

# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p

# Low-paid? On the dole? WE'RE MARCHING FOR YOU!

**DEREK BOND** has only one pair of shoes.

They're pumps that his mother bought a few weeks ago. They are completely worn out.

Derek's been trekking all over Skem looking for work. He can't find a job. Nor can any of his three brothers, John, Tony or Robert.

Nor can 3,500 other people in the town, including about half of the lads who left school with Derek this year.

I asked Derek: 'Have you asked the Social Security about a new pair of shoes?' Yes, he said.

They'd told him he could apply for a new pair when he got a job.

I went down there myself with Derek last week. They told us they'd fix us up on Monday.

## FEED

But on Monday a Mr Thomas told us: 'We can't do anything for you I'm afraid. Come back in a fortnight and I'll see if I can let you have a pair of old ones of mine.'

Derek can't buy a new pair of shoes. He gets £9 a week from the dole. He gives it all straight to his mother. So do all his brothers.

She still finds it difficult to feed them all. The gas is cut off. Occasionally she manages to slip Derek 20p a week for some cigarettes.

So Derek, John, Tony and Robert sit at home all day, when they're not looking for work or collecting their dole money.

His dad, John Bond, comes home late each evening from his job as a foreman at Carborundum. He has to work hours and hours of overtime to bring his take-home pay up to £50 a week.

He gets furious when he sees his four grown-up sons sitting in his house doing nothing. He screams at them to go and get a bloody job.

But their mother, Bridget, reasons with him: 'They can't get a job, John, they just can't! I've been down myself to ask.'

Bridget Bond came out of hospital last January after a hysterectomy operation. She discharged herself from the convalescent home because none of her family could afford to visit her there. The fares were too high.

She ought to be resting now, but she has to keep working—



by **BILLY CASTLEY**

Secretary, Skelmersdale Right to Work Campaign

as a canteen worker at Richardson Merrill—just to get that £30 more into the family to fill all those hungry mouths.

She too works overtime when she can. She and John once worked out that for all

the overtime they work, one of their sons could almost work a full week.

But they can't afford not to work overtime because their sons are out of work.

I've known the Bond family ever since I came here to Skem

six years ago. Derek was just a kid of ten.

They're good, decent working-class people. They came full of dreams and hopes of decent jobs and better lives.

And they're seeing the bloody back-end of our society now. A whole new housing estate is rotting away empty because people can't pay the rent.

Well, Derek will get new shoes—from the Right to Work Campaign.

Because Derek and all three of his brothers will be marching this week on the great Right to Work march to

Blackpool.

People have been asking me all week: why are you going on the march? I can't think of a better answer than the Bond family.

## JOIN

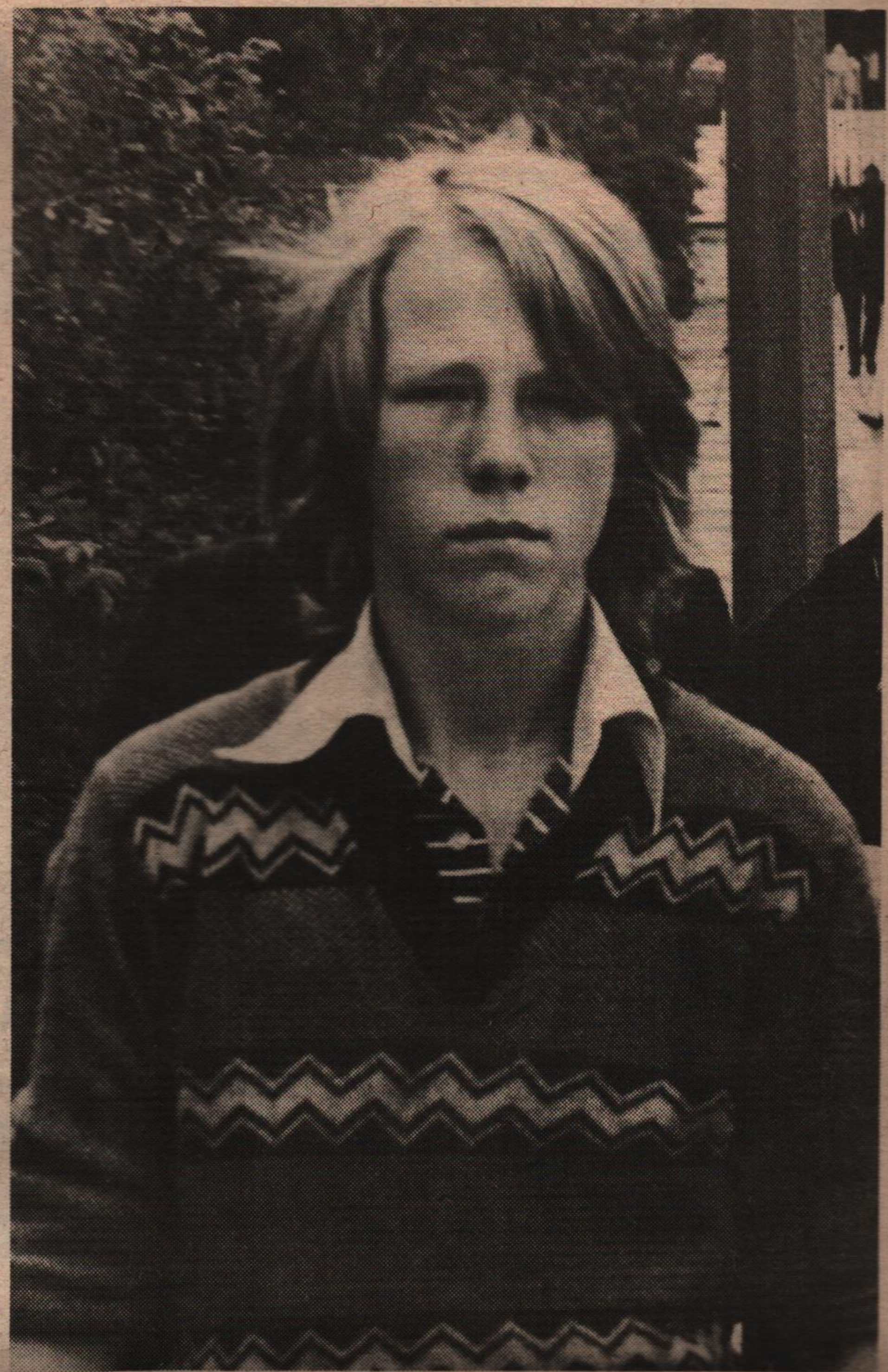
You see, we're not just marching for the unemployed lads and girls. We're marching for the mums and dads at work as well—for Bridget and John Bond and for all the other low-paid workers.

Join us on the march, if you're out of work. And if you're in work, join us at the

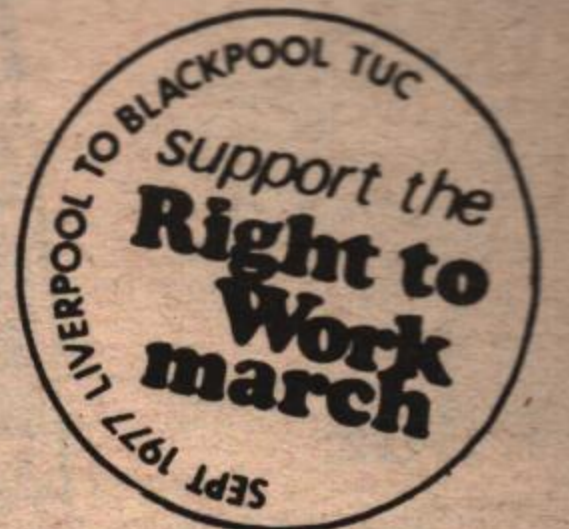
great lobby of the TUC on Monday.

Then we can all stand together, employed and unemployed, in a great demonstration of working-class people.

That should scare those TUC high-ups who are supposed to represent us into a real fight for all the Bond family, and the millions of others like them all over the country.



Derek Bond: No shoes, no money, no work—and three brothers on the dole too.



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN and WHERE THE MARCH IS GOING —pages 8-9.

## JOIN THE LOBBY OF THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS

This Monday 5 September, 11am, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

Called by the Manchester Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions, and the Right to Work Campaign.

□ Transport details: London, see page 2. Other areas, page 4.

# Police dump man in mental ward

**MARTIN Lay, a hospital shop steward, was walking home at 2am recently when he was stopped by a police panda car.**

He told the policeman that he was on the way home and walked on.

A hundred yards further on another panda car, a police van and a Rover drew up; Martin was grabbed by two police and taken to the station.

When he was in the station one of the police recognised

By Dave Peers

him as one of the militant pickets in the recent strike at Epsom District Hospital in Surrey.

They refused to allow him to make a phone call and put him in the cells. Martin told Socialist Worker what happened next:

## Admit

I suffer from claustrophobia and kept banging on the cell door. A sergeant came in and told me that if I didn't shut up he'd 'deem' me.

When I asked him what he meant he said he would put me

on a section, ie. have me put away in a mental hospital.

I said he couldn't do that, but he just laughed and said 'You'd be surprised what we can do'.

Shortly afterwards, Martin was taken out of the cells and taken by three policemen to the psychiatric unit of the Epsom District Hospital, where they succeeded in persuading the houseman on duty to admit him under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act.

He spent the whole weekend in the ward and was only released on Monday morning when the consultant examined him.

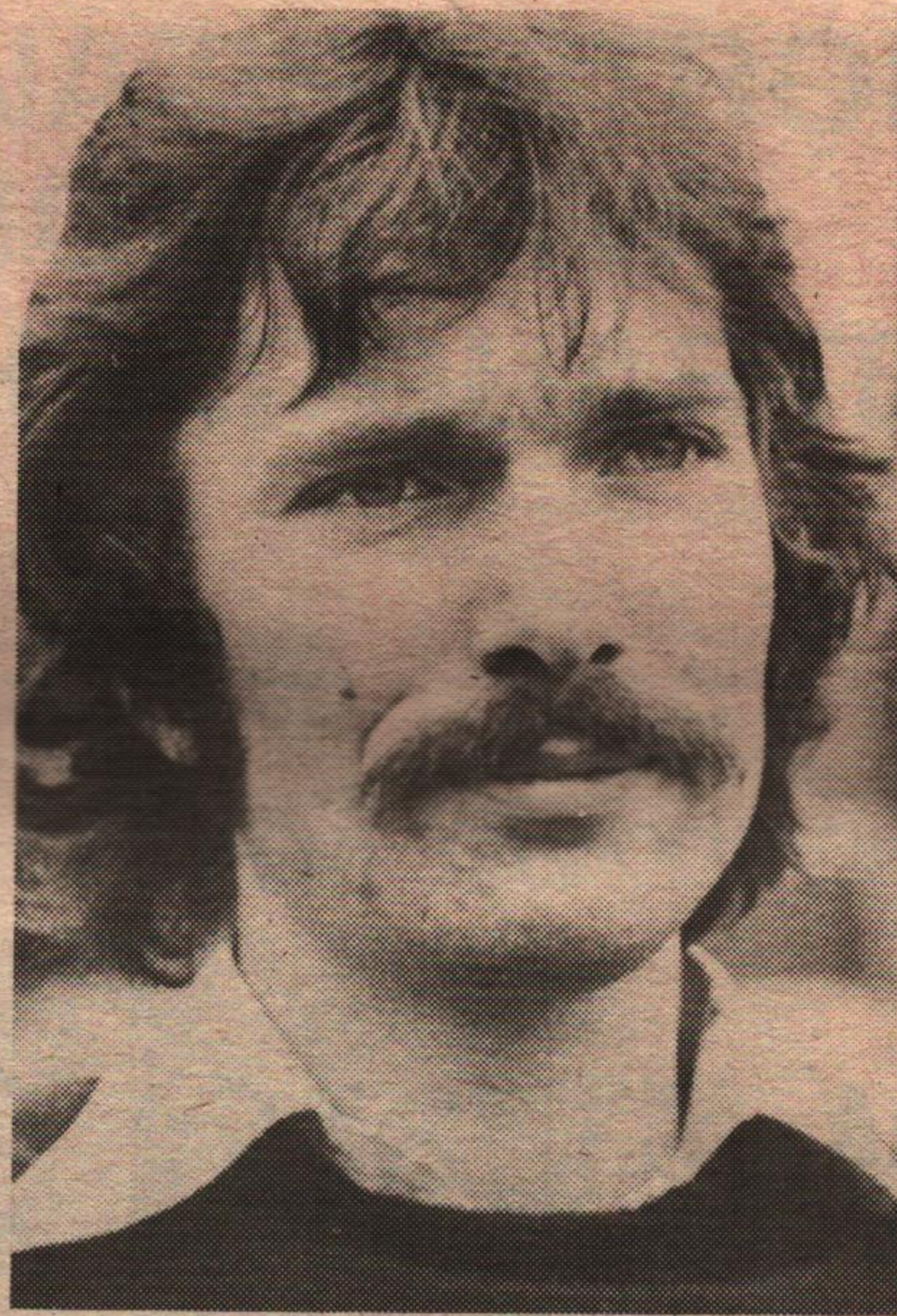
The Epsom branch of the Transport Union is calling for a full inquiry into this new and disturbing form of police

harassment.

The police have now admitted that they 'made an error' in committing Martin to hospital, and they even had the nerve to pretend that they were concerned about his health.

## Beaten

In fact, Section 136 of the Mental Health Act only permits the police to take a person who appears to be suffering from a mental disorder to 'a place of safety' which, in practice, means either a hospital or a police station, and Martin was taken from a police station. He was also threatened that he would be beaten up the next time the police got their hands on him.



PICTURE: John Lomas Clarke

**YOU'RE A MILITANT, YOU MUST BE GUILTY**

**BRIAN Higgins, a Northampton building worker arrested on the Grunwicks picket line, was sure he was going to be cleared.**

The court case against him—threatening behaviour—didn't exist and when the magistrates adjourned for lunch last week he was clearly going to be acquitted.

But, after lunch, the prosecution asked for permission to introduce fresh evidence. They then trotted out a string of policemen to testify that he was a known troublemaker and had been seen on numerous occasions at scenes of confrontation, for example at Staples Corner, where the Right to Work Marchers were attacked by the police.

Brian was neither arrested nor charged at Staples Corner. A newspaper article was also produced which quoted Brian saying that the first principle of picketing was to stop the scabbing.

This record of Brian's activities as a militant trade unionist had its effect. He was found guilty and fined £30 with £15 costs.

# LONGBRIDGE: WHAT WENT WRONG

'STUFF it Brothers! We want to Work!'

The Press exulted last week when a strike at British Leyland's biggest factory—at Longbridge, Birmingham—was called off after a no-strike demonstration by paint shop workers.

As usual, less than half the facts came out. Here are the others—the important ones—from three militants at Longbridge.

**Q. Why was the strike called in the first place?**

**A.** For a simple, obvious reason. It's in our agreement with Leyland that we negotiate new pay every year.

This year, the bosses refused to negotiate with our stewards! They told us to wait for the results of a working party (not elected) which they set up after the toolroom strike earlier this year.

## ARGUE

They broke an agreement, without any promises of any more money at any time.

**Q. So what happened to the strike call?**

**A.** On Thursday morning, the day shifts met to hear their stewards argue for the strike. At first, it seemed almost a formality.

The East Works voted 2000-100 for a strike; CAB 2 by 848 to 16; North Works by 400 to 4; No 5 Machine shop by 450 to 11.

Even the traditionally right wing areas—the Flight Shed and Cofton Hackett—voted to strike.

Only the paint shop, where there are a lot of 'new starters', voted against (by 500 to 22).

**Q. What went wrong then?**

**A.** Well, firstly the management issued a letter to all workers at about dinner time.

The letter said that the 'new plan' being discussed by the working party could bring just as much to the workers as our



The press rejoiced over the anti-strike demo: But why did it happen?

separate pay claim at Longbridge.

But there was no promise of any money or any date for payment. Second, Derek Robinson, works convenor, went on television to announce that workers were voting 50 to one for the strike. This was an exaggeration, for a start.

## FIXED

But it was a stupid thing to do before many of the workers—including all those on nights—had voted.

Naturally these workers felt that all the figures and the meetings had been fixed. The night shift workers voted against the strike. But even then, the overall vote was 2-1

for the strike.

The next day, about 300 workers from the paint shop, led by Ron Hill, went on a demonstration against the strike.

**Q. Who is Ron Hill?**

**A.** He's known as a loud-mouth who likes publicity, but he's not politically motivated. He was a steward a long time ago, but he didn't last long.

**Q. So how were he and others like him able to get so much support?**

**A.** There are a few subsidiary reasons—like the fear in many workers' minds that we would be laid off this week anyway, because of the Lucas strike.

But there is one fundamental, overwhelming reason: the collapse of the stewards' organisation at Longbridge.

This is a direct result of measured day work and 'participation' with management.

Participation has meant that the top stewards, and the works committee, have been taken outside the shop floor.

They spend most of their time with management, not with us. Measured day work has cut out all the little struggles from the shop floor.

Many stewards don't even bother to go to joint meetings. Out of 700 stewards in this plant (there are 18,000 workers here), only about 70 (at the very most) regularly attend the monthly joint shop stewards meeting.

The best militants don't want to be shop stewards any more, and often the worst people get the job just because they want it.

The workers and most shop stewards are kept in complete ignorance 90 per cent of the time.

## CONTROL

The only time we're ever told what's going on is when top participants come down and tell us to 'observe the procedure', to 'co-operate', to 'keep our promises'.

You can't tell people year after year that management is good for them, and then suddenly flick your fingers and call for a strike.

**Q. The Leyland management say they're in favour of 'corporate bargaining'. What does that mean?**

**A.** It means reaching an agreement right across all 34 Leyland plants.

**Q. What's wrong with that?**

**A.** It takes even more control away from the shop floor.

**Q. But isn't it better to have all Leyland workers pushing together?**

**A.** Of course it is, but you don't get unity by agreements signed above your head. That's what last Friday proves more than anything else.

All you get is disunity, distrust, stewards without the information or the guts to argue with their workers, television cameras recording right-wing demonstrations—and so on. You get unity only by struggle.

In the old piece-work days, the shop floor was full of struggle, lots of little struggles in which the stewards had to know their job, and had to be on the shop floor.

This didn't damage unity when it came to a big claim. On the contrary, it brought us together.

Lack of struggle, stewards 'participating' in hotels, only leads to the sort of split we had last Friday.

**Q. So, what's your advice to Leyland workers now?**

**A.** Well, funnily enough, we think there's still a very good chance now for a real fight in Longbridge.

It's only a few months since our mass demonstration against the social contract—and that feeling, the desperate need for more money, is even stronger now.

What's more, the management have now made nonsense of all the 'stick to procedure' talk of Robinson and the works committee.

## DEFEAT

The management have broken procedure, and they've got no intention at all of offering us the sort of wage rise we need.

We should start to build up for a real fight—with lots of little battles on the shop floor. We must involve the stewards more with these battles.

Militant stewards who have been turned over by their workers shouldn't resign. They should build on the workers need for more money, their readiness to fight for it and management's stinginess and arrogance.

If the dreadful events of last Friday help workers at Longbridge to build their own movement and not to rely on participatory, appointed committees, then we can quickly turn a defeat into an offensive.

## Goodbye and good riddance

**ANTHONY** Reed-Herbert did the first worthwhile thing in his whole wretched life last week. He quit politics.

The man who, as National Front candidate, polluted Ladywood with a campaign of hate said he was getting out because he had fallen victim to a 'vendetta of... hate'.

His decision had nothing, of course, to do with the actions of anti-fascists at Ladywood and Lewisham, where he was last seen fleeing down a back alley.

## Racist

No. Honourable and truthful to the end, Reed-Herbert announced that he was quitting because he could no longer allow his family to be put 'at risk'.

His wife had had anonymous phone calls. And his brother had nearly been hit by a shotgun blast through the window of his antique shop in, wait for it, Newmarket.

A vivid imagination, our Anthony. Or, more likely, a weak stomach. If there's one thing the master race can't take, it's determined opposition.

That's why, just a few days before Reed-Herbert, another NF candidate, Ian Bunce of Dundee East, also got the shivers and quit.

And that's why, despite what the press and politicians say, the Socialist Workers Party was right to stand up to the fascists in Lewisham.

## CLAIMANTS UNION

Any implication, in our interview with former National Front member John Considine (13 August), that the East London Claimants Union had racist policies and that NF members could work openly in it, was not intended by Socialist Worker.

The Claimants Union has consistent anti-racist and anti-fascist policies. John Considine had been suspended from it in December 1976, before he joined the NF.

## LOBBY THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS

SPECIAL TRAIN FROM LONDON TO BLACKPOOL

Monday 5 September, leaves Euston Station, 7.30am. Tickets £7.50 return, from the Rank and File Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Rd., London N.4. Phone 01-802 0978. (Tickets should be obtained in advance)

# NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL: WHY IT EXPLODED

**HOW STRANGE**—the Notting Hill Carnival ended just like they said it would!

The police and the newspapers predicted it would end in a riot—and it did.

Now the police are suggesting, just like they did last year, that the Carnival should be banned. Only this time they say—with hand on heart—that they couldn't possibly have started it.

They kept well away and only came when the 'thievings' and the 'violence' got out of hand. After all, haven't the Carnival stewards said the police were not to blame? Haven't the Carnival stewards said that some of the youngsters got out of hand?

Part of the reason for that was that Carnival was gutted this year. The campaign against the Carnival succeeded in limiting bands and stalls. Money was withheld from the Carnival Committee by the Tory Kensington Council.

For many young blacks, there simply wasn't enough to do on the Saturday of the Carnival.

But what about the



The Daily Mail last Tuesday: it implied the Knights were the victims, not of the police, but of black youths.

thefts? The Daily Telegraph said there were 178 arrests—38 of them for theft—at the Reading Rock Festival—that was going on at the same time.

Every weekend at Petticoat Lane there are pickpockets. But the police don't move in with riot shields.

Attention dwells on the pickpockets because the Carnival is a black festival. That was the reason for the massive police build-up.

And once the police waded in, they attacked blacks indiscriminately. A pregnant mother and her 13-year-old baby were among the victims.

The police stormed into the

Mangrove Club and attacked and beat up some of the stewards who had been organising the Carnival.

The newspapers have been praising the police for holding back and keeping out of the way. Once the green light was given, the police behaved in the same way as they did one year ago when they broke up last year's Carnival.

The rhythmic beating on riot shields echoed over the surrounding streets, mingled with the officers shouting at the top of their voices and stamping heavy boots,' said the Daily Express of the police.

If you are young and black in Notting Hill or Brixton or any other black area, you have almost no chance at all of getting a job. Instead you face poverty and overcrowding.

If you are young and black, harassment, intimidation, arbitrary searches and arrests by the police are commonplace.

If you are young and black, you may not have any money to go to Carnival.

Those are the real reasons behind the tension that exploded at Notting Hill.

Of course, there was trouble. Of course, the stewards did not manage to control some of the angry and frustrated young blacks at the Carnival.

But it is not true that the stewards lost control and the police moved in. Far from it. All real control was lost and most of the worst violence happened, because the police charged in.

Many of those, including some Carnival organisers and some on the left, who are attacking the young blacks who were involved in earlier incidents with the stewards, are opening the way for the racials to make the maximum out of what happened.

Next year's Carnival must go on. Any attempt to ban it will be a victory for racials everywhere.



**VICTIMS OF THUGGERY . . .** police thuggery. Mrs Sandra Knight, seven months pregnant, and her 20-month-old daughter Tessa sheltered against a wall as police baton charged into Notting Hill's All Saints. Road. Her husband, Billy, threw himself forward to protect them as the blows rained down. He told Socialist Worker: 'They just hit her (Sandra) over the head—wallop, like a coconut. One policeman went for the baby. He aimed for her head. If he had hit her, she would have been dead'.



The Socialist Workers Party's Southern Africa float at the carnival: 2000 copies of the SW and FLAME Carnival Special were sold.

## Torture, rape and Margaret Thatcher

'DURING the first interrogation I never knew where the electrodes had been placed and the pain was generalised.

'Now one electrode was placed inside my vagina and the other, a wandering pincer, was used to stimulate me wherever they chose.

'The pain was appalling, and, determined not to be deceived again, they questioned me with speed and ferocity that allowed no possibility of lying.

'Each time the pain was more terrible. My interrogators too were sexually excited and the fear of being raped was ever present for I knew that this was quite common. As it happened, I was lucky.

'A Chilean church worker,

a former nun, was raped in this same place a week later. I escaped.'

This is an extract from an article in last Sunday's Observer by Sheila Cassidy, a Roman Catholic doctor.

Now consider another quotation, on the same day, from Margaret Thatcher, leader of the Conservative Party.

### Same?

'I regard all those who use force to get their own way as Left-wing.'

Margaret Thatcher went on to say that fascists and revolutionary socialists are 'the same'.

They both, she explained, 'want to destroy our way of life'. This way of life, she said, depended on 'free enterprise

and the rule of law'.

Margaret Thatcher's views were borrowed almost word for word from an article in the Daily Telegraph on 20 August by Robert Moss, director of the National Association for Freedom.

Which is not surprising, because Robert Moss writes Margaret Thatcher's foreign affairs speeches, and was instrumental in getting her elected as Tory leader.

Moss is a friend of the Chilean government, which tortured Sheila Cassidy. He has written a book about Chile which attacks the previous (elected) government, and defends the military coup against that government.

Moss's book is available free from the Chilean embassy.

Moss also defends the government in South Africa. He has written an account of the war in Angola in 1975 which pushes the South African government version.

In Chile and South Africa the two pillars of Moss' and Thatcher's 'freedom'—private enterprise and the rule of law—stand high.

### Atrocity

They are protected and enforced by a permanent reign of terror; imprisonment without trial; torture; rape; every known atrocity.

Are these socialist governments? Not at all. They are right-wing governments whose main aim is to protect the minority with property from the majority who produce it.

That's what 'private enterprise' means—the rule of a few unelected boardrooms over the workers.

That's what the rule of law means—the rule of a handful of unelected judges over what is right and what is wrong.

Sometimes these can survive with Parliamentary elections every five years, sometimes not.

At all times, whatever the excesses of torture necessary, they will have the support of right-wing bigots like Margaret Thatcher and Robert Moss.

Socialist believe in the opposite: in the rule of the majority over their lives; in the planning of the wealth which they produce to meet the needs of working people.



Thatcher: Does her 'Right Approach' support butchery?

# HOW TO GET TO THE LOBBY

THE Right to Work Campaign has published a list of transport arrangements for the lobby of the TUC in Blackpool on Monday 5 September.

**GLASGOW:** Coaches leave Trade Union Centre, Carlton Place, 7am. Return same day, 4pm. Fare £4 return. Contact J Shaw, 45 Keal Avenue, Glasgow G15.

**LEEDS:** Leave the Corn Exchange, 7am. Contact Brian Corrigan, phone 0532-789765.

**NEWCASTLE:** Coaches leave Newcastle Central Station, 6.30am. Fare £3.50. Phone 0632-657806, or contact 142 Oban Rd, Newcastle 6.

**LIVERPOOL:** Leave Mann Island, Pierhead, 8am. Contact Stuart Culliford, phone 051-523-5799. Tickets from Merseyside RTWC, 2a Dawson St, Liverpool.

**MANCHESTER:** Train leaves Victoria Station, 9.39am. Fare £1.50. Contact T U Books, 260 Deansgate, Manchester 3, or phone Jeff or Joyce Howard, 061-431-7541.

**GRIMSBY:** Contact Mike Stanton 0472-68719.

**LONDON:** Train leaves Euston Station, 7.30am. £7.50 return. Contact Rank and File Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Rd, London N4 (phone 01-802 0978).

**WALSALL:** Coach leaves Falkland car park, Wolverhampton, 7.30am.

**BLACK COUNTRY:** Coach leaves Falkland car park, Wolverhampton, 7.30am.

## RANK AND FILE DIARY

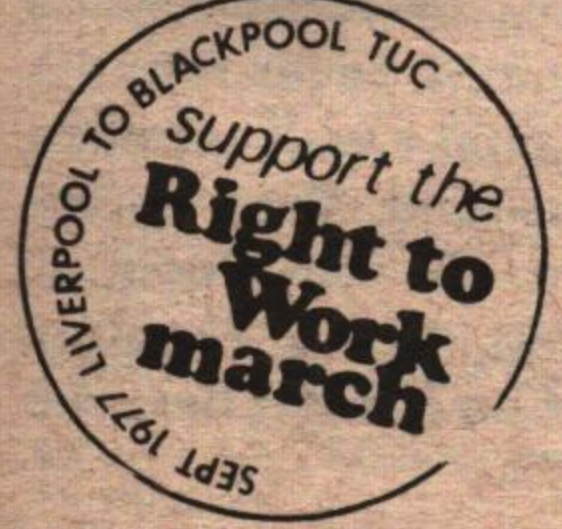
**BRADFORD** Right to Work public meeting: The Fight for the Right to Work Then and Now. Speakers: Harry McShane (secretary of the Scottish Unemployed Workers Movement in the 1930s) and a Right to Work marcher. Friday 16 September, 7.30pm, room 1, Bradford Central Library.

**GRUNWICKS** Strike Committee: Volunteers (preferably male) urgently needed to help run a crèche for the children of the Grunwicks strikers. Mornings and afternoons. For more information contact Tony or Angie, c/o Grunwick Strike HQ, Phone 459 Phone 01-459 4121.

**HOSPITAL WORKER:** Rank and file paper for all health workers. No 9 will be available at the end of August. Please order now. Money for No 8 should be sent urgently, payable to Hospital Worker, 19 Red Post Hill, London SE24 (phone 01-733 8443).

**RANK AND FILE CONTACT No 5:** EETPU rank and file paper out now. Articles on cancelled election result, no 12 month rule, Port Talbot and defending direct works. Also Fight the JIB. Rank and File Contact pamphlet for all sparks and plumbers in construction. Sections on officials, blacklist and next steps in the fight. Both 5p each from 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

**COLLECTION SHEETS** to raise support for the Right to Work March where you work. Available from the Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.



**STICKERS** in support of Right to Work March now available, printed in red and green 20p for a sheet of 12. Ideal for street and pub collections for the Right to Work March. From: Right to Work Campaign, Rank and File Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.



## EAGER BEAVERS

THE COMPANIES THAT LOVE THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

# £8,000! RIGHT TO WORK FUND STILL NEEDS CASH

**A MAGNIFICENT £8,223.85.** That was the sum collected for the Right to Work march by Monday. Workers at the Monsanto

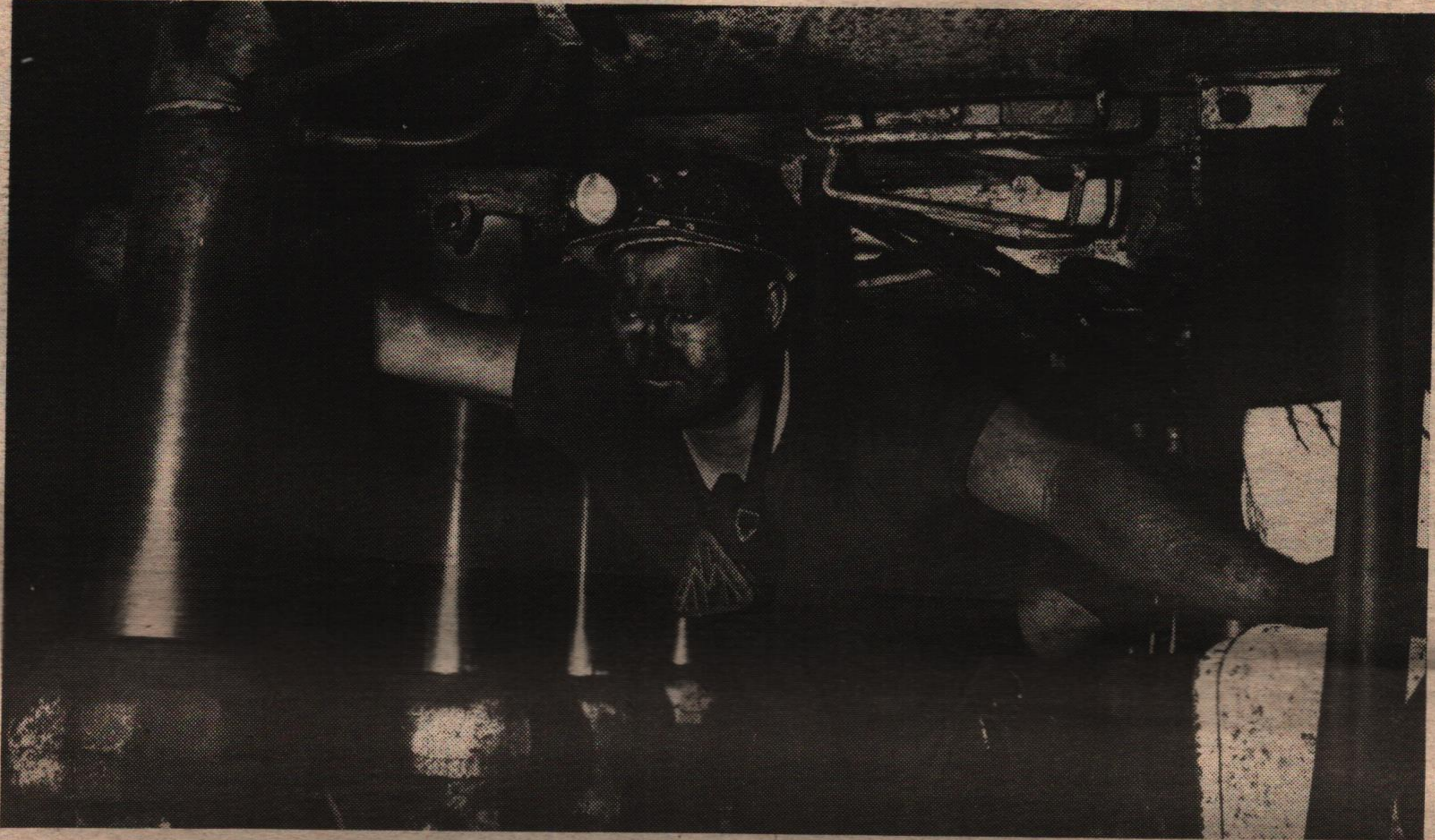
Construction site in Teeside gave the marchers the fantastic sum of £564. Holiday-Hall workers on the site organised a levy. So far they've raised £389. William Press workers held a collection and raised £54.58. CJB

workers raised another £121.11½. More money is now desperately needed. There is still a long way to go to raise the £12,500 needed for the whole march. Don't sit on the money. Send it in as it is collected.

Every penny is being spent as it arrives to help equip, feed and accommodate the marchers. Send collections and donations to: Right to Work Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Road London N4.

THESE are some of the other donations the Right to Work Campaign has received for the march in the last five days.

- Fleet Street NATSOPA clerical workers £25
- Cambrone 3 AUEW £2
- Herberts shop stewards committee Letchworth £5
- NALGO Ealing
- Hammersmith Hounslow Area Health Authority branch £2
- Glasgow District Libraries NALGO shop stewards committee £1
- TGWU 9/64 Leeds £5
- Merseyside District SOGAT £3
- Knowsley Trades Council £12
- Bayer Chemicals ASTMS £2.90
- Caterpillar shop stewards committee Newcastle £10
- Clark Chapman shop stewards committee Newcastle £12
- Lancaster University SRC £5
- CPSA Manchester £1
- Warrington Trades Council £1
- AUEW shop stewards committee Enfield £3
- ACTS Walls Branch £2
- Welsh Breweries (BASS) collection £12.60
- Heath Hospital CoHSE branch £7.50
- COHSE Whitchurch branch £6
- ASTMS 935 branch £1
- GMWU 101 branch BICC Kirkby £36
- Sharve Green Hospital site Preston £10
- Deepdale Labour Party Preston £10
- Peter Stubbs Files Warrington £12
- Greenings Warrington shop stewards committee collection £14
- NALGO Lethian branch £12
- NALGO Waltham Forest Social Services £13
- NALGO Bolton Metropolitan branch £25
- NALGO Bolton Metropolitan branch £25
- ASTMS 797 Norwich North General Branch £12
- IRSF members North London collection £3.50
- NUM Markham Main Colliery £12
- York 3 UCATT £1
- Glasgow South CPSA £13
- ASLEF King's Cross Branch £1
- Chloride Oagenham JSSC £36
- CPSA British Library £6
- Metal Box Aintree JSSC collection £52.10
- Speke AUEW 23 £5
- Green Lane UBO CPSA £6
- S Yorks County Council £5
- GLC NALGO EETPU £1.60
- RWS Engineering collection £20
- Export House Branch CPSA £13



Coalface workers like Kevin Jones' father are getting a shock from Labour's early retirement deal

# IN THE SMALL PRINT...A FRAUD FOR EVERY MINER

MY FATHER, now 60, has worked underground as a faceworker on the Yorkshire coalfield since he was 14, a total of 46 years.

## SHOCKS

He has recently decided to 'take advantage' of the new Coal Board retirement scheme. When he looked carefully into it, he received a

By Kevin Jones

few shocks. First, if he retires at 61, he would receive an earnings-related weekly payment until he was 65, when he would receive his full pension. To get a payment that would maintain his present standard of living, he would have to be earning more than £80 a week in his final year at the pit.

Since the top line for faceworkers like my father is only in the £60's, this means he must work regular Saturday morning overtime, at the age of 60. If the Coal Board had made him redundant, they would have had to pay him a considerable redundancy payment (46 years is a long time) and then he would have had earnings-related dole. Obviously, far too good a deal for the government's lik-

ing! The next shock came when he looked at the way in which the earnings-related payment is calculated. It is based on your total earnings in your final year at the pit.

## REDUCE

So, not content in forcing ageing miners to work overtime, they want them to do it for a full year. And here's the sneaky one.

Any strikes in that year would obviously reduce the amount earned, and therefore reduce the payment you would receive. The Coal Board have therefore succeeded in building into the agreement a disincentive to strike among the older miners. This is a sure way of forcing a nasty split and bitter arguments at the pit head when the union pushes its pay claim later this year.

# £800 a week toolmakers?

BY SEYMOUR PROPHET

The bug in the boardroom

LUCAS have the money to pay the 1,200 toolmakers who are on strike for £5 a week. In fact they could pay them almost 200 times as much. Lucas' financial year has just ended and it is confidently expected in the City that profits increased by 35 per cent to around £75 million. They were well on the way at the half-year stage in January, at £35 million. At that time the Financial Times said Lucas would probably make £75 million in the full year. This figure is not just plucked out of the air—the FT had been talking to Lucas management.

And Lucas didn't just pluck it out of the air either: it followed reports from managers throughout the group, and was after making provision for any increase. Exactly the same applies to 1978. In planning their prices for the current year, Lucas will have assumed a certain level of wage increases. Most big business is budgeting for something like 15 per cent and Lucas is unlikely to be any exception. After paying increases of this sort they still expect to make profits higher than last year's

£75 million. The big profit increase last year hides an even bigger increase in the share of profits made in the UK. Increased exports, the virtual end of price controls, and the pay-off from rationalising parts of the UK businesses have all helped push up UK profits from £34 million to around £50 million—not far short of £1,000 for every UK worker. Put it another way: divided between the 1,200 toolmakers, that is more than £800 each week, compared

with the £5 they are asking for. An £800 increase would about put them on a par with Lucas chairman, Bernard Scott, who is already paid £864 a week, as well as getting £1,500 worth of dividends a year. Lucas say they can't give any of this profit to their workers—it is needed for investment. But with last year's profits, the amount they put aside to replace old machinery and £40 million of cash in the bank, Lucas have about £100 million in the UK. Their 'record expenditure programme' involves spending about £50 million and not all of that in one year.

- 309 trade union organisations had sponsored the march by the beginning of this week. They include:
- 2 union executives
  - 58 shop stewards committees
  - 34 trades councils, 5 AUEW district committees
  - 34 AUEW branches, 22 TGWU branches
  - 2 ASTMS divisional councils
  - 17 ASTMS branches
  - 4 CPSA area committees
  - 13 CPSA branches
  - 17 NALGO branches
  - 18 NUPE branches
  - 10 UCATT branches
  - The two union executives are SLADE and ASLEF.
- Among the shop stewards committees are:
- Leyland Motors Joint Works Committee, Hull Ports
  - Royal Group Docks Ford Dagenham Body Shop
  - Metal Box, Aintree, Shipley and Swindon
  - AUEW Cowley Assembly British Airways European Division
  - TGWU Chrysler Linwood Ford MS and B plant TGWU Halewood
  - Desoutters Strike Committee
  - Rolls Royce Production Works AUEW Bristol
  - Chloride Dagenham
  - Massey Ferguson Knowsley
  - Gardners Manchester
  - Uniroval Chemicals TGWU Manchester
  - IRO EETPU Bootle
  - IDC Chloride building site Bolton

WHILE the newspapers are full of glee about events at Leyland's Longbridge plant, hundreds of other workers are making their feelings about wages clear by going on strike.

These strikes are at Wilsons Brewery, Walls and the Corporation Water Works in Manchester, at Batchelors in Sheffield, at Smiths in Cheltenham and at Beechams in Gloucester.

Socialist Worker talked to the Beechams workers about their strike for a decent living wage.

# Anyone who thinks the Social Contract helps the low-paid should come down here...

**'WE CAN'T afford to go back to work and carry on living on these wages. But it looks like we're going to be starved back.**

'Our union policy is against wage controls. We are on strike against wage controls, yet the union won't back us. It doesn't make sense.

'Anyone would think it wasn't our money that was being paid in to keep the union going. What's it for if it isn't to help working people like us get a decent living wage?'

Margaret Merry, one of the strike committee at Beecham's in Coleford, Gloucestershire has been on strike for four weeks.

The 450 Transport Union members are demanding a £24 a week pay rise, a moderate claim when you consider that some of the Beecham workers are taking home only £29 for a 40-hour week.

The highest rate is £48 for skilled men.

Two-thirds of the workers at the Gloucestershire fruit drink plant are women—most of them part-time. They earn £21 for a 24-hour week, working shifts.

They are picketing solidly with the men. And despite being told by Jack Jones and TUC chairperson Marie Paterson to 'wait and see what the TUC decides', morale at Coleford is high.

'We're not going to allow ourselves to be starved back to work for nothing,' said Margaret. 'We'll pool everything we've got and manage somehow.'

'We've come too far to give in now, we've got a strong union for the first time.'

## Kick

The women are not working for 'pin' money. Their income is vital to maintain their living standards.

Margaret Merry works the twilight shift, five hours a night, sometimes six nights a week. She goes out when the children come home from school and her husband is there to look after them.

'We do it because we need the money,' she said. 'You can't live on one person's income these days. I'd like to know what these MPs' and union leaders' wives would say if their husbands came home and put £30 on the table to keep a family for a week.'

'In 30 years there's never been a strike here. The management have got richer while we've got poorer. They offer £3 a week. It's nothing.'

The strikers got a kick in the teeth from the government in the third week of their strike. The company, which made £132 million profit last year, was allowed to give its shareholders a 200 per cent increase. But they will only negotiate with the workers within the government's pay code.

## STRIKERS ON THE MARCH

A DELEGATION of young Coleford strikers will be on the Right to Work March which starts this weekend.

They will be joined by the rest of the Coleford workers at the TUC lobby in Blackpool on Monday.

**WE'VE HAD ENOUGH OF LIVING ON £29 A WEEK, SAY THE BEECHAMS STRIKERS**



Margaret Merry: Starved back?

They have, however, made it clear in internal documents that they would not offer any more, regardless of wage restraint.

Beecham's bosses made their record profits this year, not only at the expense of the workers who produce their profit and can't afford to live on the wages, but on the backs of other working people.

Because wages are so low, many of their employees are claiming family income supplement, rent rebate, free school meals.

'Many of us would be better off on the dole,' said Carmen Gomery, another member of the strike committee.

'Except, of course, a lot of us wouldn't be entitled to it. The rise the company are offering wouldn't help us one bit.'

'It's disgusting that those people are allowed to get away



They're out for a £24 pay rise—and they're determined to get it



Carmen Gomery: It's disgusting

with this sort of thing. Their record profits have been reported in the national press. Why don't they come down here and see how they managed it?'

Jackie Leach and her husband, Dave are both on strike. They haven't had any money since the strike started. Negotiations with Social Security have not been helpful.

'On these wages you don't have a chance to save up for a rainy day, either,' she said.

'There are a lot of families in our position and it's going to get tougher as the strike goes on.'

Wages at Beecham's have fallen behind over the years through unfulfilled management promises, weak union organisation and the social contract.

The strikers know they won't win on their own. Other

stoppages what these people have to live on.

'It makes me feel ashamed and it should make every other worker in the country feel ashamed.'

'We must give these people all the support they need. If we don't, I don't know how we will be able to hold our heads up.'



Jackie Leach: Getting tougher

workers in the Beecham group held a one-day stoppage in support, but Coleford are asking them to consider all-out strike action.

Delegations are visiting other factories to win support and raise money.

## Union

Said Tom Jones, chairman of the strike committee: 'we are virtually having to run a means test to make sure the money goes to the worst hardship cases because we have so little.'

'It's heartbreaking and the sooner we have enough money to stop that, the better. But if the union aren't going to give us anything then we must rely on ordinary trade unionists, to take regular collections in their factories.'

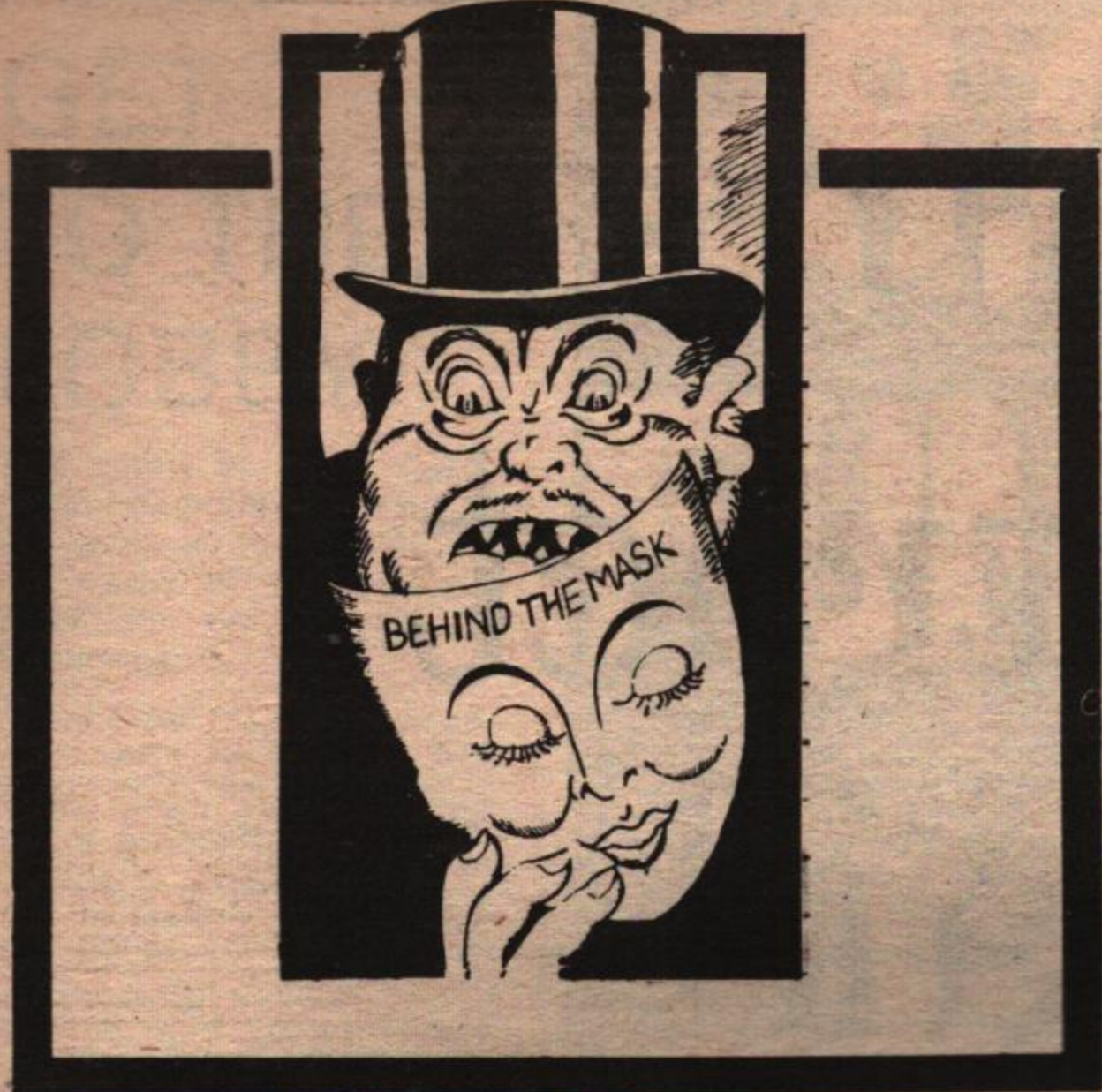
'Anyone who thinks the Social Contract has helped the lower paid should come down here and see for themselves,' said Dave Squires, TGWU Con-venor.

□ Donations and messages of support to: Tom Jones, 22 High Nash, Coleford, Gloucestershire. Beecham strike bulletin No. 1 is out now. Order copies from Tom Jones.



Picketing is solid—despite torrential rain

# By any means necessary?



A SOCIALIST WORKER reader in Kent asks: 'Is violence of any use ultimately? When the blood stops trickling we're left with the same problems. Do we get ideas across by bashing holes in peoples' heads?'

After the massive press campaign which tried to prove that we are no better than the National Front—a violent mob of red fascists—it's no

wonder that some readers are worried about the question of violence.

But first of all let's put it in perspective.

The press suddenly became interested in the Socialist Workers Party after we refused to let the National Front march through a black area.

The police were there in force to clear the way for the fascists and were prepared to use violence to do it. But this time black people, socialists and trade unionists refused to just take it. They fought back.

Of course we are not in favour of changing workers' ideas with violence.

We don't agree with any workers' who support the Labour Party or the Tory Party, but we don't try to stop them marching or holding meetings.

We counter their arguments through discussion at meetings and in the work place, through Socialist Worker and the many publications we produce.

But that is not headline material for the national papers.

People like Roy

Hattersley and Labour Party secretary Ron Hayward fall into the trap they have set for themselves when they say we are no better than the Front.

They are totally opposed to the fascists, they say, but they don't believe in going out on the streets to stop them. The logical conclusion of this is that should a Nazi government be elected they would have to recognise it.

They are the very people who are trying to impose wage controls, cuts in services, the very things which breed racialism and feed votes of despair to the

National Front.

When the people who attack us talk about violence they don't mean causing physical damage to another person. They mean street fighting which flies in the face of their 'law and order'.

A society which will allow a child like Antony Nolan to suffer for years from a rare bone marrow disease yet will not spend £200,000 on research into the disease is certainly violent.

Few people would choose to go out on the streets and start a fight, risking their own safety. Few people want to get involved in a bloody battle, with the police or anyone else. After all, there is no guarantee that you are going to win.

## Action

But this society breeds violence in many forms. Like the racist attacks on black people which have been going on for years.

The Nazis are not going to give up and go home without a fight. We would like to see that fight take the form of mass action by hundreds of thousands of working people stopping racist marches by their presence on the streets.

And they are not the only people who will put up a fight to hold or gain power.

If millions of working people decided they wanted to take control of their own lives and the system that runs their lives, the ruling class would defend their power by any means possible—that certainly means violence.

So we are left with an alternative. Either we accept that in certain circumstances we must be prepared to use violence to defend ourselves, and our right as working people to create a society free of violence in all its dreadful forms.

Or we sit back on the sidelines and do nothing. We allow the Nazis to beat up anyone who opposes them, managements to kill people with bad machinery.

We allow old people to starve or freeze to death because they can't afford food and warmth. We allow women to die trying to induce their own abortions and millions of people to be killed while the big powers battle out their 'ideologies' using us as fodder.

## Realist

Last word from great American black Malcom X (who was later murdered, like so many other black leaders in America):

'I don't favour violence. If we could bring about recognition and respect of our people by peaceful means, well and good.

'But I'm also a realist. The only people in this country (America) who are asked to be non-violent are black people.

'I don't go along with anyone who wants to teach our people non violence until someone at the same time is teaching our enemy to be non-violent. I believe we should protect ourselves by any means necessary when we are attacked by racists.'

## EDITORIAL

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# Yolande: Family life National Front style

THE NATIONAL FRONT are very keen on the order and discipline of good family life.

Like Yolande McShane, the woman who was featured on television last week persuaded her aged mother to kill herself.

Now the old woman has finally died. Mrs. McShane stands to inherit £40,000.

What a blow for the law and order, happy families, nazis then when it was revealed the following morning that Mrs. McShane is a member of the NF.

She was once an organiser for Mosley's Blackshirts.

The 'loving' daughter was seen giving her mother a bag of sweets containing barbiturates and heard giving the woman hints on how to

do away with herself.

'If I left you the means and you took the means, I would not be involved. There's no way they could prove it was me, mummy,' she said.

Mrs. McShane was paid £400 for her co-operation in the programme. She is now in a prison hospital for her own protection.

YOU MAY not have noticed the startling headlines or heard the MPs rushing to make hysterical speeches, but immigration to Britain reached a record low in the first three months of the year.

Official figures show that 16,000 more people left the country last year than came in.

Another little known fact is that from one country immigration reached an all time high—it was South Africa.



WHILE the 'riots' in Lewisham and Birmingham have been dominating the overseas news on television on Australian sets, the local news has been hogged by a right-wing politician spewing forth his own 'Australian' brand of racism. And guess who are the victims. Blacks? No, Italians, Greeks or Yugoslavs?

No, it's the British, and British shop stewards at that. The Deputy Leader of the National-Country party and Minister for Primary Industry has suggested that all British shop-stewards be

deported to Russia (not Britain).

He claims they're infecting Australia with the 'British Disease'. His call was taken up by a half-dozen other government politicians.

But the Canberra branch of the Miscellaneous Workers Union struck back. They were concerned with the risk of Mr Sinclair himself catching the British Disease so the Parliament House cleaners 'quarantined' his office.

They have refused to clean it because they might 'infect' him.

— PHIL GRIFFITHS

# Press lords' dream world springs a leak

THE FACT that 108 journalists on the Northern Echo in Darlington are on strike for a closed shop has given the Daily Telegraph and The Times a wonderful opportunity to indulge in their favourite pastime—attacking fellow journalists who are also good trade unionists.

They have this dream which they would like everyone to share. In this dream there exists an ideal known as 'press freedom'.

Editors rush around shouting 'hold the front page', reporters scream down the phone 'just give me the facts'. There is no bias, just 'bloody good news stories.'

Being dubbed a 'foot in the door man' is the highest accolade, and editors—like captains—will never desert the ship, in the interests of 'the people must

have the news'.

Like all the best dreams, this one bears no relation to reality. There are no such things as newspapers closing down because they aren't making a profit (few editors have been known to lead an occupation because 'the people must have their news' when this happens).

There is no suppression of stories, editors don't get sacked for not carrying out management policy, and there are no news rooms staffed entirely by trainees—(known in the real world as cheap labour).

## Pretend

The journalists at Darlington don't share this illusion. Neither do their management, the money-spinning giants of Westminster Press.

Lord Gibson and his ilk, however, are quite happy to pretend they do.

They have produced a little booklet regurgitating all the old rubbish about press freedom and explaining why they are taking such a 'brave' stand against the NUJ.

On the same morning that the company's employees received this booklet, which incidentally would do credit to the Brothers Grimm, NUJ members on strike at the London office were preparing a leaflet which tells the real story of Westminster Press.

Documents produced by Lord Gibson's son, Will, the company's 'industrial relations officer' have been leaked to the NUJ.

The first is a guide to local editors on how to 'negotiate' a house agreement without giving the NUJ members anything.

The company has claimed since the strike began at the beginning of June that they want to defend 'press freedom'. They say they are prepared to talk about wages and conditions if the chapel will drop its hopes of a closed shop.

This document is dated three weeks later and makes it quite clear that what the

company really wants is a weak union. There is no mention of 'principles' or 'press freedom'.

Another guide is on the Employment Protection Act—not popular with the Gibsons.

The law thus denies employers a convenient method of ridding the company of trouble makers after industrial action'. (At least it can be an expensive business and that's what really worries them).

Then there are a few pointers on how to spot 'trouble makers' at the interview: 'Disputes at interview stage or a refusal to accept in writing an offer of employment on stated terms, offer the management an opportunity not to finalise the employment.'

PAUL FOOT will be taking part in a discussion of press freedom on London's Capital Radio at 7pm on Friday.



A BOTTLE of wine featured in the Daily Express on Thursday.

Not exactly this week's special offer at August Barnett. In fact it costs a mere £10,000 and will shortly be going on sale at Christie's.

A nice little Chateau Lafite 1806 which in just a year has gone up by more than £40,000.

The Daily Express had this to say in its William Hickey column:

'Many—particularly women and children, who do not understand these things—will say it is too much to pay for a nice bottle of plonk.'

You bet!

## Andy wants to see the action



PRINCE ANDREW

PRINCE ANDREW could visit the streets of Belfast—on patrol with the Army.

A special unit has been told to standby during the royal visit to take the dare-devil prince on an undercover mission.

It is understood the prince does not want to spend the whole of the two day visit on board the Royal Yacht Britannia, along with his younger brother Prince Edward.

An Army patrol in one of the "safe" suburbs of Belfast is the

WORKING in a social work department I have often had to consider what activities can be provided for bored kids who drift through the council estates, unemployed and highly at risk from police harassment.

I was struck by the novelty of the solution provided by the Royal

Family who faced something similar with young Andy when he did not want the boredom of spending two days on the 'Britannia'.

Why not let him play in the Irish Civil War and harass the Irish for a couple of days.

—KATHY BREEN

# Dr Owen's cure for racism: A dose of Vorster poison

**DAVID OWEN, Britain's whizz-kid foreign secretary, and Andrew Young, America's whizz-kid diplomat, flew off this week with a 'solution' to the 'Rhodesian problem'.**

Where did they go? To Pretoria, capital of South Africa, where four million whites rule 16 million blacks with the most brutal racial

tyranny.

With *this* racist government, Owen and Young will try to get agreement for their plan to end a similar racial tyranny in Rhodesia, where a quarter of a million whites rule six million blacks.

## Massacres

The 'talks' will be conducted against the usual background of carefully-staged massacres of black farm workers and priests. These atrocities always take place before negotiations, and are always promptly blamed on 'nationalist guerillas' by

Ian Smith's powerful propaganda machine, echoed all over the world by broadcasting companies like the BBC—and by newspapers.

*In truth, they are far more likely to be the work of Smith's 'crack' terrorist murder squads, the Selous Scouts.*

Anyone who believes there is the slightest prospect of ending the racist regime in Rhodesia through appeasing the worse one in South Africa, should read this interview with **MAJAKATHATA MOKOENA**, one of the few leaders of last year's rising in the South African township of Soweto who has not been arrested. Majakatha was talking to John Rogers.

Torture is no longer a method of extracting information. It is a method of government. The white authorities may not have lost the grip but they are fast losing the nerve.

## Broken

The black youth are no longer afraid. They have nothing to lose. They have gained pride and determination to resist the repression.

We have broken the police informer system. This had been an extremely effective way of controlling the black townships before Soweto. After Soweto, few black workers dare take police money to spy on their fellow workers. The kids made sure of that.

That is why I am worried that my comrades from the Soweto Students Representative Council, Super Molo, Murphy Morobe, Billy Masetlha and Roller who were picked up at Christmas, will be quietly bumped off.

So-called 'suicides' in prison of black resistance leaders are more frequent.

## Regime

I appeal to trades unionists everywhere to take up these cases and all the others like them. Vorster's regime has been forced to become more sensitive to international protest. We must take advantage of this.

It is true that black youth, in their enthusiasm, had expected miracles of instant strike action from their parents as workers.

However now they have learnt that workers' struggle for freedom are also about bread. We have to learn to fight the enemy without wounding our own self.

Three weeks ago, 900 black miners in the Black Rock manganese mine east of Soweto set fire to several company buildings in protest at wage cuts.

An example of the new strength of black organisation is the youth's own meetings, held twice weekly in the schools.

## Arrests

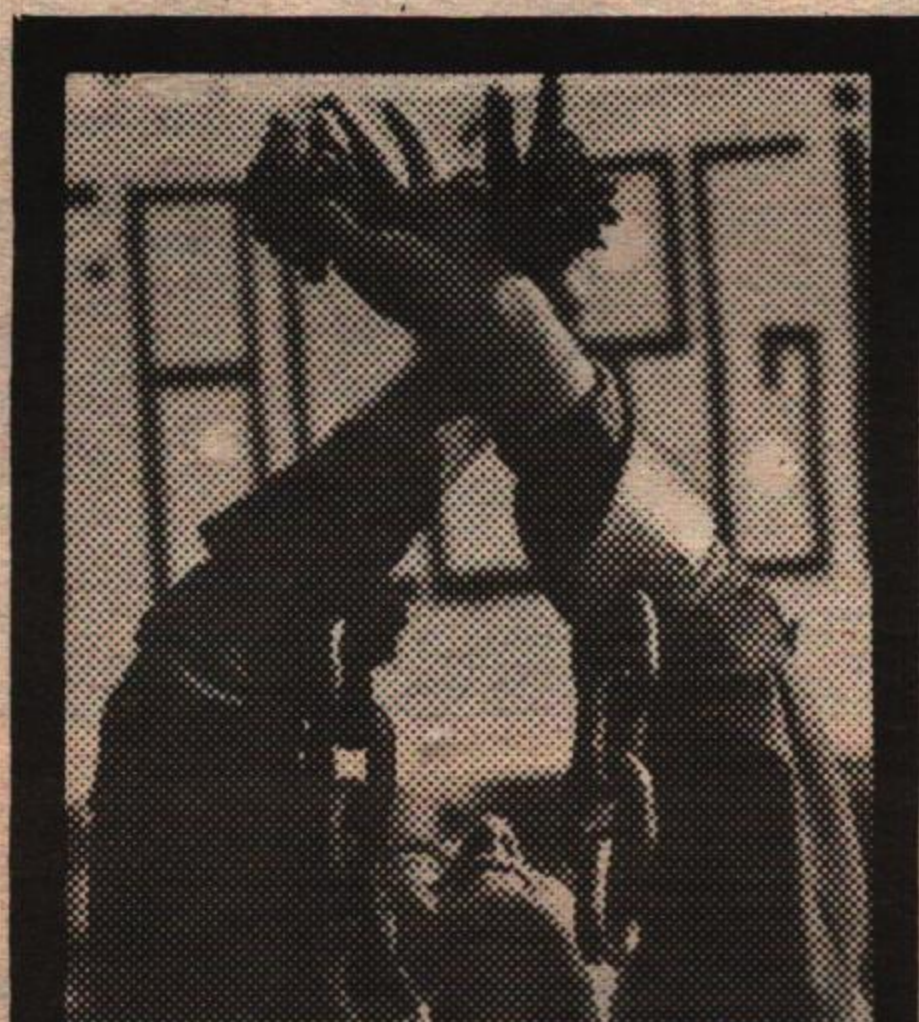
These send two representatives to the Students Council. If one gets arrested he is replaced by a newly-elected Council member.

If the organisation gets particularly weak because of arrests at one school, then Council members are sent to sort it out.

The authorities think they can intimidate us so that we become silent.

**But nothing, not even a bullet or a bomb, can ever stop the majority. We have decided to be free.**

**LEGALISED TERROR—THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM ACT:** A pamphlet, written by Steve Berry (SWP Irish committee), 10p a copy (plus 8p postage) from SW Distributors, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. More than 10 copies, post free.



**WORLD  
IN  
STRUGGLE**



This bus was carrying Palestinians to a political meeting shortly before the Lebanon civil war began: it was stopped by armed gangs of 'christians' and blown to pieces, with all the people in it.

LEBANON is under occupation. Syrian troops are positioned at every street corner. Their tanks command the main roads.

Under their control, the right-wing Christian movement control much of the country. They have been trained and armed by France and Israel as part of their efforts to wipe out the Palestinian movement.

The Arab governments which surround Israel pay lip service to the cause of the two million Palestinian refugees driven out of lands occupied by the Israelis in their wars since 1948.

## PROVIDE

But these same governments see the movement to liberate Palestine as dangerous and unsettling to their own regimes.

In spite of the Syrian invasion, the Palestinians are still well organised. They are continuing to train military forces.

They still provide an exten-

## NON-VIOLENCE THE CHRISTIAN WAY

By Dave Glanz,  
recently returned from Lebanon

sive welfare system, including some medical treatment and 'social security' for refugees.

But in the refugee camps the Palestinians—and some have been there since 1948—live in atrocious conditions.

Exploited savagely by Lebanese bosses and land owners—Muslim and Christian alike—some have to pay £5 a week for one room in the slums of Beirut.

Most are unemployed or at best casually employed. Seen as a source of subversion, Palestinians are often blacklisted by bosses and those with jobs have to pay taxes without any rights to claim welfare benefits.

Much of the Lebanese left

has offered little hope to the Palestinians.

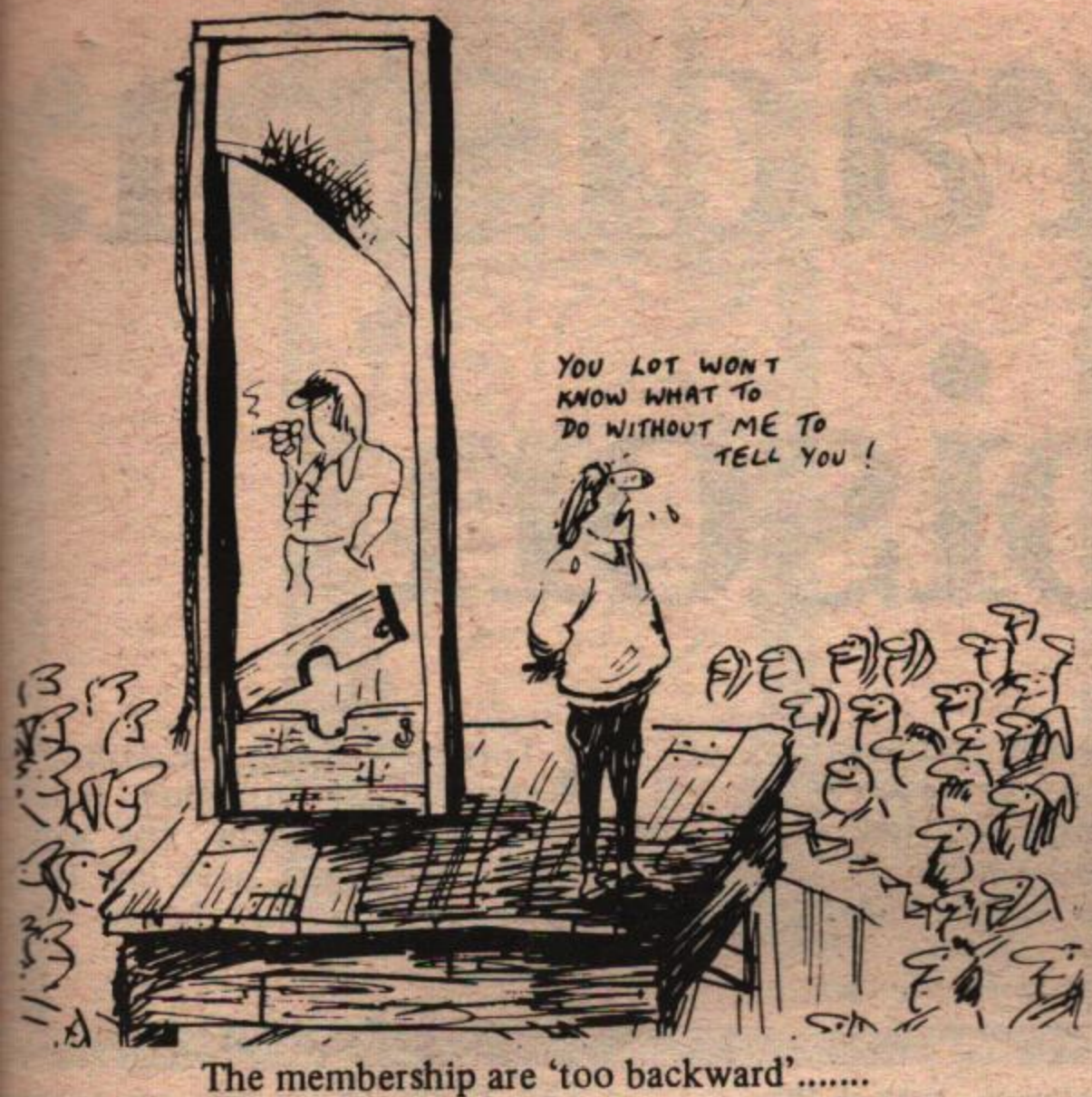
The Lebanese Communist Party hope the Syrians will change their minds and withdraw. And they don't want to embarrass the Syrian Communist Party, part of the Syrian government.

At the same time, the leaderships of the Palestinian organisations depend for money, arms and diplomatic backing from Arab governments.

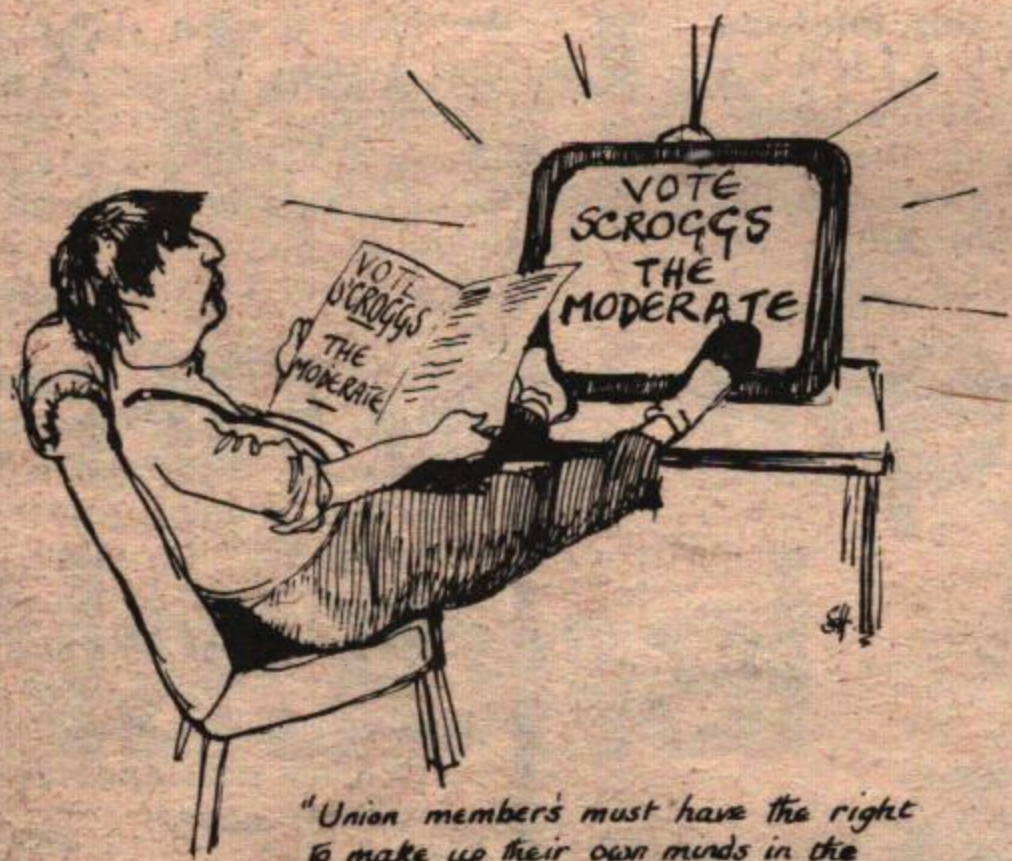
But despite the concessions being forced on them by the Syrians and the other Arab governments, the mood in the camps is still one of resistance and a fight for the liberation of Palestine.



Palestinian children herded into camps: They live in atrocious conditions.



The membership are 'too backward'.....



"Union members must have the right to make up their own minds in the privacy of their own homes..."

# Man who helped our strike more than any officials

by FRED HOPPER

AUEW convener, Desoutters, North West London, where he has been on strike for three months for union recognition. Fred is from Calcutta, India. He's been in Britain for 14 years.

IMMIGRANT workers in this country are proving themselves in the front line in the struggle for union recognition. Grunwick is now a household name.

Our own three-month recognition strike at Desoutters, two or three miles up the road from Grunwick, is almost identical—an anti-union employer taking advantage of a workforce which includes many Asian, West Indian and Irish workers.

We were very lucky at the beginning, before the strike

started, to get first-class advice from Ian Morris, Engineers' Charter candidate in the coming presidential elections in the Engineering Workers Union (AEU).

He spent hours with me. We used to meet every fortnight after union branch meetings to discuss the basic mechanics of trade union organisation.

He had no reason to do this. Yet he was far more helpful than any of the full-time union officials.

What has impressed me throughout has been the man's honesty and straightforwardness. Exactly the qualities we need for the leadership of our union.

Since the strike started Ian has helped to get blacking imposed at Heathrow.

In so far as he is able he has argued for a district levy on all members to support our strike. He is not in our AUEW district, so his job there has been virtually impossible.

It is a measure of the weakness of our own district leadership that a levy has still not been pushed through.

## Support

There is another reason why I and every other engineering worker I can persuade will be supporting Ian in this election.

Bosses like Desoutters and Grunwicks exploit the fact they employ black workers. This is racialism. There is a lot of racialism in this country—whipped up by organisations such as the National Front.

Ian and his organisation, the Socialist Workers Party, are among the only people willing to fight the NF.

He was down with me when we stopped the NF in Lewisham. It was a fantastic day. I didn't see any other potential candidates for the president of our union down there...

**THE CHARTER**

**THE CASE FOR A RANK & FILE PRESIDENT**

by JACK ROBERTSON

The Engineers' Charter case for standing a candidate in the AUEW election for president—vital reading for all AUEW members. Written by former Massey Ferguson AUEW shop steward Jack Robertson. Price 5p (plus 7p postage), 20 copies or more post free. From Engineers' Charter, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

# An afternoon in the life of the Right to Work Campaign

From JOHN DEASON, national secretary of the Right to Work Campaign. Thursday 25 August, in Skelmersdale, Merseyside.

## 1 pm

Forty unemployed meet in the 174 Club to finalise local arrangements for the Liverpool to Blackpool Right to Work march.

## 1.15pm

Derek Bond and two other young unemployed report how they got turned away from the dole when they asked for holiday forms. Right to Work marchers have to get these forms in order to get their unemployment benefit while on the Blackpool march.

The meeting unanimously agrees that any difficulty in getting holiday forms can put others off from coming on the march—and decides to go down to the dole en masse straight after the meeting.

## 1.30pm:

Another seven register for the Blackpool march. They include two 16-year-olds, Pat O'Fallon and Libby Taraldsen.

Says Libby: 'I believe in this Right to Work Campaign.'

'Jimmy Callaghan just gets on my nerves... it's all right for him buying a £65,000 house. We've got all these factories closing down—there's nothing down for us. Why doesn't the government open them up again?'

'There's no other jobs. We've been out at nine in the morning till eight at night looking for jobs. There's nothing, not even canteen work.'

'We've been to factories where there's all men working, we're even prepared to travel.'

'The job creation schemes are a joke. They won't deal with the under 18's... and the studio cards are not taking anyone on under 19.'

Pat O'Fallon said: 'This march is a great idea. We can't just sit around all day. If we hang around on the Concourse—Skem's shopping centre—the coppers just keep moving us on.'

'Can't go out much at night—we've got no money for clothes. My old fella can't afford to clothe us... he worked at Rolcan, which closed down just before Thorns.'

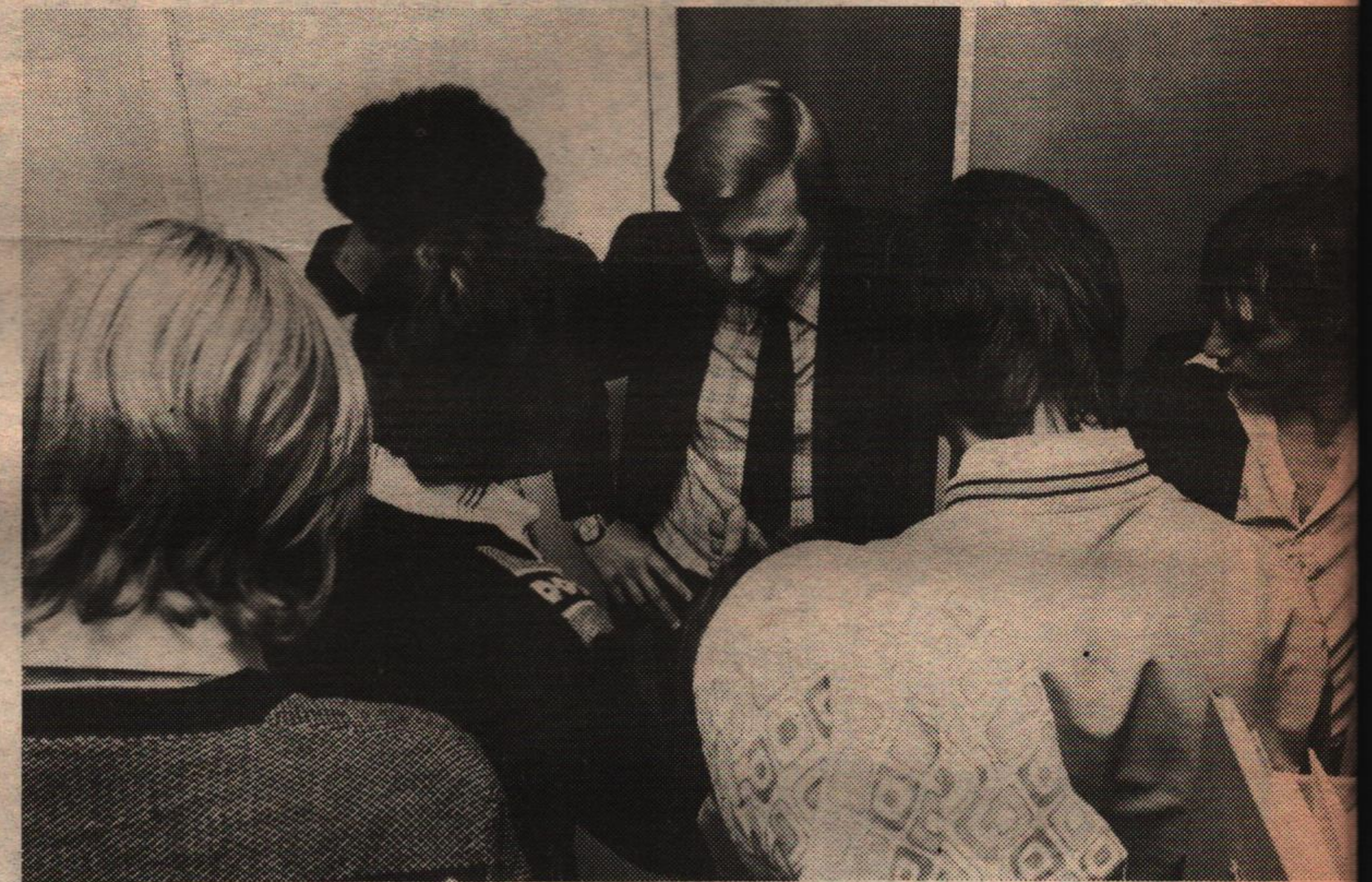
[In Skem the calendar is spoken as Before or After Thorns, and then Before or After Courtaulds—the big closures that threw thousands on the dole.]

'My brother got the push from Rolcan too. What chance is there for girls like us?'

## 1.45:

Billy Jones, representative of the Clogoras Cooperative (formally Courtaulds) arrives. The cooperative employs 28 men to repair school furniture. There is considerable concern among Skem's unemployed about it.

Some of the 1,200 workers sacked



PICTURES BY PHIL McCOWEN

by Courtaulds are cynical about how they paid an average £5 each for a feasibility study of Courtaulds.

The result was the 28-man cooperative, which is seen by many as a farce and has led to accusations of corruption and favouritism.

The local papers praise the cooperative's efforts to save 28 jobs, while everyone forgets the 1,000 slung on the dole.

One newspaper article said: 'Maybe we shall have to take a leaf out of Clogoras' book, and not only set up more cooperatives—that may

well be the best hope for more jobs—but also become much more of a do-it-yourself community in other ways.'

Said one wag at the Right to Work Campaign meeting: 'Maybe we can make do-it-yourself Giro cheques as well.'

There followed some heated exchanges in which Billy Jones countered any suggestions of corruption.

The cooperative might be all right for the lucky 28, but for the rest of us it offered no solution. As Billy Castley put it: 'We've got to fight to change the whole system to win the right to work. We won't do that by squabbling over job creation schemes or titchy little co-ops.'

'We've got to get the employed and unemployed together. Together in action we can beat the bosses.'

During discussion someone

spoke of that the genuine was passed my McC

He to Albert bought s hiked

Yorkshire cashire l

'We w work—b same—n

'We're work. I looking ourselves horrible

2 pm

Agree to no one h

We walk ping par

There, rents wi high for answer? secondh

'It's Casbah. More hand sh

years old ty refuse said I co work!'

But th



Stalls outside the Skelmersdale shops that stand empty—the stallholders can't afford the rents without charging prices too high for the unemployed.



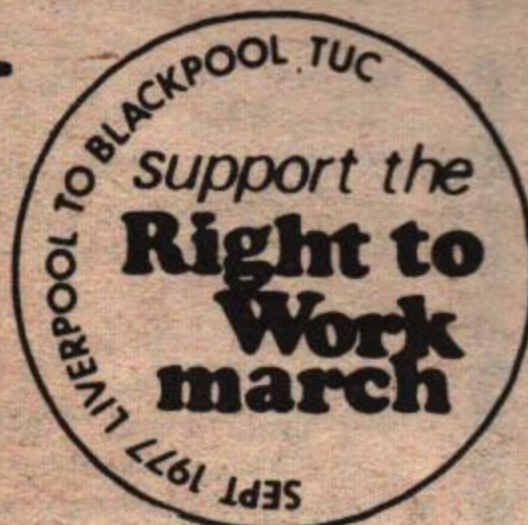
LEFT: When you're on the dole the whole family has to scrape for the extra few pennies.



# in the life



# mpaign



TOP LEFT: Malcolm Francis and his 80p Giro cheque—to last a week!  
 TOP RIGHT: The Right to Work meeting votes to walk to the dole office in protest.  
 RIGHT: A security guard tries to stop the unemployed workers getting into the Social Security office back door.  
 LEFT: The dole manager is confronted



Libby Taraldsen (left) and Pat O'Fallon



the newspapers' slander unemployed are not looking for work. This is answered by Tommingle.  
 How he and his mate Fowler borrowed £40, sleeping bags and a tent, and for a week through Manchester and Lan-  
 coking for work.  
 re prepared to do any t everywhere was the thing doing.  
 not shirkers, we want e lost all our money or work. Let's not kid we've got to smash this capitalist system to get it.'

a brother and sister, about eight- and nine years old, too shy to give their names, but anxious to sell a pathetic pile of cups, saucers, and ashtrays as they sit on the pavement.

Libby buys an ashtray for 10p. 'Is this what it's all coming to?' asks Sue Wright of those around. One old lady shopping simply shrugs her shoulders. 'But will their mam see the money?' she replies with a frown.

**3 pm:**  
 Arrive outside the main dole and wait for others to join us. As we gather, the manager of the Social Security office panics and orders his staff to lock all their doors. We go straight to the dole office next door.

**3.15pm:**  
 Meet the manager of the dole. He insists on only talking to one of us—but is then cornered and forced to talk openly to all of us in public.  
 After five minutes he agrees to give us holiday forms.

**3.30:**  
 Marchers get their holiday forms. Meantime Malcolm Francis picks up his Giro to find that it is only for 80p. Yes! 80p for the whole week!  
 It's the fault of Social Security—but their doors are all locked.

**3.35:**  
 We all go to the Social Security front door to protest at the 'lock-

out' of claimants, and in particular Malcolm. At the same time a squad of ten get into the office by a rear entrance.

Security men try to stop us. Billy Castley is punched in the face.

**3.45:**  
 Front door opened and the manager agrees to see Malcolm with Billy Castley in attendance. The manager agrees 'if necessary to make out an emergency payment.'

**4pm:**  
 Front doors locked again. This time we're locked in! Amid much embarrassment, security staff unlock the doors and let us out.

**4.05pm:**  
 Staff and manager apologise to Billy Castley and other marchers and admit that they over-reacted. Billy tells Jack the security man not to fight his boss's battles and explains that we've got no arguments with him.

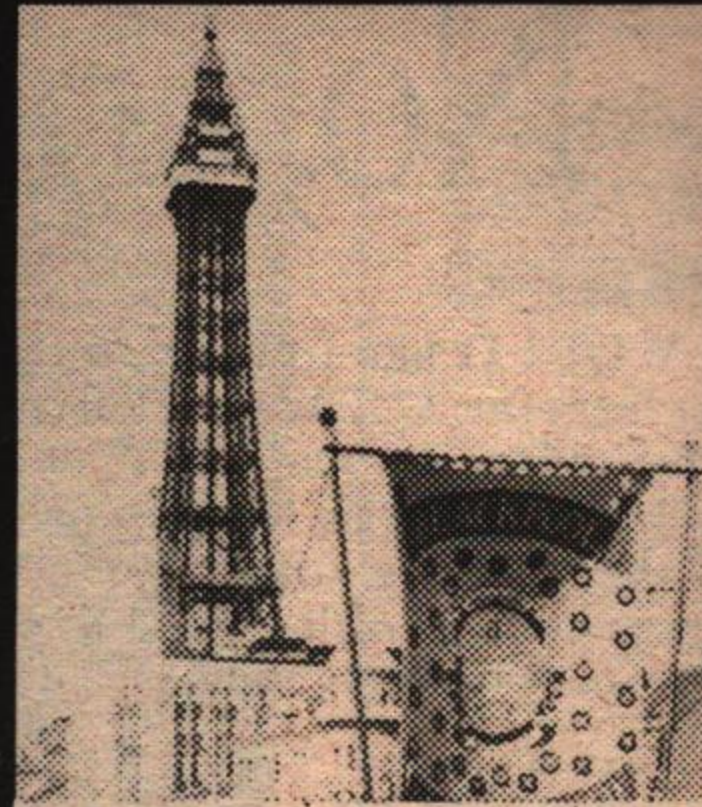
Then ... quote of century from Social Security manager: 'We locked the doors because you looked so angry.'

As Tony Hatch put it: 'How can you be unemployed, young, living in Skem and not be angry.'



Albert Fowler and Tommy McGinnigle: They trekked for a week with a tent looking for work.

## WHERE THE MARCH GOES



**BLACKPOOL**  
**Monday 5 September**  
 12 noon: LOBBY OF TUC for the Right To Work, Against the 12-month rule, Against the 10 per cent limit, No productivity dealing.  
 4pm: Lobby of TUC: SUPPORT GRUNWICK STRIKERS.

**Tuesday 6 September**  
 11 am: Unemployed Lobby of TUC and 'Welcome' for Callaghan.  
 8.30pm: UNEMPLOYED TORCHLIGHT PARADE down the Golden Mile. Right To Work DANCES: 8pm: Tiffany's, Highland Room, with Soul Distinction (Reggae). 8pm: Mamma & Pappa Jenks, Talbot Square, with Vortex (Rock).

**PRESTON**  
**Sunday 4 September**  
 MARCH ARRIVES: 5pm, Preston centre.  
 MARCH LEAVES: 9am Monday



**WIGAN**  
**Saturday 3 September**  
 MARCH ARRIVES: 3pm, Wallgate.  
 Right To Work March DANCE: 8pm-midnight, Wigan Casino, with The Origins, The Drones, The Nosebleeds and Special Surprise Guests. Free for marchers, at door £1.50 employed, 75p unemployed.  
 MARCH LEAVES: 10am Sunday.

**KIRKBY**  
**Friday 2 September**  
 MARCH ARRIVES 4.30pm.  
 Open air rallies: Outside KPD factory (Fisher Bendix), Industrial Estate, 4.30pm. Kirkby Town Centre, 4.30pm.  
 Right To Work March DANCE: Kirkby Suite, 8pm-11.30pm, with the Buzzcocks, The Fall, John Cooper-Clarke (punk poet).  
 MARCH LEAVES: 9am Saturday

KIRKBY

WIGAN



**LIVERPOOL**  
**Thursday 1 September**  
 RALLY, 7.45pm, AUEW Hall, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool Centre.  
 Speakers include Harry McShane (secretary, Scottish Unemployed Workers Movement, in the 1930s), Paul Foot (Socialist Worker), Sadie Blood (NUPE shop steward), John Deason (secretary, Right To Work Campaign).  
 MARCH LEAVES: 11am, Friday, from Pierhead

LIVERPOOL

# No, this isn't splitting the AUEW vote

WE WOULD like to reply to the letter from the AUEW member for Derby, who complained that a vote for Ian Morris for president split the left-wing vote.

Why are we supporting Ian Morris? Because he is the best candidate. Just

read his election address.

We believe that Bob Wright's record in selling out strikes speaks for itself. Look at the last Broad Left president, Hugh Scanlon, who has moved so far to the right.

A vote for Ian Morris is important even if he hasn't got a chance of

winning. It is part of the process of building a genuine rank and file movement which can prevent such sell-outs.

In any case, it is impossible for the left-wing candidates to split the vote. The right-wing candidate can only win if he gets more votes than the

combined left-wing candidates.

And if the left-wing candidates get more votes, a left-wing candidate—probably Wright—will go into the second ballot, and then of course we'd support Wright.

On politics and arithmetic the Derby AUEW member is wrong.

We're all voting for Morris.

□ **TERRY FARRER**, convenor, AUEW, Metal Box, Shipley, **ALAN WALTON**, deputy convenor, **MICHAEL HOLMES**, shop steward, **MICK McHALE**, shop steward—and many other rank and file members in the factory.

# Letters

Send your letters to Letters Page, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2

TELL LEN MURRAY WHERE TO SHOVE HIS STICK OF ROCK!

## LEWISHAM: THE ARGUMENT RAGES ON

### We stand for democracy

THE LEFT have been portrayed as violent and anti-democratic. We must reply that we stand for a massive extension of democracy. We are not prepared to allow a Nazi movement to develop to destroy even the limited democracy there is now.

When it comes to a question of democracy we are not neutral. We positively aim to move forwards rather than back.

If the government sit on the fence over the development of a Nazi movement, then that leaves the socialist and trade union movement with no choice.

Democracy stops at the point where the Nazi right to exist means extermination and imprisonment for blacks, Jews, socialists and trade unionists. We are acting in the most democratic way possible by trying to destroy them.

When capitalism is in crisis the choice is clear—socialism or barbarism. We know where we stand.

□ **JOHN CLOSSICK**, Leicester.

### WORKERS WILL WIN, NOT GOVERNMENT BAN

FOLLOWING our recent anti-NF activities, several workmates have asked me if I think the authorities should ban NF marches, specially through black areas. It's a difficult one, because nobody relishes a punch-up and the mud the press sling at us, and a government ban would be nice and easy.

But such a course is fraught with danger, specially in the light of how the police dealt with anti-jubilee demonstrations. Far from defending our right to free speech, and clearing a path through the royalists so we could actually be seen by Big Liz, the police in Manchester encircled us and arrested anyone who shouted 'Stuff' or displayed the word on a placard.

It's obvious that once a decision to ban marches and demos on political grounds has been taken it would be used to suppress many of our activities.

The only course open to us is to turn so many anti-fascists out on the streets that it's just physically impossible for any NF march to take place. Like the achievement of socialism, the defence against fascism must be the act of the working class, not government bureaucrats.

□ **RUSS HAYWOOD**, Manchester 21.

### Unite and fight

HARD-CORE Nazis organised at Lewisham a deliberately provocative ac-

### No bricks, eh?

PEOPLE who say that Lewisham was different to Cable Street because bricks were thrown at the police should look closely at this picture. It shows anti-fascists dispersing after the police had attacked one of the barricades at Cable Street. Note the half-bricks in their hands.

□ **JULIAN BRUMMER**, London, N8.



tion against the black section of South London's working class. This march, which was planned to develop—and indeed did develop—into a full-scale police riot, marks a new escalation of the racist onslaught of the ruling class against the British working class.

In Britain today, black and Asian workers are the most exploited and oppressed of all.

We suffer discrimination in jobs, housing, and socially. We suffer physical assault and intimidation from the fascist gangs allowed to swarm freely through the streets of immigrant areas in London.

The state machine, particularly the police and the

courts, harass and brutalise black people daily.

Not only have the open fascists started resorting to murder (the Asian lads murdered in Woodford, the Asian woman burnt to death in Leamington) but the police too have had their 'nigger hunts' which have led to the deaths of black people.

David Oluwale of Leeds, Asata Simms of Stoke Newington and young Lorain Bentley of Oxford Detention Centre are just three well-known cases of police murders in the past five years.

Police riots in areas with concentrated black and Asian communities are becoming more vicious and frequent. Such actions further encourage the violent actions of fascist thugs.

We say that an attack on any section of the working class is an attack on the whole class. Immigrant workers are not going to turn the other cheek to the growing menace of fascism.

In the 1930s a section of the ruling class wanted fascism in Britain, it wanted an alliance with Hitler and strove to make the Jews the scapegoat for all the ills of capitalism.

The British working class heroically smashed their despicable plans. The Blackshirts, backed by big business and protected by the police, were violently driven off the streets of our main cities.

The menace of fascism threatens again and the workers united against racism and fascism will fight and defeat it again.

□ **INDIAN WORKERS ASSOCIATION (GB)**, East London and Essex Branch.

### Condemn it!

'WE STOPPED THE NAZIS!' Rubbish, they got all they could have hoped for, the best possible publicity and third place at Ladywood.

And the SWP—not the police, not the NF—were denounced as thugs.

Why? Because the police were attacked and the SWP refused to condemn it.

□ **MICHAEL TREVOR**, London, W13.

### An omission

I WAS at Lewisham, and am very much in sympathy with your view of the situation and reporting of it. However, there is one omission and a very important one.

### SOCCER FANS NEXT?

LIKE KIDS with a new toy, the police used their riot shields on the left in Lewisham, despite the fact that you'd stopped the fascists from marching to Catford and were on the point of disbanding.

Now they want to use them on our children and at the football. And you hear all the Tory scum calling for water hoses and gas. We need people like you fighting for working-class people's rights all the more nowadays. Good luck.

□ **MAVIS HALE**, Charlton, London SE7.

You didn't mention the huge contingent of women marching under the 'Women Against Racism and Fascism' banner. This was surely as vital as the white socialists, Labour Party members and Millwall supporters that you did mention.

Here in Brighton we plan to set up a 'Women against Fascism' group and women's self-defence class.

□ **ISOBEL GOLT**, Brighton Women's Group.

### Shops? No!

I VERY MUCH enjoyed reading and hearing about the events in Ladywood on 15 August and greatly regretted not being present.

Although I wholeheartedly agree that the Front must at all costs be stopped and violent methods are now the only means by which this can be done, I cannot condone the behaviour of the small number who vandalised the premises of the local shop owners.

By this kind of action we are proving to the people in this country that we are nothing but 'thugs' out indiscriminately to wreck everything in sight. This sort of thing should at all costs be stopped in future.

□ **BERNADETTE WALMSLEY**

### Missiles

SHOULD missiles have been thrown at the Front march last Saturday? I think not.

First, young blacks and occasionally whites were hurling half-bricks at the ordered ranks of anti-fascists who were about to push through the police lines. This broke our ranks and was criminally stupid.

Secondly, the police were inevitably hit. Yes, muggers in blue and racists no doubt, but not the enemy of the day. Vast numbers of police will have to be won over to us, and a brick in the face is not a good introduction to socialism.

Let us hope that we are not overcome by our partial successes not to draw some conclusions. Individuals, who are likely to be undisciplined, must be brought closer to our organisations, so they can see what we have learnt. Indiscriminate use of missiles should be discouraged.

□ **R E THOMPSETT**, Maidstone.

MOST OF the coverage of the Right to Work March in Socialist Worker has concentrated on youth unemployment, but in my trade union branch it's the struggle against wage restraint which has been vital in winning support.

Low pay and unemployment go together in my factory—we are bloody low paid. The site opened 18 months ago and for all that time we shop stewards have had to stand by in frustration while the TUC forced us to settle for abysmal increases under the Social Con-trick. For shift work, I take home just £33 a week.

When the TGWU killed the Con-trick we were elated but we know only too well that Lord Allen and his pals are keen to cook up a back-door deal with the government.

That's why we'll be sending a delegation from the factory to tell the TUC loud and clear: We want pounds and pence and we want it now, with no 12-month rule, no productivity string and no 'moderation'.

We're also calling for a recall of our own union's conference. If, like USDAW, your union voted in favour of Phase 3, demand a recall, but don't wait for its result. Get ready to fight now.

I hope we'll see all the readers of Socialist Worker in Blackpool. Unemployed and employed unite! End low pay and end unemployment!

Let's turn out in our thousands and tell Len Murray where to shove his stick of rock.

□ **ALAN GIBBONS**, Crewe.

### That was no secret!

I WAS surprised to learn that Duncan Campbell, journalist, is to be charged under the Official Secrets Act for taking photographs of telecommunications centres (Socialist Worker, 13 August).

A few years ago the Sunday Times Colour Supplement carried photographs of several of these centres with a map of England showing where they were located.

As far as I remember the writer, Peter Laurie, pointed out that these centres could form a network of communication for the government in the event of normal methods being out of action—for instance during a general strike. Peter Laurie admitted he had had great difficulty in finding these centres. But that was the end of his difficulties.

Times have changed. Presumably Duncan Campbell is not guilty of 'providing information likely to be useful to the enemy' but of giving information likely to be of interest to ordinary people.

□ **JULIE FANCY**, London SE9.

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The Nazional Front and how to smash it

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MORE LETTERS ON PAGE 12



'I was born during a volcanic eruption in one of the banana countries in Central America. I don't remember which one—I don't even remember the bananas, I hardly remember the stalk'—Groucho Marx.

THE Marx Brothers made very funny films. Their films debunked the pompous, authority and the establishment.

They made millions laugh and helped many to see through the cardboard of capitalism's facade.

The films were not glowing examples of revolutionary fervour showing the need to build a revolutionary party. Many contained some explicit or implicit sexist and racist jokes. They were made to make money.

But nonetheless they reflected the anarchy of the driving force behind the Marx Brothers, Groucho (Julius) Marx. He was always the most verbal of the team, with his quick wit developed from his days in the music halls.

To an English audience throwing pennies at the act: 'If you people are going to throw coins, I wish to hell you'd throw something a little more substantial, like shillings and guineas.'

After they made success on the stage, they made success in films, though Groucho liked his anonymity off-stage.

Policeman: 'If you're one of the Marx Brothers say

# THE OTHER MARX

MARTIN ADAMS ON GROUCHO

something funny.'

Groucho: 'If you're a policeman let's see you arrest someone.'

After his first films he came to England, where he visited the Houses of Parliament. During a heated debate between Ramsay MacDonald and the leader of the opposition he started singing 'When Irish eyes are smiling' at the top of his voice. He was ejected.

And in Hyde Park another policeman restrained him from playing football, saying

he was not allowed to use 'the Queen's grazing ground' for 'athletic endeavour'.

Groucho replied: 'Queen's grazing ground? What's the matter with the good at Buckingham Palace that she has to come here and eat grass?'

He was Jewish but an atheist, and married several times.

Judge: 'We are gathered here to join this couple in holy matrimony.'

Groucho: 'It may be holy to you but we have other ideas.'

When refused admission to a beach club on racial grounds, he replied: 'My son's only half Jewish, would it be all right if he went in the water

up to his knees?'

And his often quoted retort on leaving another club: 'I don't care to belong to any social organisation that would accept me as a members.'

He made a lot of money but found the type of film the companies were getting him too stifling to continue. He went over to television, then retirement.

Before he died, last week, his friends, family and mistresses were fighting over his money and his competence to handle it.

His will contained a clause saying that anyone who contested the will would get only one dollar. 'That's what they called a sanity clause.'

## WANNA LIVE 'FORE I DIE

Hear that some bloody bright boffin got a bomb that'll blast us to dust. No flesh and no bones for me coffin—and they ask for our trust. Wanna live 'fore I die.

Don't care if it snows when I snuff it, don't care if me send-off's not posh; and as for their harp they can stuff it. Wanna live 'fore I die.

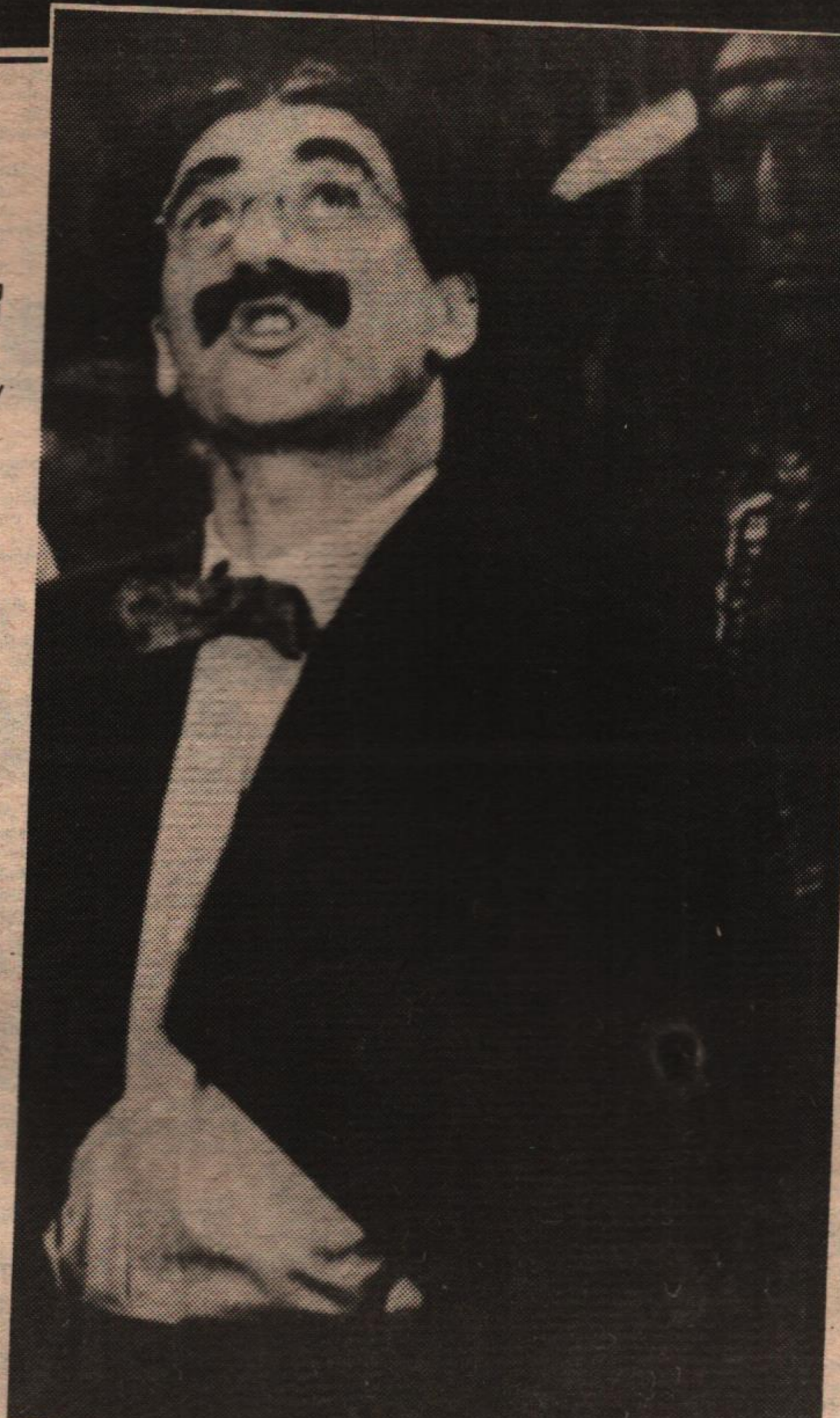
Been keeping me nose to the grindstone; and it's biting right through to me brain. Take time off them buggers start yelling—you're

shirking again. Wanna live 'fore I die.

Only one life and I need it—roam around, make some music, breathe fresh air. They think you're a bit of machinery; don't fuckingwell care. Wanna live 'fore I die.

They said—Not today but tomorrow, you'll get a fat packet of pay. Like a mug I believed, to me sorrow. Now we know their tomorrow—is always today. Gonna live 'fore we die.

HUGO DEWAR



### Socialist Workers talking

This new column is open to all socialist workers, whether or not members of the Socialist Workers Party, to write about anything they like. The first is by SHEILA PARKIN, a nurse in Leeds and an SWP member

I DIDN'T go to Lewisham on that Saturday. I volunteered to sell Socialist Worker!

One of the reasons, I must admit, was that I was a bit scared. Not, I might add, of the National Front, but of the police, because I knew the police were going to put everything they had into attempting to smash the left.

My husband Brian went. And by tea-time when the 5.30 news came in I was literally shaking. The coverage from all channels was appalling.

They called the anti-fascists a lot of red thugs and troublemakers. I saw socialists being beaten up by the police. I was so angry, because I was not there.

It's far worse, you know, staying at home, and wondering what has happened to your comrades. You want to be there so you can see for yourself what's happening.

### Chief

Samantha and Simon, our two kids, weren't a bit surprised at the police behaviour, though Samantha was a bit upset.

The fear on some of the coppers' faces was incredible. I don't suppose most of them had ever met a determined counterdemo before.

I bet McNee—the London police chief—wasn't there. He just sat back and let the rank and file coppers do the dirty work.

When I went to work on Monday, my workmates bombarded me with questions. Was Brian all right? (They expected him to come back in bits as he is slightly accident-prone on demonstrations.)

Then they went on for the how sorry they were for the coppers, and at the same time how glad they were the Front march had been stopped.

I explained that people in Lewisham over the past 12 months had been harassed not only by the National Front but also by the police, that anger and frustration had built up and burst out on the 13th—and who could blame people for that?

### Picked

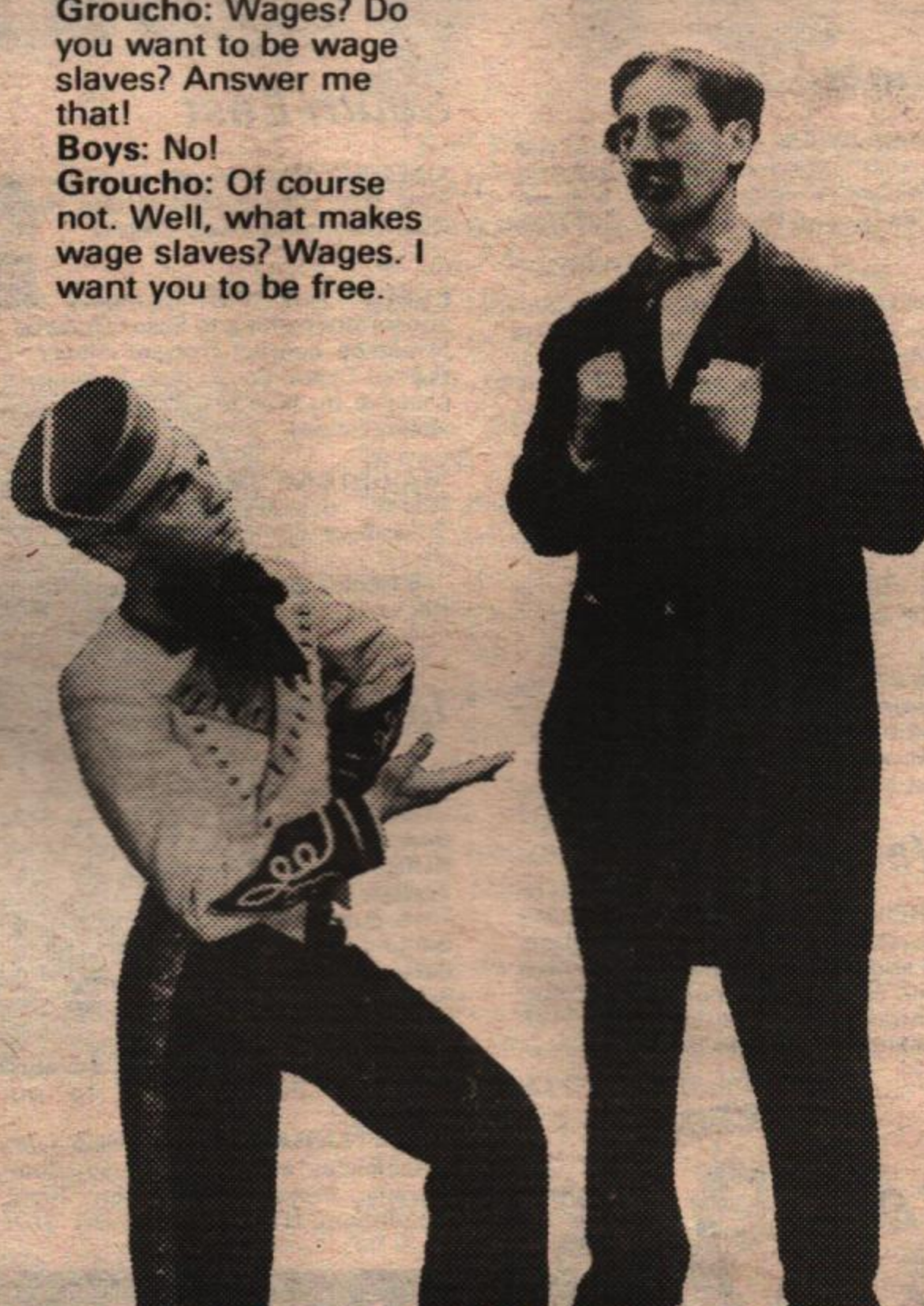
The question of weapons came up, and people agreed that the police probably picked them up from the ground and said they belonged to SWP members.

We all know that on demos we always encourage our members and supporters not to take even a comb—because even a comb can be described as an 'offensive weapon'.

Lynn, who works with me, told about the New Musical Express article in Lewisham, so I bought a copy. The article was excellent. I have never read anything like it in a paper like that.

I thought the national press coverage was disgusting, especially all the stuff about 'red fascists'. They forget about the Nazis during World War Two, and what they did to the Jews, and how workers stopped the Mosleyites in the 1930s.

So on 8 October, in Manchester, we'll still be saying 'They Shall Not Pass', and I'll be there this time.



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**CARNIVAL ISSUE**  
PLUS: ELVIS, LEWISHAM.

Scotland

EDINBURGH: Supporters of the Socialist Workers Party coming to a college or university in the Edinburgh area please contact: George Higgins, c/o Rodger, 2 Elm Row, Edinburgh.

EDINBURGH BOOKMARK - open now For Socialist and TU books, 130 Morrison Street, Edinburgh. Only two minutes walk from Haymarket Station.

EAST KILBRIDE Socialist Workers Party holds regular education and discussion meetings every fortnight on Tuesday, 8pm, Murray Halls. 6 September. Scottish Nationalism or Socialism?

GLASGOW CENTRAL Socialist Workers Party public meeting. Why we need a revolutionary party. Wednesday 14 September, 7.30pm. SW Books, 64 Queen Street, Glasgow.

North East

DARLINGTON Socialist Workers Party bookshop now opened. The Bookcentre, Winston Street, Darlington (off Duke Street). Open every weekday, noon-2pm and 4-5pm, and all day Saturday. Stock includes all SW literature plus a wide selection of other left wing writings and second-hand book bargains.

SUNDERLAND Socialist Workers Party meets every Thursday, 8pm, Bridge Hotel, High Street West. All supporters welcome.

Yorkshire

HULL SOCIALIST BOOKS, 238 Springbank, Hull. Open 10am-5.30pm, Monday to Saturday.

LEEDS STUDENTS: Will any member or supporter of the SWP coming to study at a college in or around Leeds please contact S Smith, 2 Chestnut Ave, Leeds 6, as soon as possible.

SHEFFIELD STUDENTS Will any member or supporter of the SWP coming to study at a college in Sheffield please ring Sheffield 584561 as soon as possible?

HULL Socialist Workers Party public meeting. The Rank and File fight back. Speakers: local trade unionists. Wednesday 14 September, 8pm, YPI, George Street.

LEEDS district Socialist Workers Party new members meetings: Thursdays, 8pm, Leeds Trades Council Club, Savile Mount, Chapeltown Road.

8 September: Is Fascism a Real Threat? Speaker: Dick Wilcock.

SHEFFIELD District Socialist Workers Party day school on Sheffield Labour History. Sessions on the Chartists, early unions, the Sheffield Outrages, Syndicalism, birth of the Trades Council, 1880-1914, Sheffield Shop Stewards Movement 1914-20, The struggles of the unemployed 1920-36, The Communist Party since the War. Speakers: Nick Howard, Clive Hartley, Simon Ogden, Nog Clarke, possibly others. Ale and sandwiches on sale for lunch. Sunday 11 September, 12 noon to 5pm, Council Chamber, University Students Union Building.

HULL STUDENTS: Will any member or supporter of the Socialist Workers Party coming to study at a college in Hull please contact L Pritchard, c/o 238 Springbank, Hull, as soon as possible.

North West

LIVERPOOL: Any Socialist Workers Party members starting a course at Liverpool University, the Polytechnic or any of the colleges in September 1977 should contact Merseyside district secretary, c/o 2b Dawson Street, Liverpool 1. Any non-members interested in SWP activities and meetings should also write.

BURY Socialist Workers Party meets every Thursday, 8pm, in the Sun Dial Hotel, Walmersley Road, Bury. 8 September. Rock Against Racism.

LONGSIGHT RUSHOLME Socialist Workers Party meetings. Every Thursday 8pm, Albert, Aspinall Street, Rusholme (by the pedestrian crossing). All welcome. 8 September. China - Is It Socialist?

NORTH STAFFS and SOUTH CHESHIRE: Anyone coming to college in Stoke, Madeley, Crewe or Alsager, please contact: Alan Gibbens, 41 Stoneley Avenue, Coppenhall, Crewe, Cheshire CW1 4NH, or telephone Crewe 4015.

BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

Public meetings and events organised by the Socialist Workers' Party and its fraternal organisations.

Send notices, to reach us by first post Monday at the latest, to Whats On, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London, E2 9DS.

WEEKEND SCHOOL FOR NEW MEMBERS. Discussions on The Roots of Reformist Politics. The Communist Tradition and Anti-Stalinism. Revolutionary Politics Today.

LONDON Weekend 3-4 September. Director: Fred Lindop. Fee £1. Accommodation provided. Open to all members of one year's standing or less. All districts to send students.

MANCHESTER: Anyone coming to college in the Greater Manchester area who's interested in the active politics of NOISS and the SWP please contact Dave Richards or Marie Durkin at M.C. Poly Students Union (061-273 3200).

SALFORD Socialist Workers Party public meeting: The socialist answer to the National Front. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Wednesday 7 September, 8pm, Church Inn, Ford Lane (opposite Pendleton Lane).

MANCHESTER SOUTH Socialist Workers Party discussion meeting: Women and the Family. Monday 5 September, 8pm, The Albert, Aspinall Street, Manchester 14. All new members and friends welcome.

LANCASTER STUDENTS: Will any Socialist Workers Party members or supporters coming to Lancaster this year please get in touch with Steve Parsons, NOISS convenor, c/o Lancaster Students Union (SRC), or phone 0524-65201 ext. 268.

CRUMPSALL Socialist Workers Party public meeting: The struggle in Africa. Speaker to be announced. Thursday 1 September, 8pm, Queens Hotel, Monsall Street (off Queens Road).

Midlands

BIRMINGHAM: Supporters of the Socialist Workers Party attending Birmingham Poly in the autumn, please contact Dave Owens, 021 643 5717.

NOTTINGHAM STUDENTS: Will any members or supporters of the SWP coming to Trent Polytechnic or Nottingham University in October please ring Nottingham 6700760 as soon as possible.

LEICESTER Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Alternate Thursdays, 7.30pm, The Pineapple, Burley's Way, Leicester. 8 September. The struggle in Southern Africa.

COVENTRY Socialist Workers Party meeting: Racism and Fascism in Britain. Speaker: Kim Gordon. Wednesday 7 September, 7.45pm, Elastic Inn. All SW readers welcome.

Wales

CARDIFF Socialist Workers Party discussion meeting for members and supporters: History of the Trade Union Movement. Speaker: L Arthur. Monday 12 September, SWP Bookshop, 58 Bridge Street.

ABERYSTWYTH: Coming to college in October? Anyone coming now to UCW, CLW or WAC please contact Jane Hanscomb, 19 Cambrian Square, Aberystwyth, Dyfed.

ABERYSTWYTH Socialist Worker discussion meeting: Is Russia Socialist? Monday 5 September, 8pm, side bar, Farmers.

ABERYSTWYTH Women's Voice discussion groups: Every other Tuesday, Farmers' side bar. 15 September. Women in Ireland.

SWANSEA Socialist Workers Party meets Tuesdays, 7.30pm, Builders Arms, Oxford Street. 6 September: Fighting the Fascists. 13 September: Unemployment and the Right to Work. Speaker: A Right to Work marcher.

SWANSEA SWP sells Socialist Worker every Saturday, 11.30am to 1pm in College Street. IS Journal, Rank and File papers, books etc also on sale. Come along and have a chat and sell some SWs.

SOUTH WALES: Students coming up to South Wales next term please contact SWP Bookshop, 58 Bridge Street, Cardiff.

East Anglia

CHELMSFORD Socialist Workers Party public meetings on Why You Should Be a Socialist. Every Thursday, 8pm, Royal Steamer (Townfield St, just behind railway station). 22 September. Because you'd have hope. Speaker: Sue Johns.

NORWICH: Would all Socialist Workers Party members and supporters coming to either the University of East Anglia, Norwich City College, or Keswick College, this October, please contact Dave Arthur, 76 Norwich Road, Wymondham, Norfolk.

CAMBRIDGE: students coming to tech or university in September, please contact Derek (0223-65477) now.

South East

OXFORD: Students coming to Oxford next term please contact Ben Ross, 29 Richmond Road, Oxford.

ESSEX: Any SWP members and supporters coming to Essex University please contact Richard Alliday, 7 Purcell Close, Colchester, as soon as possible to plan a fightback against victimisation).

MAIDSTONE Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Thursdays, 8pm, The Old Palace, Mill Street. 8 September. What's happening in the north of Ireland. Speaker: Sue Lee.

London

NELP: coming to NELP in September? Please contact Gary, daytime, 555 8447. There will be a meeting of all NOISS and SWP members and supporters Monday 19 September, 1pm The Quiet Room, Students Union, Barking Precinct, Longbridge Road, Barking. First branch meeting, 28 September, 6.30pm, Greengate St bar.

LEA VALLEY District Socialist Workers Party: Come to our meetings! TOTTENHAM branch meets every Wednesday at the Tottenham Community Project, 628 High Road, Tottenham, N17.

SEVEN SISTERS branch meets every Wednesday at the West Green Library, Vincent Road, off West Green Road, N17.

ENFIELD branch meets weekly at The Golden Fleece, Lower Forest, Edmonton. All Socialist Worker readers and supporters welcome.

CITY UNIVERSITY: any Socialist Workers Party members or supporters going to City University next term please contact Eirde O'Callaghan, 15 Eve Road, Tottenham, London N17 (phone 01-808 6774).

HORNSEY Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a socialist. Speaker: Paul Foot. Thursday 8 September, 8pm, Small Hall, Edison Centre, Edison Road, off Crouch End Hill.

LEA VALLEY Womens Voice/Socialist Worker public meeting: Cor, what a lovely pair of knickers! Is this sexist? Come to the meeting, Wednesday 14 September, 8pm, Lord Morrison Hall, Chesnut Road, Tottenham, London N17.

SOUTH WEST LONDON Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Blame the Bosses, Not the Blacks, and the Fight Against Racism in Southern Africa Today. Friday 16 September, 8pm, Balham Baths Hall, Elmfield Rd., Balham.

South Coast

SUSSEX: Will any Socialist Workers Party members or Socialist Worker readers starting at or returning to Brighton Poly or Sussex University please contact Greg Norwood, 37 Rayner Towers, Albany Road, Leyton, London E10 (phone 01-556 6415), or Sue Spicer, 26b West Hill Road, Brighton, Sussex (phone 0273 21060).

SOUTHAMPTON Socialist Worker discussion meetings: Every Sunday, 8pm, The Anchor (next to East Street shopping centre).

4 September: The Crisis in Southern Africa. 11 September: World Crisis Today - the economics behind it. Open to all SWP members, supporters and Socialist Worker readers.

Action in the unions

TGWU: Regional meetings for all SWP members and supporters in the Transport and General Workers Union.

Region 5 - Midlands. Saturday 3 September 2pm, 224 High Street, Deritend, Birmingham.

Region 6 - NORTH WEST. Sunday 11 September, 1pm, 2b Dawson Street, Liverpool 1 (near Playhouse).

Region 9 - YORKSHIRE. Sunday 18 September, details later.

Region 4 - WALES. Date to be fixed.

AGENDA: Report back from national meeting TGWU Campaign for Democracy in the TGWU, the fight against the 12-month rule.

EETPU: National meeting of SWP members and supporters in the Electricians and Plumbers Union. Discussion on rules revision campaigning, the rank and file movement, leading the left, building the SWP. Saturday 17 September, noon to 3pm, Lass Of Gowrie pub, Charles Street (off Oxford St, Near BBC), Manchester.

For group transport from Birmingham, Cardiff, Glasgow, London, Newcastle, Sheffield and other towns, phone 01-739 6273.

WANTED: Volunteers to work in Hyde, East Manchester, up to the 8 October anti-fascist demonstration. Accommodation and subsistence provided. Contact TU Books, 260 Deansgate, Manchester (phone 061-832 8102) as soon as possible.

NOISS

National Organisation of Student Internationalist Societies.

MEETING FOR ALL STUDENTS in the Socialist Workers Party: Saturday 17 September, 10.30am-5pm, Manchester Polytechnic.

Will all STUDENT CONVENORS of International Socialist Societies please send addresses for next term to NOISS, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

SW Notices

WEEKEND SCHOOLS for SWP women: Newcastle in September, Manchester in October, London in November. Practical sessions include writing for Womens Voice, writing and producing leaflets, public speaking. Political sessions include organising women workers; women, the family and capitalism, Britain in crisis. Contact the Womens Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. More details next week.

PIRATE JENNY'S NEW PLAY READY FOR BOOKING NOW: Our Own People, by David Edgar, is about an industrial dispute in a weaving mill, in which Asian workers strike against discrimination. It shows the racism in industry and how management use it to divide workers. Book now! We need a playing area 20ft x 20ft. We supply our own lights, sound system, posters and publicity. We'll be in your area.

LONDON: 7-12 November, DEVON AND CORNWALL 14-19 November, NORTH WEST 21-26 November, HALF MOON THEATRE, East London. 28 November-4 December, SOUTHAMPTON PORTS MOUTH WINCHESTER area 5-10 December, BEDFORDSHIRE AND EAST ANGLIA 12-17 December, LONDON 3-8 January, NORTH EAST 9-14 January, YORKSHIRE 16 January-5 February, MERSEYSIDE 6-12 February.

Contact PIRATE JENNY, 11 Acklam Road, London W10 (phone 01-969 9348).

SWP GAY GROUP meets regularly in London. Can arrange speakers for branches. Contact Richard 01-790 2454 or write to 19 Redmans Road, London E1.

WOMENS VOICE writers' school: Saturday 17 September. Where to begin, how to take an interview; preparing your copy; doing your own sub-editing; what the finished page should look like, photos and all. Limited number of places. Write now to Womens Voice, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

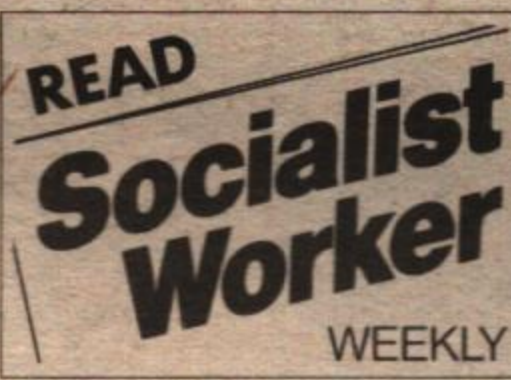
TABLES, STACKER CHAIRS and other office equipment wanted. Contact Manchester SWP, c/o TU Books, 260 Deansgate, Manchester 3 (phone 061-832 8102).

THREE NEW POLITICAL CASSETTES from Socialist Worker Recordings: Dave Widgery on RACISM AND THE BLUES, 55 minutes, £1.40. Paul Foot on SHELLEY AND REVOLUTION, 87 minutes, £1.50. Duncan Hallas on WHY RUSSIA ISNT SOCIALIST, 42 minutes, plus 34 minutes discussion, £1.50. Prices include postage. From SW RECORDINGS, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

LEWISHAM ANTI-FASCIST DEMO: Film or video footage needed for Rock Against Racism. Phone John Dennis, 01-589 5375.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM Weekend School on Problems of Modern Capitalism. Planned for Saturday/Sunday 1/2 October at Warwick University. Those interested contact Colin Barker, 19 Chatfield Road, Manchester 21, (phone 061-881 1070).

COMRADE URGENTLY NEEDED to manage Socialist Workers Party Bookshop in Coventry. Please apply as soon as possible to the District Secretary, 65 Queen Victoria Road, Coventry.



SOCIALIST WORKER STICKERS in red and black. £1 for 500, plus 20p postage. Post free to SWP members (state which branch). CASH WITH ORDER ONLY, from Socialist Worker, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.



NAZIS OFF THE STREETS stickers, printed in three colours, black, green and red. Three sheets of 12 for 50p, 7 sheets for £1, post free from Flame, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Cash with order only.

COMRADE URGENTLY NEEDS ROOM in North or East London. Phone Paul 01-801 7951.

At last! THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY JOINER'S KIT. The Socialist Workers Party Handbook, with one-page summaries on our position on Why we need a revolutionary party. The origins of the SWP. The structure of the SWP. Russia - a Marxist analysis. Is China socialist? The Right To Work Campaign, The Cuts, The struggle for women's rights, Socialist Worker, plus a further reading list. Available from Socialist Worker Books, 64 Queen Street, Glasgow G1. Individual copies 15p plus 10p postage, 10 copies £2 including postage, 100 copies £15 including postage.

HALIFAX Socialist Workers Party need cheap duplicator. Any offers please ring Halifax 67209.

STUFF THE JUBILEE BADGES still available: Be ready for the Queen and the other royal scroungers, visiting various towns during the summer. 20p each, 10 for £1.50, 50 for £7, from SW RECORDINGS, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London, E2.

Sorry, posters and stickers completely sold out. Would SWP branches and districts with debts for Stuff the Jubilee items please pay up at once.

Letters

NO FREEDOM FOR THE NAZIS

'LEWISHAM' has reminded everybody that anti-black racism is both endemic and rampant in our society.

The All-Lewisham Campaign Against Racism and Fascism has demonstrated that some whites recognise the inhumanity of racism. The Socialist Workers Party went further and stood up with the blacks against the National Front and their police protectors.

And the blacks themselves were in the thick of it - actively combatting the practitioners and ideologists of anti-black racism. We blacks reject the so-called 'democracy' and 'freedom' for racists to attack and oppress us!

Not a long time ago, mankind said no to Nazism and Fascism. Simultaneously, it made a stand with the Jews. Then there was no talk of 'freedom' for Nazis to go where and do what they pleased.

The security and armed forces were not massed to protect this 'freedom' of the Nazis. Contrast the attitudes of the society then and now! White society still, in spite of the collapse of slavery and empire, does not accept blacks as quite human. Hence government ministers, church and party leaders, the media, and the police force will regard the avowedly black-hating racist National Front and the 'extreme left' as equally responsible for the Lewisham violence.

Blacks will not be deceived by this. One is a menace, the other challenged it!

If you think that violence was brought to the Lewisham haven of peace on Saturday 13 August, 1977, ask the blacks who live there. Racist violence and intimidation are part of their normal existence in Lewisham.

The young 'Lewisham 21' are still waiting for Prince Charles' proffered mediation with the 'law and order' system.

No, black people know that racism means daily violence against them by white people. As in the past, they will resist. If the Socialist Workers Party and others wish to side with us and fight

racism, they are welcome. Meanwhile, black struggle continues!

DAN THEA, Merseyside Community Relations Council, Liverpool.

A Foot wrong

MICHAEL FOOT says the Nazis can be beaten without violence. Why the hell did we fight the last war then? Why on earth didn't he talk Hitler out of blitzing London and other towns?

The establishment, Big Jim Calogras and his Labour Band, think fascism 'will go away'. (Like it did in Germany?)

The gutter press in England supported Hitler, Mussolini, and Mosley. All the press barons, Beaverbrook, Northcliffe, Camrose and Kemsley, thought they were wonderful. During the war, when it was too late, they called them everything.

Today the same press think the Nazis will go away.

Doesn't Michael Foot realise he'll be in the same concentration camp as us if the Front come to power? And after they've gassed the blacks and the Jews, according to Ku Klux Klan policy, Roman Catholics are next. Do Roman Catholics realise that they are on the list?

And after the Catholics, who? Anyone under 5ft 8in? Or maybe anyone over 5ft 8 depending on the height of the party leaders of the time.

As for the police, they do as the German police did in the early thirties. Where were the German civil police on 'the night of broken glass' or 'the night of the long knives'?

Most of my spare time during the war was spent convincing non-politicals (ie, working-class people who voted Conservative) that socialism was the answer.

I would like to thank you for Lewisham and Birmingham. Only the people can stop the Nazis. A capitalist government won't. The gutter press won't. The Labour party won't. The puppet police will dance to the puppeteers.

WOLFE J. FLYWHEEL, Bedford

The man Elvis ignored

ELVIS PRESLEY, the King of Rock 'n' Roll, is dead. I don't really expect to see an obituary in Socialist Worker, but his death has reminded me of another death a few years ago.

Presley died early, lonely and afraid - but rich. The writer of some of his hits is also dead. Arthur 'Big Boy' Cruddup, writer of 'That's all right, Mama', Presley's first hit and others, died in extreme poverty, unrecognised and abandoned.

Big Boy Cruddup received no royalties for any of his songs Presley used, even though the arrangements were often straight copies of his original recordings. Cruddup had no well-oiled capitalist machine to publicise him.

But then Big Boy Cruddup was black.

Presley was the King of Rock 'n' Roll, but he only became king in the same way as other monarchs, with the help of henchmen who drove out his rivals.

IAIN FENTON, Dundee.

Nationalisation!

It's a TRIPLE con

MAY I comment on your lead story of 6 August, 'The £3000 million Robbery'? Quite correctly, you state that nationalised industries have deliberately raised their prices much more than was required to meet costs. As a result, a large section of working people has extreme difficulties in paying bills for heating, lighting and other things.

You attribute the domestic consumer facing high prices to two causes: (1) accounting tricks that obscure the real size of the nationalised industries' surpluses and (2) the payment of enormous sums to the moneylenders.

But there is a third reason nationalised industries' pricing policies.

These are designed to give the industrialist cheap coal, electricity, gas, etc. by charging the domestic consumer a much higher price.

In 1962, John Hughes, the Oxford economist, calculated this was tantamount to a £500 million a year subsidy. Today it must be much bigger.

Yet, most people do not seem to be aware of this Robin Hood tactic in reverse - that when, for example, a big firm like ICI receives its gas a below cost it is at the expense of the old age pensioner, who will be shivering this winter, unable to afford to light her gas fire.

RAYMOND CHALLINOR, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear.

THE STRUGGLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA VICTORY TO THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS! Weekend school organised by the Socialist Workers Party Africa Group 17-18 September, Royal College of Art, London. SATURDAY 11am-1pm Introduction by Alex Callinicos, on issues facing socialists and the workers' movement in Africa. 2pm-3pm Workers on North East Africa (Ethiopia), West Africa (Ghana, Nigeria), and East Africa (Uganda). 3.30pm-4.30pm John Rogers on Perspectives for the work of the SWP Africa Group - how to use African Worker journal. Evening - Fund-raising SOCIAL with Zimbabwean band, Mbakumba Madaka Tickets 75p in advance, £1 on the door. SUNDAY 11am-1pm Struggles in Southern Africa. 2pm-3pm Peter Alexander on Perspectives for the Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign. Further details from SWP Africa Group, International Dept, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 (phone 01-739 1878).

Notices and meetings

Notices for this column must be posted to arrive by first post the Monday before publication. We cannot take them over the phone. Send CASH WITH COPY (10p a word) to Classified, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS. No invoices can be sent.

PIRATE JENNY'S NEW PLAY READY FOR BOOKING NOW: Our Own People, by David Edgar, is about an industrial dispute in a weaving mill, in which Asian workers strike against discrimination. It shows the racism in industry and how management use it to divide workers. Book now! We need a playing area 20ft x 20ft. We supply our own lights, sound system, posters and publicity. We'll be in your area.

LONDON: 7-12 November, DEVON AND CORNWALL 14-19 November, NORTH WEST 21-26 November, HALF MOON THEATRE, East London. 28 November-4 December, SOUTHAMPTON PORTS MOUTH WINCHESTER area 5-10 December, BEDFORDSHIRE AND EAST ANGLIA 12-17 December, LONDON 3-8 January, NORTH EAST 9-14 January, YORKSHIRE 16 January-5 February, MERSEYSIDE 6-12 February. Contact PIRATE JENNY, 11 Acklam Road, London W10 (phone 01-969 9348).

RED LADDER THEATRE requires: FULL TIME ADMINISTRATOR, to begin October, £50 per week. Written applications by 4 September with SAE, stating administrative political experience, reasons for interest in job ALSO For minimum six months contract in new play touring community venues, begin 14 November 1) SM Sound technician, 2) Performers M&F, singers and musical skills advantageous, 3) Musician performer. Detailed applications with SAE by 11 September, interviews 19-24 September. To New Blackpool Centre, Cobden Avenue, Leeds LS12 5PB. Phone 0532-792228-9.

DEBATE: Socialist Strategy in Western Europe. Ernest Mandel (Fourth International), Monty Johnstone executive committee rep. Communist Party) Friday 9 September, 7.30pm, St Pancras Assembly Rooms, London N1.

JUST OUT Campaign against Racism and Fascism, CARF, 12-page bi-monthly anti-racist, anti-fascist paper for use in the fight against racism and fascism. Price 10p. Obtainable from most progressive bookshops, or from the Anti-Racist, Anti-Fascist Co-ordinating Committee, Flat 3, 5 Huntley Street, London WC 1.

**'IT'S all right trying to stop their march on Saturday but what happens on Monday?'**

Bill Willoughby is chairman and Frank Osei Tutu is secretary of the Union of Post Office Workers branch at the WI Sorting Office in Central London. Frank is from West Africa.

Both men have helped to paralyse the growth of a National Front cell in their workplace. Here they show why strong union organisation is the best antidote to the growth of the National Front.

**Bill:** 'The trouble with the left is that all too often we think we can stop the National Front by merely pointing out it's racism. We can't.'

'The way to break them is constantly to expose the fact that they are *management men*. That they have a general political point of view that is hostile to working people.'

'We never worried about them until about two years ago when they suddenly emerged. We never had much trouble with racists at all before then.'

'In a job like ours a smooth work flow and hence a reasonable day depends on us working together.'

**GATHERING RACISM**

'A white and a black postman may go out in a van together. They stay together all day. They chat together. They eat together. They joke together. They quickly learn about each other.'

'That's the only way it can be. Perhaps there was mutual suspicion beforehand. But that soon goes. It has to.'

'There were signs that this might break down when the NF appeared on the scene. What bits of racism existed began to gather together around them.'

'They seemed to grow very quickly. At one time we reckoned their membership had shot up from about six to 60. Later we realised that most of these were only sympathisers who could turn their backs on the Front as quickly as they had turned to them.'

'One Friday evening in the bar, three NF postmen went to the toilet when they came back they were full of themselves. I've never seen them looking so cheerful.'

'Later three Indian postmen came up to me and said the three NF members had threatened them physically in the toilet.'

**'LET'S TALK POLITICS'**

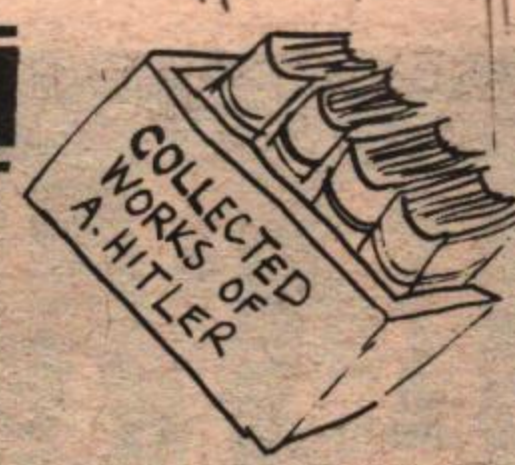
'My immediate reaction was that the NF members should be removed immediately from the building. I went to kick them out. Luckily for them they left on their own accord.'

'Soon we realised how to deal with them. As soon as you expose the politics behind their racism they're in deep trouble. They become frightened to push themselves.'

'For example they were keen to show that those of us on the branch committee are motivated by left-wing ideas. When the call came from head office last year to black South African mail, the NF pushed the line at the branch meeting that this was politics.'

'We called their tune. We said OK, let's talk about politics.'

# We've fascists in our workplace



DON'T LET THE NATIONAL FRONT GET A TOE-HOLD IN YOUR FACTORY...



## ...but now they're on the run



Picture of Frank Osei-tutu by Phil McCowen

Let's talk about *your* politics. 'That shut their mouths. They know that the ordinary working bloke simply will not tolerate Nazism once he recognises this is what the NF are up to.'

'We won the vote on South African mail by a large majority.'

'Yeah,' says Frank, with a huge smile on his face, 'we really demoralised them.'

'Most workers are neither racists nor anti-racist. They are neither left nor right. But most workers are hostile to management.'

'We've got the Nazis on the run simply by constantly poin-

ting out that they are in the management's pocket. Every time there is an issue, we point out the attitude of the NF members.'

'They are usually on first-name terms with the supervisors. They defend the supervisors and managers.'

'We find they get certain perks - additional time off, freedom of movement.'

'It is easy to identify the NF members in this game. They are thoroughly anti-union. Every example of this, however small, should be exposed.'

'This is the way to frustrate them. I deliberately go and talk to them and argue with them.'

'They don't know what to do. Their arguments don't hold water. Their supporters begin to see this.'

**Bill:** 'One bloke came to me and said he's always voted Labour but now he was going to vote NF.'

'I argued with him for hours and convinced him not to. He did not know what the NF were all about.'

'Nevertheless they are bound to get support when living standards collapse under a Labour government.'

'But Frank is too modest. He himself is one of the main reasons why the NF are screwed in this building. He is living proof that they are up the spout when they talk about race.'

'He represents the views of black and white as union branch secretary and does a better job than most whites. The NF know it and are forced to admit it.'

'He's achieved wonders in this place. He made people believe in themselves for the first time as an organised body.'

'Before he went on to the branch committee the union was a shambles. Senior supervisors treated the workers like dirt.'

'Do as you're told or you'll be sacked,' they'd say.

'Go and collect your cards, you're sacked' - just like that.'

'But Frank stood up to them. He got himself elected as representative. One day it came to a head. Frank was suspended for challenging a supervisor.'

'The members instructed him to carry on in defiance. They enjoyed the fight. You could see their self-confidence beginning to ooze in their veins.'

'They desperately wanted to fight back. Frank showed them how to do it. No one can challenge this.'

**Frank:** 'It may seem strange, but the NF have never once insulted me. They fear union organisation. Sometimes they even try to identify with me.'

'Strange sort of people they are...'

### Trotsky



#### THE HISTORY OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION by LEON TROTSKY

Trotsky's finest literary achievement and the most authoritative, impassioned and superbly written account of the Russian Revolution ever published. NOW REISSUED BY PLUTO PRESS

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

# UNANIMOUS!

## West of Scotland stewards representing 100,000 workers throw down the wages gauntlet

**FOUR HUNDRED shop stewards, representing 100,000 workers in the West of Scotland, met in Glasgow last Wednesday to launch a united fight against wage controls.**

The conference, sponsored by nine shop stewards' committees and sup-

ported by virtually every organised factory in the area, decided unanimously:

□ To urge all shop stewards committees on Clydeside to lodge substantial wage claims now, to break the Social Contract and restore living standards.

□ To organise big delegations to the lobby of the TUC this Monday to protest against the phoney 12-month rule and any attempt to impose further wage

controls.

In factory after factory big wage claims are being lodged.

At Yarrows it's not only ships that are being launched. 7,000 workers have a claim for a 63 per cent wage rise.

At Chrysler Linwood a mass meeting of the 8,000 car workers voted to go for a wage rise in the region of £20 a week.

John Brown Engineering, in Clydebanks, are putting in a claim for a 30 per cent rise. Virtually every factory represented is in the process of submitting a big wage claim.

There is no doubt that Clydeside is a powder keg. The first factory that takes action could ignite a fantastic explosion.

For the past two years have created a tremendous resentment on the shop floor.

As John Kay, General and Municipal Workers Union convenor from Andersons Strathclyde, pointed out: 'The trade union leaders are against us even before we start. We must organise ourselves against their sell-outs.'

'We represent the rank and file, and to look after ourselves we have to raise this campaign by our own strength.'

Peter Bain, chairman of the Transport Workers Union shop stewards at Chrysler Linwood said: 'There can be no doubt that there is a widespread feeling for a fight, but the biggest obstacle is the isolation every group feels.'

'We've heard speaker after speaker refer to their own claim and how the government and the employers will attempt to blackmail the workforce by threatening redundancy and closures.'

'Today's meeting can give every isolated group, whether big or small, the confidence to fight, and it will come to that.'

### Absence

'We must decide here and now that the first group of workers to hit the streets will get real solidarity from the rest of us, and we must reconvene this meeting as soon as any one of us goes into dispute.'

For once there was little in the way of conference rhetoric.

This week every stewards committee should be calling a mass meeting to launch the fight in their own particular workplace.

If the shop stewards are prepared to put themselves at the head of a wages fightback and form an independent Clydeside committee to link each struggle, then the real power of the movement can be harnessed to stop the right wing rot that was allowed to develop at British Leyland Longbridge.

The Socialist Workers Party calls for the convening of shop stewards' meetings in every major industrial area to follow the lead taken on Clydeside.

### TGWU food strikers to link up

**SHEFFIELD:** Shop stewards at the Batchlors factory have called a conference of Transport and General Workers Union stewards in the food industry. There are now four food factories where TGWU members are on strike for pay.

As the Batchlors stewards put it: 'On paper we are the strongest union in the country, but the full-time officials won't use the strength of the union.'

The meeting has been called in an effort to pool strength and involve other factories where food workers receive low pay. A delegation of Batchlors workers will be attending the TUC lobby this Monday in Blackpool.

The 1000 workers, now on strike for two months, are asking management to honour an agreement signed in June 1975, which entitled them to a 10 per cent rise.

The only offer they have made is for a £2 wage rise in exchange for the loss of 100 jobs.

□ Donations and messages of support to: Vin Knight, 42 Grisell Crescent, Foxhill, Sheffield.

□ Rank and file meeting for all TGWU stewards in the Food, Drink and Tobacco Trade Group: Sunday 11 September.

### BLACKING BOOST FOR DESOUTTERS

by Desoutters Strike Committee

**NORTH WEST LONDON:** News of the blacking of Desoutters air tools in Scotland and the Midlands has been a much-needed morale booster for strikers hard-pressed by financial hardship.

Some strikers have drifted back to work due to serious lack of finance. We are still receiving £9 per week, but money from contributions has been drying up.

The blacking must be spread. Our three-month battle for recognition of the

Engineers' Union (AUEW) must not be lost.

While we are writing this report for Socialist Worker we have 108 letters that we have to send out, but we simply can't pay for the stamps. Some members of our strike have been donating their strike pay in order to help others whose hardship is such that they can't even meet the food bill.

□ All donations urgently to: Barry Moroney, Treasurer, 27 Springfield Mount, Kingsbury, London NW9. We ask that every blacking action should be communicated to us.

### Kilwinning women bitter at union

**AYRSHIRE:** The 130 women occupying the Essex International factory at Kilwinning are bitterly angry.

With 30 men, they have been on official strike for 16 weeks. For eight weeks they have been running an occupation and coping with all the problems this creates for their personal family life.

But their union, the AUEW, the biggest engineering union in the world, has done precious little to support their struggle. The strike is official, but the strikers feel isolated and on their own.

Yet this is a fight that deserves maximum support and solidarity from the whole movement.

The strike was provoked by management over a time and motion study and it was only after they came out on strike that the workers discovered incredible differences between the wages in the company's other factory in Derry, Northern Ireland, and their own factory in Kilwinning.

The difference, in the cases of some women, is as much as £7 a week. But the issue affects the men too, and the strikers are now demanding parity.

### Joke

One of the women told Socialist Worker: 'The management had a competition between the two factories. They got us to compete with each other for a silver cup. The factory that had the highest production won the cup.'

'It's a joke. We don't want a cup. We want decent wages and conditions.'

Despite management's divide and rule tactics the workers in Derry are still blacking the work from Kilwinning.

The factory produces components for Chrysler and Ford. Blacking of Essex components throughout the motor car industry could turn the tables.

Willie Lee, a member of Engineers Charter, the rank and file group within the AUEW, and a shop steward at Chrysler Linwood, visited the occupation last week and promised to raise support with the shop stewards at Chrysler. Every Chrysler and Ford worker should do likewise.

□ Donations and messages of support would give the women encouragement. Please send them urgently to the Essex International Strike Fund, AUEW Offices, King Street, Kilmarnock.

### BUILDERS' VICTORY AT RHYL

by PAUL HARRISON

**RHYL, North Wales:** A seven-month strike by 90 building workers, members of UCATT, at the Leisure Centre has ended in victory.

The men walked out last January after six were sacked for refusing to work overtime while there are building workers on the dole—in line with local union policy.

An industrial tribunal found in favour of the first two sacked men. The company, Faircloughs, then caved in before the rest of the cases were heard.

It was not 'British justice' that won the dispute. It was the lads' solidarity and the support of other trade unionists.

The stewards at the Leisure Centre would like to thank all trade unionists who supported them. They also urge support for the five Prestatyn building workers charged with threatening behaviour this week over alleged incidents on the Pontins' picket line last spring.

### Liebig workers hold fire

**EAST LONDON:** Workers at Liebig Meat Company returned to work last week, but they have only suspended their strike action to see if the management could come up with a better offer within Phase 2. They were advised to return to work by the local Engineering Union full-time official.

The strikers maintain there have been significant changes in their workload, for which they have not been paid. It has taken nearly ten days for the management to get the full board together.

The men will meet next Friday to take a further decision on strike action.

There is no official overtime ban, but in practice little is being worked. One step forward is an attempt to organise a joint shop stewards meeting of the firm's factories next weekend.



**MANCHESTER:** A mass meeting of workers employed by the water authority voted to continue their two-week-old strike for a £15 pay increase.

Most of the strikers are out for the first time in their lives and are just beginning to see what strength they have.

Already their action is putting pressure on the authority. There are more than 200

burst pipes and leakages in the Manchester area.

The workers get a basic £36 a week, which means they are often broke on pay day.

□ Donations and messages to: Manchester District Waterworks shop steward, c/o 112 Mottram Road, Hyde, Cheshire.

### KISMET LOCK-OUT

**BEDFORD:** 150 locked-out workers were picketing Kismet Dynaflex last week.

At the end of Phase Two, management stopped paying a £10.38 shift premium negotiated in May. The workers, Engineering Union members, threatened industrial action if this was not repaid and demanded it be consolidated into the basic rate.

On 13 August they received

letters from management telling them they were laid off from the following Monday. They have reported for work each day, and then maintained a picket.

Their annual claim was due in on 23 August—they are now out for £18 on the basic rate.

□ Messages of support to Kismet Joint Shop Stewards Committee, c/o B Dutt, 105 Coventry Road, Bedford.

### Wilson's profit —we pay

**MANCHESTER:** Workers at Wilson's brewery have set up a social security centre and strike headquarters in the works canteen (right). They have been on strike for three weeks for a £15 wage increase.

This week they received a donation of £37 from workers in the Bass brewery.

Wilson's is owned by Watney Mann, part of the giant Grand Metropolitan Group, which made a profit of £380 million last year.



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(BLOCK CAPITALS)

# DUNDEE KILLER DUST SCANDAL

by BOB FOTHERINGHAM and  
JIM BARLOW

DUNDEE: Workers employed by Dundee Fabrics, a subsidiary of Courtaulds which produces corduroy from cotton, are being forced to work in dust levels 12 times the danger limit.

Management have known this for a year, since receiving a letter from a Dr Cunningham, who was doing tests for Courtaulds. He said there was a danger of workers developing a disabling lung disease called byssinosis.

But the company have continued to neglect this killer dust.

The unsafe dust level is typical of the company's total disregard for the health of their employees. Recently a man lost his finger when working on an unguarded machine.

Through this sort of neglect Courtaulds profits were boosted to £60 million last year.

While Courtaulds pay their workers in Preston up to £80 for a 40-hour week, Dundee Fabrics pay less than 70p an hour. Dundee workers are forced to work long overtime to take home a decent wage.

This is not acceptable to the workers—nor to the 10,000 unemployed in Dundee who are fighting for the right to work.

## Aware

For years the men have been fighting to better their conditions, but they have been knocked back not only by the company bosses, but by Margaret Fenwick, general secretary of the Jute, Flax and Kindred Textile Operatives' Union. She is well aware that if workers in Dundee Fabrics were to lead a strike for parity with Preston, she would be forced to do something about the pitiful pay of thousands of other textile workers in the Dundee area.

Margaret Fenwick, MBE, is based in Dundee and has been a union official since 1948. As a well-entrenched bureaucrat she makes Jack Jones look like a militant.

## Attacked

When a few militant workers at Dundee Fabrics asked the Socialist Workers Party to help them produce a leaflet exposing Fenwick's lack of leadership over the bad pay and conditions and calling for a £15 wage increase and medical examinations, she immediately retaliated. Not, as you might imagine, by going to the workers to find out what was happening but by making statements to the openly anti-union Sunday Post.

The workers at Dundee Fabrics have got up a petition, signed by a vast majority of the workforce. The petition challenged Fenwick and attacked her lies about not having any complaints from her members.

It also called on DC Thomson to print the truth—a fat chance of that!

# Dustmen: We'll oppose Labour

**WOLVERHAMPTON:**  
Dustmen have stopped subsidising the refuse collection here—through our low wages.

Our rate of bonus has not been raised since 1974. With inflation we are working for much less than we were three years ago.

by ALF MYCOCK

Chairman, TGWU Branch 5/688, and vice-chairman Wolverhampton Eastfield Ward Labour Party

Our average pay per bin collected is 2p, as against Birmingham's 5p. In the long term, we are asking for parity, but now we are claiming 100 per cent increase in bonus rates, giving us an

increase of £8 in take-home pay.

Labour Councillors Steventon and Bird have told officials of the TGWU, NUPE and GMWU that even if the strike lasts for six months they will not give them a ha'penny. Only if the men give up two lorries and ten jobs, saving £26,000, will they get their rise!

With 1.6 million unemployed, how can they even suggest this? With the government spending hundreds of thousands on job creation schemes, these hypocrites say they want to get rid of ten jobs—under a Labour-controlled council!

The 5/688 Branch intend to expose Steventon and Bird, who are masquerading as trade unionists.

## Branch

Next year, they will come up for election. Our branch has decided to stand candidates against them and will pay expenses out of branch funds. The candidates will be left Labour and must give an undertaking to carry out the election promises.

We of the 5/688 branch say comrades, come and join us in exposing the men in the Labour Party who are destroying the Labour movement in this country.

Messages of support and donations to: R Upton, Crown Street Depot, Wolverhampton.



## Fill these vacancies, workers tell Lucas

BOOTLE: 350 workers at Lucas' Long Lane plant are on strike demanding management fill 20 job vacancies and drops its new 'natural wastage' policy.

The firm has flatly declared there will be no new recruitment and they will not review the position until November.

A union spokesman said: 'We have agreements for manning levels throughout the factory. The company's unilateral action contravenes the new national procedure agreement.'

We are conscious of the high unemployment in Merseyside. In fighting to defend our agreement we are fighting creeping redundancies and fighting for employment for men already on the dole.

We ask you to give all the support you can to this fight for principle.

Messages of support to: R Reynolds, AUEW convener, Lucas Strike Committee, Pirie Labour Club, Liverpool 9.

## St Helens occupation

ST HELENS: Fifteen Right to Work Campaign supporters and members of the local Communist Party occupied St Helens Jobcentre on Tuesday.

The occupation was the first action of the St Helens Unemployed Workers Action Committee, set up after discussions between the RTWC and the CP. Several unemployed workers at the centre signed the Right to Work petition to the TUC.

There was no hostility at all from the staff. The manager said he admired the way we were protesting against unemployment.

## DYEWORERS OUT

Huddersfield: Basic trade union principles are flourishing among shop floor workers at the small dye manufacturing firm of Robinson and Company.

Sixty-one men have been on strike since last Wednesday after a unanimous vote. They are refusing to work with two men who worked more than 40 hours laid down in a work-to-rule and overtime ban which started on 4 August.

The strikers are members of the Transport and General Workers Union (TGWU) and they will expect their union to make the strike official and black the scabs from work in other factories.

The work-to-rule and overtime ban were in support of a

bonus claim, to which the management verbally agreed several months ago and which they now refuse to pay.

To the strikers, however, the bonus claim is a separate matter. They are on strike to enforce a trade union principle.

Senior shop steward Bill Devlin said: 'We will continue to picket until the management do something about these two men. The management will not accept what we say and suspend them, so the dispute will continue.'

Production at the factory has been totally stopped. Messages of support to: Bill Devlin, 176 Netheroyd Hill Road, Cowcliffe, Huddersfield.

## Basingstoke hostel fight

BASINGSTOKE: Residents at the town's Nelson Lodge Hostel have elected an action committee to fight against the hostel's closure.

The hostel is owned by the Tory-controlled district council, and the catering facilities for the 87 residents run by Taylorplan.

Recently the new fire chief declared the building a fire risk, but Taylorplan would not pay the £9,000 needed to keep the place open, even though it would be a fraction of the profit they had made there over the years. They plan to clear out by 1 April next year.

The council have voted to close the home.

If the Lodge closes on 1 September, then 87 people will have nowhere to go.

Messages of support and donations to Action Committee, Nelson Lodge, Houndmills Estate, Basingstoke.

## York busworkers back inspectors' strike

YORK: Only three of West Yorkshire's 100 buses in York were briefly on the road last Wednesday.

The depot manager had provoked a dispute with the Inspectors' Branch of the Transport Workers Union (TGWU) by breaking a previous union agreement over duties. He backed this by producing an unsigned document pretending that it was a more recent agreement.

On Tuesday, as inspectors reported for work as normal,

they were sent to management, told they were trespassing on company property and threatened with further disciplinary action.

A branch meeting that night decided on strike action and next morning pickets were at the depot and offices.

## Statement

Platform staff arrived and refused to cross the picket. At a mass meeting they decided overwhelmingly to support the strike.

George Pogmore, shop steward and secretary of the Inspectors Branch, told Socialist Worker: 'The solidarity shown by the Platform Branch towards us, their traditional enemies, was magnificent.'

A few hours later management gave way. Said George: 'The fact that joint action was able to win this dispute in 5½ hours shows the need for a joint shop stewards committee.'

This feeling was also expressed by Alan Jones, a shop

steward in the Platform Branch. 'It's the first time since I started seven years ago that the inspectors and platform crew have worked together. Inspectors are often regarded as management, he said.

Management have also agreed that neither the platform crew nor the inspectors would lose any pay over the stoppage. The Inspectors Branch have also presented a demand for £20 across-the-board and consolidation of stages one and two of the Social Contract.

## Now the whole council is stopped

AIRDRIE, Scotland: Monklands District Council ground to a halt on Monday when the 80 striking NALGO members in the Housing Department were joined by 320 other NALGO members employed by the council. Now every department is on strike.

The dispute, which is backed by the union executive, began about two months ago when the right-wing Labour-controlled council tried to reorganise the Housing Department and sacked three members.

The council has been trying to blame its employees for housing problems which have been caused by the cuts and the council's own disastrous policies.

## All-out

There is every possibility that the council may try to use scab labour to break the strike. Already the Group Four security firm have been paying out manual workers' wages and council members have talked openly of bringing in the army.

The all-out strike means that services such as health, rubbish collection, maintenance will be affected.

Barney Whelan, chairman of the striking branch, says that the council seem to have gone out of their way to provoke this dispute, but there is no way we will retreat.

Messages of support to Barney Whelan, Monklands NALGO Branch, Housing Department Office, Airdrie.

## Steel sit-in ends

From the Greenwich Reinforcements Occupation Committee and Greenwich Trades Council

SOUTH LONDON: After 100 days of growing pressure on the workforce at Greenwich Reinforcements, we have decided to cease occupation of the works.

In spite of the tremendous support given to us by the local and national trade union and labour movement, we found it was still insufficient to force the British Steel Corporation, or our union, the ISTC, to budge from their bloody-minded and anti-union stand, and keep the works open.

The occupation began in May as a direct result of discriminatory action taken by our management following a joint union branches stoppage in answer to the call by the Public Employees Union (NUPE) for a day of action against the public expenditure cuts.

Since then, we have discovered documents showing collusion between the BSC plant management and Iron

and Steel Trades Confederation full-time union officials, the Economic League, and the Special Branch.

Despite all this, and the fact that the local council have tried to saddle us with the rates bill, the joint union branches have fought for 14 weeks to try and keep the potential 250 jobs in the area. That we have been unsuccessful so far, does not mean that the fight to save Greenwich Reinforcements is over. We feel that cuts, sackings and redundancies must be fought by all workers in order to defend jobs and living standards.

All inquiries contact: Dave Dixon, 14 Delma Crescent, London SE3.

**JOIN THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY**  
Please send me more information  
Name .....  
Address .....  
Trade union .....

Send to: National Secretary,  
Socialist Workers Party, 6 Cottons  
Gardens, London E2 8DN.

# Socialist Worker

## NAZIS PETROL BOMB SWP HEADQUARTERS

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p

# SHOT AND STABBED IN THE EYE

Two more savage racist attacks

**ABDUL MANNAN** was walking home last Sunday along Woodseer Street, near Brick Lane in East London.

A car carrying two white, thick set men drove slowly towards him.

Suddenly, one of the men aimed an air rifle out of the car window and shot Abdul in the left eye just above the eyeball.

Friends carried him home, and rushed to stop a passing police car.

The police called for an ambulance, but did not bother to go to the scene of the crime.

Much later that evening, a CID officer called at Abdul's home.

'He didn't take down anything I said', said Abdul. 'He just asked me a few questions and left!'

Abdul is a tailor. He has been off work for eight days

because of the intense irritation in his eye.

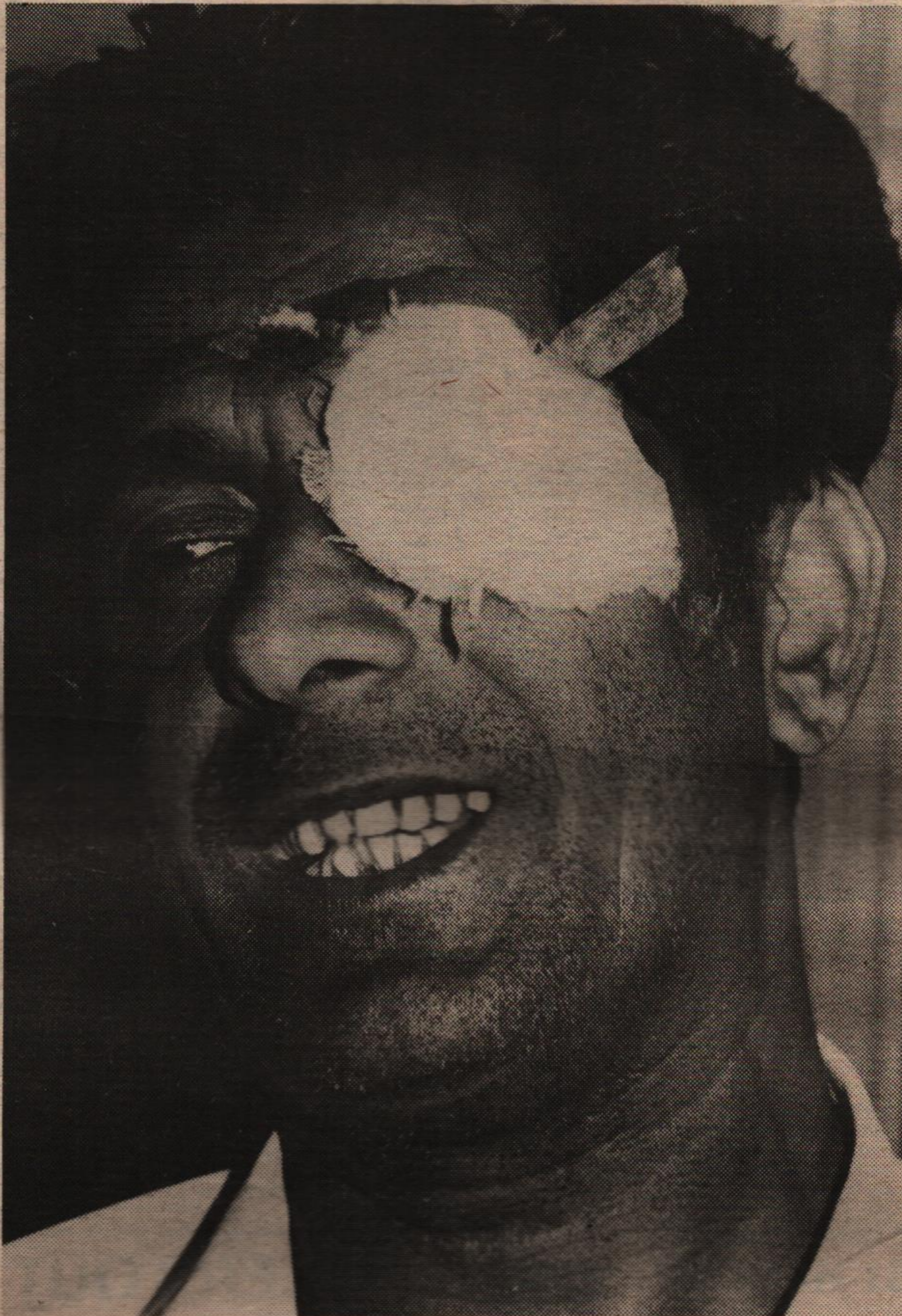
He has a wife and six children in Bangladesh. They cannot join him—though they got their passports 14 months ago.

The Home Office say they cannot give him an interview to discuss the possibility of his family joining him for at least

20 months!

On the day before this attack,—Saturday 20 August—Montaj Ali, a warehouse labourer, was walking alone along Underwood Road in the same area.

Three white youths ran across the road and attacked him.



**ABDUL MANNAN:** Racists nearly blinded him with an air rifle.

By YANA MINTOFF

Two of them grabbed Montaj and the third shook him down for possessions. As Montaj struggled, the third youth took out a knife and stabbed him just above his right eye.

With blood streaming down his face, Montaj struggled free and ran to a grocer's, where the police were called.

But a policeman did not bother to interview Montaj until later that day in hospital.

Montaj had stitches in his face and hasn't been able to work. But the effect on him is even more serious.

'Whenever I go out, I'm looking out for people who might attack me. It's not the same now. White people on the street don't seem the same to me'.

These attacks are only the latest in a long line of similar

ones on Bengalis in the Brick Lane area.

The National Front and other racials are constantly flaunting themselves in the area.

These attacks must be stopped. The police will do nothing to stop them. The Press shows no interest.

After a series of meetings between Socialist Workers Party members and Bengali youth in the area, anti-fascist patrols will start to operate this weekend.

through the front of the building they poured petrol through the letter box and underneath the door. They then set fire to it.

Damage estimated at £10,000 was done to the building.

On Wednesday morning the Central Committee of the SWP issued the following statement.

■■■  
"The petrol bombing of the SWP headquarters by Nazis follows six similar attacks on left wing bookshops and offices in London in recent months.

The SWP has been playing a leading role in combatting this Nazi menace and racism as well as campaigning against pay restraint, unemployment and Government cuts.

We now issue this urgent appeal to the labour and trade union Movement.

■■■  
**STOP THIS NAZI ATTEMPT TO SHUT US DOWN**

**HELP US REBUILD**

Rush donations to:  
Socialist Workers Party  
Anti Nazi Fund  
Corbridge Works  
Corbridge Crescent  
London E.2.

**SMASH THE NAZIS**

Stickers available from SWP, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2, price £2 for 1,000.

# GRUNWICKS

## PREPARE NOW FOR THE MASS PICKETS

**THE SCARMAN** Report into Grunwicks supports the strikers' demand for reinstatement.

It heavily attacks the Grunwicks bosses for paying their workers too little and imposing ruthless conditions on the shop floor.

Good. But the Scarman report goes on to criticise the strikers' union APEX, for calling the mass pickets.

The union should have forseen, says the report,

that 'violent extremists' would appear on the picket line.

We have two points to make.

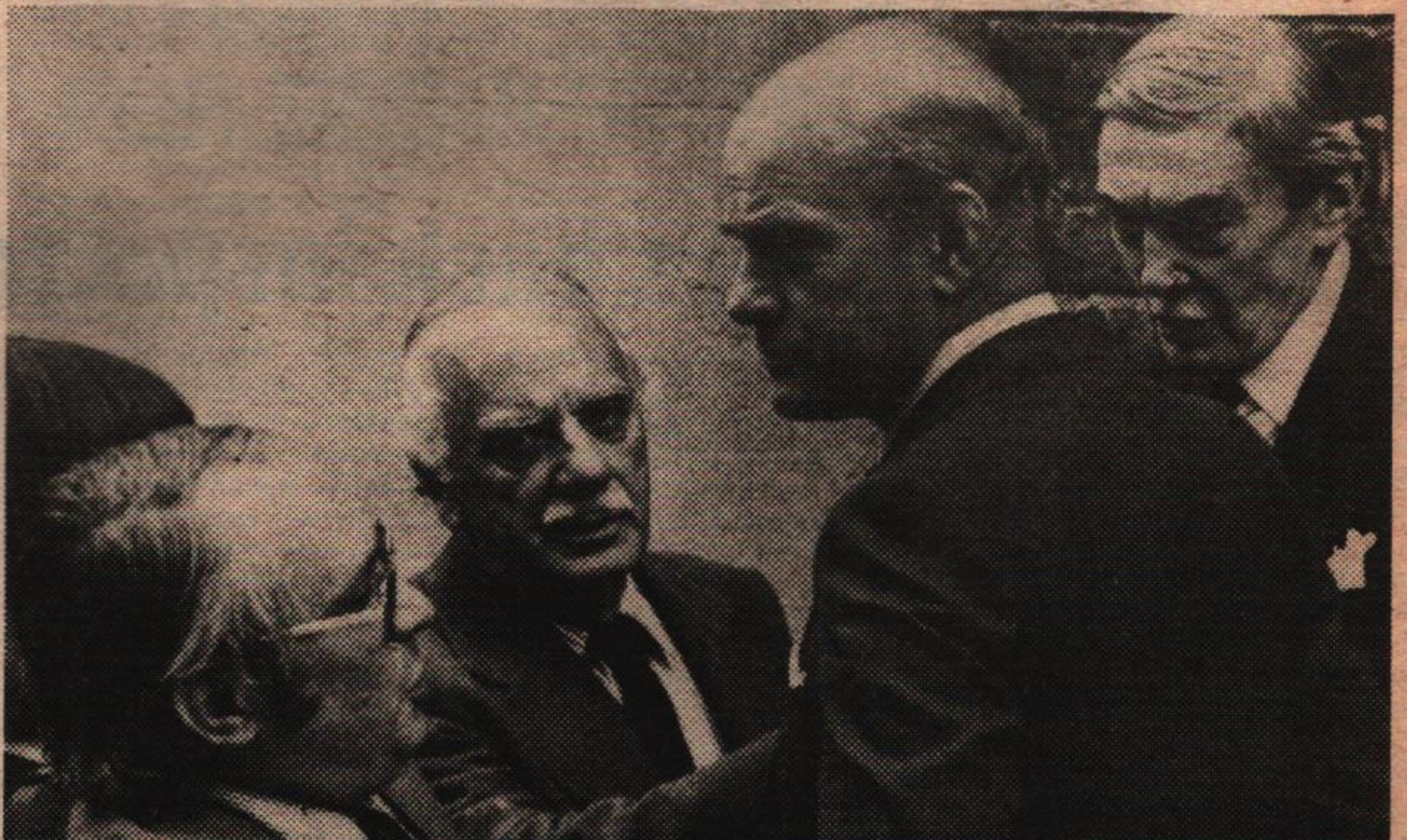
**ONE:** The Scarman Court of Inquiry would never have been set up if it hadn't been for the mass pickets.

**TWO:** The Scarman Report will do nothing to force reinstatement or union recognition. Grunwicks boss Ward can if he likes (and he probably will) put two fingers up to Scarman and 'public opinion'.

The Grunwick strike

committee have given Ward seven days to back down or they will renew the mass picketing.

Their call must be taken up with renewed enthusiasm throughout the whole country by everyone who believes in the right to belong to a trade union.



Grunwick boss George Ward with inquiry team Parry, Lowry and Scarman: the report backs the strikers' demands