

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p

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Inside story of the TUC sell-out: pages 8-9

**THE
PAY
DEAL**

SECRETS IN SMALL PRINT

Equal pay scrapped Only £1.85 for 7 million

CHECK YOUR HEALEY WAGE INCREASE:

Gross wage now	Take-home pay now	Maximum total increase (including tax changes)
Single people and married women earning less than £50 will all receive the same increases.		£1.85
£50	£34.26	£1.86
£55	£37.26	£2.01
£60	£40.19	£2.12
£65	£43.25	£2.18
Married men		
£45	£33.25	£2.25
£50	£36.21	£2.26
£55	£39.17	£2.14
£60	£42.14	£2.52
£65	£45.10	£2.73
Married men with two children		
£45	£35.60	£3.05
£50	£38.56	£3.06
£55	£41.52	£3.21
£60	£44.49	£3.32
£65	£47.45	£3.53

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£50	£38.56	£3.06
£55	£41.52	£3.21
£60	£44.49	£3.32
£65	£47.45	£3.53

**NOW JOIN THE CAMPAIGN:
NO DEAL WITH HEALEY!**

THE wages deal between the Labour government and the TUC leaders has been greeted as a great triumph.

The daily papers and television have praised it. The employers' organisation, the CBI, has praised it. The Tory Party is in favour of it.

On Monday, the executive of Britain's biggest union, the Transport and General Workers, voted overwhelmingly in favour of it.

And they have all kept very quiet about the traps concealed in the deal for the vast majority of workers.

They have called it the £4 deal.

But if you are one of the 17 million workers who earn less than £80 a week, the deal won't allow you £4. Even if you do get £80 you'll take home less than £4 after tax. Only the lucky few on more than £100 a week will get the full £4.

Worst hit are women workers.

Four women out of five earn less than £50 a week. The total value to them of the Healey deal is £1.85! And that is taking into account the tax changes promised for August!

Millions of women are still waiting for equal pay. They have been promised it for years by government ministers and trade union leaders. Equality for women has become almost an official slogan—

though many employers have avoided giving it.

Now the Healey deal prevents any further moves towards equal pay. However much lower their wages are than men's, women will be prevented from catching up after the deal comes into force on 1 August.

As long ago as 1888 the TUC voted that 'it is desirable in the interests of both men and women that where women do the same work as men they all receive the same payment'.

Equal Pay

Now they have willingly agreed with Denis Healey's statement that 'in the new pay round there will be no special provisions like those needed last year for equal pay'.

It is difficult to think of a bigger betrayal than that.

For women workers the lesson should be clear. You have ten weeks in which to fight for equal pay. After that you will be taking on the government and your trade union leaders as well as the boss.

For all workers, the lesson should be equally clear. If you want to protect yourself against rising fares, rising food prices, rising electricity bills—**NO DEAL WITH HEALEY!**

AFTER LONG NEGOTIATION WE HAVE GOT YOU ER, (MUMBLE) THE PER CENT!



SPEAK UP - WHAT DID YOU GET US?



UM... A FAIRER SETTLEMENT - VERY REASONABLE.



HOW MUCH?



4% PER CENT



40 PER CENT!



NO, 4% PER CENT.



IM SPEECHLESS!

THE MEMBERSHIP ACCEPTS!!!



ALL-OUT ACTION 26 MAY!

THE Conference of the white-collar union **ASTMS** has called on all its members to take part in the 26 May Day of Action against unemployment.

The executive of the **SCOTTISH MINERS** has unanimously called for support.

In **DUNDEE** a meeting of 150 shop stewards has called for stoppages.

In **GLASGOW** on Saturday shop stewards from all over the West of Scotland will meet to discuss action. The meeting has been called by the Glasgow Trades Council and

the Clyde Confederation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Unions, at AUEW House, West Regent Street, starting at 10.30am.

The Glasgow Right to Work Committee have already called a demonstration from Govan to the city centre.

In **LIVERPOOL** 90 building workers on the Stan-fordham site have added their support to the demonstration called by the Trades Council in the city centre at midday.

In **SHEFFIELD** a meeting of the Trades Council and 12 leading shop stewards committees voted overwhelmingly

for a half-day stoppage and a demonstration. Sheffield Right to Work Committee has prepared thousands of posters and leaflets for the 26th for shop stewards committees and trade union branches.

NEWCASTLE Trades Council has called for a two-hour mass picket of the Fleming Memorial Hospital in protest at local hospital closures, starting at 12 noon.

In **LONDON** the Co-op Political Committee and the Number 8 District Confed

have called a demonstration to leave Tower Hill at 1pm to march to the Temple for a lobby of parliament. Thousands of trade unionists throughout London are expected to march.

In many areas action is possible. Arrange a demonstration, a picket of a local jobs centre, factory gate meetings, move resolutions in trade union branches and trades councils ensuring at

least a meeting in the evening or a special leaflet on the need to fight back against unemployment.

In **CHELMSFORD**, students from Brentwood College of Education will be picketing the local education offices to protest at the cut-back in jobs for teachers next year. Nearly all will qualify only for the dole queue.

The 26 May Day of Action can be turned into a massive protest against unemployment, for the right to work and against the deal with Healey.

Evans

Healey's deal: 'IT'LL JUST ABOUT BUY A POUND OF POTATOES'

MINER

TYRONE O'SULLIVAN, face electrician and compensation secretary, at Tower Colliery, near Aberdare, South Wales.

'I get £44 a week take-home pay. I reckon that with the tax concessions—I've got a wife and two girls—that will go up by £3.60 when we get the increase next March.

By then, I'll be spending at the very least £4 more on the same necessities I have to buy now, food, electricity, rates, mortgage, and so on.

The £6 increase we've just got was a wage increase of 8 per cent. But the cost of living went up by 22 per cent. After two years of this, we'll have got our wages up 12 per cent—while the cost of living goes up by 30 per cent.'



NURSE

MARION TOWNSEND, a nurse at Withington Hospital, Manchester.

'I've just got my £6 increase. This brings my weekly take-home pay to £28.67. I'll get an extra £1.85 next April from the Healey deal.

It's not hard to see what will happen to that. My rent will go up by at least £1. I'll have to spend 70p more at least on food and 20p at least on the same amount of electricity as I use now. That's the rise gone.

'Clothes? I haven't bought any since last Christmas.'



Picture: John Sturrock (Report)

PENSIONER

ALBERT CHAPMAN, former TGWU shop steward, Burton-on-Trent, for 40 years and a member of the Pensioners Trade Union Action Committee.

'Even Healey admitted last year that this year's pension rise had to be £3 to keep up with inflation. Now a single pensioner gets £2 more—which brings him up to £15.30 a week—a married couple gets £3.30, instead of the £4.70 which Healey said was necessary.

'I don't need to tell you that the £2 will go before you get a look at it. I suppose it'll be worth a pound of potatoes by then.

'I say the trade union leaders are to blame for this. They should fight for pensioners, not just talk about them.'



STEWARD

STAN SIMPSON, TGWU shop steward, British Celanese, Spondon, Derby.

'That's it, oh ye of little faith.' Thus spake Brother Len Murray after this disgusting sell-out. And he's bloody right because what little faith (if any) trade unionists had in him must have vanished as fast as the cuts in our living standards.

'After bleating about the sinking pound, Murray and Jones and Co have rushed through with obscene haste a deal with the government. That will please only the big money parasites.

'Who did they have in mind when they negotiated this dirty deal? Murray said? This deal is the best news for Britain, for sterling, and for the people we represent.' Look who comes bottom of the list. What a bloody cheek!

'And what about this little gem from a "foreign exchange parasite"? "We see it as a sign of weakness that the government has agreed to 4½ per cent when we wanted three per cent."

Deal

Note that 'we'. They wanted it! But they aren't going to have their pay restricted.

'No. It proves one thing. We can't rely on trade union officials to do anything with our interests in mind. We, the rank and file, must fight this deal.

'Between now and the special TUC congress on 16 June, Healey's deal must be opposed wherever trade unionists meet.

'Murray has said he is absolutely confident his deal will be endorsed at the special congress. Well, the rank and file will have to give him a two-fingered salute and shatter his confidence.

'Last August, part of the £6 con-trick was that the government would bring prices and unemployment down. But things got worse. It must be the last time we are taken in. No Deal with Healey!'

Shock council win for fascist

SHOCK ran through the Asian community in Blackburn when the council election results were announced last Friday.

John Kingsley Read, of the fascist National Party topped the poll in his ward with 1106 votes. Another National Party candidate in the ward missed election by only 11 votes. And in another ward, J Frankman, a National Party candidate, came top with 1588 votes.

The Labour Party lost 10 seats on the council, and Labour are now in a minority. The line-up on the council is: Tory 27, Labour 17, Liberal 8, Ratepayers 6, and National Party 2.

Why did this happen? Tom Taylor, the former Labour council leader, gave three reasons for Labour's defeat. Voters were reacting against unpopular national policies. Some voters didn't realise they had three votes and only voted for one candidate.

Thirdly, 'There is in town a deep undertone about the immigration problem as a

by **JENNY JACKSON**

whole. The problem is there and is a time bomb.'

The problem in Blackburn, according to these so-called socialists, isn't a housing shortage created by land speculation, the failure of successive governments and a society where you build for greed not need.

Oh no. They've given into the racials. The problem is some immigrants. As if there wasn't a housing shortage before the Asians came. Or for that matter, the Irish, the Scots, and the Jews came.

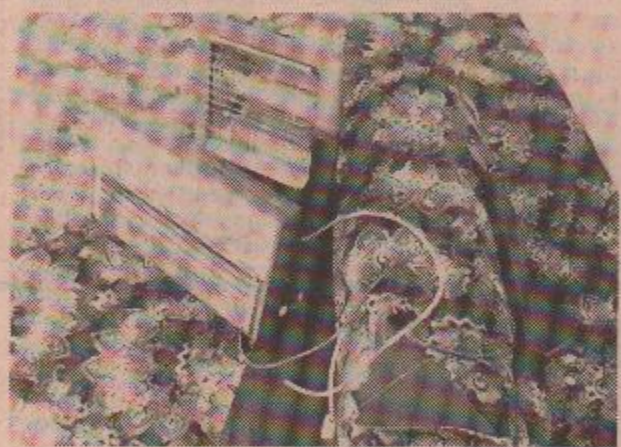
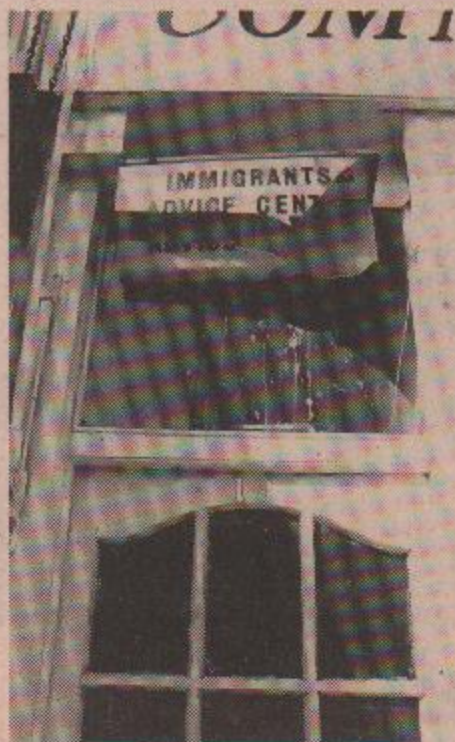
Topped

The Labour Party has surrendered all the way down the line to the fascist and racists. In April the Labour-controlled council refused planning permission for a mosque in Blackburn after a fascist-inspired march protesting against the right of the Asians to have a new place of worship.

On one occasion a fake leaflet was put out in the name of the Labour Party entitled 'Don't feel left out, if you are an immigrant. Join the Labour Party'. Blackburn Labour agent and Councillor Ernest Gorton rushed in with this scandalous comment: 'My advice to people who receive it is to ignore it completely.'

Gorton came third in his ward, where the National Party candidate topped the poll. He had conceded the argument and he lost.

The Labour Party have



been surrendering not only on immigration. They've increased the rates. The social services in Blackburn is being run down.

The voters of Blackburn showed what they thought of Labour's Tory policies.

The local evening paper, the Lancashire Evening Telegraph, has helped stir up racial hatred. A major front page story with a headline 'Two more illegal immigrants held' on 27 April was followed the next day with the real story 'Migrants here legally'.

But the second story, showing that the immigrants were legal residents of Britain, was given two inches and buried inside the paper.

Limit

Shahil Shahin, a teacher in Blackburn, told Socialist Worker: 'The election results are going to polarise the situation. The National Party and all those right-wing clowns are pushing everyone to the limit.'



Front smash up mosque

PICTURES: Above: The slashed Koran, the Moslem holy book, and the knife blade used. Left: The smashed sign outside the Islamic Centre. Below left: The slashed carpet and fires with the flex cut. Below right: A plug that was wired up and left with wires protruding.

Pictures: Martin Adams.

FASCISTS—almost certainly the National Front—broke into the Greenwich Islamic Centre on Sunday night. They broke the water pipes at the top of the building. Water flooded down through two ceilings for 24 hours—ruining the ceilings, the wallpaper, and the new £600 carpet laid in the mosque only two weeks ago.

On Tuesday night they came again to see how much damage they'd caused. They went to work with razor blades—cutting a swastika on the wall, cutting the wires of the electric fires, slashing wallpaper. And worst of all, jabbing a copy of the Koran, the Islamic holy book, time and again with the blade.

The police suggested this was all the work of children. They haven't bothered to report anything further to the members of the mosque.

Babubhai Masters, a founder member of the Woolwich Mosque, told Socialist Worker: 'We know it isn't children. We're appointing a caretaker to guard the centre from now on.'

'We have been working every weekend since January to get the centre in order. It serves the whole of South East London—500 families are members.

'We have had to cut off both the water and the electricity. It will take us a long time to repair this damage.'



BOSS

IT'S squeeze time for Thomas Auchincloss, who left the board of Cadbury Schweppes last year. Auchincloss, who had 'served' on the Cadbury board for all of three years, was paid a £75,800 'golden handshake'. He said said: 'The parting was mutual and amicable.'

COUNTER-DEMONSTRATION

against the National Front and Robert Relf, in jail for breaking the Race Relations Act by refusing to sell his house to blacks. **Saturday 15 May, 12.30pm, Heathfield Road, Birmingham 21.**

Sponsored by Indian Workers Association, Pakistani Workers Association, Bengali Workers Association, Afro-Carib Self Help Organisation, Birmingham Anti-fascists and Birmingham International Socialists. All Midlands and Yorkshire IS branches to attend.

Poor and black £600

FOR several days last week newspapers and television found an issue they could go wild over.

The storm broke with a story on the front page of the Sun. 'Scandal of the £600-a-week immigrants' it screamed, telling how a couple of immigrant families from Malawi were being housed for a few days in an expensive hotel near Gatwick Airport.

The TV news that night took up the story. It went to Hillingdon in West London, where it claimed 'immigrants' were being given big houses by the council.

The whole press was soon claiming that money was being 'wasted' by local councils and that new immigrants were to blame.

Many workers, fed up with rising bills and falling living standards, accepted the message.

But it was completely false. Where is the real waste?

Nonsense

The press would have you believe that a few Asian families staying in hotels is a scandal, but that the thousands of expense-account businessmen, property speculators and dividend clippers who normally stay there are not. What nonsense!

These all use up resources that could be put to better use. The only reason the press picks on the Asians is that they are poor and black. If they had been wealthy and white, the fact that £600 a week was being spent on them would not have been noticed.

The £600 did not, of course, end up in the Asians' pockets. It went to the hotel owners, Scottish and Newcastle Breweries, whose profits rose by £4½ million last year.

All the Asian families wanted was somewhere to live. They would have been happy with much more modest accommodation.

One told a radio reporter: 'There was no kitchen and we could not afford to eat in the hotel. Being hungry was no joke'.

Indeed, the real scandal about the hotel industry is not the money paid out last week. It is that for out vastly greater sums to boost its profits, sums that could have been used for building homes.

Worried

The Labour government of Harold Wilson introduced in 1968 a scheme which gave £1000 of government money to the hotel owners each time they opened a new hotel bedroom. The total handed out by the time the scheme ended in 1973 was £53 million.

The press has never worried about this hand-out. After all, the hotel owners are neither poor nor black.

52,748 hotel rooms were completed under that scheme, 20,000 in the Greater London area. Rooms were built at government expense in both Heathrow and Gatwick hotels. An extension to the Gatwick Hotel would have qualified them to a £141,000 grant.

This leads us to the second great scandal that the press and TV do not mention. At any time, half of these rooms are empty. Even in May last year, a busy month, there were 57,000 empty beds in big hotels.

Tens of thousands of homeless black and white families could be housed in these rooms. The dis-

Socialist Worker
WHAT WE THINK

White and wealthy £53m



Three of the immigrants outside the hotel. They couldn't afford to eat there. 'Being hungry is no joke', said one.

gusting thing is not that a few local authorities do this. It is that they have to pay out large sums to use facilities originally built at the government's expense.

The press campaign against the immigrant families conceals this. It is part of the huge smokescreen designed to hide the massive waste in our society that could be used to improve the lives of all workers—the thousands of millions wasted on empty office blocks, the £1000 million wasted on Concorde, the £1200 million a year wasted on advertising, the £5000 million a year wasted on so-called defence.

Under a system of socialist planning, all this wealth could be used for all our benefit. It would mean a massive improvement in living conditions for all, whatever their colour, who were willing to live and work in a socialist Britain.

Right man, wrong reason

JEREMY THORPE, former director of crooked fringe bank London and County Securities, moderate humbug and union-basher, has been deposed as leader of the Liberal Party—because of alleged sexual relations with a man 14 years ago.

It is difficult to decide which is more disgusting: the political record of Jeremy Thorpe or the sanctimoniousness of his Liberal colleagues, who don't mind him taking money from crooks, but can't stand the thought of him going to bed with men.

Special Assassin Squad

ARMED British SAS troops in plain clothes have been deliberately crossing into the south of Ireland. They have done so to kidnap or murder those they consider the opponents of British rule in the North.

This is the inescapable conclusion of the arrest last week of eight SAS men by southern Irish police.

The suggestion that they had simply blundered across the border is nonsense. The SAS men were picked up about five miles from the spot where the body of Seamus Ludlow had been discovered three days previously.

Mr Ludlow, a single man in his 40s, had no political connections at all. He had been stabbed repeatedly, then finished off with a shot-gun and his body dumped on a rubbish heap. The SAS unit arrested three days later carried, among other weapons, daggers and one pump-operated shot-gun...

Units

They also carried a detailed map of the area south of the border, with the homes of known Republicans marked in coloured pencil.

Merlyn Rees, Secretary for Northern Ireland, who expressed outrage at the arrests, has given no explanation of these curious pieces of luggage. Neither, up to the time of writing, has any British newspaper mentioned them—although the facts have been freely available in Irish papers.

Within 24 hours of the incident, two other British Army units had 'strayed' across the frontier—seemingly to confirm that it was indeed a uniquely difficult border to define, that even the most attentive map-reader might

TROOPS OUT



EAMONN McCANN

innocently blunder over it.

The first of these two 'lost patrols' arrived at the southern customs post on the main Belfast to Dublin road.

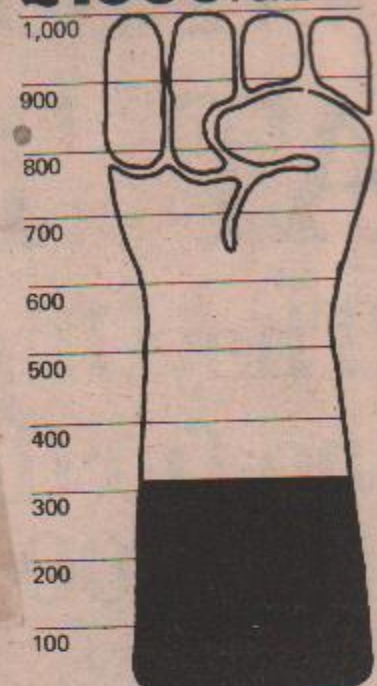
TERROR ACT: 1450 HELD— BUT ONLY THREE CHARGED

1450 people have been held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act up to 2-April 1976. Only three have been charged with any offence under the Act—raising money for a proscribed organisation. As a Home Office spokesman said: 'The only proscribed organisation at the moment is the IRA.'

77 others have been charged under other laws. For the 1370 people held, without charge or evidence against them, it amounts to massive harassment.

This Terror Act can be fought. The Trade Union Committee against the Prevention of Terrorism Act is doing just that. Working to repeal the Act and helping anyone held under the Act. Phone this number.

Socialist Worker £1000 FIGHTING FUND



HEALEY'S DEAL means less money in your pocket over the next year. For most people it will bring a meagre increase and a tax concession which amounts to almost nothing.

We have to campaign against Healey's Deal.

To do that we need money. We need £1000 a month.

The total this week comes to: £87.61. Bringing the total so far this month towards our £1000 target to:

£311.72

Donations this week include:

S Hobbs £5, N Rice £6, St James Hospital NUPE, Leeds £8, C Williams £4, South Manchester Hospitals SW supporters £1.50, SW reader, Dover 50p, Brighton SW reader £1, SW supporters, Borg Warner, Letchworth £1.30, SW supporters Highfield School, Letchworth £1, North Herts SW readers £4, SW readers, Kingsdale School, Southwark, £8, Stockport District SW supporters £3.90, anonymous £5.

Melmerneys site, Finsbury Park, SW supporters £6.46, Dumfries SW supporters £2.50, Exeter IS £5, Lambeth IS £20, Imperial College £4.45, SW reader J Kelly, Manchester, £2.40, Kitchen staff, Horpurley High School £3.30.

Send your donations and collections quickly to: Socialist Worker Fighting Fund, 8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2.

crossings are deliberate. It is possible that he doesn't know. Increasingly the Army in Northern Ireland has been making its own policy decisions. Socialist Worker has documented before cases of the Army simply ignoring orders with which officers politically disagree. The Loyalist strike against power-sharing in 1974 is the most notorious example.

It appears that along the border the Army no longer listens at all to the Labour government but does the bidding of those far right-wing spokesmen who have been demanding that caution, democracy and indeed international law should be thrown to the winds in the struggle against 'extremists'.

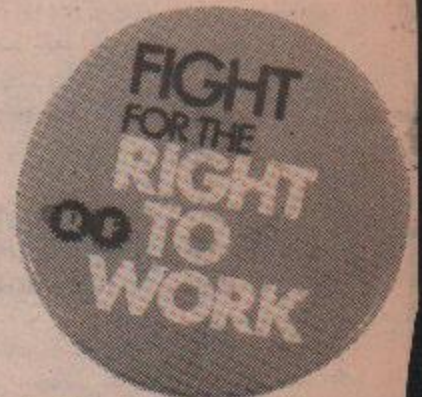
The implications of that for the future of 'parliamentary democracy' are enormous. But they seem not to have dawned on the Labour government who, far from asserting political control of the armed forces, can be counted on to back 'our lads' to the hilt.

That is the price British 'democracy' is beginning to pay for staying in Ireland.

The Emergency photo number works. Remember it. You may need tomorrow if you or one your mates is held under this Act.

01-603 8654.

WAGE CUTS WAIT AT THE BORDERS



FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK meetings

HIGH WYCOMBE Right to Work Social, Wednesday 15 May, Nags Head, London Road, Disco, bookstall, raffle. Plus speakers: Mary Littlefield (one of the Right to Work marchers) and a local trade unionist. Plus Socialist Song Duo.

EAST LONDON Committee Against The Cuts Social: Saturday 15 May, Centreprise, Kingsland Rd (just above Dalston Junction), 8pm to midnight. Bar, disco, 50p.

NORTHAMPTON Right to Work Campaign public meeting: Speakers: John Deason (Secretary, National Right to Work Campaign), Councillor Marie Dickie, Norman Adams (AUEW) chairman. Friday 14 May, 8pm, Northampton Town Hall.

SOUTHAMPTON Right to Work fund-raising disco: Wednesday 19 May, 8pm, Anchor Pub, East Street, Southampton. Employed 30p, unemployed 10p.

PETERBOROUGH 'Defend the Right to Work 44' fund-raising social. With The Alan Dave Sound. Plenty of booze, food, etc. Raffle of new Pluto Press books. Friday 14 May, Coach and Horses, High Street, Old Flatton, 7pm onwards. Bar extension. Tickets 50p.

FIGHT THE CUTS film tour in South East London: 10-22 May. Series of showings in workplaces and trade union branches. Details and bookings, phone 858 8400.

EAST LONDON 'Defend the Right to Work 44' Social: Saturday 22 May, Three Blackbirds, Leyton High Road, London E10. Group, disco, bar extension to midnight.

MERSEYSIDE The National Right to Work Campaign calls for maximum support for the demonstration on Merseyside on Wednesday 26 May, Assemble 12.30pm, Islington Square.

HARLOW: 26 May Day of Action: 11am, stoppage to march through Harlow. 12 noon, Meeting at Clement Attlee Square (by Town Hall). 1pm, assemble Town Hall car park for coaches to London. Organised by Harlow Unemployed Workers Committee and Trades Council. Phone Danny Purton, Harlow 31856, or Dave Lambert, Harlow 37205, to book a seat on the coach.

GLASGOW Right to Work Committee: A night of folk music and political theatre. Hard Times Socialist Theatre Group and their new play '1919: All Out on the Clyde' introduced by Harry McShane, with the Levellers folk group and full support Glasgow College of Technology, Tuesday 25 May, 7pm-10pm. Bar. Tickets 40p.

NATIONAL EETPU RANK AND FILE MEETING: Saturday 12 June, 2pm-5pm. Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham. Transport details from Rank and File Centre, phone 01-802 0978.

EAST LONDON ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST THE CUTS Conference
Saturday 15 May, 10am to 3pm
Montefiore Community Centre, Deal Street, E1 (Whitechapel and Aldgate tubes)
Creche available
Delegates from all trade union organisations, tenants' bodies, Labour Party groups, etc.
Resolutions or amendments to main resolution from delegating bodies welcome. Please send in by Thursday 13 May.
MAKE SURE YOUR ORGANISATION SENDS DELEGATES.

"They'll get no further" say 400 women

by **STEVE FAITH** and **MAGGIE RUTTER**

SCHOOLS are closing in the borders of Scotland as 400 women cleaners are defying an attempt to cut their wages and hours.

They have been on strike for six weeks. The Regional Council wants to reduce women now working 22½ hours for £13.50 a week, to 15 hours for £8.50 a week.

Defend the marchers!

FIFTY POUNDS from the shop stewards committee at British Leyland, Preston, and a factory collection to be organised by shop stewards heads the list of contributions to the Right to Work Marchers Defence Fund this week.

The money was voted after one of the marchers, Tommy Douras, spoke at a shop stewards meeting and explained what happened when the police attacked the march at Staples Corner in London.

From hospital workers in West London come two collections, £18 from the NUPE branch at Hammersmith Hospital, £6.85 from Acton Hospital, which is faced with closure.

BRANCH DONATIONS:
TGWU 0 0049-00 £5, TGWU 1: 696 £20, NUM Cranston £10, AUEW SE35 £1.50, ASTMS North London Medical £5, TGWU Peterborough £200 £5, ASTMS Edinburgh University £10, ASTMS North East London Medical £10, Duncasters JSSC, Sheffield £10, L Gardens and Son JSSC £5, TGWU-EPG Pendlebury 6:153 £25, AUEW Woolwich No 3 £4, Houghton Main NUM £5

COLLECTIONS:
Leeds University £20.64, LDC UPO, Paddington NLR £1.65, CPSA Edinburgh Arise Co-ordinating Committee £10.70, ACTTS members, Dilons University Bookshop £8.67, University of East Anglia £11.64, Higgs and Hill general hospital site £6.05, Coventry school teachers £6, Riskin College £11.15, Hammersmith Town Hall £2.41, NATFHE members Kison College £2, NATFHE members, Bradford College £6, Aberdeen University £17.64, SW Celanese Bulletin, Derby L15, Bolton SW meeting £8, May Day Rally, Wellingborough £4, Durham SW Mayday social £10.50, Cheltenham UWAG £10.

RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGNS:
Stockport £5, York £5, Lancaster £20.
Donations to **Ernie Roberts**, Honorary Treasurer, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.



Some of the school cleaners' pickets at Galashiels—'We'll stay out till Christmas if we don't get what we want!'

Galashiels Academy has had pickets at the gate for the past six weeks. Said one cleaner: 'If we don't get what we want, we'll be standing here until Christmas!'

Local council workers, including dustmen and deliveries, are not crossing the picket lines. Some schools are closed, others are operating one day of classes a week, a total shutdown is expected within the next two weeks.

The strike is seen by all involved as more than a local issue. The strikers told Socialist Worker: 'If they get away with cutting wages here with the lowest paid workers, they will do it to everyone.'

Severe

The councillors see the strike as a test case to break union reaction to the widespread cuts which they and other councils want to make.

Councillor Len Thomson told the Scotsman newspaper: 'My opinion is that there will be another extremely severe round of cuts before the

autumn. Then the government will have to tell the unions to expect redundancies. The local authorities will need the firm backing of central government in this matter.'

Borders Regional Council wants a lot of cuts which will involve sackings. £1 million is to be cut from the budget by closing an old people's home, putting a stop on new equipment for schools, cutting meals on wheels and home

helps, and reducing bus services.

Yet the Council recently put the contract for cleaning supplies in the hands of a local firm, raising the bill at one school to £200 instead of the usual £70.

Insidious

The council is fighting this strike tooth and nail. The

chairman of the education committee, Stewart Roberts, has called the strike 'insidious', an attack on the 'freedom of the electors and ratepayers of how to spend their money', and said he 'will be the first to go into the schools with a mop and bucket'.

His statements brought immediate condemnation from Borders Trades Council and even from a few of his

fellow councillors.

The council has even published an advert in local papers with details of offers that were never in fact made to the unions! The TGWU district secretary said of the advert: 'It's a lie.'

The strike is officially backed by the Transport and General Workers Union and the National Union of Public Employees. A joint meeting of TGWU and NUPE strikers last week decided to continue the strike and set up strike committees in all the affected Borders towns—Pebbles, Kelso, Jedburgh, Selkirk, Galashiels.

Serious

The Edinburgh Right to Work Committee has taken up the campaign in the Lothian Region, where resolutions of support and weekly collections have been organised in schools and hospitals. In just three days, £57 was collected. Collection sheets are being taken around the docks, local factories and colleges.

Messages of support and donations to W J Dunseath, Strike Committee Convenor, c/o TGWU District Office, Anderson's Chambers, Market Street, Galashiels.



THE second issue of the South East London Worker, produced by the local Right to Work Committee. It is four pages for 5p. Articles include the battle against the lump at the massive Thamesmead building site, safety at work, and a list of 46 local convenors, shop stewards and leading local trade unionists who are backing the arrested Right to Work marchers.

The paper calls on its front page for action on 26 May against the latest pay deal with the Labour government and for the Right to Work.
Copies from South East London Worker, 76 Foyle Road, London SE3.



THE Buroo Bulletin, produced by Glasgow Right to Work Committee. Its front page calls for mass action on 26 May. Inside it deals with the fight against unemployment in Glasgow, the defence of the arrested marchers and the delegate meeting of the Glasgow Right to Work Committee.

Glasgow Right to Work Committee has just opened an office and meeting rooms at 927 Govan Road, Govan, Glasgow.

National Right to Work Campaign PICKET AND RALLY
Defend the Right to Work Marchers!
No More Shrewsbury's!
Join the Picket of Hendon Magistrates Court when the Right to Work Marchers are accused.
Friday 21 May

Make sure your trade union body sends a delegation. **BRING BANNERS**
Hot food and drinks available from 6am onwards from the Hyde Cafe, 50 yards up the hill from the court.
Hendon Magistrates Court, The Hyde, Edgware Road, West Hendon, London NW9 (nearest tube Hendon Central).
Picket begins 9.30am. Please be on time. **RIGHT TO WORK AND DEFEND THE 44** social: Friday 21 May. All pickets welcome. Kentish Town Students Union, North London Poly (nearest tube Kentish Town). Bar extension. All proceeds to the Defence Fund.

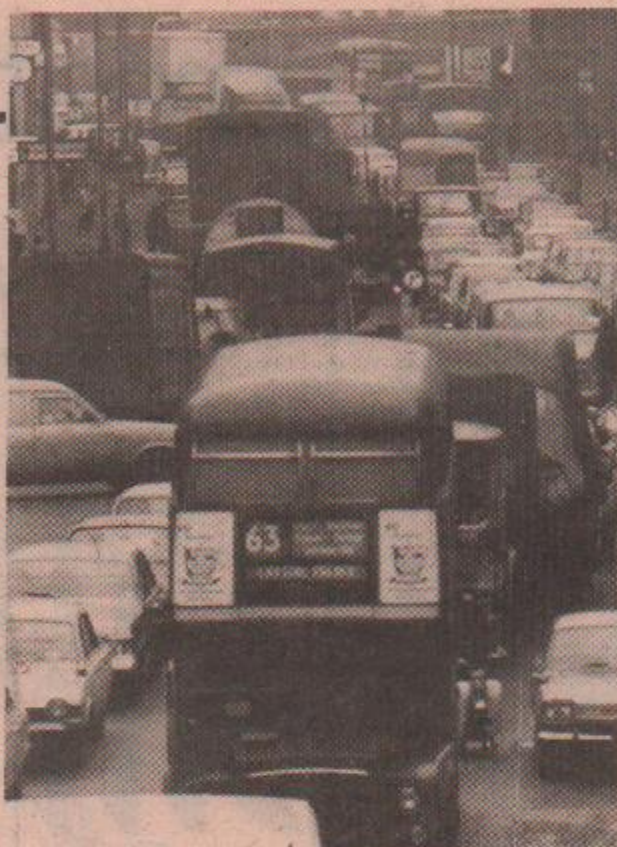
COACHES are leaving the following places for the mass picket when the Right to Work marchers appear in court on Friday 21 May.
MERSEYSIDE: Leaves 11.30pm, Thursday, Masonic Top of Renshaw Street.
BRISTOL: 7am, University Lion, Queens Rd, 7.15am, Christadelphian Hall, Stokescroft.
NORTHAMPTON: Leaves Guildhall St, 8am.

HARLOW: Leaves 8.45am, Town Hall car park. Phone Dave Lambert, Harlow 37205 to book a seat.
GLASGOW: Leaves Thursday 20th, 10.30pm, George Square. Leaves London 11pm, Friday, 16 employed, £3 unemployed.
BLACKBURN: Minibus from Foundry Hill, 6am, Friday.
CARDIFF: 7am from Central Bus Station, Phone Cardiff 499579 for details.
SHEFFIELD: Pond Street, 6.45am.
MANCHESTER: Leaves from St Peter's Square. Tickets and details from 280, Deansgate. Phone 061-832 8102.
LEEDS: Corn Exchange, 6am.
BRADFORD: Morley St, 6am.

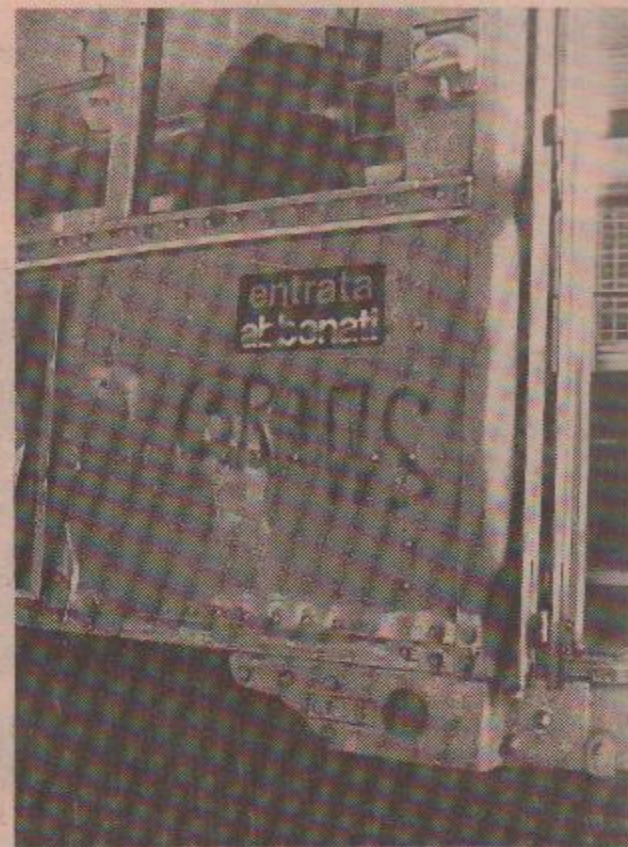
TEESSIDE: Leaves Teesside Polytechnic, 12.30am, Thursday night. Phone Mike Middlesbrough 43037.
HUDDERSFIELD: St George's Square, 6am.
WAKEFIELD: Bus Station, 6am.
WOLVERHAMPTON: Leaves Falkland Street, 6.30am.
BIRMINGHAM: Leaves Hall of Memory, 7am.
SOUTHAMPTON: Free minibus, leave Centaph, 7.30am.
DUNDEE: Leaves Willie Drew Bar, 10.30pm, Thursday 20 May.
Picket Hendon Magistrates Court, The Hyde, London NW9, Friday 21 May—court sitting starts at 10am.

by PETER GLATTER
London bus driver and editorial board member of Platform, the busworkers' paper
and PETE MARSDEN

The wage cut that you have to queue up for!



CHOICE No 1: Higher fares means more cars, more traffic jams, and so fewer buses...



CHOICE No 2: On a Milan tram, 'Entrance for season tickets' becomes 'Entrance free'. The boycott forced fares DOWN.

BUSES? Ask anyone, the answer is the same. Everywhere fares are going up, and there are fewer and fewer buses.

What's not so clear is that this is a deliberate policy. Nowhere is this more so than in London.

The last big orgy of fare increases and cuts in services was between 1960 and 1969 when three passengers in every ten were driven off London buses. Last year's increases drove away another one in ten.

On 20 June, fares are going up again, by 26p in the pound, and the Greater London Council estimates that London Transport's efforts to maintain 'commercial viability' will drive away quarter of the present passengers by 1981.

Any suggestion that 'it's inflation' is rubbish. With the latest increase, fares in London will have gone up by 82 per cent since last March!

Drive

As a leaflet produced by busmen at Chalk Farm Garage said: 'The theory behind the cutting is that passengers will queue and wait for a less frequent but more regular service. But the lesson of previous years is that with fewer buses in service the public quit and walk.'

The people who control our buses know that. Their real aim is to cut back until they're carrying only those passengers willing to pay the high fares. Few buses, but high profitability.

WE lose our ability to travel.

BUSMEN lose their jobs.



Little-publicised GLC documents reveal that the 20 June increase is the first step in a renewed drive for total one-man operations in London, by 1985 at the latest.

What has this to do with fares?

The tickets you buy on the bus are being deliberately put up faster than bus passes, season tickets, even tickets you just punch in a machine. By raising fares again and

again, London Transport plans to drive passengers on to these 'pre-paid' tickets.

This will take away the conductor's job, without limiting fare increases in any way. It will remove the one obstacle which halted the original one-man operation scheme: the traffic jams caused by bus drivers having to issue fares while passengers are boarding.

It means that every

extra penny the conductor collects is another step nearer the dole queue.

London Transport have tried to disguise the cuts in bus services by dividing present schedules into a much-reduced 'primary' plus a 'supplementary'. But 'supplementary' will be mainly used to cover gaps in the 'primary' caused by sickness,

holidays, breakdowns and so on.

This means increasing the gaps between buses, and intensifying the crews' workload instead of recruiting the staff we are supposed to have to cover our existing schedules. Funnily enough, London Transport couldn't recruit a soul to Stockwell Garage, which was 81 drivers short, until after the new schedules were rejected!

As one member of the Platform rank and file busworkers' group put it: 'These schedules are poison. And you don't have to be injected with poison to know what it does to you'.

Fought

The Labour GLC has kept it quiet. So has London Transport. So have the London papers.

But it will have to be fought just the same.

Six of the first nine garages due to operate reduced schedules from Saturday

How they forced fares down in Italy

PAY the increased fares, or stop travelling by bus. Is that the only choice? No, as 50 workers showed on the 5.20am bus out of Pinerolo, a small town near Turin in Italy, back in August 1974.

They took that bus every day to Fiat Rivalta, one of Turin's many car factories. That Monday the weekly fare went up by 400 lire (25p). They paid it for the first week, but the next Monday the bus company found it no longer controlled the fares.

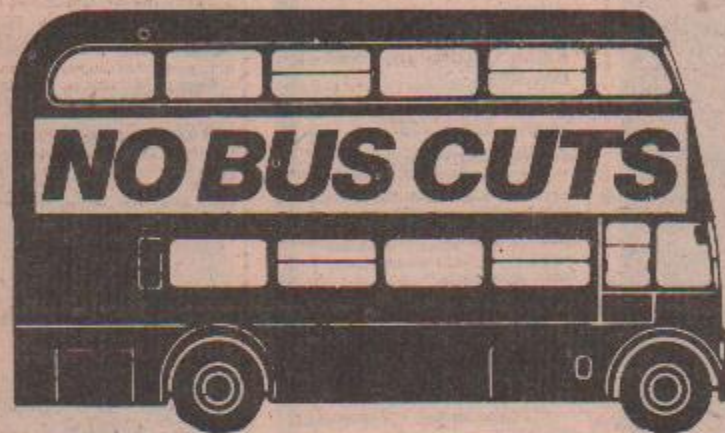
A table had been set up near the bus stop and a local engineering union delegate was issuing bus passes, with the union stamp on them and at the old price.

Idea

Within a few days, in spite of the protests of the bus companies and their refusal to let bus passes leave the depots, the idea had spread throughout Turin.

Within the next few months the movement spread right down to Palermo in Sicily, where thousands of trade unionists and students staged a week of action, stopping any bus from running that tried to charge the increased fare. All over Italy the bus companies were forced to reduce fares.

One trade unionist refusing to pay the increase, even a small group of trade unionists, would simply have been thrown off the bus. But everywhere it was organised by the rank and file in the union branches and factory councils, winning the support of busworkers for their campaign and simply taking control of fares.



JOIN THE CAMPAIGN!

Stickers like that on the left are available from PLATFORM, the paper produced by rank and file busworkers. Send 25p for 100 to the address below.

PLATFORM is the only paper produced by busworkers themselves. It's 4p a copy, plus postage.

Invite a speaker from Platform to your trade union branch, shop stewards committee or trades council.

PLATFORM, 8 Buller Road, London N17 9BH.

Police 'out for revenge'

POLICEMAN TELLS BLACK GIRL

BRADFORD: Police have been harassing the black community since they defended their community against the National Front and the police a fortnight ago.

On Monday last week 50 police rushed out of the police station with dogs to rough up two groups of black kids going home from the Mecca Club. Five young blacks were arrested.

One policeman told a black

girl: 'We're out for revenge for Saturday. We're going to get you one by one. We are slowing down the film [of the demonstration] and picking out each individual to identify them.'

The National Front cancelled their May Day motorcade through Manningham, the immigrant area, when they learnt that the community was organising a

sit-down demonstration to stop them. Police arrested 12 demonstrators.

Last Monday 60 blacks attended a joint meeting organised by the black workers' papers Flame and Chingari, sister papers of Socialist Worker.

They voted to hold a protest picket outside Bradford police station. A short, but successful picket is held, despite the 200

police and ten vans that surrounded the station.

The Manningham Defendants Fund was set up to arrange support for those arrested whole protesting against the provocative National Front march.

The fund is already sponsored by the Bradford Trades Council anti-fascist

subcommittee, the Indian Workers Association and the Pakistani Workers Association. An AUEW convenor and a Labour councillor are joint honorary treasurers.

There will be a solidarity picket outside Bradford Magistrates Court at 10am on Thursday 20 May, when all 21 defendants appear. Donations and messages of support to: Manningham Defendants Fund, 41 Apple Road, Bradford.

GET UP!
STAND UP!
COME TO THE
FLAME
BENEFIT
DANCE!

WITH The Young Groovers, straight from their smash hit at Skegness.
Saturday 12 June, 8pm, Camden Town Hall, London.

Tickets 80p in advance through Flame, £1 on the door.

The great con-trick

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM
Duncan Hallas

The case for Healey's 4½ per cent pay-cutting operation is plainly rubbish. But the Labour government won't be able to fool all the people all the time.

NOT SINCE the heyday of Barnum and Bailey has such a gigantic confidence trick been tried on.

There is a sucker born every minute was the watchword of the late Phineas T Barnum. Denis Healey evidently thinks he can out-barnum Barnum with his latest pay cutting operation.

Of course, Healey has a lot of help. Labour ministers, Tory 'opponents', TV, radio and the capitalist press are all in on the act. Any number of 'experts' are available to help in the bamboozlement.

(Definition: an expert is someone who can be plausibly represented as knowing a thing or two and who can be relied upon, for a suitable fee, of course—the labourer is worthy of his hire—to predict disaster if whatever his paymasters are pushing is turned down.)

Above all, there are the TUC bosses. This sorry lot has, as the Guardian noted last week 'been promised very little in return for its willingness to help'.

No question of the reflation they were pressing for. No guarantees about jobs. No promises about cuts. No serious price controls. And still they grovel!

It is, perhaps, worth pausing for a moment to consider the enormity of the fraud that our 'Labour' government is attempting.

First, at a time when there are one and a quarter million idle pairs of hands waiting for work, they tell us that there is just not enough output to enable us to keep the pay, in real terms, that we got in the last twelve months. We have to take less!

Second, nothing can be done to reduce unemployment because any effective measures would be 'inflationary'.

In plain words, they are saying that more output means still higher prices, the more there is to go round, the

greater the scramble to get it! What a comment on the system.

Third, they tell us that wages are the cause of inflation and at one and the same moment that the £6 policy was successful and that therefore the employers cannot now afford anything so 'generous' as £6 increases!

Fourth, they say that price controls cannot be effectively imposed because that would reduce profits. Reduce wages—OK. Reduce profits—never!

This, from the people who told us in their election manifesto that they would stop inflation 'by acting directly on prices' and would bring about 'a massive transfer of wealth and power to working people and their families'.

Now, soberly considered, the government's case is plainly rubbish.

Therefore it must not be allowed to be soberly considered.

The working class must be subject to such a barrage of propaganda that the voice of reason is drowned in the din.

These are the methods used in this massive brainwashing operation. Fundamental is the 'when did you last beat your wife?' technique.

No doubts, no questions about what is really at issue are allowed to appear in the media.

The absolute truth of the government's shoddy arguments is taken for granted and the few licensed 'critics' that appear, for example, on TV, are asked, in effect, why they want more inflation and higher unemployment!

Guru

The unloaded question is the one never put.

More fundamental still, there is the constant repetition, the well-tried advertisers' trick. Beans means Heinz.

Say it often enough and it will be believed.

And there is the hall of mirrors trick. The polls show that the vast majority of your members support the policy. Why don't you accept the democratic decision?

What do the polls show? I am indebted to that well-known TV guru, Robert Mackenzie, for spilling the beans on this one.

Fool

'We must remember,' he said, 'that opinion polls reflect what people are being told by the media.'

He was talking about the Labour Party leadership election as it happens.

He would jeopardise his future fees if he said it about the pay-fraud but, of course, it is true.

Which leads to a final note of optimism. The poll so often quoted showed 60 per cent of trade unionists supporting Healey—that is 40 per cent against. (70-30 in the population at large.)

In the circumstances a very encouraging result. They won't be able to fool all the people all the time.

Socialist Worker

EDITORIAL

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AMERICA'S SILENT GENOCIDE CLAIMS ANOTHER VICTIM...

THE PARTIALLY decomposed body of a young Indian woman was 'found' by an FBI agent on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota, US, on 24 February. She was the latest of more than 50 to have been murdered there in the last three years.

Anna Mae Aquash, an Oglala Sioux and an activist in the American Indian Movement, died, according to a coroner, from exposure.

She was buried in an unmarked grave, her hands having first been cut off and sent to FBI headquarters in Washington.

Then her family were notified. They demanded another autopsy, which showed she had been shot in the back of the head at close range.

A few weeks before her death, Anna Mae had reportedly gone underground after 'escaping' from the police, who had arrested her on firearms charges. She was never seen alive again.

The reservation has been under armed occupation by the federal government since 1973.

OFFER

Government heavies—from the Special Operations Group, CHAOS (the CIA's 'Domestic disruption programme') the FBI and even the 82nd Airborne Division—have roamed the reservation at will.

They are armed with the newest and most sophisticated combat weapons the United States has to offer.

Reports have told of them breaking into homes without warrants harassing, threatening and beating women and children and torturing, jailing and murdering those who resist.

That resistance is apparently being used by the US government to practise war games.

The 'experiments' were first uncovered by reporter Ron Pidenbour, who also exposed the My Lai massacre.

WORD

They are believed to be a trial run for martial law in the United States, helping to prepare government forces for any civil upheaval.

Sections of the entire US police system have been mobilised under the codename Garden Plot.

Meanwhile, few if any Americans know what is going on in their midst.

In the 'freest country on earth', the government practise genocide—and the press say not a word.

□ A US SENATE committee has unearthed the interesting fact that the Attorney-General who approved the tapping of civil rights campaigner Martin Luther King's phone back in 1963 was none other than that shining white liberal, Robert Kennedy.



Which ones are the animals?

NO, THIS is not a scene out of Monty Python. It's real, live upper-class Twit of the Year Sylvia Shorter and her husband George (right) about to emigrate to South Africa with their 13 dogs. The family cat Albert (Siamese, of course) was also on board as the Shorters boarded the boat at Southampton.

Making up the baggage were their two Rolls-Royces and E-type Jaguar. Apartheid and the Shorters should be very happy together...

On the menu...torture

LAST WEEK'S giant banquets for torturer Geisel were graced with a lot of labour movement representatives and liberals, all of whom are opposed to torturers until there's a free lunch or dinner to be eaten in honour of one.

Take Anthony Wedgwood Benn, for instance. He hates torture. But he loved his lunch with Geisel in Downing Street on 5 May.

Junta's man Callaghan

was so pleased with Benn's politeness to the dictator that he promised to forget all about Benn's abstention on the cuts at the Labour Party Executive.

Tom Jackson, general secretary of the Post Office Workers Union, was at the lunch.

Tom Ponsonby, former general secretary of the Fabian Society (which is very much against torture and for trade union rights),

went to the Guildhall banquet for Geisel although his colleagues on the Greater London Council had asked him not to.

Another prominent guest at the banquet on the day of Geisel's arrival was Peter Preston, editor of the Guardian.

The Guardian has built up a strong middle-class readership among people who detest dictatorship and torture. But Preston rushed

off to honour one of the world's outstanding dictators at the flick of an embossed invitation.

Guardian readers might like to write to Mr Preston asking how he justifies not only his dinner with Geisel, but also the Guardian special supplement on Brazil, which managed to squeeze all the torture and repression and poverty into a single paragraph.



SHEILA Matthews, who was held captive in the Balcombe Street siege, has been sacked by a West End textile firm. She said: 'I am suffering far more from being out of work than I did from the siege. I was given redundancy notice and that was that. Now I am back on tranquilisers and am in a far worse state than I was last December.' Her boss called her in and said: 'I want you out by Easter.' The axe fell four weeks ago. Mrs Matthews, 52, is now seeking compensation for unfair dismissal. Her sacking has not been reported in the national press.

□ GOT YOUR diary handy? Right, make a note of next Tuesday, 18 May. There's a very important one-day conference on at London's Royal Garden Hotel. No working-class activist will want to miss it.

It's called Personal Tax Avoidance for Directors and it will cost you a mere £43.20 to get in. See you there...

□ GUESS which political party in France is opposing Tory President Giscard's proposed Capital Gains Tax? Would you believe the Communist Party?

Seems the Party believe it would hit 'private property, the fruit of labour and saving'. Ah, the wonders of parliamentary socialism.

WITHOUT COMMENT: During the year the Company and its subsidiaries gave £233,000 for charitable purposes in the United Kingdom. The Company also gave £25,000 towards the Britain in Europe national referendum campaign. No contributions were made for political purposes.

—from the annual report of Unilever.

A NEW ambulance has been given away free by Cleveland Social Services Department in the North-East.

Who to? The Shah of Iran, no less, to thank him for holding a conference for the disabled in this country and to encourage a local export drive.

The Shah of Iran's regime, in case you don't know, is top of Amnesty International's World Torture League.

The gift has been okayed by Cleveland's Labour-controlled County Council.

Naples Saint's Blood Resists Liquefaction

NAPLES, May 5 (Reuters)—Hundreds of Roman Catholics again yesterday packed the cathedral here praying for a recurrence of the Miracle of Saint Januario, which should have taken place Saturday.

For the fourth day, the city's archbishop, Corrado Cardinal Ursi, led the faithful in prayers to the 4th-century saint to perform the miracle of liquefying two phials of his dried blood. People say the saint is angry because Naples elected a Communist mayor.

—from the International Herald Tribune, 6 May

Another

THE WEALTHY, privileged, racist white minority who run Rhodesia received another rude shock last week.

Black guerrilla freedom fighters struck in the far west of the country, close to the Malawi border.

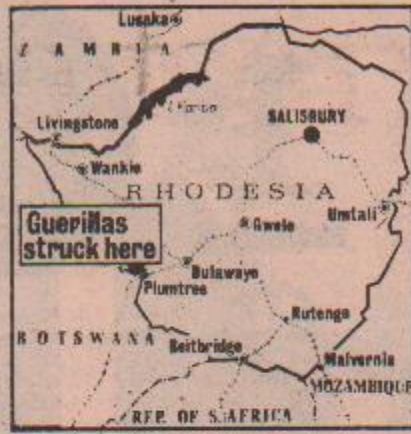
They have not been seen in this area for eight years. Now they are threatening the one rail link with South Africa that Ian Smith's regime thought was impregnable.

The other main rail link, near the Mozambique border, was successfully attacked last month.

Rhodesia's whites are still complacently living the lives of the rich and idle everywhere.

They are insisting that nothing will stir them from their Scotch-sipping, their private swimming pools, their right to servants.

nail in Smith's coffin



FRAMED - AND NOW GARY FACES ELECTRIC CHAIR



GARY TYLER is a 17-year-old black youth framed for the murder of a white youth in Louisiana. He is going to be electrocuted.

The white youth was shot dead during a fight when a group of white students started throwing bricks and bottles at a bus of black students in 1974.

Gary is sitting on Death Row despite these facts:

The main witness now admits she lied. The alleged murder weapon had no fingerprints on it and was 'stolen' from a police firing range.

The gun was 'found' in an eight-inch slit in a seat which the police had overlooked the first two times they searched the bus.

Blacks in Detroit and Chicago are demonstrating to try to free Gary.

Fighters

They believe that these can be safeguarded indefinitely by so-called 'protected villages'—concentration camps where tens of thousands of African peasants are kept virtual prisoners—and manhunters of anyone who shows sympathy with the freedom fighters.

The reality, however, is that within a couple of years, perhaps sooner, they will face military defeat at the hands of the guerrillas, just as the Portuguese settlers in Guinea Bissau, Mozambique and finally Angola were defeated before them.

The most far-sighted white leaders see this. They are desperately trying to salvage the privileges of the white ruling class by making an alliance with sections of the black middle class.

This is the sort of settlement which Callaghan, Kissinger and the big companies would also like. It is what the racist rulers of South Africa also want.

But a few more guerrilla successes, like those last week, and their plans could be well and truly wrecked as the white settlers begin to rush in panic to the South African border.



ABOVE: Some of the thousands of people who demonstrated in Athens on Sunday and Tuesday of last week over the way the police caused the death of a young Greek revolutionary, Sideris Isidoropolous. He was flyposting for a May

Day demonstration the government had banned when the police chased him into the path of a car.

ABOVE RIGHT: The massive demonstration at the funeral of Alexandros Panagoulas, the

Centre Union MP killed in a 'car accident'. Ten days before his death, he had announced that he had come into possession of military police archives that incriminated many people in high places. Almost everybody believes that he was murdered.

PORTUGAL: NEW HOPE



Carvalho: he's no short cut to socialism

THE working-class in Portugal has not surrendered.

That's the message of last month's Parliamentary elections. And that's the experience the Rank and File delegation to Lisbon met with in factory after factory.

The right-wing hoped they would be able to consolidate their position after the defeat of the left in the armed forces last 25 November.

But while they are still strengthening their hold over the army, they've made virtually no progress in the working class. The worker's commissions still exist and are putting their organisation onto a firmer footing. And the

By STEVE JEFFERYS,
just back from Lisbon

number of strikes is again on the upturn, despite an unemployment rate of 20 per cent.

The far right CDS (social Democratic Centre) Party doubled its vote to 850,000, 16 per cent of the poll. But the election was not a right-wing landslide.

The two main governing parties, the Socialist Party and the Popular Democratic Party, lost three per cent and two per cent respectively on their

positions a year earlier.

The Communist Party kept its vote and the groups to the left of it also held their ground.

Last year, they got 220,000 votes between them; this year, 250,000 votes.

In the largest electoral division in the country, the Lisbon area, the Communist Party received 258,000 votes (against 240,000 in 1975), while the left groups totalled 73,000 (against 58,000 last year).

In the rest of the South, the results were similar.

In the Setubal division, which includes the militant Lisnave and Setnave shipyards, the CP got its highest share of the vote—more than 44 per cent.

And the left groups' share went up from 4.9 to 6.1 per cent.

The election exposed the weakness of the revolutionary left. The PRP's 'Don't-Vote-Abstain' campaign was hardly noticed.

Support

Now both the PRP and the Movement of the Socialist Left (MES) are talking of supporting Otelo de Carvalho in the Presidential election at the end of June. There are considerable dangers in this.

For Otelo, whatever else he is, is clearly not a principled revolutionary candidate.

Support for any military candidate (even if Otelo is now reduced to the rank of Major) can also reinforce the tendency the revolutionary left has, of looking for military shortcuts to the revolution.

Yet the strength of the working class, its determination to maintain the gains of 1974-75 in the face of the continuing economic crisis, and the election results, all point to considerable opportunities ahead for the revolutionary left.

A hospital under workers' control

MY TRIP to Portugal on the Rank and File delegation has removed any doubts I might have had about people being able to control their own lives.

The Saint Maria Hospital, the biggest in Portugal, is run by a workers commission of four doctors, four nurses, four para-med, four admin and nine ancillary workers.

In the recent nurses' strike, the government instructed the administrator to make a list of the nurses on strike.

The administrator resigned to stop the government getting this information.

By John Clark, NUPE
branch secretary,
Queen Elizabeth
Hospital, East London

To this day, the government have no representative in the hospital. The workers commission interview all personnel the government send along for the job.

Before the overthrow of fascism there was private practice. Today there is none. The PP rooms have been turned over to general beds. All patients are treated equal.

The workers commission see their main role as to 'control the running of the hospital—to get a better life for the workers—we have to stimulate the workers to fight in the union.'

The right wing doctors have raised their ugly heads and the government are beginning to tighten the economic screws on the hospital.

The workers commissions have made mistakes and no doubt will make many more, but it is the duty of the British working class to learn those lessons and reap the benefits

□ The index of toxic chemicals from the Rank and File Health and Safety at Work Pamphlet is being translated into Portuguese. Bul £50 is needed to publish it.

The Rank and File Organising Committee wants to send a noise tester and a fumes tester to be used by the workers commissions in Portugal.

Send donations to R&FOC (Health and Safety—Portugal) c/o Roger Cox, 214 Roundwood Road, London NW10.

Tony Cliff:
LENIN
Volume 2
All Power to the Soviets

The second volume of Tony Cliff's LENIN, to be published in June, describes the first revolutionary victory of the working class anywhere—October 1917, and ends with Lenin's announcement to the Congress of Soviets: 'We shall now proceed to construct the socialist order.'



PRE-PUBLICATION OFFER until 31 May: Volume 2 for £2.60 (published price £3.60). Volumes 1 and 2 for £5 (published price £6.60). Post free. Cash with order.

PLUTO PRESS Books will be sent out early June.
Unit 10 Spencer Court, 7 Chalcot Road, London NW1 8LH.

'I'VE BEEN asked how much I will have to give away to the unions in the current pay negotiations. The answer, gentlemen, is simple: NOTHING. NOTHING AT ALL.'

Denis Healey was speaking at the meeting of Common Market Finance Ministers in Luxembourg on 26 April. His statement, greeted with contented sniggers all round, was the literal truth.

In the past few days, trade union leaders have pretended that the 4½ per cent pay deal was wrung from the Chancellor in tough, stubborn negotiations.

In fact, they gave away half of what they had been promised before the talks began.

The first outline of the deal was worked out in March in a series of secret meetings between Ministers and the 'big three' trade union leaders—Jones (T&GWU), Scanlon (AUEW) and Basnett (GMWU).

In March, in the week before Wilson resigned, the Big Three agreed that the next year's limit should be based on a £4 rise, plus substantial tax concessions. Healey showed them scales for tax concessions, according to the pay rise finally negotiated.

He said he would announce these conditional tax concessions in his Budget. The Big Three agreed.

Agreed

In the week before the Budget, there was prolonged selling of sterling. Healey, as the Financial Times reported, was forced to rewrite certain sections of his speech.

Instead of leaving the pay rates open for negotiation, he took as his measure the lowest pay rise in his tables—the three per cent limit.

This infuriated the trade union leaders.

When he heard about the three per cent—in the BBC television studios—Murray swore out loud. 'But that's only TWO pounds' he muttered angrily.

HEALEY hastily invited the TUC's 'Big Six' negotiators (Jones, Scanlon, Basnett plus Allen (shopworkers), McGarvey (Boiler-makers) and Murray) to a secret dinner on 8 April—two days after the Budget.

The union leaders were smuggled into No. 11 Downing Street through the back door of the Cabinet Office.

At the dinner Healey announced that the sterling situation was 'desperate'. Somehow, he explained, the pay agreement had to be for less than originally agreed.

If the union leaders would agree not to consolidate the two years' increases, and not

to press for equal pay—thus saving two and a half per cent on the earnings bill—he would agree to push the basic wage percentage rate up by one and a half per cent!

Vicious

This vicious cut was agreed almost instantly.

Equal pay was buried, without a word of protest. In return, Healey promised to consider, at future meetings, a package of fringe benefits: price controls, rent and food subsidies, bringing forward pension increases, and job creation.

Over the after-dinner cigars, the union leaders worked out their strategy.

They would oppose the three per cent, but they would fight for acceptance of the four and a half per



Scanlon of the engineers and Basnett of the GMWU: secret dinner with Healey



course of the negotiations, was thrown into confusion by the selling of sterling.

Between 21 and 23 April—following the STUC vote against the 3 per cent—£1,000 million were lost to the British reserves; the biggest run on sterling in history.

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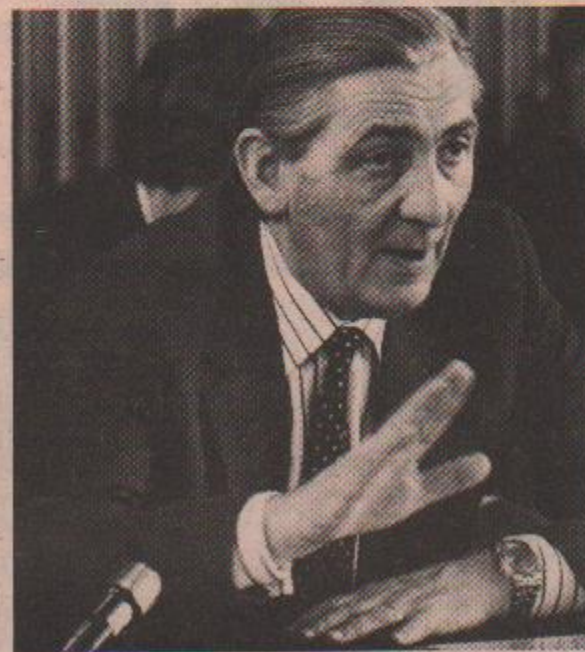
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NO DEAL WITH HEALEY! CAMPAIGN WITH THE SOCIALIST WORKER NO DEAL WITH



Murray: swore out loud

The inside story

of the TUC sell-

Jones: promised to ram the deal thr

on 23 April, Healey was hysterical.

He read the union leaders a lecture in patriotism, demanded an urgent settlement, and begged them in their public statements to boost the pound.

This was, he went on, no time for fringe benefits. He couldn't possibly tighten price controls. He would have to loosen them.

He couldn't possibly spend any more public money—hadn't they just lost a thousand million?

He couldn't possibly add anything to food or rent subsidies. He couldn't possibly bring forward the pension rises from October to June.

With hardly even a token protest, the union leaders threw all their cards away.

They agreed to do their best to stem the sterling flood. The agreement, they promised, would be signed within a fortnight.

Murray summoned the Press to the Treasury. As the television lights were being fixed up, he pleaded: 'Ask me what you like, boys, but please give a good boost to my bit on the pound.' The 'boys' patriotically obliged.

The hysteria started again after the weekend.

On 26 April, Murray made a special statement. 'The pound,' he predicted (wrongly) 'is going up.'

Plush

At a meeting of transport employers, Jones appealed to the Dunkirk spirit. 'We will not fail' he promised.

There were three more long meetings between the Big Six and the Chancellor—two of them over plush dinners at No. 11 (27 April and 4 May) and one at the Treasury on 28 April.

There was also a 'celebra-

tion lunch' with the Prime Minister on 3 May.

At these meetings, the trade union leaders agreed to allow Healey to loosen price controls.

They gave up the fight for food subsidies, rent subsidies, price controls, reflation.

After making one of his interminable speeches in favour of bringing forward pension increases from November to June, Jack

Jones agreed that 'the time is

not ripe'. **THE BIG SIX begged for 'a little something extra' to show for their labours. So Healey promised not to put up the price of school meals in the autumn.**

He also promised Jones to 'look very closely at the possibility' of increased heating allowances for old people next winter.

On 5 May, in a carefully-rehearsed charade, the Big

Six went from the Treasury. Economics C Transport Ho Murray ur deal unanim important, he ing.

The comm voted unan favour, and w next room for convened Ge meeting.

Murray m



HOW THEY DID IT

- 12 MARCH:** Final 'preliminary meeting' between Jones, Scanlon, Basnett and Healey. £4 limit plus tax concessions agreed.
- 16 MARCH:** Wilson resigns.
- 8 APRIL:** Secret dinner at 11 Downing Street between Healey and Big Six. Consolidation and equal pay abandoned. Four and a half per cent agreed.
- 14 APRIL:** Economic Committee of TUC meets.

- Agrees to oppose 3 per cent, but to support 'wage limit'.
- 20 APRIL:** Scottish TUC votes against 3 per cent, but in favour of wage limit.
- 21-22 APRIL:** Massive selling of sterling.
- 23 APRIL:** Meeting with Big Six and Ministers at Treasury. Murray Press conference. 'The pound must cheer up'. Food subsidies, price control, bringing forward of pension increase abandoned.

- 26 APRIL:** Murray and Jones speak in London. Jones: 'We must not fail'. Appeals to Dunkirk spirit. Pound slides. Healey tells finance ministers in Luxembourg: 'I have given them nothing'.
- 27 APRIL:** Third meeting between Big Six and Healey—at dinner at No 11. Further concessions.
- 28 APRIL:** Fourth meeting. Deal sewn up.
- 3 MAY:** Celebration lunch at 10 Downing Street with Callaghan.



ough Scottish TUC



That's a deal, then: Allen (left) of the shopworkers, and McGarvey (right) of the boilermakers—two of the TUC's Big Six



HEALEY! CAMPAIGN WITH THE SOCIALIST WORKER

As it was in 1926, so it is today...

AT A RECENT General Council meeting, Clive Jenkins proposed that the TUC organise a commemorative exhibition on the 50th anniversary of the General Strike.

WHAT WE THINK

Jack Jones furiously opposed the resolution. He carried the day, and no exhibition was mounted.

Each time they were faced with the choice: either they challenged the basis of the capitalist system and set out to build their own alternative—

Instead Jones and the other TUC leaders have celebrated the 50th anniversary of the General Strike with another historic sell-out.

Or they settled for everything which the system demanded of them.

As with the General Strike, the TUC leaders went into the 1976 pay negotiations full of confidence that they could negotiate a 'decent deal' for their members'.

In 1926, they were forced to order their members back to work after no concessions had been won.

But at every stage in the negotiations, they were brought up sharp against a falling pound and the threat of a collapsing capitalism.

In 1976, they are urging their members to accept wage cuts without a single benefit in between.

At every stage Healey warned them—as they were warned in 1926—that if they insisted on their demands, they would bring the whole system to a halt.

As in 1926, at every stage in the negotiations the trade union leaders identified with the employers' system.

The important meetings were held in secret. When the Press and television were introduced, they were used to fudge the issues and to 'boost the pound'.

As Jack Jones put it so poetically in his speech to the transport employers: 'Society as we know it is threatened'.



Buckton of the train drivers' union, ASLEF: so much for his fine words at the Assembly on Unemployment

Quite. Society as we know it, controlled and ordered by bankers, speculators, industrialists and moneylenders, was in peril.



Healey: he can be beaten

Jones felt himself part of that society. And he was prepared to sacrifice his members' interests to sustain it.

That is why, throughout the sell-out, Jones and Co strove to their utmost to keep the argument away from the rank and file.

There is time for the rank and file to stand and fight.

There are five weeks before the special congress—five weeks in which every trade unionist who wants to fight the sell-out must go down to his or her union branch, raise the issue in their shop stewards committee, start a discussion on the shop floor.

The freeze can be beaten—not by trade union leaders, but by the people it most affects, the rank and file of the working class.

out

BY PAUL FOOT

employment; Parry of the Fire Brigades Union, would be pillar of the Left for a quarter of a century; Daly of the mineworkers, the militant founder of the Fife Socialist League.

Announcing a fantastic 25 to 5 majority in favour of cutting trade unionists' living standards for another year, Murray confidently predicted that the Chancellor would be raising heating allowances for pensioners.

IN THE Commons that afternoon, Healey turned the final screw. There would be no increased heating allowances for pensioners.

There was a pathetic £15 million extra for training and 'an important concession,' he called it—the price of school meals would not go up in the autumn.

On the same day, the Ministry of Social Security announced that, from next year, there would be no family allowances for parents whose children live abroad.

This dreadful blow at tens of thousands of black workers will 'save' the contingency fund about £100m. No wonder Healey can afford £35m on school meals and £15m for training!

The announcement set the seal on the Healey deal

Children

£100 million 'saved' on the children of immigrant workers—and £35 million 'spent' on not putting up the price of school meals.

No wonder the European finance ministers giggled!

ADVERTISEMENT

STOP THE CUTS

A Rank and File pamphlet
BY PAUL FOOT
Price 10p

SELL THIS PAMPHLET!

'I READ Stop the Cuts as soon as I got hold of a copy this weekend. It's a really excellent pamphlet, which makes it all remarkably clear. I think all Labour councillors who are standing up against the cuts should read this pamphlet. It will explain the difficulties we're all in—and give them confidence to keep on fighting.'

'I'm taking 25 copies right away to sell at my Labour Party and at the council. I hope I'll get rid of those soon, and be able to sell some more.'

MARIE DICKIE, Labour Councillor, Northampton.

10p a copy, plus 8p postage. Ten copies will be sent POST FREE for £1—and every additional ten will cost £1. 100 copies will be sent for £9.

The Rank and File Organisation are offering POST FREE rates for all bulk orders over 10 copies.

Send to Rank and File Organising Committee, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.



'long talks' at the TUC's committee at use.

ed the comm- mend the usly. It was said, for ster-

ittee obliged, imously in talked into the specially- eral Council

de the same speech. The economic crisis was the worst ever. The deal, in the circumstances, was 'by far the best we can get'.

The alternatives were 'too horrible to contemplate.'

One by one, the straw men fell down. Fisher of NUPE, whose tinny rhetoric had lambasted the £6 deal at last year's TUC, voted for the deal.

So did Buckton of ASLEF, the vitriolic opponent of wage restraint at last March's Assembly on Un-

CAMPAIGN

WITH THE *Socialist Worker*

HELP US SELL WHERE YOU LIVE

Some of the sales organised for this Saturday:

BIRMINGHAM: New Street Station ramp, 10am-4pm.

EAST LONDON: Walthamstow High Street, Hoe Street, 11am-1pm. Barking Magistrates Court, 10.30am-1pm. Ilford High Street, Woolworths 11am-2pm.

WEST LONDON: Ealing Shopping Centre, Selfways, 11am-1pm. Hounslow Shopping Centre, Woolworths 11am-1pm.

INNER WEST LONDON: Shepherds Bush Market, 10am-noon.

Portobello Road, Corner of Lancaster Road, 11am-1pm.

NORTH LONDON: Wood Green High Road, Marks & Spencer, 11am-1pm. Holloway Road, Sainsburys, noon-2pm.

DUNDEE: City Square, 11am-4pm. Thursday and Friday evenings 4-5.30pm.

MANCHESTER: 11am-1pm, Cheetham Hill Precinct. Salford Precinct. Urmston Shopping Centre. Stockport Merseyway Centre. Prestwich Precinct.

YORK: Coney Street, outside Woolworths, 11am-3pm; Stonegate, Noon-2pm; Market, 10am-1pm.

GLASGOW: Central Station, 10am-5pm. Queen Street Station, 11am-4pm.

NEWCASTLE: Northumberland Street, 11am-3pm. Gateshead High Street, 11am-1pm.

LEEDS: Market, 11am-2.30pm.

HIGH WYCOMBE: Octagon, 10.30am-12.30pm.

CARDIFF: Market, 10.30am-2.30pm.

NEWPORT: Market, 10am-Noon.

SW LONDON: St. John's Road, Clapham Junction, outside Woolworths, 10.30am-1.30pm.

Send in details of your street sales for this column.



Estates: Get moving!

THE FRONT PAGE of Socialist Worker on 24 April about blue asbestos used in council housing was an ace story—but did your branch sell it on the housing estates?

Last week the centre pages highlighted the problems of the Hindrey Estate in London which are typical of many other estates.

A knockout story with an argument about how to organise on council estates—but did your branch bother to sell on the local estates?

Everyone of us is aware that the cuts in public spending will mean savage cut-backs on the estates. Meanwhile, rents and rates are going up.

TAKE A TIP FROM US

TOTTENHAM branch has started a campaign to build up regular paper rounds. The area around one comrade's house is mapped out, and six or more sellers meet once a week to canvass house to house.

After three weeks, a round

Socialist Worker has to be there arguing how the cuts can be fought.

A number of branches have been consistently selling on estates over the past couple of years. Among them are:

Branch/District	Number sold each week
Liverpool	60
Lowesloft	70
Loughborough	90
Lea Valley	30
Easter Ross	30
Oxford	40

These branches can now argue how the cuts should be fought.

Every branch and district should consider organising sales on council estates.

is built up and the comrade living in the area carries it on each week. The other sellers move to fresh ground.

We don't just cover council estates, and find people seem more willing to talk on their doorstep.

We find out who can't



SELLING Socialist Worker on the Hindrey Estate in East London. A team of sellers went out on the estate last Sunday morning. 33 papers were sold. Another sale is planned, for Tuesday evening. Yvonne Walker already has a regular round of sales on the estate. Hopefully, the new sales will double the number.

speaking English and take the other papers—in Punjabi, Urdu, Greek or Turkish.

The sales need a good organiser to ensure comrades turn up for selling, and that the round is kept up.

TOTTENHAM BRANCH

WHAT'S ON

SOCIALIST WORKER MEETINGS

CROYDON SW public meeting: Women and the Law, Thursday 13 May, 8pm, Ruskin House, Coombe Road, Croydon.

CHESTER IS Inaugural Meeting: Unemployment, Cuts, Wage Freeze—what's gone wrong, and what can we do about it? Speaker: Paul Foot. Thursday 20 May, 7.30pm, Beer and Billet pub, Lower Bridge St, Chester. Admission 10p.

HULL SW discussion meetings: 9 May, The General Strike; 23 May, Germany 1914-1933; 6 June, The Communist Party; 20 June, Women and Socialism; 4 July, Crisis in Southern Africa; 18 July, The Labour Party, and obstacle to socialism? All meetings on Sundays, starting 7pm, at Socialist Books, 238 Springbank, Hull.

CENTRAL LONDON SW Education Classes: The Family, Speaker: Joan Smith, Thursday 13 May. The Origins of the Family, Thursday 3 June. The Politics of Women's Oppression, Thursday 17 June. Women and Socialism, Thursday 1 July, 6.30pm, The Roebuck, Tottenham Court Road, London WC1.

INNER EAST LONDON SW public meeting: The General Strike. Speakers: Joan Smith (Labour historian), Eddie Prevost (shop steward, Royal Dock), 27 May, 8pm, Bethnal Green Music Library, Cambridge Heath Road, E2. Buses 6, 8, BA, 35, 55, 106, 253, Bethnal Green Tube.

SW AFRICA FORUM: Discussion on developments in SENEGAL, WEST AFRICA and the implications for the struggle in Africa, Tuesday 25 May, 7.30pm, Roebuck pub, Tottenham Court Road (nearest Tube Warren St).

SOUTHWARK TEACHERS SW Public meetings: 13 May, Permanent Revolution. 27 May, The Newspaper of a Revolutionary Organisation. 10 June, Imperialism. 24 June, Democratic Centralism. 8 July, Theory of the Rank and File Movement. 15 July, The Struggle in Italy. At: South Bank Poly, Students Union, Rotary St. Details from: G.I. Loewenstein (622-1090).

ENFIELD SW public meetings: No Deal with Healey—All out for 26 May! Speaker: Tony Cliff, Wednesday, 19 May, 7.30pm, Kings Head Pub, Enfield Market Place, Enfield.

NEWHAM SW public meeting: Southern Africa—What Next? Speakers: Pete Alexander (SW Africa Group), Joseph Jatsangwe (ANC, Zimbabwe), Thursday 27 May, 7.30pm, The Railway, Forest Gate, E7 (Near Forest Gate Station).

HARROGATE SW readers: Will any Socialist Worker readers interested in meeting others in the Harrogate area, please write to Colin Vince, Socialist Worker, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

HACKNEY SCHOOLS SW public meetings: Monday 17 May, 8pm, No-Cover, Teachers Charter, the Right to Work, Monday 24 May, 8pm, What attitudes should teachers take over expulsions and suspensions of pupils? Should we ever expel pupils? Talbot Pub, Englefield Road, N1.

SOUTHEND: An SW group is being formed. SW supporters who live in the area—or who know other supporters who do—are urged to contact: Geoff Ellen, immediately at Socialist Worker (01-739 9043).

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

SW LONDON pre-conference aggregate: Tuesday 18 May, 7pm, Lower Hall, Lambeth Town Hall, Brixton Hill, SW2.

Notices for What's On should be posted to reach Socialist Worker by first post on the Monday before publication. Adverts will NOT be accepted by phone. Send to: What's On, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS.

CRISIS IN ITALY: Speakers available from IS Italy Group. Write to IS Italy Group, c/o International Department, 8 Cottons Gardens, E2.

OUTER EAST LONDON Pre-Conference Aggregate: Monday 17 May, 7pm, Venue from branch secretaries. Election of delegates and final resolutions.

JOINT CENTRAL & W MANCHESTER District Aggregate: Sunday 16 May, 10.30am, TU Books, 260 Deansgate. Pre-conference discussion, local perspectives. Two sessions with break for lunch.

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE: Own room in a flat in West Kensington (34 a month). Contact Balwinder 01-385 4363.

NOISS Summer Training Schools: At regional centres around the country. Sessions on the crisis, the trade union movement and several others. All comrades who will be students next year should attend. Watch this column for details of the nearest school and how to register.

NOISS Weekend Schools: 5-7 June, Imperialism and the Third World. In London. Details to be announced 17. 18 July, Revolutions of the 20th Century in London. Details to be announced. Further schools on Marxist economics and women's oppression planned for the autumn.

LUTTE OUVRIERE FETE 5 to 7 June: Wine, good food, and politics in a woody glass just north of Paris. Thousands of French workers go to this political fete. There are stalls run by most of the major revolutionary groups in Europe. IS is having a stall and sending a delegation. If you are interested in coming, contact Sybil Cook, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN.

You don't need to speak French to enjoy yourself but fluent French speakers are especially encouraged to come.

THE WORKER: The May issue of The Worker, paper of the Socialist Workers Movement of Ireland, out now. Articles on wage restraint and the rank and file fightback, Ireland and the 1926 General Strike, and the Better Life Campaign. Please send all money for previous issues and orders for this one to The Worker, c/o 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN.

FLAME West Indies Group wants to hear from you if you are from or have knowledge of the West Indies. Please write to: Flame, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

CRISIS IN ZIMBABWE, 2nd Edition. Because of popular demand, this pamphlet has been reprinted and updated. Produced by SW Africa Group. 5p. Available from Bookmarks, 265 Seven Stars Road, London N4.

BRITISH RAIL FRACTION: National meeting for all IS members and SW supporters in ASLEP, NUR or TSSA, Saturday 5 June, 260 Deansgate, Manchester. More details later—but start booking your tickets now.

FRENCH DAY SCHOOL for IS members: Saturday 15 May, 11am, Birmingham IS Books, 224 Deritend High Street, Digbeth, Birmingham 12 (opposite coach station). Suggested for comrades who already have some special knowledge of France. Further details from: Marnie Stewart, 42 Middleton Road, London, E8 (Phone 01-249 3668).

CENTRAL LONDON District Aggregate: Sunday 16 May, 1-5pm, London Co-op Education Department, 129 Seven Sisters Road, London N4 (Near Finsbury Park Tube).

UPW FRACTION AGGREGATE Sunday 16 May, 11am-3pm, Cottons Gardens, London, E2. All areas must be represented. If you are coming a long way, we will try to work a pooled fare. But please travel by the cheapest possible means.

WANTED: House of 3 rooms unfurnished flat to rent in Hull, starting June, July, August. Please contact Paul and Anne, 24 Lancashire Road, Bishopston, Bristol.

ONLY A FEW ISSUES of Labour Worker needed to complete Socialist Worker's bound volume! Is there a socialist horder who can spare issues 51, 39, vols 2 nos 1 and 2, and any of vol 1? Please send to: Pete Marsden, SW editorial, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS.

APPEAL FOR WITNESSES: On 7 September 1974 I took part in the anti-National Front demonstration in London. Before reaching Lincoln's Inn Field, I was grabbed by two policemen and thrown to the ground. This attack resulted in a broken wrist and I was taken to hospital. If anyone saw the incident could you please contact: Polie Smith, 20 Maitland Way, Ipswich.

TWO ITALIAN COMRADES and small child want one room and use of kitchen and bath in London 10 July-3 September. Cheapest possible and within travelling distance of NW3. Phone Amanda Leon 767 0796.

CHESHIRE AND SHROPSHIRE pre-conference aggregate: Friday 14 May, 7.30pm, The Angel Pub, Victoria St, Crewe Town Centre.

CAMPAIGN WITH THE SOCIALIST WORKER

CAMPAIGN WITH THE SOCIALIST WORKER



SOCIALIST WORKER is a revolutionary paper that seeks to organise its supporters around the following principles:

INDEPENDENT WORKING-CLASS ACTION:

The workers create all the wealth under capitalism. A new society can only be constructed when they collectively seize control of that wealth and plan its production and distribution.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

The present system cannot be patched up, or reformed, as the established Labour and trade union leaders say. It has to be overthrown.

THERE IS NO PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

The structures of the present parliament, army, police and judiciary cannot be taken over and used by the working class. They grew up under capitalism and are designed to protect the ruling classes against the workers.

The working class needs an entirely different kind of state—a workers' state based

upon councils of workers' delegates and a workers' militia.

At most, parliamentary activity can be used to make propaganda against the present system. Only the mass action of the workers themselves can destroy the system.

INTERNATIONALISM

The struggle for socialism is part of a world-wide struggle. We campaign for solidarity with workers

in other countries.

We oppose everything which turns workers from one country against those from other countries. We oppose racialism and imperialism. We oppose all immigration controls.

We support the right of black people and other oppressed groups to organise their own defence. We support all genuine national liberation movements.

We are for real, social, economic and

political equality of women.

The experience of Russia demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation in one country.

Russia, China and Eastern Europe are not socialist, but state capitalist.

We support the struggles of workers in these countries against the bureaucratic ruling class.

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

To achieve socialism, the most militant sections of the working class have to be organised into a revolutionary socialist party.

Such a party can only be built by activity in the mass organisations of the working class.

We have to prove in practice to other workers that reformist leaders and reformist ideas are opposed to their own interests.

We have to build a rank and file movement within the unions.

We urge all those who agree with our policies to join with us in the struggle to build the revolutionary party.

If you want to know more about Socialist Worker and the International Socialists, fill in the form on page 15.

**TAKE
IT AS
RED**

Sam the Man meets Sam the Man...



How will the BBC get out of this one?

TIME I WROTE something about the telly. I thought, sitting down in front of it the other evening.

Switched it on and suddenly smoke poured out the back—another victory for planned obsolescence.

All of which was very frustrating because at the time the Archbishop of Canterbury was on, talking about 'the cheapening of sex'. Someone remarked that this was the best bit of news since a horse sat on Princess Anne.

After all, when something which has, as they say, given untold pleasure to millions is

actually getting cheaper in a time of roaring inflation, then you'd have thought the padre would have been out ringing his bells.

But apparently not. He was against it. Can't have people getting their fun for nothing, I suppose, or else they won't show up for work any more.

So after the telly had burnt out I was reduced to reading about it rather than watching it.

Which is when I came across a report by researchers on the Media Project at Glasgow University.

They accused the BBC and ITV of bias in reporting

a speech made by Harold Wilson last year in which he blamed striking workers and management incompetence for British Leyland's troubles.

Criticism of management quickly disappeared from news coverage of the speech so that all British Leyland's troubles were laid at the feet of workers.

Major

This, of course, is nothing new. It's a well known fact—you only have to listen to the news—that all troubles in this country are the fault of workers. Either them or foreigners.

The thing here is that the next major trouble this country faces could well be caused by the present drought.

Already it's being suggested that if it doesn't rain buckets in the next month we shall all be back on a three-day week as factories' water supply starts being rationed.

The problem for the BBC and ITV in covering this story will be immense. You can hardly blame a drought on workers or foreigners.

Droughts are, after all, the result of what they call an act of God, and God is neither working class nor a foreigner but is, rather, a British gentleman.

If you doubt this you need only refer to the National Anthem. The first verse emphasises the essential Britishness of God as a chap who can be relied on when ordered to ensure the Queen's victory against foreigners.

Role

The second verse establishes God as gentleman who can be summoned to frustrate the politics and the knavish tricks of the lower orders when they start making a nuisance of themselves.

So there you have the problem. God is a British gentleman, a sort of enormous St. John Stevas in the sky.

But God is also causing trouble with the present drought.

Yet it's a well known fact of life that God, British gentlemen and the management of British Leyland don't cause trouble.

Their role in life is to settle the trouble caused by all you idle layabouts out there.

Reporting this drought, in short, is going to be tricky. Suggestions, please, to Broadcasting House.

**PAUL
O'FLINN**

DENNIS SKINNER MP was in a hot seat last Tuesday evening. His face turned bright red on more than one occasion while he watched the play, Samuel Keir Hardie Muggins MP, by CAST. It's about the career of a Labour MP who keeps trying to put socialist policies—without much success.

After the play, there was a discussion led off by Skinner. He said: 'For me, watching that play, places me in a predicament.

'In many ways I'm like Sam Muggins. I can see at times—apart from the speeches—consistent with me. In particular, the difficulties he faces at the end.

'I'm concerned with the message. There is Sam—50 years old—trotting to Parliament with all sorts of other Labour MPs who he doesn't agree with.

'There have been some occasions when the working class decided they're going to tell Parliament what to do.

'For example, freeing the Pentonville 5. No Parliament can claim credit for that.

Fight

'The rank and file said there must be some system, some device had to be found to get those dockers out.

'The tragedy is that they don't push me often enough or hard enough. They start a fight, and then they seem to come back from the brink.

'The Labour Party sits on in all the time. Take Clay Cross.

'We still are tending to try to use the Labour Party machine in Parliament to prop up the capitalist system—in order to demolish it at some future time.

'I've got to go soon to vote for the Tied Cottage Bill. It's not as good as it should be. That's what Sam would say.'

Contact CAST at 11c Cabbell Street, London NW1. Telephone 01-402 6087. (Between 5-8pm) Fee negotiable.

*IF I say the words
General Strike again, will
you scream?*

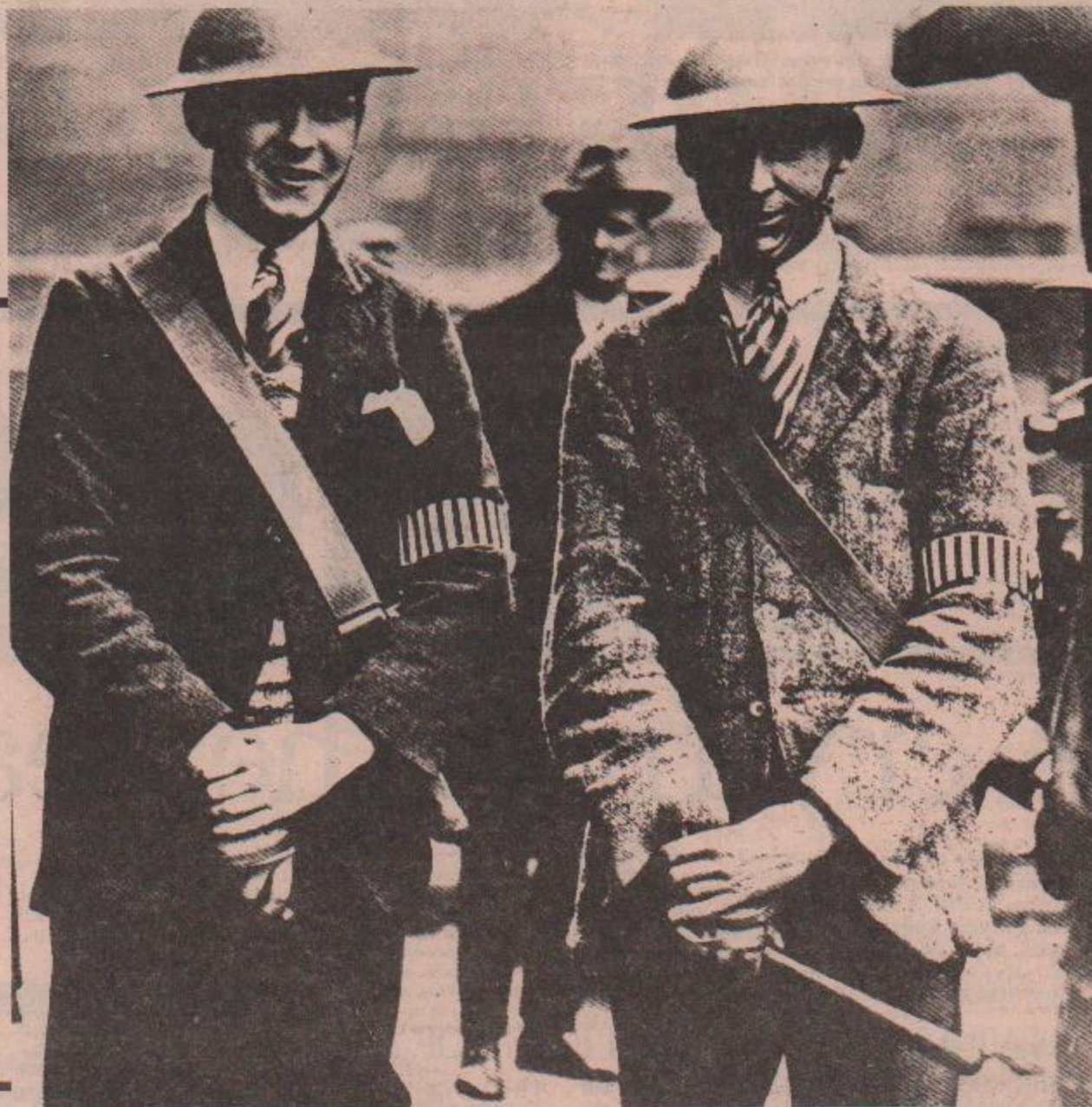
*Maybe the coverage of the
General Strike's 50th anniversary
has deluged us with articles,
plays, TV programmes—but please
find room for one more.
After all, a play that includes
the line 'Jimmy Thomas—
whoever he is' can't be
anything but good.*

*The line—immortalising
the railmen's leader who
spent the total nine days of
the strike trying to sell it—is
in the Half Moon Theatre's
play OUT FOR NINE,
which received its first
performance at the Socialist
Worker London May Day
Rally and is on at the Half
Moon Theatre itself for the
next four weeks.**

*It shows the strike as the
workers saw it—from the
story of the 'Stepney Council
of Action'. To hell with the
Jimmy Thomases of this
world, they say.*

*It's a great play. Very
funny. Very political.*

* Half Moon Theatre, 27
Alie Street, London E1,
Tuesdays to Saturdays
until 5 June, 7.30pm.



International Socialism

88

Notes of the month on the budget, Italy and China
Steve Jefferys on
the decline of the narrow left in the EETPU
Ian Birchall and Paul Harrison
on the prospects for Spain
Mike Haynes on the crisis in the USSR
John Bowman on Argentina:
The end of the Peronist road
Glenn Wolfe on the USA
and Duncan Hallas on
the Communist Party and the General Strike
All in this month's 40 page Journal,
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SATURDAY

A new season of BBC1 repeats of old—and very old—films, WAYNE IN ACTION. All the John Wayne movies you missed last Christmas. Begins with THE SEARCHERS, one of the most unpleasant Westerns John Wayne made, about a five-year search through America for a girl kidnapped by the Indians. (7pm BBC1).

Watch out for the all time worst Wayne film, THE GREEN BERETS, about how Big John won the war in Vietnam.

SUNDAY

John Wayne has at least made some good films. This is far more than can be said for the star of the BBC1 Sunday afternoon season, SHIRLEY TEMPLE. The first of these truly dreadful films, says is the BBC publicity hand-out, about how 'she plays a talented child chosen as singing star for the "Crackly Grain Flakes" radio programme.'

THURSDAY

At 8pm BBC1 has 'a repeat of the most recent series' of PORRIDGE, the funny comedy about life in a prison that has certainly never existed. At 8.30pm, again BBC1, is 'a second chance to see' yet more repeats of MONTY PYTHON'S FLYING CIRCUS.

One law for the poor, no law for the rich...

SPEAKING on Law and Order at the SW Skegness Rally, Laurie Flynn made a powerful plea for socialists to make propaganda against the system by slightly altering the old saying 'One law for the poor and one law for the rich' and using the slogan 'one law for the poor, and NO law for the rich'.

A report out this week is a fine example of what he was talking about and gives us some ammunition.

The report, from the Low Pay Unit, shows that the wages of workers in industries covered by wages councils is worsening.

Records

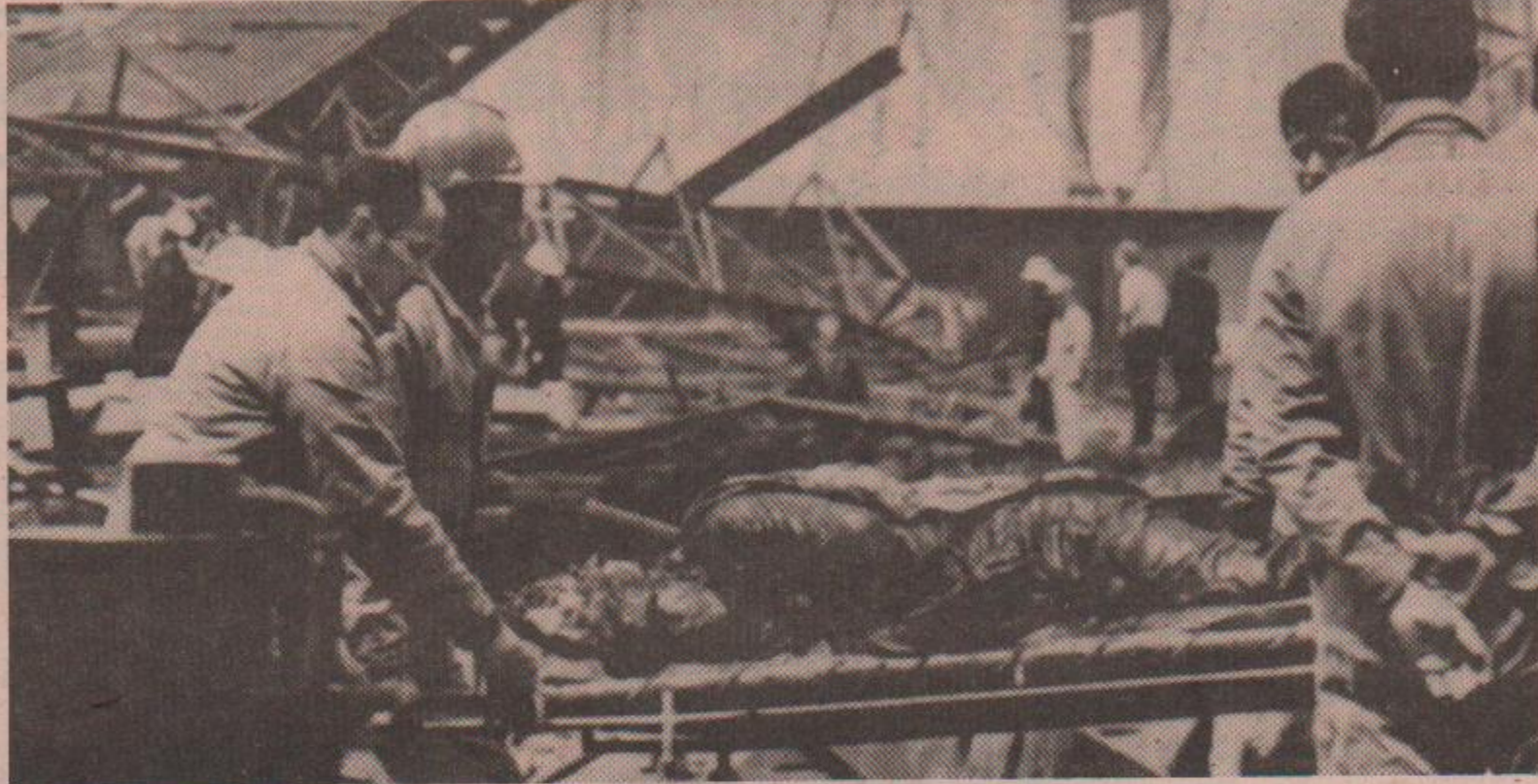
Three million workers are affected, and the Department of Employment's wages inspectorate is too small to police the firms and enforce the payment of statutory minimum rates.

It is a requirement of the 1959 Wages Council Act that inadequate records, there have are kept.

The Low Pay Unit reports that although one in eight of all firms kept no records or inadequate records there have been NO prosecutions under the Act in the last ten years. (If there had, the maximum fine is only £100!)

Wages councils cover large areas of the clothing, catering and food retailing industries where massive profits are regularly made.

□ Simon Maddison, Hitchin.



NO LAW FOR THE RICH: One of the 40 victims of the Yarra Bridge collapse in Melbourne, Australia five years ago. Freeman Fox, the British designers, had earlier had a similar but smaller 'accident' in South Wales hushed up. They were not prosecuted...

I'M GLAD to see SW has been campaigning around the asbestos issue. But we've got to realise that asbestos isn't the only hazard to look out for.

A firm called Wheeler and Pearsal were recently taken to

court in the Midlands because one of their workers lay dead and seven others had serious kidney diseases.

The workers had been working in concentrations of arsine gas which were over 80

times the legal limit.

The management (who denied any responsibility) never warned them of any hazards nor did the factory inspector in six visits. The company was fined a grand

total of 200.

The workers had felt a bit sick, but didn't think anything of it. Had they refused to work until they found out more about the stuff they were working with there wouldn't have been any deaths or

ruined lives.

The message is clear. Workers cannot rely on management, experts, factory inspectors or courts to get safe conditions at work. Only workers themselves can do it. □ Des Ennis, Birmingham.

POSTAL POINTS

AS THE SOVIET Union interprets Communism to suit the state, but not the people, so SW interprets socialism as a means to attack establishments everywhere.

As a true Christian socialist, I consider SW a threat against real socialism. In fact, I am inclined to think that if the British Isles were a socialist state, you would find a means of attacking that.

The aim of every socialist should be world-wide socialism and the unity of the people, not, as SW thinks, world-wide chaos and the dividing of the people.

□ Brother McKill, (no address given)

IS SW deteriorating into a hate sheet? The last but one paragraph of the article Why Smith is Gritting His Teeth (24 April) alluded to long lines of white refugees waiting for the last flight from Salisbury.

In a different context it could have been written by Martin Webster.

The struggle for national liberation in Zimbabwe is also a struggle against imperialism and racism, the cause of which is not served by populist venom. □ M S Greenwood, Halifax.

PERHAPS Kathleen Duffy (Letters, 1 May) would like to fight 'untiringly' and anxiously for the human rights of adult women.

Even if we accept that an unborn child is ever a human being, we must judge at what point in its existence it becomes such. A 'few weeks', as K. Duffy suggests, is too vague.

A definite period, as laid down by doctors, is 24 weeks. After that, abortion is not usually possible.

To suggest, however, that a foetus under 24 weeks is any more than a parasitic cell structure is ridiculous. And to suggest that it should have more right to an independent life than the girl or woman who unwillingly bears it is both absurd and cruel.

□ P. Stainsby-Tron, Darlington.

THERE WERE three things in the 17 April SW which irritated me. First, I can't see how it is socialist to be in favour of abortion, when most of the reasons for the 'need' for abortion stem from capitalism.

Second, the spread on Ireland does a disservice to socialism by identifying it with extreme Irish nationalists.

Lastly, the Right to Work marchers beaten up by the police should have been warned beforehand. They should have worn crash helmets and shock-absorbing clothing.

□ W R Coulson, Newcastle upon Tyne.

MANY thanks for the article on the sterling crisis (17 April). We have been hearing for so long now how the British worker is not prepared to work as hard as his European contemporary. More such articles will eventually persuade workers that the present crisis is not their fault, as so many are still being led to believe. □ J Hall, Herts.

I WAS SHOCKED that there was nothing in last week's Socialist Worker about the '£600 Asians.'

When the whole media and press had gone berserk about the incident, and had done untold damage to race relations and the work done by socialists in this country, SW kept quiet and did not give us any ammunition to counter their filthy, racist propaganda.

I think it is utterly unforgivable. SW cannot afford to make too many mistakes like that.

□ Balwinder Singh, London.

□ Apologies—but the story broke too late for us. We've tried to rectify matters on page two this week. Better late than never—Editor.

Letters

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

There is a remedy

E DE GUELLE writes (letters, last week) of someone being denied Social Security rights. This is something which happens to hundreds of people every day. But there is a remedy.

Appeal to the Ombudsman (this has to be done through your MP). I did this, and got my money soon after he had begun his investigation; and later my complaints were vindicated.

If more people did this, and officials realised that people were likely to seek redress when denied their rights, then they would be less willing to attempt to deny those rights.

□ P S Burton, Manchester.

A cry from the heart

'HOW CAN we ban overtime, when the flat rate can be as low as £18 to £20? You have to work overtime to take home a living wage'.

A cry from the heart of

Tameside's Trades Union Council's recent Right to Work and Fight the Cuts meeting in Ashton.

There's the rub for many a hundred working in the little sweat shops of Lancashire.

Rotten conditions, rotten

wages, and unorganised shop floors, now aggravated by the boss out for a quick buck waving the thousands on the dole in their faces.

Six pounds wage increases are unheard of in these quarters. What price four per

cent of £18? A better bet would be four pounds of potatoes!

As the man said, 'Some of those in work are not much better off than those on the dole'.

Unemployment in Tameside has meant the bosses starting to wield the big stick again. Foremen in WCB Containers Ltd are telling the shopfloor, 'Speed up or you'll find your job being done by someone off the dole'.

Short-listed applicants are finding that the rate for the job first quoted has dropped £5 for the six left on the short list. Threats of redundancies are waved at the least stirring from the shopfloor.

More and more, the trade unionists in Tameside are looking to the Trades Council as some form of shop-floor link-up both between the white collar workers and the blue collar and also between those in work and those on the dole.

Surprisingly though, the biggest union in the area, the TGWU, is still missing from this link-up. Something that

will have to be remedied in coming weeks.

After years of never having it so good, our machinery is looking a bit rusty, and we are still talking generalities, only groping toward actual ways of fighting back.

One gets the feeling that the Confed Assembly's call for a Day of Action on 26 May is going to find a weak response here in Tameside.

The only speaker out of the six on the platform, many of whom attended the Assembly, to mention 26 May was John Deason of the Right to Work Campaign.

Militants, faced with the need to resist any isolation from the shopfloor, are tending to avoid raising issues that they would have to fight for.

Yet these issues could very well bring about a strengthening of the shopfloor, and cause second thoughts in a lot of director's offices.

All out on 26 May. Fight for the Right to Work! □ Dave Hallsworth, Tameside.

WHAT ARE YOU FRIGHTENED OF ?

ALTHOUGH SW is probably the best paper on the left regarding the class struggle in general, it's certainly the worst in its comments on gays—or should I say lack of comments? Why the hell are you frightened of reporting gay events?

□ SW Reader.

THE CAMPAIGN for Homosexual Equality applied to Scarborough Council for permission to hold their annual conference there next Easter.

The worthy councillors decided to sacrifice the profit they would get in favour of safeguarding the town's 'morals'.

As a letter in the local paper commented 'When I think of the many manly youngsters I have seen turned into mincing perverts by these homosexuals

Vital

Gays are discriminated against in this society because they challenge conventional sexual norms, and so challenge the concept of the family as a unit for reproduction, a concept that is vital for Capitalism.

Since this is NUS Gay Rights Week, and as NUS are holding their next conference there, can I suggest that NOISS members put motions to their union meetings to demand that NUS cancel their bookings, to show our disgust at the bigoted attitude of these councillors.

□ David Lewis, East London Faggots.

Lecture series

EDINBURGH: Every second Thursday, 7.30pm, Trade Union Centre, Picardy Place.

20 May: The revolutionary socialist alternative. Speaker: Peter Bain.
3 June: What is the revolutionary socialist party? Speaker: Mick Napier.

GLASGOW: Every second Thursday, 7.30pm-9pm, in Paisley Town Hall.

20 May: Modern Capitalism. Speaker: Dave Sherry.
3 June: Nationalism and Socialism.
17 June: The State—is there a parliamentary road to socialism? Speaker: Jim Henderson.

EAST LONDON: Every second Friday, 7.30pm, Centerprise, 136 Kingsland High Street, London E8.

21 May: The revolutionary socialist alternative. Speaker: Colin Sparks.
4 June: What is Imperialism? Speaker: Nigel Harris.
18 June: Building the revolutionary party. Speaker: Tony Cliff.

WEST LONDON: Every second Tuesday at 8pm, Kings Head, Acton High Street, W3.

18 May: The Labour Party. Speaker: Duncan Hallas.
1 June: Building the revolutionary socialist party. Speaker: Tony Cliff.

THE MEANING OF MARXISM



Duncan Hallas

This pamphlet is intended as an introduction to some of the leading ideas of Marxism

25p plus 7p postage from IS Books, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4

Why your car is going rusty



I WORK AT Borg Warner in Letchworth, one of the biggest plastic moulding operations in the business.

When I first went there I was shown a training film about plastics. One of the main things in it was Borg Warner's patent plastic car body.

The Borg Warner man who introduced the film

gave this piece of technology the highest possible praise. It wouldn't rust and decay, he said. It wouldn't cause half as much damage in a collision.

Having extolled its virtues, however, the commentator then added in the most matter of fact voice: 'Of course, we can't sell it. The

car companies just won't take it up.'

I've never forgotten that statement, for it seems to me that it summarises all that's wrong with capitalism, with production for profit and not for need.

The car companies won't take it up, indeed. They won't take it up because the

last thing they want to build is a product that will really last.

They much prefer to produce metallic bodies that rust and decay rapidly. They've even got a name for it—built-in obsolescence.

As a result, those readers of SW who have cars, and all their mates who own cars, will be trying desperately to deal with the rust problems caused by the winter that's

just now gone. This rust is not only caused by design, but by applying only very thin coats of paint.

Yet, just think of it: there's no need for this at all. There's no need for metal car bodies, as the company I work for has shown in practice.

But the capitalists will not allow this new method to be used. Far from supplying what people demand—as capitalists claim it does—capitalists command what it is that will be made available.

I came across another example of this disgraceful waste of resources recently on my Socialist Worker round.

Scraped

I sell a paper to a man who's a dental technician. We got talking about false teeth. Even they are ruined by the capitalist system.

This bloke told me that National Health false teeth were deliberately made not to last.

He scraped one pair and dust came off. He scraped another pair, made of porcelain, and it didn't even mark it.

To compete, companies must continually expand. Only by the mass production of shoddy goods, can they stimulate the kind of growth they need.

What would you put in its place? Simple. Production for need, quality goods designed and made to last with a shorter working week for everyone thanks to the production time saved.

THE BRITISH Institute of Management held a conference at the Hilton Hotel in London last Tuesday entitled: 'Pay and incentives after the £5 limit'. Speakers included Bill Sims, steelworkers union general secretary, and John Lyons of the Electrical and Power Engineers. It cost £48.60 for non-members of the BIM.

CPSA rank and filers voted onto Executive

BRITAIN'S biggest civil service workers' union, the CPSA, ended its annual conference last week by voting unanimously against incomes policy.

The debate took place the day after the TUC General Council sewed up its deal with Healey.

Ken Burtman, from the CPSA's Treasury Solicitors branch, got the biggest applause of the debate when he said:

'Len Murray and Jack Jones are always asking for loyalty to the Labour government. I believe it is high time the Labour government showed some loyalty to the working class.'

But the new right-wing General Secretary, Ken Thomas, was quick to try and play down the significance of the vote.

Defeat

So Thomas rushed to tell the press that this was only 'the activists rejecting the deal', and that it was a 'natural law of CPSA Conferences to oppose incomes policy.'

He said that the special meetings being called of the entire membership over the next few weeks might well take a different view.

The defeat of the right-winger Kay Losinska as President on the first day of Conference did not, however, set the tone for all the other elections that took place through the week.

In the elections for the union's 28-strong National Executive Committee, Losinska topped the poll with two other prominent right-wingers as runners up.

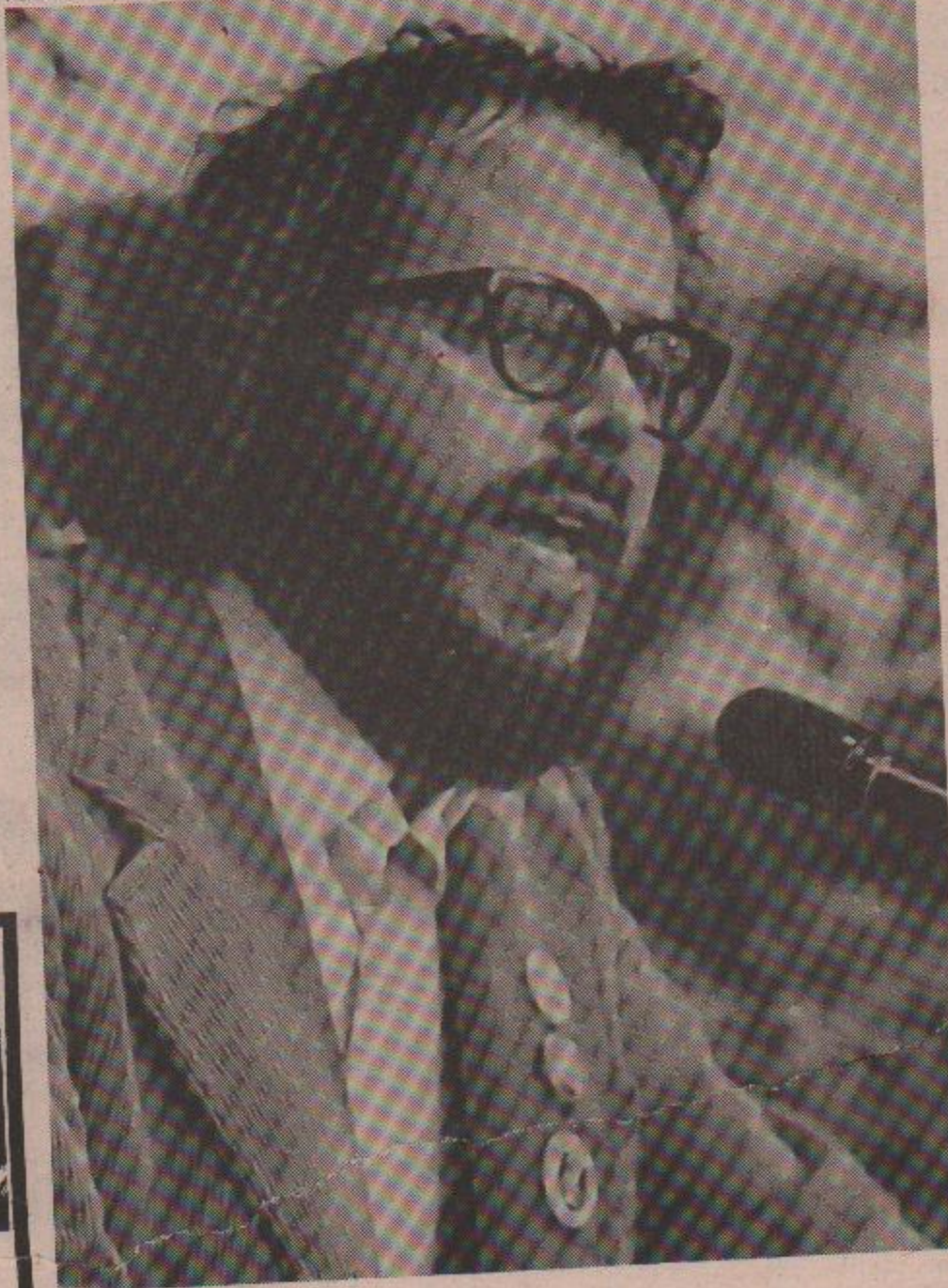
And the right-wing increased their support on the NEC from nine to 13 members.

But two of the five rank and file Redder Tape candidates for NEC were also elected for the first time.

Mike McGrath, who had



Picture: John Sturrock (Report)



Mike McGrath: 70,000 votes

OUR CANDIDATE, THE BOSS...

WHAT SORT of people should trade unions sponsor as Parliamentary candidates?

The answer, as far as the building workers' union UCATT is concerned, appears to be: 'People who've used the union to advance their careers as managers'.

Last summer an appointed 'selection committee' announced the names of nine UCATT members for the Parliamentary panel.

The first six of these who are adopted by a constituency will get support and funds from UCATT when they fight the

election.

Top of the list of likely lads for union sponsorship is Don Speakman.

Speakman is a Labour councillor for Princes Ward in the Vauxhall constituency and is Chief Labour Whip on the Lambeth Council.

FAT

He is gazing hungrily at the vacancy in Vauxhall, where the doddering George Strauss (one of the richest men in Parliament) is about to retire and hand over a fat Labour majority.

What are Speakman's

qualifications to represent building workers in Parliament? He used to be the research officer for the Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers.

When the AUBTW was merged into UCATT, Speakman became the new union's assistant research officer.

Not long afterwards, he became 'industrial relations officer' for the building firm Robertson, which has been making great headway in South London in recent months.

Speakman is also a director of a firm called Wheatsheaf

Building, which was set up two years ago to 'promote co-operative partnerships in building'. It doesn't seem to have done much trading yet.

CARR

Strangely enough, one of Speakman's possible rivals for the Vauxhall seat is Councillor Ewan Carr, a former Mayor of Lambeth, Greater London Council member for Vauxhall, and a member of UCATT.

Carr is a shareholder in P&O, Slater Walker, Marks and Spencers, Bowaters and Grand Metropolitan Hotels.

He too, is an 'industrial relations officer'—for Cubitt, one of the toughest firms in the business.

Speakman had better watch out, for other members of the union's Parliamentary panel who will be looking for adopters.

G Wollven, for instance, was the union's Southern Regional secretary when he was awarded the MBE.

But he, too, soon went higher things, and became 'industrial relations officer' for Bovis.

LOVE

One of the few prospective UCATT MPs who is not an industrial relations officer is Clive Wilkinson, the Labour leader on Birmingham Council. Clive is an employed carpenter.

He is a strong supporter of the government's cuts in authority spending, which has implemented with relief in Birmingham.

He is also well known for stirring defence of Bentley entry into the Common Market—and for passionate love for National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham.

Last year, in fact, called in public for the 'ling of brothers, to a tourists to the centre'.



ASBESTOS Rank and file blacking grows -and official warnings were suppressed

11 DEAD: REPORT SLAMS STEEL BOSSES

ACTION is being taken against asbestos by trade unionists all over the country. Wherever there is asbestos, its invisible fibres in the air can cause crippling lung diseases and ultimately deadly cancer.

And the crucial Scottish oil rig construction industry has joined the struggle.

At McDermott's, the US-owned offshore oil rig construction site at **ARDERSIER**,



convenor about the hazards of the industry. As a result Rank and File are now investigating a new zinc flux welding method for the stewards committee.

At British Aluminium's A Smelter in **INVERGORDON** the night shift in one department walked out on support of two men being victimised for refusing to strip asbestos from the furnaces. Asbestos is widely used in the smelter complex.

A report on a sample of lagging at the Brown-Root and Wimpey oil rig construction site at **NIGG**, Ross-shire, shows it to be 100 per cent white asbestos. The report, done by the Rank and File Organising Committee at the request of workers on the site, is in the hands of the stewards' committee.

Workers on the site are waiting for the stewards' decision to black the asbestos.

In **YORK**, cleaners working in the almost completed District General Hospital refused when told to clear up asbestos dust. It had been left by building workers who had been cutting up asbestos panels.

The cleaners were then given paper masks to wear, the same as medical staff wear in the operating theatre. The masks are designed to prevent people breathing germs out on to a patient—they don't stop anything that might be breathed in.

Workers at the Belvedere Power Station in **KENT** have been victimised by their employers, Darlington Insulation, after asking for more protective clothing when stripping blue asbestos lagging. Now all London ladders employed by Darlington have come out on strike in solidarity.

In **DUNDEE**, ladders and other trade unionists have formed an Asbestos Action Committee. Its first bulletin out last week, disclosed that 15 ladders in the small Dundee IGWU branch alone have died from asbestosis in recent years.

Health hazards in the Dens Market and the Dundee Royal Infirmary are documented and a public meeting on 'How to fight asbestos' has been arranged.

Profits

Further evidence that rank and file action is the only way to fight came again this week in a House of Lords debate. This disclosed that government reports recommending health warnings on asbestos products for domestic use had been suppressed for eight years out of concern for the asbestos industry's profits.

The Labour government is still doing everything it can to increase these and other murderers' rate of return. So you can expect little of them without a lot of pressure.

Asbestos is everywhere. In **BRISTOL** last week it was discovered in a derelict factory next to the St Mary Redcliffe and Temple School. It was later claimed that it was 'well below' the safety level. But there is no known safety level.

Asbestos was also found at a tip in Longfield, near Dartford, in **KENT**. People living nearby have been complaining for months about the 'white snowflakes' that come into their gardens and houses.

Risk

At **RAINHAM** in Kent industrial tip bulldozer driver John Mitchell has courageously spoken out at the disgraceful way the dust is spilled into the air where he works on the Lenesta site. The more ordinary working people who risk their necks by speaking out and organising the fewer people will die in future.

URGENT MEETING: All supporters of the Rank and File Organising Committee including technicians and scientists, interested in working with a formal health and safety committee, please attend this meeting, Saturday 15 May, 1.30pm, Rank and File Centre, above Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London, N4—(two minutes walk from Finsbury Park tube).

THE official report into the deaths of 11 steelworkers in an explosion at the Appleby-Frodingham works, Scunthorpe, last November, slates the British Steel Corporation.

The report verifies everything said by Socialist Worker at the time of the explosion, when we accused BSC of cutting safety corners to keep costs down.

Says the report, which is out this week: 'There was no planning for what were clearly foreseeable risks.'

Cheap steel plugs were used in the water cooling system, instead of the brass plugs which were specified. One of the steel plugs corroded so badly that it was blown out by pressure of the water.

The water flooded down into a ladle of molten metal, causing an explosion that threw out 90 tons of molten metal, killing four men instantly, seven more after agonising days of pain.

BSC may be prosecuted under the Health and Safety Act. Doubtless this will lead to a fine of £100 to £200.

In a recent case, a North Shropshire firm which killed one of its workers and caused severe kidney disorders to seven others was fined £200.

Man killed on rig site

NIGG, Ross-shire: An erector was killed at the oil rig construction site on Monday. Robbie Burns, a 32-year-old member of the Construction Engineering Union from Invergordon and the father of two children, was crushed by a large section of piping in the paint and Blast Shop.

All work on the site stopped for 24 hours as a mark of respect. It was the first fatal accident on the site.

The Paint and Blast Fabricating shops are dangerously overcrowded with rig components and manufacturing equipment. It is impossible to move about safely. There are totally inadequate access gangways, despite repeated complaints by workers to safety officers, safety reps and shop stewards.

How long is this going to be allowed by the joint shop stewards committee?

Notices and meetings

Working Women's Charter Campaign (London) Public Meeting on the Sex Discrimination Act and Equal Pay Act and relationship to the Campaign. Speakers: Roas Harrison (experiences of working as a builders labourer in Australia), Mandy Snell (London Co-ordinating Committee WWC), Judy Mallaber (NUPE, a national union supporting the campaign) Thursday 20 May, Roebuck Pub, Tottenham Court Road (nearest tube Warren Street) 7.30pm.

Palestinian Camps in Syria, Lebanon, 14-28 August, cost £90 (includes return air flight). Immediate applications, inquiries to the British Anti-Zionist Organisation, 90 John St, Glasgow C1.

Palestine Exhibition: Public Exhibition on Palestine and its people, 28/29 May, McLellan Galleries, Sauciehall Street, Glasgow. 10 am-7.30 pm, entry free, all welcome. GUPS (Glasgow Unit) & CAABU (Glasgow).

1916 Commemoration Poster. Giant (30" x 40") 3 colour, silk screened poster featuring the Irish Citizen Army is available in limited edition for £11.95 p&p from Bookmarks, or send £1.10 to T.O.M., 1 North End Road, London W14. All proceeds to Finance National Labour Movement Delegation to Ireland on 18 September.

Fascism—The Threat in the North of Ireland public meeting at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1, 7.30 pm, Friday 4 June. Admission 20p.

Northern Ireland: the Orange State. Speaker Michael Farrell, Friday 21 May 7.30 pm, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, WC1. (Tube Holborn)

MEETING against army recruitment Birmingham, Saturday 15 May, 11 am (above IS Bookshop, High St, Digbeth). Speakers from Troops Out Movement, an ex-soldier, Campaign against Army Recruitment, Claimants Union, N.U.S.S.

CAMPAIGN TO REPEAL THE IMMIGRATION ACT: Fund-raising play by General Will of 'Me See It Gonna Blow' with discussion following at Oval House, Monday 17 and Sunday 23 May, 7.30 pm, Westway Luncheon Club. Friday 21 May, 7.30 pm, Brixton Market; Friday 21 May, 3 pm, Stratford theatre, Portobello Road; Saturday 22 May morning, Street theatre, Centreprise 136 to 138 Kingsland High St, E8, Saturday 22 May, 7.30 pm Artists for Democracy, 143 Whitfield St, W1 Wednesday 19 May, 7.30 pm.

Rising Free bookshop and the People's News Service are moving to: 155 Drummond Street, NW1. Phone: 837 0182

14 May Introducing the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party and the class struggle in Ethiopia. With revolutionary folk songs and dances from Chile and Ethiopia, Friday 14 May, 7pm, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1.

Overseas Students Conference, UMIST, 22 May postponed for the immediate future.

DAY SCHOOL ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS: Saturday 22 May, 10.30am-5pm, Nottingham Teachers Centre, Cranmer Street. Speakers include: Jean Cousins, NCCL, Joy Elsom, NUPE, Sylvia Greenwood, TGWU, Judith Hunt, TASS, Mel Read, ASTMS, Una Walton, Tobacco Workers. Hosted by Nottingham NUT Women's Rights Sub-Committee. Creche provided. Registration 75p, 40p unemployed.



A union official addressing the mass meeting at the Ideal Casements factory

Executive keeps the reins on ASTMS—by 4 votes

THE well-oiled ASTMS machine nearly got a spanner in its works on Monday when the union executive won a conference debate on the Health Service cuts by only four votes.

Health workers from Manchester and Oxford claimed that the executive had ignored last year's conference decision, which called for a campaign against the cuts and

to black private patients. They called for the rejection of that section of the executive's report.

The women health workers obviously had the sympathy of the conference, at Eastbourne.

Jack Williams spoke for the executive: 'It isn't true to say that there are cuts in every hospital. In some, they are actually expanding the service.'

'Members from ASTMS spent a whole hour talking

Barbara Castle. It was a very useful meeting. It's a pity delegates don't read the parliamentary committee report.'

Many delegates didn't swallow this. The move to refer back the section was lost by only four votes.

But all in all, the executive prevented the conference from taking any final decisions on any issue which affects them.

On wages, the executive emergency motion 'was critical of the agreement on pay for the coming year'. So woolly that it means nothing.

A motion which put forward definite proposals to fight redundancies, including a 35-hour week, a ban on overtime, and demand for full apprentice intake, was dismissed by general secretary Clive Jenkins as impractical. 'What's this about apprentices?' he sneered. 'Send it to the Boilermakers!'

Controls

The motion was handed over to the executive—where no doubt it will quietly rot.

There were four emergency resolutions opposing the attempt to expel Tony Kelly, one of the activists behind Newham North East Labour Party's rejection of its MP, the right-wing Labour Education Minister Reg Prentice. They were never given time for discussion.

Joachim Almeida of the General Union of Spanish Workers, from Madrid, was allowed the platform and got a standing ovation. This token towards internationalism was soon showed up, as speaker after speaker—starting with Jenkins—told conference the only way to save British industry was to have import controls.

CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED AGAINST RULE 14

by **JAMES ANDERSON**
Executive committee member of Camden Trades Council

FIFTY trade unionists from a dozen trades councils have launched a campaign against the TUC's new Rule 14, which bans trades councils from working with organisations that disagree with official TUC policy.

A meeting last week decided to lobby the Annual Conference of Trades Councils in Swansea on 22 May. A coach from London is being organised.

The main conclusion of the meeting was that the fight against Rule 14 must be linked to the Right to Work Campaign, the fight against the freeze and the cuts, the National Abortion Campaign and the Working Women's Charter. For it is against the organisers of such campaigns that Rule 14 will be used.

The rule must be fought at

local, regional and national levels inside trades unions and trades councils. The more we oppose it, the more difficult it will be for anyone to use the rule in practice.

We need resolutions from union branches and union conferences protesting at Rule 14. Individual trades councils will also have to hold out as far as possible against accepting the rule, though tactics will vary depending on their strength. Some will be strong enough to operate even if disaffiliated by the TUC.

In Camden, the trades council split down the middle over the new rule. Most trades councils with left-wing delegates have now accepted the new rule under protest, as the only way of staying in a position to carry on fighting against it and against the right wing.

There will be a campaign meeting next month. For details of this and the coach to Swansea, contact the campaign committee, 164b Haverstock Hill, London NW3.

READING: 200 WIN BONUS DEAL

READING: The 200 Transport Union members at Ideal Casements voted to return to work last week after winning an agreement from management on bonus rates.

They have also won recognition for the new joint shop stewards committee and negotiations to recognise the wages system. The local TGWU district organiser described the present wages system as 'the most chaotic I have ever seen and designed to play one worker off against another'.

The settlement was won because of the united action of black and white workers throughout the plant. At the mass meeting Brian Revell stressed the need to push for total union membership.

While the strike was still deadlocked, management decided to break through the picket line. Four heavily-laden lorries drove out of the gates at high speed.

Mrs Betty Wagstaff was walking past the factory at the time exercising a blind friend's guide dog. She says she and the dog were lucky not to have been killed.

'I've never seen anything come out of there so fast.'

Mrs Wagstaff went to the police to complain. They had kept a regular presence on the picket line. But they just happened to be absent when the lorries crashed out.

TRIBUNAL GETS £10,000, STUDENT NURSERIES NIL

BRISTOL: University has just spent £10,000 to reprimand 20 students who demanded a university nursery—enough to have provided the nursery for more than a year.

The authorities set up a full tribunal after the students had staged an occupation as part of their campaign. A national student demonstration is to be held in Bristol this Friday (14 May) in support of the 20 students and to demand nursery facilities at all colleges and universities.



Latest issue out now (May-June)

Includes: Bob Wright on Chrysler—and a reply by Linwood shop steward Willie Lee, articles on Leyland, GEC, the aerospace industry, asbestos, victimisations, plus many reports on disputes. 10p a copy, plus 7p postage, from ENGINEERS' CHARTER, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

ESSEX: COUNCIL MEN STRIKE AGAINST CUTS

By John Hardy

MALDON, Essex: All dustcart workers in Maldon and nearby Burnham will be starting a series of one-day stoppages from next Tuesday unless the council convene an emergency meeting to back down on plans to hand over their work to private contractors.

Although the plans are not due to be put into effect until April 1977, the workers know they must act solidly and quickly if their jobs are to be defended.

Dustcart driver Alan Rusby said: 'The men voted unanimously that either these plans are withdrawn immediately or we strike.'

They are confident that if one-day stoppages are not enough they can bring out all the other manual sections of the council.

The announcement of the council plans comes only three weeks after similar, vicious cuts were pushed through by another Essex council, Southend.

Many militants in Southend were aware that theirs was a test case. They knew other local councils were waiting and watching. And Maldon shows they were right.

The Southend workers were not prepared. Plans for an all-out strike evaporated as the council picked off individuals with offers of redundancy payments and re-employment with private contractors.

The result has been sackings, and, for those re-employed, wage cuts of up to 40 per cent, no union organisation, overtime at plain time rates and much heavier workload.

Trust

This makes utter nonsense of the council's hypocritical statement last week to the leaders of the council workers that work would only be handed to private contractors 'provided this could be done without hardship'.

The rest of the statement gives this 'assurance': 'This council has no plans to introduce contractors to carry out work now carried out by its own staff.'

But the statement was unsigned and was not even then on council notepaper.

As one council dustcart steward said: 'We know they're laughing at us. They think we're not serious. We're demanding that they sign this document by 24 May otherwise we'll bring all the manual workers out.'

Of course, we know we can't trust them even if they do sign it. But at least it will provide us with a warning so that we can prepare for action.

'We must link up with the dustmen in Maldon. These council employers are well-organised. They're trying this on bit by bit. We'll have to be equally well organised to stop them.'

Precisely for that reason, a meeting is being called next Tuesday to bring together shop stewards in Southend and Maldon in an attempt to forge the links so urgently needed.

CAMMELL LAIRDS STAGERS SACKED

BIRKENHEAD: Stagers at Cammell Lairds were refused a dirt allowance by foremen on a particularly greasy job. The men involved have now been sacked.

In keeping with procedure, the stewards then approached the manager of the department. He said there were too many dirt allowances and he had made his decision and would not give one.

The men said they were entitled to it as they were covered in grease. The stewards again approached the manager and asked that

Pickets outside the National Hospital in Queens Square, London, in a one day token strike against the victimisation of ASTMS group secretary Lesley Nairn.

After spending 72 hours in hospital because of anxiety, management demanded that she be examined by a private psychiatrist.

ASTMS suggested that an independent psychiatrist, agreed by union and management, be brought in. Management were not prepared to accept this and instead sacked Lesley.

Picture: Laurence Sparham (IFL)



BUXTON JOBS FIGHT

BUXTON: 350 of the 500 workers at the Country Kitchen mushroom growing factory have been told they are to lose their jobs. The rest are getting a 20 per cent wage cut.

One woman who had worked there for more than 30 years has been told she won't even get redundancy pay because she is over pensionable age.

At the first branch meeting of the Agricultural Workers Union for four years, the

branch chairman, who had already accepted the deal on behalf of the members, prevented any discussion.

So workers went from the factory to the Buxton Right to Work Committee. They organised a petition of 12 signatures to call a special meeting of the branch. The chairman ripped up the names and said there would be no more meetings.

Through the Committee, members of the factory got in contact with the Bristol Right

to Work Committee. A of three from the factory and two members of the Buxton committee visited the Churchill factory, outside Bristol the largest in the group employing 900 workers.

Need

They handed out over 600 leaflets and stopped coaches going into the factory to explain their case. Representatives from the shop stewards committee came and met the

delegation. Together they agreed to build a combine committee. The Churchill shop stewards agreed to raise the need for joint action at a union meeting the next day.

The delegation from Buxton then went on to another factory in Market Harborough.

They are determined to return to their factory to get another meeting called and begin the fight back against the redundancies.

Dundee students act over unemployment

By Bob Fotheringham

NUS, Dundee Tech

DUNDEE: Students at the local college of Education are sitting their final exams in the knowledge that there are no jobs available for them when they finish.

Tayside Regional Council has deemed that there will be no places for newly-qualified student teachers in Tayside Schools this year.

The story is the same all over Scotland student teachers qualifying with no job to go to.

At Jordanhill College of Education in Glasgow, only 50 of the 400 students qualifying

have jobs.

Stuart MacIntosh, President of the NUS Scotland, addressing a mass meeting at Dundee College of Education, said: 'We are now in a situation in Scotland where we have the best qualified dole queue in Europe.'

The Dundee students are fighting back. An Action Committee has been set up, and the students voted at the mass meeting on Wednesday night to adopt a motion for, among other things, full support for action taken by other colleges and, if all else failed, the occupation of the college itself.

It was stressed that students were not fighting in isolation. Maureen Shields, a representative of the local nursery nurses who are at the moment fighting 50 sackings and the non-opening of three new nurseries, addressed the meeting.

She emphasised the importance of linking the two struggles, and for the students to attend all Dundee Shop Stewards' meeting on Saturday, where action for 26 May will be discussed.

A spokesman for the local Right to Work Campaign said: 'At the shop stewards meeting on Saturday, Right to Work delegates will be arguing for the necessity of building a delegated body in the city along the lines proposed by the Right to Work Campaign.'

Picture: John Sturrock (Report)



DAGENHAM: On the picket line at Orlake, where 150 women are on strike for union recognition and the reinstatement of three victimised members of their union, the Transport Workers. The women earn 53p an hour. The pickets voted on Tuesday to continue the three week-old strike until the wretched Orlake management have been brought to their knees.

Barnsley strike spread

SEVEN weeks ago, builders N G Bailey on the extension of Barnsley Hospital arbitrarily decided to end travel expenses for FEETPU members.

The sparks took industrial action, including a series of half-day strikes. Management responded by sacking 18 of them. The other 12 came out in sympathy.

In Sheffield electricians have joined the strike in solidarity. They are the Town Hall site, Midland Bank and Hallamshire Hospital.

□ Flying pickets are calling out other sites in the area. The shop stewards committee urges all contracting electricians to come out in sympathy.

Dundee: Three-day working

DUNDEE: Two local jute firms, T C Keays and Low and Bonar, have announced three-day working.

Evidence exists that the parent group controlling T C Keays are deliberately starving the company of inter-group contracts to force the closure of the factory and the sacking of 150 workers.

The Dundee Right to Work Committee walked into the factory, giving out leaflets exposing the management's manoeuvres.

SKELMERSDALE FIGHT BACK

SKELMERSDALE: An unemployment committee has been formed under the auspices of the local Trades Council. The unemployed have already occupied the Job Centre in Skelmersdale.

Socialist Worker

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Send to: National Secretary, International Socialists, 8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN.

Support!

Automat:
Confed
set
to act

SWINTON: As the strike for recognition at Automat enters its 17th week, it seems at last as though some of the enormous potential strength of the Engineering Union is to be brought to bear.

At the weekly mass picket on Thursday, feeling was running high against Wally Mathers, the right-wing district secretary, who many of the pickets felt was stalling on calling a meeting of Confed stewards.

After some discussion, the majority of the picket moved to the AUEW offices where Mathers, predictably, was unavailable.

There were angry exchanges between the picket and AUEW officials. This culminated in all the non-AUEW members being thrown out of the office by Stan Cole, District President, who is incidentally a leading Communist Party member.

Area

Among those thrown out were IGWU stewards from local engineering factories who had come on a delegation to support the mass picket.

However, the pressure seems to have achieved some results. A mass meeting of Confed stewards in the area has been promised to consider making the mass picket daily and to tighten up the blacking, using third party blacking if necessary.

□ Despite the length of the strike, the determination of the strikers to win has increased and morale is high. So please send messages of support and donations to: Tom Smith, Automat convenor, c/o AUEW Offices, The Crescent, Salford, Lancs.

Occupied!

ABERYSTWYTH: 200 students occupied the admin building at the College of Librarianship on Tuesday. Their action followed the refusal of the college authorities to ratify the new constitution of the students' union Llanbadarn.

Newham: Here we go again...

IS THE Labour Party a democratic organisation? Not on your nelly.

The nauseating persecution of the left wingers in the Newham North East Labour Party shows this only too well.

What is it that they want to do? They want to exercise their rights (supposedly guaranteed under the Labour Party constitution) not to re-adopt as Parliamentary candidate the man they have adopted in the past—the dreadful Reginald Prentice.

To succeed in doing this, of course, wouldn't be to achieve very much.

They have let loose on them a hysterical tide of abuse from the press—followed through by organisation from the right-wing barons of the Labour Party.

Abuse

These people will stop at nothing to hang on to their power and promote their allies. They'll certainly fix adoption meetings.

Take leading moderate and pro-Prentice campaigner Denis Healey, for example. According to no less a person than John Rafferty, the former Labour Lord Mayor of Leeds, the selection process whereby Healey got the nomination and he lost was totally rigged.

Was there an inquiry? A press witch-hunt? A Labour Party Organisation Commission instruction that the annual meeting be 'reconvened'? Was there hell.

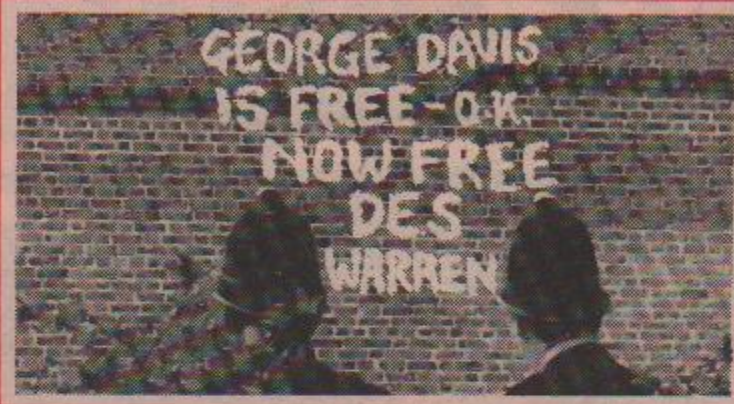
Newham upsets the 'moderates'. It upsets them because what the Labour left wingers are doing is a tiny hint of a different kind of democracy where none of the Prentices or Jenkins would survive for a minute.

Fight

A real living democracy where there was real permanent regular recall, where workers' delegates were paid average wages and were answerable for everything they did.

To get that kind of democracy you need an organisation free of all pro-capitalist elements. You need a new workers' party, a fighting organisation.

Socialist



Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p.

21 MAY: Support the Right to Work Marchers

TRADE UNION delegates from London are in the forefront of the turn out for the 21 May picket in Hendon in support of the arrested Right to Work marchers.

Docks

From EAST LONDON, the delegates include the Royal Group of Docks shop stewards' committee, West Ham Trades Council, Dagenham Trades Council, Hackney NUT, ASLEF Stratford Branch, CPSA Waltham Forest and Newham, Whipps Cross COHSE, CPSA

Hackney and Tower Hamlets Branch, Moorfield Hospital NUPE Branch, Hackney Trades Council, ASTMS North East London Medical Branch.

From NORTH LONDON, delegations include: North London Teachers Association, Islington NALGO, Haringey Trades Council, Enfield and Edmonton Trades Council, North East London TASS, Edmonton AUEW No.1, Palmers Green AUEW, Shelburne School, Stoke Newington AUEW, AUEW Camden No.3, NUT North London.

From WEST LONDON the delegations include: the

British Airways Joint Shop Stewards' Committee at London Airport, London Airport FETPU, Wembley AUEW No.4, Ealing AUEW No.1, Clansons Dispute Committee, Ealing NESS, AUEW No.4 Cricklewood, ASTMS West London Medical Branch, North Hammersmith NUPE Health Branch, Brent East Labour Party, Ealing Tech NUS and Hammersmith Hospital Joint Shop Stewards' Committee, Willesden FETPU, Stonebridge Bus Garage, CAV Simms Shop Stewards' Committee, Barnet Trades Council, NATFHE Burnt Oak, Harlesden Advice Centre, TGWU 1/720 building workers branch, Marylebone Labour Party Young Socialists.

Picket

Other trade union organisations in London supporting the picket include:

ASLEF King's Cross, NUJ Book Branch, NALGO Social Services, Reps Committee, Lambeth, Goldsmiths College Students Union, ACTSS Bookshop Workers branch, TGWU 1/132 Euston, Juniper Street Site shop stewards' committee, Lambeth Trades Council, Bedford College Students Union.

CIS NUJ Chapel, MATSA International Language Teachers, Southwark Trades Council, Westminster Trades Council, CPSA South West London, NUJ Magazine Branch, Croydon Trades Council, Leech's shop stewards committee Mitcham, Battersea and Wandsworth Trades Council, Norwood Labour Party, International telephones Central London No 1 and No 2.

Specially booked coaches are also bringing delegates and unemployed workers from all over the rest of the country.

Support

These include the Rolls Royce shop stewards committee at Patchway, Bristol, C A Parsons Newcastle Joint Office Committee, TASS Newcastle East, ASTMS No.3 Divisional Council, Trades Councils from Gateshead, Newcastle and York, Exciter No.2 NUR branch, UCATT Northampton, AUEW TASS Leeds, NUPE Frenchay Hospital branch, Ruskin College Students Union, AUEW Preston No.9, AUEW Blackburn No.1 and No.2.

THE FREEDOM



Picture: Andrew Ward (Report)

ON THE PICKET LINE at the Telegraph. Among the pickets on Monday and Tuesday were John Izbecki, the Telegraph's education correspondent, who has consistently attacked the 'loony lefties' in the National Union of Teachers; Blake Baker, Industrial correspondent, whose report of last month's NUJ conference was censured by the conference; and Gerard Kemp, (left) who has written many articles attacking 'extremists and subversives' in industry, particularly the International Socialists.

Socialist Worker extends fraternal greetings and congratulations to all trade unionists who manned the Telegraph pickets.

We hope that next time any of them come to write about trade union affairs they will bear in the mind the following:

□ In most strikes, the employers behave like the barbarians of the Daily Telegraph Co Ltd.

□ The only protection against such behaviour is strong trade union organisation—above all, a closed shop.

OF THE PRESS ...

For the Telegraph, it's the freedom to sack

THE DAILY Telegraph, self-styled champions of the freedom of the Press, have locked out 45 working journalists in Manchester.

The journalists had refused to work new rosters which added an extra shift on the week's work with no increase in pay.

130 Telegraph journalists in London have come out on strike in sympathy.

On Monday they voted 117-7 to stay on strike until the Manchester colleagues are reinstated.

Victorian

Ray Clarkin, clerk of the Manchester NUJ chapel, said: 'The management are behaving like Victorian mill-owners. They construed our goodwill and cooperation with voluntary redundancy in the past as a condition of our employment.'

The number of journalists in Manchester has been whittled down in one year from 65 to 45 so as to prepare for even more sackings when the Telegraph goes over to facsimile transmission.

It is a trial-run for

widespread sackings throughout Fleet Street.

If the Telegraph management get away with their lock-out, every newspaper proprietor in the country will

feel stronger in sacking his workers.

That is why the calls from the NUJ for support from other printworkers is so important.

That is why workers at the Press Association, who are being balloted this week, must vote for industrial action in sympathy with the Telegraph journalists.

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DEFEND THE 44! NO MORE SHREWSBURYS!

The 44 workers arrested in the police attack on the Right to Work March will appear in court on Friday 21 May.

The National Right to Work Campaign calls on all trade union and labour movement bodies to send delegations to a picket outside the court on Friday 21 May at 10am.

outside Hendon Magistrates Court, The Hyde, Edgware Road, West Hendon, London NW9.

Send delegations. Make sure you are represented. Bring banners.