

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p

Labour Chancellor Denis Healey in uniform—at a bankers' dinner in the City of London.



WHAT A BLOODY INSULT!

NO WONDER company directors are happy. A businessman earning £24,000 a year will get an extra £31 a week from Denis Healey's budget.

For the rest of us it's nothing but another shabby con-trick. A married man with two children on £50 a week will get £1.46 a week extra.

And that is only on condition that there is another year of wage controls.

There is no condition placed on employers and businessmen not to increase prices or profits before they get their £31 a week extra.

Chancellor Healey made it clear what his budget is supposed to do.

'My measures will benefit all higher taxpayers. Middle management will gain proportionately more,' he said.

And the rest of us are offered another 12 months of frozen wages and-cuts in our standard of living.

The rest of the budget deliberately pushes up the cost of living.

Road tax is going up by another £10. That applies to every driver, whether you've a new Rolls-Royce or a ten-year-old Mini.

Petrol and cigarettes are going up yet again. For the businessman with an expense account it doesn't mean much. For the rest of us it is much more serious.

It comes on top of the soaring cost of food, the gas and electricity increases

WHAT YOU GET FROM THE BUDGET TAX CHANGES . . .

If you are a worker . . .

Wage	Increase in take-home pay	Percent
£50	£1.46 (with wife and two children)	3.5
£50	£1.16 (married woman or single person)	3.1
£67	£1.80 (with wife and two children)	3.4

. . . and if you are a boss

£24,328	£31 a week (with wife and two children)	16.5
---------	---	------

decreed by the government, the rent rises being imposed by Labour and Tory councils, the astronomic price of coffee, and tea expected to rise from 20p to 40p a packet.

Yet Healey has the hypocrisy to pretend he is giving working people something. So we should be grateful—and let our wages be kept down for yet another year.

The government's own figures, given to parliament in January, show that working-class families have suffered a fall in living standards of 12 per cent in just two years.

The Price Commission estimates that this fall will be even steeper in the next few

months, as prices rise twice as fast as wages.

Yet Healey pretends that the miserable income tax relief he is offering will compensate for this.

There is only one adequate reply to such contempt and indifference towards the hardship of millions of people who find it more and more difficult to make ends meet.

- NO MORE DEALS WITH HEALEY!
- KICK OUT THE SOCIAL CONTRACT!
- WE NEED £15 NOW!

ADVERTISEMENT

National Right to Work Campaign says support

CONFERENCE AGAINST THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

Sunday 3 April 10am, Birmingham Town Hall, called by British Leyland Shop Stewards Combine

- Delegates' credentials from P Nicholas, 88 Newbridge Road, Small Heath, Birmingham (60p a delegate)
- Any trade union organisations applying for credentials by post or telephone will be able to get them at the door at 10am. (Phone 021-783 2987).

Now why do the union leaders like it?

ONE body of people besides the employers are happy about Healey's budget. The national full-time trade union leaders.

On television on Tuesday, David Basnett of the General and Municipal Workers Union said Healey 'had gone a very long way to meet our basic demand'. Ray Buckton of the train drivers' union (ASLEF) described it as 'a move in the right direction'.

Such people do have grounds for satisfaction. Their pay plus the sums they get for television and businessmen's conferences put them well into the higher tax brackets so well treated by this budget.

It's only the rank and file members who have to bear the brunt of vicious price increases and tight wage controls.

If that's the Social Contract, to hell with it!

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER



NATIONAL FRONT 'Fuehrer' Martin Webster and his horrible band of Nazis were met at Keighley in Yorkshire last week by a vocal picket of the local SWP and the local Asian community. At Basingstoke the following day, the master race only got a pitiful 20 people to their meeting. Again the SWP initiated a picket of 40.

MUSLIM? SORRY, RACISM COMES BEFORE RELIGION

OFFICIALLY-inspired racism claimed another victim last week. Iftikhar Ahmed, a teacher from Plaistow in London, worked until two years ago at a Roman Catholic primary school in nearby Mile End. Then he got an ultimatum from the Inner London Education Authority.

The ultimatum concerned Iftikhar's religious beliefs.

As a devout Muslim, Iftikhar is obliged to go for 45 minutes of prayer every Friday at 1pm. It took him 15 minutes to get to and from the mosque. So he couldn't get back to school by the time classes restarted after lunch, and missed a half hour or so of his teaching duties.

The ILEA told him he had to stop meeting his religious obligations if he wanted to continue as a full-time teacher, or continue his prayers as the Koran insists and become a part-time teacher paid only for four and a half days.

Iftikhar refused to accept this scandalous ultimatum and resigned in protest. Lawyers advised him that since the Education Act guarantees complete religious freedom the ultimatum was tantamount to unfair dismissal.

Lost

He took his case to an industrial tribunal—and lost. Last week his appeal was heard in the High Court.

Two of the judges backed the ILEA unconditionally. They held that an education system which accommodates the religious duties of all sorts of Christians should not have to make allowances for Muslims.

Lord Denning, the man who rushed to the assistance of the South African racists by stopping the postal workers' boycott, went out of his way to

justify this discrimination.

'I venture to suggest that it would do the Muslim community—or any other minority group—no good if they were to be given preferential treatment over the great majority of people,' he said in his judgement. 'It would provoke discontent and even resentment among those with whom they work.'

It's clear that what Denning means by integration is black people accepting the values of the British ruling-class lock, stock and barrel. Iftikhar can pray in school time if he is a Protestant or Catholic, but not if he is a Muslim.

Denning's racist logic threatens all religious minorities. By the same logic Jewish teachers shouldn't get Jewish holidays. They shouldn't be allowed to observe the Sabbath on Saturday because this might stop them making themselves available to referee football matches.

What nonsense, what totalitarian bullshit!

Socialist Worker and the Socialist Workers Party unconditionally defend the right of all religious people to worship as they chose. It's a sign of how decayed and reactionary our society is when it is athletes like ourselves who virtually alone publically defend the rights of religious people.

Come to the rally!

THE Bolton Asian Youth Organisation passed a resolution supporting the Socialist Workers Party Rally of Black Revolutionaries. It is hoped that a large number of youngsters will be travelling down to London for the rally on Saturday 30 April.

Last summer the Bolton AYO was in the forefront of the fight back against the racist upsurge.

Previn Farmer, one of the

leaders of the youth movement at the time, says that experience turned him into a revolutionary—which is why he is supporting the Black Rally.

'Black people are not just oppressed by racism. Black people are affected by the cuts and unemployment as well.'

'We have to fight against all these evils, and we have to fight now! Come to the rally and organise that fight back.'

BROAD LEFT TOLD : EYES RIGHT!

THE Labour government is now kept in power on the basis of Liberal votes, but in the student field there is an even stranger spectacle. The Broad Left, of Labour and Communist students, boasts that it keeps control of the National Union of Students executive on the basis of Tory votes!

In the elections for the main positions on the NUS executive, the Broad Left usually got about 40 per cent of the 'first preference' votes, the groups to the left of them a combined vote of about 25-30 per cent, and the Tories about 20 per cent.

As the Morning Star pointed out on Tuesday: 'The Broad Left won big majorities after the Tories transferred votes to them in preference to the Ultra-lefts.'

Militancy

As Socialist Worker predicted last week, the majority of conference delegates were elected before the recent wave of occupations, and did not fully reflect the upsurge in militancy in the colleges.

Nevertheless, there was a small but significant increase in the hardcore vote attracted by the revolutionary left, organised in the SWP's student affiliate, the National

Organisation of International Socialists Societies.

The Tories were very much the 'also rans', despite press talk of a 'swing to the right'

A considerable number of delegates were growing disillusioned with the Broad Left—as was shown in repeated censure motions on the executive but not yet prepared to align themselves fully with the revolutionaries. These sometimes voted for NOISS candidates, but more often preferred to vote for the Socialist Student Alliance—a slate headed by former NUS full-time treasurer Hugh Lanning, which presented itself as the 'moderate', 'realistic' left alternative to the executive.

Regrettably about half the SSA supporters often voted for Broad Left candidates when it was a choice between these and NOISS candidates.

These votes represent the confusion of many students who are beginning to move to the left, but still have to be convinced fully of the revolutionary socialist alternative.

Desperate

In a desperate attempt to keep NOISS member Andy Strouthous off the union executive, the Broad Left swung their votes in the election for executive office behind the SSA candidate, Colin

Talbot, and enabled him to beat Andy by five votes. But Andy was then stood successfully for another executive position.

The strangest expression of the Tory/Broad Left alliance came on the question of Eastern Europe. The NUS is due to take part soon in a meeting of 'student unions' in Poland.

NOISS member Andy Durgan moved a resolution that NUS should only take part if the conference was addressed by a member of the Warsaw-based Polish Workers Defence Committee. The motion was carried—but both Tories and Broad Left spoke against it!

MI5's very own mercenary

by EAMONN McCANN

JOHN BANKS, the ex-paratrooper who recruited mercenaries for the right-wing forces in Angola, still works for British intelligence.

And he sees part of his job as setting up Irish republicans.

This emerges from a sworn statement Banks made to two Evening Standard reporters a fortnight ago.

Banks is the key prosecution witness in the case of members of Luton Sinn

Ex-Para 'set up' Irish Republicans

Fein who are on trial at he Old Bailey.

They say Banks asked to meet them at a London hotel, that they were intrigued at the invitation and went along and that Banks immediately began talking about guns being available on the continent.

Special Branch men who were already in the hotel then rushed forward, arrested them and charged them with trying to buy arms and radio equipment and 1,000 bayonets.

The interview, with reporters Linda Melvern and Kevin Murphy, was intended for publication after the trial. But a copy came into the hands of defence lawyer, Rock Tansey, and Banks was recalled to the witness box last week.

In the interview he claimed that he had worked for British military intelligence since his discharge from the Parachute Regiment eight years ago.

Recruiting killers

That is to say, he still had a working relationship with British 'security forces' at the time he was recruiting killers for the CIA in Angola.

He said he had been asked by a Major Cardwell in the military intelligence office at the Cavalry barracks in Hounslow, Middlesex, to go as an agent to Algeria to investigate and try to photograph a supposed IRA training camp.

He said he had also worked under assignment to the Israeli government and the Smith regime in Rhodesia.

Tansey told the court that he wished to show from the statement that Banks was a special agent used by various groups, in particular the Special Branch, British military intelligence and the CIA, and that part of the work he did was to discredit, lie and if need be to assassinate.

In the light of this, it is easier to understand how the thugs Banks recruited for the right-wing forces in Angola were able to pass through London's Heathrow Airport without travel documents, some without passports, all without hindrance from police, Special Branch or emigration officials.

It is easier to understand how innocent Irish people, some of them republicans, find themselves doing long stretches in prison.

Most important of all, Banks' statement shows how deep into the sewer the British political and military establishment is willing to go and how repulsive are the specimens with which it is willing to work in the effort to discredit opponents of British rule in Ireland.

Terror: Licence renewed

by STEVE BERRY

A FEW WEEKS ago parliament renewed the Prevention of Terrorism Act. It wasn't a long debate and at the end only 15 Labour MPs voted against.

In other words Tory, Liberal and Labour came together to endorse once again a law which gives the police and the Special Branch untrammelled power to arrest Irish people and hound and deport them without trial or charge.

So far nearly 2500 people have been picked up under this vicious legislation.

The Act hasn't gone totally unopposed. Supporters of the Trade Union Committee against the PTA have mobilised pickets outside police stations where people are being held under the Act.

Last Sunday this committee organised a successful rally on the steps of the PTA. The hall at Hammersmith was packed.

John Newman, a member of the Transport Workers Union, emphasised from the chair that the committee was composed of delegates from trade union branches and not from political organisations.

The first priority, he stressed, was a broad-based campaign against the Act. He urged everyone to fight for delegations from their union branches to the conference on 15 May.



Demonstrators against the 'Prevention of Terrorism' Act marching to Hammersmith last Saturday

LEGALISED TERROR—THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM ACT: A new pamphlet, written by Steve Berry (SWP Irish committee), 10p a copy (plus 8p postage) from SW Distributors, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. More than 10 copies, post free.





This is Labour's Britain, 1977: Scavenging for food in an East London market

'SACRIFICE' WILL SOLVE NOTHING

Even a secret Labour report says so

THE 'SACRIFICE' the Labour government and trade union leaders preach to workers is not going to end the economic crisis.

Who says so? None

other than the Labour Party's own research department...

A confidential report to the Party's Home Policy

Committee has come into our hands. It makes the following points:

□ **UNEMPLOYMENT**
The general consensus of

forecasts for the level of unemployment by the end of this year is in the range 1½ to 1¾ million. The prospects for any reduction in the unemployment total appear slim.

Even if we get an unexpected boost through exports and investment, it is not likely to transform the unemployment outlook by 1979 or 1980.

□ **PRICES**
Prices are expected to still be rising by between 12p and 15p in the pound at the end of this year.

□ **INVESTMENT**
The increase in profits by virtually all companies is not expected to lead to the vast increase in investment promised by the government and the employers.

□ **WEALTH**
The amount of wealth being produced in Britain today is 18 per cent less than if the economy was working with full employment. This is not going to be rectified by present government measures, which are going to leave people, and the machines they could be manning, both unemployed. 'The economy is no longer on course for recovery and full employment in the present decade.'

These figures are an indictment of the Social Contract.

Unfortunately, the Labour Party research department does not draw this conclusion, nor point to the real lessons from them.

£8000 million of more wealth could be created tomorrow, were it not for the absurd policies of the profits system.

£8000 million would enable all the cuts of the last year in the social services to be ended and the biggest rise in real living standards in living memory.

But you can't get such a change without ending an insane system based upon the control of industry and finance by an extremely privileged class.

The truth about those 'highly taxed' bosses

IN THE run-up to the budget, there was a huge coordinated press campaign about how 'under-paid' and 'overtaxed' British managers are.

The campaign was built on deliberate distortions. First, take the case of pay.

A CBI survey last year showed that the average managing director of a medium sized British company earned £11,040 a year (a 'mere' £220 a week).

His equivalent in Germany earns £18,804, in Norway £14,016, in Belgium £18,468, in Austria £13,536.

But prices in every West European country, Spain and Portugal apart, are higher than in Britain—between 40 and 100 per cent higher.

The buying power of a manager's salary in, say, West Germany or Belgium is not much different to that in Britain.

There is one difference, however. According to the CBI survey the British manager pays less tax.

The average manager in Britain pays 35 per cent tax; in Germany the average is greater, 41 per cent; in Norway it's higher, 38 per cent; in Holland it's massively higher, 56 per cent.

In fact, the people who pay less in tax in other countries are usually not the managers, but the poor.

The poor pay an average of 21 per cent income tax in Britain—but only 20 per cent in Germany and Norway and 17 per cent in Holland.

That, however, hasn't stopped this government bending over backwards to aid the poor British manager!



POWELL, THE WORKERS' ENEMY



Powell's 'solution': More unemployment

ENOCH Powell spelt out his economic policy in The Sun on Monday. It was simple enough.

He said the government should leave all taxation at its present high level and carry through still more cuts in the social services.

For Powell, there's a logic in such policies, although they can only lead to less wealth being created and to pressure for still more cuts.

More cuts mean more unemployment. That would seem to many people to justify Powell's racist tirades in favour of expelling black people from Britain.

But, for ordinary workers, Powell's policies are insane. They mean worse hospitals, worse schools, more hardship.

It's a truth that should be hammered into the head of everyone who thinks Powell is the 'British worker's friend.'

NEXT WEEK'S SOCIALIST WORKER

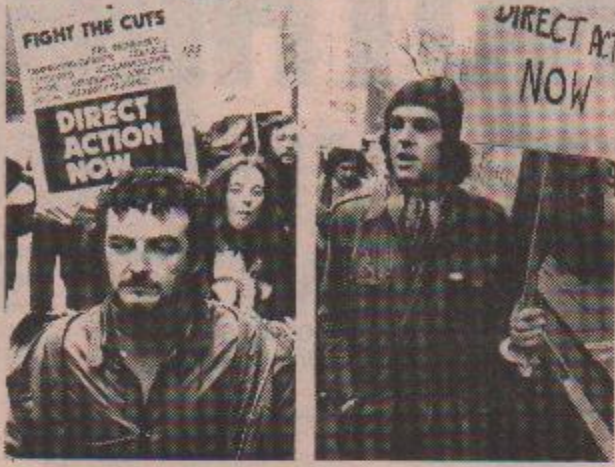
Because of Easter, next week's Socialist Worker will be coming out a day early. All news stories must reach us by 11am Monday.

The students who showed how to fight the courts

'THE students decided to take the law into their own hands, to seize and occupy the college.

'No democracy could survive if the law could be flouted by everyone who felt free to protest at current government policy.'

That was Mr Justice Griffiths, speaking in his gravest voice, in the high court last week. In front of him were the president and the ex-president of the students union at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London.



Tom Hickey and Pete Alexander: threatened with jail

cupation to the court chanting: 'Injunctions will not stop occupations'.

When Peter and Tom made their final submissions, they did not in any way try to evade the fact that they were defying the injunctions.

Tom pointed out the racist nature of the measures against which they had occupied.

Contempt

'When the law is used in this way, it is not just the people's right, but their duty to defy it.'

'I was and am in contempt of this court, and while it continues like this, I will continue to be.'

Peter likewise insisted: 'I agree wholeheartedly that I am in contempt of court. In fact I am contemptuous of these proceedings.'

'Like many students and workers before us we are in this court because we have been fighting for control over our own lives. We will continue to stay in occupation until the date we decide to leave.'

It was because Peter, Tom and the SOAS occupation took this defiant attitude that the judge backed down from imposing any sentence.

It was obvious in the court that he was embarrassed with having to deal with a political case, where the defendants were backed up by noisy demonstrators.

Before the hearing, the students had been warned by respectable lawyers to expect a three-week sentence.

Correct

But, unlike so many other workers and students involved in recent occupations, they decided not to be intimidated. They were proved absolutely correct.

The law provides an excellent means for frightening people into ending occupations. It is not nearly so effective when people refuse to be frightened.

That is why, as Tom Hickey pointed out in his speech, the government is at this moment trying to amend the law, to make occupations a criminal, as well as a civil offence.

It knows it is harder to fight when people are dragged before criminal courts than when they are faced with injunctions.

That is going to make it all the more important to organise against the courts, and not to be intimidated by them.

£40,000 FUND

£19,382 SO FAR

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY AND AID FOR SOCIALIST WORKER

OUR FRIENDS in many countries have rallied to our support.

Our fighting fund has been boosted by £2,112 with donations from France, Germany, Italy, Denmark, Ethiopia, Australia and Canada. Best of all has been the 2563 dollars raised in the United States.

Below is an appeal being circulated by prominent socialists in North America.

From: Philip Agee, Noam Chomsky, James Wienstein, Stanley Aronowitz, Stan Weir, William Kunstler.

Dear Friend,

We are writing to draw your attention to a new wave of attacks on civil liberties now taking place in Britain. Among the victims is a signatory to this letter, Philip Agee. Another is *Socialist Worker*, Britain's largest circulation weekly socialist newspaper.

In the first of four libel actions being taken against it by feading trade union officials, on February 28th, 1977, *Socialist Worker* was fined \$17,000—the equivalent of a year's wages for the entire *Socialist Worker* staff. The offending article was a satirical attack on a union for encouraging its members to take cheap vacations in General Franco's Spain.

The *London Times* newspaper reprinted part of this article and was also approached by the union's lawyers. Its refusal to settle, however, was not taken any further. Instead the attack was mounted exclusively on *Socialist Worker*.

Hal Draper writes: 'The utilisation of libel actions, brought on specious grounds with the aim of breaking a socialist group financially, is a vicious threat to civil liberties anywhere, whether in Britain or in the United States. At this time the victim is the British *Socialist Worker*.'

But Americans too should raise their voices in protest and do what they can to aid the defense of that paper against this sort of attack, regardless of political differences.'

We would like to urge you to act to defend the left press in Britain. The total damages against *Socialist Worker* are expected to be \$40,000 - \$50,000, easily enough to close it down. Help prevent this happening.

Send checks to the North American SW Defence Appeal. All donations will be acknowledged.

In Britain, early returns from the workplace collection sheets show that support inside the movement continues. Enfield Fire Station have sent us £10.70, Stones Manganese in South East London £15.30, Lambeth Council workers £55, Lewisham Council £57.50, Glasgow Hospitals £20, Flexi Shoes £3.80, Charing Cross Hospital £5.60, Holbrook Cleaners £5.50, TSSA members at Victoria Station £4, Hunting Engineering £1.70, Southampton Sewerage Works £2.65, Albion Motors £2.50.

If collections were taken in a thousand workplaces, our problems would be solved. It can be done.

Will you take a collection?

Donations to Socialist Worker, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2.

Thanks to:

- H Wollman
- M Carlton
- Finsbury Park SWP
- Barry Stills
- S Rogers and B Herfmeister, West Germany
- Judith Condon
- R Poppitwell
- J McKay, Strirlingshire
- Glasgow SWP
- Kevin Rosser
- Holman and Cambourne workers
- Pat Land
- A Jennings
- Edinburgh SWP
- Croydon Trades Council
- 'Duke of Devonshire' SW supporters
- Anon, Manchester
- Trades Council delegates
- Iee, T Slater
- Bookmarks
- North Lancs SWP
- P O Engineers, Dumfries
- J Paskali and G Brown, West Germany
- Chris Hewitt
- Fred Lindoo
- Noel Halifax
- Private Eye
- Thames Poly NATFHE
- Margaret Murphy
- P Robertson
- SW reader, Sweden
- P Robertson and J Marsh
- Striving Stocks
- Baltham and Tooting SWP
- North London Womens Voice group
- York SWP
- Two York postmen
- M Brown
- Isleford Nurbs and S Forey, Park Royal
- R Winter
- Derby SWP
- Anon, Derby
- York University
- Occupation
- Sanford Housing Co-op
- New Cross
- Thames Poly Students
- South East London
- Tower Hamlets SWP
- Ann and Colin Crane
- Southampton SWP
- North Herts Engineering Charter
- NATFHE, Hatfield Poly
- North Herts SW readers
- B Stein (ASTMS)
- P Fowkes and S Patel
- Darlington SWP
- E Cleland
- P Duffy, North Berwick
- Chichester SW supporters
- Rochdale SWP
- A and M George, Acton
- Stones Manganese
- P O Dorell
- Aberystwith SWP
- Brian Muir
- Susan Gray
- Bas Pateman
- Crews SWP
- B Greeterex (ASTMS)
- Lambeth Council SW supporters
- Newcastle-upon-Tyne SWP
- J Burgess
- Judi Allan
- Jean Wright
- D Thompson
- Milton Fisk, USA
- Stones Manganese
- Martin Roiser
- Lea Valley
- Stockport
- SE London
- SE London NATFHE
- Lambeth council
- Wandsworth Council
- Croydon
- M A Castenson - NUJ Book branch
- J E Cook
- M O'Donnell
- Sheffield Poly Branch
- C K Keogh
- MFG Rivuluceri
- D A Elliot
- Rochdale
- N London Womens Voice
- Maidenhead
- Maidenhead ASTMS
- Lesley Saunders
- Steve Childs
- Lesley Klein
- Norwich
- C Lawton
- A & D ? Reilly
- I & J Gasner
- Lambeth
- C Bracken
- Islington J Sareen
- Q McGregor
- J Taylor
- Portobello
- R Seaford
- I Colquoun
- D Hendley ASTMS
- CA Parsons
- Red Broadsmith
- Pitfield Street NATFHE and students Cardiff
- Anon
- East London
- L Sorley
- M Harvir
- A Quavle
- R Graham
- K Nshirood
- G Robinson
- Anon, Coventry
- M O'Flinn ASTMS
- Durham
- N Currie
- J Hannan
- Wakefield

Commit

The judge was faced with a complaint from the school's director that the students had deliberately flouted an injunction ordering an end to their occupation against increased fees. The director asked that the court commit the students to prison.

The judge agreed that the law was being disobeyed in a most disgraceful manner, that Pete Alexander and Tom Hickey—both members of NOISS, the student organisation that supports the Socialist

Workers Party—were using 'unlawful means'.

The court, packed with SOAS students, sat in silence, waiting on the judge's next words, expecting a vicious sentence.

Then the judge continued: 'It would be quite inappropriate to commit them to prison immediately.'

There was a wild wave of clapping throughout the court and the public gallery. Tom and Peter jumped to their feet waving clenched fists in the air.

Despite the judge's threat

that if they re-occupied their college next term he would treat them more severely, they knew they had won.

They had shown the only way to defend the right to occupy against the High Court judges and their injunctions is to defy the courts.

They had not, like Tom Jackson, head of the postal workers' union, or Geoffrey Drain, of NALGO, cringed with fear when faced with legal writing on a piece of stiff paper.

A hundred SOAS students had marched from their oc-



Rank and File DIARY

Smash the Social Contract

All out Tuesday 19 April! NATIONAL STRIKE AGAINST THE SOCIAL CONTRACT, called by the British Leyland combine committee, endorsed by the Right to Work Campaign and the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions. MOVE RESOLUTIONS NOW endorsing the strike call and arranging delegations to mass lobby of parliament.

MANCHESTER: Coaches to 3 April Leyland Conference in Birmingham, tickets £2 return from TU Books, 260 Transpale Dept St Peters Square 9.15 am

Right to Work Campaign

WHAT DID HAPPEN TO THE RIGHT TO WORK MARCHERS AT HENDON LAST MARCH? Read the new Right to Work Defence Campaign FACTSHEET Minimum price 5p—proceeds towards paying the remaining fines

Available from Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

DEFEND JOHN DEASON: Mass picket of the Old Bailey on Wednesday 4 May, 10am. Fight for official delegations. BRING BANNERS.

Tea from Manchester. Cheap group booking £7 return from TU Books, 260 Deansgate or phone 061-42 8102

Latest issue of PLATFORM, PAPER OF RANK AND FILE BUS WORKERS OUT NOW March issue. Ten copies for 70p including postage from Platform, 175 South Park Drive, Ilford, Essex

PLATFORM, the paper of rank and file bus workers. NATIONAL MEETING: Saturday 23 April, in Manchester. To discuss: Wages and the Social Contract. Cuts. How to build your own locally-based Platform. Racism and how to fight it on the buses, a national Platform pamphlet. Further details from Platform, 175 South Park Drive, Ilford, Essex.

NORTH LONDON Save Our Hospital MARCH: Demonstrate against hospital closures. Saturday 2 April, 11am. The Angel, Islington, N1. March to Whittington Hospital. Bring banners.

LONDON NALGO ACTION GROUP public meeting: Why you should vote NAG/Why you should fight the Social Contract. Tuesday 19 April, 7.45pm. The New Inn, 183 Tottenham Court Road. Speakers include NAG NEC candidates.

TGWU RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN Say no to the Social Contract petitions to be presented to TGWU Biennial Delegate Conference—available from Right to Work Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4. Send money to cover postage.

GROSVENOR HOTEL STRIKE COMMITTEE BENEFIT: North West Spanner's Just a Cog, Wednesday 30 March, 7.30pm, Wharnciffe Hotel, Bevercotes Road, Firth Park, Sheffield.



10p each, plus 7p postage (10 or more post free) from Engineers Charter, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

WHERE WE STAND

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 class against the workers.

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

delegates and a workers' militia.

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

INTERNATIONALISM

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

We oppose everything which turns workers from one country against those from other countries.

We oppose racialism and imperialism. We oppose all immigration controls.

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

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

We are for real, social, economic and political equality of women.

The experience of Russia

demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation in one country.

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

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

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

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

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

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

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

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

If you want to know more about Socialist Worker and the Socialist Workers Party, fill in the form on page 16.

HOUNDED BY THE HOME OFFICE!



by **BAMBOS STYLIANOU**

FOR six months my whole family has been subjected to the most vicious and inhuman harassment.

This harassment and intimidation is being carried out by the British government itself, through the Home Office and the terrible immigration laws they enforce.

Seven out of eight members of my family have been told to get out of the country. My sister Dora and her husband Andreas were told they had to go just before their baby was born two weeks ago.

My widowed mother Caterina and my three brothers, Marios, Andreas and Loucas, have also been told to go by the immigration authorities.

And as if to crown their monstrous achievements, the Home Office is hitting out against a tiny defenceless child. She too must go!

Tent?

Where are my family to go to? A tent in a refugee camp in a divided and bitter Cyprus, if the Home Office has its way.

My people left Cyprus after the bloody imperialist war of 1974, a war which successive British governments did everything in their power to promote and bring to a head with their divide-and-rule policy.

The war, the fascist coup of July 1974 and the invasion of foreign troops that followed left more than 200,000 Cypriots homeless, insecure and scared of the future.

My father died during the fascist coup and as a result of the invasion my family lost their home.

My sister Dora and Andreas were planning to marry

Seven members of this Cypriot refugee family, including a two week baby, are being deported..



...TO THIS!

in August 1974. After the coup Andreas was recruited to the army and when the invasion came they lost their small newly-built house and all their personal belongings.

While bombs were being dropped on their heads and bullets were flying around, they had to flee their village. They are not likely to see it again. Today it is still under

the control of the occupying Turkish army.

It was under these frightening circumstances that my family sought refuge in this country. They came here to be safe. They came because they wanted to be with relatives and friends.

There was no alternative to coming here. First to arrive away from the fighting and contempt that every war has for human beings were my brothers Andreas and Loucas, aged 15 and 13.

They were joined in November 1975 by my mother, who was stricken with anguish at being separated from her sons and could not bear it any more.

Dora, Andreas and my brother Marios were the last to join us early in 1976. Although they were allowed to enter this country they were never granted refugee status by the British government. Instead they were classed as 'long-term visitors'.

This has been the policy of the Home Office for all Cypriot refugees. No refugee status, no right to work, no right to settle in this country.

And now they are told to go. For our family is only one of many.

Horrifying

The deportations for my people will be the culmination of three years of horrifying experiences.

Here is part of the letter my mother received recently from the Home Office: 'I am directed to inform you that the Secretary of State has no reason to alter his decision as conveyed to you on 16 October. I would accordingly inform you you are in breach of your conditions and should make arrangements to leave the UK immediately.'

Since the original 'decision' was 'conveyed' to us, six months have passed. Six months full of gloom and unhappiness.

The Stylianos family: Loucas, Caterina, Dora, her husband Andreas, and (standing) Marios and Bambos, who is not being deported. The fourth brother who is being deported, Andreas, is not in the picture. ABOVE LEFT: Dora with two-week-old Constantia. BELOW LEFT: What they face if the Labour government gets its way—a refugee camp in Cyprus.

Right now we are waiting for the result of appeals for my brothers Andreas and Loucas, and for Dora and Andreas.

But we know the decisions already, as we know them for my mother and Marios. Deportation orders we are sure.

It is difficult to put our feelings into words. We feel persecuted, treated with the utmost insult and contempt. How can the British government make people suffer, make us go back to be the victims of their divide-and-rule policies in Cyprus, which have destroyed our land.

We are lost for words. My family do not want to go back as long as they cannot return to their home and their village. They are scared that the police will come to our house, arrest them and forcibly deport them.

There are dozens of other cases like ours in the Cypriot

community in Britain. We know of people arrested and imprisoned without any trial. We know of people already deported because they have 'overstayed' according to the Home Office.

Sympathetic?

More and more are being told that they must go.

Yet in a document sent to the Cypriot Defence Campaign by Dr Shirley Summerskill, Minister at the Home Office, outlining policy on Cypriot refugees, we were told that the Home Office treats us 'sympathetically'.

Well, God help the people they treat unsympathetically, because we are already being treated as animals.

God help the poor Bengalis, Pakistanis and Indians trying to escape uncertainty, misery and poverty in their devastated lands. They are

treated even more scandalously.

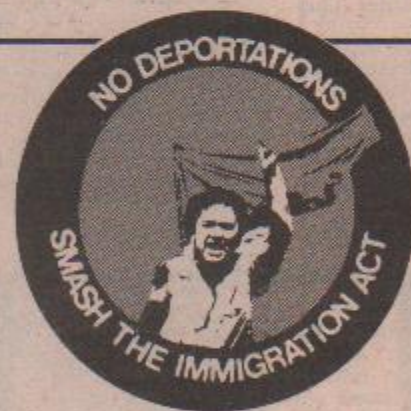
It is because of this whole terrible situation that we have been actively involved in the Cypriot Defence Campaign. We have organised intensively in the Cypriot community against this racist policy which hounds Cypriots, blacks and Asians mercilessly, while rich white Americans and Rhodesians come in freely and stay without being troubled.

But we cannot resist this obscene treatment on our own.

We need the public protest and industrial muscle of dockworkers, transport workers, miners and engineers if we are ever to put an end to the heartache and misery being handed out by the pitiless bureaucrats of the Home Office and embodied in the racist Immigration Act 1971.

Will you help us? We have no-one else to turn to.

□ If you want to help the Cypriot Defence Campaign write to them at 90 Mountview Road, London N4, or phone 01-272 8270.



STICKERS In two colours—black and purple, as above. 30p for a sheet of six (plus 7p postage) from SWP, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.



PAMPHLET Stop the deportations! Fight police harassment! New pamphlet produced by the Socialist Workers Party. 10p each, plus 7p postage (ten or more copies post free) from SWP, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

Saving the Con-Trick

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM
Duncan Hallas

What is behind the Liberal-Labour Alliance? How long will it be before his allies discard Callaghan the Con-Trick man?

'WE WOULD like to do this, that or the other but the Liberals won't let us'. That will be the government's excuse from now on.

Cynicism

The Liberals, on the other hand, are claiming to have stopped the government's 'headlong gallop to socialism'—Mr David Steel's words—and the Tories denounce the Liberals for 'propping up socialism'!

What a farce. It's not surprising that there is a great deal of cynicism about

politics in general when such adulterated balderdash is solemnly turned out by TV and the press.

The government's 'headlong gallop' has actually been into the arms of the International Monetary Fund, 'sound finance' and the most right-wing economic policies imposed by any government since the war, policies which Liberals and Tories naturally support.

It is worth recalling that the news of the Tory censure motion caused a sharp drop in share prices and Callaghan's victory on the vote caused an immediate recovery.

Evidently, whatever they say in public, the City speculators still regard James Callaghan as 'the best conser-

vative prime minister Britain could have at the present time'—that's what the Economist magazine called him last year.

Broken

There is no mystery about their reasons for this point of view. It was spelt out in editorials in the Financial Times, the Times and the Guardian. A Labour government has the best chance of selling a phase three of the Social Con-Trick.

It will take some doing. Every promise made about jobs and prices has been broken. The rate of price increases is speeding up, real take-home pay is falling fast and the promised budget tax

give-away will not reverse the trend.

The Financial Times calculates that it will take tax cuts of £1,500,000 just to bring the tax burden in real terms back to what it was 12 months ago.

And in spite of the recent slight drop in the unemployment figures, the long-run trend is upwards. The Cambridge Economic Survey is predicting two million unemployed, even under 'boom' conditions, in the early Eighties!

Still, if the job can be done at all, if the Con-Trick can be renewed—and the odds are unfortunately that it can—then dismal Jim is the man to do the job.

That is the big-business calculation. Much as they love Madame Thatcher, they love the Con-Trick more.

There is no gratitude in the politics of these people of course.

Once dismal Jim has exhausted his usefulness, once phase three starts to come apart at the seams—as it will—they will turn away from him and his government with no more compunction than they have in discarding a used paper tissue.

Traitor

Meanwhile the Labour government of 1977 is back in the position of its predecessors, minority Labour governments under the leadership of the late lamented James Ramsey MacDonald in 1924 and 1929-31.

I say unlamented but MacDonald—a traitor even to the right-wing of the Labour party—has just been 're-habilitated' in a book by a certain Marquand, a Labour MP who is about to depart of pastures green in the bureaucracy of the Common Market.

Perhaps it is a sign of the times.

MacDonald and his colleagues, as a shrewd observer wrote in 1936, 'used the excuse of the impossibility of getting Liberal support for socialist measures as a sound reason for not doing things they were in any case determined not to do.'

For MacDonald read Callaghan and it is an accurate, up to the minute assessment of the situation today.

What next? There is not much value in crystal-ball gazing about general elections in the autumn or next spring.

Party

Maybe the Lib-Lab alliance can last, maybe not.

One thing is certain. The pious cries of the Labour left—and some others—for the government to adopt 'socialist policies' have even less chance (if that is possible) of being heeded.

The absolute necessity to build a socialist alternative to Labour—and that means a party—becomes clearer every day.

UNIFORM JUSTICE

IF YOU are framed for assaulting the police like Right to Work Marcher Mike Lynch you get sent to prison. If you're a policeman and you have a 'momentary lapse' in which someone gets punched you have to pay £125 damages.

That's what happened to Hampshire Police Sergeant Daniel Hewitson.

A judge awarded the damages to 20-year-old David O'Connor who was

arrested for being drunk and disorderly but was later cleared of the charge.

LAPSE

Mr O'Connor says he was punched in the face six or seven times.

'I am satisfied that this was a momentary though regrettable lapse by a good officer who was sorely provoked,' said the judge.

Also giving evidence against the sergeant was Police Constable Jeremy Maynard, now at Aldershot. He says he saw Hewitson come out of the cell with blood on his hands.

Hewitson told him that the hooks must be 'cooked'. Maynard didn't agree and made a complaint.

The reward for his honesty? PC Maynard is to face a police disciplinary committee.

WHAT HAPPENS to you if you help engineer a police attack on a group of people peacefully demonstrating against unemployment?

ANSWER: You get promoted.

Detective Chief Inspector Gordon Wright, one of the officers behind the attack on Right To Work Marchers at Hendon has just been promoted to head of CID at West Hampstead.



COLUMN

TIGHTENING OUR BELTS: The Government spent nearly £33,000 in three days to entertain King Carl Gustav of Sweden during his state visit to Britain in 1975.

The cheapest leader was Pierre Trudeau from Canada who cost Britain a mere £300 a day on his four-day visit, according to Government figures.

THERE IS some disappointing news for Sir Harold Wilson, who in the light of the quite indefensible profit of around £388 million the telephone service will show this year, has been calling for a reduction in the charges.

The Managing Director of Telecommunications, Sir Edward Fennessy, who is Deputy Chairman to PO boss Sir William Ryland, has made it quite clear that any cut in charges is just not on.

In a confidential statement to union officials, he has said 'The Post Office believes that the right policy is stability of tariffs for as long as possible.'

A QUESTION OF PRIORITIES

Mayday is a charity organisation which provides overnight accommodation for youngsters who come to London from the North and find homelessness and unemployment waiting for them.

But one of the problems Mayday faces is that many youngsters don't know they exist or where to contact them. So last year they decided to ask British Rail if they could put up posters with a telephone number at Euston Station, the main terminal for trains from the North.

Their request was turned down. What was the reason given? Mayday were told that it might mar British Rail's pride and joy—the esplanade at Euston's 'plush' reception area.



—The Observer, 27 March

JUBILEE NEWS: The headmistress of a school in Dartford, Kent has decided that her staff and pupils should produce a jubilee project. The teacher responsible for the education theme has a problem.

There is some evidence that a school was built in the district during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. There is plenty of evidence that schools were built during the reign of Victoria. But there is very little evidence that a school has been built during the last 20 years.

THE MANPOWER Service Commission has come up with an idea to 'ease' unemployment among young people.

The Working Party on voluntary service—their report will be published shortly—feels that the Job Creation Scheme where bosses are paid to take on young people is unsatisfactory because the government can't afford it.

Instead 16-19 year-olds should be offered the 'chance' to do voluntary work which would be paid for in dole money plus £12.50 a week.

As was pointed out at a staff meeting of the Community Service Volunteers, the working party is in favour of local groups because 'questions raised at a national level can be

ignored at local level, without involving national organisations such as the TUC.'

It was also suggested at the meeting that the MSC proposals require pressure from the government on so-called volunteers.

Either they do it, or they don't get the money as with long-term dole at the moment.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

'We have taken the heartache out of unemployment'. Northern Ireland Secretary and MP for Barnsley Roy Mason talking to Llew Gardner on People and Politics.

'£80 A WEEK JOBS GO BEGGING' screamed a front-page headline in the Manchester Evening News. The jobs it said were 'on the buses'.

In fact, said the article, there were 620 such jobs.

This 'news' came, as a surprise to Brian Know of Chorlton-cum-Hardy, who had been told there were 'no vacancies' when he'd recently applied for 'any sort of job' with Greater Manchester Transport.

Surprised too were the scores of unemployed who rang GMT to apply for one of the '£80 a week jobs', and were told 'No vacancies'.

The 'news' of the 620 £80 a week vacancies also surprised Manchester busmen.

Twenty-five busmen at Birchfields depot issued a statement to try and point out the truth. 'Well, I did once take home £66,' said

one driver, 'for a seven-day week!'

So what did the Manchester Evening News have to say for itself next day? 'It's all a mistake, work-seekers are told by GMT 'NO vacancies' ran the quarter-inch high 'headline' on page four.

How many times will this tale of the '£80 a week jobs' which the unemployed won't take because they can get more on social security, now be recounted by every pub-bore in Manchester?

'A lie,' someone once wrote 'can be half-way round the world before the truth has got its pants on.'

Unemployment, what unemployment?

Spot the difference...

IN MEMORY OF
J. V. STALIN
DIED MARCH 5, 1953

Leader of the Soviet people in the victory over fascism and during many years of Socialist construction.

"It suits today the weak and base..."

JEAN AND HARRY FAWCETT
IPSWICH

—Morning Star, Sat 5 March

IN MEMORY OF
J. V. STALIN
DIED MARCH 5, 1953

Leader of the Soviet people in the victory over fascism and during many years of Socialist construction.

"It suits today the weak and base..."

JEAN AND HARRY FAWCETT
IPSWICH

—Morning Star, Tues 8 March

The Employment Service Agency

VACANCY	STORES AND SITE ASSISTANTS	MEN/WOMAN
DISTRICT	LLANGORSE, BRECON	
BUSINESS	ADVENTURE COURSES	
SALARY	£7 FOR FIRST 6 WEEKS THEREAFTER £10 PER WEEK	
HOURS	HOURS TRAI. ONE DAY OFF PER WEEK.	
REMARKS	GENERAL CAMP MAINTENANCE, GRASS CUTTING, PITCHING TENTS, CLEANING, PAINTING, LOOKING AFTER STORES, STRENUOUS WORK. SEASONAL WORK MARCH-SEPTEMBER.	
REF NO.	991.10/BRECON/4	

Socialist Worker

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

01-739 6361
739 0185
739 9043

Circulation department: 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN. 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.

SHOOTINGS GASSINGS BEATINGS THE RULERS OF THE 'FREE WEST' BARE THEIR TEETH

Italy's night of police terror

THREE weeks ago, a young student was murdered by police in the Italian city of Bologna.

Italy was shaken as students then fought the police.

The British press gave the impression that the riots were the result of 'lunatic' groups of students.

But this report, based on testimony given to a Bologna lawyer, Luigi Stortini, tells a different story:

On Friday 11 March, a handful of students from the fringe Autonomi groups went to a meeting of an organisation affiliated to the Christian Democrat party.

They were recognised, beaten up and thrown out.

Students

They went back to the university quarter and gathered a crowd of 60-100 students who returned to demonstrate outside.

They arrived to find the police and Carabinieri (riot police) had already taken up positions.

The students shouted slogans at the police but stayed in a side street. Suddenly, the riot police fired tear gas into the air and baton-charged the students.

In the chaos, a student threw a Molotov cocktail which exploded without causing harm.

A policeman then advanced and, from behind a parked car, shot and killed Francesco Lo Russo, a member of the revolutionary organisation Lotta Continua.

The policeman returned to the main group and was not identified.

Students back at the university mobilised a 7,000-strong demonstration which attacked shops and 'capitalist institutions' in the city.

The riot police moved in to the centre of the city, and the students dispersed, returning to occupy the university buildings.

The riot police now took the offensive. Throughout the night, groups of students and members of the public were attacked with gas.

The next morning, the Communist Party and trade



The angry reception that greeted Communist leader Luciano Lama at Rome University when he condemned the 'violence of the right and the left'

unions organised a demonstration to condemn the violence of the previous day. Representatives of the student movement were refused a voice on the platform.

Throughout that Saturday afternoon, and on until the next morning, incidents of violence occurred in the university area. Allegations of attacks by police have been made.

Though martial rule was

never officially declared, the riot police maintained a near-military grip on the centre through the night. The Communist authorities appeared to have left the city in their hands.

Abandoned

On Sunday morning, police armoured cars took over the university, which the students

had by then abandoned.

By Monday evening, the city was uneasily calm and under the control of the police. All demonstrations were banned.

On Wednesday, the Communists and the trade unions, together with the other parties of the 'constitutional arc', organised a mass demonstration in support of 'democratic order'. 170,000 workers and students packed the square.

WESTERN Europe is a bastion of liberty. At least, that's what our rulers claim.

But in Italy, Greece and West Germany, workers and left-wing students are discovering otherwise.

Beneath the democratic veneer lie powerful police apparatuses, prepared to hit out in the crudest manner at those who question capitalist policies...

W.GERMANY: 'Burning water' for protesters

AS MORE news leaks out about West German involvement in the supply of nuclear know-how to South Africa and Brazil, there has been a further upsurge in the movement against the country's programme of dangerous nuclear installations.

From Philip Naylor in Hanover

The last demonstration, in February, was prevented from occupying a nuclear construction site by a huge deployment of police.

At Grohnde two weeks ago, many of the 20,000 participants, led by the revolutionary left, felt that the time had come for action.

Large numbers came equipped with helmets, goggles to protect them from the gas, and wire cutters to assault the fence around the building site.

After some police resistance, the demonstrators got to the site and broke a hole through the two steel fences and barbed wire. All the time, they were bombarded by tear-gas grenades, water cannon and the burning water which the cannon now fire.

Wavered

Hundreds of police then moved in and tried to clear the area. Several times the police line wavered before they finally succeeded in driving the demonstrators a few hundred yards from the site.

The demonstration withdrew in good order. The police claim 237 officers were injured, while 26 demonstrators were charged, including three with attempted murder.

The worst injured policeman received his wounds from a police tear-gas grenade.

Police nerves were badly frayed and they ran riot in Hanover the next day, beating up a peaceful protest calling for the release of four people still in custody.

GREECE: Miners gassed

POLICE used armoured cars and tear gas to break the occupation of three nickel mines in Northern Greece last week.

Four hundred of the 2,000 strikers had occupied in protest at police attacks on them and their villages.

The attacks included the overturning of cars, and the beating of pregnant women and children and old people.

Peasants

Many of the peasants ran off to hide in the mountains after their first encounter with tear gas.

The miners are on strike for wage rises, better conditions, and the reinstatement of sacked members of their union committee.

Their wage is less than £5 a day and conditions are appalling. Miners do not generally last more than five years in the mines. The strike

By A Epanastatis in Athens

is continuing into its third week.

Meanwhile the national strike of high school teachers is in its fourth week.

The government has a policy of not filling vacancies in the schools, although more than 10,000 teachers are out of work. These unemployed teachers are now being offered jobs—as strike-breakers!

The two-month-old stoppages at AEG Athens are continuing. The strikers at this subsidiary of the German AEG Telefunken company are demanding 35 per cent rises, and the reinstatement of 40 workers, including their strike committee.

They are working one hour in the morning, and one hour in the afternoon, and sit at their machines for seven hours in between. This stops the company bringing in strike-breakers.



The suffering: her husband—a striking miner—is missing after the police attacks

A 40-YEAR WAIT IS OVER...

LA VOZ DE LOS TRABAJADORES

Periódico Central de la Organización de Izquierda Comunista.

Volumen 1 n.º 1 Marzo 1977

10 Ptas.



NUESTRO DERECHO A LA LEGALIDAD

THE FIRST printed revolutionary paper to be published openly in Spain for nearly 40 years. The appearance of a new fortnightly paper, La Voz de los Trabajadores—the Voice of the Workers—by one of the revolutionary groups, the Organisation of Left Communists, shows how Spain is changing. But, as the paper emphasises, the changes have not been given as a gift from on high. They have been a result of immense and bloody struggles. Those struggles are not over. The same police chiefs who existed under fascism are still killing strikers and demonstrators with monotonous regularity. The same ministers who ruled under fascism hope, by rigged elections in June, to provide a democratic guise to their rule.

Nota de la redacción

THE FIRST printed revolutionary paper to be published openly in Spain for nearly 40 years. The appearance of a new fortnightly paper, La Voz de los Trabajadores—the Voice of the Workers—by one of the revolutionary groups, the Organisation of Left Communists, shows how Spain is changing. But, as the paper emphasises, the changes have not been given as a gift from on high. They have been a result of immense and bloody struggles. Those struggles are not over. The same police chiefs who existed under fascism are still killing strikers and demonstrators with monotonous regularity. The same ministers who ruled under fascism hope, by rigged elections in June, to provide a democratic guise to their rule.

Phase 3... phase-free

LAST WEEK, when the fate of the government was in the balance, all the 'heavies' in Fleet Street—The Times, the Financial Times, the Guardian, The Sunday Times, The Observer and the Economist—came out in support of a Lib-Lab agreement to save Callaghan.

The main argument of these serious capitalist newspapers was: Callaghan is more able than Thatcher to control wages. Thus the Financial Times in its editorial of 23 March wrote:

'However sceptical one may be about the success of Phase Three, it is at least arguable that Labour has a better chance of preventing a wage explosion than a new Conservative Government would have...'

Immediately after the Commons defeat of the Tory vote of no confidence, the Financial Times wrote with a sigh of relief: 'Uncertain as is the outlook for Phase Three... a Labour government is probably better placed to secure an acceptable agreement with the TUC.'

Trembled

'The narrowness of the margin by which the government just avoided a general election and possible defeat, indeed, may well help to concentrate the minds of union leaders on the need to work more vigorously for an acceptable Phase Three formula...'

Justifying the Lib-Lab agreement, David Steel used this central argument: 'If the stock market and sterling trembled at the mere prospect of Mrs Thatcher getting to Number 10, what would happen if she got there?' And he went on to say: 'The Liberals intend to work with the Government to get agreement on pay and prices.'

Can the government and the TUC still save their incomes policy, notwithstanding the massive pressure it has recently been under?

Isn't it clearly disintegrating? Has not the last few weeks seen such a widespread rebellion



against the Social Contract throughout the country as to make it completely finished?

The Leyland toolroom workers made it clear that the constraints of the government's incomes policy were unbearable. The joint shop stewards committee has called for a strike against the Social Contract on 19 or 20 April.

The Ford combine committee has also denounced the Social Contract and drawn up a pay claim for increases of up to 40 per cent to give Ford workers in Britain parity with the company's Continental plants.

Attack

Nor is the rebellion confined to the car industry. It stretches right across the working class. Busmen's delegates have prepared a motion opposing wage restraint to go to June's T&GWU Conference.

The NUPE Conference agenda is loaded down with motions attacking wage restraint. Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire miners have come out against the Social Contract.

In face of this mass upsurge of workers' opposition to the

By Tony Cliff

CENTRAL COMMITTEE,
SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY



government's incomes policy one can easily become euphoric and say: the Social Contract is exposed and finished.

Alas, such a conclusion would be very dangerous for socialists and militant trade unionists. When one is engaged in a battle, a cool head, a realistic appreciation of the enemy and the weapons in his arsenal are imperative.

FIRST of all, let us be clear on one point. The trade union leaders are ready to go very far in opposing workers who act against the government/TUC incomes policy.

Hence the support of Scanlon

and the AUEW Executive for Leyland management's lockout of 3,000 toolroom workers—an unprecedented act in the history of the trade union movement over decades.

Again, when Tony Benn threatened to bring the army in to break the strike of the Windscale workers against the Social Contract, he was aided and abetted by the union officials.

The union bureaucrats will go very far in fighting for an incomes policy.

In fighting for Phase Three, they will use two main prongs of attack: one, led by people like Gormley and Scanlon, representing the strong sections of the movement, and the other, by Alan Fisher, representing the low-paid and weakly organised sections of the class.

Rage

Gormley, Scanlon and their like will put the emphasis on the need for greater flexibility in future incomes policies to be achieved by restoring differentials and by more intensive introduction of productivity deals.

One need only recall that under the first Wilson government (1964-70), after the two first stages of incomes policy, the rage was the massive introduction of productivity deals.

In the six years until the end of 1966, productivity deals affected no more than half a million workers; but after Wilson's Mark Two incomes policy—at the end of 1969—about six million workers were encompassed by them.

Union officials will fall over themselves to sign productivity deals as a soft option in wage negotiations, since they sell conditions for money without affecting commitment to an incomes policy.

Many an employer would prefer the Phase Three of the Social Contract to the rigid Phase One and Two, as the latter, while being successful in keeping down the wage bill, had a bad effect on labour productivity.

Productivity decline

Many workers said to themselves: if our wages are frozen, there is no good in making an effort to get output. In many factories where workers are on piece rate, productivity tumbled. Productivity in the mines continuously declines.

Joe Gormley will have a central role in selling productivity deals. As the miners' annual wage agreements are from March to March, and as Phase Two of the Social Contract terminates at the end of July, Gormley has a ready-made argument:

'If you miners want more money immediately without waiting for next March, let's get into negotiations on productivity deals with the National Coal Board.'

The money received for selling conditions will disappear as a result of inflation but the worsened labour conditions will remain. Above all, one must remember that one workers' productivity deal is another workers' unemployment.

The Gormleys and Scanlons

will try to contain the strong section of the narrow sectional change to prevent them being detonated, detonating a generalisation of the class against restraints. Healey's concessions, by increasing between better paid and paid workers (and even between the employed and unemployed), aim to nefarious policy of a rule.

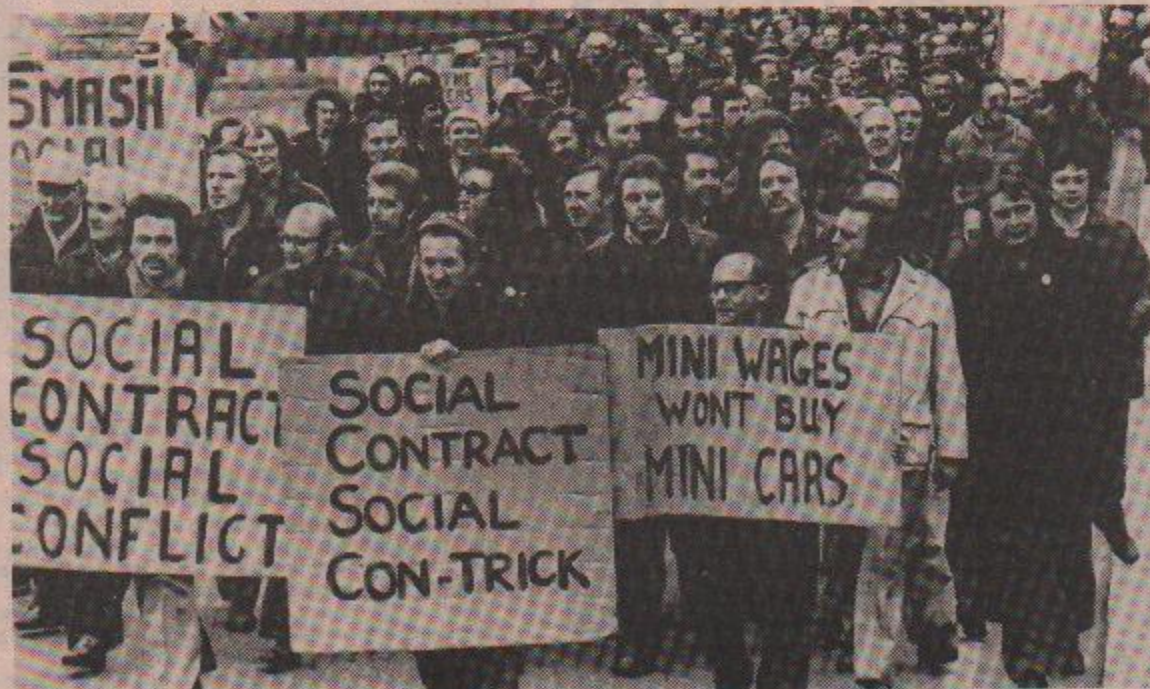
THE OTHER defence of Phase Three be led by Alan Fisher, the leader of the paid, he'll argue that 'for-all' will hurt makes sense for the off workers to restraint in order prove lower paid wages.

But this argument is core. If Leyland workers hold back on a claim of £20 a week, would the management transfer they have saved to hospital workers, or transfer it into Leyland account?

We have only to question to see the way wages are capitalism is quite simple in the strongest section increases and the working class may be comparing their own those received by the and better paid. If a strong position gets a rise, the one in a weak will get even less.

However, while victorious sections of the class can help the nations, there is no guarantee. After all, the victory of in 1972 over Heath policy did not prevent successful imposition of policy on millions workers.

In the jungle, if the break through, it might smaller animals to but they have to fight



British Leyland workers protesting against the Social Contract seven weeks ago: that is the power that can end the wage controls

or
?

DECIDE

struggle of
workers in
fields so as
generalised
movement
against wage
budget con-
the gap
lower
more so
and the
help the
ys in the
divide and

ong of
three will
sher. As
lower-
a 'free-
them: it
better-
practice
to im-
workers'

alse to the
ers were to
or another
Leyland
the money
say, the
ould they
nd's bank

ask the
nswer.

on under
e-workers
ions win
st of the
ep up by
ages with
strongest
orker in a
small wage
er position

ory of the
e working
aker sec-
tee it will.
the miners
s incomes
vent the
of the same
of other

elephants
to help the
llow suit,
hemselves.



David Steel: so much for Labour's 'socialism'

This rule applies also to the capitalist jungle.

Socialists should oppose sectionalism and self-sufficiency, but they should encourage self-reliance.

Alan Fisher's past and future support for the Social Contract will serve as a central ideological weapon to win Phase Three in the TUC and the movement.

ADDED ideological argument will be the Lib-Lab alliance. The spinelessness, treachery and bankruptcy of the Labour leaders will be used as an argument for Phase Three:

'Look how far we were prepared to go to prevent the victory of the Tories—we were ready to accept the terms dictated by the Liberals—shouldn't you, the workers, follow suit in sacrificing, for another year or two of restraint, to be paid at the end by the bonanza of North Sea oil that will enrich everyone in Britain?'

Seeing that the pressure on the dam of wage restraint is far too great to keep it intact, in retreating on this front with all the machinations of the divide and rule, still the government will find that incomes policy alone is not effective enough to keep down workers' real standard of living. It will resort to other methods.

If workers get what the government and employers think is too much money in their pockets, the government will try to claw back as much as possible by raising indirect taxes, by raising the price of school meals, cutting social services—in short, by chopping the social wage.

Divide and Rule

At the same time, the cuts, coupled with productivity deals, will increase unemployment. The employers will welcome this, as unemployment should dampen wage militancy.

Thus the capitalists and the government will, with divide and rule measures, with cuts and unemployment, retaliate against workers daring to challenge the wage restraint policy. A wounded tiger is always most vicious...

The battle against the Social Contract must be both industrial and ideological, both economic and political.

It must put generalised demands:

FOR SUPPORT of all workers in struggle for higher wages (from Leyland toolroom workers to Yardley women fighting for equal pay.)

FIGHT for an across-the-board rise of £15 now.

FOR a united rank and file movement that seeks to overcome sectionalism, encourage the strong to defend the weak.

AGAINST all productivity deals that add to unemployment and divide one worker from another.

AGAINST all cuts.
FOR BUILDING unity of action of employed and unemployed workers.

By
CHRIS
HARMAN

LIKE most people, you probably start yawning when you come across discussions on things like the Annan Report on the future of broadcasting.

Quite rightly, you probably regard the long-winded musings of an overpaid and overfed right-wing academic as of little interest.

But tucked away in the Report are a few revealing paragraphs that everyone should know about.

They reveal how our rulers see their control over radio and television as something essential for the stability of their system.

They are determined to prevent any of that control passing into the hands of those who fight for a better system.

Governments and law courts in this country have always taken powerful, repressive action to maintain a monopoly of broadcasting in the hands of the two monopolies set up by the state, the BBC and the IBA.

The Observer newspaper told on Sunday, for instance, how a group of people who run a small pirate station, Radio Jackie, have in nine years been fined £2000, had £2000 of equipment confiscated and suffered one prison sentence.

Pirates raided

The pirates have found that they are most likely to get raided by the police if they broadcast anything of a political nature.

'Citizens Band' radios are widespread in the United States, allowing millions of people to broadcast to each other. But they are forbidden in Britain, under the threat of heavy legal penalties.

These restrictions used to be justified with talk of the danger of interfering with other radio stations, or of messing up shipping broadcasts.

But new technology has changed all this. VHF, UHF, SHF make the total number of channels that could be

Radio:
Due to
interference,
programmes will
continue as normal...

BURIED IN
A BORING
OFFICIAL
REPORT:
HOW OUR
RULERS
TUNE IN
TO SWITCHING US OFF



Annan: so much for 'freedom of expression'

and even then there are attempts to force it out of action through libel actions.

It cannot match the multi-million pound operations of The Sun, the Mirror, the Express.

Wrong hands

So the Annans of this world are prepared to insist on 'freedom to publish' for the printed word, knowing it is not going to be too harmful to them.

But radio and TV broadcasting equipment is getting cheaper and cheaper. And so the powers-that-be insist on very strong laws to prevent these getting into the 'wrong hands'.

In Italy recently the government's attempt to restrict the freedom to broadcast was ruled to have no legal basis. Since then there has been a proliferation of local left wing broadcasting stations.

In describing these, the Financial Times summed up last week what the whole argument is about:

'As far as some governments are concerned, Citizens Band gives the public an alarmingly powerful means of communication. In Italy, the collapse of control over radio waves has been complete.'

'Radio links have proved a major weapon in the hands of students and left wing groups organising protest rallies.'

available for radio or TV virtually limitless.

The restrictions have to do with control from above, not technology, as the Annan Report makes clear.

The government and Parliament must have the power to decide the number and nature of the broadcasting services—who should provide them, how they should be financed, and what priority should be given them.'

Favours wealthy

The thing that must be prevented, at all costs, it seems, is people having the same right to broadcast that they at present have to publish books and newspapers.

Of course, this right favours those with most

wealth. But at least it allows room for counter-information to be put out by socialist organisations, strike committees, trade unions and so on.

Contempt

Annan wants to avoid this happening to radio and TV at all costs: 'If everyone had an unqualified right to broadcast, the broadcasting channels would become an aerial Hyde Park Corner.'

There could rarely have been a clearer admission by our ruling class of the contempt in which they hold the right of the rest of us to express our views.

The cost of newspaper presses and newsprint are so expensive these days that the socialist press can only survive with great difficulties,

DOWN THE ROAD

Unemployment and the fight for the Right to Work

By Sarah Cox and Robert Golden: to be published on 1 May

132 pages of arguments, facts, poems and photographs. The authors are giving 'royalties' from the book to the Right to Work Campaign.

Special pre-publication offer from the Right to Work Campaign. £1.25 plus 17p post and packing. (Normal price £1.50 plus post and packing).

Send your order now to Down the Road, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.



Don't miss it

This May Day is going to be special. Socialist Worker is bringing out a special issue. Make sure your trade union branch, shop stewards committee, trades council or other trade union organisation gets its May Day Greetings in. For only £1 you could reach over 100,000 trade unionists and their families.

RATES
Special Classified 20 words £1
Semi-display 3cms single col up to 20 words £1.50
Display 3cms single col up to 15 words £2
6cms single col up to 30 words £4
6 cms double col up to 60 words £8
For any enquiries ring 01-739 2639
Final copy date Friday 22 April

Socialist Worker

Send in your greetings NOW

Fill in this coupon and attach it to your greeting (typed if possible) and send it to: Socialist Worker May Day, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

I would like the following size of greeting (please tick) Special Classified

Semi-display 3cms single display

6cms single display

6cms double display

Name and Address of Organisation

I enclose cheque/PO for

BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

Scotland

EDINBURGH Socialist Worker discussion groups: Saturdays, 11.30am, Trades Council, 14 Picardy Place. Open to all Socialist Worker readers. For further information phone 031-557 0628.

2 April: Racism. Speaker: Steve Bassindale (UCATT).

EDINBURGH SWP/Women's Voice discussion group meetings on Women's Politics: Saturday mornings, 11.30am, Room 6, Trades Council, 14 Picardy Place (top of Leith Walk). Open to all SW and Women's Voice readers.

2 April: Pin money women? Women at work.

9 April: Keep it in the family! The family under capitalism.

ABERDEEN Womens Voice Group public meeting: Contraception, rape and abortion, Tuesday 12 April, 7.30pm, 163 King Street (first floor).

DUNDEE Socialist Workers Party branch meetings: Thursdays, 7.30pm, Park Place School (31 March, 14 April). For further information contact: Jim Barlow, 11d Greenfield Court, Whitfield, Dundee (phone 25945).

PAISLEY Socialist Workers Party DAY OF ACTION: Saturday 2 April, 11.30am: Street meeting in Piazza, 2.45pm: 'Stop the Chile game' picket at Love Street football ground. Evening: Fund-raising social at 1 George Place.

North East

DURHAM Socialist Workers Party discussion meeting: State and Revolution. Discussion follows 30-minute cassette recording of Harry McShane. Thursday 7 April, 8pm, Colpitts Hotel, Sutton Street, Durham. These meetings are open to all members of the SWP, Socialist Worker readers and those interested in our politics. Come along!

JARROW Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Workers' Participation or Socialism? Speaker: David New. Wednesday 6 April, 8pm, Borough Arms, Jarrow.

Yorkshire

MINERS FOR SOCIALISM—a series of Socialist Workers Party political discussion meetings to be held in Barnsley. First meeting: Tony Cliff on the threat of productivity deals and how to fight them (17 April). Others include Duncan Hallas on understanding the crisis, Steve Jefferys on Broad Left Alliance or rank and file organisation? Full details from Bill Messing, 143 Carleton Road, Potofract, West Yorkshire.

BARNESLEY Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a socialist. Speakers: Paul Foot and Pete Exley (local NUM member). Thursday 7 April, 8pm, Civic Centenary Rooms, Barnsley. All welcome.

North West

PRESTON Socialist Workers Party meetings: Every Thursday, 8pm, The Keystone, Brook Street (off Fylde Road). All welcome.

14 April: Who was Lenin?

CRUMPSALL Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Alternative Thursdays, 8pm, Room A11, Abraham Moss Centre.

14 April: The Cancer in the working class—racism and fascism. Speaker: Ian Wall.

MANCHESTER Socialist Workers Party lecture series on socialism: Can Socialism come through parliament. Speaker: Jules Townsend. Monday 4 April, The Castle Hotel, Oldham Street, Manchester. Admission 20p. NOTE CHANGE OF DATE.

LIVERPOOL CENTRAL Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: All meetings start at 8pm, County Hotel, Comutation Row (off London Road, opposite St George's Hall) and will finish by 9.30pm.

Wednesday 6 April: Racism and Fascism.

NOTE: All SWP members to attend by 7.30pm to conclude branch business. Extended meetings will take place on 30 March, 13 April and 27 April.

STOCKPORT Socialist Workers Party meeting for new members and supporters: Marxist Economics. Thursday 7 April, 8pm, The Spread Eagle pub, Lower Hillgate, Stockport.

SOUTHPORT Socialist Workers Party meetings: Every Wednesday, 8pm, Mount Pleasant pub, Manchester Road. Open to all new members and supporters. Socialist Worker sold every Saturday between 11am and 1pm outside Chapel Street Station.

Socialist Worker public meetings

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



STOP POLICE BRUTALITY DEFEND THE ISLINGTON 18

Meetings organised by Flame and the Socialist Workers Party

MANCHESTER: Sunday 3 April, 6.30pm, West Indian Centre, Carmoore Road, Moss Side. Speakers: Steve Matthew and an ex-prisoner on Strangeways.

GLASGOW: Tuesday 12 April, 7.30pm, Blairtummock House, Easterhouse. Speaker: Kim Gordon

NEWCASTLE upon TYNE: Thursday 14 April 7.30pm, Bridge Hotel, Speaker: Kim Gordon.

LEA VALLEY: Tuesday 19 April, 7.30pm, Community Centre, Stanley Road, London N15. Speakers: Steve Matthew and a member of the Islington 18 Defence Committee.

DEMONSTRATION: Saturday 23 April, called by the Islington 18 Defence Committee. Assemble 12 noon, outside Highbury Magistrates Court, Highbury Corner, London N1. All London SWP members to support.



Defend the Islington 18—a four-page FLAME SPECIAL. Articles on the history of police harassment of blacks; the deportation of black nurses and how we must fight back. Take copies round your workplace, youth club and community. 12p each (including postage) from: Flame, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

ORMSKIRK Socialist Worker discussion meetings: Every Thursday, 8pm, Civic Hall Committee Rooms (Church Fields entrance). See your Socialist Worker seller for further details.

7 April: Lenin and the revolutionary party.

14 April: Marxism and History.

KIRKBY Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: All meetings start at 8pm, Tower Hill Community Centre, Heathfield, Tower Hill, and will finish by 9.15 pm. All welcome.

Thursday 7 April: No more Shrewsbury. Defend the Right to Work Marchers. Speaker: Tony Jones. All SWP members to attend by 7.30pm for branch business. Extended branch meetings on 31 March, and 14 April.

BOOTLE Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: All meetings start 8pm, St Hilda pub, Walton Road, Liverpool 4, and will finish by 9.30pm. All welcome.

Thursday 31 March—Ireland
Thursday 14 April—Religion and Socialism

NOTE: All SWP members to attend by 7.30pm to conclude branch business. Extended meetings will take place on 30 March, 13 April and 27 April.

WARRINGTON Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings: Alternate Wednesdays, 8pm, Bowling Green Inn, Liverpool Road by Crossfields. All welcome. Next meeting 6 April. For details phone Padgate 811584 or Newton-le-Willows 21284.

KIRKBY Socialist Workers Party discussion meeting: No more Shrewsbury. Defend the Right to Work Marchers. Thursday 7 April, 8pm, Tower Hill Community Centre, Heathfield, Kirkby.

BRIXTON: Tuesday 5 April, 7.30pm, Right to Work Centre, 21 Mayall Road.

WINDSOR: Wednesday 6 April, 7pm, Orchard Club, Stoke Poges Lane. Speaker: Kim Gordon (Editor, Flame).

NORTH LONDON: Wednesday 6 April 7.30pm, Caxton House, 129 St John's Way, N19. Speakers: Steve Matthew (Islington 18 Defence Committee member).

STICKERS available now: 25p a sheet or 3p each. Cheques payable to Flame, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN. All proceeds to the Defence Campaign.

LEICESTER Socialist Workers Party discussion meeting: The Minority Movement and the Right to Work Campaign. Speaker: Bob Maloney. Friday 1 April, 7.30pm, Sultan of Egypt, Belgrave Road.

East Anglia

NORTH NORFOLK: Would any Socialist Worker reader in the Kings Lynn, Cromer, Holt, Fakenham area, who are interested in forming SW discussion groups or branches of the SWP, please contact Norwich SWP, 14 Edinburg Road, Norwich.

NORWICH Socialist Workers Party open air meeting on Unemployment, Price Rises, The Cuts—and the Socialist Alternative. Saturday 2 April, 11am, The Haymarket, Norwich City Centre.

South East

CHELMSFORD Socialist Workers Party public meeting: CAST present Sam the Man, a play about the Labour Party. Wednesday 6 April, 7.45pm, Chelmsford Civic Centre. Admission 50p. All proceeds to the £40,000 SW Fund.

GRAYS and TILBURY Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a socialist. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Thursday 31 March, 8pm, Meeting Room, Grays Central Library.

MAIDSTONE Socialist Workers Party series of discussion meetings on the politics of the SWP: Mondays, 8pm, The Old Palace, Mill Street.

4 April: Reform or Revolution? Speaker: Alan Beeny (SOGAT).

London

HOSPITAL WORKERS: Meeting for all Socialist Workers Party members and supporters working in London hospitals. Wednesday 6 April, 7pm, The Prince Albert pub, Warfield Road, London N1 (Kings Cross tube).

Socialist Workers Party PRINTWORKERS public meeting: Smash the Social Contract Now! Chaired by Ross Pritchard (London Region NGA). Speakers: Jimmy McCallum (ex-AUEW/TASS convenor, John Brown Engineering), Frank Henderson (British Leyland shop steward, Longbridge), plus speakers from MATSOPA and SOGAT. Thursday 14 April, 7pm, St Brides Institute, Fleet Street. All speakers in personal capacity. NOTE CHANGE OF DATE.

CIVIL SERVICE: National meeting for all SWP members in the civil service. Saturday 16 April, in Manchester. Agenda: Building civil service SWP branches. Watch for further details.

Get the CIA out of Britain! Stop the deportations! COME AND HEAR PHILIP AGEE, former CIA agent now under threat of deportation. Monday 4 April, 7.45pm, Stratford Town Hall, Stratford Broadway, London, E15 (nearest tube Stratford). Speakers: Philip Agee and Paul Foot—Organised by East London Socialist Workers Party.

HACKNEY Flame Group public meeting: The Struggle against oppression in the Caribbean. Speaker: Tony Bogue (Revolutionary Marxist League, Jamaica). Tuesday 5 April, 7.45pm, Dalston Library, Dalston Lane.

SOUTH EAST LONDON Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a socialist. Speakers: Paul Foot (Socialist Worker), Paul Lutner (Greenwich Reinforcements). Thursday 21 April, 8pm, Lewisham Concert Hall, Catford Road, Catford, SE6.

SOUTH EAST LONDON Socialist Workers Party discussion meeting: Gramsci's Marxism versus Euro-Communism. Speaker: Chris Harman. Wednesday 27 April, 8pm, Charlton House, Hornfair Road, Charlton, SE7.

NORTH WEST LONDON Socialist Workers Party public meeting on the anniversary of Ireland's Easter Rising: What did James Connolly die for? Speakers: Sean Docherty (SWP Irish committee) and Bernadette Dunne (NUPE). Chaired by Bill Geddes (NUPE). Thursday 31 March, 8pm, Acton Town Hall, Acton High Street, W3.

CRISIS IN EUROPE: London Socialist Workers Party public meeting: France after the elections. Parties move to power—a step to socialism? Saturday 2 April, 1pm-6pm, Polytechnic of Central London, New Coventry Street, London W1 (nearest tube Oxford Circus). All SWP members and supporters welcome. Organised by SWP France and Italy Groups.

LAMBETH Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Origins of the Socialist Workers Party. Speaker: Duncan Hallas. Thursday 31 March, 7.30pm, Brixton Training Centre (opposite St Matthews Church).

WANDSWORTH Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Whose side are they on—the police, the army, the law? Speaker: Danny Phillips. Wednesday 6 April, 8pm, The Napier Arms, St John's Hill, London SW11.

NORTH WEST LONDON Socialist Worker discussion group: The Bolshevik Party and the Russian Revolution. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Sunday 3 April, 5.30pm, Carib Club.

South West

FALMOUTH Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Labour Party and the Socialist Alternative. Speaker: Paul Foot. Friday 15 April, watch for local leaflets for time and place.

Marxism and the Revolutionary Party

Friday evenings, 7pm, at the University of London Union, Malet Street, WC1 (nearest tube Goodge Street opposite Dilons Bookshop).

1 April: From capitalist state to workers'—the role of the party. Speaker: Duncan Hallas.



ROCK AGAINST RACISM: Due to the fact that we ran out of badges and had to reorder, those who have sent money should by now be getting worried. We are sorry for the delay—they will all be dispatched by the end of this week.

ROCK AGAINST RACISM BADGES: In red and yellow, 22p including postage, or 10 for £1.50 post free. RAR, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

Action in the unions

Socialist Workers Party PRINTWORKERS public meeting: Smash the Social Contract Now! Chaired by Ross Pritchard (London Region NGA). Speakers: Jimmy McCallum (ex-AUEW/TASS convenor, John Brown Engineering), Frank Henderson (British Leyland shop steward, Longbridge), plus speakers from MATSOPA and SOGAT. Thursday 14 April, 7pm, St Brides Institute, Fleet Street. All speakers in personal capacity. NOTE CHANGE OF DATE.

CIVIL SERVICE: National meeting for all SWP members in the civil service. Saturday 16 April, in Manchester. Agenda: Building civil service SWP branches. Watch for further details.

WOMEN'S VOICE Equal Pay stickers: Printed in red. Three sheets (of 12 each) for 50p including postage. From: Women's Voice, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN. Money with orders only.



IRANIAN EDITION of Chris Harman's pamphlet, Russia: How the Revolution was lost. First of several pamphlets in Iranian planned by the SWP Middle East Group.

25p plus 10p postage (more than 10 copies post free) from SWP International Dept, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.



STAVERTON BRIDGE Socialist Folk Group available for bookings. Highly recommended for socials, fund-raising etc. 6 South Street, Totnes, Devon TQ9 5DZ. Phone Totnes 862935.

SPOT THE SCROUNGER

To hell with the Social Contract

Socialist Worker

DON'T YOU OWE IT TO OUR DEAR QUEEN TO WELCOME HER JUBILEE YEAR?

Make your feelings known with Socialist Worker's jubilee poster. Red and black, 30 for £1 (£3 for 100), from SW Recordings, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 8DS.

Have a Socialist night out!

Enjoy yourself—and help build the Socialist Workers Party. The proceeds of these events will go towards our £30,000 party-building fund.

SKEGNESS coaches from London: Tickets £4 per seat. Details and bookings, phone Chris Davison 01-808 3200.

SKEGNESS: Seats available on Essex coach, £5 return. Phone Basildon 413260 or Chelmsford 59129.

PRINTING! We can do all your printing—leaflets, posters, stickers, pamphlets, etc. SW Printers (TU), phone 061-832 8102 or write 260 Deansgate, Manchester M3 4BB.

FRANCE: Two places available in far going to France, departing 7 April via Southampton, return 20 April. Share travel costs, free accommodation available in Paris and Grenoble. Phone Martin, Exeter 34427.

LUTE OUVRIERE FETE 1977, Saturday 28 May to Monday 30 May, north of Paris. Food, booze, music, films, debates etc. SWP bookstall. Anyone going or interested in going contact LO Fete, c/o 9 Grove Dwellings Adelins Grove, London E1, immediately.

OFFER of a lifetime for all aspiring intellectuals! Rejected academic turned revolutionary wishes to sell massive collection of untouched NEW LEFT REVIEW BOOKS. All proceeds to the SW Fighting Fund. Over 20 titles including such widely unread classics as Althusser's 'Essays in self-criticism', Schmidt's 'The Concept of Nature in Marx' and many, many more. Total value: around £100. You can have the lot for £50, or buy individually at half-price a time. All inquiries to: Bill Collins (Durham SWPI), 47 Western Hill, Durham City.

Socialist Workers Party GAY GROUP asks any friends going to Skegness to contact Ruth (01-800 8557) or Richard, 19 Redman's Road, London E1 0JL-795 2454.

'STUFF THE JUBILEE' Badge: Camden SWP has a scheme to raise several hundred quid for the SWP. By next month we will be selling the only Anti-Jubilee badge, in fact a Feminist Fight the Cuts and Stuff the Jubilee badge. Possibilities for national sale are enormous, but we need your help—only you know where the alternative, anarchist, community bookshops are in your area. Send us information, or better still get orders for the badges and we'll subtract your costs from your badge orders. Probable price 20p by post, 15p a badge, with reductions for bulk orders. Contact Sherri Yanowitz, 116 Fortune Green Road, London NW6.

THE SECOND EDITION of WHY you should be a socialist, the Case for the Socialist Workers Party, should be available in bulk at the Skegness SW Weekend. Branches, districts, etc should prepare orders and organise someone to collect at Skegness (10 per cent discount if paid for then). If your branch isn't to be represented at Skegness, copies from Pete Fysh, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 (phone 01-739 2639).

Socialist Workers Party INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSION BULLETIN out now. Special double issue on 'left' governments. Articles and documents on France, Italy, Jamaica. 25p per copy (plus 10p postage) from SWP International Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN. Make cheques payable to SW International Fund.

NATIONAL ORGANISATION OF I.S. SOCIETIES

FIGHT THE CUTS OCCUPY

NATIONAL ORGANISATION OF I.S. SOCIETIES

NO TO FEES OR QUOTAS

NATIONAL ORGANISATION OF I.S. SOCIETIES

STICKERS, two colours (black and maroon)—five sheets for £1, post free, 12 sheets for £2 (each sheet contains six of each sticker). NOISS, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

NOISS
National Organisation of Student International Socialist Societies

MARXISM 77.

Seven days of revolutionary ideas and discussion: Revolutions of the 20th Century. Literature and Revolution. The Marxist Method. Women's Liberation and the Struggle for Socialism, Capitalism and Crisis, Labour History.

Speakers include Paul Foot, Nigel Harris, Michael Kidron, Tony Cliff, Duncan Hallas, Ray Challinor and Lionel Sims.

Evening activities will include guest speakers, important debates, socialist films, theatre groups, live music, discos.

Organised by the National Organisation of Student International Socialist Societies, 1-8 July, North London Polytechnic. Full details from Marxism 77, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN. NOT FOR STUDENTS ONLY.

SWRecordings

The world economic system is in crisis. For millions around the world it means famine—Bangladesh, Ethiopia, the Sahel, food riots in Egypt, Poland.

But this is no 'natural disaster'. During the 1974 famine in Bangladesh there was an estimated four million tons of rice in the country—but it wasn't available to starving people, who had no money to pay for it.

As Marx wrote 120 years ago, the biggest single indictment of the capitalist system is that it cannot keep its slaves alive.

WORLD CRISIS, the latest cassette from Socialist Worker Recordings, is an analysis of this crisis by Nigel Harris of the SWP international committee, and of the world-wide class confrontation it brings with it.

£1.40, including postage, from SW Recordings, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 8DS (cheques payable to Socialist Worker Recordings please).

Send stamped, addressed envelope for full list of cassettes.

Womens VOICE

No. 3

Articles on Equal pay, NUPE, Soweto, rape, abortion and childbirth. Interview with Carol Grimes.

Price 10p.
Available from: Womens Voice, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2
Orders for SWP branches will be sent out by rail this Friday 11 March. London branches to collect early Friday evening.

Socialist Worker Weekend SKEGNESS '77

Easter,
Friday 8 April
—Monday 11 April
Derbyshire Miners
Holiday Camp,
Skegness

SPEAKERS AND DISCUSSION MEETINGS



Paul Foot on
**TOM PAINE
AND THE
AMERICAN
REVOLUTION**



Alison Kirton on
RAPE



Clive Jenkins on
SATIRE
(We understand that
Mr Jenkins may not
be back from his
holidays).



Peter Chappell
on
**GEORGE
DAVIS IS
INNOCENT,
OK?**



Edmond Baluka
on
**POLAND'S
REVOLUTIONARY
WORKERS**



Ken Montague
on
**WILLIAM
MORRIS AND
THE
REVOLUTIONARY
SOCIALIST
PARTY**



Joy Leman on
**AD MEN SELL
WOMEN**



V Lenin (guest
appearance) on
**THE WORKS
OF T CLIFF**



Tony Cliff on
**PERMANENT
REVOLUTION
IN AFRICA
and THE WAY
AHEAD**



Plus David Widgery (left) on Fascism
and Sex, Duncan Hallas on Trotsky,
Nigel Harris on China after Mao, Ian
Gibson on Is Science neutral?, Chris
Harman on the ideological struggle, and
much more.

CHILDREN OF ALL AGES WILL BE WELL CATERED FOR

- Six nursery nurses to look after the youngest, and chalet patrols
- Films, cartoons and television
- Visits to Skegness Marine Zoo and Nature Trail
- Football and table tennis competitions
- Professional children's entertainers

- Meetings for over-12s—how to organise in school, women's rights, racism.

- Children's theatre—your own plays, write them, act them, make your own costumes.

BIG, BIG BANDS



STEEL PULSE
(left),
Birmingham's
top Reggae
band

plus
BRONX
rock band,

AND THE RETURN OF THE NEWCASTLE BEGGARMEN



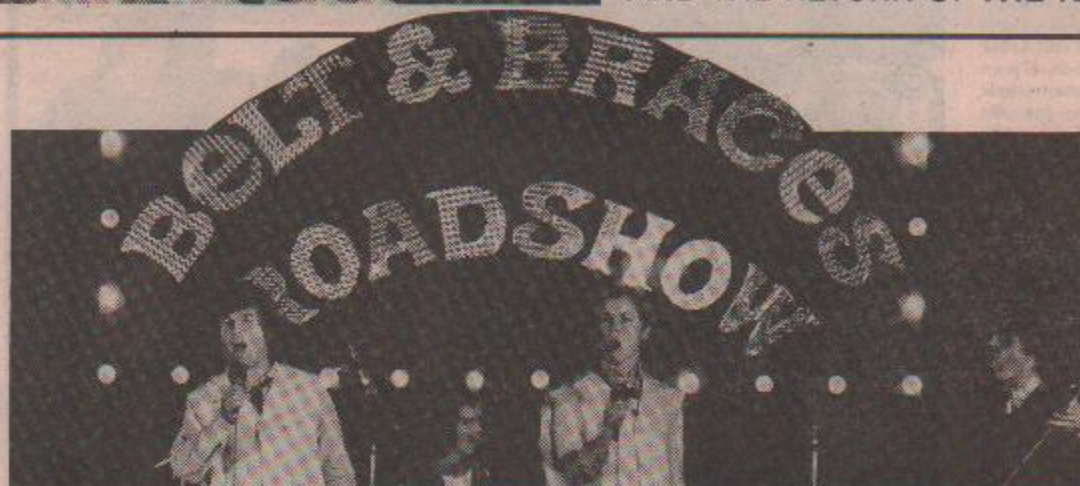
**MIKE
CARVER** at
the piano...

FOOTBALL

One barrel of Real Ale to the winners. Register your team with Stuart Culliford on arrival.

PHYSICAL JERKS

A golden opportunity for all those who have promised themselves that one day they'll get fit—and a solution to the morning after the night before! Each morning at 7.30am, Jimmy McCallum (ex-football pro) and Neil Davies (ex-army) will put you through your paces.



**BELT AND BRACES
ROADSHOW** present their
new rock musical
**NOT SO GREEN AS IT'S
CABBAGE**

ARE YOU A TALENTED ENTERTAINER?
Each night in The Drifters bar there will be a special spot for talented amateurs. So bring your own instrument. Contact Mike Carver in The Drifters at 7pm on the Friday for auditions.

CABARET starring Liza Minelli	ALICE DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANY MORE	CHINATOWN with Fay Dunaway	THE CRY OF THE PEOPLE	THE CANDIDATE
QUEIMADA with Marlon Brando	AMERICAN GRAFFITI	BLAZING SADDLES	THE JACKAL OF NAHUELTORO	INVESTIGATION OF A CITIZEN ABOVE SUSPICION

THE BIG SCREEN



Just some
of the films
you'll be
able to see

A still from Cry of the People, never featured by the big cinemas or on television.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES

You can arrive at the Derbyshire Miners Holiday Camp, Skegness, any time after 2pm on Friday 8 April. The first meal is at 5pm. The weekend finishes after the last meal, Monday lunchtime, 1pm.



PLEASE SEND THE BALANCE OF ALL MONEY BY TUESDAY 5 APRIL to SWP, 6 Cottons Gardens, London. E2. Any queries, phone 01-739 6273.

Letters

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

THEN A ROLLS ROYCE PULLED UP . . .

THE RECENT article by Terry Stewart reminded me of a story about my grand-dad. Now aged 73, he has worked for 61 years. He has been in ill-health so recently we looked up how much pension he would be entitled to.

To my disgust, I found that the most he could get would be £17 and his rent paid.

If you claim for supplementary benefit you can't get your rent paid, and if you claim for your rent to be paid you can't get supplementary benefit.

My grand-dad enjoys a smoke and a game of bingo — not much to ask for after 61 years of work. But he found that if he went on a pension alone he could not afford even these few things.

As I went out that night — not in the happiest of moods — a silver Rolls-Royce pulled up next to me at the traffic lights. Inside was a couple aged about 60, the bloke smoking a cigar, the woman with a mink coat on.

You can imagine the thoughts that ran through my mind.

□ Ian McIntosh, Salford.

Bid to silence Gay News

WE HAVE all noticed the re-emergence of reactionary ideas and groups who seek to divide the working class.

Mary Whitehouse, the epitome of right-wing repression and sexism, has launched her latest crusade against minority groups by taking a private action in the courts against Gay News, the only newspaper in this country for homosexuals. She has issued a writ under the blasphemy laws against Gay News, for a poem they printed which was a parody about Jesus Christ.

The action in the courts is likely to be long and expensive and, given the recent decision in the Private Eye case, could mean that the distributors of Gay News will be prosecuted and thus Britain's only gay newspaper will be effectively silenced.

Gay News and the homosexual community have launched a fighting fund to defend this action but we call on all comrades to support Gay News and defend the basic rights of all persons.

Messages of support to: c/o SWP Gay Group, 19 Redmans Road, London E1.

□ ARTHUR SMITH, North London.

Taxes hit the poor

THE popular myth is that taxation is progressive, that the more you get, the more you have to pay in tax.

That may be true of direct income tax, but examine indirect taxation such as VAT and National Insurance contributions and you find it's the other way round. Those on the lowest incomes pay the highest proportion in tax.

The two in fact cancel each other out — and the tax system has little effect on the distribution of wealth.

The cuts in public spending are also sure to hit hardest at those on low wages and make our society even more unequal.

And the richest 1 per cent of the population still takes as much of all income as the poorest third put together.

Mrs Thatcher says socialism divides society into conflicting classes. This is ridiculous — the division between worker and capitalist is there. Socialists are those who have recognised it.

□ SIMON CUNNINGHAM, Leicesters.

I'M NOT an SWP member nor even really a supporter. But the world would be a poorer place without Socialist Worker. Here's a couple of quid towards Clive Jenkins' lack of humour.

One criticism. Since IS became the SWP there's been a tendency in the paper to pose SWP as a solution to many problems. Articles tend to end '... only socialism will change this, therefore join SWP.' I take your point, but there's more to it than that as I'm sure you'll admit.

□ STEPHEN BURGEN, Bristol.

Toolmakers: You're too uncritical

YOUR SUPPORT for the Leyland toolmakers is just too uncritical. Any socialist who has been anywhere near the shop floor recognises the dangers of craftism and elitism.

While the current situation is the fault of the TUC rather than the toolmakers, do not expect ordinary workers to support the police in strike action, forming a union and affiliating to the TUC.

It may well be that a large majority of police come from working-class families, but as soon as they put on the uniform they become the hired thugs of the ruling class. The police are on the other side of the barricades and always will be while they are in the force.

The demands of rank and file soldiers in the army tend to have a progressive content, a weakening of the army power structure. The

frustration and discontent in the police ranks is likely to manifest itself in demands for tougher laws, harsher penalties and longer sentences for working-class victims of the system.

Somewhat I don't see the cops supporting trade unionists on picket lines or supporting anti-fascist demonstrations.

No, the police are not trade unionists and never will be, and socialists should not be supporting them.

□ ROSS MACKENZIE, Adelaide, Australia.

Stechford: Socialist who?

I WENT to Stechford at the weekend to help the Socialist Workers Party election campaign. On Sunday morning one man I canvassed told me: 'I'm fed up to the teeth with Labour, the Tories are just as bad and so are the Liberals. I was thinking of either not voting, or voting National Front.'

But now I see there's a genuine Socialist candidate standing. I think I'll vote for him. I know it's not the blacks to blame, like the National Front say. Something's got to be done about the prices and our wages.

This voter was typical of tens and possibly hundreds of voters.

The SWP is building a party of people to fight unemployment, wage controls and cuts in our living standards. These are the diseases which give rise to such terrible symptoms as racism. If we can win workers to join us in a battle to eradicate these diseases, then the long-term job of ending racism in Birmingham — and everywhere else — will be under way.

That is why the SWP stood in Walsall and Newcastle and is now standing in Stechford. It is part of a long-term struggle to build a new workers' party in Britain that unites all workers ready to fight back, whether they're black or white, women or men.

The International Marxist Group, who are turning up to all Paul Foot's meetings in the area to attack the Socialist Workers Party, are concentrating their efforts among Asian workers, saying that the key is to create a big, united anti-racist campaign.

The SWP doesn't send anyone to the IMG meetings since the election is not a debate with them. We have always played a major part in anti-racist demonstrations and activities throughout Britain, and of course we'll go on doing so, but elections are not about putting forward policies on only one issue.

They are, for us, about creating a realistic socialist political alternative to the established parties. This is why I regret that the IMG are splitting the anti-racist votes on Thursday, and that their campaign aims at attacking the SWP.

□ STEVE JEFFERYS, Tottenham, North London.

WHO'S THE TRUST HOUSE 'WORKER' WITH THE £12,000 PAY RISE?

THE hotel workers in Oxford, Birmingham and Sheffield who are on strike for union recognition must have been cheered last week by the wonderful news when their employers, Trust House Forte, published its annual report to shareholders.

Lord Thorneycroft, former Tory Chancellor and THF's chairman, said: 'I am happy to report that current trading has got off to a good start. THF expect another record year, after last year's profits jumped from £13 million to nearly £24 million.'

One hopes that these greedy THF workers, some who earn as much as 47p an hour, will now come to their senses and work for the common good of the company.

The best news for the strikers, however, was to learn that one of their fellow workers received a pay rise last year of £240 a week (£12,000 a year). This worker has not been named, but according to the Evening Standard, he is probably either Sir Charles Forte or vice-chairman Eric Hartwell.

Sir Charles, a fine patriot who believes we are all in the same boat and that we should all tighten our belts together, modestly refused to say whether he was 'Mr

X'. He explained the £12,000 as being basically an £8,000 rise agreed just before the freeze began in August 1975.

The other £4,000 arose through the fall of sterling because the hard-working Mr X spends a lot of his time abroad.

There is obviously very little wrong with our society

when such deserving men are so justly rewarded. One can only abhor suggestions heard from some quarters that Sir Charles, Lord Thorneycroft and their friends are parasitical scum who deserve to disappear from the face of the earth.

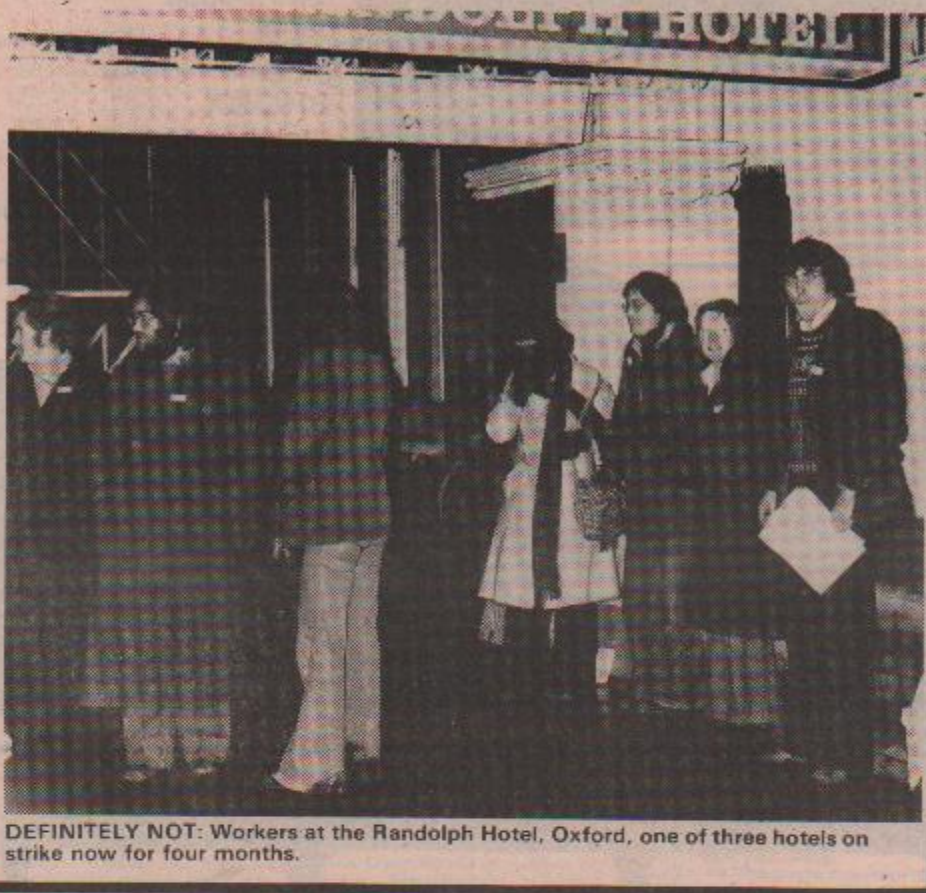
□ DAVE LING, London N2.



POSSIBLE: Trust House Forte boss Sir Charles Forte



POSSIBLE: Vice-chairman and ex-Tory Chancellor Lord Thorneycroft



DEFINITELY NOT: Workers at the Randolph Hotel, Oxford, one of three hotels on strike now for four months.

ADVERTISEMENT

Everyone will be hit hard by the extra £1400 million that's to be cut from government spending

FOR CHILDREN, it means crowded classrooms, no meal for your school dinner.

FOR THE SICK, it means longer queues in increasingly decrepit hospitals — and probably increased charges for prescriptions, the dentist and the optician.

FOR ALL OF US, it means higher prices as food subsidies are removed.

But the cuts can be stopped.

Portsmouth hospital workers have proved it — they saved 30 nurses' jobs. Merseyside council workers have proved it — they stopped 181 building workers being sacked. London hospital workers proved it — they stopped the closure of hospital kitchens.

This pamphlet proves it . . . buy it now 19p a copy, including postage, or ten copies for £1 (post free)

RIGHT TO WORK CENTRE
265 Seven Sisters Road, London E2.

STOP THE CUTS
A Right to Work Campaign pamphlet by Paul Foot



Socialist Workers Party RALLY OF BLACK REVOLUTIONARIES. We're black and we're fighting back! Against racism, against the deportations, against police brutality, against unemployment and the cuts. We're fighting for the workers' revolution. Saturday 30 April, 11am, Stockwell Hall, Stockwell Park Road, Brixton, London SW9. Programme and tickets now from SWP, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 (tickets 50p in advance, 75p on the door).

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BARRICADES

I WAS amazed to read in Socialist Worker (12 March) an article calling on trade unionists to support the police in strike action, forming a union and affiliating to the TUC.

It may well be that a large majority of police come from working-class families, but as soon as they put on the uniform they become the hired thugs of the ruling class. The police are on the other side of the barricades and always will be while they are in the force.

The demands of rank and file soldiers in the army tend to have a progressive content, a weakening of the army power structure. The

frustration and discontent in the police ranks is likely to manifest itself in demands for tougher laws, harsher penalties and longer sentences for working-class victims of the system.

Somewhat I don't see the cops supporting trade unionists on picket lines or supporting anti-fascist demonstrations.

No, the police are not trade unionists and never will be, and socialists should not be supporting them.

□ ROSS MACKENZIE, Adelaide, Australia.

THE CALL GOES OUT FROM TWO PROTEST RALLIES

Organise now for strike action against the Social Contract

SPEAKING to the engineers' conference about the Social Contract, Chrysler Linwood shop steward Willie Lee said:

'People are now saying: "We've been conned". In January alone, we faced price rises of 2½ per cent.

'It is totally obscene, it is against everything the trade union movement has stood for.

'Everything is tied into the Social Contract. It is the wages ceiling that is holding back the fight on equal pay, it makes the attacks on so-called scroungers easier, it breeds racialism. It encourages overtime, even though there's high unemployment.

'Opposition to the Social Contract can be the one great issue that unites workers—it even brings the TGWU and AUEW together at Linwood.'

Scrabbling

Ian Morris, shop steward from British Airways, London Airport, warned: 'They are going to relax the pay limits to some extent.

'But they will try and do it in such a way that we all end up scrabbling against each other, and fighting among ourselves. We must throw all our weight behind the stoppage in April.'

Brian Kelly, shop steward from International Harvesters, Doncaster, argued that banning overtime could be the first step in building up confidence on other issues.

BOTH conferences agreed to organise massive support for the picket outside the Old Bailey on Wednesday 4 May to support Right to Work marcher John Deason.

- Move resolutions calling for official trade union delegations, with banners, to attend.
- Arrange transport to London now.

'There is always some overtime being worked in every factory. Sometimes it is safety work that could just as well be done during normal hours, or in foundries it is lighting up at weekends.'

Mick Brightman, from Gardner's in Manchester, pointed out: 'Last year's National Committee authorised each district to put on overtime bans. We should take advantage of this.'

The conference discussed the state of the left wing in the AUEW, and in particular the role of left-wing officials like Hugh Scanlon and Bob Wright.

Redundancies

Jack Robinson, shop steward from Massey Ferguson in Manchester, said: 'How can we take Bob Wright seriously as the candidate in the Presidential elections who is against the Social Contract? Two years ago he helped to force it through.'

'He is the man who packed the Chrysler Linwood shop



Saturday's Engineers Charter meeting: 'We are never again going to trust the officials'

stewards committee with staff reps to get 8,000 redundancies through. Are those 8,000 going to support Wright?'

John Graham, shop steward from Wimot Breedon in Manchester, said: 'Bob Wright, if he had still been on the executive, would have voted for sacking the

toolroom workers along with Hugh Scanlon and the rest of the executive.'

Roger Cox, shop steward at the British Rail works at Acton, said: 'We're all against the Social Contract, but we're told to support candidates that want it to continue. The only way to force these people

attended a meeting organised by TGWU supporters of the Right to Work Campaign. They included strikers from Yardley's in Basildon and Trust House Forte.

Nearly 90 engineers attended the conference

organised by the rank and file paper in the AUEW, the Engineers Charter. They included strikers from Wildts in Leicester where 800 workers are on strike to save their jobs, and Landers in Birmingham, where AUEW members are fighting for trade union recognition.



Joyce Garner: 'I didn't like the Social Contract two years ago'



Ian Morris: 'We must throw all our weight behind the stoppage'



Idris Phillips: 'We got an 80 per cent turn-out for the Right to Work candidate'

referred to the Leyland toolroom workers strike. Tony Baker, from British Leyland in Cowley, said:

'I was worried about the toolroom workers when they first came out on strike. But it's quite obvious if the toolroom workers had broken through, it would have been to the good of everyone. That's the point.

'The Broad Left didn't seem to realise it was something against the Social Contract.'

Brian Kelly said: 'People say it's a strike for sectional benefits. We have to counter this and say they were leading a strike which will benefit the whole membership.'

Action

John Deason, the secretary of the Right to Work Campaign, said: 'We are not embarrassed by any strike. We have to support every strike against the Social Contract. The battle over wages won't be neat and orderly.

'We supported the toolmakers and so did factories and toolmakers up and down the country who were prepared to come out in support of them.

'It was the Morning Star and sections of the Broad Left who would not support them. We produced 50,000 leaflets nationally calling for support. It wasn't much but it was the only national effort.

'We need local Charter organisations in every area to fight for these policies. The slogan must be: 'We are never again going to trust the officials.'

Fighting to change the TGWU

LES KAYE, a Manchester busman, told the TGWU conference how the structure of the union excluded the rank and file from real power.

He said: 'The moment the membership try to exercise control over their own conditions by using the union, they come right up against the machine, against officials who see Transport House as the union, not the members.'

'The structure places fantastic importance on the 2000 and more full-time officials. And of these only one—the general secretary—is elected, and he's there for life.'

Other speakers took up these points. Frank Logan from DGI Manchester stressed that there had to be a fight for strong district committees answerable to mass meetings of members, for election of all

officials and for an annual conference.

Alasdair O'Riordan from Manchester told how in his chemical factory the 200 union members had been allowed only three sets of election addresses in the election for the new general secretary, so preventing them making a proper choice.

Handpicked

Idris Phillips from Homerton Rubber Works emphasised that you could get the members involved in the branches and use this to begin to fight for change in the union.

'We got an 80 per cent turn out when Tommy Riley, the Right to Work candidate for general secretary, came to our factory because we held the meeting during paid time.'

Joyce Garner, from Yardley's in Basildon, told of the struggle of the women in her factory for equal pay. 'Jack Jones has got to realise that women are educated now.

We are not silly girls any more.'

She added: 'We've got a three-way fight. Against the management. Against the union. And against the men and the convenor inside our factory who are still working, doing anything management tell them to.'

'I didn't like the Social Contract two years ago at the Blackpool conference of the union. I don't like it this year. The conference is made up of Jack Jones' handpicked men.'

A speaker from the Campaign Against a Criminal Trespass Law spelt out how this Bill now passing through parliament tries to turn those who take part in occupations into criminals.

'We can only defeat this Act, as we defeated the Industrial Relations Act, by mass defiance of the law.'

Mike Stanton, a Grimshy docker, spoke of the menace of racism. 'It's not just a question of black and white, but a threat to the whole

working class,' he said.

In Grimsby, the fishing industry was being run down by the multinationals. But many workers saw it in terms of 'those Icelandics or those Germans.'

There was a 'real link between weak trade unionism and racism.'

'The multinationals have made enough money out of fishing to provide jobs. But instead of fighting them, the fishermen tend to fight workers from other countries and to try to export unemployment.'

Amazing

But the unity of workers from different countries in the fight against the owners of the Globtik Venus had taught many people a lesson.

'The response on the docks amazed me,' he said.

Seamus Keyes from the Linton Lodge strike in Oxford, told how Trust House Forte had sacked them for joining a union.

'We've been in struggle for four and a half months against management. But after four and a half months we see it's also to a very large extent against the trade union bureaucracy.'

'We really go along with the Right to Work Campaign's policy of getting officials subject to regular election.'

Emily Wallace, a shop steward from Cowley, Oxford, spoke on how the Social Contract 'could have been custom built to hit women—through rising prices, through cuts in social services and through unemployment.'

'Any fight against the Social Contract has got to involve women. That meant fighting for equal pay. But it also meant fighting other attacks on women, especially the Benyon Bill that threatens women's right to choose whether to have an abortion.'

George Pogmore, the chairman, summed up the conference: 'Our numbers have been fairly small,' he said.

'But we have taken an important step in building a rank and file movement in the union.'

'This is the first time for many, many years that anyone has called a meeting that brings together the rank and file in the different sections of the union.'

□ The meeting also called for a mass response to the National TGWU Right to Work Campaign petition against the Social Contract which is going to be collected over the next three months and then presented to the TGWU Biennial Delegate Conference on the Isle of Man in July.

Copies of the printed petition forms can be obtained from the Right to Work office, 265a Seven Sisters Rd., London N4

THE FIGHT AGAINST THE CUTS



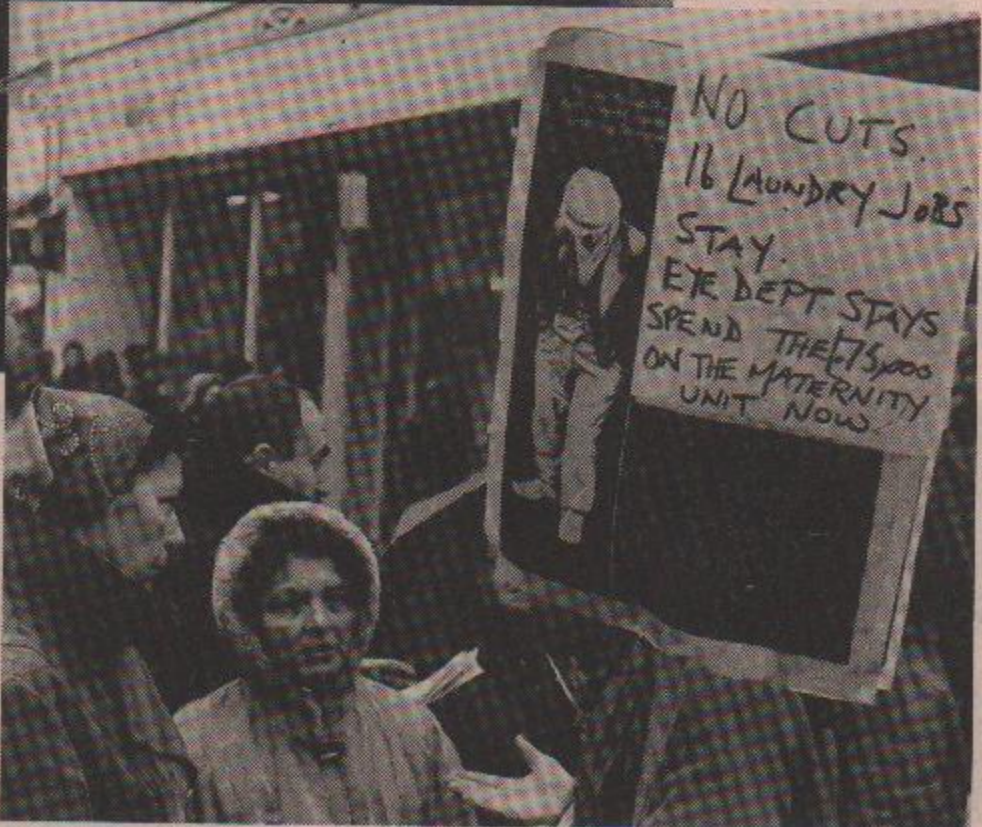
LLANELLI PICKETS FIGHT FOR HOSPITAL

Llanelli Right to Work Campaign supporters demonstrating in the town centre last Saturday as part of the fight to stop the run-down of a local hospital.

The eye department is to be moved and the laundry shut with the loss of 16 jobs. The local Labour-controlled council and the area health authority have also decided not to build a promised £75,000 maternity unit.

Instead Alun Bowen, the council's chief executive officer, wants to put the money in a bank to earn some interest.

Three thousand leaflets were distributed on Saturday's demonstration and names collected from people prepared to help carry on the campaign.



Magnificent! Jobs won for 5 more hospital workers



STOCKPORT: 'We've gained more in the past two days than in the past two years', one jubilant operating theatre worker summed up after our magnificent victory against understaffing.

by JOHN HILL
NUPE steward, Stepping Hill Hospital

Operating theatre orderlies, assistants and technicians at Stepping Hill Hospital began a sit-in last Thursday morning. We demanded more staff and the reduction of operations to urgent cases only until they were in post and trained.

But mid-day Friday all NUPE members in the hospital had stopped work and assembled in the canteen to discuss and vote on any new proposals immediately.

Lists

Management was completely overwhelmed by the unity and determination of the NUPE members. They caved in.

We came out for three more staff and settled for five. We demanded lists be cut until we had the staff and got them reduced to emergencies and

urgencies only.

This action followed a long period of frustration and discontent at Stepping Hill, specially in the operating theatres. Chronic understaffing and a high level of illness were putting patients at risk.

Essential cleaning could not be covered, staff were exhausted by long hours of overtime. On top of that there'd been huge increases in canteen prices, reductions in supplies of sugar and tea to the wards.

Growing anger over these cuts and the magnificent selflessness of the NUPE members who came out for adequate staffing levels has won them wide-spread support among the many shop stewards and other health workers we visited during the dispute.

Union organisation at Stepping Hill has been greatly strengthened by the victory. Things will never be the same again.

Factory delegates fight for hospital

NORTH LONDON: More than 35 delegates from 25 local factories attended a meeting last week to protest at the threat to industrial safety in the Enfield and Haringey area caused by the run-down of the Prince of Wales Hospital.

This area already has the worst staff/patient ratio in London. Yet instead of a much-needed expansion, the Area Health Authority intends to close one of the two casualty ward hospitals.

As Vic Seadan, a shop steward at Keith Blackmans, explained at the meeting, preventing this closure means the difference between immediate treatment for the victims of many daily industrial accidents, or having them literally bleed to death on the way to the next overcrowded casualty hospital.

In the past month at Blackmans a senior steward had a metal door fall on him, breaking his arm, and a foreman caught his arm in a circular saw.

Right to Work Campaign supporters have visited more than 70 factories, six hospitals and bus garages and ambulance stations about the closure. Hundreds of petitions have been taken into the factories by shop stewards and convenors.

Defend

The meeting, called by the Prince of Wales Hospital NUPE shop stewards committee and the North London Right to Work Campaign, voted unanimously to support any action taken by hospital workers to defend jobs and services. A small steering committee of stewards from different factories was elected to co-ordinate action.

□ MARCH against hospital closures: Saturday 2 April, from the Angel Islington to Whittington Hospital, Assemble 11am, Camden Passage, near Chapel Market.

Battle to save canteen

by ANNE ROBERTSON

MANCHESTER: Nurses at North Manchester General Hospital are fighting to keep their 24-hour canteen. Last week management announced without warning that only staff on night duty would be served after 10.30 pm.

The residents' action group and the joint stewards' committee have held two large protest meetings in the canteen at night and had a successful picket and petitioning session. The next step could be a canteen occupation.

CONVOY OF PROTEST BUSES CIRCLES COUNCIL

but officials sabotage fight to cut fares

GLASGOW: A convoy of buses displaying Partick Garage Action Committee and Glasgow Right to Work Campaign posters circled the headquarters of Strathclyde Regional Council on Friday protesting at the proposed closure of the garage.

Meanwhile 200 bus workers and trade unionists picketed the building, Melrose House, and a procession including a coffin toured nearby streets.

TURNOUT

On the picket were delegations from British Leyland's Albion plant, Singers, Scotstoun Marine and Yarrow's Shipyards, Prestcold, Marathon, John Brown Engineering, the local authority electricians, Chrysler AUEW, engineers from

Knightswood Hospital, students from Clydebank Technical College and a big turnout from the strikers at Anderson Strathclyde.

Many of them were incensed by the councillors' refusal to talk about the closure of Partick Garage, which means the loss of 300 jobs and reduction in bus services.

An impromptu meeting was held where delegations pledged their continuing support.

□ Messages of support and donations to: Partick Garage Action Committee, Hayburn Street, Partick, Glasgow.

THE CAMPAIGN by Glasgow bus workers to refuse to collect fare increases has been sabotaged the day after it started.

This time the culprits were neither the courts nor the right-wing National Association for Freedom. The decision to call the campaign off was forced through by senior officials, Transport Workers Union, officials, led by Scottish regional full-time secretary Ray McDonald.

The proposal was raised by the Partick busmen, who have

been fighting against the closure of their garage. Shop stewards from all the Glasgow garages voted unanimously to urge members to refuse to collect the new 26p fare and to limit the maximum fare to 18p.

Later mass meetings were held in every garage and nine out of the eleven voted to accept this recommendation.

The Greater Glasgow Passenger Transport Executive threatened to discipline any bus worker who went ahead, but Andy Lynch, vice-chairman of the busworkers' district committee, made it clear that this would lead to strike action.

On Sunday, when the new fares were supposed to come into effect, the vast majority of bus workers gave their answer to the threat by collecting only an 18p maximum

Stickers

Many of the buses, particularly those in the city centre routes, had Right to Work Campaign 'Boycott the New Fares' stickers slapped on top of the Passenger Authority Fares Increase notices.

But that day McDonald and other TGWU officials met the Glasgow District Bus Committee. They later announced that the fares fight would be called off on Monday night because of the threat of legal action.

Rank and file bus workers took up the idea as a way of building links with the passengers in the fight against the cuts. It was the first significant attempt to do so in Britain and it is tragic that it has been stamped on so heavily by union leaders scared stiff

Notices and meetings

300 march for passes

BURY: 300 people marched through the town centre on Saturday to protest at the Council's decision to withdraw bus passes from the handicapped. The march was called by Bury Action Group Against the Cuts.

The local government workers in NALGO have adopted a policy of non-cooperation with cut-backs. From Friday they will be joining NALGO's national overtime ban against the cuts.

A WINNER FOR 3000

THREE THOUSAND engineers employed by David Brown Gears have won their four-week unofficial strike.

For years David Brown Gear management have played one factory off against another in wage negotiations. This year three factories at Sunderland, Salford and Penistone, near Sheffield,

VICTORY ON GLOBTIK mk 2

by KEITH PATERSON

ABERDEEN: Union solidarity and day and night occupation has put paid to slave labour on a 'Globtik Venus Mark II', docked in Aberdeen harbour.

The crew of the Cyprus-registered Femmy Lian were refusing to sail the ship in protest at their disgusting conditions. The men—four

pushed the same claim for a 5 per cent increase and a staff sick pay scheme for shopfloor

Management refused to negotiate on a joint basis. After several one-day stoppages the workforce at all three factories went on strike.

Now management have agreed to the joint negotiations—for all claims.

Spaniards and two Ethiopians—had not been paid for five months, were living in completely unsanitary conditions and were having to work intolerably long shifts.

The owner had even had them painting the mast at sea in rough weather.

But the men were suffering acute hardships in their action—they had no drinking water on board, little food, and no money. So Aberdeen Trades Council responded with donations of food, fags and soft drinks.

The National Union of Seamen stepped in, and after a 24-hour occupation with NUS officials Harry Bygate and John Conlin, the owners surrendered and paid the crew the money due at full International Transport Federation rates.

REPRESSION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. One-day conference organised by the Anti-Apartheid Movement and SATIS. Saturday 16 April, 10.30am-5.30pm. Lecture Theatre, Polytechnic of Central London, New Cavendish Street, London, W1. Tickets £1 each from AAM, 89 Charlotte Street, London, W1.

WORKERS STRUGGLES. workers' paper from Greece, second issue now out. Reports from AEG, Larko, etc. 12p including postage from: 265 Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

SELT AND BRACES ROADSHOW in Portsmouth with 'Not so green as it's cabbage', a rock musical on Northern Ireland. Polytechnic Education Faculty, Locksway Road, Milton, Friday 1 April, 7.30pm. Tickets at the performance.

PROP prisoners movement Hull Inquiry. Dance, 6 April, 8pm, Goldsmiths College, Lewisham Way, New Cross. Disco, raffle, group, licensed bar till 12.30am. £1 at the door.

JAMAICAN WORKERS SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN Bulletin No 1 out now. Price 5p plus postage from 36 St Alphonsus Road, London, SW4.

NORTH WALES: 200 building workers have re-occupied Pontins holiday camp at Prestatyn.

Their first occupation was ended by a High Court writ. It began after the men—all UCATT members—were sacked for striking.

By Eddie Prevost, TGWU shop steward, Royal Docks, London

THE National Ports Shop Stewards Committee has called for a minimum 20 per cent increase on gross wages for all dockers with negotiations to begin on 1 August.

All docks are to move for this together, so that every port can come to the aid of each other.

We also discussed further action in support of Preston, which is threatened with closure. Last week there

was a successful one-day strike by 25,000 dockers.

There will be a picket of the National Docks Group Committee on 21 April to demand official action.

KETTERING: Journalists out for 17 weeks have forced East Midland Allied Press to stop publication of one of three newspapers in the dispute.

Attempts to bring a substitute editor for the Market Harborough Mail were rejected by the NUJ, and the printworkers NGA chapel blacked his copy.

The substitute, deputy editor of the Peterborough Evening Telegraph, was recalled by his NUJ chapel which threatened action in support of the Kettering journalists for the first time.

IN BRIEF

MERSEYSIDE: More than 300 Engineering Union members are now in the fifth week of their occupation at Kelvinators.

Financial support is coming in from local factories and the AUEW district committee has made the strike official.

They are demanding the withdrawal of two written warnings issued to one worker and two days pay owed to them.

Donations to H Mosses, 89 McKenzie Rd, Leasowe, Merseyside.

BRITISH Bridge Builders, working on the Humber

Bridge, have sacked 160 construction workers, members of the Engineering Union's construction section.

The men went on strike for half a day in protest at their wages being docked when they wanted to discuss an overtime decision.

'We're picketing other sites and asking them to come out in support, but our officials told them to stay in'.

By Brian Higgins, UCATT
BEDFORD: Building workers at the Shanleys site have won a great victory.

They struck two weeks ago in support of workers sacked for claiming £2.50 an hour.

Last week a panel agreed all sacked workers should be re-instated—but a mass meeting voted to stay out for wage increases all round.

Different sections refused to be bought off individually and Jim 'solidarity and all that rubbish' Collman, UCATT fulltimer, who was trying to isolate brickies and hoddies, was told 'all or nothing'.

The result was rises of £8 for brickies, £10 for hoddies, £12 for joiners and groundworkers, and £17 for plumbers.

We won because of the solidarity shown by all sections outside the gate.

LONDON: The Schweppes lock-out is in its eighth week.

90 AUEW fitters locked out at Sidcup after the suspension of three men are being supported by 29 men at Hendon and four at Park Royal.

At Sidcup, production is virtually at a standstill with the electricians supporting the fitters.

Mass picket of Schweppes, The Hyde, West Hendon, Friday 1 April 7.30am.

RENFREW: 5000 workers at the Babcock and Wilcox factory are likely to take action against the Social Contract.

Already the boilermakers

have voted in favour of 'a substantial increase' for their next pay award and have started taking sanctions.

The Engineering Union members are also likely to call for a substantial increase.

E. LONDON: Engineering workers at Chamberlains in East London struck on Monday for an improved bonus. It has remained at 46p an hour and used to be worth two-thirds of the hourly rate. Now it is worth a quarter.

ROCHDALE: 52 foundry workers at Thomas Robinson's engineering works have been on official strike since 16 March for the increase due to them under Phase II.

The men, in the engineering and patternmakers trade unions, are holding out for a flat-rate £2.50 increase. They're also insisting that apprentices get the full rate at 18.

On strike pay of £6 a week, they need all the help they can get. Donations and messages of support to: W Ross, 286 Kingsway, Rochdale, Lancs.

BOOST FOR ANDERSON STRIKERS

FIVE factories in Scotland are striking for one day in support of 380 workers at Anderson Strathclyde in Bridgeton, who are on strike to defend their right to negotiate.

The newly-formed Scottish Combine Committee is calling out five factories in the group this Friday.

The strike began when management tried to increase productivity without consultation.

Kenny Gormal, an AUEW member and convener of the Joint Shop Stewards Committee told Socialist Worker: 'This combine strike is a major breakthrough for us.'

'Until now, we've been bearing the brunt of the management's attack, but the stewards at the other factories know that if we are beaten then they'll be attacked next. That's why they're enthusiastic about getting combine-wide action going.'

John Kay, the GMWU convener, told Socialist Worker: 'Our stewards will be speaking at the mass meetings in the four other factories this week, to put our case and win a clear decision for the stoppage.'

'We've been out seven weeks, so we are convinced that the other factories will support us.'

Help the strikers to victory. Send donations and messages of support to: Gordon Clark, 55 Dalwhinnie Avenue, Bantyre, Lanarkshire.

LETCHWORTH: 20 final assembly men at 1/3 Factory walked out last Monday for half a day—the latest stage in continuing pay-level discontent in ICL.

16 men want regrading from £61-£63, and this has now gone to the AUEW District Secretary for negotiation. Meanwhile 32 paintshop men are demanding regrading from £56-£65.

LANCASHIRE: Workers at ICL Dukinfield who have been locked out for seven weeks have now been sacked.

The 37 workers, all members, were locked out for refusing to work with a flexibility agreement signed by the AUEW factory leadership.

Money and support to: L Birchenall, 9 Herle Drive, Wythenshawe.

TIPTON: TGWU members at Triplex brake drum factory have won their fight for an eight-hour minimum time rate and for the removal of a racist shop steward.

Forty copies of last week's Socialist Worker, which had a full report of the dispute, were sold at a mass meeting after chief shop steward Les Langford said:

'Buy this, it's the only paper which tells the truth about us workers.'

GRUNWICKS: WE'VE BEEN CONNED BY THE TUC

By Susan Moroney
Grunwicks Strike Committee

WE GRUNWICK strikers have been conned. Conned into believing that the TUC and the official movement were at last going to take action in support of our strike.

And conned into thinking that government legislation would protect our rights as trade unionists.

Last Wednesday, 59 of our members appeared before an Industrial Tribunal to state their case that they had been unfairly dismissed. When they heard the findings of the tribunal they were amazed and sickened.

They were told that the management were within their rights in sacking us for striking for trade union recognition. We had been 'fairly dismissed'!

Sold out

When I heard the news I couldn't believe it. After 33 weeks on strike we had been sold down the river.

Management had crawled through a legal loophole which says we weren't unfairly dismissed because we had all been sacked together. The court could rule in our favour only if we had been sacked individually!

We now find ourselves right out on a limb and it's all because of the lack of initiative and direction shown by the union leaders.

Picketed

Our members and other trade unionists in our area picketed the TUC on Wednesday to try to force Len Murray to live up to his promises of last September. He told us then that the TUC would back us to the hilt.

But what did the TUC decide on Wednesday? To stop all services to the factory? To back up the Union of Post Office Workers if they blacked the post? Of course not.

They recommended that their members stop buying Grunwick film!

Other meetings of union officials are taking place over the next few days in the hope that they can still pull a rabbit out of the hat.

Other trade unionists in our

LAIRDS 41 BATTLE ON

By Cammell Lairds SWP

BIRKENHEAD: 41 boiler shop platers at Cammell Lairds have been on strike for six weeks over the suspension of a plater who refused to do work awarded by ACAS to the plumbers department.

The platers had demanded that this work (squirting round) be frozen until the independent arbitrator could



Strikers from Yardley's leaving Transport House last week: they had occupied it overnight to demand support from the TGWU

BASILDON: For seven weeks, the 400 equal pay strikers at Yardley's appealed to their union, the TGWU, for help. And, for seven weeks, like well-trained parrots, the officials' only response was: Go back to work.

On Tuesday they got their way. The women, fed up with banging their heads against a brick wall, voted to end their strike.

Full-time official Ron Todd bulldozed a settlement through a mass meeting. It amounts to an offer

of arbitration, and payment for some of the lost wages.

Many of the women, resigned to what seemed the inevitable, decided to cut their losses and call it a day.

And yet the strike could have been won—even without official backing from 'Britain's mightiest union'.

A national campaign among rank and file trade unionists for financial support could have made all the difference.

Transport Union branches could have been approached to pressurise the union leadership to make it official.

The crying need for such rank and file organisation was obvious.

The women may have lost a battle—but they can still win the war.

They have shown they have spirit and determination—and that's what is needed to defeat Yardley's and begin to reform their union.

Uproar over fulltimer

By JOHNNY MILLER

GLASGOW: 'Laings should pay our union money direct to Johnny Hall, the UCATT full timer. They get more service from him than we do.'

'We're fighting for the existence of a union on this site and Hall just doesn't want to know.'

The words of Donald Mathieson, assistant steward on the Laing site on Buchanan Street, in the heart of Glasgow.

Forty-five men walked off the site on Monday after a site agent had sacked Bob Johnson.

Bob was elected steward on Friday and given his marching

orders on the Monday, supposedly for bad timekeeping. Said Donald Mathieson: 'Over the past three months the agent has got rid of three stewards by transferring them or sacking them. Well, we've had enough. We're out and we won't budge until Bob's reinstated.'

Deputations

'The men here are 100 per cent behind him, but Johnny Hall doesn't want to know. We've phoned and sent two deputations to see him.'

'We know the action's unofficial, but what's he there for? Over the phone to stewards he said: "If they're out, they can stay out for all I care." It's ridiculous.'

Socialist Worker

Please rush me my weekly copy of Socialist Worker. I enclose a cheque/postal order made payable to Socialist Worker for

- £7 for one year
- £3.50 for six months
- £1.75 for three months

(Please tick) to pay subscriptions and postage, so start sending them to:

NAME

ADDRESS

When completed post to Socialist Worker Subscriptions, Circulation Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN

Subscribe!

(BLOCK CAPITALS)

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

Scottish TUC call for inquiry into police attack

FOUR more district secretaries in the Engineering Union have endorsed the call for a massive picket of the Old Bailey on 4 May when Right to Work marcher John Deason is on trial.

And the General Council of the Scottish Trades Union Congress has added its voice to the demand for a public inquiry into the police attack on the Right to Work march last Spring when John Deason and 42 other marchers were

arrested.

The Glasgow Right to Work Committee received a letter last week from STUC general secretary Jimmy Milne saying he had written to the Home Secretary on behalf of the General Council, calling

for a public inquiry.

Edinburgh Trades Council asked the STUC to take up the question after reading the Independent Trade Union Inquiry report into the police attack on the marchers.

Six trade union executives have already taken up the demand for an inquiry. They are NUPE, the public employees union, CPSA, the civil service union, FBU, the Fire Brigades Union, NUJ, the journalists' union, NUGSAT, the gold and silver workers, and ASLEF, the train drivers' union.

The Independent Inquiry Report was organised by Barnet Trades Council. It concluded:

'If the Committee had clear evidence that on 19 March the violence had been caused or provoked by something the marchers had done it would be difficult to say there had been any interference with the right of protest. But the evidence before the Committee is to the contrary.'

Stifled

'An unjustified attempt to seize a march leader and grab the lead banner makes no sense unless the aim is to break up the march, discredit the marchers' cause and stifle their protest.'

Forty two of those arrested have now been tried. In May, John Deason, the campaign's secretary, goes on trial at the Old Bailey, charged with a number of serious offences including causing grievous bodily harm with intent. That is one charge down from attempted murder.

If he is found guilty, he will face a long prison sentence.

Support is building up for the mass picket and demonstration outside the Old Bailey on 4 May in support of John Deason.

A letter has been sent out by three leading officials of the AUEW, assistant general secretary Ernie Roberts, national organiser Laurie Smith, and Manchester Divisional Organiser John Tocher, appealing for all trade union organisations to support the picket.

Endorsed

And it has been endorsed by the union's district secretaries in Accrington, Bolton, Paisley and Glasgow. In Glasgow, the District Committee has met and endorsed the letter.

A massive trade union picket outside the trial on 4 May is the best defence the trade union movement can offer not just to John Deason, but to every trade unionist and unemployed worker who wants to demonstrate for his or her rights.

Ricky Tomlinson, the Shrewsbury picket who spent two years inside for picketing, made it clear what the trial is about last year. Speaking outside the first hearings, he said:

'This is another Shrewsbury frame up. Everyone owes it to themselves to support the marchers.'

HYSTERIA

THE Daily Mail suddenly became aware this week of the plight of pensioners, the mentally handicapped and the sick.

The well-oiled propaganda machine that remains silent when old people freeze to death because of increasing electricity costs, suddenly slipped into action on behalf of patients at hospitals in Epsom, Surrey.

Why? Because in stirring up sympathy for the old and the infirm, they were able to launch a three-page attack on hospital workers, who have been on strike for a week.

Storm

The Mail's was emotive stuff, guaranteed to get every stockbroker ready to storm the picket lines.

In three pages, the Daily Mail didn't find space to explain what the dispute is about.

But they were right about one thing: 'The details of the dispute are hardly world-shattering.'

The 100 ancillary workers, members of the TGWU, believe any reasonable management would not have provoked a dispute over something which will cost them nothing to settle.

Frank Martin, shop steward at the Manor Hospital, explained: 'One young couple who were working the same shift asked to have their rota changed so that there was always someone to

Hospital workers get 'the treatment' from Fleet Street



On the picket line at the Manor Hospital: loc

look after their child.

'The girl's mother had been looking after the child but was sent back to Spain because she didn't have a job.

Local Tories in Cobham Equestrian and Golf Club even used horses to cross the picket line to carry in food.

'With management co-operation it could have ended there.

'Instead they finally agreed to change the rota. I was to give them a list of married couples who wanted to work different shifts.

'But they changed it beforehand so that other couples were suddenly in the

same position.

'We reported for work on the first day of the new rota, but refused to operate it. We worked normally.

'Half the area came out in support.'

Trevor Walker, chairman of the Epsom TGWU shop stewards' committee said: 'We have not stopped emergency supplies getting through.

'We have tried to stop other supplies and we've had good support from TGWU drivers.

Counts

'This dispute has probably had more publicity than any other for years. It's all hysteria, but we expect it in the hospitals.

'The simple fact is that management could end any hardship immediately by reinstating everyone and agreeing to negotiate workable rotas.'

While the Daily Mail has been encouraging the Tories that infest Epsom to break picket lines, their allies in the law courts have been busy issuing injunctions against workers occupying their fac-

ories and students occupying their colleges.

In Leicestershire, the occupation of Wildts factory, where 800 workers stand to lose their jobs, ended when the local Chief Constable threatened to storm the occupation with 200 police and, of course, a court injunction.

For three bitter years, trade unionists fought to break the Tory government's attempt to smash trade union power with the Industrial Relations Act.

Even at Epsom, the hospital management threatened to go to the courts to get an injunction to stop the picketing.

In the end they didn't. The government stepped in to stop them.

'It is not the patients they were thinking about, it was to break our strike', said Trevor Walker.

'We can't believe that the management are serious in their objections to organising simple rotas.'

'I suspect they are trying to break the union so that they can introduce cuts without a fight later on. But we are determined that they won't succeed.'

Supporters of Hospital Worker, the rank and file paper in the hospitals, have helped on the picket line, produced leaflets for distribution in the town and organised support from NUPE and CoHSE members.

Daily Mail

Daily Mail
PAGE ONE
COMMENT

* The old folks' friend has spoken—THEY must be the pawns for the poor, down-trodden hospital workers

THE SHAME OF JACK JONES



DEFEAT AT WILDTS

LEICESTER: Workers at Wildt Mellor Bromley voted to return to work on Monday without the 400 workers made redundant.

There are now few obstacles to management's plans to close the factory, transfer the remaining 400 and bring in a new bonus scheme that will mean £25 a week less for many workers.

Management threatened that if there was no return to work they would have sacked the rest of the workforce for

'industrial misconduct'.

The strike committee lost confidence and failed to put a recommendation to continue the strike to the mass meeting.

The District Committee of the AUEW bear the brunt of the responsibility for this. Only the day before, they recommended a return to work of the official strikers without any concessions from management.

They even said that only people not made redundant should be allowed into the meeting.

- Fight to get your trade union organisation officially represented with banner. Local Right to Work Committees should approach every factory and trade union branch in their area arguing for support.
- Make sure transport is arranged from your area to reach the picket by 9.30am.
- Arrange for large delegations of employed and unemployed workers from every area. Numbers will be important as well as official

MASS PICKET, WEDNESDAY 4 MAY OLD BAILEY

delegations with banners.
 Move resolutions calling on your trade union executive to endorse the call for a public inquiry.

Copies of the Independent Inquiry Report are available from Barnet Trades

Council, 16 Yew Grove, NW2.

For further information, copies of the letter to trade union organisations, speakers, or transport details, contact the Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Rd., London N.4

Transport to Old Bailey picket:

SHEFFIELD: Coaches leave Pond Street 7am.
MANCHESTER: Cheap block booking on train. £6 return. Tickets from 260 Danegate or phone 061 832 8102.

Advertise your transport in Socialist Worker.

JOIN THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

Please send me more information

Name

Address

Trade union

Send to: National Secretary, Socialist Workers Party, 6 Condon Gardens, London E2 6DN