

HITLER COMES TO DEWSBURY

— protesters fined

SEE PAGE FOUR

Marchers for the Right to Work in Yorkshire

THIS PAGE AND PAGE FIVE

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p

THIS IS AN ANGER MARCH NOT A HUNGER MARCH

They're cutting our lives to shreds

PENSIONERS in day care centres are to lose their one free packet of cigarettes a week.

DISABLED making handicrafts will have their pay of a few pennies an hour stopped.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN in day care will no longer get free meals.

THREE reasons why trade unionists in the city of Dundee are angry.

So angry that 800 shop stewards have called for a one-day strike this Friday.

They are furious and fighting because these are just some of the spending cuts imposed by the local Tory council under pressure from the so-called Labour government in Westminster.

Other cuts include:

No more cheap fares for pensioners.

Three new nursery schools, Whitfield, Ardler and Douglas, will not be reopened. Teachers and cleaning staff will be sacked.

There are to be sackings in the public works department and the hospitals. Unemployment in Dundee is already twice the national average.

Poverty Line

According to a Low Pay Unit report last year Dundee is the poorest single region in Britain. A third of its manual workers earn less than £30 a week. 16,000 Dundee families live below the government's own poverty line.

These were the people the Labour government claimed were going to benefit most from its beloved Social Contract.

Have they benefited? Have they hell. The Social Contract has meant huge increases in the cost of food, electricity, bus and train fares. Instead of unemployment going down, it has gone up.

Ian Leggat, a Dundee District Labour councillor, told Socialist Worker: 'The Labour government is betraying its supporters. It is time for the working people of Dundee to take matters into their own hands and demand the expansion of public services and the right to work.'

That goes for workers everywhere. For what is happening to the old, the crippled, the sick, the unemployed, the schoolkids in Dundee is happening throughout Britain.

THIS is an anger march, not a hunger march. Graham Cook, an unemployed miner from Derbyshire, told a crowd in Dewsbury on Tuesday. He summed up the mood of the March for the Right to Work.

The march ran like an electric current of agitation through Yorkshire this week.

As it moved through Huddersfield, Dewsbury, Ossett, Wakefield, and took the road to Barnsley, delegations left it every hour to visit engineering factories, pits, hospitals, and other workplaces threatened with redundancy.

On Tuesday morning alone, five engineering factories in the Ossett area welcomed delegations.

The support of the Yorkshire Miners' Area council was reflected throughout Yorkshire.

On Wednesday miners at the North Gawber pit provided lunch for the marchers. Miners at Woolly, Barrow, Rockingham, Frickley, South Kirkby and Houghton Main have declared support for the march, held collections and were to meet delegations.

Trade union support for the Rank and File Organising Committee's Right to Work campaign has gone from strength to strength. By Tuesday 458



The marchers leaving Manchester. PICTURE: John Sturrock (Report)

union bodies had voted support.

All these supporting bodies are being asked to send delegations to the Albert Hall Rally where the march ends on Saturday 20 March.

Too Old

One person who will be there is Fred Ford, who spoke to Socialist Worker

on the demonstration that accompanied the marchers out of Manchester.

'I've been unemployed for three years. I'm in my sixties. According to the Department of Employment I'm too old to work. But I'm too young for my pension.'

'I took part in the marches of 1932, 1934 and

1936. Forty years and several Labour governments later, I've again got to demonstrate for the right to work, a basic right for all working men and women.

'I'll certainly be down to London to meet the marchers at the Albert Hall.'

□ FULL STORY on pages 5, 8 and 9.

GREET THE MARCHERS IN LONDON Saturday 20 March

Demonstrate with the Right to Work marchers. Assemble Shepherds Bush Green (by Shepherds Bush tube), West London at 10.30am, and march to the MASS PROTEST RALLY AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT at the Albert Hall, 1.30pm.

Labour's North Sea oil conjuring trick

THE Labour government has got a majority shareholding in a North Sea oil company.

Before you start shouting 'Amazing! Here's one solitary election pledge they haven't trampled on', you should know of the extraordinary methods used to do this.

The 51 per cent deal involves an arrangement with the Gulf-Conoco-National Coal Board North Sea oil consortium, an interesting mixture of multinational private capital and British-based state capitalism.

It is an amazing trick by that millionaire and millionaires' friend Harold Lever, personal economic adviser to Harold Wilson.

Lever and the oil giants have agreed that a small slice of shares in each of the subsidiary companies holding North Sea licences will be passed to the state-owned British National Oil Corporation. But the share of profits has been left unaltered.



As the Sunday Times business news put it last Sunday, Lever has a bit of paper giving BNOG 'ownership of the licences' but 'this leaves the original legal agreements with the parent companies unaltered'.

The Labour government has also given way to big business over development land.

A year ago they were boasting about how they were going to stop property speculators making huge killings. Now the property speculators have persuaded Labour to let them continue piling up huge fortunes. For the tax threshold on profits from land speculation has been reduced from 80 per cent to 66 per cent.

The government has also published its long-awaited guidelines for the National Enterprise Board.

As The Economist put it: 'The new rules are close to what the Confederation of British Industry wanted . . . That makes a suitable epitaph for the Labour government.'



The cover of a pamphlet published this week by Edinburgh International Socialists, titled Workers and North Sea Oil. It focuses on the often appalling conditions on the rigs and in the onshore oil boom—particularly relevant as six men died when a rig capsized this week. Copies 6p plus 8p postage (10 or more post free) from Rosie Smallwood, 9 High Street, Edinburgh.

THE BBC OPENS ITS DOOR TO THE RACISTS

WHILE 1500 people travelled to Coventry on Saturday to oppose the National Front and its racist demands, the BBC did more in a half-hour broadcast to spread the Front's racist filth than any marcher could have hoped for.

For that was the aim of the BBC's Open Door film last Saturday on behalf of the British Campaign to Stop Immigration, more than half of which was made under the auspices of the right-wing Monday Club. This was organised by George Young, the openly racist Tory candidate for Brent in 1974.

The commentator, Jim Merrick, who is the secretary of the campaign, is an ex-Tory councillor who joined the National Front in April 1974. His racist, anti-semitic views and Nazi sympathies are well-documented. Three years ago his organisation merged with the Sussex-based Racial Preservation Society.

Dowager Lady Jane Birdwood, who spoke on the programme for the 'ordinary' British people, is a member of the Tory Party. She has marched with the National Front and spoken at their meetings.

The smooth professional presentation, complete with

by **NERGHIS KHAN**

union jacks, brass bands and crowds roaring approvingly in the background, was reminiscent of the Nazi propaganda films.

The film was the usual racist propaganda that blacks are dirty, they spread disease, breed faster, live on hand-outs. It was all done by a clever mixture of pseudo-scientific presentation and interviews with 'ordinary' British people.

A picture of a slum is accompanied by the statement: 'It is not the case that people are pushed into slummy areas; it is the people who make slums.' Pseudo-medical pictures of black and white cells back-up the claim that immigrants are contaminating the cities, and that 'dispersal' is essential.

Ordinary

The 'ordinary' people interviewed were either groups of old ladies in derelict areas, or National Front sympathisers and members. Several were interviewed on an 'Enoch is Right' demonstration in Bradford in 1972. One confessed to being a National Front member, another to being an ex-SAS man.

It was these 'normal' British people who spoke about how the good clean British folk were being pushed out of their homes and their jobs, church halls turned into Indian cinemas, our national identity being blurred . . .

The answer? Ironically, a Community Relations Officer gave his 'solution': strong immigration control, stricter deportation.

A good part of the programme was devoted to pushing the policy of repatriation. A Tory MP justified this by saying that the situation had become so bad that only drastic action could solve it. It was only natural to prefer one's own', he added, to defend his clearly racist position.

It is vital that these racists be stopped from spreading their dangerous and disgusting propaganda. Socialist Worker appeals to the workers at the BBC studios to refuse to broadcast this film again on Saturday.

PICKET THE BBC: Thursday 4 March, 4.30pm-6.30pm, Lime Grove Studio, Shepherd's Bush, West London.

Front beats students

STUDENTS at Brunel University learnt to their cost last week that the supporters of the Open Door television film against immigration last week do not restrict themselves to 'peaceful persuasion'.

Four men turned up at a Saturday evening dance saying they were members of the National Front. They shouted insults at black members of the pop group that was playing, and hit three of the stewards.

But when the police were called, no action was taken against the four.

CARSHALTON by-election: Socialist Worker public meeting: Stop the Cuts, Fight Unemployment. Speaker Dick North (NUT executive and National Right to Work Campaign). Monday 8 March, 8pm, St Peter's Church Hall, Bishopford Road, Morden.

SO THE COUNTRY CAN'T AFFORD IT?

Debt charges now make up 70 per cent of the total cost of local authority housing. (Financial Times, 25 February).

Total spending on supplementary benefits last year was £875 million (Financial Times, 9 January).

Total spending on advertising in Britain forecast for this year, £1100 million (Financial Times, 8 January).

OUR MURDERING 'KITH AND KIN'



Last Friday's front page in the Daily Mirror

THE 'moderates' have found a new cause for concern: Rhodesia—or more precisely the defence of its privileged ruling white minority.

Tory wheeler dealer Reginald Maudling leapt to their defence last week in the House of Commons.

'If guerrilla forces were to invade Rhodesia and there was widespread slaughter of the white population while the British government remained on the sidelines, there would be an explosion of anger in this country,' he said.

Another defender of democracy weighed in behind Maudling, Woodrow Wyatt, businessman and advocate of moderation in all things, particularly trade unions, asked this question in his Sunday Mirror column this

week: 'How will you react if you see pictures of raped, murdered and mutilated white Rhodesians? Will you shrug your shoulders and say it serves them right?'

He does not say that such scenes have already occurred. Only blacks, not whites, have been 'murdered and mutilated'.

Look at this story printed by the Daily Mirror last Friday, but not taken up by the other papers or by the television.

Massacre

Tom McCarthy, a 22-year-old Londoner who was in a Rhodesian army patrol that attacked an African village, told the Mirror how the army patrol massacred 60 unarmed villagers. They first set fire to all the huts from a distance, then 'we went through the village and shot everyone who could be found.'

'There were some kids on their mothers' backs and they were shot separately. The children who could walk were shot and carried by their ankles to a pit and covered in petrol.'

Next time you hear Maudling or Wyatt droning on about 'savages' and our 'kith and kin', remember McCarthy's story. Remember what so-called 'white civilisation' really means.

Remember it too next time you hear of a British minister being sent to negotiate a 'peaceful settlement' with Rhodesia's rulers, aimed at 'stopping a guerrilla war'. He will be discussing with the people who have given the orders for such massacres.

Councillors suspended for opposing cuts

TWO LABOUR councillors, Ron Brown and Neil Lindsay, were recently suspended from the Labour group of the Lothian regional council in Scotland. Their 'crime' was opposing cuts that have already been implemented.

Ron Brown, who is also president of the Engineering Union, Bilton branch, spoke

you suspend-
opposed the
an region
matter of
further
ing

other means. The real blame, of course, lies with the government which is trying to implement Tory policies by cutting the rate support grant to local authorities.

What do the cutbacks mean?

They will inevitably mean undermanning, lower standards of service, and greater fire risk for working class families in Edinburgh.

The fire service have been told to stop recruitment and curtail expenditure on new equipment. They will be less able to deal with outbreaks of fire in working class localities.

How does it affect the old folk?

There are two obvious examples. The cost of meals to lunch clubs etc will increase, from 6p to 10p. That may not seem a lot, but to old people on a low pension it is an incredible rise.

Worse-off

The charge for home helps is also going up. They say this will only apply to the better off—but that will mean a means test for the worse-off.

How do the cutbacks affect unemployment in the area?

It is difficult to get hard figures. But the aim is not to employ any more workers

unless special approval is given.

This will clearly increase unemployment in the Lothian region, one of the worst in Scotland for school-leavers on the dole.

Contrary to the claims of the press, overmanning is not the problem. I resigned as vice-chairman of the Water and Drainage Committee because that department is undermanned. The cuts will make the situation worse.

What do you think of the Labour government?

It is difficult to find words to express my disgust. Wilson and Co are carrying out the Tory strategy of making the

workers pay for the crisis.

They are getting away with policies the Tories would never have been allowed to implement.

A large part of the blame must lie with the general paralysis affecting the parliamentary left. They bleat about Wilson's policies but do nothing about them.

How do you think the cutbacks, unemployment and the virtual wage freeze should be fought?

There is no easy answer. We have to build up shop-floor organisation with political understanding of the present crisis.

SO YOU BELIEVE THOSE MYTHS ABOUT BLACKS?

A REPORT just out dispels some of the myths about black workers. It reveals the following facts:

1. 61 per cent of black male workers are trade union members, compared to 47 per cent of the general population.
2. One in three black women workers are union members.
3. Black union membership is specifically higher in unskilled and semi-skilled jobs.

Pay

4. Only 4 per cent of Asians are in council houses. 76 per cent own their own homes—not semis in suburbia, but mostly poor, cheap houses in old inner city areas.

5. Average pay for white men between 25 and 54 in non-manual jobs is £52.40, for black workers it is £40.

6. 60 per cent of Pakistanis are in semi-skilled jobs, compared to 18 per cent of all workers.

The report, *Facts of Racial Disadvantage*, was produced by a group called Political and Economic Planning.

The cost of Labour's birthday present

THIS WEEK is the Labour government's second anniversary. The trade union leaders are giving them a birthday present that will cost their members dear.

The TUC argues in its latest economic review that the cuts announced a fortnight ago are not as serious as the press claim. For the gentlemen of the TUC General Council, it seems that cutting schools, hospitals and social services to the bone is a cause for 'concern' but not undue worry.

The leaders of unions such as the Transport Workers are urging that wage rises be restricted to about 5p in the pound from July.

Yet even the government's fraudulent 'price check'—which ignores electricity, coal, food, postal charges, fares, all the things the government is itself forcing up—admits that prices will be rising by that much in only six months.

In other words union leaders who

Socialist Worker

WHAT WE THINK

are supposed to defend living standards, are conspiring with the government to cut them further.

The behaviour of the left MPs has been marginally better. At least they spoke out against the cuts.

But their campaign against them has already ground to a halt. They placed all their hopes on moves to get a special conference of the Labour Party. Last week its national executive rejected that call. Among those opposing it was the 'left-wing' member of the Transport Union leadership, Alec Kitson.

Another sign of the disgusting attitude of the official leaders is the

official strike figures for the past year. The proportion of strikes being made official is the lowest for 11 years. Only three strike days in 20 were made official last year, compared with 12 out of 20 in 1971-73.

There's a simple lesson in this. We have been told, year in, year out, that the way to achieve socialist aims is to pressurise MPs and union leaders. Whenever anyone has suggested otherwise they have been denounced as 'extremists', as 'splitters', as 'wreckers'.

Now is the time to give the alternative a chance.

The alternative is to link up those groups of rank and file socialists and trade unionists that have led the unofficial strikes, that have been campaigning for the right to work, that will be fighting the cuts.

If trade union leaders and left MPs want to go along with such a united rank and file organisation, so much the better. If they won't, we will have to build an organisation that can fight without them.

One paper that DIDN'T ignore the march

IF YOU read the national papers you may not have noticed that the March for the Right to Work left Manchester last Saturday. The national television news gave it no publicity.

The Sun and Express did not print a word. The Daily Mail did—only to denounce it as not in the spirit of the Jarrow march of 1936 because it was 'politically' motivated. The Tory press of 1936 attacked the Jarrow march for the same reasons.

The Daily Mirror did print a friendly account of the march, with a picture. But in its Northern edition only.

Even the Morning Star only felt able to give the march one paragraph, which repeated the lie that the march is an 'International Socialist' march—as if it did not have the support of hundreds of trade union bodies, as if many of the marchers themselves are not, regrettably, members of the International Socialists.

Yet the march has enjoyed the sympathy of most of the workers who have seen it pass.

Vote

That is why we record with pride that the paper you are reading now is the only one to devote its full resources to winning support for the march and reporting its progress.

But we cannot do so without your help. Most of our sales depend on the voluntary efforts of readers who take Socialist Worker into factories, housing estates and shopping centres. Without the dozens of financial donations, large and small, that come into our offices every week, our soaring bills for paper, ink, electricity, phones and postage could not be paid.

So, if you agree with the job we're doing, shove your hand in your pocket and contribute to our fighting fund.

This week we received £61.50.

Our thanks to: Chessington readers £2, Portsmouth disco £20, Ian Colquhoun, Wiblescombe £3, T. A. Currie £1.50, P. Jackson, Hove £15, Lowestoft 15 1.1.75, Janet Winterbourne £12, A. A. Mour, Luton 50p, Norwich shoe worker £2, SW supporter, Norwich £1, Gateshead 15 80p.

Nigel Coward £100, Stockport District 15 18.25, Heinz SW supporters, plus Phil's 1p collection £0.82.

Send your donations to SW Fighting Fund, 8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN.

PICTURE: CHRIS DAVIES (REPORT)



'Against sackings, for an alternative production, 4500 in struggle' says the banner as thousands of workers from Leyland's Italian Innocenti plant marched through Milan last week. An agreement between the Italian government and Leyland—owned by our own 'Labour' government—says 2000 of the 4500 Innocenti workers are to lose their jobs.

ONE of the most hysterical opponents of nationalisation has been appointed head of the nationalised British Leyland.

He is Sir Richard Dobson, one of the world's most powerful capitalists. He is already chairman of British American Tobacco, an enormous multinational company with £276 million profits last year.

Last month Sir Richard got a pay rise—of £400 a week, bringing his total salary to more than £1000 a week.

His salary at British Leyland will drop to a mere £500 a week. But Sir Richard will compensate for that by taking most of his due pension tax-free from BAT. This will bring him a cool £80,000.

What's more, his new job is not going to take up all his time. He will still get an added income from two other directorships, including one with the giant oil firm Exxon.

No doubt this will ensure that the interests of the 'nationalised' car firm and those who make profits out of petrol do not conflict.

What Dobson will be getting his huge pay packet for

SECRET THREAT TO 2000 LEYLAND JOBS

came to light inadvertently last week.

When the Ryder Report on British Leyland was published certain sections were suppressed by Tony Benn, then the minister responsible. These dealt with plant closures.

At a recent 'participation' meeting in Birmingham between shop stewards and management, the shop stewards were shown part of the report. In a list of plants in Birmingham four had red crosses against them.

The crosses, Leyland management whispered in complete confidence, marked

the plants that were due to be closed.

At least 2000 jobs are threatened in Perry Bar, Percy Road, Taseley and Tyburn Road plants. But the senior convenors present at the meeting did not rush out, summon meetings of their shop stewards' committees, call mass meetings and announce their intention to defend the jobs.

Instead a report in the Leyland Mirror, the company newspaper, quotes union representatives as remarking on the 'frankness of the management team in providing detailed and confidential information'.

The convenors were prepared to leave their members in complete ignorance of the axe over their heads.

Luckily for the 2000 workers whose jobs are now at stake, rumours about the closures leaked from the meeting and the news is now all over Birmingham.

Leyland should be told that everything discussed at these meetings will be reported back to the shop floor.

Political struggle abolished—official

THERE will be no more political crimes in Northern Ireland. From now on there will only be 'ordinary' crime. Northern Ireland Secretary, Merlyn Rees, has said so.

Rees has decreed that no one committing an offence in future will be given Special Category—'political prisoner'—status.

Special Category was introduced by Rees's Tory predecessor William Whitelaw in 1972 after a long hunger strike by detained members of the Provisionals. Such prisoners wear their own clothes, do no prison work, sleep in communal huts and are allowed food parcels.

Which is not to say they live a life of ease in Long Kesh. Magi Uigan and Armagh camps. Although the regime is different from that in other prisons, the actual conditions are appalling, as doctors, clergymen and the International Red Cross have testified.

In Long Kesh in the past two years one man has died

TROOPS OUT



from lack of medical attention, one has been shot dead trying to escape and one hanged himself—a better indication of conditions than fanciful stories in the Daily

Mirror about high jinks, lemonade banquets and lessons in terrorism.

The organisations directly involved are determined to fight the abolition of the Special Category, not because Long Kesh is like Butlins behind barbed wire, but because Special Category amounts to acceptance that they have political motives.

It is for precisely the same reason that Rees wants to end it.

Hope

For the past two years Rees has been trying, in his own phrase, to 'criminalise' the violence. That is, to present the 'men of violence' as mere gangsters, psychopaths or sadists or out to line their own pockets, with no political ideas worth considering.

He hoped this to hasten the rejection of 'extremism' and, by the same token, to encourage acceptance of a 'moderate' solution.

Of course there isn't going to be any moderate solution. The final attempt at one, the

Constitutional Convention, staggered to a close on Tuesday with all the dignity of a collapsing drunk.

That apart, Rees is contradicting himself anyway. The special treatment of politically-motivated offenders is not to end. They will still appear before non-jury courts. Hearsay evidence against them will continue to be accepted.

They will still be presumed guilty and asked to prove innocence.

The pretence that the men in the prison camps are ordinary 'criminals'—and it takes only a moment's thought to realise that it is a pretence the government's refusal to face political reality. The motivation for most Special Category prisoners—to get Britain to withdraw unconditionally from Northern Ireland—is what really matters for socialists. For that reason alone, socialists should oppose Rees's move.

EAMONN McCANN

Hitler was right!

For shouting those words, these fascists received police support



For answering those words trade unionists received police violence . . .



Colin Moore: a curious police 'training film'



Terry Bristowe: disgusted by sight of police beating up Asian youth

I'M NOT an admirer of British justice.

I've sat in too many magistrates courts and seen employers fined three and sixpence ha'penny for killing and maiming workers.

There are other courts where two and three year jail sentences are imposed on men like Des Warren and Ricky Tomlinson.

Their crime? They picketed building sites where workers get killed and maimed in the pursuit of profit.

So I didn't expect to be surprised by the hearings last week at Dewsbury magistrates court of charges against a number of anti-National Front demonstrators.

Lying

Nevertheless, surprised I was yet again by the blatant lying of the boys in blue.

Surprised by the remarkable inability of the magistrates to see what was going on.

And surprised, pleasantly surprised, by the tremendous performance put up by the defendants, none of whom was in the slightest degree

LAURIE FLYNN reports from the courtroom at Dewsbury



The National Front believes passionately in 'law and order': it also believes in members, such as these in Bradford last April, taking shotguns on demonstrations.

cowed by the police or in any way regretful of what they had done.

And what had they done that should cause them to be hauled before the magistrates court (chairman: Mr A J Sugden, retired former managing director of the Double Two Shirt Company)?

The defendant had

demonstrated against the arrival in this Yorkshire town of a lot of filthy fascists.

They had decided that they didn't intend the local Asian community to be left on their own to be bullied and intimidated by the National Front.

So they demonstrated and heckled and let the fascists

know exactly how they felt about them.

Then when one of the Front men shouted 'Hitler was Right' from the steps of Dewsbury Town Hall, they redoubled their efforts.

The result was that the police waded in and made a number of arrests via their special Task Force squad.

This squad is the result of recent reorganisations carried through in Yorkshire to deal with striking miners, picketing dockers and other subversives who believe that seven per cent of the population should not own eighty four per cent of the wealth.

Dragged

According to my reconstruction of events in Dewsbury on that fateful Saturday last November, the special squad operated roughly like this.

Wade in, arrest 'the leaders', drag them off to the Task Force van, deposit them inside and swiftly return to wade in again.

From there, it's easy. Some other officer will say he arrested the victim.

He'll then appear in court and swear on a stack of bibles that this is so, give a good deal of incriminating evidence which, by a miraculous

□ The Dewsbury defendants' defence committee estimates that by the time all fines and costs have been met they will be in hock to the tune of £500. Donations please to Defence Fund, c/o Selwyn Smith, 20 Healey Drive, Ossett, West Yorkshire.

chance, agrees in every detail with what his partner is going to say.

And eight times out of ten that's it. Mr A J Sugden will weigh you off and impose a fine.

The fines however aren't quite heavy enough for insatiable police appetites.

Nevertheless, around two out of ten get off. British justice likes to keep up something of an appearance, you see.

Nationalist

The two at Dewsbury last Wednesday and Thursday were both members of IS, Pete Elliott and Terry Bristowe.

Pete Elliott got off because the defence lawyer made an imposing little speech.

Terry Bristowe got off because of his remarkable insistence on calling the police liars and explaining how disgusted he was when he saw police officers beating up a young Asian lad and how he tried to put a stop to these goings on.

Contrived

Others, like Barry Whitworth, Ernest Wilson, Tom South, Ray Holmes, Colin Moore, were found guilty despite forthright performances in the dock.

Colin, informed that the police had made 'a training film' of the whole demonstration, pointed out that such a film would be none too good if there was no action in it, police contrived action for example.

But it was all to no avail. The top policemen withdrew the film and insisted that the National Front had behaved in an exemplary fashion.

Which is why none of them were arrested.

The Front are indeed exemplary people. They love law and order. They want more discipline and they do not call policemen liars inside court, outside court or anywhere at all.

What's more, they only threaten blacks, trade unionists and subversives, and not property owners, important people such as the directors of firms like Double Two Shirts.

IN A RECENT parliamentary debate on the protection of wildlife, the government were asked if they had any plans to conserve one particularly endangered species: the Scottish Tory.

The question had more than a ring of truth about it—and, since it came from a Labour MP, more than a tinge of irony, too.

For the electoral whipping the Tories north of the border have received from the Scottish National Party in recent years is now beginning to take its toll of Labour.

Recent SNP successes in East Kilbride and Bo'ness, for example, wiped out big Labour majorities.

The only issue, it seems, is 'devolution'—and the fear of being eclipsed on it by the SNP has led certain pillars of the Labour Party to break away and form the Scottish Labour Party.

The main driving force behind the SLP is Jim Sillars, an MP who could see the electoral writing on the wall for the Labour Party.

His answer is for the SLP to beat the nationalists at their own game, to dress up the same policies in 'socialist' clothes so as to win working class support.

Every problem—unemployment, slum housing, the Chrysler crisis—can be solved, say he and his cronies, with a parliament in Scotland.

How a Labour parliament in Scotland would take on Chrysler and bend it to its will, when a Labour parliament in Britain was unable

The Squash-it Labour Party



JIM SILLARS is the Labour M.P. for South Ayrshire. He is also a former fireman and official of the Fire Brigade Union. He knows and supports the Glasgow firemen's case for a better deal, but about their strike decision he says:

Sorry, mates, you're dead wrong!



James Fochman... the man who brought Glasgow's firemen out on strike

The new SLP is more likely to hold back socialism than advance it

to do any such thing, is never explained.

Nor can it be, because the SLP—just like its equivalent south of the border—is in business for the winning of working class votes by rhetoric, not by deed.

And the main aim of the rhetoric is to gloss over the poverty of those deeds, to blind workers to the betrayals.

A clue to that simple fact is to be found in the antics of

Sillars himself, who now says he has broken from the Labour Party because of its position on devolution (which is honest) AND because of its complete failure to bring socialism (which is dishonest).

For the man who, suddenly, has discovered that the Labour Party has betrayed its supporters has a few betrayals of his own to explain away.

Just over two years ago,

when the Glasgow firemen struck against the Tory government's wage freeze, they were denounced in the pages of the Scottish Daily Express by their former union official: Jim Sillars.

He smeared the firemen with responsibility for any deaths in fires during the strike, but said not a word about the use of troops to break the strike.

Almost as sudden as Sillars' discovery of

Labour's betrayals is his own conversion to nationalism.

In the words of the Scottish political magazine Questions, he 'rose to public notice in an attack on nationalism . . . entitled "Don't Butcher Scotland's Future . . ." and was vociferous in his contempt for the Silly Nonsense Party'.

Cynics might suggest that Sillars' new-found

'Socialist' Jim Sillars' attack on the Glasgow firemen in 1973: perhaps the Scottish Daily Express was 'socialist', too...

nationalism has more to do with saving his electoral skin than with any change of heart politically.

For serious socialists, the SLP represents no advance at all on its parent.

Useless

The only difference is the 'bonus', the dangerous dead-end bonus, of nationalism.

One of the first acts of the SLP was to proscribe from membership the Communist Party, the International Socialists and a number of smaller organisations.

As far as IS is concerned, they needn't have bothered. We have our work cut out trying to build an answer to the real problems facing workers.

Concern

That solution will not come from any parliament, whether in London or Edinburgh, but from organising politically where workers do have power: in the factories, shops and offices.

Where
to
meet
the
marchers

CLAY CROSS: Friday 5 March, 3.45pm. Meeting cum social, 7pm, Social Centre.

DERBY: Marchers arrive Saturday 6 March, Newtons, Mansfield Road, Disco at Grandstand, Nottingham Road, 8pm onwards. Tickets 25p. Sunday, 10.30am, march leaves from Guildhall.

BURTON: Sunday, 4pm, bus station. Meeting: Jubilee Hall, 8pm.

RUGELEY: Monday, 5.30pm. Meeting: Comrades Club, 8pm. March stays overnight at Miners Welfare Pavilion.

CANNOCK: Tuesday, midday. Lunch at Forum Ballroom (ballroom provided free by Labour Council and lunch paid for by local unions).

WALSALL: Tuesday evening, 5.30-6pm. Walsall Town Hall to meet welcoming union delegations. March leaving Walsall on Wednesday 10 March, 9.15am, after breakfast at Rubery Owen and Garringtons.

WEST BROMWICH: Wednesday, 12.30pm,

with meal at All Saints Church Hall provided by local NALGO branch. Social, 5pm, Lozell's Social Club, Handsworth. **Thursday morning.** Factory gate meetings, 4pm, march to Press Club to meet with members of Birmingham Mail NUJ chapel. Meeting, 7.30pm, AUEW Hall. Speakers: Lil Stevens (NUPE District Committee), Tarlochan Dulay and John Deason. March spending night at Norton Hall, Saltley.



ADVERTISEMENT
National Rank and File Organising Committee

NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN

Calls on all its supporters to ensure maximum support for the London Confed's 27 March Assembly on Unemployment

The assembly is to be held in the Central Hall, Westminster, London. Credentials for delegates are available from 'Assembly', CSEU, 28 Denmark Street, London WC2.



SATURDAY

MORE THAN 300 trade unionists, organised by the local Right to Work Committee and the local cuts committee, saw the march off from Manchester.

Among the many trade union banners were those of United Manchester Hospital NUPE, Newton and Warrington AUEW District Committee, ASTMS Division Two, NALGO Greater Manchester Council Branch, as well as banners from rank and file groups such as Redder Tape, Rank and File Teacher and Nalگو Action.

When the march went through the working class area of Ancoats a 45 year old man on the pavement was in tears.

He told marchers that his father had been on the Jarrow march and he had never expected to see the sight again.

The marchers noticed Tony Houston, a boy of about ten, in their midst carrying a Right to Work banner.

He explained that his father was to be sacked from his job as a crane driver at Mather and Platts this week.

A MAN came up to a Socialist Worker seller in a Manchester pub and asked: 'Is this the paper that's supporting the Right to Work March? I'll have one.' And he gave £5 for it.

We're on the road...

SUNDAY

THE MARCH came over the Pennines from Oldham to Marsden, a small industrial town.

The Labour stalwarts at the so-called Socialist Institute had refused the marchers hospitality, so naturally the marchers went there to find out why.

The local Labour Party was in the middle of an annual meeting, which was rudely interrupted by shouts of 'Fight for the right to work'.

One furious official came out and told the marchers to shut up.

When somebody shouted, 'What an attitude for a socialist', He replied, 'I'm not

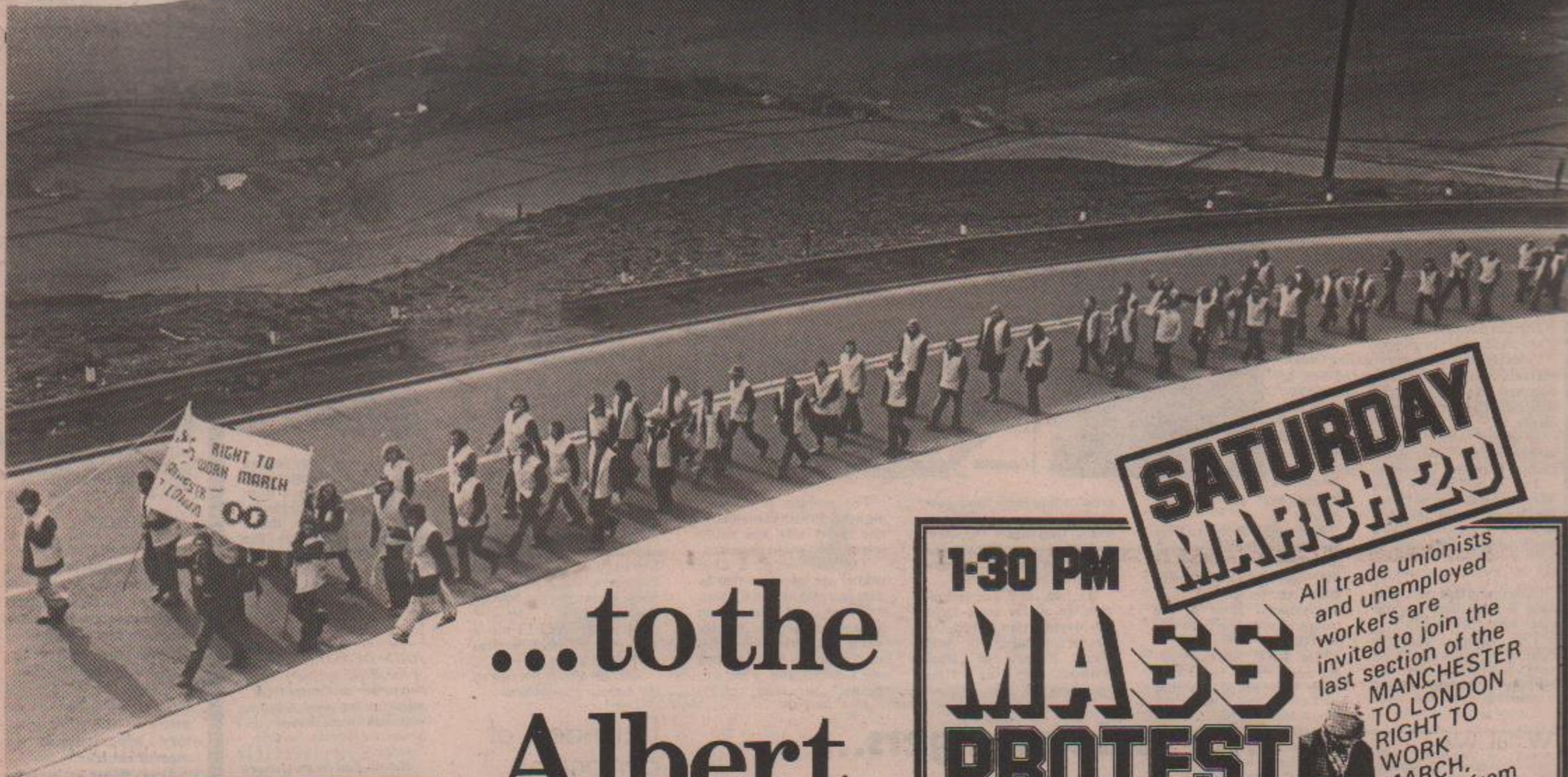
a socialist, I'm a member of the Labour Party.'

The chanting continued until the Labour members agreed to take a vote about hearing a delegation from the march.

It was carried by a majority of two. Sam Strudwick, an unemployed woman marcher from South London, spoke about the aims of the march and the Labour government's responsibility for unemployment.

Half the meeting cheered her to the echo. The other half sat with folded arms.

Eventually, as the delegates left, pound notes were pressed into their hands.



MONDAY

AT DAVID Brown Tractors at Meltham, near Huddersfield, the marchers had their first brush with the employing class.

While marchers were speaking to workers, the immaculately suited gentleman shouted to a policeman in a car: 'Let your foot slip off the clutch and run the bastards down.'

The workers collected £6 for the march.

In Huddersfield, an enormous meeting welcomed the march.

More than 250 people—the biggest socialist meeting there that anyone can remember—enjoyed a play about unemployment by North West Spanner.

The meeting was chaired by

Reg Cross, convenor at the ICI works and chairman of the ICI Combine committee.

He began by warning people to stick to the central issue of unemployment and 'not to talk about revolution'.

But he was so inspired by the meeting that he closed it with the words: 'Don't forget. When you're on the barricades, point your guns in the right direction.'

TUESDAY

THE HULL Right to Work Committee travelled 70 miles to meet the marchers.

With them was a delegation and banner from the Ideal Standards factory in Hull.

Another delegation came

from Fletcher, Stuart and Wilde factory at Horbury, near Wakefield. Their banner was carried by Don Andrews, AUEW steward, and Dave Saxton, APEX steward, who said the factory had given £80 to the march.

Merseyside worker Pete Halsall, who got a job just days before he was due to join the march, this week sent it £10—even though he has been out of work for seven months.

MEET US in London. That was the marchers' message as they set out on Saturday. A demonstration to meet them in West London for the last lap to the Albert Hall has been called for the morning of Saturday 20 March.

Trade union bodies are being asked to send official delegations with banners to the demonstration and rally. But the Right to Work Campaign wants as many workers as possible to attend in official delegations or as individuals. Nursery facilities have been arranged at the Albert Hall.

1-30 PM

MASS PROTEST RALLY ALBERT HALL

All trade unionists and unemployed workers are invited to join the last section of the MANCHESTER RIGHT TO WORK MARCH, starting from Shepherd's Bush Green, 11am, and marching to the Albert Hall.



When the coaches are leaving

CARDIFF: Central Station, 9.30am.

BLACKBURN: Foundry Hill, Eanan, 7.30am. Cost £3, including packed dinner.

GLASGOW: George Square, 10.30pm, 19 March.

MANCHESTER: Prestwich Hospital, Central Manchester, 7.30am, picks up at St Peters Square, 8am.

St Peters Square, 7.30am, picks up at Hulme Labour Club 7.40am and Didsbury College of Education, 7.50am.

Salford Precinct 7.30am, picks up at Partington Greyhound Car Park, 7.45am.

Bolton bus station platform 4 7.30am, picks up at Bury Market Place, 7.45am.

Stockport Mersey Square, 7.30am, picks up at Macclesfield, 7.50am.

Rochdale Town Hall, 7.30am, picks up at Oldham Town Hall, 7.40am, and Ashton, Wooden Spoon, Warrington Street, 7.50am. Enquiries to TU Books, Manchester 832 8102.

LIVERPOOL: Pier Head, 9am, picking up at Kirby, Golden Eagle, 9.30am.

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM

Duncan Hallas

The choice for the Tribune MPs is now between being dragged, protesting vigorously no doubt, ever more to the right to meet the imperative demands of capitalism in crisis or of breaking with reformist policies altogether.

The Left Labour pain...

SPARE a thought for the plight of the Labour Party's left MPs. It is so very easy to score points off them.

So much so that, on the principle of not kicking a man when he's down or stealing pennies from a blind beggar, I shall refrain—this week at any rate.

Drift

Instead, consider their dilemma. They disapprove, they deeply disapprove, of Healey's cuts, of mass unemployment, of the whole drift of their government's policy.

They recoil at the thought that the government, having embraced the tyrant of Iran, is about to shake the blood-stained hand of General Geisel, the butcher of Brazil.

But what to do? There was a time when Eric Heffer, by his own account, waged 'The Class

Struggle in Parliament' against the last Wilson government's anti-union bill.

He later wrote a book about it—under that title—and Michael Foot contributed a foreword.

Alas, Michael Foot is now in the cabinet and the Tribune group cannot even bring itself to vote steadily against Healey's measures, let alone take that 'principled stand' and mount the 'vigorous opposition' of which Heffer wrote.

It might, you see, defeat the government and put the Tories in.

It is, of course, improbable that the Tories would unite with the Tribunes to bring Wilson down at this time. Why on earth should they?

He is doing a better job for their class than they could hope to do themselves at the moment.

But in any case, whatever atrocity the government commits, Wilson can always say: 'I

may be bad but the alternative is too horrible to contemplate, so troop into the division lobbies to keep her out.'

No; this is not the reason for the Tribune display of impotence. It is the excuse.

The reason lies outside parliament altogether. When Messrs Foot, Heffer and their friends were denouncing 'In Place of Strife', in parliament and out, and organising to defeat Wilson and Co (which they helped to do in fact), they had powerful allies.

Cover

Jack Jones denounced the bill, Hugh Scanlon denounced it, the General Council opposed it and, under this cover, the Liaison Committee was developing a bigish grass-roots movement against it.

Now the General Councillors back Wilson, Callaghan and Healey. The 'official movement'

is behind the government's gaderene gallop to the right.

No more is heard of the Liaison Committee and developing grass-roots opposition is decidedly 'unrespectable' these days.

For the time being it is pretty chilly in opposition!

Moreover, to be fair, the dilemma of the left MPs has even deeper roots. The world has changed in ways that are, for them, both unexpected and unwelcome.

The appearance of the public expenditure White Paper noted a shrewd commentator in the Financial Times 'is the final and most convincing sign of the demise of post-war Social-Democratic orthodoxy.'

The triple pillars that have supported the Labour Party of Attlee, Gaitskell and Wilson—the welfare state, full employment and the mixed economy—have crumbled under the blows of inflation...

That's right. What is more, the Tribunes are beginning to realise that it is right.

Brian Sedgmore is reported to have said, at a meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party:

'The debate is no longer about whether Labour is a socialist party so much as whether it is still a social-democratic party.'

Push

A most revealing comment. For as far back as memory stretches, the Labour left has sought to build on 'post-war Social Democratic Orthodoxy', to push the right wing (sorry, the moderates) a bit faster and a bit further than they wanted to go. But to push in the same direction.

Now the awful realisation is beginning to dawn that this is no longer possible; that the government's 180 degree turn from its election posture is neither accidental nor reversible within the framework of parliamentary and reformist politics.

Choice

The choice is between being dragged, protesting vigorously no doubt, ever more to the right to meet the imperative demands of capitalism in crisis or of breaking with reformist policies altogether.

I hope to be proved wrong, but I cannot see many of the parliamentary lefts making the second choice.

One thing is certain. The dilemma will not go away. The choice will have to be made.

Socialist Worker

EDITORIAL

Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London, E2 9DS.

01-739 6361
739 0185
739 9043

Circulation department: 8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 9DN. 01-739 2639. Published weekly except final week of December. Subscriptions: £7 yearly, £3.50 for three months. Printed and published by Socialist Worker Printers and Publishers Ltd (TU all departments), Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS. Registered as a newspaper with the Post Office.

LABOUR'S SECRET WAR

MANY PEOPLE were surprised recently when Home Secretary Roy Jenkins refused to do anything about British mercenaries going to Angola.

But then, many people may also be surprised to find that Jenkins' government is itself using mercenaries in a secret war in the Persian Gulf.

British Army 'contract officers' have for some years been trying to put down a peasant uprising in the state of Oman.

SILENCE

They are doing so 'on behalf of' Sultan Qabus, the feudal ruler they helped to bring to power in 1970.

The aim is simple: to protect the interests of the British oil companies.

Unfortunately, that meant killing Omani peasants in a war that can in no way be disguised as a crusade for democracy. Hence the Labour government's deafening silence.

A silence which, however, has been broken by the latest issue of the union journal Film and Television Technician.

The journal reports how 48 technicians flew to Oman last November to operate a new TV station—and saw what the British army is up to.

They found that the Oman state is controlled by and made up of British officers.

They reported that the fighting, far from ending on 16 December—as the 'victorious' Omani regime



ABOVE: A member of the British Special Air Service, just one of the Labour government's many mercenaries in Oman. LEFT: The British commander of the Sultan's Desert Regiment

claims—has in fact increased.

And they discovered, in the words of the FTT report, that 'despite the shyness of the British government about the extent of their involvement, some of the troops serving there are not so reticent.'

'The RAF, for example, did not seem to mind that when they asked the film

crew to film them "discovering" a cache of Russian arms, they knew the crew had seen them removing the arms from an RAF museum a short while earlier.'

'In fact, said one technician, in all the arms cache 'discoveries' they filmed, the troops managed to lead them directly to them without wasting time searching for them.'

The problem of explaining away British casualties in this secret war was easily solved, said the technicians.

The relatives of a dead soldier are informed that he died in a car crash in Cyprus.

'There was', the report adds, 'considerable trouble when parents of one soldier unexpectedly opened their son's coffin and were surprised to find bullet

wounds.'

The British involvement includes the Special Air Service, the Royal Engineers, the RAF and a body known as the Special Boat Service.

All in all, says FTT it is 'a war ... completely dependent on British forces'.

And on the hypocrisy of the Labour government...

What was that, Jones?

With the important Coventry by-election only a week away, TUC leaders decided not to make the public expenditure cuts a point of departure between themselves and Labour Ministers.

They did this with more than a little help from Mr Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, who, at the end of a three-hour debate on the TUC's economic strategy, warned his colleagues that supporters of a Labour Government who opposed it were the real 'enemies of the working class.'

—another powerful contribution from The Guardian, 26 February

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: The Tory Party is not hostile to trade unions —Margaret Thatcher, speaking last Saturday.

SCROUNGERS are bleeding the country white. No wonder Denis Healey's got to make a few cuts here and there.

It's a widespread idea, isn't it? What's more it's no coincidence that the Press are going a bundle right now on pushing it down our throats, with cases such as the bloke in Southend who hasn't worked for 25 years.

And so—as is the time-honoured rule in Fleet Street—the argument has a simplicity so beautiful that facts simply cannot be allowed to get in the way of it.

Boring, awkward facts such as this little statistic: 40p in every £ the government spends benefits big business and big business alone, while 17p is spent on social security.

Which gives a clue to who the real scroungers are:

The real scroungers...

which in turn gives you a clue as to why you don't find it screaming out at you from the front page of The Sun or the News of the World every morning of the week.

One such scrounger came to light last week in an official report by the Auditor-General for Northern Ireland.

The report admitted that a Northern Ireland firm had received £2,500,000 of public money to develop a special

electronic cash register.

There was only one problem—the machine for which the cash was granted doesn't exist. The firm, Regna International, simply pocketed the cash.

Scrounging par excellence, you might say. Strange, then, that the Daily Express, Mail, Mirror and The Sun all failed to mention it.

Or is it so strange?

Without comment

Joe is drawn to power like a moth to the flame. He loves those government Daimlers and Derek Ezra's Dove (in which the Coal Board chairman flies the country) It's his Achilles heel.

—Unnamed NUM official speaking about

Joe Gormley in the Sunday Times, 22 February.

Come to Langwith Colliery. Assured future. Expected life 17 years.

—Poster on display at Williamthorpe Colliery Derbyshire in 1967.

Defenders of democracy...

(turning to normal.) For two weeks I have travelled 2,000 miles south of the Queve River driving my own car in complete security. I interviewed dozens of black, mestizo and white Angolians, some MPLA militants and sympathisers, others, ordinary people with little idea of politics; their story is of 100 days of chaos, arbitrary arrest, killings, robbery and destruction of property by apparently undisciplined FNLA and UNITA troops. At its worst, the FNLA-UNITA alliance deliberately set out to eliminate its civilian opponents; at best the alliance leaders were either unable or uninterested in controlling their armed forces, allowing wholesale destruction and murder.

Nobody can estimate with any accuracy the number of civilians shot by UNITA and FNLA troops. But the total must be counted in many thousands, as far as I can judge more than the number of military deaths in the war. Rosa Nogueira's husband was a local MPLA official in

—from last Sunday's Observer.



IF YOU'RE one of those people who thinks strikes are caused by a handful of evil militants—well, you may be right.

A report by the magazine Psychology Today says Britain has more of them than most countries.

Apparently, they're less eager to compromise and so avoid stoppages than their mates in other lands.

Oh, by the way, these trouble-makers—as the report makes clear—are not on the shop-floor. They're the management.

JOHN DEASON, secretary of the Right to Work Campaign, got an unexpected reception last week when he visited his local Social Security office in Dalston, London.

Hardly had he announced that he wanted to sort out his dole money so as to be able to go on the Right to Work march than the manager came out, shook him by the hand and reminisced about his own days as an unemployed marcher in the 1930s.

Which just goes to show how the March is winning support even in the most unlikely places...

I have some sympathy with your feelings of anger and frustration.

—Judge Norman Brodrick, handing a conditional discharge at Winchester Crown Court on 20 February to an estate agent who tried to evict squatters at gunpoint from one of his empty properties in Southampton.

PICTURE: JOHN STURROCK (REPORT)



Demonstrators in Central London last Tuesday supporting Desmond Trotter's fight for his life. Desmond Trotter was a member of an illegal revolutionary nationalist movement in Dominica. He was tried, found guilty of murder and sentenced to death. It is obvious from the transcript of the trial that he was framed—because he was a revolutionary. His appeal is now up before the Dominican Privy Council. Last week's demonstration followed a delegation to the Foreign Office asking the British government to intervene. They were told that Britain cannot intervene because

Dominica is a colony. The Queen's powers are vested in the Governor—and the Governor is advised by the Dominican authorities, the very people who had Desmond framed. But the demonstrators were not despondent. One told Socialist Worker: 'We'll carry on picketing and demonstrating and getting publicity. We won't stop until Desmond Trotter is free.' * A report of the trial 'The Queen V Desmond Trotter' is available from Liberation, 313-315 Caledonian Road, London, N1, price 10p plus 6½p postage.

Sites out, lorries stop in Spain



THE Spanish foreign minister, Areilza, was due in London this week seeking foreign support for the regime of Franco's successor, King Juan Carlos.

The Labour government, by agreeing to meet him, shows it is prepared to go part of the way in giving that support. But in Spain itself, the regime is finding it far from easy. Last week its police murdered one striker and severely injured several others.

QUARRELS AT THE PARTY

THE congress of the Russian Communist Party last week was remarkable because of the behaviour of some of the delegates from the Western Communist Parties. Instead of sitting meekly, praising the achievements of their Russian friends, they insisted on making known their differences. Why are the British, French, Italian and Spanish Parties now critical in a way they did not used to be? For years the Western Communist Party leaders were told by the Russian leaders to cooperate with sections of the middle class. But they were only to do so when it suited Russian interests. So for instance in the 1930s, 'popular fronts' with Western liberals, and even conservatives, were all the

rage until the Russo-German pact of 1939, when they were suddenly condemned. Now the Communist leaders have grown so accustomed to working within the system that they want alliances with Western middle class politicians even when it does not suit Russian interests. In Italy, the Communist leaders were saying last week they do not want a Communist Party-Socialist Party government, even if the two parties win more than half the votes between them. They insist on a coalition with the pro-NATO, big business-dominated Christian Democrats. In Spain, the Communist Party leader Carrillo hopes for an agreement with the Christian Democrats, who recently formed a united organisation. The leader of the right Christian Democrats, Gil Robles, led the right wing CEDA party before the civil war. CEDA then organised Nuremberg-type rallies and the Popular Front of 1936 was formed from fear of it. The Communist leaders believe that through alliances with such people they can eventually enjoy government office. That may be true—but only by abandoning any hope of socialism. The one thing not involved in their arguments with the Russians is concern for working-class democracy. Karl Marx used to say that 'the emancipation of the working class is the act of the working class itself. This idea is completely foreign both to those who look up to the thugs in the Kremlin and to those who want alliances with the local version of thuggery.'

The wave of strikes has risen to new heights. Although the factories in Madrid where the strikes started have long since returned to work, workers are joining the strike wave by the week. The scale of the strikes must be greater than in any country since Italy's 'hot autumn' of 1969 or the May events of France 1968. But in Spain the strikes are illegal and communication between workers is very difficult indeed.

Spread
In Barcelona last week 143,000 construction workers were on strike. When police attacked their demonstrations, they began building makeshift barricades on the main streets. Fifty thousand factory workers who had been on strike in the Barcelona suburb of Sabadell returned to work—but only after the Minister of the Interior had ordered the release of workers imprisoned by police earlier in the week.

There have been national stoppages by most of the country's 200,000 lorry drivers and by teachers, which caused more than a million children to be sent home. The police have been resorting to their usual vicious methods, using tear gas, water cannon and baton charges against demonstrators. In the south-eastern town of Elda they shot dead a 20-year-old clerk, Teofilo del Valle Perez.

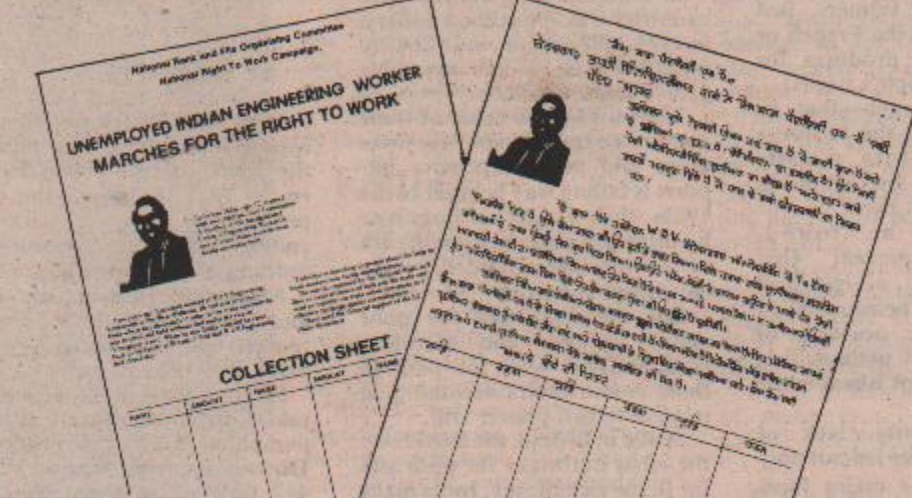
The police get their orders from the interior minister Fraga. The British press like to paint this murderer as a 'liberal'. The Labour government has been greeting his friend Areilza this week.

The Struggle in Spain: Wandsworth Socialist Worker public meeting. Speaker Ian Birchall. Thursday 11 March, 8.30pm, WCCR, 172 Lavender Hill, Wandsworth, London, SW11.

FROM AN INDIAN JAIL

WHEN the Right to Work March arrives in Coventry next Friday it will be joined by Tarlochan Dulay, who until a few weeks ago was in prison in India because of his trade union activities. Tarlochan is a member of the Engineering Workers Union (AEU) who left his job at RJV Engineering, Kenilworth, to visit relatives in India. When he returned after his release from jail, he found the factory closed and his job gone. 'The government of India claims that the emergency was aimed against the "CIA-backed right";' he told Socialist Worker. 'It is true that the parties of the extreme right were banned. But this was just for show. Many leaders of my party, the Communist Party (Marxist) were arrested within a few hours of the emergency coming into effect. 'It didn't matter that the party wasn't officially banned. 'Nine days later I was arrested too. I was charged with conspiracy to blow up an airbase, to set fire to a police station, to rob a bank and to damage railway lines. I was charged under an existing law, the Defence of India Regulations (DIR)—not under the emergency. 'In most of the cases I came across in prison the government didn't need an emergency law. Just like over here with the Shrewsbury pickets, they simply use the DIR, equivalent to the conspiracy laws here, to make sure their

AUEW member returns from India to tell of massive repression against trade unionists and socialists



The collection sheet issued in two languages by the Rank and File Organising Committee to raise money for Tarlochan Dulay on the march.

SOCIALIST WORKER EXCLUSIVE

enemies on the left are put in prison. 'Without any evidence at all they can put you inside for 20 years. 'The real reason they jailed me was because I was an active member of the Communist Party (Marxist). The police were candid enough to say this on my charge sheet, even though the party was not officially banned. **Protest** 'Because of this technicality we successfully challenged the case in the Punjab high court. 'Immediately afterwards the ruling party amended the

law. Now not even a court of law is allowed to seize a police charge sheet or demand the reason for arrest. I was the only lucky one—thousands of militants like myself are still rotting in jail. 'There has been a wave of increasing repression from the government over the past few years. 'We fought back against rising prices for workers and against the eviction of landless peasants by landlords and the government. In my city, Ludhiana, the authorities were terrified when we led 100,000 demonstrators against price rises. 'Almost without exception,

the leaders of every major strike and demonstration have been imprisoned. 'There is complete press censorship. The right to strike has been abolished. As prices rise, living standards fall. Yet the other Communist Party, the Communist Party of India—which has links with the British Communist Party—supports the government. Many of their worker militants have been asking them: Why do you support those who attack us. 'Delhi today looks like Santiago during the coup in Chile—military posts on each corner, every street patrolled by troops armed to the teeth. In facing such extreme repression, we urgently need a united front of all working-class and democratic groups to defend the rights of workers and peasants.

SKILLED WORKERS NEEDED!

We need workers urgently on two big new contracts. If you're unskilled, we'll train you.

First, we've a big demolition contract: Capitalism, a semi-derelict building, parts of which show imminent signs of collapse, a slum for most of those forced to live there. Second, a construction job. We're starting now to train the builders we'll need for the big Socialism contract. That's why Socialist Worker is producing a series of short pamphlets.

1. BRICKLAYERS FOR SOCIALISM. The basic skills: Working as a socialist on the shop floor; Working as a socialist in your trade union branch; Public speaking; Writing for Socialist Worker.

2. HOW TO BEAT THE FOREMEN. The trade union leaders, their role in shoring up the capitalist system, and how we can challenge them.

3. THE FAKE DEMOLITION MEN. The Communist Party and its role in the workers' movement.

17p each including postage, or 35p for all three. FROM Training Committee, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2. * Copies for IS branches, 10p each sent with the Socialist Worker order.

Pawn in the world power game called FOOD



THIS is Asham. He wants just a little of what Gerald Ford, defender-in-chief of the Free World, calls 'a tool in the kit of American diplomacy': Food.

He knows nothing of such power politics, of the chess game in which his life and the lives of millions like him count for less, far less, than a mere pawn.

He knows only that he is hungry. Soon he will not even know that: soon he will be dead.

There are, at an exceptionally conservative estimate, 400 million Ashams in the world today, 400 million men, women and children slowly starving to death because of 'tool kits' in the hands of the President Fords and Dr Kissingers.

Meanwhile, as they say in those bland but 'concerned' television programmes, 'something is being done'.

'American diplomacy', the same American diplomacy which nurtures the disease, also claims to be seeking a cure.

In 1973, shortly after he had paused briefly from inflicting devastation on Vietnam to receive the Nobel Prize for Peace, Dr Kissinger called for a World Food Conference.

The conference duly conferred and, true to the spirit of its instigator, declared that 'every man, woman and child has the inalienable right to be free from hunger'.

Having so declared—and thus convinced 'public opinion' that 'something was being done'—these small-time Dr Kissingers returned to their native lands to carry on with the job of denying that same 'inalienable right'.

Solution

While that very conference was debating, Kissinger's own government was paying its farmers 3000 million dollars a year to keep cereal land fallow, to keep off the market a rather more substantial solution to starvation than pious phrases.

It did so because of a simple word that explains why Asham dies—and why President Ford lets him die—far better than any ecological chatter about 'finite resources' or racist rubbish about lazy Indian peasants who produce more children than food.

The word is profit. It explains why the world—far from having too few resources to feed its

To give food aid to countries just because people are starving is a pretty weak reason.

An official of the US National Security Council, a policy-making body headed by Dr Kissinger, December 1974.

people—could, according to one scientist's estimates, feed 13 times its existing population, but doesn't.

It explains why the developed countries alone, according to another scientist, could produce enough for four times the existing world population, but don't.

Profit

The American farmers, just like the British or the French or even the Indian, produce for profit, not for people's needs.

Produce too much—that is, enough to feed all the people—and prices will have a nasty tendency to fall and so bring profits falling with them.

Ways must be found, therefore, to prevent that happening. Hence we get beef mountains while pensioners go hungry, and the peasants of Africa or Asia get malnutrition while the US dumps wheat in the sea.

More importantly, lack of 'sufficient' profit has led not only the US but all the major food producers to cut back in recent

years. Millions of acres of land were taken out of production, reducing US wheat production, for example, by an estimated 73 million tons in 1970 alone.

And so, as the price of food is artificially pushed up, the so-called underdeveloped countries, the countries of the starving, find the bill for their imported food pushing them deeper and deeper into poverty.

In 1955, the total bill for these countries was 996 million dollars, in 1971 3000 million, in 1972 4000 million and in 1973 an incredible 11,000 million dollars.

Meanwhile, the value of these country's exports to pay for these more and more expensive imports is falling way behind. In the 1960s, their export earnings rose by three per cent, one-hundredth of the increase recorded by the 'advanced countries'.

But not only are the poor getting poorer—and therefore even hungrier—but the poor in those countries are becoming, in relative terms, poorer still.

While in Britain, the rich create the crisis but make the poor pay for it, the rich of, say, India make their own poor pay twice over.

Just as producers in Britain have, by their own crazy logic, to compete not merely nationally but internationally, so must their opposite numbers in India, Bangladesh or Kenya.

It's far harder for them to do so, because they are a long way behind in the world rat race. But try they must—by building up industry and agriculture, for their own profit of course.

During the Bangladesh famine, for example, the rich of that country were exporting food while the poor were dying simply because they were unable to buy it.

Such countries are locked into a world system which, by its chaotic nature, affords them no escape, and by its inhuman priorities offers them only more and more starvation.

Weapon

Starvation which can then be used as a weapon against them in the battle of the super-rich to ensure that the poor—the only people who have an interest in ending this crazy system—do nothing of the sort.

Meanwhile, Asham starves—and the pensioners of Britain are taunted with beef, butter, egg and dried milk mountains.

□ The figures in this article are taken from an excellent new pamphlet called *The Profits of Doom* (50p. from War on Want, 467 Caledonian Road, London N7.)

A flyi picket for the fight against unemp

THE March for the Right to Work had a magnificent send-off in Manchester last week.

After marching all day through the city, arguing with workers at factory gate meetings, the marchers came to a rally in the Lesser Free Trade Hall.

Four hundred people burst into wave after wave of enthusiastic applause as the platform speakers emphasised the importance of the march. Veteran campaigner Harry McShane, after one of the finest speeches in a lifetime of socialist agitation, was greeted with a standing ovation.

The collection contributed £170.64 to the march expenses.

John Deason, secretary of the Right to Work Campaign said the march was not a hunger march. 'It is more of a flying picket,' he said.

'Our job is not only to remind workers of the desperate plight of the unemployed. It is also to encourage employed workers to throw their strength behind policies which can stop unemployment.'

The first speaker was Colin Barnett, divisional organiser for the public employees' union NUPE and chairman of the North West Regional Council of the TUC.

Colin said that he had been taken to see one of the Jarrow hunger marches when he was a

small boy. He strove to see the significance of this march, which is significant.

'I'm a member of the Party,' he said. 'I'm rather different to you in this hall. I've been up in the Christian Union.'

'But we didn't have power to see the dis-welfare state. We create full employment about a better society.'

'I feel this campaign march are very important. I'm glad to say publicly about it.'

'I look forward to my home town of marching with you. My civilisation ends in...'

TREMENDOUS greeted Ricky V building worker V after the notorious pickets trial.

Ricky said that he papers that a couple been arrested the picketing for the R...

'They were arrested the peace', he said. 'I ever worry about the is going to be breaching their pe throwing them on...

BLACKBURN Right to Work Dance and Disco: Thursday 11 March, 8.30pm, Elma Yerburch Hotel, King Street. Bar extension applied for. Admission 40p, unemployed 10p.

PETERBOROUGH Support the March for the Right to Work Meeting: Thursday 11 March, 7.30pm, TGWU Hall, Cowgate. Speakers: Brian Higgins (UCATT) and Dean Johnson (AUEW, Perkins Charter Group).

GLASGOW Right to Work Dance: Friday 12 March, 8pm-1am, McClellan Galleries. Late bar, disco and live band, the Dead Loss. Admission 50p, unemployed 20p.

LEICESTER Right to Work Campaign Conference: Thursday 4 March, 7.30pm, AUEW Hall, Vaughan Way. Sponsored by Mid-Leicester NUT Delegates' credentials from 104 Knighton Fields Road East, Leicester.

WEST LONDON Right to Work Meeting: Wednesday 10 March, 7.30pm, Luncheon Club, Ladbroke Grove. Speakers: Joseph Trujillo (NUPE shop steward, Acton Hospital, who is marching with the Right to Work March) and Jose Caba (TGWU shop steward, Manor House Hospital).



FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK Public Meetings

LUTON Right to Work Campaign Meeting: Tuesday 9 March, 8pm, Labour Club, George Street. Sponsored by Luton UCATT and Marsh Farm Site Shop Stewards Committee.

GLC NALGO ACTION GROUP Right to Work Public Meeting: No to Unemployment, No to Healey's Cuts. Speaker: Peter Bain (TGWU shop steward, Chrysler, Linwood). Wednesday 10 March, 12.30pm, Ordnance Arms, York Road, London, SE1.

EAST LONDON Right to Work Disco: Saturday 12 March, 8pm, Carpenters Club, Dockland Settlement, Gibbins Lane (off Carpenters Lane), Stratford (Buses 25 and 86 Nearest tube Stratford). 50p entrance or 10p unemployed. Bar extension.

NORTH LONDON Right to Work Campaign public meeting: Thursday 4

March, 8pm, Enfield Arms (next to Enfield Town station).

GREET THE MARCHERS FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK! North West London Right to Work Campaign Social to welcome the march from Manchester. Friday 19 March, 8pm-2pm, Acklam Hall, Acklam Road, Ladbroke Grove, London W9. Reggae and Soul music, Dave and the Nightingales, The Zanbanis, guest appearance by Ray Williams. Bar extension to 1.30am. Hot food, raffle, cheap booze. Tickets 85p in advance from your local Right to Work Committee, £1 at the door.

ng

e

st

Employment

MARCHING FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK

Manchester to London, February-20 March

gly supported might be just as of the Labour y politics had ose of many of been brought socialist tradi-

ut Labour in olution of the ut them in to ent and bring y. aign and this rtant. And I'm that I support o joining it in Oldham, and at least until Saddleworth.'

RIGHT: Harry McShane, 1930s secretary of the Scottish Unemployed Workers Movement, speaking at the rally at the start of the march. **PICTURES:** John Sturrock (Report).



ABOVE: Police grab one of the marchers in an attempt to stop them going on to the Manchester Arndale Centre building site, where 70 electricians were sacked earlier in the week. The building workers had approached the Manchester Right to Work Campaign and swung the site gates open as the marchers arrived. The 70 marchers wearing orange jackets surrounded workers who were dismantling a crane for the employers, Clarks, and called on them to stop helping the company

destroy jobs. They agreed to suspend work until they heard from their union. Among the marchers were two veterans of past struggles—Harry McShane and Fred Ford, who marched on three hunger marches in the 1930s. On Monday a mass meeting on the site voted to stop work on Wednesday if the 60 electricians were not reinstated by then. Donations and messages of support to D Walsh, 30 Rosslyn Road, Moston, Manchester.



HARRY McSHANE said he first came to Manchester with marches in 1932—and then again in 1934. He had last spoken in that same hall with Tom Mann and Wal Hanington.

'There was an impression then like there is now, that the working-class movement is in the possession of people at the top, people like Len Murray and Jack Jones,' he said.

'But the people down below are the working-class movement, and one of the purposes of this march will be to drive it home to Jones and Co, that the movement is still at the bottom, not at the top.'

Killing

Harry recalled that in 1929 to 1931, demonstrators against unemployment were always told that they were bringing down the Labour government. 'Today we are told the same: that we are killing the Labour government.'

'But the Labour government is committing suicide. It doesn't need us to bring it down. It is bringing itself down by imposing hardship on its supporters. We are calling for resistance to that hardship.'

'We are out to save the Labour movement by developing a militant spirit in the working-class movement.'

'One lesson I've learnt over and over again in my life: that change comes through the pressure of working people here down below. It doesn't come through governments or anything of the sort.'

'I remember Hyndman used to say that there were nine crises in capitalism in the 19th century.'

'Those crises have persisted in the 20th century. After the war we were told: "You've never had it so good". But those of us who said that crisis would occur again because it was inevitable to this class system have been proved right.'

'Hyndman said that he had never discovered any crisis which was solved by any act of any government. The governments just waited and hoped that boom would come along again.'

'Now, exactly the same thing is happening. This government can't solve the crisis. They just ask us to make sacrifices and hope for the boom to come again. 'So the question is: should we be prepared to make those sacrifices. Why should we?'

Stolen

'Now another person who has a solution is Mrs Thatcher. She is hard put to it to find some case against the Labour government. Harold Wilson has stolen her clothes. All the policies of the Tories are now being used by the Labour government.'

'So all Mrs Thatcher can do is to shout about law and order. I sometimes wonder if she will recognise her debt to those law-breaking suffragettes who won her the right to be where she is today.'

At this there was loud applause. Harry said that the 1930s hunger marches had done a lot to draw the attention of workers to the plight of the unemployed.

'But we failed in one vital thing,' he said. 'We failed to get the unemployed workers fighting with the employed workers for policies to end unemployment.'

'Now today there is evidence of a change. Workers are taking part in

sit-ins—that's against the law, you know. They are fighting redundancy up and down the country.'

'If that can be developed, if the employed and unemployed join together if housewives and pensioners and all the working people get together, there is no force in the world which can stop them.'

Harry ended his speech as he started it, by stressing the importance of the rank and file.

Betrayal

He described the advocacy of wage limits by Jack Jones and other trade union leaders as 'a betrayal of the working class even greater than that of 1926'. He said that Jones and the others were going through the same old ritual of 1926—marching the workers up to the top of the hill and then marching them down again.

'Next time we're not going down', Harry declared. 'We're staying up and we're going over the hill.'

'This march starts in more favourable circumstances than any of the marches I've ever been associated with. I hope it brings the message to workers all over the country: that we are the working-class movement, and we are the people who can change society.'

We don't want them days back—Ricky

S applause mlinson, the who was jailed Shrewsbury

had seen in the e of people had day before for ight to Work

ed for breach of But did anyone air peace? Who arrested for ce of mind by the dole?

'I think the people who arrested those pickets had their priorities completely wrong.'

Ricky said he had seen his father die at 55 after 41 years hard work.

'Those people who say "Give a year for Britain", I sometimes wonder what they mean. My father gave 41 years for someone else's profits and it landed him in an early grave.'

'I remember when I was a boy seeing families brought to their knees by unemployment. Women with sticking plaster round their fingers where their wedding rings

used to be, because their rings had been pawned. Making excuses to us children about how they'd hurt their fingers: how they'd put too much soda in the washing water.'

'We don't want them days back', shouted Ricky.

First

'We've got to start fighting back. The march is the first step, but it better not be the last step.'

Ricky ended his speech by reminding the meeting about the persecution of 'Shrewsbury picket

Des Warren. This had started right at the start of their imprisonment together, he said. Whenever Des had anything wrong with his health, he was told to see a psychiatrist.

'Des is a fighter. He wants to fight back all the time. The authorities knew that and they played on it all the time.'

'Des hated unemployment. He liked people who fought back. That's why if he was out of prison he'd be right here in the front row. And I'll be with this march every step of the way.'



Right to Work pamphlet available now from Right to Work Campaign, 46 Prince George Road, London N16. Price 19p a copy including postage. Or 10p a copy for orders of ten or more.

Organise now for abortion demo!

THE National Abortion Campaign demonstration against change in the Abortion Law is on Saturday 3 April. Two weeks before that, SPUC, the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children, is organising a week of action, 20-27 March. We should use the SPUC week of action to raise the abortion issue and to mobilise for the 3 April demonstration.

doing in your area and organise counter activity, with publicity for the demo. Organise a picket of the local SPUC OR LIFE offices.

- Hold a public meeting.
- Organise trade union support and delegations for the demonstration.
- NOISS groups should organise pickets, publicity campaigns and coaches now, before the term ends.

International Women's Day

THERE is a march for International Women's Day in London on Saturday 6 March, starting from Speakers Corner at 2pm, and marching to Lincoln's Inn Fields. Women's Voice is organising support for the demonstra-

tion with banners and placards. Women's Voice and Socialist Worker supporters in London should be there. □ If you can help make placards or sell Womens Voice, phone Nina on 01-739 6273.

Notices for What's On should be posted to reach Socialist Worker by first post on the Monday before publication. Adverts will NOT be accepted by phone. Send to: What's On, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS.

SOCIALIST WORKER MEETINGS

SOUTHWARK Socialist Worker public meeting: On the dole with Labour Speaker Tony Cliff Thursday 18 March, 8pm, Manor Place Baths, off Waiworth Road, London SE17.

LOWESTOFT SW public meeting: The Crisis and the need for socialism. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Thursday 11 March, 8pm, The Norfolk (Upstairs room), Denmark Road, Lowestoft.

HACKNEY SCHOOLS SW public meeting: Chris Searle on The Politics of the Classroom. Monday 8 March, 8pm, De Beauvoir Arms, Stamford Road, London N1.

GATESHEAD Socialist Worker public meeting: The Struggle for Socialism. Speaker: Jimmy McCallum. Thursday 11 March, 8pm, Five Wands Mill, Bensham Road.

SOUTHAMPTON SW public meeting: Stop the Killings! Troops out of Ireland! Speakers: Paul O'Brien (International Socialists) from the Troops Out Movement. Thursday 11 March, 8pm, The Anchor, East Street, Southampton.

WANDSWORTH SW public meeting: Ian Birchall just back from Spain, speaking about The Revolutionary Prospects. Thursday 11 March, 8pm, Wandsworth Council for Community Relations, 172 Lavender Hill, Battersea, SW11.

CENTRAL LONDON Socialist Worker series of six fortnightly lectures on THE MEANING OF MARXISM: Tuesdays, 6.30pm, The Roebuck pub, Tottenham Court Road (nearest tube Goudge Street). Open to all SW readers.

16 March—Is there a parliamentary road to socialism?
30 March—The revolutionary socialist alternative
6 April—What is revolutionary socialist party? Speaker: Tony Cliff.

SOUTHWARK TEACHERS SW meetings: Thursdays, 8pm, Borough Polytechnic Students Union, Rotary Street, London SE1.
March 4: The Communist Party Road to Socialism. March 11: Moderates and Militants in the Trade Unions. March 18: Ireland. March 28: Permanent Arms Economy. For further details ring G Loewenstein, 01-622 1090.

EAST LONDON SW series of six fortnightly lectures on THE MEANING OF MARXISM: Livingstone Road, Stratford, E15, 7.30pm.
Friday 5 March: What is Imperialism? Speaker: Nigel Harris.
Friday 19 March: What is a revolutionary socialist party? Speaker: Tony Cliff, postponed one week until Friday 26 March.

SOCIALIST WORKER EVENTS

CASL socialist theatre group: Sam the Man—their play about the Labour MP who tries to walk the tightrope between parliament and socialism. Tuesday 9 March, 6.30pm, Old Library, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), Malet Street, London WC1 (nearest tube Warren Street).

CENTRAL MANCHESTER Socialist Worker Auction: Saturday 6 March, 7pm onwards at the Black Lion, Chapel Street, Salford. All proceeds to the Right to Work Rally coach fund. Second-hand books, records, objects d'art desperately needed. Will collect, phone 061-832 8102.

Socialist Worker AGITPROP BULLETIN: First issue is ready, with ideas for using posters, tapes, slides, films, music in political work. Send stamped, addressed, large envelope for a copy, to SW Agitprop Group, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

NOISS

NOISS National Committee: First meeting will be on Saturday 13 March in London (not 6 March as previously announced). Details of time and place will be sent out by circular. Any information, phone 01-739 1878.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

CIVIL SERVICE: General meeting for all IS members in the civil service. Saturday 6 March, 11am-4pm, IS Books, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4 (Finsbury Park tube). If the agenda hasn't reached you yet, you are not nationally registered. Admittance by IS membership card only.

IS Industrial Department needs full-time or part-time secretary. Clerical experience useful but not essential. Phone 01-739 6273.

The next issue of the IS Bulletin containing major pre-conference discussion material will be out in two weeks. Please send money—10p a copy—with orders to 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

SUMMER TRAINING SCHOOLS: 21-24 June: IS full-timers' school, 19. 22 July: Women's Voice School, 2-5 August. National Cadre School (Manchester), 23-26 August: National Cadre School (London). Details from Training Committee, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN.

CENTRAL LONDON IS DISTRICT Day School on women: Sunday 14 March, 11am-4pm, crèche available. London Co-op Education Dept, 219 Seven Sisters Road (Near Finsbury Park Tube).

SOCIALIST WORKER needs typewriters. Age no problem, but working order preferred. Please phone Margaret, SW editoria, office: 01-739 6361.

CHESHIRE/SHROPSHIRE IS District meeting: Friday 12 March, 7.30pm, Bullring Vaults, Watergate St, Whitchurch, Salop (turn off A41 by Victoria Garage/Vincent Greenhouse, pub at far end of car park) Agenda: Report-back from Party Council meeting (February), Right to Work Campaign, Review of local positions and perspectives, and delegate to next Party Council. Members and/or branch representatives invited from Bangor, Crewe, Macclesfield, Rhyll, Runcorn, Warrington, Chester, Shrewsbury, Telford, Wrexham; information from Chester/Shrewsbury IS, c/o 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

PHONE NUMBERS at Cottons Gardens: Some phones have been changed—please note these numbers. Socialist Worker Circulation and IS Journal: 01-739 2639. Joanna Rollo (International), Lindsey German (Students), and National Treasurer's Office: 01-739 1878. Liz Balfour and Jim Nichol: 01-739 9772. Nina Strach, Women's Voice, Simon Turner and Steve Jefferys: 01-739 6273. If the appropriate number is engaged please DO NOT ring another number.

SOCIALIST WORKER RALLY

Skegness Easter 1976



Socialist Worker FILMS

STATE OF SIEGE

Based on the kidnapping of an American CIA agent in Uruguay by the Tupamaros—and made in Allende's Chile before the coup.

KLUTE

Detective story starring Donald Sutherland as detective and Jane Fonda as call girl.

One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovitch

Adaptation of Solzhenitsyn's documentary novel about life in a Stalinist camp. Starring Tom Courtenay.

VIVA MARIA

Comedy set in Mexico during peasant uprising, Brigitte Bardot plays revolutionary and Jeanne Moreau as circus dancer. They team up and ultimately lead the revolution.

EXECUTIVE ACTION

Made in 1973 about the assassination of President Kennedy and the plots and cover-ups surrounding it since. Starring Burt Lancaster and Robert Ryan.

MARX BROTHERS GO WEST

SEI HEARI FEELI

How I Won the War

Anti-war tragi-comedy set in North Africa in 1945 when a group of British soldiers are ordered to set up a cricket pitch behind enemy lines. Starring Michael Crawford, John Lennon and Roy Kinnear.

BATTLE OF ALGIERS

Reconstruction of the growth and suppression of the FLN in the Casbah of Algiers. Made in 1965 and banned in France. 'Probably the finest political film ever made'.

PLUS FOR CHILDREN

Laurel and Hardy, cartoons, The Red Balloon, The Goons in the Running, Jumping and Standing Still Film.

JUST SOME OF THE POLITICAL EVENTS

Tony Cliff on LENIN



Duncan Hallas on MARXISM

1. Marx and Capital
2. Engels on The Origins of the Family
3. State and Revolution

Ray Challinor on LABOUR HISTORY



1. The origins of British Bolshevism
2. The impact in Britain of the Russian Revolution



Paul Foot on SHELLEY



Socialist Worker Challenge Cup SEVEN-A-SIDE FOOTBALL

- Wales v Yorkshire
East and North London v Scotland
North West Lancashire v South London
South West v East Anglia and Essex
South England v Midlands
Leeds v Central London
North East v Liverpool
North West and West London v Manchester
□ Other teams may register at the camp



A scene from the film Battle of Algiers

Come to the Socialist Worker Rally, Friday 16 April to Monday 19 April at the Yorkshire Miners' holiday camp in Skegness. £16.25, covering all meals, accommodation and entertainment. Children free. Book your place through your local Seller of Socialist Worker.

BOOK NOW! MORE DETAILS NEXT WEEK

Anna Paczuska celebrates International Women's Day, which is this Monday



Sisters in the struggle

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY was first celebrated in Russia by women members of the Bolshevik Party in 1913. Meetings were forbidden. The hall was packed.

Police arrived and arrested many of the speakers. Under the Tsar, conditions for women were grim. One tenth of the population were Moslem, among whom women were bought and sold as household chattels. Tsarist law stated that 'a woman must obey her husband in all things and in no ways be insubordinate to his authority'. A woman could not even work without her husband's permission.

Childbirth was a nightmare. Anyone pregnant was sacked on the spot. One worker recalled: 'Women workers used to hide it until their mouths foamed and their child was born at the bench. And

after the confinement—back to the bench'.

In 1917 meetings and leaflets were planned for Women's Day. Not a single organisation called for a strike. Some were actively opposing it.

But women textile workers in several factories came out and called on the

metalworkers for support. With reluctance they agreed. Other groups followed.

With reluctance the bolsheviks agreed—followed by other groups. The results were beyond the imagination of organised political groups.

Trotsky wrote: 'The February revolution was begun from below, the in-

itiative being taken by the most downtrodden and oppressed... the women textile workers, among them no doubt many soldiers' wives.

'The overgrown breadlines had provided the stimulus... a mass of women, not all of them workers, flocked to the municipal Duma (the local council) demanding bread.

Red banners appeared in several parts of the city with inscriptions that demanded bread not war.

'Women's Day passed successfully with enthusiasm but without victims. But what it concealed within itself no one had guessed even by night-fall'.

The revolution brought the possibility of many changes. A new marriage Code gave women complete equality with men. Abortion was made legal. Equal votes, equal pay, maternity benefits, hospitals and medical care for women.

Communal laundries, public eating houses, nurseries, children's homes were founded.

In 1918 the first All Russian Congress of Working and Peasant Women was held. 12,000 women representing nearly a million working women.

The women demanded to know why poverty and hunger

still prevailed, why peace had not come instantly. From that time began the Bolshevik Party's work towards real equality for women.

But poverty and lack of education held up progress. The eating houses provided poor quality food, children were unhappy in the poor facilities of many nurseries.

Active

'In these meetings, where I have to slip secretly, he makes thunderous speeches about the role of women in the revolution and calls on them to a more active role', complained one woman whose husband tried to get her to stay at home and cook for him.

Gradually with the isolation and decline of the revolution in Russia, women too lost their new-found rights. In the 1930s the family was rehabilitated as official policy.

In 1934 homosexuality became illegal. In 1936 legal abortions were abolished.

Under Stalin the gains of the revolution were lost. Instead women got medals for bearing masses of babies and being good mothers.

But there was a problem. The First World War, the Civil War, the purges, meant that by the 1940s there were 20 million more women in Russia than men. And Russia needed workers.

Under the guise of 'equality and socialism' Stalin reversed the labour codes which protected women from heavy manual labour. He sent them into the pits and on to the building sites. But the conditions were those for equal misery, not equal opportunity.

A sympathetic onlooker described the work.

'In Archangel it was necessary to lay down a light railway track for about five miles along the docks. It was done entirely by women. The track complete with points was laid in 48 hours.

'They went at it day and night, by daylight and electric light. It was snowing and freezing all the time.

Cabbage Soup

'All the cargo checkers were women too. They worked in shifts, 24 hours on, 24 off.

'During their working day they had occasional brief rests of an hour or two when they retired to a wooden hut on the quay, ate their cabbage soup and black bread, drank imitation tea, had an uneasy doze in their clothes and returned to work'.

It is true there is more choice of work for women in Russia than elsewhere, from heavy manual labour to hospital doctors and astronauts. The Russians hail this as a great triumph for socialism.

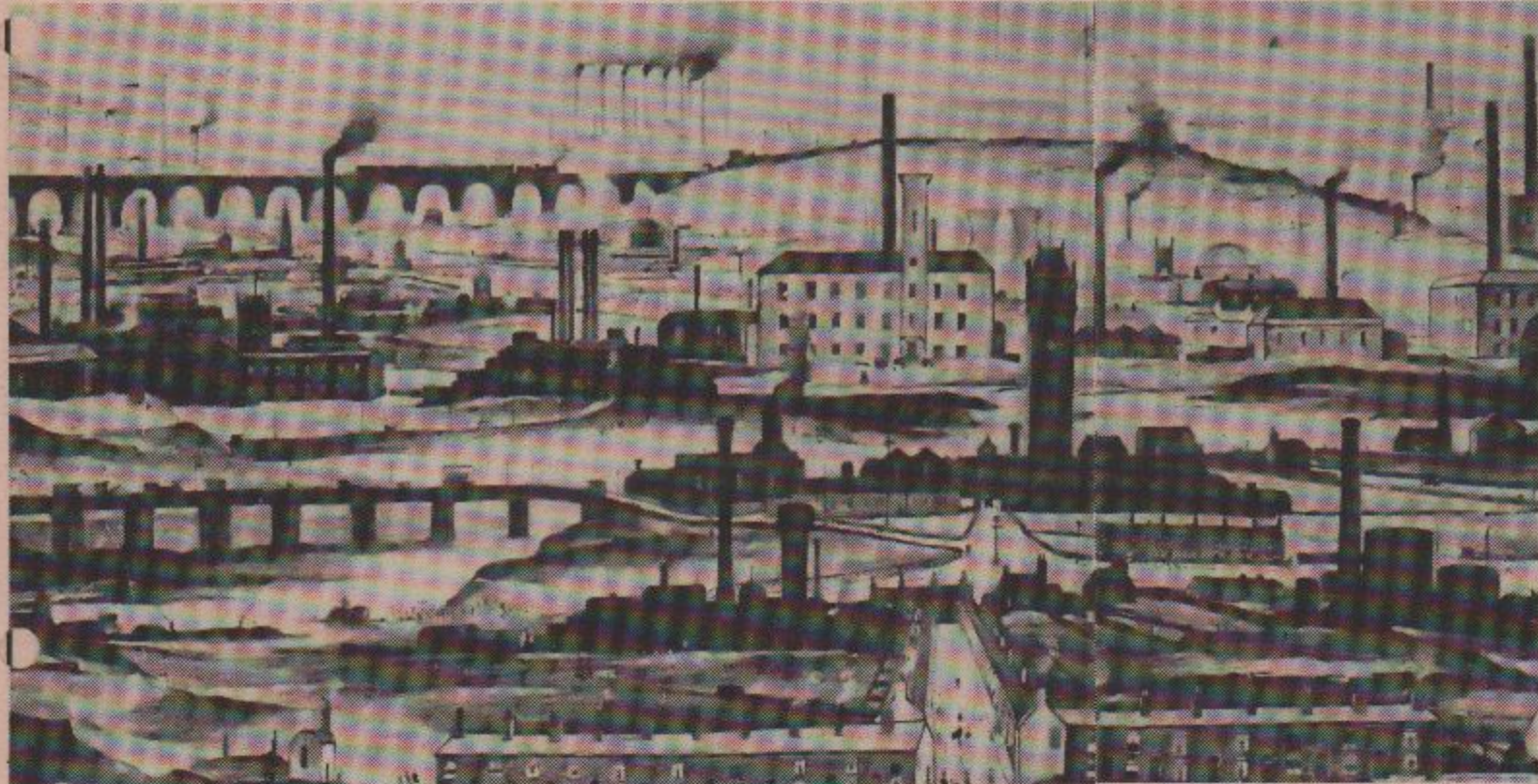
But equality goes no further.

The shopping queues are still packed with women. Housework and childcare are still their responsibility. Grandmothers care for the children of women workers because their are no nurseries.

Leading positions are occupied by men.

The revolution opened up possibilities that excited and inspired people everywhere. Today equality is proclaimed in Russia while the achievements of those women textile workers of 1917 are forgotten.

It is for socialists and feminists in other places to remember their fight and to carry on the struggle they started.



L S LOWRY, the Lancashire painter, died last week aged 88.

His works have achieved a unique recognition. Those unable to tell a Van Gogh from a Picasso will instantly recognise a Lowry scene of mills, viaducts, canals and red-brick terraces.

Lowry was born in Manchester, lived and painted in the area all his life, but was over 50 before he had even the smallest recognition

CAN'T YOU SEE THE BEAUTY?

ABOVE: An industrial scene painted by L S Lowry

by the London 'art world'. The art schools had failed to recognise that there had been an Industrial Revolution. A unique landscape could be seen by just looking out of their own windows. Lowry was the first person to attempt to paint the industrial landscape of the Lancashire cotton mills. He was fond of telling the story of how this came about.

MOMENT

He was walking through Manchester with another man one day, when the man said: 'Look at the mills and the factories, can't you see the beauty?'. Lowry recalled later how at that moment he felt like a man opening his eyes for the first time.

The son of an estate agent, he had a private income,

which enabled him to survive without taking a job. Lowry was of the middle class. Although he painted the lives of working people, he was never one of them.

Perhaps it was because he was removed from the exhausting activity of earning a living that he was able to stand back and record the industrial landscape so brilliantly.

In a world which was apparently dedicated to conformity, Lowry often highlighted the individuality of people. He was an eccentric, and if his paintings are viewed closely, they can be seen to abound with oddities.

He will be remembered for his industrial landscapes. But of his 3000 pictures none show people actually at work, there are no views inside factories, no lorries, and the railway lines are usually

empty of trains. The explanation perhaps is that Lowry never worked in a factory and only portrayed the working class that he saw, people scurrying to and from the factory or football ground.

Many of Lowry's 'matchstick' people are apparently deformed. He was once challenged that there were not really so many cripples.

Lowry took his questioner into the street and walked around. He was right, there really were that many cripples in the streets.

That picture 'The Cripples', records an era before 1945, before the National Health Service, an era when the injury rate in the mills and the mines was very high.

WILDERNESS

Lowry never forgave the artistic establishment for leaving him in the wilderness for so long. Lately he was annoyed by colour supplement advertisements which offered his prints as 'investments'.

Although they were never interested in him before his works became valuable, the art critics will now move in to make large profits from his works. His paintings will become just another commodity.

Lowry lived a solitary life, toiling to record a landscape which was fast disappearing. The best tribute one can make to him is to go and see his pictures. More than 70 are permanently on view at Salford Art Gallery. In September there will be a major exhibition of more than 300 at the Tate Gallery in London.

STEVE LOUGHLIN

PRE-VIEW

SUNDAY

THE WORLD ABOUT US (BBC2) looks at the harsh, proud life of the Cree Indians in Canada, who've preserved their way of living despite Canadian attempts to integrate them.

PETER DONALDSON'S ILLUSTRATED ECONOMICS (BBC1) looks at the harsh, proud struggle of British beer gourmets to preserve their way of drinking through the Campaign for Real Ale.

MASH (BBC1) is usually very funny.

MONDAY

HORIZON (BBC2) this week is on enzyme technology. This technique has made possible the development of a sugar substitute—a syrup made from maize—which has already captured a quarter of the US market. Part of the trend to replace raw material imports through technology.

TUESDAY

Play for Today (BBC1) is WILLIE ROUGH, a story of a shop steward during the 14-18 war in Greenock, in the days of the Red Clyde. Could be good.

THURSDAY

WHEN THE BOAT COMES IN (BBC1) has had some good moments.

Penguin African Library

In the Eye of the Storm
Angels & People
Basil Davidson



Book of the Week

Here it is, beyond any doubt, that 'the wretched of the earth', the most deprived, the least considered, in many ways the least known or ever heard of, have used their reason and their courage to forge conditions which can at last open the way

for a genuine liberation. —Basil Davidson, writing of the MPLA and Angola, in In the Eye of the Storm £1. including postage

From IS BOOKS, 245 Seven Sisters Road, London N4, or direct from IS BOOKSHOPS in Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Hull, Coventry, Glasgow, Dundee, Leeds.

IS Books

TAKE IT AS RED

PAUL O'FLINN has the flu. His column will appear again when he has recovered.

I WAS NOT surprised to learn that the mercenaries responsible for the cold-blooded killing of their colleagues in Angola were ex-members of the Parachute Regiment.

When I was serving with the RAF in West Germany in 1969-70, I shared a hospital ward with a youngster who told me he was under psychiatric observation because of training he had received in the Parachute Regiment.

He said members of the regiment 'are brainwashed to love the sight of blood'. His arms were bandaged heavily—he had gouged them deeply with a sharp nail, an act which relieved him because he had seen blood.

Two years later, when I learned that the Parachute Regiment was involved in the Bloody Sunday massacre, I was not surprised by the number of demonstrators killed.—SW SUPPORTER.



An Angolan mercenary, slightly the worse for wear; the recent massacre 'was no surprise'.

Postal Points

THE TUC sprang the 'new model Rule 14' on us at the last meeting of Hammersmith Trades Council. It means Trades Councils will no longer be able to support or affiliate to organisations whose policies are opposed to the TUC's.

Our Trades Council voted to accept the rule because most delegates feared disaffiliation from the TUC if they didn't.

However a minority who voted against pointed out that it would prevent us supporting events such as last November's demonstration against unemployment, which the TUC tried to sabotage.

We would like the question of this rule discussed. What do SW supporters on other Trades Councils think? DAVE BLANE, London N1.

LAST WEEK'S article on the committal proceedings against the Bonfire Night youths of Chapeltown, Leeds contained an inaccuracy.

Max Farrar, one of the 12 facing charges, is not the editor of Chapeltown News. Chapeltown News is run and produced by an editorial collective—a group of people who take decisions together on all aspects of the paper.

We also thought it rather strange that you highlighted Max's case. He is the only white member of the 12 youths and others face heavier charges. Wouldn't it have been better to have concentrated on them?—CHAPELTOWN NEWS COLLECTIVE, Leeds.

AS PEOPLE who demonstrated against the closure of the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson hospital, we are disturbed that your report (21 February) contained no reference to the organisers of the demonstrations—the Camden Working Women's Charter Group—or of the support they gathered from local trade union bodies and national abortion campaign groups.

The Central London Right to Work Committee was prominent on the demonstration, but it was not alone. Socialist Worker should be more careful not to exaggerate the role of the Right to Work Committees by such sloppy reporting. IRENE BRUEGEL, ASTMS, NEIL ROGALL AND SHERRYL YANOWITZ (Central London Right to Work).

HOW WE BEAT THE CUTS

THREE women cleaners left a local school and the caretaker was told they would not be replaced. He argued, but to no avail.

The rest of the women decided that they were not going to do the work of the three that had left.

Neither the headmaster's study nor the teachers' common room could be cleaned, because of shortage of staff.

The entrance hall, stairs and corridors all suffered from the cuts in staff.

Teachers' toilets just couldn't be cleaned, there wasn't enough staff.

You can, no doubt, imagine what these places were like at the end of a couple of weeks. Inevitably, it was decided three more women cleaners were needed.

This example shows that workers, united and determined, can find ways of fighting these cuts. M AMSWERTT, Manchester.

Keep up the fight!

I HAVE JUST put the Socialist Worker down after digesting the contents. It was great reading and it makes me so pleased to see that someone is still willing to have a go.

The trade union leaders seem to have gone soft (or are they being bought?) and some of the men in the Cabinet that I always looked up to don't

WHOSE COD WAR?

QUITE RIGHT, Jon Barlow (Letters, 21 February) we should not support the Icelandic government.

But we should support the people of Iceland, whose livelihood depends on the fish in the seas around their coasts, and who have a right to exist even if they do live in a capitalist state.

Although the Icelandic economy is trying to diversify, it is facing a grave crisis because of the diminishing value of its fish exports because of overfishing by both British and Icelandic capitalists.

Wages

The ruling class is trying to solve the crisis in its usual manner, by making the working class bear the brunt of it.

Thirty per cent of incomes in Iceland are overtime or second jobs earnings; which means bosses are getting their labour for two-thirds of its

seem to have any guts any more.

I wish all the best of luck to the Right to Work Rally and I hope the March gathers thousands of workers on its way.

I've got one of the posters in my front window. —E ECOPE (aged 80), Port Talbot, South Wales.

I DO NOT know what to call immigration officers, but I know what they behave like with Asians during interviews—pigs.

There are hundreds of wives and children who would like to join their husbands in England.

Husbands who have lived here for years, and have been contributing National Insurance stamps and tax. The same applies to men wishing to join their wives here.

The big problem is the

entry certificate. To obtain an entry certificate, both husbands and wives are interviewed—all kinds of irrelevant questions are asked which have no bearing on the application. They only ask them to confuse these people.

I spoke to two men in Birmingham to find out what kinds of questions are asked.

They have been here since 1964, and applied to get their wives and children here three

years ago.

They were refused, because they couldn't answer certain questions, such as:

Where is the water pump in your house?

What design is it?

How many animals do you have?

What colour are the animals?

It's common sense that if these men have been here since 1964 their house would have changed. These

questions are pure victimisation because they are Asians.

It does not finish here. Some of these men became heavy drinkers just to forget their suffering and their indignity. Sometimes their wives develop internal diseases or anaemia through their suffering.

Unfair

All this because of the immigration laws and the immigration officials who carry them out.

I do not hesitate to say that these men are the nephews of Enoch Powell. —RAM KUSHNA MEHMI, Birmingham.

RACIST TUC: MY DISGUST...

THE TUC'S letter to SW last week claimed that their attempt to end the quota system in the catering industry was the 'only' (sic) way of improving wages and conditions.

This is a most disgusting statement from a trade union body which should know that exploitation of immigrant labour can only be ended by strong union organisation, and not by getting rid of foreign workers.

Readers should note that the TUC has not asked for an end to the pernicious system of work permits which is designed to ensure a docile, intimidated work-force.

It has asked, 'in the face of mounting unemployment' for an end to the employment of foreign workers. It is precisely in the context of rising unemployment that the TUC is making scapegoats of foreign workers.

As long as the TUC does not believe in the right to work of ALL workers, we cannot take seriously its 'concern for equality for workers of all races'. —SOONU ENGINEER, London.

WE HAVE become used to Red bashing from the Press, but the Morning Star's attack on the Right to Work Campaign and the International Socialists tops everything.

The Star urges its readers to support only the 27 March Confed Assembly meeting on unemployment.

All I can say is that, as an IS member, I and my comrades will fight for support for the Assembly AND the Right to Work March and Rally. —B SALISBURY, AUEW shop steward, Letchworth and Cambridge AUEW District Committee delegate.

It's time we miners acted

I MUST WRITE and say how pleased I was with last week's analysis of Langwith Colliery and the leadership of the miners' union.

We have reached the stage where nearly two million workers are unemployed (not the official figures, but nearer the mark) and what have the trade union leaders done about it? Precisely nothing—because their own safe jobs are not threatened.

We've seen it all before at Holmewood and Glapewell, and the Derbyshire NUM have put up no struggle. It becomes very difficult to argue the need for the Right to Work with miners who have been moved from pit to pit.

So what can NUM members look forward to? If they allow the leadership, whether left or right (remember McGahey

abstained on the first vote) to carry on their crazy path, we will have a host of trade union officials on £5,000 plus a year and a handful of pits.

That is why we should call on all miners initially to support the Right to Work March organised by the National Rank and File Organising Committee.

To build up Rank and File

miners' groups within each area, to combat the bureaucracy and bring about a fundamental change in the NUM.

We proved in 1972 and 1974 we had the power and courage to do it, let's push the leadership, and do it again. —DICK HALL, NUM Warsop Main, N Derbyshire (at present at Ruskin).

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED prisoners of Gartree, wish to express our revulsion at the callous decision of the British government in letting Francis Stagg die in circumstances resulting directly from 'man's inhumanity to man'.

The courage and determination shown by this man will be held in very high esteem, not only by his comrades and fellow-Irishmen, but also by the majority of Scots, Welsh and English in this prison.

—G YOUNG, W ARMSTRONG, P MULRYAN, B CAREY, R McLAUGHLIN, G CUNNINGHAM, (Republican) C McNALLY (Irish); FRANK COX, F CAVAN (Welsh).

C WATSON, J BEIGHTON, M HEERY, M HARKEN, F FLANAGHAN, BARRY ALLEN, KEITH HARRISON (English).

D WILSON, STEWART MACKAY BROWN, DANNY LEISHMAN, JAMES DAVEY, JOEY DAY (Scottish).

C MILLAR and DAVID GREER (Loyalist). This letter was originally sent to the Prisoners Aid Committee, who sent a copy of it to Socialist Worker.

real value.

That is why the crisis in Iceland has not taken the form of high unemployment, but of colossal inflation, chronic devaluation of the currency, and rocketing prices.

It's up to the working people of Iceland to take on their own government and ruling class, and they're doing this with strike actions and mass pickets.

You won't support their struggle by threatening their very livelihood.

You're more likely to force them to join with their bosses to defend themselves against imperialist aggression.

It is an imperialist conflict,

but the imperialists are British—Findus, Ross and the Royal Eye, backed up by the Royal Navy. Our interests are with the anti-imperialist forces, and so with Iceland. British fishermen must fight

their bosses for proper remuneration for the dangerous and difficult work they do. Joining their bosses to attack the Icelanders will only divert their attention from the essential question—who creates the wealth and who owns it.

My sympathies are with the British trawlermen, but workers fighting other workers for crumbs won't solve anything. MAGNUS LAXNESS, London, N16.

DUNCAN HALLAS needs to elaborate on the question of the workers' state (21 February). It will not wither away until one or two highly developed countries take control.

Only then will we be able to talk of the state being consigned to the museum of antiquity where it belongs. —S NICHOLAS, Glasgow.

he was strongly opposed—for example.

Marxists do not support all 'national liberation movements'. We apply a simple litmus test—does the particular nationalist movement help the growth of revolutionary socialism?

NATIONALISM: THE TEST

JOHN CARLYLE laments (Letters, last week) that SW hasn't come up with a proper scientific analysis of the Scottish Nationalist Movement and advises us to read Marx and Lenin.

Perhaps he should do just that himself. Read Marx on Slav nationalism—to which

As neither the Scottish National Party or the Scottish Labour Party can provide any progressive solution to the problems of the Scottish working class, we fight their ideas and pose the only alternative: a British workers' state. —ALAN GIBBONS, Manchester.

AUEW vote issues at stake



BALLOT papers are being posted to members of the Engineering Union, the AUEW, for voting in the election for a new assistant general secretary.

The postal ballot system is being used. This prevents active discussion of the merits of candidates in the branches, and instead increases the influence of the press and television. They can be relied on to urge support for the right wing.

To help Engineering Union members discuss the election we are publishing the election addresses of all three candidates. These addresses are only available through branches, so many members never see them.

Fellow Members,
 'He has not served who gathers gold.
 Nor has he served whose life is told
 in selfish battles has won.
 Or deeds of skill that he has done;
 But he has served who now and then
 Has helped along his fellow men'.

ANON

A working life devoted to our union and the cause of democratic Socialism is the basis upon which I seek your support for the office of Assistant General Secretary, an office which requires a knowledge of how our union functions in all its aspects, and an ability and preparedness to work from the benefit of our membership. I believe our membership needs results from effective leadership, and results are only achieved by facing up to the problems realistically not by slogans, but by hard work.

Service

My record of service began the first night of membership. During the period of my apprenticeship I served the branch as doorkeeper, minute secretary and trades Council delegate. I represented division 19 at the National Youth Conference and was elected by the Youth Conference in three consecutive years to International Youth Conferences in Germany and Vienna.

In 1962 I joined British Leyland at the age of 23 was elected Convenor, a position held continuously to date.

My adult record of service to our membership is as follows:
 National Committee 1970-71-72-74-75
 Rules Revision 1970-75
 Recall 71-72-73
 Signatory to Rules of Union 1971-72-73
 National Committee standing orders committee 1975
 Rules Revision standing orders committee 1975

Appeal court

Final Appeal Court 1973
 District Committee S/S rep 5 years
 District president 6 years
 Divisional committee delegate 6 years
 Branch treasurer 11 years
 Delegate to TUC 1972-75
 Recall 1973
 Delegate to Labour Party Conference 1973-75
 Trades council delegate
 Confederation District committee delegate
 Confederation district committee vice president
 Confederation district, engineering, ship repair, gas, railway and training sub committees
 Shop steward and convenor 12 1/2 years



John Weakley photographed last year after he took the AUEW to the High Court to end branch balloting.

'We must allow the Government to Govern'

Youth employment committee 6 years
 Disablement advisory committee 6 years

Nature

Government training centre selection panel 11 years
 Delegate to Welsh TUC
 Delegate to Welsh Regional Council Labour
 Individual member of the Labour Party
 Past member of the constituency executive committee
 Represent members on local medical and insurance tribunals.

Many challenges confront us, they must be faced; head on.

Control

The most urgent need is to control inflation and stem the tide of rising unemployment. Agreement has been reached between the TUC and the Labour Party on measures covering wage limits, Price Control, Selected import. Controls and the investment in our industry so desperately

needed.

These measures have received the overwhelming support of the 1975 Trades Union Congress and Labour Party Conference. As democrats we should actively support the measures agreed.

We must allow our Government to Govern. In this context, we must support it not fight it, play to our full part as a union in the democratisation and Socialisation of our industry, make it efficient, secure its future and create the wealth we need for a new society.

This Society will be an economic and social system based on socialist principles which will above all, preserve our essential freedoms.

Not perfect

The postal ballot system of electing our full time officials has received much publicity. This method of balloting was adopted by the 1970 rules revision meeting, reaffirmed by a recalled meeting in 1971, and again supported by the majority of the 1975 rules revision body.

It is a system by no means perfect in the full participative sense, it's supporters have never claimed this, but it is a system motivated by the spirit of fuller and more democratic opportunity to elect officials of your own choosing. The tremendous increase in the percentage of members now voting will be welcomed by all who support democratic control.

I shall always fight for the right of rank and file members to determine policy, and the right of members to elect all officials. I will continue to oppose all who seek to use our membership for purely political purposes.

In Conclusion I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the many branches who have nominated me, and to the members who have demonstrated their confidence in me and Promised Support.

If elected I will work to the best of my ability to serve your interests.

Yours fraternally
JOHN P WEAKLEY

THEIR SUPPORT

LEN BLOOD'S election address is signed by 15 district committee members, 15 convenors, 72 shop stewards, and more than 60 other branch and trade union activists.

John Weakley's address is signed by no one.

Bob Wright's election address is signed by six Labour MPs, 58 full-time officials, and 22 delegates to the 1975 National Committee.

Fellow members,

I am seeking election as an Assistant General Secretary of the Union, having served over a period of 19 years as an Official of the Union and, prior to that, as a rank and file member in the capacity of Shop Steward, District President, member of the District Committee, Branch Officer and President, member of the National Committee and been involved in the Trades Council and Labour Party over a period of 32 years.

During my period of office and, indeed, during my rank and file activities, I have been involved in all facets of the Union's work. That experience extends over 28 years of continuous activity, including Apprentice leader in the late 1930s.

During recent elections we have seen a massive intervention by the Press, Television and other propaganda organs, aimed at influencing our members; the vast majority of these instruments are no friends of the Trade Union Movement.

Flimsy

I therefore appeal to members to base their judgement on the capability and service given to the membership—not on the flimsy misrepresentation which is often the basis of propaganda.

Remember, democracy is founded on your participa-

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In the face of attacks on workers' living standards and jobs our union is retreating. The right-wing 'moderates' promised 'Back to Work with Labour'. But unemployment soars towards one and a half million. Less money buys fewer goods and creates redundancies.

It's the bosses' crisis yet we're expected to make the sacrifices.

Such injustices will not be countered by acceptance of the £6 freeze. We need fighting policies and a militant leadership to turn the tide.

That's why I support the *Engineers' Charter*:

- 35-hour week without loss of pay—to create 400,000 more engineering jobs.
- £15 across the board cash increases for every engineer;
- £60 minimum earnings level;
- National overtime ban while engineers are on the dole;
- Occupations to force nationalisation without compensation of firms that refuse to guarantee the Right to Work.

Together

Plant bargaining has dangerously fragmented us. Many factories have gone to the wall. Now we might fight together.

We smashed the Industrial Relations Act. Nationally, together we can win the Right to Work and smash the £6 freeze.



'I firmly believe in trade union democracy and the rank and file'

We must also organise against the employer-backed traitors without our midst. The Tories, the employers, Labour right-wingers and the press all campaign for the postal ballot. It allows them to interfere in our business, the election of our officials. The vote should be in the branch after discussion of the stated merits of each candidate.

Leading officials who associate themselves with the antics of anti-trade unionists are a disgrace and should be voted out. Even worse are those who use the courts against our union.

I firmly believe in trade union democracy and the rank and file. Without the enthusiasm and drive of the rank and file a union is helpless.

Transformation

The trade unions have never won anything without a fight. Through such struggles I am confident we will gain the strength to fight for the transformation of this corrupt society into a planned socialist society under workers' control.

I am an International Socialist and stand by my record:

- Shop steward at Fords, Halewood.
- 8 weeks party strike committee 1969
- 10 weeks parity strike committee 1971
- Senior shop steward Ruston Paxman Diesels (GEC) Warrington
- Six weeks fitters pay disputes strike committee
- 13 weeks factory occupation committee for 1972 national pay claim
- 7 weeks factory occupation committee against victimisation of fellow shop steward, 1973.

Current positions held within union

- Warrington District Committee
- Shop steward, Greenings, Warrington
- Branch secretary
- Secretary Newton Trades Council
- North West Regional Council TUC
- Executive, Merseyside County Association of Trades Council
- Yours Fraternally,
I. LEN BLOOD



Bob Wright, the Broad Left candidate for general secretary defeated by John Boyd

'I appeal to members to base their judgement on capability and service given to the membership'

per cent of Industry is demonstrating higher profits and prices continue to escalate.

No-one would deny that the present Government is endeavouring, within the system under which we live, to bring about a control of the rapid inflation which so seriously affects our economy, but one must question whether those actions are correct or sufficient to ensure success.

Directed

Industry is faced with a crisis brought about by low investment extending over a period of 30 years. Jobs are threatened because the Banks and other investment resources of our country are not being directed into our industries to provide growth in our economic capability.

It is simple economics to understand that the priorities of a depressed

economy must be to achieve the maximum possible expansion in the areas of investment and that our resources must be guided into the priority areas of our economy. Our industries suffer from a strike by the City and the Banking interests, who prefer to direct their investment either abroad or into areas of exploitation which are non-productive.

The Government are seeking to fill the gap of this lack of investment, expressed through the creation of the National Enterprise Board and the Industry Bill, but unless they are able to command a security of investment, which I believe needs to reach the level of £1000 million per annum, we will continue to suffer from the depression of our industries and the consequent unemployment.

Elected

I joined the Union and became active within the Labour Party in order to bring about a change in the nature of society and to remove the causes of depression and insecurity from the face of our society. I intend to continue to struggle and invite members to offer me their support in the election in which I am now contesting to enable me to use the experience of over thirty years involvement in our Union, the Labour Movement and the Trades Council Movement, which I believe is a valuable asset.

I append hereto a list of Members of Parliament, Full-time Officers and members of the National Committee who have indicated their support for my candidature. Due to the limitations on the size of the election address it is not possible to include other members who have also indicated their support.

I dedicate myself to the interests of every member in the Union in the cause of progress, in the knowledge that without the work of Shop Stewards, Branch Officers and other activists within our Union we could not have achieved our present standards.

With sincere good wishes,
 Yours fraternally,
R W WRIGHT
 Manchester 15 Branch

OUR NORMAN



What Labour's cuts mean...

FIGHT - OR YOU'LL END UP ON THE DOLE

RIGHT to Work marcher June Young got a great send-off last Saturday.

She was unanimously sponsored by the Conference Against Unemployment in Education.

And the conference also collected £50 towards her expenses.

June is an unemployed schoolteacher from Bristol.

The conference was attended by 180 delegates from 53 schools, 14 NUT Associations, 16 colleges as well as ancillary workers unions, trades councils, NATFHE and NUSS.

Organised as a follow-up to last term's conference on education cuts, it discussed ways of fighting unemployment in the absence of a lead from the teachers' union, the NUT.

It also discussed ways of

By Anna Deason, NUT

building links between teachers and other workers in schools, as well as students in colleges of education.

Dick North, a supporter of Rank and File Teacher who is a member of the NUT executive, urged teachers to fight at every level and to support any initiative that links teachers with other groups of workers fighting unemployment.

He moved a resolution—which was overwhelmingly supported—giving support to the National Right to Work Campaign march and rally.

He urged delegates to go back to their schools and colleges to build and participate in local committees of the campaign.

Roger Cox, of the National Rank and File Organising Committee, told the con-

ference:

'Unemployment won't just go away. It can only be beaten by implementing a strategy and tactics that can be fought on in each specific school as part of a national movement.'

Those tactics were discussed in the afternoon session.

A Hackney ancillary worker said: 'If we don't fight every single cut as it arises, teachers will be driven to teaching science by drawing pictures of test tubes on blackboards and children will have to imagine experiments'.

A resolution was carried calling on the conference standing committee to circulate details and ideas about action to all delegating bodies.

The final speaker told the conference: 'You only have two choices, fight or accept unemployment, there is no middle road'.

Conference reports are available from 18 Williamson St, Holloway, London N7.

Democracy, not a new tyranny

'PARLIAMENT is a sham—but what you're on about is seizing power for your party and leaving us with less democracy, not more.'

That fear lurks at the back of many people's minds when they're attacking socialism.

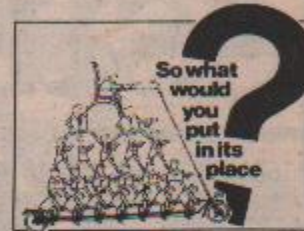
Yet the socialist alternative is simple, highly democratic and exceptionally workable. In place of the once-every-five-years indirect kind of democracy we have now, a socialist society would be based on the fullest possible direct democracy.

Different

No longer would we elect people to represent us geographically, so that you and your boss have an equal number of votes but a vastly different amount of wealth and power.

Instead, workers' power would be based in the places where workers exercise real power and influence—in the factories and housing estates.

What's more, no longer would the people we elect be our representatives. They would be our delegates.



This is far from being just a difference of words. A delegate is someone who can be subjected to regular and remorseless recall. And recall is the essence of working class democracy.

It means you do not have people to whom you sign over your democratic rights for five years.

Instead you have living democracy based on the factory floor and the housing estate in which all can participate on a day-to-day basis.

Of course, from each electing unit you would need delegates to city-wide and country-wide councils of factory and estate committees.

But at each stage all persons elected to these bodies would be subject to recall.

In this way, the root causes of the John Stonehouse or Reg Prentice phenomenon would be removed.

Those who stepped out of line or failed to put in a satisfactory performance could therefore be swiftly removed.

What's more gone would be the corruption and manipulation associated with the present system of 'democracy'.

Editors

Gone would be the situation where vast anonymous forces such as big business corporations, state departments and newspaper editors were able to exercise real power behind the parliamentary sham.

There's no reason to doubt that this system of direct democracy would work.

Just look around the history of our class and our movement and you'll find dozens of examples of partial success that point the way.

Look at the workers' councils in Hungary in 1956, in Russia in 1905 and 1917.

Look at the Councils Action in the 1926 General Strike in Britain.

Look at what happened in the miners' strike of 1972 and 1974 and you'll see the same enormous possibilities.

You'll see the creative capacities of the masses in action. In 1972 and 1974 50,000 miners became a highly disciplined army of pickets which aroused the whole labour movement and defeated all the highly organised forces of the state.

Powerful

Who can say that these workers could not run their own industry and their own lives?

A powerful mass working class party is indispensable to the working class in the struggle for power.

But there is no reason to believe that somehow this party could or would raise itself over the heads of the masses and seize power for itself.

The workers' councils thrown up in a revolution are very powerful. They should be well able to deal with any would-be usurpers.

Not that the usurpers are likely to be from the revolutionary socialist camp.

For genuine revolutionaries are people devoted to working class democracy and to the self-emancipation of the working class.

Laurie Flynn

...and how they can be fought with unity

1000 on march in Cardiff

A MARCH called by NUPE to protest against the cuts in public spending was supported in Cardiff on Saturday by more than 1000 trade unionists. The Welsh TUC had refused to support it and there was relatively little official support from other trade unions.

Nevertheless, a wide range of local authority and government workers and students, many of them behind the banners of the Right to Work Committee and rank and file groups, turned up.

Expected

This impressive support is an indication of what can be expected if the campaign against the cuts is really taken up by rank and file workers in South Wales.

It might also be a good idea to insist on future marches going through the main shopping street and not through the deserted civic centre.

Notices and meetings

Notices for this column must be posted to arrive by first post the Monday preceding publication. We cannot take them over the phone. Send cash with copy (5p a word) to CLASSIFIED, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London, E2 9DS. No invoices can be sent.

Local labour movement CONFERENCE ON UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE CUTS: Saturday 3 April, Stockwell Hall, Stockwell Park Walk, Brixton, London SW2. Creche provided. Details and delegates/visitors credentials from V Wiseman, 23 Saunders House, St Martins Estate, London SW2. Organised by Lambeth Trades Council, Norwood Labour Party. Sponsored by Battersea/Wandsworth, Southwark Trades Councils and South West London Right to Work Committee.

Stop the Rot! Fight the Cuts! LOBBY THE LONDON LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE! Camden Town Hall, Euston Road, NW1, Saturday 6 March, 9am. Bring banners. Called by the National Coordinating Committee against the Cuts in NHS.

London Rank and File Tech Teacher open meeting: Sunday 7 March, 7pm, The Roebuck, Tottenham Court Road (near Warren Street tube). The fight against unemployment. Speakers: Ted Parker (Right to Work Campaign), Eric Nash (Croydon Technical College). All NATFHE members welcome.



Some of the 20,000 students who demonstrated in London on Friday against the cuts. The most notable feature of the demonstration was the very large turnout from further education colleges, visible proof that students from working class backgrounds are the most severely hit by the cuts.

Workers back students

S E LONDON: Students at Woolwich College went on strike last Friday in support of the NUS day of action against the education cuts.

Part-time engineering students from Molins' factory in Deptford were instructed by their shop stewards' committee not to cross the students' picket line.

After negotiations, management agreed to keep the students in the factory for the day.

Women canteen workers, members of the public employees' union, NUPE, supported the students by not working.

The teachers were instructed by their union, NATFHE, to cross the picket

lines. A number of teachers agreed to donate part of a day's pay to make up the canteen workers' wages.

At neighbouring Thames Polytechnic, the students were out picketing at 5am. The early morning porters refused to cross the picket line and so the building was not unlocked.

The technicians and lab staff didn't cross either. Lorries for the canteen were turned back.

THE ENFIELD branch of the Middlesex Polytechnic Students Union staged a week-long occupation last

week as part of the London Polys' Week of Action against education cuts.

The Poly has had £1½ million slashed off next year's budget. And so one site is being closed completely, while the nursery, which was only won after a prolonged campaign of direct action, is threatened with closure, as parents have refused to pay fees at a maximum of nearly £5 a day.

Enfield students also occupied the Department of Education and Science switchboard last Wednesday morning, and picketed the building in the afternoon.

One of the most important things to emerge from the action was a meeting between delegations of students and shop stewards from a local factory.

It was also agreed that in future there will be regular contact between the student body and the workforce in the factory.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Strike over Glasgow cuts

GLASGOW: The whole of the Educational Television Service is to be closed in June. 35 workers in the local government union, NALGO, and the television workers' union, ACTT, are to be sacked.

This cut is the most drastic of public sector cuts in the Strathclyde Region. But there are others.

The youth services will be cut in half. No more homework supervision. More stringent assessment of need for free milk. No school meals in school holidays.

Empty

Cutback in the use of camps and residential schools. No new temporary classrooms to ease overcrowding. No opening for 26 new nursery schools. The new Cumbernauld Technical College to lie empty.

By Sheila Sim, NALGO, Glasgow Division

All these cuts hit working class kids hardest. And at the lower-paid and working woman.

Councillor Eddie Miller, Director of Education, says there are bound to be redundancies among cleaners,

dinner ladies, and auxiliaries. Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

Public sector unions are striking on Wednesday to protest outside Strathclyde Region headquarters.

Cash and messages of support to: Glasgow Educational Television Fighting Fund, Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Acc No 003 666 83.

AUEW ballot: Support this man

ANOTHER election is taking place in the AUEW. Phil Higgs from the Broad Left and Bradley from the right wing are standing in the second ballot for national organiser.

In the first ballot Socialist Worker urged its readers to support the candidate of the Engineers' Charter, Willie Lee, who has not reached this second ballot. We now urge all our Engineering Union readers to support Phil Higgs to keep out the right wing.

Council drivers walk out

By John Clifford, UCATT convenor, Wolverhampton Council building workers.

WOLVERHAMPTON: Council drivers struck on Monday after their shop steward had his wages docked for going on a union training course.

The two-day course was one many which the council had agreed to allow stewards to attend.

But when the drivers' steward returned from it, he was reprimanded and told he would not be paid.

The drivers are picketing the main Local Authority offices and preventing the movement of goods.

Management

Management, in typically bloody-minded fashion, tried to stop them using the canteen, but with the support of the canteen staff they failed.

There is solidarity backing from NALGO, with members refusing to move anything except in an emergency.

Ken Barlow, Regional Secretary of UCATT, has said that the dispute is now official.

In the past, stewards' jobs have been a stepping stone to promotion to management.

Now they're an expression of our organisation.

Our bosses are frightened, not of what we've got, but of what we are building our union organisation into.

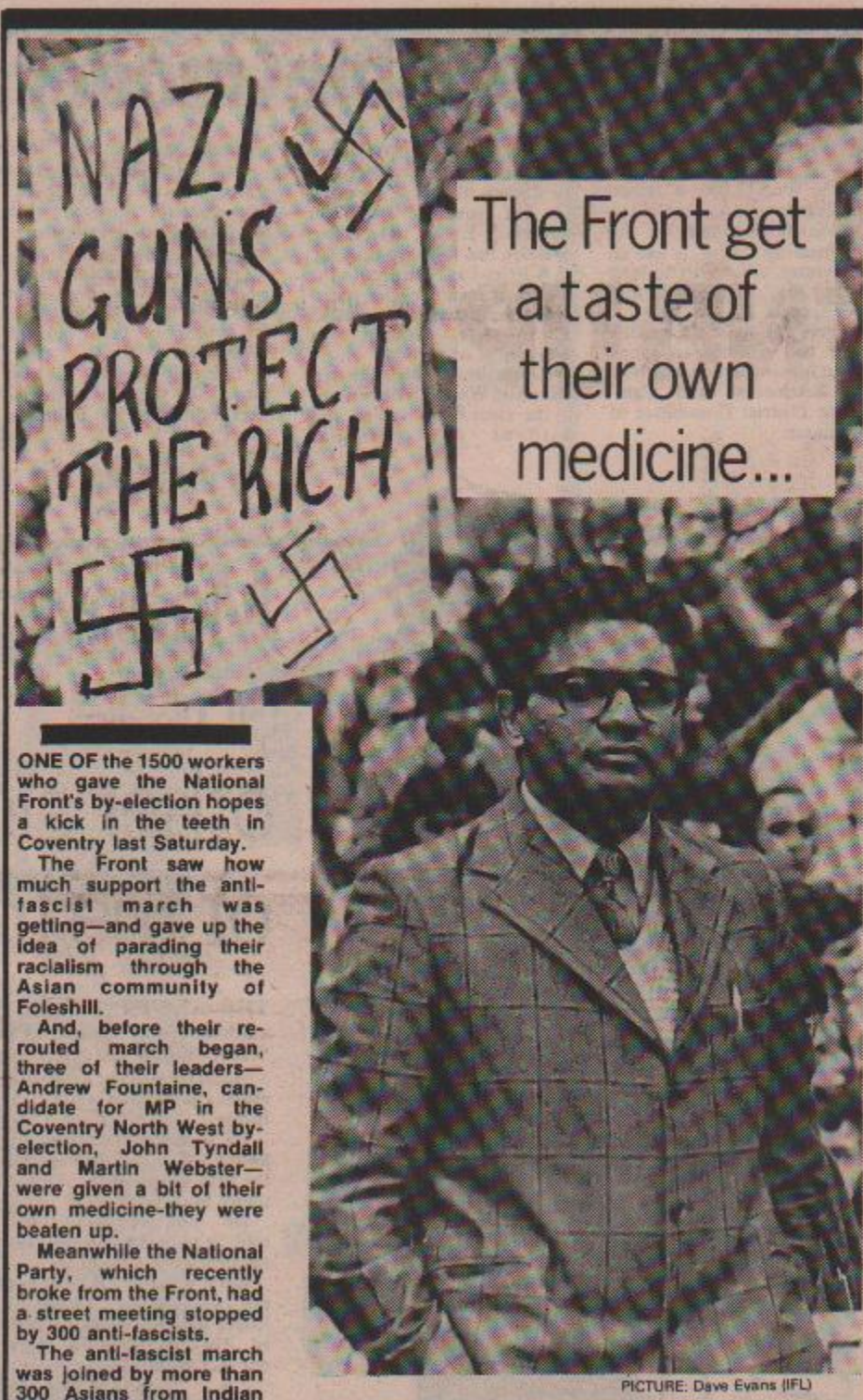
Nurses on the march

MORE THAN 200 nurses marched through Macclesfield on Monday in protest at the loss of 50 jobs at Parkside Hospital. Another 25 lost jobs are in the pipeline.

Management claim overstaffing and are allowing natural wastage to take its toll, despite the fact that more nurses are really needed on the wards.

COHSE, who called the demonstration, are calling for an independent inquiry, and have escalated their action since a picket at the hospital at the end of last year.

The march, supported by Macclesfield Trades Council, was joined by nurses from West Park Hospital.



ONE OF the 1500 workers who gave the National Front's by-election hopes a kick in the teeth in Coventry last Saturday.

The Front saw how much support the anti-fascist march was getting—and gave up the idea of parading their racism through the Asian community of Foleshill.

And, before their re-routed march began, three of their leaders—Andrew Fountaine, candidate for MP in the Coventry North West by-election, John Tyndall and Martin Webster—were given a bit of their own medicine—they were beaten up.

Meanwhile the National Party, which recently broke from the Front, had a street meeting stopped by 300 anti-fascists.

The anti-fascist march was joined by more than 300 Asians from Indian Workers Associations in Coventry, Birmingham and Wolverhampton.

They were followed by Right to Work Committees from Coventry and Birmingham; Coventry Trades Council, AUEW TASS district committee Coventry; Students' unions from Devon, Bradford, Warwick, Sheffield, Lanchester; and IS branches from Coventry, Sheffield, Oxford, North Heris, Durham, Portsmouth and London.



PICTURE: Dave Evans (IFL)

SHETLANDS: WE'LL FIGHT THE GOVERNMENT

SHETLAND ISLANDS: Catering and cleaning staff at the Firth Voe Construction Camp are still on strike for parity with construction workers at the BP oil terminal complex.

A postal ballot (which many members didn't receive, but non-members did) gave a 'return to work' decision—and a mass meeting the next day showed this to be a lie.

Project manager, Mr Macintosh informed the strike committee that their fight was against the government's White Paper and that the situation was out of his hands.

So the strike committee decided to fly to London to talk to the Department of

PONTYPRIDD: Tom Evans, Engineering Union district secretary, last week told equal pay strikers at GEC's Treforest factory to accept managements latest offer of £2.50.

This turn around—Evans had made militant noises at previous meetings—angered many workers.

A mass meeting rejected the offer and the strikers—400

women and 28 men—are sticking out for the full £3.45. As one told Socialist Worker: 'We're not going back now, it's £3.45 or nothing'.

The strikers have received no strike pay, despite having been out with official support for four weeks.

Mass pickets have kept clerical staff outside the gates, too.

Employment. The committee has written to Socialist Worker: 'If we get no joy on this occasion we shall stay out until somebody of authority can come up with a solid offer. 'Once again it is so apparent

how the capitalist system, ie the Social Contract, can deprive the workers of reasonable negotiating powers.

'However, we are quite prepared to fight the government in this situation.'

GAS: IT'S A NALGO VICTORY

THE DISPUTE involving NALGO members in the gas industry is now over.

The employers have conceded the main demands: reinstatement of all suspended members, no victimisation, restoration of trade union rights, protection of pension rights, and negotiations on the regrading of those directly involved with the manual workers' agreement.

The only point they did not yield was that of full pay for those suspended. They agreed to pay them from 22 February.

The main object of the strike, our members' victimisation, we have won.

We have put trade union solidarity to the test and come out on top. There was magnificent response from the rank and file and we have shown that the basis is there for a

BOOST FOR REYROLLE STRIKERS

LANARKSHIRE: The four-week strike of 750 workers at the Reyrolle Belmos factory has been declared official by the executive of the Engineering Union.

And a similar recommendation has been made to the executive of the electricians' union.

Workers at the firm's three factories in the

West of Scotland hit the streets over management's refusal to count the recent £6 increase into the sick pay arrangements.

The workers feel this is part of management's continued refusal to give staff conditions to shop-floor workers. It came to a head when discussions broke down on yet another company refusal to meet the claim.

Workers then began a work to rule. The firm suspended 16 people and the workforce responded with an immediate sit-in.

This led to yet another works conference at which management still refused to negotiate.

Difference

The work to rule was re-applied and seven days strike notice was given.

During informal discussions with the AUEW Executive Council member—Gavin Laird—the company have since admitted that they can afford to pay this claim.

Perhaps the company feel it is still useful for them to foster differences between the shop-floor worker and the staff worker.

But in fact they have drawn the staff and shop floor workers together.

The staff have given their full support to the strike and last week donated £70 to the strike fund.

Messages and donations to: A Neilson, Reyrolle Belmos Strike Fund, 7R Hamilton Road, Bellshill, Lanarkshire.

Avonmouth battle ends after 18 weeks

AVONMOUTH: The 600 workers at Commonwealth Smelting returned to work on Wednesday after an 18-week strike.

The company, part of the rich multinational Rio Tinto Zinc, agreed to the findings of an arbitration board.

It found 'collective bargaining is in need of improvement'—the understatement of the year.

It recommended that all employees made redundant should be offered jobs with the choice of reinstatement, with all previous benefits safeguarded, or re-engagement, retaining the redundancy payment. A compromise has been

reached over manning levels. If the total taken on is less than 505, the company must recruit from the labour exchange.

The union's target was for a manning level of 540. Fewer workers mean more overtime and more exposure to poisonous lead.

Dispute

The union will continue fighting through the dispute procedure to raise the level to 525.

Two other issues are going to arbitration—a fight to maintain the shift allowance during the clean-up period, and compensation for hardship while on strike.

Uproar at Treforest

COCKBURN STRIKERS CONFIDENT

HILLINGTON: The equal pay strike of 42 AUEW TASS members at Cockburns Valves has brought the factory to near stand-still.

The strike began six weeks ago when management suspended AUEW TASS members who were working to rule.

The strike committee are confident of victory, if they get the support of local workers.

A member of the strike committee said: 'We need publicity to show that an Equal Pay Act does not mean that people will be given equal pay.'

All donations to John Fisher, Cockburns Valves Strike Fund, 16 Whitefield Road, Glasgow, G 42.



Socialist Worker

Please send me more information about Socialist Worker and the International Socialists

Name

Address

Send to: National Secretary, International Socialists, 8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN.

Support!

FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK SUPPORT THE ALBERT HALL RALLY

Posters in Urdu available from the National Right to Work Campaign, 46 Prince George Road, London N16. 10p plus 6½p postage for five. £1.50 for 100 post free.

BHS picketed over sacking

LONDON: British Homes Stores was picketed again on Saturday. The Campaign for Homosexual Equality leafleted the three entrances of the Oxford Street branch to seek the reinstatement of Tony Whitehead, who was sacked after appearing on a television programme about homosexuality. BHS branches in Worthing and Brighton have also been picketed.

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p

Ivan the Terrible (moderate)

By Brendan Salisbury, AUEW

IVAN WESTLEY, a recent candidate for Assistant Divisional Organiser in the Engineering Union, is like all moderates, constantly talking of 'fair play', 'democracy' and 'free speech'.

There are some things he's none too anxious to speak about however, particularly to the Letchworth and Cambridge District Committee of the union.

The DC have summoned him for times to their meetings to discuss his list of sponsors for last November's election address. Each time, Bro Westley has failed to turn up.

A letter has been sent to the DC by a member who stated that his name had been used as a sponsor without his knowledge or consent.

Altogether there were ten names on Westley's list written in the same hand writing and without any personal

signatures.

Yet the AUEW journal stated last month: 'The EC have always insisted that original written signatures must be supplied'.

Of course, press and television say not one word about Westley's dealings. After all, he is one of their beloved moderates.

'Fair play' Westley has also played the familiar moderate trick of taking the union to court.

He has lost his position as part-time district secretary because of the amalgamation of the Letchworth and Cambridge districts.

Interestingly enough, the cost to union funds of this part time official was more than the other full-time secretary plus his secretarial assistance.

AUEW ballot:
The candidates
PAGE 13

Hello, hello, hello, what's all this then?

THE London police got a nasty shock last week.

Twelve police officers, serving and retired, were arrested in a blaze of publicity and charged with corruption.

They included men at the very heart of the force. Men like Kenneth Drury, ex-head of the Flying Squad, Wally Virgo, ex-head of Scotland Yard's Murder Squad and William Moody, one time head of the Obscene Publications Squad.

Since 1972, 82 officers have been required to leave the force after formal proceedings.

301 have left voluntarily during the course of inquiries.

46 are presently suspended, ten are awaiting trial, 24 are awaiting a decision from the Director of Public Prosecutions and 12 are the subject of serious disciplinary inquiries.

Visit

Last weekend's arrests follow two years of internal investigation following allegations made at the trial of James Humphreys, a London-based pornography baron.

Humphreys stated he had paid police officers £1600 a

week and let them use luxury flats.

He told a News of the World interviewer in 1974: 'I didn't corrupt them—Yard men came to me.'

A Sunday People inquiry in 1972 was told by porn dealers that if you don't look after the Old Bill, you'll be nicked.

Humphreys knew how to look after the Old Bill, as the police are known in London slang.

He cultivated them just as respectable businessmen cultivate their contacts—with lunches and largesse.

In 1970 and 1971, Humphreys was one of the

guests at the Flying Squad annual ball.

Who were the other guests? We'll probably never be allowed to know, because the investigation of corruption inside the police, is entirely a matter for the police.

And the Labour government is doing its damndest to keep it that way.

Last year Roy Jenkins refused to set up a public inquiry into the massive corruption in the Metropolitan force.

Instead he let the man he had personally promoted, Sir Robert Mark, conduct a purely internal inquiry.

Sir Robert will not inquire into the day-to-day routine corruption that is the stuff of law and order.

There will be no inquiries into the frame-ups and beatings that the police inflict

Spread

Indeed, Mark has been behind a series of developments which, far from cleaning up the police force, have made it far dirtier and more vicious.

He presided over the re-organisation of the police force into Special Patrol Groups and other elite gangs trained to beat up striking dockers and other 'subversives'.

He co-ordinated the Tory government's anti-picketing strategy in the 1974 miners' strike.

Mark in fact is devoted to the cause of a still more efficient police force. It is this which explains his interest in a limited clean-up.

He wants them to be more effective defenders of the minority's massive wealth. And he cannot do this if there is blatant corruption at the top.

Corruption will exist as long as there is a professional police force.

In a society where money is good and everybody is to be bought and sold, it would be surprising if it were otherwise.

By PC Garry Bushell



Since 1972, 82 officers have been required to leave the Metropolitan Police...

Meanwhile, on the other side of the tracks

THE ANGER of railway workers against the police exploded into industrial action at London's Liverpool Street Station last Saturday.

Audley Franklin, a guard, had been stopped by a plainclothes railway policeman while on his way home from work the night before.

He was dragged off to the police office and beaten up, the fifth victim of the railway police in recent weeks.

He protested—and was told: 'It's alright, you can't see the bruises—you're black'.

But it wasn't alright as far as the courageous Liverpool Street workers were concerned. They launched an angry one-day strike.

By Nigel Fountain

'To me they are friendly', said Joe Janghari, 'they know me by my first name. But they are prejudiced.'

The incident is being investigated by British Rail. But it is only industrial action, fast and solid, like last Saturday's strike, which can improve conditions for railway workers and stop the police in their tracks.

'He was one of the quietest blokes on the station', union rep Joe Janghari told Socialist Worker.

'It doesn't surprise me', said a ticket collector. 'It's happened before.'

'We don't get enough protection from some passengers from the police. But we do get other things. Like railwaymen getting beaten up by them.'

'A friend of mine was badly roughed up. He had bad spine trouble and had to walk in a funny way.'

'So they said he was drunk.'

The railway police rarely interfere with angry middle-class commuters who get stuck into ticket inspectors and the drivers.

As one white collector put it to Socialist Worker:

'Relations with the police as far as I'm concerned are not very good. Not very good at all.'

Womens Voice Concert

Women's Theatre Group
Frankie Armstrong
NW Spanner
Broadside Mobile
Workers Theatre

Thurs 4th March 7.30pm
St Pancras Assembly Rooms
Judd St WC1
tickets 80p
bar



Socialist Worker

Please rush me my weekly copy of Socialist Worker. I enclose a cheque/postal order made payable to Socialist Worker for

- £7 for one year
- £3.50 for six months

(Please tick) to pay subscriptions and postage, so start sending them to:

NAME

ADDRESS

(BLOCK CAPITALS)

When completed post to Socialist Worker Subscriptions, Circulation Department, 8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN

Subscribe!

Help us support these workers

THESE workers are on strike at the Seprod detergent and baking supplies factory in Kingston, Jamaica against victimisations and sackings.

Their struggle takes place against an increasingly grave background.

Socialists and militants in Jamaica fear that a coup against the mildly reformist Peoples National Party government may be in the offing.

That's why the SW International Fund sent £100 last week to help a revolutionary socialist organisation in Jamaica. We need to do more.

There's a job to be done all over the place. We can-



not do it without your help.

That's why we make no apology, dear friends, for asking you to dig deep yet again.

This week the Socialist Worker International Fund received contributions from:

Chessington couple £1.70;

St Andrews University IS Soc £2.11; P Jackson £15; T

Martin 50p; Cambridge IS

£10; Leicester Teachers SW

Supporters £10.

Anon £5; USIS; £25; Sales

of Lessons of 25 November

and The Struggle for Angola

£17.67; Sales of Greek edition

of Portugal at the Crossroads:

£22.

Total since December is £4,018.64—less than halfway towards the £10,000 target we hope to meet before May Day.

Send donations to SW International Fund, 8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN.