

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p

THE BRUTAL FACE OF LABOUR'S CUTS

“

I WAS on duty at five o'clock on Thursday evening when about 40 people arrived—administrative staff, doctors, senior nursing officers and porters. They said that the hospital was closing that night.

They then started lifting the patients out of their beds and putting them in the corridors. It was unbelievable. Most of the patients are very old. They couldn't understand what was happening. They had been given no warning. Some cried.

They weren't even given time to gather their possessions. Greetings cards, presents, even a set of false teeth were left behind.

The gang of administrators broke up the beds, throwing the bed clothes on the floor. They took the bed springs with them, so the beds couldn't be used again.

The dazed patients were taken through lashing rain to private ambulances that were waiting for them. Some of these patients are close to

death. It was inhuman and callous to move them.

They didn't even let them dress. They just put blankets around their shoulders. They didn't even bother with dressing gowns.

A little later relatives and friends came for the evening visits. No one had told them that the patients had been dragged off into the night.

The authorities had promised us a week before that there would be no confrontation. They are bloody, underhanded liars. They are vandals. They are supposed to be educated people with responsibility. They don't give a damn about the patients.

”

The words of Bernie O'Donnell, staff nurse and member of the Hounslow Hospital work-in, in West London.

The forcible closure of the hospital last week revealed the ugly face of Labour's cuts in all their brutal detail, cuts that are hitting sick people all over the country. It has led to calls for strike action throughout the Health Service in London.

WHY THEY WANT TO AXE HOUNSLOW— Page 2.



ABOVE: A picket invites a passer-by to see the wrecked hospital. 'People are pouring in—I've never seen such anger,' said one nurse.

RIGHT: Catherine Cooney, of the hospital defence committee, in one of the wrecked wards. The hospitals phones were cut off to stop the workers calling for help.

Pictures by Mark Rusher (IFL) and Andrew Wiard (Report)



Save our hospitals!

THE POLICE AND THE SECRET DEAL WITH THE NAZIS

A SECRET conspiracy between the Chief Constable of Manchester and the National Front allowed the Nazis to march for one and a quarter miles through the back streets of Levenshulme on Saturday.

The Times described it as 'a pact between the police and the National Front'. The route was planned in secret meetings between the Nazi leaders and the Chief Constable, James Anderton.

Two police helicopters stayed overhead throughout the march. 9500 police were assembled. Riot shields and new riot helmets were held in readiness.

The police spent £250,000 on Saturday's operation — just £38,000 less than is needed to keep Hounslow Hospital open.

Despite the secret planning and the display of police strength, the National Front's route still had to be kept closely guarded.

Without Anderton's support, the Nazis would not have been able to walk even one and a quarter miles.

When news of where they were lining up finally reached the 1,500 anti-fascists assembled in Stockport, the police had another trick up their sleeves.

Jams

Road blocks cut off all entrances into the area. The police action caused huge traffic jams—but several hundred demonstrators still got through.

They chased the Nazis all the way. One local greengrocer cheerfully supplied squashed tomatoes to the anti-fascists and refused to take any money in exchange.

Groups of young blacks from the Longsight area came out of their homes and joined in the protest, heckling and chanting abuse.

When the Socialist Workers

ANTI-RACE FIGHT GOES ON

THE LEVENSHULME and Longsight SWP are carrying on the fight against the Nazis in the aftermath of Saturday's demonstration.

They've run off 5000 leaflets for distribution and are approaching the local Labour Party, Communist Party and immigrant organisations for a joint petition.



The police didn't merely allow the Nazis to march—they allowed them to march in para-military uniform



Police protection: 9500 of them turned out to allow the NF to parade their racism through the streets

Party and other demonstrators tried to march back into the centre of Stockport, they were refused permission by the police.

It seems that James Anderton was happy to allow the Nazis to march, but he didn't want to allow the SWP even to march back to their coaches.

In Hyde, where the Nazi

parade had been banned, one Nazi still managed to march.

Martin Webster walked for about 500 yards, escorted by 3,000 policemen. His hands were trembling as he tried to read a speech.

Not a word could be heard through the shouting and chanting of demonstrators.

After Webster had been

escorted away by yet more police, about half the anti-fascists assembled in Hyde came up to Stockport to join in the attempt to stop the Nazi march.

The Nazis have discovered that if they have the support of 9,500 policemen, and if they keep all their plans secret, they can just about get away with

marching one and a quarter miles through back streets and wasteland.

The Socialist Workers Party has always said socialists and trade unionists should stop the Nazis demonstrating in public.

At Wood Green and at Lewisham, they tried to organise their last public

demonstrations.

Now all they can manage is to skulk out in secret for a few brief moments before returning to their holes.

By contrast, thousands of anti-fascists, socialists, trade unionists, black workers, assembled openly on the streets of Stockport, and more in Hyde, for most of the day.

Shock for anti-abortionist

AN ANTI-ABORTION speaker paid a visit last week to Wolverhampton, a town with one of the worst records in Britain for National Health abortions.

But her trip—to a Church of England school—went badly wrong, thanks to pro-abortion women and an authoritarian headmaster.

We leafleted the school, St Peters—and the results were amazing.

By Ann Moran, Wolverhampton Womens Voice

The headmaster, Mr Stores, had refused to have a pro-abortion speaker. So we leafleted older students to show there is another point of view and to urge them to resist the cheap emotionalism of the speaker from LIFE, the anti-

abortion outfit.

The headmaster was hysterical. He threatened to prosecute us. He called us immoral and snatched leaflets from the students.

When we returned with a press photographer, he persisted in grabbing leaflets from the students and pushed one of us around. He again refused to let one of us speak to the students.

Mr Storer's antics took us on to the front page of the Wolverhampton Express and Star for two mornings running and gave the pro-abortion case massive publicity on Midlands TV.

His behaviour has even roused the anger of the local education committee chairman.

He denounced the headmaster for wanting to go back to Victorian times.



Hand in glove—a police chief and NF leader John Tyndall

SACKED—FOR NOT DOING THE WORK OF 4 PEOPLE

By Denise Fenn, ASTMS hospital worker
ALEC Sweetlove, a NUPE steward at Leytonstone Sub-normality Hospital in East London, has been sacked for refusing to do the work of four people.

He was already doing that of a workmate in the boiler room. But, having agreed to do his mate's job until a replacement was found, he was asked to cover for two men from the electricians department while they were on holiday!

Alec is a NUPE steward at Leytonstone House. Union policy rightly says that NUPE members should not cover even for one extra job.

So when he was sacked for refusing to do three extra jobs, the NUPE members struck immediately.

Why they want to axe Hounslow

WHY has Hounslow been shut?

The authorities claim such areas, and they include places like East London, have 'more than their fair share of hospitals.'

Hospitals such as Hounslow, the EGA and Plaistow are 'surplus to requirements.'

This is a lie. Hounslow district ought to have 309 geriatric beds. But, even before the wrecking of Hounslow hospital, it had only 151. Now it has been reduced to 85.

Moved

So few beds are there, that the patients moved from Hounslow are having to be accommodated in the corridors of another hospital.

The closures are taking place for one reason: the determination of the authorities to save money by pushing through cuts.

Only one thing will stop them—strike action in support of Hounslow and the other hospital work-ins at the EGA and Plaistow.

'NOW FOR ALL-OUT STRIKE'

A NURSE from Hounslow hospital, Cath Cooney, told 100 hospital shop stewards from the London area on Monday night:

'It is unusual for a sister to say this, but we must strike indefinitely until Hounslow is reopened. There is no other way.'

The meeting called for all-out strike action throughout London hospitals. It pledged massive support for the demonstration due to take place on Wednesday, when the area health authority who took the decision to smash the Hounslow work-in were meeting.

A London hospitals strike committee was elected. NUPE and NALGO, the main hospital unions, endorsed support for Wednesday's demonstration.

Help this anti-fascist

DICK HALL, a mineworker and member of Mansfield Socialist Workers Party, was fined a total of £90 with £85 costs following a fight with the National Front during the Ashfield by-election.

Help towards paying this fine is urgently needed. Send donations to Mansfield SWP, 15 Sycamore Road, Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts.

**NO RETURN TO BACK-STREET ABORTION
FREE ABORTION ON DEMAND
Demonstrate, Saturday 29 October,
1.30pm, Victoria Square (Town Hall)
Birmingham**

health service union, COHSE, worked to rule. And NUPE members at Clybury, a large psychiatric hospital, threatened to go on strike in support.

Suddenly, management backtracked.

Warning

But the union officials, weak-kneed as ever, said Alec could return to work if he accepted a warning from management and 'reasonable instructions' to carry out work designated in future.

Alec should not have to make up his mind to return under these threats.

This is a test case in the fight against the cuts. That's why industrial action should be restored until Alec's unconditional reinstatement.

THE NEWHAM POACHER

To the tune of 'The Lincolnshire Poacher'

When I was born a Prentice
in Transport House, Smith Square,
I was well I served my masters
for more than seven years.
The union paid my wages, but
they weren't enough for me—
Oh, tis my delight
when the time is right
to join the bourgeoisie.

With the union's nomination
I was sent to Parliament.
I first became a Minister,
and then a right hon. gent.
The cars were big, the food was good,
the booze was strong and free
Oh, tis my delight
when the time is right
to join the bourgeoisie.

When dockers went to Pentonville,
I raised a hearty cheer.
The pickets jailed at Shrewsbury
deserved a hundred years.
The more I spoke against the Reds,
the higher was the fee—
Oh, tis my delight
when the time is right
to join the bourgeoisie.

I sold my friends and comrades,
sold my principles as well
And then I found, as traitors do,
I'd nothing left to sell.
A Tory I have been for years.
Now a Tory I shall be.
Oh, the time is ripe,
and the fees are right,
so I've joined the bourgeoisie!

PAUL FOOT



Reg Prentice before addressing the Tory Reform Group last January—he's in the champagne bracket now he's joined them.

Their 'freedom'—and ours

THE TORY Conference in Blackpool this week has been the setting for one of the most hypocritical choruses since Labour Chancellor Denis Healey last voiced his concern for the unemployed.

Everywhere, in the conference hall, the fancy restaurants, the hotel bars and night clubs, the talk has been of 'freedom', the 'arbitrary power' of the unions, and the supposed 'tyranny' of the closed shop.

Yet the Tories run or support the most highly centralised and undemocratic organisations in the world. They are called 'limited companies'.

A director of a limited company has tremendous power. He can fix prices and rig markets. He can fiddle tax and bribe politicians.

Socialist Worker

WHAT WE THINK

And above all he can treat the people who work for him as mere objects. He can hire them and fire them more or less at will.

He can injure and even kill them and be guaranteed immunity from prosecution for murder or causing actual bodily harm.

That's Tory freedom. And whenever anyone tries to obstruct that 'freedom', the Tories will try to victimise them.

In Socialist Worker this week alone, we've heard about:

□ A shop steward at ICI in Hyde, Manchester sacked for refusing to instruct members to continue working an unsafe machine.

□ A Public Employees Union steward in East London sacked for refusing to do the work of four people.

□ Kevin McGillian sacked from Williamsons, a Birmingham factory, for defending union agreements.

Above all the Tories and employers don't want workers to have the freedom to challenge their system and their power.

For workers that freedom depends on organisation. Against the highly centralised power of the boss, workers must oppose their own self-organisation, which cannot flourish without debate and argument and an everyday sort

of democracy that is foreign to the world of big business.

But that democracy must be complemented by strength. The participation of everyone on the shop floor is essential. Without 100 per cent union membership, and its extension the closed shop, the power of the workers is severely restricted.

Without 100 per cent membership and the closed shop you can't black an unsafe machine. Without 100 per cent membership and the closed shop you will find it far more difficult to win a strike.



More often than not, a few non-unionists, who don't come to union meetings and so can't even hear the arguments of their workmates, can wreck a strike. They can keep a newspaper going, or a machine, or even a chemical process, long enough for the boss to break a strike.

And unless a union can organise an effective strike, it loses its right arm.

The simple truth is that working-class people have no choice but to give up some Daily Express-style 'freedom' in pursuit of another much greater and more important freedom: that is the freedom to organise for better living standards and a better life.

ANTI-RACISTS TO MARCH IN EAST LONDON

A BIG anti-racist march is organised through East London this Sunday, with the full support of Hackney and Stepney/Bethnal Green Trades Councils and all local anti-racist organisations.

The march is followed by a free festival in Victoria Park.

The demoralisation of the Nazi National Front is enough to make the organisers expect no trouble at all, and families are invited to bring their children and enjoy

themselves.

At the same time security and stewarding is highly organised, so even if the Front were foolish enough to try something they haven't a hope of making any impact.

The afternoon will be spent at a festival in Victoria Park, where there will be Turkish, West Indian, Greek Cypriot and Indian musicians and dancers, and also a Soul and Rock Band and a Reggae band.

MARCH AND FESTIVAL AGAINST RACISM

Sunday 16 October

Assemble 10am sharp, Old Street tube station, London E2, for march to rally in Shorditch Park, Poole Street, then march to arrive at Victoria Park by 1pm. Festival starts 1.30pm.

ALL LONDON SWP BRANCHES TO SUPPORT

TIME FOR A UNITED CONFERENCE

LET'S MAKE this a united conference. That is the message from the organisers of the Rank and File Delegate Conference, called for next month.

They have written to the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions

suggesting that it become joint sponsor and organiser of the conference with the Right to Work Campaign.

Part of the letter from Right to Work Campaign secretary, John Deason, to Jim Hiles, secretary of the

Liaison Committee, reads: 'The Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions is well known for its rank and file initiatives in the past, particularly in the successful fight against the Industrial Relations Act.

'I hope your committee will back this initiative. Would the L.C.D.T.U like to be the joint sponsor?'

The conference is open to delegates from trade union organisations. It will be held in Manchester on Saturday 26 November.

THE FIGHT GOES ON...

OUR THANKS THIS WEEK TO:

£10,000 appeal

YOU CAN thank the 11th Hour Brigade for this donation. I wasn't intending to send anything.

The proper fascist is often just an over-privileged person, not over-intelligent and inclined to be ruthless. He cannot contemplate losing his ill-gotten gains.

The rank and file fascist is at the least a muddle-headed social misfit or, at worst, a dangerous mental cripple.

The sad thing is that if only they were able to use their brains, most would be on our side.

Sorry if the sharpening class struggle puts your people in the front line, but no doubt you will thrive on it.

□ K. Harding, NW London

Fight the racists!

Stop the Nazis!

□ Send donations and collections to Socialist Worker Fund, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

IT IS strange how the MPs think that the NF can be stopped through the ballot box. It was attitudes like this that paved the way for Hitler during the 1930s.

When he and his savages came to supreme power, politicians, like those of today, and socialists and trade unionists were lined up against the wall or marched off to the concentration camps.

Letting legions of fascists march through the streets, as if they were only there for fun, would be stupid and lethal to every human being in Britain.

To ignore them, as we are told to do by respectable citizens, without physical confrontation would be like drinking cyanide, and hoping it would cure the headache.

□ DAVID STEWART, S W London



WE WERE unable to get posters for the recent anti-fascist demo over Fuehrer John Tyndall's appearance on Plymouth Sound Radio.

So we asked a supporter with a silk screen to come up with something. This (above) was the result.

A lot of people felt this kind of poster brought home the message of what the National Front are all about. Maybe SW can come up with something similar.

□ S SHANKS (UCATT) M MACREA (NUAAW), North Cornwall SWP

AT LEAST SOMEONE'S MAKING A STAND . . .

TWENTY people from the Levenshulme community in Manchester went out last Saturday to do an important job—painting out the Nazis revolting racist slogans.

These slogans appeared increasingly over the summer.

The effect of publicly painting them out was encouraging, and proves that day-to-day activity in

big demonstrations is vital.

As the team went round, one Asian shopkeeper offered to make a donation. One woman said of the Nazis: 'These people are liars'.

Two pensioners, said they had been frightened by the racist atmosphere and were glad to see someone making a stand.

Socialist Worker SWP

STOP THE NAZI NF

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

The SWP anti-Nazi poster (above) is available at £1.50 for 100 from 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Cash with orders, please.

- Stoke reader
- South East London
- Parfrey Street Anti-Fascists
- Rover Triumph, Coventry
- C Hilton
- Central London Students
- Enfield Fire Station
- J Anderson
- Sheffield SWP
- Easter Ross SWP
- West Middlesex
- R G Mainwood
- Grays SWP
- R Savage
- Reading SWP
- Gloucester SWP
- Dundee Trades Council Club and Anti
- Nazi meeting
- Islington SWP
- Partido Socialista
- Nottingham
- Llanelli
- Leeds
- Woodside School, Newham
- Socialist Challenge Newham
- Oxford SWP
- Maidstone
- Darlington
- Keith Shires
- Leyland Cars (Swindon)
- C K Falconer

- Beeches
- Acton
- Lewisham Town Hall
- Warrington
- Cardiff
- S E London
- University of Stirling
- Harold Hill Estate and Romford SWP
- S W Readers N. Greenings, Warrington
- Spurstone Terrace Dole, Hackney
- Ealing Teachers Branch
- Ely
- Gofflinks Estate
- Hemel Hempstead
- Anon - Edinburgh
- Lea Valley
- Barnsley
- City and East London College NATFHE members
- Lea Valley
- Fletcher Sutcliffe & Wild, Horbury
- Dept of Employment WC1
- Central London district
- Portsmouth
- Gravesend
- Harrogate
- Brighton Poly
- Shelbourne School
- K Harding
- Edinburgh Jumble Sale
- Stoke
- Norwich
- T Anglim
- OAP Balham
- Smalheath Law Centre
- Barnsley

£6,499 SEND YOUR DONATION TODAY

PEOPLE often ask me what it's like to be an operating theatre nurse.

First, you have to work as a team as best you can, that is domestics, technicians, nurses, nursery auxiliaries, sisters etc.

You find that, to an extent, one cannot do without the other.

I'm a nursing auxiliary, and I work alongside four other auxiliaries and one sister. A typical day is arriving at work for 8am, getting changed into the most god-awful green, pink or white dresses—and they are always either too short, too long, too wide or too narrow: there never seems to be a happy medium.

The changing rooms are very small, so we are all packed in like hot dog sausages in a tin, trying to get to our clock-in, looking for a decent dress to wear and everyone of us bog-eyed and not very socialist.

The domestics go on duty between 7 and 7.30am, so by the time we arrive they have come alive and are disgustingly cheery.

Hernias

Then we all put on theatre capes—commonly known as 'Jay cloths'—and troop out to our duties.

On a busy day we average 25 to 50 cases between five theatres, mainly hysterectomies, abortions, arterial, kidney transplants, hernias and eye surgery.

When the cases are finished the tray of instruments comes round to us to wash and pack and send to be sterilised. Some trays have as many as 150 instruments plus extras on other trays used for

Sheila Parkin



Socialist Workers talking

the same case.

Sometimes our job can be quite frightening, especially if the nurse that scrubs up forgets, usually through harassment, to take her scalpel blades off the knife handle.

We don't always see them. It's been a near miss, sometimes that we haven't cut our fingers off.

You're either run off your feet in theatre or bored stupid. People outside think that it must be gory seeing operations and that you come out covered in blood after every operation.

But this is not the case. You do see some awful sights and some tragic cases. When I first worked there I used to get really upset, but after three and a half years I suppose my skin has toughened up.

You tend not to think about it, joke with your workmates and make each other laugh, because if you didn't you would probably cry.

The pay for students and auxiliaries and, to some extent, staff nurses is atrocious. I take home just over £100 a month.

Get well

A first-year staff nurse does not take home much more for the responsibility she has. But I suppose I get satisfaction out of seeing patients go back to the ward, knowing most of the time they are going to get well.

HOW OUR SW BULLETIN HELPS US TO GROW

FOR the past year, our Socialist Workers Party workplace branch at Yarrow's shipyard on Clydeside has been producing a regular shipyard workers bulletin

for the 8,000 workers.

From small beginnings, the bulletin has built up a lot of support. We have been able to collect money from supporters inside to ensure regular production and we now sell 50 Socialist Workers every week.

Our last bulletin made quite an impact when we exposed the failure of our shop stewards committee to be decisive over our big wage claim.

The committee reprimanded a shop steward who sup-

ports the bulletin for making information on the pay claim available to the workforce.

On the day the bulletin was put into the yard, 19 workers turned up to our SWP dinner-time meeting. Two of them joined our branch.

New pamphlet is an instant sell-out

THE FIRST of Socialist Worker's new series of Pocket Pamphlets, *Do Wages Cause Inflation?*, appeared this week.

The aim is to help socialists with the arguments they come up against every day.

The pamphlets are short, 5p each, and written in a popular style.

Hopefully, they will appear every month. The second in the series is already on the way—*The Revolutionary Road to Socialism*.

Among other planned titles are *Is Britain Overcrowded?*, *Who are the Real Muggers?*, and *The Trade Union Leaders*.

Response to the first pamphlet shows that it is needed. The initial print order was sold out before the pamphlet had appeared.

□ Send comments on *Do Wages Cause Inflation?* and suggested titles for other pamphlets, to: 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN.

SOCIALIST WORKER
POCKET PAMPHLET NO. 1

DO WAGES CAUSE INFLATION?

5p

THE FIRST IN A NEW SERIES OF SOCIALIST WORKER POCKET PAMPHLETS
5p-bulk orders at 3p each pre-paid
Orders to Socialist Worker Distributors, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN

WHY NOT SELL SW TO YOUR FRIENDS?

SOCIALIST Worker has a post-free service for members and supporters who want to sell copies each week to friends or workmates.

Growing numbers of supporters have been making use of it. In Barrow, Port Talbot, Tunbridge Wells and other areas.

If you are a supporter or member of the SWP who finds it difficult to get a regular supply of SWs, who not take copies by post?

Whether it is two or 22, we will send them post-free. We ask you to pay only for those you sell.

So whether it is for your shop stewards' committee, your friends, to sell at the dole, or just to mates in the pub—why don't you give it a try?

If you would like further information, fill in the form below.

Bulk orders by post for SW Supporters.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

NUMBER OF COPIES REQUIRED EACH WEEK _____

When complete, send this form to Socialist Worker Circulation, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

FIVE REASONS TO BE AT GRUNWICKS THIS MONDAY

ON A COLD and miserable Thursday afternoon Mrs Jayaben Desai, treasurer of the Grunwick Strike Committee, stood for three hours in the doorway of the Grand Hotel on the Brighton seafront.

She was waiting to talk, surely for the thousandth time, to leading members of the Labour Party and trade union movement.

She knew they would have to pass her when the Labour Party Conference finished for the day.

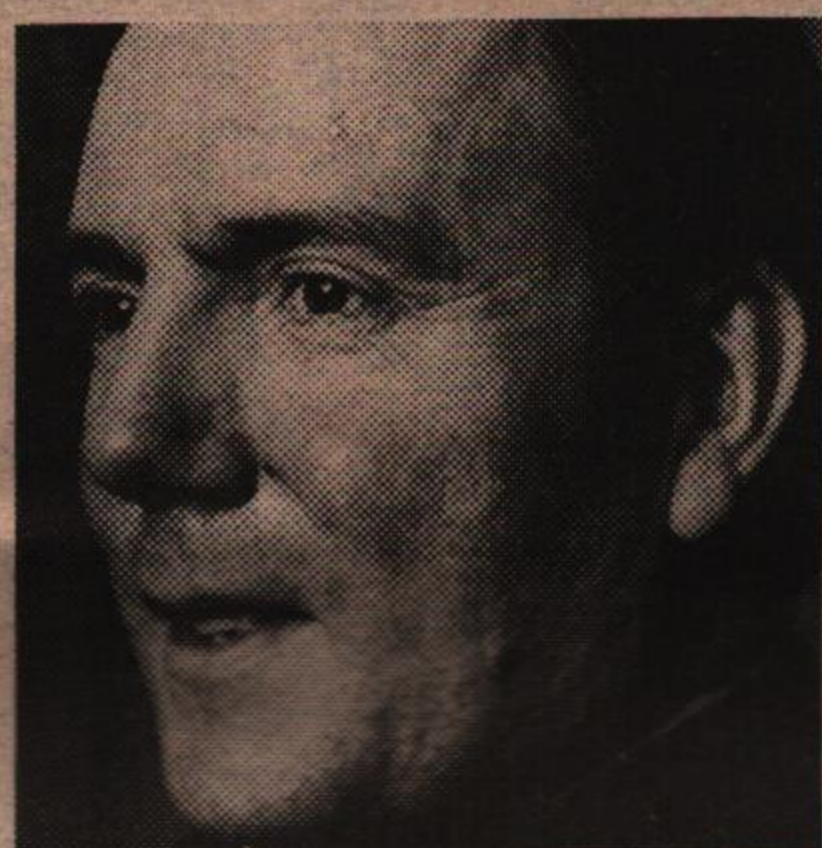
The previous day Michael Foot had avoided her twice. Albert Booth, Minister of Unemployment, wanted to avoid her that afternoon, but she was too quick for him . . .



Eric Heffer, left-wing Tribune MP:

'You know where my sympathies lie. I can't do anything. It's up to the movement.'

'I can assure you, lovey, that I'm doing my best.'



Albert Booth, Minister of Unemployment:

'Um, Congratulations on your speech at the Tribune rally.'

'Yes, I must . . . er . . . find . . . er . . . new ways of . . . er . . . pressing Mr Ward.'

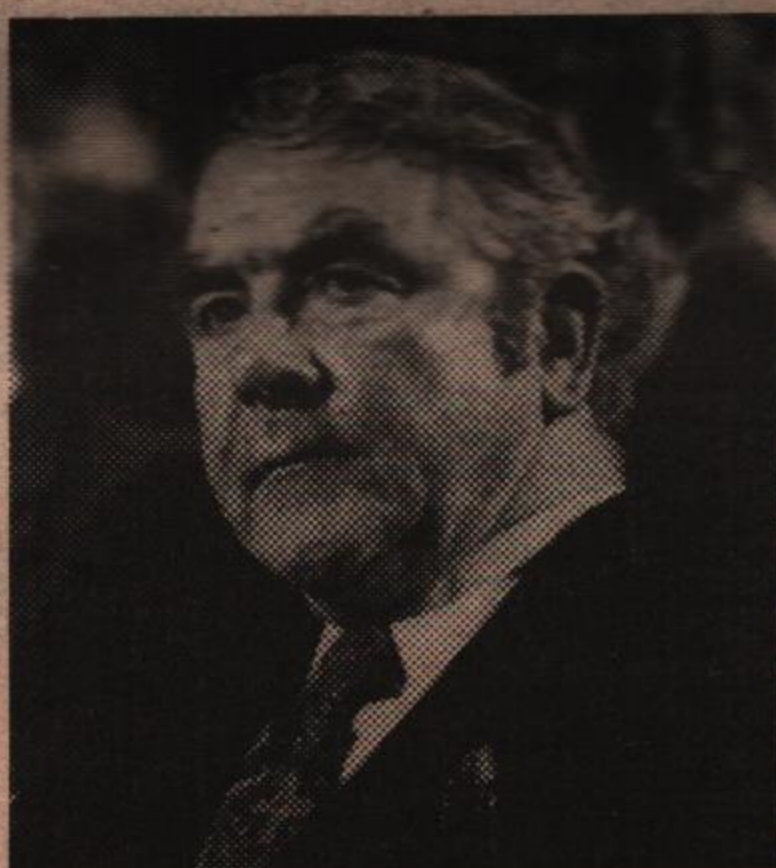
'Of course I have the added difficulty that he won't talk to me without a Tory sitting beside him. Now if we had a united parliamentary view with the Tories it may be better. Mind you, to be fair to them, Jim Prior does support us.'

'I am confident that the House of Lords, sitting as a Court of Appeal, will rule in our favour.'

Mrs Desai told Booth how the strikers are not allowed to speak to the strikebreakers on the Grunwicks works bus despite assurances to her personally about this from Merlyn Rees, the Home Secretary.

'Oh, I can't intervene directly with the police force', he muttered.

'But, er, Merlyn and I are aware of the problem.'

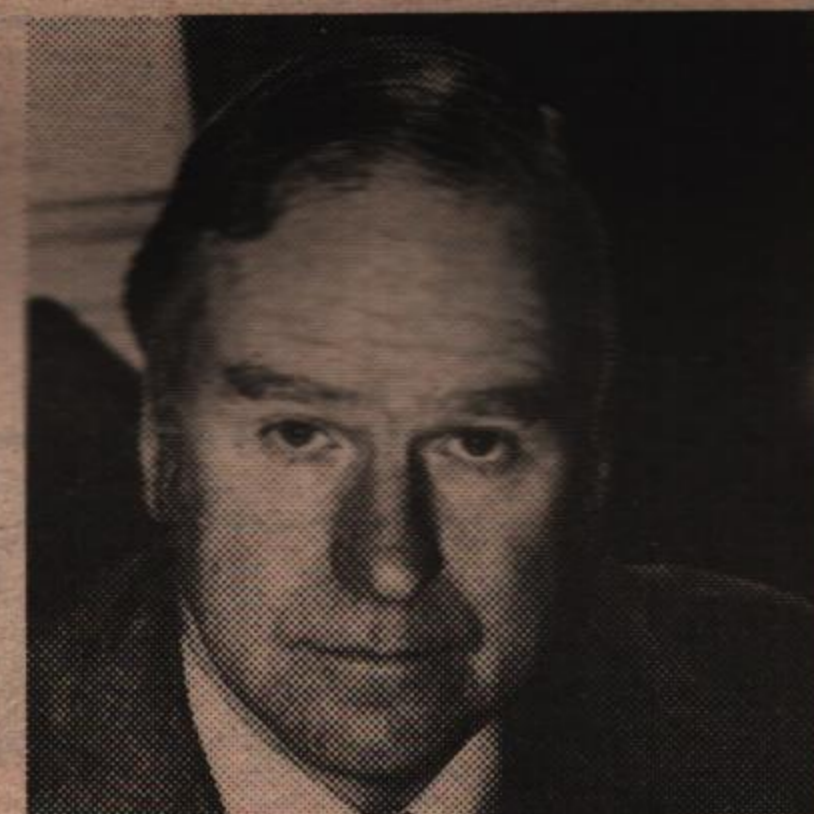


Joe Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers:

'Play it by ear. Take the pressure off. Leave it to the TUC.'

'I'm afraid someone advised you wrongly. You joined the wrong union.'

'Would you excuse me now, I have to go and see the prime minister. I'm sure you'll understand.'



Stanley Orme, Minister of Social Security and former Tribune MP:

'You must meet my wife—she's been dying to meet you and what's more she's a member of APEX.'

'Of course you are right when you say that the strikers cannot possibly face another winter of picketing. Of course, er, the solution to the problem rests very much with the TUC.'

Geoffrey Robinson, Labour MP and former director of Jaguar cars, bounced up. 'I've tried,' he said, 'Perhaps you can do something Stan?'



Tony Benn, Minister for Energy:

'Nice to see you again—bless you. I'm sorry I can't come to your meeting.'

Now give the strikers your answer...

MASS PICKET: This Monday, 17 October, 6.30am onwards, outside the Grunwicks factory, Chapter Road, London NW10



MRS DESAI told Socialist Worker:

'We've waited so long for our top leaders.'

'First they said: Wait for the Scarman Report. So we did. Nothing happened.'

'Then they said: Don't worry, wait for the Trades Union Congress. So we did. Nothing happened.'

'Then they said: Don't worry, wait for the TUC Committee that is going to

help you. So we did. Nothing happened.'

'So we said we cannot wait any longer. All we have left is the mass picket.'

'Roy Grantham, general secretary of our union, APEX, came to see us. He told us again to call off the mass picket.'

'Every member of the strike committee, one by one, went through the reasons why we have to reimpose the mass

pickets. He replied he agreed with our reasons but could not support the mass pickets!'

'The strikers are touring the country getting ready for Monday. We've had pledges of support from the Yorkshire miners, the Derbyshire miners and the South Wales miners.'

'The Fleet Street printers say they'll be there. We think the dockers are coming too. We are confident that there

will be thousands there on the first day.'

'We are drowning with support but we are thirsty for action. The government say that further mass picketing will lose them the election. But the opposite is the truth.'

'The TUC and the Labour Party cannot afford to see us lose. This is not only a Grunwick dispute. All over the country George Wards are growing.'

'I met a man here from a forklift truck company. They've been on strike for five months for union recognition.'

'If we lose, the trade union movement is finished. Of course it won't be finished in one day. But it will be affected very badly.'

'People will no longer believe in trade unions. They will certainly stop joining them.'

'In the process, man had transformed society'

'MEN can be distinguished from animals by consciousness, by religion or anything else you like. They themselves begin to distinguish themselves from animals as soon as they begin to produce their means of subsistence—their food, shelter and clothing.'

With these words, Karl Marx first stressed what was distinct about his explanation of how society developed.

Human beings are animals, descended from ape-like creatures. Like other animals, their first concern is feeding themselves and protecting themselves from the climate.

The way other animals do this depends on their inherited biological makeup. A wolf stays alive by chasing and killing its prey, in ways determined by its biologically inherited instincts. It keeps warm on cold nights because of

its fur. It brings up its cubs according to inherited patterns of behaviour.

But human life is not fixed in this way. The humans who roamed the earth 300,000 years ago or 30,000 years ago lived quite different lives

Shape

Yet physically their make-up 300,000 years ago was similar to that of modern man and 30,000 years ago it was identical. If you washed and shaved a caveman, put him in a suit and walked him down the High Street, no one would think him out of place.

The lives of the earliest humans were already vastly different from those of other animals. For they were able to use the physical features peculiar to humans—large brains, forelimbs capable of manipulating objects—to begin to shape their surroundings to suit their needs.

This meant humans could adapt themselves to a wide range of different conditions, without any change in their physical make-up.

Humans no longer simply reacted to conditions around them. They could act upon those conditions, beginning to change them to their own advantage.

At first they used sticks and stones to attack wild beasts, they lit torches from naturally occurring fires to provide themselves with heat and light, they covered themselves with vegetation and animal skins.

Over many tens of thousands of years they learnt to make fire themselves, to shape stones using other stones, eventually to grow food from seeds they themselves had planted to store it in pots made out of clay, and to domesticate certain animals.

Reliable

Comparatively recently—a mere 5000 years ago, out of half a million years of human history—they learnt the secret of turning ores into metals that could be shaped into reliable tools and effective weapons.

Each of these advances had an enormous impact, not merely in making it easier for humans to feed and clothes themselves, but also in transforming the very organisation of human life itself.

From the beginning human life was social. Only the joint efforts of several humans could enable them to kill the beasts, to gather the food and keep going the fires. They had to cooperate to get food, shelter and clothing.

This continual close cooperation also caused them to communicate, by uttering sounds and developing languages.

At first the social groups were simple. There was not enough naturally growing produce anywhere to support groups of humans more than perhaps a couple of dozen strong. All effort had to be put into the basic tasks of getting the food, so everyone did the same job and lived the same sort of life.

With no means of storing any quantities of food, there could be no private property or class divisions, nor was there any booty to produce a motive for war.

The switch to the planting of crops and the domestication of animals produced a revolution in social life—referred to by archaeologists as 'the neolithic revolution'. Humans had to cooperate together now to clear land and to harvest food, as well as to hunt animals.

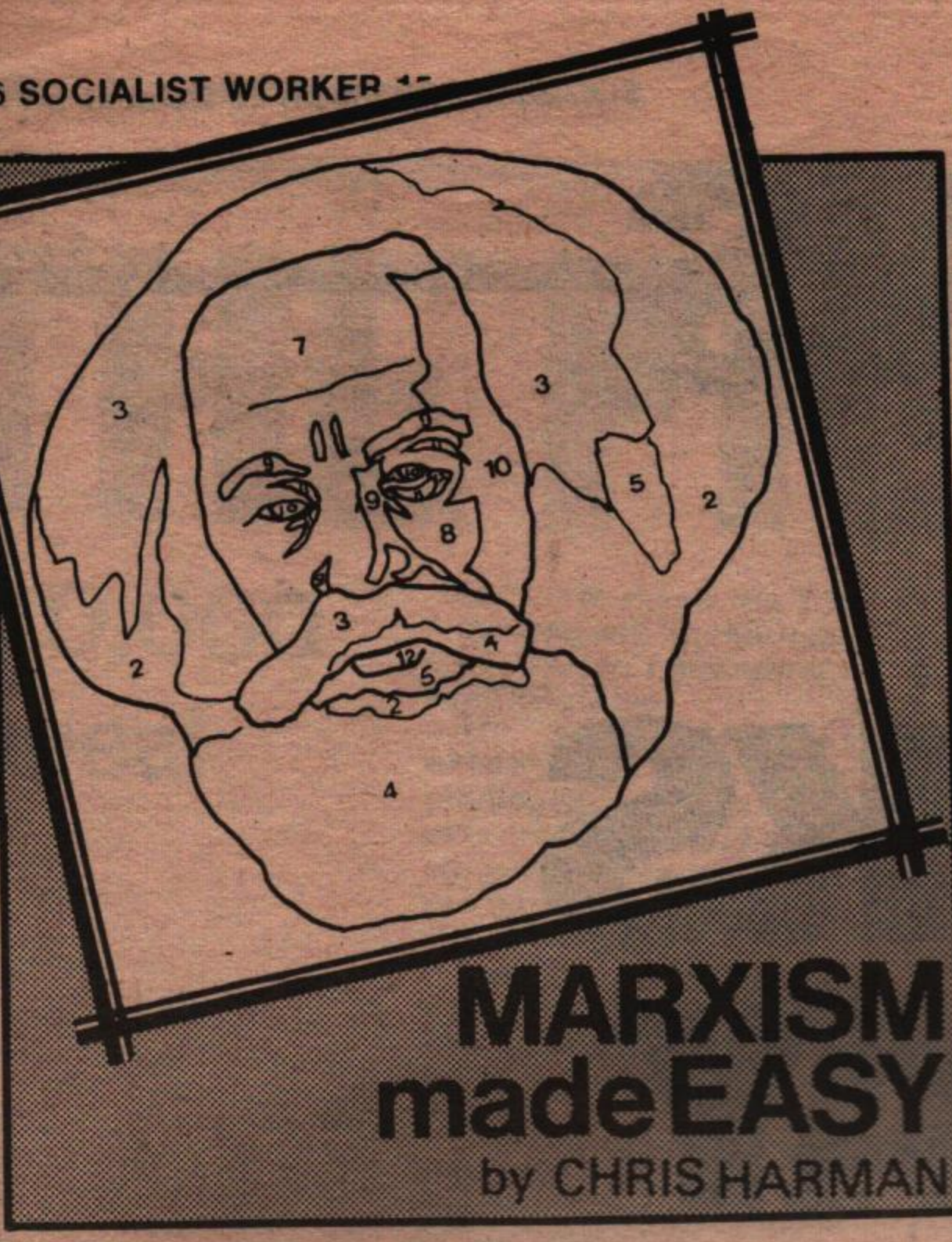
Hunt

They could live together in much greater numbers than before, they could store food and they could begin to exchange goods with other settlements.

More ominously, the stored surplus of food provided a motive for war. For the first time there was the possibility of some people leading lives that did not involve them just in providing food; some would specialise in making pots, some in mining flints and later metals for tools and weapons, some in carrying through elementary administrative tasks for the settlement as a whole.

People had begun by discovering new ways of dealing with the world around them, of harnessing nature to their needs. But in the process, without intending it, they had transformed the society in which they lived and with it their own lives.

Marx summed up this whole process: A development of the 'forces of production' changed the 'relations of production' and, through them, society.



Television programme that broke property speculator

WHAT KILLED Eric Miller, the millionaire property speculator and benefactor of Sir Harold Wilson and Reginald Maudling, among others.

The inquest was told he shot himself after watching Thames Television's Power Without Glory.

Few people watch this programme as it starts after midnight. Most newspapers reported it as a 'rags to riches' story about an Australian millionaire, and some mentioned the involvement of corrupt politicians. None detailed the real story.

The programme Miller watched is based on the novel of the same name written by the Australian socialist, Frank Hardy. It is about corruption in the Australian labour movement.



The novel details the rise to fortune and massive political power of John West. In real life his name was John Wren. For 30 years he dominated Australian politics by bribery and gangsterism.

His first million was made through illegal betting shops, a couple of murders and fixing race results.

He went on to become a multi-millionaire and cornered Australian sport. For decades boxing, wrestling, horse racing, bicycle racing and other sports were fixed by the Wren machine.

When politicians started to interfere, Wren bought them up wholesale. Leading members of the Australian Labour Party were on the payroll.

Dozens of Wren's men became ministers in local state governments or in the

federal government. One, James Summers, became prime minister.

Wren allied himself with the Catholic Church to try to drive supporters of the Russian Revolution out of the Labour Party in the 1920s. He also kept a few of the left-wingers on the payroll just to cover himself.

Hardy finished his thinly-disguised history of Wren just after Wren died. It took him months to get it printed

When all else fails —



Do you draw cartoons? Why don't you send us a sample? Fifth Column will try to publish certain cartoons from different readers over the next few months. Send your cartoons to: Fifth Column, Socialist Worker, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

as publisher after publisher backed out and lost courage.

When the book finally appeared, Hardy was put on trial for criminal libel. He was only acquitted after a long, bitter trial.

The book is easy to read, and gripping throughout. The Wren organisation never recovered from its publication.

Eric Miller was not in the John Wren class. By those standards Miller was small-time. But he did manage to find politicians in both the Labour and Conservative parties who were all too willing to take advantage of his generosity.



The programme has been showing for some months now. Unfortunately the last episode is this Wednesday, but hopefully it will be repeated.

Given the effect the programme clearly had on the conscience of Sir Eric Miller, Fifth Column will be happy to print suggestions from readers on who else ought to watch it.

POWER WITHOUT GLORY is published in paperback by Panther, 672 pages for £1.25. It can be obtained by post from Bookmarks, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4—add 30p postage.

THE DAY THE BRITISH ARMY WENT TO CHURCH

THE ARMY in Northern Ireland is said by its supporters to be protecting 'christian civilisation as we know it' and so on.

When the Reverend Maurice Noel went to church in Jonesborough, South Armagh to conduct a service last Sunday he found the door jammed. He couldn't open it so a parishioner broke in through a window while the congregation queued outside.

Inside the church were seven soldiers. There were

army jackets draped over the ends of pews, cigarette ends and empty packets all over the floor. Empty food tins, cooking utensils and other debris littered the church.

There was even a potty full of urine in the vestry.

The soldiers told the Reverend Noel that they thought the church was empty. They 'didn't notice' the cassocks, surplices and other costumes hanging on the wall, the prayers books, bibles, and hymn books laid out for the service

CALLAGHAN'S 'PEOPLE KILLER'

THE 'people killer' is the name given to the newest horror from the American weapons industry.

The Daily Telegraph has described it last week: 'The enhanced-radiation weapon, to use the technical term, is designed to kill people rather than destroy buildings and

property by blast.

'As such, it could be regarded as a very useful weapon, particularly on European battlefields, where high population density is a fact to contend with.'

This dreadful weapon kills people by radiation, one of the most horrible deaths

imaginable.

President Carter of the United States is now discussing with Labour Prime Minister James Callaghan and other European ministers whether the neutron bomb is worth producing. What answer will Callaghan give?

The Free Nation

THE FORTNIGHTLY PAPER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR FREEDOM

VOL. 2 ISSUE 20 15p SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 13, 1977

Labour goes Leninist

It needed the stalwarts of the Social Democratic Alliance to bring home to Labour's annual conference at Brighton the extent to which their party has swung to the left of recent years. It lays particular emphasis on the extent to which the Labour's National Executive Committee has been drawn into what can only be described as the Marxist fold. As it said in its brief for the conference...

the Shrewsbury Two. It was for them that Mr Michael Foot impugned the impartiality of the judges, and the egregious Mr Wedgwood Benn discovered that 'conscious objection to the law is not a criminal act'.

IN THE WEEK that the Labour left finally collapsed in pitiful scenes at the Labour Party Conference, one paper managed to publish this incredible headline:

The Free Nation is the paper of the National Association for Freedom. Its pitiful front-page article describes the sinister influence of three trade union leaders

'driving the Labour Party ever leftwards'. They're Jack Jones, Hugh Scanlon and Clive Jenkins.

So where does the Free Nation get the money to publish these rather pathetic blatherings? Page four provides the answer. Two-thirds of the page is an advertisement for sugar—from Tate and Lyle.

Socialist Worker

EDITORIAL

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

01-739 6361
739 0185
739 9043

Circulation department: 6 Coltons Gardens, London, E2 8DN. 01-739 2639. Published weekly except final week of December. Subscriptions: £7 yearly, £3.50 for six months. Printed and published by Socialist Worker Printers and Publishers Ltd (TU all departments), Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS. Registered as a newspaper with the Post Office.



WORLD IN STRUGGLE

Strike wave shakes the 'Red' bosses

STRIKES in Poland and Rumania and a riot in East Berlin.

The workers of Eastern Europe have been on the move again over attempts by their rulers to make them bear the burden of the economic crisis.

Strikes and go-slows took place last week in at least five mines in the Silesia region of Poland, including the Sosnowiec and Halemba pits.

Inflation

The strikes were in protest at the acute shortage of meat in the shops. Since the nationwide general strike

in the summer of last year, the government has been frightened to use price increases or wage cuts to drive down workers' living standards.

Instead, it has ensured that there are such short supplies of food in the shops that, despite long hours of queuing, workers cannot use their wages to buy the things they need.

This is called 'hidden inflation' and is hated as much by the workers as open inflation.

In Rumania, the coal miners in the Jiu Valley, which produces two-thirds of the country's coal, struck at the beginning of August over pay, pensions and food shortages.

The miners' stay-down strike forced the country's president Ceausescu, to rush to the area. But he was shouted down when he tried to speak to a miners' mass meeting, and the strikers only returned to work after their demands had been met.

In East Berlin fighting broke out on Saturday night between several hundred young people and the police.

The demonstrators shouted slogans in support of Wolf Biermann, the East German left-wing song writer who was forced into exile in West Germany, and chanted 'Russians out'.

Discontent

The occasion for the riot was the closing of a popular jazz concert at nine in the evening, while a nearby Russian orchestra was allowed to play on for an hour longer.

But the background to the discontent lies in recent government economic measures. These have turned goods such as washing machines and fridges into luxuries which are in short supply and which few workers can afford (a fridge costs all your wages for seven weeks, and a washing machine all your wages for nine weeks).

Deported

Yet the workers know the same goods are available on demand to the privileged few who possess western currencies, and that they are being exported to West Germany at a quarter of the East German price.

In the last year, the government has deported dozens of intellectuals, many of them left wing, for oppositional activities. But this clearly has not stopped opposition growing among the workers.

Students occupy First Bank of Apartheid

STUDENTS from Aberdeen University went into occupation last Thursday for the first time in nine years.

They were protesting against the University letting a hall to Barclays Bank Overseas Division for a reception for local dignitaries.

Students were demanding support for the freedom fighters and an end to the university's investment in Southern Africa.

Barclays Bank is one of the biggest investors in apartheid.

The occupation lasted 24 hours. Pickets of the reception were supported by more than 400 students.

Students are now planning to picket the University Court next Tuesday to demand an end to the University's investments in Southern Africa.

They are promising more militant action if their demands are not met.



Flashback to the revolution in East Berlin, 1953: now the workers of Eastern Europe are rebelling again

£150 RAISED FOR FREEDOM FIGHTERS

THE FIRST week of the Southern Africa Solidarity Tour raised £150 for the armed struggle in Zimbabwe.

Meetings, street collections and film shows were held in Bristol, Gloucester, Portsmouth, Southampton and Reading.

Speakers from Zimbabwe and Soweto called for support for the struggle in Southern Africa.

In Gloucester several young blacks watched the film *Namibia Armed* and then decided to form a local group of the Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign.

A factory gate collection in Reading raised £8 in an hour from about 100 workers.

The aim of the tour is to win support for the freedom fighters in Zimbabwe and to raise money for the armed struggle.

This week the tour will be visiting Derby, Hull, York, Leeds, Preston, Manchester and Sheffield.

□ □

Donations can be sent to Southern Africa Solidarity Fund at 21 Mayall Road, London SE24.

Contact us if you would like more information on our activities or if you would like to organise a meeting in your area.

The Tour includes

speakers and three films: *Last Grave at Dimbaza*, *All We want is Freedom*, and *Namibia Armed*. We also have a photographic exhibition and a video film given to the tour by art students who support the Campaign.

Wednesday 12 October: 1pm York University

Thursday 13: 1pm Leeds University (Watch for details of other local activity)

Friday 14: 12.30pm Preston Poly

Saturday 15: Chester (watch for details locally)

Sunday 16: 4pm Lancaster Univ. Plus fund-raising social in the evening

Tuesday 18 and Wednesday 19: Manchester. Watch for details locally.

Thursday 20: Sheffield

On Friday 11 November, NOISS—the student organisation which supports the Socialist Workers Party—is calling on students throughout the country to organise a day of action in support of the armed struggle in Southern Africa.

We are also supporting the fund-raising tour organised by SASC. Many students are already planning one-day occupations and strikes in their colleges in support of the day of action.

Now Callan's No 2 joins Smith

by Joan Kelly

PETER McAleese, the killer who helped recruit mercenaries to fight in Angola, has found a new paymaster: Ian Smith, head of Rhodesia's bloody illegal regime.

Together with three other mercenaries from the British Army in Northern Ireland, he is now known to be a sergeant in C Squadron of the Rhodesian SAS.

They were identified recently in Salisbury.

McAleese was promoted to a 'colonel' and later commander in chief of the CIA-backed Angolan mercenaries after the capture of Costas 'Callan' Georgiou.

For three years, he was a member of the British SAS and for nine years a private in the 1st Bn Parachute Regiment.

He served in Derry and Belfast and speaks nostalgically of his 'paddy-bashing days'.

DID THE ARMY KILL SEAMUS COSTELLO?

SEAMUS Costello, leader of the Irish Republican Socialist Party, was shot down in Dublin last week.

His comrades in the IRSP are convinced the murder was the work of British army agents. Shortly after his death a known visitor to the British Embassy in Dublin was seen

getting a plane out of the country in a great hurry.

Certainly, the British army had tried to kill Seamus Costello in the past.

The Littlejohn brothers, two gangsters employed as British spies, admitted that one of their assignments had been to try to murder him.

use of napalm on this raid, although the Rhodesian authorities denied it.

Another member of C Squadron is Sgt. Jim 'Killer' Brook. Until 1975, a sergeant in the Green Howards regiment, Brook earned his nickname 'Killer' in the Rhodesian bush.

The sort of psychotic 'fun' Brook enjoys is shown by the photograph he carries in his wallet and is fond of showing to admiring Rhodesian whites. It is of Paddy McAdurey, a staff captain in the Ardoyne unit of the Provisional IRA who was shot dead on Internment Day 1971.

Evidence

Brook claims to have shot McAdurey and to have acquired an inquest photo showing McAdurey's horrible head wounds as evidence.

Brook was awarded a military medal in the 1971 honours list. Like McAleese, he now owns a house in Hereford, the H.Q. of 22nd Sqn SAS.


Another known member of C Squadron is a Derry man, Sgt. Billy Simpson who until 1976 was a member of the 22nd Sqn SAS.

The fourth of McAleese's fellow mercenaries is a Lt. McCormick who has just given up a short term commission in the British Army where he served in Derry and Belfast and is now C Squadron's Intelligence officer.



Callan: his successor is now fighting for Ian Smith

Trotsky



THE HISTORY OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION
by **LEON TROTSKY**

Trotsky's finest literary achievement and the most authoritative, impassioned and superbly written account of the Russian Revolution ever published.

£5, plus 25p postage. 1296 pages.

PLUTO PRESS, Unit 10 Spencer Court, 7 Chalcraft Road, London NW1.

**If this man
had just
saved
your
child's life,
would you
pay him
less than
£47
a week?
WELL,
YOU DO!**



**WHY YOU
SHOULD
BE A
SOCIALIST**

PAUL FOOT

*The case for the new
Socialist Worker*

We socialists are not fanatics or time servers. We are socialists because we see the prospect which life holds out for all working people.

We want the commitment of workers who laugh and live and want to end the wretchedness and despair which shuts love and laughter out of so many lives.

We do not have to spend the rest of our lives, and leave our children to spend the rest of their lives, wrestling in the struggle against a mean and despotic ruling class.

Society can be changed, but only if masses of working people abandon the rotten shipwreck of the 'leave it to us' reformers, and commit themselves to change from below.

This pamphlet puts our case. Will you read it?

50p, including postage, from:
Socialist Worker Distributors, 6
Cottons Gardens, London E2.

Depressed? It's time people

TWO REPORTS in the newspapers over the past couple of days have made me really angry.

The first was about Pamela Hubbard, who jumped from a tower block in Birmingham, killing herself and her child.

The coroner reported that Mrs Hubbard's unhappiness about her housing was 'quite distinct' from the cause of her death, and he went on to say that her marriage had been in difficulties and there had been talk of a divorce. That Mrs Hubbard had a history of schizophrenia was also taken in his evidence.

Problems

The second report said that there was some hope for the three million schizophrenics in the world. Research had shown how chemists can intervene at a certain point

by



JEAN LEWIS

and restore brain functioning.

Now wait for the bad bit! Despite these huge strides ahead, and the enormous numbers of people who can benefit, the schizophrenia research has been hit by cash problems.

Asked about the drug potential arising from the research, a Dr Berd said: 'Of the drug companies had taken my suggestion of producing drugs for Huntington's Chorea [an

hereditary disease where the impairment of the brain is like schizophrenia but in a different part of the brain] they would already have a drug which could treat schizophrenia.'

Number

So why don't they? Because Huntington's Chorea affects a very small number of people and therefore the drug would have been unprofitable.

Those two reports summed up for me the whole attitude of our society to mental health.

I cannot see why the coroner in the Hubbard case couldn't see the connection between the tower block and the deaths of Mrs Hubbard and her child. It seems obvious to me that her mental state and her marriage difficulties were exaggerated by the tower block.

It's the same old story—of not going one step behind these illnesses and depressions

and finding out why happen.

The number of depressed neurotics and people set down by anxiety increases year by year by fantastic amounts. Yet no one bothers to ask why, or tries to find what causes it all.

The people are just labelled as inadequate and stupidified, quiet and troublesome on depressants and tranquilisers.

If only the thousands of patients have suffered the indignities of mental hospital electrical shock treatment heavy drug therapy could make their voices heard.

The figures show just badly they are treated. Forty per cent of all hospital mental health but they only get 20 per cent of the money allocated hospitals, only 11 per cent of consultants are psychiatrists only 22 per cent of full nurses are mental nurses



RIGHT: Firemen protesting in Liverpool last week in support of their pay claim. BELOW RIGHT: The Manchester demonstration the previous week.



'Merseyside firemen say: Give us wages or go to blazes' 'Would you risk your life for less than a £1 an hour?' 'Remember, Remember, the first of November, It's £25 or Burn to the ground'

WITH slogans and banners like these hundreds of firemen from all over the North West marched through Liverpool last Friday week demanding at the very least a 30 per cent wage increase.

'There will definitely be a strike if we don't get the rise,' says Terry Fields, regional secretary of Merseyside and Cheshire Fire Brigades Union. 'We'll probably try a dummy run on November the Fifth.'

'We couldn't stop them coming out even if we wanted to.'

Dozens of firemen's wives joined the march and handed out leaflets to shoppers explaining the men's case. Why are they all so angry?

JOHN WEAVER is a fireman in Cheshire. After the demonstration he and his wife JENNY talked to Socialist Worker.



Picture: John Smith (left)

JOHN: Firemen like their work and are proud that they give service to society. But now they can simply no longer afford to live on £46.50 a week.

We've always had a 'moral conscience' about going on strike. But conscience will not pay the bills.

We categorically refuse to make up our earnings through overtime—despite the

pressure to do so. We have banned overtime on principle. We want a 40-hour week and this is the only way to get it.

The men also see this as a way of fighting unemployment. We estimate that 6000 jobs have been made available by the national overtime ban.

People generally have very little idea what our job is like.

Victor the giraffe got nationwide publicity. At about the same time two young firemen were crushed to death in Reading. They got a tiny space in the Daily Mirror.

Incidentally, these two lads were earning less than £40 a week.

Every time we go out—and that's about seven times a day—we do something dangerous, even if it's exceeding the speed limit.

Union

Every fireman is injured at some time in his life. I was blown up and had my hands and face badly burnt when 26 propane cylinders exploded in a builders' hut.

There is a very high risk. Injury report forms grow week by week.

JENNY: The wives have just got fed up waiting. So a few of us decided to organise ourselves. In Merseyside we've produced special leaflets for the men to take for their wives.

We took our cue from the police wives. But we are going further. We are going to organise a union of firemen's wives.

Every wife individually wants to do something but doesn't know how. Most are housewives and therefore isolated. There were about 30

By JOHN ROSE

here today.

As soon as we can we will call a meeting—hopefully in a fire station. The object will be to back the men up, giving moral and vocal support.

People really have no idea what a fireman does. Some of my neighbours think it is an easy job.

But these men are risking their lives for others all the time. Even if a fireman saves only one baby in his lifetime, then surely that alone means he's worth a decent wage.

The public has the image of a muscular fireman carrying a dollybird out of her bedroom window in her nightdress. There he is, a big hero.

The reality is very different. The reality is children trapped in a bedroom with mother screaming outside. The gathering crowd will say it's a smoking inferno and no-one will dare go in. Only they expect the firemen to rush in.

But they are only human too. They burn like everyone

else.

Sometimes they're frightened too—believe it or not. Only they mustn't show it. They must do their job as if they were super-human.

Say John sees badly mangled bodies in a car crash—which he does regularly. Well, he feels sick to see people ground up in a wreckage.

Fight

He's seen decapitated bodies. Yes, it's the firemen that have to deal with this. Of course he's affected by it—but he's a professional—you don't hear about it, they don't moan—but they still feel it.

Amazing though it may seem, I can earn more than my husband at shorthand and typing.

Look at their job by comparing them with carworkers. Men on the night shift, say at Fords or Vauxhalls, start at ten and finish at six. Firemen start at six and finish at nine—fires permitting.

If he's fighting a fire at nine in the morning he can't just walk off the job . . .

It's as simple as this. If you are a fireman's wife you do not know what time he will be back each day. You can never be sure whether you can go out together.

Housewives are left at home for at least 15 hours at a stretch. We get the worst possible deal. For two Christmases out of three we don't even see our husbands.

JOHN: I actually like the job. All of us do. We feel we're doing something pretty important for other people.

I've seen firemen crying when they've failed to prevent death. Four little brothers died in a fire recently. The firemen just stood around, the tears rolling down their faces.

JENNY: So we've got something to fight for. We're proud of what the men are doing.

Neither John nor I smoke or drink. We hardly ever go out. We have a 15-year-old motor car. Even so, if I did not work as well we could not look after our three children.

These are the grim truths. In one way or another they apply to all firemen and their wives.

That's why the wives are going to fight.

asked WHY?

Two-thirds of all mental hospitals were built before 1891.

Psychiatry becomes more and more a matter of labelling, diagnosis, outlook—and then psychiatric cure. The patient becomes an obedient robot moving around in chronic psychiatric wards, or returned drugged and conforming into the 'normal world'.

I often wonder how much the stress of conforming causes mental breakdown, anxiety and depression. People have an *inside bit* which they often dare not show to the world, and the outside bit which they force to conform and then show the world

Difficult

The inside bit is fragile. It encompasses all the passion, compassion, love of life and rebelliousness which makes us alive and creative. Doctors don't encourage any of this—it might cause chaos! So

usually it just shrivels away. The patient conforms, and is 'dead'. The patient, in other words, becomes 'normal'.

The relationship between doctor and patient must be based on trust. But in this untrustworthy society there is little trust around. So it is difficult to establish any meaningful relationship.

Passion

The real cure for people labelled neurotic or barmy is not drugs but the encouragement to become more and more 'open': help to have the courage to release their real selves.

This doesn't need high-powered doctors but trustworthy people with compassion, which I think is what most true socialists are.

Because the fundamental aim of a socialist society, as I see it, is to release the real selves and the true potential of people.

National Rank and File
FIREMAN
Paper written by and for rank and file members of the FBU
MERSEYSIDE FIREMEN WILL STRIKE TO OBTAIN A LIVING WAGE

READY TO STRIKE?

Latest issue of RANK AND FILE FIREMAN, THE PAPER WRITTEN BY AND FOR MEMBERS OF THE FBU, out now. 5p a copy, plus 7p postage (more than ten copies post free).

R & F FIREMAN, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

ADVERTISEMENT

RANK AND FILE DELEGATE CONFERENCE

Saturday 26 November, 11.30am, New Century Hall, Corporation Street, Manchester

- Smash the 12-month rule—£15 a week minimum pay rises now.
- For the right to work—no productivity deal
- For rank and file unity—against racialism
- For a Rank and File Movement.

Delegates invited from all trade union bodies. Credentials 50p from Rank and File Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

Scotland

CLYDEBANK Socialist Workers Party disco: Friday 21 October, 8pm to 1.30am, Pinetrees, Clydebank. Employed 75p, unemployed 50p.

PAISLEY Socialist Workers Party public meetings: Fortnightly on Tuesdays, 7.30pm to 9.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller. 25 October: The Irish Question. Speaker: Alan Wilson (EETPU shop steward, Glasgow District Council Building Dept).

North East

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN EASTERN EUROPE? Speaker: Anna Paczuska. **NEWCASTLE GATESHEAD NORTH SHIELDS** Tuesday 24 October, 8pm. **JARROW and HEBERN** Wednesday 25 October, 8pm. **SUNDERLAND** Thursday 26 October, 8pm. For meeting places see your Socialist Worker seller.

DURHAM Socialist Workers Party public meetings: Fortnightly on Thursdays, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller. 20 October: Rape—the socialist answer.

DARLINGTON Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Thursdays 8pm, for meeting place see your Socialist Worker seller. 13 October: The black struggle in South Africa.

20 October: Women and socialism. 27 October: Destruction of the environment under capitalism.

Yorkshire

DONCASTER Women's Voice meeting: The family—who rules? Speaker: Dave Widgery. Wednesday 19 October, 7pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

WAKEFIELD Socialist Workers Party Rock 'n Roll Dance and Disco: Friday 14 October, 8.30pm to 1am bar till 12.30. For place see your SW seller.

BARNESLEY Socialist Workers Party public meeting: No to the National Front—fight racism. Monday 24 October, 7.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

PONTEFRACT Women's Voice public meeting: Family life—who rules? Speaker: David Widgery. Thursday 20 October, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

BRADFORD Socialist Workers Party jumble sale: Saturday 22 October, 11am, for place see your Socialist Worker seller.

BRADFORD district Socialist Workers Party anti-fascist defence fund social: Tuesday 22 November. Proceeds to aid defendants arrested after National Front/police attacks throughout Bradford. Featuring North West Spanner, Socialist theatre, the Iguanas, and disco. Tickets and details from your SW seller.

HALIFAX Women's Voice meeting: How we fight back Tuesday 18 October, 7.30pm, Plummet Line, Bull Green.

North West

MANCHESTER Socialist Workers Party Day School: Saturday 22 October, 10.30am to 4.30pm, details from branch and area secretaries. All new members around Manchester invited. Sessions on: Why the working class? Why the revolution? Why the party? How to write—and print—a leaflet/bulletin. Creche and butties provided. Register with your area secretary by 15 October.

WITHINGTON Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Sundays, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller. 16 October: Women and the family. Speaker: Anne Robertson. 23 October: Is Russia socialist? Speaker: John Boyd.

KIRKBY Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Every other Thursday, 8pm prompt, finish by 9.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller. 13 October: Prices don't wait 12 months, why should wages? 27 October: Rock against Racism.

60 years this November Revolution in Russia!

SOCIALIST WORKER

will be publishing an Anniversary supplement for which we need your help.

Do you know anyone who remembers how it felt when it first happened?

Can you interview them for us?

Do you have a favourite piece of writing on How the Revolution was won and how it was lost?

Do you have or know of any photos or posters from those stirring times?

If so please contact Laurie Flynn as soon as possible at Corbridge Crescent, London E2

Telephone 01-739 6361

This is a unique chance to get the socialist message across so every branch should think of ways to sell extra copies.

Phone your extra orders to John Larkham 01-739 2639

Speakers are available for anniversary meetings from Liz Balfour on 739 6273.

IRELAND: THE FIGHT AGAINST BRITISH IMPERIALISM

Speakers: Bernadette McAliskey and Irish Front representatives Finbar Dougherty and Seamus O'Kane
Socialist Workers Party meeting, followed by social Saturday 15 October, 7.30pm, Woodlands Hall, Acton High Street, London, W3 (Acton Town tube).

Socialist Workers Party Health and Safety Group/Science Group National meeting in Leeds Saturday 15 October

Please note change from previous publicity.
Room LG19, New Arts Building, Leeds University, (buses 1 and 4 from City Station).
MORNING: The politics of health and safety, North-West Spanner Theatre in 'Safety First'.
AFTERNOON: Work, women and health. Trade union organisation, health and safety, the SWP and health and safety. Leeds health and safety group activities. Pooled fare will operate.
All SWP members and friends welcome.
Further details from Health and Safety Group, Derek Howl, 3 Granby Grove, Leeds 6 (phone 0532-789920).

Socialist Workers Party BLACK CAUCUS WEEKEND SCHOOL

22-23 October, North London Polytechnic, Holloway Road, London
Registration 50p
SATURDAY 11am
Fascism and the State—Aloke Biswas
Black Liberation and Socialism—Tony Bogues and Bipin Patel
Black Women in Struggle—Jackie Bogues, Martha Osamor, Rehana Minhas
The Socialist Workers Party, who we are and how we are organised—Steve Jefferys
SUNDAY, 10am
Fighting police harassment, the experience of defence campaigns and self-defence groups—Lee Kane, Tony Bogues, Balwinder Singh

Plus Social on Saturday night, bookstall, exhibitions, films.

WOLVERHAMPTON Socialist Workers Party Thursday night meetings:

The meeting place has been changed, consult your SW seller. Discussions start at 8.30pm.
13 October: The need for a rank and file—why workers need an independent organisation.
20 October: Terrorism—can it smash the system or is it a blind alley?
27 October: Women in Russia—the position of women has got worse over the years, what went wrong?

Registration 50p SATURDAY 11am

Fascism and the State—Aloke Biswas
Black Liberation and Socialism—Tony Bogues and Bipin Patel
Black Women in Struggle—Jackie Bogues, Martha Osamor, Rehana Minhas
The Socialist Workers Party, who we are and how we are organised—Steve Jefferys
SUNDAY, 10am
Fighting police harassment, the experience of defence campaigns and self-defence groups—Lee Kane, Tony Bogues, Balwinder Singh

Plus Social on Saturday night, bookstall, exhibitions, films.

WOLVERHAMPTON Socialist Workers Party Thursday night meetings:

The meeting place has been changed, consult your SW seller. Discussions start at 8.30pm.
13 October: The need for a rank and file—why workers need an independent organisation.
20 October: Terrorism—can it smash the system or is it a blind alley?
27 October: Women in Russia—the position of women has got worse over the years, what went wrong?

Registration 50p SATURDAY 11am

Fascism and the State—Aloke Biswas
Black Liberation and Socialism—Tony Bogues and Bipin Patel
Black Women in Struggle—Jackie Bogues, Martha Osamor, Rehana Minhas
The Socialist Workers Party, who we are and how we are organised—Steve Jefferys
SUNDAY, 10am
Fighting police harassment, the experience of defence campaigns and self-defence groups—Lee Kane, Tony Bogues, Balwinder Singh

Plus Social on Saturday night, bookstall, exhibitions, films.

WOLVERHAMPTON Socialist Workers Party Thursday night meetings:

The meeting place has been changed, consult your SW seller. Discussions start at 8.30pm.
13 October: The need for a rank and file—why workers need an independent organisation.
20 October: Terrorism—can it smash the system or is it a blind alley?
27 October: Women in Russia—the position of women has got worse over the years, what went wrong?

Registration 50p SATURDAY 11am

Fascism and the State—Aloke Biswas
Black Liberation and Socialism—Tony Bogues and Bipin Patel
Black Women in Struggle—Jackie Bogues, Martha Osamor, Rehana Minhas
The Socialist Workers Party, who we are and how we are organised—Steve Jefferys
SUNDAY, 10am
Fighting police harassment, the experience of defence campaigns and self-defence groups—Lee Kane, Tony Bogues, Balwinder Singh

Plus Social on Saturday night, bookstall, exhibitions, films.

WOLVERHAMPTON Socialist Workers Party Thursday night meetings:

The meeting place has been changed, consult your SW seller. Discussions start at 8.30pm.
13 October: The need for a rank and file—why workers need an independent organisation.
20 October: Terrorism—can it smash the system or is it a blind alley?
27 October: Women in Russia—the position of women has got worse over the years, what went wrong?

Registration 50p SATURDAY 11am

Fascism and the State—Aloke Biswas
Black Liberation and Socialism—Tony Bogues and Bipin Patel
Black Women in Struggle—Jackie Bogues, Martha Osamor, Rehana Minhas
The Socialist Workers Party, who we are and how we are organised—Steve Jefferys
SUNDAY, 10am
Fighting police harassment, the experience of defence campaigns and self-defence groups—Lee Kane, Tony Bogues, Balwinder Singh

Plus Social on Saturday night, bookstall, exhibitions, films.

WOLVERHAMPTON Socialist Workers Party Thursday night meetings:

The meeting place has been changed, consult your SW seller. Discussions start at 8.30pm.
13 October: The need for a rank and file—why workers need an independent organisation.
20 October: Terrorism—can it smash the system or is it a blind alley?
27 October: Women in Russia—the position of women has got worse over the years, what went wrong?

Registration 50p SATURDAY 11am

Fascism and the State—Aloke Biswas
Black Liberation and Socialism—Tony Bogues and Bipin Patel
Black Women in Struggle—Jackie Bogues, Martha Osamor, Rehana Minhas
The Socialist Workers Party, who we are and how we are organised—Steve Jefferys
SUNDAY, 10am
Fighting police harassment, the experience of defence campaigns and self-defence groups—Lee Kane, Tony Bogues, Balwinder Singh

Plus Social on Saturday night, bookstall, exhibitions, films.

WOLVERHAMPTON Socialist Workers Party Thursday night meetings:

The meeting place has been changed, consult your SW seller. Discussions start at 8.30pm.
13 October: The need for a rank and file—why workers need an independent organisation.
20 October: Terrorism—can it smash the system or is it a blind alley?
27 October: Women in Russia—the position of women has got worse over the years, what went wrong?

Registration 50p SATURDAY 11am

Fascism and the State—Aloke Biswas
Black Liberation and Socialism—Tony Bogues and Bipin Patel
Black Women in Struggle—Jackie Bogues, Martha Osamor, Rehana Minhas
The Socialist Workers Party, who we are and how we are organised—Steve Jefferys
SUNDAY, 10am
Fighting police harassment, the experience of defence campaigns and self-defence groups—Lee Kane, Tony Bogues, Balwinder Singh

MERSEYSIDE Women's Voice

group meets every fortnight for discussion of business and a talk on a particular issue. Details from local SW sellers.
18 October: Women under Socialism.

Wales

SHREWSBURY Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a socialist. Speaker: Paul Foot. Thursday 3 November, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

TONYPANDY Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a socialist. Speaker: Paul Foot. Wednesday 19 October, 7.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

SWANSEA Socialist Workers Party sells the paper every Saturday, 11.30am to 1pm in College Street. Books, pamphlets and IS Journal also on sale. Come along for a chat and help us sell SW.

Informal meetings of BRIDGEND Socialist Workers Party members and supporters: Every Thursday, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller. All welcome.

CARDIFF Socialist Workers Party discussions for members and supporters: Every other Monday, for meeting place see your SW seller. 24 October: Ireland. Speaker: Julian Goss.

South East

HARLOW Socialist Workers Party public meeting: The struggle against nuclear power in Europe. Speaker: Sybil Cock. Thursday 20 October, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

HIGH WYCOMBE Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a socialist. Speaker: Paul Foot. Wednesday 26 October, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

London

CENTRAL LONDON WORKERS Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Ireland—the struggle against British Imperialism. Speaker: Finbar O'Dougherty (IRSP). Wednesday 19 October, 7pm, University of London Union.

BRENT Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Fortnightly on Wednesdays, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller. 19 October: Police—muggers in blue or workers in uniform? Speaker: Steve Forey (NUR).

CAMDEN Socialist Workers Party meets every Wednesday night, 7.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller. All SW readers welcome.

CAMDEN Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Keep the Nazis out of Swiss Cottage! The rise of the National Front and how to oppose racism. Tuesday 18 October, 7.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller. All welcome.

HOW TO FIGHT THE NAZIS? Steve Jefferys (SWP) debates with Mike Power (Lewisham CP) at YCL Red Festival, Saturday 22 October, Lab-broke House, Highbury Grove, London. NB Admission £1.50 (£2.50 including gig at night) or 70p unemployed/school student (£1.30). Festival opens 11am. Debate is at 2.30pm.

NORTH LONDON TEACHERS and COUNCIL WORKERS Socialist Workers Party open meeting: Russia—How the revolution was lost. Speaker: Norah Carlin. Tuesday 18 October, 5.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

NORTH LONDON Womens Voice Party Saturday 22 October, 8pm, for place see your Women's Voice seller, come early. Lots of lovely food and drink, good music, so don't waste your money in the pub. Support your local Womens Voice group.

LEA VALLEY Womens Voice public meeting: Music—Sexism and Sexuality. Speaker: Roger Huddle. Monday 17 October, 8pm, for meeting place see your Womens Voice/SW seller.

OUTER EAST LONDON Socialist Workers Party fortnightly meetings: The revolutionaries, a Alternate Fridays, 7.45pm, for meeting place see your SW seller. 14 October: Lenin (1). Speaker: Tony Cliff. 28 October: Lenin (2). Speaker: Tony Cliff. 11 November: Trotsky. Speaker: Chris Harman. 25 November: Mao. Speaker: Nora Carlin.

HACKNEY SCHOOLS Socialist Workers Party

public meetings: Mondays, 7.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller. 17 October: The philosophy of Marx. Speaker: Tony Cliff.

OUTER EAST LONDON Socialist Workers Party series of fortnightly meetings: The Revolutionaries. Alternate Fridays, 7.45pm, North East London Polytechnic Greengate Precinct, Greengate Street, Plaistow, E13. 14 October: Lenin (1). Speaker: Tony Cliff. 28 October: Lenin (2). Speaker: Tony Cliff. 11 November: Trotsky. Speaker: Chris Harman. 25 November: Mao. Speaker: Nora Carlin.

BRIGHTON Socialist Workers Party benefit folk night: Saturday 15 October 8pm, with traditional Irish singer Tim O'Leary. For details see your SW seller.

South West

FOREST OF DEAN Socialist Workers Party holds regular discussion meetings. For details see your SW seller. 19 October: Slideshow on Ireland.

LEYTON Socialist Workers Party branch—newly formed—meets every Thursday, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

INNER EAST LONDON Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Why you should be a socialist. Alternate Friday evenings, 7.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller. 21 October: Because it works better. Speaker: Alan Watts.

WALTHAMSTOW Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Nuclear power—for or against. Wednesday 20 October, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

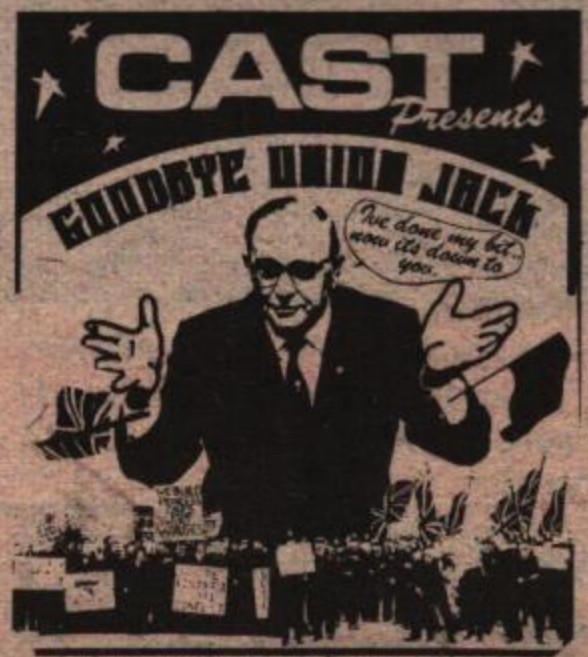
WALTHAMSTOW Womens Voice public meeting: Women and their health service. Speaker: Mel Bartley. Thursday 20 October, 8.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

Fiddle while the crisis burns. **TOWER HAMLETS Socialist Workers Party** social, Saturday 15 October, 8pm, for place see your SW seller. Fiddler and slides. Bring a bottle.

EAST LONDON Socialist Workers Party/United Troops Out Movement joint public meeting: Northern Ireland—the situation. Speaker: Finbar O'Dougherty, from Derry. Sunday 16 October, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

PLUMSTEAD Socialist Workers Party/South East London Socialist Workers Youth Movement meeting: Speaker: Pete Chambers (SWYM Organiser). Monday 17 October, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

TOUR by CAST Socialist Theatre Group with their latest play:



CRAWLEY: Friday 14 October, 8pm, Langley Green, Community Centre, Stagelands.

MEDWAY: Wednesday 19 October, 8pm, Medway College of Design.

CANTERBURY: Thursday 20 October, 7.30pm, Community Centre, Sturry Road.

MAIDSTONE: Friday 21 October, 8pm, Bridge House Hotel.

SOUTHWARK Socialist Workers Party public meeting: The fight against the fascists. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Wednesday 19 October, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller. All welcome in particular all members and supporters of Southwark Teachers SWP.

SOUTHWARK Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Thursdays, 8pm, for meeting place see your SW seller. 13 October: Is Russia a workers' state? Speaker: Kevin Wingfield.

SOUTH LONDON Socialist Worker Youth Movement meets for weekly informal discussion on Tuesday evenings, 6.30pm, for meeting place see your SW seller.

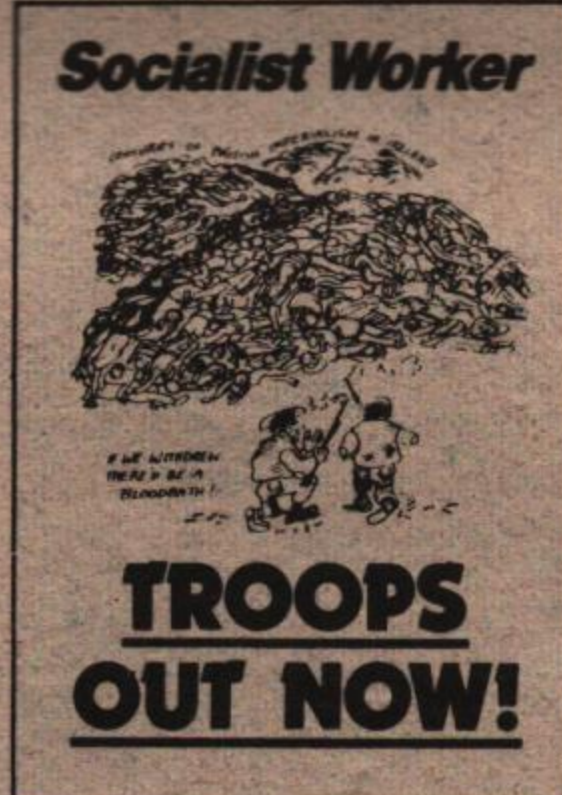
SOUTH WEST London Womens Voice group meet alternative Tuesdays, 8pm, for meeting place see your Womens Voice seller. 18 October: Rape. Speaker: Linda Woodroff.

Public meetings and events organised by the Socialist Workers' Party and its fraternal organisations.

Send notices, to reach us by first post Monday at the latest, to Whats On, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London, E2 9DS.

SUB/EDITOR with experience of design needed for Socialist Worker.

Experience in socialist politics needed. Apply in writing with full details of experience to the editor, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS (phone 01-739 0185).



TROOPS OUT AND SMASH THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM ACT stickers, printed in red and black, four designs. 500 for £1 plus 20p postage, post free to SWP members (state which branch). CASH WITH ORDER to Socialist Worker, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

LEAFLETS AND POSTERS now available for the abortion demonstration in Birmingham on Saturday 29 October. Leaflets £2.50 per thousand. Posters £1.50 per hundred. From SWP Womens Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 (phone 01-739 1878).

IRELAND: THE FIGHT AGAINST BRITISH IMPERIALISM: Public meetings organised by NOISS. Speakers: Finbar Dougherty and Seamus O'Kane, both of the Irish Front, plus a NOISS speaker. THAMES POLY: Thursday 13 October, lunchtime. KENT UNIVERSITY: Thursday 13 October, evening. BEDFORD COLLEGE, London: Friday 14 October, lunchtime. LANCASTER UNIVERSITY: Monday 17 October, lunchtime. PRESTON POLYTECHNIC: Monday 17 October, evening. LIVERPOOL POLYTECHNIC: Tuesday 18 October, lunchtime. LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY: Tuesday 18 October, evening. NORTH LONDON POLY, Kentish Town: Thursday 20 October, lunchtime. MIDDLESEX POLY, Enfield: Thursday 20 October, evening. NORTH EAST LONDON POLY: Friday 21 October, lunchtime.

National Organisation of International Socialist Societies calls on all students and workers to support the Andri Klymchuk Defence Campaign picket of the Soviet Embassy, Wednesday 19 October, 1.30pm, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (nearest tube Notting Hill). Free Andy Klymchuk now. Drop all charges.

CYPRUS: Development over the past three years. Day school organised by NOISS. Saturday 5 November, North London Poly, Holloway Road, London N7. All NOISS members make sure you bring any Cypriot, Greek and Turkish supporters.

PRINTWORKERS: Day school for all Socialist Workers Party members and supporters in the print, Saturday 29 October, 10am to 5.30pm, Central London Poly, Cavendish Street. Speakers: Ross Pritchard, Mike Heym, Jack Robertson. History of print unions, differentials, and new technology, how to organise your chapel. A pooled fare system will operate. Social in the evening.

ASTMS: Meeting for all Scottish members of the Socialist Workers Party in ASTMS. Saturday 29 October, 2.30-5pm, 64 Queen Street, Glasgow. Agenda: Report back from 17 September conference, Richard Maul, Wage claims. All members who cannot attend should phone John Leopold, 041-889 2327.

MANCHESTER POLY: Wednesday 19 October 12.30pm, Aytoun Street, Faculty Coffee Bar. MANCHESTER NAC: Wednesday 19 October, 8pm, Francis Shaw Social Club, Corbett Street (off Ashton New Road) Clayton.

LEEDS POLY: Thursday 20 October, 1pm, Student Union Common Room. LEEDS NAC: Thursday 20 October, 8pm, Leeds Trades Club, Saville Mount, Chapeltown Road.

PIRATE JENNY socialist theatre seek full-time administrator for work in Irish shop. Must be someone with trade union and Irish work experience, phone 01-960 5875.

CONFERENCE ON SUPER-POWER IMPERIALISM: Thames Polytechnic, Saturday 29 October, 11am onwards. Speakers on Angola, Zimbabwe, India and on whether capitalism has been restored in the USSR. Evening Meal and theatre group. Day 50p. Day plus evening £1.50. Tickets from Anti-Imperialist Society, Thames Polytechnic, London SE18, for evening.

LABOUR LEADER, monthly journal of Independent Labour Publications (ILP). Annual subscription £2.00. Free sample copy from 49 Topmoor Sides, Leeds 11.

RED WEEKEND: Second Communist University of Manchester, 4, 5, 6 November. Nine Courses. Details: 63 Clyde Road, Manchester 20, phone 061-445 3755.



BADGES AVAILABLE NOW! RAR badges in new colours—green and red 24p (inc postage), or 10 for £1.50 post free. Orders to 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.



Clenched fist SWP label badges. Red and silver, or red and gilt. 60p each including postage, or 4.50 for ten. From SWP Recordings, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS. STATE WHETHER SILVER OR GILT WANTED. Cash with order.

The Sun called us 'vulgar, nasty Trotskyite termites' when we produced Stuff the Jubilee campaign, so try this one for size...



STOP RISING FOOD PRICES... eat the rich! Printed in green and red. 20p each, 10 for £1.50, 50 for £6.50, all prices including postage. FROM SW Recordings, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

01-739 2639

The phone line for Socialist Worker Circulation, IS Journal and SW Distributors, which was destroyed in the recent petrol-bomb attack, has now been rewired and functions as previously.

Notices and meetings

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

CHILE: Movement of Revolutionary Left (MIR) Public Meeting: Friday 14 October, 6.30pm, New Theatre, LSE, St Clements Lane, London WC2. A homage to the struggle of the Latin American Resistance, and to show some aspects of our international policy.

PIRATE JENNY play: 'Bouncing Back', on tour. CENTRAL LONDON ALRA Benefit: Friday 14 October, 7.30pm, LSE Old Theatre.

CAMBRIDGE National Abortion Campaign (NAC): Saturday 15 October, 8pm, Mumford Theatre, Cambridge College of Art and Technology.

HOUNSLOW Trades Council: Monday 17 October, 6.30pm, Hounslow Hospital occupation. LIVERPOOL NAC: Tuesday 18 October, 8pm, Open Mind, Manesty Lane.

MANCHESTER POLY: Wednesday 19 October 12.30pm, Aytoun Street, Faculty Coffee Bar. MANCHESTER NAC: Wednesday 19 October, 8pm, Francis Shaw Social Club, Corbett Street (off Ashton New Road) Clayton.

LEEDS POLY: Thursday 20 October, 1pm, Student Union Common Room. LEEDS NAC: Thursday 20 October, 8pm, Leeds Trades Club, Saville Mount, Chapeltown Road.

PIRATE JENNY socialist theatre seek full-time administrator for work in Irish shop. Must be someone with trade union and Irish work experience, phone 01-960 5875.

CONFERENCE ON SUPER-POWER IMPERIALISM: Thames Polytechnic, Saturday 29 October, 11am onwards. Speakers on Angola, Zimbabwe, India and on whether capitalism has been restored in the USSR. Evening Meal and theatre group. Day 50p. Day plus evening £1.50. Tickets from Anti-Imperialist Society, Thames Polytechnic, London SE18, for evening.

LABOUR LEADER, monthly journal of Independent Labour Publications (ILP). Annual subscription £2.00. Free sample copy from 49 Topmoor Sides, Leeds 11.

RED WEEKEND: Second Communist University of Manchester, 4, 5, 6 November. Nine Courses. Details: 63 Clyde Road, Manchester 20, phone 061-445 3755.



MANCHESTER Rock Against Racism presents Soul Distinction and disco. Friday 21 October, 8pm, Partington Community Centre, Central Road, Partington.

EALING Rock Against Racism concert: Saturday 15 October, 7.30pm, Ealing Technical College, St Mary's Road, London W5. With Misty Prisoners, Decorators, Black Enchanters.

HACKNEY COMMITTEE AGAINST RACIALISM mass demonstration against racism: Sunday 16 October, assemble 11am corner of Poole St and New North Road, London N1 (centre of Hoxton). To proceed from there to Brick Lane and then on to Victoria Park for a rally and afterwards a multi-racial festival.

LENIN IN OCTOBER: Exciting 193



Picture by Bob Golden, from the children's book *Mineworker*, by Robert Golden and Sarah Cox, £1.75 including postage from Bookmarks, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

The average worker

hears the alarm clock's merry note, leaps out of bed like a mountain goat. With joyful heart and beaming face he joins the jostling throng, the jolly race to get to work, to save the nation and the state.

Ah, there—heart-warming sight, the factory gate. Now he clocks on, holds back a grateful sob, and then with frantic haste begins the job.

Dammit, time passes all too fast, and though he labours to the very last, leave it he must. With many a longing, backward look with dragging steps, he slings his hook; consoles himself along the way back home—tomorrow's still a working day.

Yet there's this nagging fact that irks this cheerful chappy as he works—the fact that each and every week, he has to summon up the blasted cheek to draw his pay, although he knows the nation's dreadful plight, the bosses woes. He racks his brains to find some way to work his guts out and to draw no pay, since every penny taken means a loss to all the nation, not to mention his kind of boss.

He racks his brains in search of various devices for cutting pay or—equally effective—raising prices. But all his schemes, however clever, neat, blocked by the awful fact—he still must eat.

Yes, nature's law that workers too must sometimes take a meal not even parliament has power to repeal. And so this noble laddie lives on scraps and gnaws old bones and does his bit to pay back all those international loans.

To those who think this stretches things in part, or even, come to that upon the whole, I swear with both my hands upon my heart, I found this average worker up the Gallop Pole.

HUGO DEWAR

★
PRE VIEW

SORRY, NOUGHT OUT OF TEN

I WAS watching ATV's New Faces. One of the acts was a really out-of-date rock group. Their longish hair was permed and waved, they wore swashbuckler's cloaks and played English drug rock circa 1969½.

Then, witnessed by millions of Saturday night refugees from the all-white Bruce Forsythe's Generation Game, they won. How cruel.

As the credits rolled up the group took the winners' privileged place in order to wave goodbye to the audience. You could see their eyes shining with the expectation of tax exile-hood.

'They're being mugged', the cry went up around me—followed by a hiss from the smiling panel of ATV middle management (with guests) who had awarded their victims ten out of ten.

Clapping

If punk and reggae music had not come these people would never have invented it.

You can't blame the group. They weren't to know that they looked as exciting as Kentucky Fried Chicken and just as interesting. The studio audience was clapping because it was time to go home.

Unwittingly, I believe, ATV's bureaucracy has produced in this programme a mirror image of its death-like grip on the media:

JULIAN RAT: It's original! All we do is mix the panel game concept with the talent show angle. The judges are a couple of our mouthpieces, dressed up in white suits and a couple of fading celebrities to make it look authentic.

MARK TOAD: Groovey, boss. Who have you got in mind?

RAT: A tap dancer. A fat DJ with a phoney Irish accent, you know, people like that. Even an old music hall comic.

SID PIG (from accounts): But we've shut down all the music halls, years before the cinemas even.

RAT: Exactly.
TOAD: I like it. We're saturated with hopefuls trying to muscle in.

Cheap

But what if the winners want a prize?

PIG: They'll be happy with the marks we give them—just like at school, ten out of ten and that.

Besides, if ATV likes them we can sign them up on the cheap.

TOAD: How will we know if ATV is right about them?

RAT: They employed us didn't they, schmuck. You're fired.

TOAD: Oh no boss, please I couldn't face working for the Arts Council...

New Faces makes Hughie Green seem like a socialist, Pam Ayres like Jane Austen, Lena Zavarone like Johnny Rotten and the rest of us like battery hens—if you get my point.

ROLAND MULDOON

MONDAY: The Hospital (BBC1), a satire on United States hospitals.

TUESDAY: Play for Today (BBC1) is Stronger than the Sun, about radiation leaks.

WEDNESDAY: True Patriot (BBC2) is about a priest that tries to kill Hitler.

Socialist protest Russia tried to hide

IF YOU went by the papers and television alone, you'd think Soviet dissidents are all like Solzhenitsyn, religious and firm believers in 'Free Enterprise.'

Funnily enough, this impression suits the rulers of the USSR. The last thing they want to admit is the existence of Soviet citizens who question their society from a socialist point of view.

Lev Kopelev, whose autobiography *No Jail for Thought*, has just been published*, is different. He is one of the rare but growing breed of Soviet citizens who question the papal dogma of the Russian rulers.

At the same time he provides a refreshing answer to the reactionary by-products of Stalinism like Solzhenitsyn.

Growing up after the October revolution of 1917, Kopelev became an enthusiastic and energetic Young Communist, passionately believing that socialism was being built in one country, even if tens of thousands of people lost their lives in enforcing the collectivisation of agriculture and the enforcement of harsh measures in all aspects of daily life.

Morale

If mistakes were made, this was part of the cost to be paid for building the Socialist Fatherland.

Serving as a major in military intelligence, Kopelev



was sent to East Prussia in 1945 to report on civilian morale as Russian military might drove towards the heart of Nazi Germany.

As a witness to the looting, rape and wanton destruction that soured the taste of victory, Kopelev struggled to open the eyes of his colleagues to the horrors committed.

Communist standards, argued Kopelev, should be high, and German civilians ought to be able to see they had nothing to fear from the Soviet army.

His message fell on ears that were far from deaf, but hostile. Kopelev was arrested and



Russian prisoners in 1944—because Skopolev protested at the brutality he was put on trial.

charged with anti-Soviet agitation, the spreading of slander in time of war, and with 'bourgeois humanism'.

Yet so tenuous was the evidence against Kopelev and so well did he argue his case that it took three trials before the authorities could get a judge to give him eight years in a labour camp.

Exciting

Usually, reading about life in Russian labour camps convinces you that it is hardly surprising the survivors have come out brutalised, bitter and violently anti-socialist,

given what they have had to endure.

What is exciting about Kopelev is that he comes through his experiences believing in the economic, political, rational and humanitarian basis of the case for socialism.

As the Italian revolutionary Gramsci wrote: 'To tell the truth, to arrive together at the truth, is a communist and a revolutionary act.'

Make sure you get closer to the truth about the USSR by ordering this magnificent book from your library.

TERRY WARD



LENIN Volume 1
'Building the Party' from political obscurity to leader of a mass working class party. £3.30 including postage.

LENIN Volume 2
'All power to the Soviets! through to the first victorious proletarian revolution. £3.90 including postage.

Lenin

by Tony Cliff

From Pluto Press, Unit 10 Spencer Court, 7 Chalcot Road, London, NW1, or direct from any IS bookshop.

The struggle in the tunnels

I WAS GLAD to see your report on the tunnel miners' occupation. For years my dad, like many Irish immigrants to this country, worked down these tunnels.

The temporary nature of the job made it hard to form a union and most sites worked a cut-throat 'piece system', where safety went by the wind in the interest of quick money.

While the pay might have been comparatively good, my dad, like a lot of his mates, is now washed up at 50.

He is arthritic, his chest is awful due to working in compressed air or stinking fumes, his back hurts all the time after years of working in 4ft by 4ft tunnels, kneeling as you dig, often water dripping on your back day in, day out.

Mates of his lost their lives or were permanently injured in the tunnels, while the employers Murphy and their like laughed all the way to the bank.

Even now it's not uncommon for pubs to empty out at the news of a tunnel accident, men rushing off to help dig out their mates.

Unless the unions win their fight against the lumpers, safety will continue to go to the wall. Murphy will continue making massive profits, and my old man and his workmates will continue dying or being injured.

If you think this is a sensational, 'shock-horror' story, go to any Irish pub in London on a Sunday morning and buy the benefit tickets they sell with monstrous and sickening regularity for the dependents left by men involved in this type of work.

The struggle for a strong union in this industry really is a life and eath struggle.

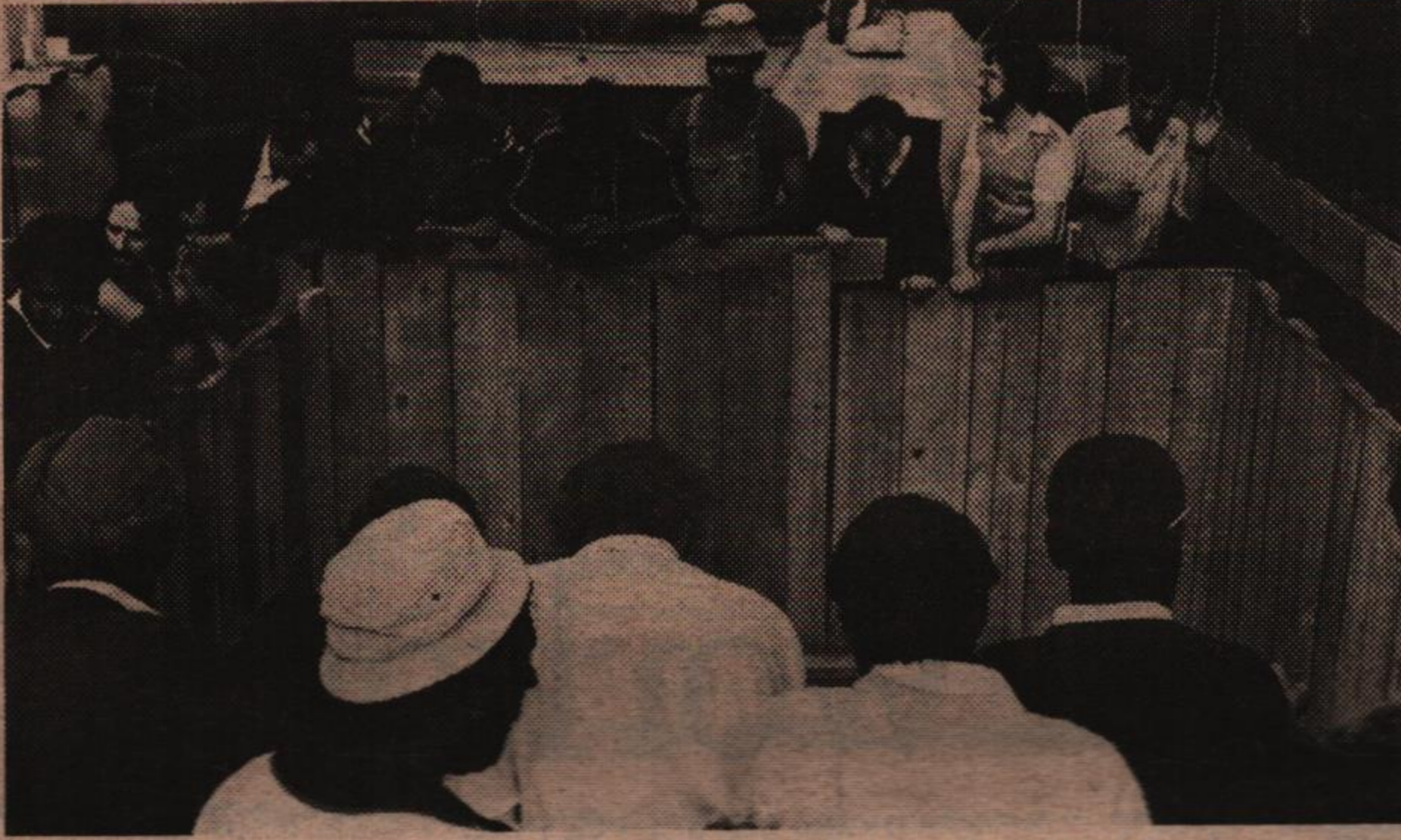
□ JOHN BOYLE, Ilford, Essex.

□ □

THOSE who complain to Socialist Worker about the benefits they get from the social security, like D E Fazackerley of Wakefield (Letters, 1 October) should appeal to the Supplementary Benefits Commission, not Socialist Worker.

Nearly all the information needed to sort out these problems can be got from the 1977 edition of the Supplementary Benefit Handbook, price 65p.

□ SANDRA SMITH, Torquay, Devon.



Tunnelers and supporters surround the occupied shaft in Finsbury Park, North London, last week —before the police moved in.

Labour's example

SIR ERIC MILLER, who killed himself because of his corruption and shady deals, had many members of the Labour government as guests at his lavish parties. Although he was so close to Maudling, Sir Eric had more guests from the Labour side.

Sir Harold Wilson and other Labour cabinet ministers frequently feasted on champagne at £10 a bottle and caviare at £5 an ounce.

This clearly is an example that these so-called 'socialists' are being wined and dined by corrupt capitalists. True socialism can never be achieved through parliament when powerful and rich capitalists can buy our so-called representatives.

□ PAT O'KEEFE, Salford.



Nuclear power for whom?

NUCLEAR POWER is certainly dangerous and the production of plutonium by the ton, as in the fast breeder reactor, is an act of insanity on the grand scale.

Plutonium lasts for millions of years, is intensely radioactive, produces cancer from exposure to a few millionths of a gram, is chemically one of the most dangerous substances known and has no safe method of disposal.

The nuclear power programme was based on the need to produce material for nuclear weapons. We must oppose this cynical endangering of our future.

However, Kevin Wingfield (Letters, 24 September) is wrong in saying there is no way of making radioactive material safe. This is even true of plutonium, although only at astronomical cost.

But many radioactive materials remain radioactive for only a short period of time and many have only a low level of activity.

The point is that nuclear power has been perverted by capitalists for their own ends. It may or may not be useful in a socialist society.

□ MALCOLM POVEY, Leeds.

Letters

Send your letters to Letters Page, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2

Then the racists arrived...

ALTHOUGH I feel I am too old to be a member of the Socialist Workers Party, I buy a copy every week from two young people who come into my local.

I live in a multi-storey block of flats, which is constantly being bombarded with different leaflets, and horrible magazines from different racist parties from Britain and the US. This is particularly offensive to me as my wife came to this country 27 years ago from Trinidad.

The last 18 months the flats and the locals round here have seen Nazi scrawlings appear, as if by magic—such as 'Come back Hitler, all is forgiven' and 'Hitler had plans for Notting Hill'.

Having fought for this country, I brought this to the attention of neighbours and people in the various locals



NAZIS OFF THE STREETS stickers, printed in three colours, black, green and red. Three sheets of 12 for 50p, 7 sheets for £1, post free from Flame, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Cash with order only.

around here—but have myself been downcast.

Last Saturday topped the lot for me. I was trapped in the lift between floors for four hours—an experience made worse because I've been waiting for a gall bladder operation for 14 months.

A young boy said he would tell my wife of my dilemma. But after another ten minutes there were screams of laughter and abuse, plus a National Front magazine

slipped into the lift. Some of the slogans shouted at me were: 'White trash', 'Nigger lover', 'Hope you use all your oxygen up' and 'It's a pity that North Sea gas is no longer toxic.'

Eventually the caretaker came and released me. I feel more shocked by these people than by being trapped in the lift for four hours.

God help us if they came to power!
□ MARTIN DUFFEY, Liverpool 8.



NOT SO EASY!

To the Editor, Neue Rheinische Socialist Worker

Dear Comrade Editor I always read your excellent paper, but am glad to see it try to explain my ideas.

But Chris Harman (Marxism made easy, 1 October) gets a couple of things wrong.

He says I began working out my ideas in the late 1840s, when actually it was the early 1840s. I still like some of the stuff I wrote around 1843-4.

There is some Frenchman called Louis Althusser who is putting it about that as I grew up I stopped believing in freedom, but when I wrote to protest it turned out he couldn't read me.

Second, what I actually said was: 'It is not consciousness that determines being, but social being that determines consciousness' (my emphasis). It might not matter to Chris, but it does to me.

Still, keep trying. Up the revolution!
Yours fraternally,
KARL MARX, (Highgate underground section).

□ EDITORS NOTE: Have you thought about joining our organisation? Your talents would be very useful.

Rank and file in the bakeries? But how?

THE BAKERY workers' strike is a dead horse by now. Even then, after having a look at the article written by my mate Ian Robertson (SW, 17 September) I became rather perplexed to think how 'rank and file can win'.

The strike had been made national and the picketing was made successful by rank and file. Then the leaders went out to stop the flour pickets and 'rank and file' agreed to stop, there being no convincing reason for this.

□ □

On the Friday night Sam Maddox, the Bakers Union general secretary, after coming out from the Arbitration Service headquarters spoke courageously in favour of the workers' cause, but on the Monday night he agreed on just what the employers dictated. But why?

These questions strike my mind;

Was this strike at all necessary to realise the workers' demands? Or was it necessary for the office bearers of the Bakers Union to bring them into importance while the TUC Congress was in session?

Couldn't this dispute have been settled by negotiations?

Was it not necessary for the union officials to keep in mind the terms of the Social Contract before taking any action?

Is it not obligatory for the office bearers of the union to compensate the loss sustained by poor, innocent workers due to the hasty decision of the officials?

Now is the right time for the rank and file to concentrate their energy to outvote the fake union leaders and set up a new team of wise people to replace this condemned team altogether. If this can be done then the interest of the workers can be safeguarded.

□ FAKHAR HOSSAIN ILLAHI (Bakers, Food and Allied Workers Union member), Cardiff.

THANKS FROM BATCHELORS

ON BEHALF of the shop stewards and all members in the TGWU 9/150 branch who took part in the recent strike of Batchelors production workers, may I say a big thank you for the wonderful help received from so many Socialist Workers Party members.

During the nine-week dispute their presence

both on and off the picket line in terms of financial help and morale was invaluable. In these terms I should like to mention in particular Simon Turner, who was tireless in his efforts on our behalf.

□ BRETT TAYLOR, acting treasurer, TGWU 9/150 branch, Sheffield.

No, no, no! That's 'Churchianity'

LYN HOPKINS (SW, 1 October) confuses 'Churchianity' with Christianity, in her burning article. Let her read the copies of the original Christian documents we now possess in the pages of the New Testament.

From that base of knowledge, she can then do a constructive attack upon those who purport to be Christians.

Whatever would she think of me if I were to write that socialism is all about what happened in the Soviet Union during the years of the Terror? Would she not think me a very ignorant man? One who allows the bourgeois press to brainwash me?

Well, in like manner I consider she is ignorant.

It is due to the dilatory men who sit in our churches. If they were to rise up and preach the Gospel, the ignorance that prevails among folk like Lyn Hopkins would be swept away. But they are just as anti-Christian as Lyn Hopkins, in many cases.

I trust that you will submerge the awful antipathy you feel towards religion to allow me this reply? Should you refuse, I must form the conclusion that religious people would be refused a hearing in any society in which you get power.

□ H C MULLIN, Glasgow C2.

Christian politics

LYN HOPKINS (SW, 1 October) says that Christianity is 'absurd and reactionary' and then quotes facts to prove it. What about the many active socialists who are well aware of the crimes committed in the name of Christianity and the

questions of historical truth about Jesus himself—and yet continue to be practising Christians?

Are we simply to dismiss them as misguided fools or shouldn't we look more closely at the strength they gain from their beliefs—a strength which when converted into action has done much in protecting and promoting human rights throughout the world?

Christians and socialists have a lot to learn from each other but for so long each has been too ready to see the other automatically as a mortal enemy.

Unfortunately Lyn's article only reinforces narrow-minded bigotry which belongs to the very Dark Ages she so rightly condemns.

□ NICKY DUNNE, Moray House, Edinburgh.

Dark Age bigotry

I AM positively shocked by the standard of Lyn Hopkins' article condemning Christianity (SW, 1 October). Some of her arguments are even more difficult to accept than the Christian faith itself!

However the best point she makes is that the Roman Emperor Constantine 'adopted the Christian faith as a political manoeuvre to keep control of the Empire.'

This should be applied to all the so-called 'Christian' political leaders down through the ages, who encouraged the Crusades, the Inquisition, and the burning of nine million women as 'witches'. They used Christianity to further their own ends and therefore could hardly be considered genuine Christians.

Hence it is unfair to condemn Christian faith itself, but rather the misinterpretation and misuse of it.

We may rightly condemn the policies of the Catholic Church, but does this invalidate the message of Christ himself if it is genuinely effected in a person's life?

□ DAVE GREENFELD, Uxbridge, Middlesex

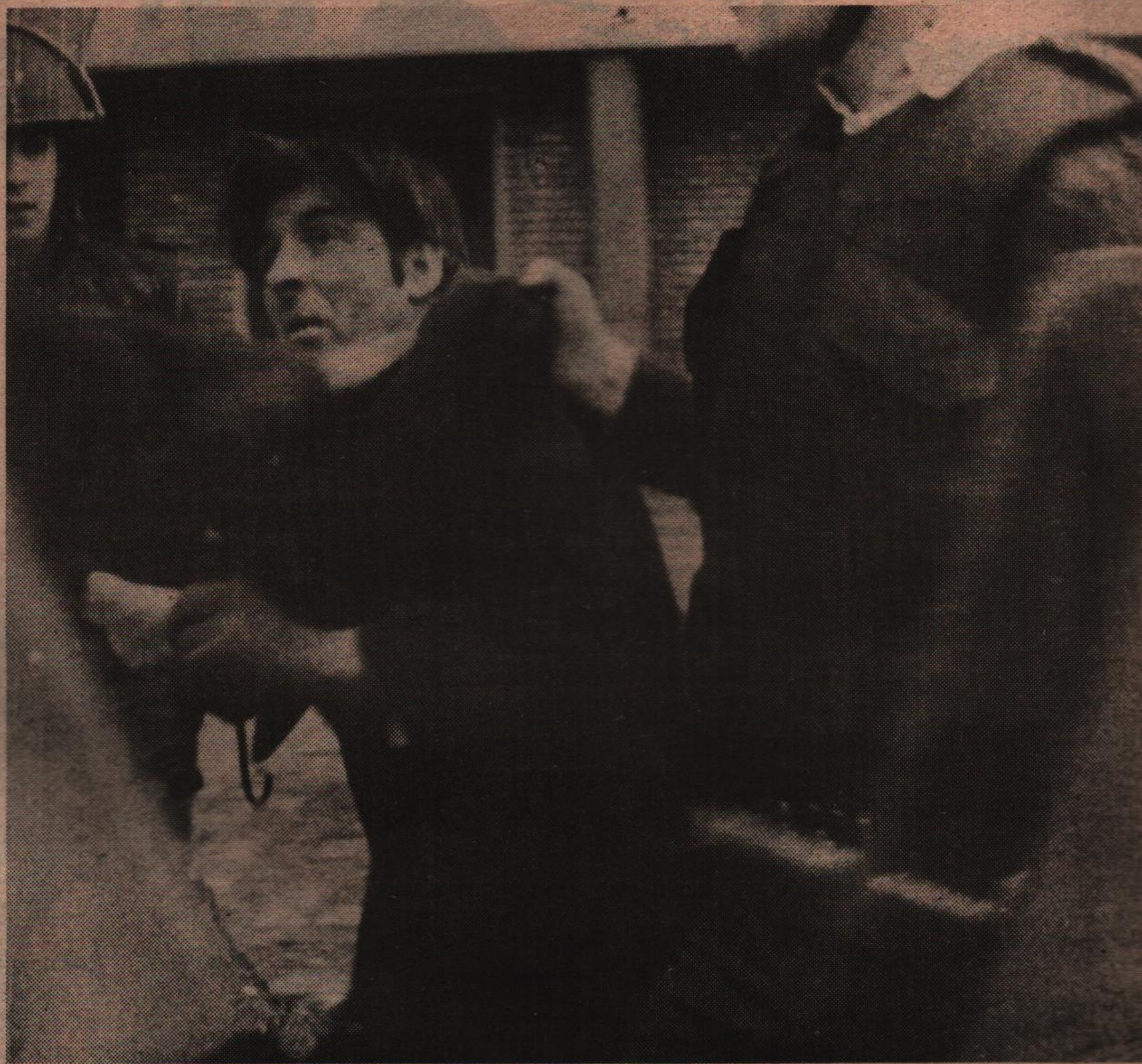
LESSONS OF LEWISHAM IN DEFENCE OF VIOLENCE



International Socialism 101 40p (inc postage) from 6 Cottons Gardens London E2 or 30p from your Socialist Worker seller.

Yes, the British army do terrorise people

by W SELICK
ex-Royal Greenjackets



Belfast 1974—from the documentary film *Ireland behind the Wire*.

THERE have been many articles in Socialist Worker about British Army brutality in Ireland. For those who do not completely believe them I would like to give some true instances which I myself witnessed.

In 1971 I was posted with my unit, the first battalion Royal Greenjackets, to Belfast Mulhouse barracks.

My first encounter with army brutality was when a mobile patrol came under nail bomb attack, and the patrol lifted a man who they thought might have been the thrower.

Stomach

I was watching the company TV when he was dragged into the camp. He was shown to all the others in the TV room.

He was then taken into the passageway, and was repeatedly hit in the stomach and balls with rifle butts. Then the rest of the soldiers joined in with their fists and boots.

He then had his fingers broken by a corporal who jumped on them while two others held his arms out. All this happened within about ten

minutes of him being dragged in.

He was then taken to the HQ (Eschelon) and was not heard of since.

There were rumours that he died from shock after being stood up against a wall and had a 9mm pistol fired directly above his head. This I must admit was not confirmed...

The other instance was while I was on a foot patrol in the Catholic area of Belfast. We encountered a small group of kids who began to throw bottles and so on at their oppressors, and as usual the army over-reacted. Before long there was a rather larger crowd.

After a while there were a few shots fired at the army and I was ordered to search, with two others,

some back alleyways. I then witnessed my second helping of oppression.

A boy of about 16 was stopped in an alleyway by an NCO who was pointing his rifle at him and telling the boy that he was going to kill him. He kept asking the boy—who by this time had a dark patch down his jeans and was shaking a lot—what it felt like to know that you're going to die any moment.

Officer

The NCO kept this up for about five minutes, then told the boy to go away (in different words, of course).

The boy went to his father, who went to the commanding officer

In DEATH OF A SOLDIER, on this page last week, a Republican prisoner in Northern Ireland's Long Kesh Camp described how unemployment and the bullying of the system brings working-class lads to serve the Establishment they hate by joining the army. This week an ex-soldier, W Sellick, formerly of the Royal Greenjackets, describes his tour of duty in Northern Ireland.

that same day—who instantly denied everything.

If only the British public, especially the parents of soldiers serving over the water, realised that their sons do terrorise the local people.

Brainwashed

They do shoot innocent people. They do smash up homes at 4 o'clock in the morning, simply because they are bored with the foot patrol, or they just want to pass the time.

And, last but not least, they do terrorise the Catholic community because they are methodically brainwashed with propaganda of all types, before they do their four-month duty over there, into believing that all Catholics are Provos. I am Church of England, by the way.

I only wish that I had realised how wrong it all is, and that the people of Ireland are sick and tired of British oppression in their own country... But I'm afraid I was just another brainwashed soldier like the rest of them.

I hope you print this, and let people realise what is happening out there, and not to believe anything they read in the daily papers or what they hear on the TV or radio. Because they will only hear what the government wants them to hear.

BRITAIN OUT OF IRELAND!

FIFTY British trade unionists, all delegates from labour movement bodies, went to Ireland last year to see repression at first hand.

Since their return the delegation have published an important pamphlet on their trip. Now they are organising a conference, titled 'Britain out of Ireland: How and When?'

They believe Irish people must be able to determine their own future free from the interference of British guns. The conference will be an opportunity to debate those beliefs and the situation in Ireland among an audience drawn from the labour movement.

To participate, you don't have to agree with the delegation's conclusions, just be willing to come and take part in the argument.

Conference details and Labour Movement Delegation to Ireland report available from 1 North End Road, London W14.



Did Special Branch frame Peter Grimes?

THE Prevention of Terrorism Act has been used by the Special Branch to pick on the organiser in Britain of an Irish socialist organisation.

Peter Grimes is an organiser for the Irish Republican Socialist Party. Last September his flat in East London was raided by the police for firearms. They found only a toy pistol that had been left behind by Pete's young nephew.

That didn't stop the police taking Grimes to Bethnal Green police station, where the Special Branch offered him money in return for the names, addresses and phone numbers of IRSP members. When Pete refused, he was warned that he could get into a 'lot of trouble'.

Then, at the beginning of May, he was contacted by a man who called himself Con Mallon. Mallon donated money to

the IRSP, sold its paper and said he was interested in forming a support group for the party in Kent.

As an organiser for the party, Grimes went down to see Mallon, who claimed he was an ex-paratrooper who had been thrown out of the army for questioning British policy.

Then, towards the end of August, Pete was arrested at work in a park in East London. For seven days he was held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, subject to constant interrogation—four hours of questioning, three hours rest, four hours of questioning and so on.

The Special Branch were particularly interested in the meeting with Mallon back in May, but also wanted informa-

tion on militants, including members, of the Socialist Workers Party on the Irish question in Britain.

The police also held Pete's father and girl friend for four days without charging them.

Finally, Pete was charged with having had 'information which he knew might be of material assistance in preventing acts of terrorism' and not reporting it to the police. This was based on a police allegation that Pete knew that Mallon had rifles and explosives buried in his front garden.



Pete is now out on bail, but has to report every evening to the police station and is forbidden to have any contact with his party.

This means that the IRSP has been deprived by the police of its national organiser in this country. And this situation could last for up to a year, as he waits for the case to come to trial.

The police are pressurising him to plead guilty with threats of more serious charges if he doesn't.

Since Pete's arrest it has come to light that Mallon's real name is Harry Driver and he was never in the Paras.

The IRSP are convinced that Pete has been framed by the Special Branch, although it is not clear whether Mallon/Driver was simply being used by the Special Branch or was an agent-provocateur.

Since the Prevention of Terrorism Act was introduced three years ago,

allegedly to stop bombings, 3000 people have been held under it. Of these only 11 have actually been charged with 'terrorist' offences under the Act.

As Pete's case shows, it has been used to intimidate those involved in the political fight against the presence of the British army in Northern Ireland. It seems it is also being used to enable the Special Branch to compile lists of names and addresses of British socialists and trade unionists.

Messages of support and donations to Pete Grimes Defence Committee, c/o 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

Support the picket of Old Street Magistrates Court, London, E2, 9.30am this Friday, 14 October.

BRITAIN OUT OF IRELAND—HOW AND WHEN?

Labour Movement Delegate Conference Saturday 19 November, 10am-5.30pm, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1. Credentials £1 per delegate.

Sponsors include: Phil Flynn (deputy general secretary, LG&PSU, Ireland), Matt Merrigan (Dublin district secretary, ATGWU), Ernie Roberts (AUEW), Aidan White (NUJ executive committee), Paul Foot (NUJ), Dick North (NUT executive), Mick McGrath (CPSA national committee) (all in personal capacity), TGWU 1/281.

Organised by NLDMI, 1 North End Road, London W14.



LEGALISED TERROR—THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM ACT: A new pamphlet, written by Steve Berry (SWP Irish committee), 10p a copy (plus 8p postage) from SW Distributors, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. More than 10 copies, post free.

GEC

1700 out for 30 per cent

by ALUN MARSHALL
SOUTH WALES: At GEC's factories at Hirwaun and Merthyr, 1700 workers have been out on strike since 16 September. They are fed up with disgustingly low wages from one of the richest set of bosses in the country.

Take-home pay on average is between £30 and £35, and many labourers have to claim Family Income Supplement so that their children can eat. GEC made £278 million profit last year. It has cash assets of £470 million, and managing director Arnold Weinstock paid himself a dividend of £600,000.

GEC are offering 10 per cent for Phase 3. The workers want at least 30 per cent.

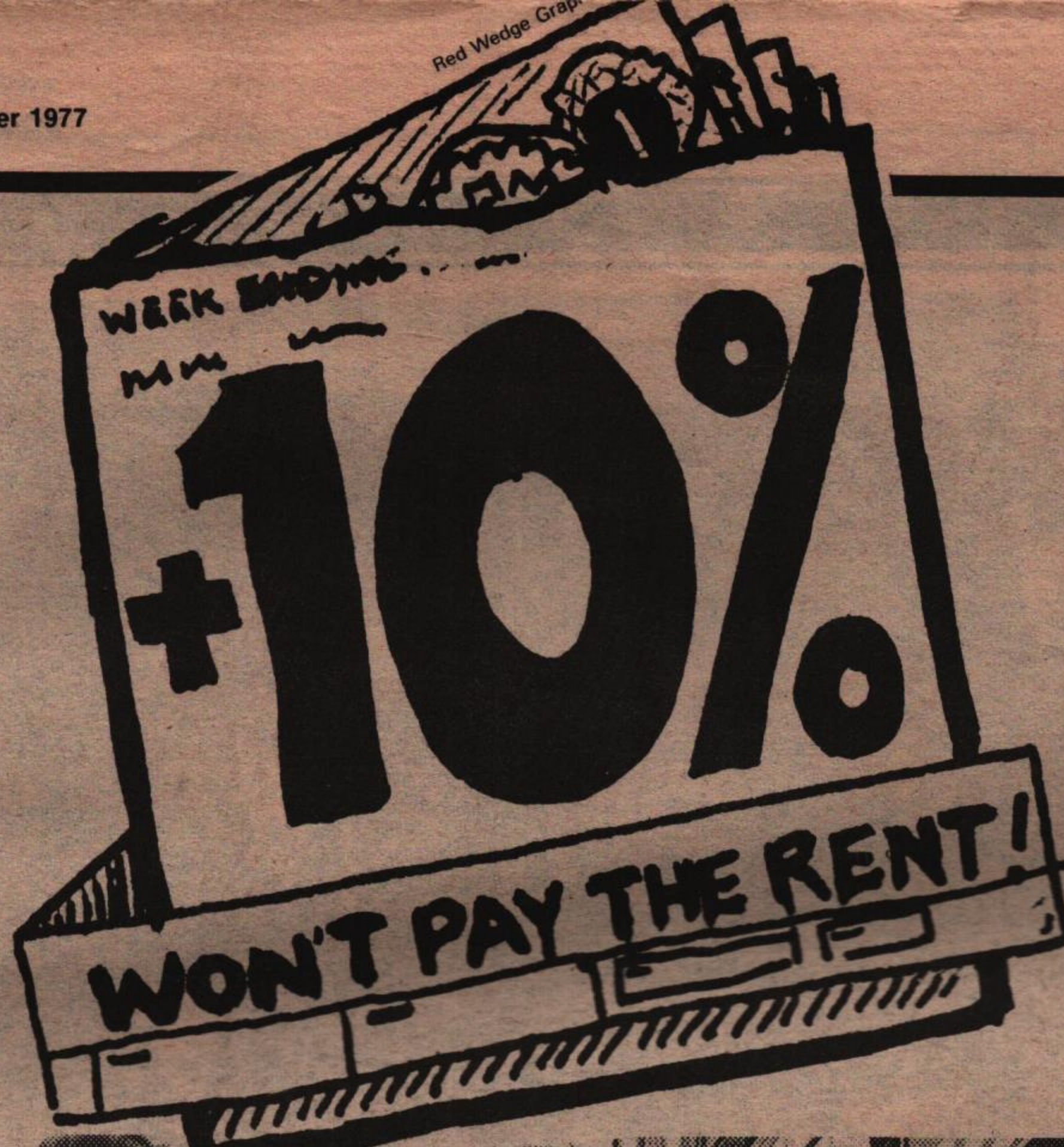
Return

On the Tuesday after the strike decision, the well-known comedy duo of Clarke and Cahill, Electricians and Plumbers Union area officials, called a meeting for union officials to tell their members to get back to work.

They had 'worked something out' with the management, said the officials, but the only way to find out what was to return to work. The vast majority did not agree, and the officials' recommendation was slung out.

The factories are miles away from anywhere, and pickets are costing a lot of money. Money is vital.

Donations and messages of support to: GEC strike fund, 31 Clifton Street, Aberdare, Mid-Glamorgan.



Strikers on the picket line at the Hackney British Oxygen depot this week.

BRITISH OXYGEN

'We want some of that £87m profit'

'WE'RE stronger than the miners, and just as determined. We're just not interested in ten per cent. We want to live at least as well as we did three years ago'.

John Walsh, convenor at British Oxygen's depot in Hackney, East London, was speaking for 3,200 hourly-paid workers in 46 British Oxygen plants up and down the country.

On Monday morning almost all the workers in all these plants answered their shop stewards' call for a strike

Picture: John Sturrock (Report)

for a £20 wage rise plus increases in shift allowances and consolidation of the past two years' wage rises.

Micky Boulter, a shop steward at Hackney and secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union branch, put it simply: British industry just can't run without oxygen and the other gases which we make in these depots.

'If we stay solid and if we persuade the dockers to black all oxygen imports, we'll shut the country down within a week.'

The British Oxygen strike is the most threatening yet to the government's 10 per cent limit on wage rises. The workers have had the £6, and the 4 per cent.

Their new 'Phase 3' pay rise was due on 26 September. Even the TUC agrees that they are free to negotiate whatever rise they like.

Deals

Micky Boulter says: 'We, the workers, put this Labour government in. We've given two years of our lives to keep them there.'

'Now we only live one life. It's no good thinking there's another life some place else. It's this life that matters, and we're not going to throw it all away.'

John Walsh says: BOC have just made profits of £87 million pounds. Eighty-seven million!

'They admitted to us that they made £8½ million profit just from the fall in the value of the pound. That's enough to pay our wage rise two and a half times over!'

'They've got a director called Dick Taverne—you know, the man who used to be Labour MP. They pay him £25,000 a year for fixing up share deals with American companies.'

Luck

'Taverne couldn't do our job. He couldn't produce the gases for industry.'

What about other workers? Won't they 'breach the dam' if British Oxygen workers win?

'Yes, they probably will,' says Micky Boulter. 'And good luck to them if they do.'

It's time the workers did start winning back some money, not just for the ones in work either, but for all those old people and all those out of work who need more money.'

John Walsh and Micky Boulter are typical of the new mood which has swept through the British Oxygen combine.

Ten years ago, a paternalist management ran the workers' affairs in all the plants. Regional controllers could buy off the stewards with regular drinks and sandwich parties.



If you doubt the determination of the British Oxygen workers, listen to these women. They are Sadie Bean (top) and Edie Dye and they run the canteen at the Hackney depot.

Last July, the management suddenly stopped paying 'coverage' money for the overtime worked to fill in for holidays and sickness. £30 was lopped off their monthly pay packets.

'They went for us because they thought we girls wouldn't get any support from the men,' says Edie.

They had another think coming. Unanimously, the 137 male workers voted to go on indefinite strike until the money was paid. They stayed out for two weeks, losing British Oxygen £750,000 worth of production.

The management collapsed. The women got £40 tax free, and agreed to make then hourly-paid workers.

So now they are out on strike again, and proud of it. 'What is it that they say?' asks Sadie. 'United we stand, divided we fall. We've found it out in practice'.

BREWERY: 500 out

GLSGOW: At Tennent Caledonian's Wellpark Brewery 500 workers are out for more pay. The huge Bass Charrington empire—profits £11 million in Scotland alone—suddenly found they couldn't afford to pay an extra £8.95 under a productivity deal.

Clews, regional secretary of the men's union, the General and Municipal Workers, has lived up to form by ordering them back to work. But Harry Walker, branch secretary in the brewery, says: 'We're staying out, official or unofficial'.

Hotels: £50 call

THE REVOLT of hotel workers against their sell-out by the unions at the Wages Councils for the industry is starting at the Metropole Hotel in West London.

The Wages Council raised the basic pay from £30 to £34. John Bruce, General and Municipal Workers Union steward at the hotel, says this is nothing like enough for hotel workers to stay alive.

'We want £43 for service workers and £50 for non-service workers who don't get tips' he says.

Lily Hansen, shop steward

for the housekeeping staff, said: 'We take home about £20 a week. We don't get any extra pay for covering for sick workers'.

The Metropole is owned by AVP Industries, which was bought up by the big international speculators Lonrho for £25 million earlier this year.

Harold Poster, chairman of AVP, has called the strikers 'a disgrace to the nation'. This parasite earns more in a day than the starvation wages he pays to the people who make his profits for him in a week.

ROLLS: 700 NALGO: Action!

on strike

by ANNA POTRYKUS

NORTH WEST LONDON: At Rolls Royce, Mulliner Park Wards, 700 workers are in the fifth week of a strike for a 17 per cent increase.

The Sheet Metal Workers Union and the Furniture Trades Union have made the strike official, but the Transport and General are still holding out.

Messages and donations to: Ron Buck, 2 Lucas Avenue, Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 9UJ.

'IN 1975, before the Social Contract, I got a rise of £3 a week. The principal officer in my department got £18'.

That remark from Nigel Cresswell, a clerk who works for Essex County Council, tells you a lot about NALGO, the local government workers' union. Half the union's members earn less than £55 a week—but the union's members earn less than £55 a week—but the union is run by people who earn twice as much as that.

Now the government is saying that public service workers can't have a rise of more than 10 per cent.

We need to get control of our own union and fight for decent wages. That will give us the confidence to fight for the services which we run and which the government intends to ruin.

NALGO ACTION GROUP has launched a campaign for £15 on our wages—now! We want a special conference to start a fight on this demand.

So make sure your NALGO branch votes to support the £15 call. We need 50 branches before we can get the special conference.

Rents protest

A MEETING of 250 people in Northampton last Thursday called for a demonstration outside the Town Hall on Monday night, where the Tory Council is meeting to finalise details of rent rises.

It was also agreed, as a last resort, to refuse to pay any increases.

Socialist Worker

Please rush me my weekly copy of Socialist Worker. I enclose a cheque/postal order made payable to Socialist Worker for

£7 for one year

£3.50 for six months

£1.75 for three months

(Please tick) to pay subscriptions and postage, so start sending them to:

NAME

ADDRESS

BLOCK CAPITALS

When completed post to Socialist Worker Subscriptions, Circulation Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN

Subscribe!

RANK AND FILE DIARY



£15 NOW! A new pamphlet from the NALGO Action Group. 5p each, plus 7p postage (post free for orders over 20). '£15 now!' stickers: 1p each, 12p for sheet of 12. Available now from NAG, 61b Farleigh Road, London N16.

CALLING ALL RAILWAY WORKERS! Urgent conference to build a rank and file organisation on the railways, weekend 15-16 October, Trades Club, Saville Mount (off Chapeltown Road), Leeds 7. Saturday 11.30am prompt: The need for a rank and file movement, building local Railway Worker groups, the national Railway Worker paper. Disco in evening. Sunday 10.30am-2.30pm: Wage claims 1977, cuts and the White Paper, Railway Worker programme, health and safety. Accommodation can be arranged, contact Rank and File Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4, in advance.

BENEFIT, with disco Friday 28 October, 8pm, The Roebuck, Tottenham, Court Road, London WC1, in aid of ACTSS Legal Workers Branch (nearest tube Warren Street). Tickets 50p in advance from Nic Madge, 41 Durham Road, London N7 or 75 door.

MANCHESTER Chile Committee/Salford Trades Council invite comrades to a CHILE SOCIAL: Friday 14 October, 8pm, Sogat Club, Great George Street, Salford. Admission 40p.

POLISH WORKERS DEFENCE CAMPAIGN Bulletin No 3 out now. 5p each plus postage, from PWDC, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

COLLEGE RANK AND FILE meeting: Why we need a Special Salaries Conference. Sunday 16 October, 7.30pm, The Plough, Museum Street, London, WC1. ALL NATFHE members welcome.

PUBLIC SECTOR PAY CONFERENCE: Saturday 16 October, 10am to 1pm, Digbeth Civic Hall, Digbeth, Birmingham. For £55 a week minimum wage, 35-hour week with no loss of pay. Open to all public sector delegations and shop stewards from Birmingham and area. Observers welcome. Further information c/o 33 Cyril Road, Small Heath, Birmingham.



SHOP FLOOR, paper of rank and file members of the Union of Shop Distributive and Allied Workers. No 1 out now. Price 5p, but all donations welcome. Obtainable from 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4. Make cheques and postal orders payable to Shopfloor.

Bluemels stop SWITCHGEAR: The battle starts

COVENTRY: 160 women workers at Bluemel Brothers, Wolston, have entered the second week of their strike for equal pay. The women, who make components for cars and bicycles, are fighting for the same grading as men doing the same jobs.

Messages of support to Mary Taylor, (AUEW convenor), 5 Bagshaw Close, Ryton-on-Dunsmore, Warwickshire.

EATONS: It's a lock-out

MANCHESTER: 700 engineering workers at Eatons Transmissions, at Walkden, have been locked out—for producing 'only' 100 per cent. The managing director has demanded double this.

Instead he got a ban on overtime. Two weeks ago he locked all the workers out. Dole is not being paid, pending a test case.

Eatons used to be third in the Bolton wages league. Now they are 15th.

BIRMINGHAM: Four years, the workers at Bill Switchgear, part of the giant Delta group, have had to put up with shockingly low wages and disgusting condition! Now at last a fight is starting.

The skilled workers have been out on strike against a management offer of 6 per

cent. The only way the bosses could beat their strike was to divide the workers by claiming that the skilled men's strike was hitting at a higher offer—9 per cent—made to the unskilled workers.

This trick—the Switchgear management have never cared a hoot for the low-paid worker—worked. A secret ballot among the workers voted against the strikers, who were then forced back to work.

The strikers are angry with the bosses, and it can't be long before all the workers, skilled and unskilled, see through the trick that has been played on them and unite to fight back.

FORD'S - THE LOWEST PAID CARWORKERS IN EUROPE

OFFICIAL EETPU STRIKE SHOCK!

SHEFFIELD: Yes it's an official dispute in the electricians union—a rare event.

It's over union recognition. This time it's not George Ward of Grunwicks who's refusing it, but the British Steel Corporation, a nationalised industry.

For three years, 11 members of the EETPU have been fighting for recognition at Brook House Works, part of BSC Orgreave, where high-grade coke is produced.

Management have refused to allow shop stewards to represent these men, although they allow the Orgreave EETPU to negotiate on their behalf.

After a verbal agreement on recognition was withdrawn over opposition from the Transport and General Workers Union, all 37 EETPU members walked out on strike. They started picketing both the Orgreave and Brook House works.

Unfortunately TGWU members inside the plants have been misled into opposing recognition. Laurence Lee, one of the EETPU strikers said:

"It is misguided that trade unionists from another organisation are unable to recognise the common enemy and are drawn into conflict among themselves."

Resolved

"This is now going to the TUC Disputes Committee and I hope it will be resolved quickly so as to avoid layoffs for TGWU members."

So what are the BSC up to? Orgreave managing director Edward Summers is also a co-director of Stavelly Chemicals and Vinatex, who produce plastics and chemicals near Chesterfield.

And it just so happens that the by-products from Orgreave are supplied to none other than Stavelly Chemicals and Vinatex.

It looks as if management have provoked an inter-union dispute to damage plant organisation and maybe even sell off the BSC plant to Stavelly Chemicals or Vinatex.

The strikers are getting good support throughout the steel industry in Sheffield, but many have families and need the maximum solidarity.

Donations and messages of support to: Michael Hughes, 5 Birch Close, Killimarnock, Sheffield.

Funeral men call it off

THE FUNERAL workers have gone back to work—with very little. They have accepted £2.75 on top of their Stage 2 increase for agreeing to work during their lunch hour when called upon to do so.

As one striker told Socialist Worker: "It's 55p for missing a meal each day, and they get another job done and charge someone £300 for it."

By the Ford Dagenham, SWP Branch

THE LOWEST-PAID carworkers in Europe—that's Ford's workers in Britain.

A look around the employees' car park will tell you more about wages and inflation than half a dozen speeches from Chancellor Healey. You'll have to search hard to find any shiny new Cortinas or Fiestas.

Along with other car manufacturers, Ford put up their prices every 90 days. Price rises in the last year have totalled 25.8 per cent. In the same period, our wages have risen by 3½ per cent.

Our position has got worse and worse. Our wages are worth just three-quarters of their value three years ago.

Output has risen by 20 per cent in the last two years, but the number on the pay roll is about the same.

In other words, while our wages have fallen, we are working harder.

The only people to benefit are the company. Profits last year were £121 million. This year they will be in excess of £220 million.

You may have read in the newspapers about how our claim will break through the government's 10 per cent pay limit. Outside Ford's, it may look like we're well off.

But to us the claim our leaders are fighting for looks pretty shoddy, never mind the deal that finally emerges.

The two national union officials leading the claim, Moss Evans of the Transport and General, and Reg Birch of the Engineers, say it is 'socially responsible'.

As Moss Evans keeps saying, the claim for a maximum of 15 per cent, is for less than the rise in the cost of living.

It also means that a strike of more than two weeks to win the claim, doesn't make sense because we would never get back the money we would lose on strike.



That's why we have to argue for support for the whole claim. It includes new lay-off guarantees, a 37½ hour week, sick pay, better holidays and more holiday pay, better shift allowances and so on.

The trouble is the list has led to some confusion about what is being really pushed in the negotiations.

The best claim would have been for £15 and a 35 hour week as some shop stewards argued in the Spring.

But, as Leyland workers would do well to notice, our claim is negotiated nationally by a committee dominated by full-time national officials and senior full-time convenors.

The rank and file, including shop stewards, have to follow negotiations by reading the newspapers.

But however 'socially responsible' the claim is, there is a bright side. It does seem that Ford workers will get more than the ten per cent.

It may not be much more, but the government is too frightened of Henry Ford to enforce the ten per cent limit.

And if Ford workers can get more, so can other workers.

delegates earlier this year of £55 a week, or by NUPE of £50 a week.

Instead, the claim was merely for a "substantial increase."

The local authority workers' claim has always been used a month later as the basis of the ancillary hospital workers' claim.

But if this wasn't bad enough, the public sector unions (with the exception of the TGWU which doesn't even pretend to fight the cuts) have just launched "an Autumn offensive" against the cuts with no teeth.

Its main features are a petition and a lobby.

They claim: £71 a week for Ford's Dagenham

40.00	00.00	1.469	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.09	0.00	60.85
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.75	3.49	1.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000.02	0.07			39.90

They pay: £39 after stoppages for an 40-hour week

Lousy wages? — I'll invest

THE Government is showing no enthusiasm for trying to persuade Ford not to pay more than the ten per cent limit they have been enforcing elsewhere.

The newspapers claim this is because the government does not want Ford to change their decision to build a new engine plant in South Wales, on the borders of the Prime Minister's constituency.

The government and the newspapers greeted the decision about the new engine plant as a 'great tribute to the

strength of British industry'. Callaghan declared that it showed 'we have turned the corner at long last.'



The truth is rather different. The new engine plant is costing £185 million. For Ford, with its huge profits from operations all over the world, this is a trifle.

But the government was so anxious to get the plant, and stop it being built in Germany, Spain or the Republic of Ireland, that it decided to pay

£70 million of its cost. The Sunday Times calculated that this meant paying out £31,500 for each of the 2,500 jobs created.

In fact the real figure for each job created is nearer double this. One effect of the new engine plant will be redundancies at Ford Dagenham.

A shop steward told Socialist Worker: 'There has been no official statement but it looks like they will try to get rid of between 1,000 and 1,400 jobs.'

Henry Ford was also impressed by the low wages paid to British Ford workers. In Spain, in Southern Ireland, in Germany, Ford workers are paid more and are better off.

In Ford Dagenham, a B Grade worker gets a basic £1.52 an hour. The equivalent figures, allowing for purchasing power, are £1.82 in Cork, and £2.07 for Germany.



So when Henry Ford looked around for his new plant he found a generous British Labour Government, prepared to pay out money to a rich multi-national, and he found the worst-paid carworkers in Europe.

He also found cowardly trade union leaders. In August Henry Ford held secret talks with Jack Jones of the Transport Union, and Hugh Scanlon of the engineers. Both admit the meetings took place, neither will say what happened.

But whatever they said, they seem to have reassured Henry Ford that Britain was a good place for multi-national gangster corporations to invest.

SCABBING-BY ORDER

By Dave Siddle

BOLTON: Why have Courtaulds and several other strike-bound employers in the Bolton area been able to hold out?

The answer is simple—the treachery of officials of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades.

J Derry, Assistant SOGAT Secretary for the Bolton area, has sent letters to Radcliffe Paper Mill and Stirling Mansell and Charles Turners saying that any SOGAT members who do not cross the picket lines will be disciplined.

Strikers at Turners, British Gypsum and Radcliffe Paper Mills, all members of the same group, have realised the value of rank and file unity.

Presence

Pickets from the strikes and the Right to Work Campaign have provided a mass presence on all the lines.

CHARLES TURNER: Arrogant management have sacked seven strikers who had brought the papermill to a standstill by occupying the boilerhouse.

Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers District Secretary, Ken Dagnall, has promised the mass support needed to win this bitter struggle for a living wage.

So far management have only offered 10p an hour to be paid from next February backdated to December this year, a bloody sick joke if you



There were 60 people on the British Gypsum picket line one day last week—and 50 of them bought a copy of Socialist Worker.

remember that one of the electricians on £44 for a 40-hour week has to keep a wife and six children.

BRITISH GYPSUM: 150 Transport and General Workers Union and Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers members occupied the West Houghton plant last Wednesday after discovering management and scab staff were operating the production line during a strike.

Staff barricaded themselves into the offices and retreated

to the car park on Friday.

The strike was for a living wage—skilled men are on £1.40 an hour—and the derisory offer forced by the strike is £3, from a firm which is rich from exploitation of black workers in Rhodesia.

The offer was rejected and no-one will return to work until a joint settlement is reached.

Terry Taylor, TGWU shop steward, reckons a fair rate for the job is £72 a week, the sort of wage that the policies of Scanlon and his gaggle of

bureaucrats have made impossible.

So British Gypsum and other strikers, including Eatons of Walkden, are keen to pull out great numbers of workers to picket Scablon when he comes to Bolton on 12 October.

QUINTON HAZELL SILENCERS, Little Lever: Workers had to reoccupy to force management to pay them for time lost because of suspension and are now in a strong position to push for decent wages.

PUBLIC SECTOR: UNION BOSSES IN FULL RETREAT

by Steve Jeffreys

"FULL retreat!" That's the message coming from public sector union bosses.

The three biggest manual unions covering the public sector, the Transport and General, the General and Municipal, and the Public Employees, have all backed-track on pay.

The claim for nearly 1½ million local authority manual workers, some of the lowest paid workers in Britain, was submitted on 16 September.

Gone from the claim was the minimum wage demanded by GMWU Conference

demands: Stop the Cuts and End Low Pay.

The building of a united movement of public and private sector workers will be one of the main issues before the Rank and File Conference in Manchester on Saturday 26 November.

That took place on 17 November last year will definitely not be repeated.

Brother R. Bird, National Health Service Officer of ASTMS, has told his members that the 23 November lobby of Parliament "should not (his emphasis) be seen as an attempt to repeat the demonstration held last year."

They only want to bring the "total number of lobbyists up to 5,000" from all the unions involved.

23 November must become the date for mass action, including strike action and demonstrations, up and down the country around the

demands: Stop the Cuts and End Low Pay.

The building of a united movement of public and private sector workers will be one of the main issues before the Rank and File Conference in Manchester on Saturday 26 November.

That took place on 17 November last year will definitely not be repeated.

Brother R. Bird, National Health Service Officer of ASTMS, has told his members that the 23 November lobby of Parliament "should not (his emphasis) be seen as an attempt to repeat the demonstration held last year."

They only want to bring the "total number of lobbyists up to 5,000" from all the unions involved.

23 November must become the date for mass action, including strike action and demonstrations, up and down the country around the

JOIN THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY
Please send me more information
Name
Address
Trade union

Send to: National Secretary,
Socialist Workers Party & Cortina
Gardens, London E2 8DN

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p

Grunwicks: Let's make Monday another 11 July!

GET TO THAT PICKET LINE!

ARTHUR Scargill, President of the Yorkshire Miners, told the Grunwicks Strike Committee's public meeting at last week's Labour Party Conference:

Grunwick is a focal point in the history of our movement. But the Right Wing in our movement is doing its best to sabotage the strike.

There were two aspects of the Prime Minister's speech to the Labour Conference that were important. The first was that we were in for another year of wage restraint.

But the second was a deeper and more worrying section which was not reported in the press.

He said that we have to take necessary steps to give further powers to the police for dealing with certain situations. This must mean the Grunwick picketing.



In Scotland he made a speech saying we should all back the police, even if sometimes they were in the wrong. This means supporting the police interpretation of picketing.

I want to warn this audience that if we are defeated at Grunwick it is a terrible defeat for the whole movement.

I simply cannot understand the problem. Why can't this movement with its ten or eleven million members organise continuous picketing to put 10,000 people outside the factory all the time?

There ought to be members of the TUC General Council marching down Cooper Road at Grunwick. On the contrary it was the Yorkshire and South Wales miners who called the mass picket on 11 July.

The TUC deliberately drew that picket away by its march on that day. I spent two hours at TUC



11 July, the day the mass picket stopped the scabs' bus: let's make Monday another success

Headquarters with them trying to persuade me not to join the picket line.

Again I ask you: why cannot we cut off supplies?

Have our roadworkers lost the skill to dig up a road next to Grunwicks in bad need of repair?

After the recent spate of gas explosions, I'm sure the gas mains in that area are in need of repair.

If I could check the oxygen going in, I'd do that as well!

But if our leaders are not going to give a lead, then we'll have to do it ourselves. We need grassroots solidarity.

I tell you Saltley was not won by the AUEW Executive Council but by the engineering district committee in Birmingham.

DENNIS Skinner, Labour MP, Bolsover:

There is a point that hasn't been made. The George Wards are festering and flourishing on that human pile of misery of 1.6 million unemployed thrown out of work by a Labour government.

The Labour Executive and government should hang their heads in shame at what is happening. They just want Grunwick to fade

away—just like Clay Cross.

They cheered the Clay Cross Councillors all the way down the aisles at the Labour Party Conference in 1972 and where are they now?

Finished, that's where they are. Eleven of them are

bankrupt and 21 are prevented from standing for office.

I'm worried. I'm frightened to death. It's going to go the same way.

Don't rely on those in the top suite. They're not going to help us. Of course they

ARCHIE SINCLAIR, Secretary, Cricklewood Post Office Workers:

Any delegates from that Conference should be ashamed of what's happening over Grunwick. If you want to clear your conscience then move. Go back to where you came from and move. See you on the 17th.

could if they want. They can do anything in Parliament if they want to.

The Labour and Liberal MPs formed a pact in about half an hour when they wanted to save their own jobs. So why can't they save those of the Grunwick strikers?

They saved Maudling in just six hours. They protect all the financial swindlers in the country. So what about the strikers?

The Transport and General Workers' Union boasts nearly two million

members. Haven't you seen the adverts? Why don't they use some of this strength?

Tell 'em to join me and the Derbyshire miners on October 17th.

Make no mistake, this is a mammoth task. It's not some fishbone that can neatly be removed from the throat. We need a mighty effort.

We can pass a resolution tonight. But we're not going to put up our hands.

Shout it from the guts then do it from the guts: Get to that picket line!

Needed — a mighty effort