

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p

JUBILEE QUIZ.

What is yellow all over, goes up and down, is absolutely useless and costs £500?

—SEE PAGE TWO.

What is pink all over, travels in something yellow all over, is absolutely useless and costs £1½ million a year?

—SHE'S THE SUBJECT OF PAGE THREE.

'Unless white people get out on the streets and start taking the knocks with the blacks, then all those letters we write to The Times and the other Guardians of our freedom are a bloody waste of time'.

—PETER CHAPPELL, arrested at the Defend the Lewisham 21 meeting last Sunday.



The campaign has begun!

POLICE ON RACIST RAMPAGE

5.30 MONDAY MORNING. Six policemen break down the door of 21 Childeric Road, in Deptford, South East London, with an axe. Another six smash down the back door.

They pour inside, overturning furniture, ripping open drawers, and turing people out of their beds.

Christopher Foster, aged 16, is frog-marched into the road in his underclothes. Insults and questions are shouted at him. He and the other four young people in the house are rushed to Penge police station.

These include Cathy Cullis, a young white girl. She is stripped to her underwear in a cell. Two policemen come into the cell and joke about the 'disease' she has caught from living with black people.

Simultaneously, 200 police from Lewisham's 'P' Division, with Alsatian dogs straining at the leash, swing into action all over the area.

Marina Jules, a black mother living on her own with three young children, is hauled out of bed and rushed to the police station. Her children are left unattended.

Plucked

Eleven police pluck 16-year-old Michael Carew from his bed where he lies asleep. In another block in Hither Green, Floyd Robinson, aged 14, is similarly arrested.

Yes, all this really happened in Jubilee Britain, 1977.

More than 60 people were arrested between 5.30am and 6am the morning of 30 May. Most were black young men between the ages of 16 and 21.

In almost every case, the parents and friends were not told where they were taken or why.

Faith Foster, Christopher's mother, was told at Penge

police station that she should help Christopher to 'help police with their inquiries' that is, 'inform on his friends'.

She was told that there was no bail. 'We can't have these pickpockets around on the streets when the Queen comes here,' said senior policeman impartially judging the case before it is tried. The Queen visits Deptford on 9 June.

Of the 60 arrested, 21, all young blacks, appeared in Camberwell magistrates court last Wednesday. They were charged with 'conspiracy with persons unknown to rob persons unknown in the Greater London area between 1 April and 21 May.'

This is the same charge on which 28 young Islington



Cathy Cullis: Stripped



Faith Foster: Visit

blacks are on trial at the Old Bailey. In both cases, solicitors miraculously appeared in court and offered their services to the parents and friends. Some accepted.

At Camberwell, the lawyers did not even plead the boys' case for bail, and bail was refused.

When the police described Christopher Foster as a 'habitual thief from handbags', his father David protested. But the magistrate refused to listen. David shouted out: 'That judge is prejudiced!'

Outside the court, David, who is a bus inspector and has

COME TO THE EMERGENCY PUBLIC MEETING TO ORGANISE THE FIGHT TO DEFEND THE LEWISHAM 21.

Thursday 16 June, 8pm, Goldsmiths College (small hall), Lewisham Way, London SE14.

been living in Britain for 33 years, got talking to an old friend, a policeman. The policeman told him that the arrest of the boys was known as Operation 39/PNH.

PNH stands for Police Nigger Hunt. It follows what the local police called 'a great campaign against mugging',



David Foster beside one of the two doors the police smashed in

which included tape-recorders and television cameras in the street and long-range photographers on top of Goldsmiths College.

The blacks, said the policeman, had been arrested 'at random' and their faces and voices matched with the tapes from the streets and the pictures.

It's obvious from the charges that there is nothing to link the 21 in any sort of conspiracy with each other.

Offences

If there is evidence, photographic or otherwise, the 21 could have been charged individually with specific offences. The law bursts with options for such charges.

But the notorious 'P' Divi-

sion police would not be satisfied with the 'minor' sentences of a year or two in prison which would follow convictions on such charges. They prefer conspiracy charges, where the sentences are without limit.

They have treated a number of minor offences as though they are a national emergency. The full extent of their ugly powers—dawn raids, axed doors, strippings, searchings and beatings—have been used to extract 'information' from the first suspects, and then to use that information to prosecute the others under some of the fiercest charges known to law.

To them, this was a 'nigger hunt.' Poisoned as they are with the racism of the National Front and National

TURN TO PAGE TWO

PICKET AT GRUNWICKS

Stop the scabs! Support Grunwicks' Mass Picket! This Monday 13 June, 7.15am, Dollis Hill underground, London NW10.

—BACKGROUND ARTICLE, page 7.

WARNING: DO NOT FEED THE PEOPLE...



WHAT goes down must go up... and up and up. Such seems to be the thought dangled before the impoverished members of the cocktail set who read Harpers and Queen magazine.

This advert (right) in their latest issue offered a diamond and gold yoyo for a mere £500. Not a bad way to invest the extra profits handed out thanks to the Labour government and the Social Contract.

But yoyos, gilded or otherwise, are nothing compared with that other gold-plated commodity—potatoes. The security guard and dog (left) are making sure that no hungry person gets near this Kentish field full of the lowly vegetable until some rich farmer has made himself even richer.

Diamond and gold YO YO £500

POLICE GO ON RACIST RAMPAGE

FROM PAGE ONE.

Party, which prance about in the area, they think that black people can be treated like cattle who have fouled the pavement.

The young black people of Lewisham and Deptford have had their fill of police hooliganism, of arbitrary arrests in the street and at home, of charges such as 'loitering with intent to steal', which needs no evidence for a conviction.

But this is the first time that the police have combined to make mass arrests and apply the monstrous conspiracy laws.

The police action has shaken many older black people out of their accustomed good nature and apathy.

David Foster, for instance, is now the chairman of the Lewisham 24 Defence Committee. 'We have to stop this police harassment', he says, 'or they will run all over us.'

'We need independent legal representation for these 21 lads, and a great campaign in the neighbourhood to get them free.'

'At the same time we must band together to resist the police. These young boys in our areas are preparing to meet the police threat. If anything, they're more serious than the parents. Now it's time for everyone to join in.'

Protesters arrested

THE LEWISHAM 21 became the Lewisham 24 on Saturday, when a Lewisham High Street meeting was arranged by Flame, the black workers' paper of the Socialist Workers Party, to protest about the arrests.

As the meeting got under way, a senior policeman approached with the news that 'the people of Lewisham aren't going to put up with this'. John Deason, secretary of the Right to Work Campaign, who was speaking to the meeting, was arrested.

As John was shoved into the police car, Peter Chappell, the man who went to prison to free George Davis, lay down in the road by the car. He was arrested too.

So was Peggy Eagle, an SWP member from South London.

As soon as the police found out who they'd arrested, they couldn't wait to get their prisoners out of the station. John and Peggy have been charged with using threatening language and with obstruction. Peter has also been charged with malicious damage to a police car window!

'Do nothing' Heathrow bosses provoke action

A NEW WAVE of strike action is likely to cripple London's Heathrow Airport this week at the weekly peak flying times between Thursday and Saturday.

This follows the unheeded warning given by the engineers in their shop

stewards' bulletin when they ended the four-week strike in April on the promise of an agreement.

'Let management be warned,' it said. 'If they try and wriggle out at the last minute we'll answer with a fresh bout of industrial action that will include shiftworkers from other unions.'

The engineers had been demanding increased shift

allowances to bring shiftworkers at the airport into line with the average in the West London area. They also wanted direct negotiating rights.

They agreed to return to work on the understanding that a signed agreement would be reached 'within weeks.'

Since then British Airways management have done their best to avoid making an agreement.

It is clear they have not understood the degree to which the courageous struggle of the engineers has affected the rank and file in the other unions. For unless the airline concedes, and concedes quickly, they will be confronting more airport workers than ever before.

Less

The Times summed up what is now at stake: 'British Airways' offer may set back Phase Three hopes' ran the front page headline. Their argument was that the 10 per cent shift offer already conceded, while falling short of the men's demands, would mean 20 per cent payments in less than 7 months. That is if taken with an across-the-board 10 per cent wage increase likely to be the least conceded at the end of the year.

The Times regard this 'as a serious setback to the hopes of Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, of restricting pay agreements to around 10 per cent in the next round of incomes policy.'

Ian Morris, an AUEW steward at Heathrow, told

Socialist Worker: 'We're not interested in any of this guff. We want a proper documented agreement on shifts now. We went back to work on the assumption that this is what we were going to get, and get it we will.'

'Our strategy for struggle has considerably raised the stakes because the shiftworkers in the other unions will be joining us in our action.'

Blackleg

'We have planned a pattern of shift stoppages that will paralyse the planes at the time in the week that will hit British Airways the hardest.'

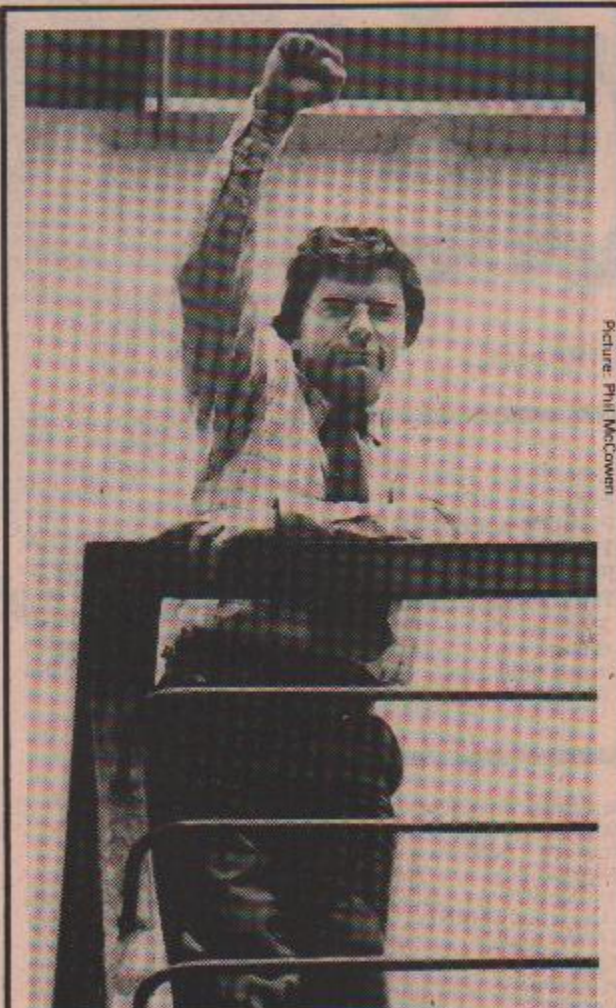
'This will mean 40 hours of continuous stoppage.'

'The pilots will not be able to blackleg like last time because they cannot do the jobs of the Electricians and Transport and General Workers Union members.'

'The test of our new-found unity, particularly in the European division, is that the TGWU recently supported militant AUEW stewards for elections to key positions on the joint shop stewards' committee. In this division all the unions are now moving forward in harmony.'

'A further test of solidarity is that the dayworkers have pledged a £2 donation every time the weekly shift stoppage takes place.'

'There will be no more mass meetings and no more stewards meetings until our demands are met. The weekly stoppage will just go on and on.'



Picture: Phil McQueen

A final farewell from Phil Agee, the man the Labour government drove out of Britain after he told the truth about his former employer, the American CIA spy organisation. The CIA have got Phil out of Britain with a little help from their friends in Downing Street—but they won't stop him fighting.

ANDRÉ BOGAERT
Old Bond Street, South Molton Street and at Bournemouth.

Brick Lane OK

A NEW branch of the Socialist Workers Party has been set up in Brick Lane, East London, the largely Bengali area that has been the scene of continuous clashes between anti-racists and the National Front in the past year.

After months of street and estate sales, a vast amount of propaganda distribution and numerous meetings, 11 Bengalis have joined the SWP.

We have already had a public meeting, karate lessons have been organised, estate sales have expanded and an SWP Brick Lane anti-racist fund has been started.

The fund will be available to

Bengalis and anti-racists who have to pay fines, find money for bail and pay for legal costs arising from their anti-racist activities.

Already one prominent anti-racist in Brick Lane, Terry Fitzpatrick, has been charged with affray by the police.

This will be the second time the police have tried to frame Terry—the last time they failed. If found guilty, Terry will almost certainly go to jail.

Messages of support for Terry and money to: SWP Brick Lane anti-racist fund, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2.

MARXISM 130!

MORE THAN 130 people have already signed up for Marxism 77, the week of discussion on revolutionary ideas organised by the National Organisation of International Socialist Student Societies in London in the first week in July. More than half are non-students.

Registrations so far include hospital workers, electricians, NALGO members, unemployed, housewives.

Marxism 77 is open to all trade unionists and students, for a registration fee of £5. To enable people who have to work that week to attend some of the more exciting sessions, the organisers have announced a special weekend ticket for £2 only.

Full details—page 10.

'We didn't beat you up, did we Leroy?'

ANTI-RACISTS in Manchester are pulling out all the stops to fight the case of Leroy Murray, who, in the words of his wife Linda, 'is up for something he never did'.

Leroy is charged with beating up a young white child near a fairground. His four 'accomplices' have not been 'found'. The attacker is claim-

ed to have been wearing a long black coat, but Leroy was wearing a short jacket and bright yellow shirt on that evening.

Leroy's family are sure that the crime has been 'pinned' on Leroy, who is just finishing a term of probation.

His first statement in court pleaded not guilty to all

charges.

After three days in a Manchester cell, he came to court again to change his plea to guilty. On his signed statement was a question from a police officer: 'We didn't beat you up, did we Leroy?'

Now Leroy has changed his plea again to Not Guilty, and he comes up next week in the

Crown Court. He has spent six months in Risley Remand Centre, although sureties were available for his bail.

A picket is being arranged for the court, and leaflets will be issued as soon as the details are known. Watch out for them at Murrays Records, Brooke's Bar, and in the Moss Side shopping precinct.

YES, STUFF THE JUBILEE

RUPERT MURDOCH, the man who made a million pounds by parading half-naked women throughout his daily newspaper, has told his readers of his special regard for one particular fully-clothed lady.

He will go to any lengths to defend her. He even devoted the Sun's front page and part of page two to attacking 'the parasites of the left' who dare criticise her.

Socialist Worker, by the way, is denounced as 'a vulgar Trotskyite rag'—yes, we're called 'vulgar' by The Sun!

On Tuesday, The Sun asked of Elizabeth Windsor: 'Isn't she smashing?'

The answer is NO. She is one of the country's biggest parasites'.

She and her family spend huge fortunes of other people's money. What's more, they've got away with it for 600 years!

...and stuff the Sun too!

Sensational

This most sensational of crimes has been accomplished in the public gaze. The woman gets away with it by calling herself 'The Queen' and by describing her associates as the 'Royal Family'.

Yet the Sun, normally on the ball when it comes to exposing criminals and anyone it thinks is hustling the working classes, is so keen on this wretched woman that one gets the impression it is part of this hideous plot too.

IT IS. Indeed Socialist Worker can confidently reveal that the entire Establishment has ganged up over the past few weeks to dupe the population.

Meagre council budgets have been plundered for cash hand outs for red, white and blue decorations to 'celebrate' 25 years of the woman's bloody



rule. You may be sure that the money was ripped off the dwindling reserves used for things like handicapped children's homes. It certainly didn't come from the Royal budget.

Employers have told workers: 'Take an extra day off. Enjoy yourselves. Drink a toast to the great lady.'

Funny? They all complained so



'With these words, Sir Marmaduke, I convey upon you the greatest honour of the kingdom: Get Stuffed!' Pictures from Edmonton in North London last Saturday by PHIL McCOWEN

bitterly when workers took time off to celebrate Christmas. They objected strongly when the trade union leaders asked for the day off to celebrate the traditional workers' day—May Day.

What on earth has it all been about?

The great poet Shelley wrote: 'Monarchy is the string that ties the robbers' bundle.'

Exactly. Behind the glittering charade, underneath all the pomp and nonsense stand, the moneygrubbers whose system is falling apart at the seams.

Whats the alternative?

'BUT what is the alternative?' That's the question asked by thousands of people who brought the anti-Jubilee issue of Socialist Worker last week.

'If the Queen wasn't there, would there have to be someone like her?'

The question assumes that there always has to be someone at the top. It is an assumption built into the structure of present day society.

At work there are always directors and shareholders who take the final decisions. In the army, the civil service and the police there are always senior officers—usually with the same accents and the same family backgrounds as the directors and shareholders.

In the courts their friends and relatives fill in as judges, while their younger cousins hold the most lucrative position in Fleet Street.

We are made to believe that all of these figures are

indispensable, that nothing would go on without them.

But that is nonsense. If all the shareholders, judges and army generals disappeared from the face of Britain (which they tend to do anyway for at least two months every summer) coal would continue to be mined, aircraft to fly, computers to be programmed, newspapers to be written and printed.

For those people play little or no role in creating society's wealth. What they do is ensure that, once created most of it flows into the pockets of themselves and their class.

Horse brains

We know, as a matter of fact, that the mental equipment of many of our rulers is no better than that of Princess Anne's horse (or should we say her brother?). What gives them the

appearance of ability is huge wealth that enables them to buy the talents and the energy of millions of workers of all sorts, from labourers to laser beam engineers.

The greatest confidence trick of the lot is the pretence that the skill and effort the rich command with their money are their personal attributes, which the rest of us should worship.

Collective

Yet it is not difficult to imagine a society in which this effort and skill is not commanded by money at all, but by the collective decision-making of those who do the work in the first place.

The decisions about what is produced and how it is distributed, made now by the financial jiggery-pokery of the stock exchange and the board-rooms according to whether they make a profit or not, could be far better made by workers' councils made up of

delegates from the different workplaces.

If houses are needed, who knows better, the financier with his balance sheet or the workers who live in, and see their friends and relatives living in slums?

If hospitals are needed, who knows better, the bureaucratic civil servants who are in private medical schemes or the overworked hospital workers and the patients who face long waits for treatment?

No workers' council would allow the lunacy of the present system, where massive dole queues and empty factories stand side by side and our living standards are cut.

In such a society there would be no parasites and no shareholders, no industrialists complaining because a portion of their huge incomes is taxed, no money lenders, no needless poverty, no industrial scrapheap for a million and a half people.

AND NO QUEEN.



The Year's best seller so far!

WE PRINTED 34,000 copies of the Stuff the Jubilee issue of Socialist Worker, and as far as we can tell they're all sold. In fact, we can't even find a file copy in London.

Branches everywhere made a special effort to sell—and the sellers really enjoyed themselves. They found what we've suspected from the start, that a lot more people are sick to death with the whole Jubilee farce than anyone realised.

On Saturday, NORTH LONDON SWP members had a great time, storming through markets and shopping areas with Stuff the Jubilee speakers and Socialist Worker.

As our pictures show, our members were dressed up in real fancy dress, in crowns and robes and swords for 'knighting' Socialist Worker militants.

160 papers were sold in previously tough sales areas, and the mock pageants amazed the shoppers.

A perplexed posse of police arrived to defend the monarch. They kicked one member for saying: 'Kicked out the Royal Scroungers! Stuff the Jubilee!'

Insulting words, said the police.

Sold Out

The LEEDS SWP Stuff the Jubilee Campaign got off to a great start last week. The order for Socialist Worker was lifted from 700 to 1200, and by teatime on Saturday the issue was sold out.

The highlight of the first few days was the activity of Saturday in the central shopping precinct. A public meeting, with street theatre, was held for three hours. At one point it attracted a crowd of over 300, which—not surprisingly—was broken up by the police!

The result of the day's work was a paper sale of 230, Stuff the Jubilee badges, and the recruitment on the street of seven new members.

A former Leeds engineer, 78-year-old Jim Barraclough, said: 'Marvellous! Socialism on the streets of Leeds! It reminds me of the Twenties.'

The Queen visits Leeds at the end of June and the campaign, which will last for three weeks, will include indoor and outdoor meetings, street theatre, expanded Socialist Worker sales at factories, pubs, housing estates and colleges.

The campaign organiser said: 'To our surprise, we are discovering a sizeable minority of working-class people who are really angry about the commercialised brain-washing that is taking place round the jubilee.'

'Many of them are clearly ready to become involved right now in helping to build the socialist alternative.'



TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM

Duncan Hallas

Terrorists or freedom fighters? It all depends which side you're on.

Killers or heroes?

EVERY British newspaper says it is against terrorism. And every one of them can provide a similar catalogue of horrors committed by terrorists—arbitrary assassinations, shootings, bombings, kidnappings, torturings.

But all of these same newspapers are enthusiastic supporters of various groups that have organised assassinations, bombings, shootings and so on.

One of the most powerful and conservative right wing parties in Europe, the Gaullists in France, began life as a terrorist organisation.

When the Nazis occupied France during the Second World War the right wing of the French resistance was

organised by General de Gaulle. They formed assassination squads against Gestapo officers, blew up trains, planted bombs in the barracks of German troops, carried out secret assassinations of French civilians who had co-operated with the Nazis.

Today the French resistance are hailed as freedom fighters against the Nazis and the Gestapo. The leaders of the resistance still occupy leading posts in France.

Terrorist

The tactics they used against the Nazis are indistinguishable from the tactics used by the Irish Republican Army in their efforts to drive the British Army out of Northern Ireland.

The British ruling class organised similar operations. During the war they established the Special Operations

Executive to organise terrorist actions against the Nazis.

The SOE was responsible for the assassination of the Nazi Gauleiter of Czechoslovakia, Heydrich. As a reprisal for the assassination of this abominable man, the Nazis massacred the whole population of the village of Lidice.

The British tradition of organised terrorist operations has continued to the present day. In Kenya in the 1950s British troops murdered some 10,000 black men, women and children in an effort to break the resistance of Kenyan nationalists.

In the same period no more than a dozen whites were killed. These deaths were denounced in the British press as a murderous terrorist campaign, called Mau Mau.

Today the British Army uses special

plain clothes squads of troops in Northern Ireland to carry out operations that include assassinations. Captain Robert Nairac, recently shot by the IRA, for example, was a member of the SAS, the Special Air Services, the British secret army in Northern Ireland that often operates in plain clothes.

It is now of course notorious that the United States Central Intelligence Agency, the CIA, uses murder and assassinations as an arm of American foreign policy.

Murder

In the Congo they arranged the secret murder of the left nationalist Prime Minister, Patrice Lumumba. They have been trying to murder Fidel Castro of Cuba for years. In Chile they organised and financed the coup and murder of President Allende.

In Israel the new Prime Minister was himself the leader of the extreme right wing terrorist organisation, the Irgun. In the last days of British control of Palestine, he organised the blowing up of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem.

This is the man who will now confront the 'Arab terrorists' on behalf of what the Daily Telegraph calls 'civilised opinion throughout the western world'.

Shot down

The government he succeeds was no better. While the newspapers attacked the hijacking of the Air France plane to Entebbe last year none commented on an earlier incident.

In 1973 a passenger jet, belonging to Saudi Arabian airlines, went slightly off course and flew over Israeli held territory. Without any warning the Israelis shot it down, killing over a hundred ordinary passengers. This wasn't denounced as terrorism by the British press.

It is entirely a question of which side you are on. The same people can be heroes and freedom fighters or they can be bloodthirsty terrorists.

In Northern Ireland the Catholics organised a civil rights movement to demand equality with the Protestants and the end of the Orange State of one party and one religion.

Frustration

The answer they got was a massive assault on the Catholic areas of the Bogside by Orange mobs led by police out of uniform. Nine Catholics were machine gunned to death on the first night.

The British Army arrived and out of frustration and defeat of the civil rights movement the IRA emerged.

Most of the current terrorist organisations have emerged from the failure of open political activity. They are born out of despair that the mass of people will ever take action, out of despair that it is possible to build a massive working class party that can take on and change society.

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.

DENIS FOR PENNIES

WHAT HAS Trotskyist infiltration into the Labour Party got to do with the Birmingham inner ring road?

For the answer, ask Denis Howell, genial Minister of Sport (and Water) in the Labour Government, and, into the bargain, President of APEX, the clerical workers' union.

Last week-end, at the Apex conference, Denis launched into a furious attack on 'Trotskyist' infiltration into the Labour Party, accusing, among others, 'International Socialists' of 'taking over our party wards'.

Well, we're the SWP now, and none of us are in Labour Party wards—but let that pass. What sort of people does Denis Howell introduce into the inner sanctums of the Labour Party?

A JUBILEE PARTY with a difference will take place a month after all the 'ordinary' revellers take to the streets.

This super binge is being staged in Berkeley Square in London by the Bond Street Association.

The highlight of the occasion will undoubtedly be the tape recording of a singing nightingale, while the hundreds of guests dance the night away under floodlights.

The tickets, which cost £25 for two, will also get you salmon, champagne, strawberries and cream, and the lucky winner of the raffle (another £25 a ticket) will be able to drive home in, of course, a Rolls Royce.

□VAL OF Brighton rang us last week with a strange story. It seems she got a bit fed up with all the Union Jacks and bunting in her street. So she shoved up a SPOT THE SCROUNGER poster in her window.

The following day she had a visit from the street jubilee committee, who told her that they would organise 'a brick through her window' if she didn't take the notice down.

That's where the Birmingham Ring Road comes in.

The Road, which is the pivot of the plan which has wrecked the whole of the inner city in Birmingham, is falling to pieces.

Every section of the Inner Ring Road was built by Bryants, the firm which grew from a bucket-and-spade outfit to one of contracts from Birmingham City Council.

Denis Howell was 'publicity director' of Bryants in 1964, and was the man responsible for 'introducing' Bryants directors to Labour councillors and Party officials.

He was the genial host at countless 'parties' put on for the purpose, and, as a result, had a free pass to the Bryant box at Ascot where he met Her Majesty the Queen.

So charming was Howell to Her Majesty that she was persuaded to attend 'topping out ceremonies' for Bryants.

So impressed was the Queen with Howell that when he recommended one Alan Maudsley as a fit and proper person to be Commander of the British Empire (CBE), she readily complied.

How embarrassing when the CBE had to be removed from Maudsley when he was sent to prison for

corruption over building contracts when he was City Architect for Birmingham.

So here are two definitions from the Howell dictionary.

SUBVERSIVE: An act performed by a socialist in joining the Labour Party and trying to convert it to socialist ideas.

MODERATE: The introduction of jumped-up building contractors, corrupt architects, or even Her Majesty the Queen into influential Labour Party circles for the purpose of getting contracts for the company and a seat at Ascot.



'Tell me, is this how you do the salute?'

Get knotted!

IN AN unprecedented fit of generosity, management at Welding Industries in Bristol presented workers with ties bearing the company motif.

One of the stewards asked what this was in aid of and was told it was to commemorate you know who's Jubilee.

Without any pre-planning almost every steward gave them back. The one who kept his sold it for 50p.

This was not exactly a magnanimous gesture from the management. The company exports a lot of turbines to Saudi Arabia. The ties were meant to be sent to the Arabs as part of a sales drive.

It wasn't until after they were made that the managers discovered that Arab workers don't wear ties.

□THE ITV has been showing the serial Power Without Glory, based on Frank Hardy's book which was banned in Australia at one time.

But you have to be an insomniac to see it.

Each episode of the series about corruption in Australia goes out on Wednesday nights—from midnight until 1am.

This is after such riveting stuff as Drive-in and a documentary about horses.

Memory training for Boyson?

DR. RHODES BOYSON, Tory MP and one-time headmaster, is the darling of the Right wing educational establishment.

As Tory education spokesman and editor of the ultra-reactionary Black

Paper, Boyson is extremely indignant at the 'declining educational standards' in our schools.

The latest edition of the Black Paper carries a good example of the kind of declining standards Boyson is talking about.

This is the Robert Montefiore school in the East End of London which

getting £70 a week, we'd like to know how they do it. This has been an eye opener for us.

'One of our members got 18p benefit last week. Some people living in outlying areas have been treated in an appalling way. No one has bothered to tell them what they are entitled to and one of our members was turned away after being told: 'We don't like strikers, go back to work and get your money'.

in a whole year did not achieve a single 'o' level pass.

What the article does not say is that for five years the headmaster of the school was —Dr. Rhodes Boyson.

'I thought of mentioning that I'd been a headmaster, he is reported as saying 'but I didn't think it was relevant...'



MICHAEL CLARKE and Anthony McGrath were receiving less than half the Social Security payment they were entitled to, so they stole food from Woolworth's in Chester.

When they appeared before local magistrates, Jenny Clayton, defending, told the court that Mr. Clarke was entitled to £19 a week. Instead he was getting £9 and paying £6 rent.

In some weeks Anthony McGrath received no money at all.

They were both charged with stealing luncheon meat and a steak and kidney pie worth 90p.

Mr Clarke was fined £30 with £5 costs and McGrath was put on probation for two years.

WHERE THERE'S A WILL: William Euan Wallace, 1950s socialite and friend of Princess Margaret, left £584,472 in his will.

18p a week 'scrounger'

WORKERS occupying the Dagenham plant of Chloride batteries would like to hear from some of the so-called 'scroungers' constantly being attacked in the national press.

1000 workers at the factory have been on strike and in occupation for three weeks without any pay.

Said a spokesman for the strike committee: 'If there are any claimants

PRINCESS ANNE was not amused by the booing protesters who greeted her when she opened the new town hall at Kensington and Chelsea in London.

When welcomed by the Mayor of the Tory-controlled borough she snapped: 'I should jolly well think so too.'

The cost of the building rocketed from £6.5 million to £13.5 million by the time it was completed.

It includes such essentials as separate bathrooms for the Mayor, the Mayoress and the Deputy Mayor.

£150,000 has been spent on furniture and £8000 on potted plants.

AT THE END of 1975 there were 351,000 members of the ASTMS, but fewer than 50,000 chose to pay the political levy to the Labour Party.

Yet the same year the union managed to affiliate to the party with 185,000 members.

How did this happen? The affiliation fee is 21p per member, but the ASTMS charges £1.20.

According to the Economist the ASTMS Labour Party membership is therefore phoney, but it gives general secretary of the ASTMS Clive Jenkins a bigger backing at the Labour Party conference.

KENT COUNTY Council, which is leading the field among Tory councils who want to end free school meals, have placed an order for 140,000 Jubilee beakers for schoolchildren to use at Jubilee parties.

Hull or hell?

IT WAS THE WARDERS WHO WENT ON A PRISON RIOT OF BEATINGS AND DESTRUCTION

'HAD ANY of this happened in Chile or some other dictatorship, the present government would have been up in arms, MPs would have been jumping up in the House condemning the mindless brutality.

'But it didn't happen in some far off country. It happened here in a so-called enlightened country. But what has the government done? Condemned it? No—they have suppressed the truth.'

This was part of the evidence from a prisoner who was at Hull during the 'riot' last September. His statement, smuggled out of the prison where he is serving the rest of his sentence, was read out at the public inquiry into the Prison Hull riot organised by PROP, the prisoners' organisation, in London last week.

Black, white and Irish

In September last year prisoners at Hull fought back against brutality by prison warders. They took to the roof, demanding a public inquiry into conditions and treatment after months of having their complaints ignored by the Home Office.

It was a spontaneous show of solidarity by black, white and Irish prisoners, triggered off when one man was beaten by four warders.

After three days, they came down from the roof, having secured a promise from Home Office representatives that they would not be harmed by prison warders and that all their property would be returned.

'It was as if they had gone crazy'

'EACH detail of what happened at Hull is imprinted on my mind like a film. The Saturday afternoon after we came down off the roof you could hear them giving the beatings out. It was as if they had gone crazy.'

That is how D S Foley describes the warders on the rampage.

'When you are in a cell you are thinking "when will it be me" and then the door opens and so now it's you and if you will not come out of your cell, then they will come in and take you out so that they can give you the beating outside for all the other prison officers to see you get yours.'

'We all know nothing will happen to the ones who did it. When you have the judge and jury on your side, there can only be one verdict. Let's have the truth out in the open, not an inquiry by the prison or the Home Office.'

'The next time anything like this happens they could be having an inquest, not an inquiry.'

Rule of the Blueshirts

MANY of the warders boasted allegiance to the National Front. Prisoners have testified that black and Irish men were treated worse.

Says Robert Smith: 'We were told that here 'It is the rule of the Blue Shirts' For the first five to six months I was there we were systematically terrorised by the jailers. They blatantly threw Nazi salutes and 'Sieg Heils' to each other. They would openly chant racist National Front slogans.'

But when the VIP reception committee including Hull East MP Michael Prescott and the television cameras had gone, the warders went on the rampage.

Every prisoner was brutally assaulted, property was either smashed up or stolen. Irish prisoners were made to get down on bended knees and sing 'God Save The Queen'. They were beaten when they refused.

Because of the damage to the prison, mainly by the warders, the men had to sleep without beds or chamber pots. The 'screws' got revenge by urinating or spitting in their food and tea. Warders boasted about membership of the National Front.

Complaint

Later the prisoners were tried at Kangaroo courts—the Visiting Committee—without legal representation or witnesses.

Many received sentences of solitary confinement, lost remission, and long periods without 'privileges'.

The men who have tried to make complaints or take legal action have been hampered by the Home Office and prison authorities. But many are persisting and are taking up the case with the Human Rights Commission in Strasbourg.

The Home Office has refused a public inquiry, but has set up a one-man internal 'inquiry'—by the Chief Inspector of HM Prisons.

At least one prisoner, Blackie Saxton, who was given 252 days solitary and 720 days loss of remission, has refused to give evidence.

The prisoners have learned the bitter lesson of the Parkhurst cover-up in 1969. The findings of an inquiry into the similar 'riot' have still not been published.

But the Hull prisoners got their public inquiry in London last week. It was organised by



Black, white and Irish prisoners spent three days on the roof of Hull prison together protesting against warders' brutality. When one man tried to give himself up, he was attacked by guard dogs.



Many protesters wore masks to avoid victimisation—the warders simply beat up everyone

PROP, the organisation of prisoners and their families. The committee—including Peter Chappell of the George Davis is Innocent Campaign—will publish a report shortly.

For speakers or more information about PROP, contact Dick Pooley, 10 Montrose Street, Hull or Geoff Coggan, 32a Park Road, Colliers Wood, London SW19.

THE PRESS BLACKOUT

A MYSTERIOUS aspect of the PROP inquiry is the sudden Fleet Street and BBC blackout of the evidence.

An enthusiastic BBC reporter was at the Conway Hall for the whole four days of the hearing. Broadcasts went out only on Radio Belfast and in Humberside.

The Guardian carried a long report on the first day and then nothing. The Observer had a pre-inquiry article and a reporter there the whole time, but none of the evidence appeared. The Times was in a difficult position, having

called for public inquiry. They carried a tiny report.

Said Geoff Coggan, one of the PROP organisers: 'We had numerous inquiries from the press and there is no doubt from the reaction of reporters there that this was newsworthy. We heard them phoning over stories.'

'We hear a lot about human rights in Russia and what happens to prisoners there, but this is Britain and what's happening on our own doorstep is being kept very quiet.'

'... until the last prison is shut forever'

THIS IS how Jake Prescott, one of those elected to negotiate from the roof, described the feeling among the men:

'They were great times and good for everyone. The prisoners couldn't believe the number and the joyous noise of the kids!'

'Someone was pushed to the front to talk to the media, that was one of the best things—just to stand there, all of us with our arms around each other's shoulders and to shout out our anger and our contempt and our hopes and our strength and for everyone to endorse by whispered 'yeahs' and 'go ons' and raised fists.'

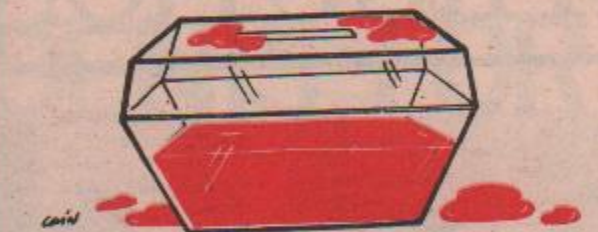
'We said we were there because of brutality, that this was the tip of the iceberg, that the brutality was in every aspect of the system.'

'We went on about finding files, the rampant lies and the inhuman marking down of every prisoner's past, present and future, that they showed what we all knew—that the prison system was an industry trading in our lives, that we would never be relegated to being passive 'products' on the conveyor belt in order to let screws, police, judges, politicians, bureaucrats get fat off us, that we would protest and demonstrate and take action until the last prison in Britain is shut forever.'

'We mentioned about the work we were forced to do for a few pence a week, making furniture for prisons in Iran. We asked people there: 'Is this what we've come to? Supplying everything to kill, torture and imprison people all over the world?'

'We screamed for awhile: 'Fuck the Shah of Iran!'

SPAIN: The fascist v democracy's c



The Basque Country dripping blood—a cartoon from a Spanish magazine. The flag is the Basque national flag, banned under Franco.

THE PARTIES

THE DEMOCRATS WHO AREN'T DEMOCRATIC

The former supporters of Franco are divided into two parties. The *right-wing* Alianz Popular is led by former censorship minister Fraga. The Union of the Democratic Centre is led by the prime minister, Suarez, who until two years ago was head of Franco's political party, the Movimiento.

THE SOCIALISTS WHO AREN'T SOCIALIST

The main socialist party, the PSOE, headed by Felipe Gonzalez, was notable by its virtual absence from the underground struggle against Franco. Its trade union, the UGT, hardly existed until two years ago.

But the West European social democrat leaders, such as Brandt and Callaghan, prodded the Spanish government into allowing it freedom before the other parties of the left. It is copiously financed, and gets a more favourable television coverage than the other left parties.

It could well get the votes of large numbers of people who are fed up with Francoism but who don't know much about the alternatives.

THE COMMUNISTS WHO AREN'T COMMUNIST

The Communist Party was the backbone of much of the underground resistance against Franco. But in recent years it has veered very much to the right. Now it accepts the monarchy and the monarchist flag under which the fascists fought in the civil war.

After the police had murdered six demonstrators in the Basque Country last month, the Communist Party opposed calls for a general strike and for sympathy demonstrations in Madrid and Barcelona.

Its Basque leader, Ormazabal, told a meeting that the call for the dissolution of the armed police forces was 'utopian'.

The party leadership is rumoured to be split between the pro-Russian grouping, including La Pasionaria, and the leader of the workers' commissions union, Camacho, and anti-Russian, 'Eurocommunist' grouping of Carrillo.

Meanwhile many rank and file members are worried by party policies and insist, for instance, on chanting 'Spain tomorrow will be republican.'

THE NATIONALISTS

The most militant region in the fight against Francoism has been the Basque Country. Here a proliferation of nationalist parties, demanding autonomy from Madrid, can be expected to gain most of the votes—although their politics ranges from revolutionary through to Christian Democrat.

In Catalonia the nationalist feeling is as strong but not nearly as militant.

But the demand for autonomy in both regions is one that will present a thorny problem to the government.

THE REVOLUTIONARY LEFT

THESE parties remain officially illegal. But three organisations of the revolutionary left, the Revolutionary Communist League (LCR), the Organisation of Left Communists (OIC) and Communist Action (AC) are running a joint list of candidates under the Front for Workers' Unity (FUT). They see the main aim as not to get votes, but to make workers aware that there is a revolutionary alternative. Their campaign has aroused considerable enthusiasm, and they expect meetings of 15,000 in both Madrid and Barcelona, as well as considerable electoral support in parts of the Basque Country.

The main problem they have is that the LCR does not want the front to continue after the election—so there is no organisation for the considerable numbers who come to their meetings and read their propaganda to join.

THE first elections in 41 years. Spain next Wednesday.

A country which for four decades was stifled by fascism. Where political protest was met with the garrotte, the firing squad, the dungeon.

Now a country exploding into new political life. The walls plastered with thousands of posters from dozens of parties.

The scrawling everywhere of initials—some the initials of those who fought against fascism back in the 1930s, CNT, PCE, UGT. Some the initials of the new generation that came to life in the dark decades of fascist rule—ORT, LCR, OIC, CCOO.

The vanquished of the civil war have at long last been allowed to return home, to find themselves far from forgotten. 30,000 turned out to hear the veteran Communist leader from the civil war, La Pasionaria, speak in Bilbao, another 30,000 crowded the Valencia bull-ring to greet veteran Anarchist ex-minister Federica Montseny, who told them: 'It's up to you young ones to continue the revolution that was thwarted in 1939'.

The key has been turned reluctantly to release from prison the victims of Franco's barbarous wrath.

In 1970 only mass strikes and demonstrations in many countries prevented the ageing dictator from implementing death sentences against six Basque nationalists at the famous Burgos trial. A fortnight ago, another huge wave of strikes in North Spain finally gave the Burgos six their liberty.

But Spain is not yet free. The strikes to free the political prisoners were met with brutal repression that killed six people. The demonstrations called by the unions and left-wing parties for May Day were banned.

The elections next week could be just a device for prolonging the rule of Franco's aides.

The government's aim is clear. Under the pretext of opposing a more conservative alternative from the old authoritarian system, to achieve the democratic legitimisation of Francoism through a parliamentary majority that will allow the old ruling group to maintain command.

The words come not from someone on the left, but from one of Franco's former ministers, Areilza, the Count of Montico. After falling out with the government he spilled the beans on its plans a fortnight ago.

But the fact that the government feels compelled to try to give itself a democratic mask is testimony to the power of the movement in Spain against the remnants of fascism.

That movement could still ruin the government's plans.



The heirs of Franco: right, King Juan Carlos

All the votes money can buy

PARLIAMENTARY democracy means that the poor man has the same right to spend million of pounds on making propaganda for votes as has the rich man.

In Spain the rich are certainly taking advantage of this. The newspapers are full, day after day, of vast advertisements pressing for support for the two parties of Franco's former supporters, the Popular Alliance, and the Democratic Centre. Hoardings are plastered with their posters, put there by professional advertising agencies.

The only one of the non-Francoist parties that can even begin to compete in this respect has been the main Socialist Party, the PSOE—no doubt this has something to do with the support it gets from such friends of the CIA as Willy Brandt of the West German Social Democrats.

The newspaper Mundo Diario a fortnight ago revealed how much the main parties were spending. The two ex-Francoist-parties are spending £5 million each, and the PSOE is matching this with £5 million. The Christian Democrats follow with £2 million



The socialist clenched fist salute. From workers at Chrysler Expana in Madrid after they voted November's general strike.

... BUT THEY TO RECKON

SPAIN TODAY has a workers' movement as powerful as that anywhere in the world. Yet until a very short time ago its organisations were all illegal.

It is not so long back that leaders of the underground unions could face 15 years in jail. Even in the past few weeks the armed police have savagely attacked strikers at the Roca factory near Barcelona, the Ford factory in Valencia, the Jimenez Diaz Hospital in Madrid.

It is the strength and tenacity of this movement that has forced Franco's heirs to introduce reforms.

In the factories and workplaces a movement gathered strength in the late

by CHRIS HARMAN.

who has recently returned from Spain

1960s and early 1970s that all the attempts of fascism could not control. When workers were told they could only negotiate with the employers through fascist nominees, they built their own democracy, based on mass meetings and 'representative commissions', subject to recall at these meetings.

When the government tried to buy off their militancy by offering them the option of voting, once every seven years, for delegates to the fascist unions, the workers elected

some of their most militant leaders to these positions—then still insisted on mass meetings and 'representative commissions' to control them. This direct democracy in the workers has been present in all the major strikes. Barcelona building workers last month told the revolutionary paper *Voz Obrera* (Workers Voice) how they ran their strike:

Speculators

'The base of the struggle centered on mass meetings. Each day there are meetings that bring together all the workers in the different districts. Nearly every morning these join together into general assembly.

'As well as these general

Workers try on clothing



THE IRON HAND

PROOF that freedom has not yet come to Spain lie in a simple statistic. In the past year 40 people have been murdered by the police or by the fascist gangs that the police assist.

The number is higher than the total death toll in the last ten years of the fascist dictator Franco.

Not one policeman has been so much as reprimanded for these murders. Not one fascist has been brought to trial.

The same officers run the army and the police as in the worst years of Franco's rule. And they have issued a public declaration that they will intervene directly in politics should the government do things of which they disapprove.

THE VELVET GLOVE

KING Juan Carlos, Franco's personally appointed heir, showed he was well in the tradition of the old murderer a couple of weeks back.

Immediately after the wave of murders by the police in the Basque Country he made a ceremonial visit to the headquarters of one of the most vicious of the police forces, the Civil Guards, to express deep admiration for their work.

But he has learnt one trick that his fascist tutor found too difficult. Before going to see the fascist police chiefs, he had another pleasant conversation, this time with Felipe Gonzalez, head of Spain's main 'Socialist' party, the PSOE.

The contrast shows what the Spanish government is up to. While using Franco's methods against workers, it encourages the ambitions and powers of those who claim to lead the workers' parties and unions.

So it has legalised the Socialist and Communist Parties. It has told the police to lay off the unions they control. It chats with their leaders as if they were old friends.

But at the same time, it is trying to ensure that it keep the trump cards in its own hands. So the police structure remains completely untouched, the television gives out an almost unceasing stream of government propaganda and all the state-controlled advertising hoardings are covered with advertising for the prime minister's party.

Grunwicks: Operation Stop the Scabs!

THE SHOWDOWN must be now.

That is the feeling of the Asian strikers at Grunwicks, in North West London, a few days before the start of the mass pickets aimed at stopping scabs. The strike has now been going on for nearly a year.

The enormous verbal support from the official side of the trade union movement has not really been of any assistance. TUC general secretary Len Murray told the strikers that he wasn't only behind them, he was 'with them all the way'.

That was six months ago. He hasn't been seen since.

The only real move by the union leaders, which could have finished the company once and for all, was the backing of mail by the Union of Post Office Workers. But they hurriedly called it off when the ultra right-wing National Association for Freedom went to the law courts.

Now, finally an effort is being made by the labour movement in London to hit the company hard.

Mass picket

Mass pickets have been called at 7.15 Monday morning with the aim of 'stopping the scabs'. This is a call from dozens of trade union bodies, including the APEX Conference, all the London trades councils, the North London and Southall districts of the Engineering Union.

The mass pickets have been called for every morning the whole of next week and there is every chance of sealing the factory off from the outside world once and for all.

The only danger is that if numbers are not big enough the full-time union officials who will be stewarding the pickets may feel obliged to allow the police to clear space for the scabs and the scab deliveries to pass through.

The solution is two-fold.

First: Number on the first day must be massive. This will make the police far less willing to provoke a confrontation.

Second: If the police do provoke a confrontation the pickets must stand firm. Aggressive picketing can close the factory.

The police have given these strikers a rough time. They've arrested for the most trivial incidents while two police chiefs from the local police station have taken jobs on the Grunwicks' security staff.

Now the police must be forced to stand aside and allow the trade union movement to help establish decent and basic rights for these 80 men and women.

Delegations

The Socialist Workers Party and the Right To Work Campaign are calling for trade union delegations to attend in force on the first day. That Monday morning at Grunwicks must be a focus for every socialist, trade unionist and anti-racist in the London area.

Our Asian members in London have issued leaflets in four Asian languages, Gujarati, Urdu, Punjabi and Hindi, appealing both to the Asians among the scabs to quit work and for the Asian community itself to support the mass picketing. The Southall Youth Movement has pledged delegations to the Monday morning picket.

This week the SWP issued 22,000 leaflets and 2,000 wall posters throughout London.

There is every chance of snatching victory at what can only be described as the eleventh hour. But it requires a degree of solidarity on the part of the London labour movement which has often seemed missing over the past few years.

Fortunately there are growing numbers of militants in the movement now who are more and more frustrated at the pussy-footing, 'it can't be done' attitude they hear from their union officials.

to join last

YOU'LL HAVE WITH US!

assemblies, there is another daily meeting of delegates. And in most cases, these delegates are democratically elected from the sites.

The delegate meetings in each district direct the strike in the district and control the strike fund. And in the evenings the delegates from the different districts meet together to decide on the general direction of the struggle.

But not only in the factories have there been huge struggles. There has also been a huge flowering of workers' organisations in the districts where they live.

The growth of industry in Spain in the past dozen years has led to literally millions of people crowding into the cities from the countryside. Speculators have exploited

the needs of these new workers to make a fortune out of building thousands of blocks of flats.

But there has been no profit to be made out of providing the elementary amenities to go with them—schools, open spaces, roads, traffic lights, health services, controls against industrial poisons—so these things haven't been provided.

Barricaded

Half the children in Spain cannot get into state school. In Barcelona there is only one public hospital for a city the size of Manchester.

It is as if in Britain none of the welfare reforms granted in the past 100 years had existed. Workers who have learnt to

fight in the factories have taken that lesson back to their districts. They have built up 'neighbourhood associations' to fight for the amenities they so desperately need.

The strength of these was shown last week when in just one small district of Barcelona, all the streets were suddenly barricaded and 10,000 people demonstrated, closing all the shops in the district for 24 hours.

Whatever happens in next Wednesday's elections, these movements—of the factories and the workers' districts—will continue to provide a more powerful weapon for working people to control their own lives than the vote ever could.

WHY YOU SHOULD BE A SOCIALIST
PAUL FOOT

The case for the new Socialist Workers Party

NOW BACK IN PRINT

We socialists are not fanatics or time servers. We are socialists because we see the prospect which life holds out for all working people.

We want the commitment of workers who laugh and live and want to end the wretchedness and despair which shuts love and laughter out of so many lives.

We do not have to spend the rest of our lives, and leave our children to spend the rest of their lives, wrestling in the struggle against a mean and despotic ruling class.

Society can be changed, but only if masses of working people abandon the rotten shipwreck of the 'leave it to us' reformers, and commit themselves to change from below.

This pamphlet puts our case. Will you read it?

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

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

NAME

ADDRESS

I enclose £..... (cheques and postal orders made payable to SW Distributors please).
SEND THIS SLIP TO: SW Distributors,
6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2.

POSTAL POINTS

THE ARTICLE on the police (28 May) made me hopping mad.

I cannot agree that they are a special case. They get more perks than the average worker and they enjoy doing society's dirty work.

Who is holding the country to ransom now? They should be harassed as they have harassed and abused others.

□ JEAN PARKIN, Sheffield.

SOCIALIST Worker should make a priority of covering the role of the mass media, particularly television.

The media have an almost total power for shaping political thought and action, particularly with the uncommitted and confused.

□ ASHLEY PRINGLE, Darlington.

I WAS a delegate to the recent annual conference of ASTMS and heard general secretary Clive Jenkins get support for a call for selective import controls.

It was pointed out that import controls were not only nationalist but helped force up prices for British workers.

It strikes me that Jenkins has more in common with the bosses of industries such as textiles than the workers in them.

That's one of the reasons why some conference delegates decided to set up an ASTMS rank and file organisation.

□ LAURA COLEMAN, Southampton.

THE Banabans, the former inhabitants of Ocean Island in the Pacific, have been awarded a mere £6½ million by Foreign Minister Dr Owen.

Since 1900, their homeland has been devastated by a phosphate mining company, which has made £80 million profit from the excavations and had damages awarded against it in court last year.

The Islanders rightfully expected £20 million damages. But now we know what the affluent societies of Britain, Australia and New Zealand are prepared to give.

□ MICHAEL WINFIELD, Solihull

I WAS disgusted by your reporting of the National Abortion Campaign demo in London on 14 May.

You used four photos, but not one featured women's group banners, which accounted for half of those there.

Your write-up was insultingly short. My impression is that Socialist Worker is only paying lip service to the women's movement.

□ MARY SCOTT, Aberdeen

Don't ignore punk... it's 'anti-system'

SOME attempt must be made to point out the differences between the rise of punk rock and the other two working-class rock forms of the mid-50s and the mid-60s.

Rock and Roll in the mid-50s and R and B in the mid-60s represented real kicks in the arse for the system, youth explosions with new and radical ideas about drink, drugs and clothes—and that's

as far as it went.

It was fun but it came at a time when teenagers were experiencing new-found wealth.

Punk Rock's rise comes at a time of slump. The average working class punk-rocker is surrounded by this collapsing system every minute. Being unemployed takes it out of you.

This means that punk rock

is much more down to earth, it deals with 'real' subjects, in a 'real' straight forward way.

Spit

'I'm a millionaire now', says Mike Jones, lead singer of Clash at a Birmingham concert. 'You can't spit at me no more. It ain't allowed to spit at rich folks.'

The kids at that concert

know that he means. They even hate the group for being rich, and carry on spitting at them.

The attitudes of a lot of the punk rockers (certainly not all, one group, the Jam, say they will vote Tory) is one of anti-system.

And this phrase has now been raised to a slogan among the punk-rockers.

We, as revolutionaries,

must pay attention to this youth movement. We must show that it is not enough to smash a system but you must have something to replace it with.

And we must channel this energy into a genuine youth movement, not a pale boring reflection of the SWP, but a real revolutionary burst of energy.

□ Pete Marshall

NATURAL is not 'primitive'

BILL FAKES' article on Britain's appalling infant mortality rate (28 May) was good. But I was depressed by his reference to 'natural childbirth' as something to do with 'primitive people'.

It reminded me of the response that I, and thousands of other women, have faced: *Excuse me.*

Yes, what is it? I've 98 more women to see this afternoon.

I'd like to have my child as naturally as possible and be told what is happening. Oh, it's back to the paddy fields for you, is it? Consider yourself lucky to have a bed in a modern obstetrics department. Next, please...

Of course we must demand more and better hospital facilities and oppose maternity hospital closures.

But we must also demand greater control over our bodies and treatment.

□ Fiona Williams, Plymouth.

UNDER capitalism, natural childbirth may only be available to the middle class. Does that mean it has no benefits?

Under socialism, it could be possible for any woman to practise it if she chose, with adequate medical advice.

□ Rose Davies, Hull.

My mother said that I never should...

My mother said that I never should

Play with the trade union leaders in the wood. We'll have fun and games, and run hither and thither, And they'll sell me right down the river.

THE number of TUC leaders who have received knighthoods or peerages at the end of their careers are legion. Is it possible the capitalist system would offer such honours to men who have supposedly been diametrically opposed to it?

The moral for rank and file trade unionists is clear: failing better wages and conditions, offer direct confrontation with the bosses without relying on the support of the so-called leaders.

□ AB, Bolton.

PULLING my jeans on one morning a limerick germinated, which might raise a chuckle among unemployed comrades.

If once I grew somewhat portly, That was to change very shortly.

Once on the dole My belt by a hole I've had to pull in—distractively.

□ ROY CUCKOW, Tower Hamlets, London E2.

'IF people underestimate us, it just means that we will be able to creep up and zap them more effectively', says Martin Webster, the National Front's activities organiser.

In Bradford, the Front have certainly not been underestimated. In this year's county council elections, they polled 2,000 fewer votes, despite fielding more candidates. Their share of the vote fell from 12.3 to 5.1 per cent.

Through continued leafletting, posterage, marching and opposition, we have made the people of Bradford aware of the fascist threat.

We have been successful. You can be, too.

□ BRADFORD ANTI-FASCIST COMMITTEE AND BRADFORD SWP MEMBERS

THE MAN WHO CAN'T LOOK FASCISM IN THE FACE

JOHN ROSE's review (28 May) of Martin Walker's book, 'The National Front', was excellent.

It brought home the fact that such lefty liberals have nothing to tell us on how we have to smash the Nazis.

If anything, the review wasn't hard enough on Walker. I think it could have reflected more of the disgust any anti-Fascist will feel on reading it.

I felt the book was an insult to those—and especially those black brothers and sisters—who have been consistently confronting the NF over the last few years.

I was glad to hear that one such anti-Fascist (Gerry Gable) had demanded that his name should be removed from the book's acknowledgements page in disgust.

Action

Lenin's constant and uncompromising criticism of liberals should serve as a lesson.

As far as left liberal intellectuals and journalists are concerned, Lenin argued they would relentlessly oppose and despise mass working class action since it threatened their privileged position in society.

Walker likewise can't see the need for such mass action against fascism. As he says in his introduction, he'll just get out of the country quickly once the going gets too hot.

That's fine for him—he so happens to be a qualified pilot. What about the blacks, socialists and trade unionists who aren't so lucky and who'll have to face the jackboots?

□ Bill Collins, Durham

WHAT ABOUT A JUBILEE PAY RISE?

MY workmates and friends don't seem at all interested in the Jubilee.

People would be more interested if, for once, they could open the papers or switch on the T.V., and see Jubilee jobs for the unemployed; Jubilee houses for

the homeless; Jubilee increases for pensioners, the sick and the unemployed; and Jubilee wage rises for everybody to combat this year of Jubilee inflation.

Or possibly Jubilee increases in public expenditure to give our children a better

education and save the jobs of nurses and teachers.

In view of the fact that H.R.H. is due in Derby in July, I wonder what the word Jubilee conjures up in the minds of other people in Derby.

□ Stan Simpson, Derby

Here, in Cheltenham, the idle rich are to be seen by the score in their gleaming Rolls-Royces, with their affected, upper-class accents and their pseudo-intellectual attitudes.

The main department store on the Promenade, which is most frequented by this parasitic class (colonels, retired colonels, company directors, and retired company directors!), is now bedecked with the red, white and blue colours of chauvinistic, mindless patriotism.

Inside the store an enormous array of wealth lies waiting to be purchased by the vulture-like parasites of the capitalist class.

And yet in that same building, just a few yards away from all the frills and the trimmings, in the kitchens of this establishment, one of my friends works as a cook.

No union

This friend, along with other cooks, gets less than £30 a week, works an 8½ hour day, often on Saturdays as well, and has no paid holidays. Needless to say, there is no union recognised by the store.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the parent company owning the store has recently been reported as gambling away £1½ million of his wealth in one evening.

□ Vincent Otter, Cheltenham

Strouthous report 'bold-faced lies'

AS ONE who supported the occupation at the London School of Economics in support of Andy Strouthous, I am disgusted by your lies regarding the outcome of the case.

You write that Andy came out of prison two days after originally refusing to agree to the NUS-Brosan formula 'when Brosan offered more concessions.'

This is a bold-faced lie. The key fact which you do not mention is that a North East London Poly Student Union meeting on 19 May voted 184-117 for a resolution instructing Andy to accept the NUS-Brosan deal.

This represented a major victory for the right at NELP and a rejection of Andy's own

stand on the issue. Andy agreed to be bound by the deal the next day and it is clear that he did this not because of minor concessions by Brosan but because of the vote of his own Union.

Doubtless, the meeting which passed the crucial motion was manipulated by the NUS establishment, and it is true that the NUS executive did betray the struggle, as the Broad Left always will.

Ultra?

Nothing, however, can be gained by concealing the truth.

Either you want to offer an alternative to the lies of bourgeois society, or you wish

to replace one set of lies with another.

You seem to have chosen the latter path and are fast on the way to creating an ultra left News of the World.

□ MB, a former ally.

Andy Strouthous replies: Unfortunately, MB seems more interested in the lies of The Guardian and the Broad Left than with what we have to say.

The original deal cooked up by the NUS and Brosan only allowed me to enter the 13 union offices. If, for instance, I wanted to mix with students I would have to get Brosan's permission. I rejected this and went

back to prison.

At the general meeting two days later, NUS deputy president Pete Ashby said Brosan had given him a verbal assurance that I could enter any 'premises licensed to the union', that is, bars, general meetings etc.

This was a concession. Staying in prison, and the support received from students nationally, forced his hand further.

Of course, we did lose a motion to get this deal in writing.

It wasn't a total victory—the NUS made sure of that—but it's not us who have been making 'bold faced' lies.

BOOKMARX CLUB

Selections for third quarter of 1977

All members will receive the books in List A plus either List B or List C. Please indicate your choice when applying for membership.

LIST A
Southern Africa After Soweto by Alex Callinicos and John Rogers
Daughter of Earth by Agnes Smedley. A powerful feminist novel set in the shanties and mining towns of America at the turn of the century.

Plus one other book to be announced
LIST B
A Biography of James Connolly: Socialist, Patriot and Martyr by Samuel Levenson
LIST C
Destiny by David Edgar. A brilliant play about the rise of fascism in Britain.
Poems and Ballads by Wolf Biermann. The East German government stripped him of his citizenship in 1976—but they failed to silence his communist songs and poems.

HOW TO JOIN THE BOOKMARX CLUB: Send £4.50 a quarter to Bookmarx Club, Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

The real menace behind all the Jubilee fanfare

CRITICISM of the Jubilee is so often directed at expensive junketing.

Some socialists oppose the monarchy merely because of its enormous cost to the taxpayer.

Such thinking can be dangerous, especially now, when the collapse of what is known as "British democracy" and the Parliamentary system is being predicted in all sorts of quarters.

In such a situation, the monarchy could play an important part in the maintenance of the class system.

This century, several European monarchs, many of them closely related to the Windsors, have identified themselves with repressive Fascist regimes.

Facist

King Victor Emmanuel, for instance, openly sided with the Fascists against the parties of the Left in Italy. And in 1922, after refusing to endorse the decree of martial law issued by Luigi Facta's government, he called upon Mussolini to form a government.

In the unsettled state of Europe during the economic crisis of the Thirties, two monarchs, like the Shah in Iran today, actually became dictators themselves.

King Carol of Rumania suspended elections in 1938, formed a "National Front for Renaissance" and for two years ruled as an autocrat until replaced by the dictator Antonescu.

Some older readers may remember Carol coming to London on the occasion of the coronation of the Queen's parents when he joined the crowned heads in procession to Westminster Abbey.

A place among all the nobles had to be found for his white-coated masseur who was needed to help him stay upright after a night of dissipation.

King Boris of Bulgaria also dismissed the government of the day in 1938, and became a despot, dissolving all political parties and suppressing newspapers.

Invasion

Three years later, Bulgaria became an ally of Nazi Germany and allowed Hitler's Wehrmacht to set up bases for the invasion of Yugoslavia and Greece.

Churchill referred to Greece as "one of the gallant little nations" to whom Britain was ready to give armed assistance to resist Nazi aggression, but it was not in any way a democracy.

An extreme right-wing government had come to power in 1935, rigged a plebiscite and called upon King George II, second cousin of Edward VIII, latterly



Edward VIII and Mrs Simpson: he was a friend of ardent pro-Nazi Charles Lindbergh

OSSIE LEWIS LOOKS BACK AT THE KINGS WHO HAVE RALLIED SUPPORT FOR THE RICH AND REACTIONARY

known as the Duke of Windsor, to return after 11 years' exile.

This monarch had spent his term of banishment mainly at Brown's Hotel in Mayfair. On reassuming the throne he connived at General Metaxas dissolving Parliament and ruling with an iron hand until Hitler's hordes swept through the Balkans to go to the assistance of Mussolini's retreating troops.

The British and Greek armies were quickly vanquished and again the Hellenic Royal house fled the country.

In 1944, the German garrison pulled out of Greece and the British army returned, but this time not to put down any fascist regime.

Upon the instructions of Winston Churchill, and with the connivance of Stalin, they were used to crush an anti-monarchical liberation movement of the Left, known as ELAS.

Elections were later held which the Left boycotted and the now customary plebiscite ensured the

return yet again of the monarchy.

The Greek royal family were close relatives of Princess Alexandra's late mother, Princess Marina, and of course have strong blood ties with Prince Philip. The present Greek King, Constantine, again in exile is resident in Britain.

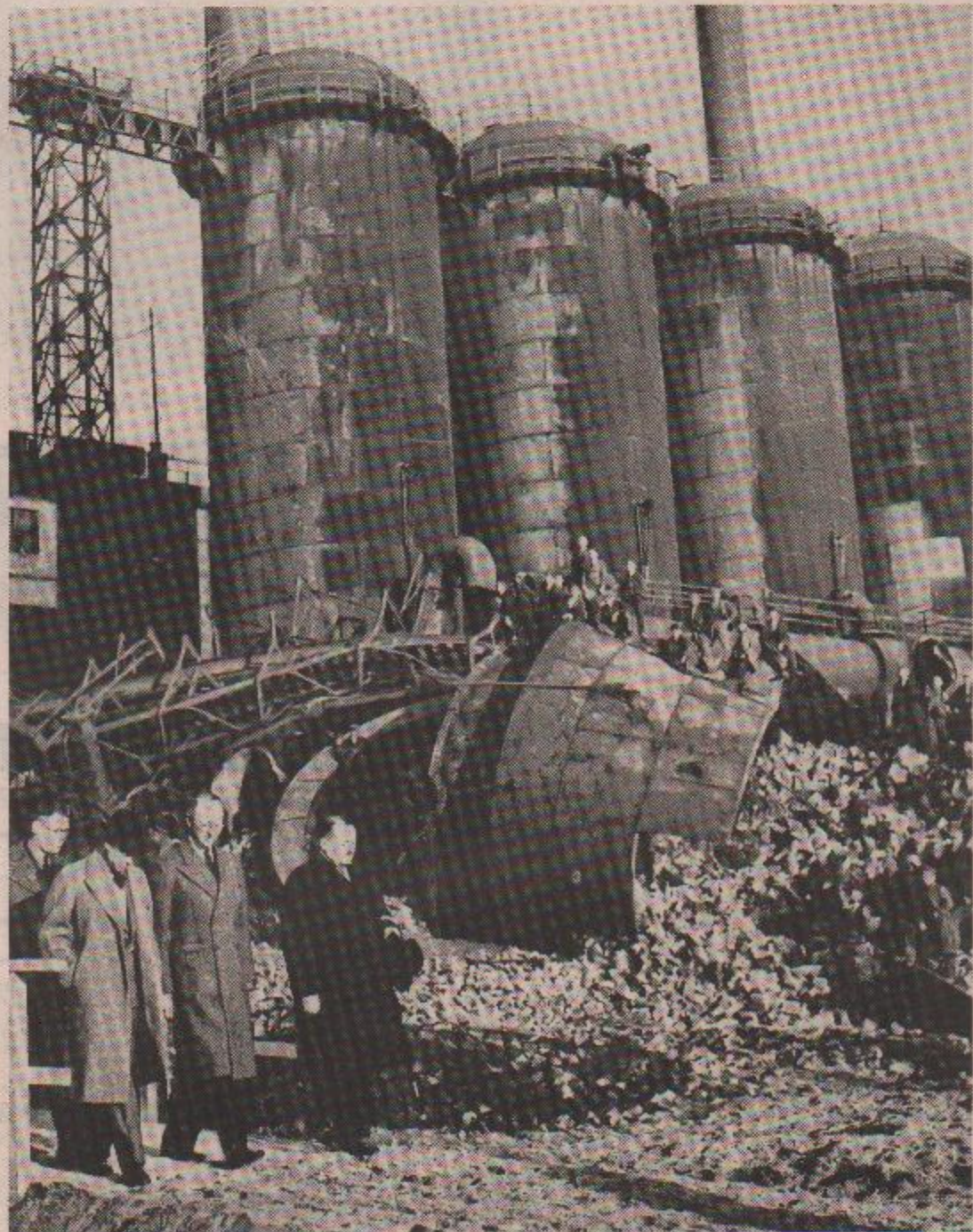
In Britain, 1936 was noteworthy for the fact that a king sat on the throne but was never crowned. Edward VIII succeeded George V in the January and abdicated the following December.

During that time there were many, including the Premier, Stanley Baldwin, who had suspicions that he may have had an inclination towards authoritarianism.

Without seeking Baldwin's endorsement, he set off for a tour of what was officially described as "depressed areas".

Squalid

Seeing such squalid desolation and the near starvation of miners and their families in South Wales, he told them "something must be



King Edward VIII visiting starving South Wales: 'something WILL be done', he said

done", adding what was taken as a sign of his intention to assume some political power, "something WILL be done".

He became quite angry when, on account of Mussolini ravaging Abyssinia, Baldwin's "National" Government and Parliament decided to apply sanctions, albeit half heartedly, against Italy.

He refused the Abyssinian Emperor, Haile Selassie, an audience when he came to Britain, although that monarch was allowed to plead his country's case at the League of Nations. Edward made no secret of his dislike of the League.

During his short reign, he struck up a friendship with the Atlantic flyer Charles Lindbergh, who became an ardent pro-Nazi.

When Edward insisted that he was going to marry the twice-divorced Mrs. Simpson, the establishment in general and the Church of England in particular were outraged.

There was some fear that a "King's party" would come into being as Winston Churchill and Press Lords Beaverbrook and Rothermere tried to influence public opinion in support of Edward and against the cabinet. Mosley's blackshirts mobilised, demonstrating to the chant of "Stand by the King". But it was too late, Edward had made up his mind to quit.

Important

It is a mistake to assume that the British monarchy is solely an irrelevant, but expensive, anachronism. The institution has an important ideological part to play in a class-based society by perpetuating the myth that the Queen rules quite impartially over Britain as one family.

We recently had an example of the use of Royal power in this case delegated to the Governor-general of Australia, when Sir John Kerr arbitrarily dismissed Gough Whitlam and his government.

In a serious constitutional, economic or social crisis the ruling class will not hesitate to use a monarch as a rallying point.

It is a sobering thought that where Charles I failed to hold back a revolutionary tide, a Charles III could succeed.

GOODBYE SAM THE MAN...

Sam the Man's farewell tour of Yorkshire, the last performances of CAST's play about left-wing Labour MP Samuel Keir Hardie Muggins.

Wednesday 8 June, 8pm, Coop Hall, YORK

Thursday 9 June, 8pm, Polish Club, off Summer Lane, BARNSELY

Friday 10 June, GRIMSBY

Saturday 11 June, 8pm, Trades Club, Chapeltown Road, LEEDS

God save the queen... and her fascist regime

By Roger Huddle

hypocrites closed their halls.

The record company A & M signed them and then dropped them because, they say, of the band's behaviour. I reckon it's because they chickened out about releasing God Save The Queen.

The media tried to lump punk with the NF. Johnny Rotten demanded press space to deny it.

Outside London's Rainbow, on the Right to Work picket of Elton John's jubilee concert, Johnny bought 30 Stuff the Jubilee badges. A couple of weeks later at

the Clash concert he took Temporary Hoarding and some Rock Against Racism badges, saying how good it was that someone didn't believe they supported the Front.

God Save the Queen, coming out when it did, has given us another way to stick up our fingers at Royalty. With an almost total ban on the radio, it shows that just when they thought they had rock music safely tied up, we can still use one of the most powerful forms of expression to hit them where it hurts.

The Sex Pistols were the first, but won't be the last—let's move

with that anger and really show what we can do up in Blackpool at the TUC.

THE NEW wave has moved in three months from Anarchy in the UK, through White Riot to Chelsea's brilliant new single Right to Work.

Available from the new Step Forward label in time for the march on the TUC. Direct by post from Step Forward, 40 Dryden Chambers, 119, Oxford St, London W1.

—VLADIMIR SAFETYPIN

* See 'Whats on' next issue of 'Temporary Hoardings'

LAST THURSDAY the Pistols got to number one on Capital Radio's Hitline. The hitline is supposed to be 'The people's choice', where listeners phone in their favourite record.

They had played it all week. But, lo and behold, it gets to number one and they promptly ban it.

It also looks likely that it will be national number one in Jubilee week. Let's look back a little.

The Sex Pistols shook up crusty Britain by swearing on the telly. Everybody in the media went apeshit. The Pistols were then banned almost out of existence. The



Striking journalists picket the Northern Echo at Darlington

Picture: John Sturrock (Report)

News bosses provoke closed shop strike

THE MILLIONAIRE anti-trade union newspaper bosses Westminster Press have forced 107 journalists out on strike in the North East to defend their post-entry closed shop.

The management took on a non-union journalist, knowing that this would provoke a dispute with the National Union of Journalists chapel (office branch) at the Northern Echo, Evening Dispatch and Durham Advertiser, if she refused to join.

The woman, Josephine Smith, is a willing pawn in their game.

On Saturday she was given 15 inches of space in The Times to explain her views on trade unionism. Not surprising. The

editorial director of Westminster Press is Nicholas Herbert, former feature writer with The Times.

Mrs Smith fits the bill nicely for their purposes, being a union-bashing mother of two, fighting for 'the freedom of the individual'. She has just taken the job, she says, because she wants enough money to keep her children at private school.

shops. Mrs Smith has now joined the scab Institute of Journalists. This is in keeping with her anti-trade union views.

The NUJ has already fallen down in its professional duties, in its attempts to control reporting, for example, racial matters, she said. These things didn't bother Mrs Smith when she was working for The Lady, a magazine read by bored debutantes.

The battle at Darlington promises to be long and bitter, but the strikers have learned from the dispute at Kettering and expect no less a victory.

The union executive has voted the strikers £30 a week. Donations and messages of support to: Darlington NUJ strike committee, 7 Victoria Road, Darlington (phone 0325-50282).

No scabs

She knew when she took the job that the journalists at Darlington would not work with scab labour, but she also knew that Westminster Press would back her to the hilt.

So will the Newspaper Society, Westminster Press are kingpins in this bosses' organisation, which has set up a slush fund to help employers trying to fight NUJ closed

Victory celebration

VICTORY celebrations such as the NUJ has never seen before hit Kettering on Friday night. Journalists at the Northants Evening Telegraph have won their six-month struggle to maintain 100 per cent union membership.

Now, the chapel (office branch) is throwing its weight behind the Grunwicks strikers' battle for union recognition in North West London. Proceeds from Friday's social went to the Grunwick strike committee.

More than 200 people, including six of the Grunwicks strikers, converged on Kettering for the disco. The NUJ chapel has produced badges which say: 'If you've heard about Kettering, don't say anything. Just smile.'

JOURNALISTS PROTEST AT RACIST SLANT

HAD ENOUGH OF racist newspaper headlines?

So have the journalists at the Islington Gazette.

Two weeks ago Clive Steel, father of the chapel (shop steward) and his fellow journalists decided that they were fed up with the filthy coverage that their paper was giving to the Notting Hill Carnival trial at the Old Bailey.

The trial is the result of the police riot at the Carnival last summer. Eighteen young blacks are charged with theft and conspiracy to commit theft. They face long jail sentences if found guilty.

The issue before last of the Islington Gazette could have been edited by the National Front itself. The front page was full of all the crap about 'black muggings' and 'whites getting beatings'.

'It was taken entirely from the prosecution's side in the case,' Clive told Socialist Worker.

'The defence side never got a look in. We had a chapel (office branch) meeting and passed a resolution demanding that the front page of the paper the following week give the defence case.'

'But it didn't happen. If we don't get satisfaction we will take stronger action—including industrial action if necessary.'

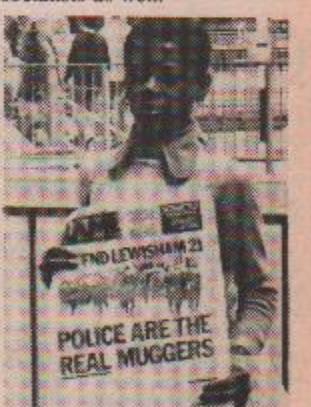
'We have also started a dialogue with the Islington 18 Defence Committee and some of the parents of the kids involved.'

'We are fully supporting, indeed we are encouraging the demonstration they are planning outside the offices of the Gazette on Tuesday afternoon, 14 June.'

'We hope that the committee and the parents will confront the editor directly.'

There is an important lesson in this for anti-racists. Every time you see local newspapers indulging in racism, don't simply assume that all the journalists are responsible. Probably most of them are not.

'Go and see some of them and find out. Chances are that you'll find some good anti-racists... and maybe a few socialists as well.'



Selling the Islington 18 special issue of FLAME, the black workers' paper of the Socialist Workers Party, in London last week. Copies 5p each, plus postage, from FLAME, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

Scotland

FALKIRK Socialist Workers Party meeting: Build a socialist alternative to the Labour Party. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Chair: Kenny Barker (IGWU). Thursday 16 June, 7.30pm, Temperance Cafe.

PAISLEY and CHRYSLER LINWOOD Socialist Workers Party meetings on The Meaning of Marxism: Fortnightly on Tuesdays, 7.30pm, Lang's Bar, Moss Street. 14 June: The need for a revolutionary socialist party. Speaker: Dave Sherry.

GLASGOW WEST Socialist Workers Party weekly meetings on the Case for Socialism: Every Saturday, 2.30pm-4pm, Patrick Burgh Halls. 11 June: The revolutionary socialist party.

ABERDEEN Women's Voice open meeting: Equal Pay and sex discrimination. Tuesday 14 June, 7.30pm, 163 King Street (first floor).

EDINBURGH Socialist Workers Party/Women's Voice discussion group on women's politics: Saturdays 11.30am, Trades Council, 14 Picardy Place (top of Leith Walk). 11 June: Breaking the chains—the split in the Suffragette Movement. 19 June: Food prices—climbing the butter mountain.

DUNDEE Socialist Workers Party Public Meeting: Why we need a Rank and File Movement. Speaker: Jim Barlow. Wednesday 22 June, 7.30pm, Socialist Worker Bookshop, 128 Victoria Road, Dundee.

JOHNSTONE Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why You Should Be A Socialist. Local trade unionist speakers. Wednesday 22 June, 7.30pm, Johnstone Community Centre, Ludovic Square.

BARRHEAD Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why You should be a Socialist. Local trade unionist speakers. Monday 20 June, 7.30pm, Arthurlie Community Centre.

Yorkshire

YORKSHIRE Socialist Workers Party HEALTH AND SAFETY MEETING: To discuss, how health and safety ties in with our work as revolutionary socialists, how it ties in with rank and file trade union work, how we can create a network of specialists in the region, organisation of schools and other activities. Saturday 11 June, 11am, Leeds Trades Council Club, Saville Mount, Leeds. Pooled fare system. Details, contact Derek Howl, 13 Cliff Mount, Leeds 6.

WEST YORKSHIRE Socialist Workers Party district meeting and day school: Sunday 19 June, 10.30am, Room 4, Communal Building, Bradford University. Speaker: Jimmy McCallum. On The Crisis, the Social Contract and the immediate perspectives for SWP. Followed by group discussions and practical sessions. Supporters welcome. phone Kaghley 605239.

MINERS FOR SOCIALISM: Socialist Workers Party discussion meetings for miners in Yorkshire. Monday 19 June, 7.30pm, The Masons Arms, Market Place, Doncaster. Speaker: John Deason (secretary, National Right to Work Campaign).

BRADFORD CENTRAL Socialist Workers Party meets every Thursday, 7.30pm, Textile Hall, Westgate. 23 June: Ken Appleby on Trade Unions and the Need for a Rank and File Movement.

Humperside

GRIMSBY Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a socialist. Speaker: Eddie Prevost (National Ports Shop Stewards Committee member, in personal capacity). Tuesday 21 June, St James House, St James Square.

Socialist Worker public meetings

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

STUFF THE JUBILEE!

EVENTS ORGANISED BY THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

MANCHESTER Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Stuff the Jubilee! North West Spanner theatre group perform their anti-jubilee play 'Jubilations', plus speaker: Eddie Prevost (IGWU) shop steward, Royal Docks, London on Smash the Social Contract! Friday 10 June, 8pm, Stretchford Civic Theatre Hall, (near Arndale Centre). All welcome.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Socialist Workers Party Anti-Jubilee disco: Friday 18 June, 8pm-late, The Cellar, Old Town Hall, High Street. Disco, bar, admission 80p (unemployed and students 40p).

North West

WYTHENSHAW Socialist Workers Party public meetings: Fortnightly on Wednesdays, 7.30pm, Wythenshawe Community Association (small room), Portway, Woodhouse Park. 22 June: Why a revolutionary socialist party?

LEYLAND Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a Socialist. Speaker: Paul Foot. Thursday 23 June, 7.30pm, Eagle and Chile pub, Church Road, Leyland.

NORTH EAST MANCHESTER Women's Voice inaugural meeting: Monday 13 June, 8pm, 47 Duchess Road, Crumppall. Phone 061-795-0412 for details.

LANCASTER Socialist Workers Party members and supporters meet: Wednesdays 8pm, Ring O Bells, King Street. All welcome.

Midlands

LEICESTER Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Why you should be a socialist—the case for the Socialist Workers Party. Speaker: Tony Cliff. Wednesday 15 June, AUEW Hall, Vaughan Way.

BIRMINGHAM Socialist Worker public meeting: The Rich get the gravy—we get the Social Contract. Thursday 16 June, 7.30pm, Digbeth Hall.

LEAMINGTON Socialist Workers Party supporters' discussion meeting: Fascism and racism. Wednesday 15 June, 8.15pm, Stoneleigh Arms, Clemens Street.

DUDLEY Socialist Workers Party meets every Thursday, 8pm, Green Man pub, High Street. Discussions every week, speakers every fortnight. All welcome.

16 June: Why you should be a socialist.

COVENTRY Women's Voice meetings on Women's Rights and the Fight for Socialism: Mondays 7.30pm, TU Books, 65 Queen Victoria Road, Coventry.

13 June: What's so important about socialism? 20 June: Pass the valium—women and the family.

27 June: When did you last buy a jar of coffee? Inflation—the real culprits. 4 July: So how can we fight back? Women and the social contract.

London

Socialist Workers Party EASTERN EUROPE GROUP meeting: National minorities. Monday 13 June, 8pm, in Central London. For details, phone Pete, 01-739 2639.

DUNFERMLINE Socialist Workers Party Stuff the Jubilee Dance: Friday 10 June, 8.30pm, The Castleton Kinema.

LEEDS Socialist Workers Party SPECIAL ANTI-JUBILEE EVENT: Sam the Man, performed by CAST, at the Leeds Trades Club, with live rock band. Saturday 11 June, 8pm, Trades Club, Chapelton Road. Pay at the door.

LEEDS Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Stuff the Jubilee! Kick out the Scroungers! Speaker: Paul Foot. Thursday 30 June, 7.30pm, Kitson College (Assembly Hall), City Centre.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM day school: Sessions on the theoretical tasks today and producing, selling and ISJ, plus specialist workshops. Saturday 11 June, 10.15am to 5pm, Room 1.15, Polytechnic of Central London, New Cavendish Street, London WC1. All readers and contributors welcome. Registrations and inquiries to: ISJ, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN (phone 01-739 2639).

PORTUGAL TODAY—Socialist Workers Party international day school: Open to all. Sessions on the current situation, workers' organisations and the class struggle, the revolutionary left. Speakers: Pete Robinson, Joanna Rollo and Graham Seaman (convenor, SWP Portugal group). Sunday 19 June, 11am-5pm, Polytechnic of Central London.

ISLINGTON COUNCIL WORKERS Socialist Workers Party discussion meeting: Fascism and sex. Speaker: Dave Widgery. Thursday 16 June, 6.15pm, Bread and Roses, 316 Upper Street, London N1.

BRENTFORD, WEST MIDDLESEX Women's Voice Rock Dance: Saturday 18 June, 8pm-1am, with Cadillac Top Rock 'n' Roll Band, and Sadosco, Buffet and late bar (Fullers), at Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, Brentford. Tickets £1 in advance from paper sellers in Brentford or £1.25 on door or phone Candia 01-572 4082. Posters available. Proceeds to SW fighting fund.

NORTH LONDON WOMENS VOICE GROUP: public meeting: The Suffragette Movement—The lessons to be learned.

NORTH: Monday 13 June, 8pm, Speaker: Aileen Knowles. The Beehive Pub (off Tottenham High Road, N17). Nearest tube Seven Sisters. All welcome (if you need a babysitter, please ring Di on 348 2041).

SOUTH: Monday 20 June, 8pm, Speaker: Debra Thoms. The Florence Pub, Florence Road, N1 (off Upper Street). All welcome (if you need a babysitter, please ring Mandy on 807 8067).

LEA VALLEY Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Smash the Social Contract. Speakers: Paul Foot and Eddie Prevost (IGWU) shop steward, Royal Docks. Wednesday 29 June, 8pm, Howard Hall, High Street, Ponders End, Enfield.

SOUTHWARK Socialist Workers Party public meetings: Thursdays, 8pm, Stirling Castle pub, Camberwell Church Street, London SE25.

16 June: Roll on the Red Republic! 30 June: Against Immigration Control! And don't forget our jumble sale. Saturday 25 June, 2.30pm, Avondale Square, SE1.

WIGAN Socialist Workers Party public meeting to welcome Elizabeth Windsor to Wigan: Stuff the Jubilee! Smash the Social Contract! Speaker: John Deason. Monday 20 June, 8pm, Swan and Railway, Wallgate.

SPOT THE SCROUNGER Anti Jubilee posters: Red and black, 30 for £1 (£1.50 by post), 100 for £3 (£4 by post) from SW Recordings, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London, E2.

BALHAM AND TOOTING Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Trotsky. Speaker: Tim Roderick. Wednesday 15 June, 8pm, Wheatshaf pub, Tooting Bec.

MERTON Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Fight the Cuts. Speakers: Dick North, NUT Executive member in personal capacity and workers from local hospitals threatened with closure. Thursday 23 June, 8pm, Wimbledon Park Hall, Arthur Road, (near Wimbledon Park tube).

ALL LONDON Socialist Workers youth movement day meeting: What is SWYM? Fight racism. Organising in schools. Punk Rock. Stuff the Jubilee and the Right to Work March on TUC in September. PAC, 539 Battersea Park Road, SW11 (near Clapham Junction). Sunday 19 June, 2pm-7pm. Further details from P Chambers, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

WEST MIDDLESEX Socialist Workers Party public meeting: Smash Racism. The Bosses! Speakers: Nigel Harris and Europe Singh. Monday, 20 June, 8pm, Southall Town Hall.

Action in the unions

NALGO: Meeting for all SWP NALGO delegates to annual conference. Sunday 12 June, 5.30pm, 5a South Street, Scarborough (near conference centre).

HEALTH SERVICE WORKERS: National meeting for all Socialist Worker Party members and supporters in the NHS. Saturday 11 June, 1pm to 5pm, Trades Union Bookshop, 260 Deansgate, Manchester. Discussion on the Social Contract, Save Our Hospitals Campaign, and building Hospital Worker groups. (All COHSE members to meet at 11.30am).

TASS: Meeting for members and supporters of the SWP in TASS, white collar section of the Engineering Workers Union. Saturday 11 June, 12 noon, TU Books, 260 Deansgate, Manchester. Further details from, and apologies for absence to, Brian Jones, phone 061-795 0412.

NOISS

National Organisation of Student International Socialist Societies

MARXISM 77—HELP WANTED! Can you spare some time between 11.8 July to help organise the running of Marxism 77 at North London Poly (on rota basis). Phone Lindsey German, 01-739 1878.

Come for the weekend to

MARXISM 77

Marxism 77 is seven days (1-8 July) of revolutionary ideas and discussion at the Polytechnic of North London. If you can't make the whole week, why not come for the weekend 2-3 July. Here are just some of the events:

SATURDAY
Lectures on British posts and the French Revolution, Marxism and Philosophy. A new view on Engels and women, Marxist Economics, plus workshop sessions.

SUNDAY
Lectures on The Family, Capitalism and Women's Oppression, Literature and the Russian Revolution, Class struggle in the industrial revolution, Socialist and sexual politics at the turn of the century, Lenin as a philosopher, plus workshop sessions.

EVENINGS:
Tony Cliff on The Russian Revolution, Edmund Baluka on Workers Struggles in Eastern Europe, theatre by North West Spanner, Kartoon Klowns, live music and disco.

Facilities include free canteen, canteen and bar, accommodation will be provided if necessary.

WEEKEND TICKET £2 (whole week £5). Send to Marxism 77, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

SW Notices

Socialist Workers Party NATIONAL WOMENS MEETING: Saturday 18 June 11.30am, Stephenson Room, Euston Station. Agenda: Selling Womens Voice, organising Women's Voice groups, organising round equal pay strikes. One delegate welcome from branches, districts or Women's Voice group. Everyone to contribute to pooled fare. Creche. Phone SWP Women's Department, 01-739 1878 for more details.

Socialist Workers Party BLACK CAUCUS: Sunday 19 June, Right to Work Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

THREE ITALIAN girl comrades offer free accommodation and board to one or two English girl comrades (18-23) in exchange for English conversation (we are learning English). Lake Garda and Northern Italian cities, 20 July-15 August. Write to: Cristina Taglietti, Via Camozzi 18, 25100 Brescia, Italy (phone 030 49161).

WANTED! A DUPLICATOR for Allos SWP. Phone Jim Tierney, Allos 723304, as soon as possible.

TEMPORARY HOARDING

Next issue of Rock Against Racism's TEMPORARY HOARDING out next week! Featuring interviews with ASWAD, Johnny Rotten, Clash, Carol Grimas, PLUS Graphics: Women and the Blues, Fighting Apartheid, RAR at the TUC, Jubilee—So What! Orders with money, 20p each/bulk orders 20 for £1 to RAR, c/o 6 Cottons Gardens London E2.

Union brush-off for steel strikers

by PAUL LUTENER, ISTC works rep, Greenwich Reinforcements

GREENWICH: The depths to which the Iron and Steel Trades Federation bureaucracy will sink to keep its rank and file under control became evident to three of us last week when we went to Scarborough for the union's third annual conference in 60 years.

Not content with the normal rigid procedure of not allowing emergency resolutions, and not giving us visitors' credentials—since we hadn't been vetted by the executive, they put a shadow on us for the whole time we were there.

It's been over three weeks now since we occupied the factory following the sacking of six men and suspension of seven others. The sackings were because we closed the works on 11 May in support of the day of action against hospital closures and public spending cuts.

Since 11 May the union full-time officials haven't been near us and it now seems we're beginning to realise why. In a conversation with someone sympathetic to us, an executive member at Scarborough stated that he 'wouldn't touch Greenwich with a barge-pole', and anyway all the jobs were going to Enfield, where there are 'traditional ISTC members'.

Although the union hierarchy is against us, we're solid. We've received tremendous support from outside, with a flood of donations and collections, especially from NUPE branches, and an emergency resolution of support will be going to the NALGO Conference next week.

Finally the occupation received a boost on hearing the news that St Nicholas Hospital, one of the hospitals we'd stopped work over on 11 May had won a reprieve.

Donations and messages of support to: Ron Mitchell, ISTC Branch Secretary, 24 Kentmere Road, London SE18.

Hospital picket

SOUTH LONDON: Hospital workers at the Weir Hospital, Balham, have been occupying for more than two weeks with official support to save the hospital.

This Friday a mass picket will greet Alan Fisher, NUPE general secretary when he arrives to address the workers. Details from Paul Hoggart, phone 01-673 5902.

Send messages of support and donations to Weir Maternity Hospital, Weir Road, London SW12.

Closure

NORTHAMPTON: Health workers at the Margaret Spencer Hospital for Women have been presented with 60 days notice of closure. Nursing staff have been offered alternative jobs, but half the ancillary staff will be made redundant.

'Scabs army' at the Barrier

WOOLWICH: The consortium building the Thames Barrier are preparing an army of scabs to break the five-week strike by all trades. The strike is in pursuit of a policy of 'First in, last out!'

To date more than 100 travelling men have been interviewed in a London hotel—expenses paid—and told to stand by. Stewards on the Barrier fear that these men, plus Costain men brought down from the



Shop steward Jim Black speaking to the Desoutter strikers.

Picture: Laurence Sparham (IFL)

Desoutters: Now make blacking bite!

by BARRY MORONEY
AUEW shop steward, Desoutters, Colindale

NORTH WEST LONDON: The strike for union recognition by 230 AUEW members at Desoutters Power Tools has been made official by the executive of the Engineering Union.

The decision must mean the automatic blacking of Desoutters tools in engineering firms throughout the country.

Already shop stewards at Hoover Perivale have said that they will refuse to work with Desoutters tools once the strike is made official. This is likely to cripple production in the Hoover factory.

The increasing desperation of Desoutter management at the nationwide support for our four-week strike can be seen from the kind of dirty

tricks they have resorted to over the last week. They have:

Written to individual strikers in Urdu and Gujarati as well as English stressing the hardship the strike is causing their families and stating that the Social Contract makes union recognition pointless.

Phoned strikers' wives and relatives making the same point.

Organised visits by scab workers and charge hands to strikers' homes while they are on the picket line.

Asked

Refused to pay out wages for three days' annual holiday owing to us this week.

The strike committee has responded by seeking legal advice to stop management harassing our families.

But we have no illusions that the law is on our side. Wembley police have already warned us that they will arrest us if we visit management's homes, but that there is nothing they can do if they visit ours!

Only rank and file action can help us win our strike. Refuse to touch Desoutters tools.

Donations and messages of support to: Denis Norville, Treasurer, Desoutters Strike Committee, 24 Cotman Gardens, Edgware, Middlesex.

Vicious Attack

EAST LONDON: Last Wednesday's Evening Standard carried a vicious attack on NUPE members operating a work-to-rule and overtime ban at the London Hospital, Mile End annexe and St Clements.

It claimed that people would die as a result of the action. In fact, management have closed the hospital to try to split workers who are claiming back pay owed to them—some for as long as 13 years!

Said Roy Emmins, front door porters' shop steward: 'Management have tried to get us to accept payments at the rate for the year the overtime was worked. We say it was management's fault this happened and they should pay us back at the 1975 rates.'

LAIRDS: WE'VE WON THE FIRST STEP

EAST KILBRIDE: The 600 women on strike, for equal pay at Laird Portch and Jaeger factories have returned to work.

They have forced the company, part of the giant Coats-Paton multinational, to back down and negotiate regradings with the National Union of Tailor and Garment Workers.

But this isn't the end of the story. Ellen Nicklin, convenor of the strike committee, explains why:

'This is anything but a total

Coats Patons earns doubled profits on world sales 26% higher

victory, despite what the full-time official's say. But we have forced the company to negotiations, something they refused before we came out on strike.

'We know our five-week strike was worth it, but we've been through too much to trust either the company or the officials of the union.'

'The management have made and broken promises

A full-page Coats-Paton in the national newspapers last week at a cost of £30,000—but the firm will not pay a fair wage for the workers who produce their profits.

before. This time the union officials are saying if the company renege on the agreement or that if the outcome of the negotiations is unsatisfactory then they'll make any action we take official.

'They say they're on our side. We are still waiting for them to prove it. Unless we get what we want from these negotiations, it looks like we'll be out on strike again, whether

the union gives us official backing or not.

'While the negotiations are taking place we'll be getting together with the shop stewards from other factories in the group because the one thing we have learned is the need for strong trade union organisation between ourselves and the other factories. That's something that has been lacking in the clothing industry up until now and we have paid the price

Defeat

'Although we forced the company to back down, we know that getting equal pay will depend on our willingness to fight. Every one of the women who has been on the picket line knows that.'

'So if we have to come out again then we will. But we will

be better organised the next time, and we know that we have the support of other workers.'

'I'd like to thank the SWP, Women's Voice and all the many trade unionists up and down the country who helped us with money, picketing and moral support. It kept us going and we might have to call on it again.'

'These negotiations will affect every member of the NUTGW who works for Jaeger. This time shop stewards will be on the negotiating body. We have to make sure that every factory learns from our fight and is prepared to reject any deal that doesn't give us the job evaluation that we have been fighting for.'

The women at East Kilbride are demanding equal pay—an increase of £10.

PORT TALBOT: AN OFFICIAL SELL-OUT

SOUTH WALES: The ten-week-old strike by electricians at the Port Talbot plant has been smashed. Last Friday's mass meeting voted against their shop stewards' recommendation to continue the fight.

The final blow came when electricians at the local Timplat Works, at Trostre and Velindre, voted to cross the picket line set up by the Port Talbot sparks.

This decision was taken at a badly publicised branch meeting, and was pushed through by local electricians' leader Arthur Hunt.

In doing so, he willingly joined league with Bernard Clarke and Frank Chapple in their efforts to isolate and demoralise the strikers.

The refusal of Hunt, Clarke and Chapple to organise action and support for the Port Talbot men will have repercussions throughout the BSC nationally.

The management has spent over £13 million on importing foreign steel to break this strike and this victory for them, delivered on a plate by the EETPU officials, will set the tone for all future negotiations

Jordanhill victory

GLASGOW: One cut the government will not be getting away with is the attempt to stop drama students taking their teacher training final year at Jordanhill.

The result of this proposed cut would have meant that 32 students were left totally unqualified. We occupied Jordanhill overnight, then 150 students came to a public meeting organised by NOISS, the SWP student organisation, and voted to support us.

The result is we have all got places at Jordanhill.

Occupied!

EXETER: Students from Exeter College of Art and Design are occupying the graphics building against massive rises in fees and cuts in discretionary awards.

Messages of support to: Exeter College of Art and Design Students Union, Graphics department, Ghandy Street, Exeter, Devon.

work.

The only way the strike will be won now is if they receive the backing of rank and file building workers, particularly in London. If they lose, the long fight for trade union organisation on the Barrier will suffer a severe setback.

Messages of support and collections to: Thames Barrier Joint Stewards Committee, Eastmore Street, London SW7.

OVERSEAS NURSES CAN STAY

by CHRIS DAVIES
COHSE shop steward, Claybury Hospital

ESSEX: An overtime ban, an occupation of the Area Health Authority switchboard, and a walkout from a hospital prize-giving ceremony, have won a victory for nurses at Claybury Hospital, Woodford.

Previously management had said they would be unable to employ a group of overseas nurses qualifying as State Enrolled Nurses at the end of May. Then they offered employment for the nurses as nursing assistants.

When the Health Service Union (COHSE) rejected this, management said they would employ only six on a permanent basis as state-enrolled nurses.

We took unofficial industrial action and learned last week that we had won jobs for all 11 nurses who qualified.

But the struggle does not end here. We shall continue to fight for increased staffing levels at Claybury and against the NHS cuts.

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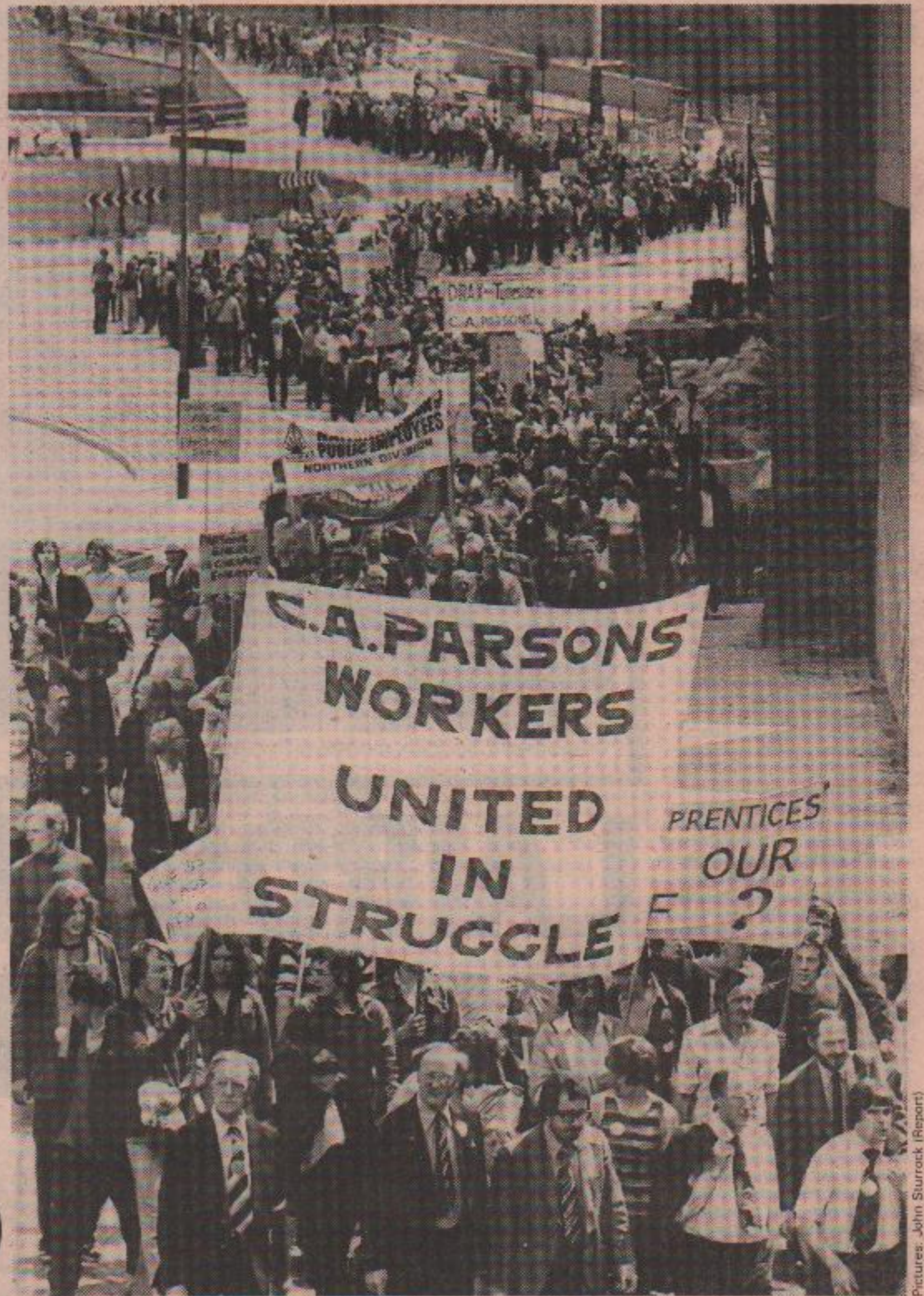
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PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY



Peter Burns (CEV), chairman of the joint shop stewards committee at C A Parsons:

Let me say on behalf of the Parsons workers that we will not accept any sell-out by government or the management of Parsons or the national trade union officials. If the Weinstock plan goes ahead, there will be massive redundancies here and the effect on the region would be catastrophic. So the message to the government is clear: 'We workers are determined to fight and our morale is high. Chopper Weinstock won't sack any workers on Tyneside, that's for sure.'



The 10,000 workers and their families march through Newcastle last Friday in protest against high unemployment and the proposed sackings of workers at Parsons. 30,000 workers answered the Parsons stewards' call for a half-day strike.

Pictures: John Saurrock (Report)

STOP CHOPPER WEINSTOCK!

WHAT WE THINK

WHAT CAN NEWCASTLE OFFER APPRENTICES DOLE

STOP CHOPPER WEINSTOCK! Fight for the Right to Work!

These two urgent messages go out this week from 10,000 workers on Tyneside to their union leaders—the executive of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, who meet this Thursday.

On the agenda is the 'Weinstock plan' for the turbo-generator industry. The plan drawn up by the millionaire managing director of GEC calls for monopoly control of all turbo-generator manufacturing—by GEC.

It demands 6000 sackings from the industry's 16,000 workforce.

Many of these will be C A Parsons workers at Heaton, Tyneside. But thousands of workers at GEC factories will also be sacked.

Don't just believe Socialist Worker. Listen to Arnold Weinstock himself speaking on ITV's Weekend World on 29 May:

'All the jobs in the industry will be at risk, not merely the

by PAUL FOOT

ones which are apparently surplus. Now it may very well be, and it is likely, that there will be some reduction in the Parsons factories and in the GEC factories. I don't know exactly when, but relatively early, rather than in the longer term'.

This shows how short-sighted it is for Parsons or GEC turbo-generator workers to identify with their employers against workers in the 'other firm'.

The battle-line is simple: between the profiteering monopoly plan proposed by Weinstock, and the jobs of all turbo-generator workers—whether in Newcastle, Rugby or Trafford Park, Manchester.

Socialist Worker can disclose that the Confed executive, at their last meeting on 19 May, threw out the Weinstock plan.

They demanded majority shareholding and managerial control for the government-sponsored National Enterprise Board. They also demanded an NEB promise to protect jobs.

These demands have been

ignored by the Labour government.

Industry Secretary Varley and Energy Secretary Benn have persuaded the Cabinet to hand over the whole turbo-generator monopoly to the arch-Tory Weinstock.

Now the ministers, aided by Weinstock's huge propaganda machine, are straining every muscle to persuade the unions to kneel under the chopper.

At a meeting last week, Varley tried to blackmail the Parsons stewards into accepting the Weinstock plan. He got nowhere.

Harry Blair, secretary of the Parsons corporate committee, told Socialist Worker: 'We refused to budge from total opposition. We call him two things. The Minister for the Abolition of Industry. And a two faced bastard'.

That was the spirit which stirred the great demonstration of 10,000 workers in Newcastle last Friday.

And that spirit must go out from Newcastle to Trafford Park, to Rugby, and to the soon-to-be merged boiler factories of Babcock and Wilcox and Clarke Chapman, where thousands of sackings are also planned.

PEOPLE all over the world need more heat and light. The machines and expertise at Heaton, Trafford Park and Rugby should help to provide it.

The only reason why 'demand' for electricity is 'slackening' is that people can't afford to buy what they want and need—because of doubled electricity bills and frozen wages.

Weinstock wants to take advantage of that by closing turbo-generator factories. The only people who will benefit from his plan will be the shareholders of the GEC who have already been enriched this year by a huge extra dividend payment of £178 million. Thousands of workers will be sacked, hundreds of thousands won't be able to afford the electricity they need.

Collapsed

The control of the turbo-generator industry should be public, not private. It should be nationalised, and expanded to meet the needs of working people.

As shipyard workers are finding out to their cost, nationalisation of itself won't save jobs. But nationalisation will provide a unified industry which will help workers unite to fight for jobs.

And nationalisation won



by workers' struggle will give the workers the confidence and the strength to save every job.

The fight for nationalisation won't come from the Labour government. They collapsed already. If they are followed down the road to surrender by the trade union leaders, the rank and file must stand firm and spread the fight.

A rank and file committee representing all turbo-generator workers, committed to nationalisation and the fight to save all turbo-generator jobs, could soon dispose of the Weinstock chopper and introduce some sense and hope where a Labour government and private enterprise have brought unemployment and despair.



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