

# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p

## WHO DECIDES?

Join the mass picket of the Old Bailey at 9.30am, when Right to Work marcher John Deason is on trial. John Deason is the last to be tried of the 43 marchers arrested when the police attacked last Spring's Right to Work march.

**FIGHT FOR RIGHT TO WORK  
NO MORE  
JAILINGS**

**DEFEND  
JOHN DEASON  
MAY 4**

The judges... or the power of our class?



John Deason—and the man who's already been through it, Ricky Tomlinson

# SACKED—BY THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

## 1800 axed as jobless toll hits new peak

**THE SOCIAL Contract claimed another 1800 victims this week.**

Workers at C A Parsons, a generator firm in Newcastle, were told that one in every four of them would be sacked inside the next 18 months.

The news came as the Labour government were announcing the Social Contract's latest triumph—unemployment up to 1,392,000, the highest for this time of the year since the war.

### Massive

The Social Contract, of course, was going to stop all that.

It didn't matter if wages went down and profits up because that would bring more investment and more jobs.

The Parsons workers were told that too...

Well profits have certainly gone up. Massively.

Only a fortnight ago, in fact,

the parent firm Reyrolle Parsons announced that theirs had doubled, to £15.8 billion.

Better still, the government were letting them increase their dividends to shareholders by 39 per cent, which is rather more than the 4½ per cent they allowed workers on their wages.

Never mind. Clearly it would create more jobs.

Clearly...

Parsons are not, however, alone in the field. The other big generator firm, Sir Arnold Weinstock's GEC, has been

doing even better.

Its profits have been getting bigger and bigger. And in January, Sir Arnold unveiled wonderful plans for them.

More jobs? Not exactly. Another £175 million in the bank for the shareholders, to be precise.

Meanwhile, the logic of the Social Contract has created it own Frankenstein.

The wage cuts that paid for those profits also, inevitably, produced electricity bills that workers could no longer afford.

So less electricity was used—and less was produced.

Now the heads of the electricity board are claiming there is no 'demand' for the power that could be produced by new generating stations.

Only one new station should be built, say the government, and then only in case 'demand' goes up in a few years' time.

Neither the government—nor the electricity board—will admit that millions of people need that electricity NOW.

People such as the thousands of pensioners suffering from hypothermia—coldness, in plain language—whose numbers, as we reported last week, have trebled in ten years.

There is plenty of need. But endless increases in electricity prices now means there is no 'demand'.

Such is the cynicism of the Labour government—a

cynicism rivalled by their 'solution' to the Parsons crisis.

They are going to hand the fate of all the workers in the generating industry to the man who has spent years taking government money with one hand and signing away jobs with the other.

That's right, Weinstock again.

This after Weinstock has made it clear that he does not regard the sackings announced in Newcastle as either numerous enough or soon enough.

### Numerous

Next time you hear anyone talk of how the Social Contract saves jobs, think of the grin on Weinstock's face—and the devastation threatening the lives of hundreds of Tyneside workers.

**THE QUEEN** is visiting Hendon's police next Thursday—to congratulate them on their work.

Among their achievements are the 200-strong attack on the West Indian Carib Club, the harassment and arrests on the Grunwicks picket line—and the attack on the Right to Work march last Spring. Swinging batons, they made four charges into a peaceful march of 80 unemployed workers.

The day before the Queen's visit one of those marchers comes up on trial at the Old Bailey.

Of the 43 marchers arrested, the serious charges were saved for him, march organiser and campaign secretary, John Deason.

This is a frame-up in the same mould as the trial of the Shrewsbury pickets. The aim is to intimidate the jobless so they won't demonstrate against unemployment.

That is why every trade unionist and socialist should join the mass picket of the Old Bailey next Wednesday 4 May at 9.30am. Bring banners.

More than 200 trade union organisations are to send official delegations to the picket, including 17 shop stewards committees such as Pontins site, North Wales, Homerton Rubber, South Wales and Rolls-Royce Production, Bristol. Fourteen Trades Council, 37 AUEW bodies, including four district committees, and many other bodies will also be represented.

Also present will be Dennis Skinner, Labour MP for Bolsover, Ricky Tomlinson, the Shrewsbury picket, and Ernie Roberts, Assistant General Secretary of the AUEW.

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### INSIDE

The day the Nazi Front went white with fear: Page 5

# TYNDALE OUTRAGE

## Teachers sacked 'to encourage the others'

By Jeff Hurford  
THE 'cane them, crush them, turn them into factory fodder' brand of education got another boost this week.

The Inner London Education Authority sacked six teachers from the Tyndale School in North London.

Every right wing Black Paper supporter who longs for the bad old 'good old days' has got a massive shot in the arm—from a Labour-controlled authority.

But this isn't the end of it. The grounds for sacking the six teachers are that 18 months ago, they went on strike for

few weeks. Apparently teachers are forbidden to take action decided on by themselves. Should they do so they are—by decision of the ILEA and with the consent of the teachers' union—wide open for victimisation and dismissal.

The aim is to soften up teachers so as to make it easier to push through larger classes, compulsory transfers and loss of jobs.

### Formula

Teachers, especially those in ILEA, must respond with strike action. To allow the

employers to get away with sacking the Tyndale Six will convince them that they have found the perfect formula for getting rid of militants.

The Press, ILEA and the right-wing in the NUT have tried, and largely succeeded, in obscuring the facts by claiming that the issues are education, standards, the accountability of teachers to parents.

From the start, in 1974, the teachers said it was a political issue—and they were right.

The trouble was started by a Rhodes Boyson supporter with a series of red-baiting rumours. The witchhunt was

then taken up by Labour Party members and councillors.

When the ILEA Education officer recommended that inefficiency charges be brought against only two of the teachers, the Labour Councillors told him to add the strike charge against all the teachers.

### Unofficial

The sacking of the Tyndale teachers comes just as the ILEA are preparing for large scale compulsory transfer of teachers throughout Inner London.

The NUT leaders are not going to fight and so any resistance will depend on unofficial action by the rank and file.

It is precisely the issue of unofficial action that is at stake in the Tyndale case.

At the disciplinary tribunal it was admitted by ILEA representatives that they would have reacted quite differently if the strike had been official!

ILEA understand the importance of the sackings. So must all teachers. As the Tyndale NUT Rep, Jackie McWhirter told Socialist

Worker:  
"This is not only a clear victimisation, but also a threat to other teachers and all workers. We appeal to all trade unionists to defend the right to strike by supporting us in our struggle by their own strike action and financial support."

Motions and petitions calling for no action to be taken against any of the Tyndale teachers should be sent to the ILEA, County Hall, London SE1.

### Letters

Letters of support and money should be sent to the NUT Rep, Jackie McWhirter, 24 Palace Rd, London, N.8.

## Loyalists threaten new strike

AS WE went to press, Loyalist political and paramilitary leaders in Northern Ireland announced another enforced 'strike' to get control of security back into their hands.

The strike will begin on Monday.

The United Unionist Action Council, made up of the main Loyalist paramilitary and murder gangs plus Ian Paisley, had earlier let it be known that they had made plans for co-ordinated intimidation of workers in key areas.

Republican community groups are trying to draw up a plan of defensive action if—as is likely—there is a frontal assault on Catholic ghetto areas.

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

## RACIALISTS DID THIS

THIS IS BOLA FEMI, A young Nigerian studying in London.

Racist thugs broke both his arms and smashed his head outside a pub in Deptford, South London last week.

Bola and other socialists had gone into the pub after a Socialist Worker Party meeting to discuss the defence of the Islington 18.

Danny Evaristo, former President of the Greenwich Trades Council, went up to the bar and ordered a drink. A thug shouted: 'You black bastards! You don't like the National Front, but you do like National Assistance'.

Danny was pushed and shoved about, and a scuffle developed.

As the SWP members started to leave the pub, they noticed the man behind the bar handing out chair and table legs to the racist and his two henchmen.

Armed with the clubs, the three men charged outside, cornered Bola, forced him to

the ground and beat him savagely.

If they hadn't been hauled off, they could have killed him.

John Francis, a busman, went to help Bola and was also battered. Both were taken to hospital.

Bola was found to have a multiple fracture in one arm

and a break in the other. Serious concussion made it impossible for him to take painkilling drugs.

He spent three sleepless nights in agony in the hospital. He is now immobilised and still in great pain.

John Francis has 12 stitches in his head.

The police arrived at the

Kings Head some time after the assault. One of the thugs was still in the pub, drinking with his mates. He had blood on his hands.

But the police refused to make an arrest. Their 'inquiries' are continuing.

Bola can't help wondering how long police 'inquiries' would have lasted if the victims of the attack had been white—and a black man had been found with blood on his hands!

The South East London District of the Socialist Workers Party are holding a mass picket of National Front sellers this Saturday (30 April) at Lewisham Clock Tower (outside Burtons).

And a picket of Ladywell police station was being called on.

□ Picket Ladywell Police Station, Ladywell Road, off Lewisham High St., Friday 29 April, 7pm.

Deptford SWP public meeting

### Class not colour divides us.

Tuesday 10 May, 7.30pm, Albany Empire, Creek Road, Deptford.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORK

## Abortion anger over MP

### Public meeting ABORTION RIGHTS UNDER ATTACK

Speakers include: Dave Widgery (a doctor) and NCCL speaker on the legal aspects of the Bill. Plus Pirate Jenny's new play Bouncing Backwards With Benyon  
Wednesday 11 May, 7.30pm, Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Common

LABOUR MP Tom Cox is going to get a shock next Friday (6 May).

He voted in the Commons for the Benyon Bill that seeks to outlaw abortions for thousands of women.

So now a South London committee linking up different groups is to picket his 'surgery' in Tooting.

Cox, an electricians' union-sponsored MP, has already been censured by the local Wadden branch of the EETPU, who have demanded that he attends their next meeting to take account of

### PICKET TOM COX'S SURGERY

Friday 6 May 6.30-7.30pm, 611 Garrett Lane, near Tooting Broadway, South London.

their views.

Dozens of Labour MPs like Cox have voted for the Bill. But pickets like the one planned in South London can show them that they cannot impose their views on the rest of us.

The committee has sent letters to all local trade unions asking them to take part in the campaign for abortion rights.

**Socialist Worker**

**NO RETURN TO BACKSTREET ABORTION**

**DEMONSTRATE AGAINST THE BENYON BILL**

**SATURDAY MAY 14th 1.30pm**  
BELVEDERE ROAD, WATERLOO LONDON SE1

**WOMENS VOICE**

GLASGOW  
Women's voice  
Backstreet  
Women  
Demonstration  
No return to  
backstreet  
abortion.  
Saturday 14  
May, assemble  
11am,  
Blythwood  
Square, march  
to the  
Amphitheatre,  
Clyde Street.  
All Scottish  
branches to  
support.



Picture: Andrew Ward (Report)

## BAN ON NAZI FRONT

JOURNALISTS and photographers on the Hackney Gazette in East London this week refused to work on an edition carrying an advert for the National Front.

The management were asked to withdraw the advert but refused saying it would set a 'dangerous precedent'.

A spokesman for the journalists said 'We do not want the Hackney Gazette to be used in any way by a party whose main platform is racial hatred.'

THE NATIONAL Front have booked Shoreditch School Hackney for an election meeting on Saturday (30 April) at 7.30pm.

Teachers at the school are calling a picket which SWP members should support. Details from local branches.

GEORGE HERROD, National Front candidate in this week's Ashfield by-election, is at odds with his Nazi leadership.

During an election phone-in, he denied that the Front was in favour of compulsory repatriation and claimed that he is not a racist.

When told that Martin Webster was in favour of a 'well oiled Nazi machine' and that Jim Merrick was 'proud to be a racist', Herrod admitted that there were Nazis in the NF but that these were 'the lunatic fringe' and would have to be expelled.



Picture: John Shorrocks (Report)

Some of the 300 people who marched through Islington on Saturday in protest against the frame-up of 18 black teenagers on conspiracy charges. The trial is the police's revenge for their humiliation at the Notting Hill Carnival last year.

**We're black—and we're fighting back**

Against Deportations, against racist street attacks, against police brutality, against the sex snoopers, against soaring unemployment

*We're fighting this racist system, we're fighting for the revolution, let's organise now, come to the Rally, Join the struggle,*

**RALLY OF BLACK REVOLUTIONARIES IN BRITAIN**

Saturday 30 April, 11am, Stockwell Hall, Britton, London SW8

Speakers include: Mota Singh (secretary), Leamington (NA), Jupiter (Anti Shop Steward), Fred Dagenham, Kim Gordon (editor, Flame), Akala Biswas (Hackney Asian Association), Nadeem (NUPE shop steward, Selly Oak Hospital), Pawan Parmer (Bolton Asian Youth Organisation), Raj Goyal (ACTS secretary, Walls, Southall), Rehana (Widow)

Let's: Chagga (Anti), Tim Biggles (Revolutionary), Michael League, Jamaica, Frank Osei (Tutu secretary), JPH (NOC branch), Steve Matthew (Islington 18 Defence Committee)

Tickets: 50p in advance, from SWP Black Rally, 6 Cotton Gardens, London E2. Inquiries and accommodation, phone 01-739 1878.

**SOCIAL:** Reggae and Asian Sound System, Food, Beer, Exhibitions and Stalls Starts 8pm in the Training Centre, 2 St Matthews Road, Britton.

**TRANSPORT FROM BIRMINGHAM:** 7.45am, Paris Street Centre, Alum Rock Road, Alum Rock, Barn, New Street Station, New St entrance.

# Food prices going UP...

YOU'D think from the newspapers on Tuesday that food prices were going to fall as a result of the latest deal made at the Common Market meeting in Brussels.

What a travesty of the truth! BUTTER may fall in price by 5p—but not for more than a few months. Then it is going to start going up again, until at the end of the year it will be 7p a pound higher than now.

CHEESE is going to go up in price almost immediately, by 5p a pound, and by another 3p before the end of the year.

MILK is going to go up in price.

MEAT is going to go up in price.

WHEAT is going up—causing yet another increase in the price of bread of 1½p.

## WHAT WE THINK

All this on top of the increases in the cost of electricity, council rents, gas, oil and petrol caused by government policy.

It is the government that has forced up these prices. Yet it dares claim it is 'fighting inflation.'

Workers on last Wednesday's demonstration in London sang: 'We all live on bread and margarine.' There's one trouble with that. The Price Commission is expected to allow firms like Unilever, which has just made record profits, to increase the price of margarine by another 2p a pound.

## ...and no one else will fight them!

DESPITE these price rises, several union conferences have voted for the Social Contract to continue.

That was the decision at the National Union of Teachers, the National Union of Journalists, the shop workers union USDAW, the Scottish TUC and the Welsh TUC.

The press is already predicting that the Engineering Union next week will vote the same way.

But this does not mean the fight against wage controls is already over. Far from it. It shows the fight is going to get more bitter.

It's going to mean a fight against the trade union leaderships, as well as against the employers and the govern-

ment. But there is still going to be a fight.

The pattern has been shown by the way that Heathrow, as with the Leyland toolroom workers, union leaders have been prepared to urge their members to scab on strikes.

We cannot beat the contract unless we build a rank and file response to this sabotage.

That means campaigning in every industry for support for workers, such as at Port Talbot or Heathrow, who fight for wages. It means all other groups of workers must prepare now claims for £15 a week across-the-board without strings for 1 August, when Phase Two ends.



**Some blue dust for the men who reap the profits of death**

Turner director D C Burling, gets a dose of 'blue asbestos' outside the shareholders' meeting. TOP: Inside, Mrs Cathy Hughes, whose husband died of asbestosis, tears into the directors, who sit stony-faced.

# ASBESTOS ANGER!



**Oil rig blow-out: The cost of 'profit at any price'.**



The blow-out rig

**MILLIONS of tons of oil pouring into the North Sea. The continual danger of an explosion. The coasts of Denmark, Norway and Scotland threatened with devastating contamination.**

That was what the blow-out in the North Sea oil field meant earlier this week.

It could have been even worse. It was pure luck that the blow-out did not mean instantaneous death for the dozens of workers on the rig.

The exact causes of the blow-out are still not known. But one thing is already evident. It was not an accident pure and simple.

The oil firm involved, Phillips, took risks because of its desire to pump out profitable oil as fast as possible and as soon as possible. It was prepared to risk a blow-out in the process, just as all the oil firms have risked the lives of divers, rig workers, seamen in the past, producing a gruesome death toll.

But blame does not lie only with the oil firms.

They have been given the go-ahead to go for profits, regardless of the dangers, by successive British governments. In fact by the same government department, now headed by Anthony Wedgwood Benn, that puts continual pressure on for 'high productivity' in the mines, regardless of the death toll.

## Nuclear

By the same government department that is giving the go ahead for the reprocessing of nuclear fuels at enormous risk to all of us.

Only a fortnight before the oil blow-out they were claiming that chances of a catastrophe in the North Sea fields was 'remote'. Yet international experts were telling television interviewers that blow-outs were inevitable. The companies refused to take notice of such warnings.

THE asbestos murderers got a nasty shock in Manchester last Thursday.

The annual meeting of Turner and Newall, where they usually pat themselves on the back, share out the dividends and re-elect themselves to the board of directors, didn't go quite as they planned.

There was a noisy picket outside the meeting with placards to tell the story of what has really been going on in the industry while they've been clocking up £189 million profit in the past ten years.

The placards said simply: 'They murder the men, then they rob the widows.'

Mrs Cathy Hughes, her daughter Alice, and other members of her family went inside the meeting to press the point home. Glasgow lagger John Healy demanded to know what the directors were going to do to make amends to his aunt and the many other widows who like her had been swindled.

## State

Mrs Hughes got to her feet during the meeting too. 'I congratulate you on your great profit. I get the paltry pension of £15.85 a week from the state for the death of my man aged 54,' she said.

'I got not a thing, not a card of sympathy from you.'

'I had everything I could want in life at one time. Then you took my man. You forced me out to work.'

'And he got just £500 compensation for his stolen years. He was threatened that

if the case went to court he'd likely get nothing.

'To see a man dying from the disease that you gave him is too terrible for words. I sat day and night with him dying in the bed.'

In response to this and other forceful statements from Alice Black and others, H. D. Hardie, Turner's director responsible for 'health' and 'safety', claimed that these things were all in the past. His comments were met

with derision.

When the company directors moved re-election of themselves, one bright spark among the protestors suggested that they should appoint one extra director—a funeral director.

## Amends

The directors were repeatedly asked what they were going to do to make amends. They were also pressed about how much

former chairman Sir Ralph Melton 'Mr Asbestos' Batemen got by way of pension from the firm in comparison with widow Moll Fisher. Mrs Fisher got just over £1 a week for five years until she was cut off altogether.

After the meeting was over the protest continued outside. The cry went up 'for every share certificate there's a death certificate.'

Directors were harried as

they came out. Shareholders were presented with flowers with name tags of the dead men from the Glasgow lagger TGWU branch.

Blue asbestos—which was in fact blue Daz—was poured over the chairman. He panicked.

The protest was extremely successful and very enjoyable. The protestors informed Turner and Newall that they could look forward to more of the same.



The picket outside the Turner and Newall shareholders' meeting.

## MAY DAY

### Join the London Demonstration

Assemble 1pm, Charing Cross Embankment, to move off to Hyde Park at 2pm. Sunday 1 May London SWP branches to support with banners.

Relax at the Rock Against Racism/Right to Work Campaign dance at the Roundhouse, Chalk Farm from 5pm onwards.

# Magnificent!

## 57,000 VOTE RANK AND FILE IN BATTLE FOR JONES' SUCCESSOR



Tommy Riley: 27,445 votes

□ **IT WAS unprecedented.** Moss Evans, the main machine candidate, came top. But he got less than half the votes, the lowest proportion ever received by a winning candidate in the TGWU.

The undemocratic rules in the TGWU means there is no second

ballot and Evans is elected for life.

□ **Massive opposition to the Social Contract.** That's what the enormous vote for John Cousins means. He was the man with the anti-Social Contract name and the press coverage (his daddy used to be General Secretary before Jones).

□ **Tremendous support for the Rank and File.** The three rank and file candidates standing for a militant

fight to smash the Social Contract, and for the election of all TGWU officials, got a massive vote.

Tommy Riley, deputy convenor at the Metal Box factory in Westhoughton, Lancashire, Willie Bennett, convenor at India Tyres, Glasgow, and Alan Thornett, shop steward at British Leyland's Cowley factory, received between them a magnificent 57,517.

□ **One in the eye for Jones and**

the TGWU bureaucracy. Tommy Riley, the Right to Work Campaign candidate, beat two national full-time appointed officials to come fifth out of the 14 candidates.

This tremendous result—the first time a rank and file has beaten full-time officials—was achieved in spite of a national press blackout (except for Socialist Worker), a blackout that was continued after the results were announced. The Morning Star and Financial Times, for example, printed the names of the top four and the sixth candidate, but missed out Riley.

The fact that a rank and file candidate standing on a principled programme can successfully challenge the votes of the machine candidates is a testimony to the growing support for Dockworker and Platform and to the work of rank and file militants in the TGWU up and down the country.

### TGWU ELECTION RESULT

Evans	National Organiser	349,548
Cousins	Industrial Relations Officer at National Economic Development Office; former TGWU National Secretary Public Services & Civil Air Transport Group	119,241
Kitson	Executive Officer	75,395
Smith	National Secretary, Passenger (Bus) Services Group	47,799
Riley	Rank and file member/ Right to Work Campaign candidate	27,445
Miller	National Secretary, Chemical Rubber Manufacturing and Oil Refining Group	24,701
Walsh	National Secretary, Administrative, Clerical, Technical and Supervisory Group	19,510
Bennett	Rank and file member	18,579
Fulton	Rank and file member	17,319
Lyon	Rank and file member	14,010
Dyce	Rank and file member	11,919
Thornett	Rank and file member	11,493
Moorhouse	Rank and file member	9,376
Thatcher	Rank and file member	6,725

### Transport to the Old Bailey picket

**SHEFFIELD:** Pond Street 7am  
**MANCHESTER:** Cheap block booking on train, £8. Tickets from 260 Deansgate or phone 061 832 8102  
**DUNFERMLINE:** Carnegie Bus Station 9.30am Tuesday 3 May  
**EDINBURGH:** Trades Council Club, Sandy Place, 11pm, 3 May. Further details, ring Pat Hingley 031 558 2943  
**GLASGOW:** George Square information centre 11pm, 3 May. 17 return  
**LOWESTOFT:** Royal Palm 5.30am £1  
**CREWE:** Focus Cinema, 4.30am  
**COVENTRY:** TU Books, 65 Queen Victoria Road, 7.30am  
**GRAVESEND:** Gravesend Station, 6am  
**NEWCASTLE:** Central Station, Midrigh, 3 May Return fare £3.50. Details Newcastle 657805 or 673043  
**CAMBRIDGE:** New Square 7.30am £1.50. Details Cambridge 65477  
**SOUTHAMPTON:** The Canotaph 6.30am £1. Phone Southampton 581483  
**BIRMINGHAM:** Hall of Memory, 7am. Details 021 643 5717  
**BRISTOL:** Wills Building, Queens Road, 6am. Class 1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/10/11/12/13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100  
**LIVERPOOL:** St. Georges Hall, St. Johns Road, 11am, 3 May £2 unemployed.  
**LEEDS:** University 5am, Corn Exchange 5.15am, £2. Details Leeds 756624  
**GLOUCESTER:** Green Shield shop Gloucester, 5.45am, and Rotunda, Cheltenham 6am. Phone 0452 413910  
**HULL:** Socialist Books, M4 night 3 May, £3. Phone 0482 503347  
**DURHAM:** The Bede Roundabout, 12.45am, £3.30  
**ABERYSWYTH:** 8am  
**Aberystwyth:** Per Tam, £3. Contact Geryllan, Trinity Road, Aberystwyth for details.  
**ABERDEEN:** Details, Pete Smith 0224 54528  
**BLACK COUNTRY:** Smiling Man Car Park, Hall St, Dudley, Bay, and Falkland Street car park, Willenhall, 6.30am, £1.50. Phone Dudley 503388  
**LEEDS:** University Steps, 5.15am, Corn Exchange 5.30am, £2  
**PONTYPRIDD:** Treforest Railway Station, 6.30am  
**CARDIFF:** Cardiff Central Station, 7am. Phone Cardiff 692307



### Rank and File DIARY

**DOWN THE ROAD,** an exhibition of 38 photographs by Bob Golden taken from the book of the same name. Available for hire to trade union branches, schools, colleges, public meetings. Fee £5 plus carriage. All proceeds to the Right to Work Campaign. Speakers can be arranged to introduce discussion.  
 □ Write to Down the Road Exhibition, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4 (phone 01-359 1371, evenings).

**APRIL ISSUE OF THE COLLIER** out now. Articles on Gormley's prod deal, the threat to Notts Coalfield, the fight for dust victims' rights and

**THE COLLIER** Building Workers  
**PRODUCTIVITY DEAL WOULD SMASH STRENGTH OF RANK AND FILE** Dockers

**Merseyside Right to Work Campaign Social: WELCOME HOME BILLY CASTLEY, ALL IS FORGIVEN! DEFEND JOHN DEASON!** Friday 6 May 8pm-midnight, Dolphin Steers House, Canning Place (off North John Street, behind the Holiday Inn) Featuring North West Spanner's Just a Cog at 9.30pm, plus disco. Tickets £1 (unemployed 50p)

**JOHN DEASON IS INNOCENT—** Right to Work Campaign stickers. Thousands already used around London. Rush off an order today, 4in x 3in, in green. £2 for 1000, post free by first class post. From Rank and File Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4. CASH WITH ORDERS ONLY.

much more. Up to 10 copies, cash with order (5p each plus 6p postage). More than ten copies post free (send no cash with order; pay us for the copies you sell). Orders to The Collier, 38 Abbey Lane, Cundy Cross, Barnsley, South Yorks.

**MERSEYSIDE UNEMPLOYED WORKERS EDUCATION CLASSES:** on Why there has been so much unemployment on Merseyside. All meetings on Mondays, 12 noon, Kirkby Labour Club, St. Chads Drive, Kirkby. Free of charge.

2 May: Organisation of resistance by the Labour movement and others.  
 9 May: Unemployed struggles in Britain in 19th and 20th centuries.  
 □ All inquiries to Brother T. Jones, 34 Roughwood Drive, Northwood, Kirkby. Sponsored by the Merseyside Right to Work Campaign.

**ACTION ON THE CUTS—** fight compulsory transfer! Meeting organised by the London Education Cuts Action Committee. Thursday 6 May, 6pm, Polytechnic of Central London, Regent Street, London W1.

**HEALTH WORKERS ALMANACK:** Essential reading for all who care about the NHS. Information and practical advice for all hospital trade unionists. Order now from Hospital Worker, 19 Red Post Hill, London SE24 or phone 01-733 8443—or contribute to the next one.

**National meeting of PLATFORM,** the rank and file organisation of bus workers. Sunday 8 May (WOTE CHANGE OF DATE), 11.30am-5pm, Mitre Hotel, Cathedral Gate, Manchester 3. For transport from London, phone 01-706 2823, from Sheffield 0742-584561, from Birmingham 021-843 5717, from Glasgow 041-221 3428. PLATFORM, rank and file bus workers' paper—April/May issue now out. Ten copies for 70p from Platform, 11 Woodlands Road, Ilford, Essex (phone 01-553 4550).

**ENGINEERS CHARTER RANK AND FILE CONTACT** joint meeting: Smash the Social Contract. Saturday 30 April 11.30am, Lass O'Gowrie, Charles Street, off Oxford Road, Manchester. Speakers from Heathrow engineers and Port Talbot electricians.

**READING** Right to Work Campaign May Day Dance. Saturday 30 April, 8pm-late, Wellington Arms, Whitley Street. Music by Lazer. Tickets 40p (20p unemployed). Bar extension.



NALGO ACTION NEWS: April edition still available from 23a Alpha House, Ashbridge Street, London NW8. 5p a copy plus 7p postage.

### JOIN THE TEACHERS' PICKET IN SUPPORT OF JOHN DEASON

Many teachers in London have a holiday on Thursday 5 May because of voting in the GLC elections. Rank and File Teacher is calling on all teachers to attend a special teachers' picket of the Old Bailey on that day in support of John Deason as well as attending the mass picket on 4 May. Be there at 9.30am sharp. The trial will re-commence at 10am.

### BARNET TRADES COUNCIL RALLY No more Shrewsbury's Defend John Deason

Rally, Saturday 30 April, 2.30pm, Unity House, Euston Road, London NW1 (opposite Euston Station). Speakers include Ian Morris (AUEW shop steward, London Airport), Ernie Roberts (Assistant General Secretary, AUEW), Mike Lynch (jailed Right to Work marcher) and Ricky Tomlinson (Shrewsbury picket). ALL WELCOME

### GRIMSBY: 20 NEW MEMBERS

GRIMSBY: Four days before polling day in the Grimsby by-election, 20 people had joined the Socialist Workers Party as a result of the campaign.

Eight people joined at one public meeting of 60 workers. The SWP candidate is Mike Stanton, a Grimsby docker. In the two weeks of the campaign, more than 1,000 Socialist Workers had been sold, 500 in the first week, and

more than 600 in the second week. After a factory meeting at the Nypro plant in Flixborough, between Grimsby and Scunthorpe, plans have been made to extend the SWP into Scunthorpe.

### ... and 15 more in Sunderland

I WAS one of those who joined the Communist Party in the Forties, and voted Labour in 1945. Their betrayal of socialist ideals, and the subsequent apathy, made me believe that socialism in Britain was dead—but thanks to the book *Why You Should Be A Socialist* and Socialist Worker I discovered that not only was socialism still alive, it was capable of kicking.

Peggy Zackrisson captures the tone of a fantastic meeting on The Case for Socialism in Sunderland last week. 120 people attended—in a town where previously there was one Socialist Workers Party member!

Newcastle branch. Intensive flyposting, factory and dole leafletting, pub and estate sales and street meetings reached whole new numbers of workers who were looking for a socialist alternative. Another new branch was established the same day when five workers, including two shop stewards from the Hawthorn Leslie factory in Newcastle, joined the SWP after a meeting with Paul Foot.

**Joined**  
 15 people joined the SWP at the meeting which marked the end of a hard week's campaign, carried mostly by the

# WHERE WE STAND

### 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 class 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 Socialist Workers Party, fill in the form on page 16.

**Bro. TOMMY RILEY**  
 BRANCH NO. 6/123  
 RESIDENT AT BOLTON, LANCOS

Brothers and Sisters,  
 I am standing for change. WE MUST REFORM THE T.G.W.U.  
 Smash the Social Contract — Our Union and General Secretary are closely identified with the "Social Contract". The result has been that our wages have been held down while prices have gone on rising and public services have been cut. Unemployment has hit 1½ million.  
 Most of the other candidates standing are full-time officials. They weren't elected. So it's no wonder they agree with the way things have gone. A vote for them is a vote for frozen wages, rising unemployment and more cuts.  
 I'm standing so YOU can say:—  
 \*We've had enough of wage freezes.  
 \*We won't take any more cuts.  
 Fight for Democracy — This is only the fifth election for a full-time T.G.W.U. official in 56 years. Corruption or neglect in informal democracy are widespread. The members are controlled by the Union Machine rather than the other way round.  
 ALL officials should be elected. We need true democracy and rank and file control of the Union.  
 Fight for the Right to Work — I support the RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN which stands for uniting employed and unemployed workers in the fight for jobs.  
 I am opposed to productivity deals and believe we must fight facing closure should be occupied and the strength of our Union rather than sack workers.  
 Neither begging from the Labour Government nor the bosses will provide jobs. We must adopt new fighting policies.  
 Unity is Strength — Unequal pay, phoney grading schemes and discrimination against women linger on. Yet still only a handful of the 600 T.G.W.U. officials are women! We should fight for FULL WOMEN'S RIGHTS NOW.  
 I reject absolutely the anti-trade union poison of Enoch Powell and his Nazi allies. Those who attack "immigrants" and "scroungers" are putting up smokescreens to prevent workers seeing the real parasites — the bosses. We must not allow fascists to break strikes as at Imperial Typewriters, Leicester.  
 I stand for strengthening our unofficial rank and file organisations. Strong rank and file organisation could have kept T.G.W.U. member Ricky Tomlinson and the other Shrewsbury dockers out of jail like the way it freed the "Pentonville Five".  
 I don't want you to simply vote for me. I urge you to help build the RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN and all rank and file groups that stand against collaboration with the employers and for militant policies.  
 I believe the struggle for the Right to Work in the face of the capitalist crisis will continue until we rid ourselves of this system and replace it with a planned socialist society under workers' control. That is why I am a member of the Socialist Workers' Party.  
 Yours fraternally,  
 TOMMY RILEY.

# 'We'll kill you'—Nazis terrorise man who quit

A MAN who built one of the biggest National Front branches in the country has resigned in horror.

He says he was sickened by Nazi goings-on inside the Front—and by the bloodthirsty raving of members about what they would do 'when they came to power'.

Now Roy Trehewey has become a victim of a campaign of hate. And his life has been threatened on several occasions.

## Hounded

And he has been warned by a senior Front member that he will be 'dealt with should we ever take power'.

Roy lives on the St. Helier estate in Carshalton, South London. At the peak of last summer's racist hysteria the Front had about 300 members locally and polled more than 2,000 votes—most of them from the estate—in the Carshalton by-election.

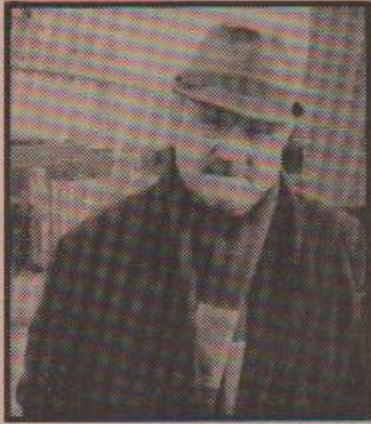
They controlled the old age pensioners' association, and looked poised to take over from the Labour Party as the main working class organisation in the predominantly Tory borough.

That base has now split wide open. Roy has resigned and taken more than 100 members out with him.

The NF is now hounding Roy Trehewey, its former chairman, and the pensioners' association which he runs.

The pensioners' shop has had a brick through the window, and a certain Mr Warner, who has close connections with the NF, has been caught pouring paint over the windows of the shop, pouring oil through the letter box and has admitted sending threatening letters to Trehewey.

These incidents have been reported to the Sutton police.



WARNER (above), the central figure in the campaign of hate against Roy Trehewey. Warner was spotted carrying a large union jack on last year's National Front demonstration in Walsall.

He has shouted abuse, and physically assaulted Trehewey on at least one occasion. Every day he hangs outside the Old Age Pensioners' shop run by Trehewey and his mother, trying to put off customers. He has been seen pouring paint and oil over the shop and writing obscenities on the windows.

but they have refused to take any action.

Roy Trehewey is not a supporter of the politics of the SWP, and in fact has re-joined the Labour Party since leaving the fascists, but he told Socialist Worker of his experience inside NF and how they operate.

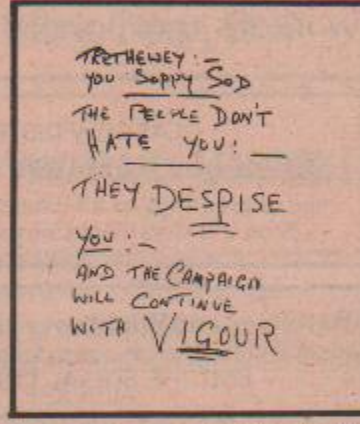
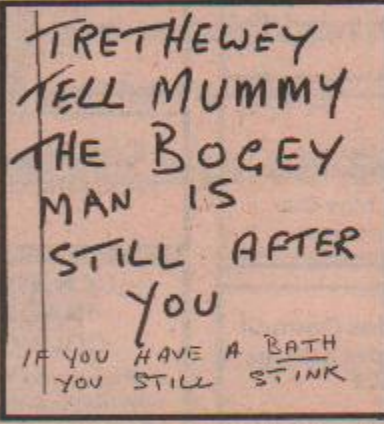
He joined during the Carshalton by-election last spring because they were prepared to support him in organising a fund-raising fair for the OAP Association against the opposition of Labour councillors on the estate.

## Nazis

Up to then, there had been no fascist presence on the estate, and Roy was on the management committee of the local Labour Party.

But he became disillusioned with the inactivity of the Labour Party and the fact that the Labour government seemed to have no answers to the general crisis.

At its inaugural meeting, at which Roy was elected chairman, the Carshalton branch of the NF had only three members, but they smothered the estate in leaflets and soon



Astonishingly, Warner even approached local SWP member, Tony Morris to help him 'smash up' the pensioners' ball. And he has asked a worker in the shop if he would be prepared to work for him and the National Front—if Trehewey could be 'got out of the shop'.

These incidents have been reported to the Sutton police, but no witnesses have been interviewed and no action has been taken against Warner. This may be connected with the fact that Warner boasts of having 'friends' in Sutton police station.

## By DAVE PEERS

were recruiting other disillusioned Labour supporters like himself.

He estimates he personally recruited 180 members, mostly elderly people, by playing on racialism, muggings, and 'bring back hanging'.

Most of this membership remained passive, helping out in addressing election envelopes and buying literature. Only 500 copies of National Front News were sold each month by a membership of 300

Harassment by the Socialist Workers Party, and other left organisations was so successful that, last October, NF branches were instructed to combine when selling papers on the streets.

Our harassment of their demonstrations has had less effect, though in Coventry last year the flag-carrying 'Colour Party' ran away, forcing Martin Webster and other leading Nazis to flee into their election headquarters from counter-demonstrators.

As a result, the Colour Party was sacked and replaced by new recruits, including Roy

Trehewey. By this time it was becoming clear to Roy that the NF core was a Nazi organisation.

At NF parties, it was the in-thing to play tapes of Hitler speeches and Wehrmacht marching songs. As a member of the Colour Party, Roy was presented with his cassette of Hitler speeches and a Ulster Defence Association tie to wear on demonstrations.

At the Front's Annual General Meeting in Conway Hall, the room was decorated with Nazi-style banners and German military music was piped through the loudspeakers.

## Paramilitary

There was a frenzied debate over the death of Ross McWhirter in which it was proposed that the NF should become a paramilitary organisation. This was only defeated—and then by a small majority—after leading Nazi John Tyndall argued that it would alienate most of their supporters.

A detached house in its own grounds near Carshalton was a Nazi museum, draped in

swastikas and decorated with busts of Hitler, and active members went for military training at Fontaine's estate in Norfolk.

Roy was invited by Webster to set up the first NF youth organisation in the country in Carshalton, which would infiltrate the Boys Brigade, Scouts, Guides and the Territorial Army.

But by now he was horrified by what he had got himself into and sickened by the constant bloodthirsty raving of NF members about what they would do to homosexuals, blacks and socialists when they came to power.

Last November, he and his mother wrote a letter of resignation from the NF to the local paper in which they denounced it as a Nazi organisation. 110 members of the branch resigned with them, and the NF leadership reacted furiously.

Roy received a letter from Terence Denville-Faulkner, NF parliamentary candidate in the Carshalton by-election, who warned:

'We have no alternative should we ever take power, that you will be dealt with as a deserter, deserting in the face of the enemy.'



ROY TREHEWEY: 'You will be dealt with'

# Day the NF went white with fear....

A TREMBLING fascist said it all on a radio phone-in show: 'We were all so frightened'.

Quite right. The National Front have never been so badly shaken as on Saturday's march through North London.

The sight of so many of their 'Honour Guard' covered with flour, paint and rotten fruit was worth going miles to see.

This was the 'master race' in all its glory.

More than 3,000 anti-fascists turned up to take on the Nazis. They included hundreds of local young West Indians, Asians and Cypriots mobilising against the provocation which took the Front march through one of the most intensely racially-mixed areas in Britain.

The Nazis, however, were not alone. The police had already organised a confrontation by banning the anti-fascist rally.

And they drafted in thousands of police and the Special Patrol Group to protect the Nazis.

Eighty arrests were made—most of them anti-fascists. Many have been charged with crudely framed-up evidence.

Bricks were picked from the roadside and 'attached' to anti-fascists who were grabbed out of the march.

As always, black youth took the brunt of the worst police attacks. Several were paraded back and forth in the Nazi march, with police making open encouragement to the fascists to attack their prisoners.

## Gun

A gun was aimed at two young blacks. Missing one by a foot, the bullet drilled a neat hole in the window of Goodwin's Hi-Fi store.

Twenty fascists attacked six members of the Socialist Workers Party at

Turnpike Lane Station, seriously injuring them with broken bottles.

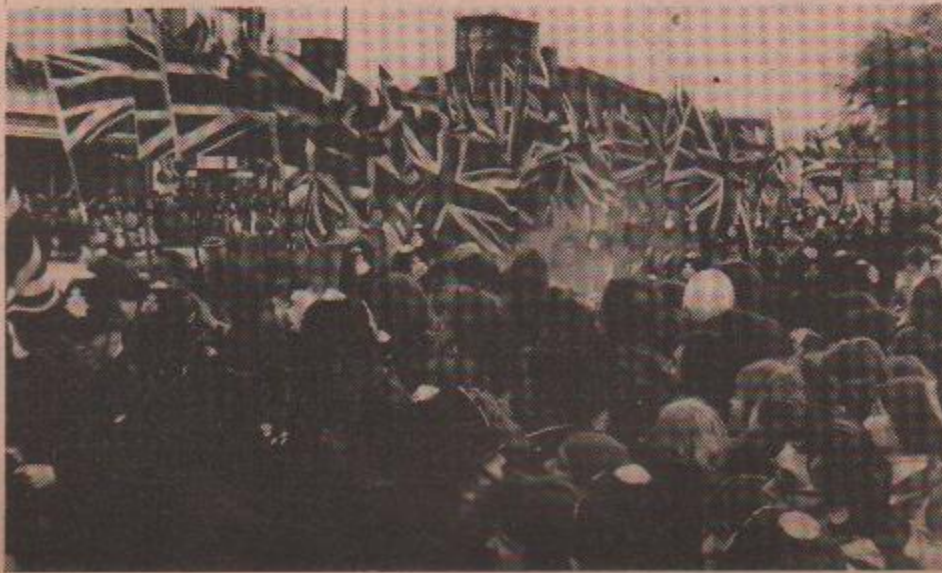
Other anti-fascists held up the train until the Nazis were removed.

□ If you were arrested, or if you saw any arrests or incidents involving demonstrators and police, you must report now to the Defence Campaign 01-800 8550, or 801 5971.

Defence costs and fines for those charged will be in the order of £3,000/£4,000. Start collections now.

Send donations to Defence Fund, April 23 Defence Campaign, c/o Hornsey Labour Party, 28 Middle Lane, London N8.

□ Meeting for all defendants from 23 April anti-fascist demo and witnesses to arrests and incidents between demonstrators and police: Wednesday 4 May, 7.30pm, University of London Union, Malet Street, London WC1 (nearest tube Goodge Street).



THEY were within an ace of being driven off the streets of North London....

Anti-fascists surge into the Nazi Front ranks—and only the determination of the police to protect them saves the fascists from being stopped in their tracks.

But with the air thick with smoke bombs, eggs and rotting fruit, the 'master race' got the fright of their lives.

PICTURES: Phil McCowen

# MAY DAY 1977

If May Day means international and working-class solidarity, then Socialist Worker had certainly received a fair share in the past eight weeks. We knew we needed support desperately when the trade union leaders started their attack on the paper with Clive Jenkins' libel action. Little did we know how great the solidarity for our £40,000 fighting fund would be. Socialist Worker takes this opportunity to send fraternal May Day greetings to those who have given us support during the past two months:

Leeds University  
Kingsdale School  
Lancaster Students  
British Airways APEX  
Thames Poly Students  
Charing Cross ASTMS  
Hatfield Poly  
SOAS Students  
CA Parsons, Tyneside  
National Executive Committee CPSA  
NALGO Headquarters  
Scott Lidget School  
Institute of Education  
Cypriot Workers  
Socialist Workers' Movement, Ireland  
Bristol Students  
North London Poly  
John Begg, HM Prison  
Chelsea and Kensington Task Force  
Greenwich School  
St Paul's Way Secondary School  
Bromley Bus Garage  
Wandsworth Council SW supporters  
London Co-op Branch USDAW

NFER Publishing, Windsor  
Hatfield Poly NATFHE members  
Private Eye  
York University Occupation  
Holman and Camborne workers  
NUJ Book Branch  
City and East London College NATFHE and students  
Sheffield Poly  
Enfield Fire Station  
Stones Manganese, Charlton  
Lewisham Council Workers  
London College of Printing  
Caledonian Ship Yard, Dundee  
Teesside Poly students  
Glasgow Hospital Workers  
Lancaster University ASTMS  
Uniroyal Chemicals, Manchester  
River Branch CP  
Royal College of Art  
Longsight Council Estate  
Leeds Poly NATFHE  
Flexi Shoe Works, Leyton  
Claybury Hospital

Holbrook Cleaners  
Gloucestershire College of Art  
St Mary's Hospital ASTMS  
Victoria Station TSSA  
ASTMS City 694 Branch  
Hunting Engineering, Hoddesdon  
Rubery Owen, Willenhall  
Oldham College of Technology  
Camelot Press and SOGAT Solent  
Thames Poly NATFHE  
Southampton Medical Students  
Kitson College NATFHE, Leeds  
Reading University Students  
Langdon Park School  
Paddington Station NUR  
American School Students  
American School ASTMS  
Ealing Tech and School of Art  
PO Supplies Depot, Swindon  
Imperial Metal Supplies, Yorkshire  
Fellow Travellers Folk Group, Glasgow  
Metal Box West Houghton supporters  
Stevenson College, Edinburgh  
Radio Sheffield

Cumberland and Woodside School, Newham  
Houghton Main Colliery  
Ealing/ Hammersmith/ Hounslow Health Area Joint Union Committee  
'Letchworth and Hitchin Citizen' collection  
Marpurhey High School  
ASTMS 809 branch  
ASTMS 568  
GKW (Telford) Spitfire Line  
Leeds Infirmary  
Alcoa Manufacturing, Swansea  
MPU ASTMS, Manchester  
Fairey Engineering, (LMS), Stockport  
North Manchester General Hospital  
Feniges and Blackburn Limited SW supporters  
Ashmead School, Reading  
DHSS Reading  
Grassland Research Establishment  
University of East Anglia Joint Shop

Stewards Committee  
Leamington Spa 933 ASTMS  
Manchester College of Building  
Wandsworth Trades Council  
Tower Hill Estate, Kirkby  
Tower Hamlets Social Services Area 3  
GEC Telecoms Spon Street Section B68  
Albion Motors readers, Glasgow  
ASTMS No 8 Divisional Council  
Chloride Bardie, Southampton  
Woolwich College NATFHE  
Hammersmith Hospital Joint Shop  
Stewards Committee  
Ormskirk Advertiser Print Works  
Bradford College  
Newcastle 653 ASTMS  
Thames Poly Students Union  
Essex Ambulance Branch COHSE  
Dillons Booksellers Branch  
Belling Ltd TGWU Enfield  
Surrey University ASTMS  
Thomas Carlton School  
Harlesden Advice Centre  
BFI ASTMS Group

Fraternal greetings to all Socialists from  
**NUM Branch, Markham Main,  
Doncaster**

Furniture Timber and Allied  
Trades Union Croydon No 7  
branch extend May Day  
greetings to our fellow  
members and to all organised  
workers throughout the world.

Socialist Worker readers  
**BRITISH  
AIRWAYS WEST  
LONDON  
TERMINAL**  
send greetings to all  
trade unionists and  
socialists  
Forward to workers'  
control!

NUJ leaders sold us out —  
we learnt the hard way.  
Don't rely on union officials.  
Build the rank and file.  
One union for all media workers  
**Sheffield JOURNALISTS  
CHARTER Group**

**ANDERSON-MAVOR  
Joint Shop Stewards Committee**  
sends May Day greetings to all workers  
No more wage restraint—smash the Social  
Contract

GLASGOW DISTRICT  
**Save our Hospitals Campaign**  
sends greetings to all workers on May Day  
Stop the Cuts! Fight hospital closures

**Chrysler Linwood TGWU Branch**  
FRATERNAL MAY DAY GREETINGS TO ALL  
WORKERS

**UCATT**  
Greetings from  
Northallerton members  
of UCATT, a small but  
lively branch

**Battersea and Wandsworth Trades Council**  
sends fraternal greetings to fellow trade unionists  
**END THE SOCIAL CONTRACT**

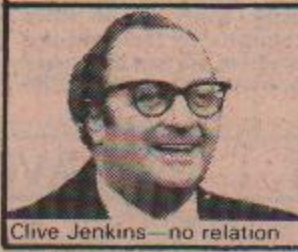
**CANNOCK  
TRADES  
COUNCIL**  
For united struggle  
towards socialist Britain.  
End the Social Contract,  
a device which  
continues the old social  
order

**TGWU 5/293**  
May Day Greetings  
from the 5/293  
Branch TGWU,  
Cowley assembly  
plant  
End the Social  
Contract now!

**Joe, Jim and Steve  
of AUEW Foundry  
Section,  
Gorman McInnes  
WORKERS OF THE  
WORLD UNITE**

**Chrysler Linwood  
SWP branch**  
Greets all workers on  
May Day. Smash the  
Social Contract!  
Support all strikes  
against wage  
restraint!

**Glasgow SWP  
RAILWAYS  
BRANCH**  
Sends greetings to all  
workers on May Day.  
Support all strikes  
against the Con-Trick.  
No more deals with  
Healey



Clive Jenkins—no relation

Pluto Press announces a limited  
edition of **Satire and the Law** by  
Fly Jetkin. £10,000 per volume  
(cash with order only, post free)  
Published May Day 1977

**LETCWORTH 5  
branch AUEW**  
send fraternal greetings  
to all workers involved in  
the struggle for a  
socialist Britain

**YORK Composite  
Branch ACTS**  
May Day greetings to all  
ICI and Turf Accountant  
workers, and all workers  
in struggle

**Wandsworth  
NALGO**  
send May Day greetings  
to all Trade Unionists

**STEVENAGE No 1  
Branch AUEW**  
May Day greetings to all  
members past and  
present of Stevenage No  
1 Branch AUEW

**HARLOW ASTMS**  
Harlow and District  
ASTMS say  
Stop the Cuts  
Defeat the Social  
Contract

**Anderson Strathclyde Joint Shop Stewards  
Committee, Glasgow**  
Send greetings on May Day to all workers involved in the struggle to  
smash the Social Contract  
Kenny Gormal, AUEW convenor, John Kay, GMWU convenor, Willy White, EEPTU  
convenor

**WAKEFIELD AND DISTRICT  
TRADES COUNCIL**  
sends May Day greetings to trade unionists  
and socialists everywhere

**CHELTENHAM AUEW No 4  
BRANCH**  
May Day greetings to all trade unionists  
The struggle for peace and socialism cannot  
fail

**Stone Manganese SW Supporters**  
Smash the 'Locke' that keeps us in chains!  
Workers of the World Unite!

**NORWICH DISTRICT TRADES  
UNION COUNCIL**  
Fight the Cuts  
Struggle Against Unemployment  
Socialism—the only answer



**S W LITHO  
Federated Chapels**  
NUJ, NGA, SOGAT, SLADE&PW, NATSOPA.  
sends fraternal greetings to all Trade  
Unionists throughout the world.

**Educate Agitate  
Organise**

**WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR CHAINS! WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!**

**THING TO LOSE BUT YOUR CHAINS! WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR CHAINS! WOR**



# SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

send greetings to all socialists and trade unionists throughout the world on this May Day, the workers' day

**WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!**

**EDMONTON AUEW**  
sends fraternal greetings to all trade unionists and to Socialist Worker in the fight for socialism

**SMETHWICK Branch AUEW (Engineering Section)**  
sends its greetings on this special day to all socialist brothers and sisters, black or white.

Fraternal greetings to all Socialist Worker readers.  
Kick out Phase 3  
Stop the Cuts  
Fight for the Right to Work.  
**NORWICH SOUTH General ASTMS (246)**

**Glasgow EETPU branch**  
Sends May Day greetings to all trade unionists in the electrical industry  
**Workers of the World Unite**

**Epsom TGWU branch**  
send fraternal greetings to all workers who supported our recent dispute in the Epsom Hospital

**Glasgow District Council Electrical Workshops**  
Smash the Social Contract — NOW  
**SOLIDARITY WITH PORT TALBOT SPARKS**

**TGWU 1/1530 branch, Thorn's, Enfield**  
The 1/1530 branch of the Transport and General Workers Union send fraternal May Day greeting to fellow trade unionists across the world.

**Crawley Trades Council**  
GREETINGS TO ALL WORKERS  
No more Social Contracts!

**TGWU 7/38 (178) Branch Glasgow**  
sends fraternal May Day greetings to all workers

**MAY DAY GREETINGS FROM 1/667 (Ford Dagenham) Branch**  
Transport and General Workers Union

**Stoke Newington UCATT**  
Greetings to all workers  
Suggest International Conference of Trade Unionists to discuss capitalist crisis, racism, solidarity Rhodesia, Africa, Irish struggles.

**National Society of Metal Mechanics, Warrington**  
Fraternal greetings  
Smash the Social Contract  
Fight for the Right to Work

**COVENTRY 74 AUEW**  
Coventry 74 send fraternal greetings to everyone and prevail upon members to use every effort to smash the social con trick

**Cannon Industries AUEW Shop Stewards Committee**  
demand parity with Europe on hours, holidays and wages.

**Borg Warner and Herbert's Controls SWP comrades**  
Solidarity with all workers in struggle

**THE STRIKERS AT Landers, Birmingham**  
greet all workers fighting for trade union rights. Please aid our fight.  
V Richards, 32 Mary Street, Birmingham 12

**CPSA DHSS South West London Area Branch**  
May Day greetings to all readers of Socialist Worker  
**STOP THE CUTS**

**EALING TRADES COUNCIL**  
Unity—Peace—Socialism  
May Day 1977  
Greetings to all trades unionists.

**NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS**  
May Day greetings to all trade unionists and students  
Unite and fight the Cuts

**N Greening Engineers (AUEW, ETU, UCATT)**  
Fraternal greetings to all trade unionists on this international workers' day.  
Fight the Criminal Trespass Bill

**7:84 THEATRE COMPANY**  
SEND FRATERNAL GREETINGS TO ALL COMRADES IN THE LABOUR MOVEMENT.  
May Day 1977.

**Crook UCATT (BB 145) branch**  
extend May Day Fraternal greetings to all members and comrades involved in the struggle for socialism

**WIGAN TRADES COUNCIL**  
sends fraternal greetings on May Day to all their Sisters and brothers in struggle  
**NO TO THE SOCIAL CONTRACT!**

**Enfield and Edmonton Trades Council**  
sends fraternal May Day greetings to all trade unionists fighting the cuts, unemployment and racism

**KINGSTON and District Trades Council**  
sends May Day Greetings to all trade unionists

**GREETINGS TO ALL TRADE UNIONISTS**  
**7266A branch TGWU Chrysler Linwood**  
J Hart Secretary  
J Hepburn Chairman

May Day greeting to workers everywhere  
Build rank and file control, over our unions  
**TGWU (ACTS) 01/1628, Walls, Southall**

Greetings to all workers fighting and supporting the struggle against Charles Forte and for trade union rights  
**NIGHT OUT STRIKERS Birmingham**

**REDDER TAPE RANK AND FILE PAPER OF CIVIL SERVANTS SENDS May Day greetings to all civil servants fighting the Social Contract and the stultifying effects of Whitleyism**

**HOSPITAL WORKER RANK AND FILE PAPER**  
sends May Day greetings to all our supporters and Socialist Worker readers  
**VICTORY TO THE NHS!**

**RANK AND FILE TEACHER**  
sends May Day greetings to all Socialist Worker readers  
 Smash the Social Contract—£20 now!  
 Stop the cuts—reduce class size  
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# TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM

Duncan Hallas

The state is an instrument 'for the use of violence for political ends'. And its main enemy is always at home...

# How armies began...

'THE CITY state has from the beginning been a closely-knit administrative unity.

'And the form the administration has taken is one that undoubtedly by a present-day observer would be called communist... The means of production... are owned by the god and administered by a governor who is also the chief priest...

'The land is temple property, and the farmers either deliver a fixed proportion of their produce or else are direct temple employees... But just about 2000 BC all this is changing.

'What can only be described as a capitalist revolution is taking place... We suddenly find in the temple archives

records of independent groups of merchants paying taxes... And we find that large and small estates are being sold on the open market.'

This is the Anglo-Danish archaeologist Bibby writing about the city states of Mesopotamia (Southern Iraq), one of the original centres of civilisation.

## Develop

His use of the words communist and capitalist is very different from ours but he shows one way in which private property developed.

Already, in the 'communist' stage there was considerable social and sexual inequality. A caste of priests—mostly men but still some women—ran the whole show on behalf of the

community—the God; notice the sex-change.

They did no manual work, they were specialised rulers and we can be sure that in allocating the produce they did not forget to give themselves a handsome share.

Most important, they controlled the surplus. The clan system had decayed and there was in reality already a class society.

It differed from most later ones in that the rulers controlled the means of production as a group. They did not yet own means of production as individuals.

That was the next step, which according to Bibby, was underway by around 2000 BC in Mesopotamia.

Before this a most important development had occurred. Each city

state had developed 'a small standing army' under the control of the rulers. The state in the marxist sense, the core of which is an armed force separate from the people, under the control of the ruling class and supported out of taxes had been born.

Why? As a result of wars? Wars were certainly frequent in these early civilisations and war may well be older than the oldest civilisation.

But early wars, tribal wars, were not fought by standing armies but by the armed population as a whole.

The need for an armed force separate from the people arose because of internal conflict although it was no doubt 'justified' by reference to the menace from the wicked foreigner, just as it is today.

Engels wrote 'the state arose from the need to keep class antagonisms in check but also arose in the thick of the fight between the classes; it is normally the state of the most powerful, economically ruling class, which by its means becomes also the politically ruling class, and so acquires new means of holding down and oppressing the exploited class.'

## Power

Actually, in the case of the first civilisations in the Middle East, political power seems to have come first, bringing economic privilege, class struggle, the state and then private property in the means of production, in that order.

The path described by Engels seems to have been the normal one among barbarian peoples like the English later on.

In any case the important thing is the necessary connection between the rise of an economically privileged class (typically but not always with 'individual' private property) and soldiers and policemen 'standing above society.'

## Disputes

Of course there is more to a state than an army. There is law—a means of regulating disputes between property owners and protecting property rights.

The famous code of laws compiled by Hammurabi (King of Babylon about 1900 BC), and preserved to this day is an attempt to regulate by enactment the multifarious disputes and abuses of a complex class society.

All the same, as a Frenchman said: 'The army marches—the state moves.'

The state, any state, is first of all an instrument 'for the use of violence for political ends.'

And its main enemy is always at home—'internal security' is the current cant phrase for 'holding down and oppressing the exploited class.'

What are your Questions About Socialism? Write to Duncan Hallas, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

# Socialist Worker

## EDITORIAL

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# OAP SWEAT-SHOP

SALFORD COUNCIL'S Social Services Department is running an 'occupational therapy' scheme for old people. Another name for it would be sweated labour.

Every morning, pensioners crowd into two day-centres for a two-hour shift of 'occupational therapy'. This consists of putting screws into plugs, labelling trays and carrying out a number of similar repetitive tasks.

For this, the pensioners receive 10p an hour or £1 a week. Before August it was

just 75p a week.

The work is provided by Salford's biggest employers, Ward and Goldstone, who just happen to make electrical equipment like plugs that require a number of the repetitive jobs the pensioners carry out.

## Expose

Ward and Goldstone pay the Council and the Council pays the pensioners.

The scheme was first introduced to the Social Services department, according to the Salford Champion which exposed the story, by a charity called the Com-

panionship Circle for the Elderly. One of the 'charity's' best known members is the chairman of Ward and Goldstone, Sampson Goldstone.

The 'charity' of Ward and Goldstone doesn't stop there. They also supply work to prisoners in Strangeways Jail, to Adult Training Centres at Warrington, Walkden, Farnworth and Urmsston. They even supply work to homes for the blind.

Pensioners are allowed by law to earn no more than £4 a week before their pensions are docked. Mr Goldstone earns £517.44 a week.



□ HENRY Kissinger, the American mass murderer, has won the 1976 Variety Humanitarian Award. Among those attending the award-giving ceremony will be Prince Charles.

According to a spokesman, 'Prince Charles has already won the award for his services to mankind.'

□ TAX PROBLEMS? The answer for the hard-pressed businessman is a gold-plated pocket calculator. The cost is just £60, the average weekly wage for the rest of us.

REG Prentice, MP, is continuing his stampede to the right.

He is one of the guest speakers at the opening ceremony of the newest branch in North Hampshire of the Tory Reform Group.

Also on the platform will be Conservative MP, former Home Secretary, and associate of the crooked architect John Poulson, Mr Reginald Maudling.

□ THE Northern Ireland Department of Public Prosecutions has decided not to prosecute a soldier accused of assaulting a youth in Derry.

The reason, according to the Irish paper Hibernia, is that when he finishes his tour of duty in Northern Ireland he will be starting a five-year prison stretch in England for rape and assault on a 15-year-old girl.

The Derry City Council has passed a resolution deploring the presence on the streets of soldiers on bail for serious offences.

Five soldiers from the same regiment, called the Queen's, have all been given suspended sentences or conditional discharges for theft, burglary, receiving stolen goods, and other offences, all committed during their 'peace-keeping role' in Northern Ireland.

□ JOB OF THE WEEK: Delyn Borough Council in Cheshire want someone to work a 42-hour week, over seven days, for just £15. The lucky applicant will be a beach guard.

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

We are now training too many doctors. In the present financial climate there is likely to be no increase in positions in the National Health Service. We are going to be overpopulated with doctors as well as teachers.

— Scottish Secretary of the British Medical Association, the doctors' organisation.

## It's called 'justice'

□ A MAN in Norwich has been jailed for 12 months for falsely claiming £1.65 from the Department of Health and Social Security.

Michael Roberts received six months for getting the £1.65, and another six months for going back the next week and trying again.

Usually such sentences run concurrently, which means that you only serve six months.

## Sentence

Norwich magistrate made the sentences consecutive, which means you serve the first six months and then the second six months.

Michael Roberts is unemployed.

□ BARRY Caley is also unemployed. Norwich magistrates have sent him to prison for six

months for claiming £9.90 at Lowestoft DHSS.

It seems that he had already received £15.65 from Norwich DHSS five days beforehand, not 12 days as he claimed.

For this Barry, 22, was jailed.

His solicitor, Mr D.L. Adkinson, put up a sterling defence in court.

He said the offence was becoming more common and 'one wonders perhaps if the ease with which people can obtain the money encourages them to some extent to commit this sort of offence.'

Of course, neither Michael Roberts nor Barry Caley went to Eton or served as officers in the Guards. If they had, they could have help up a couple of banks with sawn-off shot guns without fear.

## Happy families...

VOTERS in the Bowden ward have a chance to vote for an unusual Labour candidate in the coming Greater Manchester Council elections.

He is Albert Jones, chairman of Salford Council's planning committee until he was jailed for 12 months for corruption in 1965.

Jones was found guilty of demanding money from Wimpey's in return for his influence in getting housing contracts. In a police 'set-up', he was caught while being handed £200.

Not that Jones' corrupt capers have ended his political career.

Since leaving prison he has been re-elected as chair-

man of Salford West Labour Party. After his trial run in Bowden, a safe Tory seat, he is widely expected to be allotted a safe Labour seat next year.

## Not told

Bowden voters are not being told much about Jones' past. Bowden Labour Party told the Altricham Guardian:

'Mr Jones served as a councillor in his home area for 13 years before retiring due to family commitments.'

In fact Mr Jones' main commitment at the time of his 'retirement' was to Her Majesty's big happy family at Kendal Prison.



## CLASS CONSCIOUS VANDALS

A DISGRACEFUL piece of vandalism in Edinburgh has cost the owner of a Rolls Royce £1,750.

Some wretch ran the point of a nail round the entire

length and breadth of the car, a Camargue which costs just £32,000 and is the only Rolls Royce in the country in a colour known as Lord Lonsdale's Yellow.

The £1,750 it cost to repair the car would buy the rest of us a new Mini and leave some money to spare.

Shortly after this happened, another vandal wrenched

the gold statue off the car's radiator grill.

Mr James Frederick Mitchell is so upset by this that he is offering a £250 reward to find out who did it.



# The scramble for Africa

A BATTLE is on for the wealth of Africa. Wars are taking place in Rhodesia, Namibia and Zaire. In each case, regimes are trying to hold onto power that has survived because of connections with giant western firms and the force of western arms.

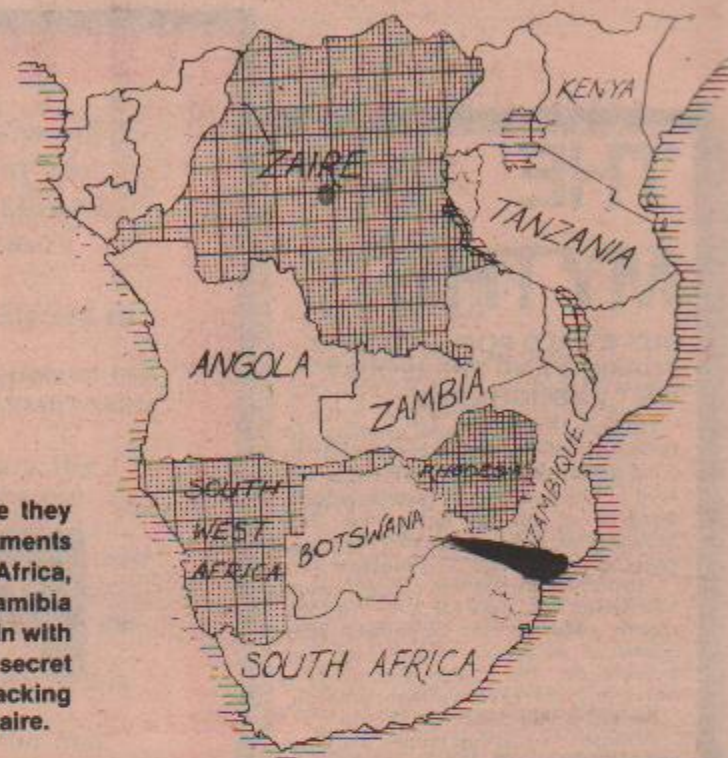
Each regime knows that its future is intimately tied up with the future of the others. The white South African forces that occupy Namibia were engaged in common action with the forces of Zaire in neighbouring Angola only a year ago.

And the same South African forces have long provided a prop for the white racist regime in Rhodesia.

Many sections of western big business now see that defeat faces the white forces in Namibia and Rhodesia. So they are pretending to adopt a

position of neutrality.

But at the same time they continue to pour investments into white-ruled South Africa, to rake in profits from Namibia and Rhodesia, and to join with the South African secret police, the BOSS, in backing the corrupt regime in Zaire.



## OWEN CHEERS SMITH'S RACISTS

THE BRITISH Foreign Secretary David Owen received fulsome tributes from many whites when he visited Rhodesia last week.

They appreciated above all his pledge that the west did not regard as 'expendable' their position of privilege and wealth.

### POWER

He promised that Britain and America would protect this—with a small number of British troops if necessary—if only they would accept some operation designed to bring to power a 'moderate', pro-western black government.

The white settlers need that reassurance. For the Smith government is more and more under pressure from the war waged by the Zimbabwe freedom fighters.

A *Financial Times* correspondent last week summed up the scale of the problem facing Smith:

'The country's military manpower is being stretched to the limit across a very wide operational area. Eighteen months ago this was virtually confined to the north-east sector.'

### EXTENT

'But today there are four operational as well as recurrent infiltrations across the northern border.'

'The guerrillas claim to control 'no go' areas close to the north east and eastern borders.'

'The Rhodesian position on four fronts—manpower, the war, the economy and sheer morale—has been eroded to such an extent that any reversal of the trend would be miraculous.'

'The number of whites leaving the country last year was the highest since 1964, 15,000....'

'Such has been the deterioration in Rhodesia's position that there is little if anything to be gained by delaying the inevitable.'

## What the CIA are up to....

THE HEAD of the CIA's former task force in Angola recently left the US spy organisation—and on Monday he told the *International Herald Tribune* why.

In doing so, he gave details of the CIA's operations in Zaire.

The CIA 'installed' Mobutu as president of Zaire, he wrote. This occurred after the CIA



Smith and Owen: a promise of support for the whites' wealth and privilege



# ANOTHER SOWETO...

THE SOUTH African Army was booted out of Angola last year by the MPLA. Now it is fighting to keep control of Namibia (South West Africa).

A white settler told journalists why he and others are leaving their beloved South West Africa: 'Ten years ago South Africa controlled this territory with 650 policemen. Today it takes 40,000 soldiers.'

Black freedom fighters of the South West African Peoples Organisation (SWAPO) have pinned down South Africa's mighty war machine.

### NEWS

You don't hear about it because South Africa's military censorship is more effective than the Rhodesians'.

## ZAIRE: MOBUTU'S SAVIOURS

THE ZAIRE government of president Mobutu claims to be beating back the rebellion in its mineral-rich province of Shaba (formerly Katanga).

If so, the success is not of the

So much so that news of Soweto-type revolts spreading to the towns of Namibia did not reach the outside world until two months after they started.

Early in November students at Martin Luther High School in Omaruru broke into the principal's office and destroyed examination papers.

Within weeks the protest against the Bantu Education system spread to Gornelious Gorasels High School in Khorixas, north-west Namibia. Police and soldiers forced the students to write their exams at gunpoint.

Katutura is the black township which surrounds the Namibian capital, Windhoek. The boycott movement swept through its schools in December and on to the Okara High School in the north-east, to Petras Kaneb High at Uis, to the Catholic High at Tses in the South and

back to Dobra, just miles north of Windhoek.

As the police cracked down many students fled northwards across the Angolan border to join the SWAPO fighters. Others stayed and continued the struggle through the Namibian Black Students Organisation, and carried the boycott on through January.

### WAGES

The students' protest was joined by 237 African teachers who staged a two-month strike lasting into January.

They objected to being discriminated against as Nama teachers of the Nama people's children in south Namibia. They demanded an end to government attempts to divide Coloured teachers off from them with higher wages.

Under the Bantu Education

Amin, the dictator of neighbouring Uganda.

Why Mobutu has to rely on western support is shown by two interviews the press agency Interpress held with two members of his army captured by the rebels.

Zaire is a country of immense wealth, and Mobutu is reputedly one of the richest men in the world. But the prisoners told how:

'The situation in the countryside is very difficult. The peasants bring in the harvest, but it rots because there are no roads.'

There was a scarcity of funds throughout the country. The basic result was famine. 'Those who had money, could eat and the others weren't able to eat.'

system in Namibia, Damara people must teach and learn only in Khorixas. Hereos at Okkarara and Ovambos at Onguendiva and Oshingambo.

In Britain this would mean you could not teach or learn in Yorkshire if you were born in Lancashire.

There was not a murmur of these revolts in the British press. Namibia is fabulously rich in precious minerals, not least the uranium being mined by Rio Tinto Zinc for the British Atomic Authorities.

Tony Benn is responsible as Energy Minister for this huge project.

Benn and other western social democrats are aware of the atrocities committed by Vorster's soldiers and have made repeated protests to save face.

### STOOGES

Vorster responded by setting up a farce called the Turnhalle conference with the aim of forming a stooge black government by the end of 1978.

Britain's press has tried to rescue Vorster's Namibian stooges now that Turnhalle has run out of steam.

How? Incredibly by repeating almost the same cock and bull story churned out on behalf of Ian Smith in January.

126 school kids and teachers escaped last week from north west Namibia into Angola to join the SWAPO freedom fighters.

The papers carried articles headed 'children abducted'. As in Rhodesia, the slur on the freedom fighters can only backfire.

For every boss frightened into backing Vorster's stooges, there are thousands of Namibian workers proud that their kids have taken up arms.

WEEK OF ACTION ON ZIMBABWE: 9-14 May, supported by the Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign.

Picket BP/Shell against sanctions-busting, Friday 13 May.

LONDON: Shell Centre, South Bank, 12.30pm-2.30pm. Meet Waterloo underground.

LEEDS: Town Centre House, Merriem Centre, Leeds 2, 12.30pm-2pm.

NEWCASTLE: Newgate House, Newgate St., Newcastle 1, 12.30pm-2pm.

BIRMINGHAM: Alpha Tower, ATV Centre, Birmingham 1, 12.30pm-2pm.

Saturday 14 May: Zimbabwe Forum and Social. Further details from SASC, 101-103 Gower Street, London WC1, or Zimbabwe Ad-hoc Campaign, c/o 247 Pentonville Road, London N1 (01-607 1270).

VICTORY TO THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA! Scottish tour by Barney Mokgatla, from Soweto.

ALLOA: Monday 23 May. ABERDEEN: Tuesday 24 May, 8pm, Marichal College, Broad St. GLASGOW: Wednesday 25 May. EDINBURGH: Thursday 26 May.

ROCK AGAINST RACISM-RIGHT TO WORK BENEFIT

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# HOUSE

# THE MYTHS

**BUT WORLD POPULATION IS SOARING AND THERE JUST ISN'T ENOUGH LAND . . .**

Official United Nations estimates are that another 1750 million acres of land now lying uncultivated could be brought into food production 'with relative ease'. Since mankind at present farms only 3500 million acres, it can be seen that this would easily solve the world food problem.

Most of the wasted land is in Africa and South America. Says the UN: 'All these regions suffer specific limitations, often connected with high rainfall and high temperatures, but modern technology is increasingly able to cope with the problem.'

So why isn't it done? Because it would cost money, and there wouldn't necessarily be any money to be made from it.

A campaign to eliminate the tsetse fly in Africa—the insecticides exist to do the job—would reclaim an area comparable to nearly the whole United States for crops and pasture. But it would cost 2,500 million dollars.

The world spent 300,000 million dollars on armaments in 1975, but then that's different, isn't it?

**BUT THE WORLD IS OVERPOPULATED— AND THE HUNGRIEST COUNTRIES HAVE THE HIGHEST BIRTHRATE. THEY'RE EATING US OUT OF HOUSE AND HOME.**

That's the line peddled by most of the newspapers and their experts. One look at the facts shows what rubbish it is.

Firstly, the resources used up each year by one inhabitant of the US are equivalent to those used by one hundred people in the poor world. The US, with 6 per cent of the world population, consumes 35 per cent of its resources.

So if anyone is eating us out of house and home, it's the rich.

Secondly, hunger isn't caused by overpopulation. Holland is twice as heavily populated as India, and 65 times as heavily as Bolivia—yet the people of Holland eat well while India and Bolivia starve.

All the same, it would seem to make sense for a hungry country to keep down its population. The food would go further with fewer mouths to feed.

Except that it doesn't work that way. In fact in poor countries it makes economic sense to have large families.

Children in Britain are expensive items. They have to be fed, clothed and cared for for at least 15 years. They will contribute to the family income only for a couple of years at most before starting families of their own.

A child in a poor country is an extra mouth to feed, to be sure, but by four or five years old he or she will be contributing to the family livelihood. Fetching water from the distant well, looking after the animals, later aiding with the harvest.

And who looks after you when you're too old to work? There are no pensions. You won't have any savings in the bank. So you need children to support you.

Children are in fact an economic necessity for the people of poor countries. Forceful sterilisation, as the authorities have been doing in India, may be tantamount to murder—condemning



BANGLADESH: Starving people queue for food.

people to starvation when they are too old to work for themselves.

**THE PRESENT WORLD FOOD CRISIS WAS CAUSED BY BAD HARVESTS IN 1972**

That year, it's true, the papers were full of panic stories about record low wheat and rice stocks, the

failure of the Russian grain harvests and a poor Peruvian anchovy catch (anchovies provide animal feed).

### Panic

But the panic was a fake. The world grain harvest for 1972 was only 1 per cent lower than 1971—and 1971 had been a record year.

Peruvian anchovies were indeed in short supply, but

the catch had been poor for several years and hardly came as a surprise.

What the papers didn't mention was that the world's four major grain-growing countries—the US, Canada, Argentina and Australia—had taken fully a third of their grain land out of production during 1968-72.

The US government alone was paying farmers a massive subsidy to keep 60 million acres unused.

If this land had remained in production an extra 90 million tons of wheat alone would have been produced. In 1974 the United Nations estimated that 8-12 million tons of wheat would save India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Tanzania and the Sahel—the world's hungriest countries—from starvation.

So the food crisis need never have been.

**FAMINE IS A NATURAL DISASTER, USUALLY THE RESULT OF DROUGHT OR FLOOD.**

There are natural disasters, but famine isn't one of them. Flood and drought can help create the conditions under which famine thrives—but they don't create famine.

We've seen one example already. The Afar people of Ethiopia had lived in drought conditions for hundreds of years—it took the intervention of a land-grabbing multinational to bring famine.

To show that Ethiopia isn't an isolated example, here are two more. They come from the National Geographic magazine, hardly a left-wing anti-capitalist publication.

In February 1975, citing satellite photographs of the Sahel, one of the world's food disaster areas, it described: 'a hexagonal island of green in the great tan sea of the Sahel.'

Inspection revealed it to be a quarter-million-acre modern ranch, fenced off with barbed wire from the surrounding desert. Inside, other fences divide the ranch into five sectors, with cattle grazing a single sector at a time.

### Kept out

The ranch had apparently been in operation for seven years, the exact period of the so-called 'severe drought'. Owned by a wealthy landowner or a foreign company, its boundary fence kept the starving local people out.

The same National Geographic showed how, even when there is a 'natural disaster', the famine that follows can be anything but natural.

This passage describes Bangladesh after the 1974

floods: 'Despite loss of foodstuffs, however, there is an estimated four million tons of rice in Bangladesh during the famine—enough to feed the entire nation for a third of the year.'

'But the vast majority of the people, subsisting at the poverty level in the best of times and now also victims of flooding, are too poor to buy it.'

'Relief officials tell of widespread smuggling of rice into neighbouring India, where it sells for up to twice as much. Hoarders at home drive rice beyond 50 cents a pound in a country with a per capita income of 70 dollars a year, among the world's lowest . . .'

'The black market thrives, but at prices hopelessly beyond the reach of the hungry.'

*Bertolt Brecht, the German socialist, once said: 'Famines do not occur, they are organised by the grain trade.' That was certainly true of the 1974 famine in Bangladesh.*

# REVOLUTION THAT ISN'T

**BUT WHAT ABOUT THE 'GREEN REVOLUTION'?**

The Green Revolution sounds wonderful—new varieties of wheat, rice and other grains developed in the laboratories of the West that literally produce twice as much as traditional grains.

But there's a catch. A big one.

Artificially developed these new varieties are less disease-resistant. They need pesticides to protect them.

They also depend heavily on fertiliser, and need heavy doses of weed killer to help them along. World supplies

of fertiliser and weed killer are controlled by . . . you guessed it, the big multinationals.

That's OK for the wealthy farmers of the advanced countries, but for the poor farmer, the Green Revolution may spell disaster. For if he cannot afford the fertiliser, the pesticide and the weedkiller, he can end up with even less grain than if he'd stuck to traditional seeds.

### Borrow

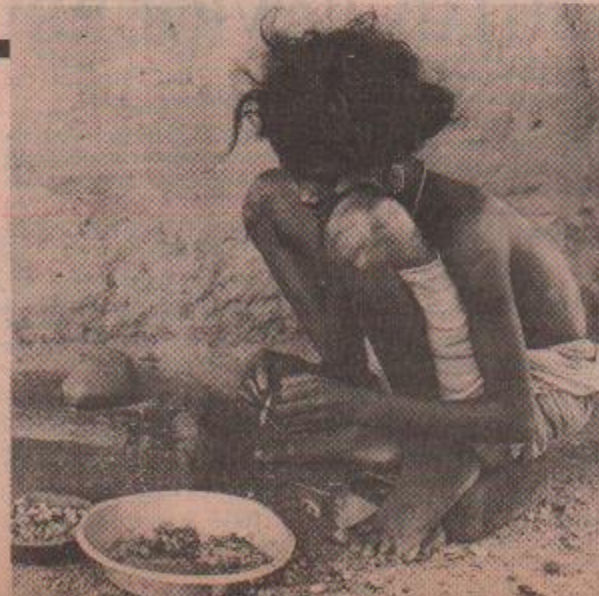
So the poor farmers are caught in 'the debt trap'. A hard winter or a poor harvest, and they have to borrow to

survive. So when their next crop is harvested, they have to sell much of it straight away to pay off the debts.

With even less food now for the coming winter, they have to buy more to survive, and go even deeper in debt to do so. . . So the vicious circle goes on.

The rich farmers, who can afford the chemicals, have done well from the Green Revolution. Their food production increases, they can buy out the smaller farmers, and the gap between rich and poor widens further.

The poor, of course, getting poorer, cannot afford the extra grain produced by the Green Revolution.



INDIA: preparing the family meal—grass and snails

# Starvation could

PROBABLY for the first time in the history of mankind the resources are there to abolish world hunger.

There is no shortage of land, and the technology—farm machinery, fertiliser, pesticides—exists to bring it into production.

Even present world food production could go a long way towards feeding the hungry if the lunacy of beef and butter mountains was abolished, if the grainlands held out of produc-

tion were all sown, if the Green Revolution were alike and not just those for them.

But the present world capitalism—is incapable. By its very nature it is feeding the hungry—nature it produces only the hungry cannot pay.

Opting out is no a tried to opt out of the w





**FAMINE** struck Ethiopia in 1973. You probably read of it in the newspapers, very likely spread across the Sunday colour supplements.

More than 100,000 people starved to death.

The semi-nomadic tribespeople of the Afar were the worst hit. More than a third were wiped out.

According to the newspapers, the famine was caused by drought and overgrazing.

The Afar tribespeople depend for their lives on their cattle. When the drought killed the already overgrazed grass, the cattle died, then the people.

True, but a long way from the whole story. A very long way.

For at least 400 years the Afar had grazed their cattle on those arid uplands—and in the Awash Valley during the dry season, for there the grass grew well because of floods during the rainy season.

But the fertile Awash Valley was a target for the multinational sugar company HVA. The nomads didn't 'own' the land, and a stroke of an Ethiopian government minister's pen handed it over . . .

The Afar were left with only the arid uplands to graze their animals the whole year. Result: 'overgrazing'. The famine had been created. That's just one example from an excellent book titled *How the Other Half Dies* reviewed here by Peter Marsden.

If you think that—as the newspapers never tire of telling us—world hunger is the result of 'natural disasters' such as droughts and floods, or by ignorance and the population explosion, then read this book. You'll never think that way again.

*\*By Susan George, Penguin Books, £1 (available from Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London, N4, £1.15 including postage).*

## THE TRAP

**THE UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAVE PLENTY OF LAND, THEY'VE PLENTY OF WORKERS, WHY DON'T THEY PRODUCE MORE OF THEIR OWN FOOD?**

The answer is that they *are* producing more food—but it doesn't go to the hungry. Production under capitalism is for profit. That's the definition. It applies to food as much as to motor cars.

And there's no profit to be made if people have no money to buy your products. There's no profit in selling to the poor, to the starving, to the landless.

So the multinational companies that control our world food supplies don't bother to try. Instead they concentrate on selling where the money is—to the people of the rich countries and to the rich classes in the Third World.

Which is why—when milk could help feed the world's hungry—Unilever and Nestlé are concentrating on processed products such as yoghurt and fancy cheeses for high-profit sales in Europe.

The food companies actually *decide* who is going to starve. Their massive control over land and distribution in the poor countries means they decide what is grown and where.

Mali, in the Sahel, suffered the most appalling starvation last year. Tens of thousands died.

Food production in Mali had been cut from 60,000 tons in 1967 to 15,000 last year. This wasn't done by drought.

The reason was that land given over to growing cotton and peanuts had been increased *dramatically*—and both go abroad to make profits for the multinational companies.

### Profit

Another company grows carnations in Colombia on land that once grew wheat—for the profit on a hectare of carnations exported to the US is a million pesos, against only 12,500 on wheat. Meanwhile Colombia is desperately short of wheat to feed its people.

Even where the poor countries do control their own food production—often by land nationalisation—they are still trapped in the world system. The multinationals control the transport, the fertiliser, the pesticides, the market outlets, throughout the world.

Exports from the underdeveloped countries have risen by more than 30 per cent in the past 20 years—but the money they're paid for these has risen by only 4 per cent.

In 1963, says the government of Tanzania, 'we needed to produce five tons of sisal to buy a tractor. In 1970 we had to produce ten tons to buy the same tractor.'

For every £1 of bananas produced, the banana-producing countries get 11p. The rest goes to the multinational fruit companies and the shop owners of the world.

And most of that 11p goes to the rulers of the poor countries, not the workers. The local ruling class gets its cut for 'keeping things safe for capitalism'.



MALI

## THE CRIME

**WHAT ARE THE REAL REASONS FOR WORLD HUNGER?**

One simple answer. We live in a world system based on making profits.

Says Susan George: 'According to the simplest rule of liberal economics, a vital commodity in short supply will be expensive and he who has some to sell will make money. This basic rule is being applied on a global scale, with considerable success.'

If flood or drought provides the shortage, so much the better: if not, there are other ways.

Hoarding, black marketeering, smuggling, the methods used to create the Bangladesh famine, are excellent ways to make

profit. It's no good claiming, either, that 'such things don't happen in civilised countries.' The 'civilised' speculators are simply more circumspect, that's all.

They don't call it 'food profiteering', they call it 'investing in the futures market'.

All the world's major food supplies go through the futures markets of Chicago, London, New York, Paris, Tokyo and so on, where middle men buy future harvests anything up to a year or more in advance.

### Middle cut

With inflation as it is, the coming harvest may change hands many times before it reaches its final customers, and every middle man along the way takes his cut.

Official US government estimates are that anything up to *half* of the massive rises in food prices in 1973 was caused by futures trading. Wheat production fell by 5 per cent, for instance, but traders speculating on this slight shortage pushed the price up by 300 per cent.

### Pocket

That money goes into the pockets of the big banks, the stockbrokers, the finance houses and the multinational food companies.

For them, *planned scarcity works wonders*.

That's why, in 1972, the US was paying farmers to leave land unused, to keep down grain production and keep up prices.

Listen to Thomas Poleman, professor of international food economics at Cornell University in the

USA: 'If US farm policy over the past half century can be thought of as having a theme, it has been to prevent (farmers') productivity from driving down prices. . . . From Soil Bank to Public Law 480 to drowning baby pigs, little that might elevate prices has not been tried.'

If food is scarce, and prices rise, the chances are it was planned that way. Just as the Common Market rules hold butter, milk, meat mountains in storage, guaranteeing that prices stay high—and that people go hungry, the pensioners, the low-paid, those with large families, half the world's population.

There could hardly be more blatant evidence that the capitalist system is a crime against mankind itself.



BANGLADESH: Hoarding during the famine

## I be abolished tomorrow

benefits of the offered to all who can pay

world system—of doing this, incapable of

or by its very for profit, and

answer. Russia world system 50

years ago—at enormous cost in human lives and human freedom. Yet today Russia depends on Western grain shipments and there are food riots in Poland. The same applied to China to an increasing degree.

### Strangle

As the UN timidly puts it, before all the world's people have the slimmest chance of eating enough, 'it would be necessary to break the vicious circle

which strangles such a large part of mankind. This, in turn, might entail very deep transformations in present socio-economic structures.'

They mean world revolution—and that's what terrifies them. For the resources are there to feed the hungry, all it needs is a system that uses them to fulfil human need, not to make profits. And that's what socialism is about.

It's the only way.



ETHIOPIA

## AID THAT DOESN'T HELP

**BUT WHAT ABOUT THE MASSIVE AID THAT THE WEST GIVES THE POOR COUNTRIES, DOESN'T THAT HELP?**

In the short term it probably saves some of the worst-hit from total starvation. But in the long term there are strings attached.

And the two always go hand in hand. Food for Peace, the main US aid agency, reported in 1966: 'This food aid has improved the diets of more than 40 million of the world's schoolchildren . . . and built bigger cash markets for American farm products.'

Yes, India gets a billion-dollar hand-out, as long as it's spent on buying US grain, shipped in US ships, and distributed by US-owned wholesalers.

### Massive

Both India and Indonesia, to name but two, were pushed—by the use of aid 'strings'—to switch to Green Revolution seeds which, as we have seen, meant massive increased profits for fertiliser and pesticide companies.

The US, in particular, is blatantly clear that with any aid it's the strings attached that matter. Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz has

said: 'Food is a weapon. It is now one of the principle tools in our negotiating kit.'

He means that literally. That's why food aid was cut off from Chile under Allende. Remember massive rises in food prices contributed to his overthrow.

That's why millions of tons of food were given to Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos during the Vietnam War—and cut off the moment the liberation movements won.

And it's totally cynical too. Denny Ellerman, the US National Security Council representative for food aid, has said: 'To give food aid to countries just because people are starving is a pretty weak reason.'

# Letters

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

## Another diktat from the APEX

THE clerical union, APEX, have announced in their newspaper that the executive council have decided to add the SWP to the list of proscribed organisations, where it joins such select groups as Truamid and the National Front.

Who decides such matters? Rest assured it isn't the rank and file.

Obviously we're incapable of making any decisions of a political and democratic kind for ourselves, so we are lucky to have such a devoted body as the executive council to make the decisions for us. Without all the troublesome rigmarole of consulting the members of the union.

This process was made clear to me when I raised the defence of the Right to Work marcher John Deason with my branch secretary. He decided to refer the matter to the executive.

We received a letter from general secretary Roy Grantham, which amounted to a diktat. We were told that the executive regards the Right to Work Campaign as a divisive organisation seeking to drive a wedge between the government and the TUC.

If any injustice was being perpetrated the TUC was perfectly capable of dealing with it without any help from the rank and file. Any motions of support must first be vetted by the executive.

APEX hasn't yet recommended the frontal lobotomy as a precondition of joining the union, but can that time be far off?

DAVE WALKER, Northampton.



South African police fire tear gas at blacks in Gwelo township. ICI provides the tear gas.

THE chairman of ICI, Sir Rowland Wright, has been defending ICI's £100 million investment in South Africa.

He announced last week, 'I am convinced that black workers have benefitted by our presence.. We have been instrumental in substantially improving their

pay, housing and other benefits.'

Most of ICI's £100 million in South Africa is invested in African Explosives and Chemicals Industries—the firm which supplies tear gas to the security forces.

The same week as Sir Reginald was going on about the 'other

benefits' the annual figures on educational expenditure in South Africa were published. These are the figures per child:

- African children—41 Rand
- Coloured children—177 Rand
- Asians—230 Rand
- White children—621 Rand

This is a rise for African

## This is what ICI calls 'of benefit to black workers'

children of two Rand. In the same period expenditure for white children went up by three times as much.

Presumably this is Sir Reginald's idea of 'a substantial improvement.'

MICHAEL COOK, Macclesfield.

## CLASS, NOT COUNTRY

THE letter from Wales about the RAF jet nearly crashing was wrong to blame this on the oppression of Wales by England. Of course it's true that the problems of Wales are overlooked by central government. But so are the problems of many regions.

Does the writer think the RAF doesn't fly over the Lake District or East Anglia?

And Welsh people may have to emigrate to England to get jobs—but then many workers have to move from, say, the North East to London, to find work because of the decline in the traditional industries there.

The real point is that the system we live under encourages spending on defence, which endangers the lives of workers everywhere. It is also a system which allows large numbers of workers to be thrown on the dole queues when their work isn't 'profitable' enough.

That system exploits and oppresses all workers—it simply isn't true that English workers benefit in any way from the problems of Wales. The answer lies not in any national solution—whether Welsh, English or whatever—but in a united fight against the system.

BRONWEN JONES,



□ BADGES 20p each, 10 for £1.50, cash with order, from Sherril Yanowitz, 116 Fortune Green Road, London NW6.

## Fantastic!

THE response for Stuff the Jubilee badges has been fantastic. We sold out in the first 13 days. Another 10,000 are being done.

We already raised £75 for the Printshop Defence Fund, so keep the orders coming in, and we can do another 10,000 on top as well.

SHERRL YANOWITZ, London NW 6

## NAZI RELF AGAIN

ROBERT RELF is trying to do it again!

After making himself a 'martyr' last year with his sign 'For Sale to an English Family', Relf has now come out with some more racist filth—'Had Enough Whitey?'

Printed and published at Relf's house in Leamington (which he still hasn't sold, although he's now working at Luton) this leaflet is designed to make Relf hit the headlines again this summer.

'Had Enough Whitey?' and all the lies in it, is clearly illegal under the coming new Race Relations Act. -with statements like, 'Maternity blocks are full of pregnant immigrant women,' and 'Hundreds of thousands of illegal

immigrants have landed in this country,' there's not much doubt that he'd have a hard time if he did go to jail—what with fascist National Front and National Party—prison warders but that the media would turn him into a 'martyr' just like they did last year, spreading his name and the foul racialism that he stands for across every front page!

### Hatred

Which all goes to show that no Race Relations Act will make the slightest bit of difference in stopping the hatred and lies of fascists like Relf.

What we must do to stop

them is shown by what happened in the London Docks in 1968.

In summer 1968 hundreds of dockers marched through the streets chanting 'Powell is Right', and 'Wogs go Home', yet by the autumn there were no more demonstrations, no more overt racialism. Why?

Because by that autumn, after two years of wage control, the Labour government's incomes policy had been smashed, and the dockers could no longer con themselves into believing that the blacks were to blame.

In the long run the only thing that will stop racialism is rank and file action.

ANDREW CHEVALLIER, Leamington SWP.

## We can't afford meat

MANY people are having to find cheaper sources of protein rather than eating traditional varieties of meat.

Many people are being advised to buy offal, practically ignored by the bulk of shoppers for years. I personally resent being forced to resort to the domestic strategy of the 1930s.

We aren't working any less hard for our money. We are told the country is suffering from an economic depression. But I find it hard to believe when we are still surrounded by affluent and well-off persons.

They don't have to eat cheaper cuts of meat. Yet they can determine what we have to eat.

K PICKERING, Stamford, Lincolnshire.

## POLICE AND PICKETING

MANY policemen see the demand for the right to strike as reasonable. But our bosses cannot give this right because it will divide and weaken the police.

The policeman who has conceded that trade union

activity, striking and picketing, are a legitimate means of improving living standards will be far less enthusiastic in his efforts to break up workers' picket lines.

I saw this the other week on a picket line where a constable

faced with chants of 'hypocrite' almost had to be dragged off by an Inspector.

The demand for the police to have the right to strike will weaken the rich who live off us.

MARTIN POVEY, Leeds.

Advertisement for the National Right to Work Campaign.

## PRE-PUBLICATION OFFER



This superb book is to be published on May Day. The authors, Robert Golden and Sara Cox, are giving their 'royalties' to the Right to Work Campaign. It is available now, pre-publication, at £1.25 (plus 17p postage), compared with the published price of £1.50 + 17p. Fill in the form below.

Please send me... copies of DOWN THE ROAD at the pre-publication price of £1.25 each (normal price £1.50) plus 17p postage.

NAME..... ADDRESS.....

SEND TO: Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

## Differentials problem

DEREK WILLIS of the British Leyland toolroom told Socialist Worker that they were interested in establishing a nationwide skilled men's committee when he met the Heathrow stewards.

On the other hand, Ian Morris, shop steward at Heathrow, categorically stated that the Airport dispute is not about differentials but is a claim that all workers in the airport could put in for.

The question of differentials is going to be raised more and more on the shop floor as the union leaders try to make a deal with the government for a Phase 3 based on the 'kitty' principle—in other words, that a certain amount is offered to 'the mob' who will then be forced to squabble among themselves over its division.

Today many militants who find themselves arguing for action and for wage demands need to know the arguments so as to convince their fellow workers not to put in claims that will divide the workforce. If our only argument is that

differentials are divisive to the class then we will not convince many workers, who have trained to get their skill, that their wages should not be higher than those of the unskilled worker.

We need to take up this issue in detail and sensitively in the paper immediately. GEORGE SUTTON and JACQUAY HAYMAN, West Middlesex.

## JUSTICE TRICKED

Blindfold justice, for impartiality. In her left hand a set of scales to weigh justice fairly. In her right hand a sword that she must dispense justice and punish the wrongdoer.

They weigh the stupid bitch down with so much gear, she can't free her hands to unite. The blindfold and have a good look at what is happening in her name.

They cheated you, they told you a lie, standing alone with blindfold eye. To uncover and see what's just and right. You must drop the scales and see the sword so bright.

Sword in your right hand, scales in your left. Tricked, you are in a sickening jest. Impartially blinded, that's untrue.

We seekers after justice can't see you. LIAM DUFFY, Grimsby.

# If you don't understand what's going on in Ireland, you must have been reading the papers...

**IRELAND** never seems to be out of the news these days.

Pick up any national newspaper and you're bound to find at least one horror story concerning this small island.

Unfortunately, it isn't the quantity but the content of the press coverage that determines people's opinions.

Thus, despite the widespread coverage in the press most people in Britain still don't really understand what the fighting and killing is all about.

This is no accident but deliberate government policy. As Jonathan Dimbleby said on BBC-TV last August: 'There has not been a serious detailed account of the history of Northern Ireland because it is a delicate political issue... The reason is because the political institutions, BBC, IBA and the British government don't wish us to know about the situation in Ireland.'

It is now eight years since British troops were sent to Ireland to deal with the rapidly escalating troubles.

## Media

The British media has consistently painted a picture of the British army as a peace-keeping force, separating the warring factions. As far as the media is concerned, British troops are, at great personal risk to themselves, preventing mad Irishmen from murdering each other.

*The media painted a similar picture when Britain was involved in Aden, Cyprus, Kenya and India.*

Inevitably, any intervention by British forces is presented as a measure essential for the maintenance of the established order. Only with the passing of time are the methods of this peace-keeping revealed. Only then do we hear of the torture and murder carried out in our name.

It is interesting to note that most foreign papers and TV stations report Northern Ireland as a colonial question. They report the Irish situation along similar lines to the coverage in the British media of the Portuguese interventions in Africa.

Evidently it doesn't matter too much, if people elsewhere know what is happening in Ireland, as long as British workers don't.

The distortion of the nature of the British intervention in Ireland is compounded by the deliberate lies which are usually printed under the guise of objective reporting.

Any bomb explosion will almost inevitably be attributed to the IRA. In many cases these have later been found to be the work of either the UDA or the UVF

By **STEVE BERRY**

... the political institutions, BBC, IBA and the British government don't wish us to know about the situation in Ireland.

TV Personality **JONATHAN DIMBLEBY**

(recent revelations in the Sunday Times show that in some cases it was the British Army that was guilty).

The press coverage tends to be descriptive rather than explanatory. Thus we read that a certain soldier was shot dead by gunmen in Belfast or that somebody was shot down when answering the door.

The news that we receive is a series of factual reports of specific events. There is no attempt to try and explain the reasons why.

*There is no explanation of the conditions which drive young Irishmen and women to resort to the gun and bomb.*

The specific factual nature of the press coverage successfully blinds most people in Britain to the reality of Ireland.

There is also a bias in the events which are covered in the press. When the British ambassador to the Republic was assassinated it dominated the papers for days. The siege of Gerry Fitt's house was given similar treatment.

Yet when Britain was found guilty of using torture by the European Commission of Human Rights in Strasbourg the whole affair was played down.

## Biased

It will, of course, come as no surprise to active trade unionists that the media is biased and distorted. The press has never supported workers when they have fought for a decent wage or better conditions. Instead it prefers to castigate them as greedy and lazy good-for-nothings.

If they can't be made to fit this description then they are simply being misled by professional trouble-makers and political extremists.

The media isn't neutral but a weapon in the class struggle. It is an integrated part of the capitalist system—there isn't one national newspaper that isn't linked either directly or indirectly through its

shareholders with big business.

Consequently, the media is constantly adapting to the interests of the British ruling class. It adapts because its interests are identical. The 'free press' is a myth—like anything else in this society, it is the property of the privileged and wealthy few.

The more paranoid on the left believe that the press supports the ruling class because press barons order editors, who in turn order reporters to tell lies.

*In reality, the process is much more subtle. There is no conscious conspiracy to distort the truth.*

In the first place the editor of any national newspaper will inevitably be someone who can be trusted politically—he will be a person who instinctively believes that private enterprise is essential for the common good. His or her interests, as a highly-paid executive, lie with the privileged minority.

## Clearly

Secondly, every journalist wants to have his or her work published. There is no point in a professional journalist wasting his time by writing something that will clearly be out.

If a journalist consistently turns in copy which isn't in line with a paper's editorial policy, he or she is obviously going to put his or her job in jeopardy.

Thirdly, a journalist will rely heavily on 'official' sources. In Northern Ireland, this means talking to Army Press officers who are notorious for deliberately misleading journalists.

Ian Smith's racist regime recognised this expertise when they appointed ex-Major Richard Stannard to supervise their propaganda operation. He was head of the army's special press and propaganda operation in Belfast from 1973 to 1975.

The British government have now been fighting a dirty war in Ireland for eight years. Their only



'Peace-keeping' in Northern Ireland: the truth is rather different

policy is repression and yet more repression.

This intervention has led to unarmed demonstrators being shot down and killed, to hundreds of people being imprisoned for years on end without any kind of trial and the ransacking of countless houses.

For the population of the Catholic ghettos, everyday life has become a nightmare. On top of the discrimination and sectarianism with which they have grown up there is the added threat of 15,000 British troops.

Even a trip to the shops in the town centre means being searched at gunpoint.

## Claim

*It is important to remember that all this is occurring, not in some far-off land, but in a province that is claimed to be part of the United Kingdom.*

Our rulers use their press to hide their terror in Ireland. They have to convince people in Britain that the 'democratic' processes in Ireland would work if only they were given a chance by the men of violence.

The army is there to create the conditions necessary for democracy to work. It is crucial for them to win this argument as they can't allow British workers to see what a sham their democracy really is.

Northern Ireland is a perfect demonstration of what capitalist democracy is all about. When the Catholic minority came out on the streets in their tens of thousands to demand their share of the jobs and houses, they were met by the guns of the police and then by British troops.

The lesson is clear: if our rulers can't defend their interests

through their press and their democracy then they will resort to force.

Both Labour and the Tories see this propaganda battle as crucial. In recent months both Roy Mason, and Airey Neave, his Tory opposite number, have called for more control of the press coverage from Ireland. They want to restrict it to reports from 'official sources'.

## Torture

Hence their repeated calls for more 'responsible' reporting, and their protests at TV interviews with victims of police torture.

They are particularly concerned to keep British trade unionists in the dark. If trade unionists were to come out in opposition to British rule in Ireland then it really would be threatened.

With the passing of the Prevention of Terrorism Act two years ago, they gained yet another weapon. This Act ensures that the most informed people in Britain on the Irish situation, the Irish themselves, are kept very quiet.

## Weapon

However, their most powerful weapon is still the press coverage. The news from Ireland that reaches trade unionists appears to be just one damned thing after another with no rational explanation.

*It is no wonder that most trade unionists would sooner forget about Ireland.*



The Campaign for Free Speech on Ireland can be contacted, c/o 84 Claverton Street, London, SW1.

## The Prevention of Terrorism Act

## Legalised Terror



A Socialist Workers' Party pamphlet

20p (inc. postage) from 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

## A SOCIALIST NIGHT OUT...

A NEW season of socialist plays is now under way at Oval House in South London.

Showing until Sunday (1 May) is *Line of Fire*, two plays about the international struggle for control of Southern Africa (7.45pm).

Among the groups appearing in the six-week programme are General Will, Common Stock, The Monstrous Regiment and Gay Sweatshop.

Full details from Oval House, 52-54 Kennington Oval, London, SE11 (01-735 2786).

Wreckers, 7.84's entertaining show about East London life, is



on at the Half Moon Theatre in Alie Street, Whitechapel until 7 May.

It's written by David Edgar, whose latest play *Destiny*, about the growing fascist menace in Britain, begins at London's

Aldwych Theatre on 10 May and is also due to be seen on television later in the year.

Starting this Friday (29 April) at Stage One in Stratford, East London is Soapbox Theatre's play about homelessness, *One for the Road*. It runs until 8 May before switching to the Half Moon from 10-14 May.

Touring Scotland and Yorkshire soon is Foco Novo's play *Tighten Your Belt*, the story of young people trying to find a job in Labour's Brave New Britain.

London readers are urged to see *Above Us the Earth*, a film about the South Wales miners now showing at The Other Cinema in Tottenham Street at 7pm.

**WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR CHAINS! WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE! YOU HAVE N**

From the **COM-MUNIST LEAGUE (KF), Denmark**, to our comrades in the Socialist Workers Party.

Working-class people in Denmark fight the same results of a capitalist society in crisis as working-class people in Britain.

We are going to inform the rank and file in Denmark about the Campaign for the Right to Work and the jailings in Britain, because solidarity across national boundaries is important.

May Day greetings from **Kommunistisk Forbund, Denmark**.

**Confederation of Iranian Students/National Union in GB.**

On the May Day, we declare our full support for the world proletariat in the class war against class injustice.

**Socialist Worker, paper of the International Socialist Organisation (US)**, sends revolutionary greetings to Socialist Worker and the Socialist Workers Party and thanks for assistance in launching our organisation and newspaper.

**The struggle for workers' power and socialist revolution is international. Together we have a world to win.**

ISO, PO Box 18037, Cleveland, Ohio 44118, USA.

Fraternal greetings to all socialists and anti-racists from  
**FLAME**

the paper of **Black Workers in Struggle**  
STOP POLICE HARASSMENT OF BLACK YOUTH.  
KEEP THE RACISTS OFF OUR STREETS!  
FOR THE FIGHTING UNITY OF BLACK AND WHITE WORKERS!  
FORWARD TO WORKERS POWER!

**NATIONAL WORKERS UNION (Dominica, West Indies)**

May all progressive people of this world see this May Day as a new inspiration to continue the fight, through instrumental collectivism, to liberate the workers by completely exterminating the exploitation of man by man and all other forms of demagoguery directed towards the working class.

8 Castle Street, Roseau, Dominica, West Indies.

**TRAVAILLEURS IMMIGRES EN LUTTE (Algeria)**

which fights to organise Algerian workers in Algeria and in the immigration against the state-capitalist regime of Boumediene, greets the British working class on this first of May.  
**Socialist Revolution and Communism**  
29 Rue Descartes, 75005 Paris, France.

**COMBAT COMMUNISTE (France)**

sends May Day greetings to all comrades of the SWP and all readers of Socialist Worker.  
**For an international struggle for socialism! Workers of the world unite!**

Yves Coleman, BP 401, 75 829 Paris, Cedex 17, France.

# Womens VOICE

'Where there's a will there's a way. We have the will to world revolution, therefore we must find the way to reach the masses of the exploited and the enslaved women, whether the historical conditions make it easy or difficult.'

Clara Zetkin, November 1922.



**May Day Greetings to all those struggling for the Liberation of Ireland**  
**Venceremos!**

Prisoners Aid Committee, 182 Upper Street, London N1, on behalf of all Irish political prisoners

May Day greetings from **Kommunistisk Forbund, Denmark**.

The **LEFT SOCIALIST PARTY OF DENMARK** sends fraternal May Day greetings to all fighting members of the British working class and the revolutionary left.  
**Your fight is our fight.**

Sct. Pedersstraede 28B, 1453 K Denmark.

**PRP, Revolutionary Party of the Proletariat, Portugal**

sends you through Socialist Worker a message for the First of May 1977.

It has been a year of uncompromising struggle, in particular in Portugal and Spain, the weakest link in the imperialist chain. Insufficient and perhaps dangerous (as in Chile) are the electoral victories in France and Italy and the controlled transition of Spain to bourgeois democracy.

The principal contradiction of capitalism lies in the factory or the firm and not in the ballot-box. To shift the class struggle on to this terrain is the great task set for European revolutionaries.

**FORBUNDET KOMMUNIST (Sweden)**

sends you its wishes on May Day.

Organisation Socialist Revolution (Greece)

## GREETINGS

May Day Greetings to the Socialist Workers Party and to all comrades and workers in Britain.

**Workers of the world unite.**

Hendandrou, 50 Omonia, Athens, Greece

**Workers' Struggles—Ergatikoi Agones**

New monthly workers' paper for the Greek working class sends fraternal greetings to Socialist Worker and the Socialist Workers Party on this day of international solidarity.

English subscription inquiries to 265 Seven Sisters Road, London, N4. 20p for single copy/£2 for a year's subscription.

The **SAG (Sozialistische Arbeiter Gruppe)** West Germany, greets the Socialist Workers Party on May Day and wishes you all success in your fight against unemployment, the Social Contract and the new Nazis in Britain, the National Front. Especially we greet the fighting workers of HEATHROW AIRPORT, GRUNWICK FILMS and the dockers from GRIMSBY, and hope their fight will be successful. We wish your comrades all the best in building a revolutionary mass party.  
**With international solidarity, SAG.**

**THE BATTLER**

Revolutionary greetings to Socialist Worker and your readers.

The struggle of British workers, the Right to Work Campaign and Socialist Worker's campaigns against racism are followed with great interest here. Australia also has massive unemployment, government cuts, and its own version of your 'Social Contract' and Heath's Industrial Relations Act.

The lessons we have drawn from your paper on the struggles of British workers against these measures on your excellent work, and solidarity in the struggles ahead!

**WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE.**

Australian International Socialists, PO Box 7, Richmond, Victoria 3121, Australia.

**CYPRIT WORKER**

Cypriot Worker sends fraternal greetings to all workers in struggle against capitalism and imperialism.

**MAY DAY GREETINGS** to all readers of Socialist Worker and members of the Socialist Workers' Party from **Workers Action and the International Socialists of Canada**. Workers of the world unite.

Box 339, Station E, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Working People's Vanguard Party  
**HANDS ACROSS THE SEA, OUR STRUGGLE IS ONE.**

Guyanese workers greet their comrades.  
69 Main Street, Georgetown, Guyana.

**SWP MIDDLE EAST GROUP**

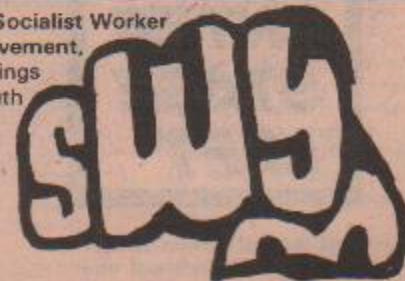
**GREETINGS TO ALL IN THE WORKERS AND NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS**

يا عمال العالم ، اتحدوا  
كارگران جهان متحد شويد  
كړيکاراني جيهان يه ك بگرن

**BÜTÜN DÜNYANIN İŞÇILERİ BİRLEŞİN SMASH IMPERIALISM AND ZIONISM! SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINIAN STRUGGLE! WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!**

**Glasgow Right to Work Committee** sends greetings to all workers—employed and unemployed  
Smash the Social Con-trick now  
Stop the Cuts  
**DEFEND JOHN DEASON**

Socialist Worker Youth Movement,  
Fraternal greetings to all youth



**NOISS**

Revolutionary greetings to all students and workers everywhere

**Greater London Council branch of the Socialist Workers Party**

Build the Rank and File Movement  
Turn Britain's Town Halls Red

**STOCKPORT Socialist Workers Party** offers fraternal May Day greetings to all Socialist Worker readers and sympathizers in Stockport.

**STIRLING TOWN** branch of the Socialist Workers Party sends May Day greetings to all workers and students, employed and unemployed.

**POEU Fraction, Glasgow SWP:** Smash the Social Contract! Remember Stanley's letter to Callaghan. The Rank and File must organise.

**SOUTHWARK TEACHERS** Socialist Workers Party says Stuff the Cuts up the Jubilee.

Paisley SWP sends fraternal greetings to all workers and students in struggle. Double the SWP in 1977!

Fraternal greetings from **Jordanhill NOISS** members to all brothers and sisters in struggle. Keep up the fight.

From this remote outpost in the valleys of Mid-Wales, we send our fraternal greetings to comrades everywhere. **Lampeter SWP.**

**RUSKIN COLLEGE** Students Union sends May Day greetings to fraternal friends at Ruskin and fellow trades unionists.

**RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN**  
Sends fraternal May Day greetings to all workers everywhere employed AND unemployed  
**Smash the Social Contract**  
Fight for the Right to Work



**NORTH LONDON POLY** Students Union sends fraternal greetings to all workers and students.

**NORWICH DISTRICT** Socialist Workers Party: Fraternal greetings to all Socialist Worker readers. Join us in the fight for Socialism! Address: 14 Edinburgh Road, Norwich.

**CAMDEN** Socialist Workers Party branch sends May Day birthday greetings to **PAUL NEDOSZYTKO** and says Fight the Cuts and Stuff the Jubilee!

**JARROW and HEBBURN** Socialist Workers Party branch. Fraternal greetings. Workers Unite! Agitate! Educate! Organise! Address: 12 AIn Street, Hebburn, Tyne/Wear.

**WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR CHAINS! WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE! YOU HAVE N**

# The drooling ideas of any epoch are the ideas of the ruling class

WE NEED SOMETHING DIFFERENT. . .

7 days of revolutionary ideas and discussion at the Polytechnic of North London.

JULY 1-8 1977

## MARXISM 77

Every day we are bombarded with the ideas of our rulers. At home, at work and at college we are indoctrinated with a stream of 'common sense' and 'official wisdom'.

With growing numbers of workers and students rejecting that nonsense and turning towards the ideas of revolutionary socialism, there is a crying need to hear a thorough analysis of the Marxist case. This is what MARXISM 77 is all about, a week of lectures and discussions organised by the National Organisation of International Socialist Societies (NOISS), student supporters of the Socialist Workers Party.

Leading socialists, not all in the SWP, have been invited to take part in the discussions and to lead them.

MARXISM 77 is not for students only. Trade unionists and unemployed workers are urged to attend. Many important sessions are being planned for the weekend and evenings.

As you can see from this page, six main courses are being offered, but there will also be guest speakers, debates, films and live music in order to make it a week to remember.

THERE'S PLENTY OF WORK ABOUT THEY'RE JUST TOO LAZY TO DO IT

HANG 'EM - that's what I say

Send 'em back

Why don't you go back to Russia

IT'LL NEVER HAPPEN HERE!

MARX WAS OK FOR HIS OWN DAY BUT...

ONE MAN'S WAGE RISE IS ANOTHER MAN'S DOLE

Course One: Revolutions of the 20th Century  
The first wave of revolutions  
The Russian Revolution  
The German Revolution  
The First Five years of the Comintern  
  
Revolution in the Third World  
  
The Two Chinese Revolutions  
  
The Wave of the Future  
  
The Hungarian Revolution and the crisis of State  
Capitalism today  
Portugal and the Revolutions in the West

Course Three: The Marxist Method  
  
Marxism and the end of philosophy  
Lenin as philosopher  
Marxism and Sociology—contradictory or complementary?  
Gramsci—special Marxism for the West?  
Althusser—a Stalinist philosophy for our time?  
Marxism: the theoretical spectrum today.

Course Five: Capitalism and Crisis  
  
Capitalism and political economy—Marxism versus bourgeois economics  
Marx and the capitalist crisis  
Modern Capitalism  
The crisis  
Imperialism and the third world

THE ONLY CULTURE THEY'VE GOT IS IN THEIR SOCKS!

SHE'D BE FAR BETTER OFF AT HOME

YOU SHOULD THINK YOURSELF LUCKY. I STARTED ON ONLY 2d A WEEK

Course Two: Literature and Revolution  
  
British poets and the French revolution  
The Russian Revolution and Literature  
Literature of the Red Decade  
Writers and Stalinism  
Marxism and Drama today

Course Four: Women's liberation and the struggle for socialism  
  
A new view on Engels: historical materialist or idealist patriarch?  
The family, capitalism and women's oppression  
The feminist movement in Britain 1870-1930  
Working women's struggles in the 1970's and changing consciousness  
The liberation of women: the revolutionary perspective

Course Six: Labour History  
  
Class struggle and Socialist Consciousness  
Workers Councils and Soviets 1917-1923  
Crisis and change in 20th century  
Union organisation and Socialist Politics

GENERAL INFORMATION.  
Accommodation—if you have friends/relatives in London it would be preferable if you could arrange to stay with them. If not, spare beds and floors are available with SWP and NOISS members in London.  
Food and drink—a canteen and bar will be open throughout the week of Marxism 77.  
Children—a free creche will be available.  
Information regarding Marxism 77 will appear regularly in Socialist Worker.

REGISTRATION will take place from 3pm onwards on Friday 1 July at the Polytechnic of North London, Prince of Wales Road, London NW5. It is advisable to register now for Marxism 77 by filling in the form below. The advantage of early registration is that you can be guaranteed a place and that you will receive reading lists well in advance.

COST. The registration fee for those booking in advance is £5 for the whole week. This enables you to go to any course, lecture or workshop. It also means free entry for most of the events in the evening.

Plus special debates, socialist films, theatre groups, live music, discos. Accommodation and a creche will be arranged.

### MARXISM 77 REGISTRATION FORM

Send to: Marxism 77, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN.

Name

Address

College/Workplace

Enclosed is £ registration fee for Marxism 77. (Cheques/PO's payable to NOISS)

Will you be requiring accommodation? Yes/No

Will you be requiring the creche? Yes/No  
(Please state how many children)

Which courses do you want to register for? Please tick. (This does not commit you but gives us an idea of the numbers).

Marxist Method      Literature and Revolution      Women's Liberation  
Revolutions of the C20      Labour History      Capitalism and Crisis

Do you want a reading list

Yes/No







THE main session of last weekend's Party Council of the Socialist Workers' Party was devoted to an assessment of the state of the fight against the Social Contract.

Steve Jefferys, introducing the discussion, insisted that a realistic assessment of last Wednesday's national stoppage against the Social Contract meant recognising that it had not been a great success.

35,000 workers were out. But this figure represented a retreat from what should have been possible.

The first sign of workers being really fed up with the Social Contract was the demonstration at British Leyland Longbridge against the visit of Jones, Scanlon and Varley to the factory.

Longbridge is a factory where the leading stewards are in the Communist Party. This meant that the Communist Party was involved in the revolt against the Contract from the beginning, although they did not actually organise the shop floor revolt in Longbridge.

That demonstration was the start of the wave of resentment at the wage controls that led to resolutions from scores of factories and to the call for the 3 April conference and the 20 April one-day strike.

**'Tight and orderly'**

But between the Longbridge demonstration and 3 April a lot of things happened.

The official TUC policy since last September has been that this should be the last year of a 'tight' pay policy, to be followed by an 'orderly return to collective bargaining.' The Longbridge demonstration and the upsurge of protest afterwards raised the question of an immediate return, of an end to the whole business of wage controls in a way that would enable workers to regain what they have lost over the past two years.

But the trade union bureaucracy is frightened of anything other than an 'orderly return'. The Communist Party found that its attempt to take the head of the movement of protest was leading it into conflict with the trade union bureaucracy—and immediately began trying to hold it back.

At Longbridge itself, there was still no Phase Two settlement in February. Derek Robinson, the convenor, who is in the Communist Party, insisted on settling within Phase Two—effectively accepting that there would be no fight against the contract yet, that there would be an orderly return to collective bargaining.

The crucial tests were the toolroom workers and Heathrow strikes, said Steve Jefferys.

What was the toolroom workers strike about? The talk of 'differentials' has caused confusion.

Whenever struggles begin against wage controls they begin with groups of workers who claim they are a 'special case'. The miners talked of themselves as a 'special case' in 1972 and 1974.

Socialists did not dismiss the miners' struggle out of hand because of this. Instead we called for support for the miners and added: 'All workers are a special case'.

This has to be our attitude now when a group of workers such as the toolroom or Heathrow workers claim they are a 'special case'.

To have any other attitude is to oppose the beginnings of the real struggle against wage controls. Yet this is what the Communist Party has been doing in practice for the past two months.

**Pressure**

Look at the article written by the industrial organiser of that party, Bert Ramelson, in last Friday's Morning Star.

Ramelson says there are three sorts of struggles against the Social Contract.

1. The one-day strikes aimed to put pressure on MPs and trade union leaders. These Ramelson supports.

2. Unofficial strikes for 'special cases' such as the Port

Talbot electricians. These too Ramelson claims to support—because the electricians' union is controlled by people Ramelson does not like, who support the Social Contract.

3. Strikes for 'special cases' such as the toolroom workers and Heathrow. These Ramelson denounces as 'divisive' because he likes the leaders of these unions, although they too support the Social Contract.

It was this that in practice sabotaged the 20 April national strike against the Social Contract.

**Confusion**

Steve Jefferys said that many trade unionists were confused as to what to do after the attacks on the toolroom workers at the Liaison Committee and 3 April conferences. They did not know whether they were meant to be fighting against the Social Contract or lining up with trade union officials who opposed the fight.

So when last Wednesday came, a real lead for strike action was given only in a few places.

This was most obvious in Leyland itself. The leading stewards at Longbridge refused to give a lead in fighting for a stoppage. How could they

This anger could have been the spark for a massive strike against the Social Contract

20 April:

# WHO DOUSED THE FLAME?



The London demonstration on 20 April: 3000-strong. —but it could have been 30,000.

and the Heathrow engineers, despite the line of their party leadership.

He said we had spent too much time worrying about meetings of Liaison Committees and the like, and not enough working for action among the rank and file.

Tony Cliff from the Central Committee, spoke of a double danger. On the one hand trade union leaders such as Alan Fisher of the Public Employees were defending the Social Contract by pretending it helps the lower paid. On the other Joe Gormley was trying to preserve it by promising productivity dealing for the better paid.

It was vital to make collections among both groups now for disputes such as Heathrow and Port Talbot, to build up solidarity and opposition to the contract, to prove in practice that if the better-paid workers broke through it would help the lower paid.

**Lies**

Kevin Prior, from Heathrow, told of their struggle. He said that the Communist Party had spread the story that the claim was elitist. This was a lie.

Under their claim the labourer would get the same as the skilled man for working shifts, while at present the skilled man got more.

The union officials and full-time convenors, some of whom were in the Communist Party, denounced the strike as 'divisive' because it upset their cosy arrangement with the management through the panel system, a form of participation.

Jack Robertson, from Massey-Ferguson in Manchester, told how the 'Left' officials and convenors in most factories there had failed to get any action apart from delegations last Wednesday.

'People had made fine speeches at the 3 April conference, but they had not got their factories to stop.'

'But at Masseys we fought for a stoppage, argued it with the rank and file and got it. Our efforts inspired the Dry Docks to do the same.'

**Success**

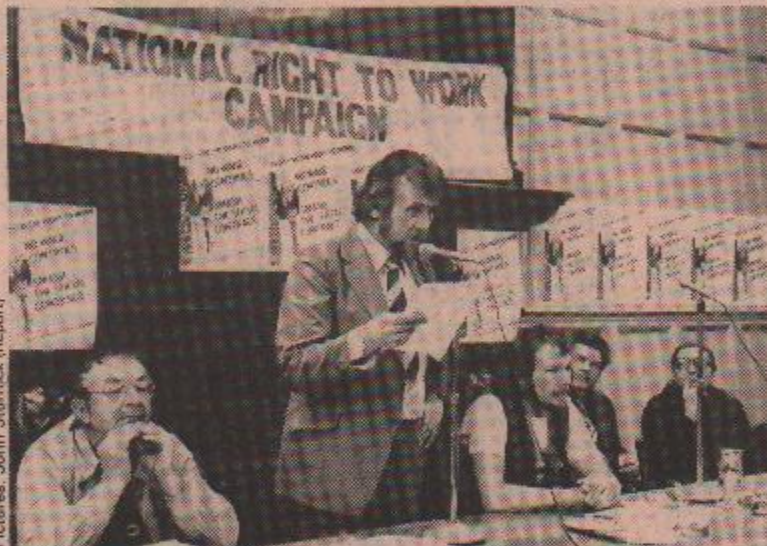
'Unemployment will not go away,' warned John Deason... 'Thousands more jobs are at risk. Hundreds of thousands of school leavers will not be able to get jobs.'

'The fight for the Right to Work is part of the whole fight against the Social Contract. In every town, on every dole queue, we must start talking to the unemployed again.'

'That is why the decision of the Right to Work Campaign to organise a march from Manchester to Blackpool to the TUC in September is so important.'

'The success of that march will depend on the work that is carried on among the unemployed from now through the summer.'

'All the lessons we learnt a year ago organising the unemployed, selling regularly on the dole queues, organising petitions and leaflets, organising stunts and unemployed demonstrations and pickets, all need to be repeated and stepped up for the campaign in the summer months.'



Pictures: John Sturrock (Report)

after denouncing the toolroom workers' stoppage?

'The task of the Socialist Workers Party is to do our utmost to stop these retreats into 'an orderly return to free collective bargaining.'

In the short term this means seeing the crucial importance of the Heathrow and Port Talbot disputes. The government and the ruling class know that what happens to these will determine very much what is possible in August.

The rank and file group in the Engineering Union,

Engineers Charter, has issued 20,000 collection sheets for the Heathrow workers. Let's get these filled up. Let's get telegrams of support from other shop stewards committees for the engineers.

**No Isolation**

'We must not let them get isolated like the toolroom workers were isolated.'

'There is still a powerful underground feeling among workers that they need a wage increase. We have to campaign not only for £15 across-

The Right to Work Campaign meeting after the march: (from left) Ian Morris, AEUW steward, Heathrow strike, John Dunworth, EETPU striker, Port Talbot steelworks, Billy Williams, EETPU, in the chair, Jack Sheldon, Leyland toolroom steward, and Eddie Prevost, London Royal Docks steward.

the-board claims, but for action in support of these claims as from 1 August.

The Social Contract will only be defeated if there are at least a dozen struggles along these lines. So we have to campaign for hundreds of workplaces to put in interim claims for the late summer—£15 across-the-board, no kitty bargaining, no productivity deals.'

Delegates from South Wales pointed out that although the Communist Party nationally claimed to support the Port Talbot elec-

tricians, that did not apply locally. Its members on Swansea Trades Council had opposed having a speaker from the strike on the grounds that it was 'unofficial'.

Peter Bain, from Chrysler Linwood, said 'I can never remember such cynicism and treachery in Communist Party politics. Their attitude is that if the trade union conferences support wage control, there is nothing the rank and file can do about it.'

'We got a 24-hour stoppage in Chrysler on 20 April. But in most of the other factories in Clydeside it is not fought for properly. The convenors of the shipyard actually called a separate stoppage against redundancies on the 19th, not the 20th.'

This left us in an embarrassing position in Chrysler. Next time we want a stoppage people are going to be more difficult to move because they were nearly alone last Wednesday.'

Bobby Burds, from Manchester, spoke of the way in which many ordinary Communist Party members supported the toolroom workers





# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

**Grunwicks: Our picket needs you!**

THE STRIKE for union recognition at Grunwicks in North West London is now in its tenth month.

In spite of harassment on the picket line, the strikers are fighting on. They are now picketing the factory 24 hours a day.

The company is desperate to get in supplies and scab labour because their peak period begins now and runs to August. It is therefore vital that the whole movement responds to the appeal of the strike committee to throw a 'ring of steel' around Grunwick.

Get your trade union body to agree to take a turn on the picket rota and let the union know (ring APEX Head Office on 01-947 3131 or write to or report to the strike headquarters at the Brent Trades and Labour Hall, 374 High Road, Willesden, London NW10. The Trades and Labour Hall is one minute from Willesden Bus Garage or five minutes from Dollis Hill Station on the Bakerloo Line.)

The strikers need the largest possible turnout every day.

Messages of support and donations to Brother Mahmood Ahmad, Secretary, Grunwick Strike Committee, Brent Trades and Labour Hall, 375 High Road, Willesden, London NW10.

## UNION STAB IN THE BACK FOR

# HEATHROW STRIKERS



Pickets outside the Heathrow Engineering Base this week

**'They're trying to smash the union.'**

The AUEW Executive Committee is going to try and force us back into the panel. They have no idea of the feelings of the ordinary AUEW members.'

That was an extremely angry AUEW airport shop steward, speaking after hearing about the decision of the executive of the Engineering union in refusing to make the Heathrow engineers' strike official.

By demanding that the Heathrow engineers return to the hated panel system the executive lined up with the leaders of those other unions at the airport who just before Easter signed the notorious

**TO THE ITV + BBC  
TREAT US FAIR  
ON THE TV  
(NO ENGINEER)  
(HAS GONE IN HERE)**

The strikers reacted fast to TV claims that some were going back to work

'Blackleg's Charter'. Night shift convenor Pete Elgar said: 'It is a rotten decision. We should fight on.' Last week the union full-time officials hammered out an agreement to end the strike at a meeting at the government's arbitration service ACAS. But then the officials of the other unions at the airport refused to accept the agreement.

Not because it threatened their members—in fact these had everything to gain from it. But because it undermined their own cosy privileges in the airways' National Joint Council. On Tuesday, the national executive of the AUEW lined up with these scabs and reneged on the agreement their own officials had worked out.

As the shop stewards Bulletin said before the executive meeting:

'If we go back now we will have gained nothing at all. The magnificent solidarity shown by all the AUEW members over the past three weeks will have gone for nothing.'

### Modest

The trade union side of the National Joint Council has stabbed us in the back. The hard-won agreement on shift pay has been torn up. They are trying to stop our claim.' The AUEW executive recognised that a victory for the modest demands of the airport engineers would undermine the chances of another period of wage restraint. Rather than risk that, they preferred to betray their members.

No doubt the executive members believed the hardship caused by a strike without strike pay would drive many of the engineers back to work.

At the time Socialist Worker went to press this had not happened. But there is no doubt that only one thing can enable them to hold out much longer. That is if rank and file trade unionists elsewhere rally round them.

This means telegrams of support. It means delegations going to the picket lines. Above all it means factory after factory, building site after building site, hospital after hospital and pit after pit organising large and regular collections immediately.

Send to Heathrow AUEW Treasurer, Tom Matthews, 19 First Avenue, Walton on Thames, Surrey.

## PORT TALBOT SPARKS BATTLE ON

THE striking electricians at the Port Talbot Steelworks are continuing their fight against the Social Contract in the teeth of opposition from their own union executive.

Frank Chapple, general secretary of the EETPU, has said the steelworkers should go back to work because of the Social Contract.

But the 560 men are staying out until their claim for equal pay with technicians doing the same work is met.

The strikers have passed a vote of no confidence in their union executive. They are depending for support on the rank and file throughout the trade union movement.

### Strike

Local support for the strike is building up. More than 300 people attended a meeting in Swansea on Monday night to support the strike. Wyn Bevan, the electricians' convenor, spoke at the meeting, with Ben Davis of the South Wales Miners executive, Colwyn Williamson, president of Swansea Trades Council, and Billy Williams, secretary of Cardiff EETPU and a supporter of the rank and file electricians paper Rank and File Contact.

Billy Williams called for maximum support for the strikers from all trade unionists, and in particular all electricians. Right at the start of the dispute Rank and File Contact had issued 2,000 collection sheets nationally to win support.

Now victory for the strike depends on the support that can be won, in particular from other EETPU members in South Wales steelworks.

Meetings have taken place between EETPU shop stewards from all the plants. But now positive action is needed to ensure that steel coils from Holland are not touched in any steel plant.

### Shake

With the full backing of the other electricians, the Port Talbot strikers can win a victory that will shake the Social Contract throughout the country. They will be clearing the way for thousands of other workers.

**SUPPORT THE PORT TALBOT ELECTRICIANS**

All electricians should send protest resolutions to the EETPU executive demanding the strike be made official. Send donations and messages of support to Brother Bill Curtis, 23 Hawthorne Avenue, Baglan Estate, Port Talbot.

## National Judas Council—that's what we call it

ONE POINT at issue in the Heathrow dispute has been the refusal of the engineers to put up with all negotiations being through the National Joint Council.

This is the body that signed the Blacklegs Charter. The engineers call it the National Judas Council.

AUEW shop steward Ian Geddes told Socialist Worker why.

'I was the engineering and maintenance panel secretary for the European Division for four years. It is part of a corrupting institution with a psychology which deliberately tried to lose you your identity as a trades unionist.'

Ian described a crazy world of layers of interlocking ver-

tical and horizontal committees incorporating trade union officials and shop stewards at many different levels.

'Imagine,' he said, 'I was paid by management to sit every day in an office with a telephone with a panel representative from every other union. There was certainly not enough work for us to be preoccupied with every

day. But the managers clearly didn't give a damn about this.'

'We were built into committees with managers, yet the two basic concerns of our members were beyond our province—namely wages and conditions! These matters could only be discussed at national level.'

'We were allowed to discuss more 'local' matters—like

shift premiums, ironically. Only we could never ever resolve issue like this.'

'I remember we once had a disagreement over premiums at Christmas. It took three years for the disagreement to be resolved! It was kicked around all these committees.'

'You don't realise it at the time but the whole operation is deliberately designed to stifle independent rank and file trade union initiative.'

'In those four years I cannot remember one single improvement we made which the management did not want to give.'

'Apart from anything else, panel representatives could not recommend industrial action.'

**Barnet Trades Council Rally  
NO MORE SHREWSBURYS! DEFEND JOHN DEASON!**  
Saturday 30 April, 2.30pm, Unity House, Euston Road, London NW1.  
Speakers include Ricky Tomlinson (Shrewsbury picket) Ernie Roberts (assistant general secretary AUEW), Mike Lynch (jailed Right to Work marcher).

**JOIN THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY**

Name .....  
Address .....  
Trade union .....

Please send me more information

Send to: National Secretary,  
Socialist Workers Party, 6 Corswall  
Gardens, London E2 6DN