

# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p

## INSIDE



HURRY UP STONEHOUSE, I'VE GOT AN ELECTION TO FIGHT!

Socialist Worker's first parliamentary candidate  
□ See Page 3

## THE TAMESIDE JUDGEMENT:

# AS BENT

# AS A

# £4 NOTE

REMEMBER the Clay Cross councillors? They defended the interests of working class council tenants and defied the orders of Ted Heath and his Tory government to put up rents.

For this courageous act, they were hounded by the press, defeated by the High Court, harried by the Court of Appeal and smashed by the Law Lords.

For defying a Tory government, they were also bankrupted and driven out of office.

Quite different treatment awaited Tory councillors from Tameside near Manchester on Monday.

The law lords met over a weekend for the first time in hundreds of years and decided they could ignore government instructions to introduce comprehensive education.

The press and TV have treated this as a great victory for something they call the 'rule of law'.

### WHO

It should be called the rule of the rich—for that is the section of society the law lords come from and that is the section they protect.

□ Lord Dilhorne, one of the five supposedly impartial law lords concerned, is a former Tory Government Minister. He was Attorney General in the Tory government from 1954-1962.

□ Lord Russell of Killowen, another of the infamous five, is a life-long Tory and is married to the daughter of a former Tory Chancellor of the Exchequer.

□ Lord Wilberforce, who gave the Tameside judgement, is another creature of big business and the Tory Party.

When his friend Edward Heath was finally beaten into the ground by the miners in 1972, Wilberforce was wheeled out to conduct a supposedly impartial inquiry.

### ACTIONS

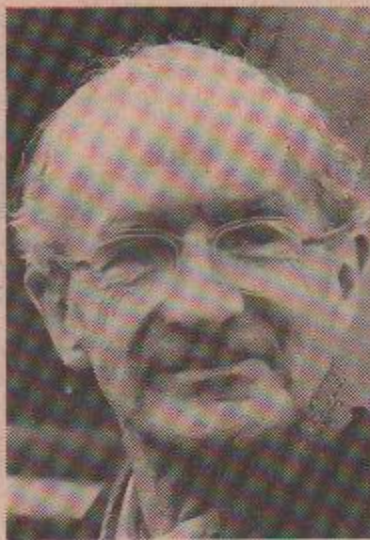
How impartial it was can be gauged from Wilberforce's private remark about the settlement:

*'We looked into the whites of their eyes and guessed what we could get away with.'*

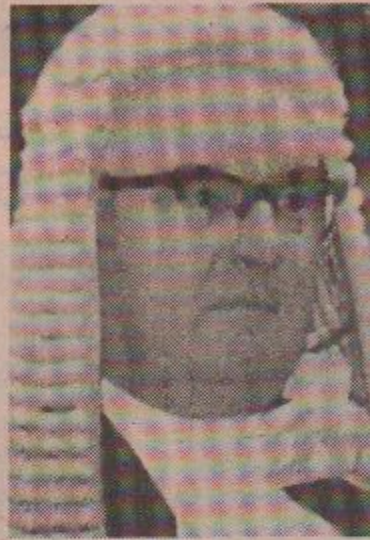
Wilberforce was also party to the previous Tory Party-inspired express speed House of Lords' judgement.

That was the 1972 judgement in the case of the cowboy cold storage firm Heaton's versus the Transport Union. Then the Tories had to climb down.

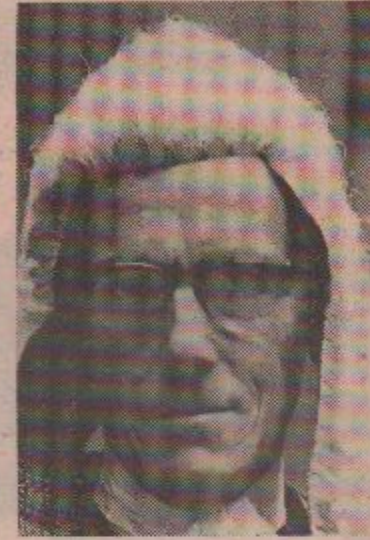
Wilberforce will do anything for the men of wealth



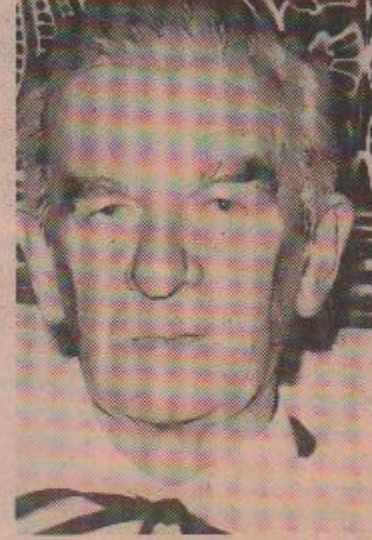
**Lord Wilberforce**  
Winchester public school and Oxford University. 3600 ordinary £1 shareholdings in Sears Holdings, 371 in British American Tobacco, 2500 in Cadbury Schweppes, 4700 in Grand Metropolitan Hotels, 480 in ICI, 845 in GKN, 240 in RTZ (Accumulating Ordinary) and 3600 in Allied Breweries.



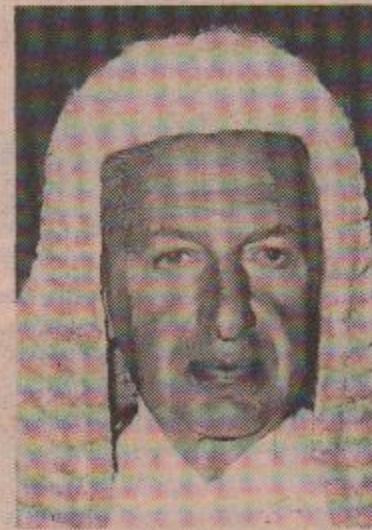
**Lord Dilhorne**  
Eton public school and Oxford University. 1100 ordinary £1 shares in Shell Transport and Trading, 600 in Unilever, 27,400 in Courtaulds, 5000 in Imperial Tobacco and 675 in Reed International.



**Lord Diplock**  
Whitgift (snob direct grant school) and Oxford University, chairman, National Security Commission. Wife owns 200 ordinary £1 shares in Shell Transport and Trading, 944 in Sears Holdings, 600 in Plessey, 712 in Great Universal Stores, and 1500 in Allied Breweries.



**Lord Russell of Killowen**  
Beaumont public school and Oxford University. 853 ordinary £1 shares in Unilever, 1440 in Imperial Tobacco, 915 in GKN, 405 in Plessey, 1500 in ICI, 964 in Shell and 187 in British American Tobacco.



**Lord Salmon**  
Mill Hill private school and Cambridge University. 3150 ordinary £1 shares in Imperial Tobacco.

40 YEARS ON—AND A JARROW MARCHER JOINS THE BIG SUMMER MARCH FOR JOBS



□ Page 5

Prosecuted—the unemployed worker who stole six pods of peas

— Page 6

### SEVESO:



This is no industrial 'accident', this is the pursuit of profit

□ Pages 8 & 9

Heard the one about the Duchess who fell out of the window while ironing the curtains?

Then turn to Page 13...

and power. After all he's one of them himself.

Like all the other judges, he was educated at a very expensive school.

Like the rest of them he is a member of this or that exclusive club where judges eat, drink, plan and confer with other members of the establishment.

Every judge in Britain is pledged to defend inequality, privilege and property. They

could not have risen up the judicial ladder otherwise.

They could only become judges by first being highly-paid barristers.

And they could not have become barristers without financial backing from massively wealthy parents.

With such backgrounds, they are prepared to do whatever their rich, wealthy, share-owning friends tell them.

That is why judges have, in recent weeks, interfered with the democratic decisions of the Yorkshire miners and have supported the private airline millionaire Freddie Laker.

### TACTICS

That is why a couple of years ago they gave a vicious judgement making thousands of previously legal immigrants illegal.

Yet not only the Tories, but the Labour Party as well, are saying that the Lords' decision is sacrosanct, that the 'rule of law' must be obeyed.

Fred Mulley, Labour education minister, has said he is disappointed.

But he adds that he accepts 'the highest court of the land'.

Mulley, himself a barrister, and the rest of his pals in the Labour government are party to one of the greatest swindles

of modern times—the notion that the law is in any way impartial.

Fortunately, teachers and other trade unionists in Tameside are continuing to resist the Tory measures.

They know that the interests of working class children are more important than the opinions of the wealthy parasites endowed with the right to create law under the present system.

# OPPONENTS OF ABORTION GO ON THE OFFENSIVE

**When you're sixteen, pregnant, and afraid**

MARCIA is 16. She's West Indian, goes to a crummy Hackney comprehensive

Marcia gets pregnant. She goes to one of her teachers and shows her a CSE essay she's written which is about a young West Indian girl who needs an abortion.

She goes to Hackney Hospital. She waits in a cold, unfriendly waiting room. No one speaks to her. She's frightened and bewildered before she even gets as far as the doctor. The doctor is a man. He is white, hostile.

'I suppose you've come for an abortion.'

'Yes.'

'It's stupid of you to have got pregnant and unnecessary.'

'Will it be possible for me to have an abortion?'

'Come back next week.'

The teacher reads the essay. Did this happen to Marcia herself? Yes, it did. It turns out she's desperate, terrified of the doctor, ignorant about what a simple operation abortion is, and alone.

The teacher tells her she has a right to an NHS abortion. Marcia contacts the Pregnancy Advisory Service, who are very helpful, but she has no money.

Just 16, penniless, and unmarried, she has a right to an abortion.

Her teacher persuades her to go back to the hospital and demand her right. She goes back, and gets her abortion. But not before the doctor has attempted a last insult.

**THE FINAL report of the Parliamentary Select Committee on abortion is a major threat to the rights of women—and men—to decide that every child born is wanted.**

It's not surprising. The men who wrote the report are known opponents of abortion.

On the surface, they have not given in to the full demands of organisations such as the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child and Life. But if their recommendations become law the effects will be the same. Most women will find it impossible to get a safe, legal abortion.

It will increase the stress that a woman who wants an abortion obviously faces, and make it almost impossible for a doctor to perform the operation without the fear that he could be prosecuted up to three years later.

Only half the abortions performed at present are under the National Health, because women can't get appointments early enough. Charity organisations fill the gap.

But the report will make it almost impossible for these charity organisations to survive. The committee wants to sever connections between the agencies that refer women for abortions and the clinics. The two doctors who recommend abortion must not be allowed to work in the same organisation, it says.

The report would also give police access to files on people who have had an abortion, meaning that for some time after the operation the patient

by MARGARET RENN

and doctor will not be free from the threat of investigation.

Other recommendations include:

□ No abortion after five months unless in very serious circumstances. Very few are at present and circumstances are always serious.

### Cover

□ Anyone who brings a complaint under the law will be able to remain anonymous—a convenient cover for anti-abortionists harassing doctors and health workers.

The list is long. There is no single suggestion, piece of evidence, recommendation to make abortion safer or quicker.

The anti-abortion lobby has already succeeded in tightening up the application of the 1967 Abortion Act. The cuts in hospital spending are eating away at the law from the other end.

The result will be more backstreet, illegal, unsafe abortions.

Birmingham, Leeds, Manchester and Liverpool are notorious blackspots. In Birmingham in 1974, 372 NHS abortions were performed compared with 2,538 privately. In Leeds, 1,131 women had to go outside of the district to get private abortions.

### Force

The labour movement and the National Abortion Campaign (NAC) should demonstrate to fight restrictions. The SPUC certainly will be out in force.

But unfortunately NAC's only plan now is for a tribunal next January.

In the meantime there are issues we should not let slip: James White is pouring abuse on women who campaign for abortion rights; the unions, such as the teachers, with a majority of women members—still have no policy on abortion; the government still wants to close hospitals and cut back on plans for day-care abortion units.

The men who wrote this report are all opponents of abortion. There is no understanding here of the needs or problems women have. They have no right to tell hundreds, thousands of working-class women how to live their lives.

## PICKET AGAINST 'TERRORISM' ARRESTS

**DEMONSTRATORS** picketed South Africa House in London on Monday to protest at the arrest of British journalist David Rabkin and his wife Sue, who is six months pregnant.

They were arrested in Cape Town as they were packing to come to Britain for a holiday.

They are being held under the Terrorism Act, which means they can be held indefinitely until they have answered all the questions put

Two other people—a South African journalist and a

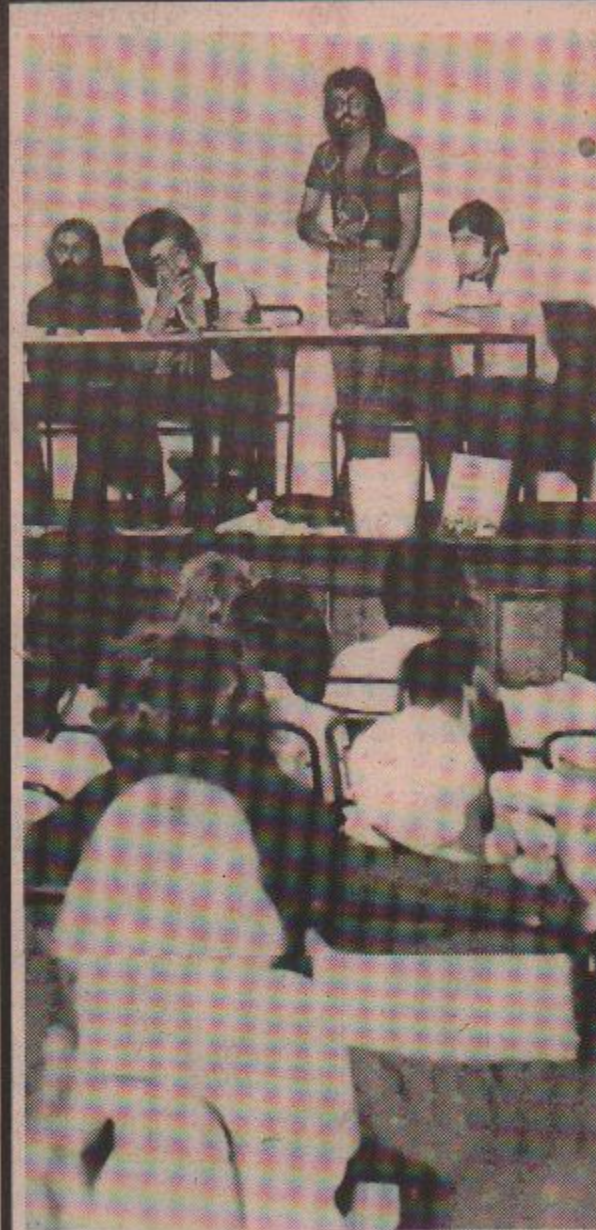
lecturer—are also being held.

Their families have been refused permission to see them. No reasons have been given for the arrests.

### Teenager

David Rabkin was born in South Africa but came to Britain with his parents when he was a teenager. He has British nationality and returned to South Africa three years ago after living in Leeds. He has a university doctorate in African Literature.

## AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN



**Shock as hardliner gets race job**

A SIGN of the government's moves to get even tougher on immigration control is the appointment of Tory MP David Lane as Chairman of the new Commission For Racial Equality, which replaces the Race Relations Board and the Community Relations Commission.

Lane, MP for Cambridge and former under-secretary at the Home Office, was known to immigrant leaders between 1972 and 1974 as a hardliner who believed fanatically in tight controls. He made harsh use of his discretionary powers on immigration.

### Angry

Even Vishnu Sharma, the 'moderate' general secretary of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, has protested about this.

'As far as I am concerned it is impossible to adopt the double standard that Mr Lane seems to have,' he said. 'You can't be for immigration controls and be serious about racial harmony. I am appalled at this appointment.'

'Immigrant leaders should all make their views known about this, but I know some of them are afraid that it will jeopardise their own chances of a place on the Commission.'

The platform at the meeting held by Balham and Tooting Campaign Against Racism: (from left) Europe Singh, Kim Gordon, Azim Hajee and John Deason

## Defence groups on patrol

**ANTI-RACIST** defence groups now patrol the South London districts of Balham and Tooting at weekends.

They are organised by the Balham and Tooting Campaign Against Racism (BAT-CAR), which includes Asians and whites from the local community.

The campaign was set up about six weeks ago in reply to the increasing racial violence in this area. More and more Asians are being attacked on the streets, women on the way from taking their kids to school and young people late in the evenings.

The first thing BATCAR did was to set up patrol

groups, which now operate regularly over the weekends and have already been able to stop a gang of white thugs attacking two Asian youths near Tooting Broadway.

### Local

On our first patrols we visited local Asian cafes and cinemas, explained what we were doing and leafleted for our first public meeting which was held last Monday and which was attended by more than 100 people.

We now have about 80 people who have volunteered to help with the patrols, so we are intending to extend the number of patrols in the area.

We also want to broaden our activities into countering the racist propaganda in the local and national press, by giving people round here the true facts about who is responsible for the crisis, who the real scoundrels are.

Now that we are stronger we are going to get in touch with local union branches and workplaces for support, since we believe that we can only defeat racism effectively with the support of the community at large.

The National Front and allies had been trying to poster the area—and there seem to be an increasing number of people pulling down their poisonous rubbish and putting up anti-racist posters.

## CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER

## Jim meets his swindler friend

ON his way to the Durham Miners' gala the other day, Prime Minister James Callaghan found time to call in on an old buddy.

He sipped tea and ate fruit cake with Andrew Cunningham, one of the most loathsome swindlers ever to have disgraced the labour movement.

In 1974, Cunningham was sent to prison for four years for his part in the Poulson corruption scandal.

In March this year, as soon as he became eligible for parole, he got it.

Callaghan was treasurer of the Labour Party. Cunningham was chairman of the party's finance committee. In 1971 both men conspired in a proposal to involve Labour Party members in an insurance scheme run by the Julian Hodge group

How natural then that Callaghan should choose as his parliamentary private secretary, John Cunningham, Labour MP for Whitehaven, son of Andrew Cunningham.

And how natural that Jim should stop off at John's house the other day for a reunion with John's daddy—the old crook himself.

Here's this rotten Labour government in two simple pictures:

Andy Cunningham, who spent much of his life wrecking the Labour Party and the trade unions in his own corrupt interest, released on parole, sipping tea and joking about old times with the Prime Minister.

Des Warren, who spent most of his life trying to strengthen the labour rank and file, refused parole, harassed in prison, insulted by ministers and facing almost certain victimisation on release.



Callaghan and his buddy Andrew Cunningham—a picture specially posed by Socialist Worker

## TRADE UNION DELEGATION TO VISIT IRELAND

TRADE UNION delegates are going to Northern Ireland in September on a fact-finding mission. More than 50 trade union branches, shop stewards' committees and trades councils in Britain have elected delegates already—and there could be up to 50 more.

Tom Scanlon, a branch chairman in the Transport Workers Union and executive member of a London trades council, says he is sponsoring the delegation so that trade unionists can 'look beyond the propaganda of the Tory press and find out exactly what is happening in Ireland in their name'.

□ Try to get a delegate from your own works committee or trade union branch to go on this trip. If you need more information, write to Troops Out Movement, 1 North End Road, London W14.

**Socialist Worker**  
WHAT WE THINK

**THE TRIAL** of John Stonehouse MP is almost over. When it is, and if Stonehouse finally resigns, a by-election will be called in Walsall North.

Socialist Worker will be standing a candidate. He will be Jimmy McCallum, former draughtsmen's convenor (TASS) at John Brown Engineering, Clydebank.

We will be standing and campaigning against this government which has consistently and viciously attacked the living standards of those who voted for it.

Each and every step the government takes is aimed at protecting the profits and riches of firms like Lonrho. At every turn Labour has sought to solve the problems of big business at the expense of working people.

**Socialist**

Healey's latest £1 billion cuts show the depths of Labour's cynicism. Hospitals will close. Nurseries will close. Thousands upon thousands more will lose their jobs. School meals will cost 50p a week more. All to please the Confederation of British Industry and the rest of those who own and control this country.

It is now vital that a genuinely socialist alternative is put forward to challenge the tradition of supporting Labour because there is nothing else.

Already many workers have become confused and bitter about what the government has done to them. In the confusion, racist filth like the National Party and the National Front are pushing their poison, blaming unemployment and bad living conditions on black people.

That is why we have to stand and fight here and now for the kind of socialist organisation that provides workers with the chance to fight back.

Socialist Worker has always criticised socialists and militants who have had illusions that socialism can come through parliament. Standing a candidate in Walsall North doesn't mean we have changed our minds.

**Fight**

*Quite the opposite.*

The whole point of our campaign is to build the rank and file response to the cuts and to unemployment. It is only through building the organisation and capacity of rank and file workers to take on the government and the employers that we will move towards socialism.

In the present situation Socialist Worker will take every opportunity to build such a fight.

The main measure of the effectiveness of our intervention will not be the number of votes we get, but the extent to which we convince workers to fight back, in a socialist, rank and file manner, against the cuts, unemployment and racism.

When we campaign against the cuts we will be arguing for industrial action to stop them.

When we oppose sackings, we will be insisting that the alternative is action around the fighting policies of the Right to Work Campaign.

Many militants who support our policies may nonetheless be worried that Socialist Worker is standing a candidate in Walsall North. Inevitably it will be claimed that we will take Labour votes and

# The man that Labour chose the last time



**JOHN STONEHOUSE**

First elected MP in 1957

Junior minister at aviation and technology, and Post Master General in 1964-70 Labour government. On leaving office he signed up with main post office customers ICL for a 'consultancy' worth £4000 a year.

April 1971: Taken on at £2000-a-year as consultant for War On Want. Became trustee of Bangladesh Relief Fund, which collected more than £1 million—yet only £350,000 was handed over to Bangladesh.

To cover losses, Stonehouse plunged into commodity speculation. Bank went bust. Stonehouse salted away about £200,000 of other people's money, took out heavy life insurance, and started a long swim from Miami beach.

Now on trial at the Old Bailey for fraud.

# The man that socialists must vote for now!



**JIMMY McCALLUM**

Will be Socialist Worker's candidate in the Walsall North parliamentary by-election. He is an unemployed engineering worker.

He became a socialist through involvement in the 1959 engineering apprentices' strike and later joined the Labour Party.

In the early 1960s he was active on the Engineering Workers Union (AEU) Young Workers Committee in Glasgow.

From 1970 until early last year he was AEUW/TASS convenor at John Brown Engineering, Clydebank.

Jimmy left the Labour Party after the betrayal of the seamen's strike in 1967 and the Wilson government's wage freeze.

Jimmy McCallum joined the International Socialists in 1971 during the Upper Clyde Shipbuilders fight on Clydeside, along with many other workers.

let the Tories in.

There is no way round that. We cannot stand against the present government and hope not to cause it difficulties.

But it should be clear from recent by-elections that the real threat to the Labour vote comes from the Labour government itself. In Thurrock and Rotherham the Labour vote slumped. Many workers preferred to stay at home rather than vote for a government that was attacking their living standards and jobs.

Whether or not Socialist Worker stands in Walsall, the Labour vote will fall. If the fall is sufficient to destroy a massive majority of nearly 16,000 over the Tories, the responsibility will lie with the present

government and its policies.

*What the Socialist Worker campaign will do is provide an alternative for workers who are sick to death of Labour betrayals.*

We stand for a fight against the cuts, against racism and against unemployment. We have nothing in common with people such as Tribune MP Norman Atkinson who claim they have to vote for policies that increase unemployment, because they must keep out the Tories.

Such policies mean hardship for millions of working-class families and are the surest guarantee that the Tories will get back in.

**We have to build a socialist alternative**

to Labour. That is why we have a Socialist Worker candidate for Walsall North.

## August Fighting Fund off to a flying start!

**£4,421**

That was the magnificent total sent into the Socialist Worker Fighting Fund in July. It is an achievement that supporters of Socialist Worker and members of the International Socialists can justifiably feel proud of.

But we are also proud

to say that most of the money raised has already been spent—because every penny we collect is used to build the fight against racism, against unemployment, against the cuts, and for socialism.

In the past month we have printed a quarter of a million anti-racist

stickers and nearly 100,000 anti-racist posters.

So if we are to continue to expand our activities, we need still more money.

Already our fund for August has taken off to a flying start. On the first working day of the month we received at Cottons Gardens £10 from an unemployed

worker in Aberdeen and £1000 from a supporter in West London.

From Gloucester International Socialists came a letter with a donation attached. 'Our branch felt,' they write, 'that IS members should be encouraged to donate a portion of their Healey tax rebate to the fighting

fund.'

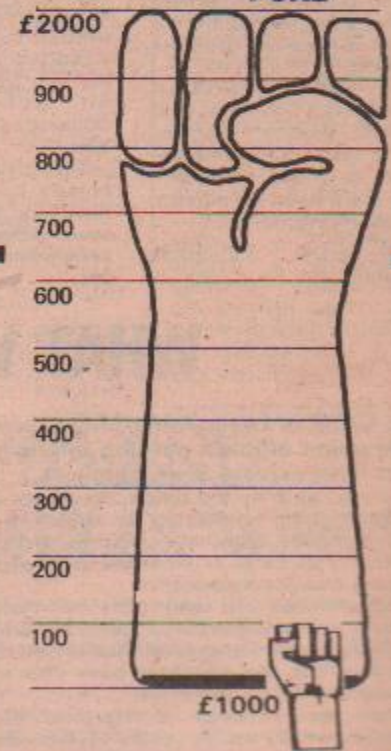
It is an example that could be followed. Our thanks also to:

D. Capper £3.50, Edna Loose £2, J. Gates £1, Levenshulme SW supporters £1.45, John Turner £5, Bradford IS members and SW supporters £12, Brian Dean £6, SW reader £2, SW readers: St James Hospital, Leeds, £10, M Ward £15, S Hobbs £10, Les Pick £4, Sonya McKay £4.20, Burnage SW readers, Manchester £2.50, International Socialists levy: City Poly £2, Derby £8, Wandsworth £5, Acton £2.30, Colchester £10, Islington

Council Workers £11, Inner East London £159.20, North London £5, Durham £5.50, Central London Publishing £6, York £40, Chester £35, Central London Students £10, South East London £53, Wakefield £35, Portsmouth £7, Cardiff £2, Hemel Hempstead £5.

□ The August total stands already at £1,015. Donations please to Socialist Worker Fighting Fund, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

**Socialist Worker FIGHTING FUND**



# Bosses pass the hat for TGWU man

**MAJOR** civil engineering firms throughout the country have received a rather unusual letter from George Henderson of the Transport and General Workers Union.

Henderson is succeeding Les Kemp as national secretary of the building and construction section of the TGWU.

The letter suggests setting up a Les Kemp testimonial fund. It says about Kemp: 'Many people who value the services he has given in the civil engineering industry have suggested that his effort would best be recognised by the establishment of a testimonial fund.'

After listing Kemp's contributions to the industry, the last paragraph reads: 'You may feel that Leslie's contribution is worthy of recognition and, accordingly, if you wish to contribute to this testimonial fund you are invited to send donations to me, George Henderson, c/o National Westminster Bank, Millbank, London, SW1, crossed and drawn in favour of the Leslie Kemp Testimonial Fund.'

The money came rolling in. At least £750 has already been collected. A total of £15,000 is expected from employers grateful to Les Kemp.

The letter did not mention what the money was for. But the Sunday Express, only too eager to have a go at trade unionists while ignoring the free-loading activities of city businessmen, reported last week that the fund was to provide Kemp with a £15,000 tax free windfall on his retirement. Kemp is 56.

Certainly nothing in George Henderson's letter to the employers suggests anything else.

## Fund

Alter the Express article, TGWU general secretary Jack Jones provided the first clue to the fund. 'The sole and only purpose of the fund will be for the training of young people,' he said.

It was started as a result of approaches made by some employers in the industry who held Mr Kemp in high regard after it had been made known he was leaving the union on medical grounds.

There is no report of rank and file TGWU building workers holding a collection for Les Kemp because they hold him in 'high regard'.

Jack Jones said the union did not 'initiate any action in respect of the testimonial fund.'

It seems George Henderson was just doing the employers a favour sending out the letter for them.

The Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors told Socialist Worker 'The initiative certainly didn't come from us. No employers suggested it to us, nor did they operate through us.'

Of course individual employers may have been so

enthusiastic about Kemp's services that they asked the TGWU to send round a letter for them to the other employers. But it seems strange these generous employers did not use their own Federation with its mailing list of all the firms.

It's even stranger that Henderson's letter contains no reference to the employers wanting to start the fund, nor to 'youth training'.

## Banquet

The Federation think so well of Kemp, despite their denials about the fund, that when he was unable to attend a Federation banquet in 1970, the then federation president Sir Robert McAlpine delivered a sickening tribute to him.

The 'youth training' was brought up in public for the first time by Jack Jones some time after the letter asking for money had gone out.

## WHAT WE THINK

**THE CASE** of Leslie Kemp shows how trade union officials develop interests apart from serving their members.

Already, paid by the union, they have a regular income unaffected by strikes, lay-offs, short-time. They have cars provided by the union, all sorts of expenses, help with housing and accommodation.

Most officials can lead a life free from financial worry. When their income starts to rise to the Leslie Kemp level their life style, their interests and concerns have little in common with their members.

Kemp was national secretary of the building workers' section of the TGWU. His members work in an industry with the worst

safety record, with the worst conditions. Lay-offs, long periods without work between jobs, and savage victimisation fights are part of the routine.

How many TGWU building workers can look forward to leaving the sites at 56 and retiring to £11,000 a year?

Socialist Worker has always campaigned for all officials to be paid the average wage of their members. They should be subjected to regular and frequent re-election, and to recall. No official should hold any other job or receive any other salary.

Every official must be controlled by the members. That way the Leslie Kemps can be driven out of the trade union movement for good.

Whatever the plans for the money, Les Kemp won't be too worried. Apart from his pension of around £70-a-week from the union he has a few other jobs lined up.

He is staying on as chairman of Corby Development Corporation at a salary of £4,432. He is also staying on as vice-chairman of Peterborough Development Corporation at £1,996 a year. These are jobs handed out by the government.

Just to make sure he keeps the wolf from the door, he has also just taken up the part-time chairmanship of the Construction Industry Training Board. This is worth £1,320.

That gives Kemp—the man retiring through ill health—three jobs and £7,748 a year. His union pension puts this up to around £11,000.

So Jack Jones' campaign for higher retirement pensions has won a victory!

For the **INSIDE** stories, read



the unions

every week in **SOCIALIST WORKER**

# COMPANY LEVY PAYS FOR THE 'MODERATES'

**SOME** interesting documents have reached Socialist Worker from inside Truamid, the employers' organisation that operates inside the trade unions.

Truamid recently campaigned in the Engineers' Union (AEU) for the election of right-wingers John Boyd and John Weakley. Its supporters pose everywhere as 'moderates' and 'apolitical'.

But Truamid is run by and for the benefit of the employers. It plans to spend £133,000 in the next year,

setting up eight regional offices, with two full-time paid workers at each, plus funds for special election campaigns.

And where is the money coming from?

Says one document: 'By early 1976 the movement expects to become financially self-supporting through the levy on companies . . .'

'On present day costing, an average of £300 per company per year would be required to sustain a viable offensive,' says another section.

A document headed 'Truamid's tactical proposals' begins: 'The Broad Left trade union militants are hell-bent on destroying any loyalty employees have for their companies or for their country.'

## BREACH

'The purpose of our organisation is to heal this widening breach between worker and management and, thereby, help Britain regain her economic composure and status as a major manufacturing and industrial country.'

'From long and bitter experience it is clear that the task is beyond the available physical and financial means of the most dedicated of moderate trade unionists.'

And what's Truamid's answer?

' . . . the formation and development of plant level anti-extremist groups must commence at boardroom level,' it says.

'Management in both industry and commerce have a high stake in the fight [inside the unions], yet, by their understanding of the rules of the game, they feel unable to enter the arena. This is nonsense . . . The moderate has a right to turn and say: 'Our fight is your fight, stand in line beside us.''

## PUPPETS

So management pulls the strings—and who are the puppets?

'The shift of power to the shop floor has eroded the authority of lower management and of the local paid union official. Both are resentful of their loss of authority . . . Here then are our allies . . . And the cannon-fodder?'

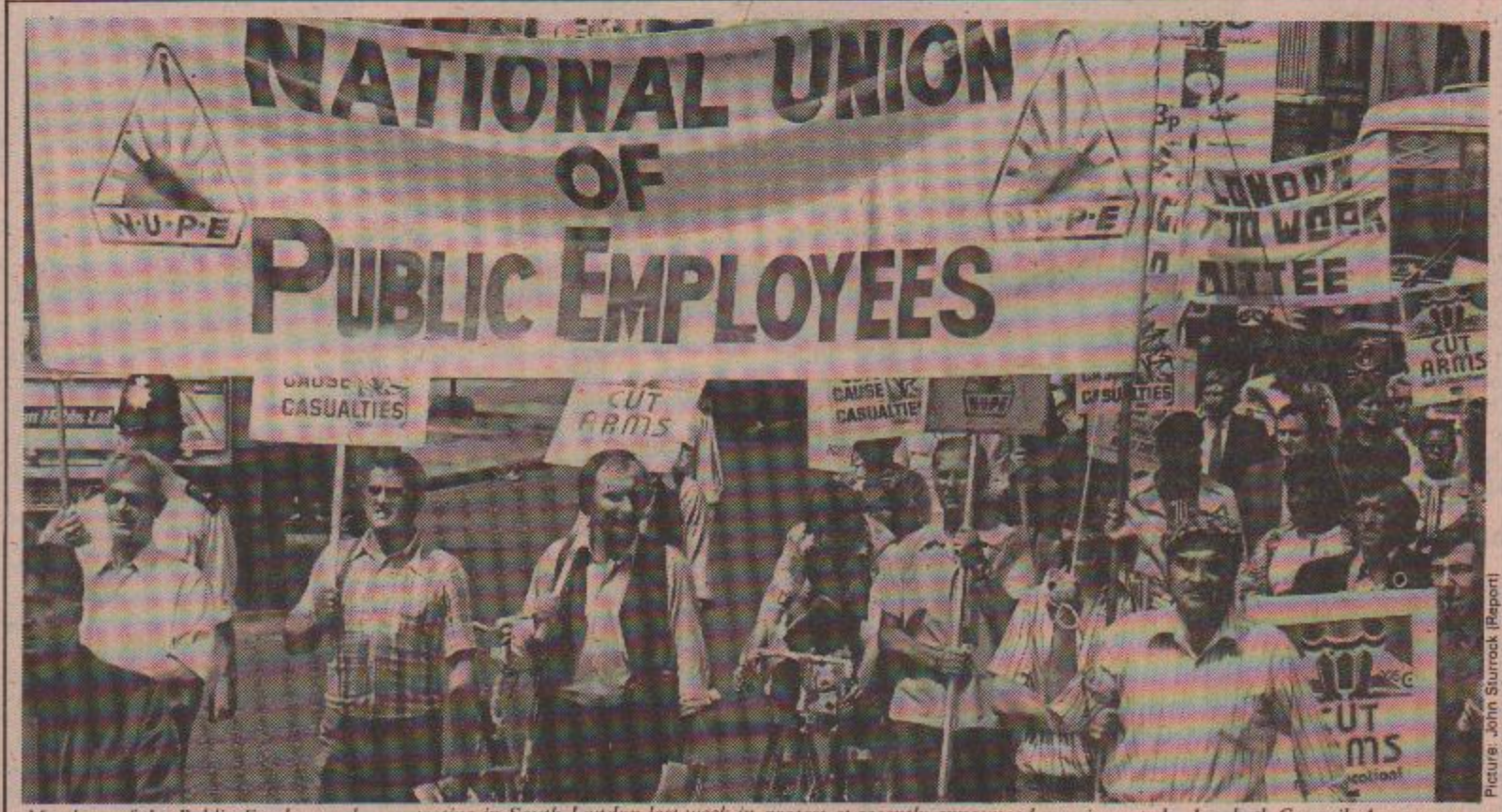
Each Truamid 'district' of 100 companies is being told to run three one-day seminars each year. 'The firms should each send three employees: two from the shop floor and a member of lower management . . . They should be given a day release on full pay and convinced as to the value and importance of the occasion.'

The document makes no bones about how these men are to be the tools of management: 'On the day following, management should find time to call the three together for an in-depth discussion. An agreed bulletin should then be published and displayed in the plant.'

And the document unintentionally gives itself away: 'The venue must be the best possible; surroundings must be uplifting and a direct contrast to the workers' daily environment.'

Only the best hotels for the bosses' marks!

**NEXT WEEK:** Undemocratic rulebook of the moderates who say they stand for union democracy



Members of the Public Employees demonstrating in South London last week in protest at recently announced massive cuts by Lambeth Council. A year ago they agreed to the wage limit after being told this would save the council from the axe.

# So revolutionaries are violent?

I RECENTLY stayed with a mate in Huddersfield. An examiner, he had strong views about revolutionary socialists.

'You lot live in a Peter Pan world', he said. 'Your way would not change anything. It would be bloody.'

'And it would breed misery and violence.'

Let's take it bit by bit. Look around. Observe how kids are brainwashed at school. See the way women are forced into submissive roles.

Watch how workers are bullied by bosses. Witness pensioners living on hot water and Weetabix.

This is violence. Institutionalised violence. It leads to troops in Belfast. To police at picket lines. It keeps us down. It lets them plunder.

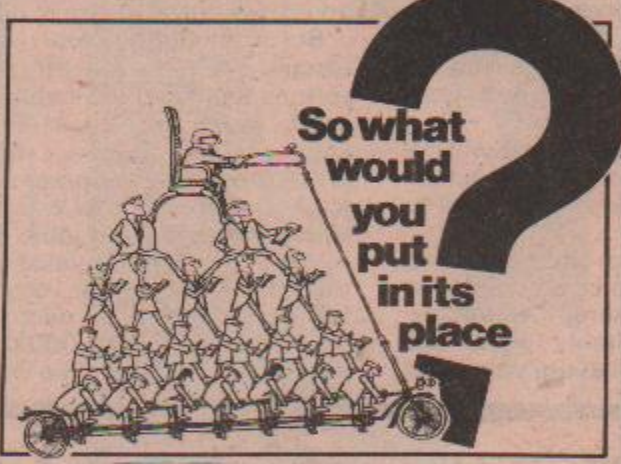
## Misery

Misery, then, is not the future. It is here and now. Violence and capitalism go hand in hand.

Things will be different in a socialist society. (Notice the phrase, 'in a socialist society'. As Orwell once noted, 'under socialism' is a contradiction in terms.)

The abolition of exploitation ultimately means the abolition of force.

Decisions will not be hand-



ed down from on high. They will be made by workers' councils—elected and subject to recall.

Those who scoff at the notion should look at the labour movement. It's democratic and disciplined traditions contain the embryo of such bodies.

It won't be utopia. Some suffering lies beyond politics. People will still be run over, for example.

But the in-built hutchery of capitalism will disappear.

On one point, my mate is right. The changeover will not be honey and light. The

bosses will not meekly hand over to us. We shall have to fight!

Don't let's kid ourselves. Years of struggle are still ahead. It won't happen tomorrow. Or next week.

But—when the crunch does come—it will be bitter, it will be bloody. There is no other way.

Those who flinch from the revolutionary road? They are the ones living in a Peter Pan world!

DAVID BUNCH



# I was on the Jarrow march - and I'll be on this one!

**JOHN THOMSON** was 15 years old and on the dole when he went on the Jarrow march. Now he's 59 and on the dole and going on the Right to Work march.

'It's the only way the government and trade union leaders are going to take any notice,' he told Socialist Worker. 'The clock is turning full circle. There's mass unemployment already and more to come. It will be back to the Thirties.'

Since the Jarrow march, John Thomson has worked in factories and as a miner underground in Blackhall Pit. He lives in South Shields.

'In the North I was born and brought up in it. It was a way of life - no work, poverty, women old before their time, men in dole queues for hours.

'Then one day it was worse - dole stopped, benefit run out. Even more degrading was the Board of Guardians. It was like going before a jury just to get a voucher for groceries.

## Desperate

'You weren't allowed butter or fags, bare necessities only. I know food for fine folks was cheap.

'We used to eat just bread and potatoes, or have a pan of soup that would last you a few days. Then the means test told us to sell any "luxury" or furniture in the house.

'If the son started work, like a casual job, his dole was took off him. Or if he had much benefit he had to keep the rest of the family.

'Boys left home because of this, families broke up.

'Sounds like Dickens in the present day, but it will happen again if unemployment is not stopped. Already your sons



Former hunger marcher John Thomson handing out leaflets for the Right to Work march at Brixton dole in South London.

and daughters who you've worked to bring up and educate are leaving school to walk the streets unemployed. The more unemployed there become the sooner it happens the fund will run dry. Benefits will be reduced again, and with today's cost of living it could get worse than the Thirties.

In those days men got so fed up they formed a march

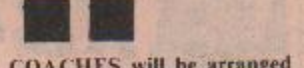
from Jarrow to London with their packs on their backs. This was to force the government to do something. I was only fifteen, but I was on it.

'Workers, this is true.

'So workers, join us, working or unemployed. March from London to Brighton in September.

'It is a matter for all workers. Let's get something done now

before it's too late. Unemployment is a cancer. So remove it now.'



COACHES will be arranged from various parts of the country to London for the start of the march, and to Brighton for the Lobby of the TUC. Details next week.

## AND THE RIGHT TO CANOE!

A SPONSORED canoeing marathon across the Humber is being planned by one member of HULL Right to Work Campaign to win publicity for the local fight against unemployment. Yorkshire Television are planning to film it. The local papers and radio station have taken up the story. Sponsorships are being raised in the docks and on housing estates. Within a week of leafletting the local Jobs Centre, more than 20 young people are intending to join the lobby of the TUC in Brighton at the end of the march.

THE BUROO BULLETIN is produced fortnightly by GLASGOW Right to Work Campaign. Four hundred copies of the latest issue were sold outside the five largest dole offices ('buroos') in the city.

Biggest success was a leaflet titled 'Adventure of a Skoolleaver', which included a cartoon strip about a school-leaver's discovery that the Jobs Centre is merely a jobless centre. Because of it, 15 people signed up for the march in September.

Every Saturday, from 3pm to 5pm, the campaign holds open air meetings in the city centre. An average 100 people gather round the platform. Hundreds have signed the petition against unemployment.

MORE THAN 100 trade union organisations are sponsoring the September Right To Work March. Among the latest to give support are:

- Lambeth Trades Council
- Crawley Joint Shop Stewards Coordinating Committee
- Wantage AUEW
- GEC Elliot Joint Office Committee
- AUEW-IASS, Lewisham
- Church Lane NUM
- Crook UCATT BB145
- Hackney and Tower Hamlets CPSA
- Wentley 4 AUEW
- Patrolway Production Confederated Shop Stewards
- Joint Union Action Committee
- Lewisham Borough Council
- New Southgate AUEW 94NE
- Royal Naval Store, Wiltshire CPSA
- Newham NALGO
- Barking and Dagenham UCATT BG260
- ASTMS Publishing Branch
- Brighton UCATT
- Hackney NUPE General Branch
- Dunfermline Labour Party Young Socialists
- North East London Polytechnic Students Union.



## Communist Party secretary joins the march

THE secretary of Castleford Communist Party, Ludwig Kasatkin, will be on the Right to Work march in September.

I'm sick and tired of being told that the present level of unemployment is inevitable. I want to fight for my right to work,' he told the local campaign.

He has been without a job since the beginning of February 1975. I have applied for approximately 100 jobs, though I've lost count of the exact number.

I applied for a clerical job with the Coal Board at Allerton Bywater and they told me that there had been 52 applications for just the one vacancy.

There were over 40 applicants for another job I went for in Leeds in a solicitor's office, and the wage was just £20 a week gross.

Ludwig Kasatkin explains that he is going on the march because he feels that nobody in the official labour and trade union movement is doing anything about unemployment.

When the unemployment figures of 1½ million and Healey's cuts were announced, all the left-wing Labour MPs and trade union leaders just came out with words of sympathy,' he said. 'In effect they are doing nothing at all to remedy the situation.

'People like Tony Benn and Jack Jones, who could challenge the government on unemployment and the social services cuts, take it for granted that if they do it would mean the return of the Tories.

'Believing this, they don't do anything. They just go along with it.

'If just one trade union leader or politician started a grassroots campaign against unemployment and the cuts then there would be no need for me to go on this march.'

## HOW TO END UNEMPLOYMENT...

TWO-THIRDS of the unemployment in Wales could be ended at a stroke if the manufacturing industries introduced a 35-hour week. This would create 13,000 jobs for the 18,847 jobless in Wales.

Figures compiled by the Employment Secretary reveal that during one week in May this year 454,800 hours of overtime were worked in manufacturing industries. A ban on overtime alone would produce another 11,370 jobs.

## FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK! Meetings and Notices

**RALLY for the Right to Work:** Friday 3 September, after the North London and East London marches on the eve of the London to Brighton Right to Work march on the TUC. RALLY: 7.30pm. Stoke Newington Town Hall. DISCO/DANCE: 8.30pm-11.30pm, music by Black Slate, admission 50p/25p unemployed.

**MARCHERS' MEETING:** Every local group of workers going on the Right to Work March from London to Brighton must send a representative to the national meeting: Saturday 14 August, 11am-4pm, Milton Hall, Manchester.

**HEMEL HEMPSTEAD** campaign meeting: Fight for the Right to Work! Speaker - Caroline Conway (Manchester to London Right to Work marcher), Thursday August 7.30pm, Labour Party Rooms, Alexandra Road, Hemel Hempstead.

**T-SHIRTS** available soon with the slogan 'FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK!' £1.50 each, medium or large, green lettering on white shirt. Orders, stating size, to Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

□ Socialist Worker will carry FREE OF CHARGE any local Right to Work Campaign notices



National Right to Work Campaign

## March for the Right to Work

It's no use standing around on the dole queue waiting for the trade union leaders, Jones, Murray and Scanlon, to do something about unemployment. Join the unemployed march from London to the next TUC Congress in Brighton to force them to do their job by getting you one. Unemployed workers from all over the country are assembling in London, on the Embankment, Charing Cross, on Saturday 4 September at 11am. They will be joined by other local marches from Hendon, Enfield and Gravesend. Food and accommodation is being arranged for the march which will take four days.

## SUPPORT THE RIGHT TO WORK MARCH

The National Right to Work Campaign appeals to all trade union and labour movement organisations to sponsor the London to Brighton Right to Work march.

**SPONSOR THE MARCH FOR £1.** Raise Collections to help pay for the march. For further details, speakers, sponsorship letters, write to the National Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4 (Phone: 802 0978).

### JOIN THE MARCH

I would like to join the march

I would like further information about the march.

Name .....

Address .....

Send to The national Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4. Phone (01) 802 0978.

ADVERTISEMENT



# Spain's 'amnesty' leaves 400 political prisoners



A recent 7000-strong rally in Barcelona by one of the 'moderate' socialist groups. Speakers included a 1930s member of the POUM left socialists and the audience sang the International.

**THE AMNESTY** for political prisoners in Spain, announced last weekend will still leave about 400 in jail.

The amnesty does not cover those allegedly connected with terrorism—in particular members of the Basque movement ETA.

Many people in Spain believe the bombs that went off at the weekend were planted by the extreme right so as to justify this omission.

The amnesty is the latest stage in the attempt by King Juan Carlos' regime to keep control. Since the death of the fascist dictator Franco last year, Spain has seen its biggest strike wave and biggest illegal demonstrations since the civil war 40 years ago.

In Barcelona alone 424,722 workers spent a total 14 million hours on strike in the first six months of this year—more than in the whole of Britain last year.

The regime is frightened of losing control, so is encouraging the development of a 'moderate' opposition that, it believes, will control the workers' movement.

## Did right plant the bombs?

### Operate

For the first time since the civil war, non-fascist political parties are being allowed to operate openly, to hold congresses and public meetings—providing they are clearly 'moderate'. The papers are full of press statements from all three Socialist Parties, which are competing for the honour of becoming the Spanish equivalent of the Labour Party, from the various Christian democrat groups, and even from the illegal trade unions.

The Socialist Party-influenced union, the UGT, has been able to hold an open conference. The 'moderates' have been allowed to organise massive, legal demonstrations demanding greater freedom.

But the other side of this 'liberalisation' is that the real left-wing forces are still forced to operate underground.

Their members face arrest, imprisonment and torture if they put their arguments against the 'moderates' too publicly. They still have to use crude duplicated sheets while the moderates use flashy illustrated news magazines.

Above all, the right wing around the King are determined to control the 'liberalisation'. A month ago the government was restructured to make it even more right-wing dominated than before.

Armed police continue to walk the streets, prepared to open fire on anyone who annoys them. They shot and seriously injured a Standard Electric striker in Madrid only last Friday.

The Communist Party, which continually insists that

it does not believe in a violent overthrow of Franco's successor, is being allowed to operate half legally. It is not allowed to open offices or to campaign openly.

But the papers and news magazines are allowed to carry long interviews with its leaders. Its conference in Rome last week was reported on the front page of many papers, complete with pictures of its leader, Santiago Carrillo and 'La Passionaria'.

The government is virtually saying that if it proves itself moderate enough, then eventually it will be fully legalised.

### Argue

In discussion with the American secretary of state, Henry Kissinger, the King has explained that his strategy is to maintain this state of affairs for about a year, then to hold elections in which the right-wing and moderate forces would have the in-built advantage of being able to argue openly.

But the workers' movement shows signs of going beyond the limits set by the moderates and their allies.

Already the liberals' demands for an amnesty is being extended through strikes and demonstrations to a demand for a 'labour amnesty'—for the reinstatement of all those victimised for their activities in the factories. A strike in Corunna, in North West Spain last week, forced the management to reinstate everyone victimised since 1972.

## Five years in jail for Polish strikers

**FIVE YEARS** in prison for taking industrial action. That was the penalty handed out last week by a Polish court to workers from the giant Ursus tractor factory in Warsaw—part-owned by Massey Ferguson.

The workers took part in the huge strike at the end of June which forced the government to withdraw temporarily all-round price increases of 60-100 per cent.

At the Ursus plant the workers rammed their point home by tearing up railway

lines next to the factory to stop the Paris to Warsaw express. Now seven of them have been sentenced to three to five years in jail.

But these sentences are light compared to those handed out to workers in the industrial city of Radom, where demonstrators attacked police and party buildings. The authorities admit that two workers were killed in fighting with the police, but reports

filtering through to West Germany suggest the figure was nearer 17.

The local mayor put the blame for the riots on 'hooligans and hysterical women'—as if being a woman is a crime in Poland—and the courts have imposed prison sentences of four to ten years.

Seventeen more demonstrators are due to appear in court in Warsaw soon.

The authorities were clearly frightened by the strikes. They still want to put up prices by about 40 per cent. So they are trying to intimidate the workers in advance.

### Classic

A protest movement is developing around the sentences. Last week a well-known Polish dissident, Jacek Kuron, who spent six years in jail after helping to write a classic Marxist analysis of Polish society ten years ago, called on the Italian Communist Party to intercede for the strikers. Kuron was immediately drafted into the army by the Polish authorities.

But the Italian Communist Party leader, Enrico Berlinguer, did call on the Polish leaders to treat the strikers with 'clemency'.

□ It is up to socialist, Communist and trade union bodies in Britain to show solidarity with our Polish brothers and sisters. Telegrams and letters demanding the immediate release of the demonstrators and the release of Kuron from the army should be sent to the secretary of the Polish Communist Party, (the PUWP), Edward Gierek, in Warsaw, or to the Polish Embassy, London.

## FOOD FOR PROTEST

**THE** fascist mayors in several Spanish towns have been complaining that politics has been introduced into many of the local festivals that take place through the summer.

Workers are prone to use the large legal gatherings as an opportunity to raise political slogans. In Pamplona, for instance, the annual 'running of the bulls' four weeks ago was preceded by a 30,000-strong demonstration.

Last week it was the turn of a small Basque town where the annual Paella festival was being held—Paella is a Spanish rice dish. The dignitaries were much upset by groups carrying left-wing banners. But even worse was their apoplexy when two of the Paellas were submitted for judgement with the design of the illegal Basque nationalist flag on them...

## Three on hunger strike

**THREE** Bangladeshis are on hunger strike outside the Bangladesh High Commission in London in protest against a death sentence passed on the leader of a Bangladesh socialist party, the JSD. 5000 members of the JSD are in jail and members of the leadership have been tortured.

Abu Taher, the JSD leader the hunger strikers are supporting, may already be dead. The Bangladesh authorities are refusing to give any further information about him.

**STOP PRESS:** On Tuesday it was announced that Abu Taher had been executed. The hunger strikers have ended their protest.



The ninth day on hunger strike

**Womens voice**

**BUT... NOW I AM FIGHTING**

Out this week!  
**WOMENS VOICE**

If you want to know how to beat the cuts in your area, then read this month's **Womens Voice**. Articles on the Cuts, abortion, Trico; reviews, letters. Get your copy now from your Socialist Worker seller, or direct from **Womens Voice**, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Price 6p (plus postage).

# SEVESO: Another outrage from the firm that gave you Valium and Librium



THE FACE OF SEVESO: Barbed wire, soldiers—and devastation

ONE OF THE FIRST victims of the cloud of poison that has hovered for four weeks over the small Italian town of Seveso San Pietro was Roberto Lanzi's cat.

As Roberto picked it up to bury it, the tail fell off. Two days later, he was asked to dig it up for examination. But, by then, nothing was left but the skull. The body had dissolved.

There were other victims: dogs, rabbits and hens died suddenly.

And soon 14 children were in hospital with swollen faces and fevers.

This outrage—it is no 'natural disaster'—was perpetrated on Saturday 10 July. A safety valve blew on an overheated reactor in the Icmesa chemical factory owned by the giant Hoffmann La Roche company.

### Dense

The local people were eating their dinner when, suddenly, a dense gas filled their homes, burning their eyes and throats.

Outside, the rain stung like pin-pricks and blistered the skin.

By 16 July, the Icmesa

workers had struck, demanding information about what the hell was going on and insisting on better safety precautions.

The management's answer was to burn the overalls they had been using when the explosion occurred, and to accuse them of being workshy.

Throughout the next week, the workers and farmers of Seveso went on eating the vegetables and meat they produced. They also continued to sell them in the



THE FIRST VICTIMS: Pets died quickly and their bodies simply dissolved

By  
**TIM POTTER, JOANNA ROLLO  
and IAN GIBSON**

nearby city of Milan.

Little did they know that everything in the area had been contaminated by a by-product which is one of the most dangerous chemicals known to man—dioxin.

Once released, there is no known way of dissolving, reversing or removing it.

### Kill

*A mere two ounces of it in a reservoir could kill 11 million people. Four and a half*

*pounds of it were released at Icmesa.*

Meanwhile, Hoffmann La Roche—one of the biggest and most profitable multinationals in the fabulously profitable field of drugs and chemicals—prevaricated and covered-up to play down the scale of the danger.

Their sole concern was to resume production. So, for a week before they went on strike, the workers were brought into the heart of the contaminated area to clock on

and produce more profit.

Only after they had struck did their bosses finally admit publicly that dioxin had been released.

And, for a week after that, they still minimised the extent of the peril.

*So thousands of people continued to eat contaminated food.*

Only now have they sealed off the area.

All animals and vegetation in the contaminated area are to be destroyed and burnt. Troops were standing by to do the job with napalm (yes, napalm) flame-throwers.

### Shot

Anyone entering the area will be shot on sight. Everything contaminated will be buried, including one foot of topsoil throughout the affected zone.

It will be burnt and buried deep in the ground with a concrete lid on top.

More than 1000 people have been evacuated. Hundreds are having daily check-ups.

No one is sure how many people will eventually have to be evacuated. Torrential rain has spread the poison to five times the original area. Nearby rivers flow into the Po, Italy's biggest.

There are now emergency plans to evacuate 15,000 people.

Who knows what the final figure will be?



THE REFUGEES: The same chemical was dropped by the Americans on 6 million acres of Vietnam

HOFFMANN LA ROCHE also manufacture valium and librium, the two most profitable drugs in history. They rake in up to 8000 per cent profit on them, claiming there are huge research costs and the like.

□ □  
The drugs are marketed as tranquillisers for the stressful society that Hoffman and others create by production for profit.

In 1976, Hoffman La Roche spent £21,781,000 on advertising in Britain alone. So far they have given £55,000 to their victims in Italy.

**VALIUM  
ROCHE  
FOR  
PRISONERS  
OF THE  
SOCIETY  
OF  
STRESS**

DIOXIN was not the only poison Hoffmann La Roche sprayed over the Italian countryside. They also flung 1000 kilograms of trichlorophenol into the atmosphere.

It produces skin lesions, blistering, and can interfere with breathing. If it gets into the body, it can cause heart attacks, lesions of kidneys and spleen, and cancer. It can also cause brain damage.

Research has shown that trichlorophenol causes mutations in germ cells. This means that, for hundreds of years to come, children will be born deformed as the direct result of this explosion.

# This is industry 'accident'



# This the pur of pro



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Photomontage by Klaus Staack



But we  
decide  
the poison  
content

WHY has this disaster been let loose on the people of Seveso and Milan?

Why is there now yet another name to stand beside Flixborough, asbestos and countless mining disasters in the endless catalogue of industrial mass murder and destruction?

The answer is simple: profit.

The safety valve that blew on the Icmesa reactor was on a vent pipe for reasons of cheapness and 'convenience'.

And so, in contrast to the three previous occasions when dioxin has been released—in disasters in Britain, Holland and Germany—the poison was not held within the factory but spread all over the countryside.

Scandal

Antonio Chiappini, the convenor at Icmesa, has told of the scandalous practices employed by Hoffmann La Roche in the plant.

He and his fellow workers have underlined that Italy is a paradise for the multinationals seeking refuge from the trivial restrictions placed upon their operations elsewhere.

For there are few, if any, restrictions. As a result, working conditions are abominable, and profits still higher.

Which is why, Angelo Chappini insists, La Roche came to Seveso in the first place.

Industry in Italy takes a fearful toll in death, disease and injury.

One regular effect of work hazards for women is spontaneous abortion, known as white abortion since it takes place without protest from the Vatican.

Venom

The Catholic Church reserve their venom for abortions that women want. In contrast with the industrially-induced variety, these are known as 'black abortions'.

The Seveso disaster has added still more fuel to the growing demand for the right of abortion in Italy.

Inevitably, many malformed children will result from this disaster so it is a matter of supreme

The  
answer  
lies in  
our  
hands

importance that the right to abortion be forced from the government.

The fight for health and safety at work is part of the same struggle for control of your own body and your own destiny so that our lives cannot literally be laid waste in the pursuit of profit.

That this struggle is increasingly a matter of life and death can be seen from the fact that Seveso will probably be uninhabitable for years.

What's more, a new potential chemical hazard comes into industry about once every 20 minutes, according to one US estimate, such is the uncontrolled nature of the multinationals' drive for profit.

'Duty'

Will they learn the lesson of Seveso? Of course not. They are incapable.

Their 'duty' as capitalist corporations is to maximise profits.

That's why, with this and other processes, they will repeat the madness of Seveso somewhere else, like Mexico or Taiwan, where the regulations will not be as tight as those Italy will now bring in and where still more people can be found to be their factory fodder.

There is only one answer to these merchants of death. And that is to take industry out of their hands and to run it for human need under direct workers' control.

Then, if something did go wrong, despite all the scrupulous safety controls workers would impose, there wouldn't be the slightest reason to prevaricate, pretend and lie as Hoffmann La Roche have done at Seveso.

# LABOUR: WHY WE'VE QUIT

PLEASE accept my resignation from membership of the Executive Committee, the Local Government Committee, and my office as Political Education Officer for the Constituency Party.

I have already resigned as chairman of my branch and as soon as the General Committee has received this letter I shall be resigning as their delegate and relinquishing my Party membership.

As you know, for a long time I have been unhappy about my continued membership of the Party and its implied support for the government's disastrous policies.

Illusions

I have never had many illusions that socialism could be achieved through the Labour Party.

History shows that its leaders, in common with those of the Trades Unions, will eventually sell out to the capitalists.

However, I did not have the courage to face up to the obvious remedy. When we said at the last election that capitalism had failed it was true; when we said we would try the socialist alternative I wanted it to be true.

I certainly never expected such a magnificent response from the government in seeking to resuscitate the system (which it is pledged by its constitution to destroy) at the expense of the working class.

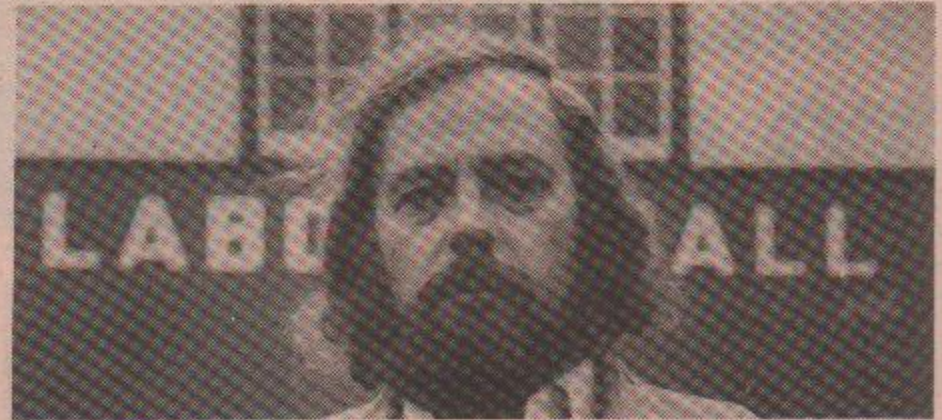
Since the election we have had the Common Market treachery, Harold Wilson's contemptuous cabinet

'THE WAY FORWARD IS WITH THE I.S.'

IS THERE ANY future for socialists in the Labour Party? David Lynch and David Trend think not. They've just resigned and joined the International Socialists.

David Lynch, 39, was in the Labour Party for ten years, serving on the executive in Ilford North. David Trend, 21, held several positions in the Hemel Hempstead party.

The reasons for their resignations are set out below. David Lynch has also sent his letter of resignation to Labour Weekly and Tribune.



DAVID LYNCH: 'We are just playing games in the Labour Party'

changes, cut after cut in public expenditure crippling those services for which the wealthy can make other arrangements, connivance with (or at best feeble opposition to) racists, the deliberate enactment of policies that have created 1½ million unemployed and yet allowed profits to rise at the expense of workers' pay packets—the list is endless.

On all these issues our Constituency Party has expressed strong opposition to government policy, but to what avail? We are just playing games.

As long as we persist with the myth that socialism will be handed down from above

we will never face up to the political realities.

Socialism will only come when workers and their families, at their places of work and in their communities, take control of their own lives. It will never be achieved by the parliamentary farce.

It will not be achieved by leaders with two or more luxury homes who slash the already inadequate housing budget and at the same time allow swingeing penalties against councillors who seek to keep housing within the financial reach of those who elected them.

It will not be achieved by those receiving salaries

perhaps ten times those of the workers from whom they demand a reduction in living standards.

It will not be achieved by those who bestow honours on capitalist exploiters and yet allow trades unionists to rot in gaol for defending workers' interests.

By our continued membership of the Labour Party, you and I are giving a false veneer of socialist credibility to an anti-socialist government.

We are also allowing our time and energy to be exploited by those who, when elected, will always defend the capitalist system.

Obviously I am not going to opt out of the political struggle so to where do I turn?

Slavish

Not to the played-out Communist Party with its slavish devotion to so-called socialist countries which repress their workers little differently from fascist ones.

My contact with the International Socialists in the anti-racist campaign, where they alone have given forceful and unqualified opposition to the racists, in the Chile Solidarity Campaign, and through the Rank and File movement of my union, together with a reasoned and detailed study of their policies, convinces me that the way forward to socialism is with them.

I would ask those true socialists among you to seriously consider joining me. To the non-socialists among you I have nothing to say.

DAVID LYNCH

## 'The time has come to build a genuine alternative'

I HAVE BEEN a member of the Labour Party for several years.

During that time, I have held many positions. I am at present on the executive and general management committees. I am the GMC representative on the Labour group of councillors, the vice-chairman of my branch and the editor of the Labour Party's local news-sheet.

But I can no longer associate myself with a Labour government that attacks the living standards of working people in order to protect the profit-based system under which we live.

Pledges

Many Labour Party members believe, as I once did, that socialism could be achieved by electing a majority of socialist MPs to parliament.

To those people I say: Can you remember the speeches and pledges made to you at your selection meeting before your candidate was elected?

Think of them when he votes for increases in school milk charges.

Do you remember the 1974 election when we trudged the streets from door to door with the slogan Back to Work with Labour?

Sounds a bit sick now! And what can you do in the Labour Party? All you can do is pass resolutions month after month, which no-one takes any notice of.

Think of the hundreds of



DAVID TREND: 'All you can do is pass resolutions'

resolutions passed up and down the country in support of the Clay Cross councillors. Yet it was a Labour govern-

ment that bankrupted them.

The Labour Party has had 70 years in which to prove that it is an organ of creating a just and decent society.

And every time it has taken office it has turned its back on its working-class supporters, forgotten its socialist promises and acted in the interests of the wealthy minority who really control this country.

The time has come for socialists to stop giving the Labour Party credibility and to build a genuine socialist alternative.

That is why I am leaving to join the International Socialists.

DAVID TREND

can  
Socialism  
come  
through  
Parliament?

Roger Kline's CAN SOCIALISM COME THROUGH PARLIAMENT? draws the lessons from the antics of the Labour Party, in government and in opposition, as reformers of capitalism, and argues what we can do to bring socialism.

10p plus 6p postage (10 or more copies post free) from IS BOOKS, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.



# Man in a crumpled suit?

**KARL MARX?  
Who was he  
anyway?**

I have always thought of him as a short, shaggy-haired old man in a crumpled suit who spent his life sitting in the British Museum in London writing about economics.

More than once people have argued with me: 'Marx never did anything with workers, he just sat around thinking about them. And his friend Engels was even worse. A rich mill-owner, who carried on exploiting workers while pretending to be on their side.'

I knew they must be wrong, but I didn't have the information to knock them on the head.

A new book, Karl Marx: Man and Fighter,\* is full of information about Marx. There are some funny bits too, like Marx remembering that his mother always used to say: 'If Karl had only made capital instead of...'

A poem about Marx written by a student friend gives a fair idea of what he was like: *Who's this approaching who thus rants and raves? 'Tis the wild fury, black-manned Marx of Treves; See him advance, nay spring upon the foe As though to seize and never let him go. See him extend his threatening arms on high To seize the heavenly canopy from the sky; See his clenched fists, and see his desperate air,*

**Jenny Jackson  
reviews a new  
book about  
KARL MARX**

*As though ten thousand devils  
had him by the hair.*

After leaving university, Marx became editor of the newspaper Rheinische Zeitung. Circulation grew and it became the radical paper for all of Germany. The Prussian government brought in its censors, and after an article appeared attacking Russia and the Tsar - closed it down.

Marx left for Paris. But he was soon expelled for his political writing.

This was the pattern for the next period of Marx's life. Writing, becoming 'politically undesirable', being deported.

Brussels, Paris, back to Germany, back to Paris. Then to London - only temporarily, he thought. He was there for the rest of his life.

## Poverty

Marx lived in extreme poverty in London with his family. In 1854 three of his children died in the cholera epidemic.

Before their deaths, the family would take Sunday outings up to Hampstead Heath. On the way there and back politics or the plight of the refugees were banned as subjects of conversation. But

to make up for it we would talk a lot about literature and art.

'On the way home we would usually sing. We seldom sang political songs, but mostly popular songs, especially ballads and "patriotic" songs from the fatherland,' wrote his friend William Liebknecht.

After years of working in isolation, Marx refused to get involved with the crazy, conspiratorial exiles who lived in the clouds he threw himself into helping organise the International Working Men's Association in 1864.

## Blacklegs

This was because he believed in strikes, many of which had been broken by using foreign blacklegs. It grew powerful to the point where the mere mention that the International was going to intervene in a strike was enough to cause the employers to grant all the workers' demands!

In 1870 the French Imperial Government started arresting the leaders of the International. But as quickly as they were picked up, new committees sprung up, publishing bold statements in the newspapers, even giving their addresses!

But by 1873 Marx's health was ruined. He was ordered not to write for more than four hours a day. He strained to finish Das Kapital and collapsed. He died in 1883 after years of suffering with pleurisy of the lungs.

This book is very long - 407 pages. But I found it really interesting.

One complaint is that there are a lot of French and German quotations, which are usually but not always translated in a footnote. This makes some parts hard to follow.

But it's well worth reading. I now know something about the history of France, Germany, and England in that period and Marx.

\* **KARL MARX: man and fighter**, by Boris Nicolaevsky and Otto Maenchen-Helfen. Pelican, £1.50, available from Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4, for £1.70 including postage.

worthy struggle but one doomed to failure.

Racist feelings are linked to the central process of capitalism. A struggle against racism that sees that, and so becomes a struggle against capitalism as well, is the only one that in the long run has a chance of success.

No wonder the gentlemen at the Daily Mail still have horrors upon the subject.

PAUL O'FLINN

## PREVIEW

### SUNDAY

Professor Eric Hobsbawm talks about the advance of the Italian Communist Party in **THE JAY INTERVIEW** (London Weekend, Harlech, Grampian 11pm).

### MONDAY

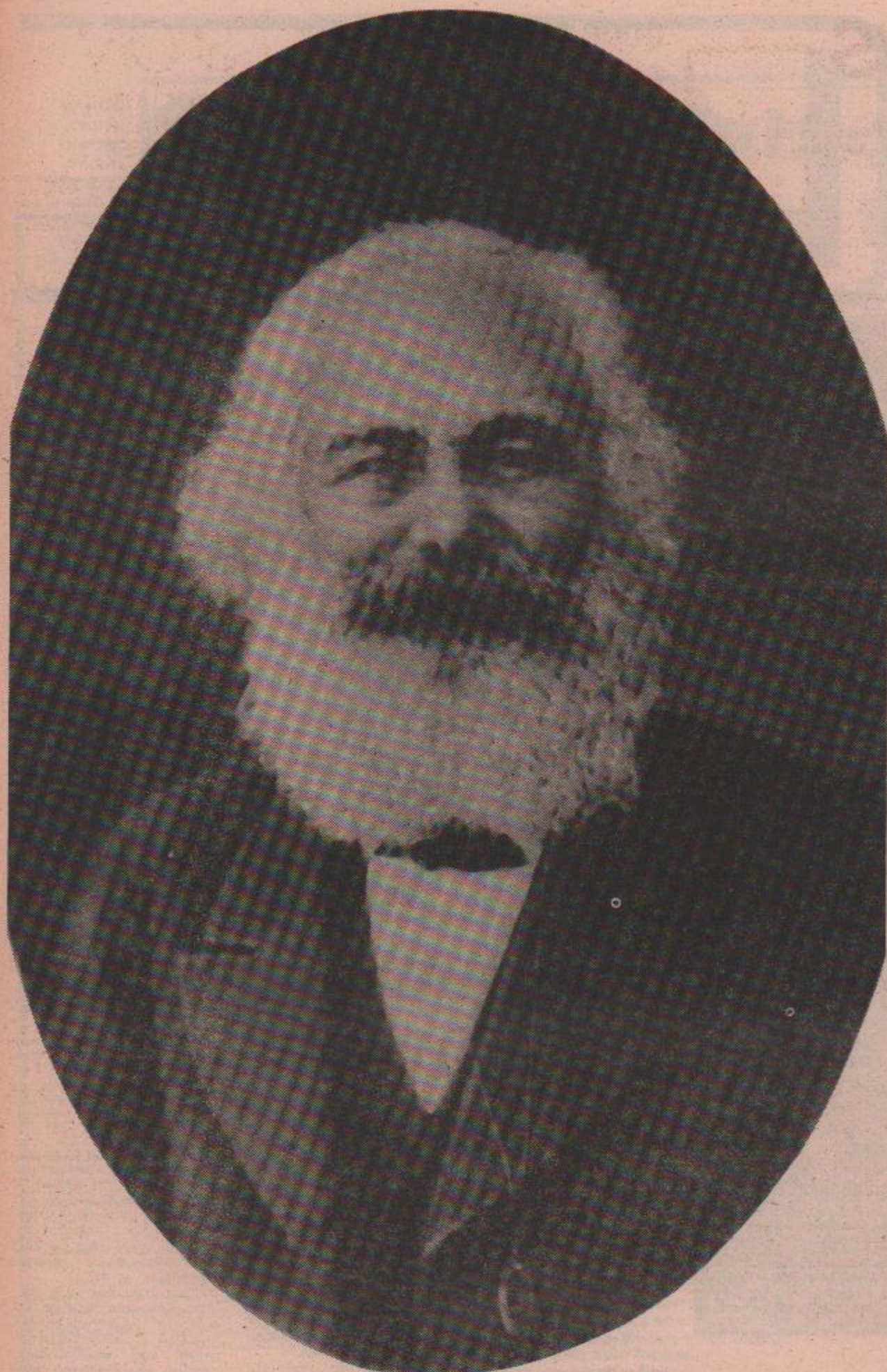
If you value your television set don't watch **THIS IS WAUGH** (ITV 8.30pm) because you may be sorely tempted to throw something at it. Novelist Auberon Waugh talks to working-class people in Manchester, Liverpool and Birkenhead and concludes: 'Other people's problems are bad housing and

no jobs. It could be their own faults. The workers have got nearly all the power now and a lot of the money and they don't seem to be able to use it to their own best advantage.'

Waugh went to public school and now lives in a mansion in Somerset. Don't forget **BILL BRAND** (ITV 9pm).

### WEDNESDAY

**CATHY COME HOME** (BBC2) gets another airing as part of the BBC's Festival 40. The play about the despair of a young homeless couple was a little too real for comfort when shown in 1966.



Karl Marx in 1882—the last photograph taken before his death.

## The Fight Against The Racists



## The Nazional Front and How to Smash it.

### A Socialist Worker pamphlet

10p a copy plus 7p postage  
(more than 5 copies: post 3p each)

from:  
SW Distributors, 6 Cottons Garden,  
London E2.

## If the Daily Mail likes it...

THE Daily Mail is a nasty newspaper. That's scarcely news. It was, after all, Ward Price of the Daily Mail who in 1938 publicly congratulated Austria on 'her hour of happiness' when Hitler's Nazis marched in and took the country over.

Looking at the Mail recently, I don't see that its politics have changed much since 1938. Its hysterical coverage of the recent arrival of a few refugee immigrants shows it's still pioneering away, seeking new depths for right-wing gutter journalism to sink to.

Yet hand-wringing about the nastiness of the Mail won't get us anywhere.

The paper couldn't last for a week if it didn't have several million readers prepared to put up with its particular brand of poison. In the end it's the attitudes of those readers we have to confront.

Their racism is part of the legacy of Britain's colonial history. The relationship between colonialism and racism was sharply put by Frantz Fanon, author of *The Wretched of the Earth*.

'The truth is that a colonial country is a racist country. If in England, Belgium or



France, in spite of the democratic principles asserted by those countries, there are still racists, it is the racists who are right, in contrast with the rest of the country. It is not possible to enslave men without logically inferiorising them through and through.'

## Complex

The roots of racism are complex. Partly, as Fanon argues, they are linked to colonialism, a necessary justification for it. Without racist views in some form you couldn't set about building or operating an empire.

And in part too they thrive on the sexual neuroses born of that muddle of sexual exploitation and sexual repression that is the product of centuries of capitalist development.

Some of the hatred of black men is a sexual hatred. In capitalist society which seeks competition as the ultimate virtue and which therefore turns all relationships into competitions, there is a crude fear that in the sexual sphere the blacks may turn out to be better competitors.

As far back as 1801 the writer Maria Edgeworth blundered into this fear in her novel *Belinda*. She originally intended to have one of the characters marry a black man, but she decided to change this. 'Many people having been scandalised at the idea of a black man marrying a white woman; my father says that gentlemen have horrors upon this subject, and draw conclusions very unfavourable to a female writer who appeared to recommend such unions.'

The lesson of all this is clear. A struggle against racism that is only a struggle against racism, that confines itself, say, to improving the Race Relations Act, is a

# Postal Points

OVERHEARD in Southall after the demonstration on Saturday: 'Even the whites don't look English'. Dirty red commies, we should all go back to Russia.  
 □ Dave Hughes, Guildford.

AT THE HYDE PARK anti-Nazi assembly several comrades were seen throwing empty cans and hamburger wrappers onto the grass, two of them only a few steps from a litter bin. If we accept that the world belongs to us and is our home then who do we treat it like a dustbin? There are some comrades who put a very high value on beauty and whose freedom to enjoy beauty is infringed by others.  
 □ Dorene Johnson-Carr, David Carr, Mark Taylor, Arthur Davids, Robert Davids, John Howlett, Andrew Shaw, G Blake, Southend.

GLAD TO see you are flourishing and short of pics of topeless Marxist girls. Most people being idiots don't read Socialist Worker and I am full of crusading zeal to spread the good news—that one can buy a technically excellent paper with something in it for only 10p. I have taken to reading the paper like an onion, leaving sheets here and there as I move around. Sometimes I am seized with an overpowering urge to paste sheets on walls.  
 □ Ken Harding, London, NW8.

SOCIALIST WORKER was excellent on 24 July, particularly the front page. But you give the unemployment figure as 1,460,000—this is the figure given by the government and the bourgeois press, but as usual it excludes the figure for Northern Ireland, which is over 60,000. I suggest that in future you include the Northern Ireland figure and point out to readers how the government leaves this figure out of the statistics. The figure of 1,460,000 also excludes the temporarily stopped, a statistic which I believe was once included in the main figure, and certainly ought to be.  
 □ Peter Burton, Manchester.

# FASCISM: The biggest threat to women's rights

YOUR OTHERWISE excellent coverage of the racism issue has been marred by your failure to draw attention to the connections between right wing attacks on blacks and attacks on the position of women. The Nazis believe that women must dedicate their lives to breeding a pure race. Kingsley Read has publicly stated that racially mixed marriages are degenerate. The NF stewards SPUC demonstrations and is the only organisation to include the repeal of the 1967 Abortion Act in its political programme; for these Nazis women belong in the home and nowhere else.

## Control

The gains women have made, such as the right to control our sexuality and our lives, our limited right to work, all these are anathema to the Front. We feel that the anti-racist campaign should place more emphasis on involving women. It must appeal to them in relation to their situation as women as well as black or white members of the working class. The isolation and feelings of discontent of white women, particularly housewives, make them easy prey to racist propaganda. A racist petition in Southwark got 1100 signatures.

## Targets

Attacks on black women are often of a sexist as well as a racist nature. Black women tied to the home by tradition are vulnerable targets. They must be involved, not just protected. An anti-racist campaign based on only half the working class, black or white, means that the ruling class tactic of divide and rule will succeed. The call must be: black and white, women and men, fight against racism.  
 □ LSE International Socialists.

# A lesson from the teacher stops the racist vermin

I TEACH English in a large, multi-racial comprehensive school. A few weeks ago during a discussion on what changes in the law they would make, over half my class of 15-year olds agreed that they would stop immigration and repatriate blacks. In the room next door were



THIS IS how the Nazis treated women who were friendly with Jews. The sign around this woman's neck reads: 'I am the greatest swine in this town and only get involved with Jews!' When the Nazis took power in Germany, women were forced to produce children for the sake of continuing the master race. Professional women were sacked from their jobs.

a couple of Asian lads revising for an exam. Someone suggested they should come in and join the discussion which had developed when I challenged the racist views. The two Asian lads agreed and in the discussion that followed it became obvious that the white kids were not

# Letters

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

# The great Healey con trick

WHILE SOCIALIST Worker did an excellent rundown on the effect of Healey's £1000 million cuts last week it did miss out a major item—the effect of the increase in employers' national insurance subscription. First of all these increases will be allowed to be passed on in higher prices in the private sector. This means we will be paying the increase, ie a wage cut. Much more important however is the effect it will have on Town Hall budgets. Town and County Halls are among the biggest employers in the country, they too will have to pay the increase. It is

reckoned that Hertfordshire County Council will have to find an extra £2 million. The government has forced councils not to increase their spending so in effect the money will have to be found by either raising the rates or cutting public expenditure even further. In Hertfordshire the Tories want to cut by £6 million. This means about 1300 jobs, so you can see the effect a further £2 million would have. The increase in the employers' national insurance contribution will possibly be the biggest cut of all for public sector workers.  
 WE MUST BE READY.  
 □ Kevin Jones, Hitchin.

# Sacking is not our policy

I WAS surprised when I saw your headline on 24 July to the effect that Haringey Council was preparing to sack people. The shop steward, Allan Johnson, whose treatment was the basis of your article happened to be with me when I bought your paper. He was as surprised as I was by what you have deduced from what was a manager's action not a policy decision. This case was taken up by myself as Chairman of the Joint Committee for Craftsmen and I made it perfectly clear publicly that any hint of victimisation of shop stewards would not be tolerated. As regards sackings or redundancies, such a decision would need to be taken by the Labour Group as a whole and their uncompromising stand against the present government's policies has gained for Haringey some hostile national headlines.  
 □ Tony McBrearty, Vice-Chairman, Personnel and Management Committee.

# Fourteen and angry

AFTER READING one of your Socialist Worker papers I have become more interested in International Socialism. My friend and I are interested in the fight against racism and the abolition of the National Front as another friend of mine, a coloured lad, is scitted for being one of the 'intolerable niggers' himself. I have an interest in the Right to Work Campaign, coming from a pit village with a closed mine and unemployment rising. My elder brother is an out of work school leaver and my sister is worried about getting a job after going to college. Both of them regard socialism as a last resort and refuse to discuss the issue. My friend and I are both 14 and would like to attend meetings.  
 □ Robert Fleming, Durham.

# IN DEFENCE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

IF SOCIALIST Worker reader, Paddington (24 July) had bothered to read the Archbishop's statement on racism properly it would be highly unlikely that such an interpretation would have been reached. Far from being a 'racialist outburst' the statement was contained in the August issue of the Archbishop's Diocesan News Letter. It reads: 'Recognising that the presence of immigrants often makes for very real difficulties I am not unmindful of the problems in the realms of housing, language, education, etc. The Christian attitude

must always be one of reconciliation and friendship, whether such an approach produces a ready response or no. We must work towards harmonious integration however great may be the difficulties which present themselves.' Prior to this statement, at a press conference held on 15 June, Dr Coggan was widely reported as calling for sympathy and understanding towards all immigrants and stressing the strong obligation on Britain to take in all their dependants in order to reunite families.  
 □ John Farquharson, Manchester.

# SONGS OF STRUGGLE

THE RECENT battles with the Nazis and the disgusting unemployment have inspired comrades who are competing for the position of poet laureate. Here are some selections from their work:  
 ▼△  
 Oh muggers in blue, bastard muggers in blue, Why can't you behave like we socialists do? Why must my poor back be so black and blue From the beatings and poundings that we get from you?  
 □ John Appleyard, Leeds

So together we will fight And smash the Nazi National Front, We'll expose the little Hitlers And the other little runts, We'll smash the lies that divide us; Shout the truths that make us free! And together we'll drive the National Front From our land into the sea!  
 □ Anonymous  
 ▼△  
 They're welcome here that's what I say Give them homes and let them stay

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 spending cuts, And now I'm on the dole and it's driving me nuts. Never mind the colour and never mind the creed, We're all just fodder for capitalist greed.  
 □ D Hart  
 ▼△  
 Whether we're working or in the dole queue, We're all part of a system that benefits a few.

▼△  
 Dead Men on leave they said Our crime to wait upon such time That in our dusk the fading light Would whimper into silence.  
 □ Mick Aldeson, Bristol

There ain't much room down our street But Sandringham will do a treat  
 IS is right, that's what I say, Open the doors, make the bosses pay.  
 □ Alan Scrowcroft

The top cat politicians break for tea And air their sweaty backsides at the expense of working people And the unemployed, whose daily life is to be scuttled further On behalf of the money on the brain syndrome  
 □ Anonymous

Out now With articles on The Soweto Uprising/Portugal elections/Lebanon/Cliff's Lenin 28p inc postage from IS Journal & Cottons Gardens London E2 8DN or 20p from your Socialist Worker seller

# International Socialism

hard line racists, but simply ignorant of the basic facts and had been taken in by the Express, Mail and Sun.  
**Comment**  
 At the end of the lesson, the white kids and the two Asians parted on good terms, and I have not heard any of the lads or girls in that class make a racist comment since. We cannot defeat the poison of racism simply through education as reformists believe, but whatever our jobs we can go some way towards overcoming ignorance on which the fascist vermin feeds. By the way, it seems that some National Front members have taken to putting razor blades under their stickers, so when you rip them down, never do it with your fingers!  
 □ Dave Moores, Oldham.  
 ▼△  
 I AM disgusted at Tameside Council's behaviour. If they want to improve education, why don't they fight the cuts instead of throwing some students on the scrapheap?  
 □ Mike Shankland, Poole IS.

# Heard the one about the Duchess who fell out of the window while ironing the curtains...

OF COURSE NOT. BUT YOU'VE HEARD COUNTLESS 'JOKES' LIKE IT ABOUT IRISHMEN. WHY?

**IN A SOCIETY** such as ours, it is amazing what passes for humour.

Go into virtually any club in the country and you'll hear some wacky humorist on about his mother-in-law.

Or about how the Scots are mean, or if he's Scots about how Aberdonians are mean.

*But the main victims, almost without exception, are either black or Irish.*

The appalling story of how the needs of empire led to the promotion of racist ideas about black people has been set out in recent issues of Socialist Worker.

Jokes and stories about the Irish have their roots in the same poisoned soil.

## Murder

Ireland, Britain's first colony, was subjected to the murder, rape and pillage that distinguished Britain's civilising mission.

The Irish were forced into emigration by the million, going among other places to Britain.

They had to take the worst jobs. They built the railways and the canals. They did the sweat and the toil and like the black immigrants of recent years were spurned and scorned for their labours.

Irishmen were always fighting and drinking. Irishmen were stupid. Paddy was thick, fit only for the hod, or for a leading part in jokes that helped deny his humanity in words and ideas.

But when 'Paddy' rebelled, the patronising junk was given an even more insidious turn.

Then he became a cruel, heartless menace, a threat to civilisation, an inferior creature who needed to be repressed with all the brutality the British Empire could summon.

## Punch

The mid-19th century illustrated magazines like *Punch* and *Judy* were the means by which this racism found its most perfect expression.

The operation involved a deliberate and deceitful prostitution of the new and revolutionary theory of human evolution.

Evolution became a tree with a top and a bottom.

*At the top came, predic-*



THE IRISH FRANKENSTEIN.

ABOVE and RIGHT: How the Irish were presented as sub-human. The magazine *Punch* also tried to portray them as animals.

By LAURIE FLYNN

ably, the Bulldog Breed. And at the bottom were the victims of Bulldog's civilising mission: Africans and Indians and Irish.

An unforgettable passage from *Punch* for 18 October 1862 gives a fair indication of what was going on. The article incidentally, is supposed to be funny.

'A gulf, certainly does appear to yawn between the Gorilla and the Negro. The woods and wilds of

Africa do not exhibit an example of any intermediate animal. But in this, as in many other cases, philosophers go vainly searching abroad for that which they would readily find if they sought for it at home.

## Savages

A creature manifestly between the Gorilla and the Negro is to be met with in some of the lowest districts, whence it has contrived to migrate; it belongs in fact to a tribe of Irish savages: the lowest species of the Irish Yahoo.



When conversing with its kind it talks a sort of gibberish. It is, moreover, a climbing animal, and may sometimes be seen ascending a ladder laden with a hod of bricks.

The Irish Yahoo generally confines itself within the limits of its own colony, except when it goes out of them to get its living. Sometimes, however, it sallies forth in states of excitement, and attacks civilised human beings that have provoked its fury.

## Ability

The somewhat superior ability of the Irish Yahoo to utter articulate sounds, may suffice to prove that it is a development, and not, as some imagine, a degeneration of the Gorilla.

The poison wasn't confined to the written Word. *Punch* and *Judy* excelled themselves by printing increasingly vicious caricatures of rebellious Irishmen.

In those cartoons the Irish were represented as apes, much after the fashion that Cummings or Jak today represent the IRA.

Paddy had in fact devolved. By contrast the Bulldog Breed had

evolved still further and become angel to Paddy's ape.

The best scientific authorities were put on show to 'prove' that by feature and facial angle the Briton was further removed from ancestry with the apes than any other type of human being.

The Anthropological Society in London held lectures on the subject. Books set out in detail the 'reasoning' behind this garbage.

*But Irish people struggling for their own national independence was not the only fear that beat in the breast of the partisans of Empire and addicts of Punch.*

They feared the rising working class in Liverpool, Manchester,

Clydeside and the Tyne.

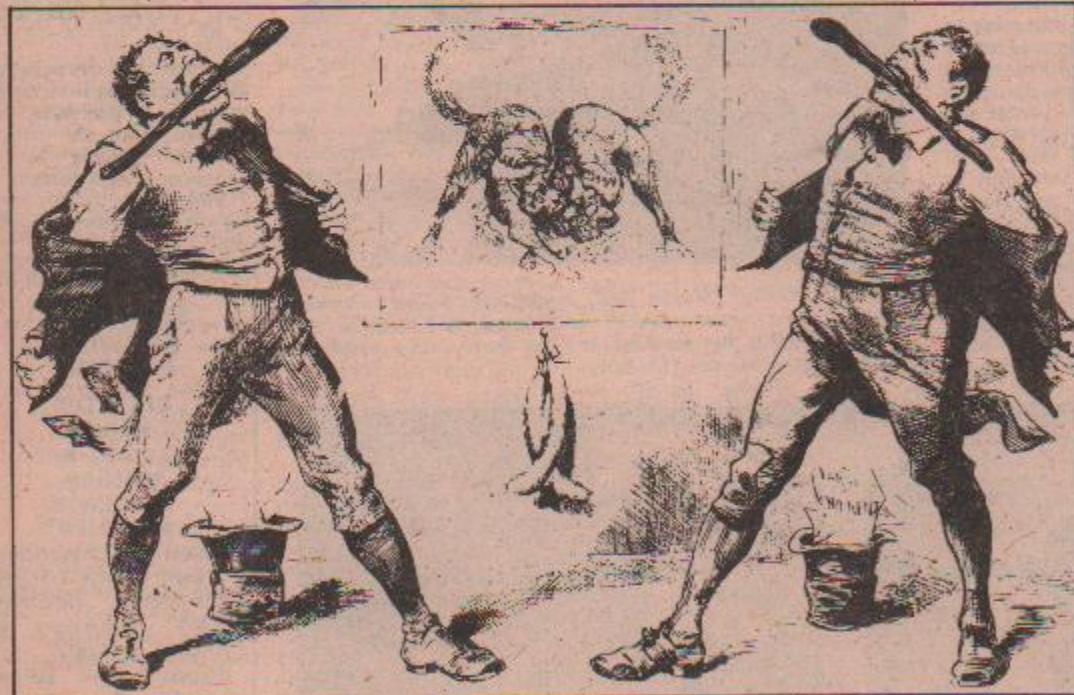
Like Irishmen or Indians, they too were held to be unfit to run their own lives. They too needed masters to do it for them.

Occasionally it suited the man with a civilising mission to emphasise what some of his victims imagined they had in common with him.

## Bruised

'You're better than the blacks, don't complain' was the cry.

Many people, battered and bruised by successive dosages of these preposterous ideas, were persuaded to swallow them—along with jokes which they had been persuaded to believe were in some way funny.



Note the animal features: magazines like *Judy* portrayed Irishmen as violent brutes

**Socialist Worker says**  
Don't be fooled:  
Unemployment is caused by the bosses & the government, not by black workers.

**Socialist Worker says**  
Don't be fooled:  
Fewer blacks are let into Britain each week than Rhodesian whites.

**Socialist Worker says**  
Don't be fooled:  
In the '30s they blamed the Jews, today they blame the black.

**Socialist Worker anti-racism stickers—six different types. £1.50 for 1000, 30p for 200 from Socialist Worker, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Money with orders please.**

# How the police smashed the



①  
**THE SCABS WAIT TO MOVE IN...**

Just down the road from the factory, the scab lorry drivers and the police wait for the signal to move in. On this lorry, the name of the company has been covered over. There were five coachloads of police waiting to help the scabs.



②  
**... AND WITH A LITTLE HELP...**

The police had no intention of allowing the pickets to talk to the lorry drivers. The pickets were pushed or dragged out of the way. The gates had been kept open, ready. The first lorry races through.

You don't matter, you're not a machine

**KENT:** 1000 construction workers on the huge Isle of Grain power station construction site are still on strike.

They are demanding overalls, to protect themselves against hazardous fibre-glass, and the reinstatement of men sacked for refusing to work without protection.

Workers employed by GEC on the same site have been provided with overalls since the job began so as to protect the turbines they are installing from dust!

As one of the pickets told Socialist Worker: 'They're not worried about protecting us, we're only human beings.'

### Boycott

Last week the management smuggled in food during the night. When the women canteen workers voted not to black it, the shop stewards' committee organised a boycott of the canteens.

All the meals have had to be thrown away. The boycott is still going on.

The strike was made official three weeks ago but the men are receiving no strike pay.

Management union officials and the employers' federation are meeting on Friday but some pickets fear the union officials might accept redundancies and an increase in the workload to get the men back to work.

Messages of support to the Joint Shop Stewards' Committee, Isle of Grain Power Station, Kent.

# THE ROAD WHERE IT SNOWS ASBESTOS...

**THE GARAGES** of 14 council houses in Biggerstaff Road, Newham, East London, are locked. The local council admits that they are all contaminated by the deadliest of all varieties of asbestos: blue asbestos.

A two-inch layer of blue asbestos was blown on as a foam to cover the strawboard ceilings. It has deteriorated over the years.

Terry Bellamy, a docker in the Royal Group

who lives at No 19 Biggerstaff Road, told Socialist Worker: 'The least touch and it flakes. I have hit my ladder or my fishing rods on it and it flakes down like snow.'

'First thing you see when you open your garage is dust.'

The garage doors are locked from the inside now, so no one can get in. But the tenants are worried. George Mason, of No 17, explained: 'That's where the kids always play when it rains.'

'The council haven't mentioned compensation. They said to me, "What are you after?" I told them "A new pair of lungs—that's what I want.'

Mrs Arnold from No 5 went on: 'My boy has been working in there on his bike. I have my aquarium in there. The baby's pram is in there.'

Terry Bellamy runs a youth club in the neighbourhood and stores all the sports gear in his garage. 'Sets of football gear, cricket gear, rounders shorts—everything you can think of.'

And it has all been exposed to the killer asbestos and worn by the local children before the risk was known.

'What annoys me is they should have done something about this before', said George Mason. 'It was reported three or four years ago. The council just laughed.'

### Hanging

'I took a sample from the garage and gave it to the council visiting officer when he came round a few weeks ago. The asbestos was hanging loose.'

'I told them I was going to get it analysed by a friend of mine, but they could do it and save me the trouble. Two days later they sent us a letter and locked up all the garages.'

Terry Bellamy said: 'I told the council it's their duty to send a mobile unit for everyone here, and to inform everybody who lived here and has moved that they should be checked.'

'But the council won't do it. "We haven't got the assets to send it round", they say.'

## DID YOU KNOW THESE PRODUCTS CAN KILL?

By Dave Ayre

'MATERIALS containing asbestos that are sold for domestic building and workshop use should, where practicable, be closely marked as containing asbestos and the need to avoid inspiring dust while drilling, cutting, sawing or spraying should be stated on them.'

This advice comes in the government report 'Control of the Cancer Hazard to the General Public Due to Asbestos', kept secret since 1968.

Expandite and Rawplug, both Burmah companies, make one of the commonest do-it-yourself goods—masonry plugging materials, Rawplastic and Screwfix.

Neither company indicates that the products contain asbestos.

Other openly sold products containing this lethal substance include asbestos cement sheeting, acoustic tiles, and insulating board.

### Exposure

All are widely used in the home by handymen. No regulations govern the labelling of these materials, often sold in do-it-yourself shops which take few precautions against the deadly dust.

The report also lists 17 cases of mesothelioma in 1967-78 where there was no occupational exposure to asbestos.

In one case, for example, the patient had only been exposed to asbestos for one day, while sawing up asbestos sheets to build two sheds.

The report states: 'Between a quarter and a half of all persons now over 50 years old may contain asbestos particles in their lungs.'

They will die painful deaths, as breathing becomes harder and harder.

Meanwhile the profits of the do-it-yourself companies keep rolling in.

## York: Why we won

By Paul Lannen, UCATT, York

**YORK COUNCIL** have banned all asbestos products from future and present contracts. They will replace asbestos in existing housing with a safe substitute.

The trades council campaigned for the ban. But what really clinched it was the refusal on a building site by union and non-union labour to handle asbestos.

## Notices and meetings

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

**CHILE**—Don't forget National Demonstration: Sunday 12 September, Assemble 1pm, Clerkenwell Green, London EC1. Organised by Chile Solidarity Campaign.

**MANCHESTER** Engineers Charter Meeting: The Way Forward. Speakers: Harry McShane (AUEW), Jimmy McCallum (TASS), Clive Hartley (AUEW convenor, Foundry Works, Sheffield). Wednesday 25 August, 8pm, Town Hall Basement Theatre, Town Hall Extension, Manchester.

**POST OFFICE WORKER** Paper of Rank and File UPW members. Issue No 2 now out. Articles on the wages deal and the cuts, conference report, redundancy, UPW rank and file programme of demands. Order copies now (5p each) from Post Office Worker, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

**HOSPITAL WORKER** Send all money for last 2 issues to Mel Bartley, 18 Fire Terrace, London N1. Urgent. Also orders for mid-August issue.

**Manchester Right to Work Disco:** Saturday 28 August, 8pm, Victor Brox Blues Band, Poly Union, Cavendish House, All Saints, Manchester. Extension applied for. Admission 75p, 35p for unemployed.

**WORKERS BOOKSHELF:** Socialist mail order book service offers wide selection of books on Marxism, labour history, women and international affairs. Pamphlets our speciality—over 60 titles. SAE for catalogue to Workers Bookshelf, 150 Foster Road, Trumpington, Cambridge.

## Strikers ordered: Get back to work

**MANCHESTER:** The strike of Engineering and Electricians Union members at ICL, West Gorton has now entered its 12th bitter week.

From the beginning, it had official support from the AUEW.

But last week the EETPU members were instructed by the union leadership to return to work.

It is obvious that such a stand threatens trade unionists everywhere. As one of the strikers told Socialist Worker: 'All the union seems to do is to encourage people to work inside the factory, especially overtime, and to break picket lines.'

**STOP PRESS:** The strikers voted on Tuesday to return to work next Monday on the recommendation of the AUEW executive.

A mass meeting of all the ASTMS members at the West Gorton and Dukinfield factories has called for, among other things, an overtime ban and blacking of sub-contract work to get the company to withdraw its redundancy plans.

Many people voted against the proposals because of the way the meeting had been run by the chairman and because of the comments of the local fulltime official.

Neither had properly outlined the full situation nor had a proper report-back been received from the national ASTMS meeting in Birmingham a week earlier.

This is not the way to win the struggle against redundancies.



ABOVE: George Mason (left) and Terry Bellamy inspect football shirts contaminated by blue asbestos. BELOW: The two men show what they think of the killer dust—with a poster on Terry's garage door.



### STOP SAVAK ACTIVITIES IN BRITAIN

DROP THE CHARGES AGAINST THE IRANIAN STUDENTS

Picket Knightsbridge Crown Court, 1 Hans Crescent, London SW1, Monday 9 August, 9.45am. Support the three Iranian students arrested for protesting against the visit by the Shah of Iran's wife to Britain.

# Trico women's picket line

PICTURES: Chris Davies and Andrew Wiard (Report)



3 ... FROM THEIR FRIENDS ...

Eileen Ward, one of the strike committee, tries to stop the fourth lorry driving into the factory. But the police know how to deal with her ...



4 ... THEY'RE HOME AND DRY

The pickets are cleared out of the way to let the scab drive his lorry through. Sally Groves (bottom left), another member of the Strike Committee, is dragged away from in front of the lorry. Three pickets were arrested during the evening.

By an SW supporter

THE NUMBER of sackings announced at ICL Computer Peripheral operations at Letchworth in Hertfordshire is 182.

This is smaller than the 1191 scheduled for the North. Nevertheless, staff fear that the impending scaling down of Computer Peripherals will lead to closure.

## ICL: We need unity

The operation was set up jointly with the two American multinationals Control Data Corporation and National Cash Register to manufacture computer printers, card readers, discs and magnetic tape products. It has been

roughly two years getting off the ground and even now is little more than an empty factory in Stevenage.

12 drawing office staff and senior management have been appointed. But ICL have not so far revealed their intentions.

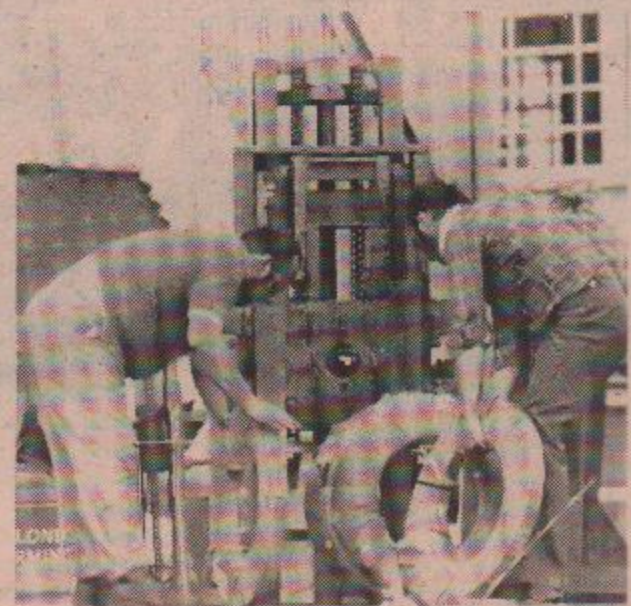
Most workers fear the operation will mean imported equipment replacing jobs at Letchworth.

The redundancy package presented on 21 July includes cessation of planned overtime and sackings of temporary staff and so-called overage staff. Union attitudes are firm. And it is to be hoped that co-operation between the unions at ICL will hold firm.

## BLACK THESE FIRMS

THE FOLLOWING haulage companies have been used in strike breaking at Trico and should be blacked immediately:

- General Express Services, Abbey Road, London, E15
- SDS Components
- Phoenix Freightliners
- G F Norton
- Arthur Kent



5 The scabs complete their dirty work, unloading coils of chrome-plated steel

# RAIDED - AND THEN STRIPPED

LONDON: 150 police with dogs raided Wren House International Telephone Exchange last Friday night.

They sealed off the building and closed the switchboards. A 'casual labourer' took off his white boilersuit and put on a

police uniform. Then they rounded up the 300 employees and strip-searched them.

### Massive

The police claim they mounted this massive operation to look for drugs. But they only had warrants for seven people.

It is believed they found

three milligrams of cannabis—a tiny bit of dust.

The London Overseas Telephones No 2 branch of the Union of Post Office Workers reacted angrily.

They went on strike on Saturday and stayed out till Monday afternoon, when a meeting of workers demanded inquiries by the Home Secretary and the Post Office.

The Post Office had

suspended four people arrested by the police. But they were reinstated because of the industrial action.

The other seven switchrooms that control international traffic in London struck with Wren House. The international telephonists in Leicester, Glasgow and Brighton offered support, too.

But why did the police make this swoop?

Richie Griffin, branch secretary, told Socialist Worker: 'Management has been harassing members because we haven't done a deal to reorganise international traffic. They have offered no money.

The duty schemes they have given us are detrimental to the service. The Post Office has cut 300 jobs and yet overtime is being worked.

Alan Crisp, deputy branch secretary, told Socialist Worker: 'I think the idea was to intimidate. Management have put troubleshooters into the exchange, just like they've done with others where they want redundancies.

### Nightclubs

'We have had trouble before. Last year there was big news coverage of people who were supposed to go out to nightclubs when they were on duty. They only found one.

Then there was the scandal of people supposed to be involved in a racket with travel agents. They found a few people who made calls to their family, that's all.

'Our members are pretty shocked. The police surrounded the workplace, searched us and kept us under guard in rooms.

'The implications are frightening. I don't know if it's going to become fairly common. It could be the start of a new tactic.

'The response of our members was amazing. But the police could try it again anywhere.'

## Stuff your rent increase, tenants tell council

COUNCIL tenants in Sandwell, a large West Midlands borough, are organising against rent increases of up to £1.50.

The campaign started when six tenants on the Princes End estate got together. They had just received notice of the massive increases and decided to fight them.

As John Daly put it: 'We've been shit on long enough, but they're not going to rub it in. Unless we stand our ground and fight we'll rapidly get back to the Thirties.'

This small group began to ask tenants to withhold rent for one week as a protest. In a matter of weeks, this has snowballed into the campaign of the Sandwell Tenants' Action Committee and could involve nearly 60,000 tenants.

### Petitions

More than 400 people attended last Monday's public meeting. They heard that 8,000 signatures were already on the petition against the rent increases.

They were also told of the snubs received by their representatives at the hands of

By Laurie Waterman

various officials—including the local Labour MP Betty Boothroyd.

She was asked by a delegation how pensioners were supposed to cope with a 30 per cent increase. Showing all her socialist passion, she snapped back: 'As for old people, you shouldn't be conned by their poverty.'

Jim Smith, a member of the Action Committee and a shop steward at Beans Industries, told Friday's Committee meeting:

'We're restricted to 4 1/2 per cent on our wages, yet they're trying to put 30 per cent on our rents.'

Betty Boothroyd told us that we had a £6 increase—but that was negotiable and taxable. That £6 was gone before we had it, remember inflation at 25 per cent!

This new agreement lasts until July 1977. 4 1/2 per cent! If you're on £70 a week it's worth £3.50. By the time all the deductions are taken off its worth little anyway—about £1.70.

The council are asking for

nearly all of it. But food, clothing, are all going up—we're going to be a lot worse off. We've been sold down the river, the ordinary working man is suffering yet again.

'We've had better agreements under the Tories. A Socialist Government is supposed to mean a fair government—but it doesn't look that way anymore. If we're stupid enough to put up with this colossal increase, they'll follow the same pattern with rents as they have with rates—put them through the roof.'

The plan of action is to withhold rent for two weeks as an initial protest, then withhold the increase indefinitely. Meanwhile lobby Councillors and MPs.

The fight is on, and the tenants in Sandwell need your support. Tell them what you're doing about the rent increases in your area, and feel free to ask them for more information about their campaign—they want a nationwide rents campaign. Sandwell Tenants Action Committee, c/o 68, Richards Road, Princes End, Tipton, Staffs.

## How you can support the strikers

by Margaret Renn and Jenny Reece

THIS IS how the Trico management have decided to settle the strike.

They are using the police to smash the picket line and to send scab lorries into the factory in Brentford, West London.

Last Thursday evening, before the picket line had had a chance to build up its numbers, the police helped through a convoy of scab lorries.

Later, the lorries—having unloaded their supplies and reloaded with parts—were sent out again.

### Safe

Then they drove off up North. The police were so concerned for their safe departure that they blocked the road outside the factory and saw the lorries through traffic lights on red.

They tried to prevent anyone following the lorries. One car did manage to pursue them, but on the M1, near Northampton, the lorries forced the car to stop.

The drivers then chased the two pickets until they managed to shake them off.

The next day the strikers put out an emergency bulletin to their workmates in the factory appealing for them to join the strike.

The fork lift truck drivers, members of the Transport Union came out.

### Speak

The picket needs all the assistance it can get. Every Engineering Union member in London should send a delegation to it and invite strikers to speak to their shop stewards' committee or a mass meeting.

Everyone who can should organise a collection among

If they get smashed, every other employer who still has to pay up will do the same.

- Visit the picket line
- Send collections to the Strike Committee, Southall AUEW District, 1 Woodlands Road, Southall, Trico—Folberth, Great West Road, Brentford, under the M4 motorway.

# Socialist Worker

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# Support!

# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p

## Black these goods!

WE APPEAL to all readers and trade unionists to black materials at these companies which are still trading with Automat as of 23 July 1976:

- BEL Fittings, Water Street, Accington (supplying sheetmetal cubicles).
- Garrick Engineering, Southport (non-union—supplying sheetmetal work).
- Rist's Wire and Cables, Newcastle, Staffs (supplying electric cable).
- RTZ Swinton Depot, Prestley Road, Worsley, Manchester (non-union—supplying aluminium).
- Shakeshaft, Belle Vue Works, Boundary Street, Manchester 12 (wholesaler, supplying English Electric fuses).
- Thomas Hadden Stokes, Globe Works, High Street, Birmingham (supplying nuts and bolts).
- Greengate Industrial Polymers, Ordall Lane, Salford 3 (supplying Lamincon).
- Engel and Gibbs, Borehamwood (supplying electrical relays—non-union).
- Dorman-Smith Switchgear,

## THESE COMPANIES ARE STILL TRADING WITH AUTOMAT

- Blackpool Road, Preston (regular customer).
- Vickers Oceanic, Barrow-in-Furness (regular customer—transformers—non-union).
- Concord Lighting, New Lane, Portsmouth (regular customer—transformers—non-union).
- Clifford Daires, Berkshire (non-union—regular customer).
- British Rail Red Star Parcels (carrying Automat's goods).
- SAF Transport, York (haulage contractors).
- Klippon Electrical, Sheerness, Kent (suppliers—non-union).
- Saft Batteries, Castle Wood, Hampton, Middlesex (non-union—supplier).
- Whitbread Breweries (customer).
- N G Bailey, Derby Street, Manchester (electrical contractors).
- Gilpin Express Parcels, Burnley (haulage contractors).
- GPO (customer—electrical control units).
- Permanoid, New Islington, Manchester (supplier).
- JWQ Transport (haulage contractor).
- Burnley Express Supplies, Burnley (haulage contractor).
- Whittaker Brother, Shaw, Oldham (non-union—customers).
- Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co, Chippenham, Wiltshire (suppliers—electrical components).
- Hursford, Stanmore, Middlesex (non-union—suppliers).
- J R Williams, Clipstone St, Manchester 11 (electrical contractor).
- Bradville, Bradford (non-union—customer).
- International Rectifiers, Oxted, Surrey (non-union—suppliers).
- Hamnett and Andrews, Electrical Insulations, Derby Street, Manchester (suppliers).
- Ralph M Parsons, Parson's House, Kew Bridge Street, Brentford, Middlesex (customer).
- British Airport Authority (customer—products go to airport authorities sites).
- British Gas (customer—products go to Gas Council sites).
- Atomic Energy Authority (customer—products go to Atomic Energy Authority Sites).
- Rowntree Mackintosh (customer).
- J H Humphreys, Werneth, Oldham (non-union—regular customer).
- GEC Reliance Systems, Wellingborough and other sites (major customers and suppliers).
- Holden and Fisher, Glasgow (non-union—supplier).
- Farnell Instruments, Wetherby, Yorkshire (non-union—customer).
- Pentagon Electrical Products, Hall Green, Birmingham (non-union—supplier).
- Donaghey Vincent James, Manchester (Reg No's vehicles HNC 295N NVM 596P; haulage contractors—using unmarked orange vans to deliver goods, since strike started).

# AUTOMAT



Last week's mass picket—but the scabs were already inside

**THE six-month strike at Automat, Swinton, near Manchester, is under attack from the national radio and television.**

BBC Radio Four and Granada Television reports last Sunday gave the impression that the strike was an attack on the majority of the workers at Automat.

Winston Churchill MP claimed that John Tocher, the local Engineering Union organiser who is a member of the Communist Party, had 'joined forces' with the International Socialists 'to destroy democracy'.

## Workers intimidated into signing 'no union' petition

Churchill should know about democracy. He had a good teacher in his grandfather, who ordered the gunning down of striking miners in South Wales in 1911.

Churchill made great play about a petition supposedly signed by 90 per cent of the workforce stating that they didn't want to join the union.

He neglected to mention the intimidation used in collecting these signatures, when people were taken one by one into a management office where the petition was pushed on them.

Nor did he mention that the alleged 90 per cent includes all the supervisors, managers and white-collar workers.

Democracy has never been implemented at any time by Chamberlain, the managing director at Automat. For years he has sacked workers when approached about union recognition.

The firm was blacked by the draughtsmen's union TASS when a few years

ago staff in the drawing office approached management about union recognition and were immediately sacked.

In 1973, four shop floor workers were sacked when they tried to organise the shop floor into the AUEW.

### Pressure

The present strike began when the pattern was repeated and all the AUEW members at Automat were sacked. No wonder the rest of the workforce are frightened to say whether they really want a union organisation.

They will only change their minds when the pressure from pickets outside and from the trade union movement nationally is greater than that from the management.

An important step in that direction was made last week. There was a militant, 300-strong mass

picket organised by the Stockport AUEW district committee on Friday morning.

But the scabs had already started work at 6am. To prevent management using such tactics there has to be an effective 24-hour picket. Rank and file stewards should be pressing for this at the Engineering Unions Confederation meeting this Thursday.

There should be a week of action with effective 24-hour picketing, solidarity strikes in the Manchester district and surrounding districts finishing with a mass demonstration in Swinton. There should also be a weekly bulletin produced by the Confed strike committee.

Messages of support and offers of help to the strikers, to Tom Smith, c/o AUEW offices, The Crescent, Salford.

## Where the profits are hidden

AUTOMAT consists of four separate companies: Automat, the manufacturing company, Electro-Automat, which handles sales, design and merchandise, Certina, which supplies management services and 'special investigation', and Armaton which does the research and development.

The first company,

Automat, is completely privately owned by its managing director, Chamberlain, so he is able to conceal most of the information about it.

The other three are public companies, but are almost completely owned by (you guessed it!) Chamberlain. It's not easy to get information about the profits of the four companies because they trade a lot with each other and shift profits about by adjusting prices between themselves to

reduce the tax bill.

Nevertheless, the best information we have is that in the year ending April 1974 their sales were £866,000. Profits, depreciation and interest were £30,000. Assets were £135,000.

### Bank

Automat has a bank overdraft of £22,000. This is personally guaranteed by

Chamberlain, which indicates that he isn't short of a few coppers.

If he ever had to pay off the overdraft, he could probably do it with money gained from the sale a few years ago of yet another Automat company, Northworks. Profits and assets of this company brought Chamberlain a total of £360,000.

The workers sacked to get this money probably weren't as enthusiastic.

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Sunday 8 August, Assemble Old Market Square, Nottingham, 5pm.  
Called by Nottingham International Socialists and Nottingham Immigrant communities Midlands, Yorkshire and Lancashire IS branches to support.