

# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p



Thousands marched against racism in Blackburn last Saturday. More news on the struggle against the racials—Page 9

# MASS SACKINGS

# IN THE

# HOSPITALS!

By SW reporter

**SENTENCE OF DEATH** has been passed this week on the National Health Service in Hackney, East London.

The area health authority, in one of the densest working class areas in Britain, coolly announced massive cuts in health facilities.

□ 400 hospital jobs will be axed. This means at least 250 sackings.

□ At least one of the area's three accident and emergency units will have to close.

□ Overtime will be halved, and in some cases cut out, throughout the service.

□ Blood tests and X-rays will become four or five times more difficult to obtain.

□ Absent doctors and surgeons will not be automatically replaced.



In the firing line... hospital workers Johnny Clarke and Bob Ross

## Closed

John Clarke, branch secretary of the public service union, NUPE at Queen Elizabeth Children's Hospital, Bethnal Green, told Socialist Worker:

'If we let them get away with this, it means the end of the National Health Service in the area.'

'For a start, they have already warned that our hospital might be transferred into this authority—and immediately closed down.'

'But we're the only hospital for children in the whole of East London.'

## 'Acute'

'Last week a building labourer was badly injured in a fall on an East End site. They took him to St Leonards hospital.'

'There was no bed for him. They searched around the whole of the area; there were no 'acute' beds for emergencies.'

'Eventually, they found him a 'non-acute' bed at Barts. But now the authority tells us to cut down on 'acute' beds and

## 100,000 jobs face the axe

emergency units!

'The cuts in overtime will have fantastic effects—and not just on the miserable wages of hospital workers. Cutting the overtime of domestic workers and cleaners will mean that wards and linen won't be cleaned.'

'That heightens the danger of infection.'

The cuts in Hackney flow directly from the recent government circular warning health authorities not to spend more than their 'cash limit' imposed last year. Each district health authority has been ordered to submit accounts.

Despite already drastic cuts, Hackney have 'overspent' by £700,000. Hence the cuts.

'And remember', says Bob Ross, NUPE chairman at Queen Elizabeth, 'four hospitals in the area are being closed down by next April!

After April, another 200 hospital workers face the sack.'

And what is true of Hackney is true of the rest of Britain.

On an optimistic estimate, 100,000 hospital jobs are threatened.

## Cuts

'We're going to get delegations to the Right to Work conference on 6 November. I'd like to see that conference organise a real fight across the country among hospital workers against the cuts.'

'The authorities just pass the buck to one another. We, the workers, can't.'

'We've got to do the fighting.'



The placards tell the story: hospital workers picketing the TUC last week.

## STOP THE FASCISTS

Demonstrate: Walsall, Saturday 25 September, 1.30pm, AGAINST racism. FOR the Socialist Worker candidate in Walsall, Jimmy McCallum

National mobilisation of all IS branches

## STOP THE NAZIONAL FRONT!



# Mason: The army get their man

THE GENERALS and the Tory Party are now helping to select Labour Cabinets.

The appointment of Roy Mason as Secretary of State for Northern Ireland is a clear victory for the army top brass

## Boot

Military chiefs now reckon they have the all-clear to make their own policy and put the boot in to anyone who objects.

Mason, as Minister of Defence, was a loyal spokesman for the chiefs of

staff fighting for a bigger defence budget and consistently defended the generals even against his own Cabinet colleagues.

When the Army Officer Commanding, Sir Frank King, publicly attacked Merlyn Rees' policy of ending internment last April, Mason, far from calling King to heel, gave him full backing—just as he had backed the generals when they refused to move against the Loyalist strike in 1975.

No wonder a jubilant Orange spokesman described the appointment

By Eamonn McCann

as 'the best we could have hoped for from a Labour government'.

Indeed, the Irish Times reported on Monday that Tory Front Benchers met Callaghan privately before last week's reshuffle and urged him to give Mason the job.

## Drift

With Mason in control, the prospect for the North is accelerating repression, an increasing drift towards martial law—and no end to violence.

Developments in the South are along

broadly similar lines. The government has steamrollered through its emergency laws, giving the police and army the widest powers available in any European country, with the possible exception of Spain.

Conor Cruise O'Brien, one of the Labour Party members of the Cabinet, said bluntly last week:

'Newspapers will be censored. Some may be stopped outright.'

North and South, the fight against 'terrorism'—that is, the attempt to maintain the Northern State—means a slide towards the far Right while 'social democrats' like Mason and O'Brien end up in the arms of military bully-boys.

# Price Check? Prize Cheek more like it!

PRICES are rising at an accelerating speed, despite all the government's talk about fighting inflation. Figures released on Monday show that wholesale prices rose 15½ per cent in the last year—higher than the figure issued last month.

This increase will work its way through to shop prices in a few months' time.

On top of that, a step taken by the Bank of England last week—allowing the value of the pound to fall while increasing interest rates—will add still more to prices.

The authorities blamed the seamen's threatened strike for the fall in the pound.

But all the evidence—tucked away in the Economist magazine and the Financial Times—indicates that this was a ploy to blame the seamen for something which was going to happen anyway, as a result of government policy.

## Sums

The fall in the pound means that prices for imported food will rise even more.

The increase in interest rates will also mean increased prices. Local authorities will no doubt try to raise rents further to pay out higher sums to money lenders. And mortgage repayments are likely to climb.

The government itself has virtually admitted that it cannot control prices. It has even decided to scrap its famous red triangle 'price check' scheme. It introduced it only a few months ago at a cost of one million pounds, claiming that it would stop the prices of a number of selected goods rising by more than five per cent in six months.

Yet the government itself ignored the scheme's set figure. In four months, between February and June, gas and electricity charges were raised 8.5 per cent. And extra taxes in April raised cigarettes and beer prices more than five per cent. Butter has risen 23 per cent since January—because of the government's withdrawal of food subsidies.

## Fare

Now bread, milk and butter are due for a further increase in price, gas is going up again and British Rail, is now looking at fare increases for early next year.

Most vegetables are rising in price beyond the pocket of many working people—this is before the effects of the drought begin to affect prices.

Thirteen months ago the government introduced wage controls, claiming that they would 'fight inflation'. The same hoary old story was repeated by the TUC leaders in Brighton last week.

Yet you only have to walk through any food shop to see what a lie that is. Prices are rising. Profits are rising. Unemployment is rising. The only thing that is being held back is wages.

# WHERE NEXT?

DISASTER at Canvey Island . . . Catastrophe at Shell Carrington . . . Poison clouds at British Industrial Plastics, County Durham.

Some possible headlines for future issues of Socialist Worker.

Possible because as long as production is pursued for profit and not for need, managers will cut corners and take risks that should never be taken. They will introduce processes and products without proper testing.

Socialist Worker has been hammering that message home for years.

And this week it is being repeated by the Health and Safety Executive and their Standing Advisory Committee on Major Hazards.

They say that in their artificially narrow first category of risk alone, there are 300 plants in Britain that could cause Flixborough-style disasters.

## Gamble

They also present a few preliminary proposals for controlling this monster hazard.

Most of them follow the Lord Robens philosophy of asking the employers to do it for themselves.

This is rather like asking a gambler to take control of National Savings.

The Standing Advisory Committee on Major Hazards would not have come into existence without the Flixborough disaster two years

## SAFETY CHIEFS WARN OF 300 DANGER PLANTS

ago. Then 28 died.

But a Flixborough-style plant would never have been built in a civilised society. Nypro UK's method of producing caprolactam was only adopted because of the firm's 'necessity' to get round someone else's patent.

At least the Health and Safety Executive are moving a little. At least they have a few ideas, like controlling the



photo: Chris Davis (Report)

siting of such plants and making them subject to tighter inspection.

But there is no guarantee that even these minimal recommendations will be implemented.

The Times editorial on the report gave the game away on Tuesday: 'The proposals would clearly mean a considerable increase in the apparatus of public control and

research at a time when government spending is already too high.'

Which, in plain English, means The Times insists that public spending on health education and safety must be cut back to finance stock appreciation and other handouts to Britain's poverty-stricken businessmen.

And worse than this, the giant chemical combines are already moving into action. They're out to secure the loosest and least costly restrictions possible through their Chemical Industries Association.

So, brothers and sisters, beware. We have a hard fight ahead if we are to secure anything that remotely approximates to a safe working and living environment.

THREE years ago this week the Chilean Junta backed by international big business and the American government seized power in Chile. Since then hundreds of thousands of people have been jailed and tortured. Tens of thousands have been killed, the trade union movement smashed. And all to make Chile 'safe' for big business. Now Henry Kissinger who was personally involved in the Chilean bloodbath has moved on. Now he's out to make Southern Africa

## Chile: We won't forget

'safe' for big business. That's why last Sunday's demonstration in support of the Chilean resistance was so important. And that's why demonstrations blackings and protest of any organised kind will remain important until the Chilean Junta are smashed to pieces.

## FEATHER-MY-NEST-EGG

VICTOR Grayson Keir Hardie, the late Baron Feather-my-nest, left £61,000.

From his will, published this week, emerge details of the considerable material success he made of his life.

Baron Feather-my-nest started life as a poor shopworker in Bradford. During the General Strike, he helped to steal sheep to feed starving miners.



Feather: from rags to riches

ment his not inconsiderable salary.

He built up a fine collection of paintings and bought a country cottage. Vacant possession was obtained by a simple device—eviction of the poor agricultural worker who lived there.

Baron Feather-my-nest obtained his high honour from a grateful Ted Heath for services rendered to the Tory government while General Secretary of the TUC.

## Hell

He helped to stop American dockers blacking British goods after the Bloody Sunday murders in Derry in 1972.

He worked like hell later that year to damp down the rising struggle in Britain against the Industrial Relations Act.

Baron Feather-my-nest left £61,000 after tax. Unfortunately, no precise details of where it came from are available.

## THAT REALLY IS A SIGN OF THE TIMES...

**THE NEW LEFT: MIRROR DOSSIER on the booming business of**

# BRITAIN'S CLASS WARRIORS

By RICHARD STOTT

THIS week's Trades Union Congress has seen one of the most successful propaganda campaigns ever mounted by the far Left.

It was a triumph for the Communist Party, the Labour Party and the various socialist groups who have been working to bring about a 'new left' in Britain.

The new left is a movement which is concerned with the interests of the working class and the oppressed. It is a movement which is based on the principles of socialism and the struggle for a better world.

The new left is a movement which is growing in strength and influence in Britain. It is a movement which is challenging the power of the ruling class and the capitalist system.

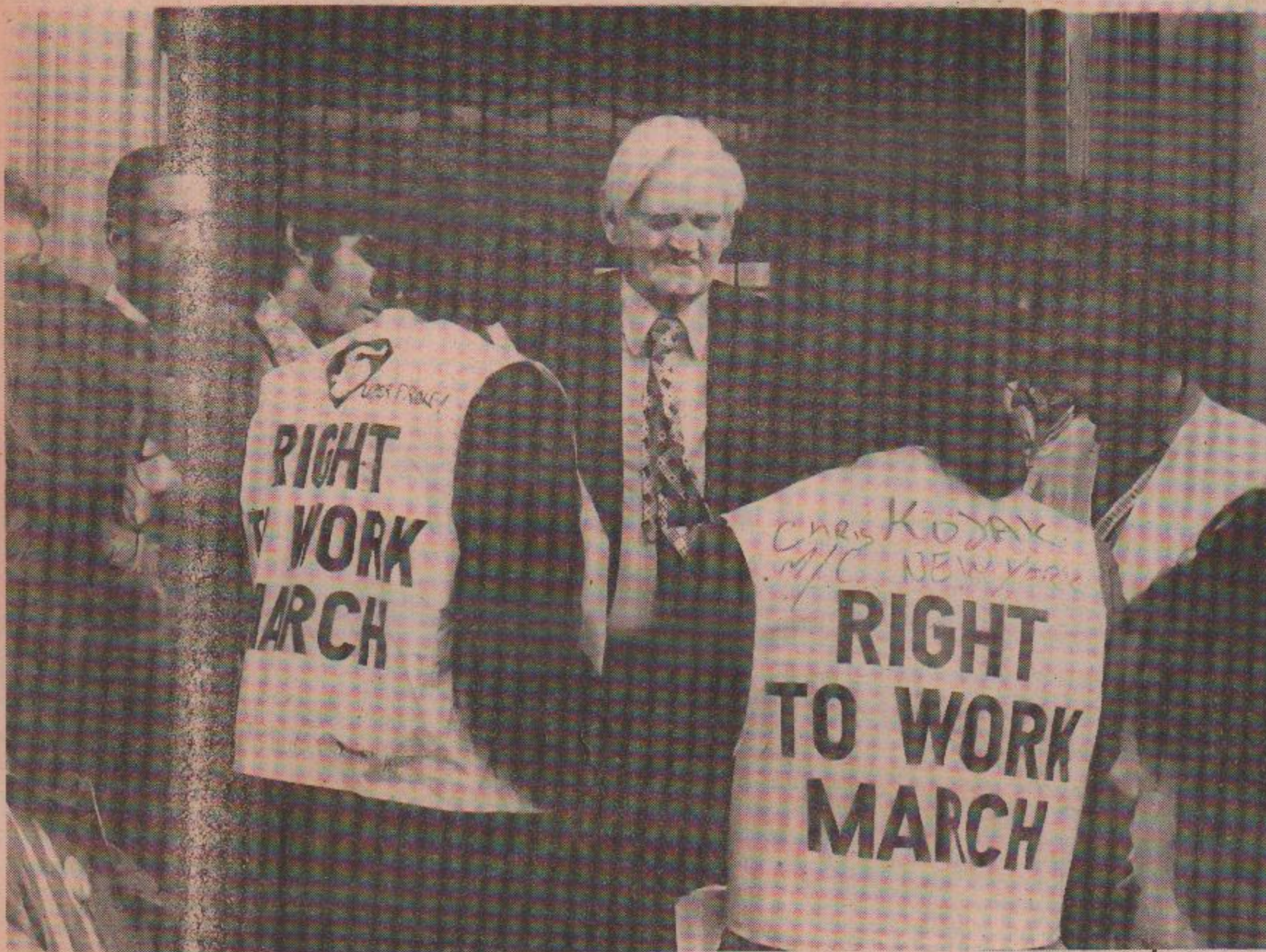
The new left is a movement which is fighting for the rights of the working class and the oppressed. It is a movement which is fighting for a more just and equitable society.

The new left is a movement which is fighting for the interests of the people. It is a movement which is fighting for the future of our country and our world.

Sign of the times.



# SEAMEN: TUC PUT THE BOOT IN



'THE TUC put the boot in'. That was how The Observer newspaper summed up what happened to the seamen last week.

For two days, the heads of the biggest unions in Britain threatened and bullied the leaders of a group of men who earn the magnificent sum of 85p an hour.

'By God, we'll make sure that no union supports you. We'll cripple you', Len Murray told them.

Not only were the seamen told they would get no help from the TUC.

They were also told they could not leave the meeting until they called the strike off.

'We'll throw you out of the TUC if you don't, they were warned.

The TUC's behaviour must be a turning point in the history of the movement.

It was originally formed so as to help groups like the seamen to improve their lot through struggle against rich and powerful employers.

THE rich employers still exist. Last year Sir John Ellerman, head of one of the biggest shipping firms, Ellerman Lines, died, leaving a cool £500 million. But instead of the TUC helping the seamen to get a slice of the loot, Brother Jones and

Now, more than ever, the need is urgent and clear—the building of a rank and file movement

Murray have been doing their utmost to help Sir John's heirs hang-on to his wealth. We've complained in the past that the TUC has failed to help workers in struggle. But now it has actually threatened to help the employers against a group of workers. There are still many

RIGHT TO WORK Marchers pledging support to the seamen at the NUS headquarters in London last week.

When the strike was postponed, the Campaign had preparations underway for hundreds of thousands of leaflets and thousands of posters arguing the seamen's case and calling for support from other trade unionists.

There were also plans for an emergency

Right to Work Council, and supporters of the Campaign were urged to join picket lines and persuade other unemployed workers not blackleg.

If the strike goes ahead at the end of next week, these plans will be put into effect again. Meanwhile the Campaign has written to all seamen's union branches urging support for the 6 November conference against unemployment and the cuts.

## Socialist Worker

WHAT WE THINK

people who would like to close their eyes to these facts.

But closed eyes won't stop rising prices, rising unemployment, falling living standards and, in the last resort, TUC-organised scabbing.

Only one thing will. The building of an organisation that brings together those within

the trade union movement who are prepared to resist the Joneses, Scanlons and the Murrays.

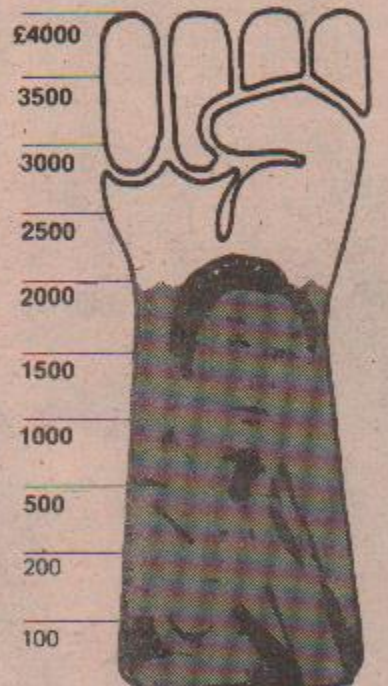
A rank and file movement has to be built as a matter of urgency.

Those who have rejected this conclusion in the past should study what happened last week.

Ask yourself: can we really stop it happening again if we don't build a rank and file movement?

That is why we repeat our call for support for the national delegate conference called for 6 November by the Right to Work Campaign.

Bang on!  
We've hit the  
£2000 mark  
Socialist Worker  
DEFENCE  
FUND



WE'RE HALFWAY towards paying off Frank Chapple's bill. This week's total of £345.79 takes us to bang on £2000 in our special defence fund.

From readers in the Howard Rotavator factory in Suffolk came high praise.

And from Patricia Blackman of Camberley in Surrey came a £10 donation sent in memory of her 21-year-old daughter, Teresa, who was tragically killed in a road accident in July. From Socialist Worker our thanks and condolences.

Our thanks to: A Culyer £3, R O Davies £5, M A Cartersen 50p, Cammell Laird £10, Anon £50, N W London SW supporters £2.50, T Skyrme £5, J McConnor £4, M Silver £1, J R Gilding £1, Notts reader £1, J Montgomery £2, J Kerr £67, A Moran 67p, Dudley SW supporters £1.70, D C Hughes £2, J Gee 40p, R Collinson £3.50, B Mill £1, R Greenwood £10, B J Martin £1, F Varney £2, German reader £11.14, Pontypridd supporters £3, A Gibbens £2, Anon £30, Preston IS £10, Swansea £40, Loughborough £2.20, N London £3, Hull IS £10, Durham £3, M and D Pearce £1, A Graham £3, Anon £110, Howard Rotavator £3, S Castles £3, T Currey £1.50, P Martindale £2.

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

**THE RIGHT TO WORK**  
**FIGHT FOR**  
**STOP THE CUTS**

NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN  
Trade Union Delegate Conference Against the Cuts and Unemployment

Belle Vue  
Manchester  
Saturday 6  
November

Delegates from trade union branches, shop stewards committees, districts, trades councils and all other bodies welcome. Credentials and further details from National Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.



# Liddle Towers died after being kicked and beaten in a cell. The DPP has decided no action should be taken...

**THE POLICE murdered Liddle Towers. Arrested outside the Key Club, Birtley, he was taken to Gateshead police station, where he was mercilessly beaten and kicked.**

Seven uniformed men—six constables and a sergeant—took him to a cell, stripped him, and then struck him repeatedly in the stomach and small of the

back. Badly injured, he was then taken to Queen Elizabeth hospital, Gateshead.

All this happened on the morning of 16 January. Liddle Towers lived until 9 February. Before his death, he was able to give his family and friends a detailed account of the brutal treatment he was subjected to at Gateshead police station.

### Impacts

A pathologist, Dr. Jack Ennis, stated the cause of death was 'haemorrhage due to a ruptured spleen and pancreas

and other injuries.' He added: 'These were consistent with being caused by impacts to the abdomen.'

Liddle Towers' funeral was held at Chester-le-Street church on 4 March. Every seat was taken and people stood in the aisles. The large attendance was indicative of his popularity—Liddle was a notable local sportsman and club secretary—as well as the strong feeling in the area about the police.

Det. Chief Superintendent Jack Collinson carried out a police inquiry. His report went to the Director of Public Prosecutions who decided to take no action against the seven policemen.

Family and friends of Liddle Towers regard this as unsatisfactory. They ask, if it were not the police, who did beat Liddle to death?

So far the authorities have given no alternative explanation. Members of the family argue that the police inquiry was suspect.

Home Office regulations lay down that investigations into complaints against the police are to be conducted by an officer from a different force. Formally, this rule was applied.

The family point out, however, that before local government reorganisation Birtley, where the seven policemen are stationed, was part of the Durham County Force. So Det. Chief Superintendent Collinson, of Durham, was investigating his own buddies.

### Knotted

Gateshead police station has a notorious reputation. In May, 29-year-old Spencer Richardson described in court how he was kicked, hit with a truncheon and whipped with a knotted dog chain while detained there. Charges of assault and actual bodily harm were dismissed.

Yet, a solicitor has told me how he frequently has clients who tell him they have been beaten up in Gateshead police station and, time and again, the names of the same police officers crop up.

This is the reason why the family of Liddle Towers are not prepared to let the question of his murder drop. They say they do not wish to be vindictive. They have no desire to see the men responsible for Liddle's death imprisoned, but merely dismissed from the police force.

If that does not happen, they say, there is quite a possibility that similar assaults will take place in the future.

Liddle's aged mother, deeply upset by what has happened, is taking a petition round Chester-le-Street. It calls for a thorough inquiry into police violence and how her son met his death.

To be handed to Giles Radice, the local MP, the petition has reached impressive dimensions. Only two of the people approached have refused to sign.

### Inquiry

Mrs Marian Woods, Liddle's 26-year-old sister, thinks there is little prospect of making progress through official channels.

She wants an inquiry into the issue sponsored by trade unionists in the North East, along similar lines to that held by Barnet Trades Council into the attack upon the Right to Work March.

Her proposal is receiving an enthusiastic response. Several convenors and prominent trade unionists in the area say they back the idea.

Many others are likely to follow, since a lot of incidents, like the beating up of Eldon Square scaffolders in Newcastle police station, readily come to mind.

The police in the North East are probably the most corrupt and violent in the entire country.

But then, it should be remembered that ex-Alderman Andrew Cunningham was the chairman—or would a better term be Godfather?—of Durham Police Authority.



LIDDLE TOWERS... from his deathbed, the truth

# Will the police get away with murder?

## BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE TUC

### LIES? THEY'RE NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN

THE SUN STARTED IT. From their first TUC edition, they were on about the Right to Work 'bully boys'.

There were, of course no bully boys at Brighton, only angry unemployed marchers. And, with one and a half million people out of work, why shouldn't they be angry?

The Sun started its propaganda after Right to Work marchers heckled Minister for Unemployment, Albert Booth, at the Sunday night Tribune meeting. The chairman, left wing Labour MP Neil Kinnock, closed the meeting half way through Booth's speech after his orders to stop heckling were defied.

But even Peter Paterson of the New Statesman wrote last Friday that Kinnock had completely over-reacted. Paterson, who was sitting behind the marchers, explained that he could hear every word Booth spoke, and that there was no need to close the meeting down.

What's more, as Alan Fisher, general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, explained on the radio, having Booth on the platform was like a red rag to a bull.

The main problem with Booth was his inability to withstand even mild heckling.

He had a prepared speech which he read out word for



Booth: a red rag

word and he hadn't the savvy to depart from it and answer the hecklers.

There wasn't a murmur of press protest when Jack Jones jumped on to the platform at the Tribune meeting in Blackpool last year.

Jones interrupted Ian Mikardo, denouncing even his mild criticisms of the social contract.

There were no press attacks about bully boys and no articles in Tribune.



September '76—and a Minister is the victim of 'bully boys': September '75—and National Front women wrecking a Reg Prentice meeting and hurling flour bombs at Roy Jenkins are 'battling grannies'

## The OAP who shamed Clive Jenkins

ONE OF the interesting things about the reaction of top TUC leaders to the Marchers was the contrast between those who have worked on the shop floor and those who've never worked in their lives.

Hugh Scanlon, for example, harried as he was, at least kept his end up. Jack Jones even managed a pleasant chat with a few of the marchers

On the other hand, Len Murray, who's never worked on the shop floor, was pathetic, not so much frightened as helpless.

One of the march supporters got him face to face and said: 'Len, you're the Invisible Man!'

There was a surprise in store for Clive Jenkins after he had called the Marchers 'the new fascists'

He hadn't bargained for

the impromptu display of anger from pensioner Mrs. Mary Georgiou, who happened to be passing by.

'You've got no bloody answers and you're doing bugger all in there,' she told him. 'I've voted Labour for 45 years, but you're all a bloody washout.'

'It breaks my heart to see all these young people going straight from school to the dole queue. We don't want

any more of it or your excuses. Why don't you make a stand?'

Obviously shaken by this sudden outburst, Mr Jenkins hurried off to his hotel.

But Mrs Georgiou—who moved to Brighton from the Rhondda valley in her youth—followed him.

When she asked to see him at the four-star Hotel Metropole she was told he was 'resting in his room'.

ONE HIGHSLOT of the March was the response to a delegation to the Brighton Evening Argus.

The marchers went along to protest against a hostile editorial

The printers on the Argus decided that the marchers' statement must be included in the paper. And included it was—as the lead story on page two.

ONE THING saddened the Right to Work marchers—the failure of the Morning Star even to report the arrival of the March in Brighton.

The Star reported the lobby on Wednesday as if the Right to Work lobbyists (two thirds of those outside the TUC) weren't even there.

Even more disturbing was the way the Star reported the statements of David Warburton about being punched and kicked without making any attempt to get the marchers' side of the story.

A WITNESS to the alleged Warburton incident—a former journalist now working at Sussex University—saw Warburton's response to being lobbied by unemployed youngsters. 'Why don't you go and get a job', he quipped to one of them. Enough said...

Under capitalism, comrade, man exploits man.

But here in the Soviet Union, it's the other way round...



If you think Russia is a socialist country, read the latest issue of International Socialism journal.

39p (inc postage) from ISJ, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.



# Remember, remember the 6th of November

AND REMEMBER 40 YEARS OF JARROW...



Jarrow 1936: now a march to commemorate it...

FORTY years ago, on 5 October 1936, the Jarrow Hunger Marchers left Jarrow on Tyneside to trek to London. To commemorate the anniversary, local Right to Work Committees throughout the country are calling demonstrations and marches. Geoff Lee, of the Tyneside Committee, told Socialist Worker: 'We expect 40 unemployed from Jarrow to march into Newcastle. The lead banner will say NO MORE JARROWS.'

Unions call Day of Action against the cuts

LEADERS OF UNIONS representing 800,000 workers have come out in support of a call for a public inquiry into the incidents which led to 43 Right to Work Marchers being arrested last March. Seven of the 43 Marchers are appearing in court this Friday (17 September).

The national executive of the civil servants (CPSA) and public employees (NUPE) unions have endorsed the findings of the independent inquiry set up by Barnet Trades Council, which called for a full public inquiry.

And post office engineers' leader Bryan Stanley, who served on the independent inquiry, has asked MPs sponsored by his union to take up the matter with the Home Office.

Meanwhile, the Right to Work Campaign is now seeking to build support for the conference on 6 November against the cuts and unemployment.

The conference will aim to ensure a massive protest on the Day of Action on 17 November. Three public sector unions have called for action that day.

That was the target to emerge from the lobby of 3,000 unemployed workers and trade unionists outside the Trades Union Congress last Wednesday.

The 570 Right to Work marchers were joined by a special trainload of supporters from London, organised by the Right to Work Campaign.

Hundreds of members of NUPE also arrived outside the Dome after the union executive called for a lobby.



Angela McHugh: delegated

ANGELA McHUGH is a shop steward at Rawiplug in Glasgow. The shop stewards committee is sending her as a delegate to the 6 November Right to Work Conference. She told Socialist Worker: 'Our factory has supported all the recent demonstrations against unemployment. On the Day of Action we called for a one-day strike, and we supported half-day stoppage eventually agreed on by the Glasgow Confed. But demonstrations are not enough. We need an ongoing campaign that can create jobs. The trade union leaders are doing nothing. That's why our factory has affiliated to the Right to Work Campaign. And that is why they are sending me as a delegate to the November Conference.'

## The day the TUC leaders did something in a hurry



ON THE RUN ... Hugh Scanlon



ON THE RUN ... Len Murray



ON THE RUN ... Clive Jenkins



ON THE RUN ... Tom Jackson



WAYLAID ... Jack Jones

THE CIVIL servants union, CPSA, has called for a one-day stoppage of all public sector workers on 17 November.

It is banning all overtime throughout November.

NUPE, the public employees union, has called a mass lobby of Parliament for the 17th. Its London Divisional Council has now said that the only way to make the lobby is effective is to organise a half-day stoppage.

### Acted

The London District of NALGO, the local government workers union, is also supporting a half-day stoppage.

There is only one way to ensure that these resolutions are acted upon. In each of the three unions—and in every other union—shop stewards committees and workplace rank and file pressure is needed to ensure the maximum support for the 17th.

### Lobby

The 6 November Conference will be open to delegates from all trade union organisations.

At a mass rally held in Brighton after the lobby, Right to Work Campaign secretary John Deason said: 'This will be a conference for all those trade union organisations that want to fight the Social Contract.'

'It will be on the cuts, but also on unemployment in every industry, and if groups like the seamen start to fight on wages, the conference will discuss how to support them.'

'This week's TUC has shown that the trade union leadership will fight. Far from that, it is the General Council which is organising the government's policies for it.'

'That is why we have to build rank and file resistance against the cuts, against the wage freeze, against unemployment, now.'

# ...and don't forget this Friday

## SEVEN MARCHERS ARE IN COURT

LONDON Right to Work Committees have organised a special rota to support the seven Right to Work marchers in the second week of their trial at West Hendon.

The seven are the first of the 43 marchers arrested when police attacked and assaulted the Manchester to London Right to Work march earlier in the year.

SUPPORT THE 43 MARCHERS ON TRIAL Hendon Magistrates

Court, The Hyde, Edgware Road, West Hendon, 9.30am-4pm.  
Monday 20 Sep: North West and West London Right to Work Committees  
Tuesday 21: North London  
Wednesday 22: East London  
Thursday 23: Central London  
Friday 24: South

East and South West London.  
Support the lobby organised by your local Right to Work Committee. Trade union organisations are asked to make sure their banner is present.  
A mass picket has been called for the first day of the trial this Friday (17 September).

Tommy Douras, from the Defence Campaign, told Socialist Worker: 'We need to get money in for the Defence Fund. The costs are really going to mount now. And we want to see as many banners outside the court as possible throughout the trial.'  
□ THERE was some

good news for the marchers last week. Magistrates in South West London said they would not send a Mrs Amery to prison for assaulting two policemen, drunken driving and other offences, even though she had two previous convictions. Instead they gave her a fine. This, of course, has nothing to do with the fact that her father is Harold Macmillan, former Tory Prime Minister.

NO MORE SHREWSBURYS DEFEND THE 43 Mass Solidarity Picket outside Hendon Police Court,

10am, Friday 17 September, The Hyde, Hendon, N W London. Bring your trade union banner.



It's fast becoming the most feared occupational disease among trade union top brass. It's called 'outbreak of the orange jackets'. It keeps you awake at night tossing and turning about a mere one and a half million unemployed.

The orange jackets made Len Murray mouth obscenities. They made Hugh Scanlon turn tail and run for his hotel. They made Clive Jenkins splutter and accuse unemployed youngsters of being the 'new fascists'. And you should have seen what they did to Tom Jackson's handlebar moustache...





Mao: friend of Nixon, friend of the workers?

# China: Mao's dead-but is socialism alive?

FOR MANY PEOPLE, the strangest sight last week will have been Edward Heath lauding the achievements of Mao Tse Tung.

But Heath was not alone. In the last years of his life, Mao was host to politicians who had built their careers on 'better dead than red' propaganda, from Richard Nixon to Franz Joseph Strauss. How did this come about?

## Unity

Mao called himself a socialist and a communist. But the great mission of his life was not for the working class to rule the world through workers' democracy, based upon freely elected workers' councils.

It was to unite the people of China, irrespective of their class, to achieve national independence and to build up

## Talking About Socialism by CHRIS HARMAN

the Chinese economy.

In Mao's youth, the various Western powers, along with Japan and Russia, controlled vast areas of Chinese territory. Outside their 'concessions', hung signs warning 'No dogs or Chinese allowed'.

Between them they had destroyed the Chinese economy so that they would be able to sell their own goods. The result was massive poverty for the peasants and workers. And the middle classes too felt crushed and humiliated. They could no longer enjoy the lives promised

ed them in traditional Chinese society.

Mao and a whole number of middle class activists—Liu Shao Chi, Chou En Lai and so on—soon found that they could not end this foreign domination by relying on the Chinese capitalists. These were too closely tied to the foreign powers.

## Four classes

Mao talked of the need for a 'bloc of four classes', including a section of the Chinese capitalists. And he built up his movement not in the cities, where the

workers were, but in the most remote rural areas.

It is often said that Mao's army was based on the peasants. But although the vast majority of the rank and file were peasants, the policies of the army were not decided by the peasants.

For instance, in 1946, Lin Shao Chi suggested that the Red Army would get more peasant support if it divided up more of the landlords' land among those who worked it.

Mao publicly disagreed. He said such a policy would frighten off support from 'patriotic' landlords.

Mao's armies were successful because his opponents, the US-backed nationalist forces of Chiang Kai-Shek, were hopelessly corrupt and inefficient.

In the Second World War, they were incapable of fighting the Japanese or, in the years after, of resisting Mao's advance.

By 1948, even some capitalists wanted Mao's victory as the only way to make Chinese society stable.

In 1949, Mao achieved the first part of the dream of his generation.

He had unified all China (apart from Taiwan). Now he set out to try to build up industry and 'catch up with the west'.

## Model

The model he tried to follow was that of Stalin in Russia. Industry was nationalised and the private capitalists bought out or squeezed out.

But the workers did not gain control either of industry or the state.

This control was in the hands of privileged bureaucrats who enjoyed living standards considerably higher than those of the workers.

The fact that the workers do not control China has been proved by the way recent leadership changes have taken place.

When Mao's officially designated heir, Lin Biao, fled the country, the workers were not told about it for 18 months.

They had no chance to say what they thought of any policy differences between him and Mao.

## Forward

Chinese workers live in a society which has achieved national unity and independence—a huge step forward from the state of affairs before Mao came to power.

It is a society which is more efficient and less corrupt than it would have been otherwise. But it is still a society where one class rules and other classes are oppressed and exploited.

It is this which explains the changing attitude towards China of people like Heath or Strauss.

ANYONE who has set any store by recent press and television coverage of Prime Minister Jim Callaghan's attack on British Leyland carworkers ('Angry Jim lashes the Leyland strikers: We can't afford you!'), should look at a report out this week.

For the last time a prime minister spoke about Leyland workers, the TV and press used it as an excuse for a massive witch-hunt—and the whole thing was a total distortion.

That was in January 1975, when Harold Wilson was prime minister.

The Prime Minister, in a major speech tonight on the economy, appealed to management and unions in the car industry to cut down on what he described as 'manifestly avoidable stoppages', reported BBC1's Nine o'Clock News.

Remember the words 'management and unions', because all criticism of management was then dropped.

BBC1's Late Night News reported: 'The Prime Minister has appealed to workers in the car industry to cut down on avoidable stoppages.'

ITN's News at Ten was even quicker off the mark.

'The Prime Minister tonight... gave workers a blunt warning,' said ITN. 'It was up to workers to cut what he called "manifestly avoidable stoppages" and to curb unrealistic demands.'

Just as with Callaghan's remarks earlier this week, this was the signal for a massive attack on the Leyland workers.

Twenty-nine separate television news reports in the following month blamed the workers for Leyland's troubles, particularly referring back to Wilson's speech as authority for this.

Never mind that the government's own Ryder Report had laid the blame squarely at management's door. In the four years 1968-72, Leyland made £74 million in profits, but only £4 million was reinvested to keep the company going—and £70 million paid to shareholders.

The evidence of this massive distortion by TV news was published last week in BAD NEWS\*.

And the reason for it?

'The laying of the blame for society's industrial and economic problems at the door of the workforce.'

\* BAD NEWS, by the Glasgow University Media Group, Routledge, £3.95.

## Without comment

LOUVAIN, Belgium, Sept 4 (Reuters).—Four prisoners, including three convicted murderers, escaped from jail here last night while most of the jail staff were off on the occasion of King Baudouin's birthday, police said today.

The four scaled the prison wall with a rope ladder before driving off in a waiting van, which was later found abandoned.

—from the International Herald Tribune, 9 September

THERE NOW FOLLOWS A PARTLY POLITICAL BROADCAST ... THE NEWS



□ SUNNY JIM Callaghan is well-known for his love of striking seamen.

During the 1966 strike, Callaghan, at that time Chancellor of the Exchequer, made an abusive speech at Yarmouth in which he ordered the seamen to 'get back to work and help in the task of getting Britain's exports moving again'.

He added: 'Every example of a strike is blazoned abroad as a sign of British decadence.'

The 'decadent' seamen were demanding a cut in working hours from 56 to 40 a week and a pay rise of 12 shillings and sixpence a month.

TWO ANTI-FASCISTS recently spotted a fascist flag hanging from the third floor of a block of flats in Bethnal Green, East London.

The flag, a 5ft by 7ft Union Jack with a faded racist slogan across the middle, was draped from a balcony. But when these two conscientious fellows had sneaked up the stairs, spotted along the corridor and tried to pull the flag down, BELLS RANG.

The fascist had tied bells to the flag to give him advance warning of any attempts to remove it.

But to no avail. These two courageous defenders of democracy did remove the flag. And they're keeping it.

□ LAW AND ORDER 1: Not to be outdone by their brothers in Notting Hill, the boys in blue recently ran amok in Louisville, Kentucky.

Drunken police officers shot up the black community, causing damage estimated at thousands of dollars and wounding two people.

One of their victims, a black woman, now has bullets lodged in her brain and arm and is in danger of losing her sight.

As you might expect, police chiefs have exacted terrible punishments for these crimes. The officers involved have been 'reprimanded' and given temporary office duty to keep them off the streets. That'll teach 'em a lesson....

□ LAW AND ORDER 2: Policemen in New York have just lost an interesting little sideline. Captain Dan Brady of the City Police explains:

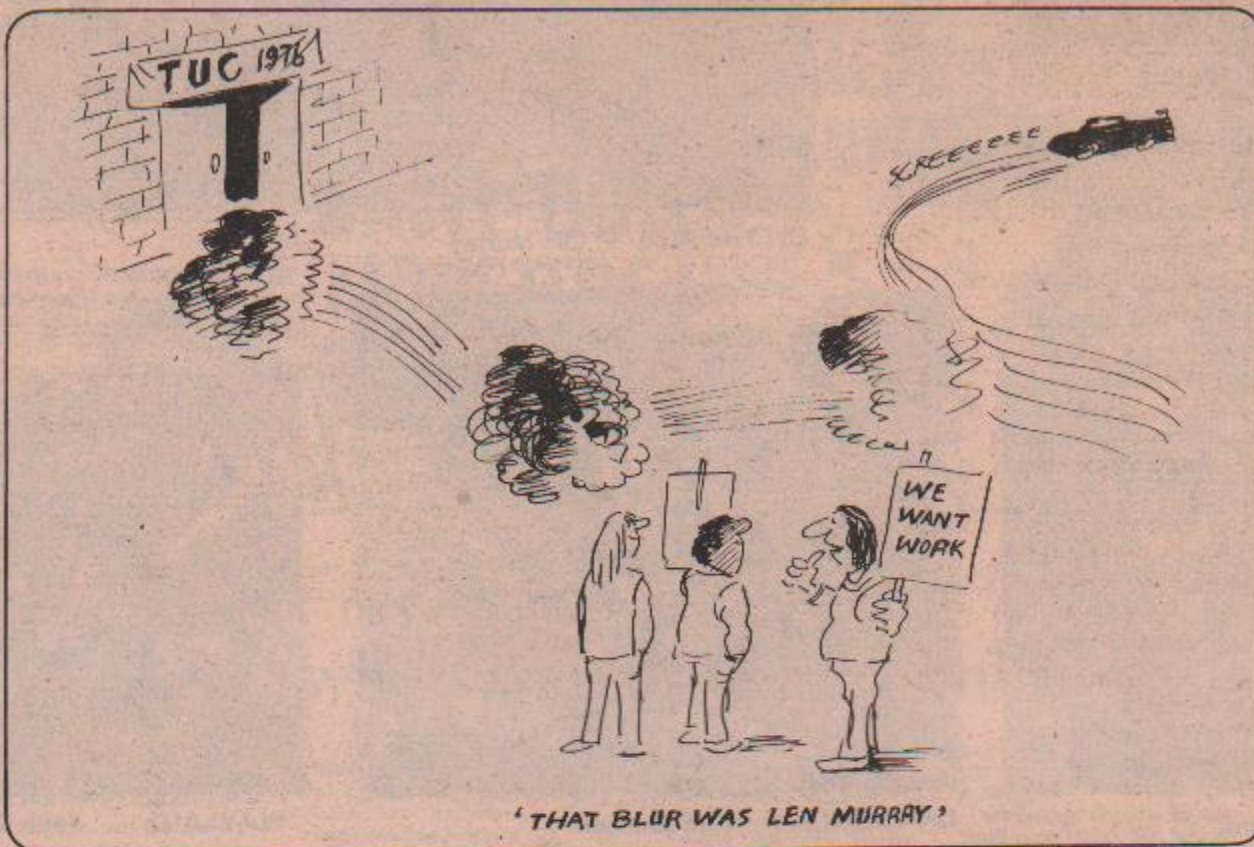
'You expect a certain amount of rule-breaking to occur in any highly-disciplined group of men.'

But when it was alleged that the main body-locker hall of the City Morgue was being used as a full-time gambling whorehouse, we decided to investigate.

The Captain and his men raided the hall and found 60 members of his force, a senator, 12 young women, and the owner-operator of a portable bar-disco, engrossed in high-stake crap, poker and blackjack, as well as a bout of New York's latest craze, cock-fighting.

The warden of the Morgue, Michael Kolwaski, commented bitterly:

'Captain Brady should know better than to come bursting into the morgue in the middle of the night. It is a place of dignity and sorrow.'



# Nazis split up the Front

BRITAIN'S Nazis are at each other's throats again.

Hostilities re-commenced several weeks ago with the planting of fake documents on several newspapers, including Socialist Worker.

They purported to show that the National Front's arch-enemies on the extreme right, the National Party and its chairman Kingsley Read, were in league with 'Nazis in Germany'.

Soon after, these 'links' were the subject of a memo circulated among NP members by a 'disaffected follower'. Again it was a fake.



Webster: Love and kisses



Kingsley-Read: fake notes

Another fake memo followed—and it proved the last straw for Kingsley Read's gallant band, who decided to retaliate.

Soon the National Front

faithful were to be seen passing round a letter bearing the name of their vile leader, Martin Webster.

The letter purported to announce the 'coming out' of

the 'Gay Network' in the Front and was signed: Love and Kisses, Martin Webster.

It complains that 'for too long now the Gay Rights Movement has been monopolised by the Far Left', adding that there were many right-wing gay groups in existence, citing as an example the 'Gay Nazis of Los Angeles'.

This transparent forgery was quickly disowned by Webster.

Meanwhile, the memos continue to fly thick and fast. So nice to see the Nazis squabbling among themselves...

# Socialist Worker

## EDITORIAL

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

01-739 6361  
739 0185  
739 9043

Circulation department: 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN, 01-739 2639.

Published weekly except final week of December. Subscriptions: £7 yearly, £3.50 for six months, £1.75 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.



# Poland: The purge goes on

**STUDENTS ARE** being victimised in Poland for giving support to workers, according to information reaching Socialist Worker from Warsaw.

In July, heavy prison sentences were handed out to workers who had taken part in strikes against the government's attempt to raise food prices by 60 per cent. Thousands of workers were sacked.

A group of students in the Medica Institute in Warsaw signed a letter of protest. They have now been kicked out of college.

Other students at the university are being threatened with the punishment. At least one student has already been thrown out of Warsaw University—for making critical remarks about the regime in a private letter to his wife.

And university lecturers are being asked to draw up lists of students who ask awkward questions in classes.

There are also unconfirmed reports of hundreds of secondary school pupils being thrown out of school.

These victimisations have been taking place as the signs of economic crisis grow more and more marked.

Sugar is already rationed. There are huge queues for meat, with housewives often finding that the shops have sold out before they reach the counter.

Even the Polish sausage is in short supply.

And the government is warning that this winter there will be power cuts.

## Increases

The government announced last week that it was postponing the re-imposition of price increases for a year.

But that will not stop the shortages which are cutting workers' living standards. These are going to get worse.

In a speech in Mielec in Southern Poland, Polish leader Giersek inadvertently admitted that the crisis had the same cause as the crises in the west.

'Every nation which proceeds with large investments,' he said, 'has market problems.'

Like any good capitalist, Giersek is trying to place the burden of solving the crisis on the backs of the workers.

## Terror - but the workers fight back

THE MILITARY government in Argentina boasts daily about its success in murdering left-wing urban guerrillas.

It is rather quieter about its killing of rank and file trade unionists, hundreds of whom have been butchered in recent months either by the police or by police-run right wing gangs.

Yet the government has not succeeded in smashing the willingness of workers to fight back.

The Ford, Fiat, General Motors and Chrysler plants have all been affected as 9000 car workers have defied a ban on strikes.

## Jail

So far the government has not dared to use a law which allows it to jail workers for between one and eight years for striking.

□ The government announced last week that it is to pay the giant multinational ITT £1 million compensation for actions taken under the previous government.

Central London  
IS Social  
Institute of Education,  
New Building, 8pm,  
this Saturday, 18  
September. Live band  
and disco. Entrance  
50p.



Party boss Giersek—and the discontent he so fears: rioting workers looting a shop in 1970



**LAW  
AND  
ORDER,  
VORSTER  
STYLE**

'WE MUST RETURN to conditions of peace' said South African Prime Minister John Vorster last week as he unleashed the full force of his murderous police on demonstrators, both Black and Coloured, in Cape Town and other cities.

The batons of the police, though they have battered thousands of demonstrators to unconsciousness, have not stopped the demonstrations. More and more young people have come out on the streets to challenge apartheid.

As the South African police forces have been stretched to the limit, so the government has openly called on white civilians to 'have a go' at black demonstrators.

Over the week-end, white citizens poured out of their houses to have a pot shot at demonstrators.

'It was great fun', one sharpshooter told reporters. Four coloured youths were shot dead and scores of others peppered with shots from the hunters' guns.

This is the real face of White South Africa, the face Vorster wants to keep. The 'concessions' agreed by his Nationalist Party caucus over the week-end are a smokescreen for continued repression.

Vorster intends to allow a few black men to play cricket with whites; to allow leaseholds for blacks in the townships and to 'improve trading rights' for Coloureds in Cape Town.

These 'concessions' are insults to blacks and Coloured people in South Africa.

Their youth are on the march, and will not be deflected by the extension of trading rights for a handful of middle-class collaborators.



This badge is available from the IS International Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2. Price 15p (plus 6½p postage) or £1.50 for ten, £10 for 100. Please make cheques payable to IS International Fund.

# THE GOODIES PARTY BOSSES KEEP TO THEMSELVES

SOCIALIST Worker has recently received a first-hand account of what happened in the town of Radom when the Polish workers struck in June. It shows why they are so angry at the shortages.

The workers marched out on strike and gathered peacefully outside the local Communist Party headquarters. They demanded that the First Secretary come out and explain the price increases to them. Several of the officials shouted back at the workers, 'Go back to work or you will be forced back to work'. But

after about an hour the First Secretary did come out.

He said that he would phone Warsaw to find out the reason for the price increases.

The workers started to wait. But he did not come out again.

After an hour or so, some of the workers decided to go in to look for him. They went from room to room, but there was no-one there. It seemed he had disappeared through the back entrance.

They did find something, however. They discovered rooms full of food and other goods for sale to Party officials—the special party shops, in fact, that are supposed to have been closed down years ago.

While the workers queued for miserable quantities of food, the Party bosses were living it up.

They emptied the building of the food, the colour televisions and so on, and then set fire to it.

They were enraged by this discovery and by the desertion of the Party Secretary, and they went to attack the police station.

## POLICE

There police attacked the demonstrators—new, special police with helmets and shields. The inhabitants of some flats threw furniture and boiling water on the police.

The arrests began the next day, after the price increases had been cancelled. Police arrested people at random.

You could be arrested just for walking through a different part of town carrying a bottle of wine.

Anyone in the flats from which things had been thrown at the police was arrested.

Many people were held without their relatives being told where they were. And many workers were sacked because they appeared in photos taken of the strike and demonstrations.

## the worker

paper of the Socialist Workers Movement of Ireland. For lively, interesting and highly informative accounts of what's happening in Ireland, send 7p plus 7p postage to the Worker, c/o 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2, or better still, take out a subscription only £1.25 for a year.

# MURDER THEN 300,000 STRIKE

SPAIN'S 'HOT AUTUMN' has begun. On Monday, more than 300,000 workers struck against police brutality in the northern Basque provinces.

The towns of Bilbao, Irun, Fuentarrabia and San Sebastiana were at an almost complete standstill. In two of the suburbs of Bilbao, Sestao and Basauri, workers built barricades. The strikes followed the murder of a demonstrator by the police.

In the ten months since Franco's death more people have been killed by the police than in the previous ten years.

But this has not stopped parties and underground unions that claim to represent Spain's workers from saying it is possible to hold a 'dialogue' with the government.

Leaders of the two main socialist parties, the PSP and the PSOE (backed by our own Labour Party) and of the small underground union, the UGT, (backed by our own TUC) have had private talks with the prime minister, Suarez.

And even Camacho, the leading Communist Party member in the underground workers' commissions, has agreed to talks with the minister of Labour.



Suarez: the enemy



# The seamen's

**WHAT IS the seamen's argument? You don't see it on television—or read it in the newspapers.**

But the case is so strong that it has been upheld even by a tribunal of the government's own Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service, ACAS.

The seamen claim they are entitled to the £6 a week increase which almost all other trade unionists got in the year from August 1975 to August 1976. What are the facts?

Last year, a three-man panel was set up by ACAS to look into seamen's pay and conditions. They were shocked by what they found.

The seaman's basic pay for a seven-day week was only £27. They were forced to work ludicrous hours of overtime to get a living wage.

*The tribunal commented: 'It*

*might be said that what is being sought in this claim should have been provided for over a number of years... The claim is a monument to the lack of forward planning.'*

The Panel duly made an award which was intended to improve some of the worst aspects of the seamen's conditions.

They proposed a basic rate of £34 for a 40-hour week.

◆◆◆  
The shipowners squealed. They begged the tribunal not to insist on immediate payment of the pay rise.

The tribunal agreed. They allowed the owners to pay the rise in three stages—in July last year, in January this year and in July this year.

The National Union of Seamen protested. At one stage, they even threatened a strike ballot. Eventually they accepted the staged increases 'for the good of the nation'.

*As a result, every seaman lost*

*£300 in wages. The money went straight into the employers' pockets.*

That rise covered the year July 1975 to July 1976. It was agreed before the TUC signed the £6 freeze policy.

This year, the seamen's union applied for their £6 rise. The chairman of last year's arbitration tribunal, Professor Thomasen of Cardiff University, made it clear that he believed the seamen were perfectly entitled to a further claim this year.

But the TUC and the Labour government said they couldn't get a penny! Instead, said the TUC, they would have to wait until next January for their next rise. And even then they would only be able to get four and a half per cent—which works out at £3.80.

This means every seaman will lose another £220—on top of the £300 they lost last year. Again the money goes straight into the shipowners' pockets.

Why? Because, say the TUC, some of their rise last year was

paid in January, and the pay policy only allows one pay rise a year!

In other words, if the seamen had got their full rise when they were entitled to get it—in July last year—they would be getting the £6 now.

◆◆◆  
Even though £8 million more would have been paid out in wages, the TUC would not have protested.

◆◆◆  
But because they agreed to sacrifice part of their wage rise last year, they are now being told by the TUC to sacrifice all their wage rise this year!

Naturally, the seamen regard this policy as outrageous nonsense. That's why they voted—in the teeth of opposition from the Press, the Government and the TUC—for strike action to back their claim.

That's why they expect their vote in the ballot to be translated into action.



Cheers greet the news outside the seamen

# 1966: How the TUC sold them out the last time...

**THIS IS a strike against the state, against the community. What is at issue here is our national prices and incomes policy. To accept the seamen's demand would be to breach the dykes of our prices and incomes policy...**

Sounds familiar, doesn't it? But it was said ten years ago, by Labour Prime Minister Harold Wilson. He was talking on television on 16 May 1966, the opening night of the first national seamen's strike for 50 years.

In May 1966, an able seaman earned £13.70 for a 56-hour week. Seamen were among

## Volunteers

the Socialist Worker's respective parliamentary candidates Ken Appleby, Birmingham Stechford and Jimmy McCallum (Salsall North)

Both candidates are in need of volunteers to help the campaign. Especially welcome are activists, workers with lorries and motorbikes. They will be campaigning throughout October and November.

If you have an autumn holiday, why not spend it in the Midlands? Individuals who can spend a weekend, a day or evening are urged to

leaders and supporters of the Socialist Worker are urged to give time to the campaign.

Want to help the Socialist Worker candidates.

.....  
.....  
.....

.....  
.....  
.....

.....  
.....  
.....

.....  
.....  
.....

.....  
.....  
.....



the lowest paid workers in the country—and shipowners were among the richest employers.

Labour's 'incomes policy', which limited wages to three per cent increases each year, had been drawn up 'to protect the lower paid'.

Its real purpose was to protect the power and wealth of the central bankers and the class whose wealth they held.

## Showdown

William Davis, financial editor of *The Guardian*, wrote:

'The Central Bankers thoroughly approve the government's stand against the seamen. They have always urged Mr Wilson to have a showdown with the unions, and indeed this has been the major condition of all the support operations.'

The 'support organisations'

meant the thousands of millions lent by the bankers to keep British capitalism going.

In return, the bankers wanted to see thousands of trade unionists broken.

The seamen were tough adversaries. They were angry at their low pay and shocking conditions.

They supported their executive's strike call with a

militancy and enthusiasm none had expected.

For ten days, Wilson relied on appeals and threats.

On 26 May, he set up a 'committee of inquiry' into the seamen's case. It reported on 8 June, recommending a 40-hour week the following year.

The seamen wanted the 40-hour week immediately, and their leaders rejected the

report. Wilson then threw everything into the attack. In the Commons, he denounced the strike as a conspiracy by a 'tightly-knit group of politically-motivated men'.

The Press joined in the witch-hunt. The *Guardian* and *The Observer* were shown the Special Branch files on NUS militants.

Yet, on the very day that Wilson made his statement, the NUS strike committee in South Shields organised a ballot of their membership.

Dismissed in exactly ten seconds, half a sentence. True enough, Jim Slater was interviewed (for a total of one minute 19 seconds). He was asked about the narrow majority for the strike, about the next moves in the dispute.

Blatant

Even if he did get a chance to explain the seamen's case, it was cut out. The whole exercise was one of the most blatant examples of media manipulation BBC News has ever undertaken.

Lost

George Woodcock, TUC general secretary, flew back from holiday in Majorca, called the seamen's executive in again, and told them to go back to work.

Woodcock told the International Transport Workers Federation that the seamen's strike had lost the TUC's support.

Harry Nicholas and Jack Jones, the leaders of the Transport and General Workers Union, urged their

By PAUL FOOT

## THE BBC LENDS A HAND

By our Broadcasting Correspondent

well sold. Of those nine minutes, eight minutes fifty seconds were about the 'irresponsibilities' of the union leadership, about the damaging effect it would have on the economy.

Chaos

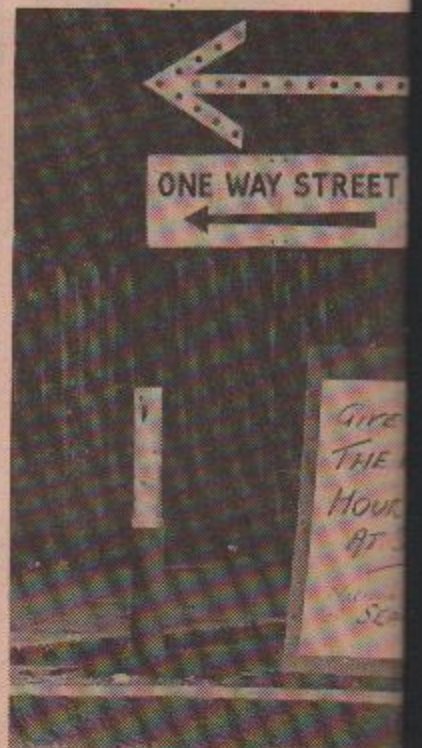
To ram the point home, the BBC even did an expensive whipround of the various ports, with a reporter in each describing graphically the

possible chaos and how vital export orders would be hit.

To round the item off, the BBC's economic 'expert', Dominick Harrod, was wheeled in to assess the effect on the pound, the balance of payments, the stock market and the City.

At the end, the viewer was left with the impression that the strikers were nothing short of criminal.

And what of them, what about their case. That was



Flashback to 1966: the seamen were ho

609 voted to stay on strike; 43 to return to work.

In Liverpool, Hull, Manchester, Sunderland, Glasgow and Southampton mass meetings voted unanimously to stay on strike.

Wilson's smears, and the Press hate campaign, would not have broken the strike on their own.

But Wilson had a secret weapon: the trade union leaders.

On the day the seamen rejected the report, Vic Feather, deputy general secretary of the TUC, called the seamen's leaders to Congress House to tell them that the TUC did not support them.

Lost

George Woodcock, TUC general secretary, flew back from holiday in Majorca, called the seamen's executive in again, and told them to go back to work.

Woodcock told the International Transport Workers Federation that the seamen's strike had lost the TUC's support.

Harry Nicholas and Jack Jones, the leaders of the Transport and General Workers Union, urged their

members the pay... The not on the NUS records... I had... ment... Union... was a... execu... decis... sidera... Was... 'secret... ed be...



# case



... union HQ of the strike vote; then the TUC got to work...



... led by the Press—and the Labour government.

... profits in £ million paid out by Britain's three leading shipping companies

P&O	British and Commonwealth	Ocean Transport
5.5	2.5	5
7.3	2.8	5.4
9.7	2.9	6.6

... recent interim report, Ocean Transport showed profits for the current year of £15 million—more than the last two full years put together.

... in the docks to keep...

... pressure began to tell—the rank and file—but the right-wingers on the Executive. Wilson in his memoirs: 'I spoke to Ted Hill, who recently retired as president of the Boilermakers'. By a strange rule he was also a trustee. He was to throw his considerable weight into the fray.' The memoirs also records that meetings were arranged for the right-wingers

On 29 June, the NUS executive collapsed. They recommended a return to work on terms which were no better—and in some cases even worse—than Pearson had recommended three weeks earlier.

The recommendation was bitterly resisted at rank and file meetings all over the country.

But before long the seamen trickled back to work.

## FACT:

The seamen works, on average, 28 hours of overtime a week. That means he works ten hours a day, seven days a week. Remember that next time you read about the £80-a-week seamen.

## QUOTE:

That old market adage - 'Never Sell On A Strike' - may apply more than ever to shipping shares. Until that strike decision spoilt everything, market sentiment had been moving strongly in favour of shipping shares.

London Evening Standard (Article entitled 'P&O will see you through the squall') 9 September.



A picket is roughed up—but the police weren't their only enemies.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER



Picture John Sturrock Report

Some of the 4,000 people who turned out in the pouring rain on Saturday to demonstrate against the Fascists in Blackburn. The march, which was supported by a number of

trade union branches, ended with a packed rally. Hundreds of International Socialists went on to confront the National Front at a school where the fascists were holding a meeting.

# POLICE BEAT UP HOMELESS ASIAN

POLICE raided a flat in Aldgate, East London, where a young Bengali and his homeless family are squatting.

'You black bastards had better come to the police station,' they

told Mr Amir, his wife and baby.

The police hurled more racist abuse at them and demanded to see Mr Amir's passport. He has been in England since he was ten.

'They searched my room while I found my passport,' he said. 'When I asked them why they said "shut up, you

cunt". They dragged me down the stairs and punched me though I did not resist them. They told me I was not allowed in the country.'

Mr Amir was kept at the police station for five hours until some friends phoned. 'When I asked for a lawyer they told me to "mind my own

business"; he said.

'I was beaten up at the station and threatened with six months in jail. They told me to sign a statement but wouldn't tell me what was in it.'

'My wife was made to sign a statement in English although she doesn't understand the language.'

No evidence was found against Mr Amir and he was allowed to leave.

Now his wife is too frightened to go out of the house to find somewhere to live.

## 'They've turned my son into a prison shuttlecock'

A BLACK youth sent to Borstal following Bonfire Night disturbances in Leeds last year is being treated 'like a shuttlecock'.

After being convicted in July, 15-year-old Claud Henrickson was rushed to Armley Prison in Leeds.

He was supposed to stay only for a day until the authorities could take him to a Borstal.

Instead Claud found himself confined to a prison cell for the next fortnight! He was let out of his cell only to sandpaper bedsteads in the prison working shed.

### Wait

'Armley was not the place for a youth especially as he hadn't done anything', said Mrs Henrickson. Armley is noted for being overcrowded.

Claud is appealing but has to wait until the judges come back from their summer recess!

After Armley, he was taken to the Borstal Allocation Centre in Manchester to have his conduct assessed. Julie Broadbent, who has been living next door to the Henricksens for six years, said:

'He's not at all a violent child. The school report on Claud's conduct was totally unjust—yet another case of stereotyping West Indian youth.'

### More

'Claud should not be put through such an ordeal.'

Said Mrs Henrickson: 'Claud has done two months and they still haven't found him a Borstal. He is being moved around like a shuttlecock.'

Last week Claud was brought back to Armley!

At the allocation centre, Claud is allowed one half-hour visit a month. Mrs Henrickson urges readers of SW to write letters of support while he waits for the Appeal to come up.

The address is: CLAUD HENRICKSON No. 853468, Borstal Allocation Centre, 1 Southall St., Manchester 3.



Socialists remove a Nazi slogan painted on a black family's house in Burley, Leeds. Although local people knew who had done it—a member of the British National Party—the police wouldn't take any action and the council did nothing when asked to remove it.

### Did you see these three?

THREE Asian comrades from the Sheffield-Rotherham area arrested on the 11 July demo against racism are still without witnesses.

Two girls from London definitely witnessed the melee off Trafalgar Square towards Whitehall.

Please contact: Simon Turner 0742 584561/585910

## A FASCIST? WHO ME?

THE NATIONAL PARTY have been chased from the streets of Gravesend in Kent.

Last Saturday they didn't even dare show their faces, let alone try to sell their paper or distribute leaflets.

And although the National Front had promised the local press and radio that they would also turn up, there was no sign of them either.

The fascists know from their experience over the past three weeks that the local Asians and Socialist Worker sellers are well organis-

ed. NP propaganda and racist slogans have been effectively countered by mass sales of SW. Regular patrols by Asians have demoralised the fascists and prevented them from building local support.

One National Party individual walked into a High Street pub this week. All the regulars ignored him. When confronted by some anti-fascists, he blabbered that he had nothing to do with the National Party really, he had just been asked to sell their paper for the past month.

However, he soon realised that he wasn't welcome and quickly left.

## CAMPAIGN OFFER

Ten copies for £12 (cover price £16.50) for three weeks pre-publication only

# ABORTION IN DEMAND

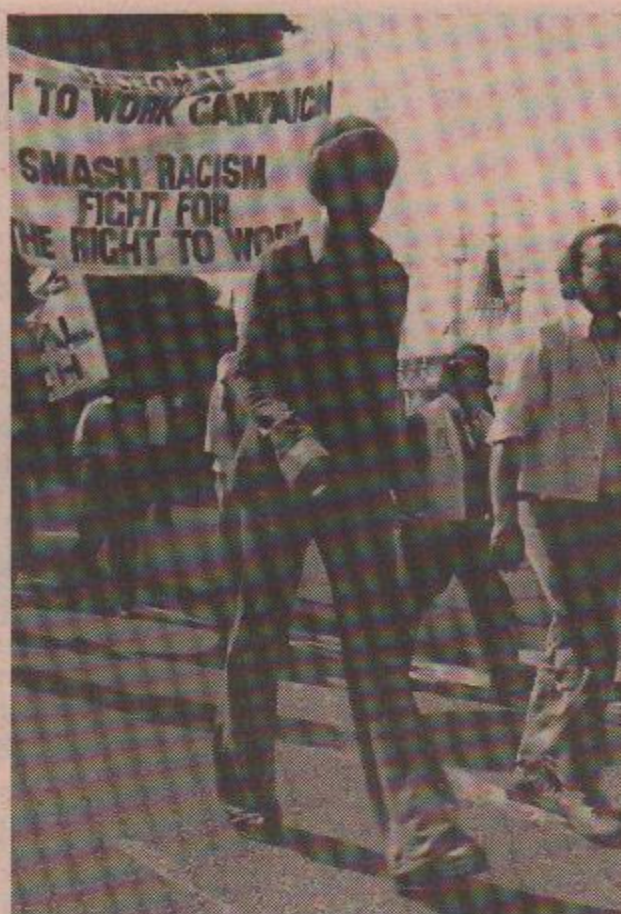
A book that stands uncompromisingly for the right of women to control their own fertility, to choose abortion if they wish, or to bear children in circumstances that making rearing them a creative act.

from Pluto Press Unit 10, Spencer Court, 7 Chalcot Road, London NW1





# 42 RIGHT TO WORK MARCHERS JOIN -AND THIS IS WHY



Rawle Louis: I was really proud . . .

**RAWLE LOUIS** was in the Army for 8½ years.

Since he came out two months ago, he's been unemployed, despite holding City and Guilds qualifications as a welder.

He joined the International Socialists while on last week's Right to Work march. He told Socialist Worker why:

I was going to ask to join before. On the march I looked and see what's going on. I sat down and listened to everything and I like what they were doing so I decided to be part of it.

What I like most of all was the way everything was organised. How everyone got on so well—like unity, you know what I mean. I was really proud of that.

I used to be with another group—the Young Socialists. But I didn't like the way they were going about things. IS is more towards the point. We go right towards it.

For a start, the IS believes that everybody is equal. Black

and white. We believe in unity. That's why I was strongly attracted to it. Now I'm going to try and get some of my friends to join.

When I read the paper, Socialist Worker, that says it exactly as it is. The other papers have the perspective all wrong.

We in IS support the Right to Work Campaign. The march wouldn't have happened if IS hadn't got behind it?

But the Campaign was people from all parties. We want all of them to help. They don't have to be in IS. But we want them to come together.

When I set off on the march, my mum wasn't too pleased. But last night when I saw her, she was.

Yesterday, when I went to sign on at the dole they weren't going to let me because I was a day late. So I said, 'I have just come from the Right to Work march. I have just marched all the way to Brighton for the benefit of all of us who are unemployed.'

All the people waiting in the queue started shouting at him and saying I was right. So he decided to let me sign on. I was proud of it.

We are having a little IS meeting tonight. And tomorrow I am going to sell some Socialist Workers in Stratford, in the shopping precinct.

## PROUD

I am going to the football later so I will take some with me.

Then next Tuesday we are going to this meeting in Ilford where Denis Healey is speaking and we will give him a few showers.

People are beginning to take some notice of us. Like the Daily Mirror said today: IS—sign of the times.

42 Right to Work marchers joined IS on Monday after a Socialist Worker discussion.

## Socialist Worker NEWS

## LEEDS: 25 new members

LEEDS HAS always been a difficult town for socialists because of its backward trade union movement and small and scattered shopfloor organisation. But we are having some success.

In the last three months, we

By Brian Corrigan

have recruited 25 new members. Sales of Socialist Worker have gone up by more than 100 a week.

We sell in town on Saturdays. Last week sales there were around the 70 mark—an

improvement of about 40 on our sales three months ago.

We took up the idea of visiting local newsagents. Already 15 newsagents have taken the paper and are selling about 50 a week.

We have built IS steadily because of our consistent stand against the National Front and the British National Party (our own local brand of Nazis).

We have come into contact with many school-leavers and unemployed through our work with the Right to Work Campaign.

During the usually slack holiday period, we have managed to increase our intervention on all fronts.

In the next few weeks, with many of our members coming back into activity, we can speed up the process of building a strong working class socialist organisation in Leeds.

## How do I go about joining?

DEAR COMRADE,

Could you send me some information on the International Socialist Party Organisation? I have recently dropped out of the Communist Party due to various reasons and would like to join a group that is actually concerned in the fight for working class control.

The Communist ideal these days seems to be to legislate for 'social justice' and full employment. This seems to me to be upside down. I don't

want to see socially-aware party bosses in Whitehall playing the game by the same rules.

I've just finished reading the debate between Jimmy McCallum and Brian Davies in Socialist Worker and it seems to sum things up perfectly.

If you could send me the address of the Merseyside branch secretary, I'd like to join.

Yours fraternally,  
Tom McGarrity  
Birkenhead, Liverpool



SOCIALIST WORKER is a revolutionary paper that seeks to organise its supporters around the following principles:

### INDEPENDENT WORKING-CLASS ACTION:

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

### REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

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

### THERE IS NO PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

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

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

a workers' militia.

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

### INTERNATIONALISM

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

We oppose everything which turns

workers from one country against those from other countries.

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

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

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

We are for real, social, economic and

political equality of women.

The experience of Russia demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation in one country.

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

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

### THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

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

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

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

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

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

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

## SOCIALIST WORKER MEETINGS

**ORMSKIRK SW Public Meetings:** Every Tuesday at 8pm, Civic Hall Committee Rooms.

**NEWPORT Socialist Worker discussion group meetings:** Every Wednesday, 8pm, The Vulcan, Lower Dock Street.

22 September: REFORM OR REVOLUTION?  
29 September: THE FIGHT FOR RANK AND FILE DEMOCRACY  
6 October: THE FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK

13 October: THE HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS  
20 October: IS RUSSIA SOCIALIST?  
27 October: IRELAND, THE TROOPS OUT MOVEMENT, AND THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM ACT.  
3 November: Public meeting to commemorate the Chartist march on Newport. Speaker to be announced.  
10 November: GAY LIBERATION, WOMEN'S LIBERATION AND THE FIGHT FOR SOCIALISM.

**GLASGOW Socialist Worker discussion meetings on THE MEANING OF MARXISM:** A series on the politics of the International Socialists, organised by Clydeside and Albion Motors branches of IS. Every second Tuesday at 7.30pm. Small Public Hall, junction of Fore Street and Henrietta Street, Scotstoun.

Tuesday 28 September: THE STATE AND REVOLUTION. Speaker: Harry McShane (President, Govan AUEW, and secretary of the Scottish Unemployed Workers' Movement in the 1930s).

Tuesday 12 October: THE STRUGGLE AGAINST FASCISM AND RACISM. Speaker: Allan Borrell (Clydeside Socialist Worker organiser).

Tuesday 26 October: THE NEED FOR A REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS' PARTY—BUILDING THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS. Speaker: Jimmy McCallum (ex-AUEW/TASS convener, John Brown Engineering, Clydeside, and Socialist Worker prospective candidate for Walsall North).

**CENTRAL LONDON Socialist Worker meetings on sexual politics:** Roebuck pub, Tottenham Court Road, London WC1, on alternate Thursdays at 7pm.

30 September: The oppression of gay workers. Speaker: Dave Widgery.  
14 October: Lesbians—the double oppression. Speaker: Sybil Cack.

28 October: Personal Life in capitalism. Speaker: Joy Leman.  
11 November: The abortion campaign. Which Way Now? Speaker: Gerry Matthews.

25 November: Working Women Under Attack. Speaker: Irene Breugel.  
9 December: Socialists and housework. Speaker to be confirmed.

**CHESHIRE Socialist Worker discussion group:** Fourth series of meetings.

Thursday 23 September: *Russia and Eastern Europe—is it socialist?*  
Thursday 7 October: *The Family—should socialists argue for its abolition and with what should we replace it?*

All meetings start at 7.30pm in the Railway Inn, Brook Street, Chester (two minutes from railway station, just off Hoole Street). All welcome.

**BRADFORD Socialist Worker Teachers public meeting:** Why do trade union leaders sell out? Speaker: Ken Appleby. Thursday 30 September, 7.30pm, Meeting Room 1, Communal Building, Bradford University.

**BRADFORD Socialist Worker Teachers:** have regular meetings every Thursday evening at 7.30pm. Discussion of activities and political education in Meeting Room 1, Communal Building, Bradford University.

## WHAT'S ON

**HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Socialist Worker public meeting: WHICH WAY TO SOCIALISM?** Speaker: Jimmy McCallum (Socialist Worker's prospective parliamentary candidate for Walsall North). Wednesday 23 September, 8pm, Rose and Crown (large room), Old High Street, Hemel Hempstead. All welcome.

**BARNSELY SW public meeting:** Call this a Labour Government? Speaker: Duncan Hallas (editor, IS journal). Thursday 23 September, 7.15pm, Rising Sun, Sheffield Road.

**HALIFAX SW public meeting:** The revolutionary party. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Friday 15 October, 8.

**HULL SW public meeting:** Which way to socialism? Speaker: Paul Foot. Wednesday 20 October, 8pm, Stevedores and Dockers Club, Posterngate, off Princess Dock Side.

**NEWHAM SW public meeting:** Southern Africa in Crisis. Speaker: Chen Chimutengwende (Executive Committee, ANC). Thursday 23 September, 7.45pm, The Railway Tavern, Forest Gate (Forest Gate BR Station).

**DARLINGTON SW public meeting:** The Socialist Alternative. Speaker: Jimmy McCallum (SW prospective candidate, Walsall North). Tuesday 21 September, 7.30pm, Public Library.

**CHESTER SW public meeting:** Can the Labour Party bring socialism? Speaker: Tony Cliff. Tuesday 12 October, 7.30pm, Labour Club, Upper Northgate St (near Fountains Roundabout). Admission 10p. Tickets from SW sellers.

**CLEETHORPES SW readers meet** every Sunday at 2 Mill Road, 3pm. All welcome.

**PETERBOROUGH SW discussion groups** meet regularly. Phone Peterborough 61685.

**TOWER HAMLETS education meetings:** fortnightly series begins Wednesday 22 September, 8pm, at Oxford House, Derbyshire Street, E2 on The Struggle in South Africa.

**EDINBURGH SW discussion group** meets every Saturday, 11.30am, Trades Council, 14 Picardy Place. Open to all SW readers. For further information, phone Fenwick 72819.

**LUTON SW anti-racist Committee public meeting:** Stop the racists. Wednesday 22 September, 7.30pm, International Centre, Old Bedford Road, Luton.

## NOISS

Would IS members and SW readers studying at SOUTHAMPTON from October 1976 please contact M O'Gorman, JCR, Southampton University, Southampton, Hants.

**LEICESTER/LOUGHBOROUGH:** All IS members studying in these areas next year (76-77) please contact 11 Edward Road, Leicester.

**NOISS CENTRAL LONDON Day School:** Students in the class struggle. Sunday 3 October, 10.30am, Central London Poly. More details later. All Central London NOISS members should attend.

**EDINBURGH:** Would all IS members and SW supporters starting at Moray House College, Edinburgh, this term please contact Colin Turbett, c/o Moray House, SRC, Holyrood Road, Edinburgh, as soon as possible.

**NOISS extended national committee:** All NOISS NC members plus one delegate per IS Society. In London, Saturday 20 October. Details from Lindsey German 01-739 1878.

**WILL ALL IS students and sympathisers** coming to Manchester University contact Univ IS Soc, c/o TU Books, 260 Deansgate, Manchester?

**WILL ALL IS members and supporters** starting at Edinburgh University this term contact IS Soc, c/o 21 Hill Place, Edinburgh?

**WILL ALL IS students and supporters** studying at either of the two Chelmsford colleges this term please contact Geoff Eilen, Chelmsford 59129?

## INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

**SW LONDON SW Introduction to IS:** Courses for new members, every Wednesday, 8pm, at Minet Library, Knatchbull Road, London, SE5.

29 Sept: What are we fighting for? Speaker: Sandra Peers

6 Oct: Role of working class movement  
13 Oct: Building a revolutionary party  
20 Oct: IS and the Labour movement  
27 Oct: The politics of IS

**CHESTER SW Day School:** for new members of IS. Speaker: Duncan Hallas. Sunday 17 October, in Chester. Agenda: 11am-1pm What does IS stand for? Principles and traditions of IS. 1.2pm Lunch. 2.30pm How do we achieve the revolution? IS strategy, Rank and File Movement, mass revolutionary party. 3.30-4pm Tea. 4-5.30pm How do IS members put this strategy into practice on the shopfloor, in the offices and on the dole queues?

Creche and playgroup facilities will be available. Because of the cost, a charge of £1 a head (unemployed 30p) will be made. Further details, agendas, reading lists etc available from Chester IS, c/o 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2. Places are limited so branches and individual comrades are advised to book early.

**CHESHIRE & SHROPSHIRE district meeting** for all members: Thursday 16 September, 8pm sharp, The Angel, Victoria Street, Crewe in town centre. Agenda: 1 IS and parliamentary elections (with CC speaker). 2 Local reports. 3 Election of national council delegate. All members in Chester, Wrexham, Crewe and Shrewsbury to attend. Delegates from Telford, Macclesfield and surrounding branches welcome.

**IS Political Economy Group:** Weekend school, 25-26 Sept. Mike Kidron on world capitalism, Colin Barker on falling rate of profit, Peter Binns on crisis in state capitalism. Accommodation and creche available. Dept of Politics, Leeds University. For details and booking, send SAE or phone Colin Barker, 19 Chaffield Road, Manchester 21 0J61 891 1070.

**IS BADGES:** 50p each from National Treasurer, International Socialists, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2.

**PRAGATI, the International Socialists' paper in Bengali, out now** (issue no 21, Contents: Stonehouse, Walsall by-election, police violence and the state, anti-racist actions, the Right to Work Campaign, etc. Copies (including postage): 12p for one, 70p for ten, £1.50 for 25. Orders to Pragati, c/o 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2. Cheques/POs must be made payable to C Knowles.

**URGENT APPEAL FOR WITNESSES:** Would anyone who saw the incidents leading up to the arrest of three Pakistani comrades from Rotherham and Sheffield in the Central London anti-racist demonstration on 11 July, please phone 0742-585910, for you may be able to help their defence.

**IS WOMEN'S WEEKEND SCHOOL:** Change of date to 2-3 October, in Manchester. Details of school will be sent direct to those who have registered. Phone Margaret Renn (01-739 1878) or write to 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2, if you haven't yet registered. Please book places now.

**COMRADE needs place to stay** in North London. Phone Charlotta 267 5458.

**IS AUSTRALIA GROUP public meeting:** Crisis in Australia. Speaker from the Australian International Socialists, Monday 20 September, 7.30pm, The Roebuck, Tottenham Court Road, London WC1.



Calling all typists

I.S. NEEDS YOU!!

Efficient typist needed for interesting and varied work. Apply Box T, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2

## WHERE WE STAND

If you want to know more about Socialist Worker and the International Socialists, fill in the form on page 15.



# The vicar who waltzed



REMEMBER the corruption stink—Poulson, Dan Smith, and company?

How did they build up their empire? In his book *No Shining Armour*\*, an ex-MP Eddie Milne gives the answer. The Labour Party helped them!

Eddie tells how councillors and MPs sucked up to such bandits. Ted Short, for example, once had a whip-round to meet Smith's legal costs. And Michael Ward, former Transport House official, now MP for Peterborough, worked for him in the 1960's.

Nationally, the party set up 'an army of paid lieutenants in the Town Halls.' Indeed, a barrister at the Poulson bankruptcy hearing said that there wasn't 'an alderman or councillor in the North-East corner of England that Mr Poulson didn't know.'

The Labour members who serviced the corruption handwagon were not necessarily criminals, but Eddie Milne rightly thought that, for so-called socialists, they kept strange company. But, until the first arrests, his calls for public investigations were ignored.

Labour leaders Callaghan and Wilson, he claims, owed less loyalty to workers than to the cronies they had around them. Cronies like Sir Julian

# into the



Eddie Milne's election victory in 1974

# Poulson brothel

by DAVID BUNCH, who quit Labour last year to join the International Socialists

Hodge, Callaghan's banker pal.

On the left, Ian Mikardo, founder of a booming export business, 'managed to keep the others quiet' at one crucial stage, while 'self-styled democrats like Frank Allaun, and others, ran for cover.'

Because Eddie Milne trod on too many toes, the Labour Party gave him the boot—but

not before a vicious smear campaign. And the shopworkers' union USDAW promptly stopped his pension rights—unlike the General and Municipal Workers' Union which gave Durham gangster Alderman Andrew Cunningham about £60 a week pension, after he was convicted.

Undaunted, Milne fought

the February 1974 election as Independent Labour, winning by 6140 votes after a nasty four-cornered fight. Wilson rewarded Labour loser Ivor Richard with an almost £300-a-week job at the United Nations.

The following October, Milne lost by 78 dubious votes—a legal case is going on

now—to fox-hunting barrister John Ryman—described by the Daily Mirror as 'the only Labour MP who puts his riding boot into his mouth every time he opens it.'

Eddie may make the Commons again—his supporters won seats recently on Blyth Council. But, meanwhile, we have his book. Unfortunately, it is often boring and petty—sometimes lapsing into a Mary Whitehouse-type of self-righteousness.

It is also naive. Although he calls himself a socialist, Eddie seems surprised that police and press act as puppets for the ruling class.

At times, he comes over like a vicar who, waltzing into a brothel, is puzzled to find everybody with their trousers down!

This naivety leads to silly statements.

He claims, for instance, to have served all of his constituents irrespective of party. How is this possible? *The interests of Blyth's bosses were—and are—poles apart from the workers they exploit.*

## Bureaucratic

In any case, as he found out, parliament is irrelevant. It was Poulson going bust that blew the lid off the bribery racket—not Milne's sniping from the backbenches.

Eddie's philosophy? Make powerful people behave decently, then everything will be rosy.

So he quotes Herbert Morrison and gives the last word, literally, to George Bernard Shaw. What have they to do with socialism? Morrison was a bumbling, bureaucratic zombie; Shaw, a shrivelled-up geriatric playboy.

No! In a class society, authority will not, as Eddie touchingly pleads, make way for 'men of goodwill'. They have to be driven out. *That means changing the system—not cleaning it up!*

## Heroes

Why does Eddie churn out such drivel? The answer lies in his adoration of heroes. Jimmie Maxton, the lovable Clydeside orator, Bob Smillie, a legendary miner MP in the 1920's, Nye Bevan, the Welsh giant admired by Michael Foot, himself a modern, if jaded, hero—they all pop up in the book's 200-plus pages.

Yet, apart from glory, they achieved little. Why?

An old Fabian fraud, R H Tawney, glimpsed the truth when, in 1934, he wrote that, 'you cannot skin a live tiger paw by paw; vivisection is its trade and it does the skinning first.'

Exactly! Milne is the latest of a long line of corpses that thought otherwise.

What is more, heroes prevent workers from liberating themselves. As Tony Cliff, in volume one of his excellent book on Lenin, puts it: 'Even if the hero loves the crowd he cannot but look down on it. The shaping of an inert mass depends on the hero's...'

## What does possession mean to you?



7% of our population own 84% of our wealth

The Economist, 15 January 1966

Poster by Victor Burgin, taken from *Camerawork*, the magazine produced by the left-wing Half Moon Photography Workshop, 35p (including postage), from *Half Moon*, 27 Alie Street, London E1

Eddie Milne is no different. If he were still a Labour MP, would he be on the streets fighting the National Front? Or flogging *Socialist Worker* to the Westminster canteen staff?

We must salute Eddie Milne's courage in fighting corruption. But that should not blind us to the weakness of his politics.

For socialists, there are more important things to do than playing cowboys and Indians with the Labour party.

\* NO SHINING ARMOUR, by Edward Milne, Calder, £1.95.

**SATURDAY:**  
The politics and social aspects of Reggae music are featured in AQUARIUS (ITV 10.45pm).

**SUNDAY:**  
By far the finest programme on television is FAWLTY TOWNS (BBC-1). This week's episode is a holiday celebration at the squay guest house. BBC-2 begins a 2-part serialisation of Robert Graves' 'I Claudius' about the glorious Roman Empire and the power struggles within it. It should be worth watching.

**MONDAY:**  
OPEN DOOR (BBC-2) starts a week-long series of programmes about Liverpool tonight, starting with housing. During the rest of the week there are programmes on feminism, the women's movement, education and unemployment in the city.

**THURSDAY:**  
The political position of the National Front is examined in RIGHT AT THE FRONT (Radio Four). It should be interesting.

DEATH IN VENICE (BBC-2), based on Thomas Mann's biography of Wagner, is worth watching. It stars Dirk Bogarde in one of his finest performances.

# THE DOLE QUEUE RECRUIT

Sung to the tune of the traditional Irish folk song, 'The Kerry Recruit'

About six months ago I was working at my trade. I'd just been promoted to the highest grade. When along came the government and their wounding cuts, And now I'm on the dole and it's driving me nuts.

**Chorus:**  
To hell with the cuts, to hell with the cuts. This bloody crisis is driving me nuts.

So I went down to the dole to see what could be done. And the man behind the desk said 'Now look here son. There's no work for you nor for anyone else. So stand in the queue and behave yourself!'

**Chorus:**  
So I stood in the queue and I thought for a while. And then I realised the bloody system is vile. It's got to be changed for the good of mankind. And if you can't see that then you must be blind.

**Chorus:**  
Wherever you work, be where it may. The poor little worker has got bloody little. He's shuffled around to suit the capitalist class. All for their greed for more and more brass.

Never mind the colour and never mind the creed. We're all just fodder for capitalist greed. Whether we're working or in the dole queue. We're all part of a system that benefits a few.

**Chorus:**  
So come all you workers whether you be black or white. Let's stand up together and unite and fight. And get rid of the system that's got us in the dole. And build socialism under workers' control.

D RT



## Postal Points

### Kings and queens and supermen

There are no gods in heaven  
Or demons down in hell  
But men in ivory towers  
Whose whispered guile has told us  
Of kings and queens,  
Of supermen  
Of riches that will come  
When dust to dust  
And ash to ash  
Has left no minds to think  
Nor tongues to speak  
Or strength to overthrow them.

□ Mike Alderson, Bristol

LIKE MANY of your readers I have been really sickened by the not unexpected cynical attacks on the Right to Work march to Brighton by the Tory gutter press.

But what really sickened me was to hear Len Murray of all people dismissing us as 'Trotskyist boot boys representing no one but themselves.'

I suppose affiliation and cash from my union branch—among others in York—plus money collected from building sites and factories counts for nothing.

Like many other marchers, I had support from my local trades council.

□ Paul Lannen, UCATT, York.

THE NEW FASCISTS' was Clive Jenkins' comment when the Right to Work marchers lobbied the TUC Congress.

Perhaps we shouldn't even bother to reply. Maybe we should just point out to Socialist Worker readers that it wasn't the Right to Work Campaign who shared a platform with the racist Enoch Powell. It wasn't us who organised cheap holidays to fascist Spain for our members.

□ SW Reader, North London

I RECENTLY went for an interview at a local firm. I was told the wage was 61½p an hour, 52½ hours a week including a Saturday morning with a dinner break of 30 minutes and one teabreak of ten minutes and one of seven.

I happened to see some lads and asked what union they were in. They said they would be sacked on the spot if they tried to organise one and if they missed a day through sickness their jobs were in jeopardy.

□ Unemployed Reader, Wakefield.

I WOULD like to make it clear that I went on the Right to Work march as an unemployed worker and not as a Communist Party branch secretary.

□ Ludwig Kasatkin, Castleford



Prime Minister Jim Callaghan and Vorster

## South Africa: Why Britain won't act

CONSIDERING that 60 per cent of foreign investment in South Africa comes from Britain why has no action been taken by our so-called 'socialist' government?

The truth is that as long as Britain reaps massive profit from exports to South Africa they couldn't care less if the gas chamber were introduced there.

As for South Africa's neighbour and ally Rhodesia, let us not forget that a fortnight ago it was reported that their 'security forces' had attacked a guerrilla base in Mozambique. In fact a

United Nations official confirmed that it was really a massacre of refugees—men, women and children.

The truth was only printed in three national newspapers.

The repressed blacks will eventually turn to such countries as Cuba and Russia to gain independence.

Eventually the whole African continent will be communist and Britain will have no one to blame but herself for deserting them in their hour of need.

Once it was the Jews, now it is the blacks.

□ C. M. Wilkins, Filey

B. DALGLEISH, last week, says the only revolutionary road is the rank and file road. But the rank and file is not something which operates in a vacuum.

We made a mistake in not contesting the council elections where the National Front succeeded. If we had taken part we could have crushed them.

□ J. Nicholson, Glasgow

# Letters

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

## Police attacks: an everyday story for blacks



One example of how police provoked the riot at the Notting Hill Carnival.

### Good riddance to Ron

AT THE recent National Graphical Association biennial delegate meeting Ron Harris gave rave reviews to the Reuters news set up in this country. After the conference he announced his new job with Reuters (Socialist Worker last week).

His departure from the NGA will not be mourned throughout the provincial newspapers where some chapels—King and Hutchins at Uxbridge is one—will not allow him to represent them in any negotiations at local level.

His performance at the Sharmans dispute at Peterborough last year showed him at his indecisive worst.

This ballot was a success for the left with two sitting national council members, Harris and John Jones, defeated by the branch secretary of Chilton and Thames Valley, Tony Dubbins. CTV branch supported the Right to Work march—the only NGA branch to do so.

Now Harris has gone and Dubbins is in charge of industrial matters for the NGA. decisive action, such as the dispute action against non-union labour being brought in by the back door can be taken. Action which Harris avoided for five years. Good riddance, Ron.

□ C.M. Harvey, NGA Mid Counties Branch.

ENOCH POWELL and his admirers in the ranks of the extreme right, will doubtless be congratulating themselves upon the fulfillment of their prophecies of race riots breaking out in Britain. They have worked enough over the last few years to ensure that they happen.

The campaign of race-hatred by such men as Powell has stirred up the most violent and ignorant sections of white society to conduct violent assaults upon the coloured folk of Britain.

When the anger of the coloured folk boils over, who can fail to understand? Nobody but a racist.

it would seem.

The over-reaction by the police must be condemned. I have seen them out in force in the area where the riot took place.

One night I counted about twelve police vehicles and their crews, plus about four large vicious dogs, come to arrest one man.

At first I thought it was a raid upon an IRA hideout. But the coloured folk I was with told me this was common police procedure in Notting Hill.

I am certain that there are many folk who are as English as Oliver Cromwell, even if they have skins as dark as Cassius Clay. The fact that they were born in England legally makes them such.

Let us work to ensure that this legal entitlement is not taken away from them by racists in our society.

□ H. C. Mullin, Glasgow

## Full support for Walsall

STEVE CARTER (28 August) is not alone amongst comrades of the revolutionary left who interpret our belief in no parliamentary road as meaning we should not participate in bourgeois parliament.

On this point Lenin was quite clear. He said that such participation actually helps the proletariat to prove to the backward masses why such parliaments deserve to be done away with.

It is quite clear from this that the International Socialists have taken up an absolutely correct position in contesting Walsall. It is now up to all left groups to give maximum support to

this important initiative.

This does not mean any shift in the belief that the capitalist state needs to be smashed by the working class but that we have to confront the National Front and National Party head on.

I would hope to see an expansion of this initiative in the future with all revolutionary groups involved.

This is certainly the best way forward while at the same time building what comrade Carter calls a 'strong politically educated rank and file movement'.

□ Alan Tichard, Warrington.

## Rape: no legal answer

I WAS interested to read Jenny Jackson's review of the film Lipstick (28 August). For those who missed it, Lipstick is a film about rape. And just for a change it puts over the

woman's point of view. There are just one or two points I think Jennie missed.

Only a year or so ago, probably while Lipstick was being produced, a handful of Law Lords magnanimously decided that if a man 'honestly' believed that a woman had consented to have sexual intercourse—there were no grounds for prosecution for rape—even if she had protested.

### Rampant

Throughout history rape has always been one of the most humiliating and barbaric forms of aggression. Yet the idea that 'she was probably asking for it' is rampant. It is because these attitudes exist so strongly that rape crisis centres are so important.

Police are either uninterested or suspicious when a woman reports a case of rape, so many women don't even bother.

Those who do are made to feel guilty and are subjected to a close scrutiny of their per-

sonal lives as if that were in any way relevant. Rape within marriage just doesn't exist within the eyes of the law but for many working class women who don't have the resources to pick up the kids and push off it is a real problem.

Society regards women as mere objects, as property. And this society will continue to produce rapists because of its demands, frustrations and hypocrisy.

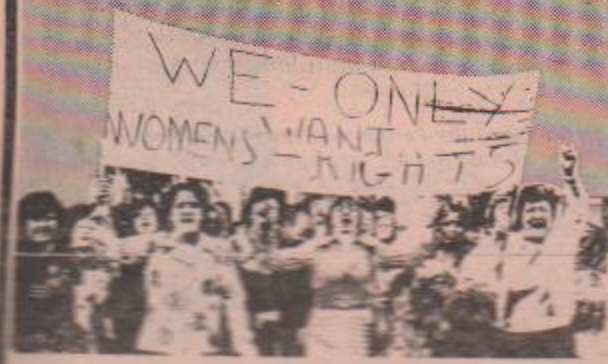
There are a number of things we could do. Demand a reform of the rape laws, insist that state-financed rape crisis centres are set up and so on. But anyone who thinks that these reforms will really change the attitude of society are in cloud cuckoo land. The answer doesn't lie in the courts.

Until we get up and make a stand about all the other aspects of oppression like the control of our fertility and the price of our labour, real gains will never be made.

□ Gail Cartmail, North London.

## WOMEN FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK AGAINST THE CUTS FOR EQUAL PAY

A Right to Work Campaign pamphlet with an introduction by ANNA PACZUSKA



10p each plus 5p postage for one copy, 17p postage for two. 20p postage for ten. Women with orders to Right to Work Office, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N7.

THIS portrait of a moderate appeared in the Waltham Forest Guardian.

The previous president was busy fighting racism so where has he gone? He was well on the way to uncovering files kept on militants when I last spoke to him.

Come back Tim. All is forgiven.

□ Alan Miles, ex-COMISE branch secretary, Whigps Cross hospital, London E7.



## PROBLEMS WITH CHAKI

ANN Apap is not a cartoonist's idea of a Student Union president; she's not hot-tempered, destructive, noisy, untidy or rude, and she doesn't go around spouting left-wing clichés.

In fact secretarial student Ann sees her role as Student Union President for the coming year in quite simple terms: "I think the best way I can do my job is to be available to help students with whatever problems may crop up."

For the past year Ann (18) has served on the Union as vice-president. Although she was not too enthusiastic about Union

work at first, she has gradually warmed to the task.

Ann is also not one of those people to "call 'em all out" at the drop of a hat.

She explained: "I have always found the staff and the administration at the College very helpful. In just about every case I've come across it only takes a visit to the right person to get some action."



# Spot the difference...which ones are the trade union leaders?

ANSWER:  
The ones who are enjoying the 'glamour'

IN THE light of the reception given to the Right to Work marchers by the Trades Union Congress last week, it is vital that every trade union militant and socialist in the country should understand the nature of the TUC Congress.

On the surface it seems a democratic organisation. There are open debates.

The bosses organisation, the CBI, by contrast, meets in secret and its proceedings go unreported by the press.

But democracy at the TUC is more appearance than reality.

Why? Because for a long period after the War there was little or no mass struggle in Britain. For the past 30 years or more the TUC leaders never approximated to an active leadership of the workers' movement.

## Unrepresentative

It is in the very nature of the beast that even in times of rising struggle they dampen down the movement, compromise and, yes, even betray.

I think everyone accepts that the majorities that the TUC General Council get for their resolutions are totally unrepresentative. There is far, far more opposition to the social contract and unemployment than the votes indicate.

The reason for this scandalous state of affairs is simple. There is little or no possibility of minority representation. The catchword is 'Cabinet Responsibility'—any minority is bound by the majority decision.

That's why the vast majority of decisions taken at the TUC are unanimous or near-unanimous.

It even gets to the point where the president—this year the taxman's general secretary Cyril Plant—doesn't even call for votes against General Council motions. He just calls votes for.

## Isolation

This was called to his attention twice last Wednesday. And every time it happens people laugh cynically, which is a fair indication that many delegates do know what the TUC is about.

The minorities don't register in the votes. For example, all my own union's votes went for the social contract. But on the delegation the vote was actually 16 to 13, an altogether different matter.

The truth is that Congress is enormously different even from a union conference, where although some people do try to carve things up, there is real controversy. And you know a substantial number of delegates. You know the ins and outs.

But here at the TUC, because of the fragmentation of the struggle, you're not even in contact with other delegates.

You go back to your hotel at night. You go to the Mayor's do or the TUC reception. You are in fact isolated.

## Veneer

The general secretaries, of course, have a reason for operating and horsetrading across union boundaries. They want to get on the General Council. As I tried to explain to the Right to Work marchers, the TUC is a general secretaries' club.

If you put all the general secretaries together in one room you would come up with substantially the same results. The delegates are there to give the whole operation a veneer of democracy.



The men with a say in the land... the trade union officials are Hugh Scanlon and Jack Jones, the bosses are Alex Park (Leyland), Gilbert Hunt (Chrysler), Labour Minister Eric Varley, and Terry Beckett (Ford)

## How the TUC can be changed By MIKE McGRATH, a delegate



so that it looks representative.

At the TUC all the major speeches are made by general secretaries or other top full-time officials.

Inside the delegations the story is a little different. Yet the delegations are largely dominated by full-time officials, or in some unions—such as the Transport Workers' or the Electricians'—wholly dominated and controlled by the top officials. This is totally undemocratic.

Take Len Murray, himself one of the most grotesque symbols of the lack of democracy in the TUC.

Now he has the nerve to attack people like me as a political boot-boy, unrepresentative of anything but myself.

Len Murray has never worked in his entire life. He's never been elected by anybody. He just joined in at

the lower level of the TUC bureaucracy and crept up the ladder by appointment. It's just unbelievable.

None of them have led any real struggle in their lives. They're totally insulated and cut off from real life.

The truth is there is no more convincing demonstration of the need for building a rank and file movement than the TUC.

## Privilege

The fight against the trade union bureaucracy, for real living democracy and debate in the movement, will be won through a two-pronged attack. This involves working through the official movement. But it also involves building a movement within the working class that has clear and principled aims in total opposition to the conservative and privileged bureaucracy.

MIKE McGRATH, a supporter of the Right to Work Campaign and a member of the International Socialist, was one of the Society of Civil and Public Servants delegates to this year's TUC.

To indicate his disgust for the crocodile tears being cried over the massive unemployment directly created by TUC and government policies, Mike borrowed a Right to Work marcher's orange jacket. As Len Murray got up to make his keynote speech, Mike rose at the centre of the hall and put it on. A look of amazement came over Murray's face. Later the general secretary of his own union, who claims to be a democrat, tried to lash out at him. And his union president sent him a note ordering him to take it off. Mike stayed put. Subsequently these two threatened to have him dropped from the union's delegation. Mike's fellow delegates indicated that they wouldn't stand for this.

And make no mistake they are very privileged indeed.

It's important not to oversimplify this issue by viewing trade union leaders as nothing more than personally corrupted by the high standard of living and the entirely separate life style they have from their members.

The life they lead is far removed from the day-to-day struggle or ordinary people. This does have an important effect on their outlook and behaviour patterns.

They most definitely do see themselves as a professional elite whose job it is to make deals on behalf of the members, much in the same way as managing directors see their job as making deals on behalf of the shareholders.

The idea that they are in a struggle which should involve the members at every stage is quite alien to them. Almost without exception they are

committee men, fond of committee rooms, proud of their skills at scoring points off the employer.

My own general secretary is paid something like £11,500 a year. The average wage of our members is less than a fifth of that, around £45 a week.

## Changes?

That's to say nothing of his union-paid expenses and the kind of life style that such expenses give you access to.

Top trade union officials love power. There's no doubt about it. It's exciting to be reported in the press, to feel that you have some influence over events, or that people with real influence at least, take note of you.

The fundamental criticism of them, however, is their politics. The vast majority of trade union leaders are absolutely unapologetic sup-

porters of capitalism. So what are the possibilities for change in the TUC?

Well, I think certain changes are underway with the growth in the white-collar membership. Our own union has tried to increase the representation of our kind of workers on the General Council. For this, of course, is also scandalously undemocratic.

But even if such changes come, making the General Council more representative, all you are talking about is a redistribution of power among general secretaries. And we need very much more than that!

We should fight for more control over delegations, more rank and file delegates and more rank and file speakers and a conference that is not a desiccating machine run by the top brass.

But the best way to advance our cause is by more ruthless exposure of the nature of the TUC, of how difficult it is to reform, of the way the thing is manipulated by a tiny minority.

What is needed above all is a rank and file movement that tries to reach into the TUC. But we should have no illusions about what the effect of concerted opposition will be.

The effect will be to make the TUC boss men fight even harder against any class-conscious opposition.

TRICO special equal pay issue

Womens Voice

5p

out now USE IT FAST



# Hazards centre opens

A NEW hazards information centre was opened in Coventry last Saturday.

It has been set up by Coventry Health & Safety Movement, a delegate body of local trade unionists, representing joint shop stewards committees at Massey Ferguson, Chrysler, Potterton, Matrix, Wickmans, Coventry, GEC and office committees at Rolls Royce and Jaguar Cars.

The centre will offer a wide range of information on industrial hazards and will be manned by CHASM members. It is financed by subscriptions, already well over £200, from sponsoring trade union organisations.

Opening the centre, both Audrey Wise, MP, and Jimmy Dunn, TGWU Convenor at Massey Ferguson, regretted the lukewarm response of most trade union officials to this initiative and stressed that stewards and shopfloor workers would carry the burden of the fight for health and safety at work.

## Notices and meetings

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

BATTERSEA anti-Wandsworth Trades Council public meeting on THE FIGHT AGAINST RACISM. Speakers: Paul Foot (Socialist Worker), Faruk Dhoti (Race Today) and a speaker from Kent NUM. Tuesday 21 September, 8pm, Battersea Lower Town Hall.

ANGOLA Solidarity Committee discussion forum. Series of four meetings on the Angola revolution. Admission free. All meetings at the Roebuck pub, Tottenham Court Road, London WC1. 7.30pm.

Thursday 23 September: New state structure of PRA. People's power. Thursday 8 October: Women in Angola's revolution. Thursday 21 October: Angola and African and Caribbean struggles.

WEST LONDON ANTI-APARTHEID Public Meeting on Namibia: Monday 20 September, 8pm, Westway Luncheon Club, W10 (under arches of Ledbrooke Grove Station). Film: If They Catch Me, I Won't Cry. Speaker: Peter Katjavivi, SWAPO Information Officer.

FREE EVA FOREST CAMPAIGN lunch-time picket of Spanish Embassy. Thursday 16 September 12.30-2.30pm. To mark second anniversary of the Spanish feminist's imprisonment, and to hand in petition for her release. Further details, plus brochures, petitions etc. from the campaign, c/o 38 Earham Street, London, WC2.

THE COLLIER, rank and file miners' paper. September issue now out warning of consequences of a productivity deal now being advocated by Joe Gormley, President of National Union of Mineworkers. Other articles include undemocratic nature of NUM executive and the plight of black miners in South Africa. Copies 5p each plus postage from The Collier, 38 Abbey Lane, Cundy Cross, Barnsley, South Yorks.

SAVE THE ELIZABETH GARRETT ANDERSON HOSPITAL CAMPAIGN benefit for EGA and Trico women strikers. Friday 17 September, 8pm-2am. Music by the Derelicts, plus disco and booze, at the Architectural Association, Bedford Square, WC1.

INVERGORDON '31: How men of the RN struck and won! Vivid report of mutiny. Comments concerning those times. By Barry Duncan, 80 pages, £1. bookshops or T.B.D., 209 Northumberland Road, Southampton.

WORKING WOMEN'S CHARTER CAMPAIGN has issued a call for a national rally to assess the struggle for women's rights in light of government legislation. To organise we urgently need funds. Send donations to Jill Daniels, 16 Crookham Road, London, SW46. Also from this address information, sponsorship, publicity and details about the next planning meeting on 16 October, 2pm at University of London Students Union, Malet Street, London, WC1.

# Rig yard workers sacked

Two hundred scaffolders and erectors at the Methil oil rig construction site have been sacked by their employer Redpath Dorman Long for refusing to accept worse working conditions.

Opened less than five years ago with the promise of 15 years' work, the yard is virtually to close in February laying off 1200 men. Management offered a £1,000 bonus for completion of present work by 18th February. Attached to the offer was a

set of conditions which took away many gains and protections won over several years. The bosses wanted an agreement to work in bad weather which has obvious dangers for men working at height on steel girders.

The customary cup of tea workers had before starting is banned. This is important because many of the workers travel long distances to work—up to 30 miles.

Management are also trying to cut down on manning by asking welders to do extra work normally done by

labourers. There are plenty of men available in an area where the unemployment rate is 12 per cent.

It took union officials four mass meetings to obtain the so-called 'democratic' decision they wanted—acceptance of the offer by 393 to 301. Only the scaffolders and erectors refused to take the officials' advice and came out on strike. They are almost unanimous in staying out.

A further attempt was made by the CEU delegate on Friday to get the men back but he was shouted down. The

management then announced the men were sacked. Only one boilermaker has so far come out.

The Communist Party shop-stewards of the men still working have behaved disgracefully, attacking the strikers in speeches and in the press. One was quoted in the Daily Express calling them anarchists. They still say that 'good behaviour' will impress the oil companies into giving the yard any new order.

It is vital that the rank and file reject this and come out in support.

# Crushed labourer denied earnings

BUILDING contractor John Laing is refusing to pay a labourer for his loss of earnings after a serious accident on their Plumstead housing site three weeks ago.

Two labourers were crushed by the collapse of roofing joists, overlaid with bricks, to economise on the hiring of a crane.

A first aid man was unavailable when the incident occurred. The two men were dug out by fellow workers and had extensive bruising and lacerations to the legs.

The firm is refusing to pay the man who is still off work

because this could be taken as an admission of liability. To get any money he will have to take Laing to court, a time consuming and expensive process.

The accident could have been avoided by correct supervision of loading procedures. It is a reflection of bad work being done in the construction industry, even on unionised sites like this one.

These unnecessary accidents could increase in the face of high unemployment among construction workers, weakening the strength and will to fight by the unions to maintain safety on the job.

# POLICE HOUND LEEDS PORTER

POLICE are being used by management at a Leeds hospital to victimise workers who have taken a successful stand against the cuts in public spending.

Last month a one-day strike by NUPE members at St James Hospital secured the re-instatement of five porters who had opposed a cut in their staffing levels. Since then there have been a number of fires in the hospital—all of them in the geriatric wing where the men work.

Police were called in by management, and from the start concentrated most of their attention on the porters, and especially on some of the men involved in the dispute.

## Sessions

Shop stewards at the hospital have no doubt that it was management who put the police onto them.

They were all extensively questioned in sessions lasting up to three hours at a time. Three of them were taken to the police station and kept there for three hours on August bank holiday.

Two of the men had discovered one of the fires and put it out before the fire brigade arrived. The police suggested they had started it and then put it out so as to get commended by management.

None of the lads was told his legal rights until the NUPE branch brought in a solicitor to advise members.

## Harass

One of the porters, Bernard Lord, has been singled out for special treatment. After being continually harassed by the police—for a few days they followed him around the hospital, even shadowing him when he went to the pub at dinner-time—they arrived at his house last Tuesday and said they were arresting him.

They searched his house—without producing a warrant—and when he asked, said they were looking for matches!

Bernard was held for six hours before he was released without being charged. He repeatedly asked to make a phone call, but was only allowed to phone his wife 15 minutes before he was released.

The police have admitted

they have no evidence against Bernard. But they are obviously very embarrassed about their inability to find the arsonist.

On the first day of their much-publicised presence in the hospital, another fire was started—on the first floor. All 30 detectives were at the time on the ground floor, harassing people like Bernard Lord.

The police are determined to find someone to blame for the fires. And who better than a porter who refuses to accept management's right to make cuts in our health service?

# STUC to 'get tough'

THE General Council of the Scottish Trades Union Congress held an emergency meeting on unemployment last weekend and agreed that the time had come 'to get tough' with the government.

The aim of the policy is to bring pressure to bear on the Labour Cabinet and to force it to take steps to stop the rising number of jobless.

Yet their proposals for action stop short of building an ongoing campaign against the government's policies.

Among moves agreed by the STUC were: a major conference of trade union leaders, a massive demonstration against unemployment with contingents from all over Scotland taking part in a march through Glasgow, talks with industrialists and MPs to



# Transfer plan uproar

Civil servants at the Public Records Office organised a one day strike last Wednesday. 'We were protesting against the terms of our transfer to new offices in Kew. We would be leaving the Inner London Weighting Area, so we would not get special payment for being in inner London. And we have no guarantee against redundancy,' one of them told Socialist Worker.

And demands for Inner London Weighting and excess fare allowance are against the pay code and nationally negotiated agreements, as union bureaucrats are only too keen to point out. But staff are only asking to retain their present income level—hardly an excessive demand against the cost of the new building, £10 million!

## Huddersfield

### 'Flying squad' dispute won

THE strike by workers at ICI's Dalton Works near Huddersfield is over. The factory's 850 engineers and craftsmen walked out when management organised a special flying squad of workers who could be moved about to take on any job.

This was the climax of management's attempt to erode manning levels.

### Withdrawn

Management have now stepped down and lifted a suspension on a worker who, on union instructions refused to co-operate with the flying squad.

Management statements about unconditional acceptance of all foremen's instructions have also been withdrawn.

The squad will not be used in the area where the dispute started while negotiations taking place to agree on a job description for it.

## T&G office picketed by restaurant

STRIKERS at the Steak and Kebab Restaurant in Lancaster picketed the Transport Union's District Committee meeting on Monday.

They were demanding that the district organiser, Bob Willis, make official their strike for the reinstatement of a shop steward. Willis's main contribution to the strike so far has been to negotiate a new contract of employment that would make the strikers worse off than before they went on strike.

### Disgusted

Victimised shop steward, Maggie Clappen, told Socialist Worker, 'I am disgusted. We pay Willis's wages, not the management. As soon as the trade union movement gets rid of his sort the better'.

## Spinning stops at mill

68 ASIAN workers, the whole of the spinning department, have been out on strike for one and a half weeks now at Crowthers, the biggest textile mill in Huddersfield.

They are protesting about being paid piece rates when the rest of the mill (which is 75 per cent Asians) are on time-rates, earning between one and a half and two times as much as the spinners.

The spinners have the dirtiest, hardest jobs to do.

All the strikes have been sent their cards, but the officials of the notorious Union of Dyers, Bleachers and Textile Workers here have done absolutely nothing.

Management have been deliberately causing confusion, first offering to take back 41 of the workers, then changing it to ten or 20.

Some strikers have gone back to work, but others are still manning the picket lines.

By Dave Sherry

identify unemployment areas and possible solutions.

It is clear that this is a thinly disguised move on the part of the STUC to force a 'top-level' meeting with prime minister Callaghan.

There is no doubt that they felt snubbed at their failure to win concessions from him on his recent visit to Scotland and that is why there is talk of a massive demonstration against unemployment.

The STUC are prepared to mobilise what they see as a stage army of trade unionists and unemployed as a way of getting talks with the government.

Jenny Milne, General Secretary of the STUC, makes this clear in a statement to the press after the emergency

meeting: 'We want a really massive demonstration by workers and unemployed alike. We are telling the government that they had better listen to the people. We plan to put a number of positive suggestions to the government to help ease unemployment'.

The date of the demonstration will be settled at a meeting of trade union executives

Willie Dolan, an unemployed member of the Glasgow Right to Work Campaign, and an ex-USDAW branch secretary, told Socialist Worker: 'We welcome this demonstration. I know that as soon as the date is announced the Right to Work Campaign will be pulling out all the stops to mobilise a big turnout. We'll be leafletting the dole and visiting the factories to urge full support'



# Union officials do the dirty—again

ONE RESULT of headlines like the one on the right has been the setting up of an inquiry by the Transport Union's Midland Regional Committee 'into all the circumstances' surrounding Leyland's action in withdrawing recognition from four Cowley shop stewards.

Two years ago, another inquiry took place into the company's withdrawal of shop steward facilities from Alan Thornett. The Committee used that opportunity to make sweeping changes in the TGWU organisation in the assembly plant.

## Inquiry

One of the changes was that a new TGWU branch was formed—the 5/293. Last December, Alan Thornett was elected its chairman. Reg Parsons, the right wing senior steward, no longer attends the branch meetings.

All four victimised stewards are active members of the branch. It is likely that the union inquiry will find the 5/293 branch to be 'out of touch' with its members and propose further changes to isolate any militants.



Last Friday's Daily Mail: it's having an affect...

Another trade union body under attack is the plant Joint Shop Stewards Committee. Again, since Thornett was elected chairman of this body, Parsons has refused to accept any role for the JSSC in the plant.

The JSSC produced a leaflet in support of the four victimised stewards, and criticised the position of Parsons and District Secretary David Buckle in attacking the stewards.

Since the vote to return to work, Buckle has publicly stated that the

JSSC is not representative of the workers. He has also complained about Engineering Union convenor Doug Hobbs and his comments on local radio and in the JSSC leaflet.

Following this, Buckle has said that until there is an apology the TGWU will not enter into joint negotiations with the AUEW at the plant.

## Share

The regional inquiry will try to weaken the position of those militants still active in the plant. And it will be doing so with the full backing of top trade union leaders in the motor industry.

For on 19 August Jones and Scanlon read the riot act to a meeting of district and regional full-time officials involved with Leyland.

They had already met Leyland chief executive Alex Park. Park was worried at the number of industrial disputes in Leyland, and at the lack of involvement of most district officials in the company's industrial relations problems.

Jones and Scanlon wanted action on these points. They were backed up by Jones's deputy, Harry Urwin, who sat on the National Enterprise Board.

His message was: NO MORE STOP-PAGES. Any industrial action at all opens the doors to foreign imports. Leyland's market share is too small for such a large company to remain viable.

If Leyland was to get the amounts of money necessary for the introduction of new high-volume models, stoppages could not be afforded.

Events have since moved quickly. In Cowley, Buckle has made it clear that any steward stepping an inch out of line will be attacked by him as well as the company.

In Longbridge, in Works Committee, led by the senior union participation representation, Engineering Union convenor Derek Robinson, has railroaded the shop stewards into agreeing to no industrial action until procedure is exhausted—an impossible situation for workers in the motor industry.

Union officials and senior stewards are wholeheartedly supporting the company's moves to eliminate stoppages to keep Leyland afloat.

Trade union principles have now been thrown out of the window. The price the unions are prepared to pay for propping up the capitalist system is the shackling of their members.

# ROLLS SIT-IN GOING STRONG

BLANTYRE: 'We need to step up the pressure. The occupation is going well, but we can't afford to relax', said Bill McCarron, an Engineering Union member at Rolls-Royce and a supporter of the Engineers Charter.

The occupation to save jobs is now in its seventh week. The determination of the 470 workers to defeat management's closure of the plant is reflected in the excellent turn-out for picket duty.

Bill McCarron added: 'We ought to get delegates to the other Scottish factories, talking to the workforce and arguing for continued support. We also need to get a national combine meeting off the ground now. It would be simple to organise it here in Blantyre—after all this is the focus of the fight to save jobs in the combine.'

## Profit

'The key to victory is to widen the support we already have.'

'Seven weeks is a long time, but we don't intend to give in.'

Cash support is needed urgently to keep the occupation going. Every trade unionist should get his or her shop stewards committee or trade union branch to send a donation.

Failing that, take a collection at work and send it to: John Simmons, 54 Aytoun Park, North, East Kilbride, Scotland.

## COUNCIL SMEAR DIRECT WORKERS

MERSEYSIDE: For the second time in seven months, the Labour-controlled Knowsley Council are looking for cuts in the Direct Works department.

In March they tried to get 181 redundancies, but backed down after a four-week strike. Although 50 direct works

jobs have since been lost through voluntary redundancies and retirements, the council have been soundly defeated.

Now they are resorting to muckraking. The local press have been running a smear campaign saying council workers are fiddling bonus



THESE PLACARDS on a demonstration in Willesden, North West London, last week explain why 200 young Asians have been on strike at the Grunwick factory for three weeks. APEX have now made the strike, for union recognition, official. The management have sent dismissal notices to all the workers, but the

strikers are staying out. Mrs J Desai, treasurer of the strike committee, was run over by the manager's car on Tuesday morning's picket line. She was taken to hospital and treated for bruises cuts and shock. Donations to Mrs J Desai, Brent Trades and Labour Hall, High Road, Willesden.

# WALLS DO IT AGAIN

By Jim McCann and Raj Gael ACTS shop stewards

their eight meat factories in Holland have been shut since 1971.

Walls avoided confrontation over the recent closure of the Atlas Road Factory in North West London via the Golden Carrot—a redundancy agreement paying about twice the legal minimum.

They smashed opposition to aspects of the re-organisation which followed when they beat a short strike at Hayes and Southall last year.

The resultant demoralisation has led to a resignation to the latest closure.

The unions at Hayes are talking in terms of the size of the redundancy payment and

the possibility of transfers. But they must take up the fight for the Right to Work.

They must insist on support from other Walls factories to:

- REJECT all excessive overtime (13 hours and longer shifts are regularly worked at Southall)
- REFUSE extra work without extra staff.
- REJECT the use of temporary and agency staff which the company can sack at a moment's notice.

## Hopes

Four TGWU and ACTS stewards at Southall are starting to campaign to save these jobs in conjunction with the West London Right to Work Committee. But the main duty lies with the workers at Hayes.

They do not have the right to sell their jobs. We've all got to protect our jobs, not only for the present generation, but also for the growing numbers of unemployed school-leavers.

The fight will be a bitter one—but we must take on Wall's and Unilever's rationalisation now before all our jobs are lost.

## Set-back for Bury's butchers

BURY: At least one more amenity threatened with closure because of the cuts in public spending will now stay open for a bit longer.

The Bury Action Group has occupied Hillcrest Hostel in Radcliffe. The hostel is for people recovering from nervous disorders. It was due to be shut by the Tory Council on Wednesday.

NUPE and NALGO members are backing the occupation and have said they will not support any attempt to move residents out of the hostel.

The staff are working normally. The occupation is manned by nurses, unemployed social workers and other supporters of the campaign against the cuts.

The Council have already decided not to close two of the seven establishments originally scheduled for closure.

One or two hostel residents feel it is hopeless to try to fight the council, but most are more than prepared to join the fight.

# NOW CLEANERS' STRIKE SPREADS TO FAR NORTH

By Albert Fraser and Gerry Blair

AFTER TWO WEEKS, the strike by more than 500 Highland cleaners against cuts in their hours and wages has been made official by the public employees union, NUPE.

The strike has now spread to the far north. In Caithness, 80 cleaners have now come out. And in some areas, school janitors, kitchen and hostel staff, have struck in support of the cleaners and some schools have been closed in other areas, parents are keeping children at home as toilets and classrooms are filthy.

## 500 out over jobs

COVENTRY: 500 car delivery drivers working for Silcock and Colling are on strike for the right to work.

The dispute is in defence of 17 men who have been sacked and to force management to honour an agreement to take on more workers.

Last Thursday, 30 cleaners picketed a meeting of the Highland Regional Council in Dingwall. Inside, Councillor Robertson was saying: 'We might as well shut up shop and go home if we allow the unions to run the show.'

They discussed cuts of £1.2 million in the council's education budget. These are some of their proposals:

- £130,000 saved on cleaners hours.
- £182,000 on teaching staff.
- £205,000 by not replacing equipment.
- £85,000 from youth and community service.
- £20,000 from administration.

## Support

The same evening, more than 200 cleaners from all over the Highlands attended a mass meeting in Inverness. There was unanimous support for the strike committee and the strike. Hopes were expressed that every effort would be made to spread the strike.

Albert Fraser, a local supporter of the Right to Work Campaign, was invited to speak from the platform. He pledged the support of the National Campaign. Local supporters are helping to raise funds and provide transport.

Since the meeting, Regional Council have threatened that 'any employee who has not returned to work on 20 September will have terminated their contract'.

Messages of support and donations to Brian Corbett, NUPE, 3 Kinmylies Cottages, Leachkin, Inverness.

## SMITHS: WE'VE WON!

CRICKLEWOOD: The Smiths lock-out is over. Management have agreed to reinstate all the ASTMS members who were locked out of the computer section.

Negotiations are beginning about paying them for the time they were on the picket line. Negotiations are also

beginning about wage increases.

Management asked the lock-out committee to make one concession—that there should be no victimisation of management when the 25 return to work this Thursday. The lockout committee agreed.

# 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

£1.75 for three months

(Please tick) to pay subscriptions and postage, so start sending them to:

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

.....

When completed post to Socialist Worker Subscriptions, Circulation Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN

# Subscribe!

(BLOCK CAPITALS)



# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p

## TRICO: Is this 'make or break' week?

THIS COULD be 'make or break' week for the 17-week-old strike of 400 women engineers at Trico in West London.

Union officials and management have started 'informal negotiations' for a settlement.

Trico managing director Atkins had better come up

with something better than his offer in the last negotiations.

Then he suggested that the women could 'move towards equal pay' if the men workers sacrificed this year's 4½ per cent pay rise!

The suggestion was greeted

by the strikers with a rude noise.

The strikers have since watched while Atkins, with the full support of the Engineering Employers Federation, has

USED scab lorries to smash

the picket line  
 GOT SUPPORT from the 'industrial tribunal' which the union boycotted.

LAID OFF all hourly paid workers at the Brentford and Northampton factories.

OFFERED police protection to those who 'really want to return to work'.

None of this has shaken the magnificent solidarity of the women strikers.

The negotiations have raised the hopes of the strikers.

### Profit

But the signs are that Atkins, although shaken, is not beaten yet. He may well try to get away with less than equal pay.

Anything less than equal pay would be a serious defeat, not just for the women at Trico but for women workers every part of the country.

If Atkins offers less than equal pay, the strike must go on. And every effort must be made to squeeze Atkins where it hurts—in his pocket and in the profits of the car companies which use windscreen wipers.

# CONSPIRACY!

## Union officials and bosses do a deal to stitch up women workers

MORE THAN 100 engineering workers have fallen victim to a foul conspiracy.

The conspirators are a firm called Chamberlain Phipps, and officials of the engineering union, AUEW and the union of boot and shoe workers, NUFLAT.

Chamberlain Phipps, a fifth of whose shares are owned by Courtaulds, make boots and shoes. Recently they built a new factory at Round Spinney near Northampton to make components for the car industry.

### Hopes

But they continued to negotiate with officials from NUFLAT—the boot and shoe union. Relations between bosses and NUFLAT officials were close. Strikes were unheard of.

The result? A woman welder takes home £27 after bonus, for a 40-hour week.

Young women of 16 and 17 work seven days a week for £16 take-home pay.

Muriel Bamford went to work at Chamberlain Phipps. She had been an AUEW shop steward at Smiths in Cricklewood, North West London.

She told Socialist Worker: 'I could tell right away that the steward from NUFLAT was a "three bags full man". I thought we ought to be in the engineering union, getting engineering rates.

'A few of us went along to see the local official, Reg Ward. He was very pleased to see us.



PICTURES: John Sturrock (Report)

A Right to Work picket of Chamberlain Phipps, where Muriel Bamford (top) and three other women have been sacked.

'He said: 'Don't worry girls you won't lose your jobs'. He gave us the cards and the collecting sheets.

'We signed up 104 members into the AUEW—out of a total of 147 workers. Some had been members of NUFLAT. Most hadn't been members of any union.

'Suddenly, on 31 August, the managing director, Gleeson, called all the workers into the canteen. He had Reg Ward with him from the AUEW and Holland, the NUFLAT official.

### Work

'Gleeson got up in front of all of us and said to Ward: 'Mr Ward do you see any representatives of your union here?' And Ward said: 'No'.

'We couldn't believe it. I shouted at him that he had approved my appointment as shop steward. I turned to the workers and said: 'Show them

your AUEW cards'. 'About 70 of them had their cards on them and they held them up.

'Gleeson then told us that the management had a closed shop agreement with NUFLAT from May this year. None of us workers had ever heard of it—and anyway a lot of them were never members of any union!

'But Gleeson told us that

unless we joined NUFLAT he'd sack us.

'Most of the workers joined NUFLAT. I can't blame them, really. Some of them came up to me and said: 'I'm sorry, Muriel, but your union just sells us down the river'.

'Four of us—Dawn Hill, Olive Abbs, Iris Oliver and myself—stayed in the AUEW. On 3 September, Gleeson sacked us.

### Strike

'Since then we've been picketing the plant, trying to get the support of the workers, and we've been around AUEW branches looking for support.

## WHAT WE THINK

**THE SCANDAL of Northampton shows what happens when the right wing hold positions in the Engineering Union.**

This week every member of the engineering section has a chance to help keep the right wing from controlling the union.

In the election for Assistant General Secretary, Socialist Worker urges all its readers in the AUEW to vote to keep John

Weakley, the leading right winger from South Wales, out of national office.

This means voting for BOB WRIGHT for Assistant General Secretary.

In some of the other elections in the AUEW now taking place there is a chance to do more than keep the right wing out.

There are two candidates who support the policies of the rank and file Engineers' Charter group.

In Cornwall, JIMMY RULE is standing for Divisional Organiser in Division 22.

In Enfield in North London, ALAN WATTS is standing for Assistant Divisional Organiser in Division 20.

As Jimmy Rule writes in his election address: 'Our union was built by the fantastic struggles of the many fine but unknown rank and file members who went out and organised despite laws against them ...

'There needs to be a break from the weak-kneed and compromising leadership that has consistently failed to face up to the struggle'.

Alan Watts and Jimmy Rule are arguing for rank and file democracy and control by the membership over all officials, left and right. They both urge support for the Right to Work Campaign.

In other elections, Socialist Worker urges its readers to vote for Broad Left candidates

## HEINZ WORKERS RAISE £118

FOR SOME time, there have been arguments in the Transport Union branch at Heinz, in Harlesden over holding collections in the factory for strikes.

After a visit by a delegation of Trico strikers, the stewards decided unanimously to go ahead with a collection for the first time.

The arguments and the efforts proved worthwhile with the tremendous sum of £118 raised together with a donation of soup—and that's only the first time.

## ... and docks lend a hand

IS MEMBERS in the Royal Docks have been organising collections for the strikers. After three days, they collected £23.

We hope to double this in the next week, when the money will be sent off.

After reading in a recent edition of Socialist Worker that three transport companies had broken the picket lines at Trico, (General Express Services, Phoenix Freightliners and SDS Transport) the shop stewards committee at the Royal Group decided to act.

A representative phoned the three firms and made it clear that if this happened again, the companies would be blacked.

In reply, the firms all sent letters to the shop stewards committee with assurances that they would not cross the Trico picket line again.

### TROOPS OUT OF IRELAND

Womens Voice lobby of the Womens Peace March in Liverpool, Assemble 2pm, this Saturday, 18 September, Pier Head, Liverpool under Womens Voice banner

### National Right to Work Campaign

Support the NUPE Lobby of the Labour Party Conference. Blackpool, Sunday 26 September, 1pm.

### Jobs

These messages and donations could make the difference as to whether or not the women continue their fight:

Muriel Bamford, 14 Spanslade Road, Billing Brook, Northampton. Telephone: Weston Favell 3391.

**JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Trade union \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me more information

Send to: National Secretary, International Socialists, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN