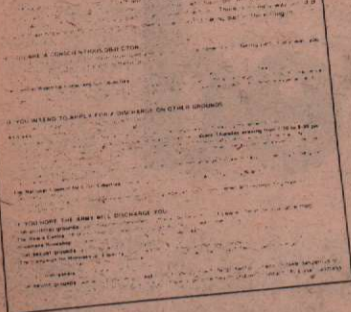


Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

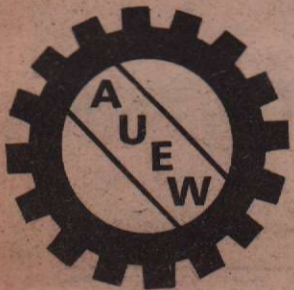
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SOME INFORMATION FOR DISCONTENTED SOLDIERS



The leaflet they don't want you to read

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Vote to keep out the right!

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HULL:

A town on the dole

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Labour solution to unemployment:

1,000,000

sackings a day!

YES, a thousand sackings a day. That's the truth about unemployment under the Labour government which promised it would 'get Britain back to work'.

In the first eight months of this year, the employers admitted causing 178,000 redundancies, that's 22,250 a month. The real figure is much higher—and will grow during the winter. By next spring, another 250,000 workers will have lost their jobs.

Labour's 'emergency measures', announced this week and based on massive hand-outs to bosses who are kind enough to keep their workers on, will save no more than 20,000 of those jobs.

In fact, fewer jobs will be saved by the new measures than will be destroyed in government-controlled industries through government-inspired policies—in steel, in the Post Office, in the councils and on the railways.

PATHETIC RESPONSE

This pathetic response to the unemployment crisis has been agreed by the trade union leaders. Jack Jones of the Transport and General Workers' Union said this week: 'I am satisfied that the government intends to cut the head off unemployment this winter'.

Yet for every head cut off unemployment by

the government, another ten will grow in its place. Relying on Labour governments and union leaders isn't just useless. It's suicidal.

If rank and file workers want to save their jobs, they will have to fight for them. All over the country there are signs that workers are prepared to demonstrate and strike to keep their jobs.

At PLESSEYS in Liverpool, a mass meeting of white-collar workers have pledged themselves to 'use all means, including industrial action' rather than accept the 750 sackings which the bosses plan for them.

On Tuesday more than a thousand council workers lobbied the Greater London Council offices in protest against proposed cuts in council services.

Southern Region workers on BRITISH RAIL have warned that they are prepared to work to rule rather than accept a single sacking.

These workers cannot win on their own. Every fight for jobs needs the support of the entire working-class movement in the area. Socialists and militants everywhere must start to forge links between shop stewards' committees, unemployed workers' and school leavers' organisations for a co-ordinated mass rank and file campaign for the Right to Work.

DEMAND THE RIGHT TO WORK

SUPPORTERS of the National Rank and File Organising Committee in the North will be demonstrating for the Right to Work at the Labour Party Conference in Blackpool on Tuesday. This is seen as a mass campaign against unemployment, bringing together the employed and the unemployed.

Coaches will be going to Blackpool from Liverpool and Manchester sponsored by local trade union branches and shop stewards' committees, so that the unemployed can travel free.

LIVERPOOL: Coach leaves Mann Island, Pier Head, at 9.30am and the Golden Eagle, Kirkby, at 10.15am. Further details phone T Douras 051-521 6224.

MANCHESTER: Coach leaves St Peters' Square at 10am; further details: phone M Herbert 064-734 7972.



PICTURE: Chris Davies (Report)

Portugal must not become another Chile!

PART of last Saturday's great demonstration in solidarity with the Portuguese working class. The march was led by a series of banners from trade union bodies, including Coventry AUEW, North Herts AUEW, Glasgow EETPU, Camden Trades Council, Islington Trades Council, Westminster Trades Council, Nottingham and District Trades Council, CPSA British Museum, Tower Hamlets NALGO, and a host of others.

Socialist Worker was the backbone of the demonstration. 1500 yellow-and-red placards ran through the entire march, calling for 'No Chile in Portugal', 'NATO OUT', 'Support the

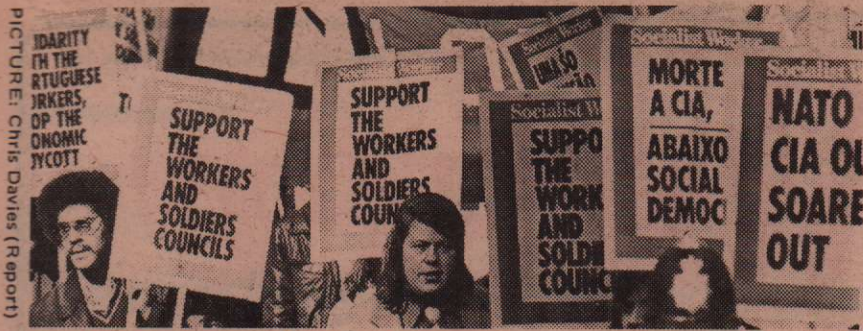
Workers' Councils'.

As Joao Goncalves, from Radio Renascenca, the worker-controlled radio station in Lisbon, said at the end of the march: 'This march gives confidence to workers in this country who don't support the social democratic betrayals of their government over Portugal.'

Socialist Worker thanks and congratulates all its readers and supporters all over the country who travelled to London in such enthusiasm and strength for the great march.

Full report—page 2

Reports from Portugal—page 7



Socialist Worker placards on the demonstration

PORTUGAL: MAKE IT A CAMPAIGN!

SOCIALIST WORKER supporters and International Socialists have every right to be proud of the great march on Saturday. But the march proved how important it is to keep up the fight for solidarity with Portugal in the British working-class movement. The working-class strength on the demonstration was impressive, but it will have to double and treble again if we are to stop the machinations of the Wilson government and NATO

in Portugal. That's why last week's call from the Rank and File Organising Committee for trade union solidarity campaigning on Portugal is so crucial. Fight within the unions for official support for the Portuguese workers' councils, and raise funds for them. Set up 'Hands off Portugal' committees of trade union delegates. Counter anti-working class pro-

paganda with local bulletins and trade union journals. Work for a national trade union 'Hands off Portugal' delegate conference. Contact the committee for help with delegations to Portugal and contacts between workers in different companies. The address is Rank and File Organising Committee, 46 Prince George Road, London N16. Phone: 01-249 1207.



The great march the press ignored

AT least 6000 people marched through the centre of London last Saturday in solidarity with the workers of Portugal.

Not a single word about the demonstration appeared in any of the newspapers the following day. There was no mention of the march on television. On Sunday, less than 3000 people marched through London demanding a 'better deal'—lower taxes—for the self-employed. Slogans on the march included 'McCarthy was right!' Pictures of the marchers, interviews with its organisers, and even editorials about it appeared in all the newspapers. The march was also heavily covered on both television channels.

If there was any doubt about the deep bias which distorts the 'news coverage' in the press and television, the treatment of these two demonstrations should settle it once and for all. The Portuguese Workers Coordinating Committee had gone to great lengths to publicise the demonstration. On the Friday before the march, they called a press conference to hear the speaker from Radio Renascenca. The Guardian and Financial Times correspondents were there when the time and place of the march were stressed. Both television news services were informed about the march. Neither even bothered to send crews and cameras. The Press Association and Keystone—two of the country's biggest photo agencies—sent photo-

graphers. Pictures of the march were circulated to all the newspapers—and shelved. The Press Association reporter's account was sent out by teleprinter in good time for the deadline for Sunday newspapers. Not a word appeared in any of them. On the other hand, the reactionary rantings of the shopkeepers, tax fiddlers and assorted National Front fascists who marched with the self-employed were given front-page treatment. None of this means that press and television can be ignored in future. On the contrary, we must step up our attempts to get our activities reported. But it does show that, as the crisis deepens, the labour movement will have to rely more and more on its own press for any fair coverage at all.



Part of the 6000-strong crowd listening to speakers in Hyde Park

Solidarity action 'crucial'

JOAO GONCALVES, from Radio Renascenca, Lisbon, told the rally in Hyde Park: 'There are two mutually exclusive freedoms in my country—the freedom for workers and the freedom for capitalists. Mario Soares and the Socialist Party are opening the door to the second freedom. Like the Sorcerer's Apprentice, Soares is unleashing forces over which he has no control. It is imperative to prevent external support for Soares and the social democrats. This is why we welcome this demonstration. The best means that you have to struggle for our liberation is to struggle for your own.' JUDITH HART, from the national executive of the Labour Party, raised some jeers when she spoke up for Mario Soares and quoted him favourably on two occasions. She attacked the 'international strike of credit and capital' which had been directed against Portuguese socialism. JACK COLLINS, from the Kent miners, attacked 'right-wing social democracy' in Portugal and in this country. He referred scathingly to the electricians' union leadership which had spoken at the Trades Union Congress of the workers' movement in Portugal as though it were the same as fascism in Spain.

At the end of the meeting, CHRIS HARMAN of Socialist Worker, the only British revolutionary on the platform—though more than half the march consisted of revolutionaries—was called to speak. A handful of supporters of the Portuguese Communist Party chanted 'P-C-P', intending to stop him speaking. But the cry was answered much more loudly with cries of 'P-R-P', and Chris was able to speak, against heavy interruptions. The situation in Portugal, he said, was similar to that in Chile in July and August two years ago. The capitalists were deliberately creating economic chaos so as to turn people against the revolution.

LESSONS

But there was one big difference between Portugal and Chile. A sizeable section of Portugal's workers had learnt the lessons of Chile. They recognised that you could not solve a capitalist crisis by compromising with capitalism. The only way to resist the right wing in the army was to combine rank and file organisation within the armed forces with the arming of the workers. You cannot avoid the dangers of civil war, as some people pretended in Chile, by collecting signatures against it. But the Portuguese working class could defeat those planning violence against it—if it organised the rank and file in the armed forces against the generals, and armed itself. To bind together the rank and file organisations in the factories and barracks, workers' and soldiers' revolutionary councils were needed.

PORTUGAL MUST NOT BECOME ANOTHER CHILE
Socialist Worker public meetings with Carlos Nunes, from the pro-workers' council at the Lisnave shipyard, Lisbon, and a Chilean trade unionist.
BIRMINGHAM: Tuesday 30 September, Digbeth Civic Hall, 7.30pm. Also speaking: Tony Cliff.
GLASGOW: Wednesday 1 October, 7.30pm, McLellan Galleries, Sauchiehall Street.
MANCHESTER: Thursday 2 October, 5.30pm, the Salisbury Hotel, for Trafford Park workers, and 8pm at the Royal Oak, Stockport.
Friday 3 October, 8pm, Milton Hall, Deansgate, Manchester. Phone Manchester TU Books, 061-832 8102 to confirm details/to arrange meetings with Carlos Nunes for your shop stewards' committee.

Disabled children will suffer

MORE than 500 disabled children in the Sheffield area face permanent deformity because of government spending cuts, a surgeon disclosed last week. John Sharrard, consultant orthopaedic surgeon at Sheffield Children's Hospital, which takes patients from 50 miles around the city, complained that shortage of surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses and physiotherapists was causing up to four years delay for children in

desperate need of immediate surgery. The cost of replacement was negligible—a mere £80,000 a year. But the government, after setting up an inquiry, is refusing to pay the money, which has been committed for a long time. Said Mr Sharrard: 'Meanwhile spastic children will have their hips go out of joint so that they will never be able to walk, children who appear ugly through curvature of

the spine will get progressively worse and look twice as ugly, and others cannot go to school because they cannot wear shoes.'

Mothers protest

by Colin Calder
ANGRY mothers blocked the main road near Haverfordwest, South Wales, last Thursday demanding more beds for the local hospital. The Welsh Office has decided to reduce the number of beds at the £5 million Withybush Hospital on the outskirts of the town. There were 24 children's beds in the old hospital. This has been cut to 12. Lorries were stopped by the mothers, and leaflets were handed out calling on the Welsh Office to agree to their demands. Workers at the hospital—who have blacked work on the children's

wing until new beds are allocated—joined the mothers on the demonstration. One of the organisers, Mrs Pam Rees, said: 'We will have more demonstrations like this one to keep up the pressure.'

Research axed

MEDICAL research in several crucial areas has been hit by recent government cuts in grants to universities. A project on cervical cancer at Oxford has been axed after five years' work. An injection which cures haemophilia, a condition which gives rise to incurable bleeding, has been shelved under the government's Health Service cuts. The injection, although extremely effective, is 'too expensive', they say.

THE WORKERS REPLY

HOW can we fight hospital closures? One answer came at an enthusiastic mass meeting last Monday of workers at one of London's big hospitals, the Royal Free. The hospital is under threat of massive cuts from Camden Health Authority, which has announced a freeze on filling all vacancies in all departments. The mass meeting last Monday voted unanimously to oppose the cuts, and to refuse to cover overstaffing which resulted from them. They also called on management, if they had to make cuts, to stop spending money on the luxury private patient service which the hospital provides.

Socialist Worker says
STOP THE CUTS!

WHAT WE THINK

ANTHONY CROSLAND has been thinking aloud about the danger of a 'deep alienation' of Labour voters from the government.

In his contribution to the pre-Labour Party Conference speech-making season he pointed out that Labour supporters detest mass unemployment and cuts in welfare and most certainly did not vote for cuts in their living standards, all of which they are getting, and are going to go on getting, under the government of which Crosland is a leading member.

The crucial question, says Crosland, is 'whether we can prevent that dissatisfaction turning into the rampant disillusionment which plagued Labour in 1966 and 1968-70.'

The way to stop this happening, he argues, is to 'select a few priority areas, for example, housing and pensions' and actually carry out the government's election pledges with regard to them and 'accept willingly the public expenditure implications involved'.

The timing of this proposal may not be entirely unconnected with the Labour Party national executive elections, in which Crosland is a candidate. But what is interesting is what Crosland takes for granted the government will not do.

Create full employment by taking over and planning the economy? God forbid, that would be bolshevism run wild.

Broken promises, broken party?

Maintain and expand social services by redistributing income? That would never do, it would destroy the 'incentives' for the rich to get richer. The job of a 'social democratic' government is to run capitalism—nowadays re-christened 'the mixed economy' to make it sound better. That, for Crosland and all his colleagues, is fundamental.

DECLINE

All the same Crosland is shrewd enough to see that unless working-class voters can see some difference between Labour and Tory policies, they are not going to go on turning out for Labour in sufficient numbers to enable the Croslands of the Party to hold cabinet office. The long-run decline in the Labour share of the total poll—Labour has got fewer votes at each successive election since 1966—will speed up and, dreadful

thought, the revolutionary socialist left will grow. So some gestures must be made to show 'we have not lost our direction, which is a specifically Labour direction'.

Now there is not the slightest chance that Crosland's advice will be taken. There will, indeed, be a great deal of talk at the Labour Party Conference in Blackpool this week about the need to do something about unemployment. There will even be some 'cosmetic' measures announced, more money for retraining and the like. But whatever the Party conference resolves, government policy will not change.

Unemployment will go on rising—and the latest economic forecast is that it will not reach its peak until 1977. Spending on welfare—including housing and pensions—will

continue to be squeezed. Real wages will continue to be cut under the £6 limit.

All this will happen because it is the price the capitalist class, in Britain and internationally, demand for their cooperation.

Any attempt to reverse these policies would trigger off a run on the pound, a further cut in investment and all the other forms of pressure that the millionaires and big companies can exert under capitalism. Of course they could be countered by taking industry and the banking system out of the hands of the rich. But that is something the 'social-democrats' rule out—permanently.

So Crosland's proposals are, in the most literal sense, utopian. They cannot be carried out by a government committed to running capitalism. The 'deep alienation' that Crosland fears is not going to be prevented and it will open up the possibility of developing a massive opposition to Labour's Tory policies.

It is our job to see that the alienation is channelled constructively, that Socialist Worker becomes the voice of the discontent, that the revolutionary socialist party grows at the expense of declining Labour.

LABOUR'S MONEY IS ON THE BOSSES

DOES the Labour Party believe in capitalism? According to the Party Constitution the answer is definitely No.

But according to the shareholdings held by a little known Labour Party company the answer is YES, YES and YES again.

The company, Labour Party Nominees, was set up to buy shares and receive dividends by James Callaghan of the Labour Party executive along with Miners' president Joe Gormley and the well-known financial wizard Andrew Cunningham, now languishing in retirement courtesy of Her Majesty's Prisons.

According to the Labour Party, the company exists to fund pension obligations, though the main purpose is described differently in the company's own articles of association, and the Party has another company to do that anyway.

So far Socialist Worker has established that the Labour Party nominees own shares in 18 of the top 70 companies in Britain. The shareholdings are worth £121,000 at

current stock market prices and brought in dividends of around £8000 before tax last year.

The shareholdings, which will doubtless spur workers to still greater efforts, are 6000 Marks and Spencer, 3700 Boots, 4750 Rank Hovis McDougall, 1000 Metal Box, 2700 Bowater, 4300 Imperial Group, 3500 Thorn Electrical, 4400 Shell Transport and Trading, 8100 Reed International, 3300 ICI, 650 BP, 3350 Courtaulds, 4000 J Lyons, 9000 Allied Breweries, 21,000 Sears Holdings, 11,900 Grant Metropolitan and £39,000 in loan stock with Slater Walker.

Apart from the general principle that no serious working-class organisation should engage in shareholding operations, two special atrocities stand out.

WORSE

Labour Party Nominees have 3500 shares in Plessey, which is attempting to sack 1000 workers in Kirkby this year and which has consistently intrigued against the Portuguese Plessey workers.

Even worse the company has 6500 shares in Brooke Bond Liebig. This company has been involved in the most revolting exploitation of tea plantation workers in Sri Lanka (Ceylon). Many have died of malnutrition in the cause of profit and dividends.

So much for the brotherhood of man. The company also has an interesting board of directors. It provides a useful focus for property speculator Eric Miller of the Peachey Property Corporation to work side by side not only with Sidney Weighell of the NUR and Harold Hickling of the General and Municipal, but with such alleged left-wingers as Alec Kitson, JP, of the Labour Party executive and executive officer of the Transport and General Workers Union.

Black defence – against the police

BLACK parents in North London are stepping up their campaign against police attacks on their children. Next week two trials of black school kids who have been assaulted by the police reopen.

Four schoolgirls from Hackney face charges of assaulting the police or obstructing them. This follows an incident at Clapton Park Comprehensive School in July when police were called by the headmistress to remove a girl from another school who had agreed to leave anyway.

They immediately seized the girl with an armlock, grabbed her sister when she protested and two other girls who called out to them to stop. A white teacher who tried to assist

the girls was thrown bodily across the road by the police.

In a police van, the arrested girls were punched, abused, showered with racist insults and kicked. At the police station the same treatment continued.

Protest

A majority of teachers at the school have signed a statement saying that the police should not have been called in the first place. Despite this, the girls had to appear in court on 14 July. They face a resumed trial on 1 October. The Hackney Black Parents Movement has been formed to protest at this. The police in Hornsey behaved

similarly in April when Cliff McDonald was picked up in the dinner hour only a few yards from his school. Seven policemen and two police vehicles were used to seize him. He was punched in the kidneys, badly beaten and manhandled. Then he was dragged before Highgate Magistrates Court charged with assaulting the police.

For black people the message is clear. If the police hit you, you can be sure you'll then be charged with hitting them.

Cliff's appeal comes up before the Middlesex Crown Court, opposite Parliament Square, London SW1, next Thursday at 10am, when the Black Parents and Students Movement will be organising a picket.

PICTURE: John Sturrock (Report)



ON the picket line at William Tyndale Junior School, North London, where the head teacher, Terry Ellis, and six of the seven other teachers are now on indefinite strike. They are protesting at the decision by the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) to order a special week-long investigation of the school. This follows a campaign of abuse and slander against the school and its teachers by some members of the Labour-controlled Islington Council.

The strikers are demanding an investigation of the school's management committee, which includes right-wing Labour councillors, before any inspection of the school. The ILEA has instructed the strikers to allow the inspectors to proceed by returning to work. This opens the way to prosecutions then for 'obstructing the inspection of a school', which carries a £50 fine.

Supporters of the teachers' rank and file paper, Rank and File, have formed a defence committee in North London. Write to Geoff Hurford, 18 William Street, London N17.

SOME INFORMATION FOR DISCONTENTED SOLDIERS

This information has been compiled by supporters of the British Withdrawal from Northern Ireland Campaign who hope that it will be of some use to soldiers who have decided not to go to Northern Ireland. We are not recommending any particular course of action. There is no easy way out of the Army, but we hope that by one means or another you will avoid taking part in the killing in Northern Ireland.

IF YOU ARE A CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR

that is, if since joining up you have developed a religious or moral objection to taking part in any war, you have a *legal right* to be discharged on these grounds.

—you are advised to contact:

The Central Board for Conscientious Objectors, c/o Endsleigh Street, London, WC1. Tel: 01-352 7906.

IF YOU INTEND TO APPLY FOR A DISCHARGE ON OTHER GROUNDS

the following organisations may be able to help:

At Ease, c/o Release, 1 Elgin Avenue, London, W9. 'At Ease' was recently opened to deal with enquiries about all legal ways of leaving the armed forces. Counsellors (who include ex-servicemen) are available at this address every Thursday evening from 7.30 to 9.30pm. 'At Ease' also deals with enquiries by post.

The National Council for Civil Liberties, 186 Kings Cross Road, London, WC1. Tel: 01-278 4575. Open daily - office hours. This organisation has considerable experience in giving legal advice to servicemen and representing them to military authorities.

IF YOU HOPE THE ARMY WILL DISCHARGE YOU

—on political grounds, you may be interested in the wide selection of peace literature available from:

The Peace Centre, 18 Moor Street Ringway, Birmingham 4. Tel: 021-643 0996; Housmans Bookshops, 5 Caledonian Road, London, N1. Tel: 01-837 4473.

—on sexual grounds, you may wish to contact:

The Campaign for Homosexual Equality, National Office, 28 Kennedy Street, Manchester 2. or their London Information Centre, 22 Great Windmill Street, London, W1. Tel: 01-437 7363. Open from 6pm. Or phone Icebreakers, 01-274 9590 from 7.30pm to 10.30pm.

—on health grounds, we would advise you not to mutilate yourself, feign mental illness or take dangerous drugs. Some soldiers are doing so in desperation. If you have a genuine health problem, contact 'At Ease' (address above).

IF YOU HAVE DECIDED TO GO ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE

—to Sweden, you will be pleased to know that special arrangements have been made to welcome British servicemen who go AWOL to Sweden by:

The British Deserters Support Group, c/o Bok-Cafe Morianen, Box 16037, Drottninggatan 19, 103 21 Stockholm 16, Sweden. Tel: Stockholm 106063.

If you go to Sweden, you will need your passport, your military ID card and about £30 cash (you need this to get through Passport Control as a tourist). You are advised to enter via Stockholm and avoid Malmo and Goteborg, and to enter as a tourist.

You will need to wait three weeks before going to register with the police as an applicant for political asylum. If you contact the British Deserters Support Group, they will put you in touch with a good Swedish lawyer, advise you on registration procedure, offer you accommodation with sympathetic Swedish people during the difficult three-week waiting period, and accompany you when you go to register with the police.

It is important to make it clear to the Swedish police that you were going to have to serve in Northern Ireland, otherwise you will not be considered for asylum. After you have registered, you can then go to the Swedish Social Bureau which will get you a place to stay, give you money to live on and help you to enrol in Swedish language classes.

A British AWOL soldier can apply for the type of asylum that has been granted to American and Portuguese AWOL soldiers. It amounts to the Swedish Government giving a man permission to stay on the basis of special circumstances—a type of humanitarian asylum. However, when you go to the police, you are advised to ask for political asylum so as to make sure that the Aliens Commission and not the police makes the final decision on your case.

—to Eire, you should know that this destination has proved to be dangerous for some British AWOL soldiers. Your situation may be exploited by violent extremist groups.

—to other countries you should know that groups in the Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland are trying to help British AWOL soldiers but if apprehended in any of these countries, you are liable to be returned to the British authorities.

—in Britain, you may have difficulties over employment (no insurance cards) and accommodation (anyone who shelters you is liable to prosecution). You may have to keep moving to avoid arrest. If you are considering going AWOL in Britain, you should therefore plan ahead very carefully.

IF YOU INTEND TO REFUSE TO GO TO NORTHERN IRELAND

you are likely to be court-martialled. You are entitled to be represented by a civilian lawyer if you so choose. The National Council for Civil Liberties or At Ease (addresses above) will advise on a good one who is sympathetic to your position.

If you wish your action to be publicised, so as to set an example to other soldiers, strengthening their resolve to resist the Government's policy, then please contact the British Withdrawal from Northern Ireland Campaign (address below).

NOTE: If a group of soldiers made this announcement simultaneously, it would make a great impact on public opinion, both inside and outside the Army. Such an action could lead to Court Martial and imprisonment. But if you believe, as we do, that it is wrong for troops to be in Northern Ireland, we ask you to consider whether it is better to be killed for a cause you do not believe in or to be imprisoned for refusing to take part in the conflict.

The opposition of American servicemen forced partial withdrawal from the war in Indochina. The Algerian war came to an end partly because it was opposed by hundreds of thousands of Frenchmen, including soldiers, who refused to take part in it. British soldiers could save lives in Northern Ireland—not only their own lives.

The organisations listed above do not necessarily support the objectives of this Campaign and are not responsible for their inclusion in this document.

The entire responsibility for the production and distribution of this leaflet is that of

THE BRITISH WITHDRAWAL FROM NORTHERN IRELAND CAMPAIGN, c/o 5 Caledonian Road, London, N1. England.

You have just broken the law...

Just for possessing this leaflet, you can be jailed. For distributing it, these 14 people now face unlimited sentences



YOU ARE breaking the law.

Why? Because it is a crime to have this leaflet (left) in your possession.

The Labour government gave permission for last week's prosecution of a Leeds lecturer Andrew Lloyd for possessing a copy.

Despite the judge's prompting, enough of the jury refused to accept that it was a crime, so Andrew Lloyd is now due for re-trial.

Serious

The government have also given permission for an even more serious trial, due to start in London this week. Fourteen people are charged with 'conspiracy' to distribute the leaflet.

The trial has been brought under the Incitement to Disaffection Act, which makes it illegal to have in one's possession any document, which if circulated to a member of the armed forces, might 'seduce' him from 'his allegiance or duty to

By
CHRIS HARMAN

Editor of Socialist Worker

Her Majesty'

In plain English, it is a crime to possess any document that might make a rank and file soldier question the orders of his officers.

We are reprinting this leaflet, not because we agree with its politics, but because at stake is a basic question of free speech and the freedom of the press.

The desertion of a handful of conscientious objectors will not assist the fight for free speech in the armed forces. These rights will be won only by trade union organisation and militancy.

THE INCITEMENT to Disaffection Act was introduced by the right-wing National government in 1934. The Attorney-General explained that it was necessary because of the circulation of two journals—the Soldiers Voice in the army, and the Red Signal in the navy.

A big campaign was mounted against it. An enormous meeting in London's Central Hall was addressed by Clément Attlee, later to become leader of the Labour Party, Harold Laski from the London School of Economics, the leader of the Liberal Party, leading trade union leaders and a host of other dignitaries. The Labour Party in parliament pledged itself to repeal the Bill.

Now, 41 years later, a Labour government has given the nod for the biggest prosecution ever staged under the Act. Worse, they are sponsoring a prosecution for conspiracy, to break the Act, which means that the penalty is unlimited.

Why have the police and army authorities taken so much effort to persuade Mr Sam Silkin, Labour's Attorney General, to promote this prosecution?

Simply, because they are terrified of any ideas or opinions in the army, especially about Ireland.

Instant obedience in the armed forces is fundamental to the survival of capitalist society. Over the last two centuries, the ruling class has grudgingly conceded the right to workers' opinions, demonstrations and newspapers.

But it has used all its ingenuity to protect the armed forces from the limited 'free expression' which it conceded to the workers.

It knows that once it has lost the automatic allegiance of the armed forces, it cannot any longer be sure of holding on to its property.

Socialists and radicals in the armed forces should not desert. They should stay where they are and organise.

Similarly, the battle to Free the 14 will not be won in Parliament or in the Central Hall, Westminster.

Outcry

When Tom Mann was prosecuted in 1912 over a leaflet calling on soldiers not to shoot at strikers, he was sentenced to six months in prison. So mighty was the outcry, that he was released after seven weeks.

All sections of the movement must come together on this issue.

Trade union branches and shop stewards' committees must argue now for resolutions and letters to MPs, the Home Secretary and even to Attorney-General Mr Sam Silkin calling on him to

●FREE THE 14
●DROP THE CHARGES

12,812 unemployed - this they call a boom!

THE directors of the Drypool group, which builds and repairs ships, can't make any more profit.

So they've told the 1200 workers at their three yards and the 100 who work for their suppliers: As soon as you're finished the work you're doing you'll be out of work. The workers are stunned. They have always believed in 'the maximum co-operation with management'. Now the maximum co-operation is taking them straight to the dole queues.

The dole queue in Hull is already long. Earlier this year the giant multinational combine Litton Industries announced the closure of Imperial Typewriters, and 1200 Hull workers lost their jobs. Today, more than six months after the closure, 800 of these workers are still without jobs.

After the Imperial closure, a leading Labour councillor was reported in the local paper as saying: 'Future prospects for employment in this town are extremely good'.

If this is what they mean by 'extremely good', we're all in the shit.

In Hull there are 12,000 workers on the dole. That's not just the highest since the war. It is the sort of figure which people expected in the worst years of the 1930s.

Everyone is sad about it. We've got two very left-wing Labour MPs in Hull, and they're worried. The trade union leaders are worried. The employers are worried. Everyone is full of sanctimonious worry.

But worry won't solve the problem.

Fight

Are we going to fight unemployment, or aren't we, that's the question.

The trade union leaders and the Labour government will not fight for us. That lesson was learnt the hard way at Imperial Typewriters. The workers there placed all their faith in the Industry Minister Wedgwood Benn and the Transport and General Workers Union. And they were beaten.

The workers have got to fight themselves against unemployment.

The workers at Drypool must occupy the yard and run the occupation themselves. The machinery and boats under construction should be held until the government nationalises and guarantees jobs.

We workers of Hull, employed and unemployed, come together to forge a rank and file committee which will fight every closure and fight for every job.

REPORT:
John Gordon

PICTURES:
John Sturrock
(Report)

Hull on the dole



'ONLY ONE ANSWER - CHANGE THE SYSTEM'



Sid Oliver

ONE of the established industries in Hull is fishing. If you were prepared to work upwards of 100 hours a week, accept a basic wage of approximately £20 a week, take a chance on the size of the catch before your bonus depends on it, and risk your life and limb in an industry that has the highest fatality rate, any man could get a job.

But no longer is this true—that if you're desperate enough you can go fishing. Things have changed for the worse.

Sid Oliver has been a fisherman for the past 22 years and now, at the age

of 61, he's been thrown on to the scrapheap. Sacked—without a penny redundancy money. Work in the fishing industry is casual, so these workers do not qualify under the terms of the Redundancy Payments Act.

What prospects are there of his getting another job?

Said Sid: 'There's no prospect, What is it now? One and a quarter million unemployed and it's still going up.'

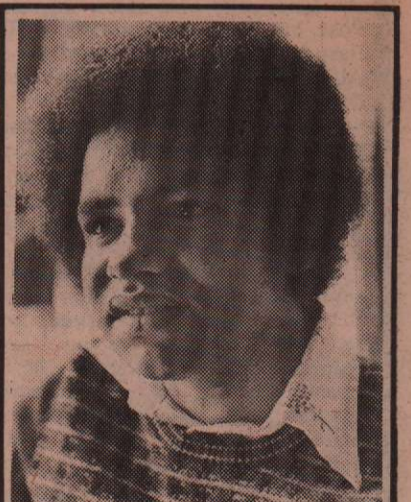
'Mind you in the 1920s and 1930s a man could still get a job fishing. Today you can't! That must be significant.'

'There's only one answer to unemployment and that is to change the system that's causing it. The gaffers have run things their way long enough and look at the mess we're in.'

'At one time I believed the Labour Party did look after our interests. But it's obvious that they don't.'

'I can say this from personal experience. I've wrote numerous letters to my MP—who's supposed to be left wing—and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries about the present state of unemployment in our industry. And I'm sad to say that they could only offer me sympathy—and you can't buy much with that.'

'One of the most demoralising things in the industry is the amount of corruption that goes on with unemployment. It is not a matter of being good at your job anymore, it's who gives the gaffers' lackey the biggest backhand that gets you a job.'



Ray White

A family unemployed

RAYMOND WHITE is 17 years old and left school just over a year ago. In that time he has only had one job—as a labourer in the fruit market on £12 a week.

'By the time I'd paid things out for board and so on, I was left with the same as I'm now getting on the dole.'

'It's accepted that there's no work in this town so the employment exchange never bother to offer you a job. Fish-houses are the only jobs going: I was offered a job sweeping-up or putting bread-crumbs on fishfingers.'

'A lot of my mates have gone into the forces.'

'My dad and three brothers are all unemployed—we get a lot of hassle because of being black. The dole office is packed out with kids my age. Many of them get by with thieving records from one shop and selling them to another.'

'But you soon get fed up with thieving and fighting—everybody should have the right to work.'

Drypools: Save these jobs and give us hope!

TERRY TAYLOR was sacked from Drypool's when he had finished his apprenticeship as a marine fitter just one year ago. Since then the only opportunities have been short periods of casual work.

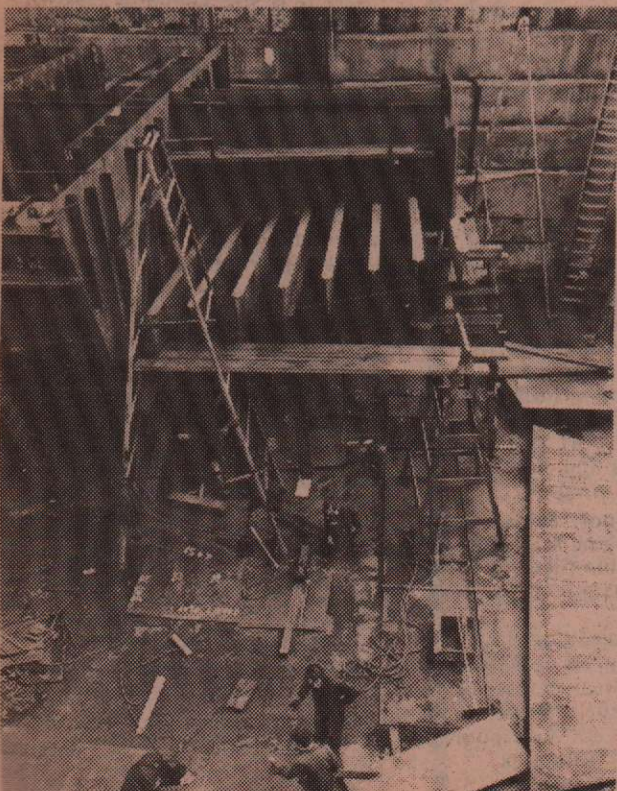
What will Drypool's closure mean to him as a tradesman in the shipbuilding industry?

'Today there are 309 shipbuilding workers in this town unemployed. Drypool's closure would throw another 1200 out of work. Jobs are hard enough to find now, if this happens we don't stand a cat in hell's chance.'

'The reason for the closure is obvious. The yards are incapable of producing anything efficiently. This is due to the lack of any investment despite government grants. Most so-called new equipment is either second-hand and out-dated before it gets in the yards or unsuitable for the job when it is installed.'

'One example of this is when an horizontal boring machine for large work was unable to do the work it was required for, so they scrapped it—after several thousand pounds spent on its repair and installation. This is only one example. Machinery that has been in the yard since the turn of the century is still in operation.'

'The long-term solution is for total nationalisation of the industry now and under our terms—that is, we must say how the job's run and controlled in the future. But Drypool's workers must start the ball rolling. If they can save the jobs then there's hope for the rest of us.'

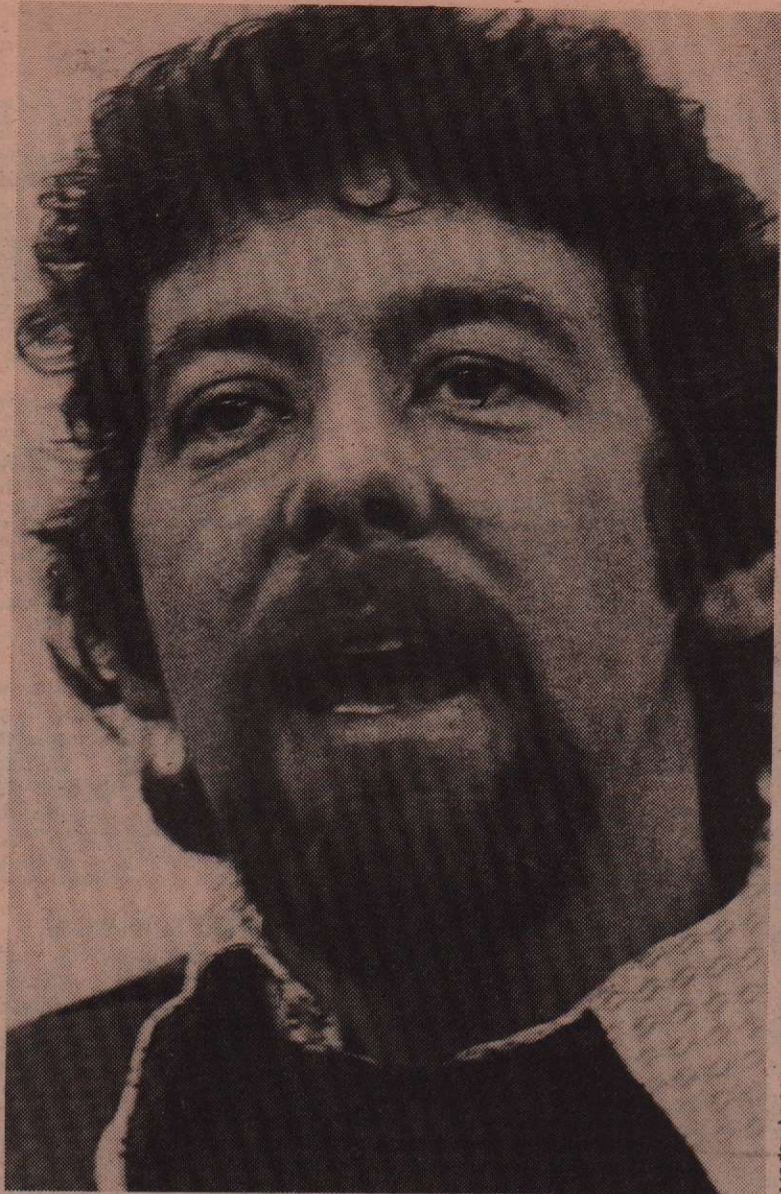


Inside the threatened Drypools yard

Socialist Books

Hull International Socialists this week opened their new bookshop. Socialist books, pamphlets and newspapers from all over the world. Come and call.

238 Spring Bank, Hull.



PICTURE: John Sturrock (Report)

WILLIE LEE, the Engineers' Charter-backed candidate in the coming election for AUEW national organiser. He is senior steward at Chrysler Linwood, in Scotland, a member of section five of the union and of the International Socialists.

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How to vote to keep out the right

IT would be dishonest of Socialist Worker not to make it clear where we stand over these elections, whose outcome concerns every worker in the land.

We believe it is vital to keep the right wing out of office. Office for these people means power to push through pro-employer policies. It means lower wages and meek acceptance of redundancy and unemployment that should be fought and resisted every step of the way.

That being said, Socialist Worker wholeheartedly supports Engineers' Charter campaign in the AUEW and their candidates Willie Lee and Alan Watts.

Willie Lee is standing on a clear and specific platform which can unite AUEW members in the struggle to defend wages and conditions and the right to work. Every militant in the union should vote for him and for the Charter, which is also running Alan Watts on the same platform as candidate for Enfield district secretaryship. Alan Watts is also a member of the International Socialists.

In the other elections we recommend the following votes to keep out the right:

Executive council elections:
Division 2 (North West): P Bramah.

Division 4 (Manchester and Midlands): Bob Wright.
Assistant general secretary: Ken Brett.

National organiser: Willie Lee.
Divisional organiser No 17 Division (Coventry): T Hartopp.
Divisional organiser No 26 Division (Redhill): P Marsden.

Assistant divisional organiser No 4 Division (Clydebank): H Sherriff.
Assistant divisional organiser No 21 Division (Suffolk): B Foreman.
Darlington district secretary: J Conlon.

Derby district secretary: G McFarlane.
Enfield district secretary: Alan Watts.

Slough district secretary: D Howes.
Wigan district secretary: F McGurgan.

District Organiser no 18 Division (Swansea) A J Bevan

ENGINEERS' CHARTER MEETINGS

Speaker: Willie Lee, AUEW senior shop steward at Chrysler Linwood.

LEEDS: Thursday 25 September, 8pm, Trades Council Club, Saville Mount, Chapeltown.

NEWCASTLE: Sunday 28 September, 8pm, Golden Fleece, Clayton Street. Further details of Engineers Charter activities and speakers from c/o the Rank and File Organising Committee, 46 Prince George Road, London, N16.

PORTUGAL AT THE CROSSROADS

Special issue of International Socialism journal

40p plus 8p postage from
ISJ, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2



SPECIAL OFFER: International Socialism Journal issues 66-73, including articles on: The Rank and File Movement, The Communist International, Lenin's Pravda, Ireland, The Miners, Women, Portugal, Asia, Ulster Workers' Council Strike, Detroit car industry, Fascism in Britain, The Industrial Relations Act, White-collar workers, Redundancies, closures and the sit-in tactic—eight issues (original price £1.20) for 70p, including postage. Orders to IS Journal, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN.

BOUND VOLUMES of International Socialism Journal issues 36 to 55 inclusive. A few still available. £5.50 including postage. Orders to IS Journal, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN.

Turkey is hit by

tremor

- from

the workers

THE recent earthquakes brought Turkey briefly into the news in Britain. But as usual the newspapers and television failed to get remotely near the real story.

It is possible to build to take account of earthquakes, if the resources are made available. But in Turkey as elsewhere the great god profit is so powerful that little or nothing is done.

Since late last century there has been report after report on how to build in earthquake-prone zones. The reports come from Turkish government departments and from construction engineers, all of whom have answers.

But their reports are left to grow dusty on the shelves. Then when another earthquake comes along—they come once every five years—they are joined by yet another report, yet another expression of 'regret'.

The situation is so bad that there are still many people homeless because of earthquakes in the 1960s.

But if the various governments have been inactive on this front, there is no such lack on another. Since the 1971 earthquake, for example, all strikes in the mid-west province of Burdur have been banned. Strikes, you see, must be dealt with promptly. So of course they're banned on grounds of emergency, national security, national interest.

No such prompt measures are ever taken against the business operators who move in after every tragedy. For every consignment of medicine sent by international charities there is a story about certain individuals who have grown rich from its sale.

Top

But the corruption isn't confined to traders on the make. It starts at the top. The members of the 'Nationalist Front' government are deeply involved in all the really profitable arrangements, such as the fixing of steel prices and import-export contracts. They have learned all the usual tricks from international big business.

But there is another side to Turkey that forever goes unreported in the British press—the struggle at work and in the factories, often British-owned.

Bitlis is an isolated town of some 40,000 in the rural east of Turkey, near to the disaster zone. Just recently the municipal workers of Bitlis have been on strike for some improvement on their pitiful wages.

In nearby Dijabakir too, late in June, the Union of Petroleum Workers called a strike for the first time. They shut off 40,000 barrels a day and discovered their own power.

But the government moved in hard. The strike was banned on the grounds of national security. So was another strike due to be called of all Shell employees.

At British Leyland's Izmir plant last month 560 workers occupied the factory to stop the victimisation of two men. Management claimed these were 'troublemakers' who had to go.

The occupation ended in victory for the workers, a very significant development indeed.

In Istanbul 1300 workers at



The Kizildere massacre 1972—an example of the everyday methods of the Turkish police.

by Kadir Peker

the BERIC batteries factory went on strike over health and safety at work

But the union was forced to call off the strike because of vicious police repression.

Nevertheless these developments are of great importance. Previously workers who have dared to step out of line have been brutally victimised. There have even been cases where people who stood up for themselves have been gunned down on the factory floor.

While the British press doles out its fake, 'instant' compassion for the victims of the earthquakes for 24 hours after they happen, they say nothing at all about another kind of victim.

Harun Karadeniz died recently from cancer. Harun was only one

of thousands of working-class and student militants who rotted in jail during 1971-1973. We call that period 'Parliamentary Fascism'.

Throughout that period, which is described in detail in the Pluto Press book Torture and Terror in Turkey*, the prison cells were classrooms for the CIA-trained torturers. On the bodies of our comrades they got their practical training.

Lack

Harun was accused of being a member of the banned Turkish Communist Party. Eventually the charges were dropped for lack of evidence. But in the intervening time a cancer had grown in his arm. He sought permission to get to England for treatment. But the government delayed and delayed.

Finally Harun got away for treatment, but it was too late. His arm was amputated but even this failed to save his life. Now he is dead, another victim of the struggle for basic rights.

Bulent Ecevit and his Republican Peoples Party respond to this brutal regime with the sorry slogan 'Social compromise'. Like Harold Wilson or Mario Soares and their supporters they seek a few minor changes and positions for themselves.

But the workers of Turkey are not fooled. Despite everything, they are staging strikes and demonstrations, becoming more and more class-conscious and less and less fooled by the expansionist ambitions of the ruling class. They are getting ready for greater struggles in the future.

*£1.50 plus 20p postage from Pluto Press, Unit 10 Spencer Court, 7 Chalcot Road, London NW1.

YOU CAN DO

press and TV propaganda on the AUEW elections

the Engineering Section of the AUEW who is a member of Socialist Worker should take the election story. Get your mates to do the same. Post on factory notice boards. Get the shop stewards' and left-wing candidates and campaign for them. Postal balloting be held in the factory, with everyone getting a full discussion of the respective merits of the candidates. Discuss the elections at meetings and in sections, across the factories in working hours.

Supporters can also push for branch meetings to be held. These can be complemented with special district meetings. This way the union elections can be transformed into a battleground for policies

Some in the audience cheered...

An ugly film for ugly ugly people



THE KLANSMAN is an ugly film.

It starts by showing a dozen Ku Klux Klan members 'having a little fun' one afternoon. They pay a mentally-retarded black man a dollar to rape a black woman while they stand in a circle ripping off her clothes as she tries to escape.

The sheriff (Lee Marvin) gets there and breaks it up, but makes no arrests. As he says: 'I just try to keep things cool. If I arrested people every time they did something, everyone in the county would have a record as long as your arm.'

The film is frightening, filled with violent action: burning houses, castration, rape, murder. It's plastic Hollywood action though.

More frightening was the reaction of the audience in the cinema. This was in Dalston, East London, where the National Front are organising. Some people in the audience were cheering for the Klan—not surprising since all the familiar rot was coming out. 'We're just good patriotic country boys. We don't hate blacks—we just want to make sure they stay in their place. Who do they think they are—registering to vote? We need racial purity.'

The Klan have been quiet in the States for the past few years. Black militancy drove them underground. But with the economic crisis, the scum are surfacing again.

In Louisville, Kentucky, the Klan are in the forefront organising against bussing, which would integrate the schools. They are using that as the excuse—just as the National Front here use mugging—to stir up race hate. Blacks are being sworn at in supermarkets and on city buses.

Brick

When a black woman and her children left an integrated neighbourhood by car, they were forced off the road by four white men in a car, and a brick was thrown through their windscreen.

What is encouraging is that the opposition in Louisville is totally different to that in the film.

In the film the opposition is one or two individuals acting on their own. A local black (J D Simpson) who picks off one Klanner after another (without getting a scratch!) A cripple who owns a mountain (Richard Burton), who tears down Klan posters and lets blacks live in shacks on his land rent-free. The sheriff who wavers back and forth—trying to keep the Klan's behaviour 'reasonable'.

BY JENNY JACKSON

Well, I guess you wouldn't expect Hollywood to show a rank and file coalition of blacks and whites. That is what is being built in Louisville. It is called People United, and includes Louisville International Socialists and the Black Panther Party among other groups.

They have a difficult job, needless to say. Three unions—the electrical workers, machinists and car-workers—support the anti-bussing campaign. Tension is increasing between black and white workers at General Electric—and the company is taking this opportunity to attack working conditions.

Represent

But, as Abdul 'Brother Ben' told Workers' Power, the paper of the US International Socialists: 'As blacks we know what the Klan stands for. They are no more than murderers. The city officials want us to think they are just a few fun-loving guys, draped in pissy sheets, that will go away if ignored.'

'We know they represent the repression of black and white

workers, their unions, and the genocide of all non-Anglos.

'What's needed is for progressive organisations to keep us organising attempts and to educate the masses so we can move toward the issue in terms of a base of black and white unity among all those unaffected by these killers.'

'But we can't be totally involved in looking at the Klan, which is a diversion from the real enemy... the rich capitalist class who support any movement that divides workers, and their power. While we are watching the Klan, reactionary white racists without sheets are beating on our heads.'



The Knave of Clubs, in the East End of London, re-opened on 11 September. The club was formed by a left-wing theatre group called The Combine and is an attempt to provide a platform for theatre and singers in the East End.

It has built up a good reputation for presenting a wide range of entertainers from Ireland, Chile, France and India as well as from Britain.

The club meets every Thursday at the Knave of Clubs pub in Bethnal Green Road. If you have a spare evening in London, drop in.

ON THE BOX

The only real highlight of the week is the last part of **DAYS OF HOPE**, by Tony Garnett and Ken Loach, of Cathy Come Home, The Big Flame and Kes fame. This last episode reaches the 1926 General Strike and the climax of the campaign in the class war that took place during and after the First World War. Everyone should watch it.

The rest of the week has little of interest to recommend it. As usual the old films are marginally better than anything else.

SATURDAY: If you want to take a gamble the midnight movie on BBC-2 is **COME FILL THE CUP**, with James Cagney.

SUNDAY: WEEKEND WORLD (ITV midday) is back again. This 'current affairs' programme is sometimes accurate and contains serious information—which is presumably why it is on at such a strange time.

THE EXPLORERS (BBC-2, 7.25pm) is on Henry Stanley, the man who found Livingstone. More important, Stanley was one of the leading Victorian explorers who smashed his way into Africa armed with guns, gin and Bibles. In his famous expedition across the continent hundreds of porters died, thousands of blacks who resisted the expedition were massacred, and whole new areas of Africa were opened up to exploitation.

CHIPS WITH EVERYTHING (BBC-1 at 8.15pm), by Arnold Wesker, was a famous trendy left-wing play in 1962. It probably hasn't stood the test of time, like the people who praised it.

THE KILLING OF SISTER GEORGE (ITV 9.10pm) is a film about the attempt to kill off a character in a radio series. Well thought of by some in the Socialist Worker office. But the best old film of the night is probably **REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE** (BBC-2 10pm). It stars James Dean in a famous American film of the 1950s. It was widely denounced at the time for corrupting and depraving American youth.

MONDAY: For night-shift workers with afternoon insomnia the BBC is bringing non-stop live (sic) coverage of the **LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE**.

Classified

Adverts for this column must arrive by first post Friday, eight days before publication date. We cannot, unfortunately, take them over the phone. Send cash (3p a word) with copy to Classified, Socialist Worker, Carbridge Works, Carbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS.

HALF-PRICE tickets for the Chile Committee for Human Rights concert on 30 September with Inti Illimani Quilapayun, if you volunteer to help with interval collection. Phone Susan Carstairs, 01-226 1545.

FACE THE CUTS IN THE NHS: One-day conference organised by Medical Committee against Private Practice, sponsored by more than 10 trades councils and 20 union branches. City University, St John's Street, London EC1, Saturday 11 October, 10am. Chaired by Jack Collins (NUM executive). Speakers: Audrey Wise (Tribune) and Dr Dominic Costa (MCAPP). Maximum time for debate and discussion. Delegate forms and information from Dr Paul Stern, 55 Bridge Lane, London NW11. Closing date for application 29 September.

VICTOR GRAYSON public meeting: Tuesday 7 October, 7.30pm, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC2. Admission free. Reg Groves talks about his new book on the life and mysterious disappearance of Victor Grayson, the revolutionary socialist MP. The Strange Case of Victor Grayson (£2) published by Pluto Press, Unit 10 Spencer Court, 7 Chalcot Road, London NW1. Phone 01-722 0141.

PEOPLE who reject the nuclear family seek others (possibly with kids) to explore a viable alternative. Phone 01-348 3475.

ANTI-FASCIST STICKERS: 1) N(Swastika)F stands for state thuggery and race hatred. 2) The Jews in 1939... black immigrants now. Don't let racism divide the working class. £2.50 + 25p for 1000, 25p + 10p for 100 from Anarchist Workers Association, BCM N.LON AWA, London WC1.

ENGINEERS' CHARTER: Any AUEW branches, stewards' committees, district committees or groups of individual members wanting further information or speakers on the Engineers Charter contact Engineers' Charter, c/o Rank and File Organising Committee, 46 Prince George Road, London N16 8BY.

SHREWSBURY AND THE CONSPIRACY LAWS. Public meeting: Saturday 27 September, 2pm, St Bride's Institute, Bride Lane, London EC4. Speakers include Ricky Tomlinson. Admission 35p. Organised by CPSA London Area Committee No 4.

BLACK PARENTS' MOVEMENT. Appeal for Cliff McDaniel case. 10.30am, Thursday 2 October, Middlesex Crown Court (Westminster tube, near Parliament Square), London SW1. As many people as possible needed for picket of court. **ONCE MORE ALL BLACKS ARE ON TRIAL.**

PERMANENT REVOLUTION No 3 now out. A Trotskyist discussion journal: price 30p, from 98 Gifford Street, London N1 ODF.

KNAVE OF CLUBS Folk Club, corner of Bethnal Green Road and Club Row, London E2, every Thursday, 8pm, admission 35p.

HARROW Troops Out Movement: Thursday 2 October, 7.30pm, Victoria Hall, Sheppcote Road, Harrow. Film 'Behind the Wire', followed by meeting. Entrance 25p. All welcome.

CRICKLEWOOD National Abortion Campaign and Barnet Borough Trades Council: Free, Legal and Safe Abortion on Demand. Demonstration Saturday 25 October. Assemble Crown, Cricklewood Broadway, NW2, 1pm. March to Kilburn. Rally with speakers: local doctors, Barnet Trades Council, NAC.

SAM is back. CAST have their new play ready. Lasting 75 minutes, it needs a largish hall and a largish audience. Contact CAST, 11c Cabbell Street, London, NW1. 01-402 6087.

HACKNEY TRADES COUNCIL 75th Anniversary dance and social: Bar, music, 7.30pm to 12 midnight. Saturday 28 September, Stoke Newington Town Hall, Church Street, London, N16. Admission 50p on the door.

PHILIP AGEE

INSIDE THE COMPANY CIA DIARY



The book on the CIA by Philip Agee, the former CIA agent who has been speaking at meetings organised by Socialist Worker, has been reprinted for the fourth time. £1 plus 10p postage from IS Books, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

Are your meetings boring?

THE socialist theatre group CAST have two plays they are ready to put on for readers of Socialist Worker. Both are suitable for performances at Socialist Worker meetings and for trade union bodies.

Samuel Kier Hardy Muggins, the first, traces the career of a 'left' Labour MP through 30 years at Westminster. With a lot of humour it shows Sam trying to square the circle of being a socialist and a Labour MP.

Time and again he chases after the mirage of the latest left-wing figure to appear on the narrow horizon of Westminster—from Bevan to Benn, Sam keeps his faith in the possibility of getting socialism through

parliament. The play puts the case against the left MPs and for a real workers' party in an amusing and interesting 75 minutes.

CAST would like to start the play off with a few big meetings, so if you can get a large hall and a large audience, they will be glad to let you have the world premiere.

Come in Hilda Muggins, the second play, is about the treatment of women in the newspapers and on TV. The play is on a smaller scale and lasts 30 minutes.

Both plays can be booked from: CAST, 11c Cabbell Street, London NW1.

LETTERS

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

Portugal: Get it right, SW!

WHAT IT'S LIKE TO WAIT ON THE RICH

THERE must be many, many Socialist Worker supporters like myself, who would be happier about sending money to the Portugal Fund if only your reports from the scene and editorial comment were more satisfactory.

In the issue for 23 August, your correspondent refers to a Copcon document written in collaboration with leading members of the PRP, which is apparently your fraternal organisation. He mentions that it 'skirts round key issues', but we hear of it again on 30 August, when we are told that a slogan of the march of 150,000 was 'Immediate Implementation of the Copcon Document'.

I read some months ago, in a French journal, that 'Carvalho and Company are no more "left" than Boumediene or Tito, and their manner of being "left" is merely a "left" way of saving Portuguese capitalism.' Now, if this is correct, then why the hell are leading members of your fraternal party writing Copcon's document for it?

Sour

Again, the 'United Front' is hailed euphorically on 30 August, but by 6 September things seem to have gone sour. We learn that it marched under the slogan of 'Down with the Social Democracy'.

Even your own reports have indicated that many workers—and not always the worst elements—remain in the Socialist Party. And organisation on this exclusive, not to say hostile basis, goes against the grain of everything we have learned about united fronts!

But much more serious is the news that the Communist Party has been 'expelled' from the United Front.

So of what, then, does the United Front actually consist? The PRP and the Maoists and the LCI? And in



Part of the United Front demonstration on 27 August: but what about the Communist Party?

that case what part can it possibly play in drawing Socialist Party and Communist Party worker-members away from their illusions in their leadership?—A READER, Plymouth.

● The Copcon document was not produced nor supported by General Otelo da Carvalho, but by some left-wing officers in Copcon. It was important because at a key point in the political crisis it offered an alternative to many workers quite different to the Communist Party supporters around Goncalves. However inadequately, it stressed the need for carrying the revolution forward to socialism as the only way to solve the economic and political crisis.

It is precisely the people who organised around this document a month ago who are now calling for the arming of the workers and organising the rank-and-file soldiers.

The point about a United Front is not that people forget their political differences and behave like friends, but that they unite their efforts in the face of a

common enemy. The Communist Party refused to do this. Instead it tried to manipulate the front to give a platform to Goncalves—who had promised to return Radio Renascenca to the Catholic Church and whose government used troops against the telephone strike—and to Costa Gomes—who was organising with the right.

As for the Socialist Party, the role of its leaders had been to demand that workers give up their arms give up their control over the media and accept economic 'sacrifices'. Hundreds of thousands of Portuguese workers are united in seeing this, whatever their other political differences. That is why they chant 'Death to the CIA! Down with Social Democracy'.

Since the expulsion of the Communist Party, the United Revolutionary Front has continued to organise large demonstrations of thousands of workers.

But for more information on all these points, read the special issue of the International Socialism Journal, Portugal at the Crossroads, by Tony Cliff.

EDITOR

THE VIEW FROM INSIDE A COMPREHENSIVE...

I STARTED my first teaching job last week at a so-called comprehensive school.

Comprehensives were supposed to end selection and give an equal education to all children. I have discovered that this doesn't happen in my school.

On their arrival, first year pupils (11 year olds) are given an IQ test which asks the meaning of such everyday words as 'droll' and 'dietetic'. On the basis of this test, the kids are grouped into top, middle and bottom classes.

Not surprisingly, the children

placed in the bottom group (predominantly working class) feel failures, don't work or try, and so become 'failures'.

Those in the top group, however (predominantly middle-class) will go on to take eight or more O-levels. Those in the bottom group may take CSEs. The top forms use the best text-books, and tend to have the best teachers. The lower forms use the most inadequate text-books (if any at all).

Sympathy

I am expected to teach without textbooks in halls and stockrooms; I must 'be careful' with the paper and stationery supplies. Another teacher has to teach two different levels at the same time!

And, of course, the cuts are beginning to bite. At the moment, they are felt in small ways—we are told that the Education Committee are cutting down on in-service training for teachers. But we can expect plenty more cuts in the next year.—Name and address withheld.

So much for the miracle...

I'VE JUST read a newspaper article about unemployment in Japan, which said:

'One-fifth of the 1619 major Japanese companies have cancelled entirely their new employment plans for the Spring. Another 500 companies have still not decided to engage new staff.'

I've been on the dole for several months. The mass media tells me I can't get a job because the Japanese or someone else 'works harder' or gets more 'realistic' wages.

Now it seems that many of these very people are in the same boat as myself and one and a quarter million others in this country.

Maybe it's something to do with volcanic eruptions on the sun!—IAIN BROWN, AUEW, London N15.

Who wants the 'right to work'?

THE CLAIMANTS' Union Movement, which consists of thousands of people who are not in employment, rejects the 'right to work'.

Unemployment gives us the opportunity to challenge directly the nature of employment within capitalism. We have been producing cars when there is a shortage of buses. We have been building office blocks

when there are no houses for homeless people. There have been demands for 'workers' control' of factories building Concorde, and for more jobs in shipyards constructing warships for fascist governments.

It is poverty which makes the unemployed 'sign on' at the Labour Exchange each week, and not their enthusiasm for the 'right to work'.

The Claimants Union Movement is not demanding a reduction in unemployment, which is merely a by-product for the ruling class. We are demanding a 'living income—job or no job'.—JULIA MAINWARING, JOAN TWELVES and HENRY WALTERS, press officers for the National Federation of Claimants' Unions.

I THINK Socialist Worker has improved over the past six months, but it's no use just being destructive about the capitalist system. You've got to go into the alternatives thoroughly and be constructive and clear about your aims. What replaces the present set-up? How do we exist in the world as it is? Who will we ally with, for we shall need allies?—M R, New Malden, Surrey.

womens voice



SEPTEMBER ISSUE

Women's Voice is the only women's paper that campaigns against the government cuts, that will defend the workers' revolution in Portugal, that has interviewed Rose Davis, wife of George Davis, jailed for 20 years for a crime he didn't commit.

You can get copies of Women's Voice at 6p from your regular seller of Socialist Worker or by writing to: Women's Voice, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Price 6p plus 6p postage.

Sell it to your workmates, friends, on your estate. Take copies into your newsagent. Help us to sell Women's Voice.



I FOUND it difficult to believe the evidence of my own eyes. There it is in black and white in your paper, a statement by David Bunch asserting that 'IS is the only socialist party rooted in the workplace.'

Come off it! Have you never heard of the Communist Party? The facts of yesterday and today and the enmity of the hysterical criticisms directed at the Communist Party by the capitalist press, all show that the Communist Party has its roots in both the working class and their place of employment.—H CUNNINGHAM, Glasgow.



IT IS obviously right to spotlight the hypocrisy of Ian Paisley, but how is it helping to list the misdeeds of the brothers of his election agents? Surely there is enough to write about Paisley without resorting to the snide tactics of Fleet Street.—MALCOLM WOODHALL, Smethwick.

SHREWSBURY

SOCIAL RAIDED BY POLICE

MANCHESTER: 100 police with teams of dog handlers stormed into a social at Hulme Labour Club on Friday in a blatant attempt to put the frighteners on Shrewsbury picket Ricky Tomlinson. The raid was described by the police as 'normal enforcement of the licensing laws'.

But Ricky Tomlinson, who with his wife Marlene was there as a guest of the Building Workers' Charter, told Socialist Worker:

'I'm convinced that it was aimed at me and the Shrewsbury Campaign and so is everyone else because they've never had any kind of trouble at that club before.

'What they succeeded in doing was to show clearly the role of the police. One young copper spilled the beans. When asked by one of the Transport Workers' Union officials what was it all about, he replied: 'I don't know. This isn't an ordinary raid. It's political.'

'If they think they can frighten me off like that', Ricky continued, 'then they can think again. I'm going to continue to fight for the release of Des Warren in whatever way I can.'

The reason for the raid, said the police, was to check if all the guests were either members of the club or affiliated CIU members. When challenged about the use of dogs, they said they were there to protect their vehicles from vandalism.

The room had been booked for a private social. But the police still insisted on everybody signing the visitors' book, which they later took away.

With Ricky Tomlinson inside the club, the police were obviously trying to provoke a confrontation during which they could have framed Ricky on some minor charge. If this had happened, it would certainly have led to his parole being revoked.

UNABLE

Unfortunately for the police, they were unable to provoke any incident and had to make do with the names and addresses of most of the building worker militants in Manchester.

There was considerable anger at this open harassment, but as Walter Wainwright, a building worker and member of the North West Regional Committee of the TGWU, told Socialist Worker:

'There could not have been a better illustration for all the building workers present of the real role of the police and judiciary.'

Trade unionists in the Manchester area should protest through their unions in the strongest possible terms.

A farce, NALGO!

By Pete Roscoe, NALGO

DELEGATES from branches of NALGO, the local government workers' union, attended an equal rights conference in London last Saturday. It could more accurately have been described as an equal rights charade.

Last year, the union set up an equal rights working party, whose report clearly showed how the union's structure was not at all accountable to its women members, who make up 40 per cent of the total membership.

The union's National Executive ignored demands to allow the equal rights conference to decide policy, so that any resolutions passed would only be noted.

Motions included demands for equal pensions benefits, the formation of shop stewards' committees, child care and nursery facilities at work, shorter working hours, the maintaining of adequate staffing levels, and social services giving free contraception and abortion on demand.

Resolutions were also submitted to reject the government's incomes policy, and the cuts in public spending. One delegate argued that NALGO members must not take responsibility for the effects of the economic crisis.

However, in spite of many useful contributions from the delegates, the day's debate could be dismissed as hot air; a sop from the union leadership to its women members.



PICTURE: John Sturrock (Report)

SWANSEA:—On the picket line at Morganite Electrical: 40 members of the Electricians Union and the Engineering Union are on strike for staff status.

After lengthy talks, management tried to suspend some of the men. 'It was a straight set up,' they told Socialist Worker.

They tried to contact the local AUEW official, but, say the men: 'He's lost, we can't get in touch with him at all. You can't get nothing from him. He won't come near the place.'

They are staying out until all the men are reinstated and are given a firm commitment on staff status.

BRISTOL: NURSES WIN FIGHT FOR JOBS

ONCE AGAIN, strong trade union organisation among nurses at Glenside has gained a considerable victory over a stubborn management.

This time the issue was over 12 full-time nursing posts to cover the extra holidays and bank holidays awarded by the Halsbury Report.

Management said we couldn't possibly have the posts because 'there was no money to pay for them, national crisis, tightening one's belt, blah. blah. blah.'

CRITICAL

The union refused to accept this. At ward level, the situation was becoming critical and patients were suffering. There were only two nurses on the acute admissions ward with several suicidal patients needing close observation.

After several meetings with

By David Bridge, NUPE student nurse, Glenside Psychiatric Hospital, Bristol

management, a full branch meeting decided to give them until the following Monday to come up with the goods. If not, we instructed the shop stewards to call what action they felt necessary to achieve our aims.

Hey Presto! By late Monday, management had agreed to finance the 12 posts and were also considering the re-opening of some of the wards that had been closed because of staff shortages. This would be done in full consultation with the union concern-

Northallerton defeat

NORTHALLERTON:—60 members of the Transport Workers Union at York Trailers have lost their five-week battle for the re-instatement of sacked shop-steward John Bacon.

The men voted 2 to 1 for a return to work after management's threat to close the factory permanently when the picketing and the blacking began to bite.

The dispute has been sabotaged from the start by the local Engineering Union organisation, which refused to fight for the re-instatement of their own sacked steward. He and John were sacked after taking up the issue of the fire hazard in the spraying chamber.

Local full-timer Bob Stephenson encouraged his members to accept manage-

ment's offer of compensation, and this, plus the union's failure to come up with strike pay during the five-week official strike, undermined the members' fighting spirit.

TGWU members in Northallerton have discovered that, in their fight to maintain decent working conditions, they need to organise against not only a ruthless management, but also against the passivity of their own union officials, who declared the strike official and then dumped them.

And AUEW members all over the country will be sickened by the actions of a bunch of scabs among the local membership who did a better job of breaking the strike than the bosses!



Ricky Tomlinson: 'They can't frighten me.'

Spennymoor: Courtaulds strikers battle on

SPENNYMOOR: The strike of 160 Engineering Union members at Courtaulds is now in its 14th week. The men are demanding the full £6 a week pay rise.

There has so far been no news of the negotiations between national union officials and management in London. The mood of the pickets in Spennymoor makes it clear that any sell-out will be totally rejected.

Members of the Bleachers and Dyers Union, who have been laid off during the strike, have now been manning the picket line with the Engineers.

Links are also being strengthened with stewards in other Courtaulds factories in the North. There will be another combine meeting in Wigan this Saturday to discuss the dispute.

The Engineers' Charter meeting at Spennymoor next Thursday should go further to strengthen rank and file organisation between Engineering Union members in the area. Donations to Brian Gibson, AUEW convenor, 7, Magdalene Place, Ferryhill, County Durham.

Merthyr women walk out

MERTHYR:—300 women, members of the Tailors and Garment Workers' Union, walked out at Kayser Bondor last week in support of their demand for a £6 rise. The rise is due in November, but the women decided to strike while the order books were full so as to put maximum pressure on management.

Luckily for Courtaulds, who own the firm, full-time union official Lillian Teague persuaded her members to get their noses back to the grindstone and 'save their money'.

Teague told Socialist Worker: 'One factory coming out against a giant like Courtaulds stands no chance of success'. Even so, the union is committed to go for the full £6 at national level.

Obviously the union executive will not lead a real fight for the £6 but workers at Merthyr can take one leaf out of Lillian Teague's book. They can link up now, at shop-floor level, with other factories within the group and prepare for a joint fight.

Police finger in the PYE

By Mick Hignell, POEU

CAMBRIDGE:—Law and order is being maintained in Cambridge. International Socialists were handing out leaflets to workers leaving PYE Unican last Friday when, in response to a management 'phone call, we were visited by a police constable.

He made it clear that there were so many offences we could be 'got' on, that it wasn't worth while stopping (we had run out of leaflets anyway).

Besides, even more serious was the fact that my mate and I just happened to fit the description of two people loitering the previous day, at the time of a bomb hoax!

The leaflet that made PYE panic warned workers of the likelihood of further redundancies and called upon them to become fully and actively unionised.

ning the staffing level. So, by strong trade union organisation, we were able to save 12 jobs in a time of high unemployment, with prospects of some more jobs in the future. We have also improved the working conditions which in time will lead to a better level of service and care for patients.

DRASTIC

It is interesting but also sad that in most general hospitals where the Royal College of Nursing is the main nursing organisation, with all its 'the patient must not suffer', 'we can't take industrial action', management are getting away with drastic cuts in nursing levels and hence patient care.

The only way to stop the cuts is through the trade unions. At local level, the strong psychiatric nursing branches must approach the small number of unionised nurses in the general hospitals and organise a joint campaign, if necessary backed up with industrial action by the stronger branch.

Celebrate the workers' victory over Mosley in 1936

Saturday 4 October: 3pm, All-Nations Club, 2 Martello Street, Hackney, London E8.

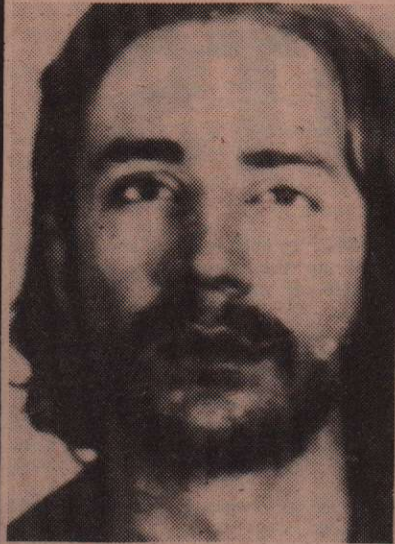
Speakers: Chris Searle, Jack Dash, Putuse Appollus (SWAPO Women's

League), Althea Lecointe, Mickey Fenn, Andy Bevan. Film, Namibia: The Liberation Struggle and Freedom Songs. Organised by Hackney Committee Against Racism, East London Anti Apartheid Group, West Ham Trades Council.

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

Garrotting—the barbaric death facing these eight



CONDEMNED
Manuel de Gracia, 21



CONDEMNED
Ramon Sanz, 27



CONDEMNED
Jose Sollas, 21



CONDEMNED
Maria Penellas, 20

SPAIN: STOP THE EXECUTIONS!

STOP THE
EXECUTIONS

SOLIDARITY WITH THE
SPANISH WORKING
CLASS

Picket the Spanish
Embassy, This Saturday,
2pm to 5pm, Hans
Crescent, London SW1,
near Knightsbridge Tube.



CONDEMNED
Concepcion Lopez, 21



CONDEMNED
Manuel Chivite



CONDEMNED
Jose Alonso



CONDEMNED
Vladimiro Tovar

ELEVEN OF OUR Spanish brothers and sisters are set to die this week. They are due for execution by the most barbaric means known.

One by one, they will be dragged from their prison cells. Each will be bound down and an iron collar clamped around his or her throat.

Then a screw will slowly be turned on to tighten the collar, until the victim eventually dies from strangulation or a broken neck.

The last person to be killed in this way, the anarchist militant Puig Antich in March last year, was in agony for 11 minutes before he died.

Two of the condemned are pregnant—but that is not deterring those bent on judicial murder.

The crime for which the eleven face execution is one any Socialist Worker reader would be proud to be proud to be accused of: active opposition to the regime

of General Franco in Spain, a regime spawned in the 1930s through the efforts of Hitler and Mussolini and with the mass murder of socialist and trade union activists. Now in desperate crisis, it is trying to persevere itself by a new bout of mass murder.

APPEAL

The laws under which the eleven have been condemned allow no fair trial or of any normal process of appeal. But one thing can stop the murder of our comrades. The activity of working class organisations, including those in this country.

The Spanish government was able to murder Puig Antich last year because there was not enough working class protest and action. By contrast, international protests stopped the murder of Basque nationalists in Burgos five years ago.

A similar wave of protest is already under way against the planned execution of the eleven. In France, the dockers' union has blacked Spanish shipping. In Italy, dockers and airline workers have blacked all Spanish-bound traffic.

In Spain itself, where the forces of the left have to work illegally under the threat of the same laws used to hunt down the eleven, workers have united in committees against the death sentences.

STRUGGLE

It is up to working-class organisations in this country, where conditions are much easier, to throw our weight into this struggle. It could be decisive in preventing the Franco murderers from carrying into effect their last desperate, murderous strategem.

That is why we appeal to every Socialist Worker reader to fight for the lives of our Spanish brothers and

sisters. Make sure your trade union branch, shop stewards' committee or trades council has made its feelings known in no uncertain terms.

If there is a Spanish consulate or tourist office in your town, make sure it is picketed. Try to get commitments for immediate demonstrations if the date and time of the execution is announced.

Above all, follow the example of those Socialist Worker supporters who are leafletting their fellow workers who deal with goods or ships for Spain, calling for industrial action as the best way to make their horror at these sentences turn into real pressure on the Spanish regime.

FLEET STREET PROVES IT—WE NEED YOUR CASH

'I ENCLOSE £5 for the typesetting fund', a reader from Rochester wrote on Monday.

'We do need a free and democratic press. It is obvious from the media that the solidarity march with Portuguese workers on Saturday did not materialise and that all those gentry with cameras were not from the press, but from the police.'

That was just one of the many letters we have received contributing towards the funds we need to print more material, more quickly, by buying phototypesetting equipment.

This week, the typesetting fund brought in
£125.95

When you add that to the more than £500 we received for our separate Portuguese Solidarity Fund, you can see how ready our readers are to make a financial commitment to the struggle for socialism.

Donations do not need to be big to provide us with the help we need to build up our printing facilities.

Contributions received this week:

Anon Cheadle Manchester £10, Bristol IS £1.75; Chessington, Surrey reader £1.50, Paddington IS £3.70; Spalding, Lincs reader £3, SW reader Sittingbourne, Kent £5, Dumfries collection at SW discussion group £4, SW London GLC Branch £1.75; Croydon IS £2; CA-Parsons Branch IS £6.75; Southwark Teachers IS £11; North Herts IS £5; Islington NALGO IS £10; Central Manchester Moston £1; Pontefract IS £10; 2 Newcastle Staffs readers £10; SW reader Rotherham, Yorks £1; SW reader Rochester, Kent £5; SW readers Chadburns Park Bootle 50p;

Send donations now to:
Socialist Worker Typesetting
Fund, 8 Cottons Gardens,
London E2.

BIRMINGHAM WOMEN FIGHT ON

BIRMINGHAM:—Eight women have been picketing the Power Development Company for eight weeks. A few days after joining the Engineering Union, they were threatened with the sack for asking for normal holiday pay.

When they checked their wage packets before the holiday they found the full-timers had all been paid short. When they queried this, their boss, Jane Fuller, took back all the wage packets and removed all their holiday pay, leaving them with only one week's money.

The women challenged her right to take their money and were sacked on the spot.

The next day, three of the women got their notices in the post. Some were offered their jobs back, but they wrote and told the owners they were only prepared to return if everyone got their jobs back.

All the remaining women have since had their notices by post. The owner of the firm, Neil Fuller, is a Tory councillor for Sutton.

The women get only 50p an hour, less than half the AUEW minimum rate.

This strike is official. For further information, messages of support and donations, write to Margaret Martin, 183 Bridal Lane, Streetley, Birmingham.

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