from the deadly asbestos dust.

British Rail pay an extra 10p an hour — £4 a week for working in the asbestos shop.

They stopped overtime working and brought in untrained 'volunteers' to work in the shop. This has started the congestion.

Inadequate

Lighting in the shop is inadequate. It consists of strip lighting in the ceiling. There are no side windows. As a result of this and the congestion, jobs are going out with asbestos still on them.

The job is supposed to be stripping the asbestos off.

Men in other departments are refusing to work with it and are sending it back. And there is now a work-to-rule in the asbestos shop.

In nearby Sheffield, part of Hinde House Comprehensive School has just been shut down following the discovery of blue asbestos.

BATTLE GOES ON

EAST KILBRIDE: The strike by 47 TASS members at Hayward Tyler continues.

Management are trying to crush union organisation inside the factory. The TASS branch secretary, the divisional council delegate, and other union activists have been sacked, under the thin disguise of a redundancy scheme.

Ian Abbot, from the strike committee, told Thursday's demonstration: 'Management have made it clear just how they are prepared to behave—they've said there are more sackings on the way no matter what happens to the six who have been victimised.'

The shop floor is non-union, and obviously the management want it to stay that way.

The strike has official backing from TASS but unless support for it is stepped up quickly the strikers could become isolated.

MASSIVE SUPPORT FOR JOURNALISTS

THE STRIKE that Fleet Street newspapers said wouldn't happen was supported almost unanimously by provincial newspaper journalists last Friday.

Only a handful of newspaper offices refused to come out in support of the 60 journalists at Kettering who have been on the streets for six months.

The Kettering journalists were locked out by the East Midlands Allied Press management when they returned to work after being on strike.

They had refused to work with members of their own union, the National Union of Journalists, who had scabbed on the strike and joined the Institute of Journalists scab force.

More ominous

The nation papers carried article after article predicting disaster for the solidarity strike, without saying what the real issues were.

This isn't surprising, as the managing director of the Kettering newspaper is a former editor-in-chief of The Guardian, John Ryan.

The one weak point in the solidarity strike was that the Press Association news agency chapel voted 100-65 to carry on acting as a strike-breaking force by supplying stories and pictures to the newspapers where NUJ members are on strike.

This enabled editors and scabs to get out the provincial papers.

But a packed meeting of London suburban journalists passed a motion of congratulations to the 65 PA journalists who backed up their vote by coming out in support for the day.

The massive support for Kettering from rank and file



On the picket line at Roberts' site in Kennington Lane, South London, Don Speakman, the personnel officer (and a prospective Labour candidate) tried to sack three steelfixers on the grounds that there was not enough work. Micky Brooks, the steelfixers' steward, said: 'There's a mile of work for us. This is a blatant attempt to break the union organisation on the site.'

The men, who are members of the TGWU and UCATT, have been out for three weeks and are in need of support. Donations and messages to M. Brooks, 49 Cuddington, Deacon Way, London SE 17.

journalists is a kick in the teeth for the union's leadership, who until the annual conference three weeks ago had taken no initiative to win the Kettering fight.

The conference voted overwhelmingly for the one-day strike against the advice of the executive.

Meanwhile, leaders of the four big print unions have lined up with the newspaper owners.

Rank and file members are asking some embarrassing questions:

Questions

WHY did Bill Keys general secretary of Sogat, change his mind over support for the NUJ at Kettering?

WHY did Joe Wade, general secretary of the NGA, override his national officer John Jones and reverse his union's attitude to the lockout?

WHY did John Jackson of Slade use the same excuse that the scab organisation, the I.O.J., exists elsewhere in the country, saying 'we cannot advise our members to treat them as black'?

WHY did Owen O'Brien of Natopa disregard any pretence of trade union principle over Kettering?

We urge all rank and file members of the print unions to raise these questions in their chapels and branches.

EM strike is solid

By Billy Williams

PONTYCLUN, S. Wales: 180 workers, most of them women, have been on strike for three weeks at EM Manufacturing over management's refusal to recognise the Engineering Union.

For many years, the company had no union to deal with. Then all the workers

joined the AUEW. Shop stewards were elected—but management repeatedly refused to meet them, even when accompanied by the AUEW district secretary.

Staff workers have been doing the work of the shop-floor at overtime rates. They've also been doing maintenance work.

This led to a dispute some months ago and immediately the company stopped all overtime. This was the last straw.

The company then approached one person for overtime. He took it on and said he wouldn't be dictated to by any union, that is he would be dictated to by any boss.

When three workers refused to work with him, they were issued with final warnings—the sack. Eventually this led to a solid strike by the rest of the workforce.

Last Saturday there was a mass picket supported by miners and workers from other local factories.

Out with the Con-trick, NUPE

'THE SOCIAL Contract has hit the low paid in NUPE harder than most other wage earners.

'I fully support all steps taken by members and branches to get this message across to the NUPE executive, the government, the TUC and the public.

'We do not support another phase of the Social Contract. Those are the words of Alan

Ellis, a member of the national committee of the public employees' union (NUPE) and a steward at St George's Hospital, London.

There are 16 motions opposing the Social Contract on the agenda of the NUPE conference which starts in Brighton on 22 May.

There are none supporting it. But Alan Fisher, general secretary of NUPE, will be asking for a vote of confidence for another round of pay

restraint.

If he succeeds, all those resolutions for better wages, holidays and shift pay will fail. Resolutions against unemployment and the cuts will be meaningless.

The Social Contract is also racist. It means deportation for nearly 19000 nurses in the National Health Service. It kills hospitals — 100 have closed since Labour have been in power.

Delegates opposing Fisher and the Social Contract will need the support of rank and file NUPE members—outside the conference.

Hospital Worker, the rank and file paper, and the Right to Work Campaign are calling a lobby at the Dome, Brighton, on Sunday 22 May at 12.30pm.

Coaches for the lobby will leave Kings Cross, London at 9.30 am.

THE OTHER CINEMA
25 TOTTENHAM STREET (at Charlotte St.), W 1 637-9308/9

ANTONIO DAS MARTAS—Brazilian film about a legendary mercenary hired to put down a peasant uprising, but who transfers his allegiance. Friday 13 - Thursday 19 May, 9pm.

BARRAVENTO—Brazilian film about a fishing community's fight against religious superstition. Saturday 14 May, 3pm. Sunday 15th, 5pm. Monday 16th, 5pm.

The feminist film **RIDDLES OF THE SPHINX** Friday 13 - Thursday 19 May, 7pm.

FRED WISEMAN SEASON—US documentary film-maker who dissects US institutions. Friday 13 May, 4.15pm. Juvenile Court. Tuesday 17th, 5pm. Essene (religious community). Wednesday 18th, 5pm. Hospital. Thursday 19th, 5pm. Basic army training.

NOW THE PICKETS FACE COURT BAN

SERIOUS attempts are now being made to break the pickets on Trust House Forte.

In Birmingham, workers sacked for joining the Transport and General Workers Union are now being threatened with a court injunction to stop them picketing.

In Oxford, the National Front supporter, Dowager Lady Birdwood, organised a special meeting of an organisation called Self Help to back the management of the Randolph Hotel, where more TGWU members have been sacked for joining the union.

Trust House Forte workers are also on strike at the Grosvenor House Hotel in Sheffield. They were also sacked for joining the TGWU.

In Birmingham, TGWU transport drivers are refusing to deliver supplies to any Trust House Forte hotel or motorway service station. Petrol and oil have been cut off.

11,000 lorry drivers are involved in the blacking in the Midlands Region of the TGWU.

Refusal

But the rest of the union has not yet followed. Since before Christmas, the IGWU General Secretary, Jack Jones, and the TGWU executive, have refused to call for national blacking of Trust House Forte.

This would bring Trust House Forte to their knees. Even the blacking imposed by the Midlands Region has brought a hysterical response.

As well as the threat to bring in the courts, pickets have been attacked by scabs on a march organised by the management.

Massive advertisements have appeared in national newspapers.

Every trade unionist must support the strikers. If they win the right to belong to a trade union, the whole of the catering industry, with its rotten wages and sweat shop conditions, will be open to trade union organisation.

Black Trust House Forte—support the strike funds: Grosvenor Hotel strike committee, c/o Trevor Jones, Transport House, Hartshead, Sheffield; Randolph Hotel strike committee, 41 Bridge Street, Oxford; Night Out strike committee, Transport House, Broad Street, Birmingham.

SOUTHALLS: 200 STRIKE

BIRMINGHAM: The battle for the right of workers to leave USDAW and join the Transport and General Workers Union in Southalls has started again with 200 mainly Pakistani workers coming out on strike.

Two weeks ago, 35 drivers and warehousemen came out for the right to join the union of their choice. They won.

The three drivers sacked for leaving USDAW were reinstated and the men were paid for the time they were out on strike.



Chapple (above left, with back to camera) gives the Port Talbot electricians the run-around

FRANK CHAPPLE, general secretary of the EETPU, gave the 27-man strike committee of the Port Talbot electricians the run-around on Monday.

He listened to their case and agreed it was a good one. But there was nothing he could do, he said. 'We cannot support a claim that is in breach of the Social Contract.'

He wins

'If you're saying all the electricians in the works are a special group—then that's out. There's no way we can support you without bringing the bloody house down!'

Chapple has been a leading defender of the Social Contract over the last two years, and has opposed his members' attempts to break it.

But now, he said: 'I personally would not support another round of

CHAPPLE CONS PORT TALBOT STRIKERS

the Social Contract because of the problems it has presented us with.'

Rank and file electricians on strike at Port Talbot and in Sheffield can say 'thanks for nothing'.

Chapple's promised burst of militancy won't take place until after the end of Phase Two—and then, if we haven't smashed the Social Contract, there'll be a Phase 3.

So he won't support rank and file EETPU members then, either. Heads he wins, tails the members lose.

In the meantime, Chapple's main aim is to get his members back to work. And on Monday he skillfully got the Port Talbot stewards to begin talking about just that.

Yet their original aim had been to demand official backing for the strike.

So the stewards returned to Swansea able only to report that moves were afoot for a meeting with the BSC to see whether, as Chapple put it, there can be 'a bloody face

safer'. If Chapple, the BSC and the Social Contract are to be beaten, it will need a tremendous effort from the strikers, from other rank and file electricians, and from all trade unionists who wish to defeat the Social Contract.

The strikers have produced a Port Talbot bulletin, available from the Strike Treasurer. It should be used widely to give their 'special case' a full airing and to win financial and industrial solidarity.

The BSC has kept the canning industry running, despite the total six-weeks closure of the giant Port Talbot works, by importing 70,000 tons of steel, mainly from Holland.

We must not allow this strike to be broken.

Messages of support and donations to: Bill Curtis, 27 Hawthorne Avenue, Baglan, Port Talbot, West Glamorgan.

POLICE ARREST 38 AT OXFORD

OXFORD: 38 anti-fascists were arbitrarily arrested during a mass picket of the Randolph Hotel in Oxford on Friday.

Workers have been on strike for five months.

The picket was called by the Oxford Anti-Fascist Committee when it was learned that a national strike-breaking organisation—Lady Birdwood's Self Help—had organised a meeting at the hotel to help the management break the strike.

A squad of 50 police, including the Special Patrol Group, were determined that Lady Birdwood and her followers should succeed in

their aim.

When the police found it impossible to break the solid picket of 300 from the front, a detachment attacked the picket from the rear.

The mass arrests began, some pickets being pulled from the line by their hair or legs.

Self Help, Lady Birdwood's anti-trade union private army, had circulated its members inviting them to join in Operation X.

Confrontation

They said they were looking forward to the confrontation with the pickets 'with relish'.

Some of them, physically assaulted pickets, 'unnoticed' by the police.

Oxford Anti-Fascist Committee have started a defence campaign fund. Donations to: Oxford Anti-Fascist Committee, c/o Oxford Council for Community Relations, Princes Street, Oxford.

AUEW: Don't get too excited...

ROLL ON August the First—and it'll be all systems go.

That was the reaction of thousands of Engineering Union members last week after their national committee voted for an immediate return to free, collective bargaining.

Deferment

The decision may make employers bite their finger nails—but they are far from shaking in their shoes.

As Bob Wright, the union's

Assistant General Secretary and the 'Broad Left' Presidential candidate, told Socialist Worker:

'The Executive Council was hoisted on its own petard. It had hoped to get a deferment which would have been binding on the union at the amalgamated conference this week.

'But the deferment was defeated 27-25. Hence we go to the Conference mandated to call for an end to all wage restraint at the end of Phase 2.

'But there is a sting in the tail. If union policy is defeated at the TUC, then the National Committee is to be recalled to discuss the matter again.

'The EC did not want a straight vote on the Social Contract, because it knew that all the delegates, whether right wing or left wing, were under the influence of a groundswell of rank and file feeling.

'Hence the huge majority when the vote was taken. Our union members are now going to have to convince members of other unions before the TUC.'

Lead

So Bob Wright seems to think that engineering workers have to wait to see what other unions decide.

But the best way to convince members of other unions to demand an end to the Social Contract and other forms of wage restraint is to prepare for action now. Ian Morris, an AUEW steward at Heathrow said: 'August 1st is the crunch point. However the Executive Council may try and wriggle out of it, we now have a green light for action.'

'Certainly we will now force money on the table for our shift claim by August 1st.'

DIANA LAURENSEN

NATFHE comrades at North East London Polytechnic announce with deep regret the sudden death at 55 of their friend and comrade Diana Laursen.

Diana joined the International Socialists (now the Socialist Workers Party) in 1974. She will be sadly missed.

IN BRIEF

STRATHCLYDE: The NUPE strike of school cleaners and janitors has hit home hard in this area.

All three secondary schools are closed to pupils.

NUPE members are out because of a cut in working hours that will lead to a drop in wages.

S. LONDON: 560 building workers at the Thames Barrier site are on strike for a fair redundancy agreement of first in, last out.

The men—members of

TGWU, UCATT, CEU, Boilermakers and the EETPU—want workers who were made redundant to have the first opportunity to any new starts. Management alive refused.

'Given the state of the industry, we are asking for some decent severance pay. The management are offering 40 hours,' said John.

W. MIDLANDS: 30 members of TASS, the white collar section of the Engineering Union, are on strike at Holyhead Engineering.

The company, part of W. Canning, are refused to pay a wage award to which they agreed in January. It would have given Holyhead workers equal pay with the parent company.

SMETHWICK: More than 200 AUEW members at Albion Bottles have been sacked.

The battle with management started when they supported the day of action on 20 April. The next day some workers were sent home.

After a meeting voted to support them, management called in the stewards to discuss a 'phased start'.

When the stewards arrived they were told they were all sacked.

The rest of the workforce agreed to strike until they are reinstated.

ABERDARE, GLAMS: Laundry and linen workers are striking one day a week against the planned disintegration of the General Hospital.

The temporary workers have been threatened with the sack, the 'permanent' staff with transfer to other hospitals miles away.

SLOUGH: Members of SOGAT and the NGA print unions at Hazells Offset Ltd. are out on the streets after management refused to pay them.

Hazells is part of the giant British Printing Corporation which made £8 million profit last year.

BIRMINGHAM: 70 transport drivers for Morton's, a BRS subsidiary are on strike for sick pay and an adequate insurance scheme.

At present death benefit is only £1000. The average in the industry is £10,000.

National Rank and File
FIREMAN
WE WANT £15 NOW

UNDER heavy pressure from their union leadership, Essex fire brigade committee last week abandoned plans for an all-out strike against the cuts. Ironically, the Fire Brigades Union leadership had been praising the Essex lads for their stand against the cuts.

But the minute they proposed really serious action, the 'leadership' came down on them like a ton of bricks, just as they did with the striking Glasgow firemen in 1973.

The case for rank and file organisation inside the FBU couldn't be clearer. And a small step was made in that direction this week with the publication of a national bulletin, Rank and File Fireman.

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PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

KRAFT: A RISE FOR ONE MUST BE A RISE FOR ALL

by MARGARET CAMPBELL

MERSEYSIDE: staff workers at the Kraft factory, Kirkby, are out solid in a struggle to compel the company to pay them equal rates.

Recently four of the women were granted a £7.95-a-week extra payment by an industrial tribunal. The company agreed that eight other women would get the extra payments—but 63 others were to get nothing. The women simply refused to allow the bosses to get away

with this. And they are being supported in their action by 44 male workers who are doing the same or similar work but getting about £13 a week more.

Support from the shop floor workers is excellent. They are backing everything that comes through the strikers' picket line, but so far the strikers union, USDAW, hasn't made the battle official. The strikers are determined to win.



Treble your action!

TWO FACTORIES have walked out in support of 400 women on strike for equal pay at the Laird Portch clothing factory in East Kilbride.

In Kilmarnock 60 women at the Lawson Street Laird Portch factory went on indefinite strike in support of the five-week-old strike. At the Western Road factory another 100 workers, including 16 men, joined the strike.

The women's union, the Tailors and Garment Workers, still hasn't made the strike official. But this isn't stopping the spread of support.

In Alloa five warehouse workers in the combine have come out on strike. They are paid by the East Kilbride plant.

Men's support

In the main Alloa plant the management locked the doors last Wednesday to keep out pickets from East Kilbride. Management then held a meeting of all workers in the canteen, saying that the strike had nothing to do with them.

This didn't stop stewards and other workers meeting the delegation later on and offering their support.

The East Kilbride strikers are demanding parity with unskilled male workers in the factory, and they have

The picket outside Grunwicks last Wednesday when joined by 400 Right to Work supporters.

Picture: Andrew Ward (Report)

TWO MORE CLOTHING FACTORIES JOIN EQUAL PAY STRIKE

the men's support.

The convenor of the strike committee, Ellen Nicklin, told Socialist Worker: 'We've been arguing with management since January last year—it's got so we just don't trust them any more.'

'The unions are almost as much of a hindrance. The strike is unofficial. We're getting no strike pay, and some of the girls are having a terrible time financially.'

Laird Portch is part of the Jaeger clothing and retail firm. They are owned by Coats-Patons, the textiles multinational. In 1975 their assets were £289 million.



Some of the 400 strikers outside the East Kilbride factory

The company are claiming that they 'can't afford' to pay the claim. In 1975 their profits did in fact go down, by about 14.5 per cent—but dividends, the pay-out to shareholders, went up by a staggering 206 per cent.

Amazing

As convenor Ellen Nicklin says: 'If we win it could have an amazing effect right through the whole clothing industry where wages for women are lousy. That's why the management are so afraid of conceding our claim. That's why we must break through.' And that is why the strikers need

support from trade unionists, women and men everywhere.

This is what you can do to help:
 Raise money through collections and official donations. Send all contributions and messages of support c/o Ellen Nicklin, 153 Leeward Circle, Westwood, East Kilbride.

Organise

Approach all Coats-Patons workers in your area to organise blacking of work normally done by the factories on strike, and other solidarity action. The combine

includes Posolds, Herbert L Driver, D Byford, Jaeger Holdings, Laird Portch Fashions, Dalkeith Knitwear, J P Coats.

Organise delegations to these factories. Members of the strike committee are anxious to travel to meet other strikers. Phone Johnny Miller at 041-221 3426.

Stickers and collection sheets will be available on the Abortion Demonstration this Saturday. Make sure you collect yours.

Women's Voice supporters should organise street meetings in support.

Right to Work boosts Grunwicks

LEADERS of the Union of Post Office Workers (UPW) may need their memories jogging next week as they settle down to their annual conference in Bournemouth.

For they will probably have conveniently forgotten the grave responsibility they still owe to the Grunwicks strikers—still battling on after 38 weeks in their struggle for union recognition. Most of the strikers are Asian workers.

The UPW had the power to break Grunwicks many weeks ago. Unfortunately they allowed the ultra-right National Association for Freedom to stop their members blacking postal deliveries by the use of a High Court injunction.

Grunwicks are utterly dependent on their mail deliveries. By grovelling in front of the courts UPW general secretary Tom Jackson turned his back on these strikers.

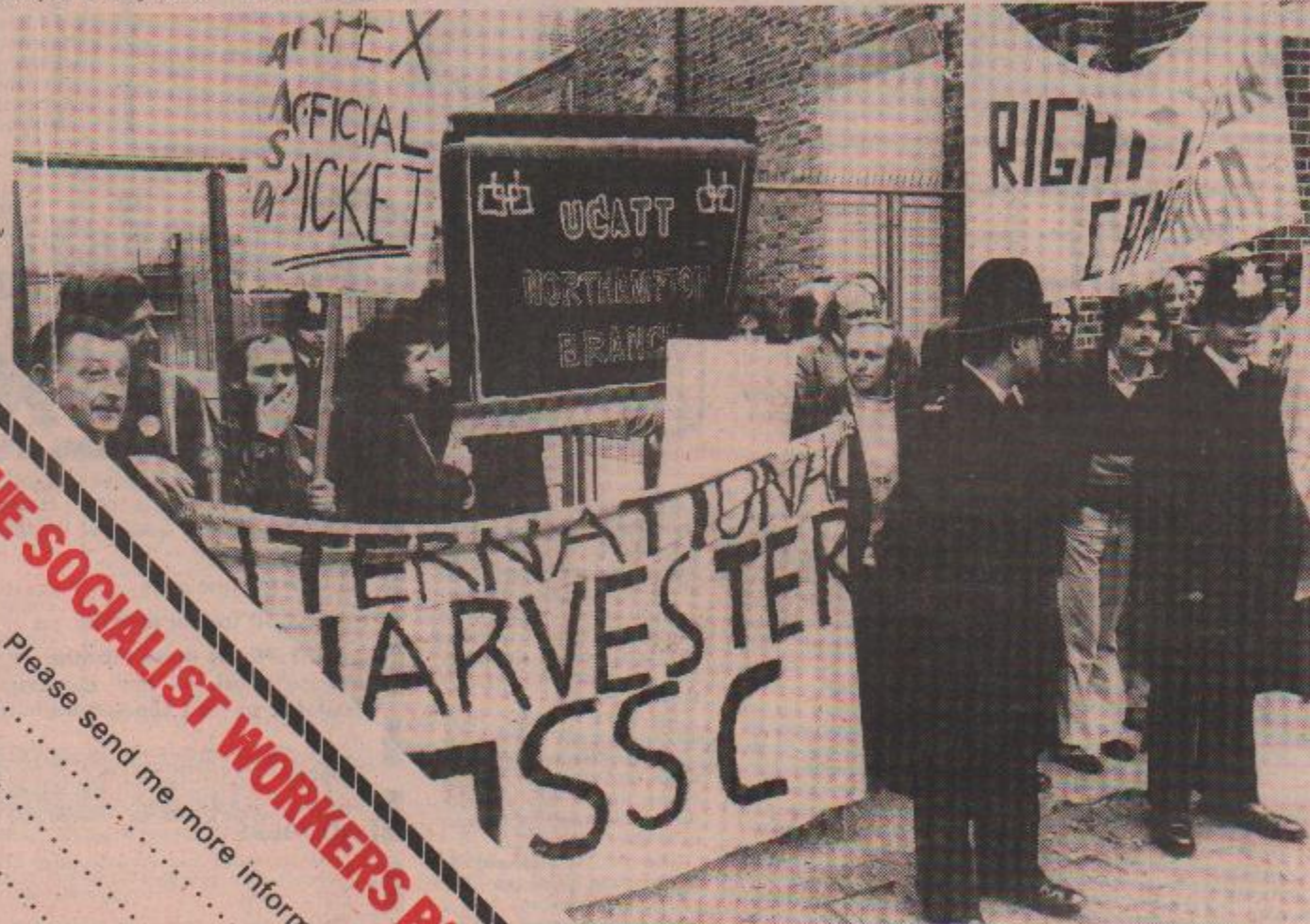
Pickets outside the Grunwicks factory in North West London were given a splendid boost last Wednesday afternoon. Hundreds of supporters of the Right to

Work Campaign joined the strikers after earlier celebrating the acquittal of John Deason, secretary of the campaign, at the Old Bailey.

Strike committee secretary Mahmood Ahmad welcomed the pickets. He warned them to beware of the police who had spent the 36 weeks of the strike harassing the strikers.

Other strikers appealed for regular support for their 24-hour picket line. Many trade union bodies are already committed to sending delegations. Among them are the London trades councils of Brent, Barnet and Hackney, the North London district of the AUEW, building workers from Camden UCATT, the British Communications Corporation Shop Stewards Committee and Trico shop stewards committee. Many APEX branches, the strikers' own union, have sent along contingents.

Delegations and donations to Grunwick Strike Committee, Brent Trades and Labour Hall, 375 High Rd, Willesden, London NW10.



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Name
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Please send me more information

Send to: National Secretary, Socialist Workers Party, 6 Cornhill, London E.C. 2, 20M.

Rank and File Contact Conference Against the JIB

Saturday 28 May, Memorial Hall, Sheffield.
 Chairman: Billy Williams, (Cardiff EETPU).
 Leaflets and further details from 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.