

# Socialist Worker

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PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

## Tory wild men come out of the caves



BRITAIN'S 'top people' are panicking. Their system is in crisis and they don't know what to do.

Their daily paper, The Times, has warned that the elections next month will produce the 'last chance parliament.' If it doesn't find some way to end inflation, then 'democracy will be endangered'.

Their favourite business weekly, The Economist, suggests: 'The British political system is being put to a test which it may not be able to meet.'

Sir Keith Joseph, a key figure in the last Tory government, has now joined Enoch Powell in calling for massive unemployment as the only alternative to ever faster price rises.

Geoffrey Rippon, another leading Tory, is pushing his own plan to build a special strike-breaking 'volunteer force' to stand alongside the army and the police.

Compare these shrieks with the gentle platitudes of the Tory election manifesto, published this week. It's called 'Putting Britain First'—exactly the title dreamed up by Harold Wilson for Labour's manifesto.

Heath, like Labour, will be relying on a 'voluntary prices policy'. He's

promised not to re-enact his Industrial Relations Act. He's even talking about coalitions with Liberals and Labour leaders.

These violent splits are symptoms of the hysteria among stockbrokers, industrialists, speculators and other skivers who, only a year ago, were enjoying one of the biggest bonanzas in the history of their class. Their profits, dividends, rents and interest payments are still up by about a

third on last year.

But that's not enough. Because, as they look ahead, they see nothing but more uncertainty, more inflation.

All the policies of all the factions—including the policies of the Labour Party—have one aim: to cut the living standards of workers so that a parasite class can maintain its privileges, its leisure and its power.

Most of this class still support Heath. They remember being beaten

when they took on the dockers at Pentonville in 1972. They remember being beaten by the miners in 1972 and 1974.

They remember that confrontation with the workers can lead to defeat. So they hope that Heath (or, if Labour wins, Wilson) can persuade, bully or bribe the trade union leaders into holding down the wages of their members.

But they can't be certain.

They know that prices will continue rising. They fear that the union leaders, pressurised by the rank and file, will not be able to hold wages down.

### Arming

That's why more and more of them are beginning to talk, for the first time for 50 years, of 'total solutions'. They are beginning to express themselves openly in terms of class war: of arming their class for a real confrontation with workers the like of which hasn't been seen in this country since the General Strike of 1926.

That is the significance of the Tory wild men.

The Labour and TUC leaders, delighted at the Tory splits, are pretending that there is no crisis at all, that all will be well under a Labour government. All that's necessary, they claim, is for workers to cut their own wages, and the crisis will go away.

### Panic

This is a policy for disaster. If the Labour leaders do not protect the workers from higher prices and unemployment, substantial sections of the workers can quickly fall for the lies of the Tory cavemen.

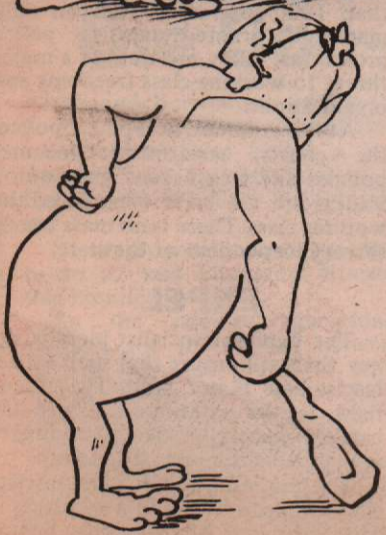
The only way to fight back against the threats of the Rippons and the Josephs is to fight in defence of every job and for wage increases which keep us ahead of prices.

The wild men's panic shows that they know they can't run their system without creating havoc for the workers.

The only way to avoid that havoc is to organise at the roots of the working-class movement, to build a socialist organisation which fights—not for votes every five years, but for a workers' society all the time.

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Sir Keith Joseph and Geoffrey Rippon: A recent portrait.



## THE FACE OF CHILE

EXACTLY one year ago, this Santiago worker visited the city morgue. She read the lists of socialists, militants and workers murdered by the Chilean military junta which had slaughtered the elected government of President Allende a week earlier. On the list were the names of her husband and her son.

Her grief is the grief of hundreds of thousands of working men and women in Chile since the junta seized power. Only this week an Amnesty International team of observers returns from Chile with a list of atrocities committed by the junta against their political opponents.

This barbarism is class barbarism. Its purpose is to maintain the power and wealth of the robber class which has ruled Chile for 200

years. This Sunday we meet and march in solidarity with the heroic men and women, who, despite indescribable repression and starvation, are fighting the junta. They are sustained above all else by the solidarity action of workers in other countries.

We pledge ourselves to work all the year round for industrial action by British workers which can help bring the junta to its knees.

**NO AID! NO TRADE! SMASH THE CHILEAN JUNTA!**

International Socialists Rally: Speakers' Corner, 12.30pm,  
Speakers: Paul Foot, Bob Light and a speaker from the Chilean MIR

IS stewards meet 12 noon

# HOW FRONT WAS

# SENT TO THE BACK

## After Saturday: How to keep the fascists running

THE National Front has been hounded and severely harassed in Leicester and in London. It is now possible to undermine the Front's plans to use the coming election as a means of presenting a respectable face.

The International Socialists have served notice that wherever the fascists field a candidate, we shall be there to confront them. It is the elementary duty of all socialists to mobilise workers to physically prevent fascist meetings and marches.

Para-military marches, flag-waving and drum-beating are an important part of the fascists' bully-boy image. It is misguided and dangerous to imagine that these organisations can be stopped by appeals to the state to ban their marches. The police who brutally attacked the members of the International Socialists who tried to block the path of the fascists on Saturday will always protect them.

The only way to ensure that fascists



by John Deason  
IS industrial organiser

are driven off the streets is to mobilise against them. When this is successful, as it was against Mosley and his blackshirts in the 1930s, then the state might be forced to act against fascist marches.

This raises the question of the united front on the Left. Last Saturday the Communist Party and the Labour Party were either unable or unwilling to mobilise significant numbers of workers. Those they did mobilise were subjected to rhetorical speeches at Speaker's Corner. Other groups played toy soldiers and dressed up in crash helmets to listen to speeches. All were united in their inactivity.

The real united front was the IS-led harassment of the fascist march in which some 1500 of our members and sympathisers were joined by rank and file members of the Communist Party disillusioned with the passivity of their leadership. A handful of individual members of the International Marxist Group also joined us, but more important was the number of unaligned workers who were there.

We must not be romantic. Those out against the fascists on Saturday hardly compare with the tens of thousands mobilised against Mosley. But it gave a glimpse of an effective united front against fascism—the unity of workers prepared physically to confront them, not the false unity of self-appointed committees and paper organisations.

And we must see the National Front in perspective. They are a small organisation with only a handful of trade union members. They are not yet backed by any section of business. They are still forced to hide their Nazi ideas behind a facade of respectability.

They have never mobilised more than 1000 supporters and can only march if granted massive police protection. They are not yet a major threat to working-class freedoms and organisations.

At this moment, anti-picket policies of the courts, government income policies and treacherous trade union leaders are the chief enemies of the working class. There is no fascist threat independent of the state.

### EXPULSION

The fight for socialist ideas is the key that will ensure that such a fascist base is not built. The crucial fight is the continued day-to-day battle of principled socialist arguments against racialism and nationalism.

The hounding of individual fascists out of trades unions and workplaces, part and parcel of that fight. Just as we never ignore racialism in the home that it will go away, we must not ignore the individual fascist in the workplace. The recent attempts by Rank and File teachers to expel an active fascist from his teaching post at a school in Tulse Hill, South London, points the way for other socialists. We should campaign for the union to expel active National Front members.

While we strive to build revolutionary socialist party organisations in the workplace, while we combat the racist ideas of capitalism, we must at the same time strive to make the labour movement a hostile place for fascists.

### SOCIALISTS STOP FRONT MEETING

A HUNDRED socialists successfully occupied the Lister Room in Epsom Ham Town Hall to prevent the National Front organising a meeting to select candidates for the general election. The occupation, supported by teachers, civil servants, hospital workers and members of Epsom London International Socialists and the International Marxist Group held a meeting of their own.

The Front tried to persuade the local police inspector to eject the occupants, but after consulting council officials he declined. Twenty-five National Front thugs then invaded the meeting, which ended with chairs and tables flying, windows broken and girls being threatened and intimidated by the fascists. The police were then called in by the council and told the Front to leave.

### ACTION GOES ON

A WEEK after the anti-fascist demonstration in Leicester the local branch of the International Socialists held a meeting attended by 22 black members and supporters. Asim Hajji of the IS anti-race sub-committee spoke on racism and how to fight it. There followed a lively discussion.

Black workers spoke about problems at workplaces or colleges, the appalling conditions at nearby motorway service station, and of the treatment black workers received at a local plastics factory.



Police charge as demonstrators form a barrier in an attempt to stop the Front march

the fascists including, on two occasions, the formation of a human barrier across the road. But the 2000 police brutally swept us aside so that the fascists could march on.

The police bias was evident in the viciousness with which several counter-demonstrators were treated: one girl's wrist was broken when she was hurled to the ground, others were beaten about the head and kicked in the stomach. Two complaints have been lodged against this police brutality.

The National Front's campaign to establish a presence on the streets has suffered a major setback, but they will try again. The International Socialists call on other sections of the labour movement to organise with us to clear the fascists out of the unions and off the streets.

### Police break girl's wrist



POLIE Smith, a member of Ipswich International Socialists, was taken to hospital after the demonstration. She had a broken wrist after being assaulted by police. She told Socialist Worker what happened: 'We were just walking along, not with linked arms, and the National Front had gone off in the opposite direction. We were trying to cross the road where some other people had been crossing, and suddenly the police pushed me against the van, hit my head against it, pulled my hair, and then grabbed hold of my arm and threw me to

the ground. I thought I was going to be trampled on, but someone pulled me away.

'My arm was numb, my head really hurt, and I couldn't see very well. A doctor on the demonstration got me into a doorway.

'The policeman who went for me looked as if he'd lost his temper, as if he had lost control completely. He had no reason to grab me; there were no police lines. We just wanted to join the others who had crossed over the road.'

PHOTOGRAPH BY Mike Cohen

THE National Front was forced to retreat again last Saturday in London.

After boasting in the press that they would have 4000 marching to Hyde Park, and that they would not change the route of their march, the 700 National Front members and supporters who did turn up were herded like sheep away from Hyde Park to a rally in Lincoln's Inn Fields surrounded by 1000 police.

To cover their retreat, the fascists invented a story about how they were required to provide thousands of pounds in indemnity to cover damage to Hyde Park. This is a pathetic fabrication: all large rallies in Hyde Park are subject to the same conditions and the National Front knew this when they obtained permission to use the park several weeks ago.

The fact is that the fascists were forced from their original route by the 1500 International Socialists and their supporters who harassed them throughout their march and a further 3000 anti-fascists waiting for them at Hyde Park.

Several hundred IS members and supporters were prevented from reaching the demonstration in time because their coaches were held up on the motorways and searched. IS members were searched, often in the most humiliating manner, and sticks on which placards were mounted were deliberately snapped by the police. Presumably this was so they could not be used as weapons on the demonstration—but no action was taken against the 50 or so members of the National Front who were parading with union jacks on the end of steepled spears.

### BARRAGE

The International Socialists did not wait for the fascists in Hyde Park. We moved at once to meet them in Whitehall and Trafalgar Square. Astonished fascists and police were surrounded on both pavements by hundreds of jeering IS members and supporters, who silenced the small band sent from Northern Ireland by the Orange Order.

The constant barrage of chanting reduced the Front to a nervous silence behind their protective cordon of police.

Five attempts were made to stop

### ARRESTS: WE NEED WITNESSES AND AID

THE FOLLOWING were among those arrested on Saturday and need to hear from anyone who witnessed their arrests: Geoffrey Hancock, Stuart Kitchen, Lindsey Greig (arrested in New Oxford Street), Robert Tate, Charles Baird, Michael Foskett (Wells Street, off Oxford Street), Anthony Young (Speaker's Corner), Jacqueline Klein and Nicholas Illsley. Steve Jefferys, who was arrested on the Leicester anti-fascist demonstration, and Polie Smith, who is in hospital with a broken wrist after a police attack on Saturday, also need witnesses.

If you have any information which will help in the defence of these comrades please write to Dave Peers, IS national secretary, 8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 9DS. The cost of these trials will be enormous. Socialist Worker appeals for donations from all our readers. Every IS branch must have a collection this week. Send to Anti-fascist Defence Fund, 8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 9DS.

# THE LOYALIST SPLIT WIDENS

THE SPLIT in the Protestant community here between the 'old-style' politicians rallying to Enoch Powell and the grass-roots leaders who emerged during the anti-power-sharing strike is coming more and more into the open.

Harry Murray resigned last week as Chairman of the Ulster Workers' Council—which organised the strike—saying that it had 'lost its way' and was 'being manipulated by Paisley, Craig and West'.

Two others resigned with him. In Derry, another of the strike leaders, Glen Barr, is threatening to split the Protestant vote in the coming election by standing against the official unionist. 'The days when official unionists got a free run to Westminster are over,' he declared.

In West Belfast, Ken Gibson, leader of the Ulster

From EAMONN McCANM in Belfast

Volunteer Force, said that he will oppose the Paisleyite unionist, John McQuade, on the ground that 'McQuade does not speak for the working class of the constituency'.

Three weeks ago at his home in Bangor, Harry Murray told me that he was 'living in fear' of a Protestant extremist attack, and denounced the formation of a sectarian 'third force'. It was obvious that these attitudes would lead to a split sooner rather than later.

But while most of those coming out against the traditional unionist leadership are working class, the split is not along socialist lines. There should be no illusions about that.

Mr Murray, reacting against the sectarianism of his former colleagues, is helping to form a 'peace group' with the assistance of Catholic and Protestant clerics, trade union officials and professional middle-class pacifists.

Their appeals to 'brotherly love' and 'christian charity' will bounce harmlessly off the hard shell of sectarian bigotry.

## Ambition

While Ken Gibson condemns 'bourgeois politicians', his organisation carries on a stormy flirtation with the National Front.

And many suspect that personal ambition rather than political principle underlies Glen Barr's disenchantment with official unionism.

Despite all that, the split is significant and is being taken seriously by unionist leaders. Harry West announced on Saturday that moves are afoot to rebuild a single unionist party, uniting his, Craig's and Paisley's separate factions—the new organisation to be led, no doubt, by Enoch Powell.

## Threaten

Craig, Paisley and West are desperate to get back to the days when the vast majority of Protestants voted unthinkingly for an all-powerful unionist party—and independent working-class activity was at a minimum.

The new groups, for all their confusion and extreme vulnerability to ultra-right-wing appeals, threaten that project.

The widening cracks in the monolith at least mean that Protestant workers are beginning to discuss the options open to them and this opens up an opportunity—no more than that—for left-wing organisations to present a socialist alternative.

## Quote of the week

'We have been paying far too little for sugar.'

JOHN MOORE, Tory MP for Croydon Central, investment banker and stockbroker.

## The other side of the Con-Trick

ETON and Harrow are part of the Social Contract. The so-called Public schools, fees from £1000 a year upwards, will not be abolished in Harold Wilson's New Britain after all.

'It simply would not be practical to do it,' said Education Minister Reg Prentice last week.

So the sale of educational privilege and the old-boy network will be part and parcel of what Harold Wilson called, at the TUC, 'a way of life for Britain, based on social and economic justice.'

Public schools 'allowed some people to buy privilege for their families at the expense of others,' said Prentice in a masterly understatement.

Never mind. The Social Contract is aimed, in Wilson's words, 'at replacing conflict and confrontation by conciliation and co-operation'. That rules out a conflict with the rich over their tax-supported, special and superior schools.

The oldest and most prestigious public schools were founded in the 15th and 16th centuries by wealthy men anxious to go to heaven when they died.

Having ground the faces of the poor while alive, they left conscience money in their wills to provide for the education of 'poor scholars'.

This counts as charity so Eton College, Winchester School and the rest pay no taxes on their vast investments.

Nowadays the 'poor scholars' are drawn from the offspring of big-business, the diplomatic corps, senior service officers, Tory and Labour cabinet ministers and such-like depressed classes.

Times without number this racket has been denounced at Labour Party conferences and Trade Union Congresses. Umpteen resolutions have called for the abolition of the Public Schools.

Alas, it just wouldn't be 'practical' for our allegedly 'left' Labour government to take this modest step.



The face of privilege: Nothing to fear from Labour

## Mozambique: Racists go for their guns

ALMOST ten years to the day they took up arms, Frelimo, the liberation movement in Mozambique, has signed an agreement with the Portuguese government which could bring independence within 12 months and end 400 years of colonial rule.

The news sparked a white extremist riot in the capital, Lourenço Marques. Led by the Dragons of Death, white settlers who had served in the Portuguese colonial army, the rebels seized the airport and the broadcasting station and called on the 200,000 whites in Mozambique to support their attempt to seize power.

Since April's coup in Lisbon, groups of right-wing terrorists have been creating a climate of violence in Mozambique, intended to sabotage the transfer of power to Frelimo.

In a last ditch attempt to maintain

white rule and the exploitation of the African people, the most reactionary elements of white society have been organised to riot, loot, murder and attack black and white Frelimo supporters.

## Danger

Though armed to the teeth, the rebels are not strong enough to stage a Rhodesian-style UDI. They depend on support from the Portuguese army, which has been ordered to quell any separatist uprising but has so far taken no action.

The great danger of the white revolt lies in the opportunities for

outside intervention. The South African government has repeatedly stated its concern that 'law and order' be maintained in Mozambique.

Growing opposition inside South Africa and Rhodesia and successful national liberation struggles on their borders threaten these racist regimes.

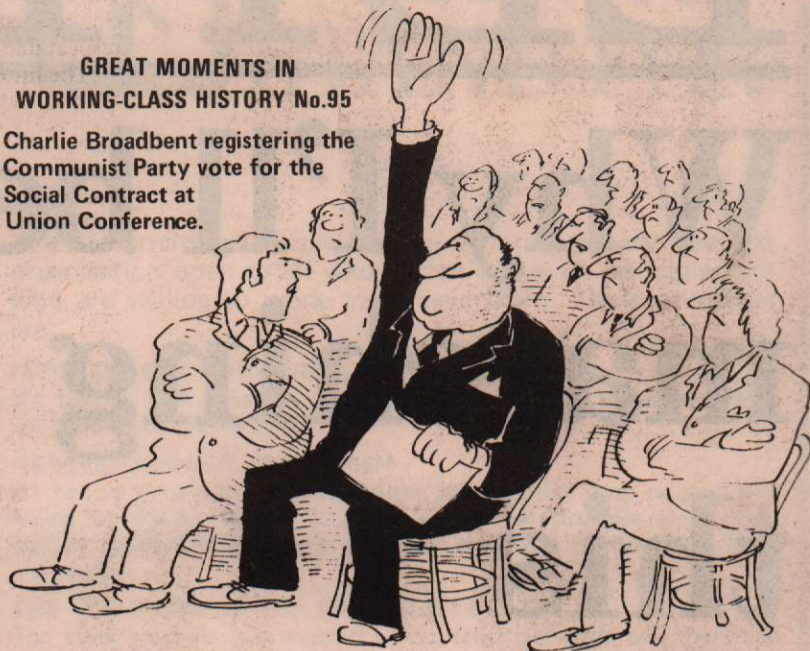
Behind them, and equally concerned with the changing balance of power in the subcontinent, stand western imperialism and its armed wing—the NATO military alliance.

British capital, for example, has more than £90 million invested in Mozambique, through companies such as ICI, Racal, Tate and Lyle, British Leyland and Babcock and Wilcox.

## WHAT WE THINK

GREAT MOMENTS IN WORKING-CLASS HISTORY No.95

Charlie Broadbent registering the Communist Party vote for the Social Contract at Union Conference.



## Unity? Yes, but not at this price

IT IS ALWAYS a pleasure to be able to agree with others on the left, especially with those who never tire of preaching the need for unity. We entirely agree with the arguments of Jimmy Reid on the Social Contract (Morning Star, 7 September), so much so that we think they deserve to be reprinted.

'Take the issue of the social contract. It is amazing to hear people argue that it does not mean wage restraint,' says comrade Reid. 'If this is so, what does it mean? Why the ecstatic reception by every Tory and right-wing industrial and political commentator? Are we to assume that they were applauding a socialist programme, or even the first step on a long journey to a workers' republic?'

Absolutely right. So is his argument that wage increases foregone by strongly organised workers do not help the lower paid but merely boost profits.

'There is no mechanism in our society, or any capitalist society,' says Reid, whereby these 'are then transferred to the pockets of the lower paid. With any form of wage restraint, voluntary or statutory, the lower paid are always the most seriously hurt, and the Social Contract will be no exception.'

If the Communist Party wholeheartedly accepted these views in practice the struggle against the Social Con-Trick fraud would be considerably strengthened. But does it?

Why did not the Communist Party exert all its considerable influence in certain unions to get a motion of outright opposition to the Social Contract on the agenda of the Brighton TUC?

The much-publicised TASS motion, supported by the Morning Star, was a motion of conditional support for the Social Contract. And even that motion was withdrawn in face of pressure from the General Council.

The Communist Party now says it shouldn't have been withdrawn, at least not without 'consultation' with the AUEW delegation. But Ken Gill and Eddie Marsden, two of the Communist Party's most prominent trade union leaders, agreed to the withdrawal. Without their agreement, the withdrawal would not have been possible.

Will the Communist Party demonstrate the seriousness of its opposition to the Social Con-Trick by taking disciplinary action against Gill and Marsden? After all, if Reid's line is correct, what is involved here is an out and out sell out.

Unfortunately, there are good grounds for believing that Gill and Marsden represent the Communist Party's real line, 'unity' at all costs with the Labour and TUC 'lefts', even at the cost of completely abandoning the Communist Party's own policy.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating. If the Communist Party takes no action against Gill and Marsden it will confirm that its opposition to class-collaboration is a sham.

## Free Pat Arrowsmith

PAT ARROWSMITH has been recaptured. She is serving a prison sentence after conviction under the infamous Incitement to Disaffection Act. This Act, passed by the Tories in 1934, makes it a crime for anyone to have 'in his possession or under his control any document of such a nature that the dissemination of copies thereof amongst members of Her Majesty's forces would constitute such an offence.'

The Act is accurately described by the National Council for Civil Liberties as 'a useful tool for the suppression of opinions which the government of the day finds undesirable or embarrassing'.

Michael Tobin was given two years in 1972 for possessing 'A letter from a soldier of the IRA to the soldiers of the Royal Greenjackets'.

Pat Arrowsmith was given 18 months this year for distributing a leaflet headed 'Some information for British Soldiers'.

These prosecutions are the thin end of the wedge. The NCCL is campaigning to secure the repeal of the Arrowsmith Michael Tobin Act and to secure the repeal of the Incitement to Disaffection Act.

The Union of Democratic Workers has also been successful in securing the repeal of the Act. Arrowsmith must be freed. The Tories are wrong.

# LETTERS

## Why I'll be marching this weekend

AS A hospital worker and a member of the TGWU, I will be demonstrating in Glasgow on Saturday to show solidarity with my fellow trade unionists in Chile and to express my opposition and disgust at the repression of workers there by the fascist junta.

Repressive measures such as the torture camps like Tejas Verdes outside Santiago accompany every fascist dictatorship. Inside these camps are carried out the most bestial horrors imaginable.

The task of the solidarity committees in Britain is to provide the trade union movement with the truth about what is happening in Chile.

Collecting money for the defence of the Chilean workers is extremely important but it is also necessary to show our strength against fascists outside and inside Britain.

The British ruling class have become aware of the growing militancy and opposition by the working class—that is why they imprisoned the Shrewsbury building workers and defended the National Front a few weeks ago when Kevin Gately was killed.

If a government were ever threatened to take away the wealth of the rich, the facade of parliamentary democracy would be dropped immediately and the true nature of the ruling class would then come to light—as it did in Chile on 11 September 1973.

What can we do to ensure that the situation in Chile never arises here? We must build a revolutionary organisation which will take away the power from the ruling class by

leading the collective strength of the working class towards victory through physically taking control of the means of production, and smashing the machinery of State control.

That organisation is the International Socialists. To build IS, we must actively organise to strengthen the capabilities of the rank and file. The demonstration in Glasgow on Saturday will only be a small contribution against fascism by rank and file workers.

But those workers have the potential power to bring the eventual overthrow of capitalism. Socialism must prevail but it will only do so through the international solidarity of workers throughout the world.—JIM BARLOW, Secretary, Dundee Chile Solidarity Campaign.

### Rockefeller's monument to greed

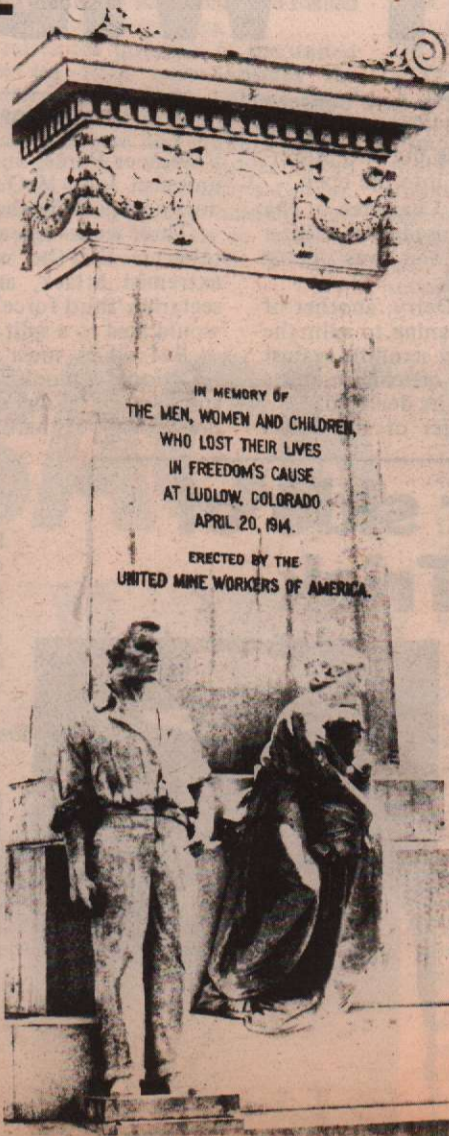
SOME of the skeletons in Nelson Rockefeller's cupboard (31 August) are real ones.

Nelson's father, John D Rockefeller Jr, owned the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company which, 60 years ago, had a dozen mining villages and towns in its pocket . . . houses, stores, saloons, doctors and police.

In September 1913, the United Mine Workers of America called a strike and 9000 miners and their families moved out of the towns into makeshift tent colonies.

In April 1914, state militia attacked the camp at Ludlow, Colorado with a machine gun, rifles and dynamite. Twenty-one people, mainly women and children, were killed. Louis Tikas, a union man, was beaten and then shot dead while in custody. Rockefeller generously rewarded the militia.

The strike lasted 15 months and ended in crushing defeat for the mine workers. Rockefeller continued to refuse to recognise the union. Meanwhile, the millions rolled in. COLIN FALCONER, Rainham, Essex.



Rockefeller's riches, paid for by workers' lives

WHY isn't there more in SW on the unemployed and pensioners? They face daily hardship without much hope . . . with several million senior citizens and a million unemployed, with plenty more to come, you ought to have a campaign to help and organise these usually forgotten people. Things are getting worse for those with a job, but they're doubly worse for those without. Act not before someone like the National Front gets in with its filthy rubbish.—J WORTH, Coventry.

ICI—profits last year £300 million plus—recently invited doctors in this area to a 'promotion function', a film and a slap-up meal at an expensive inn . . . The Health Service is in a critical state and nurses and hospital workers are on starvation wages . . . yet a drug firm can feed the already fat in order to coax them to prescribe their products and increase their fantastic profits . . . Not one penny will go back into the Health Service.—G W GOOD (Ambulance Driver/attendant) Wakefield.

THE PLAN of Harold Gurden MP for 'law and order wardens' is surely another example of the Tory campaign against workers . . . His 'tentative plans for junior wardens' put him in interesting company . . . Hitler had the same bright idea . . . This bare-faced attitude is just one more reason why the Tories must be smashed at the next election.—D GREEN, Bath.

I WAS at the Windsor pop festival and would say the police operation was so large-scale it must have been planned well in advance. Having 'permitted' it to continue peacefully almost until the end, the police deliberately provoked the hostility . . . Why? Perhaps because it was free and no-one was making a profit . . . Such tendencies have, of course, to be discouraged.—JOHN HAYWARD, Loughborough.

BATH, like all towns and cities, is suffering from an acute housing shortage . . . Yet the Ministry of Defence (Navy) is leasing a building from a well-known private builder for a sum believed to be more than £1000 a month . . . It's time government and local councils started putting OUR money to good use . . . We want houses to live in—not office blocks to squat in.—BATHONIAN.

EVERY WEEK in our shopping centres, well-meaning people collect cash for Help the Aged, Cancer Research and Save the Children . . . What a perfect example of the high regard our great democratic system has for human beings and their suffering . . . The well-being of those with, for example, cancer or kidney disease depends on the generosity of working people who can ill-afford to part with their meagre earnings . . . What sort of a system is it that spends our money on murderous atomic weapons instead of on producing a cure for cancer . . . If our masters want Polaris missiles and H-Bombs, they can always organise Buy a Bomb collections on flag days.—IAN RIDLEY, Chrysler Ryton.

I'VE just started subscribing to SW and I'm delighted with it. Since you have had to put up the price, I'm sending you all the outstanding 2p's.—MOLLIE BAILLIE Paignton.

## THE STENCH ON THE BENCH

AS ONE of the many unfortunates to have appeared before the so-called Justices (?) of the Peace, I would like to ask a question: where the hell do they find these alcoholic idiots?

It's common knowledge that magistrates are too busy inserting their fingers in this or that pie to have any first-hand knowledge of how working-class people live.

Consequently we are fined or jailed out of all proportion to the

wages we earn or the offence committed.

I came up on a motoring charge. After a four-hour wait, three JPs appeared. One, who took considerable time to reach the bench, was obviously in pain with his leg.

Another wobbled to her seat, taking one step forward and three back. The third, a youngish man, seemed unsure of himself. It looked like his first time on the bench.

A police inspector said to me: 'Can you smell the gin on that lot?' For once, I agreed with him.

While giving my defence, the old bloke was continually grimacing with pain and rubbing his bad leg while the woman kept nodding off to sleep.

She would slowly close her eyes, and then her head would suddenly flop forward into deep sleep.

Deliberately, I would then raise my voice, and she would jump back to life with such a start that it seemed she would go through the ceiling.

Meanwhile, the old man would suddenly go red, almost as if the vibration of my voice was making his leg hurt even more.

The two of them were not taking a blind bit of notice of what I was saying. With him in agony and her asleep, I thought 'bloody stroll on, I hope she isn't dreaming of a murderer or she might wake up screaming "hang him from the nearest tree".'

The young JP, who hadn't said a word, then joined heads with the others. At first I thought they had all collapsed on the bench.

No such luck. They were deciding what punishment to mete out. I was fined more than £20.—J M ALI (TGWU), Burnley.

## Over my dead Boddie . . .

THE London Evening News editorial staff have been warned to regard as 'top secret' the home telephone number of Caren Meyer, the writer of that now notorious series on Left groups called The Wreckers.

The notice was one of the last to come from editor Don Boddie before he was sent packing by the Harmsworths after 20 years on the staff.

He warned staff to resist attempts from outside to obtain Meyer's home number. After the recent bashing delivered to IS, IMG, WRP and, less forcefully, the National Front, he was sure that there would be a sinister backlash directed at the poor lady from unscrupulous quarters on the Left.

He concluded his note with a 'we must all be vigilant' warning. It appears that he is under the impression that blood-thirsty, vengeful revolutionaries are about to strike at any moment.—A HACK, Fleet Street.

## JUST A CROOKED COP?

ON 24 August it was reported that Sergeant Grant Smith of the Metropolitan Police who after confessing to planting evidence on three men in order to get promotion, has been suspended (on full pay of course) pending an investigation (by the police) and a report to the Home Office on the three cases.

Sgt Smith's the man who confessed to planting evidence during an Anti-apartheid demonstration and drugs on two other people.

To a lot of people this is history and not news. They are the people who have been convicted of crimes they hadn't committed solely on fabricated police evidence. They are fully aware that this is quite frequent police practice.

Papers like the Daily Mirror admit that these disgraceful activities are taking place in the police force: but at the same time try to make out that these are all totally exceptional and isolated incidents committed by a very small minority solely for their own personal gain.

We all know that these activities are part of the duties performed by the police and the armed forces to help keep the whole corrupted system intact. It isn't just crooked officers that we've got to get rid of; but the whole obnoxious capitalist system that employs them.—LLOYD HAYES, Norwich.

In 1917, for the first time in world history, a workers' government took power in Russia. Out of the bloodbath of the First World War an alternative and better society was born. Within 20 years it was dead, murdered by a new class, a new despot—Stalin.

### RUSSIA

How the Revolution was lost  
Chris Harman



15p.  
FROM:  
IS Books,  
265, Seven Sisters Road,  
London, N4. Please add 4p for postage

## Ah, but look at the colour of his money

READERS in Wigan have sent me a copy of last Friday's Wigan Observer, which contains a centre-page feature interview with Joyce Gibson, wife of property tycoon Len Gibson, who starred on this page two weeks ago. She is described as 'an ordinary woman and proud of it'. Her 'greatest love', according to the article, 'is her mustard MGB GT'.

Said Mrs Gibson: 'Len regards the car as a sardine can, and when he criticises the MG I refer to the Rolls as

"that thing", just to make it even.'

Mrs Gibson has apparently only had one moment's difficulty with her husband—when her parents found out he was born in India. 'My mother nearly had a fit', she told the Wigan Observer. 'I think she imagined a man with a turban and a jewel in it, but when I said who it was, she knew the family.'

Our reader in Wigan writes: 'How reassuring for her. She should have been in Leicester. She would have shit in her racist pants. Our day will come.'



ON MAY 6, World in Action transmitted a half-hour programme on the business ventures of Mr John Poulson (bankrupt and imprisoned architect) and Mr Reginald Maudling, MP for Barnet.

On May 8, Mr Maudling made a statement to the House of Commons. 'There comes a time', he wailed, when one can no longer accept this sort of thing.'

He promised 'I am instructing my solicitors to bring proceedings against those who were in any way connected with it (the programme).'

If I lived in Barnet, I would ask my prospective Conservative candidate, Mr Reginald Maudling, why no proceedings have been issued against Granada TV or anyone else connected with the programme, although four months have passed since the proceedings were promised.

### Secret

While we're on the subject, I notice that two time-honoured members of the Yorkshire National Union of Mineworkers have been arrested on corruption charges concerning Poulson.

They are Colin Dews from Castleford, and Tom Roebuck from Mexborough, two of the toughest right-wingers in the union, and both founder-members of the secret association started in the NUM in the 1960s (and 'piloted' in Yorkshire) to drive all reds and subversives out of leading positions.

One man who must have been very sad at these arrests is Albert Roberts, MP for Normanton, who is a proud holder of the Order of Isabela la Catolica (Spain) perhaps that's why he calls his house Cordoba.

Brother Roberts, who is sponsored by the NUM, was a member of an advisory committee set up in the 1960s to advise on industrial housing. The other two members were Colin Dews and Tom Roebuck.

## CHIEF UNSTABLE HOLDSWORTH

CHIEF CONSTABLE David Holdsworth, of the Thames Valley police force, who led the recent police raid on the pop festival at Windsor, has been in the news before. Last year he succeeded in infuriating the entire press in his area by refusing to give newspapers information about local burglaries.

If the press published the facts, said the Chief Constable, the same premises might be burgled again!

On 23 March last year a letter

THE Business Ideas Newsletter is a pamphlet put out by the Institute of Small Business to give small businessmen some bright ideas about how to make a quick profit. The issue of 28 August comes up with the following:

'You could also try Her Majesty's prisons. They can be a very useful source of labour and equipment, as contract manufacturers.

'What sort of work do they do? Well, the answer is almost anything that is profitable . . .

'Injection moulding capacity is available for some items and several prisons have industrial looms producing upwards of a million yards of cotton-weave fabric each week.'

Or again: 'For example, if demand

## Fearless, Frank and free

YOU never know what muck will come out when you turn over a Tory stone. For a few weeks I've been going on about Eldon Griffiths, the Tory spokesman for Industry, who started as a PR man and who now spends his time defending 'free enterprise'.

Griffiths told a recent meeting of Court Line workers made redundant because of the Tory directors' incompetence and greed that the Court Line business would prove to be 'Labour's Watergate'.

Griffiths then hurried out a public relations statement on behalf of the Felixstowe docks, which he described as the most efficient port in the country. Griffiths is a director of a Felixstowe Docks subsidiary.

Now I learn that there is a strange

for your 'widget' slackens, then, as you will usually only be paying for each item manufactured, you won't have employers to lay off, factories to close, redundancy pay to find.

In short, if you have a product you want manufacturing but can't afford the capital equipment, then the prisons might have the answer.

The booklet lists some of the 'snags' associated with prison production ('Pilfering is a big danger, too . . . It's amazing what they'll pinch'), but comes down hard on the side of this interesting new form of slave labour.

link between Court Line and the Felixstowe docks. The public relations firm for Court Line, which did such a brilliant job pretending to the public that there was nothing wrong with the firm all through the months when it was going bust, is (or, to be precise, was) a firm called Frank O'Shanuhan.

Only recently, Frank O'Shanuhan took over the public relations account for the Port of Felixstowe. Experts in PR have been astonished at the similarity in style and content between the vigorous defence of Felixstowe by the former defenders of Court Line and the equally vigorous defence put up by the Tory Spokesman for Industry.

accidents happened were published, other people might have accidents there.

These bans are still in force, in theory at any rate. In practice journalists in the area get the information they want on the grapevine from junior policemen who are not entirely convinced about their chief's ability to run a whelk stall.

The fact is, in short, that Holdsworth is an irritable old buffoon who should be put out to pasture.



## 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 SMASHING OF 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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## bookshops

Pamphlets produced by the International Socialists:

**The Struggle for Workers' Power**, by Roger Rosewell, 10p

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**The Meaning of Marxism**, by Duncan Hallas, 25p. **Study Guide to The Meaning of Marxism**, by Richard Kuper, 10p

**The Politics of Lenin**, by Paul Ginsborg, 20p

**Russia: How the revolution was lost**, by Chris Harman, 15p

**ROOTS OF THE AMERICAN EMPIRE** by William Appleman Williams—recommended as a history of the US and US Imperialism (£1.50).

**LET US NOW PRAISE ALL FAMOUS MEN** by Agee & Evans: a brilliant documentary in words and pictures of American tenant farmers in the Great Depression (75p).

Some special issues of **RADICAL AMERICA** are available, including **CLR JAMES'** writings on America, the Caribbean, literature, sport and socialism (40p).

**WOMEN'S LABOR**: articles about women and work by a number of British and American writers including a section on British Women's Lib and the Working Class (75p).

New from the Labour Research Dept: **MENACE OF THE MULTINATIONALS** (20p) and **BIG BUSINESS AND POLITICS** subtitled the finances, propaganda and secret activities of employers' organisations (20p)

We have also just got a consignment of **OUR BODIES, OURSELVES** (£1.50).

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# Labour passes the port

by Mike Stanton

TGWU, Grimsby docks

I STARTED work as a docker in December 1972 and soon realised that we had problems. The non-scheme ports were booming at our expense.

They had scabbed on the national strike and worked for lower rates with fewer men to each job. Their employers paid nothing to the National Dock Labour Board Levy for holidays and sick pay. Workers had no job security.

Nothing has changed since. That is why Eldon Griffiths, Tory MP and director of the company that runs the port of Felixstowe, can say: 'The best port in Britain, private enterprise Felixstowe.'

For two years we have been patient. We waited for the Jones-Aldington Report which gave us

nothing. Now we are waiting for the recalled Docks Delegate Conference. On the wages front the National Ports Shops Stewards Committee lost the fight for a 20 per cent increase. One by one, the major ports all signed Phase Three agreements. At the moment the committee is not functioning.

It is against this background of inactivity and uncertainty with no national rank and file leadership that we must view the government's policy for the docks. Nobody gives the dockers anything. Everything we have, we have fought for.

So why, when a national strike and mass pickets failed, do we get

nationalisation and the non-scheme ports on a plate after sitting on our backsides for two years?

It is easy to support the proposals, if only because the bosses are determined to sabotage them. Aims of Industry, the right wing bosses' organisation, is spending £1 million to attack nationalisation, of which £75,000 is earmarked to attack the docks proposals.

## Efficiency

Looking at some of the proposals I wonder why the government bother. Dockers hardly get a mention, except for plans to 'promote

efficiency of the ports industry in the interests of those who use and those who work in the ports.' Experience tells us that 'efficiency' means redundancies. Emphasis is placed on 'scarce management resources' (jobs for the boys) and 'local initiative and responsibility'. So much for public control.

Public Trust ports, such as London, and British Transport Docks Board ports, including Southampton, the Humber ports and South Wales, are already under public control even though this only extends to port facilities. The port employers and the shipping agents are mainly private firms.

There is mention of bringing cargo-handling facilities under public control but all that means is fat compensation for the employers, followed by jobs and fat salaries with the new nationalised firms.

Militants have long argued for a new national docks agreement. For too long we have suffered from the bosses' divide-and-rule tactics. A recent example is the dog-fight over South African container work, with Southampton employers claiming they can do the work five times cheaper than London.

But the government states that 'ports should continue to compete on service and price.' Enough said?

The other half of the deal, to extend the Dock Labour Scheme, must be welcomed. This will mean the establishment of local boards to control discipline, jobs, working conditions and the levy, with equal trade union representation by elected working dockers. More than 2000 unregistered dockers will benefit.

## Tradition

There are dangers though. Many of the private wharves have no trade union tradition. (Dover is an exception, with a fine record of solidarity with their registered brothers.) Will these form a backward tendency where inexperienced elected leaders are dominated by full-time officials?

Already there are moves to modify the Scheme. We have rejected such moves in the past. We should not be conned by the government's package into thinking all our troubles are over. Any attempts to weaken the scheme in the interests of 'efficiency' or the 'nation' must be firmly resisted. The Tories hate dockers, the bosses hate dockers, and it would be folly to place all our hopes in a minority Labour government.

We need now the leadership of the National Ports Shop Stewards Committee, our elected leadership, to defend the scheme, to take our traditions into the non-scheme ports and once more take up the fight for the national claim.

Jack Jones would be quite happy to sell us the Social Contract in exchange for Labour promises. Well we have had promises before. In 1966 dockers accepted decasualisation under private employers after a promise of nationalisation and sweeping industrial democracy. When the 1970 Ports Bill finally saw the light of day it was such a let-down that there was a one-day strike and 1000 dockers marched in protest to parliament.

## Participation

Finally, the government letter promises 'appropriate arrangements... for a major extension of worker participation'. Jack Jones may want 50 per cent participation by workers in management, I do not. We have enough problems of our own without being dragged in to solve the employers'.

There are only two ways to solve the bosses' problems. One is for them to attack our living standards. The other is to get rid of them and their grasping system in the socialist revolution.

When we are running industry in our interests and not for the benefit of a handful of profiteers and their hangers-on, then will be the time, not for 50 per cent, but 100 per cent participation. To achieve this, militancy is not enough. We must organise in a new party, a workers' party dedicated to the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism.



PICTURE: Farmers Weekly

*This is the most dangerous job there is. Unprotected by a cab, 80 farmworkers die every year as tractors overturn in muddy fields.*

# Death sentence for 840 more

by Chris Thompson

National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers

IN THE past eight years 677 people have died through farm tractors overturning. This is the largest single cause of death on the farm.

With noble concern for workers' safety the Ministry of Agriculture has flashed into action. In 1967 the Agriculture (Tractor Cabs) Regulations Act passed through parliament. In determination to act quickly, this made it compulsory to fit cabs to all tractors—by 1977! Time for the poor landowners to save up the hard earned pennies, and time enough for 840 farmworkers to die. Safety cabs have proved to be at least 97 per cent effective in saving lives.

The ministry didn't stop at those 840 death sentences. In 1972 they found that most tractor cabs had such a noise level that tractor drivers were likely to have their hearing permanently damaged. So in 1973 they passed an amendment to the 1967 Act which set a noise limit for tractor cabs, to take effect in (you guessed it) 1977.

In the past two years 39 workers have died crushed beneath tractors because parliament dare not touch the profits of the small bunch of men who own our land—unless workers make them.

The farm tractors are not the workers' only problem. Due to the lack of trade union organisation and activity lots of farms haven't even got a tin of plasters.

A fellow farmworker recently had to spray three fields with Metasystox 55 (a Bayer product), a commonly used pesticide for sugar-beet. The label informs you that it

is dangerous to swallow, breathe the vapours, go into the spray mist, or get it on the skin.

Then it gives you a list of symptoms which include giddiness, nausea, small pupils, blurred vision and muscle twitching, and tells you that if any of these symptoms appear go straight to hospital where you have to stay for 24 hours.

## Bonus

My friend used this spray on an open tractor about three yards away from the spray nozzles, protected by an old PVC mac and hat, a face mask which didn't fit, and a pair of rubber gloves. For taking his life in his hands he got a bonus of 5p an acre (20 gallons). Despite the washing instructions there were no washing facilities, the usual case on farms.

I can hear the well-organised factory worker saying: 'I wouldn't stand for that.'

But sadly the weapons of isolation and the tied cottage are well used by the boss. To refuse such dangerous work generally leads straight to the sack and eviction.

If you fight and take your eviction to court, you find that most country magistrates are landowners and paid up members of the National Farmers Union.

The basic wage for farm craftsmen is £27 (with £2 threshold) and as the economic crisis and inflation grow worse weak farmworkers will

pay through the nose for bad organisation. Every day it becomes more important for militant farmworkers to get together to fight for decent wages and safety at work.

We've just witnessed the sickening spectacle of the biannual conference of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers at Clacton. We got the usual motion calling for massive wage increases. No doubt, as usual, union president Bert Hazzel will take it to the Agricultural Wages Board, which will reject it.

He'll then go back to bargaining for pennies.

Hazzel and clique have had it too easy for too long. It's time for militants in the rank and file to push them. Out if necessary!

Like the Nurses, once you stand up others will support you. But we must make the first move.

All interested in farmworkers fighting for their rights, please contact C D Thompson, Blofield Farm Cottage, Cordys Lane, Trimley St Mary, Ipswich, Suffolk.



PICTURE: Chris Davies (Report)

*Bottini, the farmworkers' union general secretary, told the TUC children of 13 were allowed by law to drive 'lethal' tractors.*

# CHILE



## Labour's £25 million gift to the junta

THE Labour government that so prided itself on cutting off the £250,000-a-year economic aid to the Chilean junta has quietly allowed the Bank of England and the Treasury Department to make those self-same Chilean generals a present of £25 million.

Labour has agreed that debt repayments due in 1973-1974 need not now be paid until 1977. This is equivalent to £25 million in new, interest-free credit—of considerable assistance to the economically hard-pressed junta.

Movement towards this deal started just before the General Election in February. From 23 to 25 February the countries who are members of the Club of Paris credit union met in London to discuss the massive Chilean foreign debt and how they could help the junta out.

Some countries had reservations. Italy boycotted the talks and Holland suggested the debt relief should only be granted if the junta made some sort of gesture about respecting human rights.

But the British representatives were to the fore in insisting on a speedy deal. It was concluded two days later.

The Bank of England and Treasury officials' concern to get a speedy agreement was due to the approaching general election. They reasoned that if a Labour government was returned little interference was likely if a deal had already been struck. After all, a gentleman's word is his bond.

Just over a week later a Labour government was in power.

The Labour Party Conference the previous October had taken an unusually uncompromising stand in opposition to the junta. This was fully endorsed by the Shadow Cabinet when Labour was in opposition. In November 1973 Judith Hart, who is now Minister for Overseas Development, moved a motion in the House of Commons outlining the Labour opposition's position on Chile.

### Vetted

This pledged a Labour government to cut off all military supplies to the Chilean junta and to support the trade unionists who blacked such orders. The motion also referred to credits and implicitly committed Labour government to stop any debt relief.

This motion had the full support of Messrs Wilson, Healey and Callaghan and not just in the vote. For they had been involved in the final shaping of the motion when it was vetted by the Shadow Cabinet.

But Labour in office followed a different course. In April 1974 James Callaghan, by now Foreign Secretary, announced the Labour government's package on Chile.

Gone were the pledges to cease all military supplies. There was to be no aid, no naval visits and no 'new' arms exports. Later Callaghan clarified what this clever formulation meant. In reply to a

BY LAURIE FLYNN

House of Commons question, he explained that existing orders would be met and spares supplied.

The change in Labour's policy was a familiar response to familiar pressure.

The British armaments industry, whose expansion in the South American markets and elsewhere had been masterminded by the 1964-70 Labour government, had been hard at work. And they are rather more influential than any number of sincere Labour left-wingers.

### Feint

British Insulated Callendar Cables, big customer for Chilean copper, became ambassadors extraordinary for the junta and warned Labour ministers that if the generals were deprived of their frigates they would withhold copper supplies.

This threat had in fact been made by a junta representative. But this was more of a diplomatic feint than a serious threat, for Chile depends almost entirely on copper exports for much-needed foreign exchange.

Nonetheless success was swift. Callaghan ranted and raved to the parliamentary Labour Party and the Labour Party national executive that the government simply could not endanger vital copper supplies. Ex-miner and Minister of Defence Roy Mason weighed in behind him. He was terribly worried about his arms trade.

The result of all these endeavours was that the junta got its existing orders and a promise of spares.

But one other important conces-



What the junta has crushed: Building workers demonstrating in Santiago when Allende was president

sion was also quietly made. No longer was there any suggestion that the renegotiation of the Chilean foreign debt might be stopped or even that meaningless 'human rights' string might be applied to it.

In June, after the deal had been agreed but before it was finally signed, left Labour MPs again started flailing around in the 'proper channels' trying desperately to get government ministers to play the game.

### Credit

They didn't get too far. So they sought support. 137 MPs agreed to put their names to a demand that the Cabinet tie renegotiation of the debt to some gestures on the human rights front. The Labour Party national executive supported them. They sent a joint delegation to see a government minister, Edmund Dell, the Paymaster General.

Dell told the delegation he knew nothing about the matter, and nothing could be done. Shortly afterwards, the junta got its much-needed £25 million worth of new credit

from Britain.

Such an outcome is a long way from the noble intentions of Labour Party Conference resolutions. But it should surprise no one.

In 1972 the Allende government desperately needed debt renegotiation from the Club of Paris countries. The Americans balked at them by insisting that compensation for the nationalised copper mines was an essential precondition.

The Treasury and the Bank of England men supported this to the hilt. They simply refused to make any agreement for ten months.

When Labour came to office, these same faceless men were still in power in the Treasury, the Bank of England and elsewhere. They had the same job. They went about it with the same purpose and in the same way. Only by that time there was a new government in Chile to which they wanted to give debt relief.

The Labour government was no obstacle. The Labour Party believes the machinery of state is neutral and accepts the rules of their game. Salvador Allende made a similar mistake.

## CIA money against Allende

THE US government has always denied that it helped to finance the coup in Chile. Now, CIA director William Colby has admitted in testimony to a House of Representatives Committee, that 11 million dollars were allocated 'for covert action' against the Allende government.

The CIA financed the Christian Democrats in the 1970 election. Then after Allende's election, an additional five million dollars was authorised for 'political de-stabilisation' efforts during the period from 1971 to 1973. During summer 1973, when the Allende

government was plagued by inflation, strikes and growing civil unrest further funds were made available by the CIA to his opponents.

However, Colby assured the committee, all this is in the past. The CIA is not now engaged in any clandestine operations in Chile. Naturally. Now that the military junta has established its bloody dictatorship there is no need for further 'defence of democracy', CIA style. Instead the US government is handing over 83 million unclandestine dollars of 'aid' to bolster up General Pinochet.

## News from the resistance

SIX people were arrested on 9 August and accused of releasing 'highly offensive' pamphlets against the government. These pamphlets were thrown from the top floor of the ten-storey Science and Arts Faculty of the University of Chile in the centre of Santiago.

WHEN junta chief General Pinochet's image appeared on the screen of the Central Cinema in Santiago during a newsreel before the showing of the film of The Godfather, the whole theatre in chorus yelled out ASS-ASS-IN! and whistled and hissed. This happened many times in different parts of Santiago. The government had to remove the newsreel.

ON MAY DAY this year a mass was being celebrated in the San Joaquin Church in the Commune of Quilicura Normal, Santiago, by Bishop Fernando Aristia, who is constantly under pressure from the junta for his part in helping political prisoners and their families.

In his sermon the bishop denounced the brutal repression and torture. While the congregation, mainly workers, was preparing for communion, a faint voice arose singing the International. First a dozen, then hundreds of voices joined in.

The bishop and his assistants begged the people to stop for fear of repression, but the congregation, with tears in their eyes, went on singing to the end.

THERE was a total blackout for half an hour in Temuco on 22 July which was described as caused by a small problem of interconnection of a transformer of the General Electric Industrial Company. The strange thing is that minutes after the blackout helicopters of the Manquehue airbase flew over the area.

ON 2 May six Hawker Hunters recently arrived in Chile from Britain at the Colina airbase on the outskirts of Santiago were sabotaged by having sand put into their engines. Ten engines were destroyed. More than 200 non-commissioned officers and soldiers from the base were detained for interrogation.

THE ATTEMPTED assassination of General Leigh, a member of the junta and representative of the airforce, has been kept quiet by the junta. The attempted assassination was by a high ranking officer who was immediately riddled with machine-gun bullets. Leigh's bodyguards. Leigh was shot in the arm. This reconfirms growing discontent within the armed forces.

DURING the month of May there was 30 per cent absenteeism in industries and mines throughout Chile.

RESISTANCE committees are being organised throughout Chile in factories, farms, schools, universities and neighbourhoods. Their tasks are to co-operate on every level with the social isolation and destruction of the junta. International solidarity is of great importance to the unification of this Popular Resistance Organisation.

'IT COULDN'T HAPPEN HERE' - centre pages

# It couldn't happen here

FOR a brief period after the election of the Labour government, it looked as though it might work. In the 'social contract' period, as it became known, the trade union leaders managed to hustle their workers into submission, and a few small but important concessions were made.

These were proudly proclaimed by the new Labour Prime Minister, Anthony Wedgwood Benn, at a mass Labour Party rally at the Empire Pool, Wembley, on the first anniversary of Labour's

general election victory.

'We are the party of the people, and for us the people will come first,' he said.

Soon after that rally the crisis clouds burst. Prices, rising at the rate of 14-20 per cent for the previous three years, suddenly soared. In the last few months of the year they rose by 37 per cent. In response to growing restiveness among trade unionists, Wedgwood Benn brought Jack Jones, the powerful general secretary of the two-million-strong Transport and General Workers Union, into the government as Minister against Inflation.

Jones established a complicated system of price control committees, in which trade union officials and local dignitaries came together to vet price increases in the shops.

In some areas, especially in the more militant working-class districts of Liverpool, the North East and Scotland, the committees managed for a time to check some of the more scandalous breaches of Labour's Prices Act.

But in most areas the committees were harmless from the point of view of the retailers and manufacturers and the system led to rampant bribery, particularly among the trade union officials on the committees. Each bribery case was widely publicised in the newspapers, which resumed their long feud with Benn and which started to describe Jack Jones as the 'Minister for Chaos'.

## Attacked

The Conservative Party, silent and confused during the early months of the Labour government, recovered its unity and its voice. In the first 18 months the Tories had agreed with many proposals of Labour—including the nationalisation of the ports, British Leyland, the country's biggest car firm, and life insurance. Now they attacked the government at every possible opportunity.

In many areas the workers started to take things into their own hands. Blaming the employers and their system for the economic crisis, they seized factory after factory. In Manchester, the vast General Electric complex at Trafford Park was occupied. On Teesside, for a short while, the workers' committee took over ICI's plant at Wilton.

## Fascist

In hundreds of smaller factories throughout the country, the 'workers committee movement', which had no strong national links and which the Communist Party openly denounced, occupied the factories and sacked their employers.

Employers and Tories responded in kind, assisted by the growing fascist movement—the National Front—and 'volunteer organisations', whose ostensible purpose was 'civil assistance'. Led by former generals and eccentric baronets, these worked closely with the fascist organisations.

In December a rash of strikes broke out in the middle classes. Senior hospital doctors and surgeons, protesting against the

Labour government's proposals to end private practice, refused to operate or to administer the hospitals.

Airline pilots stopped London Airport over Christmas, in protest against government 'interference' in private airlines. In Norfolk the National Farmers' Union, whose local committee included two prominent members of the National Front, openly flouted the government's controls on food prices and effectively starved the country of several essential foods.

## Army joins the Cabinet

THE government was rocked to its foundations by these strikes and the fury of the press campaign.

It conceded the central demand of both: that the Cabinet should be strengthened by the inclusion of two recently-created military peers, one a former NATO general, another a young Admiral of the Fleet.

In a special announcement the Labour Home Secretary, Roy Hattersley, announced that the government fully supported the patriotic volunteer spirit incorporated in GB85, the least openly fascist but by far the most powerful of the two volunteer movements. By what became known

which allowed three of their candidates to stand without Labour opposition. The Communist Party orchestrated the campaign, playing up the record of the Tories. Labour was also helped by a rash of personal scandals involving top Tories in unsavoury business deals.

The results, on 31 March, were a triumph for Labour. Despite a universally hostile press, Labour gained even more seats than in the previous election, notching up an overall majority of 45, with 42 per cent of the vote.

## 'Together for Britain'

THE election campaign involved the masses, and the masses celebrated with a rash of strikes and victory demonstrations which demanded the fulfillment of Labour's promises. A small, left-wing group within the Labour Party, calling itself The Militant, grew in size and influence and started to agitate for 'left-wing' resolutions at the October party conference.

The 'workers committee movement', which again failed to build national links, spread like wildfire across British industry. There was hardly an employer who was not confronted with demands for

humbled the then government. They had wobbled up the wobbled then.

Half their leadership restraint to help government, but fought ballot the to strike by 56 to just one per cent majority required rules.

The strike lasted. The government then against the miners and other militants were ruthlessly by government spoliation. Jack Jones agitators among the 'the enemies of movement'.

He told the Communist incontrovertible shall make available that the miners are forces. There are Trotskyists and other who are more interesting the democratic the miners' case.'

When the miners power stations they by the government 'volunteer force'. So at one coal depot in Salford—was rendered less by statements of the leaders of the b any support for the not be backed by the

After three weeks leaders agreed to call. The vote to continue carried by 52 per cent, and the strike without a single vote the government.

In a nationwide broadcast Prime Minister praised the miners' deed he said, what he had a group of men who been loyal to the Labour

He praised the 'who serve Her Majesty armed forces' and volunteers, all of who to pull Britain out of was, he said, like 'small men' of Britain in her hour of need.

## Blacks deported

THE MINERS were defeated, demobilised, continued apace. The crisis deepened. A country, there were dancies. The Nation the slogan: BLACKS OUT FIRST.

Not one trade opposed the slogan tarian repatriation' p started by the government black people in Britain to go 'home'. payments were refused and Irish who had part in the programme.

The immigration heart—and a lot of r



'GO HOME! GO HOME!' the minister tells the workers just before the coup. 'Your government can deal with this.'



THE MINERS: 'I have incontrovertible proof... that the miners are led by evil forces,' the House of Commons was told

## SPECIAL DISPATCH FROM LONDON, 13 SEPTEMBER 1978

as the Hattersley Decree, GB85 was absorbed into the official police force.

In a series of mass Labour rallies throughout the country, senior Ministers urged their perplexed followers to support the movement. 'We need Labour men and women in these forces,' said Wedgwood Benn in Bristol. 'Patriotism is not the monopoly of the Tories. The Tories would also be stupid to imagine that they have a monopoly of support in the army's high command.'

These concessions brought a lull in the class struggle. Labour Ministers and their supporters in the Communist Party and among the trade union leaders concentrated all their efforts on new parliamentary elections.

The Conservative Party and its supporters among the military were confident of an election victory which would humiliate Labour. They were wrong.

An intelligent and powerful election campaign was launched by Labour. The Communist Party dissolved its election machine after a deal with the Labour Party

'committee control' of his factory or plant. Those few who were stupid enough to refuse outright were sent packing with a neatly-typed redundancy notice and three weeks pay.

The Labour government would have none of this. The real struggle, explained party leaders, was over. The election had been won. Labour must now prepare for five years of power.

The workers' committees were disbanded. Several factories which had been occupied by the committees were handed back to their original owners. GEC, for instance, were given back 13 factories in Coventry and Manchester, including the complex at Trafford Park.

The Daily Mirror, which had championed the Labour Party in the election, featured a picture of Wedgwood Benn and GEC's chairman, Arnold Weinstock, on its front page under the headline: 'Tony and Arnie—together again for Britain'.

But the greatest test for Labour was in the pits. The miners had stayed their hand since their great strikes of 1972 and 1974 had

Demonstrate: Glasgow, 14 September Blytheswood Square, 10.30 am





WHEN the axe fell it fell swiftly. Troops ringed Whitehall and Downing Street

Every incident in this story has a close parallel with events in Chile under Allende from 1970 to 1973. If you don't believe this read Helios Prieto's book *The Gorillas are Among Us* (see below).

the full. They produced a fresh batch of 'suspects' who were then rounded up, imprisoned and tortured in turn. The waves of repression continued for the whole year.

The military junta declared it a criminal offence to have actively supported the elected Labour administration. The punishment was ten years in prison, but it was also punishable by death.

It became a crime 'of the utmost magnitude' to possess any book or pamphlet which had any connection with socialism or revolution. A strict 5pm to 5am curfew was imposed on streets in all cities.

The barbarism of the British ruling classes, which had been vented for so many years on the people of far-off countries and on the Irish, was now brought to bear on the working class of Britain. More than 200,000 militants were shot. The flower of the working-class movement was destroyed for a generation.

## The reason for failure

AT A RALLY in Santiago this week to mark the first anniversary of the British coup, many speakers pointed to the root cause of the British catastrophe: the failure to build a socialist organisation whose purpose was not to elect MPs to Parliament but to organise, link and lead the workers' struggle towards socialism.

Over and over again in the three years before the British coup, such a party could have organised workers to crush the growing fascist forces and advance workers' power in the factories. Instead, over and over again, the workers preferred to put their trust in the 'Parliamentary Road' pointed to them by Labour and the Communists.

The Santiago rally was well attended. But the mass of the workers stayed away. They heeded the advice of the leader of the new Popular Unity Movement and of the Chilean Communist Party, who said: 'The British experience is grim indeed. We are outraged and shocked by the actions of the British military dictatorship.

'But this had little to do with Chile. In Chile we have a long parliamentary tradition. In Chile, the armed forces have traditionally behaved in a patriotic manner. They have traditionally supported the elected government against the peril from without.

'We detest what happened in Britain. But it couldn't happen here.'

## Pictures from Chile by Luis A Fernandez

# What you can do for Chile

WHAT can we do about Chile? The answers to that question are in a statement issued by the National Rank and File Conference and titled, 'What we must do about Chile.'

The statement includes lists of trade unionists who have been imprisoned in Chile and suggests that each trade union branch adopt one of the prisoners in its trade group and pressure the authorities for his or her release.

One practical way in which the prisoners can be helped is by getting a work contract for them to work in Britain. The Organising Committee urges trade unionists to persuade their employers to apply for work permits for their adopted prisoners.

## Blacking

The Organising Committee is also taking donations to help prisoners' families in Chile, who are close to starvation and without any assistance from the state.

The Organising Committee is also making a special offer of the book, *Chile: The Gorillas are Among Us*, at three copies for £1. Orders to the Organising Committee, 214 Roundwood Road, London NW10. Do everything you can to get your fellow trade unionists to read this book.

If you haven't received the statement from your union branch, write to the Organising Committee and it will be sent at once.

The junta depends heavily on trade with Britain—so the blacking by trade unionists of firms that trade with Chile or that have subsidies out there is vital. Socialist Worker has produced a four-page leaflet, 'Does your firm trade with the torturers?', which lists the British firms linked with Chile and outlines how to go about blacking their goods.

It costs 2p a copy (postage 5p for any number of copies) from IS Books, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

HELIOS PRIETO

## Chile: The gorillas are among us



In this implacable attack on the failure of Allende's government of Popular Unity, Prieto shows clearly the dangers of not preparing the people for successful resistance to counter-revolution 50p plus 10p postage and packing from PLUTO PRESS, 10 Spencer Court, 7 Chalcot Road, London NW1 8LH.

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into the National Front and their supporters in the volunteers.

Under pretext of hunting out the subversives named by the Labour government during the miners' strike, the factories were raided and well-known militants detained for questioning.

Complaints in parliament were brushed aside by the new Home Secretary, Field Marshal the Lord Falkirk. From 6-9 August massive demonstrations of middle-class women, organised by the National Housewives League, besieged Whitehall and Downing Street with the demands: End Inflation! Get Rid of the Reds.

Communist Party women picketed the demonstration with heads bowed, and with black sashes 'in mourning for British democracy.'

On 14 August, the machinery of government was paralysed again by a strike of senior civil servants, promptly joined by mass strikes of lorry owners.

On 20 August, General Arbuthnot, who had argued against a military take-over, resigned as Chief of the Imperial General Staff. The Labour Party called mass demonstrations all over the country to pay homage to Arbuthnot, who was described by Benn as 'a great soldier and a great patriot'.

The following day Benn named Falkirk chief of all the armed forces and gave him special powers to deal with the emergency, under

the Emergency Powers Act, 1920. Immediately, 3000 'agitators' were arrested and interned in camps on the Isle of Man and in the Shetland Islands.

The strikes ended, but the government now had no effective power. Every action had to be submitted first to the military chiefs in the Cabinet and to the leaders of the volunteers.

With each new twist in the crisis, the government snuggled closer to the military. In a speech on 4 September, only a week before the coup, Jack Jones spoke about the concentrations of capital in Europe and America. 'We put Britain first,' he said, 'and that goes for all of us in the Cabinet.'

'General Falkirk puts Britain first. So does Admiral Jackson. We all of us refuse to allow Britain to slide into industrial helotry to American or European imperialism.'

## Workers executed

WHEN the axe fell, it fell swiftly. On 11 September the military and volunteer leaders under Falkirk's leadership put into effect the operation which they had been openly planning for four weeks.

Troops ringed Whitehall and Downing Street. Benn himself was

shot dead at his desk. So was Jones. So were four other Labour members of the Cabinet. Every Labour Party leader and activist, every known Communist and revolutionary, was either shot or arrested.

## Shot

Tanks, which had been openly used in the streets for five years on alleged 'exercises against terrorism' were hauled into action in the main areas of working-class resistance. Some factories were occupied and held by workers, who had no arms with which to defend themselves. These were immediately bombed or gunned into submission. In Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, Newcastle, Leeds and Sheffield, soldiers and volunteers invaded the factories, lined up the workers and shot at random.

More than 10,000 working-class men, women and children were shot that day. Every black man and woman who appeared at work was gunned down.

A million Irishmen were forcibly repatriated.

Acting on information gathered by the Special Branch with the full encouragement of the Labour government, the army and the volunteers sought out another 5000 militants and agitators. The sophisticated torture techniques perfected in the long war against the IRA in Ireland were used to

NEXT YEAR, equal pay becomes law. Yet in the 12 months before March 1974, according to recent government figures, nearly half of Britain's small firms made no progress towards it. Bigger firms are also lagging behind. How are women going to get equal pay? Will it bring equality at work? Three women trade unionists answer the questions which affect every working woman.

## When will we women get the rate for the job?

# Is THIS equal pay?

I HAVE got equal pay—in theory. But I start at the bottom of the scale, and there I stay.

The gulf between men and women teachers—an average of about £8 a week in 1971—arises from the different opportunities available.

### SUBTLY

Women tend to have fewer qualifications. Schools encourage them to leave earlier, or at best, to congregate into teacher training colleges. They subtly steer

By SAL JENKINSON

them away from academic studies.

And so, with teaching certificates but without a university degree, women get less pay for a job just as exhausting and valuable as that of a male teacher.

We also face an organisation—the National Association of Schoolmasters—which exists to promote the interests of male teachers.

It argues that better-paid, more responsible posts should go to men since they are more likely to stay. But such jobs are mainly in secondary schools anyway, and as most women are in junior teaching, they again have less chance of better pay.

### LEVER

Women suffer unequal opportunity—throughout education. Equal pay must be used as a lever for change, otherwise it's a fraud.

# When we fight for it!

AFTER 85 years, equal pay is law. Next year women can get it—if they fight for it.

For the law means little when it inconveniences the bosses. Instead of being compelled to bring women's pay up to 90 per cent of men's by the end of 1973, as the law demanded, employers only had to reduce the differential by a third. Under Phase Three the difference could be halved. Now the government has said it won't force employers, but will encourage them with publicity.

By Norma Stephens, APEX Convenor at SEI, Eccles in Lancashire, scene of Britain's first strike over the implementation of the Equal Pay Act.

Are we still under any illusion that equal pay will be a reality by the end of 1975 after so much backsliding by successive governments? We are told we are fortunate to live in a society where people previously downtrodden have

got their rights at long last.

But women are still downtrodden in our society. There is only one way women can get equal pay—and last year clerical workers at Salford Electrical Instruments, part of the giant GEC combine discovered it.

We dug our heels in and manned a 24-hour picket which was arranged to fit in with our second jobs as housewives and mothers. We took abuse from passers-by and learned to manage on strike pay. We learned how to stop lorries from entering the factory, and how to put our case to other trade unionists and get their support.

We found out how devious management can be and the depths they will plumb to try and break a strike. How they will use any weapons to demoralise workers, even getting Alsatians to police the factory and intimidate us.

### Truncheon

We also learnt the lesson that was hardest of all for many of the women. We learnt whose side the police are on. It is no fun being forced back on a picket line by a copper with a truncheon in his hand when he has no compunction about using it.

After 11 weeks we won. We firmly believed this would help to get the ball rolling for many other women throughout the country.

### Rights

Since then, we have heard of other strikes for equal pay. Shop-floor workers, members of the AUEW in our factory are fighting for equal pay at this moment.

There are still women who believe they will automatically get equal pay next year. But experience has shown we have to fight even for what are supposed to be our rights. There is only one way to get equal pay—by standing together and demanding it.



While the law talks about equal pay, these women strikers at SEI know they have to fight for it. PICTURE: John Sturrock (Report)

## Ideas we must root out

IRONICALLY, a major obstacle to equal pay is . . . women. We are often held back by the best of motives.

We may feel a man with a wife and three children to support needs more money, forgetting that millions of single women have dependents.

Or we may see men's higher wages as a just reward for heavy, dirty work, shiftwork or night-work.

We even allow the majority of men, who do jobs no more dangerous than ours, to live off the reputation of miners and construction workers. Men who do no lifting or stoking still earn more than women.

These attitudes run deep and are not easily uprooted. Women

By Hester Blewitt, AUEW shop steward

find it hard to struggle with the attitudes and personal relationships that make them inferior.

But if we try to understand and fight the logic and strategy of the bosses, we shall eventually overcome the attitudes which traditionally have helped make women cheap labour.

Employers take a cynical view of women. Even before the Equal Pay Act was passed, the Engineering Employers' Federation was advising its members how to get round it.

It explains how to prevent equal pay—or how to make the cheap

substitute taste like the real thing. Its recommendations include replacing us with machines, re-employment, greater productivity and segregation of women into low-paid grades.

We can defeat them by deciding what we mean by equal pay—and sticking to it. We must not accept their definitions.

We should be preparing claims which use as a yardstick pay rates for men who do our job in other factories.

Managements will play on our traditional attitudes and our ignorance. They will try rationalisation, segregation and job evaluation to cheat us out of equal pay.

They will do anything to keep us low paid. Our determination can beat them.

an International Socialists pamphlet 10p

ROGER KLINE

can  
Socialism  
come  
through  
Parliament?

Roger Kline's CAN SOCIALISM COME THROUGH PARLIAMENT? draws the lessons from the antics of the Labour Party, in government and in opposition, as reformers of capitalism, and argues what we can do to bring socialism.

10p plus 3p postage (10 or more copies post free) from IS BOOKS, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

# The soul of man under socialism

WE HAD been out for a walk that day, and had passed an elderly lady and a little girl emerging from a cellar.

The child had asked for a piece of the cake I was eating. She was so very hungry, she said.

'No, go away', I snarled, remembering how I'd seen the devastation of my home 13 months before, when 54 of my neighbours and friends had been killed in one night in Chelsea, London. This was Germany in April 1945, and hadn't we come to teach these people a lesson?

'You rotten swine' my Scottish pay shouted at me as we walked on. 'It wouldn't have hurt you to have given the kid some of your stinking cake!'

## Continues

And so in the evening back at the blitzed house we artillerymen had laughingly christened Woodbine Villa, the argument continued.

'They started it', I shouted, 'and they should pay for it, kids and all!' The other soldiers joined with me in attacking the Scot's soft attitude. After all, General Montgomery had warned us: 'Don't fraternise with these people, this is the second time we have fought them in 25 years—have nothing to do with them, don't trust them!'

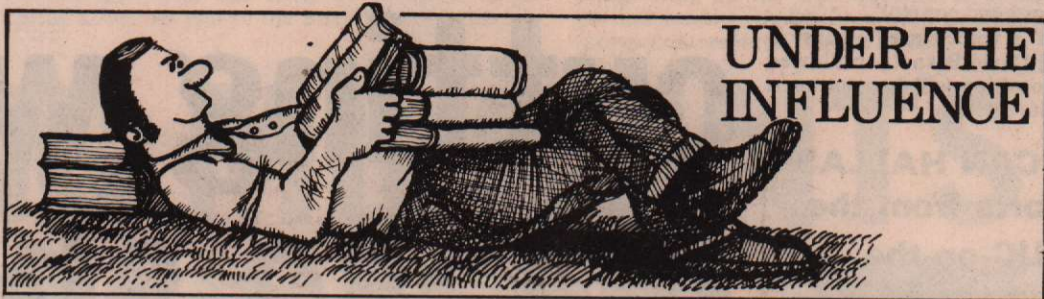
'Och, you lot make me sick' my Scots pal replied, and unusually angry, he said: 'What kind of a world do you creeps envisage if we're going to carry on like this?'

'Haven't you all seen enough misery without adding to it? Must you always drag up the past and give no heed to the future?'

'OK, so Germany marched into Poland, but how much of that was caused by the Versailles Treaty—how much is international capitalism to blame, the squabbling over trade routes and military bases, the fight to expand and capture markets and minerals by force.'

## Blemish

'Good God, we've seen it all before—you lot talk about Germany and Japan as if your own country, Britain, gained an Empire without a blemish.'



By  
**REG OTTER**

'If you're really interested in the cause of war, if you really care about people regardless of their nationality, religion or colour, for Christ's sake stop being a lot of bloody hypocrites and read this book—here you are—YOU FIRST!'

And with those words, he slung a small volume, with a certain amount of contempt, at my bed.

It was almost midnight, and as I settled down beside my paraffin lamp, the sky in the East flashed as the guns pounded what remained of

the German forces, and I read: 'Socialism, Communism, or whatever one chooses to call it, by converting private property into public wealth, and substituting co-operation for competition, will restore society to its proper condition of a thoroughly healthy organism, and ensure the the material well-being of each member of the community.'

## Basis

'It will, in fact, give life its proper basis and its proper environment. One will live. To live is the rarest thing in the world. Most people exist, that is all.'

'From their (the poor) collective force, humanity gains much in

material prosperity. But it is only the material result that it gains, and the man who is poor is in himself absolutely of no importance.

'He is merely the infinitesimal atom of a force that, so far from regarding him, crushes him; indeed, prefers him crushed, as in that case he is far more obedient!'

I read on... fascinated!

'There is nothing necessarily dignified about manual labour at all, and most of it is absolutely degrading. It is mentally and morally injurious to man to do anything in which he does not find pleasure, and many forms of labour are quite pleasureless activities, and should be regarded as such.'

## Apalling

'To sweep a slushy crossing for eight hours on a day when the east wind is blowing is a disgusting occupation. To sweep it with mental, moral or physical dignity seems to me to be impossible. To sweep it with joy would be apalling.'

'Man is made for something better than disturbing dirt. All work of that kind should be done by a machine.'

I read the book twice, three, four times and I became a devoted admirer of one of the greatest writers that ever lived—Oscar Wilde. The book is still, to this day, a most treasured souvenir of a friendship which has lasted throughout all these years. Its title stands out amongst all my other books: **THE SOUL OF MAN UNDER SOCIALISM.**

## On film a victory for the workers

THE Socialist Worker Defence Fund is to promote the distribution of the film *Blow for Blow* in at least ten major IS areas. The 'premiere' will be at Camden Town Hall in London on 29 September.

The film, originally banned in France, has so far been unable to obtain distribution in this country. It's about a factory occupation but for the first time we are not shown a slushy sentimental view or treated to an excursion round all the possible points of view.

Instead, we are taken into the heart of the matter, we are shown the betrayals of the trade union officials. We see the calculated oppression of the forces of law and order.

## Joy

But most of all the film manages to illustrate and comment upon the daily dehumanisation of life on the conveyor belt of life under the capitalist system. It does not, however end there.

The workers take over. We watch them stretch out and take on their future for the first time in their lives. What a joy it is to watch them learn.

As their solidarity grows, so does their support. It is an ingenious film that captures the ingenuity of our class.

It ends in victory, with the workers and the bosses preparing for the fight to come. Details of performances in your area will be published soon.

WE'VE got our projectionist for the IS Film Tour but still need a van or car with driver willing to spend a week touring. Expenses. Contact Roland Muldoon, 11c Cabbell Street, London, NW3.01-402 6087



## MAKING IT ALL WAYS...

By E Cininski (NALGO)  
Derby Town Hall

*Making it all ways...  
The sons of rich and influential men  
having it easy, playing the score,  
watching how the rules are bent,  
the convenience of an inside loo,  
holidays abroad, always unplanned,  
Silver spoons and the money like syrup, easy,  
turning socialist when the feeling is good,  
standing up at the Party Conference  
saying 'I'm one of you, I know best.'*

*The sons of paupers and wet-nosed men,  
mothers who look male and as hard,  
sharing the kitchen-sink with dishes,  
living back-to-back, hand to mouth  
saving on HP terms, deposits down, and demands;  
educated by dirt, the abuse of working hard  
and seeing nothing but the shortening days,  
being socialist without knowing why  
listening to soft Party hacks telling them  
they know what life is all about.*

TOP: Victorious women workers surround Boursac, the factory-owner. ABOVE: Betrayal by a trade union official sparks the women into action

# All those in favour of cutting wages, please show

'A COMPLETE British dissociation from all forms of nuclear weapons and for the closing of all nuclear bases, both British and American, located in Britain or in British waters.'

This was carried, without a single speaker against and scarcely a hand raised against either, at the 1974 Trades Union Congress.

A call for 'recognition by the British Government of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam' went through virtually unanimously; again not a single speaker objected.

Aside from a little half-hearted opposition by the right wing to the General Council's line of total opposition to the Common Market, there was a near-complete consensus behind something like the Morning Star's view of world affairs. Or so it seemed.

Even in the more sensitive field of domestic matters, some very radical sounding propositions were adopted; for example 'nationalisation of the film industry without compensation and under workers' control'.

*Without compensation?* Yes indeed, and not a voice raised against it. Frank Chapple, Roy Grantham, Joe Gormley and David Bassett swallowed it without a murmur. They are confident that nothing will happen apart from Len Murray sending Wedgwood Benn a polite letter.

It was all part of a little-advertised Social Contract that is becoming at least as significant as the better-known one.

This compact is between the trade union lefts, including especially the Communist Party and CP influenced ones, and the right and centre.

It amounts to this. The 'lefts' are allowed to get their resolutions through on all kinds of issues, excepting only the operative ones, the central issues of wages policy.

In return, the 'lefts' refrain from carrying out any real fight against the General Council's right wing policies in practice.

'There is no division between left and right in this Congress' claimed Ken Gill, the Communist Party's new General Councillor, in his speech moving the AUEW-TASS motion on the Social Contract. An astonishing claim on the face of it.

## Hero

He soon showed that it was not just rhetoric. He withdrew his motion 'in the interests of the broadest unity' as he put it, and his delegation abstained from voting against the General Council's Social Contract line.

True, this hero of the 'left' could claim that Len Murray had promised to accept all the eight demands in the TASS motion from 'a large-scale redistribution of income and wealth' through to 'substantial cuts in defence expenditure.'

It was a meaningless concession. Murray knew it, Gill knew it, everybody knew it, but it helped the 'left' to save face and to surrender gracefully.

It was an astounding piece of political chicanery. The great issue at the Brighton Congress was the determination of the General Council to enforce a wage restraint policy in a capitalist society racked by accelerating inflation.

In other words, to enforce a policy of cuts in real wages.

## Deadly

And the 'left', instead of rallying all possible support against this monstrous sell-out, accepted it in the interests of 'unity'.

The explanation is simple enough. On this issue the TUC leadership was deadly serious.

All the friendliness and tolerance they found it convenient to extend to a licensed 'left' would have disappeared had that 'left' really exposed and denounced the Social Con-Trick.

All those 'progressive' resolutions would have been lost and the Communist Party would not be represented on the General Council.

The Morning Star found it politic, after the event, to make a little mild criticism of the antics of Comrade Gill.

But they were mere pretence. The Communist Party, not Ken Gill as an individual, made the decision not to oppose the Social Contract outright.

The TASS motion itself was one of conditional support for it, a fact that was admitted by another Communist Party union chief, Bill Ronksley of ASLEF.

**DUNCAN HALLAS reports from the TUC on the 'triumph' of the Social Con-Trick**



The only TUC vote that really mattered: with prices going up and up, our 'leaders' vote to keep wages down



Ken Gill: threw in his hand

He said 'Whichever way you look at it, the social contract is wage restraint policed by the General Council.'

When it was made clear to Gill that neither Jack Jones nor Hugh Scanlon was satisfied with merely conditional support, he drew the obvious conclusion and threw in his hand. The Communist Party reaped what it had sown.

So Harold Wilson got what he

wanted and he celebrated in an election speech of monumental banality.

'We in Britain cannot play our full part in realising the benefits of an interdependent world if we are divided amongst ourselves and pursuing our sectional interests.' . . . the call must be to all sections of industry, to responsible areas within the financial world to unite . . . We need both efficient publicly-owned industry and a vigorous, alert, responsible and profitable private sector. This was the 'contract' accepted by the 'lefts'!

## Well-oiled

From the first moment of Congress all efforts had been bent to setting the stage for this performance and the stage managers had a walk-over. 'Unity' triumphed.

The second Rank and File Conference, which is now being prepared, will lack some of the smoothness and efficiency that the well-oiled TUC machine displayed at Brighton.

It will lack all manner of things. But it will be devoted to serious debate on the best ways and means of defending working class interests.

It will carry forward the work of developing a left in the workplaces, and in the trade union movement that does not believe in the 'unity' of the lion and the lamb, a left that will not sell its principles for a mess of 'left' resolutions and the odd seat on the General Council of the TUC.

## 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.

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.

Benefit Social for victims of 1974 Rent Act. Saturday 14 September, 7.30pm-11.30pm. Party afterwards. Campsbourne School, Nightingale Lane, Hornsey, London, N8 (30p, pensioners free). Irvin Kutichinsky, Captain Swing, The Cartoon Klowns, local councillors.

JUST OUT. Chile: Class War 70-73. A Big Flame pamphlet available at all good revolutionary bookstores.

Working Women's Charter Campaign public meeting. Saturday 14 September, 2pm-5.30pm, University of London Students' Union, Malet Street, WC1. The WWCC are launching a major campaign to persuade unions, trades councils, tenants associations etc to adopt the Charter, which pledges support for ten anti-discrimination clauses. Inquiries: 01-567 4362.

THIRD WOMEN AND SOCIALISM CONFERENCE on the theoretical problems of the tactics and strategy of Women's Liberation as a mass movement. 21-22 September, Students Union, Birmingham University. For details and registration, contact Jill Lambert, 26 Longsdale Road, Harborne, Birmingham. (021-427 7433).

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

Revolutionary Communist Group. Public Meeting: Chile, One Year After the Coup. 15 September, 7.30pm, Bull & Mouth, 31 Bloomsbury Way, London, WC1

## NORTH WEST LONDON COMMITTEE AGAINST FASCISM

Supported by Brent Trades Council. Racism and fascism in Brent. Wednesday 18 September 7.30pm. Speakers from local Labour Council, Communist Party, Trades Council and Anti-Racist Committee. Brent Trades Council Hall, Willesden High Road, (Dollis Hill tube).

PARTINGTON & CARRINGTON TRADES COUNCIL public meeting. The real face of South Africa. Speakers: George Peake (black South African and political prisoner) and Chanie Rosenberg (white South African). Plus showing of film Last Grave in Dimbaza, followed by dance with bar extension. Friday 27 September, 7pm, Partington Community Centre, Central Road, Partington (222 bus from Piccadilly, Manchester).

Notes on the conception of capitalist development and class consciousness in the later writings of Leon Trotsky: a pamphlet by Geoff Hodgson. 14p per copy, post paid. Send four 3½p stamps to: NT-SW, 185 Burton Road, Manchester M20 8LZ.

The Campaign Against A Criminal Trespass Law has been formed to fight the Law Commission's proposal to outlaw factory occupations, sit-ins, demonstrations on private and state property, and squatting by making trespass a criminal offence. CACTL is holding an open meeting to discuss the implications of the Law Commission's proposals and to plan opposition to them on Wednesday, 18 September, 8pm, at the Roebuck, 108A Tottenham Court Road, London, W1.

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 (SW), The Socialist Party of Great Britain, 52 Clapton High Street, London, SW4

## MORE SUPPORT FOR SW

THE PARTINGTON 97ME branch of the AUEW has passed a resolution to the Manchester District Committee calling for an end to the ban on credentials for Socialist Worker. The vote was unanimous. If the resolution passes the District Committee, it will go forward to the Executive Committee.

# The lessons of Ireland



## Chingari appeal

THE IS anti-race sub-committee has issued a circular urging all branches which take Chingari to send in back payments, including for issue no 6. The paper is suffering a financial crisis and needs to capitalise on the fine work done in Leicester.

60 IS MEMBERS attended the Irish Conference last Sunday. They heard Mike Heym of the Irish Sub-Committee speak on the loyalist strike and its aftermath. He underlined the reactionary nature and aims of the strike and said it was led and organised by men of the extreme right.

It involved no mass participation or democratic involvement of the protestant working-class community. The capacity of the Ulster Workers' Council to act for any independent working class action was nil.

Chris Harman, IS Executive member, spoke on why IS gives unconditional but critical support to the IRA. We gave our support because, although we have fundamental political differences with the IRA, we recognise their right to bring about an end to the British domination of Ireland.

The IRA was fighting the same bosses as British workers and as such deserved the support of every class-conscious British worker in so far as they fought the British troops. The national struggle would bring the working class into the forefront of the struggle in Ireland and open the way for socialist ideas.

Paul O'Brien, of the Irish Sub-Committee, spoke on the role British socialists should play in the Irish question, and how we could work within the trade union and labour movement to demand the withdrawal of British troops.

Various resolutions were discussed on how best to achieve this. The Conference recognised the importance of agitating on the Irish question in Britain. It had important lessons for British workers as to how their own ruling class reacts in time of crisis.

# LEADING MILITANTS

THE FOLLOWING appeal is being sent out to trade union and labour movement organisations all over the country:

Dear Brother/Sister, Socialist Worker has won widespread respect inside the labour movement for its support of working class struggles and its exposure of the unacceptable faces of capitalism. In recent months the paper has campaigned for active support from other workers for the nurses, miners and other sections of workers in struggle.

Precisely because of its effectiveness as a defender of working class interests and in exposing the increasing role of the police in industrial disputes Socialist Worker has now been singled out for attack by the police and the law courts.

The editor and publisher of the paper have been charged with contempt of court for printing the facts that no other paper dared to publish about the wealthy parasites in the Janie Jones case. If this case is lost heavy fines or imprisonment will be imposed. For telling the truth about the killing of Kevin Gately on the anti-fascist demonstration of 15 June Socialist Worker publisher Jim Nichol has been cautioned by the police and the director of Public Prosecutions is considering bringing charges of criminal libel.

## Refusal

On top of this street sellers of Socialist Worker have now been subjected to arbitrary police action and harassment in one town after another. This comes after years of selling the paper in the street without any trouble. At present there are at least half a dozen charges of obstruction pending against Socialist Worker sellers in different parts of the country because of the refusal of the major distributors like W H Smith and Menzies to handle it.

It is clear that these refusals have been largely dictated by political prejudice, as many other publications with far smaller circulation are distributed by these companies.

## AND STILL IT GOES ON...

THREE IS members of the Dundee Chile Solidarity Committee were arrested last week for putting up the Scottish Chile Solidarity Committee posters advertising the Glasgow Chile demo and the London National Front demo.

Almost half of the Dundee police force converged on them and insisted on waking the sick mother of one to prove his identity.

Two days later, Scottish National Party MPs called in the police to move on IS members who had been questioning them at a rally in Dundee's City Square.

When asked what law they were using, the police said the SNP had complained that Dundee IS was holding an alternative meeting on the Square without Corporation permission.

This was not true. The real reason the police were called in was to deny workers in the crowd the right to criticise SNP policies.

When SNP MPs Gordon Wilson was denied permission to speak on the official Trades Council platform on May Day, he tried to split the rally by speaking elsewhere in the Square. The police were not called in.

## ...AND ON

By C Waling Accrington IS

WHILE selling Socialist Worker in Blackburn recently, an Evening Telegraph seller came up and, promising me 'some competition', stood within three feet of me and shouted 'Evening Telegraph'.

Two PCs nearby took no action even though he was standing in the same spot where an IS comrade, Pete Fielding, was recently arrested for shouting 'Socialist Worker'.

# BACK SW

ALL SIGNATORIES ARE IN THEIR PERSONAL CAPACITY

JOHN COATES, National Executive Member, National Union of Journalists  
JACK COLLINS, National Executive Member, National Union of Mineworkers.  
DAVE EDWARDS, Member of Strike Committee, Fine Tubes, Plymouth 1971-1973.

BILL FREEMAN SNR, Governing Council Member, National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel  
DENNIS HARRYMAN, National Dock Group member, Transport & General Workers' Union, vice-chairman Southampton Docks shop stewards' committee  
ALAN LEADBEATER, National Council, National Graphical Association.  
ALBERT LUCK, National Executive Member, Society of Graphical and Allied Trades.

JUNE MORRIS, National Union of Public Employees' Organiser, South Wales.  
JIMMY RULE, AUEW District Committee Member, West Cornwall.

BRIAN SEDGEMORE, Labour MP, Luton West.  
DENNIS SKINNER, Labour MP, Bolsover.

MALCOLM VASS (AUEW) Fund-raising committee, Strachans Engineering occupation 1974.

If attacks on Socialist Worker are allowed to continue a pattern of repression will be established which will threaten the very existence of an independent working class press in Britain.

We, the undersigned, appeal to trade unionists and socialists to contribute to the legal defence fund of Socialist Worker and to uphold its right to be freely published and sold. We appeal to trade union and political organisations of the labour movement to send resolutions of support and donations to the address below. All correspondence will be acknowledged.

Socialist Worker Legal Defence Fund  
Corbridge Works  
Corbridge Crescent  
London E2

All trade unionists who support Socialist Worker must ensure that this

appeal is raised in their union branch, and properly discussed. Resolutions must be raised in union branches which should call for the

REPEAL of all criminal libel laws.

WITHDRAWAL by the Attorney General of the contempt proceedings against Socialist Worker.

IMMEDIATE end to police harassment of newspaper sellers in the street.

## Record

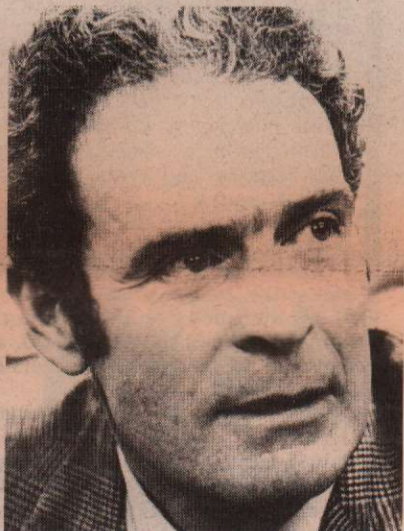
These resolutions should be sent to union executives to the Labour Party executive, to the Attorney General and to the Home Secretary.

Above all, resolutions committing the branch/shop stewards' committee to a donation to the defence fund must be moved.

We will record all donations, however small, and all resolutions.



DENNIS SKINNER  
... signed



JACK COLLINS  
... signed

## Where IS is leaping ahead

By Tommy Dourass

MERSEYSIDE IS District is now reaping the advantages of the hard work put in by the political committee and the new organiser over the last three or four months.

In that period, we had a concentrated training scheme which kept the comrades going through the period of the last election. We now think the period is right to begin to push the membership, to recruit.

We have found over the last six weeks that workers, particularly around factory branches, are susceptible to our ideas. We have recruited just over 40 new members, spread evenly across the district.

The factory branches have recruited well. In one of them we have eight new members which brings the branch to 23. An established branch which went through a bad period because of an attack from union officials has recruited six.

We have also started to expand in new areas. Bootle, North Liverpool, and Ormskirk, where we have established two geographical branches in the last four months.

In Ormskirk, a new branch has just been recognised by the EC. We recruited our first five members in Ormskirk after a debate with the Labour Party Young Socialists.

We then had a series of public meetings in the area, and after drafting three experienced members in, we now have a branch of 18, including members from a large engineering works called Atterleys.

There is also a good prospect of another factory branch in North Liverpool. Other areas such as Kirkby are beginning to campaign around the asbestos pamphlet, which has resulted in the recruitment of three asbestos workers.

There is also the possibility of a new geographical branch in Birkenhead, and a base in Cammel Laird shipyards.

This district does not think itself an exception to IS in general, and thinks that a campaign of recruitment before conference would give IS the necessary confidence for the coming struggle this winter.

## How to get the cash we need

by Rosie Macney, Exeter IS  
MANY branches must be in the position we were in. We needed money but feared a jumble sale would mean a lot of work for only a little cash. We were pleasantly surprised.

Contacts gave us jumble and the sale was advertised as a Defend Socialist Worker event with flyposting, leaflets and an ad in the local paper. We charged 2p admission, served tea and had an IS book-stall.

People were queuing for two hours before we opened! It was an experience for us all—in 45 minutes nearly everything had been sold. The local rag and bone man took the left-overs. In all, we made a profit of about £45.



## 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.

## WHAT'S ON

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

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

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. Marcellio Mastroianni as The Organiser. Saturday 21 September, 7pm, The Dovecot, Stockton. Tickets in advance from IS Books, 14 Grange Road, Middlesbrough.

ILFORD & DAGENHAM IS public meeting: The menace of the National Front. Speakers: John Deason (IS Industrial organiser) and a Ford shop steward. Thursday 19 September, 8pm, Barking Town Hall (small hall).

CAMBRIDGE IS public meeting: Defend Socialist Worker. Speakers: Ian Gibson (ex-ASTMS Executive) and Bob Edwards (SOGAT). Thursday 19 September, 8pm, Mawson Hall, Mawson Road.

TWICKENHAM IS open meeting: Socialists and the General Election. Speaker: Dave Peers (IS National Secretary). Wednesday 18 September, 8.30pm. The Prince of Wales, Hampton Road and Fourth Cross Road.

TWICKENHAM IS public meeting: Socialism in our Time? Speaker: Paul Foot. Thursday 19 September, 8pm, St Mary's Church Hall.

READING IS public meeting: Inflation and how to fight it. Speaker: Duncan Hallas. Thursday 19 September, 8pm, Trades Union and Labour Club, Minster Street.

BARNSELY SOCIALIST WORKER jumble sale. Saturday 14 September, 11am-4pm. St Luke's Hall, Worsborough Common.

## Meetings for IS members

IS AUEW-TASS fraction school: Saturday 21 September, 11am, Newcastle Polytechnic union (opposite Civic Centre, off Sandford Road). All fraction members to attend.

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.

## IS Notices

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

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 Tiplie, 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.

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 URGENTLY by Birmingham District IS: Electro stencil 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.

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.

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

## ENGINEERS UNION BACKS NEWSMEN'S CLIQUE

THERE seems some confusion in the headquarters of the Engineering Workers' Union about press credentials for Socialist Worker at the union's national committee meetings.

Several branches have passed resolutions condemning the union's decision not to allow Socialist Worker credentials, while allowing them for openly capitalist and anti-union papers.

Among the many union members who have written to head office asking for an explanation is W Dagnall, AUEW district secretary at Bolton, who received a reply signed on behalf of AUEW president Hugh Scanlon, which contains an absurd mistake.

The letter states: 'Because of the growing number of industrial correspondents, the facilities which have to be provided for them, which involves some cost to the amalgamated union, we carefully consult with the appropriate chapel of the National Union of Journalists and invariably are able to agree the advice they render to us.'

### PROTEST

This is the only explanation offered for the ban on Socialist Worker. It is nonsense.

The National Union of Journalists is totally opposed to the AUEW ban on Socialist Worker. Last year, when the ban was imposed, NUJ general secretary Ken Morgan wrote a strong letter of protest to Hugh Scanlon about it.

The only 'appropriate chapel' of the NUJ which has anything to do with the AUEW ban is the Socialist Worker chapel, which has not been consulted by AUEW head office.

Scanlon's letter refers to the Labour and Industrial Correspondents Group, which is not a chapel at all. It is not a recognised part of the journalists' union. It is a clique of industrial correspondents which draws up its own rules, and excludes whoever it dislikes.

### REPLY

The group has been in trouble with the NUJ before for refusing press credentials to the industrial correspondent of the Workers Press—a decision which was taken with the full consent of the industrial correspondent of the Communist Party's Morning Star, who is a group member.

A telephone inquiry from a Hertfordshire AUEW branch secretary to the AUEW head office about the ban on Socialist Worker produced the astonishing reply from a senior official: 'The industrial correspondents group have the right to veto who they like.'

If this is indeed the AUEW attitude, it is disgraceful submission to a self-appointed journalistic hierarchy.

The editor of Socialist Worker has written again to Hugh Scanlon requesting press credentials.

Osssett branch of the AUEW has passed a resolution condemning the ban on Socialist Worker and calling on the union's national executive to reverse the decision.

## NALGO READY TO SELL SHORT

LEADERS of the government officers' union NALGO have reached a possible agreement with the employers for a 14 per cent increase in wages for white-collar town hall staff. The final decision whether to accept or reject the settlement will be taken by a special local government group meeting to be held in London this Friday.

The agreement, if accepted will keep pace with inflation and is well below the 20 per cent claim submitted earlier this year.

A circular from NALGO head office to all branches, the proposals

# Great victory for US miners

THE Brookside miners have won. On 30 August, at 3.30am, the Eastover Mining Company agreed to recognise the United Mine Workers (UMWA) at their Brookside mine in Harlan County, Kentucky.

The victory came after more than one year on strike, during which striking miners were shot, miners' families were driven from their homes, and women and children were beaten and jailed in countless confrontations with the police and company guards.

The union leaders say they have won 'everything'. The Brookside miners are now covered by all provisions of the national soft coal agreement. The company has agreed to take back all 59 miners fired during the strike. At the same time the company has agreed to hold a representation election at the Highsplint mine, also in Harlan County.

The Brookside miners will automatically be covered by the 1974 national agreement. In return for this, they are not to take part in the national strike expected this November.

Announcing this victory, Arnold Miller, the miners' president, said that the agreement at Brookside was 'the beginning of the end for non-union coal in this country... I serve notice that the UMWA intends to bring every ton of coal mined in this country and every American coal miner under UMWA contract.'

And, to prove the point, there is already another strike in Harlan, this time at the mine at Path Fork.

Still, the victory cost dear. And the strike, which began with bloodshed, was ended only after another miner had been shot and killed, and the fury of the nation's miners had been aroused.

On Saturday 25 August, Lawrence Jones, a 22-year-old miner from Evarts, was shot down by an Eastover foreman. He died several days later in Harlan's Appalachian Regional Hospital.

The settlement was also the result of increased efforts by the union's executive, which, faced with the deep frustration and mounting anger of the rank and file, at last began to mobilise the union's power.

### No secret

On Monday 19 August, 125,000 coal miners in more than 12 states walked off the job, in commemoration of the victims of mining disasters and the terrible black lung disease. This year alone, 73 miners have been killed in the mines, while another 3698 have already been injured. Each year, more than 3000 miners die from black lung disease. The miners stayed out five days.

It was no secret, however, that the strike was also in support of the strikers at Brookside. On Thursday 22 August thousands of rank and file miners again filled the streets of Harlan. They defied the Mayor's ban on demonstrations and marched

are described as 'within the terms of the Social Contract.' In fact the settlement would be considerably less than the maximum allowed within the terms of the Contract.

As in previous years the settlement will favour the better off. Members earning £1400 a year receive around £200 increase. Those on £5000 receive £600. Although this is the biggest increase that has ever been negotiated it will leave members worse off at the end of its year's run.

Motions to Friday's local government group meeting show branches

time and time again through the town centre in a deadly earnest display of anger and strength. Hundreds of state troopers and local police were forced to stand idly by.

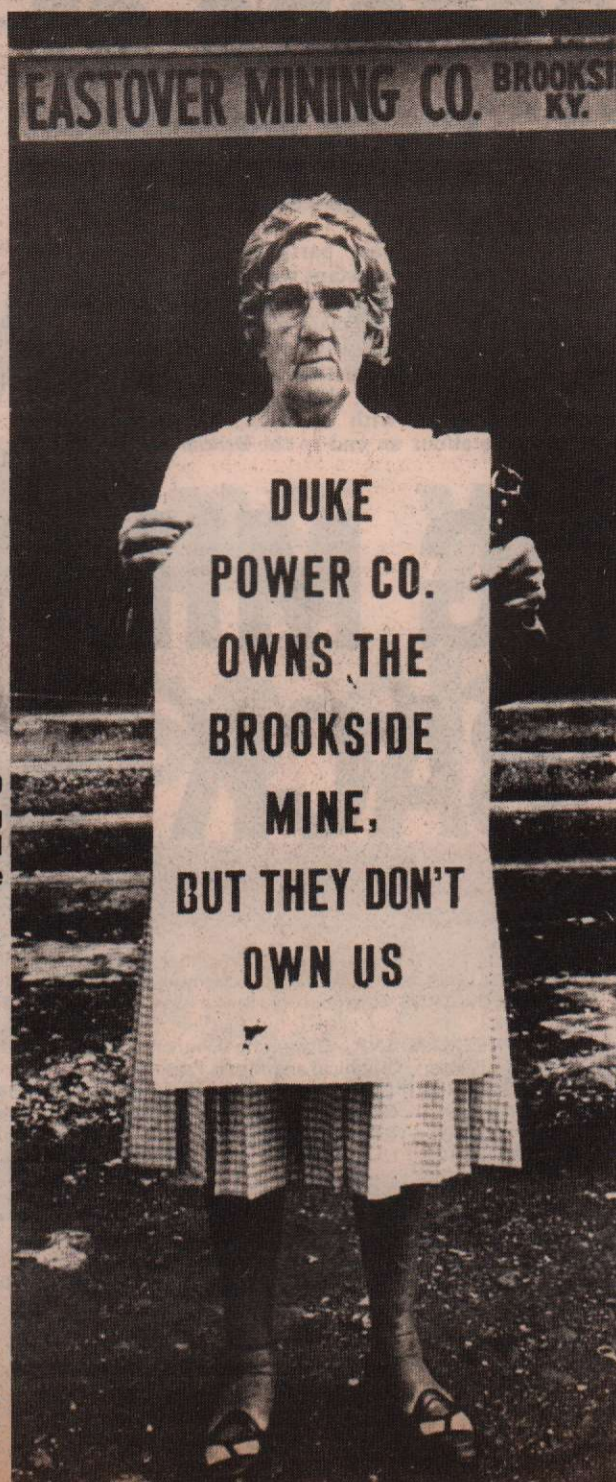
Miller and his supporters have taken credit for this victory, and there can be no doubt that had the corrupt regime of Tony Boyle, the previous UMWA president, remained in office, there would have been no strike at all, let alone a victory.

Nevertheless, it must be said that the executive moved only with the greatest caution, as they let the strike drag on month after month. At every turn there was hesitation, and it was only the courage of the women who manned the pickets through the long winter that kept the strike alive.

More than a year ago, when other Harlan miners walked out in support of the Brookside strike, the union ordered them back to work. Recently, when a regiment of Kentucky state troopers was sent in to break the Highsplint strike, hundreds of West Virginia miners organised buses to carry them to the picket lines. Miller quickly

unwilling to accept anything less than 20 per cent. Most call for action in support of the full claim, ranging from an overtime ban to all out industrial action.

The leadership have other ideas and call on the meeting to receive 'the terms of a possible settlement', which means accept what has been offered. They know this settlement must be forced through, to keep their part of the Social Contract and smooth Wilson's path for a return to Downing Street at the general election. The members' standard of living is at stake.



One of the women who kept up the picket on the mine through the winter

by Cal Winslow  
US International Socialists

agreed to limit pickets at Highsplint mine to six.

Now the miners must prepare for an even greater confrontation, for the 1974 national contract expires on 12 November.

In the lingering energy crisis, with coal more valuable than ever before, with shortages forecast for the winter, the miners are being asked to sacrifice. Already President Ford has called Miller to the White House. The other trade union statesmen, Woodcock, Meany and Abel, each with a sellout under his belt this year, are pressuring Miller. It will be the first great test for the new mineworkers' leadership.

If Miller is timid, however, the rank and file is not. 2000 Ohio miners were out in August over health and safety. There may be another Memorial strike, as the contract allows for ten days, and the membership is demanding it.

### Three years

The miners are the most militant and best organised of the American workers, and they are now more confident than at any time since the 1930s.

They can make 1974 a turning point. What Harlan means for the millions of unorganised workers in America, particularly in the South, the contract fight can mean for the best organised.

For three years now, American workers have watched their leaders meekly accept every attack on their living standards, and the result has been a drastic decline in real wages. The miners can turn this around, for a victory in November will surely inspire the rank and file in every union.

The striking Brookside miners were considerably encouraged in their struggle by letters of solidarity from miners and miners' lodges in Britain. Letters of congratulation on their victory should be sent to the United Mine Workers Association, Brookside, Harlan County, Kentucky, USA.

## Dockers black barges system

HULL:—Dockers have voted to black the BACAT transport system, by which special canal barges are loaded aboard catamarans for ocean travel. At present goods brought down the Humber by barge are loaded by the dockers into sea-going ships and the BACAT system would cut out their jobs.

The barges themselves operate often from unregistered wharves and in some cases direct from factories.

The dockers, after their battle against unregistered wharves in 1972, are in no mood to stand for another attempt to undermine the wages and conditions won by years of bitter struggle.

The decision to black BACAT was taken on the recommendation of the unofficial shop stewards committee while TGWU officials were still waiting for a recommendation on national policy from Transport House. The national leadership is caught in a dilemma as this system and others similar are already operating in other ports and the union has so far done nothing.

### Jeopardy

The fight against BACAT has also brought the beginnings of unity between transport drivers and dockers. If goods are transported by river then the drivers' jobs too are in jeopardy.

The well-known workers' paper, The Sun last week carried banner headlines about dockers receiving £100 a week for doing nothing. This referred to the BACAT company's promise temporarily to allow dockers to handle a fifth of its cargo. This agreement carries no guarantee and the men are certain it would be dropped as soon as the system becomes established. The £100 a week referred to wages for two supervisors. The Sun failed to ask: 'What's £100 a week for two men when compared to the jobs of hundreds of men?'

At the same meeting, the dockers heard that the employers had responded to their claim for a £24 rise with an offer of £4. They unanimously decided to press ahead with the full claim.

## New threat from the law

THE Law Commission working paper proposing to make trespass a criminal offence, is a direct attack on the growing militancy of workers. This could make factory occupations, student sit-ins, demonstrations or pickets on private or state property—including town halls and social security offices—and squatting illegal. If those sitting-in refused to leave, they would be liable to arrest and up to six months imprisonment.

The proposals would make homelessness an offence—and any attempt by the homeless to obtain a roof over their heads by occupying property would be illegal.

These proposals are yet another attack against the homeless by the state. Since April councils have been relieved of responsibility for housing the homeless and recently mass evictions of squatters have been threatened in London. The Greater London Council has recently issued summonses against 250 people.

These proposals are an attempt to add another link to the chain around the workers' movement. It needs to be taken up within the trade union movement and linked against the conspiracy laws.



There will be a meeting on Wednesday 18 September at The Roebuck pub, Tottenham Court Road, London, W1, at 8pm to lay the basis of a campaign against the proposals. Trade union representatives especially welcome.

## Pickets appeal for support

By Eileen Healey, USDAW

LIVERPOOL: Women at the Wingrove-Rogers electrical components factory, now in the 11th week of their official strike for threshold payments, badly need support on their picket line.

Their last rise, 66p a year ago, brought their wages to £18.66 before deductions. They have since been offered a £2.07 annual rise—to include the 66p!

The women, members of the AUEW, say the factory is the lowest-paid in Liverpool.

They have been promised blacking of Wingrove-Rogers materials by the docks, airport and British Rail. But they badly need support from other factories to help strengthen the picket line, which is being broken every day by non-union labour escorted in by foremen and management.

Support for the picket line should go to Domville Road, just off Edge Lane, Liverpool 13. The shift starts at 7.30am.

Send messages of support and donations to: Miss Smith, Treasurer, Strike Committee (Wingrove and Rogers), 46-48 Mount Pleasant, Liverpool.

## NO PAY-NO FACTORY!

BRACKNELL, Berks: Strike action over a threshold claim at Dressers was dramatically stepped up last week when 140 shop floor workers occupied the petrol pump factory.

Long-service awards and various other fringe benefits have been gradually whittled away by management. Meanwhile the solidarity of the men and women is further increased with the knowledge that they have slipped to the bottom of the local wages league.

The first two threshold payments had to be wrung out of the management, who then refused to pay any more. Various 'package deals' were offered but were merely an attempt to side-step the straight claim of £2.

A well-organised rota system has kept the factory occupied 24 hours a day. The workforce, now well dug in, is prepared to put up a long fight.

The stewards are confident of official support from the AUEW and the strike committee is preparing a strike fund to appeal to local factories for support.

Morale is such that there is talk of increasing the claim if the dispute drags on. This is the first time Bracknell has seen an occupation and with the prospect of a worsening economic crisis and tougher management resistance it seems likely that it will not be the last.

Messages of support and donations to: Dressers shop stewards c/o C Warner, 27 Southlynn Crescent, East Hampstead, Bracknell, Berks.

## Pay beds battle

ABERDEEN: Hospital workers here have launched a campaign against private patients.

In its first meeting, the newly-formed Aberdeen Hospitals joint shop stewards' committee pledged to reject the local health board's proposals to close down NHS beds and leave open private beds.

Stewards representing NUPE, COHSE, GMWU, NALGO and ASTMS passed a resolution calling for a ban on services to all private patients from the time NHS beds are withdrawn.

## THE MAN WHOSE LIFE WAS ONE LONG FIGHT

By Chrysler Linwood IS branch

IT WAS with the deepest regret that members of the Chrysler Linwood IS branch learned of the death last week of Benny Martin, an ex-member of the branch.

Benny had to fight hard throughout his life. He was brought up in the Govan district of Glasgow. At the age of 16 he signed on for nine years in the army, where his forthright views brought him into conflict with 'authority'.

When he started in Linwood in 1972, it was his first experience of working in an organised work-

SPONDON, Derby: 700 engineers at Courtauld's British Celanese plant came out on strike last week in a fight for threshold payments. Courtauld's have refused to pay more than £2.40 when the index rose in August. The engineers' shop stewards found the money was not in their pay packets . . . and then imposed a work-to-rule and overtime ban.

When five welders were suspended for refusing to break the work-to-rule, the engineers walked out. Meanwhile the rest of us, members of the TGWU, the majority of the factory, had to stand by and watch.

## Picket

A delegation of shop stewards went to see the works convenor, Charlie Carruthers, to demand a meeting of shop stewards to discuss taking action. He refused on the grounds that a meeting of the National Negotiating Committee has been fixed for 19 September. When some of us proposed that TGWU members should not cross the AUEW picket line, he said we must.

## Engineers sold out

By IS members at British Celanese

But the picket was stopping lorries and management posted notices suspending the 'guaranteed week', which happens every time they face the prospect of implementing it! At this point Mr Carruthers suddenly moved. He met management and then the engineers and persuaded them to call off the action. The engineers' shop stewards voted 22 to 10 to return to work and lift the work to rule at least until after 19 September.

Union organisation in Courtauld's is pathetic. The national situation is dominated by the full-time offi-

cers and there is no shop stewards combine. Locally, the set-up plays into the hands of management. There is no joint site committee of stewards. Meetings of the 60 or so TGWU shop stewards are called only when the full-time official feels like it—and no more than six times a year.

There are moves to change this. We are doing a regular bulletin which tries to inform people and build up their confidence. More information is now coming through to shop stewards from the TGWU District Office.

## Benefit

It seems as if management are reacting to this. When nurses held a factory gate meeting—which the works convenor refused to support—management threatened standard weekly wage workers with the loss of the SWW benefit if they attended.

Some workers who clocked out to go to the meeting were brought before personnel and court-martialled for being 'absent without leave'. They have been sent a formal written site warning. So much for Lord Kearton's socialism!



Stan Simpson, TGWU shop steward at British Celanese, addressing the nurses' factory gate meeting. Workers who attended were later 'court-martialled' by management.

# NEW BLOW HITS ASIANS: THE SS

## Beams means Heinz

By HEINZ IS

N. LONDON:—With the end of Phase 3, Heinz management were committed to renegotiate the annual pay claim. In reply to a rumoured T&G union claim of £12.55, they offered £6.20, £3.80 of which we already had in July.

We say 'rumoured' as the union leadership did not see fit to tell their members about the claim. However, the offer, worth only £1.70 after tax, was rejected. The company then showed its contempt by offering another miserable 20p—the price of a pint.

At two mass meetings last week, the membership were only allowed to put questions. When the vote was taken at the day workers' meeting, it was clear that few were fully aware of all the issues involved.

The union leadership gave no clear lead and, if anything, seemed to be pushing for acceptance. The workforce at the day meeting was split down the middle and at the last minute the convenor decided to have a secret ballot.

The night convenor, however, openly pushed for acceptance and the vote went his way. Not surprisingly, the day ballot then voted for acceptance.

Nearly half the day workers didn't even bother to vote. Who can be surprised when we hear that some right-wing stewards are now talking of banning any further mass meetings? Other stewards are so fed up with union weakness that they are talking of resigning. No wonder management are beaming.

## CHRYSLER: LESSONS FOR US ALL

By Coventry Chrysler IS

COVENTRY:—The four-week Chrysler parity strike is over. Auto machinery have accepted an offer which cuts by half the differential with the Stoke and Ryton plants and so gives pay rises between £3 and nearly £8 for 140 workers. The company also made an unusual commitment—parity by 1976.

Without the necessary blacking from the Stoke unions, the strike had only a slight effect on production. This—and the 1p an hour settlement by Hills Precision—isolated Auto's. With this background, the settlement was clearly a partial victory.

Meanwhile, Chrysler's have been announcing cutbacks which will affect every plant. The solidarity that was missing between the plants needs to be established. The determination the Auto workers showed needs to be mirrored throughout the Chrysler plants to fight any possible redundancies.

By Souna Engineer

LEICESTER:—Asian workers at Kenilworth's are now in the third week of their strike against a ruthless management.

Women at the factory won a 13p an hour rise after refusing to go on accepting their scandalous pay of £12 a week.

But they were then put on a three-day week, ten hours a day, taking home £11.

Not content with this, management went on the offensive again three weeks ago. They sacked eight

of the 28 women. The rest walked out and persuaded the men to join them.

The strike has lacked effective support. White staff and some labourers still cross the picket line, which the union—the T&G—has done nothing to make effective. The union has also failed to black the goods of the firm.

The women have been refused any social security payments and so have single men, despite the fact that

## 3000 SAY IT: GET IN FAST

CAMBUSLANG, Glasgow:—3000 workers at Hoover's factory on strike for a substantial increase in the basic rate, have voted almost unanimously to reject an offer which would have given the different grades between £6 and £9.

They are waiting for an increased offer before putting a figure on their own claim.

In a factory not noted for its militancy, the decision to strike was taken with only one vote against. It was seen that the present return to free collective bargaining is bound to be temporary.

The management has conceded equal pay by the end of the year to the women workers, who used to be held up as the highest paid women workers in the area. But as one male shop steward said: 'From now on there is no question of women workers, we're all just workers and our rates are not by any means the highest in the area.'

place. He soon became a shop steward and was prepared to take on anybody.

He had been buying Socialist Worker for a year before starting at Linwood, and when the IS factory branch was formed in July 1973 he joined right away.

Benny left the plant last May but kept in touch. There is no doubt that, but for his death, he would have come back into activity.

His tragic death deprives our movement of the services of a sincere, intelligent comrade. Our sympathy to his family.

# The two faces of American justice



George Jackson: equal before the law?

GEORGE JACKSON, a US citizen, was convicted of stealing 17 dollars (about £7).

He was sentenced to from 'one year to life imprisonment', a form of elastic sentence which put him entirely in the hands of the prison authorities.

Richard Milhous Nixon, a US citizen, stood accused of much more serious crimes: burglary, misappropriation of public funds to the tune of two and a half million dollars, accepting bribes as a public official, perjury, illegal wire-tapping and criminal conspiracy to pervert the ends of justice.

He received a free pardon for all the crimes he is known to have committed and also for all the crimes he may have committed and have yet to be uncovered.

'Who has loosed this thing on an already suffering people? The Reagans, Nixons. The men who have, who own. Investigate them!!'—GEORGE JACKSON

George Jackson was poor, black and without political influence. Richard Nixon is rich, white and the former political boss of the republican party.

George Jackson is dead, shot by police gunmen 'whilst trying to escape'. Richard Nixon is alive, in full possession of his ill-gotten gains and immune from prosecution.

The American Declaration of Independence states: 'All men are created equal, and are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights. These rights include life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.'

Always providing, the founding fathers might have added, that you are rich, not poor; white, not black; a big thief, not a little thief.



Yes, Mr Nixon, your halo HAS slipped

# SUGAR

# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

# SCROUNGERS

THE GREAT sugar racket continues. In Croydon, Mrs Shirley Williams, Minister of Prices, admits blandly that it could double in price in the next few months.

Her colleague, Mr Fred Peart, Minister of Agriculture, negotiated a new price in Guyana by which Britain will pay about twice as much as previously.

The chief beneficiaries will be Booker McConnell, the giant sugar planters, whose President is Lord Campbell of Eskan, also chairman of the New Statesman, a left-wing weekly.

Booker McConnell had a bad time last year. According to their annual report, our sugar estates in Guyana (which produce four-fifths of that country's sugar) made only 219,000 tons compared with an average of 280,000 tons over the past five years. But this year things have gone better.

Production has boomed and profits have been greatly assisted



by the rise in the world sugar prices.

But even Booker McConnell won't do as well as Tate and Lyle. Their profits rose from £6 million to £14 million last year, and have been rising astronomically ever since the sugar shortage started.

Now the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee tells us a few things about how these vast

profits are put together.

In November 1972, Joseph Godber became Minister of Agriculture and ordered that the price of sugar in the shops had to be kept down for a couple of months while the Government carried out its total wage freeze.

He also said that Tate and Lyle should not have to bear the cost of

**Rundown?  
Depressed?  
Why not get  
a government  
handout?  
I copped  
£5½ million  
and now I'm  
double the  
price!  
See you soon,  
suckers!**

this restriction. So he paid out a massive £33 million subsidy to protect the shareholders from any 'loss'.

Several months later, the government Auditor looked at the books and found that the sum necessary to subsidise the companies to the full was only £25.5m.

In other words an extra £7½ millions had been paid out.

£2½ million, the auditor reckoned, could be explained by shipping delays. But the other £5 million could not be explained. Mr Godber did not care. He did not order an inquiry.

When £5 million is 'overcharged' from the Department of Social Security by people in the depths of poverty the entire chorus of capitalist society howls about THE SCROUNGERS.

But when £5 million of public money is stolen by the sugar companies who then insist on doubling the price of their products in the shops, that's free enterprise. That's initiative. That's the Social Contract.

'WHILE most of industry is deep in gloom, the papermakers are basking in boom.' So says The Economist.

Bowater's figures for the first half of this year show profits up by nearly a third on last year. Reed International, who own the Daily Mirror, Sunday Mirror, Women's Own and numerous others, did even better—35 per cent in the first quarter! The outlook for next year is equally rosy.

Why? Because the paper makers have organised themselves together so well that they never produce enough paper. As a result, all the newspaper printers, which includes us, have to fight for what there is—and pay the price they ask.

The more paper we need, the more profit they make out of us, and the more money we need to foot the bill. Which is why we depend on your support.

With £196.42 collected this week, the total so far this month is

**£418.42**

But we need £2000 by the end of the month. We are still a long way off our target. We need every penny you can afford. Don't wait, send it to us now.

Our thanks to all the Socialist Worker subscribers who have sent in a bit extra with their subscription fee, and to readers at Seacroft, Leeds £1.10, C A Parsons £9, Woodheads, Ossett £5, and London Buses £13. The following IS branches have also sent in money: Peterborough £3.15, Croydon £4.20, Stirling £9, Kingston £15, Fulham £7.60, Cardiff £5, NW London District £16.50, Birmingham District £7, Merseyside £10, Exeter £10, Camborne 95p.

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## FORD: Let's go for that £5

By Gareth Williams,  
AUEW shop steward  
body plant, Dagenham

PRODUCTION at Ford's Halewood and Dagenham is now at a standstill. In a deliberate attempt to split and confuse thousands of production workers, the company is trying to pin the blame on the press shop men, who are on strike at both plants.

*What is the true situation?*

More than 1000 three-shift press workers at Dagenham are demanding increased shift payments and holidays at average earnings. They warned two weeks ago of strike action if the company did not negotiate.

The company refused—and the press shop carried out their threat.

Meanwhile, more than 500 men in the Halewood press shop struck for £3 washing time, which has already been conceded to production workers.

Ford's real worry is simple: the

present agreement still has six months to run—and they don't want to concede the principle of any further interim pay deals.

And so Ford's have seized upon the current sag in the car market to have a stand-up fight with their workers over this principle.

Last week they sent out a letter warning every worker that on no account would an interim pay deal be conceded. They have, therefore, laid off thousands of workers to teach them a lesson—a vicious rap over the knuckles for being naughty boys.

The threshold agreement ends at the end of October—but the rise in the cost of living will go on. Ford

workers cannot wait five months with no protection against rising prices.

The failure of union leaders to put up a serious fight against Phase Two, with the resulting miserable £2.60 settlement, is really being driven home.

The £2.80 conceded on the threshold has not stopped the wages of thousands of Ford workers being cut by galloping inflation over the last year.

That is why the demand by the body-plant stewards at Dagenham for an immediate £5 across-the-board interim pay award must be fought for now. We must also demand that the company pays us lay-off pay. The best answer to Ford's crude lay-off pay and £5 across-the-board now would make the company back down very quickly.