

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p

Right to Work Marcher Mike Lynch jailed for 3 months

THE GATES of Pentonville Prison clanged shut behind unemployed miner and Right to Work marcher Mike Lynch on Tuesday night.

It was fitting that his honour Judge Martin should choose to send him there for his three-month sentence.

After all, it was to Pentonville that Martin's friend and colleague, the infamous Sir John Donaldson, consigned five other serious criminals in 1972.

The Pentonville Five dockers went to jail for picketing for the right to work, for opposing the Midland Cold Store swindlers who had spirited their jobs away.

Mike Lynch's 'crime' is different only in form. He marched for the Right to Work from Manchester to London.

And when he got there, he was set upon by Her Majesty's Special Patrol Group.

Her Majesty's Judges finished off the frame-up against him by dismissing his appeal against the preposterous charge of assaulting the police.

Martin and the magistrates who sat with him found that Mike, knocked unconscious by police violence, had nevertheless assaulted a policeman.

Minutes after being jailed, Mike announced from his cell: 'I want everyone to know I'm proud of my involvement with the Right to Work Campaign. The courts are so loaded in favour of the police and the wealthy that the result was never in doubt.'

'I'll be back out soon, fighting for the right to work again. I'd like to thank everyone who came to the court, and Socialist Worker for repeatedly publicising my case.'

Campaign secretary John Deason told SW that a picket would immediately be called of Pentonville, and a big demonstration would be organised for the next round of appeals on 1 February.



Mike Lynch: I'll be back

Support the Right to Work Marchers
**DROP THE CHARGES
FREE MIKE LYNCH**

Tuesday 1 February: March from the appeal courts (where Bobby Burd's case will be heard) to Pentonville Prison. Assemble 10am, Middlesex Crown Court, the Guildhall, Westminster Square. BRING BANNERS



Part of Tuesday's 100-strong picket outside Pentonville

LAW LORDS SCANDAL

Former Blackshirt dictates to union and government

ONE OF the judges who stopped the postal workers from carrying out their boycott of apartheid is a former supporter of Adolf Hitler and Oswald Mosley,

Throughout the 1930s, Frederick Horace Lawton, now Lord Justice Lawton, was a keen supporter of Sir Oswald Mosley's British Union of Fascists.

In 1932, he founded the Cambridge University Fascist Association. In November 1936 he was adopted as Mosley's Fascist candidate for Hammersmith North.

Mosley's paper, Action, which was then leading a ferocious anti-Semitic campaign, described Lawton as 'a fine fighting Fascist candidate.'

Last week, in his judgement on the postal workers' ban on South African mail, Lawton commented:

'For seven days, very great harm indeed will be done to the business world of this country who have business dealings in South Africa.'

In all his judgement, Lord Justice Lawton spared not a word for the enslaved masses in South Africa.

And not surprisingly, for Lord Justice Lawton has



Justice Lawton, the man named by Action, 28 November 1936, as a 'fine fighting fascist candidate'

HAMMERSMITH, N.
F. H. Lawton.
A Barrister-at-Law and twenty-five years of age, Mr. Lawton was educated at Battersea Grammar School and Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and is a Member of the Inner Temple. He has a First Class Historical Tripos and has won sundry legal scholarships. He founded the Cambridge University Fascist Association in 1932, and is joint author, with J. P. Eddy, of 'India's New Constitution.'
Mr. Lawton has already made his mark at the Bar, and will provide North Hammersmith with a fine fighting Fascist candidate.

family shareholdings in Spillers and GEC, companies with massive interests in South Africa.

The two judges who sat with him also have substantial direct or indirect shareholdings in companies which trade with South Africa.

LORD JUSTICE ORMROD has shares in Plessey, Tube Investments, Marks and Spencer, Dunlops, Uniliver, ICI, and Shell Transport and Trading.

LORD DENNING has family shareholdings in a whole range of companies. His wife owns 450 shares in Plesseys, the firm whose arms connections with South Africa were exposed this week by researchers for Counter Information Services.

Lady Denning also holds shares in ICI, BP, Courtaulds, Reed International and Brooke Bond, all of which have substantial South African connections.

No wonder their Lords Justices are so concerned with 'businessmen who have business dealings with South Africa'.

These three wealthy bigots, who have never been elected by anyone, have assumed the right to dictate to elected union executives and even the elected government

Sam Silkin, the Labour government's Attorney General says this is a 'constitutional outrage'.

Tom Jackson, of the Post workers union, says it is a 'pity' that his union can't do what it decided to do.

Before Christmas, he and his executive bowed before a court ruling which forbade his members from blacking mail to Grunwicks in North West London. The workers of this anti-union company have been on strike for union recognition for four months.

If the postmen want to protect their union from the grasping hands of Lord Justice Fine Fighting Fascist and his like, they will have to go ahead with the blacking, in spite of Jackson.

If postal workers blacked Grunwicks tomorrow, the judges' bluff would soon be called.

Anger over nurseries cuts

by JEAN GRAY

ANGRY women and their young children showed Tory-controlled Buckinghamshire County Council that they are not going to give up their nursery schools without a fight.

They demonstrated outside the County Hall in Buckingham to protest at the council's plans to close five nursery schools on Thursday.

'We want to keep our nurseries open,' said one of the mothers. 'If we let these five go, next year it will be more. The buildings are there, the facilities for nursery schools are there. The amount the council would save must be negligible.'

'We need more money spent on education in this county, not less. We want better education for our children, not a worse one.'

In fact, more money is being spent on education in

Buckinghamshire. While the council is cutting back on nurseries, and wanted to cut school meals, they are about to spend £750,000 on expanding three grammar schools.

with the blessing of 'socialist' Education Secretary, Shirley Williams. The women are meeting this week to plan the next stage of their campaign. They will be picketing a meeting of the council's policy and resources committee on Thursday 3 February.



Labour's man hob-nobs with the killers

by EAMONN McCANN

LAST WEEK saw the opening of Taughmonagh social club in Finaeghy, South Belfast. First nighters by all accounts had a splendid time drinking cut-price booze amid the luxury fittings and enjoying a top class cabaret show.

Among swingers who stayed until the wee small hours was Lord Melchett, Roy Mason's trendy 28-year-old deputy at the Northern Ireland Office, who was born with a silver spoon in his mouth and has been making a big stir ever since.

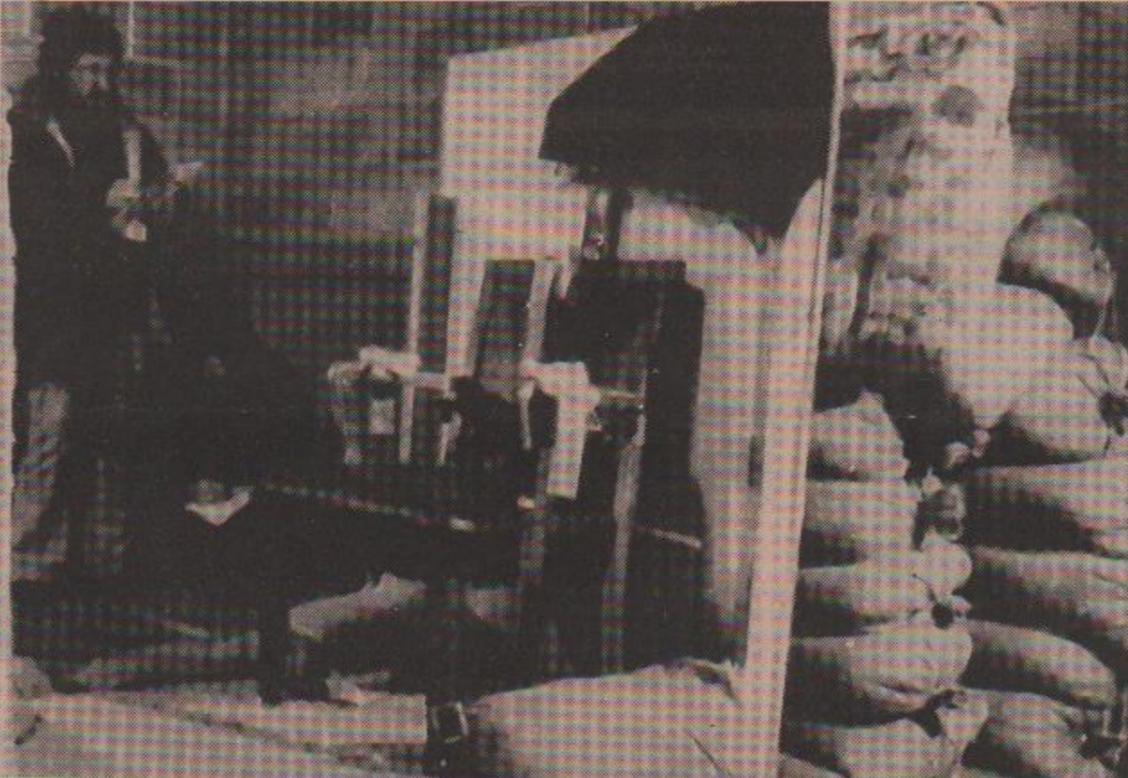
The Taughmonagh social club was built and is owned and run by the Ulster Defence Association, the right-wing murder gang which—under its cover name 'Ulster Freedom Fighters'—has assassinated more than 100 Catholics over the past four years.

Lies

The club's primary function is as a rest and recreation centre for off-duty UDA units.

After formally declaring the premises open, Melchett stayed around for drinks with the lads, who included UDA supreme commander Andy Tyrie and the South Belfast commanding officer whose units include some of the most efficient sectarian killers Northern Ireland has ever known.

Clearly, readers who were worried that ministers posted to Northern Ireland would lose out with regard to social life can forget their fears, which is a lot more than can be said for Belfast's Catholics observing the bugger-mugger relationship between the representative of a 'Labour government' and the boss men of the ultra-right's biggest private army.



Reporters inspect the chair where Gary Gilmore died

'GARY GILMORE EXECUTED AT LAST' ran the headline in the London Evening News last Monday. They were celebrating the fact that Gilmore had been done to death by the forces of US 'law and order'.

They'll be happier still when the forces of law and order get to work on the 350 other people who are on death row in America. After all, it makes wonderful news copy for the gutter press and for the television which brings you a second-by-second account of this judicial murder.

Who are these victims? More than half are black people, who have been through the sausage machine of American

justice. If they're not black and poor, they're white and poor.

People like Reuben 'Hurricane' Carter, the black boxer framed by the New York police for his political activities. Carter won a retrial through a militant campaign but got screwed the second time around as well as the first.

More than half of all the people on death row are the victims of Southern States 'justice', a 'justice' shot through with racialism as well as class prejudice.

All are victims of a supreme court stacked with nominees by Richard Nixon, the biggest crook and mass murderer in America—who, white and rich, was given a free pardon.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH

Nazis try the back door at Bradford

THE National Front demonstrated in Bradford last April and were decisively shown the way home by young blacks, trade unionists and members of the International Socialists. Now they're trying to get back in through the back door—and with the same police protection.

The Front have taken to selling papers in the street and harassing socialists and blacks. After protests from many members of the public, the Front were moved on—only to reappear with official police permission.

The attitude of the police

was shown clearly on 3 January when 18 Front members turned up in the Broadway shopping precinct. They were opposed by several members of the public and one SW seller.

Needless to say, the Socialist Worker seller was arrested 'for behaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace.'

'We are establishing a group in Bradford to fight back against the Front's activities. Witnesses, resolutions, offers of support, donations, offers of help to Pat Wiggins, Bradford University Students Union.

HUMILIATION FOR FRONT

THE National Front have been humiliated in the fishing port of Fleetwood in Lancashire when they held a demonstration in an attempt to draw support from trawlermen threatened with unemployment following their exclusion from Icelandic waters.

The Front claimed they expected 200 people, but a mere 43 turned up—including some drafted in from out of town. A 42-seater coach arrived from Accrington but to the amusement of anti-fascists picketing the march there were only seven people on it.

Members of Blackpool Anti-Fascist Committee and SWP members walked alongside the march giving out leaflets exposing the policies of the Front.

Racists who help Rhodesia

JUAN SANABRIA has been rotting in the Immigration Service's Harmondsworth detention centre for forty days now. His crime? He's a non-white Rhodesian.

Juan, who is 21, has a Spanish father and a Chinese mother. So the racists in the Immigration Service would like to send him back to Rhodesia, where he will be called up for service in Ian Smith's racist army.

A 19-year-old Asian student from Rhodesia who now studies at a Manchester college is in the same position.

He would have no difficulty at all if he were a white Rhodesian. White Rhodesians who come to Britain and who want to avoid military service are classed as 'patrials' under the racist 1971 Immigration Act and allowed to stay.

Black Rhodesians are classed as 'non-patrials' and the Home Office racists send them back to Rhodesia to fight for the white racist and supposedly illegal regime.

Socialist Worker calls on all readers and supporters to take up these scandalous cases, pass resolutions in their unions and student unions.

The racist regime in Rhodesia is illegal—but were there protests in the British press when it executed, author word for judicial murder, eight freedom fighters last week? No, the press supports this racist violence

Danger! Is there nerve gas in your foundry?

PHOSGENE, a chemical used during the First World War as nerve gas, has been poisoning foundry workers in Manchester.

Workers at L. Gardners and Sons iron foundry had been complaining of dizziness and breathing difficulties while going over moulds with gas light when a chemical called Trifful was used.

J Goodier, health and safety rep at Gardners, writes in a letter to Socialist Worker: 'We found that in the mixture is Trichlorethylene. I asked for this to be withdrawn and a substitute found.'

'After waiting three weeks, I put my complaint through the safety committee. Still no action.' After two months of

complaints and no action, he got hold of the official information on Trichlorethylene, published by the government's Health and Safety Executive.

This revealed that under the influence of a naked flame, Trichlorethylene decomposes to form even more dangerous substances: hydrogen chloride, chlorine—and phosgene.

Refuse

Phosgene was used as a nerve gas during the First World War, when its effects in the trenches were so horrifying that it was later banned from use in warfare under the Geneva Convention. Fortunately only a small amount was involved at Gardners. Writes J Goodier: 'On the very day I was due to meet foundry management armed with this information, I was informed that Trifful had been withdrawn and a water-based substitute implemented.' But how many other foundry workers are suffering from such fumes?

'The market name of Trifful is Fordval,' he said. 'So if any other foundry workers are using it and suffering any ill effects, get hold of the Technical Data Note 17 (Rev) or Trichlorethylene, which is published by the Health and Safety Executive.'

'Also inform the shop floor—just in case management don't agree with the interpretation.' □ The address of the Health and Safety Executive is Baynards House, London SW1.

Poly stopped for a day

By Norah Carlin

A ONE-DAY strike last Thursday by NALGO members at the Enfield site of Middlesex Poly was a successful start to a series of one-day stoppages planned by NALGO throughout the Poly.

The strikes will continue until management withdraws its policy of leaving vacant posts unfilled. A loss of 20 posts by March is planned.

The union is also protesting at the creation of a new post without consultation.

Only four out of 210 NALGO members crossed the picket line, and near to total support was given by NATFHE, NUPE and Students Union members.

The pickets' hearts were warmed, in the worst weather this winter, by seeing management standing in the freezing cold trying unsuccessfully to mount a counter-picket.

IRISH DAY SCHOOL

Saturday 29 January, 10.30am, North London Polytechnic, Holloway Road. Speakers: Eamonn McCann and Jimmy McCallum. Followed by social Organised by the Socialist Workers Party (IS)—all districts should see they are represented.

□ Accommodation available for weekend Phone 01-790 3528.

IRISH SOCIAL

Saturday 29 January, 8pm-12.30am, White Horse pub, Church Road, London NW10 (Dollis Hill and Neasden tubes/buses 260, 266, 297). Bands include McCarthy and Sons, Jug of Punch, Mike O'Connor, Mrs Long's Dancers, and Connolly Folk. Admission 70p.



SELF DETERMINATION FOR IRELAND TROOPS OUT NOW!

DEMONSTRATION:

Britain out of Ireland! Self-determination for Ireland.

Sunday 30 January, 1.30pm, assemble Shepherd's Bush Green, London W12 (nearest tube, Shepherd's Bush, buses 105, 207, 72, 12 and 88). Symbolic picket of Trafalgar Square, 12 noon.

□ All London and Home Counties branches of the Socialist Workers Party to support, with banners.

RALLY

Organised jointly by the Troops Out Movement and the Socialist Worker, Sunday 30 January, 4.30pm, Hammersmith Town Hall. Speakers: Bernadette McAliskey, Eamonn McCann, Paul Foot, Jimmy McCallum, Paddy Prenderville and Mervyn Metcalfe.

NAFF WILL NEVER BE

THE SUCCESS of the National Association for Freedom and the Appeals Court in stopping the Post Office workers' blacking of South Africa is an ominous development for the whole working class movement.

It's the third time in a year that NAFF have ridiculed powerful trade unions.

At Automat in Manchester, they backed a smallish employer opposed to trade union organisation and enabled him to resist the Engineering Union for nearly a year.

UNPRECEDENTED

At Grunwicks in North West London, they have enabled another vicious employer to hold out for his 'right' to pay miserable wages to mainly-black and women workers. Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, took the virtually unprecedented step of going to a strike meeting to support those workers. But the employer and NAFF are still holding out. Since the defeat three years ago

of the Industrial Relations Act by the dockers and the engineers and of Heath's pay freeze by the miners, the big employers and the Tory Party have been frightened of any head-on collision with the unions.

They would love policies that hit living standards and jobs even more viciously than the present government's policies do.

But they have been afraid to press for them.

NAFF are different. They are a group within the employing class who believe that even the biggest unions can be taken on and beaten.

JUNTA

They are inspired and directed by Robert Moss, who has produced books to gratify the American spy organisation, the CIA, and the Chilean junta.

They have powerful contacts with sections of big business, with senior army officers, with front bench Tory MPs and, of course, with judges.

They believe this combination can make the injunction, the lock-out, the scab, and eventually the armed forces into effective weapons for attacking unions.

Yet were their bluff called, they would quickly collapse, as Heath did in 1972 and 1974.

But you cannot call their bluff by appealing to law courts stacked with their friends. You have to follow

COURT OUT IF WE 'FIGHT' LIKE THIS...

Had trade unionists behaved like him during the years of the Tory government, the Industrial Relations Act would still be with us. No wonder NAFF are crowing.

MEANWHILE, THE MURDERS GO ON

WHILE THE court of appeal was stopping trade union action against the racist regimes of Southern Africa, the murder of black people in those countries was continuing.

On Monday the Rhodesian government of Ian Smith hanged no fewer than eight men in Salisbury jail. They were charged with fighting for their own freedom.

When three mercenaries, including mass murderer Callan, were executed in Angola last summer, the Queen, the international press and politicians throughout the west, demanded their reprieve.

When the eight black freedom fighters were murdered on Monday, there was hardly a murmur.



But among the black workers and peasants of Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) there is mourning that translates itself directly into anger and action. These hangings will steel other freedom fighters in their determination to fight without compromise to overthrow Smith.



Tom Jackson: two defeats

They've taken away our most vital right



Says Archie Sinclair,

UPW branch committee, Cricklewood

THIS RULING takes away our most important trade union right.

While it stands, there's nothing Post Office workers can do to support other unions, whether it's against racialism in South Africa or against a vicious management at Grunwicks in Willesden.

On the South Africa issue I support Tom Jackson on principle 100 per cent, although I think he should have consulted the membership more.

It's come down to a choice: EITHER you have freedom for the business community to go on exploiting blacks in South Africa

OR you have the freedom of trade unionists to withdraw their labour in support of other workers.

I want to see Jackson and the TUC expose this National Association for Freedom and take on this law.



John Gouriet: he brought the case for NAFF



Nurses on the march last week against the threat

SAVE OUR HOSPITALS

THE MESSAGE YOU CAN HELP US TO SPREAD

THE SOCIALIST Workers Party (formerly IS) produced a national leaflet on Tuesday for postal workers.

This urged union members to refuse to recognise the dictates of the judges and impose blacking. Union members may not have time to do this before the week of solidarity with

South Africa is over. But they can still insist on defying the judges by blacking Grunwicks.

Producing leaflets costs money. That is why we are running our £30,000 Party building fund—so that the Socialist Workers Party can intervene effectively and quickly.

The fund is beginning to gather steam. But it depends upon the activity

and initiative of our members and readers. A couple of examples show what can be done.

A Socialist Workers Party member in Hemel Hempstead decided to give up smoking.

His grateful comrades expressed solidarity by sponsoring him at 5p a day, a neat way of collecting money—and destroying tobacco company profits.

On a different note, Brick Lane, Tower Hamlets has been in the news recently because of anti-National Front activity.

The local SWP is countering NF propaganda by leafletting estates with anti-fascist literature and Rock Against Racism leaflets, and taking collections from each home.

In two outings they have raised £2.50.

'Freedom fighters' who back Chile's killers

NAFF are run by a group of people drawn from every section of the ruling class.

Their chairman is the very wealthy Lord De L'Isle, former Tory minister and governor general of Australia, chairman of Phoenix Assurance, director of six other insurance companies and of the Yorkshire Bank. Phoenix has an important South African subsidiary.

Their director, Robert Moss, has praised the Chilean junta and is a speech writer for Margaret Thatcher.

Their council includes:

□ Brian Crozier, former director of a CIA-financed news agency.

□ Sir Frank Taylor, of Taylor Woodrow



Robert Moss: praise for the Junta

□ Ernest Smith, president of the National Federation of Building Trade Employers.

□ Michael Ivens, director of Aims for Freedom and Enterprise. □ Hugh Astor, former deputy chairman of The Times, director of Mabros, Hutchinsons and Phoenix, and a member of the council of Trust House Forte.

□ Ian H Gilbert, chairman of Wilkinson Match, which owns Bryant and Mays and has no fewer than 17 subsidiaries in South Africa and one in Rhodesia.

□ Field Marshal Sir Gerald Templar, formerly one of Britain's top army officers.

□ Sir Robert Thompson, who used to advise the Americans in Vietnam

□ Winston Churchill MP

□ Jill Knight, right-wing Tory MP and supporter of racist policies.

There is not a single member of the council with the remotest connection with the trade union and labour movement.

ADVERTISEMENT

The National Right to Work Campaign calls on all trade unionists to support

THE LIAISON COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENCE OF TRADE UNIONS CONFERENCE

in London on Saturday 26 February

Fight to make sure your trade union organisation sends delegates to the conference. Credentials from Brother Jim Hiles, LCDTU, 137 Wanstead Park Road London.

The Year of the Beaver

In an East London market last week, old folk scavenge for rotting fruit. They are the people Labour's Social Contract was going to do so much for. Never mind, Jack Jones has another answer for their plight: The Year of the Beaver.

Beaver to find food, that is . . .



PICTURES: Phil McCowen

BUILD THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY!

BRIAN RHODES, a popular Labour councillor in Bradford, faces expulsion because of his association for nearly two years with the International Socialists, now the Socialist Workers Party.

Brian's expulsion has been moved by the city party executive and by the Labour group on the grounds of a speech which he made opposing the bussing of black children to schools far from their homes. Brian says:

'This proves to me that it's quite hopeless being a member of the Labour Party if you want to speak up and fight for socialism. The moment you say anything in favour of socialism they just chuck you out. What a farce.'

'It's time we started building a real socialist party and I urge all the people who support me in Bradford to join me in building the Socialist Workers' Party.'

A socialist?
In the
Labour
Party? You'll
have to go . . .

'We've had enough of propping up capitalism...'

THE VILLAGE of Llangennech, near Llanelli in South Wales, is proving fertile ground for the Socialist Workers Party.

In the last month, six people have joined.

And they have bombarded the Press and local politicians with letters and propaganda on behalf of what they call a new, genuine socialist organisation.

John Willcock, a militant from ACTSS, the white collar section of the Transport Union, has joined from the Labour Party. So has his father Hamish Willcock.

John works at British Steel's factory at Trostre, as do three other new SWP members at Llangennech, Terry Jones, Mike Prigmore and Dai Jones.

Dai Jones, a miner for 20 years before going into the steelworks, is well known as a

fighter for socialism among miners in the area.

John Willcock has written to the local Labour Party ward, explaining his reasons for leaving the Labour Party. His letter reads, in part, as follows:

AFTER much thought I have decided to leave the Labour Party.

The reasons are as follows: When I first joined I thought I was joining a socialist party, working for improvements in the lot of the working class.

Time has proved that the Labour Party has strayed from its original path and betrayed the working class.

The Rt. Hon. Douglas Houghton, writing in The Times during the last Labour government in 1967, when he was a Cabinet Minister, said: 'Never has any previous government done so much in a short time to make capitalism work.'

Mr. Houghton was not blaming the Labour government but praising it!

Mr Houghton believed, as the Labour leaders still believe, that a Labour government can do a better job of running capitalism than the Conservatives.

□ **THE FIRST** week of selling Why You Should be a Socialist has had some astonishing results.

From Glasgow, SWP organiser Dave Sherry reports that in one section of 100 workers in the Chrysler factory in Linwood, 35 were sold.

Glasgow University SWP bookstall sold 90 copies on the first day it was displayed—and at Paisley Technical College one SWP member sold 40 copies.

This may or may not be true. As socialists we are not concerned to argue about it.

There can be little difference one way or the other because capitalism dictates its own necessities irrespective of the party label of the government.

In 1937 Clement Attlee, leader of the Labour Party, wrote:

'The plain fact is that a socialist party cannot hope to make a success of administering a capitalist system because it does not believe in it.'

You cannot have it both ways. You may hold with Mr Houghton that the Labour government is doing a good job making capitalism work, or you may hold that it is not a task for a socialist party; but you cannot hold that the Labour government in so doing is fulfilling the function of a socialist party.

We, as socialists, say that no government can make capitalism work to the advantage of the working class.

It is my intention to join the Socialist Workers Party and continue the fight for socialism.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN WILLOCK

ONE-YEAR STRIKE OVER

THE YEAR-LONG battle for trade union recognition by 25 workers at Automat in Swinton, Manchester, has ended.

Some of the strikers, including convenor Tom Smith, are returning to work almost immediately. Others are going back over a period of several months.

The Engineering Union has now been recognised, but the men are being re-employed, not re-instated.

RUTHLESS

From the beginning, the odds were stacked against the strikers.

They had no trade union experience and they faced a ruthless boss, John Chamberlain, who had twice before sacked other workers for seeking to join a union.

Chamberlain got a lot of help from pin-striped

By **JACK ROBERTSON**,
Secretary, Manchester Engineers Charter Group,
and delegate to Automat Action Committee

At last—union recognition for 25 men

'freedom fighters' such as Tom Keen, the millionaire who once gave money to the National Front. Keen donated £10,000 to the employers' strike fund.

Support also came from Major John Gouriet of the National Association for Freedom. The man behind last week's court ban on the Post Office workers' boycott of South Africa.

The truth was never properly explained to the 30,000 Engineering Union members in the district, who were paying a 5p levy to support the strikers.

But the key figure behind Chamberlain was another NAFF activist, Tory MP

Winston Churchill. His claims, trumpeted by the local press, that the strikers were taking home £61 a week, were shown to be rubbish by the union's district committee—but they severely affected support for the strike.

Churchill based his allegations on information available only to three people in the union: the treasurer of the strike fund, the district secretary, and someone at the union's London headquarters.

The question still remains—who passed that information to Churchill?

As if this wasn't enough,

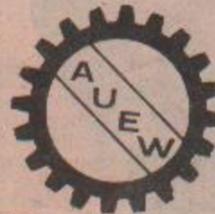
Churchill was in contact at this very time with Boyd, telling him in a letter that with his assistance they could get the strike 'all wrapped up' and adding: 'and 'I' too'.

'I' of course was John Tocher, the union's local divisional organiser.

Tocher was forced to take over the official handling of the strike because of the hostility shown towards it by Walter Mather, the right-wing district secretary.

Mather, like Churchill, had a secret pen-friend: Syd Davies, a full-time organiser for the anti-trade union outfit TRUEMID.

Three of the Automat scabs had been attending



Winston Churchill:
who was his spy



John Boyd:
secret letter

COURAGE

But they—and a ruthless employer and a right-wing MP—have now been defeated by the courage and patience of the strikers and those local trade unionists who supported the picket line and who organised boycotts of Automat goods.

Solidarity has won the day.

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

country against

from other countries.

We oppose national and imperialist controls.

We support other oppressed groups to organise their own defence. We support all genuine national liberation movements.

We are for an end to all forms of discrimination against homosexuals.

We are for real, social, economic and

WHERE WE STAND

ed ets here he will be called up for service in Ian Smith's racist army.

A 19-year-old Asian student from Rhodesia who now studies at a Manchester college is in the same position.

He would have no difficulty at all if he were a white Rhodesian. White Rhodesians who come to Britain and who want to avoid military service are classed as 'patrials' under the racist 1971 Immigration Act and allowed to stay.

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

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 Socialist Workers Party, fill in the form on page 16.

Save Our Hospitals!

MORE THAN 100 shop stewards and convenors in hospitals throughout Britain are sponsoring the Save Our Hospitals Conference.

The conference has been called by the rank and file paper Hospital Worker, and the Right to Work Campaign.

In a letter appealing for support for the conference, Bill Geddes, chairman of the shop stewards committee at Hammersmith Hospital, says: 'It is ridiculous that hospitals should close and wages be cut to protect the profits of the big privately-owned companies.'

More private hospitals are now being built than ever before, while National Health Service hospitals are being run down or shut.

Nurses and other hospital workers are now wasting their time on dole queues while the government cut more and more jobs.

In London, the divisional council of the public employees union, NUPE, has called a conference of delegates from London branches and a one-day stoppage on 11 May of all London

members to protest against the cuts.

There have already been one-day and half-day stoppages against the cuts in different parts of the country. But no union has dared to call all its members out on the same day, or to co-ordinate action with other unions.

That is why the Save Our Hospitals Conference is so important. It is a chance to bring together delegates from every union in the hospitals, and every hospital, shop stewards committee, to organise support for every group prepared to fight back.

□ **AT NORTHAMPTON** General Hospital, patients are often transferred to an old hospital three miles away. This is called the 'acute hospital', but there are no doctors on the premises because of the cuts.

If there is an emergency they have to drive three miles to the hospital. This means that patients die because there is no doctor available.

All 50 doctors at the hospital have now signed a joint statement on what the latest round of cuts will mean: 'There will be some patients, in all age groups and every department, who should have survived but will die.'

1500 strike as anger over cuts explodes

By John Clark, NUPE Branch Secretary and chairman of the NUPE District stewards' committee, East London.

1500 ANCILLARY workers in five East London hospitals came out against the cuts last week.

The management in the City and Hackney Health District posted up new rotas and announced that they were going ahead whatever the union or anyone else said. The rotas mean a drastic cut in services.

All overtime was cut, weekend workers slashed, day workers were put on shifts. Some workers faced a wage cut of between £4 and £20 a week.

The management went on to suspend three porters at St Bartholomews after accusing them of refusing to collect records. This has never been part of their job, although they had done it as a favour in the past.

The real reason for the suspensions is clear enough. One of the porters was the branch secretary of the public employees' union NUPE, at the hospital.

Five hospitals came to a halt, and after three days of militant action the management agreed to reinstate the porters and open negotiations on the new rotas.

A mass meeting of 600 workers agreed to return to work after hearing arguments from Ken Taylor, the full-time official from the health service employees' union and from Bill McCall, the General and Municipal full time official who has been helping to break his own members' picket line in the Holbrook cleaners strike.

The lifting of the suspensions was certainly a victory, but the terms on which we are negotiating are management's.

Amend

They have agreed to 'look at them and amend where possible'.

We must state now that we are against the cuts, and are not prepared to take any more of it.

What happened in East London last week is happening all over the country.

We need to unite to fight back in every hospital on the specific cuts they try to introduce as well as calling big one-day stoppages.

That is why the Save Our Hospitals Conference is so important. We need to unite to fight every attack, everything they try on.

Get your branch to send delegates and let's start the fight back with the people who have the real power—you.



□ **TWO PATIENTS** at the Hackney Hospital in East London have committed suicide because of the cuts. Both needed secure accommodation, according to consultant psychiatrist John Reed. But one was told he had to be moved because of further cut backs and killed himself. Another was transferred to Brixton Prison, where he too killed himself.

□ **PATIENTS** in Liverpool are to lose egg and bacon from their breakfast. Instead they are to get a roll. In the evening, all sweets and puddings have been dropped.

AND HERE'S HOW WE CAN LEND A HAND

28 JANUARY: HELP OUR PICKET OR THEY'LL TAKE AWAY THE EGA

AN ALL-DAY mass picket has been called at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital on 28 January to stop the health authority moving furniture and equipment from the building in London's Euston Road.

'We're going to make sure that nothing leaves this building,' said shop steward Pam Jones. 'But we're going to need as much help and support as we can get.'

The hospital has been under occupation by the workers since November.

The health authority have run down the building and now claim it would cost too much to carry out vital repairs, because of the cuts in spending.

Whittington

They plan to start moving patients to the nearby Whittington hospital in early February.

The Right to Work Campaign is organising support for a shop stewards delegate conference at the EGA on 12 February.

A delegation of EGA shop stewards and Right to Work Campaign members talked to shop stewards from factories in North London last week.

Terrific

Said Arthur Churchley from the EGA: 'I was surprised at how much support we got. The response was terrific.'

'They all agreed to raise the conference at shop floor meetings, take collections, and support the picket. That is just the kind of help we need.'

SUPPORT THE EGA CONFERENCE

Saturday 12 February, 11am-1pm at the EGA. Credentials from the EGA shops stewards committee, EGA Hospital, Euston Rd., London WC1.



Nurses on the march last week against the threatened closure of the Prince of Wales Hospital in North London.



SAVE OUR HOSPITALS CONFERENCE

Delegate conference for all trade unionists in hospitals Saturday 19 March, Holborn Assembly Rooms, London

Make sure your trade union branch, shop stewards committee etc., is delegated. Delegation fee £1 from Hospital Worker Conference, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

Sponsored by Hospital Worker and the Right to Work Campaign

NALGO SET FOR ACTION

By Phil Jones Forest of Dean NALGO

THE SOCIAL Contract took a battering at last Friday's Special Conference of NALGO, the local government workers' union.

There were 276,071 votes opposed to maintaining it, and 334,046 for it. This means we are now committed to an after-tax pay rise in July of £1.60.

But it also means we are in a strong position to throw out the Contract at our Annual Conference in June.

delegates, but the executive were aware of its contents.

It compared the words of the Social Contract with the deeds of the government. Here are some extracts:

WORDS: 'The key to an alternative strategy is direct statutory action on prices. Food prices must be controlled.'

DEEDS: 'Food subsidies phased out from £651.7 million in 1974/75 to £75 million in 78/79.'

WORDS: 'Far more houses must be built each year. The government will aim to exceed the total of 400,000 new homes

completed in the last full year of the Labour government.'

DEEDS: 'Cuts in housing programme of £283.9 million in 1977/78 and of £365 million in 78/79.'

WORDS: 'A central negotiating objective in the coming period will therefore be to ensure that real incomes are maintained.'

DEEDS: '15 per cent inflation in 1977.'

These are just a few lines from the report, which proves to the executive that there is no Social Contract to maintain. But we're still lumbered with it.

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM

Duncan Hallas

There is a certain irony about the difficulties the Labour Party will face if they move HQ to Walworth Road. And they've only themselves to blame.

On foot with Labour

THE LABOUR Party is looking for a new national headquarters, if a report in the *Guardian* is to be trusted, and may take over the London Labour Party place in the Walworth Road.

Not a matter of much interest to readers of this paper perhaps but consider what the *Guardian* man says about it.

Few people within Transport House, let alone the National Executive Committee, have been informed of the plan... Few of them are likely to be pleased to move from the reasonably

salubrious premises in Smith Square, SW1, to a bustling but somewhat unglamorous South London high street.

There are more serious objections... The address is two miles away from Westminster and is ill-served by public transport to Parliament. One bus serves Westminster and there is no direct tube link.

Ill-served

The leaders of the Party supposedly representing workers by hand and by brain are evidently none too keen to move to a working class area. But what is more interesting is the reference to public transport.

It is not, in reality, simply a matter of being 'ill-served by public transport to Parliament.' It is a question of being 'ill-served by public transport full stop. And not just in Walworth Road.

The routes into central London from the South London boroughs are the best served, grossly inadequate as they are. To experience London public transport at its abysmal worst, try going from East to West or vice-versa south of the river. The services are abominable.

Why? The boroughs along the river from Greenwich to Wandsworth are overwhelmingly working class dormitory areas.

Industry once existed on a big scale. It has been run down to practically

nothing, especially in the last twelve years. Services of all kinds are bad and getting steadily worse.

Who is to blame? You can't put the main blame on the Tories in this case.

Controlled

The Labour Party has controlled London government (LCC and then GLC) for 36 out of the last 42 years. It has controlled the South London riverside boroughs, with very few breaks, since the nineteen-twenties. And it has controlled national government for over eight of the last twelve years—the years of accelerating decay in public transport as in much else.

Now we are not here talking about securing before the workers 'the full fruits of their labour' or of a 'massive and irreversible shift of both wealth and power' to working people. We are talking about something much more modest.

We are talking about that 'gas and water socialism' on which the right-wing of the Labour Party used to pride itself, of the provision of reasonable public services.

The result of decades of Labour rule in Southwark are, in these modest terms, so bad that the Labour Party top brass regard it as a cruel and unreasonable punishment to have to move from Tory Westminster and go to work in the borough!

Worst

Of course this is not a North v South matter. Newham is even worse. It is that working class areas always get the worst services.

Where the need is greatest, the provision is least. Where the need is least the provision is greatest.

For example, I know from personal experience—since most of my life I haven't had access to a private phone—that where there are the fewest private phones, there are also the fewest public ones.

The service is much better in Westminster and Chelsea than it is in Brixton or Bethnal Green.

Gathering

A short and true story to conclude with. Ten or twelve years ago the GLC appointed a new director of transport planning.

Being a democratic sort of fellow the new director had his staff gathered together, including quite lowly personnel, and addressed them on London Transport—Planning and Problems or some such title.

It was all about cars and road development. A mild question was asked about public transport.

'The private car is now the main form of transport' he replied 'and public transport must accept a secondary role.'

Labour controlled County Hall at the time!

The quality of mercy...

STOCKPORT Council's 'get tough' campaign against the poorest people who have the misfortune to live within its boundaries has scored its first success.

William Jackson is 73, crippled and in jail. His crime? He owes the council £167 in rates.

The Tory-controlled council which employs Truamid scab, Brendan Murphy, to publicise its vicious policies—wasn't satisfied when he offered £15

down and £5 a week. So Mr Jackson, a widower who lives alone, was jailed for one month.

Mr Jackson told the magistrates that he was short of money because he was paying for repairs on his house, but 'you leave us no alternative', they replied.

JOHN SADDLER couldn't get a job in his hometown—Sunderland—so he came to London.

He had no money, no home, no job and no food. He found that life was just

as hard as it had been in the North, so he decided to walk back to Sunderland.

When he got to Chelmsford he was so hungry that he stole an apple. He had stolen some milk in London and in desperation had attempted to break into a food store.

When the police caught him after a search of Chelmsford town centre, he was charged

For his heinous crime, Mr Saddler, 30, has been remanded in custody for three weeks for reports.

'THE STAGGERING COST OF BRITAIN'S BOOZY WORKERS' said the headline in the *Daily Express*.

This referred to a report by the National Council on Alcoholism on the effects of lunchtime drinking on Britain's industry.

But who was top of their list? Was it shop floor workers as the *Express* suggested?

NO. Way out front were company directors, doctors, the Armed Forces—and judges.



SCROOGE LIVES: THERE HAS BEEN much publicity recently about employers who are so overcome with the spirit of goodwill at Christmas that they are unable to prevent themselves from showering gifts on their workers.

I am determined that the generosity of my employers—Birds Eye of Hull—shall not go unheralded.

Not only did Birds Eye give us a free dinner of a turkey roll and a mince pie during working hours, they also gave us 10 fish fingers and an artie roll to take home!

I think I can say without fear of contradiction that thanks to the warm regard which Birds Eye has for its employees, my Christmas was immeasurably better this year.

—Val Heal

TIGHTENING OUR BELTS part 649: A mystery buyer paid £30,000 for a Rolls-Royce Phantom V at a car auction in Frimley, Surrey. The car's back seat can be turned into a double bed.

MR KELLY'S intentions in Leeds, he says, are 'to be a good, hard-working rank and file member, and to carry out whatever work I can do for the party, attend meetings, contribute to debate, make my views known and to recruit people into the party to pursue socialist policies.'

'It is his last intention which may cause some party workers to feel a little anxious.'

—From the *London Evening Standard*, 31 December, 1976.

A MAN WHO was attacked by two young blacks near Wandsworth Bridge, South London, reported the incident to the Police.

What was their advice? 'The only thing you can do is join the National Front,' one officer told him. 'I'm not a member, but my brother is in the National Party—they're not so extreme as the Front.'

ONE woman lavatory attendant won equal pay with a man working in the Gents at the same factory. He had been earning £10 a week more.

The employers' spokesman came out with this gem:

'A male toilet attendant has to approach the job from a labouring point of view and a female toilet attendant approaches it from a housekeeping point of view.'

The result is that a trade union official spent two and a half hours in the Gents, investigating the claim!



IS IT WORTH KEEPING UP WITH THESE JONESES?

By Liz Mackle from an idea by SW supporters at Rubery Owen. Send us your ideas for cartoons.

'SOCIALIST' Education Secretary Shirley Williams really knows how to deal with 'dissent' local authorities who refuse to scrap selective education—she gives in. Mrs Williams has given the go-ahead for £750,000 to be spent on expanding three grammar schools in Buckinghamshire,

renowned for its opposition to comprehensive education.

—It's the same authority that wants to stop school meals to save money.

Mrs Williams has really excelled herself this time. She has managed to be more right-wing than Reg Prentice when he was Education Secretary.

The year of the beaver

From Mr R. H. Richardson
Sir, Three cheers for Mr Jack Jones.
Yours faithfully,
R. H. RICHARDSON,
Managing Director,
Beaver and Tapley Limited,
Furniture Manufacturers,
Scotts Road,
Southall,
Middlesex.

—Times Letters, January 11

IT'S AMAZING how ungrateful people can be. Henry Ford has resigned from the board of the Ford Foundation which has given away 4,000 million dollars since 1950.

He says the other members of the board just don't appreciate the capitalist system which created the wealth.

Mr Ford, of course, is renowned for his appreciation of the workers who created his millions.

And now, Kamikaze training

IN THE PAST the Job Creation Scheme has been a bit of a joke. But Livingstone Development Corporation has come up with one that may prove to be a Premature Death Creation Scheme.

They have employed 39 men, 26 of them school leavers to insulate the houses in Rockhill (fibreglass).

The men have not been given any protection and it has been proved that asbestos and glass fibre are almost identical in fibrous structure.

There is a strong possibility that the men laying the stuff could contact some form of cancer but with unemployment at over 10

per cent many of them school leavers, the corporation has no problem getting people to do this kind of work.

There is no truth in the

rumour that the next Job Creation Scheme in Livingstone will be to train school leavers to be kamikaze pilots.

—P Healy.

Sorry, Ron

IN THIS column last week we attacked Ron Thomas, a Bristol Labour MP, for associating with the disgusting House of Commons magazine, the *House* (which is circulated to MPs with a free copy of the extremist right-wing paper, *Free Nation*).

We blundered.

The Labour MP concerned is Mike Thomas, from Newcastle, not Ron at all. Sorry, Ron, we did you an injustice.

We asked Bristol readers to write to Ron asking why the hell he acted as a cover for such right-wing activities. Don't bother. Join with Newcastle readers in writing to Mike Thomas with a similar inquiry.

READ THE NEW



Women's Voice is out now to help organise the campaign. With articles on maternity leave, what's happening in the unions, the EGA hospital occupation, an interview with Maureen Colquhoun, and on the abortion campaign. Price 10p. Copies direct from Women's Voice, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2. (Phone 01-739 1878). Or ask your local Socialist Worker seller.

Socialist Worker

EDITORIAL

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

01-739 6361
739 0185
739 9043

Circulation department: 8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 9DN. 01-739 2639. Published weekly except final week of December. Subscriptions: £7 yearly, £3.50 for six months, £1.75 for three months. Printed and published by Socialist Worker Printers and Publishers Ltd (TU all departments), Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS. Registered as a newspaper with the Post Office.

THE PROMISES OF JIMMY CARTER

JIMMY CARTER is inaugurated as US President this week.

During his election campaign Carter made many promises about welfare reforms and cutting unemployment. He also insisted, back in June, that 'we can reduce present defence expenditure by about five to seven billion dollars'.

free world expect from a reforming president, who has a big majority in both houses of Congress. Business Week, the American equivalent of the Economist, takes up the story:

'As the Carter administration takes office on 20

January, the Pentagon's weapons buyers will be setting out on their biggest shopping spree in nearly a decade. The Pentagon will be spending its new wealth on nearly a dozen new weapons systems.'

The new secretary of

defence, Harold Brown, insists: 'I don't see any reduction in military spending from present levels.'

Carter's secretary for health, education and welfare is to be Joseph Califano. He said at the end of December: 'It may be that the realities of substantial welfare reform are related to a better economy. So we may have to wait a while.'

He went on to insist that his first priority will be to tighten up administration of welfare so that 'there are no more rip-offs'.

'We've got to go after Medicare fraud and Medicaid fraud just as vigorously as people think we should go after welfare fraud.'

Banning

Another example of Carter's reforming zeal is shown in his choice for attorney-general—Griffith Bell.

Bell has for years been a member of a Georgia club that bans blacks and jews from membership. Just the man to hand out the sort of justice Carter intends for black people.

Carter, of course, is a man of principle. He's insisted that Bell reigns from the club while he actually holds office.

Meanwhile, Carter's own church in Mains, Georgia, continues to exclude any black person who wants to join it.

Carter is clearly in the great tradition of Lyndon Baines Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford. Like them he will be a shining beacon, guiding forward the policies of our own Labour Party leaders.

Two reports from STEVE JEFFERYS, in Detroit, Michigan, USA

Election over—by order of the goons

THE battle for the leadership of America's second biggest union, the 1,400,000-member United Auto Workers, has just ended—behind closed doors.

Although the election is supposed to take place by a vote of delegates to the UAW Convention in Los Angeles next May, the result was announced in Detroit last week.

The current president, Leonard Woodcock, whose retirement at 65 caused the succession crisis, told newspaper reporters that during the Christmas holidays he had consulted all the potential presidential candidates who might seek the backing of the UAW's 'administration caucus'. This is a polite term for the union machine.

The Machine really is something. When it wants, it can deliver thousands of 'union goons', usually full-time officials or retired members being paid special favours, to smash unofficial picket lines.

This is what happened during a wave of wild-cat strikes in Chrysler in 1973, when the goons were directed by Doug Fraser, the UAW Chrysler vice-president.

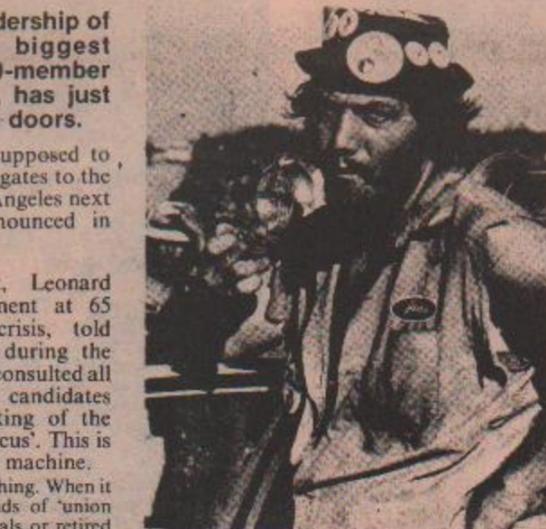
So when the 'administration caucus' picks its candidate, the election is pretty well sewn up.

Alleged

Ever since Walter Reuther, supported at that time by Communists and socialists within the union, solidified his control of the UAW in the late 1940s, 'administration caucus' candidates have easily won virtually every election. Opposition groups have been systematically smashed.

Fraser is the last of the Reutherites. He is alleged to be a 'political liberal'. Thus in the Democratic primary election in Michigan last year, he supported Morris Udall against Carter. He pretty soon switched his support when it became clear that Carter was the man most likely to succeed.

No great change is expected in the leadership of the UAW and its style of operations as the result of this authoritative pre-election result forecast.



A union 'goon'—this one is paid by the Teamsters union.



Leonard Woodcock: His successor chosen behind closed doors.

In the United Steel Workers a real election is taking place.

Lloyd McBride, a strong right-winger, is backed by the current president, Abel Edie Sadlowski is running on a radical programme against the 'administration team'. Militants and left-wingers will be backing Sadlowski.

Sadlowski is definitely on the left, like Hugh Scanlon of

our own AUEW. But like 'our Hughie', he's got 1001 positions depending on who he's speaking to.

In an interview in a socialist paper, Sadlowski was asked: 'Well, are you a socialist?' He answered: 'In the sense of Eugene Debs, yes. You carry that answer back with you. Get a handbill out—get it just exactly as I quoted it now.'

Degree

Sadlowski has just given a major interview in Penthouse.

Penthouse asked: 'Do you envision ultimate ownership of the industry by the people who work in the industry?'

Sadlowski replied: 'No. That might work in Western Europe, to some degree, but it doesn't seem likely here.'

Further on, Penthouse asked how Sadlowski would change the rotten conditions steelworkers work in. He replied: 'We have already benefited from what our brains have produced technologically. We've reduced labour forces from 530,000 fifteen years ago, to 400,000 today. Let's reduce them to 100,000.'

General strike! Is this the signal that Asia waits for?

by NIGEL HARRIS

ON Christmas Day twenty thousand railway workers went on strike in Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon).

Their original demand—for an increase in the Christmas pay advance—was quickly superseded. The railway workers became the leaders in a national campaign of all public sector workers against the massive squeeze on public spending imposed by Mrs Bandaranaike's 'socialist' government.

The strike joined a go-slow by doctors in the health service (began in November.) Other public sector workers quickly joined the railwaymen in solidarity—clerical, port irrigation, public corporation, oil, water, post and telegraph, and fire brigade workers.

Order

Among the most militant were the busmen—the majority of the 84 arrests officially made (up to last week) were busmen.

Mrs Bandaranaike's reaction was to order the army to run the railways—just as did Mrs Gandhi, in neighbouring India, in the gigantic railway strike there in 1974. But the railwaymen organised sit-downs on the railway lines, pulled out the fish-plates, removed whole

Spain: 100,000 out

THE Spanish government has faced another great wave of strikes and demonstrations, this time in the south-eastern, Valencia region, where 100,000 workers have been on strike over pay.

Among them have been workers at Ford's giant new plant, where production of the Fiesta is to be concentrated. Workers have clashed with police and set up barricades.

Meanwhile, there have been continuing disturbances in the northern Basque Country and in Madrid over demands for an amnesty for all political prisoners.

lines, and scuppered the signalling gear.

At the end of December the government declared all strikes illegal. Anyone staying on strike or advocating strikes was liable to heavy imprisonment and the confiscation of their personal property.

Press censorship was clamped down, all army and police leave cancelled and the reserves called up. The government press went into top gear with stories of mass starvation as a result of the shortage of bread and flour—in fact the result of government policy in cutting imports.

The government's Daily News compared Mrs Bandaranaike with Allende of Chile before the coup. The workers were 'fascist', and the government must 'expose the activities of these unscrupulous power-hungry men who are bent on taking the country towards fascism.'

The workers were not intimidated. They compelled all the trade union federations—except that of the right-wing opposition party, the UNP—to call a general strike.

The general secretary of the Federation of Labour contrasted the ruthless attitude of the government to Sri Lanka's workers with its open-handed lavishness in the recent 'non-aligned' summit in Colombo that cost 800 million rupees. The railwaymen's claim would have cost a mere 10 million.

Scheduled

But the trade union leaders—like those in India in 1974—have their eye on the general election scheduled for May. For them, the strike is a preliminary exercise to pressurise Mrs Bandaranaike back into the old 'left-wing' coalition.

So this magnificent display

of courage by Sri Lanka's workers is liable to be sold out.

There is no independent workers' party in Sri Lanka that takes the workers' interests as its first priority.

Nonetheless, the general strike is a fantastic achievement. The terrible defeat of 1971, when Mrs Bandaranaike, with the support of her then-coalition partners—now leading the strike movement—slaughtered up to 4,000 and gaoled possibly 16,000 of youth revolt, has been overcome.

In 1973-74 the workers of Asia made a major challenge of the system. Then they retreated or were defeated. The Sri Lanka general strike could be the signal for the next great advance.



US President Jimmy Carter promises an end to racial discrimination. A Z. Pitman lived in Plains, Georgia, until some whites told him to leave. When he didn't, his home was burned down. Plains is Carter's home town.

30p

OUT NOW
MON 1.00

International Socialism 94

features on Poland, Fascism and Equal pay.



From 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2, 30p plus 10p postage.

Yes, we women will march with you

SUE JOHNS
Windsor SWP member

I just finished reading Paul Foot's book. Why you should be a socialist. As a new member of the Socialist Workers Party, it brought together many of the ideas which I only just begun to understand in the past few months.

Although I've been a socialist all my life, my ideas were mainly shaped by the Communist Party and the left wing of the Labour Party. So the ideas, aims and tactics of the SWP were completely new to me.

I've got a job, and three kids to look after, so I've got very little time for concentrated reading. This little book is ideal for me.

It's easy to read and understand, and it's all so optimistic and enthusiastic. It gets across the basic principles of socialism and workers' democracy.

The thing I liked most was the emphasis laid on the vital importance of women in the movement.

Having been in the Young Communist League and the Labour Party, I can say from experience that the Socialist Workers' Party is outstanding in its efforts to encourage women to participate actively—not just in words, but in simple practical things like making it easier for women to attend meetings.

Paul Foot says: 'Politics is not a business,' and I think it's extremely important that the SWP should be a man's party.

With the launching of the new party, every effort should be made to get the maximum of direct action and participation open to women.

I liked the quotation right at the end of the book from Jenny D'Hericourt, which she said during the uprisings in Paris in 1848: 'I tell you this in all sincerity: all your struggles are in vain if men do not march with you.'



AT LEAST OUR KIDS WILL HAVE JOBS !!



Cartoons by Phil Evans taken from the new book

We're coming out of the disaster area

by HARRY McSHANE
Veteran revolutionary socialist and former secretary of the Scottish Unemployed Workers Movement, in the 1930s



IT IS gratifying that despite the tragic set-backs which fighters for socialism have witnessed throughout the years it is still possible for someone to have sufficient faith and confidence in the movement to write a book of 100 pages with the title, Why you should be a socialist.

The history of socialism over the past 50 years is punctuated with disaster after disaster which blasted the hopes that arose with the Russian Revolution.

The tragedy was that a great number of genuine men and women revolutionaries found themselves supporting the crimes and political stupidities of the Russian leaders after the death of Lenin.

This book makes its appearance at a time when the last vestiges of that terrible spectacle are on the way out. Revolutionary socialists will, however, continue to be slandered by some who want an easy road to socialism—one that lets them get all that is going under capitalism.

Paul Foot starts out with a scathing attack on things as they are, and shows how they came to be as they are. He has taken great pains, in the first chapter, to show that things are getting worse for a very large section of the population.

Yes-men

Working people are conscious that the present government is doing exactly what the Tories would do if they were in power. The road has been made easier for the Labour government by Jack Jones and his yes-men in the trade union.

The author realises we have passed the Dickens age and that it is not enough to pity the poor. He wants to take the victims beyond the grumbling stage and sets out to point the way forward.

But this is obstructed by the present social order and those who refuse to break out of it.

This book exposes the unscrupulous lie that it is the fault of the workers that we have mass unemployment and that prices continue to rise. It is clearer now than it ever was that the continued existence of capitalism is made possible only by the toleration by the workers of the limits placed on their standards of living.

The top politicians, and their economists find it necessary to emphasise the importance of profits more blatantly than ever before. The pretence that the future of humanity rests on the investment of profits is exposed.

This chapter shows clearly how the welfare of millions of human beings is hampered by the system of production for profit.

The call of the Tories for freedom means nothing more than the continuation of this profit-making system, but, in contrast, we have here a picture of mankind making use of all the available resources to meet the needs of society as a whole.

This new social order must of necessity spring from the initiative of the workers. To be a socialist means, therefore, that we identify ourselves with the coming upsurge from below. Only in this way can the dream of a better society become a reality.

The illusions about the effectiveness of the present electoral system are rapidly disappearing. The present government has done more to destroy them than any of its predecessors.

Laughter

Worse still is the fact that if the present Prime Minister told an audience that his aim was socialism he would be greeted with laughter.

This is a sad situation but it is a stage through which the working-class movement had to pass.

It is not possible to put a case for socialism without saying something about Russia. Those who set Russia as a pattern for socialism are guilty of a serious political crime.

Because of the inspiring effects of the Russian Revolution, one would like to think that the Russian workers are enjoying more freedom and higher living standards than workers elsewhere. Every honest observer knows that such is not the case.

It is deplorable, but undoubtedly true that the Communist Parties become agents of Russian foreign policy. That happened even at the time of the Hitler-Stalin Pact.

They supported in 1956 the Russian invasion of Hungary. It is the case, as Raya Dunayevskaya says, that there has been a counter-revolution in Russia.

Backward

There is no more important part of the book than that which deals with the Rank and File. Paul Foot is right when he condemns the suggestion that rank and file workers are backward.

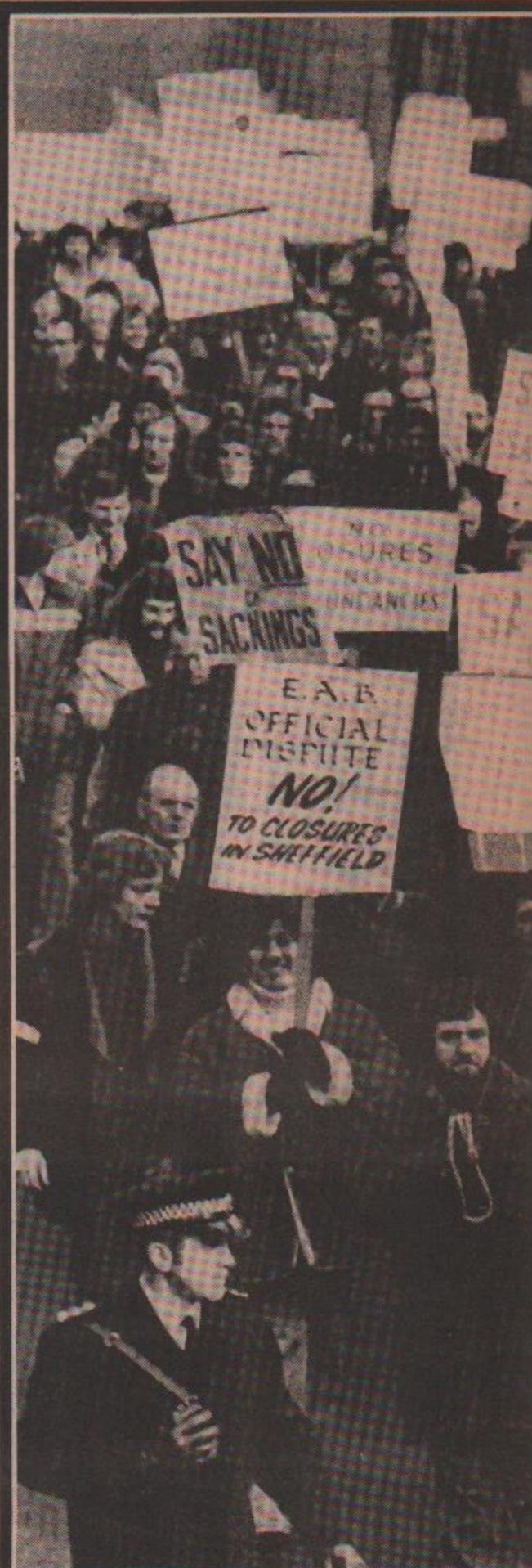
Revolution is not possible without the initiative of the rank and file. That was proved with the forming of the Soviets—the workers' councils in Russia, and setting up of the workers' councils in Hungary in 1956.

The experience of Britain and elsewhere points to the necessity of rank and file opposition to the bureaucratic trends in the trade unions and all other organisations of the working class.

It is not possible in a review of this kind to do justice to a book of this kind. It is a valuable contribution.

The author is right to give attention to the need for organisation and argues for the formation of a Socialist Workers Party. He considers that this follows logically from all he says beforehand. It is a matter for serious consideration.

The book as a whole should be read by all interested in the need for revolutionary change.



We don't want just demonstrations now. We want action. There are workers here who have spent their lives building up these industries. Now they're being thrown aside by these capitalist bastards.

—Barry Watson, AUEW steward, International Harvesters, Doncaster.

OSBORNE MUSHROOM TOOL



AUEW convenor Alan Doughty at their factory!

WHY YOU SHOULD BE A SOCIALIST
PAUL FOOT

...the case for the new Socialist Workers Party

We socialists are not fanatics or timeservers. We are socialists because we see the prospect which life holds out for all working people. We want the commitment of workers who laugh and live and want to end the wretchedness and despair which shuts love and laughter out of so many lives. We do not have to spend the rest of our lives, and leave our children to spend the rest of their lives, wrestling in struggle against a mean and despotic ruling class. Society can be changed, but only if masses of working people abandon the rotten shipwreck of the 'leave it to us' reformers, and commit themselves to change from below. This is our case. Will you read it?

Please send me . . . copies of WHY YOU SHOULD BE A SOCIALIST at

One copy for 50p* Five copies for £2* One copy of the book, plus Socialist Worker each week for the next two months for £1.50.* Please tick appropriate box. (* All prices include postage).

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SEND THIS SLIP TO: SW Distributors, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2.

The SHEFFIELD ENGINEERS STRIKE

IN BATTLE FOR RIGHT TO WORK

magnificent

25,000!



AUEW convenor Dennis France, from Twist Drills: 'This is the way to show we mean business.'

IN THE Sheffield engineering industry the biggest fight for the right to work since unemployment topped a million is reaching a climax.

Twenty-five thousand engineering workers in the city, one of the strongest sections of the British working-class, went on strike last Wednesday to save 400 jobs.

Five thousand of them marched through the city in protest at the proposed closure of the Capital Tools factory, part of the Edgar Allen Balfour group, with the sacking of 400 workers.

All Edgar Allen Balfour workers in the city—about 3,500 of them—have been out on strike against the closure since the beginning of December.

Ready

The Edgar Allen Balfour struggle has been almost completely boycotted by press and television. Wednesday's great march was totally ignored by the local evening paper, the Sheffield Star, and by local television.

The morning Sheffield Telegraph gave it six inches on page three.

But nothing could damp the strength and enthusiasm of the workers who came out last week.

Dennis France, convenor at Sheffield Twist Drill, nodded towards the great procession as he marched: 'Great', he said. 'This is the way to show the multinationals that we mean business.'

'This is the only weapon we've got short of a socialist government, and we certainly haven't got that. Tory government, it is. Tory policies anyway.'

Dennis reckoned that 60 per cent of Sheffield Twist Drill's workers were out on strike.

At Osborne Mueset, all the



Five hundred strikers line Sheffield City Hall steps to applaud those who marched in their support.

Report: PAUL FOOT
Pictures: JOHN STURROCK (Report)

workers were out.

Alan Doughty, Engineering Union convenor, told Socialist Worker: 'Our stewards, both AUEW and General and Municipal, agreed unanimously to support the call. But we didn't stop there. We called a mass meeting and had a full discussion about Edgar Allen Balfours.'

Blacked

The march ended in a thrilling crescendo. As each contingent of marchers swept up the steps of City Hall, they were cheered and clapped by about 500 Edgar Allen Balfour strikers.

Inside the hall, the workers heard a full report on the strike by strike committee chairman Derek Simpson.

Roy Capps, the deputy AUEW convenor from Daniel Doncasters, called for 'a clear

lead from our officials.'

'This great demonstration here today,' he said, 'shows that there is a will to fight among the shop floor workers. I implore the Confed to take us on from here.'

The meeting unanimously voted for a resolution calling for a strengthening of the blacking of Edgar Allen Balfour until the redundancy notices are lifted. The collection raised £910.

Outside the hall I was grabbed by an angry bunch of stewards from the two big International Harvesters factories in Doncaster.

Barry Watson, AUEW shop steward, said: 'We don't want just demonstrations now. We want action. There are workers here who have spent their lives building up these industries. Now they're being thrown aside by these capitalist bastards.'

Brian Kelly, another AUEW steward, said: 'We're all agreed that we want a call from the Confed for an all-out indefinite strike throughout the area.'



Stewards from International Harvesters, Doncaster, who travelled to Sheffield in support.

Why they want to scupper Clause 11

Clive Hartley, a member of the Edgar Allen Balfour strike committee, and AUEW convenor at Fitzwilliam works, explained the background to the dispute:

FM ABSOLUTELY sure that the closure of the Capital Tools works is part of a conspiracy by the engineering employers to break up trade union organisation in engineering in Sheffield.

The wages in the factory are among the best in the city. They're about £8-£15 a week

higher than the new Edgar Allen Balfour tools factory in Manchester.

The bosses are really worried about Clause 11 of the Employment Protection Act, which paves the way to parity claims with people doing similar work.

I'll give you an example of what this means.

Decide

About two months before the dispute started I put in a claim for our toolroom workers on the basis of parity with other toolroom workers

in the area.

I was told: 'You can't get parity.'

So I threatened to take the employers to the Department of Employment under an Act of 1959.

They agreed to go to the Department. But when I pressed them a few days later they said they'd thought the matter over and the toolroom workers could get their rise.

They got £8 a week, on top of the money we all get under the Social Contract.

That's the beauty of this parity money. It's over and above any incomes policy

money.

Clause 11 of the new Act comes into force from 1 January. I had a whole host of claims I was going to slap in under the clause.

Respond

I think the engineering employers planned to deal with Clause 11 by deliberately cutting down wages in the higher-paid factories. The best way to do that, of course, is to close the factories down.

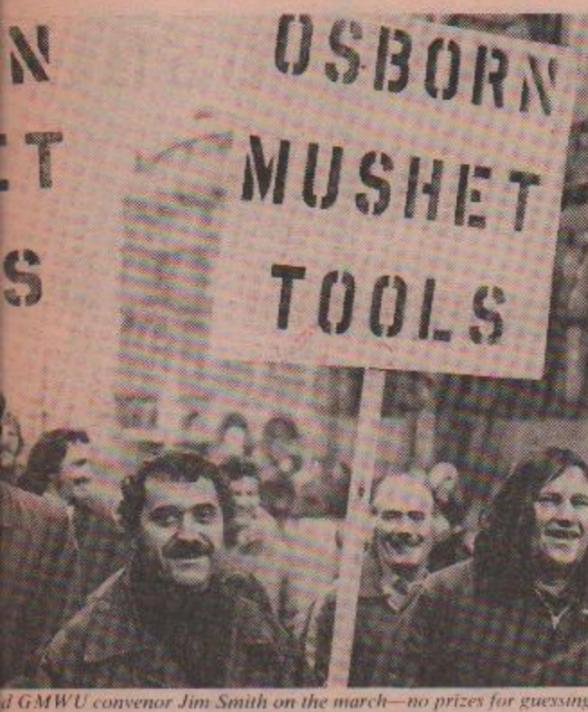
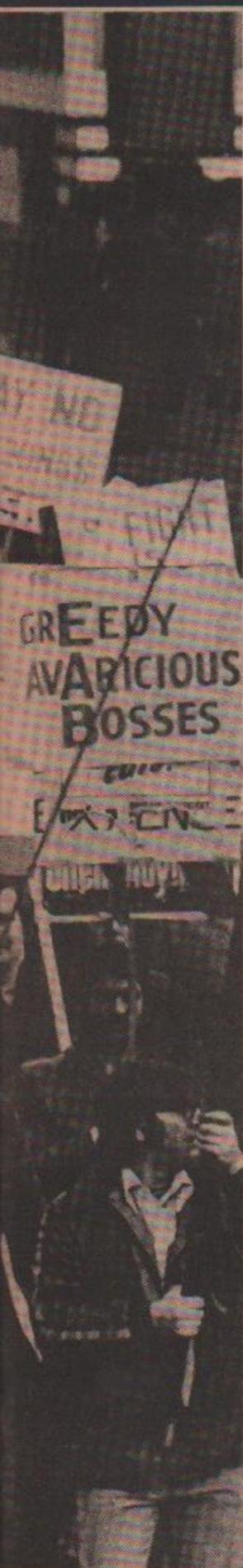
And they've started with Capital Tools.

Edgar Allen Balfours have

been planning all this carefully for a long time. They've been bringing in people from PA Management Consultants, who are well known as experts in sackings and redundancies.

Gilbert Hunt, chairman of the tools division, came from PA. So did Derek Broadley, managing director of Fitzwilliam works, and Peter Jones, production director.

I think these people came in with the strict instructions to 'streamline' us out of our jobs. Well, they're getting our answer.



GMWU convenor Jim Smith on the march—no prizes for guessing

MEETINGS AND NOTICES

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

CYPRIT DEFENCE CAMPAIGN public meeting: Stop the Deportations—Get the refugees out of jail. Greek Cypriot, Turkish Cypriot and English speakers. Wednesday 2 February, 7.30pm, Cooperative Hall, 129 Seven Sisters Road, London N7.

DEMONSTRATION: Saturday 5 February, 2pm, assemble opposite Harringay Civic Centre (Wood Green tube), march to Newington Green.



GRAVESEND Right to Work Campaign public meeting: Save our Hospital. Friday 21 January, 7.30pm, Anglo-Saxon Hall, Berkley Road, Gravesend.

NORTH LONDON Right to Work Campaign public meeting: Save our Hospitals. Save our Schools—how to fight the Cuts. Speakers: David Nuttall (former Clay Cross councillor) and John Deason (secretary, National Right to Work Campaign). Thursday 27 January, 8pm, Lord Morrison Hall, Chesnut Grove (off Chesnut Road), N17.

MANCHESTER Right to Work Campaign supporters please note. Coaches for the picket of the court when the Right to Work marchers appeal leave St Peter's Square, Manchester, 6pm, Monday 31 January. Already four TU bodies are backing the picket. Bring your workmates, and sleeping bags. Accommodation arranged. Further details, c/o TU Books, 260 Deansgate, Manchester.

MANCHESTER ENGINEERS CHARTER/RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN public meeting: The Fight for the Shorter Working Week. Speaker: Harry McShane. Monday 24 January, 8pm, AUEW Building, The Crescent, Salford.

MERSEYSIDE RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN Defence Fund Grand Social. Saturday 5 March, 8pm, bar extension till midnight. Tickets 75p in advance (£1 on the door). More details later. No More Shrewsbury—Defend the Right to Work Marchers!

TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS UNION Right to Work Campaign Conference: Smash the Social Contract! Saturday 26 March, in Manchester. Details from Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

FIGHT AGAINST THE CUTS IN THE THEATRE (FACT) calls on all theatre workers to lobby the meeting of MPs, union officials and stars called by Arts in Danger. Tuesday 25 January, 4pm, House of Commons Grand Committee Room, London SW1.

REDDER TAPE, London Civil Service rank and file group: Future meetings.

Thursday 27 January. Victimisation in the civil service—the price paid by militants. 6.30pm, The Castle, Cowcross Street, EC4 (near Farringdon Tube).

Wednesday 2 March. Civil Service pay—smash the freeze—no return to the PRU. 6.30pm, The Plough, Museum Street, WC1 (Tottenham Court Road Tube).

Wednesday 6 April. National conferences 1977—Redder Tape's fighting platform and pre-conference discussion. 6.30pm, The Plough, Museum Street, WC1.

PICKET the India High Commission in London. Friday 21 Jan 4.30pm, Alewych, WC2. Release all political prisoners! End all killings and torture in prison! End the Emergency! Organised by CRIPP.

HELP TO STOP HOSPITAL CLOSING: Mass picket all day Friday 28 January at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, Euston Road, London N1 (next to Euston Station). All possible help needed on this day to stop hospital equipment being moved by management.

THE END OF THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION: Public meeting organised by Middle East Research and Action Group. Wednesday 26 January, 7pm, Friends House, Euston Road, London. Further details from MERAAG phone 01-278 9308.

MONSTROUS REGIMENT are performing SCUM! a play about women in the Paris Commune, at a one-night benefit for the Working Women's Charter Campaign. Sunday 23 January, 8pm, Fulham Town Hall, Fulham Broadway, London SW6. Refreshments, 80p at the door.

AGEE/HOSENBALL BENEFIT DISCO: Saturday 22 January, 8pm, The Basement Club, 27 Shelton Street, London WC2. Live band—Limousine—plus disco. Plus bar. Admission 80p at the door. Stop the deportations! Out with the CIA! Repeal the Immigration Act!

Scotland

GLASGOW RAILWAYS Socialist Workers Party branch meeting: Wednesday 23 February, 8pm-9pm, Sherry's Bar, Springburn Road, Springburn.

EDINBURGH Socialist Worker discussion meetings: Every Saturday, 11.30am, Societies Centre, 21 Hill Place (off Nicholson Street). Open to all SW readers.

22 January. Capitalism—why it stinks.

29 January. Socialism is workers' power.

5 February. The Labour Party—socialism on the never-never.

12 February. More meetings to follow, all related to Paul Foot's book, Why you should be a socialist. If you enjoyed the book, come and discuss its politics.

North East

DURHAM Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Every second Thursday, 8pm, The Colpitts pub, Sutton Street, Durham City. All welcome!

20 January. Why are socialists 'internationalist'?

3 February. Women—exploited houseworkers? The socialist view?

17 February. Racism—what is it and how do we fight it?

3 March. And then there was capitalism... Marx's View of History.

17 March. Will 'human nature' change under socialism?

North West

MERSEYSIDE Socialist Workers Party day schools for new members: What is socialism and how do we fight it? Speaker: Duncan Hallas. Saturday 12 February, 10.30am-5pm, place to be announced.

Working as a socialist in your workplace. Speaker: John Deason, Saturday 5 March, 10.30am-5pm, place to be announced. Social in evening.

Limited number of places available to surrounding branches and districts. 21 employed/40p unemployed, students, etc. Send money to book place to: Merseyside SWP organiser.

CHESTER SWP discussion meetings: Alternate Thursdays, 7.30pm, The Railway Inn, Brook Street.

27 January. The middle class—do they really exist?

MANCHESTER AREA Socialist Workers Party school. Duncan Hallas on The History of Working-Class Papers, and Alan Borrell on Increasing the Influence of Socialist Worker. Sunday 13 February, 2pm, Committee Room, Polytechnic Students Union Building, Cavendish House.

SALFORD Socialist Worker public meetings: Every second Wednesday, 8pm, Kings Arms Hotel, Whit Lane.

9 February. The Socialist Workers Party. Speaker: Duncan Hallas.

23 February. Marxism and History. Speaker: Jules Townshend.

9 March. State Capitalism in Russia. Speaker: Colin Barker.

MANCHESTER AREA Socialist Workers Party school. Two sessions: Why we call ourselves Marxists, and The Revolutionary Movement after the First World War. Speaker: Harry McShane. Saturday 23 January, 2pm, Committee Room, Polytechnic Student Union Building, Cavendish House. All SWP members and supporters welcome.

CREWE Socialist Worker discussion groups: Fridays, The Angel Hotel, Victoria Street, Crewe Town Centre.

21 January. Chile—end of the parliamentary road.

4 February. Women's liberation and socialism.

North Wales

BANGOR Socialist Worker discussion meetings: Fridays, 7.30pm, Liverpool Arms, High Street. All welcome.

21 January. All ruling ideas are the ideas of the ruling class—how do we fight them?

28 January. What is the Labour Party?

4 February. Is Russia socialist?

11 February. Nationalism or socialism?

PUBLIC MEETING: Why you should be a socialist. Speaker: Duncan Hallas. Thursday 17 February, 7.30pm, Glanrafon Arms.

Midlands

LEICESTER Socialist Worker discussion meetings: Fridays, 9pm prompt, Globe Inn, Silver Street.

21 January. Fascism and how to fight it. Speaker: Ted Ashby (TGWU).

4 February. Why there is no parliamentary road to socialism. Speaker: Des Bailey (RSF).

18 February. The history of the international Socialists/Socialist Workers Party. Speaker: Elsbeth Alcott (NUPE).

4 March. The struggle in Ireland. Speaker: Martin Williamson (NALGO).

18 March. China. Speaker: Terry Alcott (NUT).

1 April. The crisis of British capitalism. Speaker: John Clossick (NUT).

LEICESTER District Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Victory to the freedom fighters of Southern Africa. Called in support of the Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign. Wednesday 26 January, 8pm, Secular Hall, Humberstone Gate. Speakers: Simba Makoni (UK Secretary of ZANU) and Russ Bowman (SASC).

BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

Socialist Worker public meetings

Send notices — to reach us first post Monday — to What's On, SW, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

THE CASE FOR SOCIALISM
Public meetings on why we have launched the new Socialist Workers Party

Scotland

JORDANHILL College of Education, Glasgow: Friday 25 Feb 12.30pm-1.30pm, Common Room. Speaker: Paul Foot.

PAISLEY: Friday 25 February, 7.30pm, Paisley Town Hall. Speaker: Paul Foot.

Yorkshire

LEEDS: Wednesday 2 March, 8pm, Wellesley Hotel, Wellington Street (near Central railway station). Speaker: Duncan Hallas. Chaired by Mike Fitzpatrick (AUEW shop steward, Hailwood and Ackroyd).

SHEFFIELD: Thursday 3 February, details to be announced. Speakers: Billy Williams (chairman, Cardiff EETPU, in a personal capacity) and Tony Cliff (SWP central committee).

ROTHERHAM: Wednesday 2 February, details to be announced. Speaker: Tony Cliff SWP central committee).

North West

CREWE: Thursday 24 February, 7.45pm, The Angel Hotel, Victoria Street. Speaker: Paul Foot.

SALFORD: Wednesday 9 February, 8pm, Kings Arms Hotel, White Lane. Speaker: Duncan Hallas.

STOCKPORT: Thursday 27 January, 7.30pm, Lecture Theatre B, Hexagon Block, Stockport Technical College, Greek Street. Speaker: Paul Foot.



CRUMPSALL and OPENSHAW: Friday 28 January, 8pm, The Royal Oak, Oldham Road (near Wilsons Brewery). Speaker: Paul Foot.

Merseyside

CAMMEL LAIRDS: Wednesday 2 February, 12 noon, Castle Hotel (opposite shipyard main gate). Speakers: Ricky Tomlinson (TGWU shop steward), Paul Foot and Margaret Renn.

SOUTH LIVERPOOL: Wednesday 2 February, 7.45pm, Triton Hotel, Paradise Street, Liverpool (opposite Holiday Inn). Speaker: Ricky Tomlinson (TGWU shop steward), Paul Foot and Margaret Renn.

LIVERPOOL POLYTECHNIC: Thursday 3 February, 12.45pm, Speakers: Paul Foot and Margaret Renn.

BOOTLE: Thursday 3 February, 7.45pm, Goddard Hall, Stanley Road. Speakers: Paul Foot and Margaret Renn. Chaired by Carol Douras (SOGAT).

VAUXHALL MOTORS: Wednesday 16 February, 12 noon, details will be announced in the plant. Speaker: Jimmy McCallum (former TASS convener, John Brown Engineering, Clydeside).

BIRKENHEAD: Wednesday 16 February, 7.45pm, details to be announced. Speakers: Jimmy McCallum (former TASS convener John Brown Engineering, Clydeside) and Keith Ross (AEUW district committee).

LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY: Thursday 17 February, 5pm, Anfield Lounge, New Students Union. Speaker: Jimmy McCallum (former TASS convener, John Brown Engineering, Clydeside).

KIRKBY: Thursday 17 February, 7.45pm, details to be announced. Speaker: Jimmy McCallum (former TASS convener, John Brown Engineering, Clydeside).

Midlands

WALSALL: Wednesday 26 January, 8pm, The Red Lion, Park Street (near railway station). Speakers: Tony Cliff and a local trade unionist.

DUDLEY: Thursday 27 January, 8pm, The Smiling Man, Hall Street. Speakers: Tony Cliff and a local trade unionist.

20 January. Women's rights and equal pay—how far we have come and how far we have to go. Speaker: Nicky Mellor.

27 January. Rank and File and the working class. Speaker: Eric Hill.

CHELMSFORD SWP public debate: Can the Labour Party achieve socialism? Speakers: Nick Reynolds (Labour Party) and Teresa Tant (SWP). Thursday 10 February, 8pm, The Royal Steamer (just behind Chelmsford Station).

CHELMSFORD SWP public meeting: How Capitalism began. Speaker: Alastair Hatchett. Thursday 3 February, 8pm, The Royal Steamer (behind Chelmsford Station).

CHELMSFORD SWP public meeting: GEC—high profits and low wages. Speaker: A Fleet Street financial journalist. Thursday 27 January, 8pm, Royal Steamer (behind Chelmsford station).

28 February. Why Leninism?

31 January. The State

14 February. Internationalism and Imperialism

28 February. Why Leninism?

31 January. The State

14 February. Internationalism and Imperialism

28 February. Why Leninism?

31 January. The State

14 February. Internationalism and Imperialism

28 February. Why Leninism?

WOLVERHAMPTON POLYTECHNIC: Thursday 27 January, 1pm, C7 lecture theatre. Speaker: Tony Cliff (SWP central committee). Organised by Wolverhampton Polytechnic NOISS.

North Wales

BANGOR: Thursday 17 February, 7.30pm, Glanrafon Arms. Speaker: Duncan Hallas.

South Wales

ELY, Cardiff: Monday 31 January, 7.30pm, place to be announced. Speakers: Billy Williams (EETPU) and Jim Nichol (SWP central committee).

CARDIFF STUDENTS UNION: Tuesday 1 February, 1pm, place to be announced. Speakers: Bob Dumbledon and Jim Nichol (SWP central committee).

CARDIFF: Tuesday 1 February, 7.30pm, place to be announced. Speakers: Billy Williams (EETPU) and Jim Nichol (SWP central committee).

NEWPORT: Wednesday 2 February, 7.30pm, place to be announced. Speakers are: Ray Morgan (EETPU shop steward, Llanwern steel works) and Jim Nichol (SWP central committee).

PONTYPRIDD: Thursday 3 February, 7.30pm, place to be announced. Speakers: Idris Phillips (TGWU branch secretary, 4/163 branch) and Jim Nichol (SWP central committee).

East Anglia

LOWESTOFT: Thursday 24 February, watch for further details. Speaker: Paul Foot.

South East

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD: Thursday 20 January, 8pm, Old Town Hall, High Street. Speaker: Paul Foot.

CHELMSFORD: Monday 14 February, 7.45pm, Shire Hall. Speaker: Duncan Hallas (chairman, SWP).

WITHAM: Speaker: Jimmy McCallum. Monday 28 February, 8pm, Spring Lodge Community Centre, Chipping Hill.

London

HENDON: Thursday 27 January, 8pm, Burnt Oak Public Library, Watling Avenue, Burnt Oak (Northern Line tube or buses 32, 52, 179). Speakers: Jimmy McCallum (former TASS convener, John Brown Engineering, Clydeside), Margaret Dunne (nurse) and Simon Clarke (London busman).

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Speaker: Jimmy McCallum. Wed 26 January, 7.30pm, Charlton House, Hornfair Road, SE7.

LEA VALLEY: Tuesday 15 February, more details later. Speaker: Jimmy McCallum (former TASS convener, John Brown Engineering, Clydeside).

South West

KINGSWOOD, Bristol: Speaker: Tony Cliff plus local speaker. Friday 28 January, 7.30pm, Kingswood Community Centre, High St., Kingswood.

SOUTH WEST LONDON District Socialist Workers Party Day School provisionally booked for Saturday 12 March, Ruskin House, Croydon. Watch this space for details.

BALHAM AND TOOTING Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Wednesdays, 8pm, The Wheatsheaf (by Tooting Bec tube).

26 January. The Great Debate—education for the dole? Speaker: Chris Kelly.

9 February. Women and the economic crisis. Speaker: Mary Phillips.

WEST MIDDLESEX Socialist Worker discussion meetings on The Meaning of Marxism. Alternate Mondays, 7.45pm, The White Hart, Acton High Street.

24 January. Racism: today and how to fight it.

7 February. Personal life and capitalism.

HACKNEY SCHOOLS branch Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Fighting fascism. Speaker: Colin Sparks. Tuesday 1 February, 8pm, Centreprise Bookshop, Kingsland Road, London E8 (near Dalston Junction). All welcome.

PARK ROYAL Socialist Worker public meeting: Trotsky. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Thursday 20 January, 7pm, Willesden Junction pub (near Willesden Junction station/Euston, North London and Bakerloo lines/buses 18,187,220,260,266 to Jubilee Clock). All welcome.

South West

BRISTOL Socialist Worker discussion meetings: Thursdays, 8pm, Baptist Mills Community Centre, Horley Road, St Werburghs (off Mina Road, near M32).

27 January. Ireland's British problem.

10 February. What's happening in Poland?

CAMBOURNE Socialist Workers Party public meeting and discussion: Cornish workers against nationalism. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Saturday 22 January, 7.30pm, Cambourne Community Centre. All welcome.

District meeting, 3pm, for all SWP members in the South West. Bring new members and supporters.



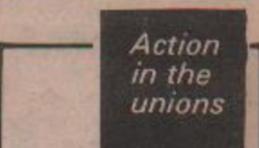
ROCK AGAINST RACISM concerts:

HATFIELD: Thursday 3 February, 8pm till late, Hatfield Polytechnic, Plummit Airlines and Limousine.

EAST LONDON: Friday 18 February, Queen Mary's College, Mile End. Benefit for Brick Lane anti-fascist demonstrators. Special Brew and The Derlitsks.

NORTH LONDON: Friday 4 March. North London Polytechnic, Ladbroke House, Highbury. Joint Rock Against Racism/Icebreakers benefit. Tom Robinson Band.

BADGE in Red and Yellow. 22p including postage or ten for £1.50 post free. From Rock Against Racism, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.



GREATER MANCHESTER: Meeting for all members of supporters of the Socialist Workers Party (IS) in the National Union of Public Employees. Saturday 19 February, in London. Please keep the date free.

NUPE National meeting for all members and supporters of the Socialist Workers Party (IS) in the National Union of Public Employees. Saturday 19 February, in London. Please keep the date free.

COUNCIL WORKERS: Meeting of all supporters and members of the Socialist Workers Party (IS) who are shop stewards or trade union reps in town halls, direct labour depots etc. Saturday 22 January, 1pm-5.30pm, Trade Union Books, 260 Deansgate, Manchester.

Notices

Socialist Workers Party **GAY GROUP** meets alternate Mondays in London. Contact Richard Tarry, 19 Redman's Road, E1 3AQ (phone 01-790 2454) or Ruth (phone 01-800 8557).

BEAT INFLATION COME TO THE LEA VALLEY SWP district Rummage Sale. Tuesday 1 February, 8pm, TCP Hall, 628 High Road, Tottenham, London N17. Entrance 5p. Refreshments available. Good bargains. Jumble welcome, phone 348-2041 or 808-9057.

Good, cheap **SOCIALIST ROCK BAND** NEEDED for Lowestoft Socialist Workers Party benefit in April. Phone 0502-65772.

COMRADE WANTED to share house in Walsall with three others. If interested, phone Walsall (0822) 614891.

Socialist Worker **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GROUP** is starting new activity this year. Any SWP members or supporters interested, please contact Russ Bowman, 33 Kinross Crescent, Loughborough. Any members of the group who have recently changed addresses, please write.

MERSEYSIDE Socialist Workers Party (IS) urgently requires an electric duplicator in good working order for as low a price as possible. We are able to collect. Please write to Merseyside SWP, c/o 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

They're never happy unless you're miserable



PAUL O'FLINN ON THE RULING CLASS

THE CHRISTMAS holiday has disappeared over the horizon and out of sight but there's one aspect of it that's still worth commenting on, and that's the number of times different versions of Charles Dickens's short story *A Christmas Carol* cropped up on radio and TV.

There was a cartoon version and a children's version on BBC

TV, a dramatisation of Dickens's readings from *Christmas Carol* on ITV, extracts performed in a church on the radio, and so on.

Ghosts

Christmas Carol is the story of Scrooge, the miserly employer shocked out of his meanness on Christmas Eve by visiting ghosts and pressing a turkey and a wage raise on Bob Cratchit, his clerk. The tale has become as much a part of the British

Christmas as the dive for the off-switch when herself looms up out of the plastic holly to deliver this year's dollop of ruling-class platitudes.

It is, of course, easy to scoff at the impossible sentimentality of the Scrooge story. Wildly generous employers like him are about as probable as anarcho-syndicalist popes and anyway, generous or not, the master-clerk set-up stays unaltered at the end of the book. For all his change of heart, Scrooge is still the boss and Bob Cratchit the grateful employee. *But one aspect of the work still*

remains mildly subversive and that's its celebration of generosity, of relaxation, of good-fellowship, of all that we mean when we talk vaguely about the spirit of Christmas.

The middle classes have been uneasy about this right from the start. 'Bear in mind,' Dickens jokingly pointed out to his friend Foster, 'that the *Westminster Review* considered Scrooge's gift of the turkey to Bob Cratchit as grossly incompatible with political economy.'

Grumbling

Twenty-eight years after the first publication of *Christmas Carol* you can still find *The Times* in 1871 grumbling about 'an increasing tendency of late years among all classes to find excuse for Holydays.'

That grumbling surely reached its peak this year. Everywhere there was orchestrated whining about the fact that the proletariat appeared to be enjoying themselves for a few days instead of beavering away full-time at the real business of life—namely generating profits for the shareholders.

The press editorialised against it, phone-in programmes were organised around it, Angry Ratepayer of Bognor complained in his local paper about it and Angela Rippon glittered fiercely as she reported it.

What was interesting about all this dismal howling was the view of life that it revealed. Whatever our rulers may pretend with their nostalgic enthusiasm for Dickens, in the end they reject his message.

Interrupts

Life, they insist, is not about kindness and sharing and the warmth that comes from real relationships. Life, at least for you lot out there, is about working and nothing more.

Anything that interrupts working, like Christmas holidays, or stops working, like a strike, or interferes with working, like trade unions, is to be deplored.

'Arbeit Macht Frei' ('Work makes free') the Nazis wrote with grim humour over the entrance to Auschwitz concentration camp. The same dead thought stirred all the joyless sods who did their best to spoil the Christmas holiday.

Keep an eye on them or next year they'll have it off you altogether.

Coming soon on TV: Sexy Lenin, the man who seduced a whole nation

'ELEANOR Marx was not only beautiful but also a revolutionary', wrote most of the Fleet Street previewers, in their typical sexist way.

And the first play in the BBC-2 trilogy, due to finish on Monday, did little to change that image.

No doubt none day they'll do a play about Lenin saying 'he was not only a revolutionary but also good-looking'.

Who was the Eleanor Marx they were so concerned to distort for us?

Eleanor, (nicknamed Tussy), the youngest daughter of Karl and Jenny Marx, was born in England in 1855.

Her life, cut short by suicide at the age of 43, is at once the life of Marx, of Engels, of the Paris Commune of 1871, the International, the Social Democratic Federation, the Socialist League, the unemployed, the gasworkers and more.

Brought up in the material poverty but exhilarating

HOW ELSE CAN THE BBC FOLLOW UP THE SERIES ON ELEANOR MARX?

By **ALASTAIR HATCHETT**

spirit of the exiled Marx family, she became a passionate revolutionary and was a leading figure in the socialist revival and new unionisation of the unskilled workers of the 1880s.

Her work with the gasworkers earned her another nickname: *Good Old Stoker*.

She spent endless hours at work in the British Museum

on exhausting research for *Capital*. Inspired by her father and by the poverty and injustice of Victorian London, she knew the crucial importance of such apparently dreary work.

For she was one of the most creative socialist women of her times, as a socialist agitator at factory gates, or as an actress re-interpreting

Ibsen's *The Doll's House*, or in the writing of the pamphlet Shelley's *Socialism* which she wrote with her lover Edward Aveling.

Her relationship with Aveling was both creative and destructive. His final betrayal of her contributed to her suicide in 1898.

But so, too, did the success of the employers' offensive on the working class in the 1890s, the increasingly crude interpretations by the Left of Marx's writing, and the death of Engels two years before.

Engels had been a second father to her. When he was 70, Eleanor described him as 'the youngest man I know'.

Playboy

His vitality in his last five years, in which he completed the three volumes of *Capital*, wrote more than 100 major works, and contributed to 19 weekly papers in eight languages, is hardly revealed by his playboy image in the TV programme.

Socialists wanting to understand the real Eleanor Marx should order from their library and read the two volumes of her biography by Yvonne Kapp, published by Lawrence and Wishart.

Kapp's biography is one of the most brilliant pieces of socialist writing published in the last few years.



ELEANOR MARX: One of the most creative socialist women



Karl Marx: Not just a pretty face . . .



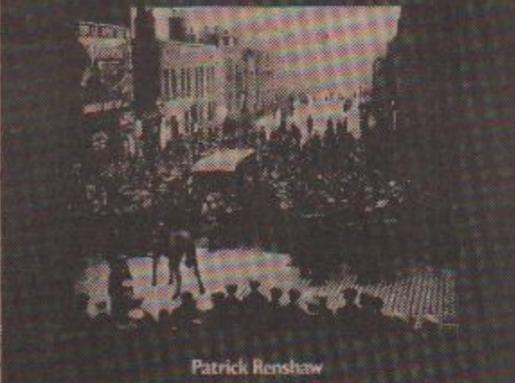
Engels: 'The youngest man I know', said Eleanor when he was 70.



Paris, 1871: The Commune saw Eleanor Marx rushing to its support

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Letters

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

How the Cuts kill

CONGRATULATIONS to Socialist Worker for its campaign to show how the cuts are killing people. This is not sensationalism but horrible fact, as we recently discovered by a near escape that we had.

A few weeks ago, we were woken up by screams from the stairs of our block of flats. There was a rapid appearance of fire engines and the block was evacuated.

Father's rescue bid foiled by flames **TODDLER DIES AS BLAST RIPS HOUSE**



One of our neighbours had had their electricity cut off and so were living by the use of calor gas. While trying to light the gas, they had started a fire. If the calor gas cylinder had blown up, most of the people in the flats would have been injured at least. It didn't go up, mainly through quick action that firemen took. They spent a full hour afterwards pouring water on to the cylinder—which convinced us of the danger we had faced.

● ●
Lucky escape for us. Not so lucky for 11-month-old Gail Plenderleith. She died on 5 January when the gas cylinder in the room under her bedroom blew up. And Gail was not the only one. Listen carefully next

time there is a news item about yet another fire in a council house. Many of the present spate of fires start with calor gas fires.

So carry on with the campaign because there are far too many people who feel no anger about the horror that could occur in their own streets—and no anger at a government which creates such situations and trade union leaders who tolerate them.

One final point. I said that we were probably saved by rapid action by firemen. Lothian Region Council clearly couldn't stand such wanton protection of human life. On 22 December they cut the fire service by £195,000.

□ Steve Faith, Edinburgh.

Don't forget the worker in uniform

I WENT to a Socialist Worker talk that covered the role of the police. One brother said there are two types of police—the one who is in it for the bother, the other who is there to help.

The former is the one we all think of and know. But don't forget the 'worker in uniform'.

For many people who can't stand a 9-5 job, the police force seems a rewarding job with excitement. There's 'security' and a 'free' house.

You start with a poor union and restrictions on your personal life. You have illusions in what you can do for others.

By the time these are smashed, you are married with kids and a police house.

You're too old for another 'career' and you might not be able to get another house.

In short, you're dependent on the force for your existence. No wonder policemen do what they're told.

I was going to join the force until I saw how political it was.

As socialists we must be clear that the copper on the beat is just a puppet. It is those who organise or finance the police that we must attack because they are in the pay of the bosses.

□ Matt Salisbury, AUEW, Letchworth.

...or the atrocities of the forces

PERHAPS some of your readers would be interested in the following facts, which were given to me by an ex-NCO of the Paratroop Regiment. He also served with an American Airborne Division for a year, having been conscripted into the US forces during three years living in the USA.

FACT 1: While serving with the US Army in Vietnam, he witnessed Special Air Service (SAS) troops of the British Army being deployed against the Vietcong.

FACT 2: Phosphorus grenades (banned by the Geneva Convention) have been used by British forces in the Middle East.

FACT 3: A certain Sheikh asked the British Army to help put down unrest among 40,000 of his subjects, who were protesting against their abject poverty, caused by an over-greedy ruling class. The British Army responded by dispatching 300 SAS troops, suitably equipped, to 'deal' with the dissidents, who had sought refuge on a high plateau and who were subsequently wiped out.

My informant claimed this to be the most 'brilliant' military manoeuvre since the Second World War—the 40,000 were almost unarmed—but regretted that it was far too sensitive an issue for the public to be informed.

I was led to believe that this incident took place in the Yemen, before independence, but this may be invalid.

I am transmitting to you the three facts which I consider most significant—I was surprised and dismayed by the many other activities of the British Army that he reported, all of which he had participated in or witnessed.

□ A Socialist Worker reader.



I FOUND this badge in an old hat the other day. The motto is superb in its admission of 'Defence, not defiance'. What more proof is needed that trade unionism in itself is not the answer to capitalism?

Particularly now, when Jack Jones etc seem to have taken the motto one step further to 'Submission and sell-out, not even defence'. I wonder how long before it's Lord Jones

The press and TV have selected his successor quick enough—Moss Evans, the man a TV announcer described the other night as 'a good organiser with no real political beliefs'.

The only answer is to kick the media's nomination back in their faces and vote for Tommy Riley, the Right to Work Campaign candidate.

□ Pete Halsall, Ormskirk, Lancashire.

Troops Out is only the start

I WAS amazed to read in Socialist Worker (18 December) the article, printed uncritically, by Gerry Adams, a prisoner in Long Kesh, Northern Ireland.

It correctly pointed out that the 'British government retains ultimate authority over the affairs of the people of the Six Counties and dominates the affairs of the people of the Six Counties.

But to imagine that withdrawal can end the economic instability and bring political and economic freedom is to misunderstand

the capitalist nature of Ireland. The international capitalists will not stop dividing the workers because they have no direct control.

No attempt is made to explain that Ireland will never be united and free on a capitalist basis.

Gerry Adams points out the domination of the economy by the monopolies, but does not call for their nationalisation under democratic workers' control and management with a socialist plan of production to end the poverty which is the breeding ground of sec-

tarianism.

It is not just 'British domination' which has 'improvised' the Irish economy but capitalist domination—national and international.

The 'Irish people' are split between workers and capitalists and only with the awakening of the Irish Labour and trade union movement and the changing of society will the basis be laid for a solution.

□ WILLIAM KING, Glasgow LPYS.

EDITOR REPLIES: Socialist Worker agrees that the root of Ireland's problems lies with capitalism. And capitalism can only be overthrown by direct class struggle, uniting Catholic and Protestant workers.

However, the British domination of the Six Counties, and particularly the presence of troops, in maintaining the sectarian division between Protestant and Catholic, impedes the growth of the broad, class struggle for socialism.

It is for this reason that all socialists must first and foremost demand the withdrawal of British troops from Northern Ireland.

POSTAL POINTS

FINE WORDS, Iain Fenton (Letters, 8 January) ... from you and no doubt from Punk Rock. But think for a moment how many young people stop there.

How many see contemporary music as nothing else but that someone, somewhere, knows that society is shit. I spent 2-3 years listening to Bob Dylan at all hours of the night, thanking God (?) that someone else understood.

Later I realised that change is only possible through revolution—and revolution is only possible when people like you and me stop mooning over words sung by someone making a lot of bread, and get up off our arses and fight.

□ David Pinnock, North London.

I WOULD like to say how pleased I was to get your booklets in the Socialist Worker Training Series. These are indeed useful.

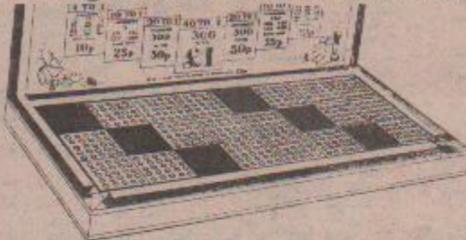
Book 1, Practical Notes, is intended for organisation in one's workplace. Book 2 is on the trade union leaders and book 3 the British Communist Party, what they stand for. This booklet would be the most useful to Communist Party members.

I fully recommend these three booklets. I also look forward to others in the series. Well done, lads!

□ GRAHAM SAWYER, Willenhall.
The three SW training pamphlets are available at 20p each (including postage) from SW Distributors, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

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Rank and File Organising Committee, 1 Irving Street, Dumfries, Scotland.

Self-determination: It's a right

I'VE BEEN reading the recent Socialist Worker pamphlet on Scotland and Scottish Nationalism.

I can't find any mention of the fact that Scotland is entitled to self-determination.

Perhaps the comrades have forgotten that Lenin urged socialists to defend the rights,

especially of small nations, to self-determination—while pointing out that only a socialist revolution on a world-wide basis could win real rights for the working class and workers' control.

□ Frank Conway, Manchester 14.

□ Bill Collins, Durham SWP.

Will the Hampden Roar betray the Santiago Scream?

WE MUST NOT
LET THIS
OBSCENE
SOCCER MATCH
GO AHEAD

THE SCOTTISH press is full of editorials, sports columns and God knows what else defending the Scottish Football Association's decision to take an international team to play in Chile next summer.

All the old rubbish about not mixing sport and politics is being trotted out as an excuse for ignoring the obscene repression being carried out in Chile.

A more subtle argument says that Chile is no different from Russia or Brazil or any other dictatorship. So if we don't play Chile, why play any of the others?

To socialists of course, Chile is a little different. It holds a special place in the category of bestiality.

Chile epitomises the depths to which the ruling class of any country are prepared to sink to defend their selfish interests.

Chile had an elected government which, according to the CIA and others, had Marxist leanings. Therefore the CIA and the Chilean generals decided to dispense with democracy 'in the national interest'—that is, the interest of the US multinationals, who own the wealth of Chile, and their local minions.

Warning

The people subsequently murdered or maimed by torture were ordinary working class men and women whose crime was to be members of political parties or simply of trade unions, the type of people you would find at Hampden or Celtic Park every Saturday.

Chile is, in fact, a warning to all of us in Britain.

Capitalism in crisis knows no limits, that our masters will stop at nothing, that there is no peaceful road to socialism because of this. So it's particularly nauseating for people like me, who love their football, who consider football as working class culture at its best, an art form even, to be insulted by



Inside the Santiago Stadium: where socialists and trade unionists have been tortured and killed, Scotland now propose to play football



By John Gillen

Celtic fan(atic) and a member of the Boilermakers Society who works at Caterpillar, Uddingston



This is Chile, land of barbarism

the idea of the Scottish team visiting the butchers of Chile.

To allow these men to strut about displaying their arrogance in front of crowds of Chileans drawn to the Santiago stadium by a Scottish team full of players of working class backgrounds, is even more sickening.

For that is where they're to play their bloody match! On the turf where people were tortured, machine-gunned or done down in some other desperate way.

Santiago stadium holds terrible

memories for the Chilean working-class. Surely to God, the thought of those broken and mutilated bodies of men and women will enter the conscience of the players if not the officials who are to make the journey. Or am I being naive?

Finals

The official reason for the trip, which takes in Brazil and Uruguay as well, is to acclimatise the team for the World Cup finals

in the Argentine in 1978.

But the Scottish team is by no means certain to qualify for the finals. And the team that plays this summer is unlikely to be the same team that would play in 1978! So why are they going at all?

The answer lies in the large numbers of officials and pressmen who will be on a six-week vacation, expenses paid, through South America.

This also explains the near unanimous support given to the trip by the parasitic soccer scribes of the Scottish press.

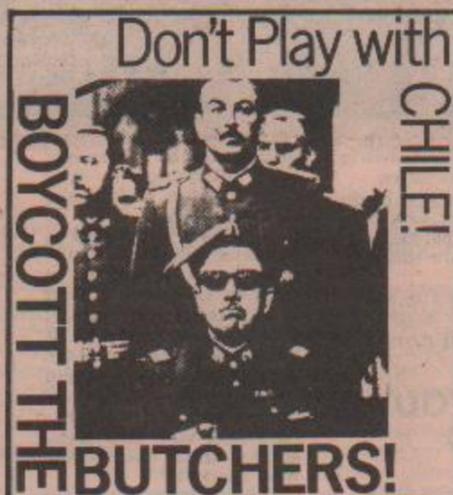
Willie Allen, SFA secretary, sees the trip as a fitting conclusion to his 'noble' career. He retires this year. What a pity he won't be able to fit in a match on the park in Buchenwald, and another in the cemetery which houses the dead of Hiroshima.

Allen is really desperate to go to Santiago. He has threatened any player who refuses to go on the grounds of conscience with disciplinary action.

Hungary

The one positive aspect of this scandal is that Chile is being talked about again on the factory floor.

When you're talking about it, remember that in 1968, after the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia, Glasgow Celtic refused to play the Hungarian champions Ferencvaros in the European Cup—a fine, principled



KENNEDY BEGAN IT ALL

NEW REVELATIONS about how the US multinationals were organised to bring down a mildly left wing government in Chile came from CBS television in the United States last week.

In an hour-long interview, Ed Korry, US Ambassador in Chile from 1967 to 1973, accused the new US Vice-President Walter Mondale and the new head of the CIA, Walter Sorenson, of being less than honest about the true history of Chile. They were, he said, desperately covering up the truth.

That history, he went on to explain, did not begin with the corrupt President Nixon, but with 'Mr Clean', American president John Fitzgerald Kennedy.

Kennedy's brother Robert, the Attorney General, personally controlled an immense

slush fund of government and corporate cash paid to individuals in Chile who were opposed to Salvador Allende's 1964 election campaign.

Multinational

Said Korry: 'President Kennedy personally asked David Rockefeller, head of the Chase Manhattan Bank, to organise a group of multinational corporations in the spring of 1963 to support American politics in Latin America.'

'David Rockefeller formed that group... Bobby Kennedy as overseer of all our covert operations in the world began integrating these business groups in the covert operations of the US throughout Latin America and elsewhere...'

BOOKMARX CLUB

INADEQUATE stocks at Penguins mean we have been unable to obtain *My Life*, by Trotsky, advertised as one of our choices for the first quarter of 1977.

Instead, we have secured Trotsky's 1905, a masterly history of Russia's 'first revolution'.

We apologise for any difficulties caused to members.

Third choice for February is *People of the Abyss*, Jack London's classic eyewitness study of London's East End working class at the turn of the century.

A number of people, notably students and parents, found the pre-Christmas period difficult financially, so we have decided to extend the date for registering membership for the first quarter until 20th Jan, 1977. Please note that the Bankers Order forms sent out are now out of date. Could people wishing to use them please amend them so the first payment is made on 24 March (ie for the second quarter) and pay for the first quarter directly by cheque.

Write to:
Bookmarx Club,
Bookmarks, 265
Seven Sisters Rd,
London N4 (01-802
6145).

stand praised by all and sundry.

But what do you hear from Celtic Park on Chile? A resounding silence!

The trip must be stopped. Any worker in Scotland involved in any way—airport workers, bus drivers, hotel workers—must refuse to collaborate with the freeloaders of the SFA. We must spoil their bloody holiday.

Myself and some other close friends who love football and who are active in the socialist and trade union movement have vowed that we will do everything we can to stop this tribute to the murderers of the Chilean Junta.

Inflicted

If ordinary working people in Scotland can stop the game going ahead, then thousands of Chilean workers will know we have not forgotten them, that they are not alone, that others fear and hate the system that has been inflicted on them by blood and the sword.

That's why we'll be writing to Celtic View, the supporters' newspaper, putting our case. That's why we'll be putting out leaflets to the Parkhead fans to enlist their support for the campaign and to warn them what Chile really means.

We urge other socialists to do the same in their own towns.

Grunwicks 'We want union' ballot stalled

by KEN MONTAGUE

NORTH WEST LONDON: Strikers at Grunwick Film Processing, Willesden, now into the fifth month of their strike, have been told they must wait at least another fortnight for the result of a ballot on recognition of their union, the office workers (APEX).

Despite a 90 per cent return on the first ballot, ACAS, the government's arbitration service, have decided they need more time to consult with the scabs.

Management are cock-a-hoop at the decision. Junior managers and other scum lined up at the factory gates to laugh and jeer as strikers and other trade unionists marched past the Chapter Road factory last Friday.

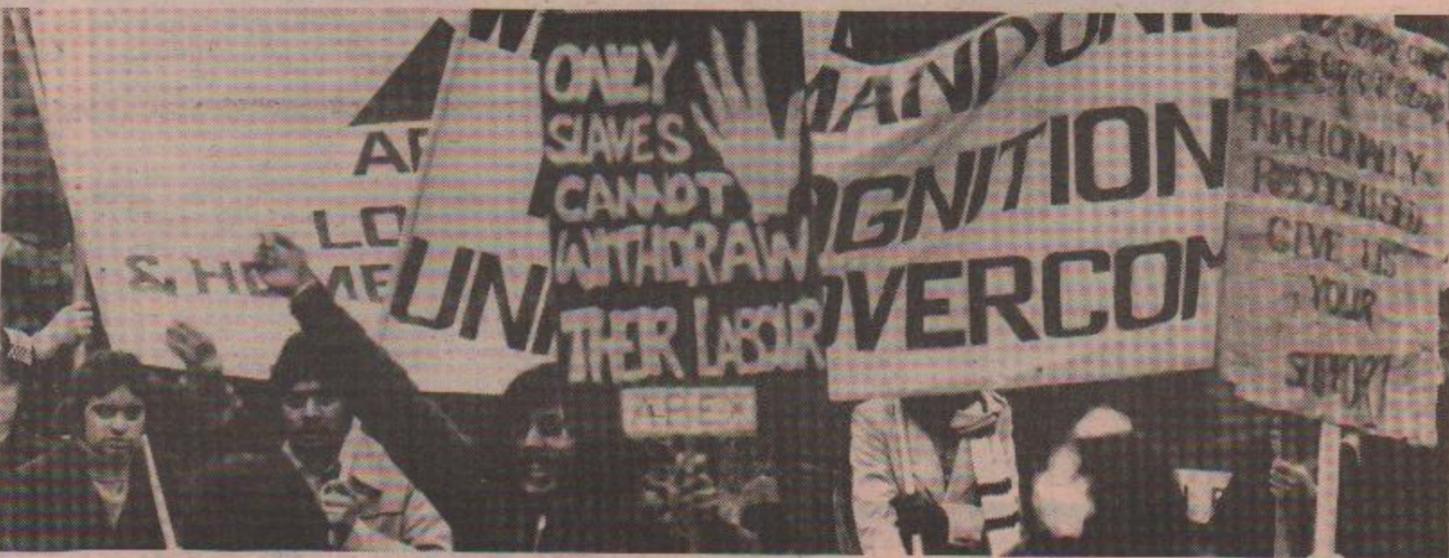
The bitterness of local trade unionists involved with the strike can be seen from just one factory, GEC's Associated Automation, just across the road. Abdul Wagu and Jimmy Faulks are convenor and assistant convenor.

When the TUC General Secretary spoke at a meeting in December, Abdul Wagu spoke up angrily against the Post Office Workers Union executive's lack of consultation with their own members on the calling off of the blacking. 'Occupation is the only tactic in this situation,' said Jimmy Faulks. 'That would have won this strike months ago.'

Killed

'You can't conduct an industrial dispute by turning to the union leaders and seeing your MPs and government ministers. When APEX decided to go to ACAS I knew it was a wrong decision. Time and again around the country we've seen legislation being used in industrial disputes and it's killed the militancy and dragged things out till everyone's sick of it.'

Alec Ford is the link man between the Associated Automation shop stewards and the Grunwick strike committee. 'There should have been some kind of workers' occupation weeks ago, but I think that seemed too militant for the APEX leaders,' he said. 'I don't blame the strikers. They've done really well. But they've been left much too long without action being taken. There's still a lot we can do to win this strike. The pickets can be strengthened and local shop stewards can be



BELOW AND RIGHT: Grunwicks workers outside the factory last Friday

Stab-in-back
for builders
-they vote
to fight on

WELWYN GARDEN CITY: A mass meeting of building workers voted on Monday to continue their seven-month-old picket of Marshall Andrews viaduct site—despite being stabbed in the back by their own union officials.

Members of UCATT have been picketing the site since last June in a battle against a sophisticated form of lump labour working.

UCATT officials have continually tried to sabotage the struggle. Last week they appeared to have succeeded when regional organiser Ivor Jordan instructed Transport Union drivers to cross the picket line.

It looked like the final blow for the pickets. But Monday's meeting decided that the fight had to go on. Now it's vital that other building workers and trade unionists show their support. The battle against the lump, even with conference resolutions, will clearly not be led by full-time officials. They are more interested in cosy deals with the bosses.

But rank and file action such as that shown by these pickets can, if it is taken up around the country, win the day.

Send collections and messages of support to: Joe Lee, c/o Trades and Labour Club, Bridge Road East, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.

4000 laid off at shipyard

by a Cammel Lairds worker
BIRKENHEAD: Within three days of 500 shipwrights and platers taking strike action, the management at Cammel-Lairds shipyard laid off 4,000 workers.

The decision to bring in the mass lay-offs so quickly was completely unnecessary. There was enough work to keep most of us employed for at least three weeks. Many of us feel it was a deliberate move by the company to turn those laid-off against those on strike. The strikers were demanding the implementation of parity agreement made nearly 18 months ago. They wanted £2 to bring them into line with the welders. After agreeing to relax some working practices, they were given the £2 in their wage packets. But only for three weeks. Then the company announced that the £2 was breaking the Social Contract, and they took it back.

The real reason for this was that the company introduced a document on flexibility, which the shipwrights and platers rejected.

After 12 months of negotiation the shipwrights and platers gave the company a whole month's notice of strike action. Only then did they strike.

It isn't the strikers that have closed the yards. It's Cammel Lairds. The strike has just ended. Full details next week.

a lot more directly involved in the running of the strike.

'But really the UPW blacking should never have been lifted. It must be put back, and they can black the telephone service as well.'

'It's for Len Murray now to back up the UPW with the action of blacking the mail.'

WHAT YOU CAN DO

The Grunwick strike committee is calling for support on their picket lines at Cobbold Road and Chapter Road, London NW10, and holds regular mass pickets in the mornings. They are also calling for maximum support for their day of action on Saturday 29 January.

Get your union branch, trades council or Right to Work committee to visit local chemists and ask them to black Grunwick, Cooper and Pearson,

Bonuspool or Trucolour film pricing. If they refuse, picket their shops on 29 January.

Most important, Socialist Worker supporters must initiate a massive campaign to get the blacking on all Grunwick mail restored. If you are a member of APEX or UPW get resolutions and letters pouring in to your union executive. If you are not, then visit your local sorting office and ask for their support.

Bulletins produced by the strike committee are available from the Trades and Labour Hall, 375 High Road, Willesden, London NW10.

Threat to close Intex

Ashton-under-Lyne: The management at Intex have announced the closure of the plant. In March another 450 workers will join the 1,500 already in Ashton's dole queue if Intex have their way.

Intex is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the giant multinational ICI.

Last week was the first time that the executive of the Dyers and Bleachers union actually met a delegation from the factory. Up until then they hadn't even discussed Intex. Said General secretary Fred Dyson: 'I receive important letters every day.' When asked: 'What, even about factory closures?' he said: 'We are very busy.'

Opened

It is true that the union official directly responsible, Brian Leech, is trying to defend the workers. Keeping Intex open is the best way of keeping his own job, otherwise he will have few members left to represent.

The executive agreed to release the local branch funds, said to be several thousand pounds, to the action committee which has been set up.

JOURNALISTS IN DISPUTE

EAST LONDON: Thirteen journalists at the Ilford Recorder weekly newspaper have been locked out by their management after they took action to defend their closed shop. They blacked two photographers who had voted in favour of setting up a closed shop—and had then resigned from the union.

The management immediately refused to pay the 13. There will be a mass picket at the Recorder printing works in High Road, Ilford, every Wednesday between 2pm and 10pm.

Donations and messages to: John Craske (FOC), 138 Windsor Road, Forest Gate, London E7.

by Peter Sandy
Chapel Clerk, BBC Radio Sheffield

SHEFFIELD: A majority of chapels (office branches) of the National Union of Journalists throughout the BBC have now voted in favour of industrial action to secure the reinstatement of the FoC (chairman) of the NUJ chapel at BBC Radio Sheffield, who was suspended for obeying a union instruction.

This means that major network television programmes such as Panorama and Nationwide could be stopped, as well as many regional programmes.

The 12 members of the chapel have now been on strike for nearly six weeks and last week's stoppages at a number of other local radio stations received 100 per cent support. Meanwhile the union's national executive has delayed any further decision until the outcome of talks.

SOUTH EAST LONDON: The managing director of Mercury House Publications, Hugh O'Neill, decided to send New Year greetings to the entire workforce this year.

It came in the form of an attack on the 25 journalists who are on strike at Mercury House for better conditions and a post-entry closed shop.

Mercury House publishes a journal called Personnel Management. Obviously O'Neill is not a subscriber. Donations and messages to Mercury House Chapel, c/o NUJ,

Acorn House, 314 Grays Inn Road, London WC1.

KETTERING: More than 70 journalists on strike for seven weeks were supported last week by members of the Print Union NGA on the Evening Telegraph, who refused to work with scabs. Three NUJ members who tried to return to work provoked the stoppage by the printers until management sent the scabs home. Messages of support and donations to: Jerry Connolly, 2 Hatton Avenue, Welborough.

NORTH LONDON: Journalists on three weekly newspapers were planning strike action this Wednesday to force their management to negotiate on new editorial appointments. The management of the Camden and Hornsey Journals suddenly withdrew after a long period of negotiation. The Islington Gazette will be out in support.

Donations and support: c/o Hornsey Labour Party, 28 Middle Lane, Crouch End, London N8.

Scots hospital workers to fight cuts

SCOTTISH ambulance men and the patients they serve are facing outrageous cuts. From Thursday no patient who can walk, limp or stumble to or from hospital will be allowed an ambulance.

Day patients at geriatric hospitals will have two hours cut off their day since they must now be delivered home by 5 pm. This is because ambulance men who take home as little as £28 a week will no longer be allowed

overtime. Now the authorities are saying that any overspending this year must come out of next year's budget.

Dave Divers, a Glasgow ambulance man and a member of the Transport and General Workers Union, said: 'The health board are trying to provoke a strike so that they both save on our wages and slag us off in the press.'

On Monday the Save Our Hospitals Campaign in

Glasgow picketed the local health board meeting. The picket, which was called by supporters of the rank and file paper Hospital Worker, demanded that the health board refuse to implement any further cuts.

Involving

Liz Hall, a hospital worker from Glasgow's Victoria Infirmary and a member of the white-collar union ASTMS,

told Socialist Worker: 'We intend to start a campaign in this area involving not only health workers but also workers from industry, tenants' associations and the patients themselves.'

'We are going to organise meetings and pickets in the area. We are going to visit hospitals and workplaces, putting the arguments about why we need a united campaign against the attacks on the Health Service.'

**T&G
Who
Rules?**

New Right to Work Campaign pamphlet out now! Send orders to 254A Seven Sisters Rd. N4. 10p + 8½pp. Orders over 10 post free.

Transport and General Workers Union **RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN** public meeting: TGWU—who rules? Speakers: Tommy Riley (deputy convenor, Metal Box, Westhoughton, and candidate for TGWU general secretary) and Tommy Douras (TGWU, unemployed building worker). Thursday 3 February, 7.45pm, Castle Hotel, Oldham Street, Manchester.

Miners: No to the sell-out!

I HOPE the underground men will support our claim in next week's ballot and vote no to the sell-out.

Most surface men have been lamed and disfigured down the pit and then thrown on the scrap heap on the surface to finish their last years.

My father is an example. He had an arm paralysed when he had done 18 years down the pit.

Now he's working in the screens, which is a disgusting job on the surface. The conditions are equal to any job underground as regards dust and noise.

By Raymond Baddely,
winding engineman,
Grimethorpe Colliery.

He won't qualify for early retirement. He's 61 now and he'll have to go on till he's 65.

The NUM executive are saying they will go back for further negotiations for the surface men, but we can't hold out any real hope on this.

Why seek talks in the future to improve the surface-men's lot? Why not settle it here and now while the gloves are on?

It's all pie in the sky—just a trick to get us to accept a sell-

out. It's the same old story from Gormley and the rest—always a soft option to avoid a fight, especially when there's a Labour government in power.

The TUC told us that surface men couldn't have early retirement because other workers would demand parity. But early retirement already exists in many other nationalised industries.

TUC policy is for early retirement for all workers—and now they are telling us we can't have it because it would encourage other workers to demand it.

WINDING enginemen at pits in the Barnsley and North Yorkshire areas came out on strike last Wednesday in protest at the sell-out of surface workers by the NUM leaders.

Urgent

At several pits, all other NUM members joined them.

Officials of the Grimethorpe NUM branch worked hard to sabotage the strike. But a picket by the winders persuaded the men to

By

Pete Exley,
surface fitter,
Grimethorpe Colliery

come out.

NUM branch secretary Peter Tait, who is on the NUM executive and is a leading member of the Communist Party, telephoned Bob Copping, of the Barnsley winders, and told him that the strike was unconstitutional and had to be called off.

He threatened to miss the NUM executive meeting on Wednesday, thus depriving the Left of a vote, if the strike

was not called off.

His bluff was called and he did in fact attend the meeting.

Anger among surface men is running higher than I have ever known. The terms of the executive's sell-out are appalling.

They seem to forget that the surface-men pay the same union contributions as every one else.

Before Christmas they got a majority of nearly 80 per cent in the ballot to give them the right to call industrial action to win the claim.

Now they have surrendered completely.

Desperate bosses spread 'break-in'

HUDDERSFIELD: The strike by 250 office workers in TASS, the white collar section of the engineering union at Hopkinsons continues.

It is over the victimisation of six men during a dispute for a £6 pay rise.

The local Engineering Employers Federation have told the union that they regard it as a fight to the finish.

On Boxing Day, management sent a letter to all the strikers. Thinly veiled as a 'peace bid', it was an obvious attempt to undermine their solidarity with their victimised colleagues. It was dismissed with contempt.

The office workers have a well-organised picket inside the factory, so that no-one from the shop-floor goes to the offices to pick up orders or any other communication.

Scotch

Managers have to come through the picket line to them.

Some manual workers are now being put on a three-day week. It is important for the manual shop stewards to argue for solidarity, and especially to scotch rumours now being spread on the shop floor.

For example, some shop-floor workers have been told about a break-in to the computer room by TASS members. This is a complete fabrication.

The local Confed of engineering unions meets this week to decide about extending action to involve manual workers, either in strike action or in further blackings.

Scrooges

The style of Hopkinsons management was well-illustrated at an industrial tribunal. A woman absent from work for several weeks after her mother died was sacked—and sent a week's pay by registered mail, minus 65p for the postage.

Outside financial support is excellent but strikers need it to keep up. Donations and messages of support to Bill Sales, AUEW TASS, Divisional Office, Vassall House, Room 1, 20 Central Road, Leeds.

Why the bosses are trying to sack me

LEYTON: 'Management are out to break the union. That is why they are trying to sack me,' says Ray O'Brien, victimised engineering union shop steward at Chamberlains. 260 men are out for his reinstatement.

'Over the past month,' Ray continued, 'we have been trying hard to improve safety in the factory. Although management deliberately tried to sabotage the safety committee, we have won improvements that cost them £50,000.'

'New managers from Ford's have been brought in. They want to stop piece rates and introduce measured day work. That is why they are after the trade union organisation. But we are going to show them.'

Messages of support and donations to Ron Rossi, convenor, c/o 28 Denmark St., London W.1

SCANDAL

QF £150 FINES

TWO MEMBERS of the Cardiff Housing Action Committee have been fined £150 each with £100 costs for painting 'no public money for property speculators' on a car park wall in the town centre.

The city council, backed by Labour leaders, is putting £4 million into a speculative £20 million shop development by private companies. Another £4 million is going to pay for building a new concert hall.

In the same week, housing cuts of 50 per cent were announced.

Bob Dumbleton and Mike Fleetwood made these points in court and that is why the extreme Tory judge, Sir Lincoln Hallinan, lashed out with the fine.

Please send a contribution to help pay the fines to C. Burris, 11 Sneyd Street, Riverside, Cardiff.

STRIKE FOR A UNION

LEICESTER: 30 workers at the Leicester Photo Company have been on strike for a week in defence of their right to belong to a trade union.

All 30 production workers went in a body to the offices of the clerical union APEX, and joined.

Management retaliated by sacking Bob Shaw, who has been the spokesman for all those who joined the union.

When all 30 walked out in Bob Shaw's support, management agreed to recognise the union and pay for the time everyone was on strike.

Then they retracted, and the strike is going on.

Donations and messages of support to Gerry Veart, 47 New Walk, Leicester.

MAGNAVOX: 200 OUT FOR EQUAL PAY



Elsie Mabbott,
AUEW shop

steward: 'Everytime we ask for a rise they say they can't afford it, and they'll have to close the factory down. Cobblers, we say.'



Magnavox strike meeting: 'management are trying to knock wages down'

BARKING: 200 women are out on strike for equal pay at Magnavox.

Last year, Magnavox, which makes turntables for record players, introduced a job evaluation scheme.

150 of the women, assemblers, testers and packers, found themselves on the lowest grades in the factory, earning less than any of the men.

The strikers are demanding the



abolition of women's grades, grades 6, 7 and 8 so that everyone is made up to the grade 5 rate.

The final straw came when

management cut the wages of the women coil winders on the pretext that they had been put on too high a grade.

Engineering Union shop steward Freda Cruise said: 'It's about time we stood up for decent wages. We have been undervalued for years. Management hoped to avoid giving equal pay by regrading us.'

Assistant AUEW convenor Frank Isabell added: 'The management are just trying to knock wages down. It is nothing but a form of cheap labour.'

'Although we do not stand to gain anything at the moment, if they can

get away with treating the women like this, where will it finish? We will be next in line. These women deserve 100 per cent support.'

Magnavox has a long history of low wages and bad conditions. Last summer women gave up a week's holiday to help the company. There have been redundancies and lay-offs. The huge Phillips empire recently took the factory over.

Nothing is now moving in or out of the factory, except a few scabs.

'It's standing together that matters,' said another woman, 'we're all involved'.

YOU WANT THE FACTS, Mr. McCALL?

BILL McCALL, the East London GMWU regional officer involved in the five-month-old Holbrook cleaners' dispute, has written to Socialist Worker asking us to get our facts right.

So here are the facts about Mr McCall's 'handling' of the dispute:

30 SEPTEMBER 1976-Strike begins. McCall makes the picket official—but not the strike. Cleaners ask him to bring in the GMWU analyst and legal adviser.

Dust

8 OCTOBER: Factory Inspector takes air and dust tests. Reveals air asbestos at .008 per cent. McCall doesn't ask for test result. Says 'go back to work'. Cleaners wait for dust result.

25 OCTOBER: Dust report shows levels unsafe at 2-4 per cent.

5 NOVEMBER: McCall reports to GMWU executive. Only quotes air test, so strike not made official.

15 NOVEMBER: McCall Arranges meeting with ACAS. He doesn't turn up. ACAS not seen again.



GMWU official Bill McCall: he claimed Socialist Worker 'had its facts wrong'

20 NOVEMBER: McCall negotiates agreement with Poly directors (20 per cent pay cut) and says: 'If you don't come back, I wash my hands of you.'

24 NOVEMBER: McCall returns. Director agrees to most demands and says the JEC will ratify it the next night.

25 NOVEMBER: JEC

doesn't meet. Strike continues.

6 DECEMBER: McCall writes saying he's withdrawn support as cleaners have broken agreement.

8 DECEMBER: McCall back. Signs letter guaranteeing continued GMWU support. Promises to call on all other GMWU workers in the Poly to take action if the 24

November agreement is not ratified by 31 January.

22 DECEMBER: Poly send removal vans to take contaminated equipment out of the building. McCall stands on picket line pleading with removal men to cross the line.

Hell

DECEMBER 30 Meeting with management. They want cleaners to let them take equipment out with nothing in return. Cleaners refuse. McCall tells them: 'Go to hell, I'll sign it myself.'

4 JANUARY: Poly erect Portakabins at Greengate. TGWU men cross cleaners' picket when McCall issues them, the police and the management, with letter saying the cleaners' actions are all unofficial. Only the cleaners did not receive this letter.

McCall tries to get West Ham Trades Council to withdraw support. Move defeated 38-2.

The strike continues.

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Socialist Worker

Watch it, Dukie boy!

by EDDIE PREVOST

AGAIN that Prince of Clowns, the Duke of Edinburgh, has been shouting his big mouth off. Apparently he's been spending the past two years finding out what's wrong with the British economy.

Surprise, surprise! He says in an interview with *The Director* magazine that it's been the fault of the workers.

According to the Duke, the state is overgenerous in the extreme in providing education, pensions and

TGWU shop steward, London Royal Group of Docks.

hospitals for workers. So let's give more to the rich, the enterprising, people like him—that's the answer.

The truth, as everyone knows, is exactly the reverse.

Those workers lucky enough to have a job pay taxes which pay for education, pensions and hospitals.

But scroungers like the Duke and his family get it all free!

I've got news for you, Dukie boy. This is not the 1930s. Workers will not accept advice from royal bird-brains like you. You can scream as much as you like, but ultimately it's your lot for the chop.

And every time you open your gate, it's another nail in your coffin.

Secret plan to close 4 hospitals

A SECRET PLAN to wreck the health service in South West London—closing at least four hospitals—has been exposed by the local Right to Work Campaign.

Confidential reports to the Merton, Sutton and Wandsworth Area Health Authority reveal that a massive programme of cuts has been prepared behind closed doors.

The scheme is a shattering blow to working people in South London. It will mean hundreds of hospital workers sacked and threatens the health of thousands of people.

In Wandsworth and East Merton district, £7 million has to be saved by 1978/79 when a new block is to be opened at St Georges Hospital, Tooting, says one document.

The district management team plans to save money by closing Weir maternity hospital in Balham, St Georges at Hyde Park Corner, and either Bolingbroke or South London Hospital. Birchlands Jewish Hospital is also

being considered for closure.

In Sutton and West Merton district £1,300,000 has to be 'saved', by closing either Wimbledon or Wandle Valley Hospital.

Half the children's beds at the Queen Mary's Hospital for Children, Carshalton, will go. So will the casualty departments at Sutton and Carshalton

Wreckers

Memorial Hospitals, and the child health clinics at Emmanuel Church Hall and Churchill Hall, Wimbledon.

But even that is not the end of the wrecking of South West London's health service.

Both management teams admit that the amount saved by these tactics will still fall short of the economies being demanded by the government.

A letter from the secretary of Wandsworth and Merton Community Health Council to its members—marked "Confidential"—reveals the attempts to keep these plans from local people:

'Please note that the papers are confidential and therefore not to be discussed at our open CHC meeting.'

'In view of the importance of the proposals outlined therein I am copying this to all members and I suggest we discuss our tactics on the proposed closure at a private CHC meeting. We could either go into closed session at the next meeting or arrange a separate meeting.'

South West London Right to Work Campaign is calling a public meeting to organise the fight back and to co-ordinate with the Save Our Hospitals Campaign launched nationally by the Right to Work Campaign.

SAVE OUR HOSPITALS: public meeting, Tuesday 25 January, 8pm, Balham Baths Hall, Elmfield Road, London, SW12. Speaker: Bill Geddes (NUPE chairman, Hammersmith Hospital).

Save our Hospitals Campaign—see page 5.

Safety strike at Greenwich

by a striker

SEVENTY members of the iron and steel workers' union, ISTC, are on strike at Greenwich Reinforcement Services, in South East London, for the right to work in safety.

Just before Christmas a loop of steel coil came off a machine and wrapped itself around a half-ton welding machine, lifting it into the air. This was the fourth incident of its kind. The men stopped work.

The management shut the machine down, but after Christmas they ordered the men to operate it again in 'a safe manner'.

When the machine operators and

the two safety stewards said the machine still wasn't safe, they were sent home and the whole works walked out.

We are 100 per cent solid and we are getting support from maintenance, lorry drivers and sympathy from the staff.

The only area we aren't getting support from is our union officials. First they said the machine was safe. Then they said only the factory inspectorate could judge.

They made the two statements within two days.

We want the whole question of

safety sorted out once and for all. It is this machine today . . . tomorrow it could be another. We want the machine made safe before anyone works on it, a proper safety committee, and full authority for safety stewards on the job.

We want control over our safety to be in our hands.

We are getting no strike pay and urgently need money. Please send letters and donations to Ron Mitchell, ISTC Greenwich 1 branch secretary, 24 Kentmere Road, Plumstead, London SE18.



JOIN THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

Name

Address

Trade union

Send to: National Secretary, 6 Coronet Gardens, London E2 8DN

PICKET THESE HOTELS THIS SATURDAY

Is there a Trust House Forte hotel in your town?

PICKET all Trust House Forte hotels this Saturday. That is the message from the Right To Work Campaign, who are organising pickets in solidarity with victimised workers in hotels at Oxford and Sheffield who are fighting for the right to join the Transport and General Workers Union.

Dennis Skinner, Labour MP for Bolsover, has put down a question to the Prime Minister asking for a ban on all visits to Trust House Forte hotels by ministers and government officials.

He told *Socialist Worker*: 'The treatment of these workers is disgusting. The government believes in trade union membership for all workers. They should do something to prove their contempt for Trust Houses Forte.'

And the TUC shouldn't even think of talking to the Tories while two shadow cabinet ministers, James Prior and Norman St John Stevas, are paid consultants of Trust Houses.'

The Grand

Among the pickets outside the Grand Hotel in Manchester this Saturday will be Tommy Riley, who is standing as Right to Work Campaign candidate in the elections for general secretary of the TGWU in March.

In London pickets will be assembling outside the Cafe Royal in Regent Street. Tommy Riley told *Socialist*

Worker: 'Every major town has a Trust House Forte hotel. We are going to carry on pickets and demonstrations outside any and all their hotels until these strikes are won, and until Trust House Forte pay decent wages and accept full trade union membership. This is the start of a campaign.'

Trevor Jones, a shop steward at the Grosvenor House Hotel, Sheffield, where workers have been on strike six weeks, welcomed the call for a day of action. He called on the workers at Gardner Merchants, who supply the hotels, to strike in sympathy.

Gardner Merchants in a fully-owned subsidiary of Trust House Forte. They are caterers in canteens in factories across the country.

In two Sheffield factories, Bone Craven and Record Ridgeway, shop stewards have

told management to change caterers—and management have agreed.

In Oxford, where the Randolph and Linton Lodge hotel workers are on strike, the TGWU district committee has added its voice to the call for national blacking of Trust House Forte.

Action

Support the pickets outside your local Trust House Forte Hotel, 12 noon to 2pm, this Saturday.

Support the strike funds: Sheffield: Trevor Jones, Grosvenor House Strike Fund, c/o Transport House, Hartshead, Sheffield.

Oxford: Randolph Hotel strikers, 41 Bridge Street, Osney, Oxford, Linton Lodge hotel strikers, 127 Botley Road, Oxford.