

# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p

Out of school, out of work

# 1,614,000



By Anne Hansen, Sandra Shepherd and Mike Simons

**ALBERT BOOTH, Minister for Unemployment, got a shock last Friday.**

He felt the anger of unemployed young people in Sunderland, where half of us are out of work!

He charged past our picket without a word—and one of his hatchet-men, Councillor Colin Anderson, tried to hit one of the women on the picket.

Booth later came out and climbed aboard a specially-hired bus. We climbed in with him—we wanted to know when we were going to get jobs.

□ □

*The reply convinced us of what the Labour government really believes about unemployment.*

Lén Harper, leader of Sunderland Council, told the driver: 'Take them to the police station'.

As we got a joy ride round the town, the Minister for Unemployment was left stranded.

At the police station, there were no police around so we marched back through the town centre talking to people about the Right to Work Campaign and giving out leaflets.

We can't wait to join the great Anger March for the Right to Work from Liverpool to the Blackpool TUC in the first week of September.



The anger of the unemployed—for Booth and his friends

**But we're fighting back!**

**JOIN THE MARCH**

I would like to join the march/have more information about the march.  
 Name .....  
 Address .....

Send to 265a Seven Sisters Rd, London N4 (phone 01-802 0978).

# A RACIST CONSPIRACY?

## You need look no further than the police

READ the three stories on this page. They weave an ugly pattern of mass police attacks on the black communities of our cities.

A relatively trivial incident involving petty crime leads to a huge police invasion into the black areas, beatings-up, arrests at random, charges of 'suspicion of loitering with intent to steal' and 'conspiracy to rob

persons unknown

This week the first trial from such arrests comes to an end—that of the Islington 18. But there are now countless trials in the offing—at Lewisham, Kensal Rise, in Nottingham and Sheffield.

Unless black and white workers come together across the country to fight this repression, the police will take confidence and the attacks will continue.

### ISLINGTON 18: On trial

A REMARKABLE trial is about to end at the Old Bailey.

Why remarkable? It has lasted three months and cost about £500,000—although the total value of the 'stolen' goods involved cannot be more than £200.

The accused are 18 black youths, all teenagers from Islington.

All 18 have been charged with 'conspiracy to rob' and 'conspiracy to commit theft'. These charges state that 'on or about 30 August 1976 they conspired together or with other persons to rob persons unknown'. The date is interesting too—it is the date of last year's Notting Hill Carnival.

The prosecution rests wholly on statements made by the accused. There is no other evidence linking any of the accused with any of the robberies. 17 of the 18 teenagers denied that the statements were made voluntarily.

They claimed they had been threatened and beaten by police in giving their statements, and in many cases were not allowed to see parents or solicitors while being held in police stations.

The nature of conspiracy charges, whereby statements from one defendant automatically implicate other defendants, demands a united defence, but this has been conspicuously lacking.



Two of the Islington 18, charged with 'conspiracy', and one of the parents picketing the Old Bailey.

### TENNYSON 6: 'Police took badges off'

by GEORGE BOX and MALCOLM KNIGHT

A GAME of cricket led to a racist rampage by the police in the Tennyson Street area of Nottingham last week.

A cricket bat, slipping from the hands of one of the players, smashed a neighbour's window.

The neighbour phoned the police after refusing an offer by the father of the boy who broke the window to pay for the damage and replace the pane of glass. The investigation of one policeman developed into a police riot, during which the area was cordoned off by panda cars and Black

Marias.

Teenagers were mugged at random, a 56-year-old man was handcuffed to a railing and beaten, young children were chased and attacked, a mother was kicked and punched for trying to protect her son, and an elderly man who tried to protest was bundled into a nearby police van.

There were six arrests, nearly all for assaulting police officers. No-one was charged in connection with the broken window.

In all cases the people involved have proclaimed their innocence and accused the police of deliberate racial harassment and frame-ups. In preparation for the frame-ups some police were seen removing their badges and placing them in a helmet in a panda car before going on to attack the crowd that

had gathered.

Police made little attempt to hide their racialism. A white passer-by who offered to put shoes on Nehemiah Shand, chained barefoot to a railing, was kicked away by a policeman and told to 'leave that black bastard alone. It's nothing to do with whites.'

Mrs Marquis, the mother of a 15-year-old boy who was arrested, was told not to interfere as this was not her country.

Mrs Marquis said about the attack: 'I can't understand why the police brutalize the young children, women and elderly people like that. They're trying to create trouble between blacks and whites.'

A neighbour, Carol Smith, who saw what happened, says: 'As a white woman living in a

black community, I am bound to protest against police brutality... If the same incident had taken place with white people the police wouldn't even have bothered to come.'

'When I arrived all I could see was the police kicking hell out of everybody. They've gone too far this time.'

Now Carol herself is being harassed, after registering a complaint with the police. She was pulled up by a CID patrol car while on her way to visit her mother and arrested and charged with soliciting and prostitution!

A defence committee has been formed. Phone 0602-700092

A march against police muggings has been arranged to leave Forest Fields, Nottingham at 2pm this Saturday, 30 July.

### KENSAL GREEN 10: Suspicion and plot charges

by SARAH COX

IN AN exercise uncannily similar to those at Islington and Lewisham, 20 black youths were rounded up by police from the Queen's Park area in North West London.

Some were arrested on the streets of Kensal

Rise, some taken from their beds, others off buses. They were not allowed to see their parents.

Protests by parents and other members of the local community later led to the release of eleven without charge. But four were charged just with 'suspicion of loitering with intent to steal', the other six with conspiracy.

These boys have grown up together in the Kensal

Rise area, friends since primary school days. One is only 14, two are 15 and the eldest 19 years old.

When the ten appeared on Thursday, the court was picketed by about 40 protesters. Inside, the impartiality of the law was demonstrated clearly by a flippant remark from the court clerk: 'Perhaps we could get rid of the conspirators first.'

Not even the defence lawyers saw fit to take him up on this remark and

question its implied assumption of guilt.

To the police, if you are young and black, you are by definition a suspected person. If you then dare to meet your friends, that constitutes conspiracy.

The only way to defeat these assumptions is to organise a massive and widespread defence campaign. The defence of the Kensal Rise 10 is being handled by the Brent Black Action Group (phone 969 5318 or 9825)

The four youths charged with 'suspicion of loitering with intent to steal' appear again at Willesden Magistrates Court, St Mary's Rd, London, NW10 at 10am on 10 August.

The six who are charged with conspiracy come up at Acton Magistrates Court on 28 September. Three days have been set aside for the case.

There will be pickets at both courts.

WE ARE NOT FODDER TO FATTEN SOLICITORS

SOLICITORS & BARRISTERS MUST TAKE INSTRUCTIONS FROM DEFENDANTS AND PARENTS NOT GIVE THEM

### Asian woman kept handcuffed

by BRIAN KELLY  
AUEW shop steward,  
International Harvester,  
Doncaster

WE'VE just had a case here in Doncaster, of the harassment of an Asian woman, which suddenly makes all the similar stories we read each week in Socialist Worker come horribly true.

Her name is Mrs Deb. Her husband has lived and worked here for many, many years.

Two days before last Christmas, she went into her local corner shop in the Hyde Park district of the town to buy two small items for 20p.

The following day—20 hours later—she was visited by Mrs Myers, the owner of the shop, who accused her of stealing a stapler from the shop (value: £1.50).

Mrs Deb strenuously denied anything to do with the theft.

Early in January, a Police Constable Ritchies visited Mrs Deb, making inquiries. He was followed by two other policemen, including a CID officer named Patchworth.

They insisted that Mrs Deb came down to the police station, and refused even to allow her to go to her own bathroom before leaving.

She was then interrogated for ten hours—in the course of which she was urged to plead guilty. She refused.

Her three-day trial was last week.

For the first two days—until she finally collapsed from the pain in her arms—Mrs Deb was handcuffed in the dock!

Perhaps the police thought she was contemplating bank robbery while sitting there!

The only police evidence was that Mrs Deb had been in the shop on the day the stapler went missing.

The jury took only 15 minutes to throw the charges out and find Mrs Deb not guilty.

In normal circumstances, the police don't prosecute for theft unless there is some witness to the crime or the stolen item is found in the possession of the accused. Neither of these conditions applied to the Deb case.

So why was the prosecution ever brought?

Why was Mrs Deb in handcuffs for two days? Why was she questioned for 10 hours?

What other explanation can the police provide—save blatant racial prejudice?

Just think what the case has meant for the Debs—seven months of people passing you in the street because of their suspicions, and now the nagging fear that winning the case could mean more harassment from policemen out for revenge.

It's high time we trade unionists started to link up with the Asian community to fight police harassment and frame-ups.

# Price rises don't wait for 12 months... Why should wages?

PRICES in the past year have risen 7 per cent ahead of wage rises, according to the government's own figures.

When you take account of the way the official figures underrate price rises and of the way wage rises are hit by taxation, the real picture is much worse.

The average worker is about £15 a week worse off than three years ago.

Yet the government, the Liberals and the Tories are all

## Socialist Worker

WHAT WE THINK

insisting that wages continue to be held back.

Prime Minister Callaghan has said he wants a maximum of 10 per cent on wage rises over the next year. He will imitate the tactic pioneered by former Tory prime minister Heath—he will force long

strikes on workers in the public sector.

Now a new ally has rushed to help him. The finance and general purposes committee of the Transport and General Workers Union has circulated all the union's officials telling them that no wage claim is to be settled within 12 months of a previous one.

### Desperate

This ruling is being used in a desperate attempt to prevent a wages struggle now by one of the most powerful groups of public sector workers—the dockers.

Yet only a month ago the JGWU conference voted overwhelmingly for an end to all controls on wage claims.

The leadership of the union has effectively decided to ignore the conference on one of the most crucial issues.

Certainly, the trade unionists who moved the resolution at the conference do not see it as allowing the union to support the 12-month rule. Colin Rechnitts, who seconded the resolution, told Socialist Worker on Monday: 'As far as I am concerned the pay policy ceases as from 1 August.'

The letter that has been sent to district officials does

not conform to the will of the conference. It is as though the executive's wishes were carried at the conference, not ours.'

### Build

There could hardly be clearer proof that carrying resolutions at conferences is not, by itself, going to end the attack on our living standards. We need to build a rank and file movement, a movement that links up shop floor militants for a struggle against the wage controls and the 12-month rule, despite the repeated betrayals by the union leaderships.

## Army killings: Irish mothers demand action

by OSSIE LEWIS

THREE MOTHERS from the Turf Lodge area of Belfast, all of whom had sons brutally murdered by British troops, came to London last week to demand that the soldiers responsible be put on trial. The authorities refused to do this.

Mrs Annie Norney said that at the inquest on her 17-year-old son, Leo, the military had perjured themselves by claiming that he was a 'gunman'. But the Ministry of Defence had given the lie to this by admitting that he was a totally innocent party and awarding her £3,000.

'It is money I never want to see and never want to spend. I want the murderer convicted,' she said. 'I know who he is. He is in the Black Watch and at present is serving a sentence in Scotland for planting bullets on innocent civilians.'

### Shout

'If he comes back to Belfast, I will shout his name from the housetops.'

Another mother, Mrs Kathleen Stewart, produced a plastic 'baton round' which had smashed the skull of her 17-year-old boy, Brian, and claimed that Major Tom Sewall had stated on TV that Brian was the ring-leader of a riot. This was a barefaced lie, as only three minutes earlier he had been in the house, where she had been helping him with his homework.

Mrs Roisin McCooney recounted how in May last year, she was awakened by a policeman at 5am to tell her that her 20-year-old son Danny was in hospital receiving intensive care.

### Struck

He underwent a major operation for internal injuries caused by being struck in the stomach with a rifle butt by a military patrol who took him to an army barracks for interrogation and detained him for three hours while he was bleeding internally. He died three weeks later.

The three mothers spoke calmly and simply to a packed meeting in Holborn, Central London, called by the Committee Against British Brutality in Northern Ireland and chaired by Pat Arrowsmith. The committee intends to convene an international tribunal to examine the evidence, on a similar basis to the tribunal set up a few years back to judge US crimes in South East Asia.

The NF's own circular about 13 August.

EMERGENCY Extra to enclosed July 'NF' Bulletin.

Ret:- The Situation in Lewisham (see front page of bulletin)

\*DRIVE THE MUGGERS OFF THE STREET\* MARCH CALLED FOR SATURDAY 13 AUGUST

The situation in Lewisham following the mass arrests of NF activists who protested against the SWP march in support of Black Muggers is Electric. The Black SWP Lewisham Organiser Kim Gordon has said:- We smashed the NF St. George's day march in Haringey in April 'sic' and now the NF are too terrified to hold another march...

It is essential that we march in Lewisham to let the Reds their Hogger friends and above all the Multi-Racialist Authorities know that the NF will never back down in defence of the White British people.

MASS MOBILISATION by all unit a nationwide essential. Organise coaches now. Promote activity via bulletin & meetings. Bring all your friends! Mobilise!

Mobilise! 2.30p.m. CLIFTON RISE, NEW CROSS ROAD, LONDON, S.E.14. New Cross Road is a continuation of Old Kent Road, the A2. Clifton Rise adjoins New Cross Gate station Underground (Met Line) Trains via Whitechapel. Southern Region Trains via Charing Cross, London Bridge and Waterloo. MARCH-OFF TIME 1.0.0.

## Nazis go all out for 13 August

'WE MOBILISE to stop the Nazis from marching through Lewisham on 13 August. We call for all black people, socialists and trade unionists to join us.'

That was the declaration carried unanimously by 800 supporters of the Lewisham 21, meeting after a successful demonstration through South East London last Saturday.

The demonstration and meeting were a great step forward for the campaign in support of the 21 black teenagers who were seized by police in dawn raids and now face a series of trumped-up charges.

The campaign is vitally important. Police all over the country have taken up this tactic of seizing black people indiscriminately and then pinning charges on them.

But now the Nazi Front is calling out its storm troops, aiming to smash the Lewisham 21 Defence Committee. Its latest NF bulletin calls for a 'Drive the muggers off the street' march.

This follows recent attacks

by the Front in the area on socialists and black people.

There is only one way to deal with these attacks. It is to organise to stop the Nazi Front from marching.

A united mobilisation of socialists, black people, trade unionists and Labour Party supporters nearly stopped them in Wood Green in April. We can repeat this success in Lewisham.

### Organise

Socialist Worker calls on all our readers in London, the Midlands and the South of England to organise now to bring the largest number of people from socialist, Communist, trade union and black organisations to Lewisham for Saturday 13 August.

The central committee of the Socialist Workers Party wrote last week to the Communist Party inviting them to join us in calling on the members of our two parties to work together to bring coachloads of supporters to the demonstration and to stop the Nazi Front.



ABOVE: The demonstration in support of the Lewisham 21 last Saturday.

LEFT: The meeting afterwards votes unanimous support for the anti-Nazi march on 13 August.



## STOP THE NAZI FRONT Demonstrate Saturday 13 August; Assemble 1pm, Clifton Rise (near New Cross Station)

Called by August 13 Organising Committee, supported by Lewisham 21 Defence Committee, SWP, Right to Work Campaign and individual members of the Labour Party and Communist Party.

All SWP branches and members in London, Midlands and Home Counties to support

## Minister tries to change Race Act

by LINDSEY GERMAN

THE LAW meant to end racial discrimination is now to be altered to encourage it.

That is the meaning of a decision by Shirley Williams, the Education Secretary, to alter the new Race Relations Act so that its provisions exclude overseas students.

She is to issue a circular next month to stop more than 80,000 overseas students receiving new rights under the 1976 Act.

As it stands, the Act makes

through higher fees, quota restrictions and more expensive residences. That is, it makes government policy of discrimination against overseas students illegal.

And when that happens—the government simply changes the law. So much for the British legal system.

Fortunately, many overseas students have seen through the legal sham, which is why they took direct action against the fees increases last term. But the battle needs to be kept up.



## EAGER BEAVERS

### THE COMPANIES THAT LOVE THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

IT IS pretty revolting sight when someone who owes everything he has to the labour movement runs off to help the bosses.

That is what Joe Gormley, the miners union leader, is doing. He is becoming industrial relations adviser to a Canadian outfit called Vancouver Wharfs.

How much Gormley is being paid is a closely guarded secret, but if the wages of his colleagues are anything to go by it is more than £135 a week—which is what he is trying to discourage the miners from asking for.

But Gormley could not have chosen better company.

Vancouver Wharfs are owned by a British firm, Williams Hudson, and this company is controlled—through a Bermuda tax-haven company—by millionaire David Rowland.

Rowland started off his business life as a property dealer. According to the Daily Express, he used to deal with some of the people on the 'shadowy fringe of the property world.'

One such shadowy figure young David dealt with was the notorious slum landlord Peter Rachmann.

#### Tax free

By the early 1970s Rowland had made himself £2½ million from property dealing—paid tax free into his Bermuda company. With this money he started dealing in companies—and the jobs and security of those who worked in them.

Rowland was no slouch when it came to manipulating company law and the City of London's rulebook to his own advantage. At least two of the City's takeover rules were introduced as a result of Rowland's double-dealing.

But on the whole this has been to Rowland's profit. In the 12 months to the end of March, Williams Hudson made profits of about £3 million—about £25 a week per worker. But there have been some narrow escapes.

One of Rowland's companies—a paper and packaging company, Venersta—went bust.

## The company Gormley keeps

Rowland survived, but many of the people who had jobs in the company did not.

Always one to chase an easy profit, Rowland ordered four ships from Cammell Laird at the height of the shipping boom. When they were ready for delivery, Williams Hudson were in no position to pay. Many jobs of Cammell Laird workers hung in the balance until Cammell Laird found the money to buy the ships themselves.

Rowland, a past master at asset-stripping, once bought a 25 per cent share stake in the Vickers engineering group. The thought of such a spy getting control of one of Britain's biggest defence firms horrified the government.

And if Rowland had used his stake to help the company be broken up by an asset-stripper, the Vickers workers' jobs would have been at risk.

In the end, Rowland was forced to sell his shares at a £3 million loss.

All this, presumably, Joe Gormley knows, though how he ever met David Rowland is something of a mystery. For tax reasons Rowland spends most of his time in Paris or Bermuda.

So far as is known, the NIM have never held their annual conference in either.

**SEYMOUR PROPHET**

The bug in the boardroom

# ROCKING FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK!



FIVE HUNDRED young people crowded into a joint Rock Against Racism and Right to Work Campaign concert at Ealing Technical College last Saturday.

In one local school the concert was supported by the school assembly—teachers and students sold tickets throughout the school. Local teachers who support the Rank and File Teacher paper sold tickets in dozens of schools.

As a result over £200 was collected at the concert to support the Right to Work march to the Blackpool TUC in September. Many young unemployed, particularly school-leavers, signed up there and then to join the march.

One punk rocker with a swastika painted on his shoulder was warned: 'We don't want any of that here. This is Rock Against Racism.' For the remainder of the night he went around the hall trying to hide the swastika.

The groups included the Prisoners Frumentry, Decorators, and Misty. The atmosphere throughout the night was fantastic. Every area should follow this example.

In the past week the Right to Work Campaign has received the names of 165 more unemployed who want to join the march to the Blackpool TUC in September. There are now nearly 350 marchers.

The £10,000 fund launched by the organisers of the march is growing. £2,005 has been collected to date.

Particular thanks this week to some of the factory and office collections that have been held. To workers at Thames Board Mills, Gravesend, for £7.20 collected, to the Cambridge NUR members who collected £3, to a London Inland Revenue Staff Federation member for £8.20 collected, to the Lancaster University School of English for £10.20, and for £28 collected at Meccano in Liverpool.

Every supporter of the campaign should take a collection sheet round their section or office, and get their shop stewards committee to take a collection to sponsor one or more marchers.

The Right to Work Campaign will send collection sheets to any shop stewards committee or trade unionist who asks.

Several local Right to Work Committees have been out on the streets collecting money. At a street meeting in Bootle last Saturday, £6.25 was collected and two more unemployed came forward to join the march.

On Saturday 9 August the campaign will be organising a day of street meetings in towns around the country. Every effort must be made to get the arguments for the march into every shopping centre and workplace.

Every penny collected means raising the argument for action over wages and jobs. Every penny collected means the jobless march to Blackpool will be a success.

ANOTHER 201 people joined the Socialist Workers Party last month, bringing the total new members this year to 1256.

New members in June included 27 unemployed, 17 hospital workers, 11 AUEW members, ten TGWU, five building workers and five GMWU, as well as 60 students.

New branches were set up in Beccles, Evesham, Bury St Edmunds, Watford, Ely and Saffron Walden.

## YES, JOINT ACTION NOW

*The central committee of the Socialist Workers Party, meeting last week, repeated its call for united action of the Left.*

THE BRANCHES and members of our party must step up their efforts to get united action with branches and members of the Communist Party.

Despite the crisis in that party, and the split away of some hundreds of its members, it still remains an important force on the British left.

This was shown, for instance, at the recent mass picket at Grunwicks. There can be no doubt that the Communist Party and its

paper the Morning Star, were partly responsible for the large numbers that attended that picket.

Many of the individual activists of the Communist Party can play a key role in the rising tide of struggle against the Social Contract. They can also be a considerable force in the fight to drive the Nazi Front off the streets.

#### Tradition

But they can only play this role if a conscious effort is made to draw them into joint action. An effort to do this can also influence many individual left-wing Labour Party members and trade unionists who have traditionally looked

to the CP for leadership.

The splits and the crisis within the Communist Party make it all the more necessary to do this. The Socialist Workers Party is gaining many new members—but we are not growing nearly as quickly as the Communist Party is declining in membership.

There is danger that the splits and rows inside the Communist Party will cause many good militants to drop right out of political involvement.

That makes it doubly imperative that our party goes out of its way to find ways of involving them in joint action, while recognising that they will continue to have important political differences with us on many questions.

#### Approach

The key to drawing these people into joint work is an approach for united action to the local districts and branches of the Communist Party. Many of these are weak and lead a shadowy existence—but a joint call for action with our own branches and districts can still mobilise into activity much greater numbers that could be mobilised by our party alone.

Every branch and district of the Socialist Workers Party should now approach the local Communist Party and suggest:

1. A joint effort to get the largest possible turn out for the next Grunwicks mass picket on Monday 8 August making sure that every local trade union organisation and factory sends numbers to the picket.

2. A joint effort to get the largest possible numbers from the Midlands and South of England to the anti-Nazi demonstration in Lewisham on Saturday 13 August. The local SWP should suggest to the local CP that we jointly organise coaches, and then campaign jointly within the local labour movement to fill them.

## WHERE WE STAND

### INDEPENDENT WORKING CLASS ACTION

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

### REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

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

### THERE IS NO

### PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

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

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

delegates and a workers' militia.

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

### INTERNATIONALISM

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

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

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

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

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

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

The experience of Russia

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Rank and File DIARY

LEAMINGTON Right to Work Campaign founding meeting. They are not going to get away with chucking two million of us on the scrapheap! Join the Right to Work March! Wednesday 17 August, 7.30pm, Stoneleigh Arms, Clemens Street Speakers: Local marchers and an organiser of the last RTW march

DEFEND DIRECT WORKS! Mass National Delegate Conference of local authority workers to build a national campaign against attacks on Direct Works and against the cuts. Called by Manchester, Liverpool and Sandwell (Birmingham) Direct Works Saturday 20 August, 1pm-5pm, Houldsworth Hall, Deansgate, Manchester. Credentials (25p) from J. Kelly, 17 Findon Road, Manchester 23.

HOSPITAL WORKER No 9: Will readers please send in copy for the next edition by 1 August. Money for No 8 should be sent at once to Hospital Worker, 19 Redpost Hill, London SE24 (phone 01-733-8443).

DEFEND THE ANTI-JUBILEE ELEVEN! Public meeting with Speakers from Right to Work Committee, Trades Council, Lewisham 21, and squatters' group. Friday 29 July, 8pm, Brixton Tate Library, London SW2 (opposite Brixton Town Hall). Organised by South West London Right to Work Committee.

BUILDING WORKER July/August issue now out. 5p a copy (plus 7p postage) from Rank and File Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

SUPPORT THE RIGHT TO WORK MARCH! Stickers now available, 20p a sheet of 12. Ideal for street and pub collections for the Right to Work March fund. Order from Right to Work Campaign, Rank and File Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

COLLECTION SHEETS to raise support for the Right to Work March where you work. Available from the Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

SOUTHEND Rock Against Racism/Right to Work Concert, with Generation X and Diamond Jack Band. Wednesday 10 August, 7.30pm, Queens Hotel, Westcliffe (next to station). Bar. Tickets 80p (unemployed and claimants 50p—bring book/dole card).

WARWICK ANTI-EVICTION PICKET: Friday 29 July, 10am, Crown Court, Warwick (Post Office Chambers, Old Square) Stop the eviction of eight families, some for 'overcrowding' whom the council refuse to rehouse! Called by Leamington Socialist Workers Party and the Leamington Housing Association/Tenants Association.

# Identikit strike

**BATTLE AT  
DESOUTTERS**

**NEEDS**

**MASS**

**SUPPORT**

AN IDENTIKIT strike to Grunwicks is being fought by the workers at Desoutters in North West London—except that they've received little publicity.

They are on strike for recognition of their union, the Engineering Workers

It is a bitter strike. Convenor Fred Hopper and deputy convenor Jim Black were assaulted last Friday night in a pub near the factory. A passing bus stopped and the black driver jumped out to the defence of the two under attack. Both were badly bruised and shaken.

Most of these workers have come from hundreds of miles, in some cases thousands of miles, to look for a better life

At Desoutters they found work. But they also found their dignity was abused by a management that deliberately exploited the fact that they were from such different backgrounds—from Wales, Pakistan, Ireland, West Indies.

Eleven weeks ago the workers finally united and struck. Ironically financial support for them has been held up by the Cricklewood postal boycott in support of the Grunwick workers.

This will certainly not undermine their



Two workers who walked out of Desoutters last week to join the strikers being welcomed at the picket line by Sultan Khan Bangash (centre) and other strikers.

determination to win, but it makes it all the more important that the trade union movement respond to their appeal, sending donations to the strike fund's new address.

□ **Treasurer, Barry Moroney, c/o Jim Black, 26 Springfield Mount, London NW9.**

□ **Support the mass picket of Desoutters: Thursday 4 August, 6.30am, Edgware Road, Colindale, London NW9 (Colindale tube.)**

□ **There are Desoutters air tools in use in most engineering works. Refuse to work with them. BLACK DESOUTTERS AIR TOOLS.**



Wayne Jones

**GENERAL MOTORS LTD.  
HENDON  
UNION MEMBERS  
SUPPORTING THE  
DESOUTTER  
STRIKERS FOR  
UNION RECOGNITION**



Helen Mozumber (right) with workers from the nearby General Motors plant who are turning out during work hours twice a week to support the picket line.

**A factory  
run by  
dictators**

**SULTAN KHAN BANGASH** is from the North West Frontier, in Pakistan. He's been in Britain for ten years.

'I've always liked unions. The rich suck our blood. I've always been a revolutionary type of man. The rich rob us. It's all one way with them.

I've always had these ideas. When I was a child of seven I used to go with my uncle who was a leader in the movement to kick out the British. He'd been in jail for 20 years.

I used to go round the villages with him. He brought thousands of people together.

Within months he was dead. The British soldiers caught him.

They told him to apologise in public and announce that he didn't want independence. He refused. So they beat him with leather straps.

**Hate**

They told him again to apologise. But he screamed louder and louder that he wanted independence.

They beat him to death. He wouldn't give in.

I remember my teacher at school saying that if you kill an English soldier you'll go to heaven. I think you understand why.

I was the first Asian to join the union in this factory. Desoutters know this. They really hate me.

The factory is a dictatorship. They bring ideas of revolt to our minds. They swear and curse coloured people.

I complained about this as long as eight years ago. We have to explain to that management that we are human beings.

The works manager is the worst. He would sack at a moment's notice. If you ever argued, that was it. Out.

I want to tell British workers that they must start fighting back. But my knowledge of the language isn't good enough. I cannot stand the sight of people suffering.

**I didn't know anything  
about trade unions . . .  
Desoutters changed that**

**PAT LEONARD** is a 20-year-old Irish girl from Galway. She's been working in Desoutters as a machine operator for nine months.

There's no work in Galway. All the girls I knew at school who stayed got married because there was nothing else to do! All their husbands are on the dole!

There is really only casual work.

I didn't know anything about trade unions before I came here.

But Desoutters changed all that. After I'd been there a while they started making me work faster. I kicked up a stink.

The foreman came down and said the work was easy. So I said: OK, you do it. But he wouldn't. He called the timekeeper instead!

I'd had enough. I joined the union. Within a month we were on strike.

The strike started when another Irish girl was pushed around.

This girl had been given a job to do on a machine. The older English woman she'd replaced wanted it back. She came up and pushed the girl aside.

This woman turned out to be one of the biggest scabs after the strike started.

The girl started crying. She went to the union representative and complained. The management refused to recognise him.

So we all walked out. That's it, sweet and to the point and no messing.

The foreman had given that

girl the job in the first place. But that was less important to the firm than having to deal with the union.

It's a terrible firm. Who do they think they are? Every other firm in the area has a union. So why not this one?

Two Thursdays ago the management organised the scabs to come and shout at us. If I could have got at them I would have lamped them then and there. They're going to gain from us winning the union but they aren't having to fight.

It's not money that's at stake. It's our rights. That's what we're after—our rights.

**Foreman  
laughed at  
my burns**

**HELEN MOZUMBER** has been ten years in England. She came from Calcutta in India.

'There's favouritism in this factory. Rotten favouritism. That's why we need the union. I know people who do the same job as me and yet they get more money. It's because of my colour.

'Last year I had a job where I had to press a winding machine with my right hand. A hole began to develop at the base of my thumb. It got worse and worse because I had to do the job every day.

I was in terrible pain. Before I went to bed I used to have to rub my arm for half an hour so that the blood would



Pat Leonard and Sultan Khan Bangash check the picket rota

go down to my hand. Finally I had an operation.

When I came back they started to find harder work for me to do. I was told if I didn't like it here then I should look for work elsewhere.

The new job they gave me was worse still. I was on a machine that wasn't guarded properly. Sparks jumped out of the machine and burnt my face and chest.

I was the only coloured girl on this section—and I was the only one getting burnt like that.

The foreman laughed when I showed him my burns.

They don't care that the machines aren't serviced properly. They save money by risking our safety.

I was getting more and more fed up. Then the strike started. Thank goodness it did. It's just what we need.

We need really to shake these foremen and chargehands once and for all. I

notice that in this country these people favour their own people first. They are against us.

Our strike will break this injustice.

**Militancy  
from the  
Rhondda**

**WAYNE JONES** has been in London ten years. He's from Rhondda Valley in South Wales

I came up to join my parents. My dad quit the steelworks in the Rhondda because the work was getting too hard for him. He was working beneath the furnaces and it was just too hot.

When I left school I got a job in a little engineering factory earning £5.20. Yes, you heard correctly. This was

**MASS PICKET OF DESOUTTERS: Thursday 4 August, 6.30am, Edgware Road, London NW9 (Colindale tube).**

# The great oil myth

TALKING ABOUT  
SOCIALISM  
Peter Marsden

North Sea oil is going to 'save' Britain. Or is it?

**WILL** North Sea oil save Britain?

The Labour government is throwing more and more on the gamble of the North Sea, as its other policies for 'saving the economy' turn out losers.

Those oil revenues, they say, are going to do wonders for our balance of payments, strengthening the pound, drawing investment into Britain, and 'putting Britain back on the map.'

Massive figures are bandied about. North Sea oil will bring £5.4 billion by 1980 they say, and £16 billion by 1985.

But how much of it is real, and how much is cardboard scenery?

Those massive figures of £5.4 billion and £16 billion are projections: if so-and-so happens and if so-and-so

doesn't happen, then we'll hit the North Sea jackpot. And those IFs are pretty big.

**IF no 1:** They assume that the world price of oil isn't going to fall.

But the recent massive rises in oil prices have set off a wave of new oil exploration and new reserves are being discovered each year. A few months ago Mexico, for example, announced that exploration had shown that its oil reserves, until then set at 11 billion barrels, were in fact 60 billion barrels.

## Tapped

That gives Mexico more oil than Alaska, where the North Slope oil fields have just been tapped by a thousand-mile pipeline, bringing ever-increasing quantities of oil on to the

world market.

Not only is this going to tend more and more to bring the price down, but oil found almost anywhere else in the world is likely to be cheaper than the North Sea. Each well in the North Sea, whether it strikes oil or not, costs £3 million. A well in Saudi Arabia costs a mere £70,000.

**IF no 2:** The North Sea oil industry now buys 50 per cent of the equipment it needs in Britain. The £16 billion figure assumes that this will rise to 70 per cent.

But look what happened to North Sea Gas. The pipeline needed there couldn't be provided by British Steel and had to be imported, at a cost of £2 billion. With industry in its crisis-ridden state, the same could easily happen to oil, taking a big bite out of

the projected £16 billion.

**IF no 3:** The oil that comes out of the North Sea doesn't automatically flow into the government's pockets. That £16 billion revenue depends on the deal the government makes with the oil companies.

## Bit by bit

Back in 1974 Labour said it was going to take 51 per cent ownership of the whole North Sea oil industry.

The oil companies soon put paid to that, threatening to pull out and leave the politicians to drill the wells themselves. Bit by bit, Labour agreed to dismantle its plans—but left up the cardboard facade, the British National Oil Corporation.

On 6 January this year the government announced, amid a fanfare of trumpets, that it had negotiated 51 per cent control of North Sea oil. Ignoring the trumpets, the Financial Times headlined the story: **SHELL AND ESSO WIN RIGHT TO CONTROL NORTH SEA SALES.**

It told its readers: 'Under the new agreement, Shell and Esso will use all the oil they produce in the North Sea, although one piece of paper will be filed away saying that what comes out of the pipeline has been bought by the British National Oil Corporation at current market prices, while another will be put in a file to record that it has within the same instant been sold back.'

## Stake

'Happily,' says the Financial Times, 'this is a long way from the original proposal that the government should buy a 51 per cent stake in the fields in the North Sea...'

As matters stand, that control will now at the very most cover a third of the expected output of the North Sea, and then only if anticipated royalty payments are taken in oil, rather than cash.

## Ropey

Bonanza? The assumptions behind that £16 billion are pretty ropey.

But even if the £16 billion does come, the total oil revenue up to 1985 is already mortgaged for payment of government debts, loans negotiated with the IMF and so on.

The North Sea is in hock already.

But we've seen it all before, haven't we? Before the making of The Great Oil Bonanza, didn't they use the same cardboard scenery for an earlier epic, 'North Sea Gas Bonanza?'

Last year North Sea Gas provided 90 per cent of the gas used in Britain, helping the balance of payments to the tune of £2.3 billion. Did that make things any better for the 1½ million workers on the dole, or all of us faced with soaring prices and falling wages?

North Sea oil isn't likely to be any different.

# CIA prison drugs tests exposed

THE WESTERN politicians, always ready to make eloquent speeches about human rights when the subject of torture in Russian prisons arises, have a golden opportunity to air their vocal chords again this week.

Documents made public on Thursday give details of how prisoners in America were used as guinea pigs by the CIA in a secret programme of drugs tests, without knowing what was being done to them.

John Marks, a former Government intelligence analyst, got the documents in dribs and drabs after taking action against the CIA under the Freedom of Information Act, and has given them to reporters.

They reveal sickening details of experiments

## 'Ultimate horror' exit

THE FACT that Brigadier Jan Visser, boss of the butchers of Soweto, cut short his visit to London recently, is described by the Daily Telegraph as the 'ultimate horror'.

This is because, they say, Mr Visser, chief of Soweto's Gestapo police force, was driven out by anti-apartheid demonstrators who invaded his hotel room.

He probably wasn't too worried about leaving. He had already seen Patrick Weichmann, chief security officer at the Diamond Trading Company in the City.

Mr. Weichmann served on the executive committee of Interpol and has high-level contacts in Scotland Yard.

The Price Commission's latest survey of vegetable prices shows that the profit on potatoes in May was 60p in the £, twice what it was last year.

On carrots, cabbages, swedes and turnips, it's a mere 50p.

THE MAGIC Circle has been allowed to keep an all-male membership.

An industrial tribunal has ruled that Mrs. Morine Vickers could be excluded despite her claim that it contravened the Sex Discrimination Act.

The one woman on the tribunal agreed with her, but the two men did not.

carried out under the programme—code names MK Ultra and MK Delta—from 1949 to 1963.

One man, Dr. Frank Olsen, was given LSD in 1953 without knowing it and soon after committed suicide.

A memo from the director of the CIA from the inspector general written in 1963 described the programme as 'the research and development of chemical, biological, and radiological materials capable of employment in

clandestine operations to control human behaviour.'

Mr Marks told reporters: 'Drugs were part of it, but so were other techniques such as electric shock, radiation, ultrasonics, psychiatry, psychosurgery... all of which were used to manipulate people's minds.'

## Confident

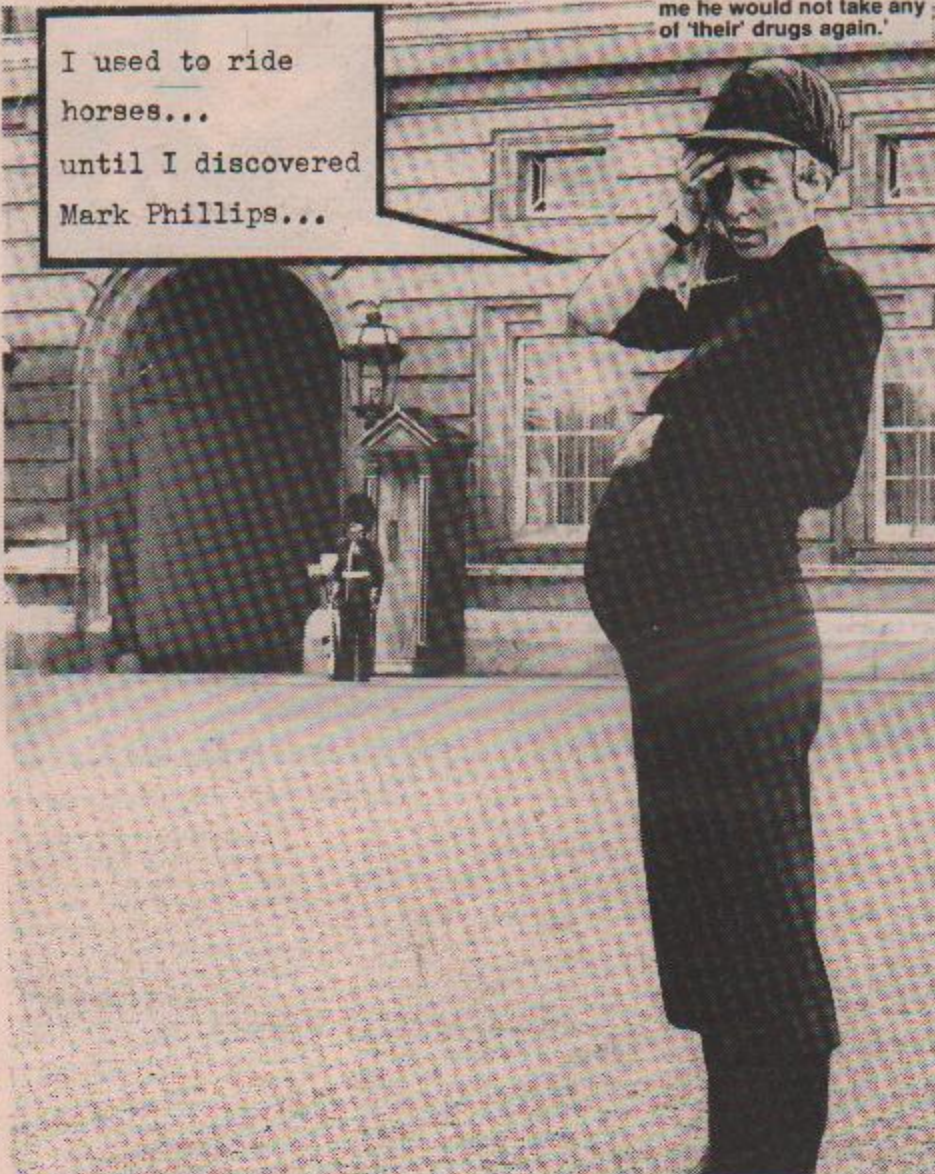
PROP, the organisation for prisoners' rights in Britain, has been campaigning to bring to light the use of

drugs on prisoners in British jails.

A recent edition of their newspaper has this description of a prisoner at Gartree in Liverpool.

'A year ago he was one of the most confident guys I have ever met in this prison. I spoke to him today on the exercise yard and he is an entirely different guy.'

'His speech lacks any emphasis, and is almost incoherent. His face is dull and almost expressionless. His hands shake badly. He promised me he would not take any of their drugs again.'



Photomontage: Bob Long

## Legal rights or Catch 22?

KLAUS Croissant, lawyer for the German Baader-Meinhof group, is seeking political asylum in France following charges against him of 'supporting a terrorist conspiracy'.

Croissant is not the first of their lawyers to be charged after leading a political defence campaign.

The anarchist group have

been responsible for a number of political bombings and shootings, including state prosecutor Buback. Two people have been charged with the murder.

Following the shooting, the Gottingen University student union paper printed an anonymous article arguing that although political assassination was not a

correct weapon, Baback's death was no tragedy.

Since then Gottingen has been swamped with police who made scores of arrests and beat up student demonstrators.

The publishers of the article have been charged with 'cheapening a criminal act', as have 12 professors and others who signed the article in support.



NICOLA Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti have finally been cleared of murder by the Governor of Massachusetts—fifty years after they were executed.

They were convicted of killing a factory paymaster and a guard and executed on August 23 1927.

Their names have finally been cleared and a proclamation has been signed by Governor Michael Dukakis who says:

'The trial and the appeals process which led to their conviction was permeated by prejudice against foreigners and hostility towards unorthodox political views.'

A MISPRINT in last Wednesday's Guardian was speedily corrected the following morning.

The apology read: 'In yesterday's edition of the Guardian, the crucial word *not* was accidentally dropped from a sentence which said that the TUC Economic Committee had decided that 'unions should frame their pay claims on the basis of catching up, in money terms, ground lost since 1975 or indeed earlier.'

The word *not* should have appeared before the word *frame*.'

## Who do you think you're kidding Mr Irving?

WHAT possible reason could anyone have for trying to prove that Adolf Hitler knew nothing about the murder of six million Jews in concentration camps in Nazi Germany?

This is what author David Irving tried to do in a book called Hitler's War. His supposed evidence was torn to shreds by respectable academic historians across the country.

The Sunday Times published a long article wrecking every point of evidence Irving had claimed to have discovered. Much of his 'proof' turned out to be simple distortion of what people had really said.

The general feeling in most newspapers was that Irving had carried out an unpleasant and disgusting trick to gain lots of publicity

for his book. The truth however is rather different.

Irving in 1959 was a fascist and a supporter of the leader of the British fascist movement, Oswald Mosley. Mosley was imprisoned during the war for his support of Hitler.

## Reeked

In the 1930s he led anti Jewish fascist marches through the East End of London. His speeches reeked of anti-Semitism.

In 1959 Irving told the Daily Mail, 'I belong to no political party. But you can call me a mild fascist if you like. I have just come back from Madrid. I had a fine time. I returned through Germany and visited Hitler's eyrie at Berchtesgarden. I regard it as a shrine.'

## Our 'neutral' judges.

NOTTINGHAM Judge John Harris was full of sympathy for postal worker Norma Hall when he was told that she might lose her job as a result of stealing clothes worth £12.98 from Marks and Spencers.

Did the judge believe that being thrown on the dole queue was too harsh a sentence for such a petty 'crime'? Was he filled with compassion for a woman who probably didn't earn enough to buy the skirt and blouse that took her fancy in a store owned by millionaires?

Oh no. Judge Harris realised the fact that she was a postal worker gave him a wonderful opportunity to indulge in a little union bashing.

'If the Cricklewood postal workers can behave as they do and still keep their jobs, I don't see why she should be dismissed,' he said.

**Socialist Worker**

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# EGYPT'S WAR WILL NOT SAVE SADAT

**IN BRIEF:**  
Defeat  
in Ceylon

**WHEN workers took to the streets of Cairo last January, they issued a warning to President Sadat.**

Sooner or later he could expect war. War waged by the millions of Egyptians poor, the 40 million who live on the very edge of starvation.

Sadat has taken heed of the warning. Last weekend he unleashed a war of his own to distract attention from the growing discontent at home. His troops bombed airbases and villages across the border in

by PHIL MARFLEET

**Libya.**  
President Gaddafi of Libya had made Sadat's task easier. With his hysterical attacks on Sadat as the traitor, who sold out Islam, the 'Arab revolution', Gaddafi built up an anti-Egyptian mood, especially within the army, which easily led to the border incidents which began the fighting.

**Mouthed**

Sadat has used almost similar tactics against the Libyans, but it is he who has had the most to gain from the conflict. He too has mouthed ludicrous attacks against Egypt's neighbours, blaming the massive movements of January on 'Libyan agitators'.

Sadat has remained precariously in power. But throughout he has been watched closely by the huge Egyptian army. Ill at ease with its defensive role, jealous of its present privileges and its old position under former President Nasser, undecided as to political future, the army has waited.

Soldiers ordered to fire on demonstrators in January refused. Since then there have been many rumours of discontent—would the army produce a new crop of 'Free Officers' like those under Nasser who deposed King Farouk 25 years ago?

Sadat could wait no longer. With the election of the right-wing Begin in Israel, and any settlement in the occupied territories more remote, his sell-out of the Palestinians looked too complete. The time for his face-saving war had come.

Sadat hopes for a tidy, limited

action 'to teach Gaddafi a lesson', and with luck to encourage opposition in Libya to move against him—for Gaddafi's vicious and fanatical regime has made many enemies, as recent executions of students and soldiers testify.

Any prolonged fighting will result

in overwhelming victory for the vast Egyptian forces. But for the poverty-stricken millions of the Middle East the whole incident means nothing.

Gaddafi will go on terrorising Libya with his brand of pure Islamic law.

Sadat will continue his rearguard action to hang on to power and please his American patrons.

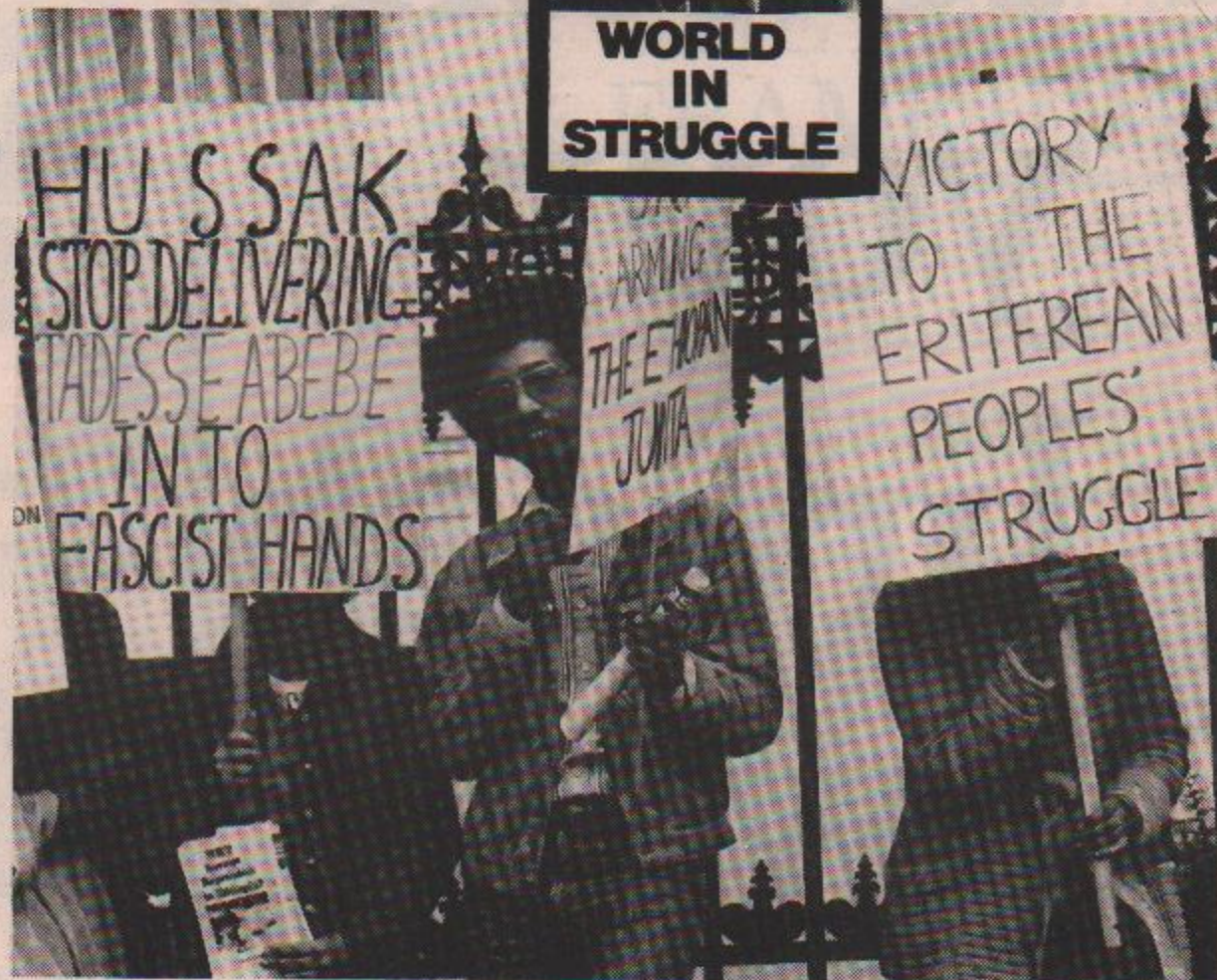
**Threat of war**

Such war games can only buy limited time. Both leaders' future is in the balance—but it is in Egypt that the fate of these countries will be determined. Not in Sadat's palace, but in the streets and factories of Cairo and Alexandria.

Egyptian workers' threats of war will be renewed. Sadat will not survive. Gaddafi will be a mere spectator.



**WORLD IN STRUGGLE**



A protest in London last weekend for Tadesse Abebe, an Ethiopian being deported from Czechoslovakia for his left-wing views. He faces execution if sent back to Ethiopia.

Picture: Nedir Thawari

## Ethiopia: The superpower vultures wait

THE DERG, the military dictatorship in Ethiopia, is in desperate trouble. It is fighting a desperate civil war against national liberation forces in Eritrea and against the workers in Addis Ababa, led by the left-wing EPRP.

And now a full blown war is developing in the south-eastern part of the country, against neighbouring Somalia, which is laying claim to vast chunks of territory.

Until a few months ago the Derg was backed by the Americans and its troops trained by the CIA. But the US seems to have decided that the Derg cannot beat all its enemies and used the excuse of 'human rights' to stop its arms supplies.

The Western press, which

**Hostile**

used to be uniformly hostile to the Eritrean struggle—which has a long history of links with the Palestinian struggle against Israel—has now started printing stories favourable to the Eritreans.

Meanwhile, the Russians and Cubans, who used to help the Eritreans, have now thrown their full weight behind attempts to crush that struggle. They are behaving in exactly the same cynical

way the Americans did in Vietnam.

The Derg has attempted to give itself a new self-proclaimed 'Marxist image'. But this sounds hollow to Ethiopian workers after the May Day murders.

**Fighting**

Even the pro-Moscow political party set up to back the Derg, the all-Ethiopian Socialist Movement, Me'isne, has found complete support for the Derg difficult. There has been fighting between it and Derg followers on the streets of Addis Ababa. The Russians have chosen to back the Derg in this conflict.

The Americans hope they will benefit from the disgusting behaviour of the Russians in the same way that the Russians benefited from the barbarous role of the Americans in Vietnam.

The main opposition to the Derg remains the left-wing opposition, which is opposed to the Americans as it is to the Russians.

**Armed front**

In Eritrea this means the two main liberation movements, the ELF and the EPLF. Among Ethiopians it means worker-based EPRP and its armed front, the

**EPRP.**

But waiting in the wings are two organisations with a pro-Western stance—the small Eritrean ELF/PLF and the shadowy, right wing, Ethiopian Democratic Union.

No doubt the Americans hope to pick up the pieces should the Derg succeed in smashing the left.

But they're likely to be

disappointed. Although Ethiopia is one of the most backward countries in the world, its working class has shown great fighting capacity and can beat any carve-up by the Russians or Americans.

□ The International Department of the Socialist Workers Party can provide speakers, (Ethiopian and British) on Ethiopia (phone 01-739 1878).

□ More information is available on Ethiopia from the Revolutionary Ethiopian Solidarity Committee, 101-103 Gower Street, London, WC1. Their monthly publication, Wereqsa, is available for 15p a copy or £1.50 a year.



Colonel Mengistu, the butcher who runs the Derg. Since the May Day Massacre of workers in Addis Ababa, his power is precarious even among the ranks of his own soldiers.



Part of the Derg's 300,000-strong 'peasant army', being trained with Russian and Israeli help.

## Apologists for the Derg

ONE unfortunate feature of the Ethiopian crisis is the way the British Communist Party has danced to the Russian tune.

A year ago it was prepared to demonstrate with the left in support of the Eritrean movement and the EPRP. Now the Morning Star has been publishing articles by a

John Gritten which apologise for the Derg's massacres.

It is to be hoped that members of that party will insist on sticking to internationalist, socialist principles instead of apologising for an anti-working class dictatorship just because it gets Russian support.



**LENIN: BUILDING THE PARTY**

Three excerpts from the first volume of Tony Cliff's biography of Lenin published for the first time in farsi (Iranian). They deal with the early period of the struggle in Russia, the internal life of the Bolshevik party, 40p (inc. postage) or 30p each for orders of ten or more from SWP, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Cheques/bankers' orders payable to SWP International Fund.

## Scandal in Greece

FIVE of the judges who presided over court marshals in the time of the Greek junta have just been promoted. They served the dictators by sentencing its opponents to long terms of imprisonment.

Now the right-wing, 'democratic' government of Karamanlis is allowing them to gather more power into their hands. No doubt it expects them to hand out decisions against any future government that might have a vaguely left colour.

## Apartheid chief flees

ANTI-APARTHEID demonstrators trapped Brigadier Jan Visser, of the South African police, in his London hotel room for several hours last week.

Visser is chief of police for Soweto. On 16 June last year he personally gave the order for police to fire on unarmed black student demonstrators. Visser actually fired the first shot himself.

The result was a death toll of more than 600.

Visser's presence in Britain shows the hypocrisy of the Labour government. Leaders of the black youth movement in Soweto were nearly deported when they arrived in Britain fleeing from Visser last year. Visser had put a price of £500 on the head of one.

Young Zimbabwean Asians are regularly deported from Britain to Rhodesia, where they are forced to serve in the white racist army. Socialists such as Phil Agee are driven out on the CIA's say-so.

But a butcher like Visser can move freely in and out of the country.

# KILLER DUST CHOKES A MOTORWAY - AND THE PRESS TURN A BLIND EYE

UNLESS you live in Birmingham, you won't have seen these pictures.

They appeared only in the Birmingham Post and Birmingham Mail. Yet they spell danger to tens of thousands of people all over the country, now and in the future.

The lorry in the pictures was carrying asbestos in plastic sacks from Manchester docks to the main factory of Cape Asbestos in Uxbridge on 11 July.

On the M6 at Great Barr, Birmingham, it had a flat tyre. The driver went to phone for help.



While he was away, the tyre burst into flames and before long the entire lorry was a smoking, steaming mass.

Asbestos is a fire-resister. The big companies which make money out of it are always boasting that it 'saves granny's life' by keeping out the fire.

But the fire in the lorry, spreading in the plastic and the asbestos quickly, caused a smoking furnace whose lethal contents were blown all over the motorway, and all over the surrounding houses.

The M6 through Birmingham is notorious for the closeness of mass working class housing.

Police roamed the motorway with loudhailers warning people to shut their doors and windows. Traffic was stopped on all six motorway lanes, and drivers were told to close their windows.



Firemen had no idea how to deal with burning asbestos. They had to wait two hours before a team of 'troubleshooters' arrived from Cape Asbestos.

These men, wearing protective clothing, masks and oxygen equipment, sprayed the fire and beat it with sticks for 12 hours before they were satisfied that the danger was passed.

**This stuff will be drifting around the city. It will be carried thousands of miles on people's cars and on lorries. And wherever it is breathed in, it could kill.**

—PAT KINNERSLY, expert on asbestos

# Enough to take your breath away

Then the remains of the asbestos were dumped in special steel containers and taken to a dump in Nuneaton.

In those 12 hours, asbestos poured onto the passing traffic and into the surrounding houses.

Every effort was made to play down the incident. A fire brigade spokesman produced the Quote of the Year:

*'There is no danger to the public as long as the asbestos dust is not breathed in.'*

The Press Association, living up to its reputation of withholding important news

from the public, refused to 'wire' the story to the Press. It did not appear in a single national newspaper, nor on television.

Pat Kinnersly, author of Hazards of Work and an expert on asbestos, told Socialist Worker:

'There is a definite chance as a result of this incident that someone will develop cancer in ten, 20 or 30 years' time.

This stuff will be drifting around the city. It will be carried thousands of miles on people's cars and on other lorries. And, wherever it is

breathed in, it could kill.

'Of course the stuff should be carried about in steel containers, not in plastic bags. But that's of course much more expensive for Cape Asbestos.'

'In the meantime, it should be blacked at the ports. They can't get the stuff in at London. That should apply to Manchester, too.'



Leave the last word to Cape Asbestos: 'Loads of this type are regularly brought to our factory in this way'.

Exactly. People are regularly put at risk for the sake of the profits of Cape Asbestos. The risks only occur rarely.

And when they do, the shareholders of Cape can expect a decent silence from the free Press and television in which they advertise.



There is no danger to the public . . .



. . . as long as





# GEORGE INCE

By  
GEOFF  
ELLEN

**GEORGE INCE is a dangerous criminal: he once stole £10.**

This appalling record of thuggery made him an automatic suspect for police investigating a £400,000 silver bullion robbery AND the notorious Barn Restaurant murder.

Both crimes took place in Essex in 1972, the robbery in May and the murder in November.

They are linked by a network of police corruption which marked out Ince as its victim and put him behind bars for 15 years.

## STENCH

How high that graft reaches we can only guess. A third inquiry is now about to be launched into the case, and, like those before it, will be carried out by a senior police officer.

Such is the power of Ince's case—and the stench of corruption surrounding it—that even the fraudulent device of allowing the police to investigate themselves failed to stifle it.

Both inquiries were 'highly critical' of the Essex police. Both have been suppressed by the Home Office.

George Ince gave himself up soon after the Barn Murder when he heard the police were making an armed search for him. He vehemently protested his innocence.

His first trial ended in a split jury. His second cleared him of all charges. As the verdict was announced, he turned to the police benches and yelled:

'It's your turn now—for corruption.'

Dragged from the dock, he continued to shout: 'They're corrupt. You took some money.'

## 'GOT'

Ince was bundled, struggling, to the cells. Now he faced his third trial—for the bullion raid.

This time he was found guilty and sentenced to 15 years.

At last the police had 'got' Ince—and at last it was also becoming apparent exactly how they had 'got' him.

The first inquiry into the Essex police, by Commander Howells of Scotland Yard, was never made public.

But in a letter to Ince's MP, Ian Mikardo, it was admitted by Lord Harris, Minister of State for the Home Office, that key Barn murder witnesses had been shown pictures of Ince before picking him out at identification parades.

It was also admitted that



## WHY DID THE POLICE FRAME HIM?

The next time someone tells you 'our police are wonderful', mention the name George Ince. The Essex police framed him, first for murder, then for robbery.

Two official reports on the case were suppressed by the Home Office. Now a third has been ordered.

Meanwhile, the Essex police go unchecked, their line of duty even taking them to Grunwicks, where of course they do a 'wonderful' job.

two police officers, Harris and Gorham, had interfered with the conduct of the parades.

And it emerged later that the same officers organised another identification parade this time for the bullion robbery, at the same time in the same police station.

Eight civilian witnesses, who had given descriptions of the suspect at the time of the robbery, and had compiled photo-fits of him, failed to pick out Ince.

But two police officers, who had seen the suspect for a few seconds at the scene of the crime seven months earlier and who had been unable then to give a description of him, both identified Ince.

Their memories had been jogged by being shown pictures of Ince less than 24 hours before the identification parade.

On their evidence, Ince was sent down. Curiously, the driver of the hijacked bullion lorry was not called to give evidence at the trial, even though the prosecution claimed that Ince had waved a gun in his face.

The intriguing conduct of the Essex police does not end there, however.

Nearly 100 statements taken by them after the robbery found their way into the hands of Ronald Molloy, one of the men later convicted for it. And he was given them seven months before he was arrested.

Among the statements were three containing evidence against Molloy.

Attached was a note advising him on the best way to prepare his defence and naming the main witness against him, a police sergeant who saw him at the wheel of a getaway car.

## HARD MAN

The note, reproduced in the Sunday Times on 22 September, 1974, also gave the sergeant's address and phone number, thus suggesting he might be contacted in an attempt to get him to change his evidence.

But the note added that the sergeant, John Waddington, 'could be a hard man to break regarding identification' and that 'he cannot be bought and there is nothing we can do to remove him.'

This note, and the statements connected with it, was bought by Molloy and other defendants for £6,100 in a deal conducted on an Essex golf course.

He told the second inquiry, headed by Det. Chief Supt Ronald Silts, that the statements were bought from the police via a chain of anonymous middle men.

The Silts report, suppressed by the Home Office but leaked in part to the Free George Ince Campaign, says:

'Of the alleged £6,100 paid for the missing statements, it would be disingenuous now to believe the disappearance was unconnected to the police officer named by...'

The officer is named in the report.

Silts says Ince should be released from prison and

recommends prosecution of certain Essex police officers.

Rather than publish his report, the Home Office are now setting up a third inquiry. Clearly there is more at stake in this desperate cover-up than the careers of one or two senior policemen.

The Metropolitan Police—far more powerful and important to our rulers than the Essex force—has been made to weed out several corrupt coppers at the very top, such as Kenneth Drury, head of the Flying Squad.

So far Essex has seen its top detective, Leonard White, demoted, with classic subtlety, to chief dog-handler with special responsibilities for skin diving.

## SCANDAL

And the Chief Constable, Sir John Nightingale, who is to be sued by Ince, has just announced his intention to retire.

But that apart, little has changed in the upper echelons of the Essex police force. Why?

Suspicious that this is not merely a little local difficulty, but a scandal of corruption spreading much further, are increased by Ince's background.

Like a character straight out of a corny gangster film, he knows too much, both about the leading figures in the East End underworld and about their friends in the police force.

That knowledge has made him a target. He has in the past been shot at twice, had his hands beaten to a pulp with a gun butt, and, on another occasion, had a shotgun blasted down the inside of his trousers. (He still carries 35 pellets in one leg.)

His fiancée, Dolly Grey, was once married to one of the notorious Kray Brothers, the East End's leading gangsters.

## INTEREST

When the Krays were jailed eight years ago, some of the facts came to light about their numerous friends in high places.

Perhaps some of those friends—or people like them both inside and outside the police force—have a vested interest in keeping George Ince quiet.

Perhaps that accounts for why the police were so anxious to put him behind bars and why the Home Office appear so anxious to keep him there.

Perhaps that explains also why the torment of George Ince continues even in prison, where his health has been broken and his spirit weakened by endless persecution.

Dolly Grey says: They tried everything in the book to break George.

'Until it happens to someone who's close to you, you don't believe it could happen in this country.'



... the asbestos dust ...



'... is not breathed in.' —Quote of the year from a fire chief

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# all want socialism.

## But how do we get it?

How do we get to socialism? That was the theme of a debate last week in Walthamstow, East London, between John Webster, local organiser for the Communist Party, and Paul Holborow, local organiser for the Socialist Workers Party. We print extracts from both their speeches. And we invite our readers to send in comments on this crucial argument.



Roger Huddle (Red Wedge Graphics)



particularly the left of the Labour Party.

We recognise that the Labour Party is a federal party of the working class. It is not a single monolithic structure, but it has within it many trends.

It has 5½ million trade unionists affiliated to it. And we see the interests of the left as being the interests of trade unionists—and indeed way beyond that.

We don't seek to replace the Labour Party, but to win

those elements of the left into an alliance with us.

*In our press statement on the programme, it says this: 'Our programme expresses the essence of the dictatorship of the proletariat, namely the winning and exercise of power by the working class and its allies to build a socialist society.'*

This process, as we see it, is one of protracted mass class struggle—winning governmental power, creating a mass movement

which provides us with a basis of beginning to undermine the repressive and coercive aspects of state power.

### Civil war

That is not seen as a peaceful road. But we believe it is one that can be won without civil war.

The kind of alternative that the Socialist Workers Party put forward is no alternative. The general conception is

that capitalism will inevitably collapse, through the internal contradictions that exist within it, and at that point in time the revolutionary party will be there to take over the reins of power and steer the working class to the utopia that they've argued for.

I don't accept that as realistic.

All the time the Socialist Workers Party stress the economic crisis of capitalism, that the conditions are ripe for revolution.

By stressing the internal economic contradictions, the conflicts which will tear the system apart, they limit their view enormously. Lenin spent many years arguing against this view.

He argued that in economic struggles it was crucial to inject political ideas. That if you just fought for better wage deals for workers, they would have to go on fighting until they died.

The economism of the Socialist Workers Party fails

to inject any kind of strategy, any kind of programme that takes the working class forward.

*It tends to overestimate the politics of revolt, the politics of syndicalism, the politics of spontaneity, the politics of disunity.*

### Shock

Socialist Worker is full of shock and horror stories about how awful the capitalist system is. It paints a picture of a glorious alternative that could be, without providing any means whatsoever of getting there.

We've addressed ourselves to that problem. We may be wrong, and we've made many mistakes in the last. But if you

are going to fight it viably you've got to put some kind of alternative.

The SWP seems to be primarily concerned with building a revolutionary vanguard and in any particular struggle the main aim is to win working people to that vanguard instead of carrying that struggle forward.

You don't give any alternatives that the mass can identify with.

By arguing only ideologically for socialism and not by arguing any political alternative that people can support, you are opting out of the real class struggle.

## OUR CUE FROM YOU - 50 YEARS AGO'

PAUL HOLBOROW for

the Socialist Workers Party

that the trade union leaders are going to lead us in an assault on Healey's ten per cent limit.

We put a different point of view forward. We take our example from the early Communist Party in this country back in the 1920s.

We have to build a rank and file movement, not one that is separate from the unions, but within the unions.

The building of a rank and file movement around simple ideas, like the election of officials, officials to be paid the average wage of their members, uncompromising opposition to any form of incomes policy, is a way of uniting the movement that clicks with large numbers of workers.

What about the strategy put forward in the British Road to Socialism towards parliament?

The crucial point is: is it possible to have a strategy depending on the election of a majority to parliament committed to implementing a programme of socialism?

Events show otherwise. Look at the tragic events in Chile. Remember what Allende said. He invited into his cabinet the generals who were going to murder him two weeks later.

### Armed

Because Allende said you could get socialism through the system, he refused to arm the workers. And when the Chilean workers wanted to be armed, the troops went in to disarm them.

Allende further forced through cut backs in real wages. Because he insisted on working within the system, he was forced to attack the

workers.

Those sorts of experience are repeated over and over again. John said that this sort of parliamentary strategy depends on the election of a left Labour government.

Now comrades, we have a Labour government today that was elected, according to The Times, on the basis of the 'most left wing manifesto ever produced.'

But we just have to look at the experience. Massive cuts in living standards, massive welfare cuts, massive attacks on workers. What guarantee can John give that a new 'left wing' Labour government which the British Road talks about, will not behave in the same way?

We in the Socialist Workers Party stand unequivocally on the heritage of Lenin, on Soviet power, workers' council power.

Not because it is a theoretical dictate written about in books, but because the working class has to be able to build its own institutions.

It has to reject the notion that the state is neutral, that it is like a car that you can get into and drive according to whether you are a right-winger or a left-winger. We say the state is an organ of class rule.

*It is based on armed bodies of men—the police, the army, the judges. We say those people are not going to take a change which a left government tries to impose on them without fighting back.*

### Fight-back

They are going to fight back, as history shows us, not by the ballot box, but with force, with arms.

It was the failure to grasp this that meant there were 70,000 workers and trade unionists murdered in Chile in 1973.

How do you win consent, how do you try and get across

our politics in the light of the experience of the working class in the last 25 years or so?

It is not surprising that revolutionary ideas are only coming to the fore now. For 25 years there was no necessity for workers to be revolutionary.

The system delivered whole numbers of benefits—higher wages, better housing, better welfare benefits and so on. It is only now that the system is in crisis that the sort of option is no longer open.

But you cannot be a socialist without having the vision of what workers can achieve.

And people's potential comes through struggle. Lenin said it better than I could. He said 20 years of meetings and lectures are worth nothing compared to one day of action.

And that is the experience of working classes around the world.

That is the experience the Socialist Workers Party tries to get across time and again.

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The Great Raspberry Pickers

Revolt of '74

PEA PICKERS like Stevie Morgan and Jerry Marston (Letters, 16 July) are not the only casual agricultural workers to be used as cheap labour.

In the summer of 1974, I got work as a raspberry picker for Lentrans fruit farms, a few miles north of Inverness.

The pay wasn't enough to keep oneself in food, let alone beer and cigarettes.

One evening, while all the pickers were at a communal camp fire, the question of money was raised. Unanimously, the decision was to voice our complaints.

So, on electing a representative, our complaints were taken to the farmer. Of course, they were not accepted as justified and the farmer refused to up the pay.

As a token gesture of our contempt, we pickers withheld our labour for a day.

We got an increase, but only as a result of some serious organisation to exert pressure on those with the power and to hit them where it hurts, ie, in their pockets.

I suggest to people doing casual farm labour this summer that a trade union would not go amiss. There are local and national agreements on rates of pay for agricultural workers.

□ SW READER, Dorset.

I found out the hard way, Mr Eggs...

WHAT a load of rubbish, Mr Eggs (Letters, last week.)

You seem to be more interested in the technicalities of the law on picketing than with what is actually happening at Grunwicks.

When you've picketed for a year, been messed about and assaulted by management, hoping that the dispute will be resolved through 'official channels' such as ACAS, only to find you might as well not have bothered, the only hope you've got is trade union solidarity and effective picketing.

As for the behaviour of the pickets, I was there on the first morning of the mass picketing and was arrested when I 'obstructed' a police 'wedge'.



Flashback to last week's letter: it claimed the police would protect the strikers as well if the law was threatened.

the main object of which seemed to be to kick as many pickets in the balls as possible.

This was just before any fighting started. When it did start, it was in response to tactics like these.

I suggest you open your eyes, Mr Eggs. Or even better, why not take a walk down to Grunwicks yourself?

□ TONY MCGHEE, N. London

I WAS amazed at SW's report (16 July) on Grunwicks. Bob Light must have had his eyes closed and his ears shut.

Having got up at 3.30am to go on the mass picket, and still having a bump on my head from being kicked around like a football by the police, it was disturbing to see such a misrepresentation of the events.

The pickets joined the demonstration, so letting the scabs' bus through, because the strike committee made a mistake.

It's not good enough to blame the TUC for everything, especially when a rank and file leadership exists.

And where was the

SWP? In those critical hours before the march, there was no organisation, no stewards, no leaflets, nothing.

The left failed to organise—and made it easy for the TUC.

□ A. WELLS, a let-down SW supporter, Norwich.

THE behaviour of those responsible for organising the demonstration and leading it away from Grunwick's was both typical and disgusting.

Socialist Worker (16 July) was not nearly angry or hard enough in ramming this point home. It was not a 'beautiful morning', it was a sickening one.

□ PHILIP NAYLOR, W. Germany.

GOODBYE AND GOOD RIDDANCE, DRURY

THE JAILING for corruption of former Flying Squad chief Kenneth Drury (SW, last week) must have gone down well in Derry.

Readers may remember the murder there in 1969 of Samuel Deyvenny. Eight members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary burst into his home and inflicted injuries from which he later died.

Catholic anger in Northern Ireland led to the setting up of an official inquiry, which cooled matters down and was then never heard of again.

Guess who headed the inquiry? That's right—K. Drury. □ SW READER, Essex.

Letters

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

Socialism starts here

I FULLY share Dave Bunch's view (Letters, last week) on the Wages for Housework Campaign.

Of course all socialists must fight for and look forward to a society where mundane chores and child care are shared.

However, this is where the big but comes in to the argument. Why can't the sharing of housework develop in the homes of socialists now?

The ideal society seems a long way off when a woman is up to her eyes in washing up trying to ignore the grubby cooker or fridge! Empty platitudes are not enough. □ GAIL CARTMAIL, Tottenham.

Rhodesia: An answer

A READER from Bristol asked (Letters, last week) how we answer someone who claims that only the Rhodesian whites can prevent a terrible bloodbath between the three tribes struggling for control of the country.

Of course, the black nationalist movement is divided. But the Smith regime does everything it can to increase these divisions.

It has fostered tribalism to divide and rule. Tribal leaders are paid and appointed by the government to act as its stooges.

Any chief who supports the demands of his people for freedom is sacked.

The struggle of the Zimbabwean people must be supported by the British labour movement.

After all, the same firms who exploit British workers profit from apartheid in Southern Africa. □ ALEX CALLINICOS, North London.

DAVE PEERS' article (9 July) on the Lewisham demonstration was misleading and left out a number of crucial points.

The only reason the march eventually took place was because the police protected the marchers from a vicious National Front attack.

For Dave Peers to ascribe the seriousness of the attack to the NF having had one or two drinks is political idiocy.

They were far better organised. Our organisation was deplorable and we were lucky to get off as lightly as we did. □ N DEMARCO, S.W. London

UNLIKE Chris Porsz (9 July), I possess neither O-levels nor a budgeter.

But nonetheless I enjoyed Harry McShane's recent article on the Communist Party.

Had he read further than the first paragraph he would have found it contained no reference to Trotsky or his bath. □ RAB DAWSON, Glasgow

Great, but...

MARXISM 77 was great but there were some important omissions.

There should have been much more on Ireland, South Africa, on the nature of fascism and how to fight racism.

A course on the media would be thought-provoking.

□ GILL LATHWELL, Essex.

THE NAZI nutter who recently threatened to burn down Corbridge Works was obviously in the later stages of syphilitic megalomania.

But such ranting is a warning that the memory of Hitler and his murdering henchmen is still kept alive by legions of fanatics.

It is our responsibility to make sure the jackboot never casts its shadows here.

□ ALAN NEWARK, Paisley

After the beef mountain and the milk lake: The sugar slope

WHEN there was a sugar shortage in 1973, wholesale prices rocketed to 65p a kilo, making a handsome profit for those in the business.

Because of this, others after a quick buck have entered the field so that there is now a world surplus of sugar.

The result the market price has now dropped to 7¼p a kilo.

All very nice for the

housewife you might think, but not so. Sugar producers are now meeting in a desperate attempt to agree a fixed high price.

The alternative for them is to hold stocks off the market until the price rises—in other words to create an artificial shortage.

This would mean a sugar mountain to add to all the other mountains and lakes now submerging Europe.

A socialist system could plan how much sugar we need, see that it is produced, and control the price. But this, of course, would not make profit for the few, only sugar for us all.

Sugar may not be an essential food item, and many of us could do with less, but the sugar market is typical of capitalist production, and clearly shows where the priorities of the system lie.

□ BRIAN ROSE, Manchester



WHY DIDN'T you report the demonstration of Women Against Rape? Socialist Worker doesn't seem to have a serious attitude towards the problem.

Rapists should be jailed. It is the only way to protect women here and now, instead of waiting for some airy-fairy socialist future.

□ GILL MACEY, Watford

WHY NOT £80 A WEEK FOR JOBLESS AS WELL?

LIKE SO many others, I will possibly never work again. I haven't had a job for three years. And I'm sure I'm not alone in not wanting a job that is boring and irrelevant.

I get £10 a week on the dole whereas the average weekly wage is £80. Can anyone tell me why I shouldn't be entitled to £80 from the state for signing on for work once a week at the Labour Exchange?

Such a demand, raised with conviction by the Socialist Workers Party, would surely bring thousands of disillusioned people into a struggle which could shake the foundations of a rotten society.

That demand should be '£80—working or not'.

□ M DRINKALL, S Ruislip

Labour? It's a waste of time

HARRY JONES (Letters, last week) says he is staying in the Labour Party because it has more active socialists than the SWP.

But many of the most active Labour Party socialists have left or are leaving because Labour governments have done little for working people and because the present one is attacking them just like the Tories.

In the early Twenties, the Labour Party was much more active at the grass roots than today. But even then the Communist Party realised that

the effort had to be made to build a party based on the activity of ordinary working people, most of whom were not members of any party.

The Communist Party failed in this task, but the growing present-day crisis has made it possible to try again.

We know that the system cannot be reformed, that Labour offers no way forward. Thousands see this as well as we do.

What they don't see is an alternative to Labour. And if no alternative is built—now, not at some distant date in the

future—many of those people will turn to the racialsists as an answer to their problems.

□ STEVE WRIGHT, E London.

A strange idea of fun...

AT THE TIME of the Jubilee street parties, we were annoyed to see our garden fence being draped with patriotic bunting, and discovered that the council had said the 'play area' (barren tarmac square)

could be decorated.

We went to our nearest councillor (the treasurer of the local Labour Party ward) but turned back when we saw his house plastered with union jacks and royal posters.

Then, last week, we were asked if our son could go with other nursery school kids to wave at the Queen on her visit to Teesside.

'He'll have to get up early, as we set out at 8.30am. Then he'll be standing around for a couple of hours with no toilet facilities....'

'We're republicans!' we replied bluntly.

'Oh! Well, that's a matter of opinion, but it seems a shame for your child to miss this chance.'

Some people have a strange idea of fun.

□ KATHY and ALAN, Middlesborough

GAY NEWS: YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG

YOU missed the point about the Gay News poem (16 July).

The Christian debasement of love is surely criticised by writing a

poem about someone having it off with a dead body.

People like Mary Whitehouse object because of the homosexuality, the explicit sexuality

and the portrayal of ritualistic Christian love as mystical love of death—which is what it is.

□ SW SUPPORTER, Cringleford

RAISE FUNDS INSTANTLY. A guaranteed £13 clear on a £2 outlay. Our pocket-size punchboards will raise quickly the much-needed funds for your local Right to Work Campaign, rank and file trade union organisation, or branch of the Socialist Workers Party. It contains 600 tickets at 5p each, with 43 winning numbers. Takes in £30—pays out £15, winnings paid on the spot. The board only costs you £2, so you make at least £13 clear. OK under Small Lotteries Act—no legal problems. Easier, faster and better than raffles or draw tickets. Give it a try—you can't lose.

# They couldn't scare Woody ... he stuck to the union

There was once a union maid;  
She never was afraid  
of goons and ginks and company finks  
and the deputy sheriffs that made the raid.  
She went to the union hall;  
When a meeting it was called;  
And when the company boys came round  
She always stood her ground.

Oh, you can't scare me, I'm sticking to the union.

I'm sticking to the union, I'm sticking to the union.

Oh, you can't scare me, I'm sticking to the union  
I'm sticking to the union till the day I die.

This union maid was wise  
To the tricks of company spies;  
She couldn't be fooled by company stools;  
She'd always organised the guys.  
She's always got her way  
When she struck for higher pay;  
She'd show her card to the National Guard  
And this is what she'd say:

Oh, you can't scare me, I'm sticking to the union.

I'm sticking to the union, I'm sticking to the union.

Oh, you can't scare me, I'm sticking to the union  
I'm sticking to the union till the day I die.



A scene from Bound For Glory, and (above left) Union Maid, a song Woody Guthrie made famous.

**FORTY** years ago, tens of thousands of small farmers in America were bankrupted by the Depression.

Banks foreclosed on mortgages. In states like Kansas and Oklahoma, where most of the population had been small landholders or dependent on them, tens of thousands of people were evicted and put out on the road.

A massive emigration took place to California,

thousands of miles away.

Families loaded all their possessions on old farm trucks, individuals hitched rides or jumped railway freight trains and risked being beaten up or killed by vigilantes and armed railway guards.

Among those who set out for California was Woody Guthrie. Bound for Glory, a

film now on general release, is about Guthrie and the battle for trade union organisation among the pickers working on the massive farms of California.

## Arrived

When the migrants arrived, they were sent to squalid camps outside the big farms.

From being small farmers or small shop-keepers, they became casual labourers.

The growers had far more labourers than they needed. Wages were kept at subsistence level. Workers were taken on for one day at a time.

The farms were guarded behind barbed wire fences by hired thugs with dogs, clubs

and guns.

In the camps, Guthrie and thousands of others began to discover the need to organise against the growers.

Union organisers were beaten up, chased off the camps, and off the fields and packing factories. Time and again they came back.

Guthrie joins the union organisers and, at the same time, starts to sing his own songs composed in the camps.

## Successful

He was wildly successful. Advertisers controlling a radio station decided to give him his own show. They put pressure on him to cut out

some of the songs.

Time and again Guthrie introduces songs over the radio with the words, 'this next song is dedicated to all you pickers out there in the fields. It's a rotten life, we've got to do something about it.'

The pressure on Guthrie mounts. He rents a house for his wife and child, he is offered a well-paid singing job in a posh hotel, an agent offers to get him on national radio, 'coast to coast.'

Guthrie carries on singing the political songs that come from his experience and that of thousands of others in the fields. And he carries on his work as a union organiser.

His wife leaves him, he is sacked from the radio station, he walks out on the agent.

Guthrie died years later, after a long illness, penniless. He never sold out.

His songs became enormously popular. They were heard 'coast to coast.' The American establishment made Guthrie into an official hero.

## Pickers

His song This Land is Your Land became respectable. Guthrie was saying the land should belong to the pickers 'out there in the fields.'

Bound for Glory does something to re-establish Guthrie in the history and tradition of the American trade unions.

Unfortunately it stops somewhere around 1939.

The battle of the pickers has carried on until the present day. The migrants of the 1930s from Oklahoma were replaced by Mexicans and Indians.

Their battle to organise in trade unions is just beginning to be won—after a massive strike, lynchings and shootings of pickets, and an international boycott of farm produce from California.

You might have to wait another 40 years before a Hollywood studio makes a film about their struggle.

# Crappy days are here again...

THERE are people who don't watch telly who think that 99.9 per cent of it is crap.

Then there are those of us who do watch it and think that 99.9 per cent of what we watch is crap.

I have a certain admiration for those who don't see telly, although they can be very boring at work when they're unable to join in discussing the crap everyone else saw the night before—even worse when they've missed the 0.1 per cent of good telly.

Still they've got us beat in the end. Each week the telly industry goes to great expense to show just how much crap we do watch and publish their findings in what is called Jictar Ratings.

In the week ending 26 June, for instance, on Monday night, 7.45 (Homes Millions) watched Coronation Street while 5.35 HM saw Celebrity Squares.

Between them was Sale of the Century, General Hospital, Billy Dainty and, of course, the horrors of horrors, Crossroads, which

on that Tuesday reached 6.45 Home Millions.

How can anyone attempt to justify those facts? Well we can certainly start by pointing to the world around us.

We work hard, we don't get much money, we're tired when we come home. If you live in a family, which I'm sure most people who watch telly do, we lead separate lives outside the home and it seems obvious that telly is used collectively to relax us in the early hours at peak viewing time—before the children go to bed.

## Superior

We seek the programmes that will have some interest for all of us. The anti-telly brigade can point to the fact that in May of his year only seven per cent watched BBC2, which tends to show superior programmes.

OK, if you've got kids and only one telly, it's near impossible to switch over to their 7.30pm News programme which would probably be conflicting with

By  
**ROLAND  
MULDOON**

**PRE  
VIEW**

the Six Billion Dollar Man or whatever's on BBC1.

The American crap programmes such as Six Billion Dollar Man, Kojak, Charlies Angels cost the TV Companies less to screen, by some times as much as half, than home-made products.

So not only do we all watch the same crap at the same time but it is often the case that it's cheaper for them than at other times in the evening.

These programmes have already made their money in the States, before they are dumped on us.

Combine this with the fact that they are shown at peak advertising time. It's no wonder the commercial com-

panies are making vast profits.

What makes it sicker is the high unemployment in the Film and TV industries.

## Porridge

By the way, the makers of porridge (not the programme, but Quaker Oats), have let it be known that they won't let their adverts go on while sexy or violent programmes are being screened.

I suppose if they were to have their way they would have Mary Whitehouse judging the Highland Games at peak viewing time.

I would like to end with this

crappy fact for those who don't watch telly. It's only when they enter our house that we start watching in earnest and turn up the volume—the rest of the time it's just on and we glance at it only in the action bits.

Still it's true we could join the queue for an allotment or, better still, go to an SWP meeting.

risk their own money to make British pop music rule the waves. Crooks, pimps, mafia and all...

If you can keep your eyes open till midnight, don't miss POWER WITHOUT GLORY, Frank Hardy's wonderful Australian political thriller.

## BOOKMARKS

265 Seven Sisters Road London N4.  
phone 01-802 6145

Bound for Glory: Woody Guthrie 75p

Writings & Drawings: Bob Dylan £1.50

Look Here Songs by Leon Rosselson £1.50

That's not the way it's got to be Leon Rosselson £1.50

The Brecht-Eisler Songbook £5.95

our books are  
**ammunition**

## Weir going to fight for our jobs!

WOKINGHAM: 'Dole queue here WEIR come'; 'Full order book, WEIRS the point'; '100 workers wonder WEIR we go from here'.

Just a few of the slogans being used by the 100 workers threatened with redundancy at C. F. Taylors of Wokingham, part of the Weir group.

The 500-strong workforce are considering full strike action in support of their 100 colleagues who are to be laid off because of the closure of the Vehicle Fabrication section.

### Difficulties

Before announcing the lay-offs, management had said they were having difficulty recruiting extra skilled labour for outstanding contracts.

This has now changed to lack of orders to justify the lay-offs—even though it is well known that there is enough work for this section to continue until Christmas, with orders still coming in.

Several lightning strikes have already taken place, and the workers are planning to step up the action.



The new CHARTER, for engineering and motor industry workers, is now out. Articles on—New claims, The case for a rank and file President, Desoutters etc. 15p (inclu. postage). Bulk orders (ten or more)—post free. Order (with cash) from 265a Seven Sisters Rd., London N4.

# Mrs Ward OK—now another battle begins

RITA WARD, who took over a hospital bed rather than wait months in agony for an operation, is on the mend. But her family's fight is far from over.

Janet Ward, 19, was arrested last April at social security offices in Northampton and taken away to Mereway Police Station.

There she was beaten up and insulted. One policeman spewed water over her. Another has said he 'will get those Irish bastards. They should all be dead.'

The same policeman tried to run her down with his car. He has changed his name from Marshall to Hasdall and is now operating under

By Brian Higgins

an alias.

Janet's sister Louise, 17, was arrested at the same social security offices three weeks later in similar circumstances.

However, two men witnessed it and traced her to Mereway police station. From there unfolded a horrific case of police harassment.

A month ago, Mandy Ward, 14, was arrested for shoplifting at a shop called Hilliards and taken to Mereway police station. She was held for two hours without any outside contact being made.

The charge was found to be totally unsubstantiated and she was

released.

Janet and Louise are up at Campbell Square Magistrates court on 5 and 9 August respectively. We must not let these two young comrades down.

We are calling for a picket of the court on these days, to begin at 9.30 am.

### Not enough

We had 18 pickets at the last trial. That's not enough. We are calling on all comrades from the Midlands and East Anglia to make a determined effort to attend.

Move resolutions to your union executives to write to the Home

Secretary calling for an end to the brutalisation of this Irish working class family. We say the Wards are innocent.

For more details contact the Secretary, Ward Defence Committee, 2 Bitten Court, Lumbertubs, Northampton or phone Northampton Kings Thorpe 5288.

For those who have not already done so, why not send a message of support and solidarity to Comrade Rita Ward c/o Northampton General Hospital. All NUPE branches should send resolutions condemning their Executive's decision to support management in future 'bed occupations'. Another Scabs Charter?

## BREAD UP—PAY DOWN

STOCKPORT: 200 hourly-paid workers are on strike at the Associated British Foods Sunblest Bakery at Bredbury after four months of fruitless negotiations over wage rates.

All are members of the Bakers Union. Last February, management introduced new wage rates, supposedly to conform with equal pay requirements.

But union representatives soon discovered that this had been achieved by downgrading some jobs.

One 18-year-old is getting 53p an hour instead of the 71p laid down in the national agreement.

Management tried to break the union last summer, but were defeated after a three-week strike.

Said branch secretary John Wheeler: 'This latest action can only be seen as a form of victimisation because of last summer's victory.'

The strikers have occupied key areas of the factory to prevent ABF's nationally organised scab unit (all on large expense accounts and lodged at luxury hotels) from moving in.

ABF is blatantly cutting wages while continually putting up bread prices.

Finance is urgently needed. Donations to: John Wheeler, 1 Kedleston Walk, Denton, Manchester.

## Batchelors: We want 10 per cent

WORKERS at the Batchelors factories in Sheffield and Worsop are still on official strike for a ten per cent pay rise.

This is part of an old agreement denied them by the 'Social Con-trick'.

The company last week offered a £10 a week rise in return for the loss of some jobs. Even this depends on a future agreement on productivity. The offer was rejected outright.

Vin Knight, T&GWU convenor, told Socialist Worker: 'They told us 40 jobs would have to go. But from figures we have it is obvious there will be many more.'

Jobs in Batchelors in Sheffield have been disappearing fast over the last ten years. In 1967, the workforce was 1,300. Today it is 600.

Management have also offered to share any savings made through the sackings 50-50 with the remaining workers. As one striker said: 'They say this as if they were offering us something.'

The morale of the strikers, who are mainly women, has been high. Picketing has been effective. Deliveries, including mail, have been towed away.

Money is coming in slowly but much more is needed. A strike delegation collected £55 from Hickleton colliery last Friday, but much more will be needed, especially as most Sheffield factories are closed for the annual holiday over the next two weeks.

Money and donations to Vin Knight, 42 Grisell Crescent, Foxhill, Sheffield 6.

## Victory at Corts

READING: Workers at Robert Corts Engineering have won a post entry AUEW closed shop.

They returned to work last Tuesday.

But management tried one final dirty trick. Having reached a settlement, they later refused to sign it.

Roy Nisbett told Socialist Worker: 'We don't trust the governors in there, so we kept the picketing going after dinner just in case they tried anything.'

The agreement was finally signed at tea time.

# PRINTERS TO BACK CLOSED SHOP FIGHT

DARLINGTON: 108 journalists striking for a closed shop got a great boost last week with the promise of 'full and effective' support from the print unions.

If this verbal support is turned into action, it could start to heal the rifts between editorial and

production workers which have kept the proprietors in profit for generations.

The strikers are unsure what the promise of support—which came unanimously from the TUC's Printing Industries Committee—will mean in practice.

Father of the chapel Mike Duggan told Socialist Worker: 'It could be an all-out strike by the machine room men (in the National

Graphical Association).

Or more likely, it could be the backing of all non-NUJ copy, which would make it almost impossible to bring any of these papers out.

'Either way, we're confidently expecting powerful industrial action in our support from all three production unions—NGA, NATSOPA and SLADE—by the middle of next week.'

This action comes in the nick of time. Westminster

Press, which owns the local papers in Darlington, Stockton, and other North East towns is preparing for a long, rough battle against the closed shop.

Last week, they flung out any hope of a compromise based on the 'charter' of editorial rights offered to them by the NUJ in exchange for a closed shop.

By turning down the 'charter', the Westminster Press bosses have made it

plain that they are not interested in defending the 'rights of editors'.

They are against the closed shop only because they want weaker unions. David Nicholson of the strike committee says:

'The starting wage here on the Northern Echo for a reporter is £57. On the Middlesborough Gazette, which has a lower circulation, it is £75.40, plus all sorts of shift payments and night money which we don't get.'

'That's what a closed shop means to us: more strength to get more money out of one of the richest companies in Britain'.

### Fight

Westminster Press intend to fight hard. Their chairman, Lord Gibson, is reported by the strikers to be saying that he is prepared to sacrifice the whole North of England Newspapers combine in his efforts to smash the closed shop.

Militant printworkers' action will have to be followed up in different sections of the group before the workers can be sure of victory.



ABOVE: Right to Work Campaign supporters who marched across 15 London bridges last week to help to raise money for the Right to Work march in September. They raised £85.



RIGHT: Andy Smith (right) unemployed since he left a sixth-form college in Middlesborough a few weeks ago, convincing another unemployed youngster, Howard Rutland, to join him on the Right to Work March.

## A £28 WAGE CUT? IT'S NOT ON!

YORK: Workers at Silverline Caravans, Stamford Bridge, are on strike for the right to belong to a trade union.

Most walked out three weeks ago when management tried to introduce a wage cut of £28 a week. 60 workers, about half, joined the Transport and General Workers Union.

They returned when the management said they would recognise the union. Instead, 45 workers were sacked—43

of them had just joined the TGWU. They included the elected shop steward, Alan Beard.

But the local full-time TGWU official, Harry Longman, is dragging his feet.

Alan Beard hasn't received his credentials, the strike hasn't been made official.

Longman refused to meet 20 TGWU members who were still working and wanted to know what to do.

Alan Beard told Socialist

Worker: 'Longman is the biggest barrier. All the men look to him for support. When they went to him and asked what to do, he said 'go back to work'.'

'The people inside want to come out on strike, but they are holding back because the TGWU hasn't made it official. Longman has done nothing at all. I don't think he should be doing the job'.

Dockers at Hull have blacked all products from

Silverlines, and a 24-hour picket is now in operation outside the factory.

Donations and messages of support are urgently needed. Send them to Silverline Strike Committee, 311 Lime Avenue, Stockton Lane, York. Send resolutions from TGWU branches demanding the strike be made official to the TGWU District Committee, Transport House, Leeds.

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(BLOCK CAPITALS)

### Come on carworkers! Get these goods blacked

by LIZ HALL  
ASTMS hospital worker, Glasgow

AYRSHIRE: 'Slavery was abolished in 1900' and 'July 1 1977, independence day for Essex workers', say the signs outside the occupied Essex International factory in Kilwinning.

The 19th century, anti-union attitudes of the local management, who moved in time and motion study men without consultation, started the strike 11 weeks ago.

The strikers, 130 women and 20 men, all members of the Engineers' Union (AUEW), produce electrical components for Chrysler and Ford cars. The factory in Kilwinning is part of the US-owned United Technology. Their other British factory is in Derry, Northern Ireland.

At the beginning of the strike, workers contacted the Derry factory to get them to black work from Kilwinning.

### Occupied

After eight weeks picketing, management were still able to get goods and equipment out, and members of the white-collar union TASS were still crossing the picket line. So one morning the workers occupied the factory, throwing the bosses out.

Inside, everyone is united. A round-the-clock rota is operating well. All the women are determined to stand firm. Shop stewards have sent circulars to Chrysler and Ford plants, asking for support, but no backing seems to be going on as yet, except from Derry.

The strike is official, but no one has got any strike pay. This after 11 weeks. Excuses such as union conferences, the Jubilee, spring bank holiday, and more important, bigger strikes, have been put forward by officials.

5 July may have been Independence Day, but it looks as though pay day may not come until the women occupy their local AUEW offices.

□ Donations, messages of support and inquiries about blacking to: Bill Murgatroyd, Essex International Strike Committee, AUEW Halls, King Street, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire.

### and Canada

IT ISN'T only their British workers that Essex International are exploiting. 300 women employed by them at Dunnville, a small town in Canada, have been on strike since May for higher wages and an end to harassment.

The women have so far received only insulting offers from management, which has hardened their determination.

## Plaistow stays too, OK?

by DENISE FENN  
ASTMS, hospital worker, East London

EAST LONDON: The staff have been occupying Plaistow Maternity Hospital for nearly two weeks, since the DHSS finally gave the go-ahead to its closure.

Brian Walker, head cook



Part of the big march against hospital closures in Cardiff last Friday. Hundreds of hospital workers from four hospitals struck for the day and joined the march, with other local trade unionists.

## Tyndale teachers' appeal refused

by STEVE FELTON  
Ex-Tyndale teacher

NORTH LONDON: Three of the Tyndale teachers have been told the predictable result of their appeal: 'That the recommendation of the Tribunal of Inquiry that you be dismissed without notice is confirmed.'

Predictable, because the appeal committee was made up with a majority of the same Labour councillors who had the charge of strike action laid on the teachers in the first place!

When the teachers challenged the unfairness of the set-up they were told if they did not like it, then they did not have to appeal.

The contempt of the committee was amazing to see, with the chairman, Councillor Branagon JP practically nod-

ding off, and the Tory Councillor Muriel Gamble first actually falling asleep, then later putting on her lipstick.

None of the teachers were sacked for their abilities as teachers, for despite what the papers have said, the ILEA has found it impossible to find fault with the teachers' work in the classroom.

They have been sacked because in September 1975 they said 'Enough is enough' and went on strike to get what they had been asking for for months—an independent inquiry into the management of the school, and the outside interference involving such concerned educationalists as Dr Rhodes Boyson.

The only effective way to stop this happening again is to build really powerful union bases within schools, linking with other workers and the kids.

## WARDS: FACTORY No 2 OUT

SALFORD: Members of the Engineers (AUEW) and Municipal Workers unions, (GMWU), at Ward and Goldstone's Frederick Road factory have come out on strike for the first time in years over bonus payments.

The strikers, mostly women, are picketing the factory. Women canteen workers have come out in sympathy.

The strike was summed up by one picket who said they had learnt their lesson from Ward and Goldstone workers

at a nearby factory who came out on strike and got what they wanted.

Stanley Goldstone JP, founder of the company, is a well-known benefactor of Salford workers, employing pensioners to do assembly work at rates more appropriate to the 19th century, making workers redundant at will and generally earning his reputation as the worst employer in Salford.

□ Messages of support and donations to V Clough, 27 Hermitage Road, Crumpsall, Manchester 8.



## Threat to deport journalist

HOME SECRETARY Merlyn Rees has served a deportation order on a militant Asian journalist, Muhammad Haque.

Rees says that Muhammad's marriage to his British-born wife, Denise, is not genuine—although they have been living together since getting married in July last year.

Muhammad, who came to Britain in 1973, is a Bangladeshi and has been directly involved in anti-racist campaigns in London. He was editor of the militant student paper at North East London Polytechnic.

That Muhammad's entire family—his parents and brothers and sisters—are permanently settled here in Britain has been ignored by the Home Office.

There is no right of appeal. Only Rees can judge whether Muhammad is married.

We must defend Muhammad's fundamental human right to stay in this country and with his wife.

## WEIR WORK-IN ENDS

SOUTH WEST LONDON: The workers' occupation at the Weir Maternity Hospital, Balham, was called off last Wednesday by union officials who claimed a 'victory'.

A thousand local trade unionists and hospital workers marched to the Area Health Authority meeting at which the final decision was taken to close the hospital.

The workers have been given 'promises' of jobs in other hospitals, with nothing in writing, and an assurance that Weir won't be used as offices after closure.

The support committee, made up of local housewives and trade unionists, is concerned about the detrimental effects on local maternity services—

Ernie Taylor, shop steward at the Weir, told Socialist Worker: 'We were told our wages would be cut if we continued the occupation. Many of the women have families and are the only wage-earners, so they felt they had to give in.'

## Revertex

HARLOW: Workers at two Revertex factories are out because of attempts to sack 80 workers. At one factory redundancy notices were issued without warnings, so workers there refused to work according to a flexibility agreement. They were locked out. The other factory walked out in solidarity.



Carla Felipe, first baby to be born at the Plaistow hospital occupation.

# Court threat to steel sit-in

by PAUL LUTENER  
ISTC shop steward, Greenwich Reinforcements

SOUTH EAST LONDON: The occupation of Greenwich Reinforcements has come under attack from the courts, the management and our own union officials.

Since May, when six workers were sacked after the whole factory had stopped work to join the NUPE London Day of Action against the Cuts, the British Steel Corporation has used every trick to try and break us.

Threatening letters to our homes were followed by the sacking of everyone involved in the occupation, and the announcement of closure of the factory on 8 July.

Now BSC have turned to the courts and last Friday were granted a possession order for the property.

The reaction of our union, the ISTC, has been predictable. Instead of fighting to keep the plant open, they have negotiated severance pay with BSC for all those not involved in the occupation.

They've also disbanded both union branches at Greenwich. The assistant general secretary blocked our staff rep from speaking at the union's headquarters branch meeting, even though he'd been invited.

### Hand in glove

With the union and BSC working hand-in-glove the next move is anyone's guess. The BSC are certainly not averse to breaking the law, since they've been collecting our mail from the Post Office, opening it and then not forwarding it.

It was only when we threatened legal action that we got it back, although it's interesting that the National Association for Freedom haven't yet offered to take BSC to court for us.

If injunctions come we'll be ready. It's a fight now to keep the whole plant open, and with Sir Charles Villiers' recent announcements on the need to prune steel by up to 60,000 jobs it's a fight that others will be waging soon as well.

Steelworkers throughout the country should be getting themselves organised, because if Greenwich is the rule the official ISTC machinery won't be seen for dust when the axe falls.

□ Messages of support and donations to R Mitchell, 24 Kentmere Road, London, SE18.

FOR REAL EQUAL PAY AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

VOTE RANK AND FILE

VOTE MORRIS

SOME stickers produced by Engineers Charter, the rank and file paper run by members of the Engineering Union (AUEW).

They are part of the Charter campaign for Ian Morris, their candidate for AUEW president. The election is being held in the autumn to replace Hugh Scanlon, who is retiring.

There are two other serious candidates: Terry Duffy, a right-wing executive member, and Bob Wright, of the Broad Left and a long time supporter of Scanlon.

Ian Morris is a leading shop steward at London's Heathrow Airport.

□ Stickers and other information about the campaign from Engineers Charter, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

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# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p

## NAFF get a £30,000 kick in the teeth

THE NATIONAL Association for Freedom got a kick in the teeth on Tuesday—from the Law Lords of all people.

NAFF had stopped the Union of Post Office Workers boycotting mail bound for South Africa during last December's TUC week of action against apartheid.

They had taken out a High Court injunction against the UPW after Sam Silkin, the Attorney General, had refused to move against the union.

A long legal wrangle then followed between Silkin and three High Court judges about who should enforce the law—Judges or Ministers. The Judges decided

Silkin was in the wrong.

Silkin appealed to the House of Lords. This week they ruled he was in the right. And the decision set NAFF back £30,000.

This is not simply a victory for elected ministers over unelected judges.

Throughout Silkin had made it clear that the 'public interest' was best served by people with power like himself doing their damndest to avoid industrial action.

The Law Lords were convinced by him when they saw the London post offices in chaos over attempts to break the blacking of Grunwick's. They knew then that legal action against postmen is a dangerous business.

This victory owed everything to rank and file postmen in Cricklewood. And nothing to postal union leaders who tried to end the blacking.



Picture: Andrew Ward (Report)

ABOVE: Archie Sinclair telling his Cricklewood mates that they've been locked out again. But then came Tuesday's vote—and he said: 'I feel great. The decision confirms the gut reaction of the rank and file throughout London. If the mail turns up outside London I'm sure the feeling will be the same.'

BELOW: Postmen ring the sorting office bell—and are told they can't come in.

# GRUNWICKS MAIL STAYS PUT!

THE GRUNWICK mail will not move in the London area until the Cricklewood postmen say so.

That was the unanimous decision on Tuesday of delegates to the London District Council of the Post Office workers union.

Grunwick mail has been turning up at sorting offices in London—presumably delivered by private vans. We had 25,000 items at our office.

We think they are reminders to customers to pay their bills—thousands of pounds may well be at stake.

There are 200 bags in the foreign section in the sorting office in the city. None of this mail will now be moved.

This is not simply an issue of solidarity. We have a 'diversionary agreement' with the Post Office.

This means any mail that is not proper to the district will not be handled unless there is an agreement with the losing district.

**All out  
on 8  
August**

LIVERPOOL Trades Council have booked a special train to bring people to the next mass picket of Grunwicks, now fixed for 8 August.

There they will join thousands of other trade unionists from all over the country with the aim of shutting down the scab factory.

**Anniversary**

The mass picket marks the first anniversary of the strike. It has been brought forward from 15 August so that thousands of miners—who would be on holiday on the 15th—can attend.

Workers throughout the country should argue for strike action to ensure a huge turnout.

Join the mass picket: 6.30am, Monday 8 August, Grunwicks, next to Dollis Hill tube, Willesden. Book coaches now.

**Obvious**

The reason should be obvious to trade unionists. If we give in on this agreement, we would lose control of our work. The Post Office could start moving mail as they like.

Any sorting office in dispute could find its mail being sorted and delivered by another Post Office.

The delegates were solid on Tuesday. Norman Stagg, Assistant General Secretary of the UPW, came along in place of Tom Jackson, who is on leave.

Stagg told delegates that Cricklewood were in the wrong and that they should return to work. He had no effect.

Dave Dodds and Colin Maloney from Cricklewood



Picture: Andrew Ward (Report)

By **FRANK OSEI-TUTU,**  
Secretary, London West 1 branch, UPW

It is possible that Grunwick mail may move in the provinces. But I know that it is already held up in a number of places, including Manchester and Milton Keynes.

I hope our lead is followed throughout the country.

Socialist Worker readers in London should get immediate support for the postmen from their union bodies, inviting postal workers along to put their case.

In the provinces, sorting offices should be approached with this week's Socialist Worker so the full case of the London postmen can be put.

Every encouragement should be given to postmen to follow the lead of their London colleagues—if the Grunwick mail turns up.

made it plain that they would not go back. They said that no other force could make them go back until they were ready. On Monday of course, the Cricklewood workers had again been locked out for refusing to handle Grunwick mail. There was then a full discussion. Delegates made the point time and again that we must not let mail belonging to one area be diverted to another.

**ALBERT Roberts, MP for Normanton, said: 'I'm a former chairman of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.'**

'I go abroad with my Parliamentary colleagues. What sort of standards am I meant to uphold?'

The rascal was talking about his connections with Poulson, which, along with those of Reginald Maudling, were censured this week in the House of Commons.

Roberts, apart from his work as Poulson's paid poodle, acted for the Spanish and Portuguese dictatorships through much of the 1950s and 1960s.

In 1975 he went to South

**IF ONLY YOU'D TOLD US, ALBERT**

Africa as a guest of the racist government.

It's a mystery how he's managed to hold on to the sponsorship of the National Union of Mineworkers. That, at least, should be instantly removed.

But Roberts had a point. MPs of every description are always flying round the world on paid-for trips.

Many are on well-paid

consultancies to business interests, which are far better paid than their job as an MP.

Brian Walden, for instance, who has just left his seat at Ladywood, Birmingham, was Parliamentary spokesman for the bookies. They paid him £15,000. Parliament paid him £6000.

The lesson of the Poulson exercise in the Commons this week seems to be this: if you ignore your constituents, your Party, your promises at election times in favour of business interests and declare your interest—you're behaving properly.

But if you do all these things without declaring your interest, and get found out, you get censured.