

Socialist Worker

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PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

Saturday: Keep the fascists on the run

MARTIN WEBSTER, 'activities organiser' of the National Front, put it straight on the morning of the Leicester demonstration.

He told the Daily Telegraph: 'We are marching to bring racial tensions out in the open.'

What does that mean? It means that the National Front, like the Nazi Party in Germany and all other fascist parties, intends to set one group of people against another because of the colour of their skins, the shape of their noses or their racial origin.

For several months the Front have been distributing racist leaflets in British schools, openly inciting white students against black. Their leaflet asks: 'Are you tired of younger students being bullied or being subjected to the alien cult of mugging?'

'Are you tired of having to endure social studies of history lessons while the teachers continually try to run down Britain...'

'Are you tired of lessons where the teacher has to go at a snail's pace to allow the immigrant kids who don't speak English a chance to keep up?'

The Front's answer is simple. Get rid of all black children—and the problems of education will vanish.

This is an open invitation to racial violence in the schools

Violence

This is the reality behind the claims of the Front that they are marching 'for decency and against violence' and 'to expose the violence of the Left'.

On the contrary. The fascist Front is the apostle of violence—violence against racial minorities and violence against trade unionists. As long as they are allowed to march freely through the streets with their intimidating, racist chants, then the racial violence for which they stand will prosper.

In a time of economic crisis, fascism does not just go away. No amount of sneering in liberal newspapers or staying at home in fashionable houses will damage fascism.

When the fascists show their strength in the streets—all who oppose them must show themselves too. That applies in particular this weekend to Irish workers in Britain, since the fascists are teaming up for a march through London with their political allies in the Orange Order. They are demanding stricter immigration controls on Irish people.

These are the reasons why the International Socialists will be mobilising throughout the country for a huge counter-demonstration in Hyde Park this Saturday.

**Speakers Corner,
2pm
All out against
racism!
No free speech
for fascists!**



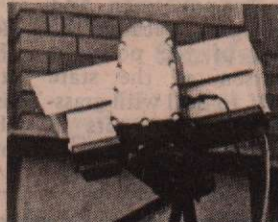
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SPY AT THE
FACTORY GATE—
page 6



7p

The price of your Socialist Worker this week is 7p: 2p more than last week. This increase is forced on us by the rocketing price of paper—nearly treble in the past year.

The big newspapers can easily stand this extra cost. Most own their own paper mills, their own forests. All enjoy heavy subsidies from advertising.

We have to rely on our readers. We're sorry about the price increase. But we are confident you will support us by paying the extra price—and selling more.

Sugar fraud: Dockers act

Pensioners left out in the cold

THE PAPERS, the politicians of all parties, the television, the employers and the TUC leaders, all have the same, simple message for us.

We're on the brink of economic disaster. There's going to be massive unemployment. Prices are going up and up and up. Our standard of living is going down and down and down.

But, they cry in unison, there's nothing you can do about it.

If workers do anything, if we fight for higher wages, if we try to change things—then we'll be rocking the national boat and making everything worse for ourselves.

So tighten your belts, they tell us, and grin and bear it.

The Hull dockers gave their answer this week. Because of the sugar 'shortage' their canteen was without sugar—while 80 tons of the stuff lay piled on the quay outside ready for profitable export to the Persian Gulf.

So the dockers refused to load it, and ordered the Labour government to distribute it to people who needed it.

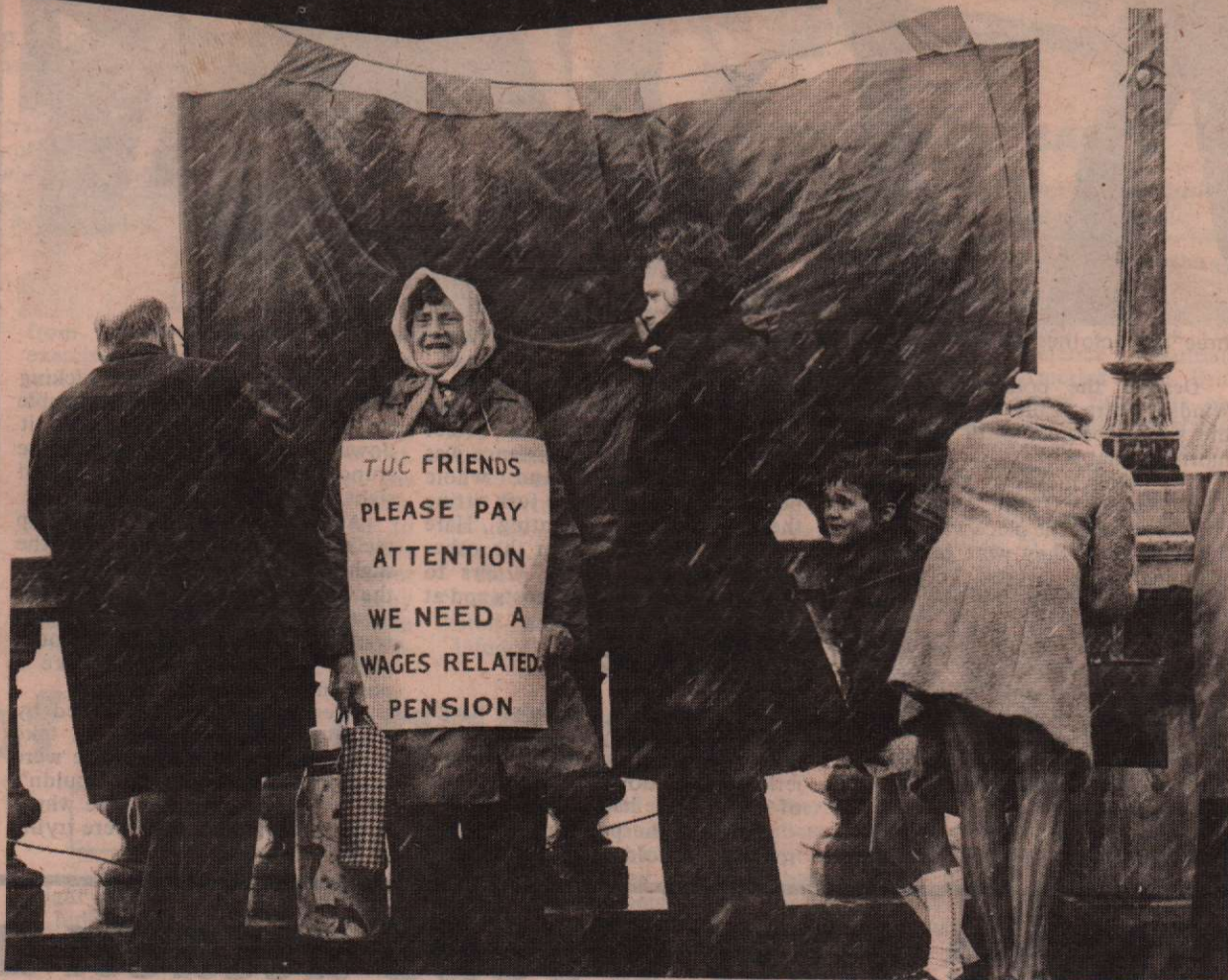
WHAT WE THINK

The Hull dockers have shown how workers can fight. And workers MUST fight, for have no doubt about it, all that impending misery the papers, politicians and TUC are prophesying is only for one section of the population—those who produce the wealth. For the minority who are in control of industries and newspapers, there's still a lot of spare cash around.

This week Lloyds Bank 'regretfully' announced a loss of £33 million because a couple of swindlers in Switzerland had gambled too much in currency deals. £33 million would give a £20-a-week rise to more than 30,000 workers for a year. But Lloyds Bank weren't particularly worried.

After all, half the loss will be paid by the taxpayer, and in the first six months of this year Lloyds made profits of £77 million anyway.

There are plenty of other rich people around who are doing just as



TWO THOUSAND pensioners who made their annual pilgrimage to lobby the TUC in Brighton last Sunday were welcomed by pelting rain, fierce sea-winds and Len Murray.

The demonstrators had come in locally-organised trains and buses, including 80 from Scotland who marched under the slogan 'We demand the right to live in dignity'. We stood in the rain, heads high, to hear speakers who were nicely tucked away out of the rain under the parade.

Hugh Scanlon said they needed 'The return of a Labour Government...'. Jack Jones said: 'We are going to keep fighting...'. Terry Parry of the Fire Brigades Union told us how terrible it would be

if the Tories got back in and Len Murray said: 'There is a new realisation by pensioners of the justice of their cause'.

The pensioners then realised the meeting was over because the speakers scurried back to their hotels. Abe Moffat, the genuine pensioner who got on the platform, did at least put some demands which would give back dignity to the men and women who once built the trade union movement. He called for a new £30 minimum pension related to industrial wages and reviewed every three months.

What the pensioners said—page 16.

PICTURE: Christopher Davies (Report)

TURN TO PAGE THREE

IT HAD THE HALLMARKS OF A POLICE STATE

Offer drugs... then arrest

THE national press, some of whose reporters suffered the indignity of being treated like ordinary mortals by the policemen of the Thames Valley, was duly shocked by last Thursday's police riot.

It was so bad that the mass media had to say something. So they said it was an isolated unplanned excess. Perhaps individual policemen should be disciplined. It should never happen again.

Grassroots

In fact the Windsor operation was planned, authorised and organised by senior policemen. And it will happen again, because the new viciousness of the police is bound to worsen as the state strengthens itself to deal with grassroots opposition to the cuts in working-class living standards.

The Thames Valley Constabulary got their taste of blood last week. All the hallmarks of the police state were there. The fanaticism of the bullies in uniform, who didn't hesitate to kick pregnant women and crack open skulls, the plain-clothes policemen offering drugs and then arresting those who accepted, the smashing of cameras in a desperate and unsuccessful attempt to cover their tracks. And the final hypocrisy of the police press statement that the constabulary showed 'great restraint and patience'.

People who still like to think of lovable Mr Plod and cheery George Dixon of Dock Green are living in the past. The modern police force is showing its new face... at Heathrow, Red Lion Square and now Windsor Great Park.



The Windsor festival of police violence PICTURES: Ron McCormick

How Britain tried to sell Cyprus

by Harry Wicks

THE intense secret diplomatic activity between governments over Cyprus recalls the events of almost 60 years ago, when Britain, in complete disregard for the wishes of the Cypriot people, offered Cyprus to Greece if Greece would enter the First World War on the side of the Allies.

That seamy diplomatic deal was brought to light when the Manchester Guardian published on 7 December 1917, a despatch from its Petrograd correspondent, M Philips Price. Price reported on a document found in the Russian Foreign Office of the negotiations between the Allies and Greece.

An extract read: 'On October 7 1915, the British Ambassador in Athens offered Greece the cession of Cyprus if Greece would immediately enter the war. On October 12 the Ambassador informed the Minister that the Cyprus offer was no longer valid since Greece had not entered.' Then as now Cyprus was but a pawn in the power struggle of rival imperialists.

In the heroic days of the Russian Revolution, as the first instalment of a socialist foreign policy, Leon Trotsky, then Commissar of Foreign Affairs, published the secret treaties made by the Allied governments when the Tsar was still 'God the Almighty'. In opening the archives, Trotsky declared: 'Secret diplomacy is a necessary weapon in the hands of the propertied minority, which is compelled to deceive the majority in order to make the latter obey its interests.'

Abolish

'The Russian people as well as the peoples of Europe and the whole world, must know the documentary truth about these plots which were hatched in secret by financiers and industrialists, together with their parliamentary and diplomatic agents.'

'To abolish secret diplomacy is the first condition of an honourable, popular, and really democratic foreign policy.'

That call to fight capitalist diplomacy is today still relevant. The recent debate and unanimity in the United Nations Security Council, on relief aid for the 200,000 Turkish and Greek refugees, scarcely covered the bitter rivalries between the imperialist powers.

Britain and America seek to secure their military bases in the Eastern Mediterranean. Russia's interest is focussed not on the plight of the Cypriot workers, but on protecting its southern approaches and widening the split in NATO. Both Turkish and Greek capitalists are interested in intensifying the exploitation of the Cyprus' mineral wealth.

The Turkish invasion of Cyprus did more than split the island in two, it shattered at the same time the peace-keeping charade of the United Nations. Cyprus has shown that trust in the UN was fatal for the Cypriot peoples.

Now is the hour to building working class relief organisations in Cyprus across communal barriers. Have no further trust in the United Nations. Demand the closing of the American and British bases in Greece and Cyprus, and the withdrawal of the armies of occupation.

by Tony Norton
a member of the International Socialists who was at the festival
FROM the moment you arrived the police tried to make your life a misery. You got searched every time you left the site and about one car in three entering Windsor was taken apart.

The police informally agreed to keep their side of the railings but sent a large crew of young plain-clothes policemen in. The place was crawling with them, you could hardly spit without being arrested. They had already arrested 400 kids before the Thursday attack, mostly on drugs charges but also on stupid things like refusing to give their name and address.

They were kept in the military prison on Combermere Barracks, guarded by soldiers. I met a kid who had to wait 40 hours before he could get them to allow him to make a phone call.

In fact the Free Festival was getting very well organised. I expected chaos, to be honest, but there were five separate stages, a good light show, good bands who played as long as the audience wanted. The site was organised by a morning democratic meeting and there was free access to the mikes by anyone who had something to say and good free and cost price food.

Windsor Council refused any help at all but the Labour-controlled council in Slough turned up with plastic bags and people were collecting up their own litter.

I'd been at the commercially-run Reading Festival the same weekend, where the cops were arm in arm with Securicor and the promoters. Reading was surrounded with a high tin fence, the site was filthy, the food was commercial rubbish and the bands just came out and did their 20 minutes each. There was no comparison.



Three 'plain-clothes' policemen grab a festivalgoer from the crowd after he answered the jeers of onlookers

Despite the police, people at Windsor were really trying to run the site as people. Until Thursday morning, that is.

The police moved in about 8am. They sealed off the entry road completely and the place was swarming with vans—they were obviously planning mass arrests. They captured four out of the five stages while everyone was asleep. Then a ring of police swept downwards, pulling down the tents, roughing people up and shaking them out of their sleeping bags if they didn't get up and go at once.

If they did go quietly, the police busted them at the bottom of the road anyway.

Those of us who didn't get arrested or evicted gathered round

Stage A. I and some other more politically-minded people got people to link arms, three deep, to protect ourselves. But really resistance was pretty half-hearted and whole bunches of people were just sitting there like ninnies chanting 'Hare Krishna'. The police, on the other hand, seemed to have orders to capture the stage at all costs and at any price.

CRAZY

This was when the worst rough stuff started. A guy I met in jail was literally yanked out by his hair and jerked up and down till it pulled out of his head. He had a baldish spot.

Some of the police did go crazy, tossing scaffold poles about and

charging into the crowd kicking and punching. They shook people off the scaffolding and pulled it down. They were vicious with the truncheons once they were out of sight under the stage.

Afterwards they were picking up really innocent people for the slightest thing. They just herded the kids into the cages at the back of the vans and anyone who protested was done over. They would arrest you for trying to take a policeman's number.

Even tourists were attacked by the police if they tried to take pictures. And so many police were in plain clothes you just couldn't tell what was going on. The whole operation was as if they were trying to prove a point.

Strike after troops attack busman

from Eamonn McCann,
Derry

VIOLENT attacks on bus drivers and conductors on certain routes are causing growing concern here. On Thursday afternoon all bus workers in the city came out on strike after a driver was pulled from his cab and roughed up by British troops.

Driver John Laverty had apparently started hooting his horn in annoyance at being held up by an obstruction in Abercorn Road, whereupon men of the Prince of Wales Regiment who were manning the obstruction arrested him and dragged him off to their HQ 'for screening'. After two hours he was released and the workers took the buses out again.

Passengers are becoming used to such stoppages, to the extent that the 15-minute wait at a bus

stop leads naturally to speculation among queuers that 'The Army must be at them again'.

Permanent army check-points ringing the city centre and random check-points on other roads play havoc with bus schedules. But it is not simply the delays which have angered the men. A shop steward explains: 'It is the attitude of the army, treating us like dirt.'

'Most drivers probably experience this only

once or twice a day, and just hold their peace and put it down to experience. But on some shifts we will go through check-points maybe 20 or 25 times. After you are made to get out to be searched and insulted or pushed about for no reason half-a-dozen times your temper gets a bit short. Then if you answer them back you get whipped down to Fort George.'

So the busmen lose a couple of hours wages and the passengers have to walk.

It is not by any means the most oppressive aspect of the military presence—just one of the many pin-pricking inconveniences which, taken together, make up normal life.

International Socialists
Conference on Ireland
Sunday 8 Sept, 10.30am—5pm
8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2

Morning: submission of resolutions;
The Loyalist Strike and its aftermath.
Speaker: Mike Heym; Report on the
Socialist Workers' Movement

Afternoon: Why IS gives 'Uncon-
ditional but critical support' to the
IRA (Speaker: Chris Harman); Per-
spectives for Irish Work in Britain
(Speaker: Paul O'Brien).

Accommodation for Saturday
night: phone Marion 01-272 1970
Friday night/Saturday morning
Entry by IS membership card only.

FROM PAGE ONE

well. Industrial companies are still reporting profits of 40 per cent up on last year. A lot of people may be suffering from a shortage but Tate and Lyle are revelling in it. Their profits have more than doubled since last year.

More than half the new cars in Britain are brought up by big business firms for expense-account use by directors, executives and managers. More than £700 million is still being spent on advertising.

Industrial investment is down—but spending on arms is up. More is spent on the means of destruction than is invested in the means of production.

Problem

There's plenty around for the few. The wealth is there: The Stock Exchange may have slumped but more is being produced in the factories than ever before in history. It's not as if all our wealth is running out, like water out of a basin.

The problem lies in the way wealth is produced and distributed. The papers talk as if Britain were 'our country'. It isn't. Ten per cent of the people of Britain own 91 per cent of the wealth. The rest of us own 9 per cent. It's as though we owned the Isle of Wight, and they owned the rest.

The minority don't just own the wealth. They make decisions

How workers can solve the crisis

about how it is produced and spent.

They don't plan production to give us what we need. They plan it to give themselves profit, competing to get the lion's share.

That's why the government is spending £1000 million of our money—paid in taxation—so that the tiny minority can travel in Concorde, yet the government can't afford a half-decent public transport system.

Competition means endless, purposeless, expensive advertising, it means lunatic swindles on the Stock Exchange—and worst of all it means a twelfth of the wealth we produce is spent on armaments.

Because they don't plan sensibly, the economy careers from booms to recessions. Last year the Tories unleashed a massive 'boom' by printing a lot of money. But the money didn't go into industry. It

went into banking and property speculation.

Because there wasn't enough investment, the boom stopped. The new banks, after making fortunes for a handful of layabouts, collapsed.

So did the property market. But, worst of all, the jobs of millions of people who had nothing to do with the chaos are now in danger.

Truth

Now these same speculators, stockbrokers and newspaper proprietors have the cheek to turn to the workers and tell them to make sacrifices. It's a form of blackmail. Unless you accept everything, including wage cuts, they say, we will close our factories and put you out of work.

The simple truth is that the workers don't need these people at all. The workers have the resources

to run society sensibly, to plan production in the interests of the majority without employers, profit or competition.

If a great hole opened up and swallowed the City of London tomorrow, if all the stockbrokers, industrialists and speculators vanished forever into it—society would be the better for it.

Unfortunately, it's unlikely to happen. The profiteers will not abdicate. They will fight for their wealth and their system. And as long as workers do not fight back, we will be plagued forever with periodic slump and permanent poverty for millions.

Think what could be done if workers everywhere showed the same spirit as the Hull dockers did in stopping that small cargo of sugar!

Conference

That's what we mean by a workers' society, workers' power. That's why we argue for fighting capitalist society all the way. That's why we argue against trade union leaders who join the 'Don't Rock the Boat' chorus.

That's why the most important item in Socialist Worker this week is the call on page 15 for a second National Rank and File Conference to link those workers who want to fight capitalism in a common struggle against the system.

Read it. Support it. Organise your delegation now.

Message from TUC: Keep calm and hope

HARDLY a whiff of the atmosphere of growing crisis penetrated the placid routine proceedings of the Trade Union Congress. The 'general staff of the labour movement' go through their accustomed routines like sleepwalkers.

Don't rock the boat, return a Labour government, and hope the crisis will go away. That was the message.

After the euphoria comes the hangover. It won't be long delayed.

The enormous majority vote for the social contract—admitted by TUC general secretary Len Murray to be equivalent to 12 months wage restraint—was assured before the delegates met. The press has whipped up a fever over the decision of the Engineers' Union delegation last Sunday to proceed with their conference motion supporting the social contract only after conditions have been met by the government.

The AUEW delegation voted 36 to 15 to proceed with this motion, and to oppose the General Council's unequivocal support for wage restraint.

Support

Hugh Scanlon, the union's president, went on television three times to explain that his union's opposition to the General Council's line was 'a matter of principle' but meant little in the real world. His union had already called off industrial action in the spring, and agreed not to submit a further wage claim until next March.

In other words Scanlon's support for the government's social contract has already involved his members in widespread and unnecessary 'sacrifices'.

The AUEW leaders have already pushed its rank and file far towards Labour's wage restraint and its rank and file have had enough. This was the reason for the firm vote last Sunday.

On Monday Congress resolved unanimously 'that every step be taken under existing legal provisions to ensure that no building worker tried at Shrewsbury be held in jail any longer.' How was not specified. The AUEW proposal for the repeal of the 1875 Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act was withdrawn after 'assurances' from the platform that amendments would be sought.

Duncan Hallas will write a full account and analysis of the TUC in Socialist Worker next week.

Palestinian deported

THE General Union of Palestinian Students issued the following statement on 25 August:

Palestinian student Abdel Majid Awwad, returning on 12 August from his summer holidays in Beirut to pursue his studies in a London college, was intercepted at London's Heathrow Airport by the Special Branch and Scotland Yard.

He was arrested and taken to Ealing Police Station, where he was held in solitary confinement for two days, and informed by the Special Branch that an order had been issued for his deportation. During his detention, he was denied access to any form of communication, even by telephone.

On the morning of 14 August he was taken to the airport and put on a plane bound for Lebanon at his own personal expense. No explanation of any kind was given.

This arbitrary action had absolutely no reason to justify it, as Abdel Majid Awwad had all his papers in order.

This incident is not the first of its kind in this country. Only a few months ago another Palestinian student was asked to leave the country. Again, no valid reason was given.

Apartheid link-up gets Labour OK

HE WAS 20, coloured and facing a hopeless problem. His girlfriend was white . . . and pregnant. The law would not permit a marriage.

So the boy threw himself under a train. When the girl found out, she slashed her wrists, but her suicide attempt failed.

This is the reality of South Africa, where the shade of your skin creates legal absurdity and human misery. This is the country to which the British Labour government is now abandoning its 'principles'.

'The next Labour government will withdraw from all relationships resulting from the Simonstown Agreements [with South Africa] and all military exchanges, visits and technical arrangements will be terminated', promised Labour's Programme last year.

Now, according to The Observer last Sunday: 'Under strong pressure from the Defence Staff, the Minister of Defence, Mr Roy Mason, has overruled his Minister of the Navy, Mr Frank Judd, and authorised the Royal Navy to begin its joint sea exercises with the South African Navy off Simonstown on Wednesday.'

Nine warships have been sent

by Socialist Worker reporter

from Britain to take part in these exercises. They join two frigates sent to 'liaise' with the South African Navy last month.

These exercises are crucial to the new South African defence effort. They are not directed against the Russian Navy in the Indian Ocean, as the defence chiefs pretend to the Labour Minister. They are part of a plan to increase the fire power of white South African tyranny against the majority black people in their own country and their sup-

porters in the African countries to the north.

Pressure from the black people in the north has grown a hundred-fold since the military coup in Portugal in April, and the declaration by the new Portuguese government that Portugal's two Southern African colonies can now expect independence.

Since the Portuguese coup, the South African government has devoted more and more resources to 'defence'. Naval spending since April

has been more than double the same period last year.

At the same time, the South Africans have been lobbying within NATO—the defence organisation which links America with Britain and other Western European countries—to co-ordinate defence strategy.

The American government—a long-time friend of white racist tyranny in South Africa—has agreed. The French government has declared its intention to step up arms sales to South Africa.

The only obstacles in the path of the NATO powers was the British Labour government and its commitment to 'disengagement' from Southern Africa.

Now the admirals and the generals have won the Defence Minister, Roy Mason, to their cause. Only four months ago Mason broke another of Labour's 'solemn pledges' by sending gunboats to the brutal dictatorship in Chile. Up in Barnsley, where he sits as MP, they know him as the miner who went to parliament and, as Minister of Power in the mid-1960s, sacked 150,000 miners.

But Frank Judd, Navy Minister, is a member of the National Committee of Anti-Apartheid. So is Joan Lester, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, which approves the new Simonstown deal. They are still in office while their government moves in support of racist tyranny.

Left or right, the Labour Ministers act the same. They promise one thing in opposition, and they do whatever the army, the navy, the air force, the civil service and the employers ask of them in office.

Rank and File, told Socialist Worker: 'It's totally disgusting that teachers, pupils and parents have been kept in the dark. Education authorities have known which schools may be unsafe but have not made it public—because they thought it might cause panic!'

'Rank and File demands that any school which is suspected of being unsafe be closed until an investigation is completed. I hope parents will be pressurising their own education authorities to make sure these schools are closed until it is known they are safe, and suitable alternative buildings are used in the meantime.'

Already government spending on education has been cut by £182 million. Inflation has demolished school budgets. As Beth Stone says: 'The education service is literally crumbling down—on the kids' heads!'

by Jenny Hawke

Scandal of 700 school roofs

SIX MILLION children and half a million teachers go back to school this week. Several thousand of them had better keep their eyes fixed upwards—in case the roof comes down.

Last year two school roofs collapsed. By a fluke of luck, no one was killed. The reason? The roofs were propped up by unsafe high alumina cement beams.

There are 700 schools where these beams have been used. There could be many more. 200 schools have been declared safe, another 200 are under further investigation, and the Department of Education and Science is waiting for information on the remaining 300.

The short-term advantage of the high-alumina cement beam is that it dries very much faster, can carry

weight within 24 hours, and so speeds up building and cuts labour costs. So education authorities have been able to cut costs—and these beams have become increasingly popular for use in schools, swimming pools and gymnasia.

Disgusting

The problem is that if the water-cement ratio is not exactly right in the mix, the beam crumbles. And the roof may come crashing down—on schoolkids, swimmers, anyone.

Beth Stone, an executive member of the National Union of Teachers and supporter of the teachers' group

LETTERS

They take the profits and give pain

I WORK as an ambulance driver/attendant with the West Yorkshire Metropolitan Ambulance Service. On 6 August I received a message to go to a house in Woodlesford, where a workman had fallen from a ladder.

When we arrived at the scene of the accident a small lorry was parked close to the wall of a large house that was being renovated. In the back of the lorry was a ladder (obviously the ladder was too small to carry out the necessary work without the aid of the lorry) from which the injured workman had fallen.

The work consisted of removing old rendering from the wall with a hammer and chisel. As the workman later explained, some of the rendering was loose and some of it was firmly attached to the wall. As can be imagined, perched precariously on top of the ladder which is standing in the back of a lorry, swinging a hammer at a substance which in one instance offers a great resistance and then none at all, the worker is put in great danger of falling.

The workman told me that the work on the previous day had been quite safe. He had been working from a scaffolding, but the boss had taken it away, saying that the painters needed it more on another job and asked him to manage the best he could.

The workman in question suffered fractures to both bi-lateral oscaris—heel bones—and was admitted to Pinderfields General Hospital, Wakefield.

The firm, Bennetts of Rothwell, (non-union) took the profits from the worker's labour and gave him in return pain, suffering, anxiety to his wife and family and the possibility of six months poverty whilst receiving only sickness benefit.—G W GOOD, Wakefield.



The ladder is unsecured and has a rung missing. One false step and this welder could fall on blowtorch. PICTURE: Christopher Davies (Report)

To vote Labour

ALL members and supporters of the International Socialists should vote Labour in the coming election for the following reasons.

Firstly, a Labour government could not fail to show its inability to defend the working class against the attacks of big business, thus losing its more militant supporters.

Secondly, the Social Con-trick would show up the Hugh Scanlons of this world for the half-baked militants they are. Though the Social Con-trick may temporarily slow down the class struggle, it would in the long term speed it up as more and more workers learned to act independently (and even against) the trade union bureaucracy.

The return of Heath and his

cronies to power would result in a short-term speeding up of class struggle as they renewed their attacks on the unions. The trade union bureaucrats would join battle, winning the confidence of militant workers. If the working class has faith in such reformist leadership, can we seriously expect workers to carry the class struggle to its ultimate phase—revolution—and win?

Surely, drawing militant workers away from reformism and over to revolution would be a greater victory for us than Tony Barr's desire to help some Stalinist or other get 400 votes instead of 300 (Letters, 31 August).—R PAUL CLARK, Eccles International Socialists, Worsley, Manchester.

OR NOT TO VOTE LABOUR?

AS AN International Socialist I am very disappointed by the sketchiness of the IS National Committee's guide to action for the next election (17 August).

The policy of voting Labour while building a socialist workers' party is a contradiction. Ideally, the International Socialists should concentrate on building the party by putting up candidates for election. Not just a handful but a hundred or two hundred so that people can see there is an alternative to the Labour Party being built. If this is not possible let us have some discussion about it—not dismiss it in half a sentence as the IS National Committee statement.

We also need to take a closer look at the policy of asking people to vote Labour, taking into account the breakdown which is occurring in social democracy.

I don't profess to know much

about the situation in Scotland, but here in Wales IS has failed to make any analysis of what is going on.

Wales has traditionally been a stronghold of the Labour Party. But disillusion set in with a vengeance during the last period of Labour government. Between 1964 and 1969, when there were mass pit closures, 64,000 jobs were lost in Wales. Thousands of people left the Labour Party and thousands abandoned it electorally. The strength of the Communist Party in Wales is a myth, it is dead on its feet.

So people were and still are looking for an alternative. These people have a wide range of views but they are basically socialist orientated.

Many saw a socialist alternative in Plaid Cymru (Party of Wales) which now has 40,000 members, three quarters of them under the age of 40. To attract and keep these people Plaid had to be left of Labour, even though it is still a reformist and opportunist party.

While the majority of Labour councils implemented the Tories' Housing Finance Act, Plaid opposed it and organised council sit-ins and squatting in empty council houses in Rhondda. All over North and West Wales they fought second-home ownership when local people could not get mortgages.

On most issues they have been left of Labour. They are not fighting simply about the Welsh language issue and separatism, as many people seem to think.

Some Plaid members see, as a long-term perspective, the break-up of Plaid and the formation of socialist groups or parties in Wales. Others believe that Plaid can itself become a socialist party and will be pushed in that direction. How are we going to ask these people to vote Labour and support a party they have rejected and outgrown?

In Wales we should be considering this question and our answer to it. The National Committee of IS too should be looking more closely at regional problems where present national problems alone are not enough.

For the sake of argument, do we support the official Labour candidate or Eddie Milne in Newcastle?—BILLY HYDE, Cardiff.

The day I joined GB 75

ON A RECENT visit to London, I decided to pop in to 22 South Audley Street, W1 and meet Colonel Stirling, leader of GB 75. Outside the building was a most helpful policeman who, when I mentioned that I wished to volunteer for GB 75, was only too pleased to direct me to the Colonel.

On entering the expensively-carpeted and walnut-panelled building, I wandered up three flights of stairs to the office of a chartered accountant.

He told me that many people had called to contact Stirling and directed me to the floor below. I knocked on a white door and out came a splendidly dressed young man, wearing a 60-guinea suit and an Old Etonian tie.

I told him I wished to offer my services. He then asked for my background and views. I said I was concerned at the drift towards communism and anarchy in Britain and that we needed a strong leader such as John Biggs-Devildson as Prime Minister.

He complimented me on my political awareness and took notes. At that point, a door opened and out stepped an elderly gentleman wearing a 100-guinea suit and

smoking a cigar: Colonel Stirling, no less.

'What does this person want?' he asked. 'Another volunteer, sir', replied the young man.

Then followed a conversation in which the Colonel told me how pleased he was to have me in his organisation and how unfortunate it was that the news of it had

leaked out.

He promised to contact me in the near future and thanked me for my support.

As I passed the smiling policeman and three chauffeurs on my way out I praised God that we should have such men of vision to lead Britain out of its crisis. B D, Essex.

VOTE ICI, VOTE TORY!

I'VE RECEIVED a most distasteful letter from the chairman of ICI, Jack Callard. He explains how successfully ICI work under the capitalist system—like making a £311 million profit in 1973.

He uses a lot of facts and figures about company investments, exports, efficiency and good industrial relations to try to convey to employees that it would be a disaster if the company came under state control, and concludes by saying: 'I am convinced however that state control or ownership would be detrimental not only to the performance of the company and your own personal interest but also to the national economy.'

A pamphlet called ICI, Our Company was sent with the letter. It describes how beneficial the company is to the employee and the country as a whole.

I think that this letter is an absolute disgrace and ICI socialists should put resolutions through their trade union branches and produce leaflets to condemn this brainwashing of employees. We must show that this letter is a commercial for the Tory Party. Its theme is vote Tory to keep the company as it is or vote Labour for state control and its disastrous consequences.—ANDY SMITH, Teesside.



Goodbye Norm...

JOCK MATCHET, who wrote (10 August) is right. It is time Our Norman was given a rest. He has been looking under the weather for some time.

Perhaps at some future date he may reappear, refreshed and—who knows—as the faithful lieutenant of a glorious Our Arnold, the shop steward? History Will Decide.

In the meantime Jock may like to help me write a letter to the Morning Star calling for their strip-cartoon dog (?) Pif to be put to sleep. Crime Pif's sole function is to demonstrate the terrible punishments facing those who walk on the grass or commit similar crimes against the People's Property.

Our Norman will cheerfully give the snivelling East European mongrel a kick any time.—PHIL EVANS, Bristol.

Enoch Powell: His presence in the Loyalist camp gives the lie to those who say Northern Ireland's problem is a 'religious war'



MEMBERS of the National Front paraded with banners—'Ulster is British forever'—outside Armagh Orange Hall last Thursday night, while inside a packed Loyalist meeting gave Enoch Powell a rapturous reception.

Powell is being spoken of as the 'new Carson', a charismatic leader come to 'save Ulster.'

The general idea is that he would become overall chief of the Loyalist Coalition at Westminster, while the 'Big Three'—William Craig, Ian Paisley and Harry West—retain leadership of their individual factions. This would solve several of the Loyalists' problems.

For some time the Protestant right wing here has been faction-ridden and fragmented. Craig, Paisley and West are jealous of one another, each insistent on the 'rights' and separate identity of his particular group within the coalition. None would defer to the others—but each would accept Powell as boss.

Calculate

Equally relevant has been the emergence of men such as Harry Murray of the Ulster Workers' Council and Andy Tyrrie of the Ulster Defence Association, rank and file leaders thrown up by recent events, who were voicing vaguely 'radical' ideas and expressing a determination never again to give unthinking allegiance to 'middle-class politicians'.

The Loyalist bosses calculate that people like Murray and Tyrrie will be swept aside as the Protestant masses rally to Powell's right-wing banner. Moreover, they argue that Powell's 'prestige' and ready access to the British press and television will give their cause a new respectability.

Messiah

It could well happen like that. The Protestant 'radicals' are drifting rudderless and confused, articulating a set of attitudes rather than a political line. Unable to define their own position to the people and unsure of support even within their own organisations—they would be fairly easy meat for a demagogue as practised as Powell in any fight for the allegiance of the Protestant working class—particularly when the unholy trinity of local leaders begins to drum up support for their new-found Messiah.

By inviting Powell to lead them the Loyalist leaders are attempting to weld all classes within the Protestant community together

Meet the Saviour of Ulster

From Eamonn McCann, Derry, Sunday

again, so heightening sectarian feeling and bring civil war another step nearer.

At Armagh Powell received the longest of a dozen ovations when he said he would work for a 'much strengthened police reserve'. This was taken as support for the sectarian 'Third Force' which is still

recruiting openly and now claims 33,000 members, despite Northern Ireland Secretary Merlyn Rees' insistence that it will not be given official standing.

Local press reports have made clear that the Loyalists are well aware of the wider implications of Powell's probable return to parliament. On Friday the Loyalist Belfast Newsletter congratulated the electorate of South Down, where Powell has been nominated, on having the 'honour and opportunity' of voting for him. It told them to remember that Powell would fight not only for the union between Northern Ireland and Britain, 'but, in the wider field, for policies opposed to those which have been found ineffective in practice and detrimental to the National well-being.'

Socialists do not need to be told what the Newsletter would mean by that...

In Powell the Loyalists believe they have found the man who will save not only Ulster, but Britain too from 'internal subversion'. British workers would do well to consider the implications.

Resist

For half a century here Loyalist leaders used religious hatred to divide the working class and keep a right-wing regime in power—just as Powell has used racial bigotry in Britain. Now there has been a marriage of minds between them, and there should no longer be any question about what the struggle here has been all about.

It has *not* been a crazy religious war. Essentially it has been, and it remains, a fight to the finish between ultra-right proponents of sectarian one-party rule and those who are determined to resist them.

If Powell's accession to Loyalist leadership clarifies that for British workers, perhaps we in Ireland will be able to take a small crumb of comfort from his coming.

NO JUSTICE FOR 50 DEAD

IT TAKES a special kind of 'justice' to decide there was 'no criminal neglect' in the design of a building that cost 50 people their lives, a kind of justice based on the protection of property first, lives second.

The Isle of Man Attorney General's department says 'no criminal proceedings are contemplated against any parties' in the Summerland pleasure centre disaster of August last year. With last week's verdict of 'misadventure' by the jury at the resumed inquest into the 50 deaths, the subject is now officially closed.

But relatives of the victims are not satisfied. Charles Aves of Enfield, whose 18-year-old son Billy died in the blaze, told reporters he would be asking the Director of Public Prosecutions to investigate.

The report of the Commission of Inquiry makes it clear that the Summerland building was rushed so that it could be finished by the beginning of the tourist season—and its owners, Trust Houses Forte, could make the maximum profit.

The report states that many letters passed between the two architectural firms, J Philipps Lomas and Partners and Gillinson Barnett and Partners,

and commercial firms or local authorities.

Quotations from letters which were written while the centre was being designed establish their attitudes. 'We might get away with it,' said one. Another suggested treating the Theatre Regulations 'with a pinch of salt' and 'steering the mind of the Chief Fire Officer along the lines of the lowest estimate' in fire fighting equipment.

Perhaps the most significant quote is: 'I do not think we need worry unduly on this business of fire resistance. The town council will have to apply a waiver and I do not think for one moment that they will refuse it.'

Surprise, surprise, the council *did* apply a waiver to one of the byelaws and acrylic sheeting—Oroglas—was used for the external walls, although Bye-law 39 requires that 'external walls of any building shall be non-combustible throughout and have a fire resistance of two hours.'

Fifty people died in pain and panic. Trust Houses Forte profits went up. The architects are flourishing. But there are 'no villains' and no charges.



WHAT WE STAND FOR

THE International Socialists are a revolutionary socialist organisation open to all who accept our main principles and who are willing to work to achieve them. These principles are:

INDEPENDENT WORKING-CLASS ACTION

We believe that socialism can only be achieved by the independent action of the working class.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORMISM

We believe in overthrowing capitalism, not patching it up or gradually trying to change it. We therefore support all struggles of workers against capitalism and fight to break the hold of reformist ideas and leaders.

THE CAPITALIST STATE

The state machine is a weapon of capitalist class rule and therefore must be smashed. The present parliament, army, police and judges cannot simply be taken over and used by the working class. There is, therefore, no parliamentary road to socialism. The working-class revolution needs an entirely different kind of state—a workers' state, based on councils of workplace delegates.

WORK IN THE MASS ORGANISATIONS OF THE WORKING CLASS

We believe in working in the mass organisations of the working class, particularly the trade unions, and fighting for rank and file control of them.

INTERNATIONALISM

We are internationalists. We practise and campaign for solidarity with workers in other countries, oppose racialism and imperialism, and fully support the struggles of all oppressed peoples. We are opposed to all immigration controls.

The experience of Russia demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation in one country. Revolution is defeated by isolation. Russia, China and Eastern Europe are not socialist but state capitalist. We support the workers' struggle in these countries against the bureaucratic ruling class.

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

To achieve socialism the most militant sections of the working class have to be organised into a revolutionary socialist party, and all the activity of the International Socialists is directed to the building of such a party by fighting for a programme of political and industrial demands that can strengthen the self-confidence, organisation and socialist consciousness of the working class.

WE ARE

For rank and file control of the trade unions and the regular election of all full-time officials. No secret negotiations. All settlements to be voted on by mass meetings.

For 100 per cent trade unionism. Against all victimisations and blacklisting. Against anti-trade union laws or curbs on the right to strike and on effective picketing.

Against productivity or efficiency deals. Against any form of incomes policy under capitalism.

Against unemployment, redundancies and lay-offs. Instead we demand five days work or five days pay, and the 35-hour week. For nationalisation without compensation under workers' control.

For militant trade union unity, joint shop stewards committees at plant and combine level.

For the building of a national rank and file movement which will fight for these policies in the trade union movement.

Against racialism and police victimisation of black people. Against all immigration controls. For the right of black people and other oppressed groups to organise in their own defence.

For real social, economic and political equality for women.

Against all nuclear weapons and military alliances such as NATO and the Warsaw Pact. Against all forms of imperialism, including Russian imperialism.

For unconditional support to all genuine national liberation movements.

For the building of a mass workers' revolutionary party, organised in the workplaces, which can lead the working class to power, and for the building of a revolutionary socialist international.

International Socialists



If you agree with the views expressed in this paper and would like more information, or would like to join the International Socialists, then send this form to: The International Socialists, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN

Name _____

Address _____

Trade Union _____

Inside Lucas, Birmingham... How the militants see it

By Peter Troy, AUEW, Great King Street

EVER fancied you could do better than those acts on 'Opportunity Knocks'? Well, now's your chance. Come to Lucas-in-the-fields. Hockley, and find out what it's like in front of the cameras. I get stage tright before I come to work!

It doesn't take much imagination to realise the more sinister implications of these Big Brother developments. At the moment, closed-circuit cameras, installed with the approval of factory union 'leaders', are only covering every exit, including that of the 'Duke of Cambridge' pub across the road. But how long before they are installed in our workplaces, maybe even in the toilets? Shades of Charlie Chaplin's 'Modern Times'.

The security cameras at Lucas, Great King Street, were installed during the summer holidays, behind the backs of the rank and file.

Workers at other factories must resist the installation of these new weapons in the bosses' fight to protect their privileges in every way they can.

The power is there so let's use it!

IN 1970, GMWU members in the Formans Road factory struck to win parity with the car industry. Until then, negotiations were carried out on a sectional basis and wages were low. After three weeks, the motor manufacturers had had enough and told Lucas to sort out their problems quickly.

The Car Council recommended that the company should pay a £4 across-the-board increase to all manual workers in the Birmingham area, and that an annual review of wages covering all Lucas factories within the combine should be set up.

The motor manufacturers had had a severe shock. They decided to try and find alternative supplies of components and a policy of dual supply was to be introduced.

Confined

But, whether they like it or not, they are still fairly heavily dependent on Lucas. This means Lucas workers have potentially tremendous power.

Such power has never really been used before because the organisation and leadership within Lucas have never been strong enough. For many years effective trade union organisation was confined to the skilled areas. Semi-skilled workers saw Lucas as a stop-gap. Instead of organising to change conditions, half

by Larry Connolly,
AUEW convenor,
BW3 Shaftmoor Lane

went to better paid jobs in the car plants.

The 1970 settlement at Formans Road has seen the company move away from negotiating on a factory to factory basis and towards group negotiations, with the senior stewards doing the main negotiations.

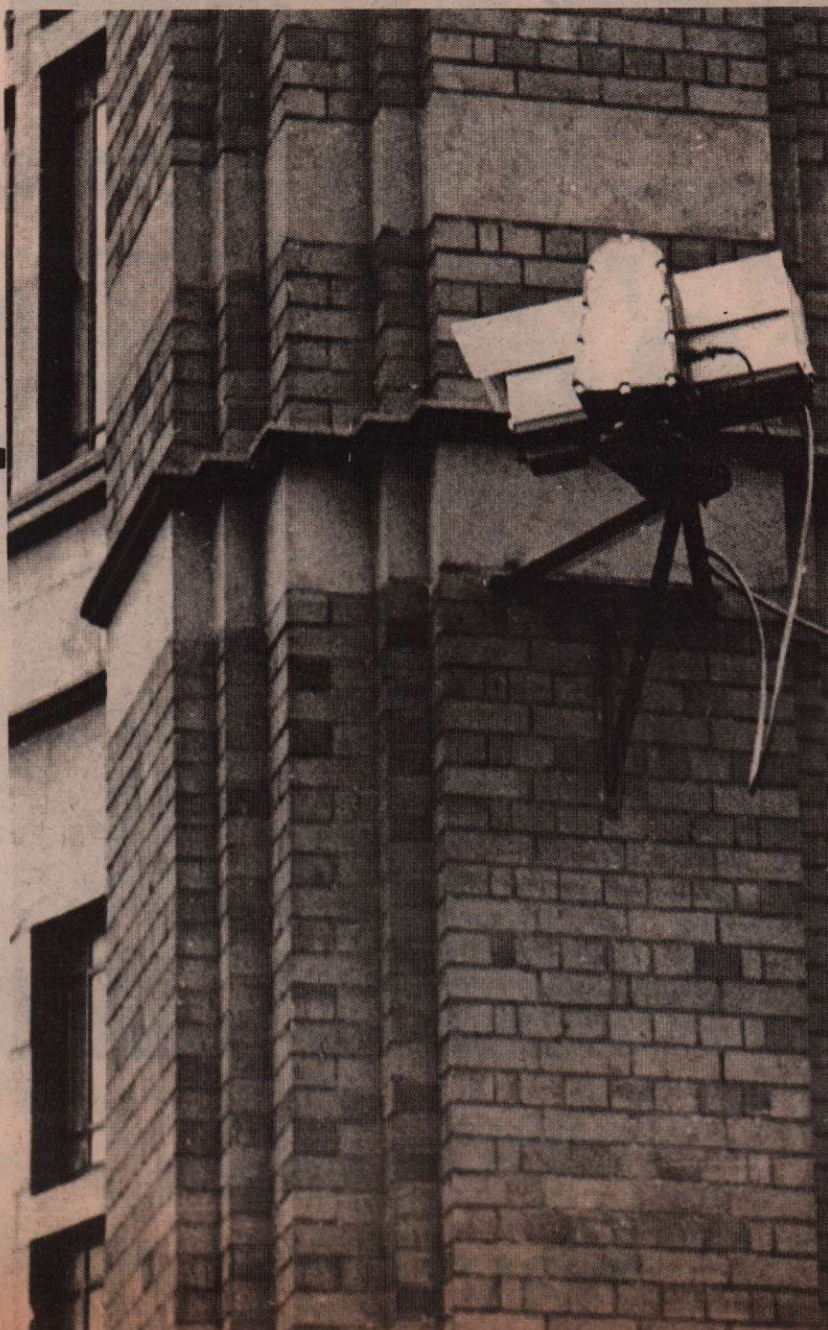
Unfortunately that £4 increase didn't set the target for future negotiations.

Pooled

We at Lucas have not made gains because we are split up into separate factory organisations where different shop stewards' committees make different policy and come up with different ideas. The end result: no coherent common policy.

This is not a criticism of the shop stewards committees as such, but we would be much stronger if we met collectively, pooled our ideas and experiences and came up with a clear, united policy.

Then we would be meeting the Lucas management on their own terms. This is what makes the building of an Electrical Combine Committee so urgent.



Big Brother Lucas is watching you...

by Mick Rice
AUEW shop steward

UNION organisation in Lucas has been split up into the separate factory sites for too long. Management has therefore been able to use the old tactic of divide and rule.

No longer can we win major advances in wages and conditions on a sectional basis.

Management is not foolish enough to allow individual factory managers to do as they please. The unions in Lucas have to learn a lesson from this. The company organises under one board to protect their profits.

We, the shop stewards in Lucas, have to organise on a combine committee to protect our members.

Trade unionists in Lucas Electrical owe a debt to our

brothers and sisters in the Lucas Aerospace Division. They have already built a strong shop stewards' combine committee. The company has to meet the combine executive to discuss matters affecting the whole work-force.

The committee represents all trade unionists—and helps break down hostility between the shop floor and staff.

Two years ago, the Combine Committee circularised all the wage rates throughout the group. The workers in Burnley found they were being paid between £6 and £7 less than workers in other factories.

A long dispute broke out and more than £2,000 was collected at

'Insurance policy' the bosses fear

mass protest meetings to deal with hardship cases.

The Burnley struggle owed its success to the support and solidarity actions undertaken by the rest of the group. A company spokesman was quoted as saying that the solidarity action created 'a very serious situation with national implications.'

The Combine Committee, by blacking the transfer of work, has been able to protect jobs in the different sites until alternative work has been provided.

Combine

Last January, when the company announced redundancies, the Combine decided on a series of tactics to break down all telephone communication between the factories.

No individual shop stewards' committee negotiated with their local management. Instead the whole Combine meets the industrial Relations and Personnel Manager on behalf of the group.

The Aerospace Combine has been able to establish itself because it has proved its worth in practice. It has been able to print a newspaper, 'Combine News' to keep the membership informed.

In 1972, the convenor of Burnley Aerospace wrote to a convenor at CAV urging the setting up of a Combine—the best insurance policy we could have taken out—within the CAV group. He added, 'We have the evidence at Burnley to prove you will not regret it.'

The Shop Stewards Committee at Lucas BW3 are now taking the first steps in extending that organisation, by calling the meeting for Lucas Electrical Trade Unionists on 14 September.

In the coming period, we will all need that 'insurance policy'.

THE KEY TO VICTORY

BY ROGER GRIFFITHS, Toolsetters' shop steward, BW3 Shaftmoor Lane

RISING prices are leaving many Lucas workers so short of cash that they are forced to hope overtime is available. Pieceworkers try to increase their earnings by speeding up on their jobs.

But there is a limit to the amount of overtime that can be worked, and the amount of sweat in our bodies. Workers with family commitments have had to reduce their own spending money rather than be faced with their wife and kids going short.

When the senior stewards presented this year's pay claim, the company tried to include in the negotiations a series of separate, sectional and factory claims. It is refusing to implement any part of its offer until all outstanding claims are resolved—an attempt to turn the rest of the workforce against those who have separate negotiating rights and specific anomalies to resolve. The company also wants to turn down all sectional claims by stating that these can only be negotiated yearly.

The senior stewards' demands included a substantial increase, equal pay, improved piecework payments and average earnings for sickness. Because the threshold payments had just been triggered, the company, to everyone's surprise, agreed to pay the threshold back-dated to 3 June. Negotiations have dragged on for over

two months, and the workforce is now in receipt of £2.40 threshold payment. The company hoped by this to make this year's offer appear more attractive.

The company has offered £2.25 on the basic, 97p for women, an extra 75p for indirect and direct workers, an extra 50p for semi-skilled indirect workers.

It has refused to pay any more on the threshold and is only prepared to discuss it again when the index reaches 222.

The BW3 Joint Shop Stewards' Committee demanded a permanent threshold agreement on top of the existing offer. The vote in the 13 Lucas factories in Birmingham produced confusion—and now the Birmingham East District Committee of the AUEW is trying to organise a meeting of all shop stewards to get a common policy. Efforts were also made to involve the TGWU district organisation.

It is obvious from the year's negotiations that in future more attention must be paid to the tactics for getting a common policy and common action throughout the plants.

For this reason the Joint Shop Stewards' Committee at BW3 have organised a meeting on 14 September as a first step towards establishing a strong combine committee. Organisation is always the key to victory.

LUCAS ELECTRICAL COMBINE MEETING

The Lucas BW3 Joint Shop Stewards Committee, Shaftmoor Lane, Birmingham, are organising a meeting in September to discuss the setting up of a Lucas Electrical Combine. This will not be a delegate meeting but an open meeting to discuss the idea of a Combine Committee with other trade unionists working for the Electrical Co.

THE NEED FOR COMBINE ORGANISATION

Saturday 14 September, 11am to 4pm;
British Legion Club, Thorpe Street, Birmingham (near AUEW offices, Horsefair). Refreshments available during lunch break.
Speakers: Mike Cooley, Editor, Combine News. Ernie Poland, T&GWU Convenor, BW5 Shaftmoor Lane.
Larry Connolly, AUEW Convenor, BW3 Shaftmoor Lane, will open the afternoon session on the way forward for the Electrical Co trade unions.
The Meeting is open to all Lucas workers.

It's a man's life

POURING METAL. Have you a cool head for a Hot Job? Want some excitement with a little danger? (Sparks do fly every now and again). Then pouring molten metal into moulds is just the job. Excellent earnings plus first-rate company benefits. The Personnel Dept. is open to see you from 7.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday.

SECOND KETTLE. Because we are working flat out to meet demand our Galvanising Dept. are opening a new production unit (2nd Kettle). If you are level-headed and don't go off the boil and want to be involved from the start with a new unit - call in and find out about our top rates of pay and conditions - Personnel Dept., Crane Ltd., Nacton Road.

The above cuttings come from an advertisement in the Ipswich Football Star on Saturday 24 August for workers for Crane, an engineering subsidiary of the massive American Crane Company.



Oh Mr. Thorpe, What Indecent Exposure!

LESS THAN 12 months ago a company known as London and County Securities crashed. It had been expected and predicted for many weeks.

During the catastrophic run-up to the company's collapse, all suggestions that anything was wrong were strongly denied. Indeed, one of the leading directors—Liberal leader Jeremy Thorpe—not only shrugged off the warnings I raised in parliament, but continued his South Coast tour of opening London and County banks in supermarkets, complete with high interest rates for prospective investors.

It was a scenario that could not have been bettered in pre-war Chicago, with a politician of supposedly impeccable character acting out the role of the front man. Many people, normally scared of investing in banks offering high interest rates, were comforted by the fact that the Liberal leader was giving added credibility to the banks by cutting the tapes in lavish opening ceremonies at £100 a time.

Now nearly a year later, Mr Thorpe is on another tour of the South Coast. But this time he is using a hovercraft so he can make a quick getaway from the pensioners and others—like those who have written to me—who invested their savings and have yet to recover a single penny piece.

Mr Thorpe had time, however, to utter the following words about the government's role in the Court Line affair: 'Court Line's holiday sector was within weeks of insolvency, of which Mr Benn was apparently blindly ignorant. Encouraged by this gesture of government confidence backed by hard cash, holidaymakers went on booking tours and putting down their deposits, only to lose their money.'

Crash

After indecently exposing himself with a statement like that Mr Thorpe should get a job with strip club owner Paul Raymond.

A Department of Trade investigation is going on into why and how London and County crashed.

In view of the Liberal leader's latest remarks they ought to consider just when the crash took place. When did London and County become insolvent? Was it around the time that the auditor of the leading subsidiary resigned?

Could it be that the last desperate takeover bid for the Inveresk Group was a calculated piece of asset-stripping to provide ready cash? Was it before all those bank openings on the South Coast?

One person ought to know the answers to these and other questions but he has been strangely silent on the matter since he uttered some immortal words in the House of Commons at the time of the bank's crash. Jeremy Thorpe then said that the clearing-up operation should be conducted 'with the minimum of publicity'.

Now that this expert on bankruptcies has dared to speak up on the aftermath of financial disasters, he should be invited to the Department of Trade to explain more precisely how it is possible for a company to continue its trading activities when no longer solvent.

But as any decent barrister would readily concede, such outrageous conduct by a company is pure and simple fraud. Which is why the Rt Hon Jeremy Thorpe, QC, MP, ought to fetch down those dusty law books before he next opens his mouth about Court Line.

Dennis Skinner
Labour MP for Bolsover

Fallen Archer

EDWARD HEATH is known to be very stern about corruption in public life. It's not well known, for instance, that Heath was the first to insist that his deputy prime minister, Reginald Maudling, should resign as Home Secretary in 1972, when police started looking into the affairs of John Poulson, corrupt architect and former friend and business associate of Maudling.

But even the stern Heath is not above attending the odd function to boost the business ventures of his friends and colleagues—and even Heath finds himself in trouble as a result.

For some months we have been revealing the curious behaviour of Sir Timothy Kitson, parliamentary private secretary to Heath, who joined the board of a shipbuilding consultancy company owned by Court Line and Court Line directors while he was still serving Heath in Downing Street. Kitson persuaded Heath to go to a publicity lunch for the firm in the Savoy—a lunch which appears to have brought in a lot of orders.

I think we may still hear a lot about Sir Timothy Kitson, but another little difficulty which has come Heath's way is the sudden demise of his brightest star, Jeffrey Archer. Last month, Archer was forced to resign as Tory MP for Louth because he had bankrupted himself by investing hundreds of thousands—and persuading others to invest hundreds of thousands—in a foul swindle called Aquablast.



Tory leader and PR-man Ted Heath with Jeffrey Archer (left), now on his third financial disaster, at the opening of the Archer Gallery in 1969

Archer's demise has been hastily glossed over by Conservative Central Office, who are anxious not to remember that top Tories knew perfectly well, when Archer was nominated for Louth in 1969, that he was a charlatan and an expenses-fiddler of a high order, that he had swindled the United Nations Association, of which he was a fund-raiser, of some £800 by charging expenses for meals and travel for which other people had paid, and that he had started a gallery in the West End which swiftly became bankrupt.

All this was written to top Tories, including Heath, by Humphrey Berkeley, who had been at the United Nations Association with

Archer and who knew only too well of Archer's record.

Heath refused to intervene. Despite Berkeley's assurance that Archer would 'come unstuck' as an MP, Heath and all the other top Tories insisted that his nomination should go ahead.

Royalty

Why? I can think of two main reasons. First, Archer, in the course of his fund-raising activities, had ingratiated himself with all sorts of top people, including royalty. He was a regular guest, for instance, at Broadlands, the expensive home of Earl Mountbatten, the Queen's

uncle. He and Mountbatten were engaged in several fund-raising activities, most notably for the creation of several schools run on barbarian lines like Gordonstoun in Scotland.

The second reason may be more important. The Archer Gallery was founded in August 1969 with Jeffrey Archer as managing director.

The chairman was Geoffrey Rippon, then Tory front bench spokesman, later Tory Minister for the Environment. He had 5000 shares.

Everything depended on a successful 'launch' for the gallery, and once again the unfortunate Edward Heath, leader of the Tory Party, was roped in for the job of PR-man. There he was at the gallery's opening party in October 1969. The art press was out in force, and Heath went through his paces nicely. 'I spend all my time in art galleries,' he boomed, and guffawed endlessly into the cameras.

Stoutly

So the gallery got the best press possible. But not good enough. Less than a year later the gallery was bankrupt, and Archer sold it off at a loss.

No wonder Heath defended Archer so stoutly when his name was impugned over the Louth nomination.

It's worth remembering, next time you hear Heath electioneering about the 'fabric of our national life', just what kind of fabric is woven by Jeffrey Arthur, Sir Timothy Kitson and all the rest of the bright young men patronised by the Tory leader.

Os Best-Sellers da quinzena

Class. ant.	Título	Autor	Editor
1	O Estado e a Revolução	Lenine	Latitude
2	Rumo à Vitória	Alvaro Cunhal	"A Opinião"
3	Portugal poderá viver sem Colónias?	Diversos	Iniciativas Editoriais
4	Textos Políticos	Amílcar Cabral	Divalivro
5	Salário, Preço, Lucro	Karl Marx	Escorpião
6	Tarrafal	Cândido de Oliveira	República
7	Educação Ideológica	Enver Hoxha	Divalivro
8	Tarrafal	M. F. Rodrigues	Brasília
9	História de Moçambique	Frelimo	Afrontamento
10	A Resistência em Portugal	J. Dias Coelho	Inova

Here is the list of best-selling books as printed in the respected Lisbon daily paper Expresso on 24 August. Top is Lenin's State and Revolution, closely followed by the general secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party, with Wages, Prices and Profits by Karl Marx in fifth place.

This could be any city in the world... A passer-by watches as slogans are painted out -but the face of the international system that blights men's lives watches from a doorway. This is Chile...



IMAGINE half a million British workers—socialists and trade unionists—taken out and shot. Many after days of torture.

You have a picture of what has happened in Chile since the military coup overthrew President Allende on 11 September last year. No one knows exactly how many have been killed. A Chilean businessman, a conservative, estimated 80,000—the equivalent of half a million in a country the size of Britain.

And the attack goes on.

All the significant trade unions, including those on the right, have been dissolved. Hundreds of thousands of workers have been sacked where they were known as militants and socialists.

Torture continues. A thorough investigation by the Chilean churches, the Ariztia Report, has shown that the torturers concentrate on the most bestial and horrific forms, such as electric shock to the eyes and genitals.

Worry

The cost of living has increased on an unheard-of scale, especially for peasants and workers. In the nine months after the coup, the price of bread and milk and cooking oil went up by 20 times. Most Chilean workers still earn the equivalent of less than £15 a month, so virtually all has to be spent on such necessities.

And these workers are the lucky ones—they have got jobs, unlike the fifth of the workforce—



the figure is increasing all the time—who are totally unemployed. The junta says its principal worry about the Chilean economy is 'public expenditure, not unemployment. No country dies of unemployment'. So the massive sackings since the coup will continue to be encouraged by the junta.

No wonder then that the Financial Times correspondent in Santiago reported that the most common dish in Chile today is 'pantrucas'—a mixture of flour and water.

All this is being done in the hope that American investment will come to Chile if the pickings

are rich enough. Says the junta: 'Foreign companies . . . should be given adequate guarantees for the repatriation of capital and profits and we are ready to be generous on that score.'

The International Newsletter reported that this gives foreign investors the right to repatriate 14 per cent annual profits and to take out their capital after two years.

This newsletter is distributed privately to businessmen who pay 3,000 dollars a year for its 12 issues. It concluded: 'Cast an eye over the list of these enterprises . . . with the help of a good Chilean partner, you can

make money out of some of them.'

Much of the junta's original support has now disappeared—that is one reason why they feel forced to use terror on such a massive scale. It shows the weakness of a regime which can see no other way to solve its problems.

But the junta's solution will solve nothing and can only add to the problem. Chile depends on copper exports to pay for the large quantities of food and manufactured goods that it imports. Because the junta is going all-out to woo the foreign investor, it cannot interfere with 'free trade' by protecting its own manufac-

PETER BINNS member of the Chile Solidarity Campaign Committee and of the International Socialists. WRITES ON CHILE ONE YEAR AFTER THE COUP

LEFT: The generals who overthrew President Allende show the world's reporters how to run a press conference.

turers. So this dependence on foreign goods and food continues and grows—and Chile has to export more and more copper to pay.

But the value of copper fluctuates so rapidly on the world market that any forward planning based on its current price is pretty well impossible. Today there is a world-wide copper glut: prices are falling rapidly and Chile has no chance of increasing its revenue.

So the junta's support for the interests of American imperialism has increasingly brought it into conflict with Chile's own small and middle businessmen. They, the lorry-owners and small shopkeepers were the backbone of the

sabotage of Allende's

of support for those who have become rapidly small shopkeepers. This type of police those with large small man. If the lasts beyond the we are going to fighting again . . .

His feelings are the lower middle slavish pursuit of vestor has led to collapse of the sector of the result its support thinner every day

In spite of the workers show no cowed and have open sabotage. Mines have been set on fire, and are manufacture is not uncommon come off the pro anti-junta slogans was an impressive against the junta and workers even ness to attack junta's generals in the streets of S

Solid

In all these a resistance is encouraged by abroad. In its turn encourages further

One good example action by Rol of Chilean Hawke After this action

SOLIDARITY WITH THE WORKERS OF CHILE! Demonstrate: **Glasg**

14 September Blytheswood Square, 10.30 am **London**, Sunday 15 Sept **Spea**



BY NIGEL FOUNTAIN

LEYTON, East London, was a frightened suburb on Saturday 17 August. Long famous for its scenic beauty, its elegant high-rise flats, it waited through the sweltering 60-degree morning for the hell of the afternoon.

Terrified shop-keepers installed tank traps in front of their quaint old stores and barricaded the windows. Would they ever open again? they asked themselves. Whimpering children were sent off on special refugee tube trains to the safety of Ongar and Epping Forest.

Then THEY came. Pouring out of the ticket barriers, smoking No 6 grasped in stubby hands, canisters of McEwans Export stuffed in their combat jackets, supporters of Manchester United Football Club had arrived to urge their team's speedy return to the First Division.

That, at any rate, was the picture the bosses' press was portraying.

In fact 14 of United's fans made the journey merely to pass a few hours in a London police cell. They were done before they got clear of Euston station. Another 13 were arrested before the day was over.

From the press coverage this incident received you would imagine that Leyton was by now a smouldering ruin. You would imagine no Manchester United fan had ever visited the capital before.

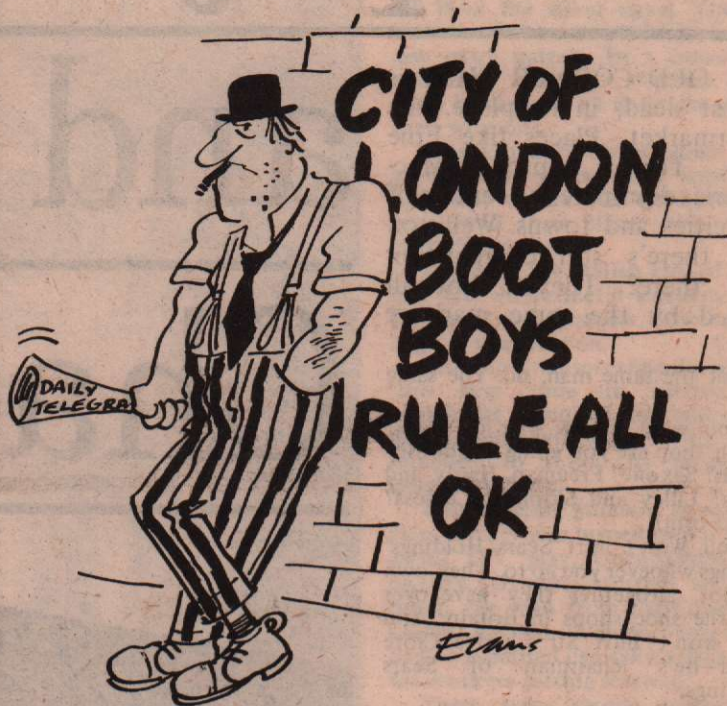
Rape

Why the fuss? One reason is the idleness of the national newspapers. During the summer what better to pass the time than THE THREAT OF HOOLIGAN FANS. It's a lot more interesting than CHIVERS: I WENT TO PICTURES AFTER BIG MATCH SHOCK although not as good as MANCHESTER UNITED FAN RAPES MARIE OSMOND.

From idleness comes the self-fulfilling prophecy. The London Evening Standard kicked off its football coverage in mid-August with an 'open letter' from Orient, Leyton's football team, urging United fans not to riot when they come to London. This was followed by SHOPKEEPERS BAR WINDOWS headlines.

What a disgraceful turn-out it would have been if nobody had been arrested! Why, someone might have accused them of attempting to whip up a story, to cover the boredom of the new football season.

For after all, what is there to



Football: Threat of a hooligan press

say about football in the initial weeks? A few players transferred for some miserable pittance like 300,000 old pensioner's annual pensions, a few managers in I QUIT SHOCK, a few more in HE'S FIRED SHOCK and that's about it.

So the newspaper's faithful old teenage hooligan climbs out of his wheelchair and staggers once more into action. My, he's seen some times.

Just after the war he was popular in his 'Cosh Boy' guise—why, in those days they even made films about him. Then he bought a new outfit and came back as 'Teddy Boy', great seller that was. It got exhausting after that. Hardly after getting out of 'Mod' he was into 'Greaser' and what with 'Hells Angel', Pill-head, Hippie, Skinhead, Smooth... you can hardly be surprised if he feels somewhat tired and frustrated. Especially when it's back to the traditional soccer rioter costume. No wonder the supporters of Hullchester Rovers walk in fear...

Dope

Certain words are used by Fleet Street to cover a multitude of sins—or virtues. 'Young mother' is usually good—'Young mothers protested today...' 'Militant'—well, we all know what that means—horror, wrecked economy, hospitals in danger.

'Militants' can come in all shapes and sizes. But the young working class are seen by the bulk of Fleet Street's trembling middle class as a continuous ever-present threat. They trample their friends at pop concerts, smoke dope, beat up old ladies—and riot at football matches.

While the press will carry adverts to seduce them, the news pages will be used to revile them. If they are lucky, pompous comments will be made about how wonderful some young people are, how a 'loutish' minority shouldn't be taken as 'representative'—the most open incitement for anyone with a spark of freedom in his or her soul to go

set fire to Wembley stadium.

If they do that then the press knows what to do. They're kids are they? Well, get SUPER GAMES MASTER out!

And out they came. Big Don Revie barking and threatening the cane, Dennis Howell, Labour's Minister of Sport, whining, crawling and talking about fair play and unacceptable levels of violence.

As an ex-director of Bryants, the Birmingham building firm with profits built on the wide-spread use of lump labour, he should know about fair play. His own clear and unequivocal stand against the British Lions tour of South Africa, the experts on apartheid violence—the climax of which was him drinking champagne with the team on its return to England—is a model for all young sports fans to look up to.

Remedies were suggested: such as £1000 fines—one 275th of Peter Osgood's transfer fee—and there were gleeful interviews with Borstal heads who told of the strict discipline and training they can provide.

Then a kid died at a match in Blackpool—and Howell really had the chance to show what a guardian of the people he was: How about identity cards?

Safer

Since football fans—unlike the young people beaten up at the Windsor pop festival last week—fail to co-operate by staying in one place so the police can batter them, this must surely be the best solution. No matter that if Howell talked of black people in the way he talked of 14-17 year-olds he would be brought to court under the Race Relations Act.

No matter that in January 1971 66 people were crushed to death at Ibrox Park, Glasgow, when a barrier collapsed, and no one has been found responsible. No matter that no effective steps have been taken to make football grounds safer, despite a fat report on the subject...

Kids smash windows, run down the road and shout because it's fun, because the spark of life in them hasn't been completely blown out by years of rotten schooling and rotten jobs, because there are few other ways of expressing the frustrated potential of their lives. Often they're bloody stupid, sometimes dangerous, usually harmless.

But for the dead hands of Fleet Street, they are 'good copy', to be spewed out as hate objects for a few weeks, to create a little more bitterness to sour the lives of those who are older and more defeated.

The kids riot because they are fed up, and we are made to read about it to stop us doing anything about being fed up...

de's regime and the coup. They are disenchanted. The leader of the... said recently: policy is favouring interests, not the present situation end of this year, to have to start

common among class. The junta's of the foreign in the progressive Chilean-owned economy. As a part is becoming

repression, the signs of being even moved to and resistance. Flooded, factories when where goods successfully it on for them to production line with attached. There mass strike wave on May Day, have the bold- and stone the in their cars Santiago.

arity sets the Chilean tremendously en- solidarity from solidarity action resistance. is the black- Royce workers Hunter engines. servicemen in

ow, Saturday

kers Corner, 1 pm

the El Bosque Air Base in Chile sabotaged six remaining Hawker Hunter engines by ruining their internal mechanisms with sand!

International solidarity has been shown by workers in other countries too.

In Argentina, for instance, junta chief Pinochet tried to have a quiet conference with the then President Peron. Fear of working-class reprisals forced the plane to land at the air force base at Moron—reputedly the most heavily guarded in Argentina. Even so workers at the base refused to service the plane, and Pinochet never dared leave the base.

Fuelling

Meanwhile elsewhere in Argentina the offices of LAN, the Chilean airline, were bombed and 16 armoured cars destined for Chile were blown up on the production line at a General Motors plant. Amid demonstrations by thousands in the streets of the principle cities of Argentina, Pinochet scurried back home again.

The junta has no credibility within Chile any more. The developing resistance, on the other hand, seems more determined than ever. In this context international solidarity actions can play a crucial role in fuelling the flames of resistance and so bringing about the eventual collapse of the junta.

In Britain we need a big solidarity movement of workers. A huge turnout for the demonstrations in London on Sunday 15 September and in Glasgow on Saturday 14 September is an important step towards this.

Pictures from Santiago by Koen Wessing

HELIOS PRIETO
CHILE: THE GORILLAS ARE AMONGST US
 Translated and introduced by Mike Gonzales

In this implacable attack on Allende's government of Popular Unity, Prieto shows clearly the dangers of not preparing the people for successful resistance to counter-revolution.

In bookshops **50p** or direct (add 10p post and packing) from
 Pluto Press, Unit 10 Spencer Court
 7 Chalcot Road, London NW1 8LH

You pays your money

and you takes...

Charlie Clore

THE OLD CORNER SHOP is almost dead, in its place, the supermarket. Places like Fine Fare, Tesco, Liptons, Macfisheries dominate the centres of our cities and towns. Well you say, there's still competition isn't there? They're not all owned by the same man are they?

Not the same man, no. The same men.

You want a new pair of shoes? Which shop are you going to choose? Dolcis? Saxone? Freeman, Hardy and Willis? Lilley and Skinner? Curtess? True Form?

You won't hurt Sears Holdings' feelings whoever you go to. They own the lot, altogether they have over half the shoe shops in Britain. And you won't hurt Sir Charles Clore either—he's chairman of Sears Holdings.

Still you could get your shoes at a department store couldn't you? Try Lewis's in Manchester or Leeds. Take a trip down to Selfridges in London that's a well-known store. Well once again old Charlie won't shed any tears—you're still in Clore Land.

Profit

Two gems in Clore's empire are Garrard—the 'Crown Jewellers'—and Mappin and Webb jewellery retailers.

Garrard have 'created the Churchill Centenary Collection of sterling silver'. Items in this collection of trivia would set you back a mere £5000 plus. The cheapest item is a paper-knife 10 inches long.

'It has a Churchill medallion set in the handle' for only £85.

Still where there's muck there's silver—and there's also Unilever, whenever you try to wash the muck off with Knights Castile or Lifebuoy. It made a profit of £338 million out of doing so last year thanks to, among many others, Lux, Omo, Sunlight and Persil.

Dishes clean? Hands clean? Well settle down to a good meal. Pull out the Mothers Pride and spread the lovely thick Stork.

What's that? You can tell it from butter? Well try Echo, or Summer County, or Blue Band or Flora. Course they're all Unilever too...

Sick

A bowl of Batchelors soup to dip the bread into? Yes it's Unilever. How about a Chinese-style-Chow Mein-Spaghetti Bolognese-quick-dried-just add water from Vesta? The same...

You feel sick? You want good old English bangers eh? Try the farm house flavour of Walls Unilever sausages, or perhaps Richmond... Same pig, different wrapper. Peas? Surprise freeze-dried?

No surprise at all I'm afraid... Unilever, as are their rival, Tempo. Along with Unox luncheon meat and John West sardines. Try some fresh fish, you don't want to have all that tinned stuff do you?

MacFisheries is Unilever—and so is Liptons.

The present Lord Leverhulme is a director of Unilever, he is an Advisory Director and owns 99,000 acres of land—perhaps he grows his own vegetables.

Even the cigarette companies have



by
Vic
Tambling

realised how lucrative the food and drinks business is. The Imperial Group (now called Imps) own Players, Embassy, Ogden's Tobacco, Wills, have gone into pubs and breweries.

They own over 6500 pubs which include Courage and John Smiths Tadcaster Brewery. If it's Harp Lager, Dry Cane white rum, Scotsmac or Southern Comfort, it's Imps.

Smedley, HP Sauce, Lea and

Perrins, Golden Wonder, Young's Seafoods, Ross Poultry, St Bruno, all of these help towards the massive profits (over £96 million before tax in 1973) of the Imperial Group.

Political donations of the company were £4000 to the Economic League and £1000 to Common Cause.

The chairman of Imps, Sir John Partridge—salary over £600 a week—just so happens to be the director of another tobacco company, British

LEFT: Where Clore's riches show—Garrard, the society jewellers that sells 'Churchill' cigar boxes at £675. ABOVE: International Stores, part of the BAT tobacco company—£3000 paid to right-wing organisations.

American Tobacco. Still don't worry, there's no conflict of interest! Because Imps own 25½ per cent of BAT anyway...

Still BAT just settles down to the business of killing us off with their cigarettes don't they?

Well, not quite... They own International Stores, George Mason, Payantake, Pegrams etc etc...

Political donations included £1000 to Aims of Industry, £250 to Common Cause and £1750 to the Economic League.

So when you next read about the 'freedom of choice' and competition be of good cheer... There's Sir John Partridge of BAT competing with Sir John Partridge of Imps, and both of them competing with Lord Leverhulme of Liptons and Lord Leverhulme of Liptons competing with Sir Charles Clore of Lewis's and Clore competing with Clore of Selfridges...



IS THIS A UNION OF EQUALS?

THIS YEAR'S Trade Union Congress has been leafletted by the Equal Pay and Opportunity Campaign, which is attempting to encourage the recruitment of more women to trade unions and to encourage them to 'participate more in union affairs'.

EPOC's leaflet has plenty of ammunition. It begins by pointing out that 'There were 921 male delegates to last year's Congress... There were then 7,445,415 men in TUC affiliated trade unions. That is one man there for every 8084 male members

'There were 70 women delegates to last year's Congress. There were then 2,556,004 women in TUC affiliated unions. That is one woman there for every 36,514 members.

'Women constituted 34 per cent of total TUC-affiliated union membership but only seven per cent of TUC delegates were women.

The leaflet goes on to point out that in the 100 years since the TUC 'decided to promote trade unionism among women... only two and a half million of the nine million working women in Great Britain today are in trade unions.

'Our purpose,' they point out, 'is not to tell unions what to do.' But they ask readers whether their union holds meetings at times when women members are putting the kids to bed or making a meal. Or holds meetings in pubs or clubs which may look or feel 'men only'.

They suggest that facilities are provided to look after kids during union meetings and training courses. They put forward ideas on making meetings more accessible to all members, not just women. The leaflet winds up with a breakdown of male and female membership in

16 unions.

That is a section which makes pretty interesting reading. On 1973 figures there are no women on the executive of the Amalgamated Engineering Union (engineering section), or the Electrical Plumbing Trade Union, or the giant General and Municipal Workers, or the Transport Workers—or NUPE. Even in the National Union of Teachers with 75 per cent women members there are only seven out of 43.

The leaflet, and more information is available from EPOC at 20 Canonbury Square, London N1.

END OF THE PARLIAMEN-
TARY ROAD, by Ian Birchall
and Chris Harman
THE PARLIAMENTARY
ROADERS AND THE CHILE
DEFEAT, by Chris Harman
THE WORKERS' STRUGGLE
UNDER ALLENDE, by Luis
Angel Fernandez Hermana
Articles in three previous
issues of International
Socialism journal—numbers
62, 63 and 66.
55p for the three, or 20p
each, including postage, from
IS JOURNAL, Corbridge
Works, Corbridge Crescent,
London E2 9DS.

By
JIM HIGGINS

JAMES P CANNON died last month, aged 84. More than 60 years of socialist agitation is at an end.

The international revolutionary movement in general and the American movement in particular is immeasurably the richer from his life and work. Frequently wrong, sometimes wrong-headed, his great strength was in mass agitation, popular exposition of revolutionary politics, of making and enthusing revolutionary socialists.

In 1911 he became a member and travelling agitator/organiser for the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). At the Duluth-Superior steel strike that year he learnt the skills of the stump orator, skills he never lost.

As a member and leader of the left wing of the old American Socialist Party, he fought the party's slide into electoral respectability and reformism. In 1919, he was arrested for his agitation, in defiance of a government injunction, among the Kansas coal-miners.

Organisation

The event that marked his life and provided the reference point for all his later activity was the Russian Revolution. The Bolshevik victory of October 1917 clarified for him the question of the revolutionary party. Not the IWW's 'one big union' with the general strike for power, nor the Socialist Party's 'all inclusive party' dedicated to gradualism.

For Cannon, as for the best of his generation, the party was a disciplined organisation of workers, internationally affiliated and seeing the revolutionary seizure of power by and for the workers as the first priority.

A founding member in September 1919 of the Communist Party, he saw his prime task to make it an organisation of American workers.

In the factional struggles that afflicted the American party—as it afflicted every other—in the years of decline into Stalinism, Cannon found his point of reference in supporting the Comintern line. In Moscow in 1928, his worries and doubts found concrete expression.

Expelled

More or less by accident, Cannon acquired a copy of Trotsky: The Draft Programme of the Communist International: A Criticism of Fundamentals. From that day, in his own words, 'I considered myself, without a single wavering doubt thereafter, a disciple of Trotsky.'

Cannon returned to America, together with the smuggled document, and convinced his close party comrades Shachtman and Abern. All three were expelled from the Communist Party.

With pathetically few supporters, frequently beaten and harassed by Communist Party goon squads, they set about building an organisation.

For six years, the American Trotskyists were denied access to any mass movement. In 1934 the American workers began the breakthrough into industrial unionism, the movement for the Congress of Industrial Organisations, in opposition to the craftism of the American Federation of Labour.

The American Trotskyists fused with the American Workers Party of A J Muste and intervened decisively in the great Teamsters' strike in Minneapolis St Paul.

As war approached in the late 1930s, the impetus of the mass movement declined, internal disputes racked the Trotskyist party (Socialist Workers' Party) culminating in 1940 in a split where nearly half the organisation left with Abern and Shachtman.

After Trotsky's assassination in 1940, Cannon was the only remaining figure in the movement with anything like the international prestige of 'the old man'.

He tried, with disastrous results after the war, to fill Trotsky's shoes.

Critical

His revolutionary optimism, his deep faith in the working class, were brilliantly expressed in his pamphlet *The Coming American Revolution*.

Unfortunately, the revolution did not come in America or anywhere else. Cannon was unable to understand the reality of the post-war world, his enthusiasm for October 1917 was carried over eventually, in critical form, to the regimes of Eastern Europe and China.

In his last years, Jim Cannon retired from active political work. The SWP he devoted so much of his life to is a pale shadow of its former self.

But in the final balance sheet that is not important. His speeches, his articles and the very fact of his life have made socialists far beyond the boundaries of his own organisation.

That is no mean achievement. We are the poorer for his death.

30 April, 1951
I WOKE UP this morning and looked over Jordan and what did I see? Stumbling through the morning newspapers, from one report to another—of wars and rumours of wars, and shrieks of danger and threats of calamity, and crime and graft and all-around crookedness in high places, and the hypocrisy of the diplomats and the propaganda lies—I suddenly came across a story on another theme in the *New York Herald Tribune*.

It was the story of 'Robert A Sullivan, 43-year-old boilermaker, with the Consolidated Edison Co, who entered Bellevue Hospital in May with burns covering 70 per cent of his body'. And after more than 10 months' treatment he was up and about and celebrating his recovery and discharge from the hospital at a party 'with ice cream and cookies' with the people who had stood by him, helped him out and seen him through.

Skin graft

The case of Mr Sullivan was a tough one, the toughest ever, the doctors said. 'Doctors who had treated Mr Sullivan said that his was the most extensive burn case they had ever seen recover. He was given three days to live when he entered Bellevue'. How did Mr Sullivan ever get out of a jam like that and live to celebrate it?

'Fifteen skin graft operations

The death of JP Cannon has ended a life of revolutionary activity, recalled above. Below we reprint an article which shows Cannon at his best.

were performed. Fourteen fellow workers from the Consolidated Edison, some who had not known Mr Sullivan before, gave two grafts each of 8-by-4 pieces of skin.'

This was the skin that made the difference; the skin of co-workers taken off their own bodies twice in 8-by-4 slabs for the benefit of another whom some of them at first didn't even know. They merely knew that he was hurt and needed help and they gave it.

What better story can a man read these days for the good of his soul and his faith in the future than a true story like this; true as a factual report of something that really happened and no less true as a representation of the deep and indestructible impulse of people, given a fair chance, to co-operate with each other and to help each other unselfishly?

All those who hope for a better world are bound to believe that this is the real nature of people, which will assert itself in spite of

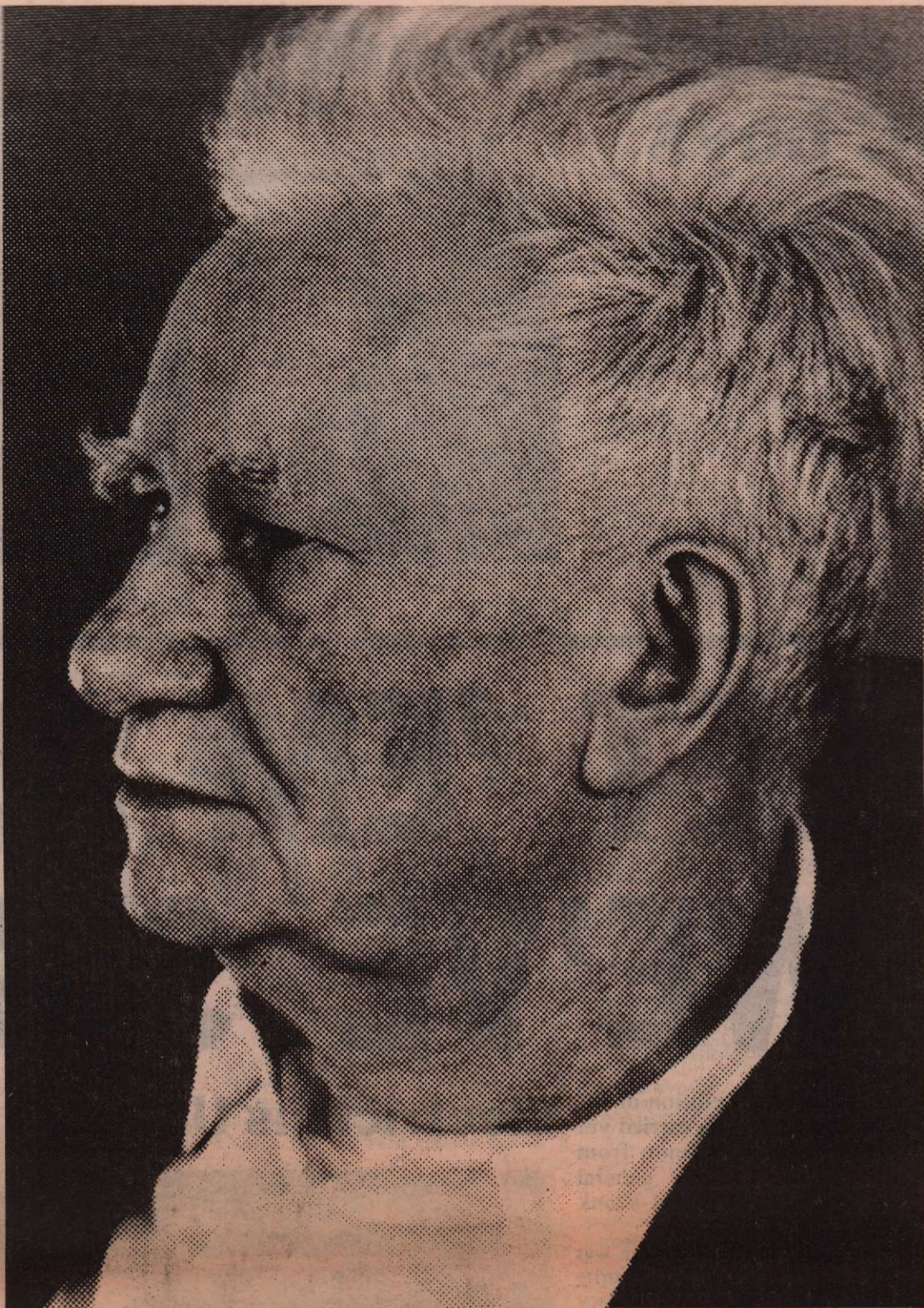
everything and become a mighty power to change the world and make it a better and fairer place for everybody.

All the great leaders and teachers of our socialist movement have firmly held this faith in people; and we must hold it, too, if we are to be true to their heritage and worthy of the mission we have undertaken.

Simplicity

The class society of the present day, founded on fraud and deception, puts great emphasis on competition and rivalry and acquisitiveness and brutal disregard of the rights and lives of others—even mass killers are lauded as heroes; and the holy office of science is prostituted to destructive ends.

But human nature as it really is at bottom, and as it will finally assert itself and prevail, speaks out for co-operation and solidarity, as the men who helped Mr Sullivan have demonstrated with the beau-



Was this the real thing?

'IT WAS the alarm signal. The Red Guards of the occupied Fiat factory saw extra patrols. In a second the machines stopped. Workers, their faces black with oil and dust ran for their weapons.

'Some had revolvers, some hand grenades or rifles, while some had only iron spears. All were prepared to defend their plant, even at the cost of their lives.'

That was the Italian city of Turin in 1920 where metal workers, as in Petrograd and Glasgow, stood at the edge of insurrection.

Antonio Gramsci called the strikes 'the first time in history the proletariat struggled for control of production without having been impelled to action by hunger or unemployment.'

This thrilling moment in working class history was turned into a pretty awful ITV play, *Occupations*, last Sunday. Gramsci strutted and postured, the man from the Comintern coldly plotted, women, usually in bed, symbolised capitalism dying and the workers getting screwed.

There were strong scenes and Gramsci's original words did get through despite grotesque acting.

But the working class were simply voices off stage. In insurrection, they have to be at the centre of the stage.

PREVIEW

THURSDAY (5 Sept): ITV, 8pm. THIS WEEK. John Deason, who chaired the IS platform at Leicester, puts our case for stopping the fascists. The programme surveys the growth of the National Front.

THURSDAY: BBC-2, 7.30pm: ARGUMENT. Paul Foot, editor of *Socialist Worker*, discusses the deepening capitalist crisis with the deputy chairman of the Stock Exchange, who ought to know.

SUNDAY: RADIO 4, 2.30pm: A DEAD MAN ON LEAVE. Another superficial drama, this time based on the German revolutionary Levine.

Magnificent disciple who lost his way

tiful simplicity of action.

They are heralds of the future and represent its spirit, the spirit of socialist co-operation, whether they know it or not. They and others like them, harnessing their natural impulses to social goals, will do away with the social system which distorts and cripples human nature. They will change the world and make it fit for all people and all nations to live together in peace and fraternity.

It's coming yet for a' that, as Robert Burns affirmed. 'Then Man to Man, the world o'er shall brothers be for a' that.' And there's going to be a Great Day.

J P CANNON is probably best known for his polemics on the history and splits of the American revolutionary movement. Recently re-published books such as *Struggle for a Proletarian Party and History of American Trotskyism* (both £1.25) show him as a party leader, forceful, scornful, sometimes wrong. But his gift for socialist journalism of warmth and simplicity is best found in *Notebook of an Agitator* (£1.45). To catch his speaking style, try *Speeches to the Party* (£1.65) and *Socialism on Trial* (£1.65).

All these books are available from IS Books, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

Lucky Jim and jobs for the TUC boys

THERE WAS a time when Jim Mortimer was paraded around the working-class movement as a leading left-winger. At the time he edited the Draughtsmen's Union journal and wrote moving attacks on trade union acceptance of incomes policies in a capitalist society.

But Jim later left the Draughtsmen and sought pastures new. He went on to the Labour government's Prices and Incomes Board. He got some £6000 a year to administer the Labour government's incomes policy under capitalism.

It collapsed, under pressure from the low-paid workers who suffered most grievously from it. But this was by no means the end of the rise of James Mortimer.

Under the Tories he at least kept pace with inflation. He went to London Transport as labour relations advisor on £12,000 a year. He put in a stint on the witch-hunting Wilberforce Inquiry into the power workers' dispute. Some thought he had gone too far and had openly crossed to the other side.

Fraud

But over recent months Jim's star has been shining ever brighter. A Labour government, back in power, proceeded to unfold the wonders of the social contract, a scheme which formally restores free collective bargaining in return for an agreement from the unions not to engage in it.

Such a spectacular fraud obviously required a powerful fraud squad—to try to sell it. This is where James Mortimer came in.

Mortimer was made head of the Conciliation and Arbitration Service at a salary of £16,000 a year, £360 a week, doubtless plus expenses.

This service is supposed to head off strikes and disputes by conciliating and arbitrating. A sort of fire brigade for the 'voluntary' incomes policy. The government hopes it will be more successful than its predecessor, the inflammatory National Industrial Relations Court.

Darling

Alongside Jim Mortimer sit several other gentlemen who have made fine conference speeches denouncing incomes policy. They are Jack Jones, the Transport Workers' general secretary, George Smith, the builders' general secretary (UCATT), and Richard Briginshaw of the Operative Printers (NATSOPA).

Briginshaw, that darling of the Morning Star, has made more speeches than almost any other man alive about the menace of the monopolies and the need for free collective bargaining. Yet he is only too pleased to nip on to the Conciliation and Arbitration Service and do down those who are foolish enough to take his speeches seriously.

None of this should come as any surprise to hardened observers of the trade union scene. Briginshaw has sounded left for years. But he has always carefully avoided matching deeds to words.

Anyway he's due to retire this year and he's in need of a job. So is

Smith, the former Communist who went on to witch-hunt the militants in the building industry. And doubtless Jack Jones is anxious to spread his talents wider still and be an even more important man.

The sad thing is that all the time they're conciliating and arbitrating, the employers are getting organised in a determined fashion.

For the moment they're prepared to go along with the CAS. But if that doesn't work in their battle to cut working-class living standards and boost profits—and it won't—then they can always turn to Unison or GB 75, Colonel Blimp's private armies. And then perhaps the TUC General Council might pass a resolution.

THE UNIONS



GEORGE SMITH
Witch-hunter



RICHARD BRIGINSHAW
Speeches, speeches . . .



JACK JONES
Spreading his talents

LET 'EM ASK... WE'VE SIGNED

Electricians Union in behind-scenes deal

LAST Tuesday's edition of the Tory sheet The Sun carried yet another moving sermon from Electricians Union general secretary and president Frank Chapple.

Naturally this contribution was on Brother Chapple's favourite theme—the virtues of democracy and the menace of the militants.

This masterpiece was enriched as usual by Frank's deadly turns of phrase.

'The trade union movement must provide the bastion of democratic values which will preserve our way of life.

'But even within the movement there are those who seek to undermine our resolve; who would push us a little further down the slope that leads to chaos or dictatorship,' wrote Frank.

An interesting example of how Frank Chapple translates theory into practice was outlined in Socialist Worker two weeks ago. Frank Chapple, who has been occupying the two top posts in the union for some two years, had called in a firm of business consultants to propose changes in union organisation.

The firm, which is run by James Houston, an intimate of Chapple's



Frank Chapple
—all pals with Houston again

who is also chairman of the Joint Industry Board for Electrical Contracting, recommended that the union should have only one top official. This and other recommendations have now been adopted by the union executive and will go to a ballot of the members.

But this is not the end of the

Houston/Chapple partnership. On 20 May the trade group conference for contracting electricians in the EEPTU was held in Southport. At this meeting there was considerable discussion and debate on wages, not least on what the target should be for 1975. The decision was to go for £1.50 an hour and the 35-hour week. This was supported by Eric Hammond for the executive, though he opposed the resolution because it also included a local negotiation clause. Nevertheless it was carried.

Some weeks after this conference a Joint Industry Board circular was sent out. Among other things it disclosed that the Joint Industry Board wage increase for 1975 had been signed and settled at £1.23 and a 38-hour week, with strings. Interestingly, the circular had no specific date on it, being headed only 'June 1974'.

Since then it has been discovered

that the settlement for 1975 was made before the trade group conference. The agreement, according to the JIB, was made on 5 March.

Yet the executive of the Electricians Union didn't bother to inform the conference of this not insignificant fact. Indeed they permitted a debate to go on about the size of the 1975 target when they had already settled.

The settlement, of course, was with the Joint Industry Board and its chairman James Houston, who was present at the conference as a guest of the EEPTU executive.

It is thought likely that Frank Chapple's next effort for that Tory rag, The Sun, will not be a reprint from his editorial in the union journal, but an original article possibly co-written with James Dobbie Houston. That's working together. That's co-partnership. That's democracy.

OVER TO AUEW...

SOCIALIST WORKER has now applied for press credentials for the next AUEW engineering section national committee on 5 and 6 November. So far eleven AUEW branches and districts have protested against the union executive's previous discrimination against Socialist Worker in refusing to grant press credentials.

These are Thornbury and Shipley branches, Bradford district committee, New Southgate No 1 branch and the Enfield district, Glasgow Springfield branch, Leeds Central and the Leeds district, Keighley TASS branch, Chippenham No 1 branch and the Bolton district. Socialist Worker would like to hear from other AUEW members who have taken up the issue in their branches or districts.

ASBESTOS

The dust that kills in the name of profit

A new Socialist Worker pamphlet that tells the story of the Glasgow insulation workers' union branch, of the men who have died because of asbestos—and of their fight to save others from it. To the series of articles originally published in Socialist Worker has been added a guide to where workers are likely to encounter asbestos, what laws cover its use and how to force management to keep to them.

10p plus 4p postage (10 copies or more post free) from IS Books, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.



How to defend your paper

IS BRANCHES all over the country are organising Defend the Socialist Worker meetings with speakers from the printshop and the paper as well as local working class representatives. As promised last week, here are some notes to assist speakers:

The attack from the police on the paper's production.

The contempt case against Paul Foot and Jim Nichol is coming up in October. The Labour Attorney-General is seeking an order to commit both of them to prison because of the publication of names in the Janie Jones case.

He pretends that the problem is that this was a blackmail case, and that blackmail victims must be anonymous, otherwise they won't come forward with their charges.

But these two gentlemen didn't come to the police with their charges. They only pressed charges when questioned about prostitution charges against Janie Jones. Men should be named in prostitution cases. There is



one law for men, one for women. One law for the rich, another for the poor.

Compare the contempt case with the recent Mary Oakley rape case. The victim was named in all the national press. No charges were brought against anyone.

The second main attack has been from the police against Jim Nichol for the Kevin Gately poster. Jim has been cautioned for criminal libel. Criminal libel is any statement likely to cause a breach of the peace, or any statement likely to set one class against another.

Criminal libel is the oldest law

against freedom of the press.

The attack on paper sellers.

In dozens of towns and cities, sellers have been harassed or photographed or arrested on trivial charges connected with posters or the paper. Again, this has only happened recently.

Attack on paper in trade union movement.

Ian Gibson has been thrown off the ASTMS executive for writing an article in Socialist Worker. Frank Chapple has sued us. The AUEW has not allowed SW reporters into its national committee (although reporters from all over the capitalist press are permitted).

In union after union, association with the paper is becoming grounds for political action.

The attack is political. Old laws are being dusted down. The crisis of capitalism means that the freedom of the socialist press is only allowed when nobody reads it.

EQUAL PAY FIGHT NOW VITAL

70 WOMEN from various white-collar and manual unions attended a day school in Birmingham last weekend to discuss IS work with women in the coming year.

The morning session covered problems facing working women as the economic crisis deepens. It was argued that the fight for equal pay and an end to the low grading of women's jobs will become increasingly important as inflation and incomes policy continue to cut the living standards of low-paid workers.

There was discussion on the Working Women's Charter and its aim of setting up a national movement

of women workers. Many speakers felt that the demands of the Charter were too general and that instead we needed to draw up specific demands which we could fight for in particular unions and industries at our own workplaces. Also that we should not be building a separate women's movement but should be involving women and raising the demands of women workers in the national rank and file movement.

In the afternoon, the school split into four groups to discuss the problems IS women face in their workplaces and in their IS branches. Various suggestions came up, such as IS trade union fractions producing detailed fact-sheets on the problems of women in unions and a list of

demands to be fought for. A school for women shop stewards in IS and compulsory baby-sitting rotas in IS branches were also suggested.

Most people wanted to see coverage of women's issues in Socialist Worker spread around the paper instead of being put together on one page. It was also generally felt that Women's Voice had to turn into more of a campaigning paper for women workers and that it should come out monthly.

Many people felt the school did not really come to grips with the problems IS faces in its work with women. The increased working-class composition of IS women workers was not reflected in the attendance.

MAGNIFICENT, LEICESTER!

THE IS EXECUTIVE meeting has passed a vote of thanks and congratulations to Leicester branch and the anti-racism sub-committee for the fantastic organisation put into the Leicester counter-demonstration against the National Front.



THROUGHOUT the summer, Glasgow District IS have held Saturday afternoon meetings in Royal Exchange Square in the centre of the city.

Each weekend the IS stand has been occupied for at least three hours. The meetings have been consistently successful. Rarely have there been less than 50 people around the platform, and the meeting has led to sales each week of at least 30 copies of Socialist Worker.

One of the best effects of the meeting has been to develop the speaking ability of the younger and less experienced comrades.

The meetings were started off by more experienced members, but each week at least one member with little (or even no) speaking experience was pushed into service.

The meetings produced not only sales and interesting discussion, but a number of important contacts in the city's working class movement.

ENTRIES for this column must be posted to reach Socialist Worker by Monday morning—and remember the 'first class' post takes two days as often as one. Due to pressure of work we cannot take What's On entries over the phone. Entries here are free for IS branches and other IS organisations.

IS public meetings

GLASGOW AREA IS DEFEND SOCIALIST WORKER
Speakers: Jim Nichol (SW publisher) and Mick Napier (Glasgow SW reporter)
Clydebank: Town Hall, Monday 9 September
Paisley: Town Hall, Tuesday 10 September
East Kilbride: St Leonard's Community Centre, Wednesday 11 September
Greenock: Hector McNeil Baths, Wednesday 11 September
Glasgow: Iona Community House, Thursday 12 September
Motherwell: AUEW Hall, 81 Hamilton Road, Thursday 12 September
All meetings at 7.30pm

SOCIALIST WORKER DEFENCE FUND Folk Concert: Alex Glasgow and Claymore, Saturday 7 September, 8-11.30pm, Centrepoint, St John's Road, Epping. Admission 50p.

DUDLEY IS public meeting: Defend Socialist Worker, Speaker: Paul Foot, on the Role of a Revolutionary Socialist Paper. Wednesday 11 September, 8pm, Castle & Falcon, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley. All welcome.

BOLTON IS public meeting: Defend Socialist Worker. Speakers: Ian Gibson and a Liverpool car worker. Thursday 5 September, 8pm, Founders Arms, St George's Street, Bolton.

PARTINGTON & SALE IS public meeting: Chile. Speaker: Glyn Carver. Thursday 12 September, 8pm, Partington Community Centre.

PARTINGTON & SALE IS public meeting: Inflation. Speaker: Brian Rose. Thursday 19 September, 8pm, Partington Community Centre.

POOLE IS Joint anti-fascist meeting: The National Front menace. Speakers: Martin Tomkinson (IS) and Phil Heron (IMG). Thursday 5 September, 8pm, Centenary Hall.

NORWICH IS public meeting: The general election and the way forward. Speakers: Ian Gibson (ASTMS) and Lloyd Hayes (TGWU). Wednesday 11 September, 8pm, Norwich public library.

MERSEYSIDE IS public meeting: The struggle for socialism in Portugal. Speaker: Bob Light (TGWU, Royal Docks, London). Wednesday 18 September, 8pm, AUEW Hall.

MID-HERTS IS public meeting: Socialism—only answer to the crisis. Speaker: John Deason. Monday 16 September, 8pm, The Beehive, off London Road, St Albans. All welcome.

LONDON IS HISTORY GROUP public meeting: Sylvia Pankhurst—from Feminism to Socialism. Speaker: Lucia Jones. Sunday 15 September, 7.30pm, The Roebuck, 108A Tottenham Court Road, W1.

TEESSIDE & DISTRICT IS public meeting: How to fight for socialism. Speakers: Steve Jefferys (IS Executive) and leading local trade unionists. Thursday 19 September, 7.30pm, AUEW Hall, Borough Road, Middlesbrough.

TEESSIDE IS film and folk evening. Songs from Alex Glasgow. Marcello Mastroianni as The Organiser. Saturday 21 September, 7pm, The Dovecot, Stockton. Tickets in advance from IS Books, 14 Grange Road, Middlesbrough.

Pollution 'veil of secrecy'

by Roger Griffiths, AUEW shop steward, Lucas, Birmingham

40 PEOPLE attended a meeting in Birmingham last Friday to hear Dr Ray Osborne talk about the lead hazards in the city.

Dr Osborne, who works in a Birmingham hospital and is a member of IS, dealt with the up-to-date medical facts surrounding lead poisoning and with lead pollution at the Lucas Formans Road factory. He said the issues were being hidden from the people who work in the factory or live nearby.

A local resident, Mrs Harris, said the Lucas management had shown a total disregard for those who have to live around the factory. She said residents should be fully involved, as they had been up to now, in leading the fight against Lucas.

'Safe'

Dr Osborne pointed out that shop-floor strength was the only way to avoid the hazards of lead poisoning.

Larry Connolly, AUEW convenor at BW3 Shaftmoor Lane Lucas factory, said the so-called experts who had pronounced the lead levels 'safe' didn't live in the area around Formans Road, nor did they have to work in dangerous conditions within the factory.

Vic Collard, an AUEW steward at Lucas Chester Street, urged the Formans Road Workers at the meeting to fight tooth and nail for safety at work.

A large number of copies of Pat Kinnersly's book, The Hazards of Work, and the IS pamphlet on Asbestos were sold.

Lucas—the militants' view: See Page Six.

THE FIRST printing of the pamphlet on the National Front, 10,000 copies, has sold out in two weeks. It is now reprinting, and bulk orders should be sent to IS Books, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4. Price 10p plus 5p postage, bulk orders post free.



STUDENT SCHOOLS

21-22 September in DERBY: All students who will receive a discretionary award next year should attend. Special agenda includes work in small colleges

5-6 October in WARWICK: For university and Poly students

12-13 October in GLASGOW: For all Scottish students

Send registrations to Simon Turner, 8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2
Registrations for the Derby school must be sent immediately.



HARLOW IS public meeting: The National Front menace. Speaker: John Deason. Thursday 12 September, 7.45pm, Tye Green Community Association.

HULL IS public meeting: Revolution in Portugal? Speaker: Bob Light (London dockers). Monday 9 September, 7.30pm, Stevedores and Dockers' Club, Postergate, Hull.

TWICKENHAM IS open meeting: Chile. Speaker to be announced. Wednesday 11 September, 8pm, Prince of Wales, Hampton Road.

NW LONDON DISTRICT IS street meeting: and march: Smash the National Front, Stop the Orange Parade. Saturday 7 September, 12 noon, The Crown, Cricklewood. All members to attend.

TOWER HAMLETS IS public meeting: The Spread of Fascism in Britain. Thursday 5 September, 7.30pm, Toynebee Hall, 128 Commercial Street, E1 (near Aldgate and Aldgate East stations).

Meetings for IS members

IS North London Building workers' fraction meet Tuesday evenings, 7.45pm at the Enterprise, opposite Chalk Farm tube.

IS IRISH CONFERENCE: Sunday 8 September, 8 Cottons Gardens, starting 10.30am sharp. Resolutions to Irish Subcommittee by 4 September. All branches requested to send at least one delegate. Admission by membership card.

IS TEACHERS national aggregate: Saturday 14 September, 10.30am-5.30pm, Birmingham University students union council chamber, Edgbaston Park Road (off Bristol Road), Birmingham 15. Attendance fee 30p. For accommodation, contact Marion Warner, Top Flat, 5 Oxford Road, Moseley, Birmingham 13 (021-449 5450).

Friday night arrivals meet in The Crown, corner of Hill Street/Station Street near New Street station. Saturday arrivals: 61, 62 or 63 bus from near New St station to Edgbaston Park Road. Students union is first main building on left.

Social on Saturday evening for SW defence fund. Admission by IS membership card only.

Socialist Worker writer's school planned for this Saturday in Manchester has been postponed until 5 October.

IS Notices

IS comrade wanted to share flat. Contact John, 224 East End Road, London, N2.

CHINGARI, latest issue now out (both Punjabi and Urdu editions). Includes articles on Imperial Typewriters strike, Leicester, Portugal, The crisis in the Health Service. Price 3p per copy (please add postage) from Europe Singh (Punjabi), 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2, or J Engineer (Urdu), 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

Silk-screen posters for IS public meetings: 'The government attacks the left-wing press—defend Socialist Worker. Speakers from SW and trade unions'. Plus cartoon. Space for time, date, place etc. £1. per 100 (inc p&p). Money with order to: Jon Tipple, 26 Blackberry Terrace, Bevois Valley, Southampton SO2 OED. All proceeds to fighting fund.

SOCIALIST WORKER needs a general labourer/driver to operate from Corbridge Works. IS members with a clean licence only, to start as soon as possible. Write to Mel Norris, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 or phone 01-739 1870.

COMRADE, STUDENT in Central London, seeks accommodation in the city. Please write to M J Gordon, 82 Bedhampton Road, Havant, Hants, or phone Havant 77588.

IS Arts Group need an enthusiastic sound recordist. We have all the equipment. Contact Tamara at IS Books, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London, N4. Also space to set up poster workshop. If any comrade knows of suitable premises please contact Tamara.

WANTED driver-projectionist able to take socialist film on ten-day national tour early October. Expenses paid. Contact IS Agit Prop, c/o Roland Muldoon, 11c, Cabbell Street, London NW1.

DAY SCHOOL in Leeds on training postponed until after the General Election. See branch circular for details.

WILL ANYONE who knows where the Frigidaire IS banner—taken on the Leicester demo—is, please contact SW Circulation Office (01-739 2639).

WANTED URGENTLY by Birmingham District IS: Electrostatic scanner (for Gestetner stencils) in good condition. As cheap as possible but will pay up to £70. Offers to IS Books, 224 High Street, Deritend, Birmingham 12.

COACHES from Edinburgh to Glasgow for Chile demo on Saturday 14 September leaving St Andrews Square, 9am. 50p return. Contact 031-556 6534.

FEMALE IS TEACHER urgently needs accommodation in London NW9 area. Phone 01-607 8067.

COMRADE just started at Corbridge Works urgently needs a room. Phone 01-739 1870.

CORRECTION: Recent circular from Neil Davies on IS ex-soldiers' conference in Manchester contained an error. The conference will be held on Saturday 19 October, NOT 18 October.

IS Political Economy Group: Bulletin now available. Kidron on Marxist economics, Harris on Imperialism, report of ISPEG conference. For copy, send 4½p to Jim Kincaid, 11 Moseley Wood View, Leeds 16.



The sinking of HMS NHS...

THE SINKING of HMS NHS, as performed by the North West Spanner Theatre Group for workers at Record Electric and Richard Kearns factories at Altringham, Cheshire.

The play has been performed at lunch-time at factories in Manchester, including Ferranti, Ward and Goldstones, Massey Ferguson Engineering Works and the Manchester Dry Dock.

It has been followed by speakers from the Manchester and District Nurses Action Group appealing for support for all hospital workers and their fight for a better Health Service, in particular for support for the conference called by the Manchester and Salford Trades Council on 29 September.

PICTURE: John Sturrock (Report)

VICTORY AS BOSSES BACK DOWN

SOUTHAMPTON: The men on Higgs and Hill's Southampton General Hospital contract have returned to work after management backed down in their attempt to cut the carpenters' bonus. Although the chippies, and not all craftsmen, as incorrectly stated in Socialist Worker, were the first to take action, they were joined the next day by the rest of the site. The victory has left everyone confident in their strength if they stand together.

Classified

Copy for the Classified section must arrive by first post Monday morning. Adverts will not be accepted over the phone. Charges are 1p per word, semi-display 2p per word. CASH WITH COPY to Classified, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS.

IS couple need flat/room North London immediately. Contact Phil Evans/Maggie Rutter, Hamstreet 2221 (Kent).

South London Chile Solidarity Campaign: Friday 6 September. An evening for the Chilean resistance. The Telegraph, 228 Brixton Hill, SW2. Reggae Band Matumbi, food, drinks, 7.30pm. **Saturday 7 September** March, Brixton Oval, 11am, followed by play by Counter-Act, 1pm. **Wednesday 11 September** Mass rally Brixton Hall, 7.30pm. Speakers: Chilean speaker, Michael Fenn (shop steward, NASD, Royal Docks) Tom Pilford, Neil Kinnock and local organisations.

Student comrade urgently seeks accommodation in Manchester. Moving up around late September-early October. Write Box no 5, Editorial Dept, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

GOOD DANCE GROUP available for IS and trade union socials in London—£20 but negotiable. Phone Mike at 01-567 4575.

COMRADE, male, 26, offers accommodation (outer London, own room etc) to single mother preferably IS or sympathiser, and some money in exchange for looking after two children, 3 and 6, during working hours. Please make inquiries through Dick North, 5 Romany Road, SE27.

SUPPORT WANTED for Islington Tenants Campaign picket on Prebbles Estate Agents. Meet 9.30am-12.30pm every Saturday, 82 Parkway Camden Town, 109 Upper St, Islington and 564 Tottenham High Street.

B&ICO public meeting: Nina Stead on the Working Class and the Common Market. Monday 16 Sept 7.30pm, Conway Hall.

THE SOCIALIST PARTY aims at building a moneyless world community without frontiers based on common ownership—with production solely for use—not profit. It opposes all other political parties, all leadership, all racism, all war. Write for specimen socialist literature to One World (Star), The Socialist Party of Great Britain, 52 Clapton High Street, London, E8 4.

SKIVERS' PARADISE

by Jock Wight

ONCE AGAIN, Cowley has become the mecca of the popular press. The claims made by Graham Turner on Radio Oxford have given them a field day, with 'Skivers' Paradise' blazoned across everything from the Berkshire Mercury to The Guardian.

Turner claims less than a dozen men told him about card-schools, sun-bathing and sleeping at work. So, on a representation of less than 0.05 per cent, he wants a Government investigation.

This latest lunatic claim, though based on such flimsy evidence, has been blown sky-high by the Press who would have us believe that Cowley is full of outraged workers, angry over this slur. I find the general attitude to be one of exasperation—why always us?

What sticks out is that British Leyland management and union officials have joined forces to defend the workers. One wag in my shop said: 'I didn't know they'd ever

That's the British Leyland board-room

parted.'

Those of you who saw the exchanges on BBC TV probably feel as I do that Turner came off best. He was opposed by the bespectacled Geoff Whalen, boss of the Industrial Relations Department, and David Buckle, T&GWU district secretary.

Buckle made a big thing of 'You, Mr Turner, did not have the courtesy to contact me as the senior T&G official for Oxford.'

Turner's reply was that he had always found that to learn about the shop floor you should ask the shop floor.

Sick joke

Buckle was also concerned at the 'damage' done to industrial relations, particularly as he and Whalen had been in discussion for some time on a labour reduction.

The majority of production workers at Cowley are on a fixed hourly rate. This is called High Day Rate.

The high part is rather a sick joke. Since early 1971, the weekly rate has increased by £7.40 (how can they afford to play cards for money?).

In the same period at Chrysler's Linwood factory, the increase has been £17.19. This obnoxious system was forced on the workers by management threat. They wanted it, they got it, now they want men to work piece-work effort for time rate.

Skivers' paradise? Why have 2000 men left this year?

Sleeping? How do you sleep with a noise level of 107 decibels (hearing damage starts at 80)?

Sun-bathing? In England? Release time works out at 50 minutes per eight-hour shift. The Guardian even dug up the old story about the night shift 'blue movies. Yes, the night shift had them, and the men involved were sacked on the spot.

How was it that men had time to watch movies? Simply because the piece work schedule never materialised. The Rover men claim

that during all the years this model ran on piece work, never in any week did they get the correct schedule.

The Mirror resurrected a member of the Cowley Wives Association. She slammed the shirkers and wanted them sacked.

During the victimisation strike earlier this year, those wives carried placards demanding 52 weeks' work for their husbands. Obviously, holidays are a nuisance of some sort. These darlings of the Tory press were noticeably silent during the three-day week.

Certainly the men at Cowley could work harder. They proved that under the self-imposed whip of piece work, but at least the decision was theirs, and not someone else's.

Vast profits

Take away the incentive and all that is left is boring drudgery and a £1.50 pension to look forward to when you reach 65.

Who are the real skivers at Cowley? Departments seem to breed like rabbits. Industrial Relations and Industrial Engineers, for example. For more than 30 years, the plant managed without them.

Vast profits were made on the Cowley workers' sweat—the money to build the new plants at Swindon and Llanelli. The money to keep the Bournemouth colonels and their ladies in the style to which they are accustomed.

Turner, in his book The Leyland Papers, mentions Stokes jetting out to the West Indies to meetings on a luxury yacht. Who paid for that? Again, the workers.

Turner wants the work-force cut by half. Let's have a 100 per cent reduction . . . in management. Nationalise Leyland under full workers' control. That would be a real incentive for us all.

A last word to Graham Turner. I have been victimised by Leyland since last December to the tune of £20 a week. My crime? I worked when management wanted me to stand idle.

Tommy Kilpatrick: a man of courage

by George Kelly, Glasgow Corporation IS Branch

TOMMY Kilpatrick, trade unionist and revolutionary, died in Glasgow Knightswood Hospital on Wednesday 28 August, aged 53.

Although never in good health, Tommy played his part in the working class movement to the full. He could have probably prolonged his life by cutting down on trade union and political commitments, but he was not that kind of comrade.

In the fifties, as a shop steward and Communist Party member, he took part in many struggles in the Clydeside shipyards. His outspoken revolutionary politics, however, were to bring him into conflict with Party leaders, and in 1955 he left the CP.

Joined IS

In the sixties, looking for a political home, he joined the Labour Party. Here again his militant attitude led to trouble with LP bosses, and in 1971 he joined IS.

As a shop steward, trade union branch committee member and Glasgow Trades Council executive member, his contribution to Glasgow IS was considerable. Always ready to discuss his



Tommy Kilpatrick: sadly missed

politics and give the benefit of his knowledge to younger comrades, he was also active in the EEPTU fraction, giving other members valuable information on the struggles in that union.

Tommy's courage and ready wit, as well as his undoubted political know-how, will be sadly missed, particularly by Glasgow Corporation Factory Branch, of which he was a founder member.

At this time our condolences go out to his wife and family. But the best way for IS members to remember this revolutionary fighter is to step up their own commitment to building the revolutionary party.

ACTION CALL TO STUDENTS

by Simon Turner

MORE THAN half of Britain's students—those who receive discretionary awards from their local authority—are to get no grant increase at all.

IS Societies argued successfully for a resolution at the National Union of Students' conference in June calling for a militant campaign directed towards these students.

The IS national student committee recently discussed the coming grants campaign and underlined the major task of IS students in the coming term—to ensure the implementation of this resolution. Action should not be confined to those in Further Education and technical colleges but must be helped by university students.

The committee will be producing a national leaflet on the grants campaign.

CAN YOU AFFORD A PAY CUT?

PRICES are soaring. Last year's pound is now worth 80p and all the signs are that inflation will get worse. A million out of work this winter is a near certainty.

The employers and their press are blaming wages. Their solution is to keep wages down. While industrialists rake in profits and price rises continue, this means they want to solve their crisis by cutting working people's living standards.

Whoever wins the next election will try to implement an incomes policy, either with a statutory freeze or a 'voluntary' social contract.

Mass unemployment will be seen as a means of disciplining us into acceptance of this wage restraint. Any control of wages while inflation rages can only mean wage cuts.

With a Labour government in office, the trade union leaders are openly colla-

borating to force wage restraint down our throats. Last week Len Murray admitted that the Social Contract amounts to 12 months' wage restraint.

If the Tories or a coalition government is in office, the trade union officials will still want to collaborate, but less openly.

DEFENCE

With such a threat facing us, the building of a movement of rank and file trade unionists prepared to mount a campaign to defend our living standards is essential. Our defence against inflation is not wage restraint or the social contract

but our collective strength in keeping wages up, and our determination to take action together.

The linking and co-ordinating of groups of workers fighting incomes policy is a must. As the National Rank and File Conference Organising Committee, we call on all trade union bodies committed to fighting incomes policy to support the second rank and file delegate conference in Birmingham on 30 November.

We urge you to send delegates from your factory and trade union bodies and to encourage delegacies from other factories and workplaces in your area.

OPPOSITION to all forms of incomes policy under capitalism.

ACROSS the board 30 per cent claims

NO time limit on agreements

EQUAL pay now

A REALISTIC national minimum wage

NATIONALISATION, without compensation, of firms who won't pay and firms which close down or sack workers.

FOR co-ordinating and supporting all struggles against incomes policy.

Credentials, 50p, from Secretary, Rank and File Organising Committee, 214 Roundwood Road, NW10.

SECOND NATIONAL RANK AND FILE DELEGATE CONFERENCE
BIRMINGHAM,
30 NOVEMBER

CHILE: What we must do

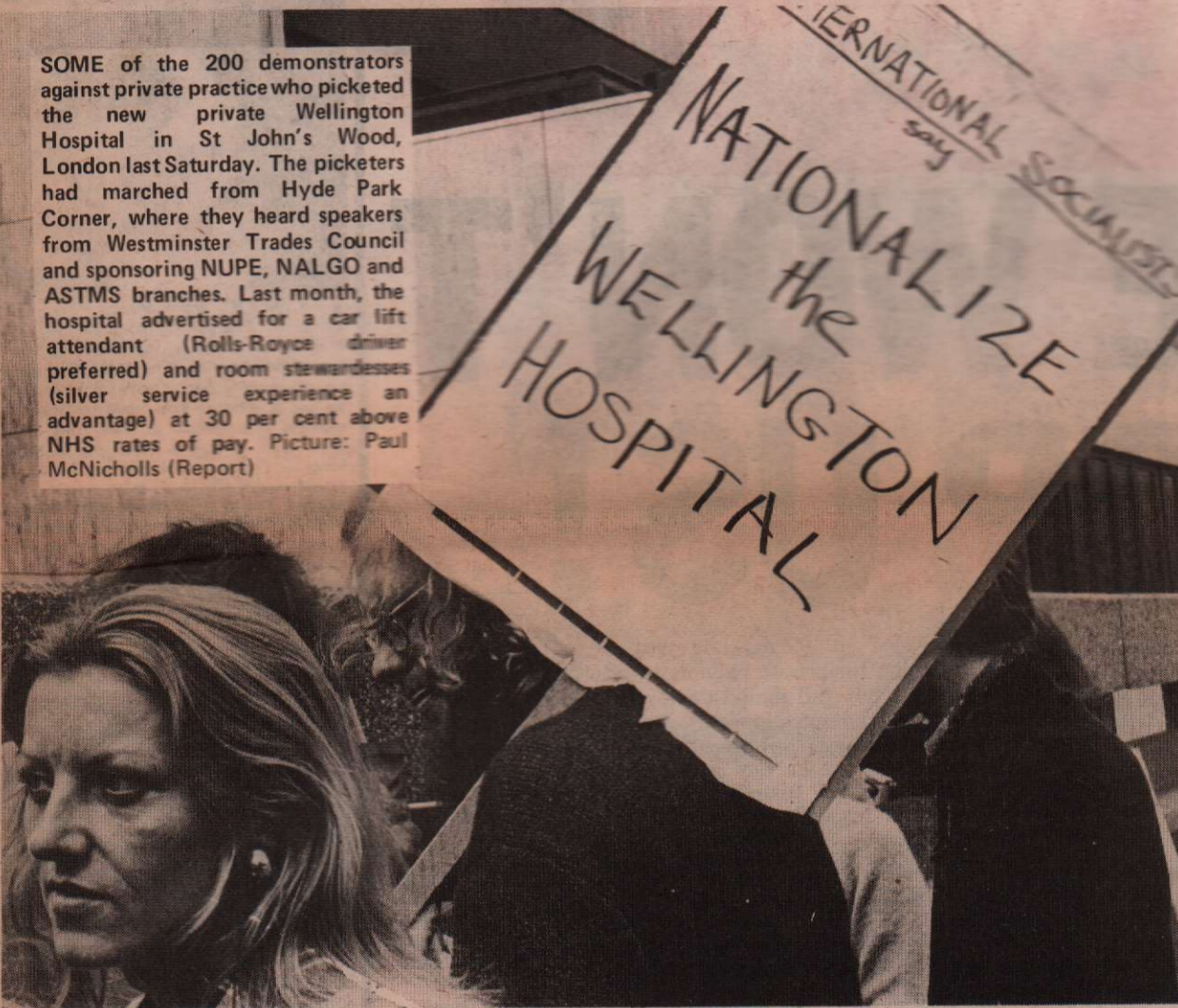
THE Rank and File Conference organising committee has issued an important circular to all supporting branches and stewards' committees entitled 'What We Must Do About Chile'. The following courses of action are urged:

Adopt prisoners: Write to Amnesty International for names of trade unionists in corresponding trade unions who are in prison in Chile.

Get a Work Contract for Chilean trade unionists in jail. Employers should be 'persuaded' to apply to the Home Office for a work permit for one or more of these prisoner-trade unionists.

Support the prisoners' families. Most prisoners' dependents in Chile are near starvation. The Organising Committee is prepared to aggregate donations from union branches and stewards' committees for helping specific trade unionists in Chile, and to make sure that they are used to the purpose. See 'The Chilean Struggle' in the brilliant booklet on Chile by Fred and published by Pluto Press at 52, Oldham Lane, London, W10. Black Chilean Trade: A complete blacking of all Chilean products and British exports for Chile—the most effective way British trade unionists can show their solidarity with the Chilean working class.

SOME of the 200 demonstrators against private practice who picketed the new private Wellington Hospital in St John's Wood, London last Saturday. The picketers had marched from Hyde Park Corner, where they heard speakers from Westminster Trades Council and sponsoring NUPE, NALGO and ASTMS branches. Last month, the hospital advertised for a car lift attendant (Rolls-Royce driver preferred) and room stewardesses (silver service experience an advantage) at 30 per cent above NHS rates of pay. Picture: Paul McNicholls (Report)



Young strikers go back - to a walk out

By IS members at Barr and Stroud's

GLASGOW:—Less than a week after 100 junior workers ended their strike, all the workforce here have come out because some adult workers had not paid the £1 strike levy.

The walk-out came when a worker was sent home after his department, the adjustors, had blacked the work of an individual in another department who had failed to pay the levy to the junior workers' committee. The department struck and were joined the next day by all the other workers.

The junior workers had gone back pending negotiations with management to increase their basic rate.

They struck early in July against a threshold settlement which would have forced them to accept less than the amount paid to adult workers.

The indecisiveness and confusion of the shop stewards' organisation, their refusal to fight firmly for the whole workforce right from the beginning, is responsible for the chaotic situation which has arisen.

Lead

Without a positive lead from the convenor and shop stewards, the workers were right to refuse to work with people who defied a democratic decision and refused to pay the levy.

Even when the decision was taken, however, the related issue of the closed shop was deliberately not taken up. The closed shop must be demanded by the strikers—otherwise the same situation will be reached again where decisions are flouted by a handful of scabs.

The decision to allow the junior workers to fight alone has led to this situation. A militant fight for the full threshold for everybody, open-ended, would have united the factory and created the sort of unity which the present strike decision attempts to recover.

SUPPORT FOR CHILE DEMO

BRADFORD District Committee of the AUEW called last week for full support from Yorkshire engineers for the 15 September Chile demonstration in London. The District is organising factory gate meetings and collections on 11 September and will be sending the district banner with a delegation to the march.

WATCH OUT, WEINSTOCK!

400 women at SEI Heywood in Lancashire are now in the third week of their strike for equal pay. A meeting between the Engineering Employers' Federation and the AUEW ended with the usual story of 'return to work and we will open negotiations'.

About 30 women are still working and are

By Norma Stephans, APEX Convenor, SEI, Eccles

treated to a line of women chanting 'blacklegs out' on arriving at work. One woman, unable to bear the strain, ran back up the path and asked the police what they were going to do. Their answer—nothing. The poor scabs had no alterna-

tive but to run the gauntlet once more.

Peter Brahmaer, engineering district official, told Socialist Worker: 'We are not taking on Brian White, managing director of SEI, but Sir Arnold Weinstock (GEC managing director) and we intend to get all GEC goods blacked throughout the country.'

The men workers, who are members of the AUEW, have decided to stage one hour a day guerrilla stoppages in support of the girls. Bella Fullard, shop steward, was told by her husband after he had seen her on television: 'I have never seen you so angry in 38 years of marriage.'

The mother plant at Eccles remains the thorn in the flesh. The shop floor of about 800 women continue to ignore AUEW district instructions to come out on strike.

A mass meeting of the 400 women on strike this week decided unanimously to stay out until they had got everything they wanted. Weinstock had better watch out.

Women show their strength

by Arthur Seymour, shop steward and deputy convenor, TGWU

CARN BREA, Cornwall: The women of John Heathcoat's Lastonet division have shown what militant action can achieve.

Management had proposed that workers in the three Heathcoat divisions work this summer's Bank Holiday Monday at normal rates, with a day in lieu at Christmas, plus an additional day to give an eight-day Christmas break.

The shop stewards' committee repeatedly demanded double time, which is paid for working other bank holidays, as well as a day's pay for working or not. Management's reply each time was that they were giving an additional day at Christmas to compensate. The shop stewards saw this extra day as allowing management to include New Year's Day in the Christmas holiday break, saving them an extra shut-down or heavy wage payment for working that day.

The lie was given to management's reply when, after the Lastonet women's one-day strike, management backed down and agreed to them having the Bank Holiday off and keeping the additional day at

Christmas as well.

The Raschel Knitting division workers' reply was for each of the three shifts to clock out an hour early on the two days before the Bank Holiday weekend. They also told management that they would not work from 6am on Saturday until 6am on Tuesday. In other words, if management were not giving them the Bank Holiday, they would take it anyway.

MANCHESTER: Workers at the Ciba-Geigy chemical factory are sensing victory in their two-year fight for a 40-hour week.

A series of 32-hour stoppages was implemented by the TGWU branch and management appeared to give in. But

The traditionally most militant section, H Y & F, have taken the whole thing lying down. Apart from a handful of workers who raised two fingers to management and told them they would not be in on the Monday, the vast majority agreed to work at normal rates of pay with a day in lieu at Christmas.

Management must be laughing. H Y & F is the only section that runs a continual process and it was vital for them to keep that section running. If the H Y & F workers had followed the Raschel example, management would have met their demands or lost thousands.

once the action was lifted they tried to put strings on the agreement, a move rejected at a series of branch meetings.

Management then tried to by-pass the shop stewards by calling shift meetings. But the men didn't attend.

At the next branch meeting, the shop stewards recommended an immediate 32-

Bosses back down on lock-out threat

hour stoppage in response to this anti-union action on management's part, and to follow this operating a 40-hour week.

This action soon began to hurt. Management announced a lock-out, then postponed it and finally called it off, asking instead for a meeting with the union.

Price of a pensioner's lunch: 7p



BERT EDWARDS, a member of the Harrow Trades Council Executive: It's impossible to live on. You have to know all the wangles to get a full supplementary benefit. Pensioners don't know their rights. Many won't accept social security because they think it's charity. Remember, these people lived through the means testing. It made a lasting impression.



EDWARD AND ELIZABETH WARD: The new pension? It doesn't help. It's all very well to say a couple can live as cheap as one but you can't share a chop. Married pensioners on separate pensions can't get social security. They just get rent rebate.



DORA LEVINSON: We have to wait nine months for our increase. MPs get theirs straight away. We shouldn't have to pay tax twice on pensions. I paid when I was working—I shouldn't have to again.

They went to the TUC rally to protest about pensions. Not one was asked to speak -except by Socialist Worker

Interviews: **MARY MORONEY** Pictures: **CHRIS DAVIES** (Report)

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

Backing for Ian Gibson

AGAINST considerable opposition from two National Executive members, the North East Divisional Council of ASTMS has attacked the ban on Ian Gibson, who was thrown off the union's Executive for writing a critical article in Socialist Worker.

It carried this resolution: 'This DC considers the sentence of a three year suspension from office against Ian Gibson for alleged offences to be excessive, and calls on the NEC to reconsider.'

The resolution came from the large Sunderland General branch. The DC also carried a resolution calling for the ban to be lifted from the Durham Health Services branch, whose radiographer members have recently been putting up a solid fight in support of their claim. A member of this branch is also under threat of disciplinary action and is being supported by the Divisional Council.

HATE WON'T STOP US!

IT'S IMPROVING all the time. So said delighted NUPE Branch Secretary Bill Geddes this week of the pay-bed ban introduced by the Joint Shop Stewards Committee at the Hammersmith Hospital in West London.

He added: 'Management are still trying to smuggle private patients in but we think they have only

succeeded in getting one past us'. Consultants are arranging for private patients to receive an NHS coding number but the junior doctors are reluctant to carry on this fraud much longer.

The 14 or so private patients remaining since the ban began two weeks ago are either getting food cooked outside or the District Administrator is frying up for them in his offices. No food is being provided from the Hammersmith kitchens.

Stewards have received a flood of unsigned hate-mail full of obscenities. Unfortunately, they have not been getting a corresponding mail of solidarity from other trade union branches.

Bill Geddes said: 'We've been a bit disappointed that other hospitals haven't followed us up. We were hoping to kick this off and then just fade into the background'.

Messages of support to the Joint Shop Stewards Committee, The Hammersmith Hospital, 150 Du Cane Road, London, W12.

All this for a penny ...

by Coventry Chrysler IS branch

THE FOUR-WEEK Chrysler parity struggle met a setback on Monday. Hills Precision voted to return to work despite an increase in the offer of only 1p an hour. Auto Machinery are continuing the struggle.

The Hills offer was £6.48 a week, 40p more than the previous offer. The extra money only maintains the present differential with the workers at Chrysler factories at Stoke and Ryton.

Hills, who make plastics, completely stopped production at Ryton and severely curtailed it at Stoke and

Linwood. Their first strike for seven years could have ended in complete victory.

The Auto strike will have much less effect. The company have been carefully building up stocks for more than a year.

Stoke shop stewards' committee have agreed to call a special meeting when the strike is made official by both unions, the AUEW and TGWU.

With up to 80,000 cars in stock, the Chrysler bosses have shown no great hurry to settle this dispute. Most workers have used up the two weeks' lay-off pay allowance and the

bosses have used the time in getting as much work out of the plant as possible.

The Hills decision obviously annoyed the Auto workers, who put up a token protest picket at the Hills plant. Jim McGarry, engineering union convenor at Auto, said, 'In spite of the setback, the lads are prepared to stick it out.'

Messages of support and donations to: Auto Machinery Shop Stewards, c/o 34 The Boxhill, Stoke Aldermoor, Coventry.

YOUR CASH HELPS US FIGHT THE FASCISTS

BLACK and Irish workers are in the forefront of the opposition to the latest National Front march. While the politicians seek to appease these thugs Socialist Worker is taking the task of opposing them seriously.

Fine words and speeches will not prevent the spread of their vile propaganda. Those socialists who remember the 1930s know to their cost that the only way of putting a stop to fascism is to organise the labour movement into action.

Action is the word. This week Socialist Worker has produced tens of thousands of leaflets and posters in Urdu, Gujerati, Bengali and Punjabi.

Socialist Worker organisers and members are contacting black workers to win support for counter-demonstrations against the National Front.

It is to support activity such as this that Socialist Worker has a

fighting fund. This week's total is £222.

Our thanks to: Mearwood Estate, Leeds, £1.50, Intex £4, London Hospital Workers £16, Readers in Sheffield £4, Readers in Stocksbridge £8.50, York busmen £1.10, and IS branch collections: Leeds £10.50, Wandsworth £10, Lewisham £10, Bristol £5, Newham £10, Bootle £5, Doncaster £10, Edinburgh £50, Colchester £7, Lambeth £16.75, Grimsby £6, Wakefield £2.50, Portsmouth £5.10, Northampton £1.75, Enfield £1.20.

Send contributions to Jim Nichol, IS national treasurer, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN.

STOP FASCISM IN CAMDEN

A meeting of local tenant, trade union and political organisations to protest against the shot gun attack on the tenants centre and to plan for the counter-demonstration against the National Front.

Thursday 5 September, 7.30pm
220 Camden High Street, NW3.
(Camden Tube)

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