

# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p



NUCLEAR POWER: Will it cost us the earth? Pages 8 & 9

## Abortion



Let resolutions be forgot And principles as well.

The government will govern now And you all can go to hell.

# CALLAGHAN'S

**PRIME Minister James Callaghan is plotting with the Tories to cut down women's abortion rights.**

He has ordered his Health Ministers, Roland Moyle and David Ennals, to set up a meeting next month with top Tory anti-abortionists.

Dr Gerard Vaughan, Margaret Thatcher's prospective Minister of Health, will be there.

So will William Benyon, ultra-right proposer of the unsuccessful anti-abortion Bill in the last Parliament.

### CUT OUT

So will Sir Bernard Braine, the Bill's most senior Tory backer.

*No women have been invited.*

The meeting will discuss a 'short, sharp all-party Bill' to make it more difficult for women to get abortions.

Benyon and his friends want to cut out all abortion.

They are aiming to destroy the charitable agencies which provide nearly half the abortions for women who can't afford to pay for them.

They will use the Government's meeting to press for restrictions on the agencies, some of which are certain to be included in the Government's Bill.

These restrictions were voted down at this month's

# DIRTY DEAL

Labour Party conference by 4,666,000 votes to 73,000. They were fought against night after night last summer by Labour women MPs.

*So why is Callaghan imposing them?*

He gave his answer to an abortion law reformer at a party in Brighton two weeks ago. 'You wild pro-abortion women', he said, 'will lose us Scotland'.

He has been advised by his Scottish Minister of State and bagman Gregor Mackenzie, and his political advisor Tom McNally, that

Roman Catholic workers in Scotland will switch their votes to the Nationalists unless abortion is further restricted.

### WITHOLD

Last Tuesday, George Crozier, a lawyer and businessman in Bumbarton and a member of the lay apostolic council of the Catholic Church, called on television for all Catholic Labour voters to withhold their vote unless the government restricted abortion.

He was not well received. Many Roman Catholic working class women in Scotland support their right to choose abortion.

People asked: 'Who does Crozier represent? Who elected him?'

The Croziers of this world could easily be dealt with

Instead, Callaghan the vote-gambler is prepared to sell them the basic rights of women everywhere and the principles of his own party's rank and file.



Now let's fight back

**SOCIALIST Worker** urges all its readers to campaign to stop this dirty deal.

If legal, safe abortions are restricted, illegal, unsafe abortions abound.

We stand for a society where contraception is free, easy and safe, and where children can grow up free of poverty and insecurity.

*But above all we stand, in that society and in this one, for a woman's right to choose whether she bears children or not.*

Callaghan and the Tories can be stopped.

It depends on how much you harass your MP and other MPs as well.

And if you live anywhere near the Midlands, you can join in a demonstration in Birmingham, the worst 'back street abortion city of all', where the Benyons and the Croziers already rule the Health Service.

**QUOTE:** If they dare do such a thing, I'll be so wild. This bloody Labour leadership is so terrible, so terrible. It's just laughing at the conference and all of us who take the conference seriously. I hope it leads to lots of action to stop it.

—Gillian Wilding, who proposed the successful 'woman's right to choose' abortion motion from Hackney North at the Labour Party conference.

**NO RETURN TO BACK-STREET ABORTION  
FREE ABORTION ON DEMAND  
Demonstrate, Saturday 29 October,  
1.30pm, Victoria Square (Town Hall)  
Birmingham**



# ANOTHER DOSE OF TORY POISON

**THE PEOPLE of Stockport are about to get another dose of Tory poison.**

Local councillors are about to start a scheme under which children bringing their own sandwiches to school will have to pay 5p a time to eat them.

Readers of Socialist Worker will remember that Stockport Council's previous exercise in Tory civilisation involved the jailing of various pensions who couldn't afford to pay their rates.

Now they're out to penalise youngsters who can't afford school dinners. The result can only be to force them to go without.

The scheme has been dreamed up in the wake of an 11-week struggle with local teachers over understaffed schools and oversize classes.

As a result of this battle, an arbitration panel has ordered the council to improve its appalling pupil-teacher ratio and employ more teachers.

## DODGES

The Stockport Tories—many of whom are supporters of the National Association For Freedom—have already cut £484,000 off this year's budget. And now that they have to lure more teachers, they are looking for other dodges like the sandwich charge to raise the cash.

The proposal is shrouded in secrecy. But it appears that it originally came from leaders of the National Association of Schoolmasters.

It is opposed by the National Union of Teachers, whose press officer in Stockport, George Peters, told Socialist Worker that 'recent events in Bedfordshire might have put such ideas in people's heads.'

Last week in Bedfordshire a similar proposal was thrown out. But this hasn't deterred Stockport's Tory savages.

Their plan means that more children will go without adequate nourishment. Already the increase in the number of underfed children is a national scandal.

The recently increased cost of dinners means that many more children are going without. And of those still entitled to free dinners, 375,000 don't claim them.

Teachers, trade unionists and socialists should campaign against this latest absurdity and tell Stockport Council where to stick their booty system.

## Victory!

THE NORTH-EAST Lancashire Socialist Workers Party called a picket last Friday at the Volunteers Club in New Church, Rawtenstall, where the National Front were meeting.

The Front heard of the picket and didn't turn up.

PICTURE: Andrew Wiard (Report)



## 4,000 March in 'Nazi territory'

FOR YEARS, Hoxton and Bethnal Green have been claimed by London's fascists as 'their territory'. Mosley's Brownshirts organised here in the Thirties—and now the National Front have put on his fascist clothes.

Their scapegoat for the East End's problems are the blacks of Hackney and the Bengalis of Brick Lane.

They have organised gang attacks on local immigrants and boast of the fear they raise in the immigrant communities.

On Sunday, black and white anti-fascists marched through the area. Black families came to their doors to wave and shout, and many joined in to swell the march to more than 4,000.

Later, thousands flocked to the anti-racist festival in nearby Victoria Park.

## Drafted

The National Front had promised to 'annihilate' the march. Martin Webster, they promised, would be drafted in to lead the assault.

But pathetic groups of fascists could only scream helplessly as the march wound through the Hoxton estates, led by a West Indian steel band.

After Wood Green, Lewisham, Ladywood, Hyde and now East London, the Nazis must be feeling sick.

They had boasted that Hoxton and Bethnal Green were 'no-go' areas where they would intimidate immigrants off the estates. On Sunday they were humiliated.

Now we must deal with them while they are down. We must spread further into the communities the message that it is not immigrants who are to blame.

We must take up the fight against slum housing, for the right to work.

Meanwhile, we keep up the message to the Nazis—there is no area in which the National Front will be left unhindered to spread its vicious ideas.

## SOUTHEND: DRIVE NF OUT

THE NATIONAL Front in Southend are calling in leading Nazi Martin Webster this Friday to repair the damage to their shaken confidence. Every anti-fascist in Essex and East London should be there to give him a rousing 'welcome'.

The Southend Nazis are led by Brian Callow, a thug who often appears in the Honour Guard on national NF demonstrations.

## Pressure

But even he couldn't stop his fellow fascists running scared through the backstreets last month when 100 anti-fascists picketed their branch meeting.

Now they are clearly looking for a morale-booster. That's why we need to keep the pressure on them with a big turn-out.

Picket Martin Webster, this Friday, 21 October, 7.30pm, Leigh Community Centre, Elm Road, Leigh, near Southend. Assemble at The Elm on the A13 at Leigh, at 7.15pm. More details from 01-739 9043.



National Front thugs in paramilitary uniform hurl abuse as Sunday's big march

## I upstaged Webster

By Ramila Patel  
Bolton Asian Youth Organisation

WHEN Nazi Martin Webster marched alone in Hyde last week, we weren't going to let him march without any opposition from the working class people, black and white trade unionists alike.

I marched 20 yards in front, carrying a placard saying 'Webster marches alone because of the opposition from tens of thousands of working class people, black and white unite and fight.'

smash the Nazi NF.

Last week was a defeat for the 'master race'. They can't go on marching in secret because we'll be there to stop them whenever they crawl out of the sewer to spread their ver-

minous racist filth.

Hitler built his Nazi Party on demonstrations and rallies. He knew force could have stopped him. He took advantage of the unorganised people whom the Nazis were going to affect.

But now it's evident that the working class will not tolerate the behaviour of the racist National Front.

Black youths throughout the country are also realising the need for organising against the racists, the cuts and unemployment.

## Give Powell a 'welcome'

ENOCH Powell will get the traditional welcome reserved for racists when he goes to speak in Brighton next Monday.

Brighton SWP has called a picket of the Dome at 6.30pm. The Communist Party, the Trades Council and Anti-Fascist Committee have been approached for support.

NOISS, the SWP student organisation, has set up an action committee.

We will show Powell our contempt for his racist ideas and that we haven't forgotten he is a Loyalist MP supporting the British army in Ireland.

## IT'S NOT JUST DEMOS . . .

By Longsight SWP

A WEEK of anti-fascist activity in Longsight, Manchester, culminated in a successful street meeting last Saturday.

The National Front threatened in the local press to destroy the meeting. But, without their usual police protection, they failed to make a show.

Speeches from SWP, Communist Party and immigrant organisations (mostly people who had never spoken in public before) were heard by a crowd of more than 100 people.

Meanwhile a petition was signed by people angry that a group of racists had been allowed to march through their area at a cost of £250,000

(enough money to keep open the gynaecology ward that has been closed at nearby Withington Hospital).

Almost no opposition was met. Many local people applauded the anti-racist stand.

More than 90 SWs were sold and an Asian stallholder went round every trader, black and white, and collected £20

The only sad episode was the refusal of the Ardwick Labour Party to have a joint meeting.

Earlier in the week they had refused to co-sponsor a petition with the SWP, CP, the Pakistani Welfare and Social Organisation and the local law centre staff.

## POLICE TORTURE EXPOSED TROOPS OUT

By Eamonn McCann

POLICE doctors in the North of Ireland last week asked for a meeting with the RUC Chief Constable, Kenneth Newman, to discuss our present and future work with the police service.

What they meant was the vicious torture of detainees which is now standard practice in Castlereach 'interrogation centre' outside Belfast and the plan to open a second torture centre in Gough Barracks in Armagh.

The move follows growing pressure from detainees' own doctors—as well as republican groups, community leaders, clergymen and lawyers—for the police doctors to speak out and tell the truth about the battered

bodies and broken minds of the men they are called to examine in RUC stations.

The meeting with Newman, originally scheduled for this week, was postponed when news of it leaked out. It is understood that it will now take place within the next fortnight.

## REGIME

The police doctors are chosen as much for their committed support for the Northern regime as for any medical expertise.

That they, too, should now have become uneasy is eloquent testimony to the ap-

palling extent of the torture.

However, Newman and Northern Ireland Secretary Roy Mason still dismiss all allegations as 'IRA propaganda' and boast regularly to uncritical British pressmen of the number of convictions the torturers notch up.

That is the brutal reality behind the headlines in the Mirror, Express and so on about 'the security forces getting on top of the terrorists.'

The Labour Government no longer has the shred of an excuse for not knowing what is happening. They do know and they approve. That is to say, the Labour government

supports torture.

Meanwhile in the South, the Fianna Fail government of Jack Lynch has set up a three-man inquiry—an ex-judge, a former top policeman and a tame union bureaucrat—to look into the way complaints against police there are handled.

## REPORT

However, the inquiry will not examine any individual cases of brutality such as those which formed the basis of the recent Amnesty International report.

Instead, we have the traditional cover-up operation. North and South right wing regimes need torture to maintain the political system.

PICTURE: John Smith (IFU)



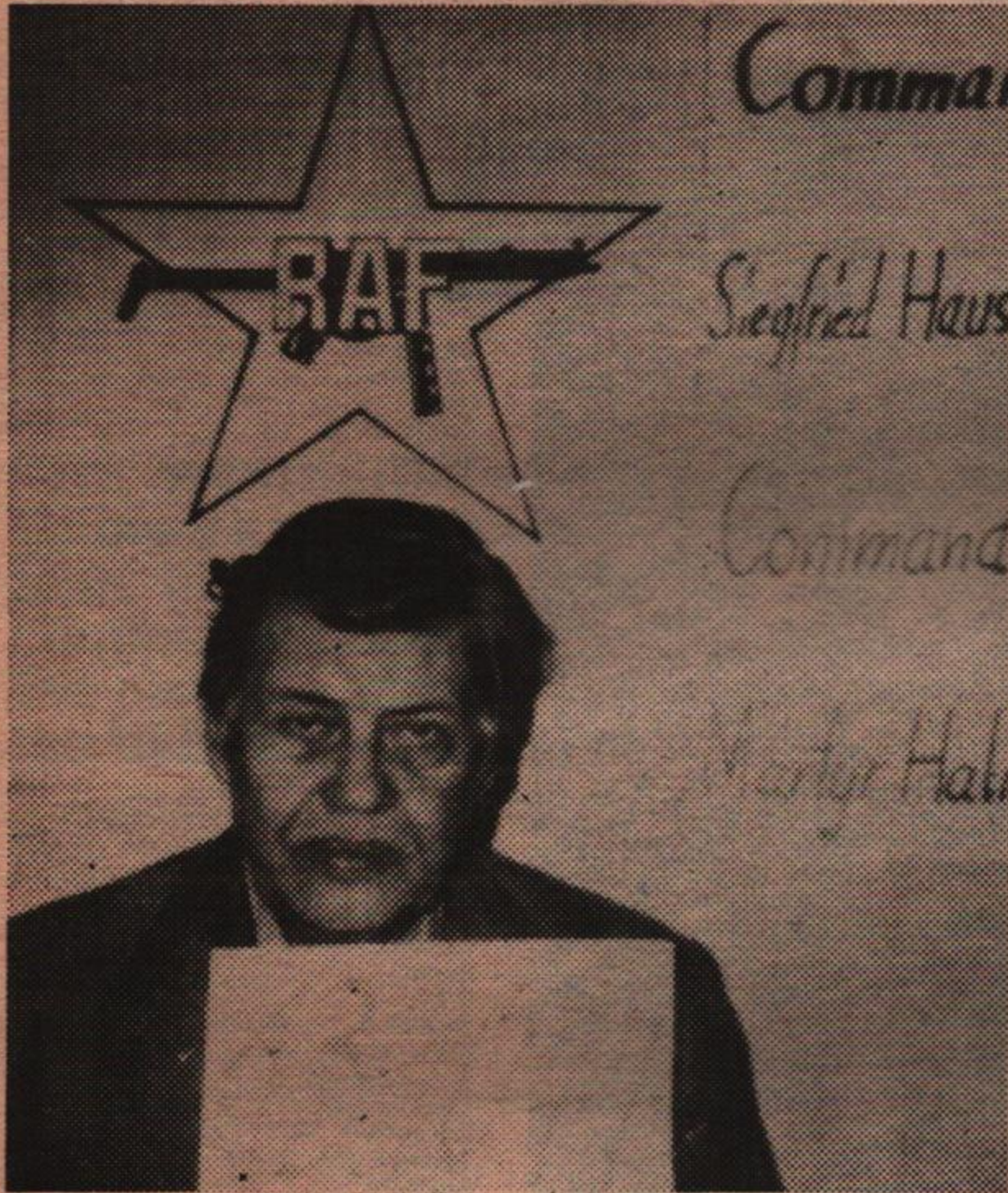
Ramila Patel marching ahead of Nazi Martin Webster in Hyde: 'black youth are beginning to organise'





# HIJACK: BUT WHOSE VIOLENCE IS IT?

**Socialist Worker**  
WHAT WE THINK



Schleyer: former Nazi

**THE LATEST German hijack came to an abrupt end on Tuesday morning.**

But the implications will worry people for a lot longer—in particular, the implications of the deaths immediately afterwards in a West German jail of three of the hijackers' alleged colleagues.

The authorities claimed they had 'committed suicide', two of them by shooting themselves.

But the three were held in the strictest possible security, denied access even to lawyers. It would seem impossible for them to have had weapons, or even a means of hanging themselves.

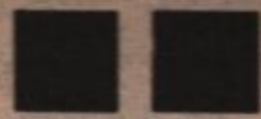
*One can only conclude that they were murdered.*

The press has referred to the hijackers, and their colleagues who kidnapped the in-

dustrialist Hans Martin Schleyer, as 'left wingers'. They called themselves the 'red army faction'.

But in reality their methods were quite different to those which socialists use and argue for.

The red army faction originated in the disgust felt by large numbers of people at the horrors and hypocrisy of those who run society.



The reason for this is simple. Many of those who today dominate industry, the armed forces, the police, the newspapers in Germany, started their careers as enthusiastic servants of Hitler's Third Reich.

Schleyer, boss of the German Employers Federation, for whom we are supposed to weep, showed his 'commitment to freedom' by his

friendship with the Nazi Goebbels and by playing a leading role in the Nazification of the German universities in 1936.

He served three years in prison for war crimes in the late 1940s.

In recent years, such people have excelled themselves by banning from most state jobs, such as teaching, those they define as 'subversives'—which means anyone who has vaguely left-wing socialist ideals.

Again and again in the last ten years, they have unleashed armed police against left wing demonstrations, causing several deaths.

They have also helped provide South Africa with the means of manufacturing atomic weapons.

However, the disgust felt by Baader, Meinhoff and their friends did not develop in a socialist direction. Instead of seeing the answer to the

problems of society in the collective action of the workers who make up the majority of society, they believed a few courageous acts of their own could do the job.

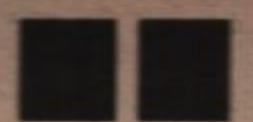
But for every industrialist they kidnapped, there were ten thousand prepared to take his place. The kidnappings only served to turn unpleasant ex-Nazis into public heroes.

The heads of the police found all the public support they needed for ever more repressive measures, not only against the kidnapers and hijackers, but against anyone wanting to change society.

There was a rising toll of arrests, jail sentences and judicial murders of those alleged to be 'terrorists'. The hijackers and kidnapers felt that to defend their friends they had to use ever more desperate measures.

The culmination was the threat to blow up the aircraft full of holidaymakers—a horrific threat opposed to everything that socialists have ever stood for.

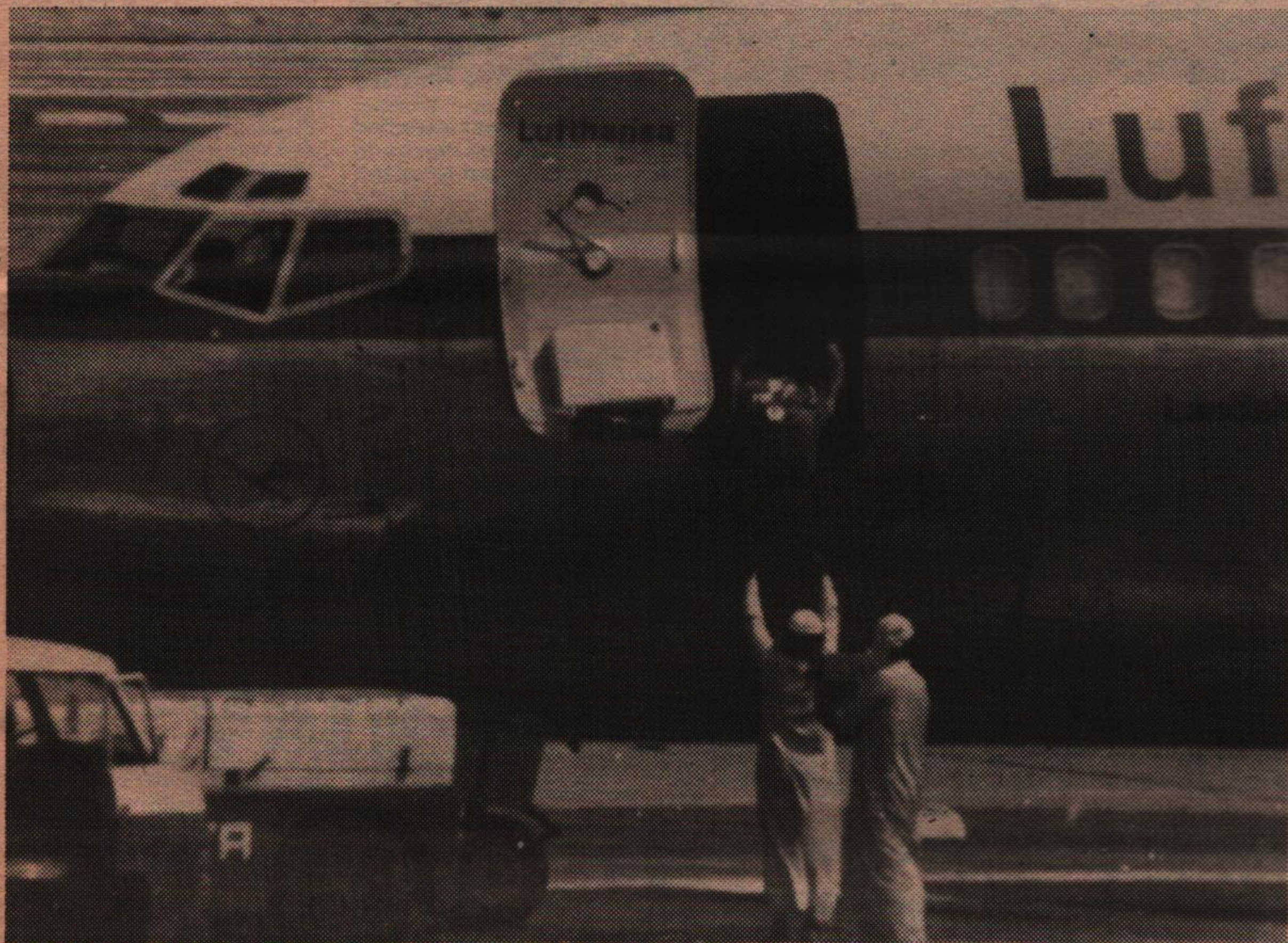
Of course, socialists believe that force is necessary on occasions. So does anyone who takes part in any political action, left, right or centre.



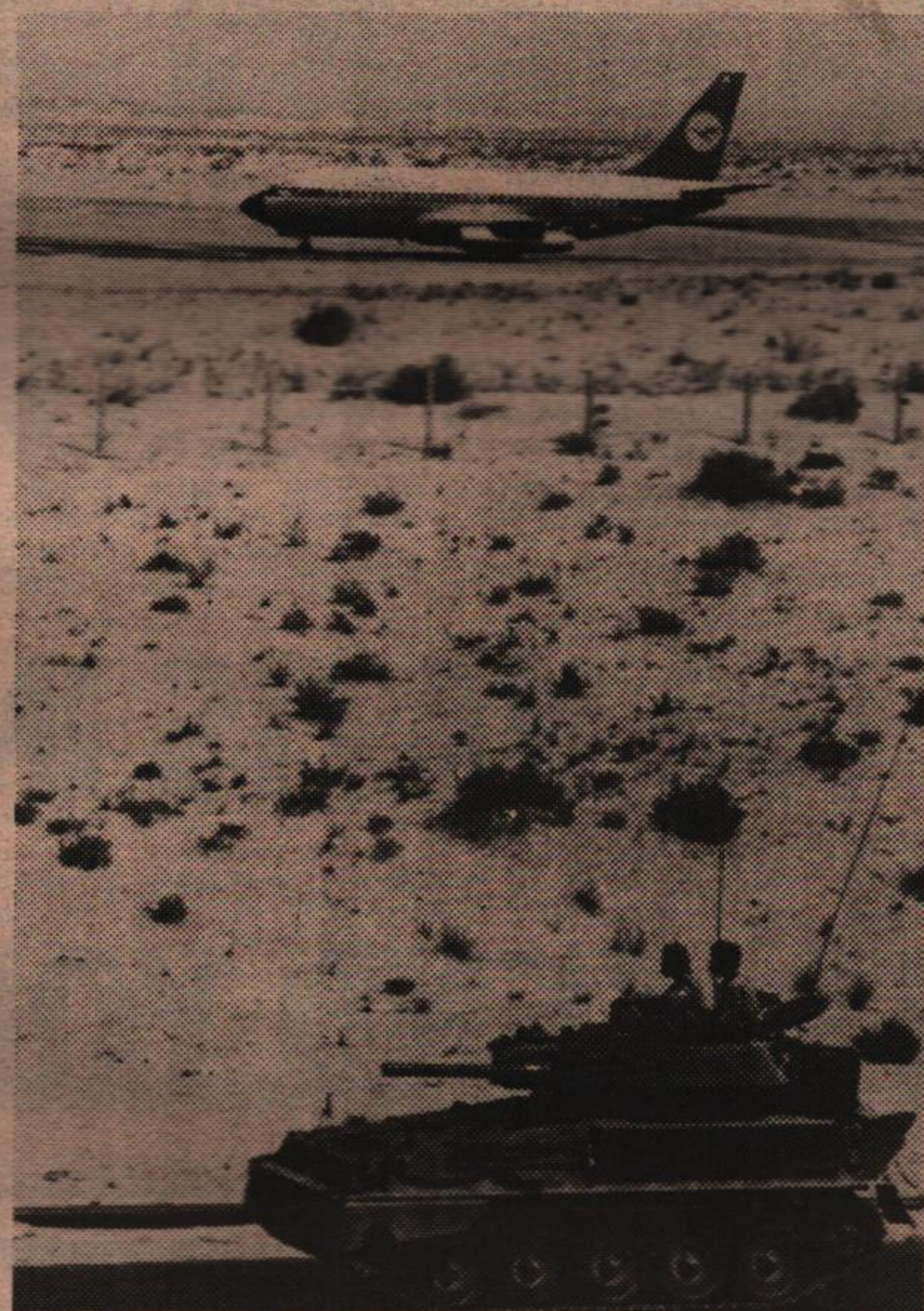
It will become governments who manufacture napalm, who boast of their paratroop regiments, who provide nuclear know-how to South Africa and are moving towards neutron bombs, to claim otherwise.

But the force we support is that which working class organisations have to use to deal with those who would violently smash their struggles—the force needed to stop Nazi incitement to racial murder, the force needed to prevent strike-breaking, the force needed eventually to prevent a small privileged minority thwarting the efforts of the majority of workers to bring about socialist change.

Such force will involve neither hijacking nor kidnappings, nor the threat to blow up plane-loads of ordinary people



The hijack drama: it's no way to socialism—but don't fall for the hypocrisy of those leading the outcry against its violence



## Leyland: they're crying wolf again

**WILL THEY break up British Leyland?**

That is what the newspapers are saying will happen if a section of British Leyland workers don't agree to a new national bargaining structure and instead demand substantial wage rises above 10 per cent.

For the third time this year, British Leyland

workers are being told—give way or we'll shut down Longbridge, scrap the Mini, the Allegro and the Marina and concentrate on building a few luxury cars and buses and trucks.

Socialist Worker asked Leyland shop steward Tony Priest if he thought the threats were serious.

'No, they don't mean it.

It's the most ludicrous action you can think of, and they know it.

It would make the west Midlands an industrial desert, a vast waste-land with no jobs.

It would mean sacking 20,000 workers at Longbridge alone. In all it means around 60,000 Leyland jobs gone.

'On top of that there are

all the small firms that depend on supplying Leyland. There are literally hundreds of such firms in the Black Country. They say it would mean at least another 120,000 jobs would go.

'With nearly two million unemployed as it is, the government can't create another 200,000 unemployed.'

Tony Priest is just as convinced that it doesn't make economic sense to split Leyland up into a Bus and Truck Company and a Luxury cars company, producing Jaguars, Rovers and sports cars.

'They will have no base to fall back on. It will be like the motor bike industry. They scrapped the small bikes, and then they found that new technology needed in big bikes came from developments in small bikes.

'Exactly the same would happen at Leyland if they broke us up.

'In any case dealers depend on the bread and butter jobs like the Mini and the Allegro to keep their dealer network together.

### Dealers

'Otherwise they'll be down to a few specialist dealers, one in each town, selling a few luxury cars. Dealers here and abroad won't want to know.

'It would be diabolically stupid to break up Leyland. They're just saying it to put the pressure on.'

So why is British Leyland, the Government and the National Enterprise Board so anxious to get the new national bargaining procedure accepted?

'It will mean the disruption of the shop stewards'

movement,' says Tony Priest. 'We'll have no say in what goes on in negotiations, no vote on electing a negotiating committee for our plant.'

'We're being asked to accept a new job evaluation that will really mean doing just what the Company wants. And for that we get £1.20 every six months for two years.'

'And even that depends on reaching the production targets set by the Ryder Report into British Leyland.'

'And there's no way we can do that with the sort of machinery we've got. Some of it is 40 or 50 years old.'

'Ryder said we had £471 million worth of plant in Leyland, of which £131 million was workable. The rest he said was obsolete.'

'We can't get the level of production. It's nothing to

do with us.

'I said to some of the management just today—you keep on crying wolf whenever you want something, but finally no-one will believe you any more.'

## NO RESTRAINT FOR CALLAGHAN

**JAMES Callaghan made another impassioned plea at the weekend for workers to keep to the government's pay limit.**

He forgot to mention that he himself is part of a small privileged land-owning section of the population that exploited last year's drought to shoot right through the 4½ per cent limit then in force. Callaghan owns a 140-acre

farm in Sussex worth, at present values, £120,000. And that's not counting the farm building and machinery.

### Incomes

A survey published by ICI last week showed that average incomes of larger farms rose by 24 per cent last year.

This was because of the same increase in prices that cut

workers' living standards by 20 per cent in two years.

Callaghan's government has just announced that it is taking measures to force up the price of potatoes again, by buying them up and making large quantities of them unfit for human consumption.

Callaghan must be laughing all the way to the bank—the Commercial Bank of Wales, in fact, in which his wife owns 5000 shares.

Leyland SWP public meeting  
**CORPORATE BARGAINING AT FORD AND CHRYSLER AND NOW LEYLAND?**

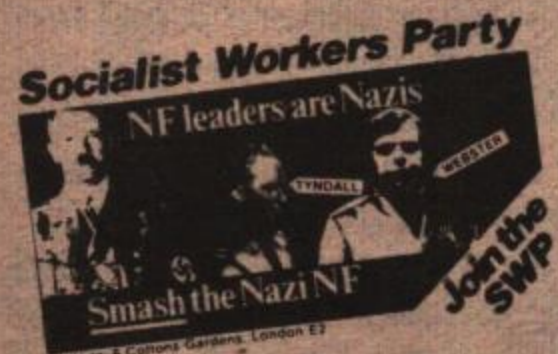
Speaker: Steve Jeffreys (Socialist Worker) a former Chrysler shop steward.  
This Sunday, 24 October, 7.30pm, White Lion, Hollowayhead, Opposite the Night Out, Birmingham.



# BEWARE THE HITLER YOUTH MOVEMENT

OUR THANKS THIS WEEK TO:

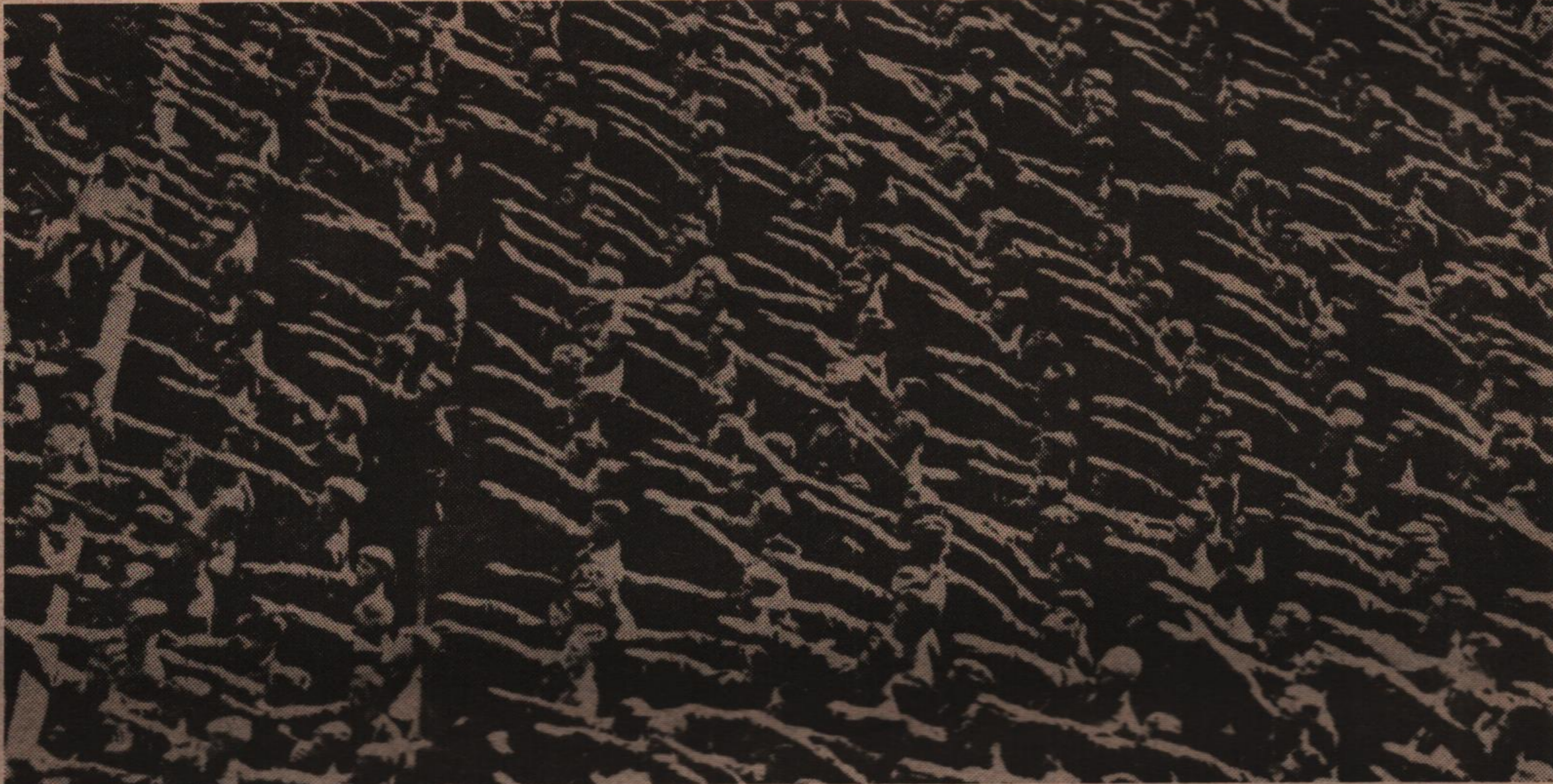
£10,000 appeal



Fight the racists!

Stop the Nazis!

Send donations and collections to Socialist Worker Fund, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.



IT WAS only a matter of time before the National Front animals started preying on school students. Their intention to spew racialism into schools sends a shiver down the spine. There can only be one answer: socialist ideas and organisation in the schools.

The Socialist Worker Youth Movement has been in existence for some time. Many local groups have been successful in schools, as well as working on unemployment and Rock Against Racism.

□□

The time is now right to build a separate section made up of students still at school—a movement capable of confronting the

racialism of the NF. If you are a school student and want to know more about what you can be doing, or if you are a parent with a son or daughter who may be interested, write to:

**National Secretary,  
Socialist Workers Party  
6 Cottons Gardens,  
London, E2**

Our £10,000 fund was launched to raise the money for repairs to our HQ following a Nazi NF petrol bomb attack.

We still need that money. But make no mistake: we now need to campaign in the schools and that, too, requires money.

If you are hanging on to those few pounds—don't. Send your donations today.

- Oxford
  - Nottingham
  - Teesside
  - Brighton
  - York
  - C A Parsons
  - Gloucester
  - Coventry
  - Hull
  - Leeds
  - Lewich
  - Cardiff
  - Crewe
  - Islington
  - Sunderland
  - Chesterfield
  - Preston
  - Central London
  - Glasgow
  - Pontefract
  - Dundee SW readers
  - Hammersmith SW readers
  - Benfleet
  - Plymouth
  - Sheffield
  - Cambridge
  - S W London
  - Central London NUJ members
  - Lerwick
  - Boston
  - Crawley
  - St Albans
  - Merseyside
  - South Elmsall
  - Chelmsford
  - Coventry
  - Taunton
  - Bradford
  - Lowestoft
  - Borg Warner Letchworth.
- Individuals:
- Sunderland Anti-Fascist Committee
  - Central Electrical Workshops
  - Glasgow
  - Jennie Lee Theatre Bletchley,
  - Islington Council Housing
  - Department
  - Ross-shire Trades Council
  - Hammersmith Town Hall
  - T Wotworth Wood
  - S Whalley
  - R Harding
  - H M Newlove
  - Barbara Winslow
  - Ken Collins POEU
  - Fords PTA Dagenham
  - Chamberlains
  - Walham Forest Rank and File
  - members
  - AUEW Ealing 15EE
  - Dewsbury Social Club
  - Ossie Clark
  - A Carlton, West Germany
  - J Bowtell
  - T B Jones
  - P Deason
  - Lincoln ASTMS
  - A D Mirer
  - V Hughes Wembley
  - D Gilchrist
  - P K Chatterjee
  - Anonymous, Edinburgh.

## NO NAZIS IN OUR SCHOOLS

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## WHERE WE STAND

### INDEPENDENT WORKING CLASS ACTION

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

### REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

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

### THERE IS NO PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

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

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

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

### INTERNATIONALISM

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

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

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

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

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

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

The experience of Russia

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

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

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

### THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Safety—a vital issue for your bulletin

ANOTHER Socialist Worker Workshop Bulletin was launched this week.

Supporters in Timex, Dundee put out a leaflet which went to the heart of a vital issue in the plant—safety. It said:

"The next time you pass the camera plating area, have a look inside at the pools of cyanide, chrome, nickel etc lying on the floor, the faulty extractions, the dangerous state of the floor..."

### Reliable

After listing some of the dangers in Timex, the article contains detailed information on one particularly dangerous chemical.

It reveals that pollution in one department is, according to a laboratory test, well above safety units but management will do nothing about it.

And it shows that recommendations by the Factory Inspector a year ago have still not been acted on.

There are four points suggested for action to improve safety.

The back page of the bulletin has a short article urging support for the Grunwicks picket line and explaining some of the issues involved.

From West London, the Socialist Worker Hammersmith Hospital Bulletin has come out with an article on a chef who isn't a member of the trade union.

As the Bulletin says, 'the management use him to drive a wedge between the workers.'

There are 800 workers in Hammersmith Hospital and 150 paid 1p each to buy a copy.

Is there a Socialist Worker Bulletin in your workplace? If there is, send us a copy. If there isn't, and you would like to talk about starting one, please write to us or talk to your local Socialist Worker seller.

Send your bulletins to Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.



SUPPORT THE MASS PICKET AT GRUNWICKS. EVERY MONDAY, ESPECIALLY 7 NOVEMBER. SUPPORT THE MASS PICKET AT

# Grunwicks...Hounslow...the rank and file must come together

**THE WORKERS** we spoke to at the Grunwick mass picket on Monday were both bitter at the ability of Ward to continue to get strike-breakers through the picket, and angry at the refusal of the trade union leaders to do anything.

Joginder Lal, a Transport Union shop steward from the British Airways catering division, told us:

'There's about 20 of us here, mostly Indians, but that's not nearly good enough. The TUC should start calling one-day strikes to whip up support'.

Ziggy Golebawski, a miner from Barnsley, pointed out that 'if every factory in the country sent a hundred pickets, that would do it. It's no good the police sending 2000 and us sending 1500.'

'If we don't win this one we'll end up with the gaffer standing over us with a great big whip. All the lads from Yorkshire feel the same.'

'But we're all pretty fed up this morning. We didn't get to see the scabs' bus, let alone stop it.'

## Stop

Gerald Glover, another Yorkshire miner, reinforced the point:

'It has been a waste of time and money. There's not enough people. We've got to get far more here if we're going to stop this place.'

Everyone we spoke to was disappointed with the turnout. That might seem strange, given the large contingent of miners and the hundreds of other workers who had got up at one or two in the morning to catch coaches down.

But what was lacking above all was a strong turnout from London factories.

There is a tradition in many of the factories of the shop steward's committees and union branches passing resolutions, without ever taking the issues to the ordinary workers on the factory floor.

But resolutions and fine speeches are not going to win Grunwicks, any more than they won the similar recognition dispute at nearby Desoutters, which went down to defeat recently.

## Scab

The 1972 miners strike was won by a mass picket at the Saltley coke depot in Birmingham, because the local factories walked out in mass to stop the scab lorries.

Grunwicks will be lost unless local union activists stop merely passing resolutions, and start campaigning for such action from the shop floor.

There is not much time to put such a rank and file approach into operation. But the alternative is ominous, not merely for Grunwicks but for many subsequent battles.

That is why the rank and file conference has been called.

## Amazing Chapple

FRANK Chapple leader of the Electricians' Union gave the most amazing reason for refusing to support the Grunwick mass picket.

'It was', he said on Monday, 'using a sledgehammer to crack a nut'.

But Chapple is a member of the General Council of the TUC which has failed to do anything to win the strike.

Does that prove that a nut can't crack a nut? Or that a nut can crack a sledgehammer?.



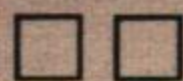
Grunwicks on Monday and Hounslow last week: the need for rank and file organisation couldn't be greater.

**GOOD. But not nearly good enough.**

That must be the verdict on the two mobilisations of trade unionists in London over the last week—against the smashing of the Hounslow hospital work-in and against the strike-breaking at Grunwicks.

Both struggles caught the imagination of vast numbers of

workers not normally all that active over trade union matters. But when it came to the crunch, all these numbers were not mobilised.



An important part of the reason lies in the sabotaging role played by trade union leaders. Some, like Geoffrey Drain of NALGO, were prepared to give token support to Hounslow. But they

were not prepared to call out their members to win this vital struggle.

At Grunwick, they did their utmost to stop the mass picket taking place. And this after they themselves had refused to implement the TUC Congress decision to cut off essential services to the scab factory.

But it is not good enough just to blame the leaders. They can always be expected to behave as they did at Hounslow and Grunwick. The question we have to ask is: Why there is not yet a

powerful rank and file organisation in the factories, hospitals and other workplaces capable of moving the force of the trade union movement into action when such leaders refuse to?

Socialist Worker talked about these problems to Bill Geddes, chairman of the joint shop stewards committee at Hammersmith Hospital, one of the best organised in London, and to some of the pickets at Grunwicks.



Bill Geddes: 'conference ideal'

## 'THIS VITAL CONFERENCE'

**A WAVE OF ANGER** shook London hospitals over the wrecking of the Hounslow Hospital.

We photocopied the Daily Mirror front-page and passed it around.

We called an impromptu mass meeting and a much bigger meeting to declare strike action the following week.

We have to admit, however, that the results throughout London were far from satisfactory. Major weaknesses have been shown up in the London hospital workers' rank and file organisation.

When they smashed the Hounslow 'work-in' I rang Harry Wilde, the divisional

officer of our union NUPE.

He told me that he'd talked to the 'old man' about what to do. The 'old man' Alan Fisher, leader of our union, had said that it would be wrong to call the members out officially because if they didn't respond it would look very bad for the union.

On the other hand, he added, if there was unofficial action he would be pleased because he could turn round to the Department of Health and say look how angry the members are without me doing anything.

This, of course, is nonsense. If Fisher had instructed the union officials to tour the hospitals and pull the members out, there would have been a fantastic response. Hospital organisation is

By Bill Geddes, NUPE chairman, Hammersmith Hospital

new. We've only had shop stewards since the pay strikes of 1972-73.

In many hospitals, leading shop stewards execute managerial policy.

This is indeed the case with the big West Middlesex Hospital, the 'parent' to Hounslow which is tiny in comparison.

The ancillaries in West Middlesex were directed by the NUPE branch leadership to support the authorities all along the line over the cuts. They even provided the porters to bust the Hounslow 'work-in'.

It is easy for a clique of branch officials to control the union.

In Hammersmith more than half the ancillaries are without shop steward representation. These are the ward-orderlies and the domestics—the unskilled labour in the wards.

They are members of the union but they have no day-to-day organisation. We have to overcome this.

The women often feel they are not 'clever' enough to become stewards. Or else their domestic role at home is so overpowering that they cannot face the added responsibilities.

We need a real community of hospital worker militants with good communications that keep up with all the changes in the London hospitals.

The Hospital Worker newspaper is an ideal way of doing this. But its leadership must be transformed into active rank and file groups.

The National Rank and File Conference is an ideal way to reinvigorate rank and file hospital work, both in London and nationally.

This now becomes the only way to pursue both the fight against the cuts and the fight for a decent wage.

ADVERTISEMENT

## RANK AND FILE DELEGATE CONFERENCE

Saturday 26 November, 11.30am, New Century Hall, Corporation Street, Manchester

- Smash the 12-month rule—£15 a week minimum pay rises now.
- For the right to work—no productivity deal
- For rank and file unity—against racialism
- For a Rank and File Movement.

Delegates invited from all trade union bodies. Credentials 50p from Rank and File Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

## AT LAST... THE TRUTH ABOUT GEORGE WARD

THE PRESS keep going on about how the strike breakers still working inside Grunwicks support the manager, George Ward. But on Monday, the BBC programme Tonight proved otherwise.

They managed to speak to some of the workers, inside their homes, when the management were not around. The workers insisted on only blurred photos of themselves being shown and on their voices being dubbed, because,

they said, they were frightened of Ward.

They then went on to say that they really believed a union was needed inside the factory and that the strikers should be reinstated.

GRUNWICKS. EVERY MONDAY, ESPECIALLY 7 NOVEMBER.



# How we were divided

WE LIVE in a society that is divided into classes, in which a few people have vast amounts of private property, and most of us have virtually none.

Naturally, we tend to take it for granted that things have always been like this.

But, as we saw last week, the truth is rather different. For the greater part of human history, there were no classes, no private property, and no armies or police.

There were, until a few years ago, still hundreds of societies in many different parts of the globe where these things had hardly begun to develop—among the Indians of North and South America, most of the peoples of

Equatorial Africa and the Pacific Ocean, the Aborigines of Australia.

There were societies in which the organisation of the production of food, shelter and clothing was still at a relatively low level.

Not that the inhabitants were less clever than ourselves or had a more 'primitive mentality'. The Australian aborigines, for instance, had to learn to recognise literally thousands of plants and the habits of scores of different types of animals in order to survive.

## No divisions

They were much more 'clever' than us in dealing with the problem of surviving in the Australian desert.

What they had not learnt to do was to plant seeds and grow their own food—

something our own ancestors only learnt to do about 5000 years ago, after being on the earth for 100 times that period.

Until more food could be produced by one person's work than was needed to keep that person fit for work, there could be no division into classes. What, for instance, was the point of keeping slaves if all the wealth they produced was needed to keep them alive?

But beyond a certain point, the advance of production made class divisions not only possible but necessary.

The people whose labour produced all this food could simply have eaten the extra 'surplus' food. Since they lived fairly meagre, miserable lives, they were strongly tempted to.

But that left them unprotected

against the ravages of nature, that might mean famine or a flood the next year, and against attacks from hungry tribes from outside the area.

It was, at first, of great advantage to everyone if a special group of people took charge of this extra wealth, storing it against future disaster, using it to keep different sorts of craftsmen, building up means of defence, exchanging part, of it with distant peoples for useful objects.

## Tablets

These activities came to be carried out in the first towns, where administrators, merchants and craftsmen lived. Out of the markings on tablets used to keep a record of the different sorts of wealth, writing began to develop.

Such were the first, faltering steps of what we call 'civilisation'.

But — and it was a very big but — all this was based on control of the increased wealth by a small minority of the population.

And the minority used the wealth for its own good as well as the good of society as a whole.

Rules, which began as a means of benefiting society, became 'laws', insisting that the wealth and the land that produced it was the 'private property' of the minority.

You might perhaps ask whether it would have been possible for things to have developed otherwise, for those who laboured on the land to control its produce.

The answer has to be No. Not because of 'human nature', but because society was still very poor.

## Necessary

People starved to death if there were a couple of years of bad weather. If the farmers had kept control of the wealth they would have made sure it was the cities that died of starvation, not themselves.

In the midst of scarcity, a division into classes was necessary if society was to advance. Without it, there would have been no cities, no writing, no art, no advance of science and technology.

However, that does not mean that the division into classes remains necessary today. The last hundred years has seen a development of production undreamt of in the previous history of humanity.

Natural scarcity has been overcome—what exists now is the artificial scarcity created as governments destroy stocks of food.

Class society today is holding humanity back, not leading it forward.



PARTY BADGES OUT NOW!

Clenched fist SWP lapel badges. Red and silver, or red and gilt. Available through SWP branch secretaries only.

## Socialist Worker

### EDITORIAL

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# WEBSTER: The first Nazi martyr?

THE LATEST edition of Searchlight, the anti-fascist magazine, reveals a power struggle inside the National Front which could mean curtains for the lone martyr, Martin Webster.

According to Searchlight, Webster has many enemies inside the Nazi camp because of his opportunism and back-stabbing.

Apparently a Mafia-style gathering took place in South London recently to discuss an offer the Nazis can't refuse.

Among the select few were NF top brass, officers of the British Movement and Column 88.

The big money offer com-

es from a group of renegade Tories and has several rigid strings attached.

One is that Martin must go.

The renegades—a merchant banker, a property magnate and a member of the House of Lords—want a slight change of image... and curtains for Webster.

It would also provide the Front with their first real martyr, says Searchlight. When Martin goes to the great gas chamber in the sky, either the Socialist Workers Party or the IRA will be blamed for his death. The Nazis haven't decided which yet.

SEARCHLIGHT is available from socialist and trade union bookshops.

# Slasher Thatcher

THIS is how the Financial Times correspondent, Davit Watt, summed up the Tory Party and their conference.

'Whatever the slogan proclaims they remain overwhelmingly a class party and a party of privilege.

...the conference gave its loudest applause to those who went straight to the point—delegates who called for the restitution of the privileges of middle class education, those in favour of the slashing of public expenditure and of taxation on upper middle income brackets, and,

above all those who demanded a direct assault on the chief class enemy, the trade union movement'.

THE Federation of Conservative Students has a poster currently adorning the walls of many colleges. Beneath pictures of Ian Smith, Pinochet and Brezhnev it proclaims: 'We reject them all'.

Edward Bickham, an FCS member nearly caused a riot when he criticised Ian Smith at the Tory Party Conference.



# Huntin' Shootin' and whippin'

A YEAR ago hunt saboteur 60-year-old Fred Pidcock was attacked and whipped at the Tickham Hunt.

His assailants George and Ann Clinch appeared at Maidstone court and admitted assaulting him.

They were given a conditional discharge after the magistrate said: 'It may have been that they went marginally further than the law permits'.

IT ISN'T just British businessmen and landed gentry who like to while away the hours slaughtering wildlife. Eight businessmen from Paris recently spent £250 each on a day trip to Garandon Park, Leicestershire. They 'bagged' 268 pheasants and 20 ducks.

HAVERING AREA HEALTH Authority's Multi-disciplinary group threw a party and agreed to invite all the doctors from Warley Hospital.

The party was partly paid for, according to AHA minutes, with a £90 donation from 'a drug company'.

SACRIFICE CORNER: A diamond studded skate board was sold for £1943 at a shop in Hastings.

SEEN ON a wall in East London: Why is life like a shit sandwich? Because the more bread you have the less shit you have to eat.

# Oaf of the week

Congratulations to this week's winner of the coveted Fifth Column OAF award. Bedfordshire's Director of Education, Peter Browning.

Parents in the county may soon have to pay 5p to send their children to school with packed lunches. The scheme was being discussed this week by a council committee because 9000 children have stopped eating the school dinners.

Mr Browning is quoted in the Daily Express as saying: 'We're getting no income from these children'.

**Beat Crime 78**

**Loc up!**

**IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE**

**Help us to solve crime**

**Loc up!**

When you hear the phrase 'lock up' I know what you mean.

# NOT THE CHURCH, THE STATE OR EVEN OUR PARTY HAS THE RIGHT TO KILL OUR UNBORN COMRADES!

## A BABY OR 'NEONATAL MATERIAL'?

THE COLD LABOUR FRONT is committed with the Labour movement, using appropriate means, never would we use the word 'abortion'. We would use the word 'neonatal material'.

## 'EMOTIONAL CLAP-TRAP'

EMOTIONAL clap-trap may be, but it is tempered with reasoning and is fully backed by scientific facts. It is not the philosophy of the Labour Party which is the issue.

## 'GRUESOME PICTURES'

TELL ME MORE ABOUT THE LIFE LABOUR GROUP. I ENCLOSE A DONATION FOR GROUP FUNDS. I ENCLOSE A DONATION FOR PREGNANT WOMEN IN NEED.

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Life LABOUR GROUP  
Your Very First 'Trade Union'

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Tel 0460 4657

TRIBUNE, the paper of left and not-so-left Labour MPs, is playing the press freedom game.

While taking a stand against anti-abortionists in its editorials, the paper recently allowed the Life Labour Group to buy £160 worth (half a page) of advertising space.

buy space in the paper to persuade people that women shouldn't have the freedom to control their own bodies.

Life Labour Group, which is supported by about 50 MPs—mainly Roman Catholics—claims to have Tribune supporters in its ranks. These people are not known to anyone on Tribune, however.

The advert claims to put the 'socialist' case against 'abortionism' under the heading: 'Not the church, the state or even our party has the right to kill unborn comrades!'

# Dull it shaw is

SHAW TAYLOR, Whispering Grass of ATV's Police Five, has been taking time off from his desperately useful job of making sure that antiques are returned to their 'rightful' owners and encouraging kids to play detective.

Grass has just completed a series of six equally useful programmes for the un-

employed called 'Out of Work?'

The programmes are full of hints on how you can use your time if you're on the dole.

For instance, get involved in some voluntary work, or help the under-staffed national health service. They can't afford to give you a proper job of course, because of the cuts, but you

won't mind working for nothing will you?

Or you can find out where the latest Job Creation Scheme is starting. You might end up doing something really exciting like counting lamp posts (Glasgow) or making bunting for the Jubilee (Edinburgh).

Of course, you could become a policeman.



## CHILE EXILE FIGHTS TO STAY IN BRITAIN

TIME is running out for Chilean refugee Carlos Velasquez. He is awaiting the result of an appeal against a sentence of imprisonment or even death.

Prosecution, judge and jury are the British government. Executioner is the Chilean military junta.

Carlos came to Paisley in Scotland in May 1976. He fled his country because he was being forced to serve up to ten years in an army which terrorises and tortures ordinary men, women and children.

His British work permit expired on 26 August and the government have refused to renew it. Since Carlos came to Paisley he has worked as a machine operator at J and P Coates thread mills.

'I don't want to go back to Chile because they will shoot me or go back to jail for life,' says Carlos.

He talks of life in Quilpue, where he studied in university as an electronic engineer, after the military coup. Once he was on his way to hospital for treatment to a stomach infection when he was stopped by soldiers and ordered to return home.

'Friends of mine who didn't want to stay in the Navy have disappeared,' he said. 'They put people in the holds of ships and keep them prisoners.'

Carlos says that during the hours of curfew the boats leave port: 'And I am serious when I say there is talk of these prisoners being fed to the sharks.'

### SHOOT

If they soldiers see anyone on the streets during the curfew 'they shoot first and ask questions later.'

Chilean newspapers claim the Gestapo-style police force, DINA, has been disbanded. 'This is not true,' says Carlos. 'These are the people who are waiting for me if I return to Chile.'

'These people are watching you all the time if you have been involved in a left-wing organisation. And the first chance they get they will beat you up or torture you.'

To these ruthless people torture means pushing needles under fingernails, cutting off ear lobes, making holes in your body by twisting and turning a knife and rubbing salt or lemons into the wound, and as Carlos puts it 'playing football with the prisoners.'

'That's why I don't want to go back to Chile,' he says.

## Mass strike halts Iceland

ICELAND ground to a halt on Tuesday last week when the entire public sector went, for the first time in its history, on indefinite strike.

The stoppage covers all schools, radio and television, airlines, hospitals and medical services and police.

The civil service union won the right to strike two years ago. The union is demanding a 35 per cent pay increase to compensate for an expected 35 per cent increase in prices this year.

## 400 listen to refugee from Soweto

by JOANNA ROLLO

AN EXILED student from Soweto in South Africa, Majakathata Madoena, spoke to over 400 students at Aberdeen University last week. The meeting was called by the Student Representative Council, following the occupation of the Barclays Bank office on campus.

That evening 60 people came to a meeting organised by the University Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign

Society. After Majakathata had spoken, 'Dumping Grounds', a film about the lives of black South Africans, was shown.

A collection at the meeting raised £25 and 40 people joined the SASC Society afterwards.

Aberdeen University is backing the call for a demonstration on 13 November in support of victory to the freedom fighters and against any sell-out in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia).

Two other student unions, Bradford and Lancaster University, have also put out the call for the demonstration. Several other student union meetings will be asked to join them this week.

### Raised

Last week the Southern Africa Solidarity Tour raised another £150. The best collection came from York University, where £40 was raised round the bars and canteens.

# Now a Spanish social con-trick

A SPANISH version of the social con-trick. That was what the biggest left-wing parties and trade unions agreed last week with the former fascists who run the Spanish government.

The Socialist and Communist Parties signed an agreement to accept wage controls in return for government promises to 'increase investment', 'to cut the state budget and reduce waste', 'to restrict the money supply', and 'to help small and medium companies'.

Taking a leaf out of Callaghan's book, the government has agreed to 'impose sanctions' on companies which ignore the wage controls by 'withdrawing credits' and forcing them to sack up to one in 20 of their workers.

If you think you've seen alleged socialists behave like that before, the behaviour of the bureaucrats who run the unions was also true to form.

At the beginning of the week, Camacho, leader of the union of workers' commissions, and Prieto, of the General Union of Workers (UGT) denounced the agreements.

Camacho complained that 'there could be no valid solution to Spain's problems until the unions had been consulted.' It seems they were more worried about their own prestige than the effects on workers.

Anyway, by the Thursday they were supporting the agreement!

Camacho said that the two-year plan was a 'valid solution' because there was the need for 'austerity at the top and moderation at the bottom.'

Camacho seems to have learnt a trick from Jack Jones. He justified his acceptance of the wage controls by saying the alternative was a 'military coup'—even though the Spanish extreme right are at present demoralised.

## AND HALF A MILLION PROTEST

from DOUG ANDREW in Madrid

IN A momentous show of strength, more than half a million workers demonstrated in Madrid only two days before the government-opposition agreement. The demonstration was organised by the major trade unions in opposition to unemployment, the rising cost of living and against the introduction of a social contract.

The centre of Madrid was packed solid with a sea of red flags and banners, and the chanting of 'For trade union unity', 'Freedom and total amnesty', 'Long live the struggle of the working class'.

## Massacre no 2

THE Ethiopian military government, the Derg, murdered at least 300 left-wing opponents last week.

The government is in deep crisis because it is losing its wars against the Eritrean liberation movement in the north and against Somalia in the south-east.

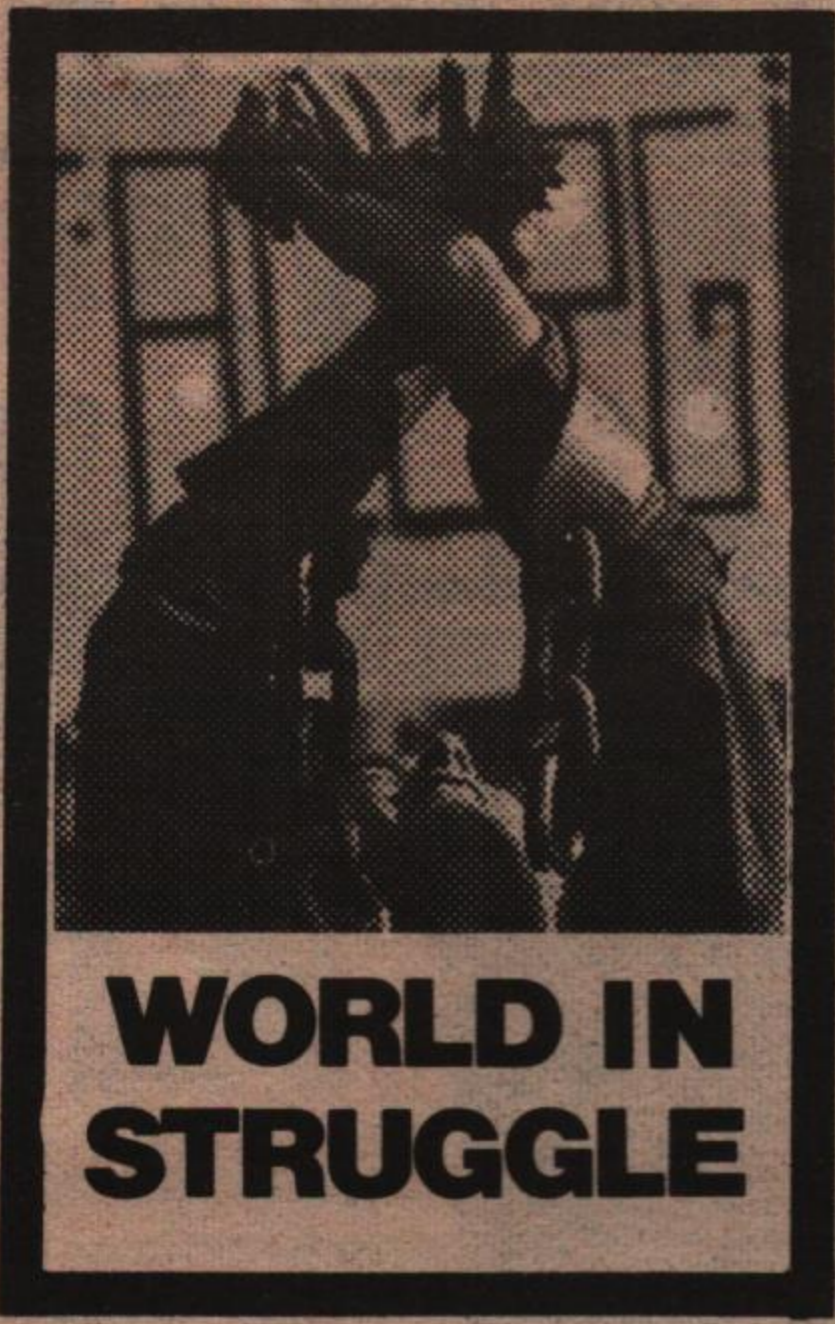
This is the second massacre of the left by the Derg. In May it murdered hundreds of members of the revolutionary party, the EPRP. At that time a pro-Russian section of the left, the Meison party, supported the government. But last week those murdered included many Meison members.

But that has not stopped Russia and Cuba from continuing to arm the Derg.

## After 25 years

PRESIDENT Carter of the US is always boasting about his regard for human rights. But four supporters of independence for the American colony of Puerto Rico, in the West Indies, remain in US jails.

A fifth, Andres Diguero Cordero, was released last week after serving 25 years out of a 75-year sentence for 'disrupting the US Congress' back in 1954.



ABOVE: Medical students chain themselves to the presidential palace railings in protest at the sacking of their professors and lecturers for joining a doctors' strike.

LEFT: Stefan Frenco being beaten up by police. He was later taken to hospital unconscious.

BELOW: Police break up the student demonstration.

## Police baton-charge medical students

HUNDREDS of Maltese university students taking part in a peaceful protest against Premier Dom Mintoff's breaking of a doctors' strike clashed with baton-armed police as they

tried to enter Valletta, the island's capital city.

Truncheon-wielding police, led by Commissioner John Cachia, openly provoked marchers by charging into their ranks, tearing up their placards and indiscriminately attacking male and female students.

Three marchers were rushed to hospital while another 20 were carted away into custody.

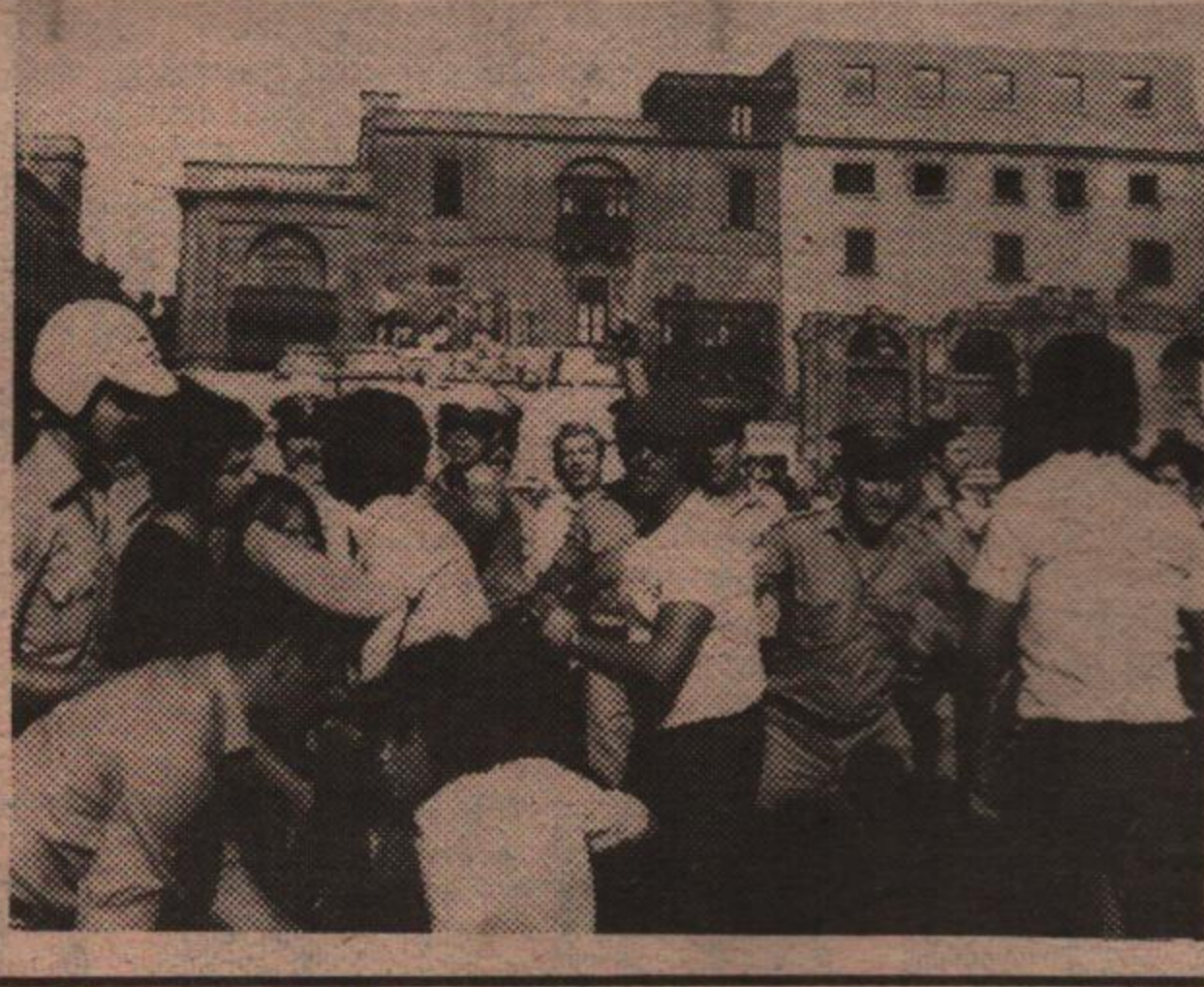
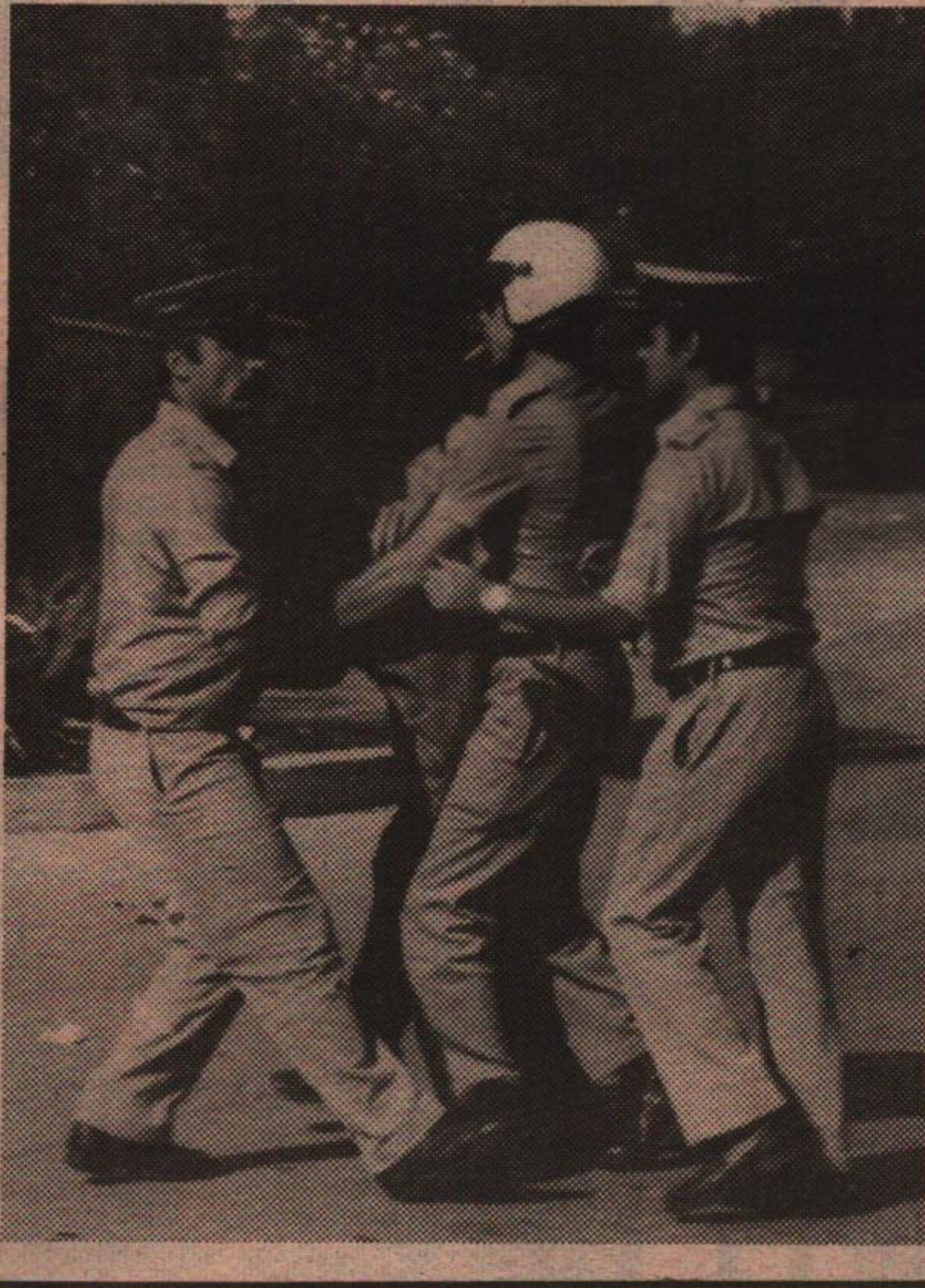
The students' spontaneous demonstration was sparked by an incident involving 19 medical students who chained themselves to the railings outside the prime minister's Valletta Palace. The students were protesting against the closure of the island's medical school.

### Suspend

After the dismissal of some 70 top doctors, including professors and lecturers at the medical school, for taking strike action, students are unable to continue with their studies.

Those with wealthy parents have gone to Britain but the majority of the students now in their fourth and fifth years have had their courses suspended.

Due to indiscriminate cuts in workers' benefits and the introduction of restrictive measures without consultations with the unions, Mintoff's government is at loggerheads with some 21 trade unions representing 10,000 public sector employees.



WHAT'S AT STAKE

SOUTHERN AFRICA

New pamphlet produced by the Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign. 20p a copy (plus 10p postage). Ten copies or more post free. Available from SASC, 21 Mayall Road, London SE24.



# NUCLEAR P

By Herbert Frank

**WHEN BRITAIN started building nuclear power stations in the 1950s, the government claimed they were needed to bridge the 'energy gap'.**

In Germany, the government has this year been conjuring up horror-stories about what will happen if we don't have nuclear power:

Economic growth will stop, there'll be massive unemployment, the trains will stop running and we'll all freeze to death in the winter.

This is all nonsense. In the first place, the economy is no longer growing at the same rate as in the 20 boom years after the war.

And energy consumption in Germany has more or less stood still over the last few years.

Of course, in a society run by the working-class, we would require a lot more energy, both to industrialise the backward countries and to automate the many dreary chores that make work a drudgery.

And waste could be cut enormously. By doing away with the chaos of companies competing with each other to produce the same motor car or tin of peas, by scrapping armies and armaments

## Pumped

But, at the moment, more than half of our energy is given off as heat to the atmosphere or pumped as warm water into the rivers.

In power stations even more of the fuel, about two-thirds, is wasted. The Association of Industrial Energy Producers in Germany has calculated that 22,000 megawatts could be saved if the waste heat were used for heating purposes.

*This is as much energy as the government hopes to obtain from nuclear power in the near future and three times as much as is now being generated.*

While new atomic plants are being built, electricity boards are having to restrict production because their existing capacities are too large for the electricity demand. In Britain, they are too big by as much as 40 per cent!

All the same, we are told we can't do without nuclear power because, in 30 years' time, all the world's oil reserves will have been exhausted.

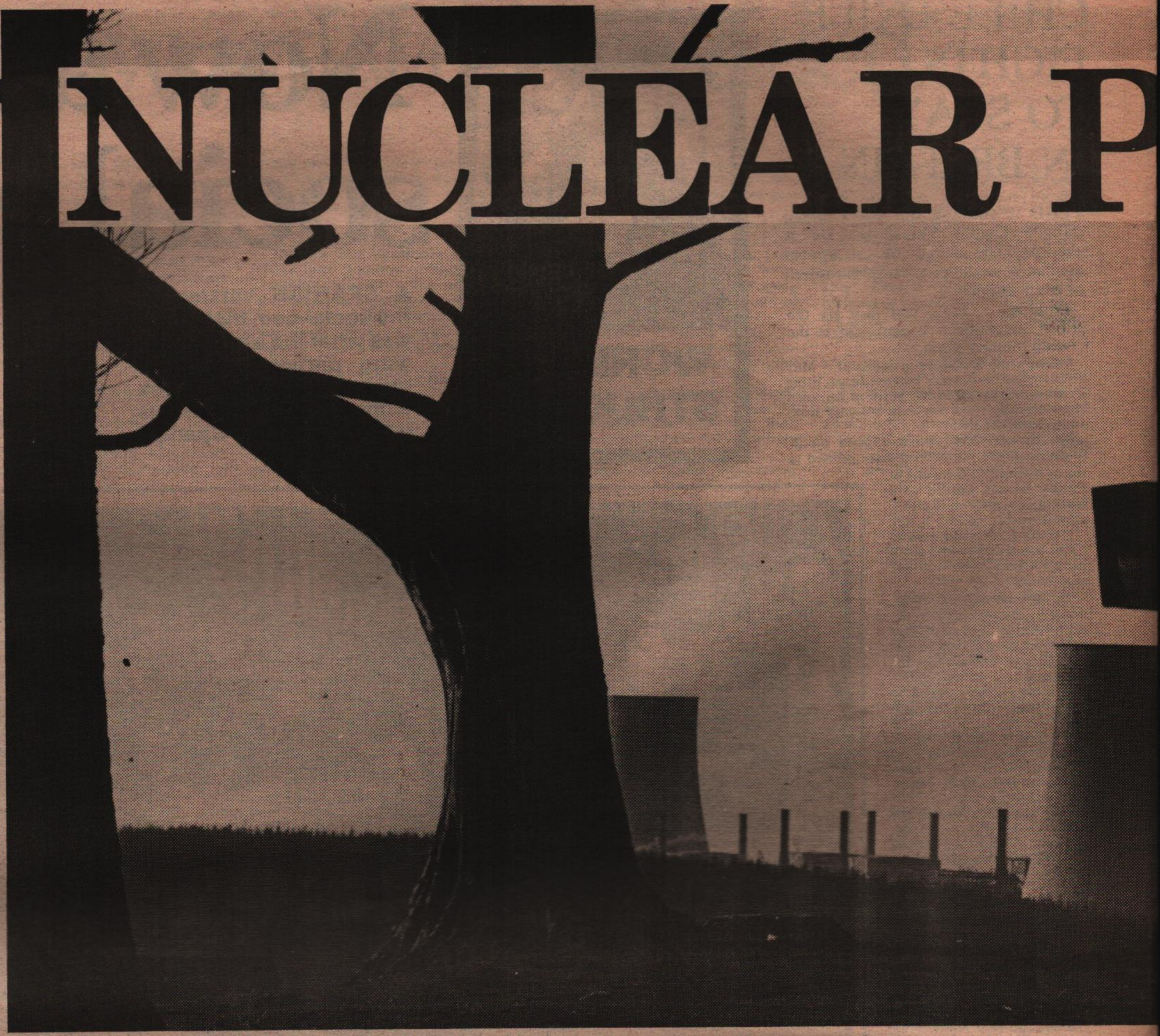
## Reserves

At our present rate, oil reserves will last for 100 years. There is enough natural gas for 50 years and coal for about three centuries.

But even if the oil-wells do dry up in 30 years, that is long enough to develop techniques for extracting the large additional reserves of fuel that are not available with present methods.

The oil that could be extracted from shale and other sources would double

**Behind the smokescreen of peaceful nuclear power, uranium is being refined for the weapons of mass destruction**



# It'll cost us t

the world's oil reserves.

And if we could use all the probable reserves of natural gas they would last us for over 150 years at the present rate of use.

And there would be enough coal for about 45 centuries!

So, even if fuel consumption expands dramatically, we have plenty of time to develop those energy sources that are unlimited—the wind, the tides, the heat of the earth and solar energy.

Of these, solar energy is at present the most promising. Even in northern Europe, we get enough sunshine to provide each house with the energy required for heating and for hot water.

In a report published two years ago, American scientists calculated that by the year 2020, solar energy could provide three times as much electricity as is now being used in the USA.

## Against

But the cards are stacked against other sources of energy, because so much has already been and is still being invested in nuclear power.

Last year, for instance, the West German government spent nearly £400 million on nuclear energy and only £5 million on solar energy.

*Even if the claims about an energy gap were true, nuclear energy couldn't plug the gap.*

For a good part of its lifetime, an atomic power station uses up more electricity than it produces. And what it does produce is more expensive than electricity from other fuels.

The arguments about atomic power plugging the energy gap appear even more twisted when the experts tell us the world's uranium reserves of two million tons will be exhausted by 1988—that is, even before the oil reserves dry up.

But they now have an answer: the fast breeder reactor. It works with the uranium and plutonium waste produced by light water reactors, and is able to use uranium 50 to 60 times more

efficiently than existing reactors.

And, we are told, it can produce more plutonium than it burns itself, so that eventually it will be used to fuel new fast breeders. No fast breeder has, however, so far succeeded in doing this.

## Expense

Fast breeder reactors are far more expensive even than light water reactors. The investments needed come to at least £50 a kilowatt more, a gap that is likely to increase.

In 1969 it was estimated that the prototype reactor in Kalkar would cost 500 million marks. The latest estimate is 3200 million

(about £800 million)

Atomic power stations, of whatever kind, have been and are being built in various countries to supply electricity that is more expensive than we could obtain from other sources, because of an energy shortage that doesn't exist.

This is being encouraged by governments who claim they are interested in supplying electricity as cheaply as possible.

*There is only one thing that can explain this. Atomic power stations provide a basis for manufacturing atomic bombs.*

## Delayed

The first atomic bombs were dropped on Japan at the end of the war. 120,000 people were killed immediately and many have since died from the delayed effects of the radioactivity.

After the war, America and Russia started competing to produce ever more deadly atomic weapons. The worldwide protests against these weapons of mass destruction forced the politicians to campaign for the 'peaceful' use of atomic energy.

In fact, 'peaceful' development was a smokescreen. Generating electricity with nuclear energy was simply a useful by-product to fool the public.

What was really going on was the refining of uranium to make the bomb.



One of the thousands of West Ge

# THE GRAPES OF WRATH

**FOR 15 years, one nuclear power station after another has been built in West Germany. Until two years ago, there was only a little local opposition.**

Then, when a new plant was planned among the vineyards of Wyl, on the upper part of the Rhine near the Black Forest, wine-growers feared radioactive leaks would ruin their grapes.

*And so, in February 1975, they occupied the building*

site.

The government sent in the police, who beat up the occupiers and drove them off with water-cannon.

## BARRICADED

A barbed-wire fence was put round the site, but the protestors, by now numbering 10,000, returned three days later and reoccupied it. They barricaded themselves in and stayed there for nine months.

The occupation ended when the government offered

to negotiate. But it was the spark that set off a flame of protest.

In October 1976, the next big action took place in Brokdorf, near Hamburg.

While the hearing on the projected plant, against which 20,000 objections had been filed, was still in progress, the contractors moved in and started building.

This was the signal for 8000 protestors to occupy the site, demanding a stop to the building. As in Wyl, they were thrown out by the

police.

*Two weeks later, 30,000 returned. They were faced by a massive array of police, who attacked them ruthlessly with water-cannons, chemical mace and tear-gas.*

## HARASS

In February another attempt was made to march to Brokdorf. It was preceded by police harassment of the local population and a press campaign against 'violent communists'.

This achieved its effect of

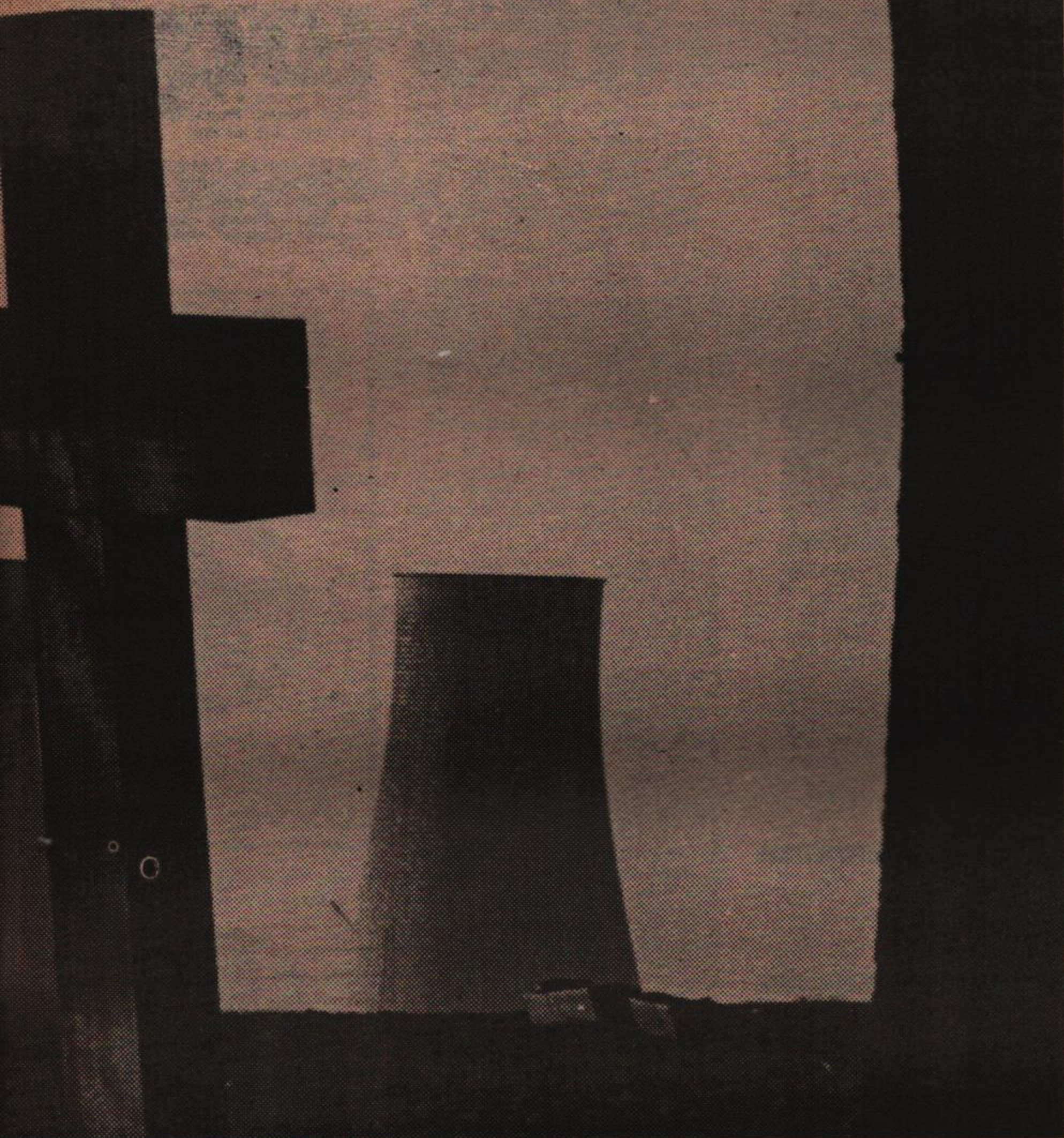
causing a split amongst the protestors. The more militant majority decided they were not strong enough to risk a confrontation with the 6000 police and turned back at the first police barricade.

A month later, though, there was another battle with the police, this time at Grohnde. Demonstrators breached the heavy steel fence (cost £450,000) round the site.

They were eventually driven away by a brutal charge of mounted police, who caused most of the 800 injuries.



# POWER:



# the earth

## The deadliest chemical on earth—and a small leak could turn Windscale into WindsKILL

THE NUCLEAR lobby say mankind has always been exposed to natural radiation, from cosmic rays for example.

But there is a difference between rays and particles. And the point about radioactive waste is that it consists of particles.

### Lodged

One radioactive atom lodged in the body tissue can cause cancer.

Lung cancer in areas near nuclear plants is many times higher than the national average.

Radioactive waste is usually cumulative. Radioactive

iodine, for instance, is a waste-product of nuclear plants and it is difficult to prevent it from escaping.

It can build up over time in the thyroid gland and lead to gross deformations, specially in children.

For workers in nuclear plants, the risks are much greater. Emergencies because of radioactive dust in the air are almost a routine.

Between 1971 and 1976 there were 35 'serious' accidents in West German nuclear plants, including one in which two fitters were killed by radioactive steam.

If these dangers, which can arise from the conventional light water reactor, are bad, then those coming from fast breeder reactors and reprocessing plants are far worse.

A reprocessing plant refines out the uranium and plutonium from the waste produced in a nuclear reactor. This is a long and dangerous operation.

Fast-breeder reactors can also explode like an atomic bomb. This nearly happened in Windscale in 1957.

### Accident

An accident in the reactor led to the formation of a cloud of radioactive iodine that stretched down the coast to Barrow, 35 miles away.

For two months, all the milk produced in the area had to be destroyed.

The fast breeder in Kalkar will have about a ton of plutonium in the core of the reactor, of which only 20 pounds would be needed to set off the chain reaction that produces nuclear explosions.

An accident in the cooling system is just one way such an explosion could happen.

In the reactor, liquid sodium is used to absorb the heat produced by the nuclear fission of the plutonium.

The sodium then flows in a pipe through water and transfers its heat to the water. Sodium, however, explodes violently on coming into contact with water.

A small leak in the pipe would therefore cause an explosion that in turn could trigger off a chain reaction in the plutonium.

And plutonium is the most poisonous substance known. One-millionth of a gram of it can cause lung cancer.

□ For speakers on the struggle against nuclear power, contact the SWP International Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN. IS Journal will be carrying a major article on nuclear power early in the new year.



Black pupil, black teacher: but in Leicester, special grants are being used to hide the cuts

By PAUL FOOT

TEACHERS and Indian workers in Leicester are hunting down a missing million pounds.

They believe the county education authorities are mishandling special grants for black children in its schools.

The money, they suspect, is being used not for the special needs for which it is intended—but to paper over the cracks of the education cuts.

Section 11 of the Local Authorities Act 1966 empowers the Home Office to pay 75 per cent of the salaries of an extra number of teachers and other school staff in areas where there are lots of black children.

The Act makes it clear that the money is to be used teaching black children.

But the director of education for Leicestershire refuses to tell either the local National Union of Teachers, or the Indian Workers Association, which teachers are employed under 'section 11 grants' at which schools.

This means no-one can know how the money is spent. Nor can anyone tell whether it is spent correctly.

In a letter to Betty Coates of the NUT on 2 August, the director of education, Andrew Fairbairn, stated that the section 11 grant received by Leicester in 1975-76 was £890,000.

He went on: 'We are not required to identify staff individually to claim this grant'.

### Refused

Fairbairn has consistently refused to give any detailed information on the schools at which special 'section 11' teachers are employed.

'Section 11' teachers' jobs are not even specially advertised as such, as they are, for instance, in other areas where there are a lot of black children, such as Coventry and Bradford.

As a result, argue many Indian workers and teachers, the Leicester authority are able to employ teachers in schools where there are only few black children, in some cases to teach white children only.

'It's all left to the head' said one Indian teacher. 'He can use his section 11 teacher as he likes, even to teach Spanish to white children. And no one can check on him.'

All the evidence backs the argument that Leicester

## 'Robbing Peter to pay Paul' cuts scandal of the missing million pounds

schools are especially badly serviced with black teachers, or teachers for black children.

More than 12 per cent of the school population is black. Less than one per cent of the teachers are black.

In Wolverhampton—hardly a shining example of local authority care for black people—there are 170 black teachers out of 3000. In Leicester, there are 46 out of 5000. At Hugh Latimer primary school, all black children, there are no black teachers.

### Charnwood

In Charnwood school, 95 per cent of the children are black. There are no black teachers.

At Crown Hills, 40 per cent of the children are black. There are no black teachers.

At Mundella girls school, 60 per cent of the children are black. There is one black teacher.

At Beamont Lees and Judgemeadow schools, there are hundreds of black children, but no black teachers.

There is mounting evidence that the section 11 teachers are used both by the authority and by the head teachers simply to fill up the holes left by the cuts.

And the black children benefit hardly at all from the grant which was specially awarded to help them.

Last month, Leicester city National Union of Teachers unanimously passed a motion moved by two teachers, Jackie Hodson and Dave Houlton, calling for all the information about the section 11 teachers to be given them.

If it is not, the NUT may take the authority to court under the Employment Protection Act.



man police used against those who protest at a future like this



# BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

## Scotland

**CLYDEBANK** Socialist Workers Party disco: Friday 21 October, 8pm to 1.30am, Pinetrees, Clydebank. Employed 75p, unemployed 50p.

**PAISLEY** Socialist Workers Party public meetings: Fortnightly on Tuesdays, 7.30pm to 9.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

25 October: The Irish Question. Speaker: Alan Wilson (EETPU shop steward, Glasgow District Council Building Dept).

**ABERDEEN** Socialist Workers Party meeting: Spain Today. Speaker: Des Murphy (recently back from Spain). Monday 31 October, 7.30pm, Trades Council 21, Adelphi (off Union Street, near ABC Cinema).

**DUMFRIES** Socialist Workers Party public meeting: South Africa since Soweto. Thursday 27 October, 7.30pm-9pm, Dumfries Trade Union Centre, Nith Place. Further details, phone Dumfries 62406.

**EDINBURGH** district Socialist Workers Party half-day school on the Communist Party. Sessions on: From revolutionary party to Stalinism, and The CP today—Eurocommunism, Stalinism or disintegration? Speakers: Dave Strutt and Willy Black. Sunday 23 October, 2pm to 5pm, for meeting place see your SW seller. All SWP supporters welcome.

## North East

**WHAT'S HAPPENING IN EASTERN EUROPE?** Speaker: Anna Paczuska. **NEWCASTLE, GATESHEAD, NORTH SHIELDS:** Tuesday 24 October, 8pm. **JARROW and HEBURN:** Wednesday 25 October, 8pm. **SUNDERLAND:** Thursday 26 October, 8pm. For meeting places see your Socialist Worker seller.

**TOUR of the North East by CAST** socialist theatre group with their latest play:



**NEWCASTLE:** Tuesday 1 November, 7.30pm, watch locally for details.  
**DARLINGTON:** Wednesday 2 November, 7.30pm, watch locally for details.

**MIDDLESBROUGH:** Thursday 3 November, 7.30pm, Clarence Club, Southfield Road.

**JARROW:** Friday 4 November, 7.30pm, The Viking, Grange Street.

**SUNDERLAND:** Saturday 5 November, 7.30pm, East Community Centre.

All with CAST theatre group followed by disco. All 50p admission.

**TEESIDE** Socialist Workers Party meets every Thursday, 8pm. Details of meeting place from SW sellers. All SW readers welcome.

**DARLINGTON** Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Thursdays 8pm, for meeting place see your Socialist Worker seller.

27 October: Destruction of the environment under capitalism.

## Yorkshire

**BARNLEY** Socialist Workers Party public meeting: No to the National Front—fight racism! Monday 24 October, 7.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

**BRADFORD** Socialist Workers Party jumble sale: Saturday 22 October, 11am, for place see your Socialist Worker seller.

**HULL** Socialist Workers Party presents CAST in their new play, Goodbye Union Jack, followed by a disco. Monday 31 October, 8pm, Hull University Students Union. Admission 75p.

**HULL** Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Build the Rank and File fight back. Speaker: Tim South (NPU hospital workers shop steward). Wednesday 26 October, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

## North West

**MANCHESTER** Socialist Workers Party Day School: Saturday 22 October, 10.30am to 4.30pm, details from branch and area secretaries. All new members around Manchester invited. Sessions on: Why the working class? Why the revolution? Why the

## 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.

### SUB/EDITOR with experience of design needed for Socialist Worker.

Experience in socialist politics needed. Apply in writing with full details of experience to the editor, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS (phone 01-739 0185).

party? How to write—and print—a leaflet/bulletin. Creche and butties provided. Register with your area secretary by 15 October.

**WITHINGTON** Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Sundays, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

23 October: Is Russia socialist? Speaker: John Boyd.

**KIRKBY** Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Every other Thursday, 8pm prompt, finish by 9.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

27 October: Rock against Racism.

**SALFORD** Socialist Workers Party public meetings: Thursday evenings, details from SW sellers.

20 October: How to work in a trade union branch. Speaker: Len Blood.  
3 November: The meaning of marxism. Speaker: Colin Barker.

**WOLVERHAMPTON** Socialist Workers Party Thursday night meetings: The meeting place has been changed, consult your SW seller. Discussions start at 8.30pm.

27 October: Women in Russia—the position of women has got worse over the years, what went wrong?

## Wales

**SHREWSBURY** Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a socialist. Speaker: Paul Foot. Thursday 3 November, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

**CARDIFF** Socialist Workers Party discussions for members and supporters: Every other Monday, for meeting place see your SW seller.

24 October: Ireland. Speaker: Julian Goss.

## South East

**HIGH WYCOMBE** Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a socialist. Speaker: Paul Foot. Wednesday 26 October, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

## London

**HOW TO FIGHT THE NAZIS?** Steve Jefferys (SWP) debates with Mike Power (Lewisham CP) at YCL Red Festival, Saturday 22 October, Ladbrooke House, Highbury Grove, London, N5. Admission £1.50 (£2.50 including gig at night) or 70p unemployed/school student (£1.30). Festival opens 11am. Debate is at 2.30pm.

**OUTER EAST LONDON** Socialist Workers Party fortnightly meetings: The revolutionaries, an Alternate Fridays, 7.45pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

28 October: Lenin (2). Speaker: Tony Cliff.

11 November: Trotsky. Speaker: Chris Harman.

25 November: Mao. Speaker: Nora Carlin.

**WALTHAMSTOW** Womens Voice public meeting: Women and their health service. Speaker: Mel Bartley. Thursday 20 October, 8.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

**BRENT** Socialist Workers Party meetings: Black Nationalism. Speaker: George Black (Birmingham Flame/SWP). Wednesday 2 November, 8pm, details of meeting place from SW sellers.

**CROYDON** Socialist Workers Party public meeting on Rape. Speaker: Alison Kirton. Thursday 20 October, 8pm, details of meeting place from SW sellers.

Socialist Workers Party GAY GROUP holds meetings on alternate Mondays in London. Please phone Richard on 01-790 2454 for details.

**EAST LONDON** Womens Voice meetings: Thursdays, 8.30pm, details of meeting place from SW sellers.

3 November: Women and the law. Speaker: Lindsay German.

**SOUTHWARK TEACHERS** Socialist Workers Party public meetings: Every Thursday 5.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

27 October: The family. Speaker: Joan Smith.

3 November: Muggings and their causes. Speaker: Sandra Peers.

**DEPTFORD** Socialist Workers Party discussion meeting on Ireland. Wednesday 26 October, for place of meeting phone Bob 01-691 4274 or 01-739 1413.

**HAMMERSMITH** Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Gays and the struggle for socialism. Speaker: John Lindsay. Monday 24 October, 7.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

**SOUTH WEST LONDON** Socialist Workers Party series of international meetings: Sixty Years After The Russian Revolution. Alternate Monday evenings, 7.45pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

7 November: Workers struggles in Eastern Europe. Speaker: Andy Strouthous.

To follow: The women's movement across the world, the struggle for socialism in Spain, Is China socialist? Watch this space for further details.

**SEVEN SISTERS** Socialist Workers Party discussion: Roland Muldoon will lead off discussion: In defence of my TV column. Wednesday 26 October, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

**CENTRAL LONDON** Womens Voice women's party: Friday 21 October, 8pm. Eat, drink and talk with other Womens Voice supporters in the area. 50p. Bring a bottle. All women welcome. For details ring 01-739 9772.

**CENTRAL LONDON** Womens Voice public discussion meeting: The Women's Movement in Italy, Renata, an Italian comrade, will lead off the discussion. Thursday 27 October, 6.30pm. For details ring 01-739 9772.

## NOISS

National Organisation of Student International Socialist Societies.

**CYPRUS:** Development over the past three years: Day school organised by NOISS. Saturday 5 November, North London Poly, Holloway Road, London N7. All NOISS members make sure you bring any Cypriot, Greek and Turkish supporters.

**IRELAND: THE FIGHT AGAINST BRITISH IMPERIALISM:** Public meetings organised by NOISS. Speakers: Finbar Dougherty and Seamus O'Kane, both of the Irish Front, plus a NOISS speaker.

**NORTH LONDON POLY:** Kentish Town. Thursday 20 October, lunchtime.

**MIDDLESEX POLY, Enfield:** Thursday 20 October, evening.  
**NORTH EAST LONDON POLY:** Friday 21 October, lunchtime.



**AGITATOR**, journal of NOISS, student supporters of the Socialist Workers Party, 10p a copy, plus 7p postage (more than five copies, post free) from NOISS, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2.

**NOISS Conference:** Saturday/Sunday 22/23 October. National perspectives, Election of Scottish Committee, Education on Socialist Workers Party, Eastern Europe, Southern Africa. For details contact Stewart Hepburn, c/o CSA Office, Stirling.

## 60 years this November Revolution in Russia!

### SOCIALIST WORKER

will be publishing an Anniversary supplement for which we need your help.

Do you know anyone who remembers how it felt when it first happened?

Can you interview them for us?

Do you have a favourite piece of writing on how the Revolution was won and how it was lost?

Do you have or know of any photos or posters from those stirring times?

If so please contact Laurie Flynn as soon as possible at Corbridge Crescent, London E2

Telephone 01-739 6361

This is a unique chance to get the socialist message across so every branch should think of ways to sell extra copies.

Phone your extra orders to John Larkham 01-739 2639

Speakers are available for anniversary meetings from Liz Balfour on 739 6273.

## INNER EAST LONDON

Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Why you should be a socialist. Alternate Friday evenings, 7.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

21 October: Because it works better. Speaker: Alan Watts.

**NORTH LONDON** Womens Voice Party: Saturday 22 October, 8pm, for place see your Womens Voice seller come early. Lots of lovely food and drink, good music, so don't waste your money in the pub. Support your local Womens Voice group.

**KINGSTON** Socialist Workers Party film show and social to commemorate 60th anniversary of the Russian Revolution. Film: The Fall of St Petersburg. Wednesday 26 October. Details and tickets from your SW seller.

**LAMBETH** Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Meetings on Sundays, details from your SW seller.

23 October: Trotsky and Trotskyism. Speaker: Andrew Keogh.  
30 October: The Thirties, fascism and unemployment. Speaker: Joanna Rollo.

**SOUTH WEST LONDON** Womens Voice group meets alternate Tuesdays, 8pm, details of meeting place from SW sellers. Further information, phone 01-673 1329.

1 November: Why Prices rise. Speaker: Judith Hamilton.

## South West

**BATH** Socialist Worker discussion group meets weekly on Thursdays. For time and meeting place see SW sellers, 11am-12.30pm every Saturday outside Littlewoods. All SW readers welcome.

## Action in the unions

**ASTMS:** Meeting for all Scottish members of the Socialist Workers Party in ASTMS. Saturday 29 October, 2.30-5pm, 64 Queen Street, Glasgow. Agenda: Report back from 17 September conference, Richard Maull, Wage claims. All members who cannot attend should phone John Leopold, 041-889 2327.

## UNION OF POST OFFICE WORKERS:

National meeting for all SWP members in the UPW, Sunday 13 November. Place to be announced.

**PRINTWORKERS:** Day school for all Socialist Worker Party members and supporters in the print. Saturday 29 October, 10am to 5.30pm, Central London Poly, New Cavendish Street. Speakers: Ross Pritchard, Mike Heym, Jack Robertson. History of print unions, differentials, and new technology, how to organise your chapel. A pooled fare system will operate. Social in the evening.

## SW Notices

**PRICES DON'T WAIT — WHY SHOULD WAGES?** Posters 2p each. Cash with order only. SW Circulation, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING** to your local Labour Party? Two comrades doing an article for the IS Journal on the decay of Labour as a mass party want to pick your brains. Send us information about the state of your local Labour Party—the number of members and activists, public meetings, sales of Labour Weekly and Tribune etc. Let's hear from you: Steve Wright, c/o Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

## 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.

**CONFERENCE ON SUPER-POWER IMPERIALISM:** Thames Polytechnic, Saturday 29 October, 11am onwards. Speakers on Angola, Zimbabwe, India and on whether capitalism has been restored in the USSR. Evening Meal and theatre group. Day 50p. Day plus evening £1.50. Tickets from Anti-Imperialist Society, Thames Polytechnic, London SE18, for evening.

**RED WEEKEND:** Second Communist University of Manchester, 4, 5, 6 November. Nine Courses. Details: 63 Clyde Road, Manchester 20, phone 061-445 3755.

**THE CUTS SHOW,** by Counteract, now in its third year and still fighting the cuts. Positively your last chance to book the show for your public meeting/union branch/etc. between 23 October and 2 December. Contact: 27 Clerkenwell Close, London EC1R 0AT, 01-251 4977.

**ABERDEEN** Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign day of solidarity with the freedom fighters: Monday 24 October. Film, photographic exhibition, rally in the evening. Details, phone Peter Smith on Aberdeen 5428, or look out for posters.

**Socialist Worker**

**TROOPS OUT NOW!**

TROOPS OUT and SMASH THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM ACT stickers, printed in red and black, four designs, 500 for £1 plus 20p postage, post free to SWP members (state which branch). CASH WITH ORDER to Socialist Worker, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

DO WAGES CAUSE INFLATION? The first of Socialist Worker's pocket pamphlets, is being reprinted after the first 4000 sold out within a fortnight. So keep sending your orders: 5p a copy, 3p if you order more than 10 and pay in advance.  
Pocket pamphlet No 2: THE REVOLUTIONARY ROAD TO SOCIALISM will be ready early in November.  
SW Distributors, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2.

DO YOU SPEAK SPANISH? If so contact the Socialist Workers Party International Department at 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2, immediately.

Shopping bag with valuable contents sent to Merseyside(?) SWP member at Stockport on 8 October. Will present holder please phone 061-832 8102 as soon as possible.

**ANTI-NUCLEAR POWER:** Is anyone interested in setting up a SWP anti-nuclear group? Contact Rosemary Brian, 5 Woodford Road, Watford (phone Watford 42604).

**SW LITHO** needs metal trunk or similar. Will collect. Please phone 01-739 1870 as soon as possible.

**LEAFLETS AND POSTERS** now available for the abortion demonstration in Birmingham on Saturday 29 October.  
Leaflets £2.50 per thousand  
Posters £1.50 per hundred  
From SWP Womens Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 (phone 01-739 1878).

**RENTAMOB**

**RENTAMOB**, agitprop bulletin of the SWP and supporters: First issue includes articles on starting a socialist film club, making banners, badges for fund-raising, street theatre, video, Rock Against Racism and others. PLUS a full-size poster, 10p a copy, plus 7p postage, from Dave Simmonds, Counter-Act, 27 Clerkenwell Close, London EC1. (Cheques/POs made to SW Recordings please).

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.

**ANTI-NAZI DEFENCE FUND** for those arrested on the 8 October demonstration in Manchester: 28 were arrested, £1000 target for defence fund. Raise money through resolutions and collection in your workplace, union branch, student union etc. Collection sheets from and donations to fund secretary Liz Barber, 8 October Defence Fund, c/o Cavendish House, Cavendish Street, Manchester. **WITNESSES NEEDED:** Anyone who witnessed any of the arrests please contact Cherry, Manchester Law Centre, 595 Stockport Road, Manchester 13.

**SEAMUS COSTELLO MEMORIAL MEETING:** for murdered leaders of the Irish Republican Socialist Party. Friday 21 October, 8pm, Camden Centre (small hall), Bidborough Street, (off Judd Street, opposite St Pancras Station) London N1. Guest speaker from IRSP and tape of Seamus Costello addressing Labour Movement Delegation to Ireland.

**PIRATE JENNY ON TOUR** with Bouncing Back, their play about the abortion campaign: **SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY:** Friday 21 October, 1pm, Graves Cinema, Student Union.  
**SHEFFIELD** National Abortion Campaign: Friday 21 October, 8pm, Mount Pleasant Community Centre.  
**WOLVERHAMPTON:** Tuesday 25 October, 1pm, and 8pm, Polytechnic Student Union.  
**COVENTRY:** Wednesday 26 October, 1pm, Canley College of Education.  
**WARWICK UNIVERSITY:** Thursday 27 October, 1pm.  
**LEAMINGTON SPA:** National Abortion Campaign: Thursday 27 October, 8pm, Bath Place Community Venture (off Bath Street).

Socialist Worker needs a HANDY-PERSON for work at its offices—plastering, painting, carpentry, temporary job only. Apply to M Norris, c/o Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

**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.

**SUPPORT GRUNWICKS STRIKERS** sticky bages, printed in red and black. Sheet of 12 for 20p, including postage, by return of post, from Socialist Worker, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2.

**COMRADE SEEKS ROOM** in shared house within reach of Corbridge Works. Phone 01-739 9043 (daytime). Ask for Phil.

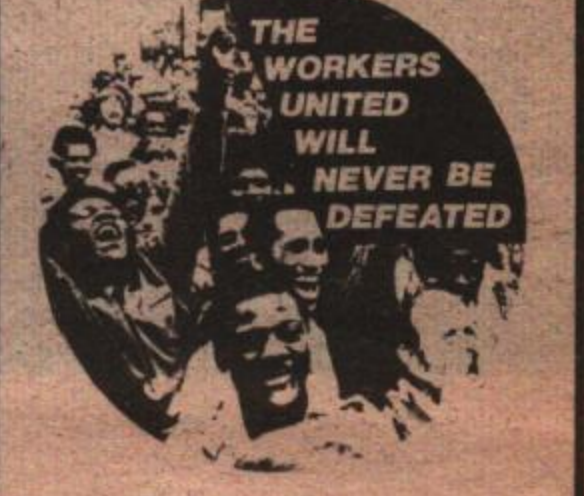
**TRADE UNION DELEGATE CONFERENCE** on Prevention of Terrorism: Saturday 22 October, 2pm-5pm, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London, WC1. Observers welcome.

**Budding Bolsheviks Bower BADGES**



**BADGES AVAILABLE NOW!** RAR badges in new colours—green and red 24p (inc postage), or 10 for £1.50 post free. Orders to 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

**YET ANOTHER RED BADGE!** Watch this space for details.



The Sun called us 'vulgar, nasty Trotskyite termites' when we produced Stuff the Jubilee campaign, so try this one for size...



**STOP RISING FOOD PRICES**—eat the rich! Printed in green and red, 20p each, 10 for £1.50, 50 for £6.50, all prices including postage. FROM SW Recordings, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.



**MANCHESTER** Rock Against Racism presents Soul Distinction and disco. Friday 21 October, 8pm, Partington Community Centre, Central Road, Partington.

**ROCK AGAINST RACISM** in East London at North East London Poly, Longbridge Road, Barking. Saturday 29 October, 7.30pm to 12 midnight, bar. £1 entrance. Bands are Bethnal Merger (Reggae) and Headache.

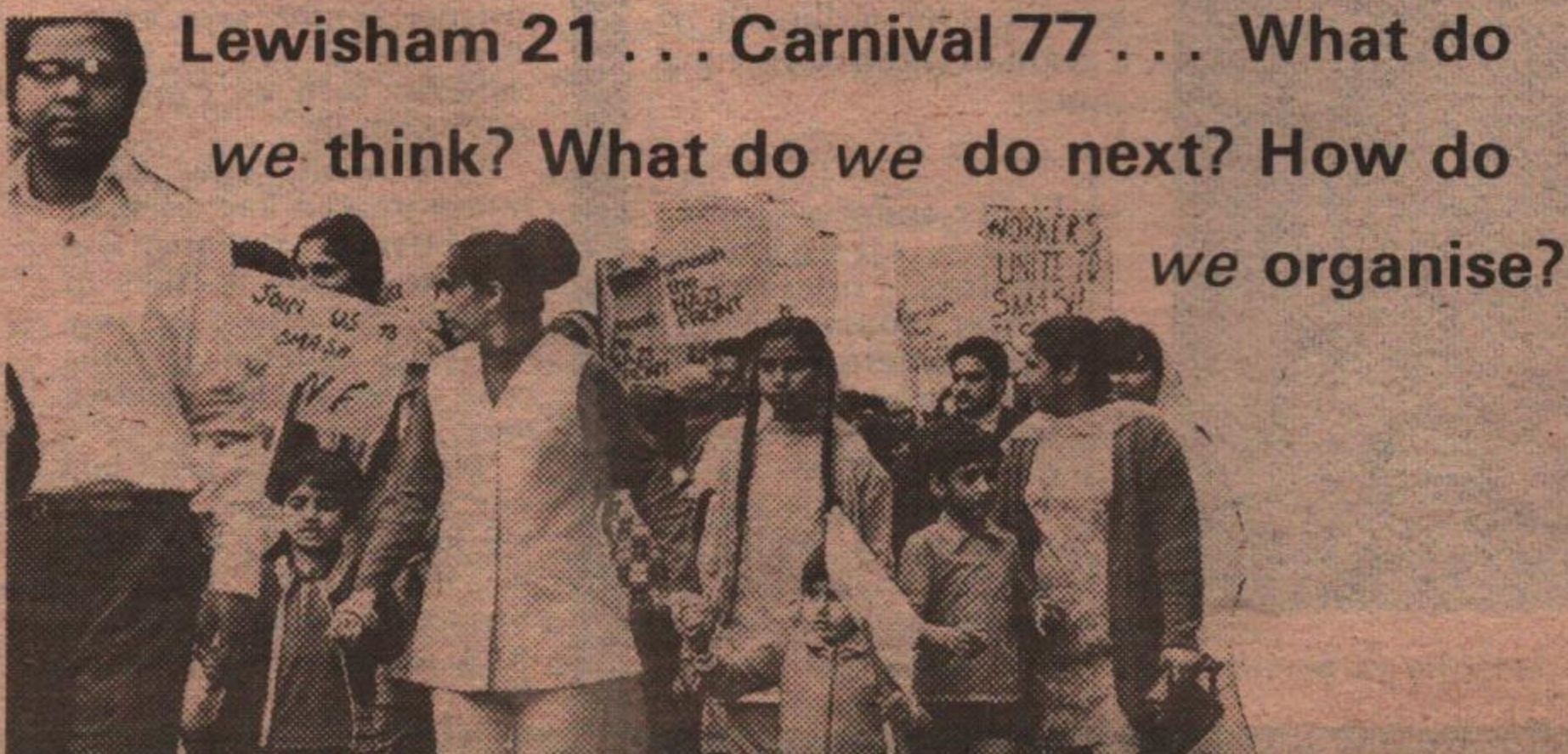
**SOUTH EAST LONDON** ROCK AGAINST RACISM: Saturday 22 October, Goldsmiths College Union Hall, Dixon Road, New Cross, London SE14. With Steel Pulse and The Strutters. Admission £1 (60p with dole card or NUS card).

**BIRMINGHAM** ROCK AGAINST RACISM social: Saturday 22 October, 8pm, The Vine, Lichfield Road, Aston. With Rockward Fizz Disco.

**STOKE NEWINGTON** Rock Against Racism: Friday 21 October, 7.30pm, Stoke Newington Town Hall, Stoke Newington Church Street, London N16. Featuring Black Slate and Wire, plus reggae sounds by The Mighty Uppetta. Co-sponsored by Hackney NALGO. Bar. £1 admission (50p with dole card).

## Lewisham . . . Ladywood . . . Grunwicks . . . Islington 18 . . .

COME TO THE BLACK CAUCUS WEEKEND SCHOOL AND TOGETHER LET US MAP OUT A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE! Speakers, discussion, exhibitions, film, bookstall, social This weekend, 22-23 October, starting 11am Saturday, at North London Polytechnic, Holloway Road, London, N7 (nearest tube Holloway Road or Highbury and Islington).



Lewisham 21 . . . Carnival 77 . . . What do we think? What do we do next? How do we organise?



# U-ni-ted! But in the name of sport, these workers are divided

I WAS one of those who took part in the recent Right to Work March.

So it was with a feeling of apprehension that I discovered that, to see the Rangers-Celtic football match, I had to walk several miles from the centre of Glasgow to Ibrox.

Three days earlier, I had returned from Blackpool with aching, weary feet after covering 50 miles.

So the comparatively short trek across Glasgow did not, admittedly, seem any great hardship.

But the decision to walk to the match was not my own.

The bus and tube workers had decided to withdraw their labour, because of assaults on crews on big match days.

## Atmosphere

As I walked along the rain-soaked Paisley Road towards the stadium, my mind was soon drifting back to the Right to Work March, which was still fresh in my memory.

I could still hear the chants of the marchers: 'The Workers United... Solidarity For Ever...'

I could well recall the tremendous atmosphere of solidarity and unity throughout the March.

My moments of nostalgic bliss were soon shattered by the sound of breaking glass and the roar of angry, spitting voices.

As I came back to earth, my feeling of solidarity was dispelled by the sight of red, white and blue-clad Rangers' fans chanting obscenities, spitting and displaying two-fingered gestures at a coach which was unlucky enough to have stopped in the heavy traffic and more unlucky to be full of green and white bedecked Celtic supporters.

## Display

The men in green were equally vehement in their return of abuse as a huge Irish flag was provocatively displayed along the rear window of the bus.

Fortunately, the coach was quickly on its way under a hail of beer cans and bottles.

Solidarity? The workers united? I had just witnessed the display of a totally divided and sectarian section of the working class.

How can we speak of workers' solidarity in the fight for socialism when they are prepared to fight each other in the name of sport? Or is it in the name of sport?

You must have heard it said before that football in the Scot is a religion. I'm afraid that it is very true in a divisive way.

Football in Scotland is the battlefield for a religious

warfare which starts at the age of five and grows like a cancer as children get older.

But the most annoying fact about religious bigotry in Scotland is that it is clearly encouraged and condoned by the very system which creates the problem in the first place.

All too often these supposedly sporting occasions have been built up by the press and television around an atmosphere of lip-smacking anticipation of the violence which is very commonly associated with Rangers/Celtic rivalry.

I have seen the police deliberately intimidate and provoke people into violence by wading into the terraces, arresting fans indiscriminately for little or no reason.

I have first-hand knowledge of a friend being nicked for no other reason than that the arresting officers wanted out of the action, temporarily or otherwise.

I have seen youngsters buying—at extortionate prices—banners and flags outside the stadium from presumably legal vendors, only to be arrested on entering the ground for waving provocative flags.

But, as I have said before, the problem really begins at the age of five, when innocent, friendly kids are segregated to attend separate Protestant and Catholic schools, resulting in their, for

the most part, being brought up in an atmosphere of sectarianism and bigotry.

Until the Catholic hierarchy in Scotland come into the 20th Century and allow their children to be taught alongside their Protestant and non-Catholic brothers and sisters, this problem will always be with us.

It is also evident that, in refusing to employ staff, players or otherwise, who are either themselves Catholic or have been raised in a Catholic environment, the Rangers football club are to a great extent condoning this type of sectarianism among their followers.

## Downpour

Yet the law has sat back and tolerated this form of discrimination. What is the difference between colour and religious prejudice where the law is concerned?

The match which I began speaking about passed off without any major incident but the Sunday papers, almost apologetically, put this down to the constant downpour which prevailed throughout.

Socialism? We have a long way to go North of the border.

But, as I have said: 'The workers, united, will never be defeated!'

# COME BACK DANDELION AND BURDOCK, ALL IS FORGIVEN...

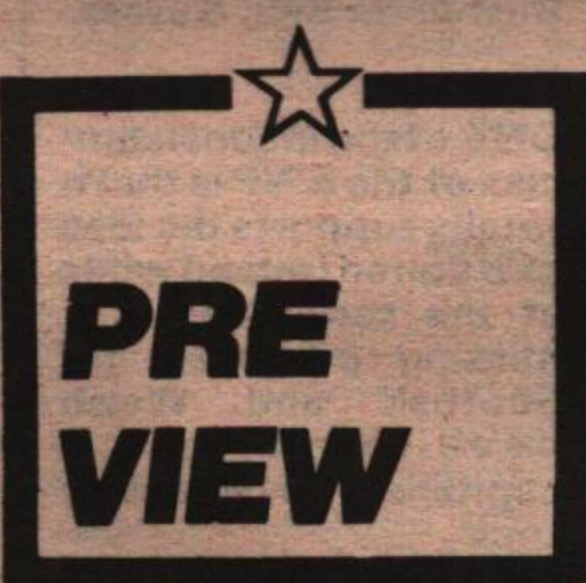
DID YOU know there's a difference between Coke and Pepsi? Of course you did—the bottles have a different shape.

As for the difference in taste, well, apparently there is, and to prove it Coca-Cola spent 24 million dollars against Pepsi-Cola's 21 million dollars last year, in the US alone. The 1977 figures have yet to be published.

Over there, as here, the advertising industry called it The Great Coke War, and they loved it.

Ad men and company executives held conferences denouncing rival Cokes. Members of the public were blindfolded and hitherto Coke drinkers chose Pepsi as tasting more like Coke than Coke did.

Coke had them blindfolded all over again, attacking the original test as being scientifically dubious. There followed salvo after salvo of



BY  
ROLAND  
MULDOON

TV commercials.

Meanwhile, Coke workers were striking for higher wages (they weren't in the national interest). The great sages of the advertising industry warned Coke (who hold the biggest share in the market) that it was dangerous for them to be drawn into comparison with its rival.

Coke answered its critics, saying that if they didn't go to war they might end up like coffee, which is slipping in popularity (I wonder why).

The companies increased

production, saturated the market and forced the price of each bottle down.

At that point, guess what? A truce was called and everybody agreed 'never again'.

Things got back to normal. There was the Jeans War, the Soap Powder War, Kojak, Starsky and Hutch and Charlies Angels carried on the War Against Crime.

Over there, as over here, we drank a lot of Coke.

But the truce wasn't the last. You see, the company

accountants, on both sides, noticed that their profits had soared during this war. Coca-Cola had gained a 19.1 per cent increase in earnings, while Pepsi had increased profits by 27 per cent. War was declared once again.

Twentieth Century Fox bought the Midwet Bottling concession for about 25 million dollars and doubtless justified themselves by singing There's No Business Like Show Business.

The advertising industry, TV and Press began to feel that life was worth living after all.

## Effort

The only spoil-sports are the workers who for some reason show themselves to be the enemy of increased production.

So every effort is being made to replace them with machines.

If you, like me, are of the opinion that most things that

come out of the US look the same as each other, be it TV, soft drinks or cars, it is because of that great rallying word of modern life 'COMPETITION'—without which we wouldn't be free. Free to choose between Pepsi and Coke.

Come back dandelion and burdock, all is forgiven...

## SATURDAY

THE TRAVELLING PLAYERS (BBC2). Rave reviews.

## TUESDAY

The Play For Today on BBC1 is COME THE REVOLUTION, a piss-take of socialist theatre. 'Workers don't understand long words, comrades'.

## WEDNESDAY

Watch out for BBC2's SHOOTING THE CHANDELIERS by David Mercer.

## FRIDAY

Make a note now of THE PRODUCERS, a film by Mel Brooks which sends up Broadway.



Football 'violence': In Glasgow, rivalry between fans is a deadly serious matter

**International Socialism is the monthly journal of the Socialist Workers Party**  
**Contents:**  
**Black youth in revolt**  
**Fascism and the working class/British Leyland, shop stewards and participation reviews, letters, notes**  
**Number 102**  
**October 1977**  
**price 30p**



## It's OK to be royal . . .

I AM disgusted about the fuss over the miscarriage by the Duchess of Kent, with so many doctors and nurses at her bedside.

We pay money to look after the 'Royal Family', but when it comes to the working class we have no one to look after us. When a patient calls nurse all they get is 'I won't be a minute'.

As soon as one of the Royal Family have a snivel the doctors are running round as if they had pneumonia.

□ CYNTHIA SAMUELS (NUPE), Leeds.

## . . . but if you're not, don't miscarry

WHILE we can sympathise with the Duchess of Kent losing her baby, we can only feel disgusted at the privileged treatment she is receiving.

She gets the Queen's Physician, the best medical treatment possible.

We have a friend who was four months pregnant when she started to miscarry. We rushed her to the local hospital, but when we arrived we discovered that the emergency ward was closed. We had to drive two miles to the next hospital.

When we got there we had to wait three hours before

our friend got any treatment, even though she was in great pain. She was finally admitted to the hospital and kept there for three days.

If she had received proper treatment immediately the baby could have been saved.

□ BILL and MAUREEN KELLY, North London.



The murder of Wat Tyler during the Peasants Revolt of 1381, which used religious slogans.

# NO, CHRISTIANITY WAS OF THE OPPRESSED

LYN HOPKINS (SW, 1 October) has shown us how *not* to combat Christian ideology.

First, her somewhat stunning opener: 'Christianity has always allied itself with the oppressor'. This is wrong for the reasons Engels gives in the first paragraph of his essay *On the History of Early Christianity*:

'The history of early Christianity has notable points of resemblance with the modern working-class movement. Like the latter, Christianity was originally a movement of the oppressed people: it first appeared as the religion of slaves and emancipated slaves, of poor peoples subjugated or dis-

persed by Rome.'

Christianity only became the religion of the oppressor therefore, when it became the state religion of the ruling class.

Even then, however, the taking over of this religion, which at first expressed the hopes of slaves, subjugated peoples and later of feudal serfs, was by no means secure.



While the Emperors and Popes carried out numerous atrocities in the name of their Christianity, there were literally hundreds of popular radical movements that carried 'heretical' Christian

banners on their standards in defiance of imperial and papal authority.

To debunk the mythology of Christianity and its points of faith is not difficult. Middle-class humanists, rationalists and atheists have been doing it for years. But many popular struggles in the past have taken a religious as well as a political and economic form.

The Peasants' Revolt of 1381 had as its slogan 'When Adam delved and Eve span, who was then the gentleman?'—you can hear how it must have been chanted on the marches.

In 1415 in Prague, the capital of Bohemia, the scholar Jan Hus was tortured and burnt to death because he preached the return of Christ and the coming of a Utopia. His followers, most of them preachers, led a revolt against Pope and Emperor that was to climax in the formation of a revolutionary army, prolonged occupation of the city and the rise of democratic and communist movements.



Lyn Hopkins has invented an abstraction (Christianity), that apparently commits all sorts of monstrous crimes and propagates itself with evil intent in all sorts of places without first taking real human beings, let alone social classes and social relations, into account. Truly a spiritual force, if an evil one!

Today, of course, we can see how the capitalist class uses religion to divide and confuse the working class in places such as Northern Ireland and in the Asian sub-continent. Religion is still the opium of the people in the Third World and in countries such as Brazil.

But you can't deal with that just by crudely pointing to the absurdities of religion.

Religious ideology is eroded in the conscious struggle for social change, not just by argument.

□ STEWARD CREHAN.

## There are

## 'bully-boys' on both sides

I'M a soldier and a subscriber to Socialist Worker.

Since reading a bit on your Party I have become interested in it. So would you please send me further information on the SWP.

Not all British soldiers are thugs in Northern Ireland. In your paper we are regarded as being somewhat thick (my impression) taking 'evil advantage of innocents'.

When I was over there I saw pigs in my unit, and in the RUC, doing their thing. So I know that there is brutality being committed.

But once one of our soldiers got separated in a

demo, the Irish got a hold of him and beat hell out of his body. He spent a hell of a long time in hospital, so some of our people got their own back in various ways.

The point I'm trying to make is that we are all under strain, and the Irish 'bully boys' don't make it any easier for us—in fact they go all out so that they ask for a rifle butt in the face.

We have our honour and our personal pride, too. I don't like people calling me a 'nancy boy'. I am 'gay' but that's beside the point.

I don't like being spat upon by females I wouldn't touch

with your 'barge pole'. I resent being kicked in the sly by passers-by in a crowd.

We have a mucky job to do over there, so why doesn't your paper give a soldier's view? The army is just another job to most of us, and we have no unions to put our case.

Why don't you raise the matter in SW some time? I would appreciate your printing this paragraph in the SW, and calling for comments from your readers.

Please, call for a discussion.

□ A solder, Wiltshire.



## That badge: Ridiculous . . .

THE reduction in Socialist Worker's hysteria level in the past couple of issues is good to see. So what the hell are we doing producing these ridiculous 'Stop rising food prices—eat the rich' badges?

What does it mean? What political point does it make? None—nor is it meant to.

As the advertisement for them (8 October) makes clear, it's an attempt to win a bit of easy publicity of offending the gutter press. This might make us feel important for a week or two, but it will contribute nothing to building a revolutionary party.

If somebody in London thinks the idea is so desperately funny, can they at least re-print them without the name of the SWP on them?

□ JAMES UNDY, Bristol.

## . . . or is it brilliant?

PLEASE send me one of your brilliant 'Stop rising food prices . . . eat the rich' badges. What a slogan!

□ M J GROVE, Evesham, Worcestershire.

□ The badges are available, price 20p including postage or £1.50 for ten, from SW Recordings, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

## There's safety and safety . . .

ON PASSING Whitbread's Tottenham factory, my attention was drawn to a large sign above the loading bays. Bold red letters beamed out: DANGER—ASBESTOS ROOF.

That's good for them, I thought. After all, the capitalists are forever saying it's the best stuff since sliced bread (or is it pale ale?).

But wait a minute, what's that other bit?

PLEASE USE CRAWLING BOARDS. That's it. How stupid of me. It's only dangerous if you fall through it!

□ IAIN BROWN, Tottenham, London, N17.

## THE SWEET SELL-OUT

SOME FIVE weeks ago the maintenance staff at George Bassett's sweet factory in Sheffield decided that, as they were the fifth lowest paid group in the Sheffield league table, they would take action to correct this.

So with much planning and consultation between the various shop stewards within the group a plan of sheer genius was evolved. It was decided to ban overtime and institute a one-day strike to coincide with the Trades Union Congress.

This was a master-stroke because in the long run friendly persuasion will always get results.

After three serious consultations, management offered (yes, you guessed) 10 per cent 'in keeping with etc etc' and a productivity bonus which they could not fail to accept (no figures, mind!) and of course this to be in January, one year after the last increase. It was also exactly the same as the rest of the firm will be offered.

I am pleased to announce that the policy of Friendly Persuasion has shown results. At a meeting on Friday 30 September it was decided by 27 votes to 21 to call off the overtime ban and go back to normal working. Anyone reading this letter

**womens VOICE** No 10 Price 10p October

**New issue out now!**

High Rise Living/Abortion / Save our Hospitals / Keeping up with inflation

10p a copy from 6, Cottons Gardens, London E2. SWP branches collect from stations this week.

HIGH RISE LIVING ABORTION / SAVE OUR HOSPITALS / KEEPING UP WITH INFLATION

## UNDERPAID APPRENTICES UNITE!

I KNOW a second year apprentice plumber here in Edinburgh who one week worked four days—the other day was a holiday—and received the princely sum of £11.92.

He has to pay £6 in fares. He gives £5 to his mum. This left him with 92p.

Apprentices get the worst deal of all. They often do work for which firms charge tradesmen's rates, and for

which the apprentice gets a pittance in pay.

The Edinburgh Wester Hailes branch of the SWP is starting a campaign over apprentices. This is the city where there was once a

massive apprentices' strike.

Any reader of Socialist Worker who is an apprentice and is interested should get in touch with us at Bookmarks, Morrison Street, Edinburgh.

□ STEVE FAITH.

## WHEN I WENT, I WAS LEFT-WING

I FIRST bought Socialist Worker in July when on the Isle of Man attending the Transport and General Workers Union Biennial Delegate Conference, where as you know (and with your help!) we 'smashed' the Social Contract.

I was a left-winger before I went—but I came back a RED!

Your daily bulletin giving conference reports and recommendations highlighted for me the power of communication via hand-outs and the written word generally. I have subscribed to SW ever since.

But now to the real point of my letter. I am 23 years old and have been a shop steward for three years, the last year of which I have been TGWU deputy convenor at a smallish textile mill (400 members) in Sherborne, Dorset, called Marglass Ltd. We weave glass-fibre curtains etc.



What I want from you is help in contacting shop stewards in other textile mills, probably up north, with a view to comparing bonus schemes and workloads as applied to power looms.

I wonder if you have any contacts or can help me in any way. It would be much appreciated and would assist me in recommending SW to my stewards and workmates, some of whom are wary of anything too left-wing.

Anyway keep up the good work. I think SW is the best paper around.

□ ALAN MANN, Bruton, Somerset.

## Where DO we stand?

I HAD an embarrassing experience recently which drew my attention to a serious mistake in Socialist Worker. I was talking to a potential new SWP member and he asked me what we think about a particular issue.

'No worries,' I said, 'We always have a section in the paper every week outlining our policies'. I was referring to 'Where We Stand', and I started leafing through the paper to find it.

Having gone through it for the third time I was forced to conclude that we don't 'always' have that section and I ended up muttering lamely.

Every week Socialist Worker is going to be offered to whole sections of people who have never seen it before. For these new readers and potential members we cannot afford to drop 'Where We Stand'.

□ T DYSON, Leytonstone, East London.

## Impartial?

I MANAGED to get to Belle Vue in Manchester on Saturday when the National Front marched. We could just see the tops of the Front's banners behind thousands of their blue-uniformed collaborators—our very own 'impartial' policemen.

I feel sorry for some people that believe that the police are apolitical and will protect anyone.

□ TERRY COSKIN, Manchester.



# The town they want to kill

**SHEILA  
PARKIN**



**Socialist  
Workers  
talking**

I MUST tell you a story which, I think, is typical of the way some trade unions work.

My mother-in-law Jean works at Kays Catalogues, where she is an USDAW shop steward.

A recent branch meeting had a letter from the local Labour Party asking for a generous donation.

Jean spoke first, and said she didn't reckon they should give anything to the Labour Party, because they had not done anything for the workers, except keep their wages down.

Other members replied that politics should be kept out of union meetings. Jean answered this by pointing out that everything we do is political.

Anyway, they voted to give the Labour Party the money. So Jean got them down to the lowest sum which, I might add, was £100.



A few days later, a woman who works at Kays came to see Jean to ask her if she could do anything about getting her some money, as she did not have a penny. She had been off sick for a few weeks because her 11-year-old son had been killed while crossing the road.

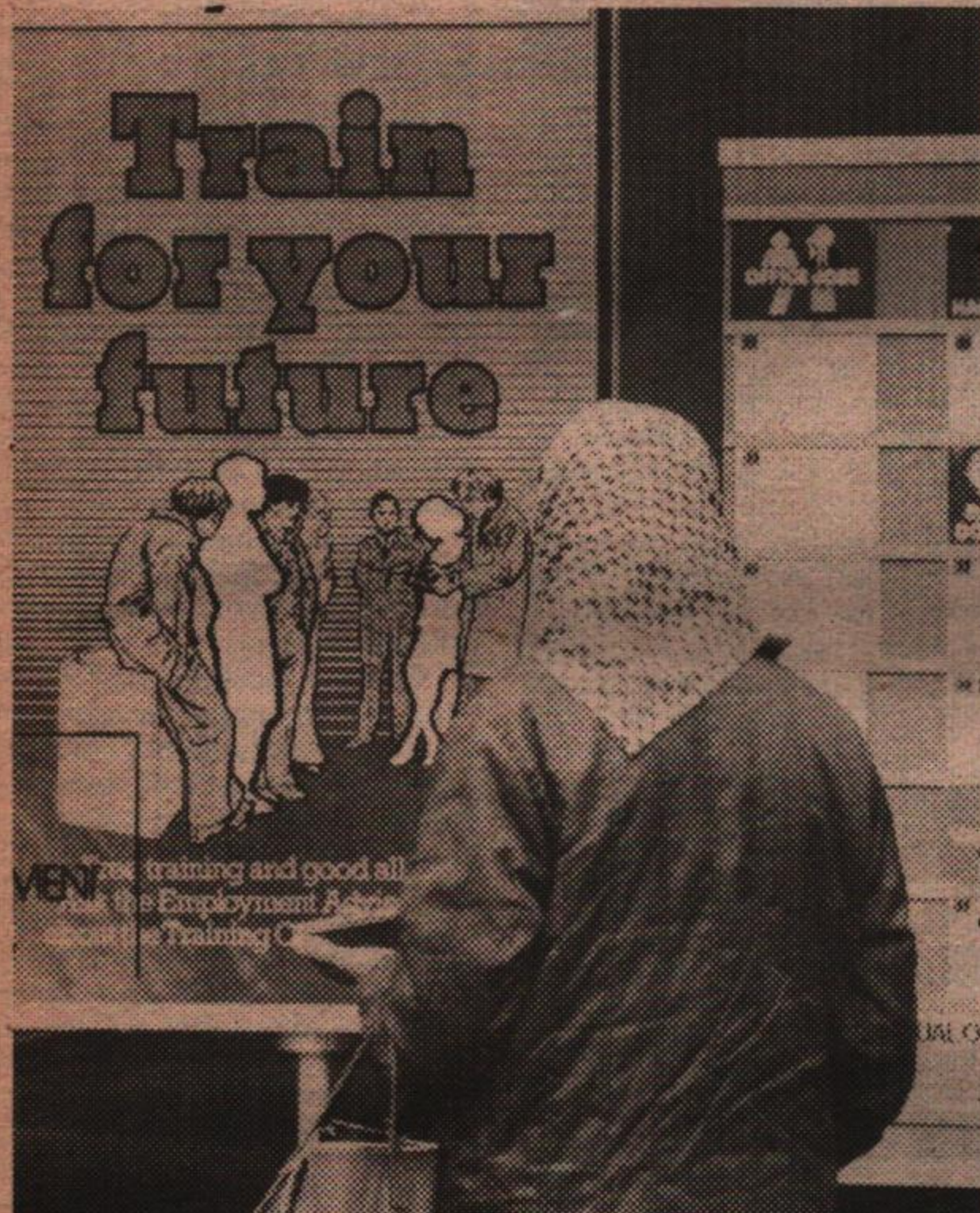
Jean went to a more experienced shop steward to ask about the hardship fund.

But you've guessed it, they did not have one. The convenor advised her to go to the Social Security.

Her reply was: 'You mean to tell me we haven't got a simple thing like a hardship fund and all you can do for her is to send her to the SS in her distressed state, but we can supply the Labour Party with £100 of our money?'

So I reckon something will be changed. My mother-in-law has got a lot of principles and she fights for them come hell or high water.

I bet there will be a real hullabaloo at the next union meeting.



The face of Leiston and its threatened factory, Richard Garretts: the local union organiser drives a Rolls-Royce

WHEN Richard Garretts, an engineering firm, celebrates its 200th anniversary next year, its new owners may have a special birthday present: closure.

A whole town is threatened. Leiston in east Suffolk has always been Garrett's company town. With the only other jobs available in farming, wages could always be kept down.

For years, the town was no more than a fringe of tiny workers' cottages round the plant.

Now the company has gutted the old plant, and is trying to build 80 houses there; a little speculation to bring in the London weekenders who can pay the prices of new housing.

Leiston is no quaint old English rural town. It has always been solidly industrial.

## History

Even the old Garrett family wouldn't allow its corpses to be buried there; as a worker put it:

*'The bastards are all buried with the aristocracy out of the town at Aldringham village.'*

The town was always dominated by the engineers and the labour movement. They called it Red Leiston in the Thirties, a tiny island of socialism in the sea of Tory Suffolk.

But that is all history. Leiston still depends on Garretts and engineering. It has to. With one in ten workers out of a job, there's nowhere else to go.

The nearest engineering jobs are 20 to 30 miles away, and they've shut the railway and there's scarcely any buses.

Many of Garrett's workers are old and won't get jobs again. Out of engineering there is nothing—except, for a few, following the many others to the oil rigs off Shetland.

Leiston may depend on Garrett's, but Garrett's is just a job lot in the jumble sale of the stock

IT WAS KNOWN AS 'RED LEISTON'. NOW ITS BIGGEST FACTORY FACES THE AXE

exchange. For years, its directors have milked it for profits which went into their pockets, not into new machinery.

The holding company, Bayer, Peacock, flogged off bits and pieces as it fancied. Then, in 1976, they all scuttled when an Arab saviour, National Chemical Industries, offered them a quick sale.

Sheikh Bedrawi cares even less about Leiston. He bought Bayer, Peacock simply to get hold of a tiny building parts company, Space Decks of Cards, Somerset.

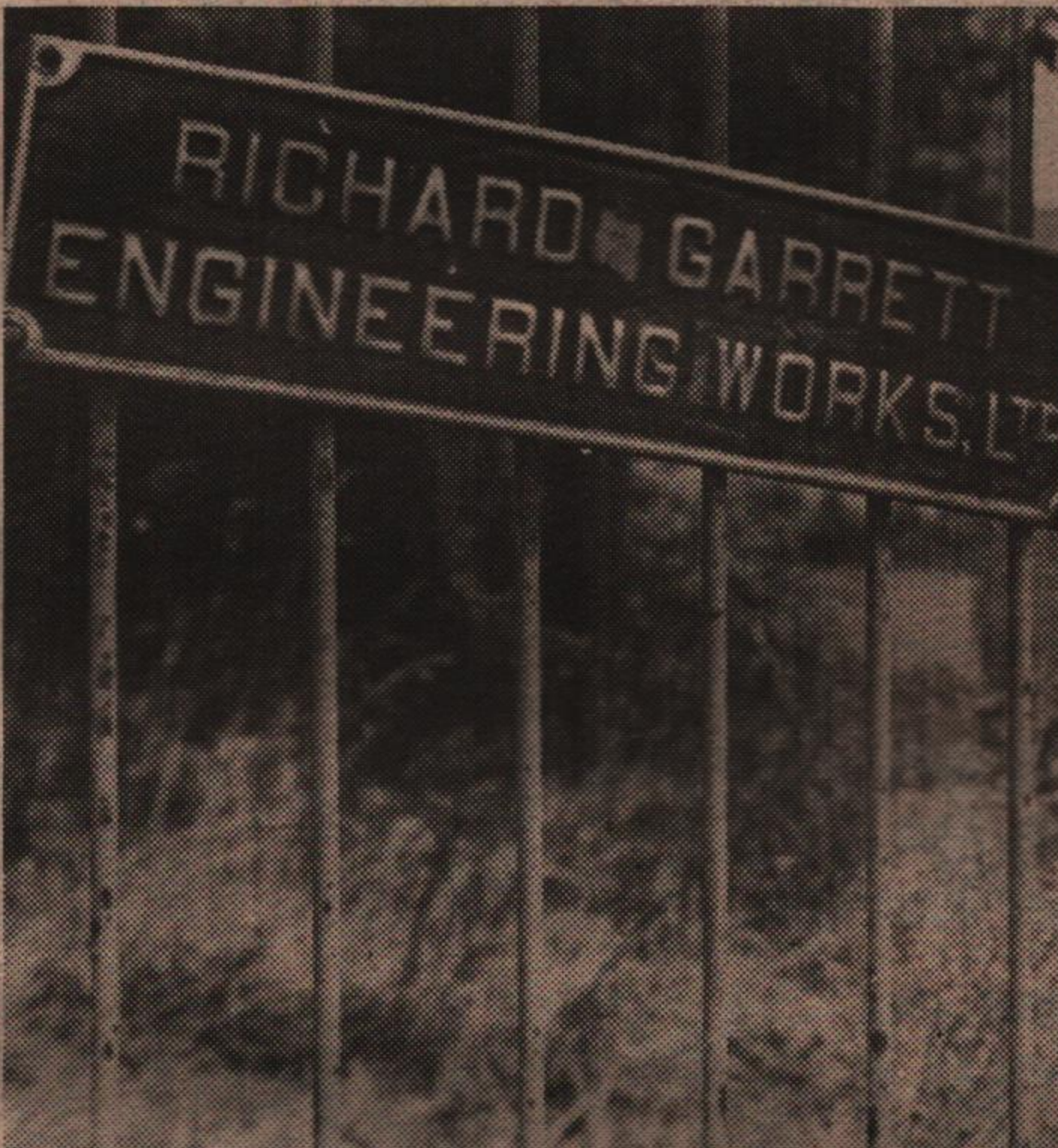
Space Decks' output goes straight to Bedrawi's construction company in Saudia Arabia. It is to Space Decks that the new investment is going, not ploughed back in Garretts. NCI has just paid £10 million for a Leeds cement construction company on the same principle.

## Profits

Despite all the odds, the workers of Garretts have still made a profit for the Sheikh. They make two-thirds of the profits of the whole group. Two-thirds of the output is exported.

They do it with more than half the workforce in the office, with 80 apprentices working as cheap labour, and with poor average wages for the rest.

They do it with a management that is also rattled—as one union official put it: 'None of the managers will get up off their arses and get out to get work. We're sick



Garretts workers: many are old and won't get jobs again

and tired of standing around.'

Bedrawi's answer has not been to use Garrett's profits to retool the plant. It has been to shut down a smaller Garrett plant at Dereham, Norfolk, sacking 90 workers. 127 layoffs are proposed at Leiston.

There was no joint action or even contact between the Dereham and Leiston engineers. Now Leiston workers are cannibalising the corpse at Dereham, shipping the equipment to Leiston.

## Inspire

So far no-one is fighting to save Leiston. The shop stewards committee (which includes no representatives from the staff) has proposed that the redundancies be voluntary and management pay severance pay. As if that will save any jobs.

E T Brown, AUEW district organiser, is well known for his Rolls Royce, number plate ETB1; 'That really does inspire you with fight', said one worker.

Brown has countered the stewards' feeble demands with his own, support management in an application to the Government for a job subsidy of £20 a week to keep on the 127. In this clever way, the taxpayer will subsidise the millionaires!

None of this will save Leiston or Garretts. Even if they get the employment subsidy, it is only temporary; the 127 can still be sacked in time for Christmas.

take over Concrete only two months ago. It is preparing to block the £15 wage claim on the table.

The only way Bedrawi can be stopped is with a militant movement of the ordinary workers in the factory, prepared to seize the factory if necessary.

## Campaign

They must also link up with Space Decks at Chard in Somerset (and the other subsidiary there, Brecknell Willis) and Concrete in Leeds, preparing for a campaign to take on NCI in all three plants.

There needs also to be a campaign in the AUEW, for the fate of Garretts affects all engineering workers. Without this, Bedrawi will be able to chop out 'the dead wood'.

And that would be the death of Red Leiston.

By Beccles,  
Halesworth and  
Leiston SWP

**WHY YOU SHOULD BE A SOCIALIST**  
PAUL FOOT

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

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

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

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

This pamphlet puts our case. Will you read it?

50p, including postage, from:  
Socialist Worker Distributors, 6  
Cottons Gardens, London E2.



## SHEFFIELD PAINTERS STRIKE AFTER SACKINGS

SHEFFIELD: 'I thought it was my right as a worker and a trade unionist to go on strike if there was a democratic vote among my workmates, but 23 of us have been sacked for doing exactly that.'

Paul Stewart, one of the strikers at W James Engineering.

It is a small factory, mainly doing contract work for large firms such as the British Steel Corporation and Thomas Ward. The conditions are disgraceful. Management have been constantly harassing the paintshop.

The paintshop floor was often covered with two inches of water. Then they were asked to do the painting and spraying in the open air.

Then management had the check to sack two painters for so-called shoddy work, so on 20 September all the union members voted to strike in their support.

Management sacked the lot. The workers were advised by union officials not to picket, as the case was going to an industrial tribunal. But then the union provided to legal representation and the cases were thrown out on a technicality.

The factory is being picketed and blacking organised, but the strikers desperately need your support.

☐ Donations to: Paul Stewart, 40 Glenn Road, Sheffield 7.

☐ Scania Sealink Grimsby are breaking the picket line. If this firm delivers to your factory, black it.

## Union fight at Azlon

SOUTH LONDON: Azlon, a small plastics company in Kennington, has sacked one of its 90 employees for seeking to join a union. Several others, who also joined the Transport and General Workers Union, have come out on strike. The men have been picketing the supplies depot with some success.

The TGWU full-time official met management to persuade them to agree to arbitration. They refused. The strikers expect the dispute to be made official.



ONE of the tanker lorries used to break through picket lines set up by the air traffic control assistants at RAF West Drayton.

The control assistants have been on strike at airports all over Britain since the beginning of September. They are demanding a pay award

agreed before the start of the Social Contract two and a half years ago.

Instead the government is using them as a test case to hold back all wage claims.

The RAF claim they broke the picket line because fuel was needed for 'military defence needs'. The same

fuel bunkers are also used for the computer the control assistants have been picketing for two months.

The decision to break the picket line was taken up by the Labour Minister of Defence Fred Mulley, after consultation with air vice-marshalls and other military top brass.

## BLOXWICH BATTLES FOR UNION RIGHTS

WEST MIDLANDS: At two factories in Bloxwich, women are fighting for recognition against small, anti-union managements.

At Gormans, ten women who joined the Transport and General Workers Union were sacked after they tried to encourage other workers to join the union.

At Tanncliffe 18 women joined the General and Municipal Workers Union and went on strike for recognition. The company offered them £11.60 a week to go back and forget the union. Five accepted the offer. The rest are determined to stick it out. The women are paid £21 (top rate) for a 40-hour week.

## Drax B: Fewer jobs for Parsons?

by BOB MURDOCH (AUEW/TASS)

TYNESIDE: Workers at C A Parsons, the turbine generator firm, face a mounting management campaign to slash jobs.

The government recently confirmed its decision to bring forward the Drax B power station, to create extra work at Parsons, so they said. The company flag was flown to celebrate the turbine order worth £125 million.

But within days management had turned its attention to its main area of activity—slashing the workforce. A massive order such as Drax

apparently means fewer jobs, not more.

The same week the company indicated that 250 technical and clerical jobs were to be lost by the end of the year. If the white-collar unions TASS and APEX did not negotiate voluntary redundancy terms, they threatened to proceed with a scheme of their own.

The unions had campaigned strongly for the Drax B order precisely to avoid such cuts in the workforce.

General meetings of TASS and APEX members rejected voluntary redundancy. When the company posted notices on the scheme, sanctions were immediately imposed.

The company retaliated last Saturday by sending every individual a letter with details of the scheme. They are now whining about the effect of sanctions on the Drax order.

### Isolated

The letter is obviously intended to catch people at the weekend when they would be isolated from the argument against voluntary redundancy—that it is the first step along the road of slashing the workforce to the point where some sections could be closed down completely.

It is in the interests of all Parsons workers that this should not happen, in fact of all workers in the North East, because so many jobs now and in the future depend on Parsons remaining a large centre for engineering production, research and design.

Clearly the company is not committed to that. The demand for social ownership of Parsons should be raised loud.

### Victory

### over BSC

SHEFFIELD: 37 electricians at BSC Chemicals, Orgreave, have won their fight for recognition of a shop steward. After four weeks on strike and with the plant shop about to close with hundreds of layoffs, management caved in.

The turning point came when Transport and General Workers Union members voted to join the electricians' picket line if there were any layoffs.

They also voted to censure Bill Collins, the TGWU full-time official. Collins had been doing his best to divide TGWU members from the electricians and had unsuccessfully stood on the picket line trying to get drivers to scab.

Laurie Lee, from the strike committee, told Socialist Worker: 'I would like to thank everyone involved for their help.'

# PUBLIC SECTOR: WE WANT £50 MINIMUM!

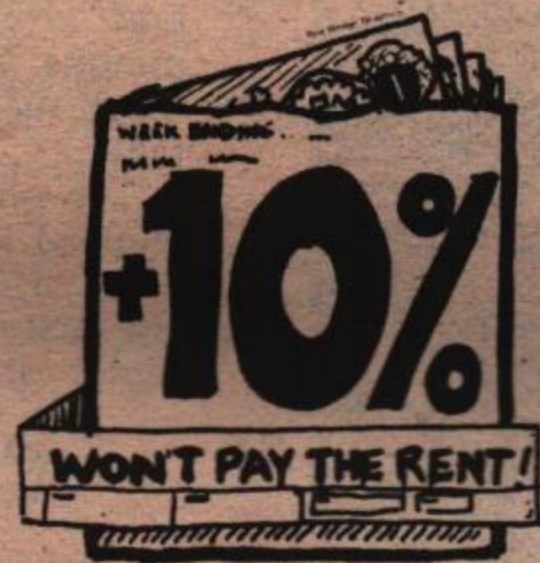
by WENDY PLIMLEY

## THE FIGHT is on in Birmingham for the £50 minimum wage!

Wednesday marks the start of a campaign by rank and file public sector manual workers for their official pay claim.

150 shops stewards from hospitals, water services and council depots all over Birmingham met last Saturday to plan action. 26 October is the date set for a big Birmingham demonstration.

This will be followed by work-to-rules, overtime bans, blacking and so on, leading up to a national strike and



demonstration on 23 November.

The claim for a minimum wage is official—backed at the conferences of the National Union of Public Employees and General and Municipal Workers Union this year. It is overwhelmingly supported by public sector workers in all the unions.

It would mean a 30 per cent

rise for some of the poorest paid manual workers in the country, who have been hardest hit by inflation.

But it is an official claim only in name. None of the stewards at last Saturday's conference—and they represent thousands of members—had any doubt that we were being stabbed in the back by our officials.

The TUC's refusal to back the minimum wage came after arguments against it from two union leaders with large public sector memberships, Bassnett of the GMWU and Jack Jones of the Transport Workers.

Public sector unions' head offices made a concerted attempt to sabotage Saturday's conference.

The sell-out continues with our negotiators simply asking for 'a substantial increase'—no mention of the minimum

wage—and they'll be settling for a 'substantial' 10 per cent as soon as is decently possible.

Whatever the council workers get at the beginning of November will be used to try to set the limit for hospitals and water workers. That's why 26 October is so important. We have to get moving quickly before the whole rotten deal is stitched up.

### Build-up

This was the argument put across in a joint Hospital Worker/Council Worker bulletin given out at the Conference. It was taken up by speaker after speaker calling for a continuous build-up of action.

A national stoppage on 23 November will really put the officials on the spot. This is the date fixed by the public sector

union bureaucrats for a small lobby of parliament to protest about the cuts.

The uselessness of such a tactic was not lost on the Birmingham stewards. Conference heard two hospital workers from London describe the ruthless closure of Hounslow Hospital and held collections.

Birmingham itself is facing the closure of several hospitals, including the world-famous Accident Hospital. As speakers on Saturday pointed out, 23 November offers us a great opportunity to turn that official picnic into a massive demonstration of our determination to fight over pay and cuts.

☐ Leaflets, stickers and posters for the campaign from the Rank and File Centre, 264a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

## Wilkinsons: 100 strike over victimisation

BIRMINGHAM: 100 workers at Wilkinsons walked out on strike last Friday in protest at the sacking of Kevin McGilligan.

Kevin was sacked after management suspended him twice in succession for refusing to take on more than his normal workload. Only the electricians are not out on strike for his reinstatement.

Management are clearly testing out the solidarity of the workers. If they succeed in getting rid of Kevin over the issue of job mobility they will return to other sections and start laying down the law as well.

The local official of the Transport and General Workers Union had agreed to get the strike made official and the stewards from IMI, Wilkinson's parent company, are blacking the firm.

All the strikers have received letters from management arguing the case for sacking Kevin. The convenor told Socialist Worker: 'The letter is a load of cobblers. The stewards have been ready to discuss the whole question with management for the last three months.'

## OPERATION ARREST SOCIALISTS

MAJOR police operations against socialists were mounted in Bradford and Lincoln last weekend.

In Bradford three members of the SWP were arrested for distributing Bradford Trades Council leaflets informing the public that the vicious stabbing of a Socialist Worker seller by an NF member was, contrary to police and press report.

What is new is the way they were arrested. Two columns of police marched into the precinct and a megaphone announced that if those distributing the leaflets did not leave the precinct they would be arrested.

In Lincoln one SWP member was arrested for selling the paper on Friday. When others returned on Saturday to continue sales, they too were lifted. They are charged with obstruction—in a pedestrian precinct!

Police also threatened to arrest a local Labour Party official who complained about the police decision to arrest SW sellers while leaving charity workers untouched.

Local Labour MP Margaret Jackson contacted the National Council for Civil Liberties over the incidents. She was told that the Lincoln incident was the fifth report the NCCL had received that morning of SW sellers being lifted.

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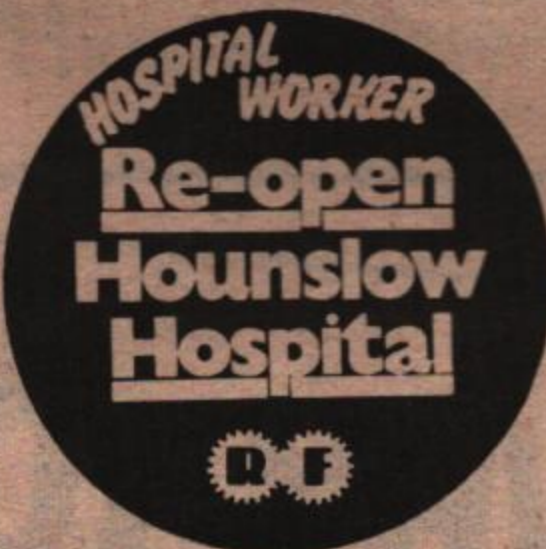
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### RANK AND FILE DIARY



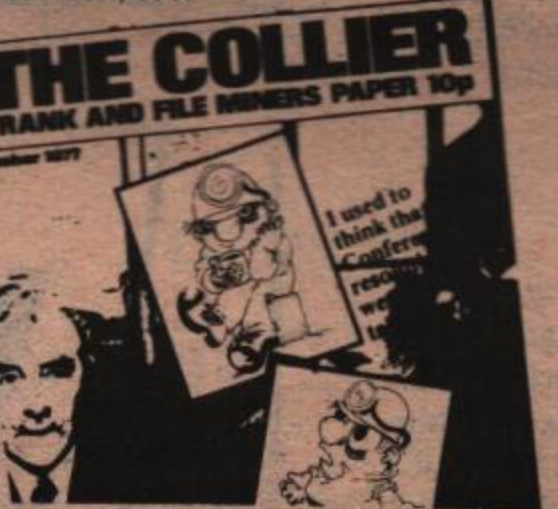
RE-OPEN HOUNSLOW HOSPITAL! Emergency broadsheet produced by Hospital Worker rank and file paper, with full details of the Hounslow kidnap, trade union action, and the continuing occupations at the EGA and Plaistow Maternity Hospitals. 2p a copy (plus postage) or 50 for £1 post free. Also stickers (while supplies last) 12 for a sheet of 12. From Hugh Girling, 19 Red Post Hill, London SE24 (phone 01-733 8443).

TUNNEL MINERS DEFENCE COMMITTEE Social and Dance: Friday 28 October, 8pm till late, North London Poly, Highbury Grove, N5. Minimum donation 50p. Further info: Jimmy Duffy 01-407 1664.

FOOD AND DRINK INDUSTRY: Second meeting for rank and file trade unionists, Sunday 4 December, 2pm-5pm. Manchester Polytechnic, Cavendish Street, Manchester. Agenda: Joint industrial councils, wages policy.

BENEFIT, with disco Friday 28 October, 8pm. The Roebuck, Tottenham Court Road, London WC1, in aid of ACTSS Legal Workers Branch. (nearest tube Warren Street). Tickets 50p in advance from Nic Madge, 41 Durham Road, London N2, or 75p at door.

POLISH WORKERS DEFENCE CAMPAIGN Bulletin No 3 out now, 5p each plus postage, from PWDC, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.



October issue of THE COLLIER, rank and file miners' paper, out now. Articles on Stuff the Prod Deal, Rockingham—we won't let them shut our pit, US miners fight gun thugs on picket line, Prod deals in Poland, Coal Board profits, Jack Lally, 10p a copy plus postage (more than 10 post free) from The Collier, 38 Abbey Lane, Cundy Cross, Barnsley, South Yorkshire.



SHOP FLOOR, paper of rank and file members of the Union of Shop Distributive and Allied Workers. No 1 out now. Price 5p, but all donations welcome. Obtainable from 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4. Make cheques and postal orders payable to Shopfloor.

(BLOCK CAPITALS)



# Lock-out for 5000 lift and crane workers

FIVE THOUSAND men in the lift, escalator and crane industry are being progressively locked out on the instructions of the Engineering Employers Federation.

Back in January the men, members of the Electricians Electronic and Plumbing Trades Union, made it clear that they would seek wage increases in the order of 30 per cent.

The employers' reply was well inside Callaghan's 10 per cent and notice was given by the men, organised in a national committee containing senior stewards from each firm, of an overtime ban and work to rule from 7 October.

## Public

At Hammond and Champness the employers responded with a lockout of all except the construction section, because the men were 'failing to work normally'.

As far as Throstle, the boss, is concerned normal work includes breaking the Health and Safety at Work Act, taking inflammable articles on public transport.

At Otis, Bill Ronayne, the convenor has been suspended without pay for refusing to drive a van. He said: 'In ten years service here I once drove a van for one week as a favour to management. I am paid £1.50 a week for having my own car available for night calls. Quite clearly van driving is not part of my job. I take a train to work each day, a half hour journey. By van it would be two or three times as long but I am offered not a penny extra for it. It's not on.'

## Strike

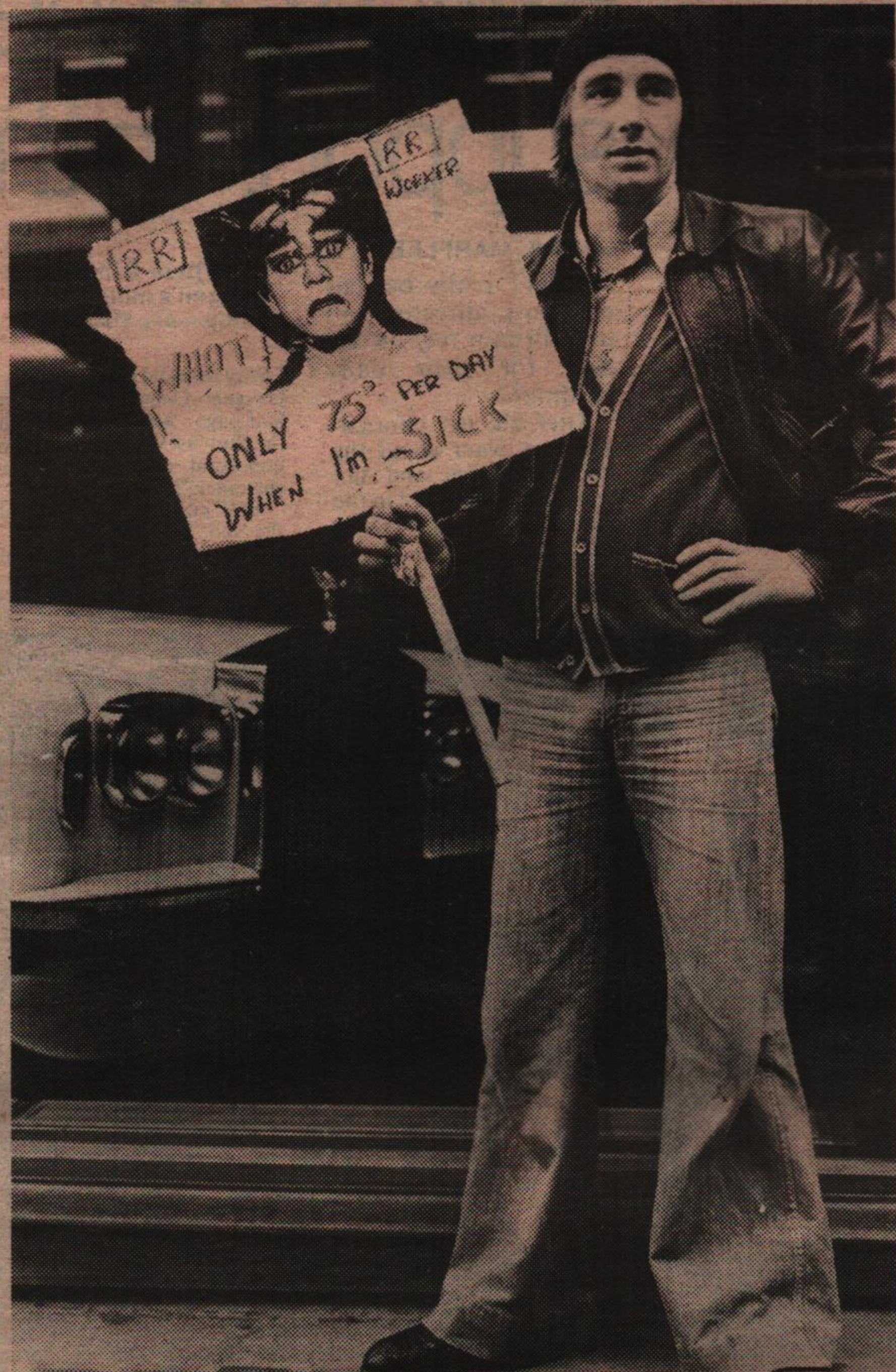
John Carpenter, convenor at Hammonds, told a mass meeting that the employers were clearly trying to provoke a strike. So far the men have solidly avoided the provocation. The media are trying to present lift failures as being the result of the men's action. It isn't, it is caused by a blatant lockout on the part of the employers who are frightened by the new-found nationwide solidarity among the lift engineers.

The men's offer to tackle all emergencies has been refused and unqualified supervisors and management are scabbing.

Although the work-to-rule is official union policy, the EETPU appears to be doing nothing and the men expect that victory will be up to themselves.

Messages of support to: National Joint Lift Escalator and Crane Committee, c/o 506/8 Brixton Road, London SW9.

Picture: John Sturrock (Report)



A picket outside a Rolls-Royce car showroom in London this week. Seven hundred Rolls-Royce workers in North West London are in their sixth week of strike action for a 17 per cent pay increase. The Transport and General Workers Union have still to make the strike official. Messages of support to Ron Buck, 2 Lucas Avenue, Harrow, Middx.

# 'PAY UP OR BURN UP' - FIREMEN

'PAY UP OR BURN UP'—that was the slogan of a march through Newcastle by the North East region of the Fire Brigades Union.

600 men from Northumberland, Tyneside, Wearside and Cleveland marched in support of a 30 per cent pay rise, about £20 a week.

A young fireman told Socialist Worker he had a wife and two kids and took home £42 a week for a 48-hour week. Asked if he thought the claim would be successful, he said: 'We better had get our claim or else this is just the beginning.'

Cleveland and Sunderland firemen have been answering 999 calls only, but for most of the marchers this is their first action.

They marched to the Civic Centre, Newcastle, where delegates lobbied the council committee

and the marchers heard three speeches before marching back through town.

The slogans of the march, 'Cash or Ash' and 'Pay up or burn up', echo the anger of the marchers, whose ultimatum is £20 a week or a strike on 7 November which would be a rest after the Guy Fawkes Day.

## 2500 march in Wakefield

2500 firemen marched through Wakefield last week. They came from all over Yorkshire, with delegations from Manchester and Merseyside. The chant was 'What do we want? More Pay. What will we do? Strike'.

'This isn't a march. It's a declaration of intent. Either we get our claim in full or we strike', commented fireman Pete Goben, Fire Brigades Union branch secretary at Maltby, South Yorkshire.

The firemen are in no mood for talks, arbitration or any other excuse to delay their claim. Over to you, Callaghan. Pay up or face a national firemen's strike.

## Scotland: Where's militancy?

THREE of the nine factories that sponsored a meeting of 500 West of Scotland shop stewards to campaign against any continuation of incomes policy have settled within either the 10 per cent or the 12 month rule.

By far the most damaging settlement was at Upper Clyde Shipbuilders. Their convenor, Jimmy Airlie, was the man

who moved the resolution at the West of Scotland shop stewards meeting calling for a fight against the 12 month rule, calling on factories to submit claims in excess of 10 per cent and supporting any factory that took action on these issues.

The shop stewards at UCS recommended acceptance of a 10 per cent deal and this was

accepted by a mass meeting. Airlie went on television to say that this was a recognition of their weak bargaining position.

Presscold and Singers have also settled and Chrysler Linwood shop stewards voted by a narrow majority to accept a Phase 2 settlement.

In spite of the activities of the conference gall militants, like Airlie and like McFaggen of Singers and McCormack of Chrysler, other factories are fighting.

Yarrows, BOC, Rolls Royce, Anderson Strathclyde, Marathon, GEC and others are either on strike or pushing claims that will lead to action soon.

These are the factories that must be brought together to build up the confidence of workers everywhere to prove the old adage—the workers united will never be defeated or blackmailed.

We need to recall the West of Scotland shop stewards meeting now.

## Bolton mass picket call

BOLTON: The AUEW district committee is threatening mass picketing if the six maintenance workers at Charles Turners are not reinstated.

The men collared Hugh Scanlon who had been lunching with the Central Lancashire Engineering Employers. Scanlon's advice was 'Don't offend against the rights of SOGAT in the plant.' So much for the union president! SOGAT have been scabbing on the strike.

## Gypsum out

BOLTON: Strikers at British Gypsum, have intensified their efforts to encourage other BPB plants to come out in solidarity and fight for increased wage levels in the whole complex.

Workers on the production line at Westhoughton get 88p an hour.

Workers at the Sherburn plant near Pontefract in South Yorkshire have already struck in pursuit of a wage claim.

## STEWARDS OUT, SO ALL OUT

BIRMINGHAM: Members of the Engineering Union (AUEW) at Midland Electrical Manufacture, in Kings Road, downed tools on Tuesday in protest at the sacking of a senior shop steward.

This is a blatant case of victimisation with management using the classic 'late timekeeping' pretext in their attempt to weaken shop-floor organisation.

It is probably no coincidence that the workers have a 30 per cent pay claim in the pipeline. Management are also out to break uew organisation in the factory, so they have only the Transport and General Workers Union to negotiate with.

## Bus deal in sight?

by Steve Womack and Roger Sutton

SHEFFIELD: The busworkers' dispute in South Yorkshire is nearing a head. Although the local newspapers constantly report that the local authority is determined not to break the 10 per cent, it is now almost certain that some move will be made to settle the dispute.

Management are faced with a dilemma, although the bus workers are only striking once a week, they realise that crews can work overtime on other days and are not losing a great deal financially.

This means the dispute could continue for a very long time. There is increasing pressure from local traders and industrialists, as their

profits are being devastated by Strategically picketed strike days.

Last week management stooped to their lowest level and cancelled the crews' safe driving award dinner and dance. This backfired and made the busworkers more determined to win. Management announced that they would not pay any wages last week, but backed down when we told them that no wages meant no buses.

We are calling for a national meeting of local authority trade union representatives to be held in Sheffield. The South Yorkshire busworkers say no to the 10 per cent and are determined to win.

## Printers bust 10 per cent limit

FAST LONDON: Workers on strike at Greenaway's printers have returned to work. They won a £10 claim—about 15 per cent rise.

NGO FOC Dave Woodison said: 'We were out for five weeks, and the support was really good. This time it was made official, and then Fleet Street came in behind us with some big collections. Thanks to everyone who supported us.'

# Where British Oxygen's millions are going

by SEYMOUR PROPHET  
Our bug in the boardroom

always sell your right to them and pocket the profit.

But as a bait, British Oxygen said dividends for this year would be up by 16 per cent—even though the government says they are only to rise by no more than 10 per cent.

British Oxygen said they needed the £40 million which the rights issue would bring in, to finance investment.

But this year they expect to spend £70 million—which they can pay for from after tax profits, the amount they have put aside to replace machinery

and government tax reliefs. So they don't need the money at all for their investment programme. They say: 'From experience we know that there will be other prizes to be grasped which cannot be determined in advance.' In other words, they just want £40 million to play with.

## Result

They will probably play with it pretty profitably. Since 1972 BOC have doubled the amount of capital—plant and machinery—which is invested

for every worker. As a result sales and profits per worker have risen by almost two and a half times.

Altogether BOC pay their 40,700 workers world-wide almost £140 million a year. These workers make almost as much as this again for the capitalists.

British Oxygen's surplus—before paying interest and dividends and before writing off those assets which fell in value during 1976—was £121 million.

Only £128,000 was paid in profits tax to the British government; most of the rest of the money was, one way or another, left in the hands of businessmen, stock exchange

speculators and bankers. Virtually none found its way into the hands of any British Oxygen worker.

STRIKE REPORT —PAGE 16.

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# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p

## British Oxygen buys support - in the Sun

by PHIL MARFLEET

CAN IT really be that company directors all over Britain rely on the Sun for their daily reading?

After all, the information they want about the stock exchange and tax evasion is best found in the Financial Times or Daily Telegraph.

Where British Oxygen's millions are going—see PAGE 15.

Why then did the big British Oxygen Company place a half-page advertisement in the Sun last week, headed 'An important announcement to customers'?

BOC customers do not read the Sun. BOC workers do. This is the second week of

their nationwide strike, with most of the 56 BOC plants and depots out for a £20 rise, plus increased shift allowances and full consolidation of past wage rises.

Micky Boulter, shop steward at the Hackney plant in East London, explained what BOC management are up to: 'The Sun's got a huge circulation. The advert must have cost thousands. They wanted to make sure all of us on strike read it.'

'The very same day every worker got a letter in the post. It said what a wonderful offer the company was making.'

'They're trying to divide us. They know we're going to stay strong, so already they're trying this sort of trick. It just shows you the way this system works.'

'How can we reply to that advert? We haven't got the money. We're on strike for more bloody money!'

'And the advert itself was rubbish. It says they offered us 4.2 per cent—the offer was 10 per cent.'

'They say there's a self-financing productivity deal. That's right—self-financing in two ways: We either lose a bit of overtime at the same time as getting a pathetic basic rise, or we lose the jobs.'

'A "self-financing scheme" means that our blokes will lose their mates off the job. We've lost one man in five.'



Micky Boulter

Then they say we could get an extra 8 per cent on the deal. That is just pure pie-in-the-sky. The whole thing is a con from start to finish.

'This BOC dispute shows up the government campaign for productivity deals. Look, we put this Labour lot in. We accepted the £6, then the £4 and inflation kept on going.'

'Now they want us to take the prod deals, just like ten years ago. These deals are going to put another million on the dole if we're stupid enough to swallow them.'

'And anyway, this deal will lose us money.'

'For some of our blokes who gave up overtime, they could lose £20 on this.'

'We need this money. We're absolutely solid for the strike and the plants all round the country are the same. We'll stay out until Christmas but we know we can close chunks of industry that need our gases.'

Only urgently needed gas for hospitals is being delivered from the BOC plant at Polmadie, Glasgow. Lack of BOC supplies have led to some workers at Chrysler Linwood being moved to alternative work.

□ Collections and support to John Walsh, 19 Maynell Road, London, E9

# Keep death out of the pits

## VOTE NO!

'THERE'LL be more blood on the coal if they go ahead with this productivity deal.'

'Incentives at Royston have not just split the men down the middle—we're like a bunch of satellites.'

'My father has told me stories of men fighting underground under the old piece rate system, simply because people wanted more money than others working alongside them. We don't want that happening again.'

The words of Keith Millington, NUM branch treasurer from Royston Drift Mine, near Barnsley, where two miners have been badly injured since the manager introduced incentives six months ago.

Miners are voting on Wednesday and Thursday this week on a proposed productivity deal.

Behind the deal is an attempt by the Coal Board and the right-wing in the union to destroy national wage rates and return to the piece-rate jungle which the miners fought for decades to abolish.

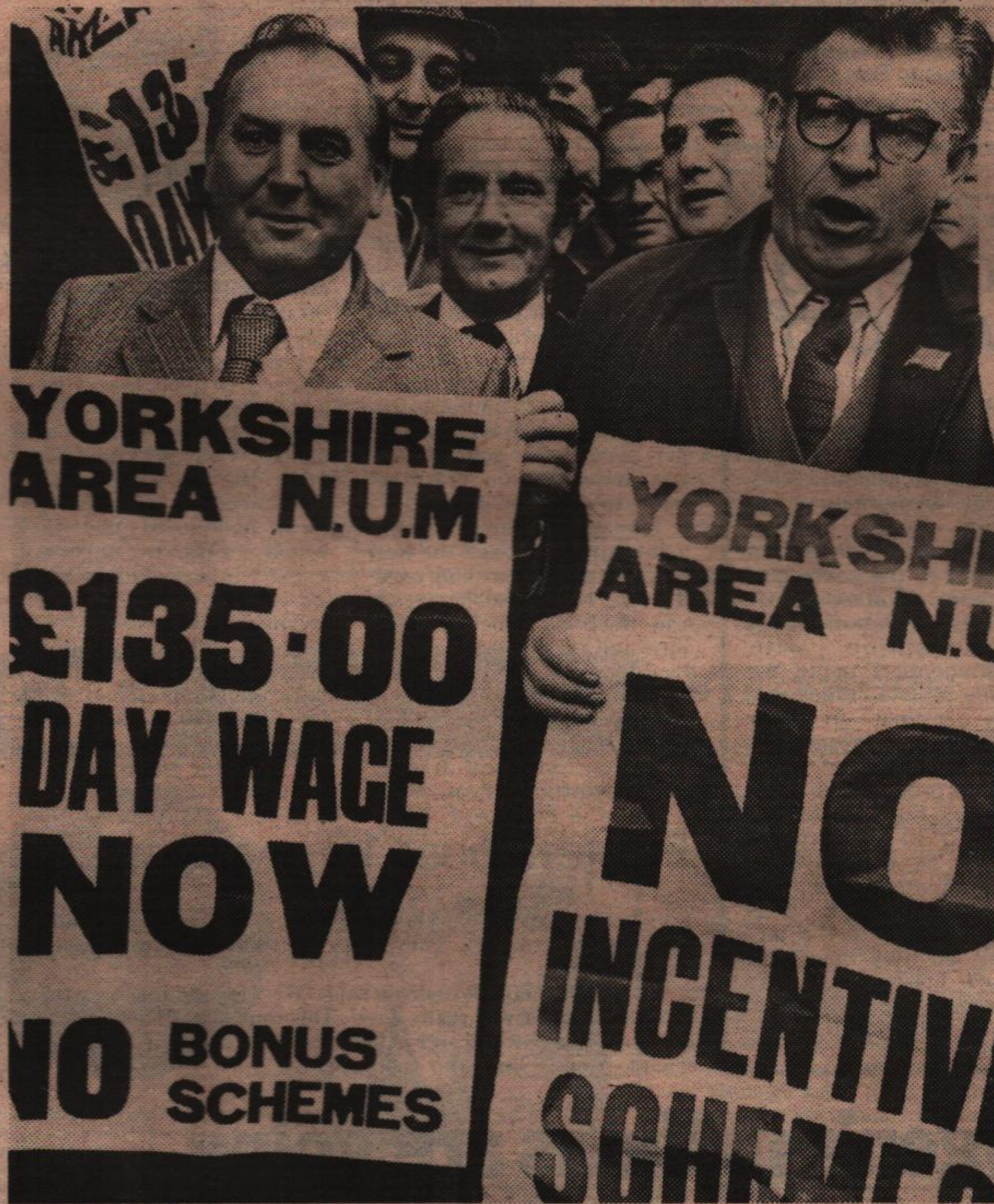
### Instructed

The deal offers divisive bonus payments in return for increased productivity. It threatens to set pit against pit and area against area.

At this year's NUM Conference the union officials were instructed to abandon negotiations over a productivity deal and fight for a basic wage of £135 a week for faceworkers.

NUM President Joe Gormley has made it clear he cares not a jot for conference decisions. He has led the betrayal which resulted in the NUM executive voting by 13 to 11 last Thursday to put the deal to a membership ballot.

Gormley is pretending that the £135 claim can go ahead after the prod deal is settled, but he knows well that a productivity deal would spell the end of militant national wage claims.



Miners lobbying the union executive last Thursday

## TELL THEM TO STUFF THE DEAL, SAY MINERS

MINERS from Yorkshire, Scotland and South Wales travelled to London in a militant mood to lobby the NUM executive last week.

They were angry because their executive was to discuss putting the Coal Board's proposed productivity deal to ballot vote, although only three months ago the union

conference decided against a productivity deal.

The miners' special anger was reserved for Len Clarke, the Nottingham Area president who backed the £135 demand at conference but who has since called it 'unattainable'.

Yorkshire Area president Arthur Scargill was greeted by shouts of 'Grab 'em by their incentives, Arthur!'

NUM branch treasurer

Keith Millington from Royston Drift Mine, near Barnsley, told Socialist Worker: 'What we want is the £135 a week.'

'The Coal Board can afford it. In the year that Royston has been open they've made over £6 million out of it.'

'In the Yorkshire Area, in six months, nine men have been killed.'

'Seven of those were working for private contractors

like Thyssens and Cementation, on a piece-rate system. They are encouraged to take risks because they have got to get the yardage to get their pay.'

Harry Riley, NUM branch secretary at Brodsworth Colliery, near Doncaster, said: 'I was down the pit yesterday on an inspection and went to a 10,000 tons a week face where the men have got good conditions and good

machinery.'

'So I stopped on and got the men from the day shift together with the afternoon men, and I said to them: "Knowing what you do about the conditions here what do you think about a productivity deal?"'

'And they said to me: "You can tell them to stuff it. We don't believe in differentials between men in this industry."'

Picture: John Sturrock (Report)

## HOW MUCH DO MINERS REALLY EARN?

Take-home pay of an underground face worker for a 37¼ hour basic week in Goldthorpe Colliery, near Doncaster, in the past three years of the Social Contract:

1975	£41.90
1976	£43.60
1977	£45.00

□ Source: Yorkshire Miner.

## DEATH IN THE PITS

One miner is killed every week at work. In 1975 64 miners were killed at work, 586 were seriously injured. In 1976 50 died, 535 were seriously injured.

In 1975 the Department of Health and Social Security reported 683 new cases of pneumoconiosis, the disease caused by coal dust, which kills miners slowly and painfully over many years.

## GRUNWICKS NEEDS YOU NOW!

Mass picket called every Monday by Grunwick Strike Committee. Major national effort must be made especially for Monday 7 November.

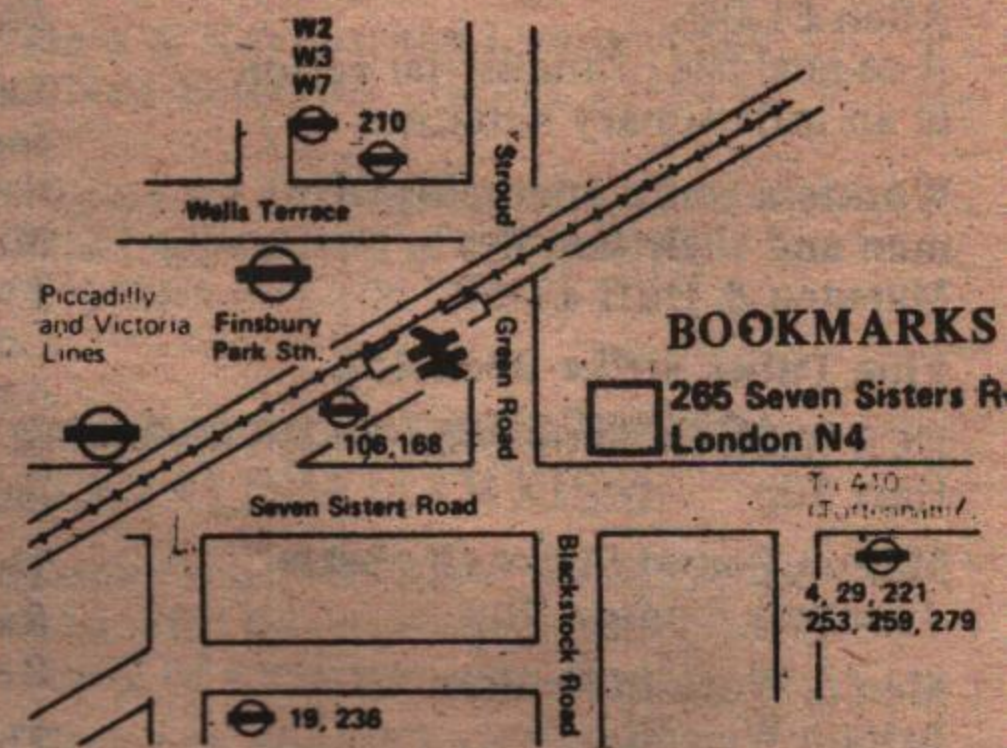
□ 6.30am onwards, Chapter Road, London, NW10 (next to Dollis Hill tube). Support strike committee lobby of TUC this Wednesday.

□ Phone the Rank and File Centre for details, 01-802 0978.

The Newsreel Collective's film on Grunwicks, 50 minutes of full colour, is touring the country. Use it to get support for the picket. Phone 01-794 2825 for details.



# BOOKMARKS BOOKLIST 1977-8



## 265 SEVEN SISTERS ROAD LONDON N4

BOOKMARKS has produced this special shortened booklist for SOCIALIST WORKER readers in order to introduce just a few of the vast range of books now available which will interest socialists and trade unionists.

It has been very difficult for us to select the 300-400 titles presented here, and everyone will know books we should have included and haven't. We do, however, have a more complete list which will be sent to anyone in return for a 10p stamp, or free with any order from this list.

If you want to order a book or books from the list, please send your order with cheque or PO (made to

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If you want to be sure to see our full range, then visit us at Finsbury Park. We are open 10am to 6pm every day except Sunday, with special late opening till 8pm on Wednesdays. The map shows that we are a stone's throw from Finsbury Park Station on the Piccadilly and Victoria Underground lines, as well as being served by innumerable bus routes, and being close to the main A1 and A10 routes out of London

Most of the books listed here will also be obtainable over the counter at the other SWP bookshops:

- Birmingham: Socialist Bookcentre, 224 Digbeth High Street
- Coventry: Socialist and TU Books, 65 Queen Victoria Rd
- Glasgow: SW Books, 64 Queen St., Glasgow C1
- Hull: Socialist Books, 238 Spring Bank
- Manchester: TU Books, Basement, 260 Deansgate

Please Note: We have done our best to make sure that the prices shown on this list are up-to-date. But book prices are rising, if anything, even faster than the cost of living, so we may have to bill you for a price rise. If we do we ask you to bear with us .....

### BOOKS USEFUL TO THE RANK & FILE TRADE UNIONIST

- Investigators Handbook Community Action 30p
- A guide for tenants, workers and action groups on how to investigate companies, organisations and individuals
- Shop Stewards Guide to Workplace Health and Safety 60p
- Worker's Guide to the Employment Protection Act 95p
- Oil BSSRS 75p
- Noise BSSRS 25p
- Ways of fighting the most widespread industrial disease
- Asbestos: the Killer Dust 1p
- Living with Capitalism: class relations and the modern factory Nichols and Beynon £2-75
- How Capitalism Works Jalee £2-35
- At last a thoroughly and really readable account of the Marxist analysis of capitalism
- Your Employers Profits Hird 90p
- The book to help you work out exactly how well your employer is doing out of you

The following series of books deal with different aspects of trade union organisation:-

- Industrial Action Johnston 85p
- The Organised Worker Topham 75p
- Workers' Rights O'Higgins 85p
- Statistics for Bargainers Hedderwick 75p
- Calculating Hutton 75p
- Activists Handbook Houlton 75p
- Pay at Work Conboy 85p
- Work Study Powell 85p
- How to get the facts about Prices and Profits LRD 35p

Mr. Chairman! Hannington 75p

The Citrine book is the Chairman's 'bible', whereas Mr. Chairman! is a shorter, more digestible statement of the basics

Trade Union Studies BBC Book 1 £1-00 Book 2 £1-40

Handbooks for the TV series, useful information for rank and file trade unionists

Safety or Profit Nichols & Armstrong 30p

Hazards of Work: How to Fight them Kinnersley 90p

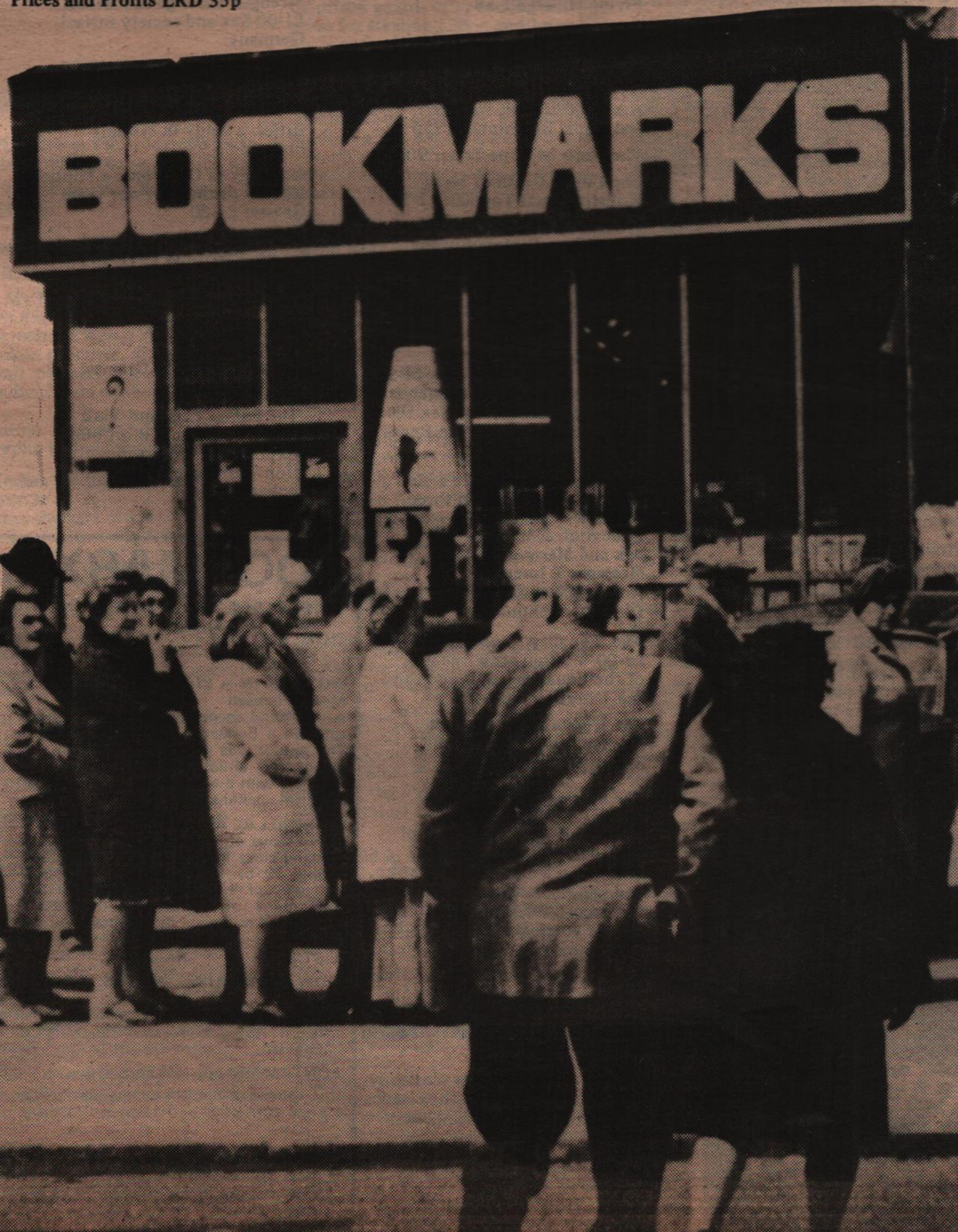
Work is dangerous to your health Stelman £2-20

'Hazards' is aimed at the shop-floor militant concerned with getting something done, whilst 'Work is dangerous....' gives detailed information on which to base a particular case.

ABC of Chairmanship Citrine £1-50

### LABOUR & INDUSTRY

- Workers Divided Nichols & Armstrong £1-25
- A study in shopfloor politics
- Working at Fords Beynon £2-25
- This book is described by Ford Motor Company as 'extreme left wing propaganda .... we don't think it merits serious discussion, as it's not a serious attempt at sociology or education'.....!
- Lonrho Cronje & Ling £1-50
- A picture of one of the many unacceptable faces of capitalism
- Labour & Monopoly Capital: The degradation of work in the 20th century Braverman £3-75
- Modern day continuation of Marx's Capital on the alienation of workers under capitalism. Highly recommended by review in ISJ 86
- We shall be all Flynn 90p
- new essays on four episodes in Scottish working-class history
- Grunwick Rogaly 80p
- Written by a Financial Times Journalist, so not exactly a left-wing point of view, but it should be interesting.





**Militant Trade Unionism**  
Allen £1-00  
A re-analysis of industrial action in an inflationary situation

**Workless: some unemployed men and their families**  
Marsden & Duff £1-50

**Fine Tubes Strike** Beck 45p

**UCS Work-In** Thompson & Hart 50p

**Million Pound Strike** (Roberts Arundel) Arnison 40p

**Men & Work in Modern Britain** Weir 80p

**Strikes** Hyman 85p

**May 1926, the General Strike**  
Farman £1-00

**Labour Party and the Struggle for Socialism** Coates £2-00

**Parliamentary Socialism**  
Milliband £2-10

Two books about the Labour Government in power, which demonstrate the impossibility of bringing socialism through Parliament

**The World Turned Upside Down: Radical Ideas during the English Revolution** Hill £1-00

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**The Levellers and the English Revolution**

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**Sex and Racism** Hernton 50p

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Muhammad Ali 90p

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These are the books for the fourth quarter, 1977.

**LIST A**  
**WORKER IN A WORKER'S STATE**, by Miklos Haraszti  
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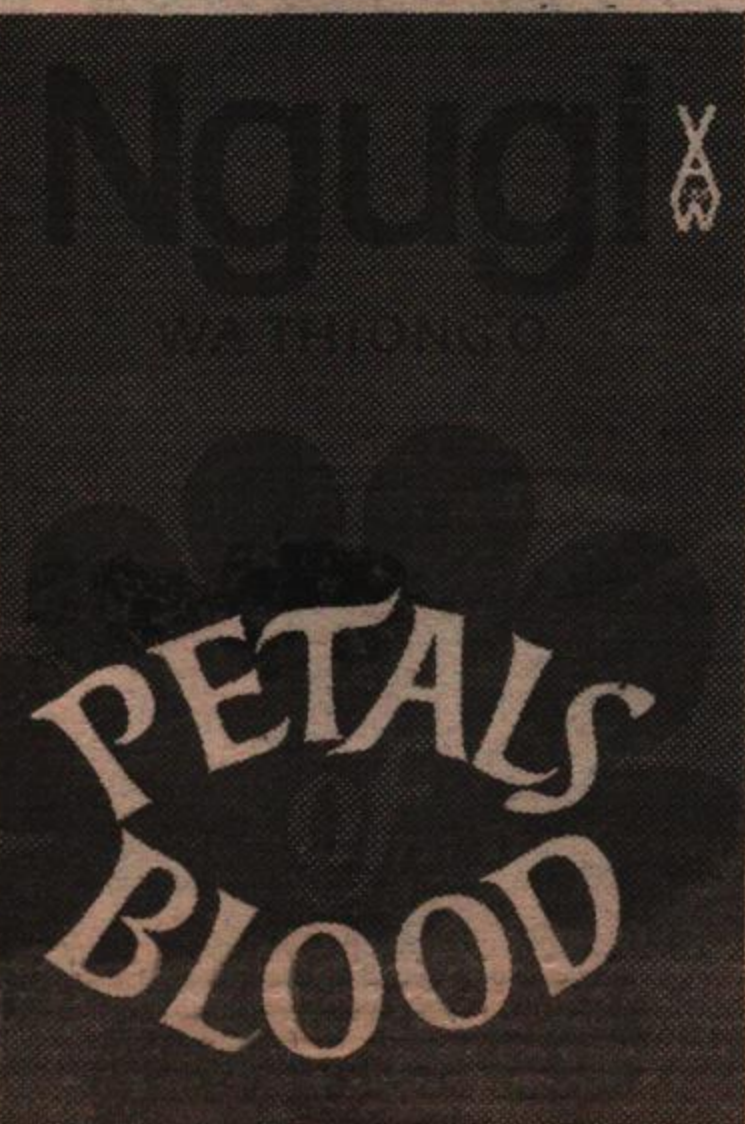
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**LIST C**  
**THE SUFFRAGETTES**, by Sylvia Pankhurst  
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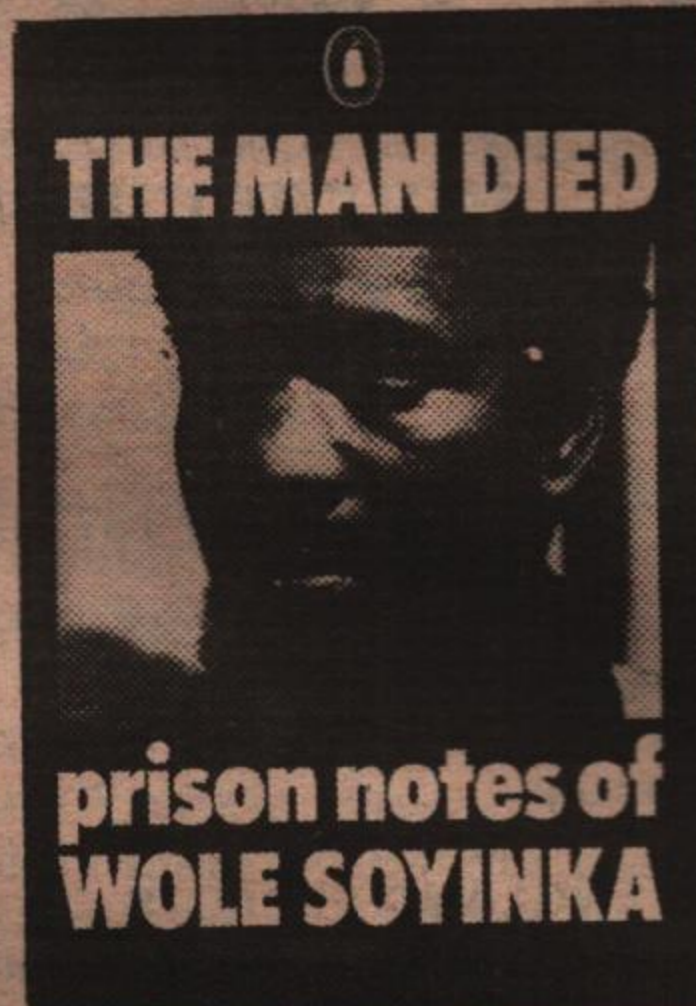
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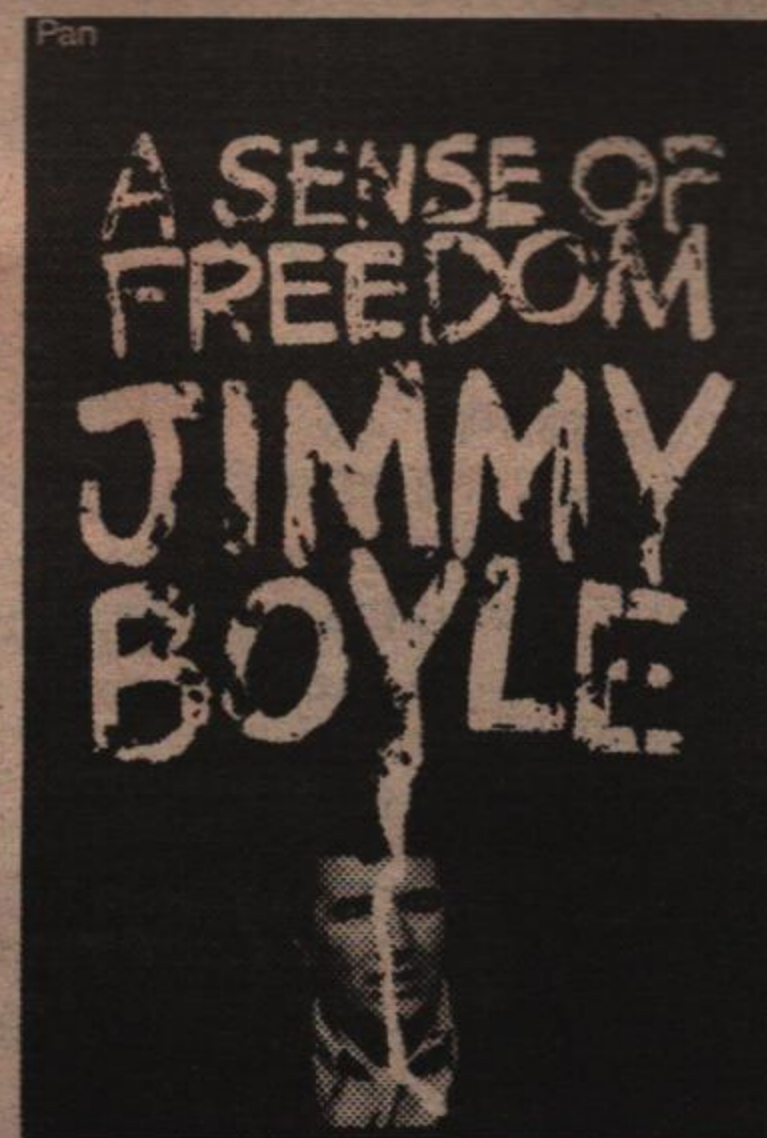
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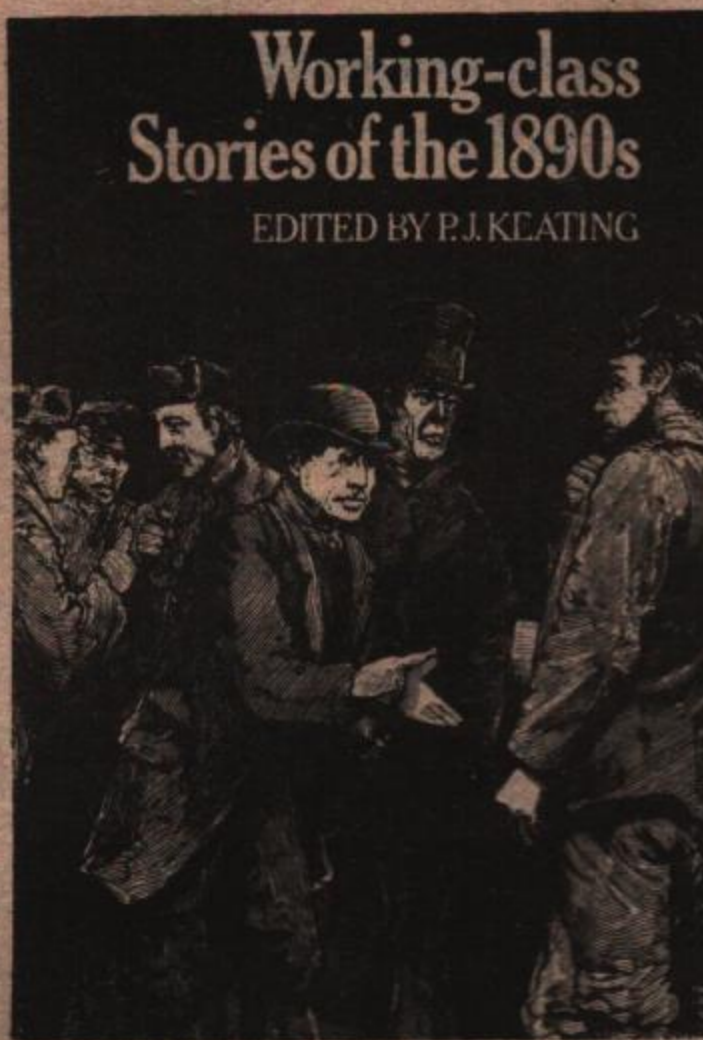
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