

Socialist Worker

1,500,000 reasons why you must march next weekend

ONE and a half million out of work! It's a figure which reeks of the 1930s, of slump, of hunger and illness for older workers chucked on the scrapheap, of young people leaving school for the degradation of the dole.

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p

The leaders of the Trades Union Congress have expressed their 'concern' at the rise in the figures. We've heard all that before.

At last year's Congress, TUC general secretary Len Murray introduced the £6 pay freeze. He said the policy was 'the only practical way of protecting jobs'.

What has happened? Last August there were 1,151,001 people on the dole in Britain and Northern Ireland. This August there are 1,501,176.

That's an increase of 350,000.

Every day that trade unionists have accepted the wage freeze policies of their leaders, another thousand people joined the dole queues.

Now the same leaders have the cheek to call for another 'year for Britain' for another wage freeze. What do they want? Two million unemployed?

The TUC leaders' 'concern' is a sham. So is the moaning and groaning from the CBI—the bosses' organisation—and the newspapers. They 'care deeply' about unemployment, so long as no one does anything about it.

The Right to Work Campaign is doing something about it. They are calling on unemployed people all over the country to join the march to Brighton, where the TUC meets from 6-10 September.

Wednesday Lobby

John Deason, secretary of the Right to Work Campaign, told Socialist Worker: 'The march and lobby of the TUC will be the only opportunity for the unemployed to demonstrate their resentment and call for fighting trade union policies to defeat unemployment.'

The Right to Work Campaign is not the only body calling for a big demonstration in Brighton. This week the huge public service workers' union, NUPE, called for an official lobby of the TUC on Wednesday 8 September to protest against the cuts.

'This lobby deserves the support of all NUPE members—and of the entire labour movement. The Right to Work Campaign is therefore changing its previous call for a lobby on Tuesday 7th to one for total support for the NUPE lobby on the 8th.'

'We want one, united lobby of employed and unemployed workers.'

'I have written to Alan Fisher, NUPE's general secretary, offering NUPE members and supporters places on the special lobby train which leaves London's Victoria Station for Brighton at 9.30am on Wednesday 8 September.'

'Every Right to Work committee must immediately contact their local NUPE branches, arrange joint transport to the lobby and organise joint delegations to other trade unionists urging their support.'

THE MARCH—full details page 4.

THE FIGHT AGAINST THE CUTS—page 5.

WHY WE'RE MARCHING—pages 8-9.



ALL members of the International Socialists and supporters of Socialist Worker are urged to ensure the maximum possible attendance at the demonstration in London on Saturday 4 September to see the Right to Work marchers off to Brighton, and to support the lobby of the TUC on Wednesday 8 September. All IS branches to bring banners.

WHERE HAS ALL THE CHEAP FOOD GONE?

SUDDENLY, almost before you could notice, cheap food has disappeared.

Now it's butter at 42p a pound, the four bob loaf, potatoes back at 12p a pound—apparently for good—and they're talking about the 3p brussels sprout.

The Labour government are quick to blame the drought. Of course the drought will mean higher prices. But the vast bulk of the increases are the result of the government's own policies.

It's **NOT** the drought that is slashing food subsidies.

It's **NOT** the drought that is building beef and butter mountains all over Britain and Europe.

It's **NOT** the drought that is safeguarding the incomes of landowners and big farmers at the expense of all of us who have to eat.

It's **NOT** the drought that is to blame when tomatoes are fed to cows to keep the price up.

It's the government. The same government which was elected to keep prices stable and to maintain heavy food subsidies.

No wonder the Tories are cheering.

Who keeps prices up?

See page 3.



Tomatoes being fed to cattle on a farm at St Andrews, Guernsey, Channel Islands. The fall in price of tomatoes in Britain has made it unprofitable to export them. So the cows get the tomatoes and the prices go up in the shops . . .

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER

AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER



BEFORE: Police stand in line to block the anti-fascist picket and allow the Front to sell their papers
A police snatch squad moves in to arrest demonstrators



A policeman arrests a demonstrator—by the hair!

'They were like wild animals'

POLICE ATTACK ANTI-FASCISTS

THE National Front came on to Bolton precinct for the third week running last Saturday. Two previous weeks they had gone away bleeding and beaten, their racist papers and leaflets torn to shreds.

This Saturday morning, several Socialist Worker sellers were confronted by two high-ranking police officers and several hefty coppers, and told to move to a quieter part of the town centre.

This would mean that our regular selling place could be used for leafletting and a street meeting by the National Front. The superintendent revealed that he had been contacted by 'interested parties'.

Members of the International Socialists told him they wouldn't move for any

by DAVE GIBBENS
NALGO shop steward,
Bolton

fascists. We also insisted on holding our meeting at our own meeting place, despite threats that any such meeting would be stopped by the police.

The meeting, attended by 200 anti-fascists, mostly members of IS and Bolton Asian Youth Organisation, decided to oppose the fascists—20 members of the National Front from all over Lancashire. The fascists were guarded by more than

100 police.

In view of the massive police presence, activity was limited to heckling the Front meeting and effectively preventing them from gaining an audience.

But the police were there not only to protect the local Nazis but to attack anyone that opposed them. A special snatch squad charged into the crowd, making selective arrests.

Among those arrested was Janif Masters, one of the leading members of the Bolton Asian Youth Organisation, and Ian Heyes, convenor of Pochins Polytechnic building site in Manchester.

The brutality displayed by the police shocked many bystanders. The police kicked and hit anyone in their way, including young boys and girls.

Ian was beaten so badly in the cells that he had to go to hospital where he was treated for a broken rib.

He told Socialist Worker after being released: 'Make no mistake about this. This was a vicious, unprovoked attack. They were like wild animals.'

Punched

'But if they think that this sort of treatment is going to stop us turning out against the Nazis they're dead wrong.'

Five young people were arrested—including three who are going on the Right to Work march next week. Those arrested were taken to the local police station, punched and kicked. On the way they were dragged, some of them by the hair, past the local Nazis and 'shown off' to the fascists.

Determined not to be intimidated, the local IS and Young Asian Organisation called a picket on Saturday evening. More than 100 people came.

The arrested comrades were denied access to a solicitor. According to the police sergeant, this would 'hinder my paperwork'.

A local solicitor was contacted, and with the militant picket still continuing, the arrested comrades were soon released.

Marie Hart, who was released, said: 'I was close to tears in the cell, but the chanting and cheering of the picket was terrific.'

'Make no mistake, everyone busted today will be back next week.'

A defence fund has been set up to collect funds for the defence and for legal fees. Donations to Dan Mistry, 20 Wyesdale Road, Bolton.

BARBARIC

—that's the word for immigration controls

REMEMBER the Hawley Report on Indian immigration? Remember the newspaper headlines screaming about the 'flood' of immigrants pouring into the country?

Mohammed Akram and Jan Elliot visited India earlier this year on behalf of the Runnymede Trust, the race relations research body.

They interviewed 59 families who had been refused permission to join members of the family in Britain. They found that 55 of the 58—an astonishing 95 per cent—were fully entitled to come, even according to the terms of these racist controls, and had been wrongly refused.

Appalling

Jan Elliot and Mohammed Akram tell a series of appalling stories about the treatment of women and children applicants for immigration.

At the British Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan, the applicants who are forced to travel for up to four or five days, are 'interviewed' in the only room in the entire embassy which is not air-conditioned.

Often the interpreters translate the questions wrongly. At one of the interviews which Mohammed Akram and Jan Elliot attended, the interviewer asked: 'Do you want to take the baby to her grandfather?'

This was translated as: 'If the baby keeps crying, the interview cannot be conducted properly.'

One young girl, who was seeking entry along with her mother, said: 'The officer didn't believe me and threatened to throw

me out of the window if I did not tell the truth.'

Her sister said: 'I was threatened with being thrown into the Raval Dam.'

An entry certificate officer, in rejecting an application for entry by a young boy, Javid Iqbal, insisted that the boy's mother was 'a figment of his imagination, and never existed.'

But Jan Elliot met and talked to the boy's mother.

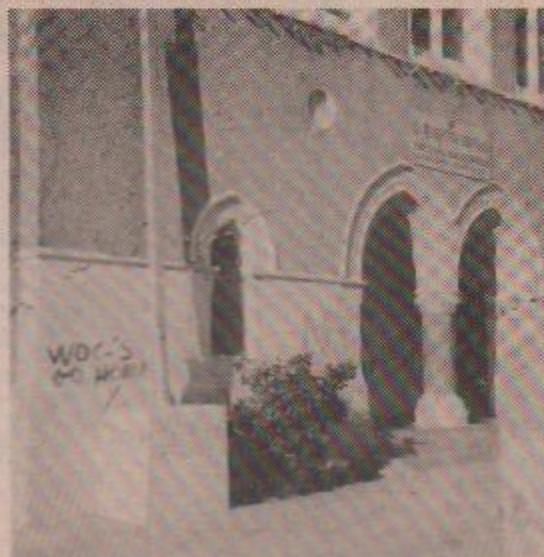
A mother was being interviewed about her application for entry, and her child was screaming and struggling. The entry certificate officer called in the child's grandfather, who calmed the child.

'I formed the impression,' wrote the officer, 'that the child's reaction was due to the fact that the man was his father, not his grandfather.' For that reason alone the woman was refused permission to join her husband in Britain!

Imagination

The 'Hordes' of potential immigrants coming in under the 'family rule' is a figment of racist imagination. The real picture is of thousands of impoverished women waiting up to two years for an interview, paying up to £200 for documents which they do not need, travelling sometimes hundreds of miles to the nearest British Embassy, being insulted and abused and finally being refused permission to join their families on the say-so of a Foreign Office racist.

You could say that any immigration controls would end up with barbarism and unfairness. And you'd be right. That's one reason why we're against the lot of them.



The Temple in Gravesend, desecrated last Saturday night by racists.

A loaded pistol, a flick knife and a swastika

AN EVERYDAY STORY OF THE NATIONAL PARTY

A NATIONAL PARTY supporter arrested for threatening behaviour in Gravesend last Saturday was found to be carrying a flick-knife and swastika emblems. When his car was searched a loaded automatic pistol was discovered.

Another NP supporter has also been arrested in Gravesend in connection with an incident last week when ammonia was squirted at a group of blacks and whites.

These two thugs were among a large group of NP members and supporters who had come to Gravesend to attempt to intimidate Socialist Worker sellers and the local Asian population.

Despite this the Kent Evening Post and the Gravesend Reporter have both attempted to blame last week's fight and

by ANDY MOIR and BALWINDER SINGH

the disturbance in the High Street on the Asians and their white supporters and to portray the NP as respectable. This mask has slipped now that two of their supporters have been arrested.

To protest against this racist reporting members and supporters of Gravesend International Socialists will be holding a picket outside the offices of the Reporter later this week.

Arrest

This Saturday, the police attempted to prove their impartiality by moving on both Socialist Worker sellers and sellers of Britain First, threatening SW sellers with arrest if they sold any papers. In spite of this more than 50

copies were sold.

The police also moved on any groups of local youths, black and white. NP thugs from outside the town were allowed to congregate and loiter with impunity.

The police had said earlier in the week that they would deal with the NP. Although they eventually arrested two of the thugs they have done nothing and will do nothing to stop the NP spreading their racist filth. The only people who can stop them are the local Asians and anti-racist whites.

The potential to do this was shown on Saturday when more than 100 local Asians and whites congregated quickly when some young people were threatened by NP bullies.

Prices go up and up!

IT'S NOT THE DROUGHT, IT'S THE GOVERNMENT

THE government has found a new excuse for price increases. A year ago the then prime minister, Harold Wilson, told us that if we gave a year for Britain, inflation would be cured.

Now potatoes are more than 10p a pound again, meat prices are soaring and there is talk of the 3p brussel sprout.

So last week the Minister of Agriculture, Fred Peart, a former director of the biggest meat firm in Britain, dramatically toured the farming areas in an RAF plane.

Profiteer

Afterwards he went on TV to explain that the government was not responsible for the drought, and could not prevent the price of vegetables from going sky high in the autumn.

In effect Peart gave the green light to those farmers and wholesalers in a position to profiteer out of the expected scarcity. The government is not going to try to control the market for vegetables, any more than they did last year when the shop price of potatoes tripled in only three months.

Despite the effects of the drought on

Socialist Worker

WHAT WE THINK

the cost of lining, the government still intends to press ahead with its programme of cuts in food subsidies. These have operated since 1974 on such basic items as butter, cheese, milk, tea and bread.

Last year the total cost of the food subsidies was £650 million. Labour have already cut this back this year to £400 million.

Earlier this summer the butter subsidy

was reduced pushing up the price by 4p a pound. The cheese subsidy was also cut, pushing its price up by 2p a pound.

At the end of July, Chancellor Dennis Healey announced that food subsidies are to be cut again in the coming year by a further £200 million—just half of the current level.

Which items of food are to be hit has not yet been made public. But the remaining butter and cheese subsidies are at risk, as well as the present 2p a pint subsidy on milk.

Lunacy

Increasing prices and cutting consumption of dairy products is lunacy. Not just because of the damage to nutritional standards, but because the Common Market still has a butter mountain and a

milk lake. There are 450 million gallons of skim milk in storage, and 200,000 tons of butter.

The Common Market Farm Commission in Brussels have openly welcomed the drought, not because it will eliminate these gigantic hoards of food, but only because lack of rain is helping to reduce the rate of accumulation of unsold dairy products.

Another subsidy which the government intends to cut is the 2p on the standard loaf.

Yet the chairman of Associated British Foods, the largest firm in the baking industry, recently said that, apart from the loss of subsidy, bread prices would anyway increase by a further 4p a loaf over the next 18 months. Half this increase would arise from Common Market agreements already signed by the government.

PROFITS UP! But where's it all going to?

THE government gave another go-ahead to big business to put up prices a few weeks ago. It relaxed the so-called price code.

The government justified its move by saying 'profits had to be helped' so as to encourage investment.

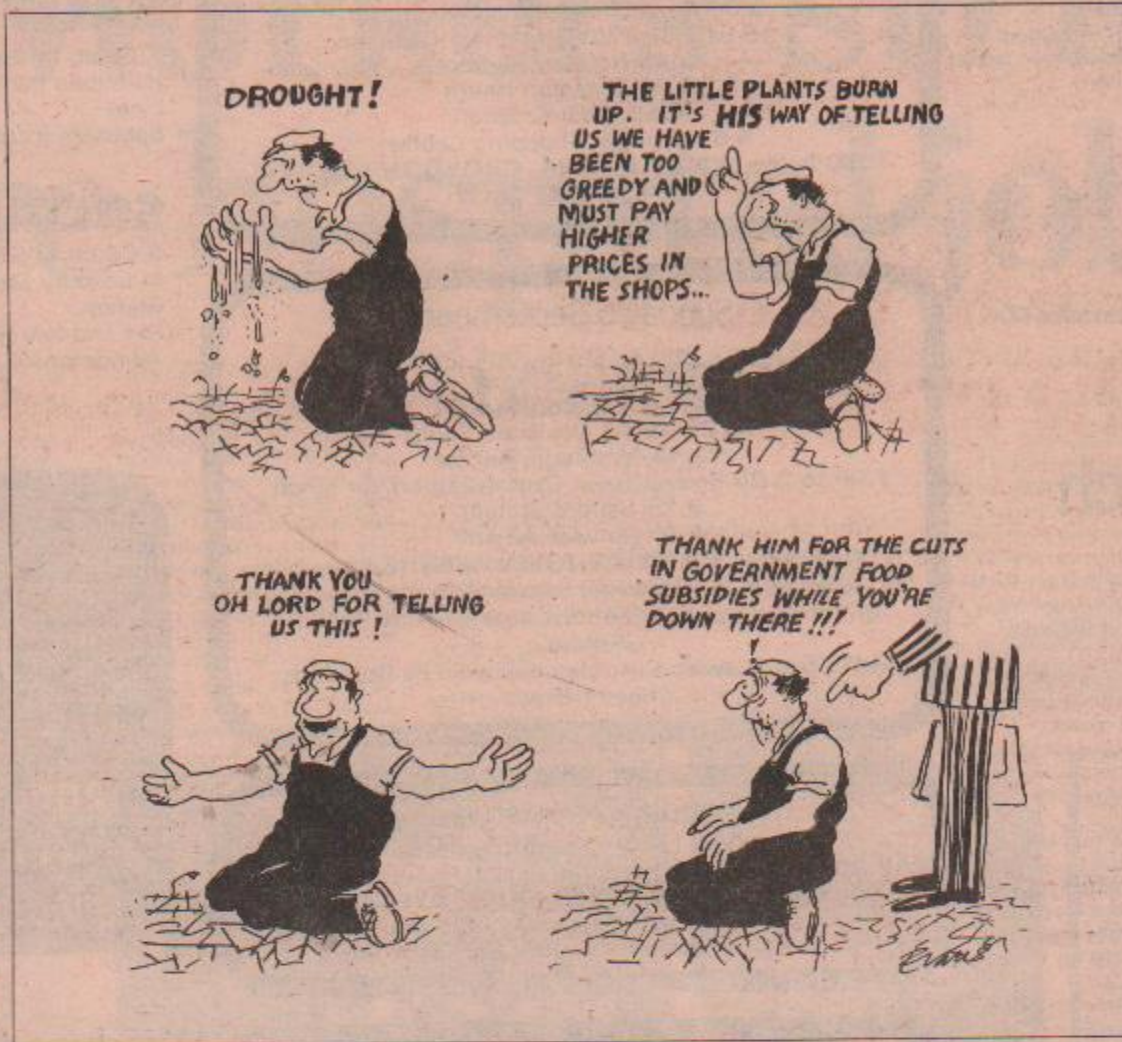
Profits after tax last year were £8,700 million. This year they are expected to rise to £12,600 million, according to The Times (4 August).

Is this increase going into investment? No. Investment this year will be only £800 million up on last year. So where have the increased profits gone? The Financial Times gave the game away on Monday.

There has been 'an exceptionally large increase in bank lendings to the private sector'. This, the paper suggests, has been used by them to buy goods abroad and import them in a 'speculative' manner.

By doing so they have contributed to pushing up prices directly by creating artificial shortages and indirectly by putting 'pressure on sterling' leading to a likely further fall in the value of the pound.

In short, the government holds back wages. The lost wage rises go into the pockets of industrialists and bankers as higher profits. And these profits are used for speculation that pushes up prices.



Increase

Tea manufacturers have an application before the Prices Commission for a 1p per 1/4lb increase, and the government is also expected to cut the present 2p per 1/4lb subsidy.

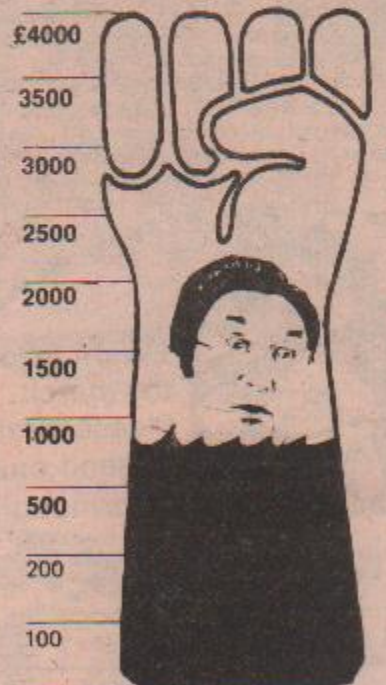
The Retail Consortium, which represents the political interests of the big shops and stores, forecast last week that prices will rise by 8 to 10 per cent by Christmas.

Apart from the effect of drought and food subsidy cuts, the major factor will be the 13 per cent fall since February in the international value of the £ sterling. The effects of increased cost of imported food and other items is only now beginning to work through to higher prices in the shops.

Despite their Social Contract undertakings, the government have taken no steps to protect the living standards of wage earners against the price inflation which lies inevitably ahead.

JIM KINCAID

Socialist Worker DEFENCE FUND



HELP US DO THE JOB THAT LABOUR CAN'T DO

THE Labour Party, announced the Morning Star this Tuesday, 'will launch a mass drive against racism.'

The Sunday Telegraph provided the details about how 'massive' this drive is to be: 'Transport House is replying with 2000 posters and 50,000 leaflets to constituency parties.'

The Labour Party claims 600,000 individual members and five million affiliated ones. There are more than 600 constituency parties, which means 80 leaflets per constituency; one leaflet for every 12 members!

Now compare that with the campaign against racism and fascism which the International Socialists and Socialist Worker have been

conducting.

Over the past two months we have printed:
 100,000 'They're Welcome Here' leaflets—twice as many as the Labour Party.

40,000 anti-fascist and anti-racist posters.

250,000 stickers giving the arguments against racism and fascism.



All the leaflets have been distributed. All the posters have been put up. All the stickers are stuck where they can be read.

Labour's 600,000 members can't run a campaign against fascism or a campaign about

anything. They have long since lost the urge or the enthusiasm to campaign.

The IS and Socialist Worker can run such a campaign. Our members, one two hundredth of the Labour Party's claimed total, are all determined to push the campaign against racism into every section of the working class.

We've got enthusiasm and fighting spirit. But we haven't got enough money.

Our members want more posters, stickers and leaflets.

But just at the time when we need to put masses of resources into the campaign against racism, Frank Chapple, president of the Electricians and Plumbers Union, is insisting on being paid the

damages and costs for his recent successful libel action against us.

We need £4000 to pay him off. The sooner we get it, the sooner we can concentrate everything we've got on our campaign against racism, the pay laws and the cuts.

This week's postbag has brought another bunch of cheques, postal orders and cash.



Altogether, we got £384.55 last week, which takes us another big leap towards the £4000. But please keep the money rolling in.

Our thanks to:
 M Miles £1, D Stannard £5, E D Coke £10, South Manchester Hospital sup-

porters £2.40, R Smith £5, Dunlop Caventry Supporters £1.20, N Mackay £1, J Colquhoun £2.50, Northampton RTW meeting £4.10, W Pretty £5, C Williams £10, S Molejode £2, Newcastle Staffs supporters £20, Mrs Stewart £1, S M Hobbs £5, F Mann £1, Coldharbour Estate SW readers £5, Herbert Controls Letchworth night shift £3.20, Hitchin collection 80p, Brian Greeny £1, Howarth Newlove £5, W Mushill £3, B Moran £2, Mrs Maclean £10, P W Keast £10, J Golding £1, J Cunningham £1, R F Brown £15, M Thompson £1, K Roberts £1.50.

IS Members: Black Country £18, Tarnside £22.70, Leeds £60, East Manchester £16, C A Parsons £2, Grimsby £10, Bedford £5, Easter Ross £50, Huddersfield £2, Wandsworth £5, Park Royal £15, Harleiden £5, North Herts £1.50, Darlington £14.50.

Donations to Socialist Worker Fighting Fund, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN

STOP THE CUTS & FIGHT FOR JOBS!

Support the march to Brighton
& join the mass lobby of the Trades Union Congress

Friday, 3 September

JOIN THE DEMONSTRATION
from East London

Leaves Hackney Town Hall at 6pm and marches to Stoke Newington Town Hall

JOIN THE LOCAL NORTH
LONDON MARCH

from Enfield to Stoke Newington called by the North London Right to Work Committee

11am Leaves Southbury Station, Ponders End (Southbury Station can be reached on British Rail from Seven Sisters Tube on the Victoria Line) March stops for lunch at Scotland Green Dole, High Road, Tottenham 1.00pm to 2.00pm 7.30pm reaches Stoke Newington Town Hall

RALLY
against Racism and Unemployment

7.30pm at Stoke Newington Town Hall, Church Street, N16. Speakers include Paul Foot of Socialist Worker.

Followed by

SOCIAL

from 8.30pm onwards. Music from Black Slate. Entrance 50p, unemployed 25p.

How to join the march

All unemployed workers are welcome. Get a green registration card from your local Right to Work Committee or contact the national Right to Work office as soon as possible.

It is essential to register beforehand so that the numbers on the march and food and accommodation can be arranged in advance.

Take the green card to one of the three London reception centres on Friday night before the march leaves to register and get the card stamped. This will entitle you to free food, accommodation and entertainment on the march. Accommodation and three socials are arranged for Friday night in London for marchers.

For marchers from outside London who can't arrive on Friday there

will be a late reception centre outside Temple Tube Station, near Charing Cross Embankment from 10.30 to 11.00am on Saturday morning.

All marchers will get reflective safety jackets on Saturday morning to wear on the march. There will be some food for sale to employed trade unionists on the march as part of official contingents.

Because of the large numbers expected please contact your local Right to Work Committee now if you are coming on the march and remember to bring your green card to the reception centre on Friday evening.

This will make all the arrangements for the march go smoothly and ensure that food and accommodation is arranged for all. If there are any problems please contact the National Office, at 265a Seven Sisters Rd., London N4. Phone (01)-802 0978

I want to join the march. Please arrange to send more information.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Send to National Right to Work Campaign Office, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4

Saturday, 4 September

11.00am London to Brighton Right to Work March leaves from the embankment, Charing Cross. March with demonstration to Downing Street to hand in a protest to the Prime Minister.

11.30am March and demonstration leave for Brixton, accompanied by Cherrypickers Steel Band.

1.30pm arrive in Brixton for rally opposite Lambeth Town Hall.

2.30pm Rally and demonstration end. The Right to Work march leaves Brixton.

2.30 Leave Brixton

3.00 Pass Streatham Hill Station

3.15 to 3.30 Pass Streatham Common

3.45 Norbury Station

4.25 Thornton Heath

4.50 West Croydon

5.00 Whitgift Shopping Centre

5.30 Arrive WANDLE PARK, CROYDON FOR TEA AND CAMP SITE

Sunday, 5 September

9.00am Leave Wandle Park Campsite

9.50 Purley Station

10.20 Coulsdon Station

10.25-10.40 Coulsdon South

12.15 Mersham Station

1.00 to 2.00 Redhill Town Centre Carpark for lunch

3.15 Salford Station

4.40 Gatwick Airport

6.00pm Arrive CRAWLEY TOWN CENTRE Speeches of welcome at the Civic Hall Campsite on the Broadfield at the South end of Crawley, near Thomas Bennet School.

RALLY at Crawley Civic Hall, followed by Broadside Theatre Group.

Monday, 6 September

9.00am Leave Crawley Campsite

12.30 to 1.00pm Arrive at the Bolney Flyover for lunch

6.00pm Arrive at MAYFIELD FARM, PYECOOMBE for tea and campsite, six miles from Brighton.

Entertainment in the campsite.

Tuesday, 7 September

9.00am March to Brighton

12.00 to 2.00pm LOBBY OF TUC DELEGATES BY MARCHERS

2.30 Lunch followed by sinking of the 'JOBS COFFIN'. Meetings with delegates from the TUC and individual lobbying throughout the day and evening. Marchers' Film Show including 'The Gaffers Strike' and full length feature film

8.30pm DANCE AND DISCO at The Revolution Disco (Kingswest Hall) with the DERELICTS Admission 85p, registered marchers free

Wednesday, 8 September

11.30 SPECIAL TRAIN REACHES BRIGHTON to mass welcome from the Right to Work marchers at the station.

11.30 Brighton Station. United demonstration to the Trades Union Congress at The Dome

12.00 to 2.00pm MASS LOBBY of TUC delegates

Saturday, 4 September

MASS DEMONSTRATION

11.00am from the Embankment, Charing Cross. See the marchers off and accompany them to Brixton. All welcome. Trade union and other organisations are asked to bring banners.

RALLY

1.30pm at the Brixton Oval, opposite Lambeth Town Hall, (two minutes from Brixton Tube on the Victoria Line).

Speakers include Right to Work Marchers.

SOCIAL

8.00pm at St Peters Hall, South Croydon In Ledbury Street, a quarter mile from South Croydon Station.

Bar and two groups, Evil Ways and Long Vehicle.

Admission £1, registered marchers free. All welcome

For further information contact

National
Right to Work
Campaign

265a Seven Sisters Road, N4

Telephone

01-802 0978

Wednesday, 8 September

MASS LOBBY

Join the Mass Lobby of the Trades Union Congress in Brighton, called by the national executive of NUPE, and the National Right to Work Campaign, supported by the North London District Committee of the AUEW, and the Greater London Association of Trades Councils.

SPECIAL TRAIN

Special Stop the Cuts Train from London Victoria.

Assemble 9.45am Victoria.

Tickets available from the National Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4. £2 return

Important

Fight for trade union delegations on the lobby. Make sure support for the lobby is raised in your branch, shop stewards' committee, trades council, district. Bring trade union banners.

Transport to London (to join the

special train) or direct to Brighton is being arranged by Right to Work committees across the country.

Details from your local Right to Work Committee or from the National Right to Work Office.

Dole office became their platform

A DOZEN people from South West London descended on Tooting dole office armed with leaflets, a banner and a megaphone last week.

We made ourselves busy getting support for the Right to Work march in September. Many people showed interest and signed the petition supporting the campaign.

Meanwhile the officials behind the counter didn't know what to do. The manager was pacing up and down staring at us. Bewildered officials were peering over filing cabinets.

Heated words were exchanged when they tried to tell us we were not allowed to put up Right to Work stickers. When we produced a camera they were quick to tell us that we were not allowed to take pictures without permission, explaining that we were on private property!

We asked how can a dole office be private property when it is financed by everyone. They explained that whether their reason made sense or not we were not allowed to take pictures.

While this was going on most people had signed the petition or were busy reading our leaflets.

A megaphone was produced and we held a meeting explaining the demands of the campaign, mentioning the cuts in the civil service—which will mean that many of those behind the counter today giving us funny looks would be joining us in front before long.



Workers strike to save hospital jobs

LEEDS

by TIM SOUTH
Chairman, St James Hospital NUPE Branch, Leeds

ATTEMPTS to enforce the cuts at St James Hospital in Leeds were knocked back last week when 200 members of the Public Employees Union (NUPE) came out on strike.

The hospital management were forced to go back on their decision to sack two workers and suspend another. Two more, including one shop steward, were also about to be sacked.

Last September two wards were moved to another hospital and management tried to force staff cuts out of all proportion to the reduction

in work. The porters blacked curtain-hanging, among other jobs. Then last week management decided on a confrontation.

They exhausted the disciplinary procedure in the record time of 2 hours 15 minutes—normally it takes several weeks. Then they ordered Bernard Lord, one of the porters, to hang curtains on a ward at 8pm on Monday night.

Anyone who's been in a hospital will realise it's out of the question to start the job at that time of night. Bernard refused and was instantly dismissed, followed by two more porters the next morning.

NUPE stewards met and called a mass meeting that morning, which voted to stay out until all disciplinary action was withdrawn. More workers joined us after we threw a picket line across the main entrance, turning back all

except ambulances and essential services.

By mid-afternoon NUPE members at St George's Hospital had decided to come out in support the next day, shop stewards in three other unions in the hospital had supported us, and ambulancemen were threatening to black St James.

Management withdrew all disciplinary notices and reinstated the sacked men.

They'll think twice before trying to push through more government-ordered cuts.

EDINBURGH

by GILLIAN STRANG
NUPE nurse, Edinburgh

TWO THOUSAND workers in nine Edinburgh hospitals have come out on strike over a victimisation in which the management have flouted nationally agreed procedures.

The strike started on Monday and looks certain to spread to every hospital in the area. The stoppage is supported by virtually 100 per

cent of the NUPE members on the ancillary staff.

Ann Alden, NUPE nurse, said: 'For the first time nurses and ancillary workers are out together. This will help to overcome what has always been the main problem in the hospitals—splits between nurses and ancillaries.'

This strike has got to be a victory. If we don't win then we're all targets for the cuts if they need any excuse!

There is no doubt that the response of the NUPE rank and file has shocked the Health Board. This determination and militancy could be brought to bear on the cuts themselves, which are attacking thousands of jobs not just one. Then the government's vicious attacks could be stopped.

Stewards at sit-in plant send £50

THE Persona shop stewards committee, Glasgow, have given a magnificent £50 to the Right to Work Campaign this week. Last year they occupied their factory in defence of jobs.

In Treforest, South Wales, a joint meeting called by the shop stewards committees at Homerton Rubber and P Lener voted to send delegations on the lobby of the TUC and to call a meeting of all shop stewards on the Treforest industrial estate.

The decision was taken by 40 shop stewards at a public meeting addressed by Ivor Jones, chairman of Leners stewards, Billy Williams of the EETPU and John Deason of the National Right to Work Campaign.

Ivor Jones explained how, when he had been a miner, they had defended the nurses.

The rank and file organisation was about defending the weak. Now it meant the employed combining with the unemployed.

TGWU 3/83 Avonmouth, has sent the campaign a donation of £10, and APEX Horbury has sent another £10.

Other trade union organisations that decided to sponsor the march this week include:

- Finsbury Park UCATT, Sheffield
- United Hospitals NUPE, ASTMS
- Hendon/678, Edmonton No 2 AUEW
- STC Joint Shop Stewards Committee, Liverpool Insurance Staffs
- ASTMS, Coventry No 1 ASTMS
- Scottish National Union of Students
- Reuters NATSOPA, TGWU 806/04
- Cronon NUM, North Nottingham
- Health NUPE, Manchester Poly
- Students Union, Oxford No 10
- AUEW, Garnett College Students
- and NATFHE, Hackney Borough
- NALGO, Preston District Health Service
- NALGO, Central London
- ACTSS, Brighton Health Service
- NALGO.



In place of the Nazis

SIGNING up support for the march last week in Sireatham High Street. The South West London Right to Work Committee turned up at the place used in recent weeks by the National Front to sell the campaign's paper and collect signatures on the petition against unemployment. A meeting was held with a megaphone and the Front didn't even try to sell. Two small groups of Front members ran off down the street when they saw us. Over £10 was raised for the campaign.

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

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

10p each (plus 9p postage for one copy, 17p postage for five, 32p postage for ten.) Money with orders to Right to Work Office, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK! Meetings and Notices

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

RIGHT TO WORK T-SHIRTS—£1.50 each plus 15p postage. State size—small, medium or large. Money with orders. From the Right to Work Office, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

SEND OFF the London-Brighton marchers: Thursday 2 September, 6-7pm. Trades Council Club, Picardy Place, Edinburgh.

EDINBURGH Right to Work Committee: Performance of *Cast*, a play about immigration, by Bite Theatre Group, Monday 30 August, 8pm, Crown Theatre, Hill Place, Edinburgh. Followed by social 75p employed, 35p unemployed.

TYNESIDE Right to Work public meeting: Remember Jarrow. Fight for the right to work. Tuesday 31 August, 8pm, Labour Club, Leezes Park Road, Newcastle upon Tyne. Speaker: John Deason (secretary, National Right to Work Campaign) and John Thompson, who marched on the Jarrow Crusade in 1936, plus local trade unionists and marchers from Tyneside.

HULL Unemployed Workers Action Group: Free Bank Holiday Disco (a collection will be taken inside) at the Oriental Hotel, Hendon Road, Monday 30 August, 7.30pm-11pm. Disco by Big Geordie's Roadshow.

GLOUCESTER Right to Work Campaign public meeting: Wednesday 1 September, 7.30pm, Wheatstone Hall, Brunswick Road, Gloucester.

NORTHAMPTON Rally against the Cuts: Fight unemployment. Trade union and labour speakers. This Saturday, 28 August, march begins 2.30pm, Abington Park, opposite hotel, Meeting Guildhall, 3pm. Organised by the Association of Trades Councils.

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

PETERBOROUGH Right to Work Campaign public meeting: Corruption at the Top—Unemployment at the Bottom! How to Fight Back! Public debate with Eddie Milne (ex-MP for Blyth), local trade unionists and speaker from National Right to Work Campaign, Wednesday 29 September, 7.30pm, St Barnabas Hall, Taverners Road.

A new set of four posters produced to raise support for the September march and lobby are available from the Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4. Order copies now for your factory notice boards, trade union branches, etc.

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM

Duncan Hallas

In Chile, they tried to find the parliamentary road to socialism. The results we can see. But why did bloody reaction take over? Where were their mistakes—for we must not make them again.

Why Chile was lost

'WE SAY No to Civil War! But we stand ready to crush sedition.' So said Senator Luis Corvalan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Chile, in a speech published in the British Communist Party's theoretical journal in September 1973.

On 11 September that year the Chilean generals overthrew the legal government and established their bloodthirsty dictatorship.

It takes two sides, you see, to 'say no to civil war'. Corvalan and the Allende government were not allowed to say no. The generals were determined to resort to force on behalf of the rich and of foreign big business.

In the event Allende was entirely *unready* to crush sedition. He did not lack the will. Unlike the vast majority of social democrats, he was willing to resist to the end. He died honourably, resisting the military gangsters arms in hand.

But he, his party and the Communist Party had relied 'to crush sedition' on the very armed forces that overthrew them.

Corvalan made his notorious speech after an earlier attempted coup on 29 June had failed. 'The revolt was quickly contained,' said Corvalan, 'thanks to the prompt and determined action by the Commander-in-Chief of the army, the loyalty of the armed forces and the police . . .'

Thanks, in short, to Pinochet, Leigh and their fellow-conspirators! For these men were already laying their plans.

We know this because General Gustavo Leigh, Commander-in-Chief of the air force, said so after the successful coup. 'We began our preparations for the overthrow of Allende in March 1973, immediately after the legislative elections.'

The June coup, mounted by fascists and some junior officers, was a nuisance, a half-cock affair that the generals cheerfully put down so that the real 'professionals' could have a clear field.

Corvalan, blinded by the fatal illusions of the 'parliamentary road to

socialism', was taken in completely—as was Allende. 'Some reactionaries,' he said, 'have begun to seek new ways to drive a wedge between the people and the armed forces, maintaining little less than we are intending to replace the professional army.'

'No sirs! We continue to support the absolutely professional character of the armed institutions.'

Pathetic illusion, tragic illusion. The 'professional character' of the army—in any country—means the strict subordination of the soldiers to upper and middle-class officers under pain of severe penalties.

'Death, or such lesser penalty as a field general court-martial may decide' is the punishment laid down for mutiny in the British Mutiny Act.

This discussion was started by a reader's inquiry about Marx's statement that, in a few highly exceptional cases, the social revolution could get underway by 'peaceful and legal means'. We saw that Marx qualified this by explaining that, if this happens, a 'pro-slavery rebellion' by the reactionaries is inevitable.

Military

We saw too, that Marx believed that the 'exceptional cases' depended on the non-existence of any large military machine and we noted Lenin's view that this circumstance no longer exists in any important country. A 'pre-emptive strike' by the army would prevent an elected majority of real socialists taking office peacefully. (The Allende government was a radical reformist government, not a revolutionary one.)

But suppose, for the sake of argument, that Lenin was mistaken, that the generals do not launch their pre-emptive strike. What then? It is necessary to strike the weapon from the hands of reaction before they have second thoughts.

The legal powers of the officers over the soldiers must be abolished at once, election of officers decreed and soldiers' councils established. The organised workers must be armed and the leading members of the officer corps arrested or put under surveillance.

Time

But this will precipitate the conflict? Of course. The conflict cannot be avoided. The only question is—who chooses the time, then or us.

As Engels said: 'Surely, the fact is evident that a disorganised army and a complete breakdown of discipline has been the condition as well as the result of every victorious revolution.'

To put your money on a 'parliamentary road to socialism', in the light of all the experiences of history and of theory alike, is simply idiotic.

Why then, have the International Socialists started contesting parliamentary elections? Is it opportunist, 'neutralising the politics you are arguing' as a letter in last week's Socialist Worker said?

Next week we will look at the problems of the revolutionary use of parliaments and elections.

Socialist Worker

EDITORIAL

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

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THE MP WHO CALLS RHODESIA 'A PARAGON OF TOLERANCE'

Far from being an example of intolerance, Rhodesia has been a paragon of tolerance in Africa, making, until beleaguered, virtually no legal or political distinction between people of different races.

—Tory MP Ronald Bell, in a letter to the Daily Telegraph, 19 August.

No legal distinction? The Land Apportionment Act, introduced in 1930, legally segregated the land. Today, the 95 per cent of the population who are black occupy the worst half of Rhodesia's land, and the four per cent who are white occupy the best.

No political distinc-

tion? The Unlawful Organisations Act (1959) has been used to ban successive African nationalist parties.

The African Affairs Act (1928) has been used to ban all political meetings in Tribal Trust Lands and

to punish and depose African chiefs who resist government policy.

There are many other such laws, passed before Rhodesia became 'beleaguered', not to mention those enacted since.

So much for Mr Bell's 'paragon of tolerance' . . .



□ HOMELESS? You may be interested by this statistic from the Greater London Council Annual Abstract.

57,000 privately owned dwellings in London have been empty for more than three months. An additional 12,000 owned by local authorities are also empty.

□ A DAILY newspaper in South Africa, Die Vaderland, has announced that the word apartheid has come to symbolise 'everything that is bad in human relations'. So it has urged its readers to think up a new word . . .

Another social security 'scrounger' gets the treatment . . .

TESSA Stickler got the treatment last week.

She appeared in several national papers as the woman evicted for rent arrears who then lived it up at the ratepayer's expense.

Part of the story was about the 'incompetence' of Cardiff Council who paid out £3,500 in bed and breakfast charges for Mrs Stickler and her three children, though her rent arrears were only £269.

But the point was clear—here was another 'scrounger' off the stupidly generous welfare state.

Avidly

Mrs Stickler was never interviewed - by any reporters. A local freelance pestered her married daughter for personal details ('had she a boy-friend?') which were avidly picked up by the press.

None of the papers mentioned that Mrs Stickler had brought up a family of eight—seven of them on her own after her husband had left her. Throughout this time she had worked and



Daily Mirror, 14 August

never claimed social security.

She claims benefit now only because bed and breakfast life with three children makes getting a job impossible. They get £28.85 a week and have to eat out twice a day.

The papers didn't tell how, when Mrs Stickler's husband went off owing the mortgage, she was put in the notorious Green Farm Hostel for the homeless, and then in a temporary Social Services-owned house.

These houses are well-known for their dilapidation. After ten years in this temporary home, she

began to protest by not paying rent.

The papers didn't say that the Labour Council, which evicted Mrs Stickler to show who was boss, boarded up the house and have never dared offer it to a family since.

It is now one of hundreds of unused houses the council can't 'afford' to do up—or take over.

The papers, of course, didn't give us any of the real Cardiff housing story. How homelessness has shot up in the last three years as the

building programme has collapsed.

How the cuts will produce even more Mrs Sticklers—cramped into two small rooms and set up for public scorn.

The papers refrained from telling their readers that,

throughout this period of housing crisis, Labour and Tory alike on the council have had an obsession with a multi-million pound shop and office speculation in the city centre.

BOB DUMBLETON



GOT YOUR diary handy? you might care to make a note of a few National Front engagements which some of their careless members have passed our way:

SATURDAY 25 September: Anti-immigration march and rally in Walsall. 'A maximum turnout of members is urged', according to the Nazis. We'll have to see what we can do . . .

SATURDAY 2 October, NF social evening, 9 Northfield Street, off Halifax Road, Dewsbury, 8pm. Admission: 75p. Dress informal (jackboots being a little awkward to dance in).

SATURDAY 3 or 10 December: (confirmation later); Yorkshire Region NF annual dinner-dance at the Adelphi Hotel, Harrogate. Bar till 1am. Tickets £3.50. Top speaker from London invited, probably Andrew Fountaine. 'All he wants for Christmas is a new Front chief'.

SEPTEMBER by-election in Blackburn. Campaign being run by David Riley, 4 Lodge Street, Accrington.

Under capitalism, comrade, man exploits man.

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



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

29p (inc) postage from ISJ, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

The real face of White Rhodesia



A mass grave at Nhazonia refugee camp in Mozambique for the bodies of men, women and children slaughtered by Smith's savages, while (right) the lucky few who didn't get murdered are taken by helicopter from the scene of the massacre.

THESE pictures show what happened on 10 August when Rhodesian troops attacked an African refugee village in neighbouring Mozambique.

A United Nations Refugee Organisation official who visited the area last week confirmed that hundreds of civilians had been murdered and buried in mass graves. He had spoken to wounded survivors who backed up the Mozambique government's

account of the killings.

He insisted that the Rhodesian government's story that they had attacked a 'guerrilla' base was a complete lie.

Virtually every British paper gave front page treatment to the Rhodesian government's claim a fortnight ago. But last week only the Daily Mail, Morning Star, which printed these pictures, and the Guardian gave the truth.

... and the real issue in South Africa

'Blacks are present in white South Africa to sell their labour and for nothing else.'

M C Botha, South African Minister of Bantu Administration.

To maintain this state of affairs, the South African police have murdered 250 black people and wounded more than 1200 in the past two months.

Chile Solidarity Campaign



National Demonstration

Sunday 12 September.
Assemble 1pm,
Clerkenwell Green,
London (nearest tube
Farringdon).

□ All IS branches in London, the Home Counties and the South to support.

If the peace movement wants peace..

by EAMONN McCANN

FIFTY delegates from trade union and labour bodies will leave London's Heathrow Airport on Friday evening for a three-day visit to Dublin and Belfast organised by the Troops Out Movement.

The delegation will be in Belfast on Sunday when the much-publicised 'Women's Peace Movement' plans another mass rally calling for an end to the Provisionals' campaign.

The aim of the delegation is to help to clarify what policy the British labour movement should adopt to assist the Irish people towards self-determination and national unity. It is sponsored by 14

Labour MPs, 11 trades councils and more than 70 trade union and student union branches, and has a crowded schedule of meetings with Irish trade unionists and community organisations before flying back.

Two MPs, Joan Maynard of Sheffield Brightside and Harry Selby of Glasgow Govan, may travel with the party.

The delegation will find the situation, in the North especially, complicated by the emergence of the 'Peace' movement.

The movement has been attacked in crude terms by some Belfast republicans—and some of its leaders are certainly front-women for right-wing political groups. But there is no reason to doubt that it draws its main strength from a genuine and entirely understandable desire for peace, particularly in the Catholic working-class areas which have borne the brunt of the long war.

But peace cannot be brought to Ireland by appeals for Christian charity and brotherly love, however well-intentioned. Peace will come when the cause of the violence is removed—and that cause is rooted in the sectarian anti-Catholic nature of the

Northern state, which Britain continues to defend.

It is because the fight against the state comes, naturally, from within the Catholic community that the war is largely fought out in Catholic streets—and that Catholic children walking the streets are tragically at risk.

Prolong

Many of the 'peace women' may be fervently sincere. But by creating the illusion that a solution may be found by singing pacifist hymns in public parks, they encourage an avoidance of the real issues and, in effect, help to prolong the war—in which even more children are almost certain to die.

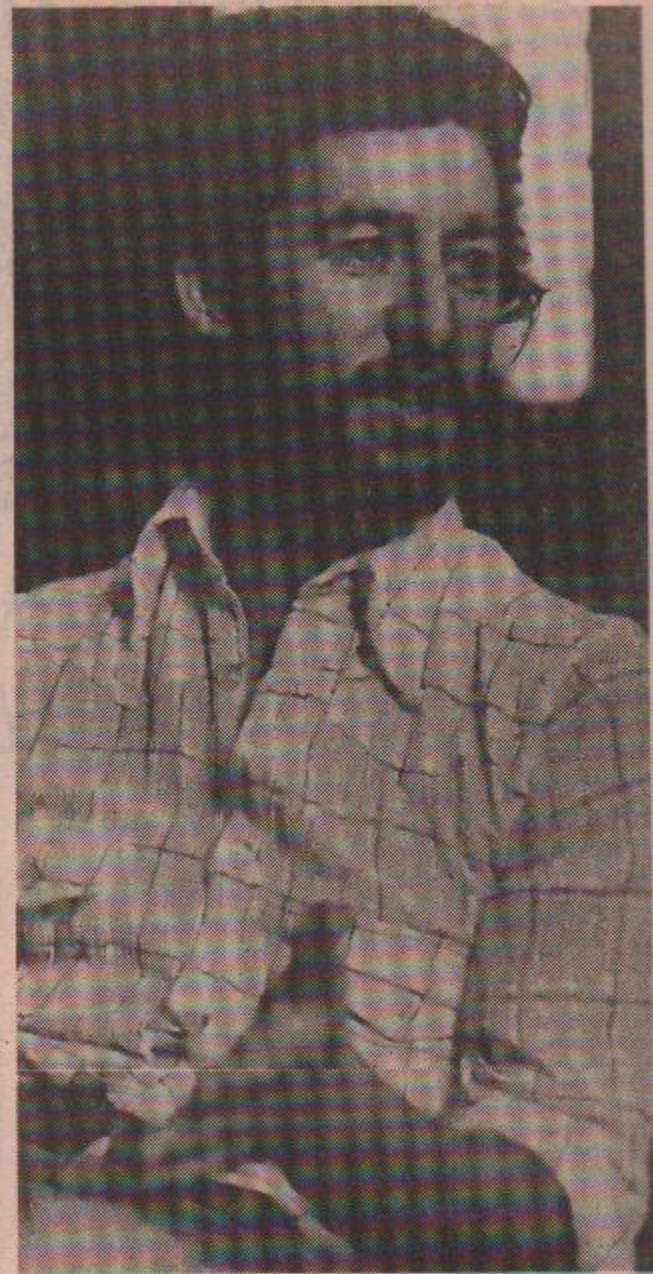
The streets of Andersonstown, like the streets of Ballymurphy, the Bogside or South Armagh, will not be free from death until all the people of Northern Ireland are free from the sectarian rule which Britain sponsors and deploys her troops to defend. Every wave of emotional revulsion against particular incidents, however massive at first, will break on the rock of that reality. The first step to peace is to get the troops out.

That is the hard truth of the matter. If the Troops Out Movement delegation learns it well and returns better able to argue it in the various sponsoring organisations, it will have made a real contribution to ending violence in Ireland.

TROOPS OUT



Employed and unemployed unite!



JOHN HERBST, chairman of the shop stewards' committee at MK Electric in Genista Road, North London, spoke to Socialist Worker about the Right to Work Campaign.

'I support the campaign. In the shop stewards' committee, we get arguments like 'I know these kids next door and they don't want to work. They're all going to Spain on the dole'.

'The only time I find when you can start talking to people about unemployment is when it happens to someone they know—an uncle, a mother.

'One bloke in the shop has a kid brother who just left school. Out of a class of 40, 24 haven't got jobs.

'We are not going to solve this problem next week. The way people look at unemployment, the argument goes into a racist one or it goes into a socialist one.

Stop

'When the Right to Work marchers from North London go past our factory they'll stop at the church hall next door. We'll go over to talk to them.

'It's much easier for a bloke to work a Saturday morning then to fight for higher wages. It's just the same with unemployment—it's much easier for them to call the unemployed scroungers and skivers than to do something to help them fight.

'I support the marchers and I'm not going to stop arguing with others to support them'.

Details of how to join the North London march next Friday and the march to Brighton—see page 4.

AND THE MILITANT TRADE UNIONISTS WHO ARE SUPPORTING THEM



AND WOMEN MARCHING FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK



Phil O'Brien at the newly-built Jobcentre

The Jobcentre with no jobs

PHIL O'BRIEN, 25, has been unemployed for more than a year.

He used to be a music tester at Phonodisc in North London, and shop steward for the General and Municipal Workers Union.

He came back from a long holiday and his job was gone. 'Every week I drop a line into the local agencies. Last

time I went into the Job Centre, I took seven cards down with that day's date on. They had already gone.

'There's a new Job Centre being opened in Wood Green. But there are no jobs.

'Going on the Right to Work march is the only thing I can do. There is no other way I can say anything.

'This march builds up the morale of everybody going on it.

SHIRLEY WOODS' children have grown up and she wants to work. But she can't find a job. So she's going on the Right to Work march to Brighton.

'My girl, Karen, who's 18 was going to go on the march too, but she has just had an operation and may not be well enough for it. She's been out of work since she was 16.

'I heard about the march when I went down to the Labour Exchange. It didn't take long for me to make up

my mind.

'The only way to get something done is to do something positive.

'It really is shocking. I don't want to be staying in this house all day. I want to earn some money. It makes you depressed being out of work.

Suffers

'They've been days when I haven't been able to afford food for dinner. Your health suffers. You get run down.

'They are stopping £3 a

week out of my money to pay the electricity. And I just got a letter from the Electricity Board saying it hasn't been paid and they are going to cut it off.

'Social Security has said they will get in touch with them but nothing has been done.

'Then they wonder why your nerves get in a state. It's the society that makes you like it.

'Well, I'm not going to just sit here. I'm going to march'.

Socialist Worker NEWS...

MEMBERS and supporters of the new International Socialists' branch in Southall, West London, have been visiting Indian shops on a vigorous fund-raising drive to finance future anti-racist activities.

Ram Sharda, a Transport and General Workers' Union member from the Lyons factory in Greenford, and Raj Goel and Jim McCann, ACTS shop stewards at the Walls meat factory in Southall, (pictured right) raised almost £25 in two and a half hours. Most shopkeepers gave at least 10p. Some gave 50p and a few gave £1.

About a third of the shops were covered. The plan is to cover the rest of the shops next weekend and start collections on a door to door basis.



HOW I BECAME A SOCIALIST

by Chris Porsz
A Peterborough hospital porter



make me sick. The best political education I got was when Nazi Colin Jordan came to Peterborough. I was one of the pickets outside the meeting. The liberals went inside. They wanted to talk to him, to try reason. *They came out crying.*

And Labour said forget the Nazis. They will go away, they said. Look how wrong they were!

I am determined not to end up like my father. He worked hard for 20 years at Perkins Diesel Engines. His life was all graft and very little reward. My wife is also a member of IS. Often we wonder whether it's worth it. Then we see the suffering around us and we think that one day things will change. *That's what drives us on.*

time I bought it. It was four years ago outside the library. There was this man selling it in the freezing cold. I had to pluck up courage to buy a copy!

It was an eye-opener. I read things that I never knew went on. It took me a long time to get used to the paper. Now I would not be without it.

I joined the International Socialists in May 1973. At first, I got jarred off. Some of the meetings were very bureaucratic. And there were lots of petty arguments.

Struggles

It's all changed now. We've been through lots of struggles locally. There was the Perkins' lock-out and the Sharman dispute. And the hospital workers' action against Ebrahim Dhanji being deported.

I've learnt a lot. We can be so strong when we are united and organised. I hate the National Front. My parents came from Poland during the war. My mother was in a Nazi concentration camp and her family was wiped out in Siberia.

That's why the fascists who go round saying Hitler was right and giving Nazi salutes

ONE: Who are the International Socialists? What is socialism? What is the world

like? Could it be a better place? How would the IS like the world to be in the future? What part would women and black people play in the socialist world?

TWO: Why can the working class alone win socialism? What is it about the working class that makes it capable of changing the world? Can we win socialism peacefully or must there be a revolution? What is the importance of ideas and of action?

THREE: Why do we need an organisation like IS? How does the revolutionary party help in the struggle for socialism? Why do we produce and sell Socialist Worker? Is IS democratic? What are the rights and

obligations of membership? FOUR: Can socialism come through parliament? What do we mean by reformism? Why can't it produce socialism? What part do trade union leaders and Labour MPs play in winning socialism?

The other questions they discuss are:

5. Why do socialists work in the trade unions?

6. What is imperialism?

7. What is fascism?

8. Does socialism exist anywhere in the world?

9. Can revolution in the Third World win socialism?

10. What is the socialist attitude to religion?

Any SW reader—particularly Asians—interested in attending the meetings should phone Roger Crossley, 01-739 1870.

Workers from one country against those from other countries. We oppose racialism and imperialism. We oppose all immigration controls. We support the right of black people and other oppressed groups to organise their own defence. We support all genuine national liberation movements. We are for an end to all forms of discrimination against homosexuals. We are for real, social, economic and

political equality of women. The experience of Russia demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation in one country. Russia, China and Eastern Europe are not socialist, but state capitalist. We support the struggles of workers in these countries against the bureaucratic ruling class. THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

To achieve socialism, the most militant sections of the working class have to be organised into a revolutionary socialist party. Such a party can only be built by activity in the mass organisations of the working class. We have to prove in practice to other workers that reformist leaders and reformist ideas are opposed to their own interests. We have to build a rank and file movement within the unions. We urge all those who agree with our policies to join with us in the struggle to build the revolutionary party.

HELP US SELL WHERE YOU LIVE

COME and help spread the struggle for socialism! Socialist Worker is sold every Saturday in the following places—come and help us!

BATH 11.30am-1.30pm. Outside Littlewoods.

CANTERBURY 10am-12 noon. Longmarket.

STOCKPORT Mersey Way Precinct.

HUDDERSFIELD 10.30am-1am Market Piazza.

KINGSTON 11am-1.30pm. outside British Home Stores Market Place. 2.30-4.30pm. Castle Street.

SOUTH WEST LONDON Clapham Junction outside Woolworths, St. Johns Road. Saturday 10.30am-1.30pm. Trading High Street. Saturday, 11am-12.30pm.

Brixton, outside Tube. Saturday 11am-1am and Friday, 5pm-6pm. Stockwell outside Tube. Friday 5pm-6pm. Peckham Rye. Saturday 11am-12.30pm.

SWANSEA 11am-12 noon. College Street.

NORTH LONDON: 11am, Holloway Road (outside Nanyhurst) and Chapel Market, N1.

ROCHDALE: 11am-4pm. Yorkshire Street.

NORWICH: 10am-4pm. market end of Durey Place.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD: The Marlows, by the market. 10am-12 noon. 1pm-3pm.

HULL: Monument Square, 11.30am-2pm.

SOUTHEND: Shopping Precinct (next to Guy Norris), 1am-1pm.

NORWICH: Durey Place (opposite to the market), 10am-5pm.

LEEDS: The Precinct 11am-3pm.

ORMSKIRK: Clock Tower, 11am-3pm.

LIVERPOOL: Church Street 10.30am-3pm.

MANCHESTER: MOSS SIDE shopping precinct: 10.30am-2pm. SALFORD shopping precinct: 11am-1pm. CHEETHAM HILL shopping precinct: 11am-1pm. LONGSIGHT MARKET 11am-3pm. STOCKPORT Merseyside shopping precinct: 10am-4pm.

WOLVERRAMPTON: Outside Golden Egg, Queen Square, Saturdays 10.45am-2pm. Sundays, 12 noon-1pm and 3pm-3.45pm. outside Walfun Hall, Indian Cinema.

PORTSMOUTH: 10am-1pm. Commercial Road Shopping Precinct (outside John Colliers).

CREWE: 11am-1pm. Boots corner, town centre.

BOLTON: Precinct, 11am-4pm.

BURY: Precinct 11am-1pm.

WIGAN: Makinsons Arcade, 11am-3pm.

WATFORD: The precinct, 10am - 12 noon.

WHAT'S ON

SOCIALIST WORKER MEETINGS

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

31 August. Workers Power in Portugal. Speaker: Pete Robinson.

7 September. Is Russia Socialist? Speaker: Carol Doures.

14 September. Class not colour divides us.

TAMESIDE SW public meeting: Marriage makes women sick. Speaker: Colin Barker. Monday 6 September. 8pm. Feathers. Hotel: Stamford Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

NORWICH SW readers day school: Working as a socialist in the unions. Practical school with speakers, group sessions, mock negotiations etc. Food provided. Sunday 29 August, 11am-6pm. The Lamb Inn, Haymarket, Central Norwich. Watch for further details.

PETERBOROUGH Socialist Worker discussion groups meet regularly. Phone Phoro 61685.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Socialist Worker readers meet every Wednesday. 8pm. Rose and Crown (small room), Old High Street. Socialists and trade unionists welcome.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Socialist Worker public meetings: THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE TO LABOUR. Speaker: Jimmy McCallum. (Socialist Worker's prospective parliamentary candidate for Walsall North) Thursday 30 September. 8pm. Rose and Crown (large room), Old High Street.

SOCIALIST WORKER NOTICES

BRADFORD Socialist Worker Outing. Sunday 29 August. Bradford to Robin Hood's Bay. Adults £2, kids free. Everyone welcome. phone Terry Farrar 0274 55913.

CORNWALL Socialist Worker Social Saturday 28 August, 7pm. Tuckingmill Pavilion near Camborne. Support the London to Brighton Right to Work March. With Jimmy McCallum (Socialist Worker's prospective parliamentary candidate for Walsall North) and Laurie Smith (AUEW National Organiser in a personal capacity).

HULL Socialist Books: Please note phone number is Hull 25925 214270 has been redundant for 10 months—please delete from records.

POSTERS from the Portuguese, Spanish and African revolutions. 15 posters only £1.50. Explanatory notes provided with the posters. Excellent for socialists meetings, fund-raising or sticking on your bedroom wall. Money with orders to International Department 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

CREWE: Will anyone interested in forming a Socialist Worker discussion group in Crewe please write to Alan Gibbons, c/o 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN.

NOISS

CENTRAL LONDON students meeting for all NOISS members at colleges in Central London (London University, LSE, Central London Poly, Architectural Association, Kingsway etc). Wednesday, 16 September, 6.30pm. School of Oriental and African Studies. To discuss organising for freshers' week and perspectives for next term.

READING Will student IS members and SW supporters coming to Reading University or Bulmershe College of Education this autumn please contact: Reading University IS Society, c/o Students Union, Whiteknights Park, Reading, or ring Reading 62150.

NORTH LONDON: Will all NOISS members or supporters coming to North London Polytechnic this September/October please contact: A Pettit, c/o Students Union, North London Polytechnic, Holloway Road, London N7 as soon as possible.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

BOOKS NEEDED FOR PORTUGAL: Cliffs' Productivity Deals and How to Fight them; Flanders' book on the Esso Fawley productivity deal and any other relevant material (URGENTLY needed by Portuguese oil industry militant. Can you help? Please write to Geoff Brown, The Little House, Packhorse Road, Gerrards Cross, Bucks.

HULL: Any IS comrades moving to Hull in the autumn please drop a line to the branch secretary, c/o Socialist Books, 238 Spring Bank, Hull.

LONDON IS Publishing Branch: Tuesday 31 August. Business meeting to discuss Charter, 7pm. The Pileup, Museum St, London WC2 (near British Museum). All IS NUJ London members to attend.

COPY TYPIST required for IS office. Full-time position. Interesting and varied work. Apply in writing giving details of experience, speed etc., to Box 7, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS.

ANY COUNCIL TENANT moving out in East London, please phone 249 1364.



INDEPENDENT WORKING-CLASS ACTION:

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

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM:

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

THERE IS NO PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

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

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

a workers' militia.

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

INTERNATIONALISM

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

We oppose everything which turns

workers from one country against those from other countries.

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

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

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

We are for real, social, economic and

political equality of women.

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

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

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

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

To achieve socialism,

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

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

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

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

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

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

Poster power

HEARD the name John Heartfield? Probably not. Art pundits prefer to talk about Michelangelo or Leonardo, or oil paintings and marble sculptures which can be discreetly parked away in art galleries.

But John Heartfield wasn't interested in that sort of art. Or in forging flattering portraits of fashionable ladies of leisure. Or sloppy, sentimental pictures of pets. Or pots of flowers, or sunsets.

Take a look at the pictures on this page. Heartfield was an artist who wanted to change people's minds.

His real name was Helmut Herzfeld, a German. (He changed his name in protest against anti-British hysteria in 1914). He was born in 1891 and worked throughout the most shattering period in history. By his early twenties, he had taken up with the rebellious school of artists who called themselves the Dadaists.

Heartfield went beyond their confused radicalism. With the great satirist George Grosz, he developed the art of 'photomontage', the assembling of images drawn from life in startling and unexpected ways.

He believed that art should be clear and simple. His work is a flash of lightning against fascism, racialism and tyranny.

The Nazis thought so too, and he was forced to leave for Britain. After the war, he went back to East Germany, but it was impossible to work in the stifling atmosphere of Stalinism. He died in 1967.

One of the most important things that Heartfield showed was that you don't need to be born a genius to make art. You need a pair of scissors and a pot of glue.

PHIL EVANS



MILLIONS STAND BEHIND ME



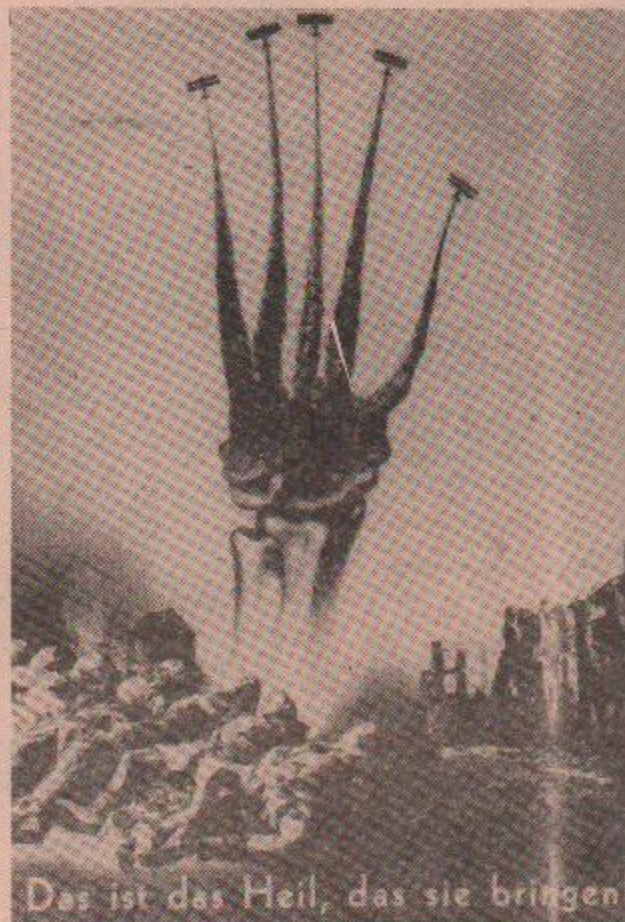
JUSTICE



THE FINEST PRODUCTS OF CAPITALISM
'Any work accepted'



HURRAH, THE BUTTER IS FINISHED!
An attack on the Nazi slogan 'Guns Before Butter'



THIS IS THE SALVATION WHICH THEY BRING

RAPE·AN EVERYDAY STORY

LIPSTICK is a film that makes you angry. It is about rape—followed by police questioning that is just as disgusting.

A rapist bounces into court with a big smile on his face and says: 'I didn't want to be violent—but she demanded it'.

He and his solicitor arouse themselves by cross-examining the woman and showing photographs of her modelling for lipstick adverts.

The jury of grey-haired men and women find the rapist not guilty. Reporters swoop down to open the wounds again.

Assault

It may not be something you hear about every day. But it happens every day.

There were 1052 reported rapes in England and Wales in 1974—and 12,417 reported cases of indecent assault.

But many women aren't prepared to face the humiliating questioning, the

sordid publicity and the continual accusations—spoken and unspoken—of 'You know you asked for it, you really wanted it'.

Chris McCormick is a model. She's making a fortune by looking sexy in lipstick adverts. She's prettier than most of us but it's the same problem that we all have.

The threatening aggression of sex which society creates. Where people are not people, but objects. Where pretty, smiling women are used to sell cars, Cinzano, cigars, you name it, to handsome, bronzed, muscle-bound men.

Where you only need to drink Heineken beer and she'll sleep with you and you'll be terrific.

You get dehumanised producing the cars or cigars or whatever it is. Then you get dehumanised again consuming them.

But it all makes money, so

it's alright, so they say.

But besides the anger, I felt pride. Pride when Chris shot and killed the rapist. A real Amazon she looked, determined and confident.

That scene was spoiled by the male director, who decided she shouldn't just shoot and kill him, but should approach him and continue shooting when no bullets were left, gradually slowing, in a daze. Just like the end of an orgasm.

Model

She was being used as an actress in the same way Chris the model was being used.

The film has a happy ending. After the shooting, Chris is cleared of murder. It takes about one minute in the film.

The real story is different. Three American women, Joann Little, Inez Garcia,

and Yvonne Wanrow—respectively black, Mexican-American and Indian—killed their rapists.

They were each charged with murder and it was assumed they would be found guilty and sent to jail.

Thousands of women across the country campaigned to free Joann Little. They are still working on the Garcia and Wanrow cases. It's taking months, not minutes.

I'd recommend the film to anyone. Although it slides over some of the problems, you can't see it without thinking.

And if you're a socialist, you'll take those thoughts a bit farther than the director did.

□ The Rape Crisis Centre in London has a 24-hour telephone service for victims of rape and assault. Their number is 01-340 6145. The address is PO Box 42, London, N6 5BU. Their policy is to support women who've been attacked and to help them—whether they decide to prosecute or not.



'She wanted me to hit her, to rape her', said the rapist. The jury believed him...



SATURDAY
THE PROFESSIONALS (ITV, 7.30pm), an enjoyable film, has one of the best punchlines in Hollywood history. It stars Burt Lancaster.

MONDAY
THE RUNNING MAN (ITV, 7.55pm) stars Laurence Harvey.

WEDNESDAY
AJP Taylor's fifth programme on THE WAR LORDS (BBC1) is about Roosevelt. Probably interesting.

On BBC2 there is a repeat of a David Storey play called THE PARACHUTE about growing up in pre-fascist and fascist Germany.

At all costs avoid the Dean Martin and Dalilah Levi film THE SILENCERS (BBC1). It is one of the most appalling films ever made.

Postal Points

THE APPALLING Auberon Waugh is given no less than three television programmes to insult and attack working people.

Can you imagine ITV giving the same amount of peak viewing time to Paul Foot attacking Auberon Waugh and his class?

□ Dave Taylor, Hants.

THE LETTER on parliamentary election deposits (7 August) should have made it clear that we do not think the people putting up the money should automatically become the candidate.

Obviously the candidates should be leading local militants.

□ Verity Burgman, Helen George, Susan Howard, Andy Milner, Chris Sill, Barry Sidgewock.

THE RISE in popularity of various fascist organisations which has taken place because of the retreat by the leaders of the working class movement should be a warning to us.

Only by the fullest, most direct and immediate use of the workers' hard-won rights and by disregarding the necessities of capitalism can we defend our rights and march towards socialism, defeating the last defence of capitalists—fascism.

□ G. Matthews, Jersey.

I WOULD like to congratulate Socialist Worker on the excellent cricket cartoon last week (21 August).

It is interesting to note that the popular press quietly forgot about Greig's pompous remarks after his team had suffered a thrashing.

□ SW Reader, East London.

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.

Letters

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

Flexing our community muscle

THE GOVERNMENT cuts in council home building are a complete betrayal of their election promises and everything Labour is supposed to stand for.

It lays unnecessary suffering on tens of thousands of families right through into the '80s. In fact there is no end in sight when housing supply will equal demand.

Why has the government got away with such devastating cuts? Where are all the Labour councillors and local party people? Where are all the MPs? and where are all the community actions groups and so on?

There has been an unprecedented in activists in housing issues in the last few years. The cuts are going to make nonsense of their efforts, like the tide knocking down sandcastles.

There's not much we can do about a tamed Labour Party, but we ought to start organising more muscle from the scattered efforts of the 'community' activists.

Anybody interested please contact us.

□ Cardiff Housing Action.

Signing the death warrant

IN THE discussion on fascism it is important to remember that historically on of the factors leading to its growth is the military defeat of an army which the working class mistakenly still regards as its own.

This is particularly relevant to us because of the involvement of the British Army in Ireland.

As socialists in the oppressing country we have a duty to fight for self-determination for the Irish people. Failure to do so is like signing our own death-warrants.

If the working class still regards the British Army as its own and not as the army of the ruling class it will be an added factor in strengthening the forces of the right and not, as it should be, a deadly blow to the armed forces of the state and ruling class.

□ A. McMullen, Manchester.

Des Warren: why they let him out

THE FOLLOWING letter was sent to The Guardian in response to their own news item on Des Warren's release. Unfortunately, they could not find space to print it although the editor did send me a nice postcard.

So Des Warren, the gaol'd Shrewsbury picket, is free and back with his family. That is splendid news. But his release 29 days before completion of his 3-year unremitted sentence is no act of clemency on the part of Home Secretary Jenkins.

It is an act of cowardice as contemptible as the original sentence was savage and his subsequent treatment cruel and heartless.

Had Des Warren been detained for the last 29 days, he would still be in prison when the Trades Union Congress meets at the beginning of September.

Release

That would mean awkward questions being asked and the General Council having to explain why they have done so little to secure Warren's release.

Who knows, there might have been an angrier scene at this year's Congress than last, when Rieky Tomlinson, himself out on parole as one of the Shrewsbury Two, demanded action on behalf of Warren and was threatened with the police.

No, the General Council did not get Des Warren his release. And had it been left to them the five London dockers would still be inside.

□ Vincent Flynn, Edinburgh.



Hong Kong

The city that will test a confident young man like you.

MAINTAINING the good order and security of Hong Kong is a task of great importance. It is a task which requires a high standard of leadership, integrity and intelligence. We are looking for a young man who is confident, energetic and has a strong sense of responsibility. He should be a member of the Hong Kong Police Force and should be prepared to work in a variety of areas. He should be a member of the Hong Kong Police Force and should be prepared to work in a variety of areas. He should be a member of the Hong Kong Police Force and should be prepared to work in a variety of areas.

Royal Hong Kong Police
The Hong Kong Police Force

I THOUGHT Socialist Worker might be interested in one cure for unemployment currently being recommended by the Daily Telegraph. It's a real gem. To become an inspector in the Hong Kong Police Force, says the ad 'you have to possess qualities of leadership, integrity and intelligence, among others'. Any suggestions what those 'other' qualities might be?

□ P Hall, South London.

Poison clouds: workers have the power

DIOXIN, the poisonous chemical released at Seveso and Bolsover, is formed during the manufacture of two useful chemicals, hexachlorophane (a hospital cleaning agent) and 2,4,5-T (a powerful weedkiller).

In his front page article 'Poison Clouds In Britain', Paul Foot rightly points out that the chemical industry decides its manufacturing priorities according to the dictates of a capitalist economy rather than a full cost benefit assessment.

The total withdrawal of hexachlorophane would cause little more than inconvenience while 2,4,5-T is little used in Britain.

There is one other point that needs to be stressed however, particularly for workers in the chemical industry.

The biggest danger is not just the presence of hazardous materials, but the poor design of the plant and equipment involved.

Most chemical works are designed and built by contrac-

tors and sub-contractors. Projects are put out to tender and the cheapest proposal usually gets the job.

Increasingly fierce competition for these contracts means that safety features will be inadequate and that essential (and expensive) research and development work will be replaced by cheap stop-gap measures.

There is now substantial evidence that the Flixborough explosion was due to poor design of the process plant rather than the error of plant engineers, the view preferred by the court of inquiry.

The feature of the modern chemical industry becomes more and more disturbing as chemical plants become larger and larger in the struggle to maintain profit margins.

The dole division

BEING A 'professional' and unemployed teacher, I recently signed on amid the four-inch deep luxury pile carpet of the Professional and Executive Register. A bit different to the old Labour.

Then a few days later my little PER packet arrived entitled, 'Good Jobs for Good People'. Inside, it told you not to worry. Under the heading 'Adaptation' it told you that one way of coping would be to 'go away for a holiday abroad'.

Perhaps somebody should have mentioned this little bit of advice our masters are given, when the press had a field day over people claiming dole on holiday.

The whole pamphlet is like a sick joke making a last vile effort to ignore the fact that under capitalism unemployment is inevitable, and not just a minor setback. Still, it's the other two million 'bad' people with 'bad' jobs who matter.

□ Marylyn Newsinger, Oakham.

WALSALL: filling the political vacuum

THE LABOUR government has created a situation in which the electorate is thoroughly disillusioned. This is expressed in votes for the National Front and National Party in recent elections.

It is not just a protest vote—it's because the NF and NP are putting themselves forward as the saviours of the country.

In this political vacuum the situation is ripe for the International Socialists and Socialist Worker to pose itself as the only viable alternative to the Labour Party by standing candidates in parliamentary elections against the NF, NP and right-wing Labour Party politicians.

We should say to the electorate that we don't believe in

achieving socialism through Parliament, but neither are we going to allow Labour Party members who have betrayed the working class to go unchallenged.

We must not be reticent, we must be aggressive, ambitious

and active. The difference between us and any other organisation standing candidates is that we have something to involve the electorate—the Rank and File Movement.

□ Robbie Marmion, Bootle.

EDUCATE THE RANK AND FILE

IS THERE not an inconsistency in policy when comrades are urged to work within their trade unions, yet 'socialist' MPs who work within parliament are labelled reformists doomed to failure?

Perhaps Socialist Worker is attempting to alter this position with the new parliamentary candidates for the next general election?

Of course society cannot be radically changed by working through parliament, nor can it be changed by working within trade unions.

We cannot change society

from the inside, past attempts at this have merely perpetuated this oppressive capitalist system.

The trade unions have been co-opted into capitalism as has parliament and they both serve to stabilise it by correcting it enough to pacify the majority of the working class.

The solution is not to compete in the bourgeois trade union and parliamentary elections but to concentrate on forming a strong politically educated rank and file movement.

□ Steve Carter, IS supporter, Batley.

IT IS gratifying to see a change in Socialist Worker regarding gay workers. Well done. Congratulations also on the anti-racist campaign.

We have a long struggle ahead of us, but in South Wales, we are ready.

□ E. H. Newport.

SPAIN:

THE workers' movement in Spain has made great strides since the death of Franco.

Enough has happened in those nine months for us to make a partial appraisal of the situation.

But it can only be partial because it is the months to come that are seen as decisive by both workers and capitalists. The outcome could be a 'hot autumn' that would change things a great deal.

The employers and the government are trying to create a 'truce' or 'social pact'. Their aim is to avoid fundamental problems while they carry through a political reform of the capitalist state. They cannot change a terrorist state into something that appears to be European bourgeois democracy while the masses are permanently on the streets, even if for purely economic struggles.

A constant feature of Francoism was its systematic repression of all moves by workers to achieve their demands.

Crack

Against such a background, it was inevitable that the slightest crack in the repressive organs of the state would be taken advantage of by the workers.

And this happened after the death of Franco last November.

Above all, the workers took up the question of wage adjustments peading with the employers. Millions of workers moved into struggle, in an organised form on some occasions, but more often totally or half spontaneously.

They demanded equal wage increases for different categories of workers, the reduction of the working week, usually to 40 hours, a

From hot spring...



Some of the 100,000 workers who demonstrated at the funeral of strikers killed by police in Vittoria in March

THE WORKERS MOVEMENT IN SPAIN



from MANUEL LOPEZ in Barcelona

(Manuel Lopez is a member of the Organisation of the Communist Left of Spain, OICE).

'labour amnesty' for all those victimised from the factories during the Francoist period, and many other things.

These were the characteristics of the first wave of strikes, from December to March. The January strike wave in Madrid began with the metal workers, and spread to construction, the metro, the telephones, banks, post office and railways.

At its high point, there was a virtual general strike of the whole capital. Half a million workers took part.

At the same time, the

construction industry was also on strike in Valencia, then in Tarragona, Barcelona etc.

Teachers, firemen, all sectors of workers, to a greater or lesser extent, went into action for their own lists of demands.

Struggle

What stood out was the clear willingness of the whole working class to struggle. Those who began the struggle were in most cases the sectors least active during the long night of Francoism.

And they gave a peculiar

character to their action—radical forms of struggle; election of delegates and committees charged with negotiating with the employers; and also—and this was their limitation—a low level of political leadership.

We say a low level of leadership, and not consciousness, for present in the mind of every participant were the demands for the freedom to meet, freedom to express themselves, freedom to organise.

And at the same time, there existed a consciousness of unity and solidarity in

struggle, in the face of the victimisations and the detentions.

That a political leadership did not exist was less the responsibility of the workers than of the revolutionary left itself.

The confirmation of what we say is to be found in two examples; the general strikes in Vittoria and in Sabadell.

In Vittoria, capital of Alava, one of the Basque provinces, the movement grew in January. The workers of the metal firms, Forjas Alavesas and Mevosa, began a strike for wage increases.

In a few days, more firms joined in, until 12 were out, involving almost 70,000 workers. But the way the struggle developed, the victimisations, the intransigence of the employers and the behaviour of the police more and more politicised the conflict.

The central conquest of the movement was its organisation: daily assemblies in each factory discussed what decisions to take, transmitted these to representative commissions elected by the assemblies, and these met in a coordinating committee of all the delegates elected from all the factories.

Later, as the struggle advanced, there was coordination also with neighbourhood committees, students and teachers. This organisation, which ignored completely the fascist unions, provoked the answer of the capitalists.

And so came the day of 3 March, when the call for a general strike was followed throughout the whole city. Groups of workers demonstrated in the streets and were attacked by the police. This produced the first injuries.

Anger

A general assembly in the afternoon, which took place in a church, was assaulted by the police, armed with machine guns. Four people were killed and more than 100 wounded.

Indignation and anger spread to all the working people. The streets were taken over by groups of workers, who put up barricades and forced the police to withdraw with sticks and stones. For a day and a half, the streets were under the control of the workers.

But two anti-guerrilla companies of the army were stationed outside the city. Thousands of civil guards and police arrived. There were massive arrests, especially of members of the representative commissions.

From here developed another conquest of the movement. The workers' organisation was made permanent—or nearly so.

The commission members who were detained were replaced by others. Within two days, all the Basque country was on strike in solidarity with Vittoria.

There was another murder, of a demonstrator by a civil guard, in Basauri. The demands for wage increases and for readmission of the victimised workers were won.

However, several of the most prominent leaders were arrested for sedition. Their workmates insisted that while

they were in prison, or in hiding, their jobs be kept for them and their wages passed on to their families.

In solidarity, there were weekly stoppages of work and various one-day strikes. Finally they were given their freedom with the partial amnesty announced by the government.

The judgement against them had been too strongly contested for the authorities.

In Sabadell—an industrial town near Barcelona—the struggle took on a distinct form. In a demonstration demanding free schooling, the police charged at women and children and caused several serious injuries.

The next day pickets went out from the most important factories—United Hermetica and Acea-Cs, both engineering firms—and spread a strike to all the factories and districts.

The most widespread demand was for the removal of the mayor, a notorious fascist, and the democratisation of the municipality.

Massive meetings, which the police were compelled to tolerate, culminated in one 50,000-strong in the sports centre, where there was an appraisal of the struggle and a decision to return to work.

Key

Direction during the week of strike was provided by a coordinating committee between the various sections of industry, an assembly of delegates elected in the factories and districts.

The key question now facing workers is that of unity.

The capitalists want to impose rival union organisations on a workers' movement that has been united in its struggle under Francoism, and so divide it.

The reformist forces are conniving in this. The Communist Party-led section of the workers' commissions has just formed a Coordinating Committee of union organisations (COS) with two underground unions led by social democrats—the UGT and the USO.

This amounts to the CP giving practical recognition to union organisations that until now have had to exist only as initials.

The revolutionary left has put forward its own proposals for unity. The Organisation of the Communist Left (OICE) is proposing the formation of a Single Workers Centre, and the consolidation within it of the experience of the last months of struggle through the formation of factory councils.

For their part, the big Maoist groups, the Workers Party (PT) and the Revolutionary Organisation of Workers (ORT), call for the formation of a single trade union as an instrument for the workers' struggle.

Unity

Discussions are already taking place over the possibility of unity of action over this question, through an agreement that could be extended to include other revolutionary organisations.

What is at stake is the very position of the working class in the political changes of the state. This is what the capitalists are discussing when they speak of preventing the legalisation of the Communist Party and the revolutionary organisations.

After leading the struggle against Francoism, the working class will not resign itself to the crumbs while the Christian Democrat and Social Democrat politicians get the lion's share of the cake.

In the autumn, in the struggle for the renewal of wage agreements, and in its political intervention, the class will have the chance to show this.

...to hot autumn



At a rally of the Catalan separatist movement, earlier this month.



Truemid's 'trade unionist'

- the managing director!



R S Greenley, managing director of Les Routiers and Truemid activist

TRUEMID, the 'movement for true democracy in the trade unions', have been proscribed by APEX, the clerical workers' union.

Unlike the International Socialists, however, they have not been proscribed for their political views.

Their crime, according to a special report, was 'clear interference in the activities of the union by an outside body'.

This 'interference' took place during what Truemid regards as its 'finest hour'.

In secret documents to 'sympathisers', which have been published in detail in Socialist Worker over the last three weeks, Truemid boasts about how it 'took over a branch' whose delegates were 'Com-



munists'. The documents claim Truemid persuaded branch members to go to the annual general meeting and vote against the Communists. The true story is rather different. The branch in question,

APEX's London Western General, held its AGM on 24 March.

Seasoned branch attenders were startled when 16 people, whom no one had seen before, marched into the meeting in a body.

It emerged that most of them came from Routiers Ltd—and that they were interested only in the voting for office.

Their 'spokesman', Mr R S Greenley, was put up for secretary—and was only defeated on the casting vote of the chairman. He was then elected as financial secretary.

Several other Routier 'members' were elected onto the branch executive. Five 'members' had no membership cards—but showed a certificate from APEX head office affirming that they were members.

R S Greenley is a director of Routiers. He and his brother, S S Greenley, who also voted at the meeting, own all the company's 9000 shares.

Messrs G R Hitchin and R Reed, who were also elected

to the branch committee, are co-directors. Reed is the company solicitor.

Another Routiers director who attended was B J Rayner.

A stockbroker who works for Sheppards and Chase of the London Stock Exchange, Rayner was nominated (unsuccessfully) for the APEX area council!

It emerged that these gentlemen had obtained a list of all APEX members in the branch and had sent them leaflets calling on them to oust the Communists.

Hardly anyone responded except directors and workers at Routiers—and Heather Williams, an APEX member who happens to be national treasurer of Truemid.

On the day after the AGM, branch secretary Lottie Steinhart asked APEX head office if the directors were eligible for branch office.

Delay

She also complained about Truemid obtaining a list of branch members.

After a long delay, the APEX executive set up a committee of inquiry which sought legal advice.

First, they approached Peter Archer, Labour's Solicitor General. His opinion did not satisfy APEX leaders.

Another barrister, John Inskip, QC, recommended that the directors were perfectly entitled to be union members.

The APEX inquiry accepted this completely, suggesting in their report that R S Greenley could also continue as financial secretary of the London Western General branch.

APEX general secretary Roy Grantham and his fellow bureaucrats couldn't care less if employers and their stockbrokers join the union (and bring their workers along with them).

They were worried only that Truemid had got hold of a list of members' names.

For this, Truemid has been proscribed—a minor punishment which obliges members to state their membership of a proscribed organisation before standing for office.

The story of the London Western General branch proves what Truemid is up to.

Now we know that Truemid's so-called 'rank and file activity' in the trade unions is conducted almost exclusively by employers.

The scandal is that, in APEX at any rate, these well-heeled imposters have been allowed to get away with it.

Ford: We're £15 behind - but we'll have to fight for it!

by a shop steward at Ford Dagenham
FORD WORKERS' present two-year pay deal runs out in October.

In the past two years Ford have increased their prices by around 40 per cent—which is also the amount the cost of living has risen. Our wages have only increased by 16 per cent.

To get our wages back to where they were two years ago we need an increase of at least £15 on the basic rate.

Cuts: 400 picket councillors

by BOB DICKINSON (AUEW), Bury

THE FIGHT to save the threatened services in Bury is hotting up.

A picket of the council's social services committee last Tuesday by 400 people still couldn't persuade the council to reverse its huge cuts in local services.

Colin Barnett, Northern organiser of the Public Employees Union (NUPE), told a meeting of 120 NUPE members from the various services throughout Bury to oppose the cuts and 'to declare a state of total non-co-operation'.

The previous old peoples' home was closed at Easter this year. Now another, Brandlesholme, is closing down, and the old folk have to move again.

Closure

Twenty-five children in a day nursery in Bury are to be ousted to make way for children from the nursery in Radcliffe, which is threatened with closure.

The nursery at Mersey Drive Junior School will now not open, and a meeting called in protest attracted more than 100 mothers and children.

The AUEW Bury District Committee has passed a motion of total opposition to the cuts.

A 'Fight the Cuts' demonstration and march are planned for this Saturday, 28 August.

What can we expect to get from the national negotiating committee meeting on 26 August?

A production worker now gets £57.92 gross for 40 hours on the line. The union leaders are supporting the Labour government and its 4½ per cent wage ceiling. This means for us about £3 a week.

Ford's profits for the first three months of the year were record-breaking. Ford are now selling a third of all the cars sold in Britain. Their profits for the year will be enormous.

Profits

There's been a lot of talk about the 35-hour week, especially from Transport Union leader Jack Jones. In the Body Plant the 370 Balcony have made a valiant effort to get a four-night week. They have lost money over the issue.

It won't be good enough for the union leaders to say wait for next year or wait for the German unions. A 35-hour week now would make a major contribution to cutting unemployment.

The company want us to sign another two-year deal. With prices going up as they are, we need to be able to negotiate as and when necessary. The last two-year deal allowed the company to cut jobs and they are still coming back for more. We cannot accept any more manning cuts or so-called increased efficiency.

Ford workers in the coming months should be fighting for

£15 and 35 hours.

Full week's work or full week's pay.

No manning cuts.

MEETING for Ford Socialist Worker supporters, Sunday 12 September. Phone 552 5354 for further details.

The iron hand of the Terror Act

JOE GALLAGHER was a shop steward in the building workers union UCATT and a member of Bletchley Trades Council when his home was raided by the Special Branch last year. He was detained without trial for 15 days under the so-called Prevention of Terrorism Act and served with an order to leave this country, for he is Irish.

He fought this order and won, due to support from his union branch, his trades council and two local MPs. But he lost his job and hasn't worked since.

He was refused legal aid, and now owes more than £200 to solicitors, who are threatening to send in the bailiffs. This is how the Prevention of Terrorism Act punishes someone who has never even been charged with any offence.

The UCATT leadership has refused financial help. UCATT members should pass resolutions in their branches for this decision to be reversed.

Collections should be sent to: Joe Gallagher Appeal, TU Committee Against the PTA, c/o 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

Judges give Equity chiefs a leg-up

By John Gillett. Equity rank and file

EQUITY'S right-wing ruling council has gone behind the backs of the rank and file for a court order to increase its powers.

A judge has ruled that the council—which includes such people as Nigel Davenport, Marius Goring and Derek Bond—can change the union's rules by referendum with a simple majority.

The actor's union, which has no branch and delegate structure, operates through the

council and a decision-making annual meeting. Policy decisions taken at the meeting are not usually implemented by the council, which is elected annually by postal ballot.

Rule changes have until now been made at the AGM by a two-thirds majority. The council has already tried unsuccessfully to change that.

The court ruling is a major set-back for militants trying to make Equity more like a trade union and less like a professional association. They plan to appeal against the decision.

GOOD FOR THE STEELWORKERS' UNION!

CONGRATULATIONS (for a change) to the Iron and Steel Confederation for putting down one of the best resolutions to this year's TUC at Brighton.

It 'strongly condemns' the military intervention in Argentinian political life, the occupation of Argentinian steelworkers' union offices and the arrest of their leaders. And it demands the immediate release of all detained

trade unionists and the free appearance of the trade union and socialist press.

'Only the working people of Argentina', it concludes, 'are capable, through their own organisations, of solving that country's problems'.

Steelworkers everywhere should make sure that their delegation to the TUC forces a full discussion on these issues and insists on TUC action to achieve the resolution's aims.

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 Crescent, London E2 9DS. No invoices can be sent.

NAMIBIAN SUPPORT PICKET: To protest against selling of Namibian fur and collaboration with South African racists.

Tuesday 7 September, 12 noon-1.30pm, Eastwood and Holt, Swakane House, Upper Thames Street, London EC4. Tube: Mansion House.

Wednesday 8 September, 12 noon-1.30pm, Hudson's Bay and Annings, Beaver Hall, Great Trinity Lane, London EC4. Tube: Mansion House.

WOMAN performer/singer wanted to join next two tours of The Cuts Show, a musical revue attacking Labour's cutbacks in public spending. Socialist politics and singing. Voice essential, ability to play instruments preferable. Counter Act. Telephone 01-267 5059 on 29 August.

IRELAND. Film—'A Sense of Loss', the film the BBC don't want you to see. Followed by social, good booze, disco and Irish music. Friday 27 August, 7pm, City University, Northampton Square, Islington, London N1. Tubes: Angel or Farringdon. Tickets 75p. All proceeds to the Troops Out Movement Delegation to Ireland.

POST OFFICE WORKER meeting: Saturday 11 September, 1.30pm, The Roebuck, Tottenham Court Road, London WC1. All readers and supporters of the rank and file paper for UPW members welcome.

Part-time casual worker required for POSTER WORKSHOP. Technical ability essential (silk screen, light box etc.) Apply Jeff Wells, Admin Officer, Polytechnic of North London Students' Union, Holloway Road, N7.

North London Polytechnic Students' Union, Holloway Road, N7, requires a full-time general secretary/typist for fortnightly union newspaper and to assist vice-president in running of union office. Typing speed at least 60 wpm on IBM golf ball, general office experience desirable (£46.50 pw (under review) four weeks holiday pa, 9.30-5.00). Letter of application with two references by September 1st to J. Wells, Admin Officer.

WORKERS OF IRAN: Repression and Fight for Democratic Trade Unions by T. Jalil. A new pamphlet by the Campaign for Restoration of Trade Union Rights in Iran. BCM, 816 London WC1. V6XX. Price 75p, plus 10p postage.

DATELINE DOMINO CLUB invites you to a Grand Bank Holiday Dance at the 157 Centre, Tottenham Lane, London, N8. Saturday 28 August, 8pm-2am. Music by Ding a Ling. Plenty of booze and food. Tickets 75p in advance, £1 at the door. Buses: W3, W7, 41. Nearest tubes—Finsbury Park, Turnpike Lane and Wood Green.

Bid to break building workers' picket

THE building workers on the Shanley's site in Bedford have now been locked out for three weeks. After a quiet week on the picket line, the management thought they had lulled us into a sense of false security, and decided on confrontation.

They began spreading the word that the dispute had been settled. Seven men on site services turned up on Monday morning ready for work. We explained to them that we did not regard it as over. The men left.

But the major confrontation took place last Wednesday. A lorry which was obviously a decoy pulled up. Then a scab foreman drove his car through the picket line at speed, with a stacker driver as passenger.

We had a word with the stacker driver. To the foreman's disgust and the man's credit he decided to honour the picket.

A lorry of timber from Leighton Buzzard pulled up. The driver went to phone his boss. Two squad cars of police pulled up. But the driver decided not to cross the picket line.

Three unemployed teachers, two of them women, have joined the picket because of their disgust at the unemployment situation, and say that they will be joining the Right to Work march to Brighton next week.

Smiths: Support grows for locked-out 25

THE lockout of 25 computer workers at Smiths Industries, Cricklewood, North West London, is now in its second week.

The dispute is the latest in six months of broken agreements by management. Despite some setbacks, the spirit and militancy of the picket line is still high.

The works committee continually parrot the management position, but workers from other workplaces are supporting the picket.

Resources

The lads, members of the white-collar union ASTMS, are determined to get official backing, and two divisional councils of their union have already decided to back them. Both Brent and Barnet Trades Councils have placed their resources at their disposal.

During the first week of the lockout the 25 gave £5 to the Trico strike fund and sent a delegation to the picket line in West London. As Chris Piggot, chairman of the ASTMS group, put it: 'We recognise we are in the same struggle against a common enemy who

used common tactics against us. A victory for the workers in Trico is a victory for workers everywhere.'

The Cricklewood workers are asking other workers to black all Smith Industries goods, to donate to the lockout fund, and to mobilise support within their own trade unions.

□ All messages of support and donations to D Hodge (treasurer), 37 Chelmsford Square, Willesden, London, NW10.

ROLLS-ROYCE: WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

BLANTYRE: Four weeks ago the workers at Rolls-Royce occupied the factory against redundancies and closure.

They came straight off their holidays to take over the plant. All 400 intend to stay there until Rolls-Royce management change their plans to close the factory.

At a mass meeting only a couple of hands were raised against continuing the occupation. All the others were emphatic that there would be no transfers and no sackings.

The enthusiasm for the fight is shown in

the way workers have turned out for occupation duties. The stewards' day book shows that nearly 200 turn out each day for the picket. The weekend night shifts are fully covered too.

Jim McKinnell, AUEW deputy convenor, told Socialist Worker: 'The way people turn out for duties shows that we don't intend to give in. The response of the workers here has been tremendous. Our fight is vitally important to this

area. Hundreds of jobs have already been lost and unemployment is high in this town. This factory was set up to provide jobs when the local pits were closing in 1951.

'Rolls-Royce admit it is still a profitable unit. So why must it close?'

The trade union co-ordinating committee at Blantyre recognise that to build their fight they need to get support from the other Rolls-Royce factories.

They would like to go to the meeting with Rolls supremo Kenneth Keith on Friday with a threat of action by the combine committee.

So far the other Scottish Rolls-Royce factories have taken up collections but only on a voluntary basis. The Anstey factory, near Coventry, has sent a message of support to Blantyre but they are, as yet, the only one.

The Blantyre occupation needs support urgently from every trade unionist. It is a fight that can be won easily if the Rolls-Royce workers all throw their full industrial strength behind the Blantyre workers.

200 strike at Thames Gas

TWO HUNDRED storemen, fitters and drivers at the North Thames Gas Depot in Bromley-by-Bow, East London, are striking in support of ten fellow workers suspended without pay.

Seven fork-lift drivers in the stores were suspended last Friday without any pay for failing to load or unload above a certain height. They were demanding upgrading for the extra risks involved in this work.

Other workers came out. A delivery driver refused to cross the picket line on Monday and was suspended.

Now 200 members of the General and Municipal and Transport Workers' unions are out.



RIGHT: Computer workers and supporters on picket duty outside the plant

Film workers out for union

A HUNDRED office workers at Grunwick Film Processing, West London, are out on strike for the right to belong to a union.

Conditions at Grunwick are appalling. Hours are from 8am to 8pm with compulsory overtime. Gross wages are around £25 a week, fixed three years ago. This means take home pay is about £19 a week.

Workers have been sacked for arriving late for work or not producing a doctor's certificate after being ill.

Sunil Desai said: 'We're not going back in there until the management start treating us like human beings.'

□ Messages and donations to Sunil Desai, 5 Brent Way, Wembley, London.

Builders out in Croydon

CROYDON: Twenty members of the building workers union, UCATT, are out on official strike on Croudace's White Horse Road site.

The strike follows three months of failing to make any headway with the notoriously anti-union firm. Shop steward Peter O'Reilly told Socialist Worker that the issues involved were the recognition of the shop stewards and the union on the site, 100 per cent trade union membership, the removal of lump labour, and an increase in the bonus.

Victory for binmen

BINMEN in Stockport voted at a mass meeting last Monday to return to work.

After negotiations between management and the Public Employees Union (NUPE), the seven men sacked have all been reinstated. A bonus to clear the rubbish that has built up during the strike is to be negotiated, and the Belmont-Estate one-way system, one of the causes of the dispute, is to be investigated.

Women demand pay rise

SHEFFIELD: 27 women employees of the United Association for the Protection of Trade walked out on official strike last week demanding higher pay. They get 70p an hour and have had no increase since last January—when they only got five per cent.

One striker told Socialist Worker: 'There are over 40 UAPT depots in the country supplying information on credit-worthiness to firms and banks. Only two are unionised, the Sheffield and Manchester depots.'

'Management are clearly anti-union and refused to recognise the union when we joined 18 months ago. We were on 45p an hour then.'

Management are bringing in scabs from other depots but the women are campaigning for support. Already the postmen are refusing to deliver mail and the trades council have pledged support.

The women are determined to win, but that will probably mean spreading the dispute to other UAPT depots.

□ Messages of support, especially from ASTMS members to: UAPT strikers, ASTMS Offices, Wostenholm Road, Sheffield.

CHRYSLER CONVENOR SAYS: KEEP 'EM OUT

by AUSTIN DANKS
TGWU, Chrysler Stoke, Coventry

THE new workers being taken on at the Chrysler Ryton plant will have to be vetted to keep out troublemakers, says Ryton convenor Pat Fox.

At last week's Transport Workers' Union branch meeting the man who was the convenor throughout the 'shoddy work' dispute prattled on like a page from the Coventry Evening Telegraph, saying that there was no doubt that 'disruptive elements' and 'people who just don't want to work' were part of Ryton's problems in the past.

He explained that the vetting will not be to keep out people who want to make sure the shop stewards do their job. It will only be to sift out 'the disruptive elements who are intent on causing trouble'.

Who knows, maybe Brother Fox is really stupid enough to believe that Chrysler do not see that people who make sure their shop stewards do their job and troublemakers are one and the same. Either way, when asked how he would be able to spot the disruptive elements, Pat explained with incredible insight that 'at interviews you can normally see what sort they are.'

In simple language it means that Chrysler will be operating a blacklist with a rubber stamp from the convenor.

SEAMEN: LABOUR TRIES SAME OLD CON

THE 40,000 members of the National Union of Seamen were conned by a Labour government's earlier version of Incomes Policy. They staged a national strike against it.

That was ten years ago.

Now, ten years on, the seamen are finding they have again been conned by a Labour government and its incomes policy. This week they began voting whether or not they would support strike action against attempts to deprive them of wage increases to which they are entitled.

The seamen's pay award went to arbitration last year with the Conciliation and Arbitration Service. Three arbitrators ruled that the seamen had to accept a two-stage wage increase.

Now the seamen are being told that under the terms of the Social Contract their new agreement cannot start until one full year after that second stage.

This means that the seamen are being robbed of £90 apiece. It also means the union's yearly wage agreements are threatened. When it comes to consolidating increases obtained under the Social Contract they may lose out again.

The ballot form now being voted on by NUS members asks two questions. Would members support industrial action in support of the union's claim for a new agreement from 2 July? Or would seamen accept the government, employer and TUC-approved starting date of 20 January 1977, which would pick their pockets.

A substantial vote for industrial action is expected as feeling is running high. Hopefully there will even be a thumping majority, which will force the NUS leadership to put up a fight. Seamen have been conned too long by successive incomes policies.

Isle of Grain stays out

PICKETS are still stopping all materials entering the huge Isle of Grain Power Station construction site, where the dispute involving nearly 1,000 insulation workers employed by Babcock and Wilcox is now in its eleventh week.

The dispute began when 928 men struck in support of 28 who were sacked or suspended for refusing to work in areas contaminated with glass fibre without protective clothing.

Babcock and Wilcox have refused to supply any protective clothing, even though the factory inspectorate supports the men's case.

The management want to use the dispute to negotiate a new contract with the men.

Babcock and Wilcox have said they will not even consider reopening the job until there were discussions about productivity, discipline, the bonus system, and sub-contractors. The union refused to discuss the issues.

Many of the men are being refused money by the dole and the Social Security even though the management has sacked everyone. There has also been trouble with tax rebates.

□ Although the strike is official the men are getting no strike pay. Donations are urgently needed. Send to W Thompson, chairman, shop stewards committee, 52 St Andrews Court, Gravesend, Kent.

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PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p

Engineers must step up fight now

By John Deason, Right to Work Campaign secretary

THE TRICO dispute has to be escalated to be won.

3000 engineers on the picket line for a day could stop the scabs. It would shake the management's confidence and terrify the Engineering Employers Federation.

Trico comes within the London District (No 8) of the Confederation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Unions, which covers all 27 unions in engineering. The Secretary of that committee is Bill McLoughlin, the local AUEW Divisional Organiser for the strike. To his credit he is regularly on the Trico picket line.

The London District Confed is also the body that called



the National Assembly against Unemployment with 3000 delegates. It is also one of the bodies that called the 20,000 strong unemployment march

last November. It should be powerful enough to crack Trico!

The Southall AUEW District Committee and the Lon-

don District Confed must be urged to call a meeting of all stewards in working hours. 500 stewards can mobilise mass pickets. They can escalate the action into sympathy stoppages. The Trico women have proved their determination to fight for everyone's right to equal pay. Now it's up to the rest of us to clinch it.

□ Move emergency resolutions to the No 8 District London Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, Secretary Brother B McLoughlin, North London AUEW District Office, Denmark Street, London WC1, calling for a working hours' meeting of all shop stewards to organise effective picketing and support for Trico.

TRICO: WE'RE STAYING ON STRIKE!



300 PICKETS and trade unionists were on the Trico picket line early last Monday morning to harass the scabs as they went into work.

'SHOULDN'T THE women now see sense and come back to work and earn some money?'

That was the disgusting comment from Sidney Atkins, Managing Director of Trico, when he heard that he had won his case against his women employees at the Industrial Tribunal.

The Tribunal had as expected, found that the women strikers at Trico have no case to demand equal pay. In spite of the fact that the women work alongside five men who do exactly the same work as they do.

The only difference in their jobs is that at one time the men worked a night shift. For that they got an extra £6.50. Now they work on days. And the women want the same.

The people who don't see the sense in that are the 3 people who heard the case at the Tribunal. People like Sir Jocelyn Bodilly, the chairman, who has spent most of his years administering justice in British Colonies around the world.

And Mr Slidders, Trico personnel manager, who told the Tribunal that the women were quite happy to work under the male rate until the Equal Pay Act came into existence. The equal pay act stirred up the pop, and the women aren't happy any more.

The 480 women engineers at Trico have been on strike for 15 weeks now. And they are in a stronger position than ever to win.

by Margaret Renn

on buses, trains, lorries and aircraft. They should all be blacked where the vehicles are produced and where they are repaired.

Women at the Trico factory in Northampton told Socialist Worker how low production is there: 'They're scrapping the bottom of the barrel, bringing bits and bobs up from London which don't fit together. There are days when we have almost nothing to do.'

Trico are so generous to their women they pay on average £10 a week less to the 100 women who work in their brand new Northampton factory.

Desperate

There are almost no Trico windscreen wipers in the car factories, when most are preparing for new models, and increased production after the summer holidays.

The Motor Show is at the end of September and they are desperate to get their cars into the show rooms.

Imported wipers are being used on some cars. These should be blacked now.

Trico wipers are also used

Typical

The Union is prepared to negotiate. But Trico management aren't interested. So the women have a fight on their hands which they are determined to win.

Said Doll Wakefield, Press shop steward, Trico:

'We're not going back. That's all there is to it. We're not going back to be made the laughing stock of the men. I think all the girls feel the same way. The Tribunal was a farce. It wasn't for us. We guessed we would lose at it, but we're going to win. I might be retired before we get back!'

SUPPORT THE EQUAL PAY BATTLE

* ORGANISE a regular collection where you work. Let Socialist Worker know about collections organised, and messages of support, so that everyone can see the campaign to support the Trico women.

* ORGANISE a delegation from your workplace to support the picket line. The women are on 24 hour seven day a week picket duty.

* BOTH TASS and ASTMS have had members working throughout the strike. Now some of the AUEW members in the toolroom have also returned to work. Members of those unions should insist that all their members support the picket line, and those that don't are disciplined.

* ORGANISE a street meeting this Saturday in your area. Last Saturday

the second street meeting held in West Ealing, London, raised £17, and a meeting in Brixton raised £7. All women SW readers should be prepared to organise and speak at these meetings.

□ □
* WOMENS VOICE SPECIAL Trico: Equal Pay Now. A four page special on Trico and the fight for equal

pay. Price 5p. Order copies now on 01-739 2639.

Printed and delivered to stations this Friday, 27 August. London IS branches can collect from Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, N4.

□ Send donations to Trico Strike Committee, Southall AUEW District, 1 Woodlands Road, Southall. Or take them to the picket line at Trico, Great West Road, Brentford, London.

Thousands fight RDL threat

By Steve Faith
THOUSANDS OF oil rig construction site workers, their families, and local trade unionists are expected to demonstrate in Fife this Saturday to protest against the threat to jobs at RDL, in Methil.

Around 7000 workers on North Sea Oil rig construction sites, and many thousands of others in industries which supply

these sites, face the dole within the next year.

At Methil in Fife, Graythorpe on Teesside, Ardyne in Argyll and Loch Kishorn in Wester Ross, redundancies are imminent. The oil companies are not ordering any more rigs and so sites will have to close.

The government predicted in August 1974 that around 80 rigs would be built by 1980, and then in July 1975 predicted that 53 rigs would be built by 1980... and then one year later discover that all eight British rig construction

yards are without an order.

The British government was so much in control of the situation that it sunk £12 million into a rig construction site at Portavadie in Argyll, which has not yet had an order, and is unlikely ever to have an order.

Cheap

There is another government financed rig site at Hunterston, soon to be opened... or rather closed because it does not have an order.

The oil companies have

been calling the tune from the start. The companies needed cheap labour, low taxation and virtually no government participation in the oil

With the promise of the balance of payments deficit being wiped out 'at a stroke' with the oil revenue, the government has happily provided the companies with the conditions they wanted.

Transport and General Workers Union official recently broke a strike of catering staff on an oil service base in Shetland and Boiler-makers official, Jim Murray

told RDL workers at Methil that if there is a new rig order, they should offer a strike free period!

The answer lies with the workers, and with their own rank and file organisation. And it must not be a question of one site against another.

Workers at Methil must ban overtime now and demand that their brothers and sisters at Nigg, and at Ardyne, and at Graythorpe do the same.

Only then will trade union leaders feel the anger of their members, only then will they be forced to fight for jobs.

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Please send me more information about Socialist Worker and the International Socialists

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Send to: National Secretary, International Socialists, 8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN.

Support!