Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p

THE MOST IMPORTANT PICKET SINCE THE MINERS' STRIKE WAS WON AT SALTLEY

- ☐ Send delegations to the picket every morning at 7am, especially this Friday (1 July), Dollis Hill tube.
- ☐ Organise mass delegations and stoppages for the mass picket on 11 July.
- ☐ Picket your local chemists and make sure they are not handling: Copper and Pearson, Bonuspool, Trucolour, Monkolov

GRUNVICKS: The workers, united, will never be defeated



DEFEND THE LEWISHAM 21, STOP POLICE MUGGING

Demonstrate Saturday 2 July. Assemble 2pm, Clifton Rise, New Cross Station, London, SE14. All London SWP Districts to support.

Dockers vote to demand 20 per cent wage rise

THE Social Contract is no more!

This was the message coming through loud and clear from 3000 dockers meeting in Southampton and Liverpool last week. They voted unanimously to fight for a 20 per cent increase in August.

The meeting was the first of a series

to be organised at every major port in the country by the National Ports Shop Stewards Committee.

The dockers are setting a magnificent example to workers throughout the country to kill the Social Contrick as soon as Phase 2 ends on 31

TGWU out £15 -to scabs!

THIS Thursday, in the canteen of an Essex factory, the Transport and General Workers Union official will pay about a thousand pounds of union money-to scabs.

Each of the 70 workers at Yardleys, Basildon, who crossed the picket lines during last spring's equal pay strike will receive £15 from the union.

'I'm so mad about it I can hardly speak,' says Joan Penfold, a TGWU shop steward who was one of the



Flashback to March, and the Yardleys picket line

strike leaders. 'It's knocking people's jobs and it's knocking the whole trade union movement.'

Every week during the strike, mass meetings of the women had voted by huge majorities to stay out of work. The scabs had gone back in defiance of these decisions.

Persuaded

At the final meeting, the strikers were persuaded to go back to work after Ron Todd, regional secretary of the TGWU's biggest region—no 1—had offered them

an 'ex gratia' payment of £25 per striker.

'Todd promised three times that money would only be paid to those of us who had stayed out on strike', says Joan Penforld.

Todd, however, plotted otherwise. He

was angry that his constant instructions to the women to go back to work had been

ignored. He believed that the 70 scabs who had crossed picket lines on his instructions should get some money too.

So, despite constant protests from the Yardley strikers, the finance and general purposes committee of the union has agreed to pay £15 to each scab.

The firm has made the canteen available this Thursday for this squalid hand-out. If Todd appears on the scene he is in for a rough reception.

☐ Joan Penfold has written a poem about the Yardley's strike in this month's issue of our sister paper, Women's Voice. It's a fine poem, and a fine issue. Women's Voice is going from strength to strength. Get your copy now. 17p including postage from WV, Cottons Gardens, London E2.

PROTEST STARTS AT **FASCIST STRONGHOLD**

THE TUC has decided to start its national demonstration against racism next Saturday outside Strangeways Prison. in Manchester.

This is highly appropriate. Eighty prison warders in Strangeways are organised into the National Front.

Warders openly wear National Front badges. They have been known to come on duty wearing National Front

March against racialism

Saturday 9 July in Called by the Trades Union Congress as a Leaves Strangeways Prison, 12 noon. All SWP North West branches and members to support with maximum turn-out

Black prisoners have been threatened and abused. They are gigiven the hardest work and made to wait last for food

and slopping out.

One black prisoner was locked in a padded cell for three days and threatened by National Front warders.

On some cell doors warders have pinned notices saying 'Illegal immigrant.'

And all the Home Office has done is forbid the wearing of National Front badges.

Supporters of Flame and Worker demonstrated outside the prison in February. Now the massive national demonstration called by the TUC must be supported by all trade unionists and socialists in the North West, as part of the general campaign against

It will also be a way of showing the National Front warders inside Strangeways that the campaign against them goes on.



Women's Voice picket out in London last week with a noisy reception for the anti-abortion bigots who came to picket the British Medical Association, the doctors' organisation which has come out against tightening the abortion laws.

SUPPORT THE GRUNWICKS PICKET LINE: 7am, every v

Printers, miners, STOP THE

LEADERS of 30,000 Post Office workers in London voted by 2-1 on Tuesday to impose a total black on Grunwicks

Dockers in Liverpool and Southampton also voted to give the Grunwicks pickets their support, while the civil servants' union CPSA is calling for official delegations this Friday.

The message is: the mass

action goes on. The strike committee is standing firm. They want as many people as

possible at the picket line

Grunwicks boss George

Ward has made it clear again and again that 'under no

circumstances can those workers who have been sacked be reinstated.' Only mass action will force him to back down.

Fantastic

slackened since the massive

police occupation of the

streets last Friday, when

they doubled their numbers.

But the signs are that the big

battalions of the trade union

movement are now begin-

ning to move.

The London District
Council of the Post Office
Workers Union took its
decision for a total black on
Grunwicks in the face of

opposition from the union

executive—and regional management have already hinted that postal workers operating the blacking may

be suspended.
Send them telegrams and messages of support to: John Taylor, LDC UPW, 14-16 Old Street, London, EC1.

Arrested

Dave Percival, chairman of Croydon UPW, told Socialist Worker: This tremendous boost for the

Grunwicks strikers is a direct

The Cricklewood office

gave the lead as soon as the

picket started. Now we can

paralyse them throughout

Micky Fenn, shop steward in the Royal Group of Docks, in London, told

Tve just come back from a

fantastic meeting in Liver-

result of the mass pickets.

Numbers may have

every morning.

And in Bristol, printers have blacked production of a million postal packets ordered by Grunwicks for their mail order film business.

DEFEND RICHARD MAULL

SIXTY PEOPLE, family, friends and fellow workers of Richard Maull, met on Monday and formed a defence committee. Richard is the young West Indian worker who has been charged with throwing the bottle that injured Special Patrol Group police constable Wilson.

London, NW10 (next to Dollis Hill tube station)

every weekday

PICKET

GRUNWICKS

THE

SUPPORT

station

tube

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Dollis

\$

(next

NW10

ondon,

Chris Piggott, chairman of the white-collar union ASTMS at Smiths Industries Computer Department, where Richard Maull works, told Socialist Worker: 'The Special Branch came looking for Richard last Saturday morning.

They made a raid on the department at quarter past seven. Two of them were led in by a Smiths Industries security guard through the back entrance into the computer area.

There were other Special Branch men in position on the front door, apparently in case Richard, who wasn't there, tried to escape.

'The security guard asked if Richard was present or if he was hiding somewhere

he was hiding somewhere. The two Special Branch men stood on either side of the security guard. They never spoke, never produced a warrant or showed any identification at all.

When they were satisfied

Richard was not on the premises, they left.

'The computer operators at Smiths are all members of ASTMS. They have all been on the Grunwicks picket line. Richard is both a friend and a computer of our and a computer of our smith and a computer of our smith a smith a computer of our smith a smith a computer of our smith a smith and a smith a smit

and a comrade of ours.
'He is black and he is a militant trade unionist. He was a perfect target for the political police.

Security

On Monday a courtroom packed with Richard's family and friends heard the police successfully oppose bail. His family were in tears. He is being held in Brixton police station until he police station until he appears in court again in

seven days time.

APEX has disowned Richard. Who are they to act as judge and jury?

They are playing right into the hands of the press and making the chance of a witch-hunt against him much more likely.

☐ Richard Maull's union branch has formed a defence committee. If you witnessed what happened or if you can help in the defence campaign, please contact Richard Maull Defence Committee, c/o Secretary, ASTMS 628 Branch, 65 Ashworth Mansions, Eigin Ave, London Wa

They come armed . . .

The 100-strong group is split into four teams and is used as a mobile reserve to go to trouble spots. Members of the unit travel in specially fitted carriers . . . and always have a marksman and a gun with them.

Daily Telegraph, 24 June.

pool. Two thousand dockers voted to a man to give every

London'.

Socialist Worker:

TWO West Indian women workers and accountant Rasheed Mohammed quit the Grunwicks factory last week and told a press conference of their ordeal under Ward's rule. They all confirmed rumours that Ward had jacked up the wages by 25 per cent, thus breaking the Social Contract after the

strike had started.

They gave vivid descrip-tions of how he leaned heavily on any worker he thought might vote for the union in the 'independent' ballot he commissioned.

Last Monday Tony Jiminez was at the press conference. He'd just quit

'Last August I carned £36 for 40 hours. Since then I've had two wage increases, one of 25 per cent and one of 10

When Grantham was coming to the factory Ward came down to the canteen in Cobbold Road and incited the workers. 'Go and give it to him' he told them.

SUPPORT THE GRUNWICKS PICKET LINE: 7am, every w

Road, London, NW10 (next to Dollis Hill tube station). SUPPORT THE GRUNWICKS PICKET LINE: 7am, every weekday, Chapter Road, (next to

postal workers, dockers, civil servants all act to GRUNWICKS SCABS!

THIS THEY CALL **PEACEFUL** POLICE **ACTION**

MARY DAVIS, a teacher, tells what happened to her on the Grunwicks picket

I was around the back one day when the bus came. We were surrounded by ordinary police As the bus approached the Special Patrol Group jumped out and cleared a way for it. Their tactics were quite different to those of the ordinary police. We were just something in the way. The fact that we were human was irrelevant to them. They went for the weakest points first. That meant the women and the smaller men. I'm quite sure they deliberately jumped

on my legs. A bone in my foot was broken. 'I was carried out of the way and put on the pave-ment. There I met other pickets who had also been hundled out. There was another girl with damaged legs. There was also a man bent double where he had been hit in the groin.'





THIS THEY CALL VIOLENCE ON THE **PICKET**

JOHN ROSE writes:

I was standing next to Mike Hicks, a printworker and a few minutes before the Special Patrol Group policeman was hit by a bottle. The pickets were furning because the police had arrested Arthur Scargill and several other

Hicks was arguing with a Special Patrol Group police sergeant. Their conversation was quite amiable. The sergeant was denying that the police were biased.

As they chatted an SPG minibus pulled out in the

A crowd of about 70 pickets standing on the pavement jeered them. Suddenly the SPG jumped out of the back of the bus and plunged into the

'They must be crazy,' the police sergeant muttered to Hicks.

Fighting then broke out on the street. The bottle was thrown minutes after

Grunwicks.

'Now we can confidently say that dockers will start coming to that picket line.' Mike McGrath,

national executive com-mittee member of the CPSA. the civil servants union: 'We ficially for branches to send delegates to the picket from this Friday. It is now up to civil servants to get down to the picket line in their hundreds.

Arthur Scargill, the Yorkshire miners' leader who was arrested at Grunwicks last week, is calling for a national day of action on Monday 11 July.

Decision

Socialist Worker readers everywhere, as well as organising delegations often as possible before 11 July, should start preparing for action on this

Printers in Bristol have blacked production of a million postal packets for Grunwicks mail order firm.

But above all the mass picketing continues and will be intensified.

conceivable assistance to

'I ONLY obey the law of the Socialist land', says George Ward, boss of Grunwicks. On Monday, he will be in the

High Court, suing the government's conciliation agency, ACAS, which he claims broke the law in their inquiry into the Grunwicks dispute.

ACAS, claims Ward, interviewed sacked workers on the picket-and these were not 'workers' within the meaning of the Act.

ACAS was set up by the Labour government's Employment Protection Act, by which Labour promised the trade unions to 'safeguard' trade union rights. But now Ward is claiming that the conciliation agency has no right to interview workers who he has

If he wins, it means that any

employer can sack any worker who wants a trade union-and so place that worker outside the range of the

Rule of law, Rule of the few

trade union laws! If he loses, he can waste another few months by appealing to the House

Ward has already had a good run in the courts. A mere threat to sue the Post Office Workers Union lifted the black on postal deliveries to

In March, a North London industrial tribunal found that his sacking of workers last summer was justified.

The reason was simple. The workers had gone on strike. And the tribunal is banned by law from deciding that dismissals are unfair if the dismissed workers are on strike.

In other words, no cases of strikers being dismissed can be judged by the industrial tribunals.

Discovered

Because he sacked 90, he could justify it, again under an Act-the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act-which was part of Labour's boast to secure trade union rights!

So however tight, however detailed is Labour's trade union legislation, it can still be shot to pieces by the legal profession.

The laws passed by the elected government become shadowy nothings when they are tested in the courts by the employers and their

None of the lawyers or judges are elected. All, with only a handful of exceptions, are drawn from the wealthy few. The higher they climb, the more reactionary they become.

They are also irresponsible. No judge has been removed from the bench since 1706. Only the monarch has the power to remove them. They can overthrow the substance of Labour government Acts without even the slightest fear of dismissal.

The rule of law is the rule of the unelected and irresponsible few. It is a constant threat to workers' rights and trade union strength.

It is no wonder that Ward, the National Association For Freedom and the Tory Party are champions of the rule of law. The wonder-and the tragedy-is that trade union leaders seem all too happy to hang their members by the same rope.

day, Chapter Road, London, NW10 (next to Dollis Hill tube station). SUPPORT THE GRUNWICKS PICKET LINE: 7am, every weekday,



BEAVERS

THE COMPANIES THAT LOVE THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

The scandal of BP

By SEYMOUR PROPHET THE GOVERNMENT has taken the first steps The bug in the boardroom

in selling off North Sea rearrangement of the finances of the British National Oil In one case-reducing Corporation—the govern-ment has allowed the comits shareholding in British Petroleum-it is giving in pany to prepare the ground for an eventual hiving off to to the demands of private industry that the governthe private sector.

This week the government has sold 17 per cent of its 68 per cent 566 million. ment should not have control of one of the largest oil companies in the world.

Since 1914, the govern-In the second-the

ment has had a large shareholding in BP. But, as the prospectus advertising this week's sale said:

'BP has always been managed and operated as a private business enterprise.'

And the government has said it has no intention of changing this, or its policy not to intervene in the running of the company.

Despite this, when, at the beginning of 1976 the govern-ment increased its stake in BP to 68 per cent, there was an outcry from the city and the

oil industry.

The government got these extra shares as part of its reseue of the Burmah Oil

Company. As a result of a variety of lunatic schemes-especially a

APP

APP NOT PP NO 7

IPP NO 7

PP Nº 7

major foray into shipping— Burmah had brought itself to the verge of bankruptcy. The government, through the Bank of England, said it

would help by buying from Burmah most of its large shareholding in BP.

At the time, Burmah were only too pleased to grasp this lifeline. Since then, however, they have changed their minds because the price of BP shares has gone higher-much to the profit of the government.

Now Burmah claim the sale was invalid. So much for the risks of rugged private enter-

When the government bought that Burmah stake, it promised it would not use the votes on those shares to exercise its control over BP.

But even this was not enough for the city who have been clamouring for the government to sell part of its shareholding ever since. And now the government has obliged.

Millions

This week, almost 67 million BP shares owned by the government have been

As they were offered for sale at £8.45-£3 down, the rest in six months time-when the price in the stock market was nearly £9, there was no shortage of buyers.

The millions of pounds that a select band of stockbrokers, bankers and investors received in return for promising to take the shares if no-one else wanted them, was thus money for old

Those who have bought the shares may see their money back in dividends within ten

Although dividend increases are controlled at the moment, BP have decided to pay into a special fund money which they otherwise would have paid out in dividends. This year the payment goes up by half.

Fortune

When dividend controls are lifted, the money in this fund will be paid out to shareholders.

Something rather different has been happening at British National Oil Corporation the company which owns the government's interests in the North Sea. At the moment BNOC is

not making any money as the exploration programme is in its early stages. But it is clear that one day it is going to make a fortune.

So far, BNOC has been financed by loans from the government-almost £330 million at the last count.

But earlier this month it announced that it had borrowed £485 million from a group of American and British banks.

Kearton-rewarded with the post by the government after his success in closing bits of his textile group, Courtaulds—said that a large part of the money would go to repaying the government.

Suprise

This news came as something of a surprise to the government, who were expecting to finance most of BNOC's development programme.

Although all the shares in BNOC are still held by the government, and champions of the labour movement such as Lord Briginshaw are on BNOC's board to look after our interests, the company has made the first move to loosening the financial strings which tie it to the government.

So, regardless of the ownership of the shares, BNOC can, like BP, 'operate as a private business enter-

Seven years of torment for victim of a new menace down Britain's pits

By BILL MESSAGE

'I was blind for half an hour

and I was sick all over the place, he says. Four weeks later, his face started going red. Ever since, he has had a blotchy red face, which from time to time bursts out into sore, stinging spots.

Has he received any compensation for his disfigurement and suffering?

'The first time I was off I got industrial injury benefit. The doctor put it down as dermatitis. The next time it was put down as acre and I didn't

get a penny.
'There's a booklet now explaining the dangers of these oils, but it's only come out in the past three years. Seven years ago I didn't know

anything about them.' Several NUM branches are

pressing the union to in-vestigate and do something about the dangers of such oils down the pit. Nothing has

happened. The oil used in most of the hydraulic machinery on the coal-face is called Aquacent Group 9. Century Oils, who manufacture it, provide a code of practice for 'safe' use.

One glance at their publication shows that these oils should never be used down a

It is stipulated that they

should not be used in a confined space. The oils are extremely poisonous and the company advises immediate hospital treatment if their

vapour is inhaled. Leakages of the oil on the coal face are not uncommon, yet the oil is supposed to be cleared up immediately any spillage occurs.

A coal-face is hardly the

best location for a mop and bucket operation. Food and drink should not

P N97

be permitted where these oils are stored or used and washing facilities should be provided. It is obvious that these oils

are not fit to be used down a NUM officials and their safety advisers are dragging their

AND GO TO STUFF THE

APIPP NOT

WALLS ARE precious in Golspie, Sutherland. For putting up a Spot the Scrounger poster on this fine example of British architecture - a brick wall - Mike Dodd has suffered

police harrassmne.

Just before HRH Prince Charles was due to visit the Scottish town, Mike was arrested as he was about to paste up a second poster. He explained: 'I was charg-

ed with malicioulsy damaging the wall and spent two hours in a police cell. I was taken to another police station 50 miles away at 3.15 am and ignored for five hours.

'They wouldn't allow bail or

tell me when I would appear in

'If my wife and Easter Ross
SWP members hadn't phoned
the police station I reckon I
would have been kept in the whole weekend.

Mike was released and told to appear in court 50 miles away at 2pm. He was locked

when he arrived there. Eventually he was released on £5

But it didn't stop there. 'On the way home my wife and I were stopped for a "routine" car check by a detective who had been arguing with my wife

FOR the past seven

years, miner Ron Taylor has been suf-

fering from a relative-

ly new hazard in the

Like many miners of his

age, Ron-or Bricky as he is

known to his mates at

Shireoaks Colliery in

South Yorkshire has had

a bad back. He also has

had to have a cartilege

Blind

But in 1970 he was sprayed in the face by oil used to lubricate the new hydraulic

machinery introduced into the

pits in recent years. Two five-gallon drums of

oil dropped and burst open,

the contents hitting Ron full in

removed.

pits-chemicals.

Right to Work Campaign PETI-TION OF THE UNEMPLOYED to

RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN LEAFLETS for Dole Queue distribu-tion. Join the march to the Blackpool TUC. (1.50 for 500. Money with orders to the Rank and File Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London

Rank and File

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

SOUTH LONDON SAVE OUR HOSPITALS CAMPAIGN: Picket the Aroa Health Authority. Wednesday 6 July. Apm. Nurses Hostel. Springfield Hospital, Glenbourne Road, SW17 Make placards, bring kids.

THE COLLIER—new format June issue out now! Articles on The Jpe Garmley Show, the campaign against a productivity deal. Notis Miners' Gale. Dodworth safety victory, coe! allowance deal, Rockingham, opencast mining 10pe copy, plus 7p postage (subscription, 5 issues for 75p), from The Collier, 38 Abbey Lane, Cundy Cross. Barnsley, South Yorkshire. All members will receive Plus one other book to be

JUST OUT—2nd edition of RANK AND FILE FIREMAN. Articles on Witchhunt against R & F Fireman. The Fight for £15. The Lessons of Glasgow 1973. Individual copies 15p, 10 for 50p, 20 for £1 (all post freel from Rank and File Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Road, Lundon N4. Cash with orders.

Right to Work Campaign BADGES: 35 hours now, Fight for the right to work. Stop the Cuts, Smash she Social Contract, Save our Hospitals: All from the Right to Work. Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4 10p each (+7p postage). Cash with orders please.

Where the army attacks pickets

FOUR hundred workers from five workplaces in West Belfast marched to a lunch-time protest last week in support of 26 workers on strike for union recognition.

This solidarity, organised by the Belfast Unemployment Action Committee, has led to the formation of a shop stewards committee for factories in the area.

The committee already has representatives from the EEP-TU, Irish Transport and Amalgamated Transport representing workers in five sites, as well as delegates from the unemployment committee.

Sacked

When the Eastwoods scrap yard workers joined the General and Municipal Workers Union, management refused to meet with them. After a shop steward and two

other workers were sacked, the workers went on strike.

The strike has been receiving tremendous support from the Andersonstown community. The Eastwoods family has a long history of exploiting workers in the area.

Conditions

For years, they were willing to hire ex-internees who were not able to get other jobs. In return, they paid them extremely low wages.

The young workers in the vard are no longer willing to put up with the low wages and dangerous conditions. That's why they are fighting for a

The shop stewards committee is making determined efforts to win Eastwoods. They intend to take on the other problems of workers in

the area.
These include wirming better working conditions in other factories, unionising non-union shops, fighting unemployment in the area and dealing with the British Army harassment.

Workers on every site have been harassed by the Brits on picket lines or just on the way to and from work.

A shop steward from Ulster Crystal said: 'We've marched and demonstrated for years, but now that the workers are organised, we can deal with all these problems."

To win

But first on the agenda is how to win the Eastwoods strike. Further mass pickets are planned. And the Shop Stewards Committee has set up a strike fund.

The men have been out since 2 June and there is no strike fund for them. They need your help.

Please send messages

of support and donations to the Eastwood Strike Fund. 52 Broadway, Belfast 12.

Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4. Send stamped addressed envelope

BOOKMARX CLUB

Selections for third quarter of 1977

the books in List A plus either List B or List C. Please indicate your choice when applying for membership.

Southern Africa After Soweto by Alex Callinicos

and John Rogers Daughter of Earth by Agnes Smedley. A powerful feminist novel set in the shanties and mining towns of America at

the turn of the century.

LIST B A Biography of James Con-nolly: Socialist, Patriot and

Martyr by Samuel Levenson LIST C Destiny by David Edgar. A brilliant play about the rise of fascism in Britain.

Poems and Ballads by Wolf Biermann. The East German government stripped him of his citizenship in 1976—but they failed to silence his communist songs and poems.

HOW TO JOIN THE BOOKMARX CLUB: Send £4.50 a quarter to Bookmarx Club, Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

I love our union but I am sick and tired of the way it is led.

The rank and file spirit must be rekindled.

AUEW: Ian Morris for president

I BECAME a socialist at school, in the war years.

I was at grammar school-very unusual in those days for a working class lad.

The snobbery turned my stomach. Trying to make us 'speak properly' and all that crap.

And I was dimly aware of the Nazi threat in the background too. I started

I did my apprenticeship in an engineering factory, and there was quite a long train

I used to look for something that connected with my feelings of dissatisfaction. I who wrote about miners, their lives and their ideas. Emile Zola, he's the one writer that sticks out in my mind from those days.

Life in the factory confirmed me in my socialist way

Karl Marx

I never really came across Karl Marx until I joined the International Socialists (now the Socialist Workers Party). But what struck me about Marx was the way he understood working class life and our struggles without having ever worked in a fac-

I was called up into the army just before the end of the war. Eventually I was sent to Palestine. I was expected to defend the place from 'illegal immigrants'

We used to have to mount the buses with our sten guns and demand identity cards. I used to do the job with my eyes

shut. I didn't want to know.
Years later, I was really
angry when the British
government bombed Port
Said during the Suez crisis in 1956. I had been at Port Said.

It was a terribly sad place. It ooked like a bomb site anyway. Devastating poverty People lived, if you can call that living, in hovels.

British Rule

Hundreds of years of British Rule had done that to them. And the British army finished off raining bombs on them just for good measure. I would have gone in the glass house if they'd called me up again at that time.

They had planned a public

meeting with leading Nazi Martin Webster — the man who says the Front are

building a well-oiled Nazi

works came when socialists

called a demonstration outside the Warners Community

Hall where the meeting was to

The first spanner in the

ONE OF the most important union elections for years is taking place in the Autumn-for the President of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

This time there is going to be a candidate with a difference. He is Ian Morris 52, a welder and a leading shop steward at Heathrow

Ian is secretary of an AUEW branch in Wembley. Unlike the other candidates, he will be conducting a rank and file campaigninsisting that his supporters prepare for action around the policies he puts forward. The main points in his programme will be:-

☐ Against the Social Contract or any other form of wage restraint.

☐ For a 35 hour week: the only solution to unemployment.

☐ Opposition to racism

☐ Fight for equal pay and women's rights.

INTERVIEW BY JOHN ROSE

I've always detested the way people get treated badly because of their colourabroad and at home.

Racialism wrecks our movement, and we have to speak out unequivocally

You've only got to look at Northern Ireland to see what happens when the nonsensical myths about different races and religions get believed. When that happens, there's no unity among workers, and the door is pushed open for the most horrible exploitation.

Racialism

The union has a responsibility to act against racialism, too. I remember reading in Socialist Worker some months ago about the woman who was forced by immigration officals to have a baby in an airport lounge. The baby died. I felt physically sick reading that.

I'd like to see the day when trade unionists on the airport could ensure that such a thing

could never happen again.

I've been in the engineering industry all my life. The Communist Party influenced all the people I knew who felt like me. But I never joined.

Rank and file

that too many of those who did join wanted to gain per-sonal industrial power. Now, no-one is immune from this weakness. The system encourages it.

But the Communist Party also seemed to encourage it. This seemed the very oposite of the idea of rank and file control.

I've always been afraid of rising 'above' the work place. I never like to leave the work bench and my workmates on union business for more than half a day.

I feel instinctively that this is the only decent attitude. Of course we need leaders but it is the working class as a whole that has to create a different

'personalities' can get in the way. There is great danger in becoming a 'recognised per-sonality'. The pressures operate subtly It's something to do with

In the best of movements,

ego. Once you start projecting yourself instead of your politics and your workmates, you're on the road to ruin.

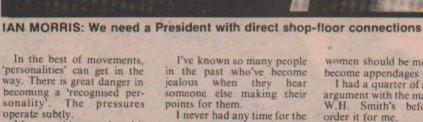
Eventually you become an instrument of the employers who go out of their way to encourage this process.

Democracy

Obviously you must speak out if you feel strongly. But all the time you have to search

During the Heathrow strike the shop stewards dominated the decision-making. It was a first-class exercise in democracy. I would only speak if I felt things were going wrongly.

I was really delighted when I saw less experienced and less political workers jumping up and giving a lead.



so-called 'socialist' countries. I've been in Hungary and Russia. I remember chatting in a cafe with students critical of the regime when I was in Budapest. One of the leaders of our

delegation came up to me immediately and broke up the conversation. He was a full-time AUEW official! Again, in Russia I was really disgusted by the way Lenin has been turned into a Jesus

hours to worship his tomb. At least that is what it looked like. It's visitors in the morning and Russians in the afternoon.

Christ figure. They queue for

One lovely sunny Sunday morning our group of airport workers was strolling across the park near where the queue was forming to see the Lenin

Suddenly a Russian policeman came racing across the park blowing his whistle and waving his arms wildly in the air. He shouted at our interpreter that we must tidy ourselves up and form up in groups of three!

Prejudices

One of the books I've enjoyed reading most in the last few years has been The Little Red Schoolbook

I bought it especially for my daughter when she was at school. It answers all those questions perfectly honestly. It cuts across all that Establishment teaching that

women should be moulded to

become appendages of men. I had a quarter of an hour's argument with the manager of W.H. Smith's before he'd order it for me.

I was so irritated with his little-minded attitude that when he finally agreed I told him I wanted two copies! I think it's very important

that these things should be available for learning when people are young. Otherwise people get stuck in society's prejudices.

Sisters

When I look at women in our union, I see how they are often treated as second-class members-and many of them start to think of themselves as second-class members.

We don't have any women on our National Committee, and most District Committees are just as bad.

Too often, it's just assumed that the women on the shop floor will be 'looked after' by men shop stewards even if they're not in the same depart-

We've more than half a million women in our union. In fact, it's the only area where our union is growing at all!

And we must start taking this seriously, starting where it matters on the shop floor with the union deliberately promoting women shop stewards, and setting up train-

often move faster than us, but if the whole union machinery is biased against them, we'll all lose out.

One of the reasons why I

joined the International Socialists was because it had a

similar constitution to that of the AUEW. It's clear where the leadership is—and it's also clear that the leadership is the property of the members.

Of course structures and constitutions mean nothing if the policies go rotten-as in the case of the union.

It is politics that matters—socialist politics. But at least

our union has maintained its democratic methods of electing leaders. love our union but I am

sick and tired of the way it is being led. There is a tremendous democratic rank and file tradition in the union.

But this is worth nothing when you consider the way the union leadership has virtually sunk all differences with the government and the employers.

Contrick

The rank and file spirit must be rekindled. The campaign for a rank and file President is one way of doing this.

However an election campaign is useless if it is not tied to activity. I notice now, for example, that the so-called left-wing candidate is claiming to be against the Social Con tract. But he did not support. let alone was involved in, the recent strikes against the Social Contract.

Over the years the full-time officials have naturally ex-pected to rise in the ranks of

the union—perhaps to become President. On the contrary, we need a President who has direct shopfloor connections.

FLEE—OVER THE WALL HEMEL HEMPSTEAD be held-and won official proved too hot for the National Front last Friday. Labour Party backing.

The second was when pressure from various sections of the Labour movement persuaded the Community Association to cancel the Front's booking for the hall.

The Front threatened legal action, and said they'd hold their meeting on the grass outside the hall.

As which point the Labour

Party added oil to the machine by calling off their demonstra-

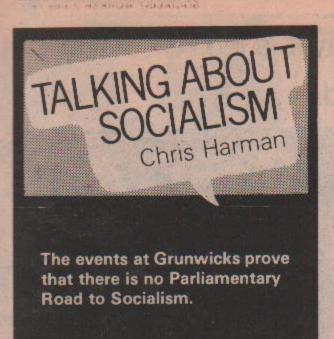
But the left demonstrated regardless 200-strong, at least half of us members and supporters of Socialist Workers Party from South Herts and neighbouring dis-

The Front arrived, all four of them, without Webster, to stand isolated on a corner,

surrounded by chanting placards, and wall-slogans reading 'Stop the Nazi NF'. Only the police 'heavies' were on their side.

After ten minutes, someone in the crowd threw an egg The Front ducked. Then their nerves broke, they clambered over a 3ft car park wall and

That's another cog in the 'machine' stripped of its teeth.



MPs or workers' power?

A MOST AMAZING coincidence. Just as there has been an intensification in the debate over whether there is a parliamentary road to socialism, the police at Grunwicks in North West London have proved that there

You might think that is an extreme statement. But just reflect on what has happened outside that factory over the last three weeks.

The top officials in the police-from the Commissioner of the Metropolitan McNee downwards-have decided to keep the factory open, come

No minister and no majority of MPs told them to do that.

They decided themselves. Once they had taken that decision, any picket trying to blockade the factory was guilty of a criminal offence of some sort - whether 'obstructing the police in the execution of their duty' or of some more serious 'crime' like assault.

Criminal

Many individual policemen were unhappy about helping to break a strike that is supported by a trade union movement with which they themselves are in sympathy. But if they disobeyed the order to attack the pickets, they too would be guilty of a criminal offence.

But could not a majority of MPs instruct the police to behave different-Not according to the British

constitution. As the judges have insisted in a whole number of recent cases (like that of the National Association for Freedom versus the Post Office Union) what the majority of MPs want matters less than than what the judges decide is the law.

The MPs are not allowed to change the law without a long and time-consuming process (including delays at the hands of the non-elected House of Lords and the non-elected monarch).

So, according to the parliamentary process in this country, even if a huge majority of MPs was elected tomorrow that wanted to make the law favourable to the Grunwick workers, it would take

them about two years to do so. Meanwhile, the Grunwick strikers would be worn down until they were almost certainly tired, demoralised and

RUSSIAN leader Leonid

Brezhnev has been doing very nicely thank you out of his detente trip to France.

After champagne and

caviare off a gold plate at the

Elysee Palace, Comrade Brezhnev was given a £15,-

000 racing car and a Matra 'runabout' car by the

Both cars had to be

resprayed in blue-Mr Brezhnev's favourite colour.

No doubt they will make a change from the two Rolls

Royces, a Cadillac, a Mercedes and the Citroen

STUDENT UNION ELEC-

TIONS AT Lancaster Un-

iversity received wider attention than expected.

On the day of the elec-

tion a member of the local

constabulary was seen

leaving the campus with a

pile of election material

issued by NOISS, the Socialist Workers Party student organisation, in-

cluding photographs and

names of candidates. -Andy Fawcett, can-didate for the vice-

presidency.

Maserati he has at home.

Anyone who told the Grunwick strikers to rely on parliament would, then, be telling them to surrender to George Ward and his cronies.

That is why those who believe most in the 'parliamentary road to socialism', like Roy Grantham of APEX, have ended up on the sidelines in this vital battle.

What applies to Grunwicks would apply even more if really massive battles were taking place, involving millions of workers.

Then you would find that not only the police, the judges and the employers' associations were on the

You would also find the army being used to back them up-as it was, for instance, in the General Strike of 1926.

After all, virtually army officers come from the same families and the same expensive public schools as the people who own industry. They are the blood brothers of the George Wards and the John Gouriets.

They have even greater powers over the lives of the rank and file soldiers than McNee has over the power

of rank and file police.

There would be only one way to defeat this combination. It would be to prepare to meet the force of these scum with the force of a united, militant working

Vengeance

That would mean establishing secret contingents of socialist, rank and file police and soldiers, prepared to change sides at crucial moments.

It would mean also ensuring that the workers had enough force of their own to protect these rank and file soldiers and police against the vengeance of their superiors.

There would have to be a workers' militia, prepared to fight the forces of the state until it had a monopoly of armed force in its own

hands. The workers' militia would have to be subject to a democratic organisation of the workers, able to decide on how the struggle was run.

That could not be provided by a parliament where workers representatives

debate with ruling class representatives. The great founders of Marxism like Marx, Engels, Lenin, Rosa Luxemburg, Trotsky concluded from these arguments that socialism could only win when the existing police and army were smashed, and when parliament was replaced by a new, democratic organisation of the working

They said instead of hig business, its army and its police 'dictating' to the working class, the working class had to take power and dictate' to the remnants of the old order.

that real workers democracy involved the dictatorship prolatariat' over its enemies.

Socialist Worker

EDITORIAL

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I'm Clive, feed me



CLIVE JENKINS, general secretary of the ASTMS white collar union enjoyed lunch at the Cafe Royal (owned by Trust House Forte) in London's Piccadilly last Wednesday.

Mr Jenkins was one of the speakers at executive pay conference, sponsored by IPC Electrical-Electronic Press. Delegates paid £50 a head which of course included lunch.



WITHOUT COMMENT: The first priority for the Government is inflation. This must be mastered by reducing state expenditure, putting right the balance of payments

and so on.

... Closing my eyes and lorgetting the hammerand-sickle posters on the wall I thought for a surrealist moment that I was listening to Ted Heath.

Times in an article on the

-Frank Giles, Deputy Edititor of the Sunday

WHERE THERE'S A WILL, The Duke of Portland who died in March this year left £4.3 million in his will.

'Pin' money NAFF

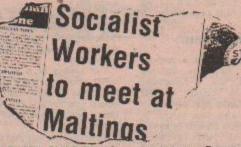
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION for Freedom, as we all know, is not anti-union. It simply believes in the freedom of an individual to exploit other individuals without any kind of fightback being allowed.

In line with this policy the NAFF has just had 50,000 badges made by a non-union firm

Bromsgrove mingham. This firm uses the outwork system.

It dumps thousands of badges and pins on women who are desperate for any kind of work and 'pays' them for assembling the badges at rates which must earn NAFF's ap-

They are paid 5½p a hundred.



THE EARTH-SHATTERING news that the Socialist Workers Party is to hold a meeting at Ely Maltings was so astounding to the editor of the Ely Standard that it relegated MP Cle ment Freud's daughter, Nicola's fraud case to second lead on the front

Readers were told that the SWP—'a Trotskyist group'—is BANNED IN RUSSIA because our views are too extreme.

Yet, was the implication, we are allowed to hold a public meeting in a quiet East Anglian market town.

Shock, horror.

There is a full description of how branch

secretary Roger Cray booked the room 'by filling in a form and handing it to a council employee. Will wonders never cease?

And then there is the news that the SWP usually 'shuns publicity', Although of course Mr Cray' makes no secret of the organisation he represents.

One wonders where the news hounds on the Ely Standard have been hiding all these years. But Fifth Column readers can be assured that a copy of the article will be sent immediately to our un-derground agents in

Vladivostok.

The country where you

FOR 15 months, Argentina has been ruled by terror.

The military coup of March 1976 has been followed by the crushing of workers' organisations and leaders.

Tens of thousands of people have been murdered, imprisoned or have simply disappeared.

member of Orientacion Socialista, a revolutionary organisation working clandestinely in Argentina, recently gave this nterview to Socialist Worker.

For technical reasons, it cannot be regarded as the official view of OS.

REPRESSION has taken two forms: all political organisations, particularly the revolutionary left, have been crushed. And workers' organisation in the factories has been attacked.

Attacked

Individual militants have been attacked and there is suppression of trade unions, strikes or any collective agreements.

There are kidnappings, assassinations and imprison-ment without trial. Eight months can clapse before the military say they have imprisoned someone.

Resistance is concentrated mainly in the largest factories where the working class is strongest. It takes the

form of strikes and go-slows. For example, the state electricity workers worked a six-hour day before the coup. The military imposed an eighthour day.

After six hours, the workers would just stop and sit around for the other two hours. The army occupied some of the power stations and arrested individual militants, but they were unable to force eight hours' work.

During the military occupation, the workers resorted to sabotage. Whole electric networks were cut off.

Red Milk

In Rosario, a shop steward in a milk factory was sacked. The workers retaliated by putting red colouring in the

Red milk was distributed all whole day's production.

telephones are out of order. When telephone engineers repair cables in the middleclass districts, they spit into the cable core, which short circuits the system.

Last October there was a

long struggle in the Peugeot factory in Buenos Aires against the victimisation of a shop steward and for wage demands.

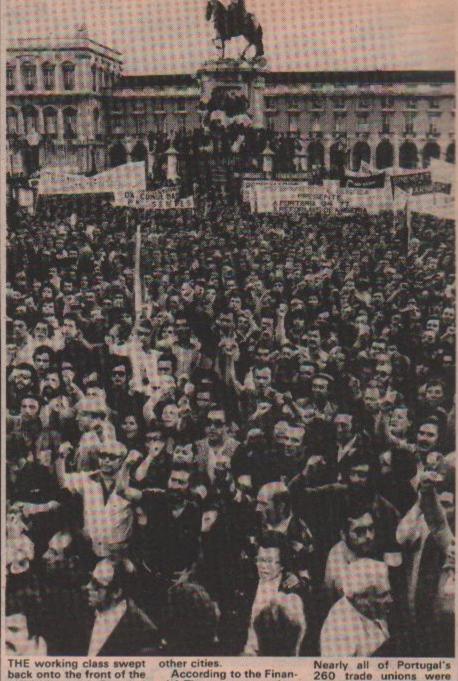
The workers organised a go-slow and production dropped to two cars a day.

Eventually the army was sent into the factory. 700 soldiers, one for each worker,

work at gunpoint



Cut-price offers in a fashionable Buenos Aires shop: but with massive inflation few can buy



political stage in Portugal

Huge demonstrations of trade unionists took to the streets-200,000 in Lisbon, 50,000 in Oporto, tens of thousands more in

cial Times correspondent a human tide of 100,000 singing, slogan chanting workers (and white haired grandmothers and tiny children) poured down the Avenida da Libertade . . . 260 trade unions were represented.

Gaily coloured banners proclaimed, 'Work yes— Unemployment No' and 'The cost of living is rising-the people won't



Bank workers on the march for more pay in February 1975: the coup smashed trade union organisation

stood by the machines to intimidate the workers into

on the first day, production was back to normal. By the second day, the level was

By the fourth day, it was down to 20 per cent and the soldiers were fraternising with the workers.

Withdrawn

The army was withdrawn and the company agreed to the wage demand. But the shop steward was not reinstated.

This is typical of the nature of the struggle. Workers in the well-organised factories will strongly resist attacks by the bosses but they are not starting struggles.

In some factories, falling productivity and sabotage have forced the bosses to recognise some form of trade union representation.

emphasise forced to. maintain some control over production. They prefer to have a representative of the workers than none at all.

There are cases where the employers have offered protection to militants from repression because they represented the shop floor.

I don't want to give too favourable an impression of Argentinian bosses. Some give the army a list of the activists in the factories.

In the Perkins diesel plant in Cordoba, the management not only gave the military murder squads lists of militants, they also gave them cars to carry out their kidnapping and murders. Solidarity

is urgent. Organised resistance has resistance exists is spontaneous.

Speakers

The military have smashed the advanced forms of organisation that existed

before the coup.

In some factories, the workers protect the militants.
When there was a big strike in a factory in Rosario where a comrade was working, seven workers surrounded him and

You're not going to

management because if you do you're going to be picked offother people will go.'
And they stood around him

and stopped him from going. We must channel the sponorganised forms. That's why my organisa-

tion, along with some others sections of the left, believes that a revolutionary party must be built.

That is obviously an ex-tremely difficult task because of the conditions of illegality and repression.

We believe no government can continue for a great length of time without some popular support. It is not a question of weeks or months, but even-tually because of lower productivity, because of the sabotage, because of the con-tinued class struggle, because the workers have not been defeated but only silenced, the government will be faced with

insoluble problems.

It will be forced to find a way out. And this will open up enormous possibilities for the revolutionary movement.

☐ The SWP Latin America Committee can provide speakers on Argen-tina and the rest of Latin America. Contact SW International Department, 6
Cottons Gardens, London,
E2. Phone 01-739 1878.

The interview from

which these extracts were taken is published in full in Issue No 4 of the International Discussion Bulletin. available from SW International Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London,

E2 (30p including postage).

☐ International Socialism No 88 (available from IS Journal, 6 Cottons Gar-dens, London, E2, price 20p) carries an article on the events leading up to the 1976 coup in Argentina.



A week of socialist discussion beginning this weekend

Don't miss it.

Details: Page Ten

SPANISH C NDER FIRE

THE DEBATE in the international Communist movement exploded last

The Russian weekly magazine New Times publisha bitter attack on the 'Eurocommunist' leader of the Spanish Communist Party,

Coming almost immediate-

ly after a very poor perfor-mance by Carrillo's party in the Spanish elections, the attack seems aimed either at splitting that party or at trying to reduce his power within it.

It speaks of his 'interpretation of Eurocommunism' as according 'solely with the interests of imperialism, the forces of aggression and reac-

Carrillo, it says, calating anti-Sovietism', and is guilty of 'conscious anti-Sovietism'.

It accuses him of believing that Russia is a state of a new type, which 'while not being a bourgeois state, at the same time cannot be considered a workers' democracy where the organised proletariat is the ruling class.

The attack is clearly designed to take advantage of dis-illusionment with Carrillo's policies inside the Spanish Communist Party itself.

Yet it does not mention the specific policies inside Spain that have led to such disappointing results—such as the recognition of the monarchy. No doubt this is because

these policies were first urged

on the Spanish CP ten years ago by the Russians-only to be rejected then by Carrillo who insisted that the Communist Party had to be part of the republican, monarchist tradition.

The attack is going to have one important side-effect—it is going to increase the pressures leading to a split inside the British Party.

Socialist Workers Party INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSION BULLETIN





ISSUE NO 4 OUT NOW! Exclusive



Which force is stronger in Southern Africa?

ABOVE: Workers in Namibia, which is under South African occupation. BELOW: Apartheid's iron fist. Riot squads in Soweto last year when they murdered hundreds



Fallacy

Even some socialists accept part of this analysis. But Alex Callinicos and

WHOLE of

Southern Africa is in the

melting pot. In 70 years

white racist rule has

never been as threatened

The guerrilla war in

Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) is

rowing from strength to

trength. The freedom

ghters in Namibia (South

And around Johannesburg and the Cape the vast

freds of thousands, even

But many people are still onfused as to what this

How did regimes based on acism entrench themselves in

they going to be ower in the first place? How

nd otherwise have a simple

inswer to these questions.

Apartheid, they argue, is a

angover from a previous,

polonial era, when primitive

ble-thumping Dutch settlers

rabbed part of Southern Africa. In time, capitalism will ring apartheid to a peaceful

Liberals

in almost permanent

struggle is about.

well-meaning

millions of black workers-

West Africa) are sorely axing the South African

ecupation forces.

as it is now.

John Rogers begin their new book* by showing that these news rest on a fallacy.

Apartheid is not some hangover, some weird predilection of Dutchpeaking white Calvinists. It is been, and remains, absolutely necessary for the functioning of the multinational companies at the

centre of the South African economy.

The fight for control of Southern Africa 80-odd years ago, between the British and the Afrikaaners then called the Boers-was a fight for

ALEX CALLINICOS AND JOHN

control of some of the world's richest deposits of gold, diamonds and other minerals. The desire of British-run companies to get their hands on these was the cause of the Boer War and of the seizure of

book that maps the

A book that maps the fantastic changes in Africa, changes that affect the whole world system—and the world struggle for socialism.

PLUTO PRESS, Unit 10 Spencer Court, 7 Chalcott Road, London

Rhodesia by the British South Africa Company of Cecil Rhodes, former minister of

the British Cape Colony. Anglo-South African big business could only mine these minerals profitably by forcing black people to work for below-subsistence wages. Taxes were imposed on the peasants that they could not afford, so that they were forced to volunteer for the mining compounds, where, herded together under ap-palling conditions, they were denied the most elementary rights.

This was-and is-the core of the South African economy.

This explains the pass laws, the banning of black people from living in the cities where many were born, the attempt to deprive them of South African citizenship by setting up 'bantustans'

All are measures aimed at forcing black people to become temporary workers, without rights, and without any means of getting a living except working at rock bot-

But the history of white rule is also a history of black rebellion.

In the past, the South African capitalists broke these rebellions by sacking workers wholesale and by driving them back into the misery of

remote, starving villages. And here, Callinicos and Rogers make one of their most important points. The South African regime is now trying to preserve itself using a new tactic-and one that has the full support of the British and American governments.

Buy off

It is trying to use the wealth accumulated from the exploitation of its black workers to buy off many of the middle class-run black states to the north. This is the real meaning of the 'detente' between orster and men like Kaunda

The black states were often run in the past as little more than an extension of the South African economy. Now their rulers are caught between the popular hatred of apartheid and their dependence economically on South African companies

Death blow

Even the most radical of the new black governments, that in Mozambique, cannot survive without a thousand and one trade transactions with South Africa. From this, Southern Africa

After Soweto draws a simple conclusion.

The war of liberation began

the guerrilla fighters in Mozambique, Angola, Zim-babwe and Namibia has given an enormous encouragement to those oppressed by Vorster. But it cannot gain final victory until the black workers of South Africa deal a death blow to capitalism in that country.

The analysis this book provides will give the strength of understanding to the deep hatred that all socialists have for apartheid.

* SOUTHERN AFRICA AFTER SOWETO, Pluto Press, £2.

Blues TORY PLOTTERS BEHIND THE GATES AT GRUNWICKS

TIMED like a cuckoo-clock, Tory leade Margaret Thatcher has entered the battle a Grunwicks.

At a keenly sensitive moment, she demanded the the prime minister 'publicly disassociate' himself an his party from the Grunwicks pickets. She was, sh made plain, one hundred per cent behind th Grunwicks management.

And no wonder. Because the sinister conspiracy know as the National Association for Freedom, which ha manipulated Grunwicks boss George Ward from th outset, can always expect the ready support of Margare Thatcher.

For it is to that section of the extreme right wing that she own her position as leader of the Conservative Party. For years the 'respectable'

extreme right have been trying to unite. Early attempts at this in the 1970s were the Society for Individual Freedom, Powellight and various antiimmigration fronts.

These organisations could not resolve the argument: do we work within the existing political framework or do we set up an entirely new organisation? The same argument wreck-

ed the 'private armies' move-ment which gained ground in the first few months of Labour government in 1974

Collapse

General Walter Walker's Civil Assistance and Colonel David Stirling's GB 75 both collapsed because of opposition from supporters inside the army and police. Why set up alternative right-wing organisations, ran the argument, when we can capture the existing machinery for the

This was the argument developed by the Institute for the Study of Conflict, formed in 1972, whose most influential figurehead was Robert Moss, then editor of the Economist Intelligence Unit, who supported the overthrow of the Chilean junta and

PAUL **FOOT**

BY

longed for the day when British Pinochet would con to power. The Institute infiltrate

police colleges and arm establishments and soug supporters for its extrem right-wing views inside t existing bodies. It took t same attitude to the To Party.

In autumn 1974 anothe attempt was made to unite t warring factions on the right the Middle Class Association Its founder and chairman w John Gorst, Tory MP for Hendon North, a publi relations man who had eno mously enriched himse through his support for com

mercial radio.

Gorst threw his new grouinto the campaign to replactory leader Edward Heat with Margaret Thatcher. I was assisted in parliament by new band of mainly your MPs who had nothing be contempt for the 'moderation of the old leadership.



Robert Moss: Behind the NAFF-and Thatcher's leadership campaign

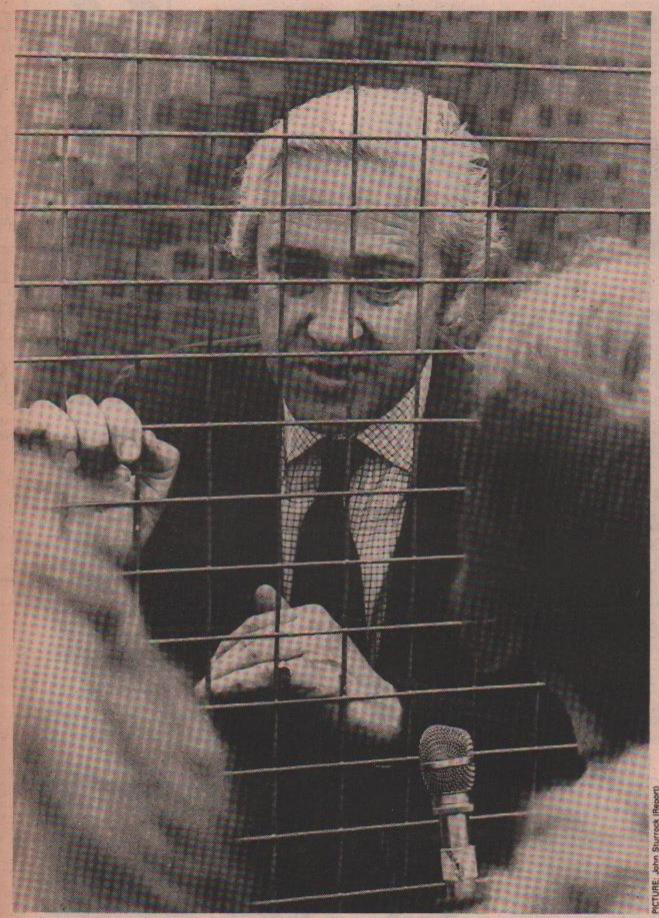


General Walter Walker: H 'private army' plans rejecte



BADGES, in red and black 200 each (plus 9p postage) or £2 for sen £15 for 100. From SWP international Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London £2 (cheques payable to SW International Fund).

s under the bed!



William Shelton, MP for Streatham, put the resources of his advertising agency, behind his new heroine. Rhodes Boyson, the champion of privilege in education and Winston Churchill, MP for Manchester Stretford, every bit as reactionary as his illustrious grandfather, enthusiastically joined in. In the background, Moss and the McWhirter brothers,

Norris and Ross, strained every muscle to mobilise substantial resources in a united movement for Thatcher.

Hounded

Moss-Gorst-Shelton publicity machine hounded press and television. Army and police officers, and every in parliament were

similarly bombarded.

Even wet liberals like Norman St John Stevas were persuaded to change thier minds and throw their votes behind Thatcher.

When Thatcher won, Moss wrote, in a letter to a friend: 'Well, she's done it, and the period ahead looks immensely challenging. What the party is clearly going to need now is a strong infusion of latter-day

Tory populism'.

Moss knew well that the main problem confronting Tories was the power of the unions. He knew that any right-wing movement worth its salt would have to 'take on' the unions.

But he was sceptical when his friend Ross McWhirter joined up with the ludicrous extremist the Dowager Lady Birdwood, to form Self-Help,

Mirror, mirror, on the wall, who is the bluest of them all?

Maggie Thatcher gives her full support to NAFF. She attended its first meeting and its inaugural dinner-and has promoted two of the NAFF council to her Shadow Cabinet, Rhodes Boyson and Winston Churchill.



LEFT: Tory MP John Gorst, special adviser to Grunwicks boss George Ward, is only one of the Tories inside the gates. John Gouriet (above, crossing the picket line) heads the National Association for Freedom (NAFF). which brings prominent Tories such as Rhodes Boyson and Winston Churchill behind Ward. Former Metropolitan police chief Robert Mark (right) was offered a top job in Phoenix Assurance-chairman Lord de L'Isle, of NAFF.



Self-Help offered to supply scabs to any employer hit by strikes. But Moss felt it was

too crude, too impotent.
When Self-Help started offering £50,000 rewards for information leading to the conviction of IRA bombers,

he knew it was finished. When McWhirter was assassinated in December 1975, Moss saw his chance. The National Association for Freedom was formed in the wake of McWhirter's death, reaping a lot of money and sympathy from it.

Scabs

The policy of the NAFF was simple: to work within the Tory Party, the police and the military to build up a force which could counter the un-

Margaret Thatcher an proved entirely. She attended the first meeting for setting up the NAFF.

She was the guest speaker at its inaugural dinner too. At her first opportunity she promoted two of the NAFF council to the Shadow Cabinet, Rhodes Boyson and Winston Churchill.

In the NAFF campaign over Grunwicks, which has been selected as a testing ground, she has been closely informed throughout. The chief adviser to the Grunwicks management has been John Gorst.

Support

Gorst it was who first raised in Parliament the Post Office blacking last August, which was eventually lifted after a High Court injunction. Gorst hardly spends a day without seeing or speaking to George

The Gorst/NAFF campaign for Ward has been run in harmony with the Tory Party leadership, which has supplied its support whenever it was asked for it.

Margaret Thatcher's of-ficial policy towards the un-ions is one of cooperation and consultation. But in her instinct and in her main support inside her party, her policy is the opposite: confrontation.

The two strands of policy do not contradict each other.

For Thatcher knows, even if some trade union leaders don't, that if small battles, like those at Grunwicks, can be won by employers, the big ones will be easier to win in the future.

She knows that her friends in NAFF are not yet strong enough to face down the miners or the engineers or transport workers in open class struggle. But she is prepared to work to the day when that is possible by throuowing all her support behind every little against the unions which is provoked and fought by the NAFF.

Powerful

This is the deep significance of the Grunwicks affair.

The 'respectable' extreme right are, for the first time since the war, powerfully united and organised. The NAFF is a real threat to trade union power.

Of course trade union ower, if used, can smash the NAFF to smithereens. But if it is not used, if it is dissipated in attempts at conciliation at all it can be broken.

The people who run Britain's big business firms are watching anxiously in the

wings. After the miners' victories of 1972 and 1974, most of them have taken it for granted that they will need to use the trade union leaders to discipline the workers.

Avoided

The Grunwicks boss, Ward, got little big business support when the strike started.

He was avoided as a 'maverick' who might upset the cosy relationship with the

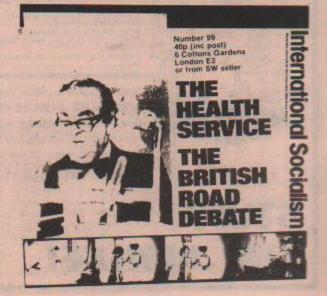
But as soon as it became even remotely likely that the 'maverick' and his supporters in NAFF could break the power of the official unions, the attitude of hig business hagan to change began to change.

The whole power of their propaganda machine is now beginning to line up behind the Grunwicks employers.

The Daily Mirror for instance, which published a double-page spread in favour of the strikers last autumn, now vies with the Sun and the Express in hostility to the pickets.

The other side-the employers—see the real importance of Grunwicks.

It's time for our side to wake and see it, too.





BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

Scotland

DUNDEE Socialist Worker Books NOW OPEN! Thursdays and Fridays. 1pm 4pm, Saturdays 11am-5pm, at 128 Victoria Road.

DUNDEE Socialist Workers Party meetings on The Meaning of Marx-ism: Wednesdays, 7-30pm, Socialist Wrker Bookshop, 128 Victoria Road, 6 July Struggles in the Third World, Speaker: Joe Docharty

PAISLEY Area Socialist Workers
Party Summer Tour: Spread the
Web—Fight for the Socialist Alternative! A series of public meetings
Monday 4 July, 7pm, ERSKINE Community Centre. Tuesday 5 July,
7.30pm, BARRHEAD Sports Centre.
Wednesday 6 July, 7.30pm, RENFREW Town Hall. Thursday 7 July,
7.30pm, JOHNSTONE, Community
Centre. Ludovic Square.

Humberside

HULL Socialist Workers Party public meeting Lenin, Speaker, Tony Cliff Friday 15 July, 8pm, George Street, Hull, Admission 10p.

North East

TEESSIDE: Any unemployed members with time on their hands urgantly needed to help build Socialist Workers Party on Teesside. Phone Alan Borrell, Middlesborough 86474.

Yorkshire

LEEDS Socialist Workers Party new members' meetings. A series of fortnightly discussion meetings. Thursdays, Bym. Leeds Trades Coun-cil Club, Savile Mount, Chapetrown Road. 14 July is there really a communist world' Speaker. Brian Parkin 28 July Ireland—is there a solu-tion? Speaker. Fred Milson.

ROTHERHAM Socialist Workers Party meets every Thursday, 7 30pm. High House pub, Ship Hill All

CHESTERFIELD Socialist Workers
Party public menting: Social Contrick or Socialism? Why we need £15a-week extra NOW! Speakers: CliveHartley (secretary, Balfour Darwin
group shop stewards committee) and
Carole Dale (Sheffield NALGO).
Thursday 7 July, 8pm, Room 1;
Chesterfield Market Hall.

North West

WYTHENSHAWE Socialist Workers
Party meetings Formightly on
Wednesdays, Small Room,
Wythenshawe Community Association Portiews Weodhouse Park
6 July Are the Labour or Communist Parties the alternatives?
Speaker Dick Brown.
20 July Social Contract—or Contrick? Speaker Steve Taylor.

NORTH EAST MANCHESTER
Women's Voice Group GRAND
BARBECUE: Food, booze (please
bring some tool) and music in the
open air (inside if wet). Saturday 9
July. 8pm sharp. 6 Pensby Walk.
Collyhurst (opposite the old Collyhurst
estater. Entrance by toker, 50p from
WV. Group members. KIDS
WELCOME threet.

WITHINGTON AND DIDSBURY Socialist Workers Party social. Seturday 2 July, 8pm. The Cavalcade, Didsbury Village, Manchester, Admission 40p employed/ 20p

MERSEYSIDE Socialist Workers
Party meeting for all members:
National Conference report-back.
Sunday 10 July 8pm, The Tritor
hotel, Paradise Street, Liverpool
(opposite the Holiday Inn) All
Merseyside members to attend.
Members from Chester, Wirexham, St
Helens, Warrington, Wigan, etc.
welcome.

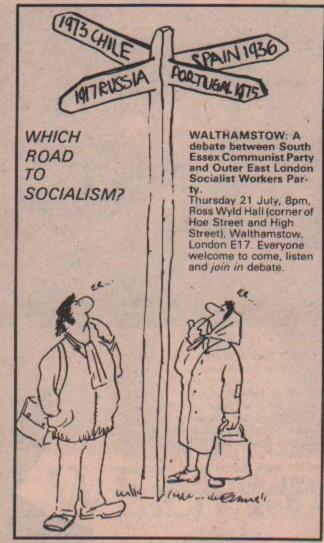
Midlands

WOLVERHAMPTON Socialist Workers Party meets every Thursday, 8pm, The Garrick pub (off the Mander Centre)

7 July Who was Luxembourg? 14 July: The dictatorship of the

Socialist Worker public meetings

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



*: VENTRY Warners Voice ings or Warners Rights and to Fight for Socialism Mondays 7 30pm TU Books 65 Queen Victoria Guard Coventry

DUDLEY Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Women and Socialism. Speaker: Shaila McGregor Monday 11 July 8pm. The Smiting Man, Hall Street, Dudley Plus play by Midland Red Theatre Group. Admission 30p.

East Anglia

ELY Socialist Workers Party public meeting: The Socialist Fight against the Cuts. Speaker. John Ure. Friday 15 July, 8pm, Ely Maltings.

IPSWICH Socialist Workers Party jumble sale: Saturday 16 July, 2,30pm All Hallows Hall, Landseer Road, Ipswich, Suffolk.

South East

CHELMSFORD Socialist Workers Party public meetings on the Social Contract Every Thursday, Bpm, Royal Steamer, Townfield Street, (behind Chelmsford station)

7 July What's happening to our wages?

CHELMSFORD Socialist Workers Party Stuff the Jubilee Social: Disco and socialist theatre from North West Spanner: Saturday 2 July, 8pm, Three Cups, Springfield Road, Admission 75p

WATFORD Socialist Workers Party inaugural public meeting: The Case for Socialism Speaker: Paul Foot Wednesday 13 July, 8pm, Trades and Labour Hall, Woodford Road, Watford, All welcome.

London

WALTHAMSTOW Socialist Workers Party meets every Wednesday, 8pm. Rose and Crown, Hoe Street, London, E17.

NURTH LONDON Womens Voice Group Jumble Sale: Tuesday 12 July 7.00pm onwards YWCA (Tottenham Community Project, Tottenham High Road, N17. We need as many helpers as possible. Please phone 807.8067 or 348 2041 with offers of help or details of any jumble you have.

HACKNEY SCHOOLS Socialist Workers Party public meetings Monday.s 7 30pm. Centerprise Bookshop, Kingsland High Road, London E8

4 July: Teachers and the politics of the SWP Tony Cliff

THE QUEEN IN WANDSWORTH

ISUNGTON District SWP Fund-Raising Mid Summer Party Saturday 9 July from 8:30pm onwards, 90 Mount View Road, N4: Dont bring a bottle! Don't spend all your money in the pub! A great time to be had by all! pienty of food and drink available. Tickets 75n. OUTER EAST LONDON Socialist Workers Party trip to Camber Sands—a socialist Sunday on the beach Sunday 10 July, tickets £2.25 employed. £1.25 unemployed, kids free. For more details phone 505-0684. [Postluck Newham and Newham Teachers SWP bring sandwiches, liford and Romford SWP cakes and biscuits, Walthamstow SWP salads and fruit. Enough for four please).

SOUTH LONDON Women's Voice jumble sale: Saturday 2 July, 11 am-onwards, S1 Matthews Hall thy Bris-ton Town Hall) If you have jumble that needs coffecting, phone Linds Quinn (737-0914). SOUTH LONDON Women's Voice public meeting: Equal Pay, with the Ownen's Theatre Group's Out on the Costa del Trico Tuesday 5 July, 8ph prompt, Vauxhall Centre, Walnut Tree Lane. Kennington Road, SE11. Entrance 30p.

SOUTH LONDON Women's Voice public meeting: Equal Pay, with the Women's Theatre Group's Out on the Costa del Trico. Tuesday 5 July, 8pm prompt. Vauxhalf Centre, Walnut Tree Lane, Kennington Road, SE11 Entrance 30p.

INNER EAST LONDON Socialist Workers Party public meeting on South Africa Speaker from Soweto. Tuesday 5 July 7.30pm, Homerton Library, Homerton High Street.

South Coast

PORTSMOUTH Socialist Workers Party presents North West Spanner in their anti-jubilee play Jubilations. Wednesday 6 July, 8pm, Labour Party Hall, 84 Kingston Crescent

Action in the unions

WANT A WEEK WITH JACK JONES ON THE ISLE OF MAN? Just you and him and 2,000 delegates to the TGWU Biennia. Delegate Conference who want to find out about Socialist Worker and the Bank and File Movement If so, and you can get a week off from 2.8 July and get over there, please phone SWP industrial department, 01-739-6273.

TGWU: Meeting for all SWP members in the Transport and General Workers Union, Saturday 16 July, 1pm-5.30pm in Manchester. Report back from TGWU Biennial Conference, future TGWU work.

NALGO Meeting for all Socialist Workers Party, NALGO members in London, Tuesday 5 July, 7pm, New Inn, Tottenham Court Road, To include discussion on situation follow-ing NALGO Conference and for national SWP/NALGO meeting in Manchester 16/17 July

ASTMS Meeting for all SWP members in the white-collar workers union ASTMS, Saturday 23 July, 1pm 5.30pm in London.

ARE YOU A DELEGATE TO TOWN BIENNIAL CONFERENCE? If so, and you are a supporter of Socialist Worker, please telephone SWP industrial department, 01-739 6273.

members in the local government workers union NALGO. Weekend 16 17 July, in Manchester Pooled fare system. Details next week.

NUJ All journalists in the SWP please write to the new fraction necretary. Steve Childs. Plat 4: 68. Clarkegrove Road, Sheffield S10 2NJ, giving their current address. Please do this quickly because an important meeting is to be called.

NALGO Conference for all SWP members in NALGO. Saturday 16 July 10.30am, Theatre 1, Chapman Building, University of Salford, Manchester and Sunday 17, July, Students Union, University House, University of Salford, Disco on Saturday night. Accommodation, phone Dave Gibson, Bolton 33699 (home).

CIVIL SERVICE: Meeting for all civil CIVIL SERVICE: Meeting for all civil servants in the Socialist Workers Party in the North West. Sunday 10 July. 2pm to 6pm, 2B Dawson Street, Liverpool 1 (just off Whitechapel, near Liverpool Playhousel. Topics for discussion include: Being a revolutionary in the trade union movement, what do we mean by rank and file, building fledder Tape groups. Speakers Jack Robertson, Caroline Conway. Any problems, phone 01-800-8550.

Will any comrades attending the TUC NATIONAL COURSES in Shef-field 9-15 July, 16-22 July, 23-29 July, please phone Lesley Klein, Sheffield 686312 in advance to arrange SW sales/meetings.

SW Notices

SOCIALIST WORKER YOUTH MOVEMENT members who are relegates to the National Union of School Students Conference on 9/10 IIV please contact the SWYM office 44 Queen St. Glasgow iphone 041-221 3426) immediately.

AN INTO A DUPLICATOR for Alloa 336M as soon as possible

JUBILEE BADGES: Would com-rades holding large stocks please send in money from sales immediate-ly, as it is needed urgently. Send to Sherr! Yanowitz, 116 Fortune Green Road, London NW6.

Are you going to ITALY, SPAIN, FRANCE or SCANDINAVIA this summer? On Saturday 16 July, 130pm 5pm, Students Union, LSE, Aldwych, London WC2 (nearest tubes Temple and Holborn) we are organising discussions with members of the SWP international Committee on the situation in these countries. Details, contact SW International Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 (phone 01-739 1878).

Would all SWP members going on holiday to, or interested in working around the USA and CANADA, please contact the SWP North American Group, c/o 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 (phone 01-739 1878).

WOMENS

WOMENS
VOICE July
issue out now!
10p a copy from
eour Socialist
Worker seller, or
17p by post (10
copies for £1, post
free) from WV, 6
Cuttans Gurdens,
London £2.

COMING TO NELP IN SEPTEMBER? Please contact Elaine and Jan. 976 Cranbrook Road, Illord, Essex (phone 01-554 8591).

BOOKMARKS BOOKLIST 1977/78 now out! It lists hundreds of books of interest to socialists, ranging from novels to Marxist theory, sexual politics to science fiction. sexual politics to science fiction, children's books to Rosa Luxemburg—all in print and available. Send large stamped, addressed envelope to Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

Socialist Worker needs a smooth efficient RECEPTIONIST, experienced in typing, filing, and other office work. Reply to Mel Norris, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 (phone 01-739 1413).

July issue of FIGHT, the paper of the Socialist Worker Youth Movement, out now. Articles on Out of School, Out of Work, Job Creation, Right to Work March, NUSS, Lewisham 21 and much, much more. Single copy 5p plus 6½p postage. Orders over 10 post free, sale or return. From 64 Queen St. Glasgow C1 (phone O41-221 3426).

FLAT WANTED. Three comrades urgently need furnished flat to rent, London, 2-3 bedrooms. Phone Phil Hutchinson, 734-6710 (office), 800-6593 (hame)

TWO COMRADES URGENTLY NEED FLAT from August, Il-ford/Stratford area Contact Liam Duffy, The Knoll, Cannon Hill, Lan-reaster

COMRADE URGENTLY NEEDS ROOM OR FLAT in Wolverhampton, Cannock, Walsall area. Contact John Richards, 16 Bedwell Road, London N17.



CYPRIOT WORKER—latest issue now out, in both Greek and Turkish. Articles on illegal workers, cuts in hospitals, workers' unity of Greek and Turkish Cypriots, deportations, police harassment, the struggle against the National Front and news from Cyprus. 10 copies for £1, from Cyprot Worker. c/o. 255 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

It isn't too late to register—come to North London Polytechnic at 3pm, Friday 1 July. COME FOR THE

WEEKEND ...

COME FOR

THE WEEK ...

A week of revolutionary socialism, 1-8 July, at

the Polytechnic of North London, Prince of Wales Road, Kentish Town,

Courses on

☐ Women's Liberation
and the Struggle for

☐ The Marxist Method

Capitalism and Crisis

Revolutions of the

Cost £5 for the whole

Literature and

London NW5.

Socialism

Revolution

20th Century

☐ Labour History

Tony Cliff on THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION ☐ John Molyneux on THE LENINIST THEORY OF THE PARTY Lectures and

workshops on the week's six courses, films, theatre groups, bar and much more.

Cost for Friday-Sunday, only £2.

JUST COME FOR THE EVENING ...

Evening events open to

Friday 1 July, 7pm-11pm North West Spanner Theatre Group's play STUFF THE JUBILEE, Tony Cliff speaking on THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION. Eisenstein's classic film of the revolution OCTOBER, plus bar

Saturday 2 July, 6.30pm-

Saturday 2 July 6.30pm11pm.
John Molyneux speaking on
THE LENINIST THEORY OF
THE PARTY, Edmund Baluka
speaking on WORKERS'
STRUGGLES IN EASTERN
EUROPE, the film BATTLESHIP
POTEMKIN, the rock group
BICYCLE THIEVES, plus bar

Sunday 3 July, 7pm-11pm BLACK HOLIDAY—a film about Mussolini's dictatorship, Kartoon Klowns in YES, BUT..., disco and bar. Monday 4 July, 7pm-11pm

Nora Carlin speaking on CLASS STRUGGLE BEFORE THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLU-TION, the award-winning film about the struggle of California grape pickers for union recogni-tion FIGHTING FOR OUR IVES, Counteract theatre group in FIGHTING THE CUTS, live

Tuesday 5 July, 7pm 11pm: MARXISM AND DRAMA TODAY, discussion led by leading socialist playwrights, with David Edgar, Steve Gooch, Trevor Griffiths, Roland Muldon and others, the superb film BATTLE OF CHILE (part 1), plus

Wednesday 6 July 7pm-11pm Films BATTLE OF CHILE (pert 2) and CHILE: THE RECKON-ING, followed by discussion on CHile led by Chilean revolutionaries. CEILIDH booze-up and dance with FLOWERS AND FROLICS, plus

Thursday 7 July, 7pm-11pm Film REPUBLICA, about workers control on a Portuguese newspaper, lan Gibson speaking on THEM AND US IN SCIENCE, plus bar

Cost 50p each evening. if not registered for the whole week, except Thursday (40p).



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

BENEFIT for Rising Free and Bread and Roses: Tee Kosmin Band, Dire Tribe, disco, food, books, bar exten sion Fridey 1 July, 8pm-midnight, Ladbroke House, Highbury Grove, London N5. Admission £1, claimants and students 50p.

ALL WALES CONFERENCE AGAINST RACISM: Saturday 25 July, 9am: 1pm. Temple of Peace, Cathays Park, Cardiff. Speakers include Joe Lester. Dr Oppak Ray, Organised by Welsh Committee Against Racism. For details, phone John Davies, Machen 650.

SOUTHERN AFRICA SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN: Red pens: 10p each, plus 10p postage | 10 for £11, from SASC, 21 Mayall Road, London SE24

to be done? A theoretical discussion on the issues facing gay socialists Saturday 2 July, 10,30am-5pm, NiFTO Hall, Jockeys Field London WC1 Creche available Further tetaits from Gay Left, 36a Craven Road London W2

We are trying to set up a RAPE CRISIS GROUP in Glasgow. Anyone interested please contact Kathy Roberts, Rape Crisis Centre, PO Box 42, London N6-5BU.

OPEN CONFERENCE OF NUT MEMBERS on fight against the cuts: Saturday 2 July, 10.30am-5pm, Birmingham University Students Union. Creche

COMMITTEE AGAINST BRITISH
BRUTALITY IN IRELAND public
meeting: A delegation of three
Belfast women, campaigning for
open inquiries into the deaths of
their sons, will be visiting London on
18-20 July. Public meeting: Tuesday
19 July. 7.30pm. NUFTO Hall,
Jockeys Fields (off Theobalds Road,
nearest tube Holborn.)

TROOPS OUT open Conference: Open to all who support the demand Troops Out Now! Self-determination for the Irish People! Saturday-Sunday 2-3 July, 10.30pm onwards, White Horse Hotel, Church Road, London NW10.



SHEFFIELD Rock Against Racism presents A STUFF THE JUBILEE SOCIAL. featuring High Flame reggae band, disco, late bar, Friday 8 July, 8pm till late, Bar 2, University Students Union, Sheffield, Tickets £1 (unemployed 60p).

SOUTHAMPTON Socialist Workers party STUFF THE JUBILEE ROLL ON THE RED REPUBLIC Speaker. Paul Foot, plus North West Spanner's play Friday 8 July 7.30pm, St Matthews Hall, St Mary's

BIRMINGHAM Socialist Workers Party STUFF THE JUBILEE FESTIVAL

Films, theatre, meetings, food, books, evening social, creche and kid's fun.

Saturday 19 July, 1.30pm-6pm, Friends Meeting House, Bull Street, City Centre, Single ticket £1, double £1.50.

STUFF THE JUBILEE!

STUFF THE JUBILEE badges, posters and stickers still available.

The Queen and other royal scroungers are visiting various towns andcrites throughout the summer—make sure they get the welcome they deserve! BADGES-20p each, 10 for £1 50, 50 for £7.

100 for £13 POSTERS (Spot the Scrounger) 30 for £1 (plus 50p postage). 100 for £3 (plus £1 postage) STICKERS (eight airterent designs) 800 for £1.50 (plus 50p postage) Cash with orders to SW Recordings, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, Landon E2 90S.

A family tormented ... for being Irish

the disgusting harassment of the Ward family, things have really hotted up. Eddie Ward's social securi-

ty has been cut by £8 a week, and they are now trying to charge him and his wife with

They have also started getting ridiculously bureaucratic with one of the witnesses, so much so that he has now given up applying for

About six weeks ago, the most blatant and disgusting piece of harassment took place. Janet Ward was told by the authorities that a giro was waiting for her down at the SS offices. Down she went to collect it.

After waiting nearly four hours, she asked to see the supervisor, a Mr Smith. He told her there was nothing for If she didn't leave

immediately he would call the police. To her credit, she stood her ground. He sent for

the police.

The police who came were from the same station (Mereway) that has been involved in all the other in-

She was thrown up against a wall and held upside down, with the SS supervisor taking part.

was taken into

Mereway police station by the back door. Next she was thrown onto a cell bed face

One policeman knelt on her back. Her rings were pulled from her fingers by brute force, by two other policemen and one police woman.

She was pummelled and roughed up again. They said 'Hard up, is she? I've got 50p she can have but she'll have to

earn it.'

The next morning they charged her with different things, one charge being that she had scratched IRA on the cell door, even though all sharp (or blunt) articles had been removed from her.

Three weeks later, it was her sister Louise's turn. Louise is just 17.

She had been waiting hours in the social security offices. Again she was told that if she did not leave, the police would be called.

Again they arrived, three of them, from Mereway police station.

Louise said the police looked surprised when they saw her, they thought when they heard the name Ward it would be Janet.

This time the events were witnessed by a couple of men, who followed the police and Louise back to the police

Now a campaign is being mounted to defend this fami-ly from the racist attentions

of the Northampton police.
We call for an end to police
harassment of this working
class Irish family. We are protesting to the social securi-

ty officers' union, the CPSA.
We also take this opportunity to send solidarity to the

Islington 18.

The Ward Defence Committee, c/o 2 Bitten Court, Lumbertubs, Northampton.

Postal points

IT DOESN'T matter, James Keogh (Letters, 18 June), if the punk groups sell out at some time in the

The ideas they're popularising now are having a radicalising effect on thousands of young fans.

That's what really scares our rulers.

GARRY BUSHELL, W

SO JAMES Keogh thinks that rock music connives at the exploitation of the working class.' I ask him, what kind of ultra-pure revolutionary music are we supposed to listen to? The ideas of punk rock

are a breath of fresh air on the music scene. They express a gut hatred of unemployment and the other social evils affecting youth today.

RICHARD NAYLOR. Swindon.

CAN THE paper give more coverage to the situation in China and explain why we regard China as state

capitalist? Through our anti-racist campaign we have drawn many Asian workers to our organisation. Many of them are sympathetic to China. It would help a lot if

we had more information.

PAT MULLADY,

etters

Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent

London E2

Write to

Letters,

ON WHICH WAY TO SOCIALISM?



Tanks on the streets during the 1926 General Strike: can socialism come without such ruling class violence?

You can't make sausages with a sewing machine...

This letter was also printed in 'Comment', the Cum-munist Party's fortnightly magazine, It has had to be shortened.

THE DRAFT of the British Road to Socialism must be a disappointment to anyone expecting a socialist lead.

Some of us adhere to the true. original mean socialism, adopted by the CP in its early days, as an egalitarian, classless society. synonymous with communism, in which women would be liberated from their traditional chores and children would be a communal responsibility.

In transition we should move towards this goal, not

away from it. Yet in some countries,

HISTORICALLY, by con-

tent if not by application, the Labour Party is the party of

the working class,

which the CP still calls 'socialist' there is a firmlyestablished, privileged bureaucracy, and women are burdened with unpaid housework, in addition to employment outside the home. The socialisation of

housework, now ignored by the CP, was the policy of the revolutionary government of Russia in Lenin's time.

A political party claiming to be revolutionary-that is. committed to achieving the fundamental change from capitalism to communismshould propose a definite plan to liberate women from their traditional chores. To quote G.B. Shaw: 'You

can't produce sausages with a sewing machine' and you can't produce socialism with a capitalist state.

Therefore the first step is to get a new machine, and how can that be done by electing a

Labour government:

'A Labour government committed to carrying out a left programme' WAS elected, three years ago, but making no attempt to change the machine could not produce the desired product and it moved more and more towards the Tory position.

Reactionary

Parliament cannot safeguard democracy. It is bound to be predominantly reactionary and overwhelmingly male, not representative of the population. A State of emergency' can be declared at any time.

True democracy will

probably be achieved mainly

by the struggle of the workers through their own organisations.

It is very important that workers should control their leaders, not vice versa. The formation of a privileged bureaucracy must be avoided at all costs.

The British Road to Socialism should place more emphasis on the absolute necessity for the workers to

win economic power. Under a Labour government, it is now proposed to introduce a Tory-inspired criminal trespass law, which would prevent workers from occupying and controlling their places of work, where they produce the nation's

wealth
The workers must be protected when taking over, not threatened with the forces

JR PART

of the state.

In Chile, Allende kept in power those very chiefs of staff who were to destroy him and his attempted revolution and the workers were rendered defenceless. The policy of the extreme

('ultra') left proved correct, and that of the Communist Party wrong.

If the Communist Party possible, why does it remain in existence?

If, however, it does indeed aim at social revolution I would suggest that it should consult fellow revolutionaries in formulating policy, rather than try to win the approval of a Labour cabinet

Revolutionary socialist alliance is necessary.

Kathleen Jones. Kathleen

Shrewsbury

Thousands are waiting for a lead

HAVING just read your open letter to the Communist Party (18 June) I felt I had to write in support.

It is perfectly true that there are young people like myself who are disillusioned with this 'Socialist' government's pampering to the class of people who have the best in life already.

We are disillusioned with the Trade Union movement.

the Trade Union movement who now openly support blackleg labour, violation of picket lines and duck their responsibility to their rank

and file members.

The Social Contract is given out by the media as the saviour of Britain. Yet the only thing it has done is to dispel forever the myth that wage rises increase prices.

The answer is investment on a massive scale, so in the future our jobs and welfare are cared for, not investment in property, the stock ex-change or currency specula-

tion that makes a quick profit for a self-centred minority. Do these people realise that the money they gamble with was earned off the backs of the 30 million workers in this country?

I'm convinced there are hundreds of thousands of people just waiting for a lead. If you don't give it, I fear people could go the other way right into the arms of the

fascists.

N C HAMILTON, AUEW, Kings Norton, Birmingham

ANYONE with two eyes in their head can see the Com-munist Party is on the slide.

But think what, in part, that means-hundreds, possibly thousands, of CP members and supporters going into the political wilderness out of despair and disillusionment.

That would be a serious blow to the meagre forces of the left. But listen to some sectarians and you'd think there was nothing to worry

The chief activity of so many of them appears rather like the crew of a life-boat cheering wildly while Titanic goes down. If the victims drown, that's their fault for going on board in the first place. .

The Communist Party is in decline because of its politics—and it needs to be replaced for the same reason.

And you can't do that by cheering the Communist Party's collapse from the side-lines. Present an alternative—in action.

HARRY LYONS, Es-

plaining why theleadership will be unable to adopt these alternatives, should be the order of the day.

In other words, to give a lead to the class-conscious elements in the Labour Party.

It should therefore be your task to assist to awaken and improve this consciousness by action example, not by using worthless phrases.

☐ T B SPOONER, Leicester

POINTS

THE BRIAN Drum hairdressing salon here in Edinburgh is one of the top establishments in Scotland.

They now employ young girls to 'train' them. In fact they are made to work a six-day week from 9 to 5 with half an hour for lunch as their only break. Sometimes they may

have to work for free till as late as 11 at night.

For this, the girls get £10.50 a week, while Drums have the cheek to ask £4.50 for a cut and

blow-dry.
One girl collapsed from exhaustion recently. When she went on the dole, she got more money than she was taking home from Drums.

□ EILEEN SOWERSBY and COLIN CAMPBELL.

Edinburgh.

☐ I WAS surprised at your lack of comment after the recent England/ Scotland football international.
I joined IS in 1971. Until

then I had been a fervent nationalist and SNP member. I well remember standing at Hampden screaming abuse at 'the Sassenach bastards' In England, many people blame immigrants for their

falling living standards and lack of opportunities. The National Front exploits fears these and

frustrations.
But in Scotland the English are increasingly seen by many as the root of all evil. The England/Scotland match has become not so much a game as a battle.
Socialist Worker has yet

Socialist Worker has yet to come to grips with the real nature and roots of Scottish nationalism, though it has moved a bit from the 'Tartan Tories approach

What do other readers think? ☐ IAIN BROWN, N Lon-

don.

I RESENT being told that, as a socialist, I am wrong in believing in a right for Israel

I found your article on the election of Begin hysterical. You refer to the tragedy of what the Nazis did to the

Jews when it suits you. It shows your basic in-sensitivity to the problems of the Jewish people. Also the socialist, communist and women's party of Israel □ K WEINMAN

TEMPORALY HOARDING

Next issue of Rock Against Racism's TEMPORARY HOARDING out Featuring interviews with ASWAD Johnny Rotton, Clash, Carol Grimes, PLUS Graphics Women and the Blues, Fighting Apartheid, RAR at the TUC Ordes with money, 20p each; bulk orders 10 to 11 to RAR, e/a 6 Cottons Gardens London E2.

is that the Labour Party is thoroughly wedded to capitalism. The party, not just a few villains in the leadership is just another hollow phrase deemed to create antagonism between

The statement (18 June) in your Which Way to Socialism? article—'The fact

the organised working class

and a group professing to be

that class's vanguard.

The result of this antagonism is apparent in your open letter to the Communist Party, where you say 'Can-didates to the left of the Labour Party (whether from either of our parties or from some other group) pick up only a marginal number of

While ever the Labour Party retains Clause 4, it can never be wedded to

capitalism'. The leadership and fulltime officials, however, in defence of their privileged positions support capitalism in the name of future prosperity, reconciling the workers by means of reforms.

In a period of economic decline, the task of the Labour Party leadership is to make society safe for the capitalists and themselves at the cost of sacrificing reforms and in fact sacrificing the fruits of previously won reforms.

It is the task of Marxists

within the Labour Party to continue to expose the role of the leadership and also the contradictions inherent in capitalist society to place before the party transitional demands which ultimately lead to a call for the total transfer of society.

Marxists

The policies of the Marxists in the Labour Party are being supported by an awakening political con-

science of a section of the working class and should be supplemented by an open group such as yourselves. Appeals for joint action on

various topics should now be raised, ie against the National Front, unemployment, for the nationalisation of the banks, insurance and finance houses plus the 200 or so commanding industries.

An analysis of the Labour Party leadership with the socialist alternative, and ex-

Socialist Workers Party

The spark is there to ignite rank and

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 1977

CONFERENCE decided a major effort must be made to establish unity of the SWP in workplaces, organised in sections and shifts, and in factories, offices, docks and schools.

The conditions are ripe for this. All that is needed is enthusiasm confidence.

BULLETINS: In every workplace where we have members we should produce regular factory bulletins, arguing about workplace issues, and about general political questions. Every effort must be made to involve non-members in writing and distributing these.

2 POLITICS: The workplace units, both in the bulletins and in the regula meetings and discussion should have a high genera political content. Issues such as Soweto, the family Eurocommunism, will attract and hold socialists and militants around us.



A symbol of the changing struggle—a black demonstrator in London last week

THE LULL in the class struggle is coming to an

Since Christmas the Leyland toolroom strike, the Heathrow engineers' strike, the Port Talbot electricians' strike, the mass picketing at Grunwicks, have all marked a change in mood by tens of thousands of workers.

This was the central point of the opening debate of the Socialist Vorkers' Party annual conference

The years 1974-1976 were bad for the working class. While unemployment and prices rose at incredible speed the numbers of workers prepared to take action in their own defence fell.

In 1974 15 million days were lost in strikes including the miners' strike that destroyed the Heath Tory government. In 1975 this fell to 8 million, in 1976 3

But in the first few months of this year more days were lost than in the whole of 1976.

The Social Contract is by no means dead, but a growing minority of workers are no longer prepared to take it lying down. There is a new bloodymindedness and anger in disputes that

has not existed for several years. As well as the traditionally wellorganised groups, such as the Port Talbot electricians or the Heathrow engineers, other workers have started

Equal pay

Women workers, on strike for equal pay at Laird Portch and Yardleys, or for union recognition at Trust House Forte, black workers at Grunwicks, both are playing a leading role in fighting back. Their militancy and determination is shaming traditionally militant sections

The trade union bureaucracy have for two years acted as policemen of the

Social Contract, They would like to go on doing this. In spite of the pressure, in spite of numerous resolutions, no trade union conference has yet clearly committed itself to a fight for a firm wage rise at a firm date after Phase 2 ends on 31 July

But the pressure is building up. This makes it possible to turn into reality all the many resolutions we have passed calling for rank and file action, and a

national rank and file organisation.

Far from leading the fight against Phase 3 the trade union leaders will stab it in the back time and again. So an

BLACKS

From black anger to socialism . . .

THE ANGER and frustration of black youth against police muggings, deportations and unemployment has to be channelled towards socialist ideas. That was the con-ference's conclusion. 'The Socialist Workers Par-

ty is the only organisation who can draw together black peo-ple and lead the fight, said Kim Gordon, SWP black

Last year we were seen to be the people taking the initiative against the fascists and the racism that exploded in the

'We have the credentials of the Right to Work march to show black people that the way to fight police muggings is

with mass organisation.'

He stressed that the way to keep black people in the SWP

is for solely black groups to be set up to draw together the thousands of supporters of Flame and the other black

But we will accept help from anyone—in Lewisham we even accepted help from Prince Charles!

Spontaneously

'Black youth are at the same time acting spontaneously against police harassment and they are also apathetic,' said George Black from Bir-mingham. 'Before I joined the SWPI just wanted to hit out at

anything and everybody.

To win over and keep black people in our organisation we have to understand what black struggle is about and that's why we need a solely black section of the party.'



ABOVE: Workers at CA Parsons, Tyneside, on the march to save their jobs. Altogether some 6,000

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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

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

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

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

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

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

women.
As SWP women's

HOW MUCH could you get for the Queen? SWP members in Leeds could only raise ten Woodbines when they held a street auction to sell off HRH,

But the reluctant takers were more than willing to buy copies of Socialist Worker—and some have since joined

Sheila Parkin told the conference.

Enormous strides

WOMEN are now 40 per cent of the workforce. The tapping of their enormous potential for struggle is essential for the building of a revolutionary socialist movement.

But this could not be done without seeing that they are oppressed as women as well as being exploited in the workplaces. It is because they are held down as women, in the home and in society at large, that they are forced to put up with the worst-paid and most miserable jobs.

This was the argument presented as background for the conference discussion on the work of the SWP with

organiser, Margaret Renn put

WOMEN

it: 'we are trying to organise working women, something never effectively done by the revolutionary socialist movement in this country.

there have been hundreds of years of the oppression of women by capitalism in Britain. There has been a hundred years of labour movement that has been mainly anti-women. This is what we have to fight against.'

Strides

In the past year we have made considerable stridesalthough often despite the bad advice given by the 3 DISTRICTS: Members of workplace units must be fully integrated into the life of the districts, selling papers, flyposting and so on, and not kept segregated in their workplace units:

THE CAMPAIGN NOW: For the next nine weeks all members in workplaces must take up the issue of unemployment and the Social Contract in an effort to win support for the coming Right to Work March and to bring around us the nucleus of the workplace units.



Towards left unity in ACTION

THE SWP Conference renewed the appeal from the Socialist Workers Party to the Communist Party for the widest possible cooperation between our two organisations in the face of the threat from the right.

Many delegates reported

that individual CP members had responded with interest and enthusiasm to the proposals made by the SWP. In Tower Hamlets CP Branch, whose members include leading London dockers, they had voted by 14 votes to 6 to urge the CP executive to take

up our proposals.

Another delegate reported that the South Essex District of the CP was anxious to hold a joint debate with the SWP.

Approach

Conference agreed that proposals for joint activity should be made by every single SWP branch to their local CP branch, whenever such cooperation would lead to a more effective fight.

☐ Over Grunwicks, for example, every SWP branch should approach every CP branch to arrange joint transport to the picket.

In every workplace our members should approach CP members to organice activities.

members to organise activity for specific collections, pickets, strikes, or around issues at work

☐ We should approach CP branches to organise joint opposition to fascist marches

or other racist provocations, around the slogan 'Drive the Nazis off the Streets', joint activity to stop cuts in schools or hospitals, and so on.

The proposals for joint action depend on far more than a simple exchange of letters between the leaderships of the SWP and CP. They depend on the factory units and local branches of the SWP making specific proposals, to bring together on particular issues all those who want to

Conference also agreed it would be useful to organise joint debates with CP members and branches about the British Road to Socialism, the CP's programme. This is now being hotly debated within the CP.

Action

This debate offers us an excellent opportunity to argue with CP members why we do not accept the British Road's position that there is a 'parliamentary road', or that it is possible to rely on left MPs progressive trade union

But it is action that counts.

Within the next year it will be possible to create the beginnings of such a movement. The success and credibility of the Right to Work Campaign provides a fine starting point for the

organisation, independent of the trade

union leaders, which links together all

those shop stewards' committees, rank

and file organisations and trade union

bodies that want to fight is essential.

Urgent

The task of creating such a Rank and File Movement is urgent, for while the trade union leaders wobble and back sown, the right wing is on the move in a

UNEMPLOYMENT

UNEMPLOYMENT will

remain a major political

issue in the coming year.

More than 800,000 young

people under 18 will be

unemployed at some time

during the year. The SWP Conference gave

unanimous support to the decision of the Right to Work

Campaign to march on the Trades Union Congress in

Blackpool in September. Young people will make up the bulk of the marchers.

Last year's march made sure that the TUC did not ignore

unemployment. This year the

marchers will be arguing that unemployment is part and parcel of the Social Contract.

High prices, mass un-employment, the cuts and

incomes policy are all part of

Delegates explained how in Wigan some factories were

already raising weekly collec-

tions for the marchers. Nearly

a hundred trade union organisations had already

agreed to sponsor the march.

done in the two months before

on leaves.

Much more remains to be

the same package.

Make this march

a focus of protest

more alarming fashion than at any time

file organisation

At Grunwicks there is no question that the extreme right wing-including the National Association for Freedom, some senior police officers and sections of the Tory Party—are trying to prove they can take on the trade unions and

At the very least they want to drive out of trade unions some of the one and half million workers who have joined in the past year, many in sweatshops such Grunwicks or in badly-organised

But more than this they are trying to prove that the trade unions are a paper tiger, that the TUC and many union

part of the political mechanism for winning them to the fight for the right to

☐ Factories should be asked

to sponsor individual un-

employed. Where possible, the

sons and daughters of workers

in a particular factory or workplace should be spon-sored by the shop stewards committee and workers there.

Dole queues

☐ Activity around the dole queues, Job Centres and so on

must be stepped up. All the lessons we learnt 12 months

ago about winning and keep-

around the Right to Work

Campaign must be relearnt, This includes local

demonstrations, pickets, oc-

☐ Social activity for the

young, using Rock Against

Racism, is an easy, enjoyable

and highly successful way of

keeping unemployed workers together, both before and after

As one delegate pointed out, the Right to Work Cam-

paign is 'more than a marching

unemployed

leaders do not have the stomach to enforce trade unionists' rights, nor the stomach to protect them against victimisation.

Some sections of the ruling class clearly no longer believe that Phase 3 of the incomes policy will be adequate for their needs. They are starting the direct

But it is also clear that this is still a minority view it is not shared by the CBI, nor is it reflected in the Financial

Within the ruling class, just as for the working class, Grunwicks is a test case. If we do not win at Grunwicks it will be the start of a series of bitter confrontations unlike anything in this

These very struggles inevitably have a radicalising effect. But still weak is the organisation that builds on this and makes it a springboard for building both a National Rank and File Movement and a mass revolutionary socialist

Sessions on internationalism, Scottish and Welsh nationalism, students, Socialist Worker, Ireland and other issues were being held after we went to

RANK AND FILE

CONFERENCE agreed that the full resources of the SWP must be put behind the creation of a national rank and file movement within the trade

Declarations are not enough. Such a movement has to be built in struggles.

More and more rank and file papers are springing up. Every effort must be made to spread their circulation and influence-by workers in all industries. For instance, engineers should ask local firemen to take Rank and File Fireman, and vice-versa with

Engineers Charter,
The credibility of the in-dividual rank and file organisations and of the idea of a National Rank and File Movement will depend on how effectively we intervene in

specific disputes.

SWP members who support different rank and file groups would have been fighting for special leaflets over the past week calling for support for the Grunwicks picket line. One delegate told how North London Redder Tape had

done so.
This is just as true in other disputes. In Manchester the supporters of Hospital Worker organised a meeting to support the Port Talbot electricians. Yet few rank and file groups, locally or nationally, took up support for the Heathrow engineers.

Isolated

More and more groups of workers will find themselves isolated, under assault from the newspapers, and facing long drawn out disputes, often in the teeth of opposition from their own trade union officials. It will be increasingly up to rank and file organisations, and to the shop stewards committees and trade union organisations they influence, to win support for all workers fighting any aspect of the Social Contract, regardless of union or in-

This sort of action will build the foundations of a national rank and file movement.



ABOVE: The occupied Greenwich Steel Reinforcements factory in South East London, Six workers were sacked and others threatened with suspension because they struck for one day in protest at the closure of local hospitals. Now the local hospital workers are helping the steel workers with a demonstration

☐ Money is urgently needcampaign'. The prop of the ed. This must be raised from campaign must be employed employed trade unionists as

the march.

overwhelmingly male leadership of the Party, she

Women's Voice and the dozen or so Womens Voice groups had enabled us to link socialist ideas to the struggles of working women. Hence we learnt for our mistakes around the Trico strike, and through Womens Voice had been able to get support from many groups of working women for the Laird Portch strikers.

In the same way, the South London Women's Voice group had been able to take the initiative in the fight against the closure of the Weir Hospital.

At the Transport and General Workers Union Rally organised by the Right to Work Campaign, a quarter of the workers present had been women-a big step forward in manual union.

The paid sale of Womens Voice has shot up from 1700 to 6000 in just six months.

Now we have to generalise these lessons-to encourage the formation of more Womens Voice groups and to look eventually to a national structure linking them

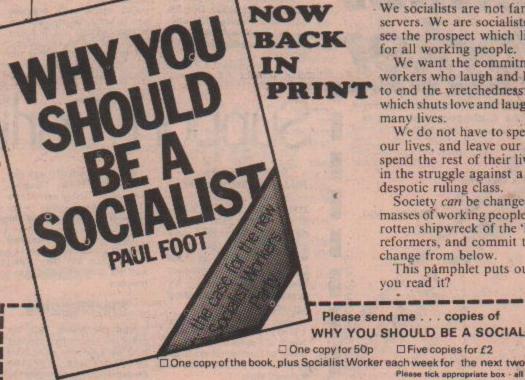
Ideological

The womens movement was in crisis - just as the economic crisis was forcing more and more working women into struggle. In the longer term, Womens Voice could replace the present women's movement, which ignores women at work, with a movement linked to the revolutionary party and based on the problems of

working women.
But this meant fighting not just on economic issues, but also on the ideological questions that perpetuate womens subservience in the factory and at home.

These points were emphasised by Birmingham SWP organiser Sheila MacGregor, who said: Women have to emancipate themselves. That means we have to develop an organisation led by women, that takes our politics to women. This means talking serious-

ly about a womens section of the party, so that women would be able to discuss the whole range of political issues and relate them to the oppression women face in the home and factory.'



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?

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Unite to smash the **Teesside** Agreement!

MIDDLESBOROUGH: 90 EETPU members are on strike at Dock Point in a 'who does what' dispute.

Four companies working on modules for the oil industry are involved.

Blackett and Charltons who've been out five weeksare now being supported by union members in Indteck, Whessoes and Balfour

Kilpatrick. Clark Donald, a steward told Socialist Worker: 'Boilermakers are doing our lads'

Fighting

'They're taking a lot of our pipelitters' work, and are even doing electricians' tray work. We're fighting for our fighting for our livelihond. We're fighting for

jobs for our members.

The Teesside EETPU
Liaison Committee is supporting the strikers. Over 3000 plumbers and sparks from dozens of sites have voted for a fl a week levy, giving the strikers £60 a week. When did the Executive last show solidarity like that? The Committee were

meeting on Wednesday to decide whether to call out all the men for a day of action and

The dispute, however, has implications far beyond demarcation.

Many rank and file members see this battle as only the first step in a determined effort to smash the JIB on Teesside and build a united grassroots movement against the Teesside Agreement.

Made by employers and national union officials, the agreement is keeping wages, conditions and safety levels to a minimum.

Liaison

Workers in the other unions on Teesside. A united rank and that their infighting between the various unions is playing into the hands of the big companies.

We need 'liaison committees' in all the other unions on Teeside. A united rank and file movement can smash the Teesside Agreement.

Rank and File Contact public meeting

Speaker: Billy Williams (Rank and File candidate in last year's General Secretary election). Wednesday 6 July, 7.30pm, Cleveland Hotel, Linthorpe, Middlesberguish Open to Middlesborough. Open to all EETPU members.

> £7 for one year £3.50 for six months

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ALL EYES ON THE MINERS

ALL EYES will be on next week's National Union of Mineworkers Conference in Tynemouth.

At least two decisions of importance to the trade union struggle will be made.

First is the likelihood of an emergency resolution on the Grunwick strike.

Yorkshire and South Wales are calling for a day of action on 11 July, and although this may seem to be rather late, if win the support of other Conference delegates it could be important for the winning of the dispute.

The other crucial decision concerns the prospects for a Phase 3 of the Social Contract and the ability of the governBy Bill Message

ment to hold the line on Phase 2 settlements for 12 months.

Several wages resolutions appear on the conference agenda. They range from the customary right-wing reference to vague 'substantial increases' to demands for concrete figures of up to £135 a week for faceworkers. But all these resolutions mean nothing unless another resolution opposing productivity

deals is carried.
NUM President Joe Gormley has made several statements to the effect that he is against a third round of the Social Contract.

mind voluntarily. He knows that if he were to advocate further wage restraint he would be swept aside by the rank and file.

Instead he is out to

negotiate a pit-by-pit productivity deal that would effectively take the miners out of the firing line on the Social Contract.

Divisions

It would be a deal that would unquestionably create major divisions within the union, setting area against area, pit against pit and man against man.

With the increased

a productivity rat-race could only result in more injuries, deaths and disease.

The problem is that although there may be no enthusiasm for a prod deal among most members, two years of wage restraint have created such frustration that when Gormley and Ezra dangle the carrot of up to £20 a week' in return for a deal there is a danger of it being accepted.

If the Broad Left in the union recognise this danger, they seem not to show it.

Their campaign against the deal has been muted. Nor have they taken up the question of the money.

In contrast, the small but

growing rank and file nucleus around the Collier has not only taken up all the arguments against a productivity deal, but has also taken up the question of money.

The Collier's argument is that if there is £20 to be had then we must demand it now, without the productivity strings.

An interim increase of £20 now is what the faceworker needs to regain the position he was in after the 1972 strike.

To win that £20 would not only destroy any possibility of a productivity deal being negotiated, but it would also destroy the Social Contract and pave the way for a full annual wage claim later.

Cubitts bosses forced to back down

TARMAC, Cubitts' parent company, boasts in its annual report ta employees: "Tarmac Break £500 million Barrier

But it was Tough Going"
"Yes, it was tough going",
said Martin Shanahan,
UCATT steward at the
Cubitts Shelgrove site in Hackney

"We had to fight tooth and nail to get our severance Pay, and safety conditions on the site are appalling.
"We had two men taken off

by ambulance last Wednes-

day. It's disgusting".
The 150 lucky men on the site have no showers and only four toilets. And management refuse to open the canteen in the morning so the men can have a cup of tea.

Disgrace

When Cubitts' safety in-spectors came to the site last week, they found 12 faults on one block, exclaiming: "This site is a disgrace and an embarrassment to the com-

And to top it all, the racist management tried to sack five brickies and two brickies' laboureres, last Thursday, 6 of whom were Asian.

The brickies reacted swiftly, and came out on strike the next day with the full support of their foremen! By 11.30 am management withdrew the

ANGRY BUS DRIVERS WALK OUT

By Ian Reinecke

WELLINGBOROUGH: Bus drivers at the United Counties depot walked out on Friday after two TGWU members

were suspended.

They were refusing to switch duties as part of a campaign to be paid for the Jubilee Holiday, which most

drivers took off.
The 67 members were joined by 150 drivers and conduc-tors from Northampton and Daventry on Saturday and Monday and are expected to be joined by the Kettering

Powell gets a fright

150 ANGRY anti-racists greeted Enoch Powell when he arrived in Hounslow last Wednesday to speak to the local Chamber of Commerce.

Extra police had to be rapidly mobilised to attempt to control the angry reception.

By far the most militant section of the picket were members of the Southall Youth Movement, who led last year's magnificent struggle locally against the

Despite heavy police protection, Harpal Gil of the SYM managed to collar Powell and give him a real

Recognition strike

By Andy Turner

READING:-Workers at Ideal Casements have been forced to strike against what one striker called the vicious attitude of management' and the 'filthy conditions'.

The last straw came when management laid off 27 workers and cut the bonus of everyone else for operating a go-slow. They were demanding sick pay, a pension scheme, and decent toilet and canteen facilities.

Now they are out on strike, they are also demanding union recognition and a closed shop for the engineering union, the AUEW, and for the EESA.

DESOUTERSTHE AUEW'S GRUNWICKS

KING Canute could not hold back the waves. Ted Heath and his Tory Government could not hold back the miners. And as sure as hell, George Ward and Roger Desoutter are not going to hold us back."

That was how AUEW convenor Fred Hopper urged the mass picket at Grunwicks last Friday to support our struggle for union recognition at nearby Desoutters.

Recognition

The same message, this time delivered by local shop stewards, and trades council members, was put to the mass meeting outside the Desoutters factory later that day when 100 pickets from Grunwicks and the Right to Work Campaign were joined by workers from General Motors, CAV, and the Higgs and Hill building site in Colin-

Our strike will soon be

By Barry Moroney, AUEW shop steward. Desoutters, Colindale

entering its eighth week. For the engineering union, that puts it in the same league as Grunwicks

And, like Grunwicks, the bloody-minded arrogance of the Desouttter management and their vicious tactics are an affront to the entire trade union movement in the area.

For such a strike to linger on for two months, in the heartland of the powerful AUEW North London Dis-

trict, is frankly a disgrace.

Management have never held back in their attempt to smash this strike. They have held out the lure of a ballot to demoralise strikers but from the beginning they have refused to talk with stewards or with the AUEW Divisional Organiser, Bill McLoughlin, about how a ballot would be conducted.

They have withheld holiday pay that was ours by right. They have written to, phoned and in some cases organised visits by scabs to our families while we have been picketing.

And last Wednesday they summarily dismissed our con-venor, Fred Hopper, on a trumped-up charge which he was given no chance to

They have also been ably assisted by the police. Over the last week we have been hounded by coachloads of police who have far outnumbered the

Last Wednesday, a leading shop steward from Enfield



Arrests at Desoutters; and it's the same police as at Grunwicks.

was arrested when a scab drove into him at speed.

On Friday, two strikers were arrested when handing out leaflets to scabs. And on several occasions police have encouraged people to cross the picket line.

Our union must organise now to resist this intimidation by management and its police force. Not just at Desoutters. but in many factories in the area, management are playing harder and dirtier than ever

before. They are determined to humiliate union organisation in North London before the next round of wage talks. If our strike is broken, if the AUEW does not organise equally aggressive tactics-100 per cent blacking, sympathetic strikes and mass pickets then they could well

North London convenors meeting put forward the first

succeed. On Monday an AUEW

proposals for our strike.

Rank and file engineers must now rally all their strength to bring this management to its knees.

MASS PICKET at Desoutters, Edgware Road, Colindale, at 12 noon on Thursday 30 June and Eriday 1 July

Thursday 30 June and Friday 1 July.

☐ Donations and messages of support to Barry

Moroney, acting treasurer, 16 Yew Grove London NW2.

By Aidan White, **NUJ** Executive member

JOURNALISTS on strike in the North East for the right to organise were given a boost this week when journalists in East London gave newspaper bosses a fright-by negotiating a closed shop agreement.

The 108-strong National Union of Journalists chapel at North of England Newspapers based at Darlington are in the fourth week of their strike for a closed shop.

The strikers are in the forefront of a bitter struggle between the NUJ and the bosses' federation, the Newspaper Society, which is militantly opposing a closed shop in local newspapers.

But a few months ago one group, the Home Counties Newspaper Group agreed to a closed shop—and were promptly booted out of the Society.

This week the Stratford Express group also agreed to a closed shop but they didn't wait for the boot-they have resigned.

Blacklegging

Now the bosses' club has called an emergency meeting next week because more NUJ chapels are forcing managements to recognise the NUJ as the only Union for journalists—and not the blacklegging Institute of Jour-nalists which the employers

favour and want to preserve. The Darlington strikers had to deal with some rough police activity at their picket line on Friday night.

Supporters from London, Kettering, Sheffield, Glasgow, Leeds and the North East

joined a mass picket.

The police arrested 15 including two NUJ full-time officials, as the pickets tried to stop the distribution of papers which have been produced by non-Union and Institute of Journalists labour.

The Darlington strikers were hoping last week that the printing unions would get off the fence and support their

But a meeting of the Printing Industries Committee of the TUC put off giving active support until they had approached Lord Gibson, the head of the Westminster Press group which owns a string of local papers, including those

at Darlington.

His Lordship announced in the Lords recently that no newspaper with which he was connected would concede a closed shop for journalists. Pressure needs to be applied

by all sections of the union movement within the industry to get the reluctant leaderships of the printing unions to give active support. The strikers are intending to

maintain their mass picket this week and journalists and other trade unionists should support the picket at The Northern Echo offices in Darlington from 9pm onwards Friday.

Donations and messages of support to strike HQ at 7 Victoria Road, Darlington (Labour Party Offices). Telephone Darlington (0325) 50282.

Subscriptions, Circulation Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN

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FORD'S: NO SELL-OUT SAY STRIKERS By Paul Holborow DAGENHAM: The strike and picketing go on.

That was the decision of a 3,000 strong mass meeting of Paint, Trim and Assembly workers at Fords on Tuesday morning.

Determined picketing has brought the whole of Fords at Dagenham to a standstill, with plants in Britain and Europe

also being severely disrupted. The PTA workers are demanding an 80 per cent layoff pay agreement. The decision to continue the action was taken in the face of combined efforts by the company and full-time officials to get a return to work.

Last week a mass meeting of the PTA workers, on the unanimous recommendation of the shop stewards, rejected the agreement drawn up by the officials and the company.

with the company for another mass meeting at which the PTA convenor was barred

from speaking. Fred Blake, the TGWU official, came to the microphone and was met with a shower of leaflets and jeered off the platform.

Scuttled

Together with Jack Mitchell, AUEW district of-ficial, he scuttled back inside the company. Brian Elliott, TGWU PTA convenor, said at the meeting:

'Our committee feels that our case for lay-off pay has not been put. The officials want to sell the workers of the PTA

down the Swanee river.'
After the meeting, another steward told Socialist Worker: The action of the officials underlines the vital importance of building up an organisation of rank and file Ford workers capable of fighting the disgusting sell-out of the trade union officials. We must organise against this for the future.

The rank and file Fordworker paper has issued leaflets and stickers throughout the dispute.

Further information from Fordworker c/o 42 Middleton Road, London E8. (01- 254 6508)

WHAT THAT SETTLEMENT MEANS

THE 13-POINT agreement that the trade union officials drew up with the company is a complete sell-out. Not only does it give no guarantees on employment or an 80 per cent lay-off pay agreement, it also allows the company full mobility of labour.

This means that the company has the right during any shift to move any worker to another job. Anybody who refused would immediately be taken off pay.

This disgusting agreement was signed over the heads of the shop stewards and bulldozed through the Body Plant stewards committee.

The Body Plant narrowly voted to return to work because the trade union official gave the fake information that the PTA lines had started up again.

At a stormy stewards meeting later in the day, strong opposition was raised against the agreement.

Shop steward Tommy Bermingham, an SWP member, said that 'the real fight against lay-offs was not going to come at national negotiations. The real strength lies with those plants which are most affected by lay-offs taking militant action and it is up to us to support them.

firemen on strike

MERSEYSIDE: 2000 firemen are on strike for the reinstatement of 30 Fire Brigade Union members sacked by the new Tory-controlled County Coun-

Firemen at Strand Road, Crosby and Derby Lane station have been operating a work to rule against the Social Contract and in favour of a 33 per cent pay

increase to put pressure on their union executive.

The FBU voted against Phase Three at the annual conference and agreed on a recall conference in September to set the pay claim for next year.

The Merseyside firemen decided to lift their work to rule from next Monday and wait until September. But the

County Council obviously wanted a confrontation now to weaken the union before September.

They sent out notices threatening the sack if the work

to rule was not lifted immediately. At least 30 people have been sacked so far.

BSC

IT ON

AGAIN

By Swansea and Lianelli

BSC workers

BSC management are looking for trouble again. Last Friday

four tractor drivers from Trostre Tin Plate works were suspended from the afternoon

shift for refusing to do work contrary to their 1970 agree-

ment.

The night shift tractor drivers found their clocking-on cards were withheld although they were ready for work. The BSC issued a press statement claiming that the men had 'walked out'.

Provocation

Chapple angers locked-out lift engineers

SW LONDON: 1200 Otis lift engineers have now been locked out for seven weeks, and are becoming increasingly angry over the blatant collu-sion by EETPU officials. The dispute started when Otis suspended eight workers, including two shop stewards,

in disregard of the agreed

procedure.
Shop steward Bill Ronayne explained: 'We are not going back until these suspensions have been lifted so that the case can go to arbitration. This is an attack on trade union organisation, and we have been let down by the

No contact

'For six weeks we couldn't contact the officials and now Chapple has sent us a letter which simply repeats the position of Otis management.'

Despite press attacks on the effects of the lock-out on tower block dwellers, the Otis engineers are solid. But financial support is needed.

□ Donations and

messages of support to-Bill Ronayne, Otis Strike Committee, 10 Chesterton Terrace, Kingston upon



SOME of the 1000 people who marched through London last Satur-day to protest at discrimination against homosexuals. In particular, they were protesting at the prosecu-tion of the homosexual newspaper. Gay News, for blasphemy and the police witch-hunts against hhomosexuals in Bradford and Cornwall. Not all the marchers were homosexual and several political groups gave support, including a contingent from the Socialist

Four busioads of police turned out to keep control. When the march reached Hyde Park the police threatened to arrest anyone they saw giving out leaflets. They also the organisers from speaking to the crowd through megaphones.

A Special Branch cameraman was seen filming the whole march from the roof of the Sun Life building in

Piccadilly Circus.

The background to this dispute, which is being referred to ACAS, the Government arbitration ser-vice, is virtually the same as

the Port Talbot electricians dispute-18 months of worthless discussion followed by provocation by manage-

Clearly management are flexing their muscles and are in the mood to take on any section of BSC workers after the smashing of the Port Talbot electricians' strike by

Chapple and Clarke, If this dispute is not resolved, we are going to see another fight in South Wales against the Social Contract by BSC

TEACHERS STRIKE

OXFORD: Teachers are closing 36 schools this week with a ten-day strike against massive education

Negotiations between the union and the Tory County Council broke down on 15 June over the issue of sackings still threatened for some 'short-term contract' teachers, and over the worsening pupil, Teacher ratios which are inevitable in September under the Council's present budget

Actions

The strike is the last of the present series of escalated actions by the NUT in Oxford. The strike will end on 7

July, to re-open schools for FOUR HOSPITALS TO STRIKE S. LONDON: Hundreds of

hospital workers are taking

strike action in support of

the occupied Weir Mater-

So far, four hospitals in the Wandsworth and East Merton Area Health Authority have

voted to strike for one day

next wednesday (6 July), as part of the protest action

nity Hospital.

any lock-out of striking teachers by the County. The Tory Education Com-

mittee leader in Oxford, Brigadier Streatfield, has stated: 'If the teachers want a bloody settlement, I'm quite prepared to mix it.'

But the NUT have acted alone so far, and the local liaison committee for public produce any joint policy.

Instead, NUPE officials, led by Divisional Officer George Anderson, have undermined the teachers' actions by claiming in public that such actions are a threat to the livelihood of NUPE members So far the moderate NUT

leadership at local level have

orchestrated package of token actions and intensive negotia-

tion.

The next few weeks will see if the growing rank and file militancy will be strong enough to ensure that the leaders stand fast by the demand for no drop in ratios, and that when the real fight starts again in September the Tory Council will be defeated.

Cow Plastics: 150 walk out

SLOUGH: 150 workers are on strike at Cow Plastics.

They want an increase in the meal break allowances, and in the bonus payments of 14p an hour to 20p an hour, which, they say, should be applied equally to men and women.

All 150 strikers are

against the attempted closure

Bolingbroke in Balham and

the South London Hospital.

John Cousins, NUPE
branch secretary at St
George's, told Socialist

Worker: This is particularly en-couraging because all three

The four hospitals are St George's at Hyde Park Cor-ner, the St James and the

members of the TGWU.

The strikers have been threatened with the sack if they do not return to work.

Despite all these grievances. the Transport Union branch secretary Dolly Stevens says there is nothing the union can do for them.

unions, CoHSE, the GMWU and NUPE are co-operating for the day strike. The hard

work done by the local Save Our Hospitals campaign has

helped to make this possible.'
The strikers will be atten-

ding a mass picket of the Area Health Authority's meeting at Springfield Hospital, Glenburnie Road,

SW17, at 4pm.

been made, it was not a victory. The blame lies with the officials in the

Manzoor Ahmed, the shop steward, said the strike will go on indefinitely. A round-the-clock picket was mounted on

SAINSBURY'S warehouse and production line workers at Basingstoke and Bun-tingford have returned to work and ended their strike for a wage claim that would have broken Phase 2 of the Social Contract.

Although some gains have shopworkers union, USDAW, and the Transport Union, the TGWU, who refused to make the strike official.

Choride boost

SOUTHAMPTON:-

Workers from the Dagenham Chloride occupation came down to Chloride Bardic to spread support for their dispute to shut our plant for the day on Tuesday mor-

They got a fine reception from the Transport and General Union members here. Only a few staff workers

crossed the picket line.
Sue Miller, shop floor
convenor, said: 'Last Friday
the members, who are mainly women, voted to support the

picket overwhelmingly.'
Bob Wheatley, TGWU convenor at Dagenham, said:

We would like to get all the Chloride plants to act as one from now on.'
This is what some of the

workers on the picket had to

We are the lowest paid and we want a rise as well. The

Upstairs you get heat exhaustion, downstairs you get frost bite, said Rene, Lou, Mary, Isa and two shop stewards Mary and Midge. Workers at Chloride in

working conditions here are

Manchester and Dagenham

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Socialist 10777

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

Sproat's 'evidence' is thrown back in his face by the Ministry

SIAIE

Overwhelming! **FORDS STAYS OUT**



Tuesday's mass vote at Fords PTA plant, Dagenham, to continue the strike for lay-off pay. FULL STORY—page 15.

SCROUNGERS?

IAN SPROAT, Tory MP for Aberdeen and notorious scrounger, hit the headlines day after day last summer with stories of 'mass scrounging' on the welfare state.

Sproat revealed that he had incontrovertible evidence' of people overclaiming and falsely claiming social security benefits. This 'abuse', he told parliament, 'probably runs into hundreds of millions of

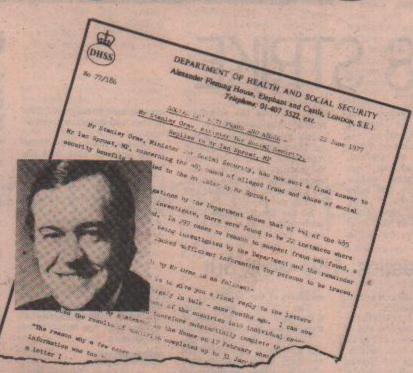
These fantasies appealed great-ly to the headline writers and editors of all our national newspapers not to mention the producers of television 'current

affairs' programmes.
When Jonathan Dimbleby, of the ITV programme This Week, disproved the allegations, Sproat successfully appealed for the full right to reply!

Now from the Department of Social Security itself comes facts to which there is no reply whatever. They prove that the unspeakable Sproat was basing his entire case on the twisted imaginings of his 'correspondents'

After a lot of pressure, Sproat had agreed to hand his 'evidence' over to the Ministry. It consisted of 485 letters accusing people of talsely claiming social security.

All these cases have been



The ministry's circular showing how the allegations by MP Sproat

examined in the closest detail. The results of the 441 cases which could be investigated were as

□ In 59, that's 16 per cent of the total, the person accused had never ever claimed social security

benefit of any kind.

□ In 297 cases, that's nearly three-quarters 'there was no reason to suspect fraud.'

In a further 41 cases, 'there

seemed to be nothing wrong with the case currently

In other words, in 96 per cent of the cases Sproat submitted as 'incontrovertible evidence' as 'incontrovertible evidence of 'massive scrounging', the 'accused' were either claiming the right benefit, or too little, or none at all.

☐ In precisely 22 cases, that's 4 per cent of the toal, was there any evidence of people not already

investigated who might be overcharging or falsely charging, and even here no case has yet been

So the mighty Stoat's roar has turned into a miserable

But the newspapers and televi-sion have been as reluctant to publish the facts as they were keen to publish the fantasies.

Only a few inches of space

could be found to correct the monstrous errors of past

Again, a monument has been built to the freedom of the press; the freedom, that is, to proclaim the lies of Tory scroungers and to hide the facts about the dreadful poverty which goes with mass unemployment.

Condemned to five days starvation-by

Socialist Worker received this letter this week:

ON 10 JUNE my wife, myself and our three children aged eight, five, and ten months, were told to go without food for five days by the Social Security.

It seems they have found me guilty of being absent from work for one week—I was ill.

On Thursday 9 June my wife went to make a claim for money as I had no wages due. They sent her away with a form for me to fill in-the same

form I had filled in a week before.

I filled it in again. The following day my wife returned the form and was told we could not have any money until my employer had filled in yet another form. I would be attended to on 15 June, the earliest appointment.

My wife explained that we didn't have a penny and could not last till Wednesday. The high and mighty assistant was not impressed and insisted the matter was closed until

Wednesday.
My wife then pleaded that she had no money to feed the family and we would go hungry. He repeated: 'There's nothing I can do. I cannot

help you. Cheetham, Manchester. 8