

THE WORKER



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FIGHT ALL CUTS RESIST THE DESTRUCTION OF BRITAIN

FIGHT £6 LIMIT

The AUEW is democratically committed to the defence of free collective bargaining. This is what, ever since the war, has been under attack as successive governments have brought in their wage freezes, incomes policies, guide lines and now the present Government's £6 flat rate limit. Capitalism can no longer afford free collective bargaining. The fight against it, therefore, is revolutionary. It is a fight the working class cannot shirk. There is no better measure of the slide toward the corporate state than the erosion of collective bargaining.

The AUEW, taking the same vanguard role as in the fight against the Industrial Relations Act, will have to reaffirm its total rejection of any compromise on the issue of free collective bargaining. The rest of the organised working class will have to rally its whole strength in taking this fight in defence of our standard of living from defence to attack.

Rolls Royce

Shop stewards at three Scottish factories, aero division of Rolls Royce 1971 are preparing a wage claim for rises up to £15 per week for 6000 manual workers whose present basic weekly wages range between £41 and £54 per week. This claim, the biggest drawn up by any group of workers since the Government's wage freeze of a maximum of £6 a week in any 12 month period, is being presented on October 21st.

The stewards claim they are acting within union policy which is to oppose any form of wage restraint, as most of the stewards and workers are members of the AUEW.

Last spring the stewards proposed strike action over a £12 per week interim settlement which was rejected by the membership. The basis of the present claim is parity with other Scottish Engineering workers and make-up for the increasing rate of inflation since last November. The present agreement runs out on November 18th. They are also demanding gradual moves towards the 37 days holiday that white collar workers enjoy instead of the 27 days received at present.

The management consulted the Government the last time stewards put in for an increase, and came back with the reply, that they would only discuss a productivity agreement. It seems likely that the employers will make the same offer again.

What is of supreme importance is the attitude of the membership

to the question of fighting for an increase in wages especially as by November it will be 12 months since they had an increase.

The question of asking for more than £6 or not is irrelevant. The real question is are workers prepared to engage in struggle for free collective bargaining, or are they going to stand idly by and have a steadily deteriorated standard of living.

Society of Civil Servants

Meetings throughout Britain have been called to discuss the Union's attitude to the £6 pay limit. The General Secretary of the Union has circulated a letter to the membership tentatively opposing the £6 limit, though what action, if any on this has yet to be determined. There is to be a meeting in London at the Grant Hall Central Hall on 29th October at 6.15 p.m.

Haringey teachers

The Haringey Teachers Association has declared its opposition to the Government's £6 pay policy. The Association sees the policy as an "effective wage cut" and has reminded the NUT executive that union policy calls for an improvement in living standards.

Hands off the AUEW

Fleet Street branch of the AUEW has passed a resolution completely rejecting the Government's £6 limit. They have also voted a resolution condemning the press for interfering in the internal affairs of the AUEW. Union democracy is the concern of engineers themselves and is not a subject for hacks and gossip writers.

THE FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK

Please see below announced intended redundancies at Beeston, Sunderland, South Shields and Liverpool, find that workers are refusing to meet them in any negotiations at all till they receive assurances on the score of job security.

A decision has been taken by stewards' committees to black all jobs declared redundant. This is also the call going out from a joint senior stewards meeting at Leeds representing Plessey, GEC and Standard Telephone and Cable.

The fight over redundancies is expected to escalate.

Railway unions at Liverpool have also instructed their members that they refuse to meet management till they get guarantees of no redundancy.

Editorial

The summit meeting planned on November 15 by the leaders of the six major industrial countries is nothing less than a declaration of war by monopoly capital on working people - wherever they may be. Ostensibly to discuss the economic crisis, its real purpose is to meet what the TIMES called the "challenge to the stability of social democracy" in the industrial countries.

Today we witness the breakdown of the post-war economic order. As the old order collapses, so a new one is established floating instead of fixed exchange rates, special drawing rights, a two-tiered gold standard. But the economic system, capitalism, stays intact, for the threat to the economic system comes not from recessions, high oil prices or exchange rates. It comes from the working class itself.

The history of capitalism is one of crisis following on the heels of crisis, with capitalism surviving even the greatest economic challenges. The Great Depression of the thirties was but an episode with World War II as an outcome. Recurring crises are accepted as part of official policy and the post-war stop-go policy is typical.

Here in Britain, the oldest industrial country, the crisis is most acute. The oldest working class in the world presents the greatest threat to 'social democracy'. Here the attacks upon the working class are most severe. Only in Britain is the ruling class planning the systematic destruction of industry, trade unions, health, education - the destruction of the whole nation.

In Britain too, the resistance against the ruling class is most advanced. The British working class, the creator of the trade unions, will be the initiator of revolution in industrial countries.



15,000 students, teachers and other trade unionists marched from Hyde Park on Tuesday 21st October to protest against appalling Government attacks on education. If this destruction of our education system is to be resisted, this must be the start of a determined all-out fight by the whole of our class.

THE FIGHT FOR HEALTH

Britain's Paper Industry

Threatened

The most recent section of industry to be abandoned by capitalism in its fight for greater profit abroad is paper.

The industry in North Kent, which used to supply a large part of Britain's total production, has been run down over the past few years. And now the Common Market Commission proposes to allow an import of over 1 million tons of newspaper into this country giving the capitalists an excuse to declare Britain's paper production industry unviable.

Meanwhile the jobs of thousands of workers in Sittingbourne, Swale, Medway and Gravesend will be threatened and, as union officials point out, so will those in industries dependent on paper to produce their goods. Workers in paper production will have to mobilise their fellow Trade Unionists in allied industries as well if threats of redundancies and short time are to be resisted.

LONDON FIGHTS CUTS

Hackney Protest

Housewives, health employees and other workers declared their unbending opposition to the proposed health cuts in Hackney. At a huge public meeting called by the Hackney Community Health Council on October 13th, Citizens of the borough flocked in their hundreds, packing out the hall and standing outside. They listened very patiently to the chairman of the City and East London Area Health Authority, who explained the planned cuts which involved the closure of the Metropolitan and German Hospitals, slashing of 20 per cent of posts in health work and the loss of 600 beds. He attempted to convince us that these changes would be to our benefit.

But speaker after speaker from the floor - even the Lord Mayor - denounced the proposals. The full iniquity of depriving this borough of health facilities was highlighted by figures showing that Hackney has one of the poorest public health records of the London boroughs. The message was shouted loud and clear, 'More not less health services for Hackney'.

The Chairman of the Health Authority tried to say that the size of the health service cake was limited and Hackney could only improve its provisions at the expense of others. What drive! A better health service is the right of all.

Royal Free

North London had to wait a long time for the New Royal Free Hospital to be built, and now it's ready, we won't be able to use it fully if its managers have their way. It was proposed that this hospital, one of the most modern in Europe, should be unused for 2 days out of 7 - a 5 day week. And as part of this plan the hospital management proposed to freeze all staff vacancies and cut overtime pay. A mass meeting of 250 nurses, ancillaries and doctors and technicians - people from every department - shot back their reply to this attack: rejection of the freeze on staff vacancies, refusal to co-operate in extra duties arising out of non-replacement, and opposition to cuts on overtime. The meeting decided to put on pressure by banning all work on private practice so depriving the DHSS of a handy source of income.

No redundancies

The hospital's Joint Union Committee gave short shrift to proposals by the District administrator that consultations be held on the implementation of the cuts. Nothing further could be discussed, they said, until they had guarantees of no redundancy and honouring of all overtime contracts. They added that the financial problems of the hospital should be solved by more money for the NHS from the Government.



This Government so cares for the health of the nation that it will designate hospitals 'uneconomic' and close them, will 'scrutinise' 'expensive' kidney units and heart surgery and decide them unnecessary.

In London alone 2 hospitals have been closed and 3 are due for closure. In one hospital district 1 in 23 jobs are to be chopped, entire wards are to be closed at staff holiday time and later permanently. 1974-75 saw £60 million lopped off the Health Budget, and a further £70 million cut is planned for 1975-76.

But we have no part in creating the economic crises of capitalism, so why should we tolerate the so-called 'curatives': a regression to the municipal hospitals of a century ago arising from the workhouses of the Poor Law.

Our aim is health - a lack of it leaves permanent scars on this and future generations. We will not succumb to the law of profit - we will not see our healthy working class subjugated.

Junior Hospital Doctors

Junior hospital doctors in increasing numbers and with growing unanimity across the country are voting with their feet and are supported by the consultants.

The doctors' new contract, while reducing their standard week from 80 to 44 hours, prevented any overall increase in the total wage bill so that pay for overtime was priced by redistributing payments made under the old system. This would have provided increased earnings for half the 19,000 doctors and a wage-cut for one third. The doctors are challenging Government plans to redistribute the inadequate NHS cake, and are demanding a different, larger cake.

However, the doctors, a section relatively new to struggle, in the face of increasing Government

attacks must go on and continue to develop the British Medical Association, their negotiating body, into a trade union more worthy of the name, with greater participation from ordinary members and a growing democratic structure, for greater strength and clarity will come from completely united organisation of all doctors. The time must come when doctors not only demand proper overtime payments, but also act on their demands for proper financing and staffing of the NHS, for no amount of overtime can make up for too few doctors, working with inadequate equipment in constantly deteriorating buildings.

The doctors in their present struggle deserve the support of the entire working class.

Examinations for foreign doctors

It is strange that just when the Government is cutting back on the NHS, they discover that our 13,500 foreign doctors don't know medicine and can't speak English. The Overseas Doctors Association is not against some kind of examination, but sees that they are now being used as a scapegoat for an

understaffed, underfinanced Health Service.

Doctors who do pass the examination are only given temporary registration for a specific job, and the drop in number of overseas doctors practising here caused by this examination merely amounts to yet another clever cut.

Agency nurses

Agency nurses have long been the weakest section of NHS workers and an effective brake on trade union organisation. The demand for an end to this form of 'lump' labour was therefore an important one, and the phasing out of agency nurses by the setting of low maximum pay rates, a great victory.

Yet the consequences of this seemingly progressive move are not yet decided, and depend entirely upon what NHS workers, supported by the entire working class, make of the new situation. The Government is using the

phasing out of agency nurses merely as another way of de-staffing the Health Service, as a result of which in London alone several hundred beds in categories ranging from geriatric wards to intensive care units will close.

The Government has no plans to make up for this covert, clever cut. But their tactics this time are too clever by half for this attack has left NHS nurses in a situation of increased strength and opportunity to organise themselves even more tightly against further attacks.

Vanishing patients

Not only can you cut profits at a stroke, but also cuts themselves. 'Many shortages in the Health Service could be overcome without spending more money' reports the Office of Health Economics. How? Demands for more money for the NHS could be reversed 'if ill health was less readily accepted

as unavoidable, and particularly as being the responsibility of the NHS rather than the individual'. (The Times).

It seems that the Government not only wants us to accept cuts in the NHS, but also to believe that we don't really need health care at all.

Sterilization Payments

Seemingly without negotiation or provocation the Government has magnanimously decided to pay surgeon gynaecologists £22 for each sterilization operation performed. Why? For years sterilizations have been part of every gynaecologist's operating list, and the Pill is now free. This payment can provide no advantage to NHS patients and

gynaecologists are disquieted since it may undermine patients' confidence in their advice. The advantage must therefore be to the Government, and the feeling amongst hospital doctors and consultants is that this is yet another attempt to split the profession by favouring one section, and divide and rule the NHS doctors.

RESOLUTION BY THE ASTMS NHS NATIONAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE AT THE INSTIGATION OF THE LONDON NHS DIVISION

'The effect of proposed further Government cutbacks in the NHS, Medical Research and Education expenditure is to threaten the physical and mental wellbeing of the entire population of Britain. Therefore this National Health Service Advisory Committee recommends that all branches ini-

tiate action against the Government's cutbacks and supports their action. We further ask the ASTMS National Advisory Committee and the Medical Research and University Sections to co-ordinate with us in a national demonstration with other ASTMS sections and unions initiating such actions.'

FIGHT FOR SCHOOLS

Oxford parents have taken up the fight against education cuts, and have been fighting the closure of their local primary school in Summertown for the last six months. Our children have the right to be educated where they live. All members of the community, old and young, realise the necessity to preserve our education system for our children and have responded actively to oppose the closure.

Many older citizens remember how hard they worked for over twenty years to raise money for the school to be built in 1931 and are not prepared to sit back and see bureaucracy take away what is theirs.

The strength of our organisation has been such that officers and councillors of the local authority have openly stated that they cannot give in to this type of 'pressure' as it may set a precedent for similar challenges in the future.

The 'professionals', as they call themselves to us, choose to

say the school is too small and substandard, and maintain that the children can be accommodated in other schools outside the area. In the course of our struggle we have seen through the hypocrisy of their arguments and their downright lies. What they call progressive reorganisation of education does not mean progress for our class. Large buildings, often with open plan classrooms to economise on staff and building materials, are not acceptable as substitutes for a good education.

The Labour Party has shown itself in its true light by the reactionary line it has taken on this issue. While busy implementing cuts all over Oxfordshire they argue that Summertown, in their eyes a 'middle class' area, must suffer to help the less privileged and less well organised. In fact we know as they do the only way to encourage others to oppose their particular closures, is to fight where we are and as hard as we can. This is how we can assist them.

WOMEN FIGHT FOR EQUAL PAY

At the Ipswich factory of Louis Newmark Instruments, four women caused all production to stop when nearly sixty shop-floor workers walked out in sympathy over the women's claim for equal pay.

Since April the women had been pressing for substantial increases on their rates of pay - £30 and £27. Meeting with no success they organised themselves and joined Tass. Union recognition was won and a claim put in for a move towards equal pay.

The rejection of this claim was followed by the threat of strike action. During further negotiations, the employers made it clear that an immediate review was out of the question, and tried to con the women into accepting this, insinuating, as employers often do, that the men on the shop floor would not support them, and promising them jam tomorrow.

The women set up their picket line outside the factory on October 6th and immediately exploded the employer's myth of 'no support'. AUEW stewards called a meeting, and an immediate stoppage was agreed to. By nine o'clock the factory was deserted and lorries and deliveries were being turned away.

Faced with such solidarity and determination, management upped their offer on the Tuesday and gave in completely on the Thursday. Yet another employer experienced what happens when women organize and take them on, determined to win and confident that the men will back them.

WAGES PRICE AND PROFIT

Inflation does not exist: wages, prices, profits and robbery certainly do! That is the conclusion to which any worker should come who is capable of a little simple arithmetic.

As the rate of price rises has increased, those who have been unwilling to face up to the consequences of opposing the £6 limit have been able to side step the issue either by wishful thinking or by pleading ignorance of the facts. There is, however, no excuse -- the message is quite clear. Not only have astronomical weekly rises in the prices of essentials become accepted as a matter of course but hard facts from government departments speak for themselves. Similarly recent calculations of the real value of wages (based on Department of Employment figures -- of a poor reflection of the real situation) testify to the rapid rate at which the working class is being robbed of hard won standards of living.

Robbery of the many, however, is the gain of a few: amidst the maelstrom of figures and economic mystery with which the inflation swindle has been cloaked, profits have been lost sight of altogether. (They are now to be burred from public gaze for ever by the proposals of the Sandilands Commission). In fact, as the rate of 'inflation' has increased so profits have grown out of all proportion, particularly amongst the giant companies which dominate Britain's economy.

Look at some simple statistics.

Prices: Dept. of Employment statistics show that the price of an average weekly shopping basket for a low income family with two children rose from £7.61½ in July 1974 to £10.63½ in July 1975 -- a rise of 39 per cent. The prices of some items have risen astronomically: 16lbs. of potatoes: up from 51½p. to 84½p. a rise of 190 per cent -- 7lbs. of carrots up from 26½p. to 47½p. a rise of 79 per cent.

As all prices during this period rose 26 per cent, many essentials went up more. Fuel and light 36 per cent -- transport 30 per cent. All the indications are that prices are continuing to rise at a rate of at least 26 per cent.

Profits: As prices creep up, profits boom. This is well illustrated if we look at the aggregate profits before interest and tax of Britain's ten largest companies by capital size. Consider the following table.

Aggregate Profits of Top Ten Companies by Capital Size

Year ending	Dec. '71	Dec. '72	Dec. '73	Dec. '74
	(£000)			
Aggregate Figure	1898876	2167043	3284360	5744073
% change	14%	51%	74%	
Inflation	7.7%	10.5%	19.2%	

Wages: Every conceivable statistical device is employed to obscure what is obvious to any wage earner -- namely that the real value of wages is falling fast. It is still possible, however, to salvage something from available figures to show the declining value of average take-home pay.

From December 1974 to June of this year, in the period of Social Contract Mk 1 in which increases in earnings were supposed to keep pace with the cost-of-living, the average real take-home pay for the average male industrial worker with a wife and two children fell from £38.72 to £35.26, a fall of 9 per cent (i.e. an annual rate of 15.5 per cent per year).

If the 'standstill' of the social contract meant a big wage cut, the £6 limit policy in reality will mean an even more severe reduction in take home pay. Given the present rate of inflation even the 'low-paid', for whom £30 has been held up by the T.U.C. as a magic minimum, will suffer a severe cut in the real value of their take-home pay if the limit is adhered to. For the average wage earner it is even more swingeing as the following table shows.

Effect of £6 rise. Married man with 2 children

Gross pay before £6 rise	Net pay before £6 rise	Net pay increase	New net pay	% rise in net pay	% cut in net pay*
£	£	£	£	%	%
30	28.13	3.57	31.7	12.7	14.2
40	34.08	3.57	37.65	10.5	16.4
50	40.03	3.57	43.60	8.9	18.0
60	45.98	3.57	49.55	7.8	19.1
70	51.93	3.90	55.89	7.5	19.4
80	58.49	3.90	62.39	6.7	20.2
90	64.99	3.90	68.89	6.0	20.9
100	71.49	3.90	75.39	5.5	21.4

* Given rate of inflation of 26.9 per cent in August (September 26.6 per cent).

The acceptance in principle of a standstill in real wages for 18 months led in practice to a sharp deterioration in living standards. Acceptance of the £6 limit will lead inexorably to a complete rout on the wages front. This can be proved by the simplest mathematics. The above figures, however, demand a new kind of arithmetic -- not the arithmetic of retail price indices, thresholds, £6 limits or even wage demands, but political arithmetic -- the calculation of how much longer we are going to live with robbery, lies and deceit. The answer is long overdue.

Russia Remembrance Day



Russia is at present commemorating thirty years since the defeat of Fascism. Thirty years ago the Soviet people valiantly, with almost superhuman effort and heroism, finally overcame the Nazi forces. 60 per cent of all Nazi forces were defeated on that Eastern front; twenty million Russian lives were lost in those Second World War struggles. Without their great courage and sacrifice fascism would have overrun the world.

But let it never be forgotten why the Russian people fought with such steadfastness and grim bravery -- for they were defending Socialist Russia as it then was -- the only bastion of Socialism in the world. Under Stalin's huge strength and practical determination to win, the Soviet people and the Communist Party inspired the workers in all Europe to fight the menace of Fascism. Workers in Britain today still recall how tanks came off the assembly line with

"One more for Joe" written on the side. Stalin symbolised not only to the Soviet people what they could, and in fact did achieve in building Socialism, but he also symbolised to workers throughout the world what they could do with their own organised strength to defend Russia and their own countries from Fascism.

The tragic irony is that now Stalin goes unhonoured in the USSR as they commemorate this historic period, and his name is vilified since his death by revisionists, social-democrats, trotskyites and capitalists alike who fear that very power people found in themselves under such Marxist-Leninist leadership and clarity of purpose.

We, the CPB(ML), pay tribute to the Soviet people. We scorn the revisionist, imperialist Government of the USSR and their restoration of capitalism, and dare to put Stalin back into their Day of Remembrance to take his rightful place as Architect of Socialism, Arch-Enemy of Fascism.

News from Iran

We have recently received the following report from comrades in Iran:

"Despite the ever-growing fascist rule of the Shah, we are with great joy witnessing an unprecedented rise of mass movements of workers and peasants. In particular, the workers in Iran's newly established industries are rising up with more than 200 strikes in the last few months. There have also been many sit-ins, go-slows and marches in different places.

"The source of these struggles lies in the ruthless exploitation of the people by the imperialists, especially US imperialism and the Iranian ruling class intensifying its tyranny. The reign of a fascist police state turns many of these events into bloody scenes of heroic resistance and growing hatred on the part of the working class. Strikes, in particular, have become sharper after the proclamation of the 'one party' system by the Shah's regime.

"The strike in June-July of this year at the no. 20 textile factory in Shahi, North Iran, which lasted some three weeks, was finally surrounded and attacked by 1200 armed soldiers brought in from a nearby town. The workers resisted, defying machine-gun fire. Sixteen workers were martyred and over seventy injured."

British Leyland

Worker Participation, the latest of a long string of devices by Social Democracy in its attempts to subvert the working class from its historical role of seizing power from the Employing Class, is the latest gimmick being advocated to bring peace to industry.

British Leyland management, following a day long session of talks with leading shop stewards representing a 116,000 car workers, have reached agreement on workers participation. Apparently the stumbling block has been differences of opinion over who is to sit on the lowest tier of the proposed three tier system of

joint management councils and committees.

Surely this is beginning to sound like Town Hall Bumbledom with one committee overlooking that committee, etc. ad infinitum. One can imagine more and more lads becoming involved in a process that is designed to draw them completely away from the shop floor, and in which those dishonest enough can find the opportunity to see how many meetings they can attend without working.

Indeed one can imagine in the top tier the managing directors' speech saying, "Gentlemen, I have called you all together this

morning for us to find a mutual way, without giving offence to the shop floor, of introducing a cut-back in the work force, either by voluntary retirement, natural wastage or whatever, but let me make it quite clear at the end of the day an x amount of men must go to save the rest of the labour force." And one can also imagine ex-workers, detached from the shop floor, nodding sagely in agreement. All the attempts at Labour co-operating with capital will always be to the detriment of the working class. One would have thought that Leyland Shop Stewards were sufficiently experienced not to pursue this path.



A BIRD THAT LAYS SUCH ROTTEN EGGS IS LONG OVERDUE FOR EXTINCTION

The Labour Government and the Capitalist Crisis

Against a background of continuously declining industrial production the Government's economic strategy is becoming clearer.

Industrial production in Britain has dropped by more than 10 per cent since the end of 1973 and is still falling. In so far as it is felt that the problem is one of low investment, particularly in the manufacturing industry, there are two main remedies proposed: making investment more profitable by reducing taxes on profits, or attracting new capital from savings and pensions schemes without offering higher profits. The latter is like New York City bailing itself out by a raid on the teachers' pension fund.

The Government proposes through the National Enterprise Board to increase the rate of monopolisation by singling out for state growth-aid those firms with the greatest profit potential. There will thus be a "comb-out"

of industry with smaller, less potentially-profitable firms being driven to the wall and the giants increasingly dominating a corporatised state.

But this "comb-out", like Labour's "comb-out" of a single industry in running down coal mining, is really directed at the working class. It is simply a means of directing labour where it will yield a greater surplus value to capitalists and recruiting an even larger reserve army of unemployed - a move which, if not resisted will weaken the labour movement in its battles with capitalism.

Thus when the TUC says it will not oppose the Labour Government's aid strategy it is saying that it will collaborate in the attack on the working class.

Our answer must be unmistakable. Not one job, not one tiny part of our standard of living will be sacrificed on the altar of profits

40th Anniversary of the Long March



Comrades of the Long March, Mao Tse-tung and Chou En-lai, celebrating a national occasion in Peking.

The Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) sends its warmest fraternal greetings to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on the occasion of the twenty-sixth anniversary of the founding of the Peoples Republic of China.

How tremendous have been the achievements of the Chinese proletariat and peasantry under the great leadership of Chairman Mao and the Communist Party of China in building and consolidating socialism. What lessons for all of us who are struggling in the imperialist countries of the West!

Dear comrades, we send you our firm resolution that we shall do our utmost, learning from your fine example, to smash British monopoly capitalism and free the working class of Britain.

Long live the unity of the workers of China and Britain!

Long live the vitality of the revolutionary forces of the world!

R. Birch, Chairman

Labour Gov't Rejects British Products

The Labour Government has rejected British versions of two new guided weapons systems in favour of a £350m. contract for the American Sub-Harpoon and the Milan, a Franco-German produced wire-guided anti-tank weapon. Hawker-Siddeley Sub-Martes and BAC Hawk-swing air-to-surface weapons were rejected.

Immediately 2,000 workers at BAC Filton, Bristol. Guided Weapons Section held a meeting followed by a militant demonstration of protest.

Further action is likely, as the promises of no redundancy and the possibility of sub-contracts of the Milan are small comfort to workers who have seen their section of industry pulled back from

being the unrivalled first in the world till today when even its own Government won't take its products.

Weapons like the Bristol Bloodhound were best because they were based on the most advanced research and technology. Promises of work based on sub-contracts for a firm like BAC show that skills which have been first in the world are now redundant to the needs of the British capitalist class.

Don't forget the guide

A new branch of the TGWU has just been formed to promote the interests of London's Registered Tourist Guides. Those who have joined represent the vanguard of the Guild of Guide Lecturers established in 1950. There is a new militancy among the guides who see themselves betrayed, not only by the big international tour operators who continue to increase their profits while underpaying their guides, but also by their own London Tourist Board who train and register the guides, and who this year saw fit to dilute the market with hundreds of untrained guides providing a large pool of cheap labour for the tour operators.

A picket was set up outside Westminster Abbey and was successful. But more action is needed and more co-operation from fellow workers, coach-drivers, hotel and restaurant staff, baggage handlers, church authorities and museum attendants. It is planned to bring some of these workers together under a new "tourist services" section of the TGWU. As a positive first step the TGWU has given support to the new scale of fees for freelance guides.

In Brief

'NOBELEST' CAPITALIST OF THEM ALL

Evidence for the fact that the two superpowers share the same economic system, capitalism, was provided by the fact that a Russian and an American could share the same Nobel prize in economics. The Russian, Kantorovich, achieved notoriety as one of the 'liberalisers' of Marxist economics after the death of Stalin.

WORKER 'BLUES'

At the Conservative Party Conference Margaret Thatcher urged Tories to join their trade unions and play a full and active part in them. That could be dangerous - for the Tories. One remembers the Worker Priests in France who were urged by the Church to live like workers and work alongside them in order to "bring them to God". The trouble was that the Worker Priests began to think like the working class and had to be disbanded.

SMALL CHANGE

Chancellor Healey told the Labour Party Conference that "General Elections do not change the laws of arithmetic". They don't change much else, either.

LABOUR PARTY AND THE UNIONS

After using Jones and the TUC to get the trade union movement to agree, at least on paper, to cut its own throat with the £6 limit and bleed to death through massive unemployment, the 'Labour' Government in the voice of Callaghan added insult to injury by asking the trade unions to cough up £250,000 to shore up the Labour Party's £200,000 deficit.

NHS

Doctors have been asked by Barbara Castle "to give a year to Britain". They consider it an insult - have not all the health workers and indeed the whole working class had to fight for our health service? "Yes" we should reply "we will give years for the working class of Britain but not a moment more for the capitalists!"

Devaluation of the language

It is not only money that is losing its value; words are being devalued as well.

We have noted how the Tory Policy Group has redefined unemployment in such a way that there are hardly any people out of work; the Sandiland Report has redefined profits in such a way that they no longer appear so gross and a new definition of ill-health has been proposed which would practically eliminate the need for the NHS.

In this new 'devalued language' it was possible for Healey at the Lord Mayor's Banquet to say that, "full employment is at the very centre of our policy."

Among the things we workers will have to do when we have taken control and are restoring the country to economic health on the basis of self-reliance is to restore real meaning to English words again.

Leeds Students

Strir

For students at Leeds colleges the housing crisis is worse than ever before. Enrolment has increased at the University and the Polytechnic but the authorities have blithely ignored the problem of housing. New students in particular are having problems finding beds for themselves.

Local landlords have found it is more profitable to have empty rooms. Meanwhile, the City Council has been demolishing housing and replacing them with office blocks. The Council waiting list is now topping 30,000.

Both Polytechnic and University student unions have called meetings to discuss action.

At the country's largest Further Education College, Park Lane, Leeds, protest has been made at the discretionary awards system of grants, the inadequate lecturing facilities and the high canteen prices.

Wasteland

Moves are afoot to destroy even more of the 'Green Belt' around London. Bracknell New Town is to be expanded, and an expensive campaign is being mounted (out of ratepayers' money) so that a 'democratic' decision can be made as to where the axe should fall. The intention is to house 'overspill' families from London, even though local pensioners and newlyweds remain homeless. The area will become even more a dormitory for London jobs, meaning ever increasing overcrowding on the commuter road and rail routes. The irony is that large areas remain wasteland in the centre of Bracknell because they are earmarked for industries that are expected to move out of London. In their insane lust for profit the captains of industry will destroy living communities not only in London, but also in the rural villages of the Green Belt. They will create a desert everywhere, and by its very equality of nothingness they will have the audacity to call it Socialism.

Traffic in people

The recent Trade Deal between Poland and West Germany has come under fire from the Albanian paper 'Bashkimi'. For, as part of the deal, the Polish revolutionists will 'allow' 125,000 Polish citizens of "German origin" to emigrate in return for loans.

The paper points out that Gierok, the Polish leader, is following in the footsteps of his Moscow bosses, who, in order to secure credit from original capital, have sold hundreds of thousands of Jews to Israel to become cannon fodder for its counter-revolutionary aims against the Arab peoples.

Poland has to pay 600 million dollars every year to pay off foreign loans. So the Polish working class is now seeing the results of following Moscow's policy of strengthening ties with West Germany, the USA and other capitalist countries.

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| OCTOBER | 31: | "Imperialism - The Divine Beast Laashes Out" |
| NOVEMBER | 7: | "The State of Counter-Revolution" |
| | 14: | "The Role of the Party of the British Working Class" |
| | 21: | To be announced |
| | 28: | Celebrating Albania's National Day. Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, Nr. Holborn Station. 7.30 p.m. |
| NOVEMBER | 12: | "The Fight For The Right To Work", East Oxford Community Centre. 7.30 pm. |

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