Ren

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS



Rawlinson: Arms for Chile

Sir Peter Law and **Order joins Barbarism** (Chile) Ltd

SIR Peter Rawlinson supports law and order. Until the Tories were thrown out earlier this year, he was Attorney General, the man in charge of law and order throughout

As Attorney General, Sir Peter ordered the prosecution of the 24 pickets in Shrewsbury. Thanks to him, six pickets are in prison.

He prosecuted the Belfast Ten at Winchester last year-for which, on top of his Ministerial salary, he received the highest barrister's fees ever paid to a public prosecutor.

Throughout the trial, Sir Peter bawled abuse of 'those who use violence against the law'. 'The law' he said, 'takes the gravest view of those who use violence for political ends."

Now, out of office, Sir Peter has slid quietly on to the board of Anthony Gibbs Ltd, a London merchant bank.

Links

Anthony Gibbs' most profitable business is done for the government of Chile. No other British bank, almost no other British firm, is more closely connected

The bank's chairman is Lord Aldenham, who is chairman of the Anglo-Chilean Society—a gang of British businessmen who make money out of Chile and whose office is in the Chilean embassy.

The bank's closest links are with the Chilean Navy. It has financed most British-Chilean naval deals, including the refits of two destroyers, the building of two Leander class frigates and of two Oberon class submarines.

The military coup against the elected government of Chile last September was pioneered by naval

The truth is that Sir Peter

Turn to page 16



JUST what the country needs, a new hospital. It cost £4 million to build and overlooks Lords cricket ground in the exclusive St Johns Wood area of London.

There's just one snag. It'll cost you £50 a day, excluding fees for treatment. For that you get a private room, bathroom, fridge, colour TV and food from an 'international a la carte menu.'

There won't be any problem about staff either. There's subsidised accommodation, food and above average pay-just what nurses all over the country want.

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the country want.
The Wellington Hospital is an 'investment' by the British and Commonwealth Shipping Group, whose Chairman is Sir Nicholas Cayzer, president of the UK-South Africa Trade Association. It opens at the end of the month.

Palaces

Meanwhile for the rest of us, who don't have £50 a day, the National Health Service hospitals are falling apart. Vital resources for equipment, linen, nurses' pay are drained away into private wards and palaces for the rich like the Wellington.

The nurses in these hospitals are up in arms. They are marching and demonstrating all over the country. They are demanding higher pay, shorter hours and an end to private employment agencies and private medicine. In thousands, they are deserting their 'professional organisations' and joining trade unions.

That's where you come in. Every-one sympathises with the nurses, but sympathy doesn't pay their wages.
In 1962 Ford workers

Dagenham, workers at CAV in West London and others struck for half a day in support of nurses' pay demands. That kind of medicine works wonders on men like Cayzer and their friends in the government.

The new Wellington Hospital-a la carte menus for private patients while Health Service hospitals scrimp and save. TOP: Nurses demonstrating in London last week.

If you want nurses to be better paid, if you want to stop the amputation of the Health Service, then you must do something about

RAISE the issue in your trade union branch, shop stewards committee, trades council. ORGANISE delegations from all these bodies to the hospitals and to the nurses' trade unions. PROPOSE joint demonstrations, joint lobbies, above all joint action to force the nurses' claim down the throats of the authorities.

USE the only power we have-the power of the organised working-class movement to rescue the nurses and the hospitals from millionaires and 'sympathetic' Labour ministers.



ROGER COX, secretary of the National Rank and File Conference Organising Committee, said on Tuesday: 'No-one needs to argue that the nurses have a case. Even the millionaire press doesn't dare attack them. Their scandalous pay and conditions are an affront to all trade unionists-who are their patients and who pay for the National Health Service.

We applaud the nurses for their solidarity and for rejecting more and more the patronage of bodies such as the Royal College of Nursing and for joining unions like COHSE and NUPE

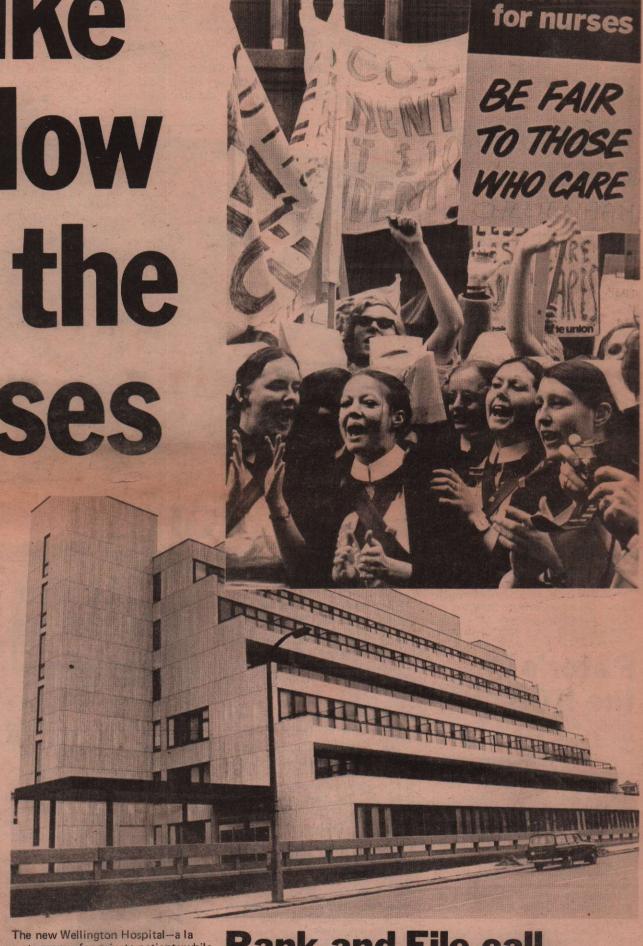
We urge the nurses to appeal to the strong sections of the trade union movement by leafletting factories, docks and mines in their uniforms and asking for practical support from

their fellow trade unionists. We urge all convenors, shop stewards committees and bodies delegated to the Rank and File Conference to give their support.

'Strikes in support of the nurses by sections of the working class will do more for them and all the many other low-paid workers than any

number of appeals to sentimentality.'

The Rank and File Organising Committee is meeting rank and file nurses this Sunday in Birmingham to plan what else can be done. The Hospital Worker rank and file paper is spreading the message with meetings and leaflets. A special issue of the paper is to be produced. Copies (5p plus 3p postage) from Hospital Worker, 8 Beverstone Road, London



Leyland's death pit

WHEN the nightshift reported for work here at British Leyland Longbridge number 2 paintshop on Tuesday 30 April a few brothers were running about with a vague story about someone from the opposite shift. About an hour after this the gaffers called the stewards in the office-to 'put them in the picture'.

They told them that Douglas Field had failed to arrive home from work on the Friday afternoon. Mr Field's wife died about three months ago—so his young daughters phoned the Austin plant at 7.30pm. They said their father hadn't come home yet and

they wondered if he was still at work.

The foreman searched the shop and found his home-going clothes. They then sent for the police who conducted another search but found nothing. On the Saturday morning his body was found at the bottom of a

It was stated that although the sludge pit cover had been removed the pit was 'adequately guarded'. The door from the spray bay opens outwards on to the sludge pit. The door is about 2ft 9in wide. The sludge pit is 5ft long by 3ft 3in wide. It is cleaned out every Saturday, but since the shop has been vigorously carrying out the engineers' overtime ban the tracks were

stopped at 12.30pm on Friday and the cleaning done that afternoon.

Cleaning normally takes four or five hours. The pit is covered by the 'adequate guard' management provide. This is a bench 7ft long by 1ft 4in wide. It leaves room for six men to stumble in together let alone one man.

Mumbles

There have been a few mumbles and grumbles about this before. Anyone wanting to come out of the spray bay has to be a champion long-jumper or has to walk to the other end of the bay and come out there.

The shop is rather dark, the lights have to be on all the time when the tracks are running. Sometimes the foremen turn them off when the cleaning is being done-leaving the workers to pick their way through the uncovered pits and other hazards.

It is highly likely that some enterprising foreman who was worried about British Leyland's recent loss of £16 million decided to save them a few bob and turned off the lights-with the result that Brother Field failed to notice the 'adequate guard' and plunged into the pit.

Management are likely to try their hardest to prove that Brother Field had no right to be in the spray bay. If they can get away with this they should be well pleased with the savings made by switching off the lights.

'RED CARD' LIMIT **ON TRIAL**

PAT ARROWSMITH, who is on trial accused of inciting British troops to disaffection, is being tried in a small box-like room at the Old Bailey, a room that even the judge remarked was rather small. There was only a was rather small. There was only a small gallery for the public and reporters were only allowed in if they held a 'red card'—obtainable only from the police, who are being very choosy about who they give one to.

A picket was mounted by Pat's supporters—the British Withdrawal from Northern Ireland group—who were harassed by the police. Gwyneth

were harassed by the police. Gwyneth Williams was arrested and taken before the judge for contempt of court fanding out leaflets. She was fined £25.

A senior police officer demanded that the pickets take down their picket boards. Before anything could be said, he smashed one of the boards, saying that the words displayed were contempt of court.

The only reporter from a 'left' paper allowed into court during the trial was from Peace News. The issue of 'Red press cards' must be taken up by journalists because this means the police can decide which papers can report controversial issues. If the police are allowed to do this only one side of a story will ever

Pater's in the KGB

WHERE should the son of a top Russian secret police agent go to

Why, to a British public school of course. Everyone knows that it's only at a top British public school that you learn about law, order and discipline, and how to separate the

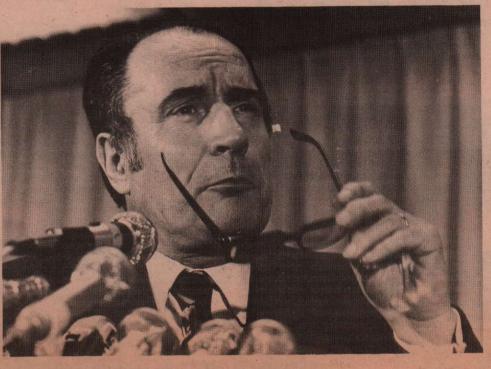
sheep from the goats.

Colonel Victor Louis is head of foreign propaganda for 'information' the Russian KGB, one of the most ruthless secret police forces in the

Louis' main job is 'propaganda' in Britain to maintain Russia's 'good

Last week Louis disclosed-to the Daily Express this time-that he is sending his son Misha to Michael Hall, Forest Row, Sussex, which has 600 pupils.

The fees? £1000 a year basic. That's nothing to Victor Louis, but it's rather more than the average industrial wage in Russia.



'United left' candidate Francois Mitterand, who has a record of strikebreaking

THE natural place of the Gaullists is in the great people's movement which is developing,' said George Marchais, general secretary of the French Communist Party last week.

'Gaullists and communists are linked,' claimed Marchais, 'by our attachment to the nation and its greatness, by the hope of seeing our people brought together to make a more just, fraternal and progressive

The Gaullists, who have been in power for the past 16 years, were the main French conservative party until their candidate, Chaban-Delmas, came third in the first round of the presidential election on 5 May.

Drum

When de Gaulle came to power the Communist Party denounced him as a semi-fascist. Now the party is wooing the Gaullists. The reason for this somersault is to win conservative votes for 'united left' candidate, Francois Mitterand, in the run-off

election this Sunday.

Mitterand faces Valery Giscard d'Estaing, the aristocratic former Finance Minister who stands for anti-inflation policies to suit big business and closer links with the USA. The Communist Party is beating the nationalist drum and presenting

"France must win," said M. Giscard d'Estaing. "We must see that France wins," M. Mitterrand declared a few hours later. The Gaullist rout leaves the

From the Daily Telegraph, 7 May

Mitterand as the more 'patriotic' of the two candidates.

Mitterand is certainly a strong nationalist. He was Minister of the Interior when the Algerian independence movement took up arms in 1954. He declared: 'There can be no compromise with sedition', 'the only negotiation is war' and 'Algeria is French'. He was also a minister in the French government that joined with Britain's Tories to invade Egypt

Nor is Mitterand's record on home policies better. It is a record of strikebreaking and support for reactionary policies.

The French revolutionary left is calling for the election of Mitterand for the same reasons that Socialist Worker called for the election of Harold Wilson. It calls for the defeat of the open Tory, Giscard d'Estaing. It urges workers to vote 'united left' so that the policies of the Mitterand-Communist Party bloc can be tested



Danger, man at work! Right-wing candidate Giscard d'Estaing

Labour's old laggers

LORD BIG KNOB, who's never done a day's work in his life, got a serious shock last week when he

serious shock last week when he and his kind turned up to last Thursday's Thermal Insulation Contractors Association annual dinner at London's Savoy.

For the bosses' beano was picketed by members of the General and Municipal Workers Union London laggers' branch. They had the bad taste to point out that while the lagging employers were living it up, large numbers of laggers were dying numbers of laggers were dying from asbestosis thanks to their masters' greed.

Two more than usually interesting gentlemen nipped through the picket line to attend the do. They were Dennis Healey, the well-known 'socialist' Chancellor of the Exchequer and miners' MP Alec Eadie, Under-Secretary for Energy. Both were beautifully attired in evening dress and were obviously at ease in familiar company.

The picketing laggers went away well pleased with their night's work and having learned yet another intriguing lesson in the relations between big business and government.

Dust in the lungs and fire in the belly-page six.

How we are fighting the asbestos murderers-page 13.

60,000 'hystericals

MORE THAN 60,000 trade unionists led by shipyard workers, went on strike last Monday in Denmark and filled the streets of Copenhagen with banners pro-testing against the new tax proposals by country's Liberal government. The Bill proposes 17 per cent cuts in income tax. This massive advantage for the rich will be paid by the 20 per cent increases in taxes and electricity, household goods, beer, tobacco and petrol.

Thomas Neilson, chairman of the Danish confederation of trade unions described the demonstration and strikes as 'illegal' and 'planned by Communist hystericals'.

Swinging back at Beira

THE THREAT of Rhodesia-style UDI was growing in Mozambique this week as the white backlash against Portugal's 'independence' proposals took to the streets. Riots followed a visit by General Gomes, right-hand man of General Spinola, to Mozambique's second city, Beira. As whites broke up a meeting of the moderate, multi-racial United Group of Mozambique, blacks demonstrated in support of Frelimo, the liberation movement. The whites are largely organised in the Independent Front for Western Continuity, which is organising big demonstrations against independence for the blacks.

Meanwhile a wave of strikes has hit the country as black workers, free for the first time to organise against starration wages, have staged stropages in the docks and on the railways and buses. In Laurenco Murques, the capital, 1000 milway workers went on strike after demanding their pay be distilled.



More Tories at the trough

TWO more top Tories have fled to the boardrooms. Joseph Godber, former Tory Minister of Agriculture and Treasury Minister, has joined the board of Booker McConnell, the vast sugar and raw material combine which has big plantations in Africa and the West Indies.

The chariman of Booker McConnell is Lord Campbell of Eskan, a 'socialist' peer who is chairman of the New Statesman, the left weekly.

Lord Campbell's 'politics' are quite different to those of Godber, but the only 'politics' on the board of Booker McConnell is making profits.

Dudley Smith, former Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of Employment and champion of the Industrial Relations Act, has joined the board of Boyden International, a subsidiary of the vast American engineering and finance Shareholders Capital

Hell fire fails to give church victory

THE VOTE to keep the three-year-old divorce law in the Italian referendum was a serious blow to the right-wing parties and the Catholic church.

The campaign around the referendum developed into straightforward right versus left conflict, with the conservative Christian Democratic Party and the fascist MSI crusading against 'communism and immorality'. The Christian Democrat Party boss, Fanfani, stamped the country denouncing divorce and 'the reds'.

'We are not asking votes for a party,' he said last week. 'We are asking you to vote for Italy. A vote to annul the divorce law is a vote for

the good of Italy.'
The Catholic Church, statesupported in Italy, contributed what the correspondent of The Economist called 'two months of hell-fire propaganda from bishops and parish priests' against divorce. In spite of this a lot of leftish Catholics voted in favour of the divorce law

Involved

The socialist and communist parties were forced to fight energetically in favour of the law because of the nature of the right-wing attack, although their own record on the issue is not good. The Communist Party, in fact, supported the 1948 constitution which left the question of marriage law entirely to the church and thus ruled out divorce.

The divorce issue is crucially important to many men and women but the referendum really involved much more than divorce. The repeal issue became a rallying point for all the forces of the right.

A left-wing pro-divorce slogan summed it up. 'For a tomorrow without Fanfani, and a Fanfani with no tomorrow, vote no'

Now the position of Fanfani and Prime Minister Rumor looks very



People from Italy's deep south-said to be the most traditional-campaigning for divorce. The poster on the left shows 'The couple who will not divorce me' -priest and fascist. PICTURE: Annamaria Marinelli (Report)

Brian Walden -bookie's runner

Walden was the wonder-boy of the British Labour Party. His brilliant Oxford Union debating style and his passionate support for Hugh Gaitskell and people even further to the right in the Labour Party marked him out as a future prime minister.

He waged war on left-wingers and revolutionaries all over the country. Explaining to his audience he had 'read all Marx and all Lenin', he concluded that these writings 'led us

down the road to ruin'.
In 1964, Walden was elected Labour MP for Birmingham All Saints. He held the seat in 1966 and 1970, and, after some vicious in-fighting in the Birmingham Labour Party, beat Doris Fisher for the Labour nomination in the redistributed Ladywood seat. From a comfortable base in the Albany Hotel, Birmingham, he won the seat again this February

Walden spent most of the last Labourgovernment wandering around in amazement at his not being offered a government post. After months in the wilderness he was driven to attacking Harold Wilson.

When Labour lost the election, Brian Walden joined the editorial board of the New Statesman, where, hymn of praise to T Dan Smith.

At about the same time, he started his opposition to a Bill designed to cream off some of the massive profits made by bookmakers. The Bill tried to put the Tote, the state betting agency, on an equal footing with the bookies, and promised that some of the huge gambling profits would go to the state.

Private

Brian Walden viciously attacked the Bill. He spoke up for the 'professional expertise' of the bookmaking industry. He forced a Tory government to drop the Bill's most effective clauses.

Now Walden gets £5000 a year for representing bookmakers in parliament-and £4500 a year for representing his constituents. He gets a few more thousand from other private enterprise concerns. His total income is about £400 a week.

All those passionate speeches about 'the need for a mixed economy' and 'the importance of private enterprise' were sincerely meant.

Now Brian Walden is practising what he is preaching.

MORE EVIDENCE of 'Turn Britain into Northern Ireland' moves by our masters. Police in Nottinghamshire have been trained in the use of 'recoilless firearms which project explosive contact bullets'-guns which fire shells, in other words

Workers at Nottingham University received a report that the training was going on at the nearby disused Newton Airfield. A block of plasticine

4ft high by 1ft thick was being used as a target and was disintegrated by the explosive bullet.

The university branch of ASTMS, the white-collar union, sent a protest to the Chief Constable, with copies to local press and radio. As soon as the story broke, the course was closed down-and the Chief Constable, while admitting the police were using Newton Airfield, denied the course

OUR FREE PRESS IN ACTION

by Bryan Rees

CORRUPTION, it seems, is not confined to the North East. We seem to be getting a bit of it here in South

Since the autumn the South Wales Fraud Squad have been investigating alleged 'irregularities' in the council duties of members of the old Glamorgan County Council. Two reports have gone to the Director of Public Prosecutions and another is

Now the investigation has moved Swansea. Most of it concerns housing contracts and the selling to the council of houses built by private development companies.

At the same time, the new West Glamorgan County Council, which is based in Swansea, has banned the press from 25 council sub-committees. These include the education committee, the social services subcommittee and the consumer protection committee.

This blatant attempt to operate in secret has infuriated the local National Union of Journalists, who are seeking a meeting with John Morris, Welsh Secretary, to get the decision changed.

THERE is a free Press at Kettering Northants. It's called the Evening Telegraph. Ian Reinecke is the branch chairman of the National Union of Journalists there.

Last month he had a letter published in his union paper, The Journalist, complaining that several of his fellow workers had not been paid pay increases to which they were entitled.

This was too much for the 'free press'. Ian Reinecke was sacked without explanation.

The NUJ Chapel voted for strike action and 50 journalists are out demanding his reinstatement.

Socialist Worker

WHAT WE THINK

Engineers shatter the myth

WE WON. The engineers have inflicted a fatal wound on the Industrial Relations Act. Last week Socialist Worker said: 'Strike action is what produced the promise to repeal the Act. Strike action is what will make them keep the promise.' Now

the government is falling over itself to do just that.

The short strike of 7-8 May proved three things. It proved that, given a lead, rank and file trade unionists will fight for a principle as well as for money. It showed how false the argument 'we would like to, but the members won't support us' really is. Of course, the strike had to be fought for at plant level, of course there was unevenness. But there can be no doubt that, but for the NIRC's quick reversal of its position, the strike would have grown and grown fast.

Second, it proved that serious action, as opposed to token action, can force courts and governments to back down just as it can force employers to do so. It proved that the left has been correct all along on the issue of how to fight the Act.

This is what really scares our rulers. A couple of representative editorial comments from serious capitalist newspapers stress the point. 'We view with the utmost pessimism the conclusion of the engineers' strike' (Sunday Times). 'It is a defeat for the due process of law' (Observer). They have good

cause to worry.

The poet Shelley wrote of the working class: 'Around your face a web of lies is woven, laws that are falsehoods pin you to the ground'. The myth of 'the rule of law' is one of the most powerful weapons in the hands of our rulers.

The indisputable facts are these. If working people had always obeyed the law, there would be no trade unions. Unions and union rights were established in a struggle against the law and against the judges who have always been one of the most reactionary sections of the ruling class.

Nor would there be any free speech. Such freedom of speech as we enjoy was won by working men and women, socialists and secularists, who repeatedly, flagrantly and heroically defied the Sedition Acts and the Blasphemy Acts. They spent, collectively, many, many years in prison before they made these laws unenforceable.

Years in prison

Nor would there be any free press. Such freedom of publication as we enjoy was won by the pioneers of the working-class press, men like Henry Hetherington and Richard Carlile, who openly and persistently defied the Stamp Act which put a tax on newspapers so high that workers could not afford to buy them. These pioneers produced illegal, unstamped newspapers like the Poor Man's Guardian, the Black Dwarf and the Red Republican and spent, collectively, many, many years in prison before they forced the repeal of the Act.

Indeed even the right to freedom of religious belief and practice was, as a matter of historical fact, won in this country by stubborn and massive resistance to 'the rule of law'. And so on with a whole range of other rights.

Finally the engineers' strike demonstrated conclusively the political bankruptcy of the right wing of the trade union movement. If the advice and policy of AUEW Executive Council members Boyd, John and Hearsey had been followed. the NIRC would have chalked up another victory over the AUEW and therefore over the whole movement.

Bill John is fighting for re-election as executive council member for Wales and the South West and faces Clyfford Arrowsmith on the second ballot. John Boyd is going to run for general secretary. All those of our readers who are able to vote in these elections should remember the record and draw the obvious conclusion.

So should members of the Transport Workers Union. Its record, faced with the claim of General Aviation Services for up to £2 million, is ignominious. It has grovelled before the NIRC. Yet it need not pay one penny piece. The same action as the ALIEW took would produce the same result.

> Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS Phone 01-739 9043/6361/0185



LETTERS

Are you a man? Then kill someone!-

THE ARMED FORCES, existing to 'defend democracy' have no democratic rights—no trade union or representative body can demand justice on their behalf. Outside criticism is discouraged, outdated laws such as that of sedition can be viciously applied to suit the establishment.

Particularly repellent are the methods used to capture the minds and bodies of our frustrated youth—all too familiar to one who was hooked in

dents that I have met while going

around with my husband to various

Firstly, we met a young couple Brian and Susan. Brian is a fully qualified mental nurse, his wife Susan was a nurse, who has recently had a baby, which unfortunately had to stay behind in hospital because of

These two young people were

worried about how they were going to keep their baby properly, because the total amount of pay after usual stoppages of this dedicated man is £19.

They would have to resort to the employers helpmate—the family in-

come supplement and rent rebates, so that they could live on the edge of poverty. The second case we met

was Val and David.

Val is a nurse in their local hospital. David is a student mental nurse at a hospital in a town 25

For all his dedication plus travell-

No luxury of having a family for

ing 50 miles per day at all sorts of

hours, his total princely sum at the end of the week is £15. Val has no

her. These are the men and women

who do jobs very few of us would want to do. But all us at some time in

Is this the way we the people of this country are going to let young

people like these live, and the rest

cudgels for them? We all know that these people often cannot withdraw

Isn't it time we all took up the

miles away from his home.

alternative but to work.

our lives need them.

of the nursing profession?

meetings up and down the country.

Vast amounts of money are readily available for adverts glamourising the health outdoor life. 'Join the professionals' scream the posters—without adding that the profession is killing. To its shame the Barnsley Chronicle proudly shows troops instructing little boys in the use of lethal weapons, capitalising on their spirit of adventure to corrupt their minds.

It is a brutalising process that never stops after enlistment. Sex and violence are served up to distract the mind from serious matters, justice is a joke, equality of opportunity is unknown, initiative a liability, creeping an occupational disease. Yes-men are ear-marked for promotion-with tragic war-time consequences.

As young soldiers, by a mischance we obtained access to our own private documents. The characters of Gunners A, B, C and D were filed as 'bright, intelligent has initiative etc' whereas X was shown as 'no outstanding abilities whatsoever—POTENTIAL NCO'. Thinking is frowned on, moral decadence is rife, and the whole military machine is devoted to producing mindless morons who will perform the tasks of imperialism in Ireland and

elsewhere unquestioningly.

The idea of vast numbers under arms is outdated and provides a false sense of security, total war threatens all with immediate anihilation. The surest way to preserve peace is the destruction of horror weapons, and coexistence until the inevitable triumph of socialism gives a vital and creative meaning for our greatest asset—our youth.-GEORGE OWEN,

Great people-but we do nothing AT THE moment I notice that once again the nursing profession are asking for more pay. As usual everyone says 'they deserve every penny they can get' and that is the last we Nobody seeme to take up their cause. Let me tell you of two inci-

PORTUGAL: JUST THE START



The leader of the Junta, Portugal's General Spinola

YOU ARE RIGHT to insist that the military coup in Portugal doesn't make a 'revolution'. However you fail to point out directly that there is now a very delicate situation in the country as a result of the coup which could lead to a real revolution.

Workers committees have been elected in many trades and demands have been put to employers who no longer have the secret police to help

It's obvious that General Spinola and the capitalists he works for will only tolerate this as long as they believe they aren't strong enough to squash it. The contradictions are very acute and must come to boiling

point very soon. Hence the importance of the armed forces.

Most of the Portuguese Army are conscripted young workers and peasants. Many of the officers are conscripted too and some of them who are closest to the troops now hate fascism and the African wars. This lays them open to revolutionary ideas.

Portuguese socialists must attempt to get these forces on their side by the time the crunch comes. Revolutionary work in the Army is both difficult and dangerous but in Chile and Bolivia the Left refused to do military work when they had the chance. The moment passed and the

This makes the behaviour of the Portuguese Socialist and Communist Party leaders so disastrous as well as despicable. Relying on the 'neutrality' of the armed forces will ensure that they will perish and many thousands of good comrades will perish with them.-L HOLLEY, Twerton, Bath.

their labour because of the job they do and their dedication. This is used as a lever against them. Let us help them fight to make their lives easier.

People like these should be encouraged-not discouraged. If this was two couples, how many more are in the same predicament?

How long are we going to sit back and say 'they deserve every penny they can get'and do nothing to help? RITA CARPENTER, Hightown, YOU'RE WRONG when you say (11 May) that the big Chile march went unreported in the national press. The Times did have a short paragraph headed Marchers Protest Over Arms Sale To Chile. Having given up the search for any report I eventually came across it accidentally-on the Overseas page!

When's the next march?-J WOODALL, Chislehurst.

'Democracy'

I HAD a letter printed in Socialist Worker (4 May) relating to noise hazards in our factory. As a sequel to this our branch secretary was called in by personnel and asked what she knew about this letter.

Since I wrote it in a personal capacity, she could not enlighten

They then said they were taking the matter up with higher manage-and also reporting me to the union, which they did.

After hearing about this, I went to see personnel and told them I considered this an infringement of my personal liberty. They tried to infer that the letter was libellous.

But knowing that what I wrote was the truth I got the feeling they IRA on the grounds of the brutality did not want to press it.

It goes to prove that while they talk big about democrary and demomatter management they are not pre-

Workers in the Greek army too...

'A FELLOW WORKER', was correct when he stated that the army is composed of workers, as are all armies, including the Chilean, Greek and Spanish one

What he seems to close his eyes to is the fact that the people fighting the British army in Ireland are also workers with a far worse history of unemployment and repression than the British working class.

Surely Major-General Kitson's proposals for countering civil unrest in Britain, and the Heathrow and Hull manoeuvres are sufficient to convince him that workers on this side of the Irish sea will one day have to fight the same 'workers in uniform' in the British army.

The paper should bring its coverage on Ireland up to the standard of its articles on anti-imperialist struggles further from home to avoid this sort of confusion.

There is a tendency to defend the of the troops against the Catholic working class without stressing emough that we do so because the IRA are fighting British imperialism. In other words the same ruling class as we are fighting here.-MIKE LEE,

Safety? Yes, if it's profitable

ARMOUR HESS CHEMICALS made a total profit in 1972 of £800,000 (latest figures available).

At the present time the company has eleven claims for compensation resulting from industrial accidents, this is out of a total of 165 men employed in the chemical section. The most recent of these accidents occurred when two workers were

occurred when two workers were severely injured in an explosion, one of these men is still in hospital.

The management have now decided to employ a safety officer, but not because of the obligation to their workers to greatly reduce accidents.

The reason is that the company

The reason is that the company can't tolerate the drain on profits that this number of accidents causes through higher insurance premiums. It is much more profitable to employ a safety officer.

Conclusion-accidents are tolerated by management until the price (in terms of profit lost) becomes too high.-T HART, Rochdale.

Cowley wives. Involve them, don't just hurl insults

do need to understand why some Cowley wives acted as they did.

Inflation, the three day week and the other lay-offs at management's whim we face in Oxford mean we all feel the pinch and it is women who, in the main, have to deal with the impossibility of stretching the

Lots of men at Cowley are feeling the pinch so much that they aren't able to look beyond the short term of getting back to work now whatever the conditions.

They don't think what their money and conditions will be like if the union is weakened, and the attack on Thornett is only the first stage.

If they manage to see things like this, no wonder their wives, cut off and isolated from the shop floor fail to understand the importance of the union and the fight against victimisation.

The trade union movement has never really thought to address the wives and families of its members. Management is quick enough at writing letters to appeal to the wives. Decisions the union takes do

affect the wives too. That's why we have to be involving women in politics not just shouting down those who are on the wrong side.

Unfortunately some militants in Oxford have been saying that women should stop at home and keep their noses out of union matters (or more unprintable remarks) whereas quite an elderly supporter of Mrs Miller's demonstration said 'Good job there is women's lib, isn't it?'

It shows we can't afford to neglect women and brings out what a division they can be if they are not involved in the socialist movement. -DIANA PARKIN, Oxford.

SOME important points. We get a lot of letters-so keep them short, or they are unlikely to get in or will be cut. If you can type it helps, but don't worry if you can't. But space the letters wide, and write on one side of the page only please. The correct address is Letters, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

REMEMBER PALESTINE

26 years of independence for the state of Israel 26 years of living as refugees, under occupation and in exile, for the Palestinians

COME AND DEMONSTRATE YOUR

SUPPORT FOR THE PALESTINIANS Assemble: Speakers Corner, Sunday

19 May 1pm March to Israeli Embassy

Organised by General Union of Acab Students

A taste of militancy...

I'D LIKE to tell you about events that have taken place in the hospital where I work as a male nurse. The hospital is Storbridge General Hospital, Springburn, Glasgow.

It has been known for some time that the nursing profession in general were to receive a rise of seven per

cent as from 1 April 1974. On the same day the canteen prices for the nurses went up in price by 30 per

The price of board in the nurses' home rose by a further 6 per cent. What this means is a massive cut in the standards of every rank and file nurse in the hospital.

More so for the nurses who stay in and eat there three times a day. I will quote an example of rising meal

Before 1 April 21p. After-27½p. Imagine this three times a day or 28 days a month.

This was in fact the straw that broke the camel's back. A boycott of the canteen was arranged for the following week.

This was completely effective. Not one nurse used the canteen in that

On our return to the canteen some changes were noted. Prices were down by about 8 per cent on 1 April figures, and service was much higher. A con trick to coax the nurses into paying the higher prices. So the nurses only achieved a slight victory.

But I think the issue goes further. It proves that there is a realisation among rank and file nurses that through organised action at grass root level they can achieve things for their own betterment. Incidentally student and pupil nurses earn about £14-£15 a week.-S COUTTS, Cumbernauld, Scotland.

Dept. of Unemployment

ONE OF THE people who distributes your paper suggested I wrote to you

about a problem I have.

I had been working as a milk salesman for an Edinburgh dairy. I had an accident at work in October which damaged the tendons in my hand. This meant I went into hospital in February for an operation.

On release I discovered that the company refused to give me my wages, due to me for the week before I went into hospital. So I went to the Department of Employment. Their investigator is looking into the matter

When the company found this out paid insurance money. Because I was on insurance money the Department of Employment refused to let me sign on as unemployed—until I come off insurance. This means that I am losing insurance stamps.

I still haven't received my wages, holiday pay, bonus, or the commission which is due to me. This could also lead to me losing the unemployment benefit-because of lost stamps. RICHARDSON. WILLIAM

Glenrothes.

NO! LAY Gormley and Daly: Worth every penny?

OFF OUR LEADERS

AS I AM married to a miner, I do not think Socialist Worker's criticism of the mineworkers' leaders should pass without comment.

The comments about the Yorkshire mineworkers' leader Arthur

Scargill are unfair and bordering on the malicious. I am surprised Socialist Worker should join the witch-hunt on this man. It is probably true that he is ambitious, but his ambitions are rooted in the mining industry, and I believe him to be a man dedicated to

improving life in the mining communities. When I have heard him speak, he has never laid claim to philan-thropical leanings but always stressed the need to win the right wage for

As a result of the militancy of the mineworkers leaders, the industry is now moving forward. After generations of exploitation, it is at last being recognised for the contribution it makes to society. I do not think miners should begrudge the pay awards to these men, who have pleaded and fought the miners' cause so eloquently.

I would point out the danger of sowing discontent among the rank and file. We have in Daley, McGahey and Scargill, leaders of tremendous potential, who can command the support of their members. Solidarity and leadership is vital if the industry is to continue to move forward.-CHRISTINA RZERZUCHOWSKI, Kiverton Park, Sheffield.

An abortion of an article!

I WAS dismayed to read your flippant dismissal of the anti-abortion demo and counter-demo (4 May).

SPUC Off, meant as a witty barb against the anti-abortionists, also spoke to the many workers who read Socialist Worker but do not share its assumptions.

Abortion on demand is not accepted automatically. Many workers still have religious ideas, others see abortion as a taking of life. These attitudes must be tackled seriously.

Socialist Worker has to argue to its readers why International Socialists marched in the counter-demo and why abortion on demand is an issue socialists must support.

To declare the demonstrators as 'Catholic killiovs' reduces Socialist Worker to a socialist Playboy, and insults workers who read it but are still attached to the Church.

Abortion is not about sex for fun, but the right of women to control their lives and to choose whether or not to have children.

It is part of the struggle for a socialist society, where workers con-trol production and their lives. It challenges the assumption that women's destiny is the breeding and the rearing of children.

WE LEF

Just as Socialist Worker argues the politics of the other issues it supports, it must take up this argument.-JENIFER ROSS, Glasgow.

Next week's Postal Points will feature the many letters we have received on abortion.

Get it right

I AGREE with most of Socialist Worker's ideas, but I must criticise the article (4 May) by Alison Langan on the Cowley workers' reactionary

Her comments are correct-but is it necessary for Socialist Worker to present her as the 'wife of a car worker'? Is her only claim to recognition the occupation of her husband?

It's high time women were accorded status on their own merits, not as someone else's chattel.

The fight for socialism should be a liberating one, not a feudalistic struggle where women are only accorded equality on the strength of their marital and sexual relations.

It does not matter if a woman is married to Karl Marx, she's still an individual and should be treated as such.-SUSAN ILES (Ms), Kingston,

MY WIFE and I left the Turf Lodge area of Belfast four weeks ago, because of our two kids. We would like you to print part of a letter we just got from a Republican friend back

'Jamie's son Eamonn has only just been beat up by the British. He is very seriously ill in a hospital. Trouble is bad here. Over 200 have No one knows who is going next. The town is completely wrecked. The place is packed with Brits. More than have ever seen before. The Protestants are even fighting them

'Jamie is reading your paper Socialist Worker. He seems very interested in it. Ripting has started again for the summer. 18 people

have been found dead over the past two weeks.

'Fort: Monagh came under a mortar and rocket attack lasting four hours. Pieces of Fort Monagh were found in Turf Lodge (one and a half

I AM NOW WENDING TORSES OF Socialist Worker to Belliat over



WHEN FORDS GO MARCHING IN hope that the change of editumbio will lead to a change in editorial policy I believe that the whole idea that good life consists of accumulating as many material possessions as possible is wrong, and will be increasingly challenged in the future, and with it the whole ethos of industrialisation. There is nothing in What We Stand For to suggest you have any such views, and I just cannot accept the idea of being lead to salvation to carworkers.—A G COLLINGS, Exeter.

GREAT PUBLICITY, BUT NO-ONE UNDERSTANDS IT . . . Might it not be the time to include a weekly column on that most widely publicised but least understood subject, economics? . . . I suggest that some competent journalist writes a weekly article on inflation, balance of payments, stock exchange, gold, banks etc . . . They should be short and related to everyday experience . . . But please spare us the ABC of Socialism approach, leave

the moralising and propaganda to the imagination of the reader.-BILL THOMSON

TALKING ABOUT TALKING ABOUT . . . Thanks for the articles Talking About Socialism . . . I agree with those letter writers who want more theoretical writing it's still very valuable to deal with the arguments of people who haven't begun to think in socialist, let alone marxist terms . . . I'd like to see more on racism, and more on relations between sections of the working class . . . where I work (City of Oxford Motor Services) there is much bad feeling against Cowley workers. How do you explain the necessity of strikes or powerful unions to workers who already resent Cowley pay rates?-MARTIN KNAPP, Oxford.



COMPLAINING ABOUT TALKING ABOUT . . I read Duncan Hallas's Who Will Do The Dirty Jobs? (27 April) expecting a carefully reasoned socialist answer . . . What we got was irrelevant hogwash and a dodging of the issue . . . To answer that there wouldn't be so many, or that they could be started at 9am instead of 8am is pitiful.-ADRIAN HYDE, Nottingham.



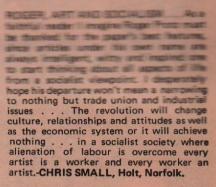
CONGRATULATIONS . . . On the style and content of Socialist Worker (27 April) Previously I have been interested only enough to flick through a friend's copy . . . That week my attention was attracted to most of the reports and features . . . this is the very stuff to begin an awakening of the tired majority of workers to the in-justices and inhumanities of their plight in capitalist society . . . The front page was riveting. Yes It Could Happen Here, Official Department of Dirty Tricks and High Pitched Hum From Highgate Cemetery were first class journalism.-SYLVIA LEWIS, Grays.



THE LEYLAND PARTY . . . It's quite obvious that North American and European companies are investing in Chile in a big way . . . We can't expect the Labour government to break with Chile . . . They don't forget who they really represent. Neither should we!-L HOLLEY,



FANCY BOUND EDITION OF CLASSIFIED ADS? . . . How pleased I was to see your advertisement for a limited number of beautifully bound volumes of International Socialism (4 May) Yes I would be pleased if you could rush me your offer at the amazingly low low price of £7. Unfortunately I'm already shelling out £25 a month for a superbly finished collection of the epic Stories From British History, bound in real Skiwertex, an immaculately embossed 100 volume set of The Treesury of Tory Failures in Persian gran Kidron etc etc By when my present series of stime



SOCIALIST WORKER 18 May 1974 5



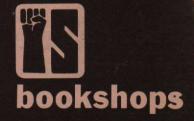
AFTER THE QUEEN HAS BEEN . . . Our wonderful Queen is to open a power station in Didcot . . . On the route the VIPs will pass a couple of old aircraft hangars which will shortly be demolished . . . but because they are on the Milton Industrial Estate they are being *re-painted* at a cost of £3000—then knocked down for I suspect, property speculation.-A G ADAMS, New Malden.



JUST GREAT . . . Last week's Socialist Worker was one of the best yet, and shows the paper really can be improved along the lines discussed by the last National Committee. Getting it distributed as well as printed, by Tuesday night was a magnificent achievement which shows that the paper can arise above the office and printshop routine . . . I am glad to see some really good articles by working women at last.-NORAH CARLIN, London N9.



GOOD AND BAD . . . I attended the Chile demonstration and was pleased to see such a large IS contingent. However, I was disappointed that we had marched all the way down to the Embankment to . . . disperse. Next time organise a demonstration on such an important issue the rally must be held at the end so we can ensure the maximum audience for our own speakers and put speakers such as Stan Newens MP in the position where they have to make the clearest possible statement on why they are opposed to selling arms to the Junta and yet are part of a government which isn't.-DANE PERKINS, Newcastle, Staffs.

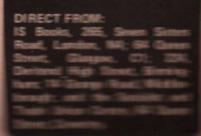


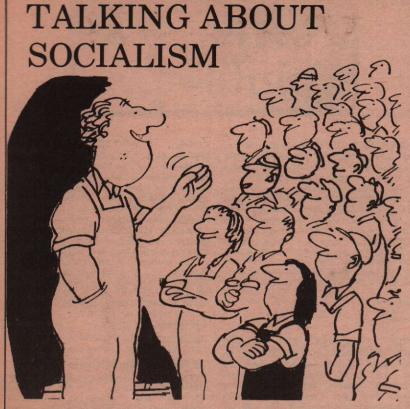
Available again, CHILDREN'S STRIKES IN 1911. Dave Marson, a Hull docker, describes the school strikes of 1911 when, during the long summer of industrial conflict, thousands of children defied the school authorities. Among their demands-'shorter hours and no stick'. (History Workshop pamphlet 30p) Recommended by IS members

as a clearly-written explanation of the ideas of dialectical materialism and marxist philosophy-AN INTRODUCTION TO THE LOGIC OF MARXISM, by George Novack (80p).

MAIL ORDER FROM:

IS Books, 265, Seven Sisters Road, London, N4. Please add 4p for postage on pamphlets, 7p





ANTI-SEMITISM is the socialism of fools'. This was said by the German marxist leader August Bebel before the First World War. At that time the social-democratic movement was growing fast in Germany and Austria and was believed, wrongly as events proved, to be a revolutionary movement. A diversion was needed. Various 'social-christian' and other groups were encouraged.

The social-christian Lord Mayor of Vienna, Dr Karl Luegar, was a perfect specimen of the racist, fake socialist of that time. He was, of course, for God, family and fatherland and he denounced Jewish

financiers, Jewish capitalists, Jewish exploiters. Not capitalists as such but Jewish capitalists.

The Jews, according to Lueger and his like, were the cause of all evils and of capitalism in particular. There were a lot of Jews in Vienna at the time so they were conspicuous.

Lueger built a career out of Jew-baiting, just as in our time Paisley has built a career out of Pope-baiting. His social-christian party claimed to be a party of the left and competed with the socialdemocrats.

It was, naturally, favoured by the authorities and was never short of (gentile) capitalist money. It was a weapon in the struggle against real socialism and working-class unity. Later on Adolf Hitler's German fascists-who called themselves 'national-socialists'-followed the same tack.

Now the Jews are not, in fact, a race but a group of religious communities. The average Jew of today is no more descended from Abraham and Moses than I am descended from Hengist and Horsa. We are all a very mixed lot. Incidentally the Zionists, who are also racists in their way, deny this. Zionism is anti-semitism turned upside down.

But if the Jews are not a race, how can anti-semites be called racists? Because racism, which is a

COMING SOON

Paul Ginsborg's Introduction deals with the main political arguments which Lenin used in his work in the Russian and World Revolutionany movement.

The socialism

of fools

political weapon of the right, has nothing whatever to do with race in the scientific sense.

To understand this it is useful to look at the history of racism in Europe before there were considerable numbers of dark-skinned people here. It centres around the 'aryan' myth.

A Frenchman, Count de Gobineau, invented or popularised the aryans. They were supposed to be a race of noble barbarians who came out of the northern mists, conquered Europe and Asia and were responsible for inventing civilisation and all things bright and beautiful. They became the aristocratic rulers of the lesser (European) breeds who were called Mediterraneans Mongrels.

Villains

The French revolution was a disaster in which the aryan aristocrats were overthrown by the Alpine-Mediterranean common herd. For Gobineau, who wrote in the first half of the last century, the real villains were not so much the Jews but democracy and

He wanted to turn the wheel of history back to the middle ages so he argued that working people were biologically inferior to aristocrats like himself, they belonged to inferior races, they were fit only to be serfs.

It is hardly necessary to say that all this is the purest codswallop. The word aryan properly refers to a group of related languages, usually called the Indo-European family. English is one of them. Civilisation was 'invented' by brown-skinned people in the Middle East and North Africa who spoke languages that were not Indo-European. The European aristocracies belonged to the same racial mix as their serfs and so on.

The whole argument is a justification for the unjustifiable. And it is typical of all racist arguments. Racism, everywhere and at all times, is a weapon of reaction.

Duncan Hallas

Dust in the JOHN TODD has been in the Glasgow Insulation Workers branch of the Transport

Union all his working life. He is a member of the branch committee and the health committee.

Until recently, when he was diseased out of the industry, he was a leading steward with Newall's

John is 53 years old. He and his wife Georgina have three grown sons and a daughter, Aileen, aged seven. But John has at least one other distinguishing feature. He has asbestosis, the incurable industrial

According to Dr Anna Marshall, who saw John about industrial injury benefit, 'he rather dramatises this'

Certainly John insists that the figure of 82 dead in nine years in his branch of the union is a serious underestimate of the ravages of

profiteering.

'The 82 are only those whose death certificates acknowledge what happened to them. Others died from it, many others. But it went down as something else. And anyway there are men who let their union cards lapse, others who went out of the industry, who died from the bug. We will never know the true extent of what has been done to us. There are no geiger counters for asbestosis. Just word of

But for John the heart of the matter does not lie in the count of the dead and the dying. It lies in the long and bitter fight men like himself have had to wage for any approximation to decent working conditions, a fight in which the employers have given no quarter even when the stakes were deadly disease.

I came back to this industry after the war. My father was dead and I wasn't going back to the lagging. But they brought in an essential works order and forced me to. I believed in the employers and the "we'll all pull together" stuff then. Experience is a bitter teacher.

Strike

I got known as an agitator, just as anyone who stands up for their rights does. But it was only about 1959 that we started raising the matter of health, asking for investigations and the like. We knew nothing about asbestosis then, though we now know the employers knew plenty.

We asked and asked again. We got precisely nowhere. We were told laggers weren't covered by the Asbestos Regulations. Then in 1966 we decided to fight and demanded health checks. health checks, masks and protective clothing. We were out on strike for four and a half weeks.

As a result the employers agreed to give us medical examinations every two years. They gave us them once. Since then-nothing. They also agreed to set up a joint health committee. It met a few times just after the dispute. But it hasn't met for about four years. That just goes to show how concerned about our health the employers really are.

Our strike did change the law though. New asbestos regulations covering laggers and shipyard workers for the first time came in under the Labour government. The only problem is the law protects no one if it's not enforced.

The employers' real priorities used to come out in other ways. The firm used to bar me from the better jobs, where you could get organised. Then they used to go behind your back to other workers and "advise" them to keep away from you. They did that to Willie Hurst. They told him not to tell his steward that the firm had conceded on a grievance.

We've fought and fought to get the union really moving. But they're awful slow. You get the feeling that they think you're a pest too, that

lungsfire in the belly



Agitators' because they fight for safety at work: John Todd (left) and Jim Heggie outside the Newalls works

you're stirring things up.

I was told that I'd had a good innings by one official. And I was barred from the Scottish TUC's health schools after attacking their record of total inaction.

When John's asbestosis was finally confirmed he had to leave Newall's. He has been succeeded as steward there by Jim Heggie. For Jim too experience has been a bitter teacher.

I'll tell you what it's about. You're sitting there with your mates and talking. Someone will say: "Did you hear so and so is dead?". Then a couple of hours later you'll be in haggling with the boss over the most elementary safety conditions.

They're telling us now that the problems are in the past. But the asbestos-free materials aren't very pleasant and they're not the end of asbestos either. We've put asbestos up all over the place and now we have to take it down. That's where the peril is nowadays.

You still have the same fight to make the lads aware that an extra few pennies an hour is no good. And you still have the same battle with the employer. They used to send John to all the lousy jobs, now they send

The really obscene part of this business is that having cheated the men of their lives they're up to every dodge to get out of paying compensation. It is scandalous that we have not been able to deal with the employers before now. Why should so many men have to be slaughtered before we get them

exposed for the bandits and murderers they are?

And that is what they are. People never stop hearing about violence in Glasgow-fights, gangs and all that. But the truth is that not even Glasgow's worst gangster has done fraction of the damage the employers have done and are doing

The law-and-order merchants don't have anything to say about any of this, you know. The authorities—well they're just a joke.

In the past three years we've continually pulled up Newalls for law breaking on asbestos. We've reported them to factory inspector after factory inspector, to their employers' association, to every possible place or body you could report them. Nothing has been done.

The attitude of the inspectors is fantastic. Mr Munro has told us repeatedly that nothing can be done unless he catches the firm in the act.

Now how the hell can that be arranged? Do you ask them just to hold on until Mr Munro can get up and see the law being broken?

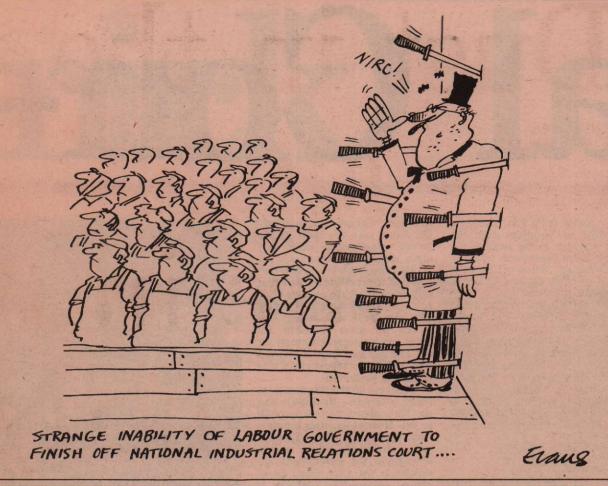
One other thing is always in my mind. We're using asbestos free materials now. But what do they do to you? Who knows? Have the employers done any experiments or are they experimenting on me as they ex perimented on others with asbestos?

In 20 years time will we be sat round a table talking of a new batch of diseases and another trail of death?

Both John Todd and Jim Heggie intend to do everything in their power to ensure that this does not happen. They are working hard to get the union moving in a co-ordinated and determined fashion.

They have one other interesting proposition to make. As John Todd puts it: 'The papers are always on about the unions running the country. Well if the working class was running the country then for a start there would be a damn site fewer of our members dying from asbestosis.

The fourth article in a series by Laurie Flynn





RIMS No 1

MUCH has been written about the contract for the building of three blocks of flats in Newcastle in 1963, which was originally 'won' by Crudens on the recommendation of T Dan Smith, then chairman of the housing committee at Newcastle and also working as a public relations consultant for Crudens.

Crudens did not build the flats after Tory Housing Minister Sir Keith Joseph refused to sanction a government loan for the project.

The contract then went to Brims

and Co, a subsidiary of Swan Hunter. the Tyneside shipbuilders.

The most influential director of Brims was Nicholas Ridley, Tory MP for Cirencester. Ridley later became one of the 'hawks' in the Tory government of 1970, and as Minister for Industry pursued a ruthless policy towards ailing companies ('lame ducks'). Above all, he argued for a 'tough' policy towards Upper Clyde Shipbuilders, which, he argued should be allowed to go bust. If UCS had gone bust, of course, Swan

Hunter would have been rid of an awkward competitor.

By one of those remarkable coincidences which dogs all these stories, Ridley fought Blyth for the Tories in 1955. He was beaten by the sitting MP, Alf Robens, now Lord Robens.

PS: From 1947-1951, the headmaster of the Princess Louise County Secondary School, Blyth, was Edward Short, the Labour Minister with £250 connections with T Dan Smith.

THE deep commitment of the Labour government to blacking contracts for the Chile regime comes out in this House of Commons exchange between Jo Richardson, MP for Barking, and the Minister of Defence, Roy Mason:

Law and orders

JAMES BYERS admired and almost MOT test. 'I'll not break the law for loved his employer, Hugh Lindsay, 98, who lives on top of a hill in Lockerbie, Dumfries. He was gardener and chauffeur to the old

man for only £11 a week.

One day last month, the old man ordered James to take him to Dumfries in his 1958 Riley.

No, said James, he couldn't do that. Because the car had failed its

Your holiday wishes granted

READERS who aren't sure what they're going to do this summer holiday may have missed the following ad in The Times last Thursday.

SIR ROBERT GRANT FERRIS wishes to charter his 58-foot, twin-screw luxury motor yachts for Balearic Island cruising, August or September, suitable 4/5 persons and crew of 3. Superb vessel in top condition. Inquiries to owner. 16 Stafford Place, Palace St., SW1. Secretary, 493 2964. MOTOR YACHT and crew for char-

Sir Robert Grant-Ferris is Tory MP for Nantwich and deputy chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons. I understand that some entirely irresponsible people have been telephoning the number given in the advert with unhelpful suggestions about what Sir Robert can do with his yachts this summer. Unfortunately, there is nothing whatever I can do to stop this behaviour.

anybody,' he said bravely.

Hugh Lindsay didn't see the point.

He told James to take him to Dumfries

or get out.
So James walked out, and took the case to the local Industrial Relations Tribunal, alleging unfair dismissal.
After long legal argument, the tribunal revealed that he had not been sacked. The case was dismissed.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

'This strong attachment of our people to our institutions may be conservative and instinctive. It is also valuable even for those of us who want to change the nature and social and economic relationships of the society in which we live. Like all Her Majesty's Ministers, I am a strong supporter of British institutions."

-Hugh Jenkins, Labour Minister for the Arts, generally regarded as the 'most left-wing member of the government', speaking last week at a dinner given by the Royal Academy.

JIM SLATER chairman of Slater, Walker, having got rid of a lot of more dubious companies to pension funds and the like, is doing well this year. He's had a salary rise which puts his before-tax pay up from £30,750 a year to £33,758-a healthy 10 per cent increase. On top of that he declares himself the owner of two million shares in his own company, which, in the current financial year, paid him £139,600.

Chilean Arms Contracts

40. Miss Richardson asked the Secretary of State for Defence if he will give as much information as is consistent with commercial confidentiality and security practices relating to current running contracts for arms and ammunition of all types to be supplied by British companies to Chile.

Mr. Mason: Details of foreign Governments' purchases of defence equipment are regarded as confidential by our customers and publicity, if any, is a matter for them. Notwithstanding current interest in Chile, whose major contracts have already become known, it would be damaging to our future sales prospects worldwide if we were to depart from the principle of confidentiality.

Victims of the police



Cecil Sampson and his wife Yvonne

ONE of the worst cases of police violence against London's black communities has resulted in two years' imprisonment for Cecil Sampson, a clerk who worked for Gestetners. His wife Yvonne, who was charged with two serious offences which were never pressed, is trying to bring up five children

without wages.

Last July, Cecil was cooking supper in their Tottenham home for the children while Yvonne was asleep upstairs. Five police officers in plain clothes arrived from Tottenham police station, following up allegations of illegal abortion, which were falsely pressed by a malicious neighbour and soon afterwards dropped.

Three policemen held Cecil down while two others went upstairs to his wife. Soon afterwards, he heard his wife scream. He tried to reach her, and a scuffle broke out, in which some of the hot fat in his frying pan was thrown all over him, burning him seriously. He was also beaten on the head and neck.

Cecil and Yvonne, who was dragged out of bed half naked, were taken to Tottenham police station. He was charged with attempted murder and assault. She was charged with assaulting police officers.

The case came up first at Chelmsford Crown Court. The judge refused to believe that heart condition made ficult for him to plead, and Cecil collapsed in court. The case was ad-

journed to the Old Bailey

At the Old Bailey both charges against Yvonne were dropped without explanation or apology. The attempted murder charge against Cecil was dropped too. But Cecil was found guilty of causing grievous bodily harm, and was

jailed for two years.

Ten days before his sentence,
Cecil, who defended himself for much of the case, appealed to the judge: 'Act honourably by disqualifying yourself from the arduous task of trying my case of manifest police brutality, perjury and corruption . . . It is quite obvious that the police had not merely invaded my privacy but proceeded to brutalise my family and me.'

Organise

Yvonne Sampson and her five children are in desperate straits as a result of this scandalous case. Cecil's angina will be seriously inflamed by prison conditions.

The plight of these seven black people is one more example of the offensiveness and brutality of London police and judges towards black

The black communities must be organised in protest.

A public meeting to start the protest has been organised by the Sampson Defence Committee on Sunday 12 May at 2.30pm in the Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Road, London, N4, (near Finsbury Park be station). All readers, especial IS members in the area, are urged to attend and extend the protest.



SUMMER **SCHOOLS**

TRAINING COMMITTEE/STUDENT COMMITTE

Day 1: IS traditions/political perspectives

Day 2: The student movement 1966-1974

Day 3: Practical work

June 24-26: EDINBURGH

June 26-28: YORK

July 1-3: MANCHESTER

July 3-5: BIRMINGHAM

July 5-7: OXFORD July 8-10: LONDON

Attendance at ONE school is an obligation for all IS students. Number your

preference of dates 1, 2, 3.

Send to Ken Muller, SSC, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN

5001al Con-

IF YOU believe the press, the land of milk and honey has finally arrived for the working class. It's called the Social Contract. This, we are told, gives the trade unions everything they have ever wanted. And in return all we have to do is restrain militancy and keep a ceiling on wage claims.

But before the dancing in the street begins, it's worthwhile taking a closer look at the Labour Government's side of the contract. Just what have we bargained for?

They have increased the old age pension to £10 and £16 for couples. Anyone with any feeling has to welcome this. But does anyone really consider that £16 is enough for a married couple to live on in any kind of dignity or comfort?

Last winter where I live in Newham, East London, the police had to set up a special task force to patrol the allotments: because there were so many cases of people breaking in to plunder the vegetables. Particularly old people.

Bernard van Cutsem, the racehorse trainer, charges over £100 a week just to stable and feed his nags during the winter. Retired couples will get £16.

Last week, my wages fell by £2-because of Labour's increased taxes. Even married men in the docks here lost more than

by London docker **Bob Light**

On the prices front, to dam up price increases the Labour government have introduced food subsidies.

Shirley Williams is subsidising food to the tune of £500 million. But this is peanuts. And very small peanuts at that. Just to hold the price of a loaf of bread at 14½p instead of 16p is costing £100 million. In other words one-fifth of the total subsidy has gone on bread alone. And it saves the average family maybe 15p a week.

Today world-wide inflation is far, far worse. And the Labour government's tissue-paper policy can do nothing to control that inflation. Because inflation is the hereditary disease of the capitalist system. Short of uprooting that system, there are no measures that will stop prices

And the government is re-pealing the Industrial Relations

Act. Away from the headlines, in quiet and insidious ways, the Act was still eating away at the trade union movement. In particular it made union officials ter-rified of being accused of unfair industrial practices.

Recently in the London docks we had a problem with lorries with the lethal habit of overbalancing when they were being loaded. We had several serious accidents to dockers. So these lorries were blacked by the local Transport Workers' Union Committee. But our official refused to issue an official leafletout of fear of crossing with the

Scab

To this extent the Act was still a danger to trade unionism. But its real teeth have all been systematically kicked in.

The principle of registration was boycotted to death. The 'cooling-off period' and the 'compulsory ballot' blew up in the Tories' faces with the railway-men's vote in 1972. The strikes over Goad and Langston made a mockery of the Act's 'right' for a scab to leave the union.

Most important of all, in five days outside the gates of Pentonville Prison, rank and file trade unionists made sure that the Act would never again be used to intimidate individual militants.

The Act was in flames. It had become not just useless to the employers-it was embarrassing

to them. Campbell Adamsonthe front man for the CBI the bosses' organisation-made that plain during the election

All the Labour government is doing is repealing an Act that had ceased to have any use at all to the employing class. Which is like the Pope renouncing sex.
It's no great hardship for

them. And no great victory for us. The Act had been destroyed long before its repeal got a first

reading in parliament.

That is all the 'Social Contract' offers us. Meanwhile the six Shrewsbury pickets are still in jail. Meanwhile, after the election, the Tories' Phase Three is still strangling our wages. Meanwhile the government has ratted on the Clay Cross councillors. Meanwhile Labour is allowing gunboats to be sent to the butcher-regime in Chile.

For this, the working class is being asked to sign a peace pledge with the Labour govern-

If someone approached you in the street, and offered to sell you Tower Bridge in return for a cut of your wages every week, you'd say no. Even if he offered you two bricks as a first instalment.

Freeze

The Labour government is trying the same stunt. They are intent on making the working class pay for the inefficiency of the economy. But before they can do that, they've got to work the confidence trick. Which is why the hook has been baited with concessions like increased pensions and the rents freeze.

Let us at least be as shrewd as our enemy. The employing class know they've got nothing to fear from the Labour government. Since the election, there have been no reports of com-pany directors jumping off high buildings. Few property specu-lators have emigrated. Life goes on as usual among the toiling poor of the West End clubs.

Leeches like these know they've got nothing to fear from the Social Contract. They know that a Labour government is no more threat to their social sys-

tem than people who put foreign coins in gas meters.

It is us—the working class—who will be mugged by the Social Con-Trick. If we lay down our arms, the employers will run roughshod all over us.

What does it matter to us that the matinee idol of the left, Michael Foot, has replaced Fat-



PENSIONER: £10 a week

boy Whitelaw? They're both preaching 'wage restraint'.

What does it matter to us that wage restraint is now 'voluntary' and not 'compulsory'. At a time of rising prices it still spells a wage cut for the working class.

In this system you get what you fight for. And nothing more. It was the militancy of the miners-against Labour's advicethat dumped the Tories out of office. It was the militancy of railwaymen, carworkers and dockers that ripped out the jugular vein of the Industrial Relations Act. And it is only that militancy that will keep our head above water now.

Isi

THE Labour incomes police abolished. Th Secretary Mic Civil and Pub declined to g members in parity of treat But Foot even after the

there would b This shows 'social contrac

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Forty years ago it took enormous courage to be a revolutionary. Capitalism had survived war and attack. Communist Parties

were becoming Stalinist machines. Few people were up to the task in Britain-less than a dozen, centred on Balham in South London.

Reg Groves, one of the founders of the Balham Group, describes their history and with it the emergence of Trotskyism in Britain.

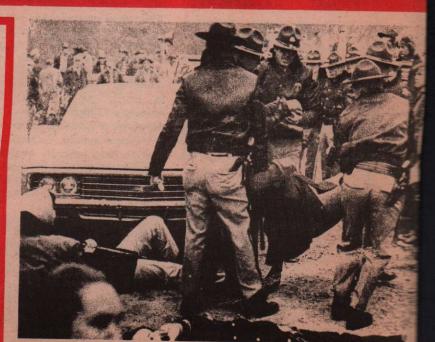
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Police arresting striking miners at Harlan, Kentucky

JICK



RACEHORSE: £100 a week

t a bargain?

government does not intend to relax its after Phase Three and the Pay Board are s has been made clear by Employment ael Foot. At a meeting with officials of the ic Services Association last week, he again e any special case treatment to the CPSA's e Post Office, who have been demanding ent with civil servant members of the union. ent even further. He laid it on the line that ay Board and Phase Three had been scrapped, no change in the government's attitude. again the reality behind the rhetoric of the

THE PRICE OF THREE **FINGERS**

STEPHEN SMOLINSKI has seven fingers. The other three were amputated by a guillotine in a Swindon printing works.

The works belongs to Thorn Electrical Rentals, who own Radio Rentals and a few other concerns, and hold an award from the Distributive Industry Training Board for their training programme.

Stephen, who is 16, is a trainee. The machine that took away his fingers had several faults. For one thing, the guard that is supposed to keep the operator's hands away from the blade only extended seven inches. The standards of the Factory Inspectorate and the British Federation of Master Printers demand that such guards extend

It has another fault that no one told Stephen about. Because one or two things are wrong with it, a few adjustments have been made. So the brake which holds the blade in the 'up' position after it has completed a stroke is off. And the blade tends to slice down again once or twice before it comes to rest.

Fenced

If you did not know about that, you could reach under the blade to retrieve some work, and the blade could come down on your hands when you were not expecting it. That is what happened to Stephen.

Thorn pleaded guilty to two charges of occupying a factory where machinery was not securely fenced and one charge of occupying a factory where a young person worked at a machine of such dangerous character that a young person ought not to work

Their solicitor said: 'This is e of those unfortunate accidents which happen.' They had happened in the past, he said, and they would happen in the future. 'No controls will stop them,' he said. 'Everybody

Swindon magistrates fined



HERE is Sir Jules Thorn, chairman of Thorn Electrical Industries, which owns Thorn Television Rentals.

Just under 33 million shares in Thorn Electrical qualified last year for payment of a dividend. Sir Jules and his family own seven million of them.

Shareholders in Thorn last year received £7.8 million of the £28 million profits notched up by the company. Sir Jules Thorn paid himself, after tax, more than a million pounds in

THE PAY OF POWER



Nurses: We're a bit fed up -TO PUT IT MILDLY

LAST Friday, a sunny afternoon in Balham, South London, it was business as usual at St James Hospital Casualty department. Which meant crowds, queues, ambulances, a small boy with a large bandage on his nose, a building worker with his arm in a sling, a baby crying and notices on reception apologising for am-bulance service delays due to 'lack of staff'.

Picture Chris Davies (Report)

ROSIE BATEMAN:

with the

Rosie Bateman is a Sister in that Casualty department. She was finishing work that night at 9pm. She would start the following

morning at 7am.

Her monthly pay, without overtime and before tax, is £89.

She'll be doing more overtime in future, for which she'll get the standard hourly rate. But this is a victory for the nurses at St James.

'We got rather fed up', she explained. 'Agency nurses work the same hours that we do, and get double our pay. Six weeks ago we circulated a petition about it, and three quarters of the nurses

The management were entirely sympathetic. They agreed to take agency nurses off day-work except in the intensive care unit and to review the situation on a weekly basis.

Farcical

Agency nursing is the National Health Service equivalent to the Lump on building sites-and can have equally disastrous results. Since the government won't pay decent wages the nurses can't be found. So the hospitals hire freelance nurses from the agencies which have sprung up to 'meet the demand?. What makes it farcical is that many of the agency nurses are NHS nurses-on their

Rosie explained: 'You can't save for holidays, you can't save for anything on the money we get. The agency nurses fill the gap. They leap official pay rates.

Rosie has spent three years as a State Registered Nurse, two years as an orthopaedic nurse and is now in her second year as a Sister. By the time she gets to her fifth year she can look forward to an extra £10 a month . . . Pam Denard is a SRN in North

'Our 55 per cent claim started in 1971 when a 25 per cent claim was discussed. By 1972 the staff negotiators accepted eight and a half per cent with further negotiations later that year. Then

came the pay freeze.
'By 1973 the claim was up to 40 per cent to keep up with the cost of living. The following year, for the same reasons it was up to 55 per cent. Then in April we settled for seven per cent under Phase Three'.

Rotten

'You must remember that we were one of the groups Heath couldn't"break faith with" to pay the miners their due! The award last week of £18 million may sound a lot-but divided up it comes to about £2 to £4 a week before tax.

And it doesn't affect the bulk of the nursing staff in the NHS, student nurses, at all.

Pam explained the acceptance of the rotten deals by the negotiators. 'The council is composed of professional organisations like the Royal College of Nurses, who are in a majority, and trade

"The RCN is so pre-occupied with professional "dignity" and the "Florence Nightingale" image of the nurse that better pay becomes of minor importance.

So the nurses have started fighting back, canteen boycotts, the protests at St James, strike threats in Liverpool-and in Yorkshire they staged a one hour strike at Storthes Hall Hospital.

At Guys nurses are moving into action against the scandal of private wards where the facilities of the Health Service are drained into fee-paying patients.

'A private patient at Moorfields Eye Hospital paid £400 for an operation. The waiting list thenfour years ago—was four months. He was an area sales manager, driving was part of his job, and if he couldn't see he couldn't drive. Where would a lorry driver find that sort of money?

WOMEN and children have been thrown into jail, the coal companies are employing "gun thugs" to protect potential strikebreakers and sporadic ugly beatings have taken place.'

A report from a newspaper of the last century? Not at all. It is from a story by Simon Winchester in The Guardian of 9 May 1974 about a strike, now in its tenth month, in Harlan county,

The miners are on strike for the right to be represented by a genuine union, the United Mineworkers of America. The bosses are using the law, the local judge who, Winchester reports: 'Just happens to be a coal operator himself,' the official armed police, the private armed company police-'company goons' to the miners-the local press and whatever else they can use in an all-out effort to smash the UMWA. All pickets are photographed 'to make absolutely sure they will never again get employment in Harlan county

It is the second time that the Kentucky miners have had to fight this fight. In the 1930s there was a violent and heroic struggle for union recognition. The shootings and beatings by police and company

Harlan' famous in the labour movement. But the union won. The coal bosses were tamed.

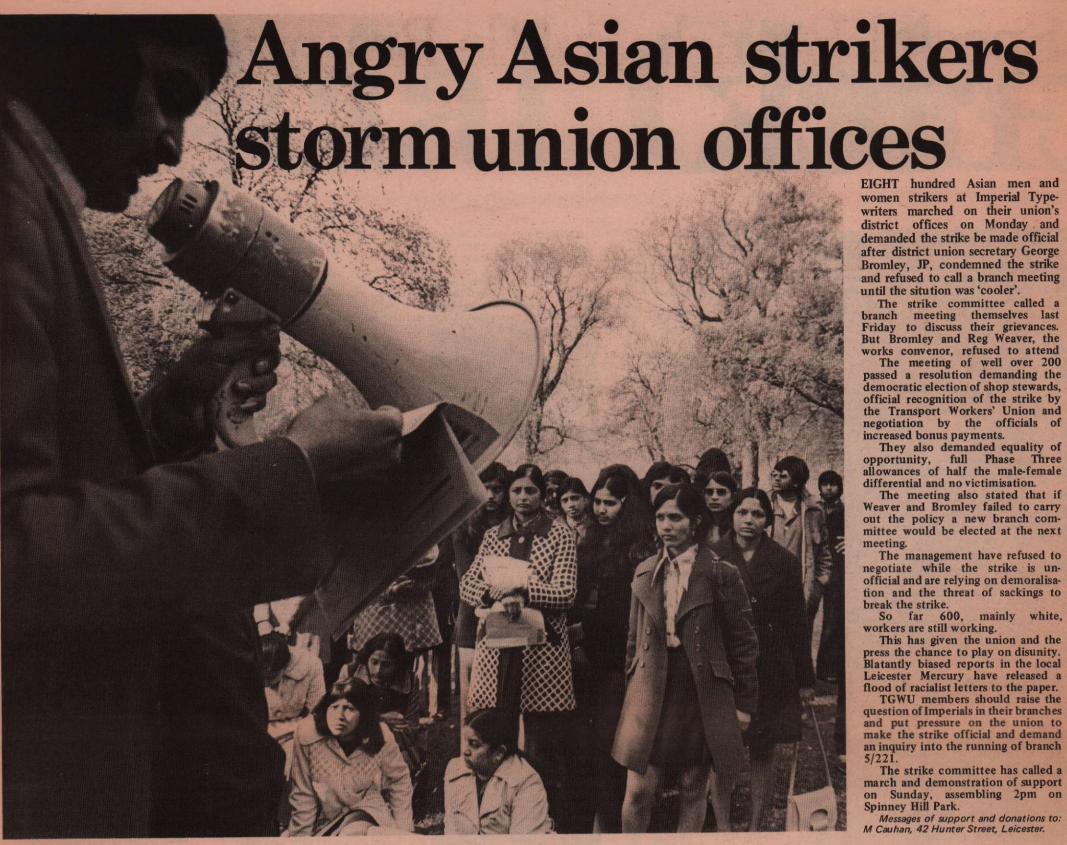
Then, in the 1950s and 1960s, a right-wing leadership paralysed the UMWA. This leadership's alliance with coal bosses and gangsters so disgusted members that many of the Kentucky coal owners were able to destroy real unionisation and introduce a company union, the Southern Labour Union.

The result was pay at around 10 dollars a shift (the union rate is 50 dollars) and, as The Guardian reports, 'safety was appalling, protection almost totally non-existent'.

Then came the victory of a not very radical but fairly honest reform movement in the UMWA, following the conviction of right-wing union president Boyle for the murder of his leading opponent Jablonski. The new leadership is backing the strike and paying out 15,000 dollars a week in

The strike soon goes into its eleventh month. Remember Harlan the next time you read about 'overpowerful unions'.

A story in The Sun last month. According to Powell, marriage makes up for money for nurses.



A member of the strike committee reads out the report in last week's Socialist Worker of the strike.

PICTURES:

John Sturrock (Report)

How 'backward' workers fought back

ASIAN women workers came out on strike at Imperial Typewriters on May Day. Over 30 women and a man struck over a bonus dispute.

Soon they had the support of more than half the 1600 workforce, of which 1100 are Asians and West

Nearly all the 400 women are

by Gerry Byrne and Pat Kirkham out. They went on the picket line, some offering bracelets to the Asian

men who were scabbing, scoffing at them for playing women's traditional role of the obedient worker. And this from women who live in

a community with very traditional customs. One man said he didn't know what would happen if some of the older men saw such 'goings

Once the workers were out, all sorts of grievances emerged.
On average the women earn £18,

compared with the men's £25. Some earn only £14 to £16, and can take home as little as £12. One told us:
'If you take off £6 a week for someone to watch my baby, it doesn't leave much.

of the colour of their skin.

'When we go to the toilet they time us and ask us why we're going. When we chat to a friend they tell

when we char to a friend they ten us to shut up and get back to the machines,' said one woman.

The women, who don't speak English very well, get picked on and sometimes end up crying. A young girl said that not long after she started with the firm, she was told: 'Go back where you belong.

Life inside Imperial Typewriters is miserable. There are not tea breaks. Bonus agreements can bring up the women's wages. But the women in Department 61 said that when they reached their set target of 168 machines, the foreman told them they had to make 200.

Despite being members of the Transport and General Workers' Union they get little help from the number 5/221 branch in Leicester. It doesn't want to know about Asian workers-never mind women workers.

district offices on Monday and

Bromley, JP, condemned the strike and refused to call a branch meeting until the sitution was 'cooler'.

The strike committee called a

out the policy a new branch com-mittee would be elected at the next

workers are still working.

The management have refused to negotiate while the strike is unofficial and are relying on demoralisation and the threat of sackings to break the strike. So far 600, mainly white,

This has given the union and the ress the chance to play on disunity. Blatantly biased reports in the local Leicester Mercury have released a flood of racialist letters to the paper. TGWU members should raise the question of Imperials in their branches

and put pressure on the union to make the strike official and demand an inquiry into the running of branch 5/221.

Messages of support and donations to: M Cauhan, 42 Hunter Street, Leicester.

The strike committee has called a

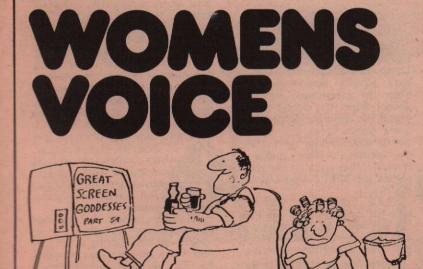
As one striker said: 'The union? I just moved here from GEC Coventry and there your steward let you know what was going on.'

A few white women are stewards. But not Asian women. In any case,

they all get a rough deal.

Women, like men, recently got the Phase Three offer of £2.25. But the union didn't press for the maximum permissible step towards equal pay. This would have meant another £4 in the pay packet.

It's good to see women on the picket line and attending strike meetings in large numbers. Full credit eeing in



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The long arm of the law, forever lurking in the background

Special Branch, Subtle Brainwa

THIS is The News: The death toll from September's military coup in Chile certainly surpassed 10,000, and is still rising at a rate of up to 50 a week, according to semiofficial sources in Washington and New York. (The Guardian, 29 March)

The Chilean ambassador in Washington argues that since he hasn't seen any bodies, no-one could have been killed. The CIA and and Ford Foundation know differently, so does the United States Air Attache in Santiago: their estimates suggest 40,000.

Oh yes, 30,000 orphans probably know the truth and over 200,000 workers and students who aren't allowed to work or study for political reasons might have some idea. And all that for the sake of the parliamentary road to socialism.

You will be pleased to hear that Chile's

new regime is trying 'to reassure its creditors'. It naturally seeks new investment and even sends emissaries abroad to explain its actions -well, some of them.

And a month after the coup, so the Barclays Group Intelligence Unit tells us, Pinochet and his band of assassins 'allowed massive increases in food prices . . . to bring prices in line with the black market' while freezing wages and cancelling a 200 per cent increase decreed by Allende.

Sounds a little excessive compared to England's pleasant pastures? Not so. If you want to know the truth, take the news with a pinch of salt but keep an eagle eye on TV

Tune in to ITV's Special Branch on Thursdays around 8.30 and you will discover a very important bit of truth.

This glorious country of ours has a secret

police whose job, though tough and, by and large, unglamorous is vital to the maintenance of freedom, peace and a high standard of

Well, that's not actually the truth. The real truth is that someone, somewhere wants us to believe that.

Failures

You didn't think we had a secret police or a secret service? You thought fiction sprang full-grown from the rather shallow minds of Ian Fleming and his ilk? Ask the widow of Kenneth Lennon, ask Kenneth Littlejohn, ask your local policeman, ask the television in the corner.

Now I don't mind the Special Branch series showing all socialists as unpleasant failures manipulated by sinister foreigners with big chips on their shoulders. You can get used to

What I do take exception to is the way the secret police, who are no different here than in Chile, only more subtle, being portrayed as

Every week on the TV they have to suffer offensive left-wing lumities, the deceptions and taunts of theri superiors, the general public's lack of sympathy and God knows what other pains. All in the course of duty. For a paltry

They are, after all, plain men with wines and families of their own. They see and here a lot of dirt and unpleasantness. They obey orders. They support the duly elected government of the country-a government, by the way, full of the human rubbish who declared undying support for the Chilean masses last year and who, this year in power, are arming their oppressors.

If Chile ever comes to England, it'll be the bold men of the Special Branch who round up our tens of thousands. They might even have to get their hands dirty and hold

And in the meantime we have to watch televised drivel about what

the guns.

a rotten life it is in the Branch.

SAM MEACHAM

FRIDAY, ITV, 10.30pm. The programme is mentioned to ensure you can be out of the house doing something useful like standing under a lamp-post to avoid THE SUN TELEVISION AWARDS. TV is used as an extension of the advertising industry. A fortnight ago the Sun Football Awards were on BBC-1. The only reason for these appalling shows is to boost the sales of the Sun newspaper, an object which both channels seem happy to fulfil. No one seems interested in the Socialist Worker Eskimo of the Year awards . . .

SUNDAY, ITV, Noon. GUILTY UNTIL PROVED IN-NOCENT in the PILGER series is about the imprisonment of people without trial. 'Out of 50,000 people whom magistrates remand in custody every year, more than half are later proved completely innocent or are merely fined or given a conditional discharge.' One 18 year old did 14 months-before being

Alvin Stardust (top) and Gary Glitter: Pot-bellies and pop yelling

And that's

JAZZ PEOPLE, by Graham Collier, Quartet, £1.50.

JAZZ is unique. It combines technical skill, creative passion and experiment in a quite thrilling way, but is still part of the popular 'folk' music that produced it.

But in 50 years, it has developed at incredible speed, compressing at least four separate musical epochs. It's as if Bach and Stravinsky had been composing at the same time.

In my opinion, to talk about the relative merits of this or that rock guitarist in the same breath, is a

In general, there are two kinds of people still playing jazz. The great originators who are still alive and playing their hearts out, and people who dabble in making pretty sounds while TV signature-tune writers pinch their ideas. It always was a mug's game.

Graham Collier, who falls into the second category, has written a book which takes the rich experience of jazz and devastatingly reduces it to

nothing.
The book wanders and weaves. It's not sure whether it's a moron's to musical instruments, memoirs or a dustbin of feebly-told jazz Jokes. It reads like English homework (Composition).

Polite

Collier occasionally refers to some of the wider political issues. Twice he brings up the question of whether jazz is a black music, although simply to ask the question is to take sides since the answer is so obvious.

On both occasions, after 'proving' it is 'everyone's' music, he gets the jitters in the last paragraph and brings out some illustrations of very obvious white incompetence. But he can't stop himself calling blacks 'negroes'-this wouldn't signify much except that if your musical career is built on the blood and veins of race and its geniuses, you might at least be polite about the fact.

Jazz, then, is something everyone can enjoy regardless. Collier extends a sloppy tolerance to jazz by saying: 'There is only good and

bad music' This attitude is widespread among British musicians because it gets them off having to think for them-

There is therefore no need to account for the social reasons for the new music's appearance. There is no understanding of how the New York Wave black musicians were actually expressing the same anger and bitterness in their music that was exploding on the ghetto streets outside.

The greats and the originals get equal billing with the rank, parish pump amateurs, with no hint of the musical gap between them.

If you can't buy this book, it's certainly not worth the risk of stealing. And if you really want to know something about jazz, try Valerie Wilmer's Jazz People.

CHRIS ANDERSON

Pop goes the cash

RE-CYCLING-the re-hashing of late Fifties' rock-'n-roll with a new set of idols-is right now the most popular game in the music business.

In the last two or three years, the record industry has recaptured the teen and pre-teen market by churning out T Rextasy, Osmond-mania and, the most recent and grotesque form, repackaged rockers Gary Glitter and Alvin Stardust.

Each apes the style, both in music and in wardrobe of the rock-'nroll days. Although the songs are new, the format and the stage presentation is a pretty straight pinch, in Stardust's case direct from early Gene Vincent and Elvis Presley

Until dredged up from relative obscurity, Glitter and Stardust were has-beens. Now they have been carefully built up, image first, into stars who successfully combine nostalgia and teen-appeal.

They represent only one aspect of the process by which the music business has turned its economic crisis of the late Sixties into the most spectacular boom since the days of the Beatles. In 1972, while teenyboppers were ringing up record sales of singles, a new company, K-Tel, entered the album market.

They launched an album of 20 original hits only recently out of the pop charts. Compilation albums, as these are called, were hardly new. Nor were the similar albums of oldies which followed.

What was new was that K-Tel had no record stars of their own. far as the record companies knew, had virtually finished their saleable life.

Then followed blanket TV advertising-at about £300,000 an album-and simultaneous distribution through as many High Street outlets as possible.

This music-loving consortium's British manager, Ian Howard, explains their strategy: 'We're not a record company, we're a market-

ing company.

'We select a product in the £1 to £2 range with mass appeal that is easily distributed to a mass market through national retailers, test it regionally with saturation television advertising, and, if it takes off, promote it nationally.'

After racking up sales of more that 500,000 on their first record, K-Tel went on to take fourth largest share in the full price album market in the last quarter of 1972, just above CBS and

Followed swiftly by Arcade and Ronco with similar packages,

IN TUNE WITH SOCIALISM

READERS interested in a socialist analysis of music should get hold of We're Only In It For The Money, a discussion of folk and popular culture (8p plus postage from 38, St Marks Crescent, Ladywood, Birmingham B1 2PX). It's the result of a year's discussion, originating in a WEA class in Birmingham and brought together

The authors want to take practical initiatives within the folk movement and hope to organise a conference to discuss theory and action for folk club organisers and any group concerned with art in struggle—theatre, song, film or any other medium used radically.

they also cleaned up on the nostalgia trade, with sales of nearly a million albums of 20 All-Time Hits Of The Fifties. In each case they were selling to people who never otherwise bought records. With a strategy like that they

could hardly go wrong.

Now even the BBC is getting

Records in the autumn with The Best of Top of The Pops and similar compilations.

The result has been the largest

boom the record industry has seen, while we are treated to the spectacle of re-cycled rockers in their mid-thirties, sporting a paunch and bellowing Do You Want To Touch Me? and repackaged hits from last week and the last decade earning money for the record companies for the umpteenth time.

Music has never been in worse shape, business has never been

MIKE FLOOD PAGE

Many happy returns

TUNDE'S FILM is a short feature acted, written and directed by East London working class kids. It's about the police, the dole, mums and social workers.

Financed by trust money, its expertise came from fed-up professional editors who cut commercials all day, sound and cameramen looking for something to do, and a producer who thrives on the impossible.

The film is showing again in East and West London. It is at the Electric Cinema, 191 Portobello Road, W11, at 9pm until 18 May and at The Half Moon Theatre, 27 Alie St, E1, every Monday at 7.30pm till 10 June.

The film is available for hire from Fair Enterprises, 57 Greek Street, London W1. 01-734 6981.

Ferndale Fires, the children's book reviewed some weeks ago, costs 30p (inc postage) with cheap rates for bulk orders from Centerprise, 66a Dalston Lane, London E8.

Reggae: A People's Music, by Rolston Kallyndyr and Henderson

Dalrymple from Carib-Arawak Publications, 108, Deacon Road,

REGGAE is the latest offspring of a musical line which started in postwar Jamaica. It was formed from the fusion of West Indian folk music with the rhythm and blues music of the black southern USA, both traditions stemming from similar, African

The reggae enthusiasts who wrote and published this excellent pamphlet show how deeply reggae is part of the modern black community.

And they write about the music from the inside, as part of their own culture. Which is incredibly rare, as a look at the class backgrounds of the critics and biographers of other kinds

of black music shows. They write politically, always em-

Willesden, London, NW2. 20p. phasing the social and revolutionary nature of the music and the lyrics, from Prince Buster's Madness and Laurel Aitken's Sufferer to Bob

Marley's Little Axe.
It is the rebelliousness and the

images of exile, promised lands and uprising, which gives the music its longing and its fire. The book is a fine piece of musi-

cal history. It shows how agricultural workers carried music between New Orleans and Kingston, Jamaica, and how the Ska style evolved in the West Indies through an exaggeration

of the loping, two-to-the-bar, offbeat of New Orleans.

Only later did it achieve a more independent character, specially in its melody lines, which are more influenced by religious music and jazz. Then came the more complicated, four-to-the-bar, offbeat patters of Reggae.

In England, Reggae became at the centre of West Indian life. The Blues Parties and the Sound System men promoted an entire music which was ignored by the white establishment; the radio and the music in-

Outside the black community the music was followed only by the Mods in the early sixties.

Reggae has become, by its musical worth, more widely known. When money could be made out of it, the companies moved in and the original forceful styles were considerably diluted to gain acceptability.

Rolston and Henderson show the dangers of this process and call for organisation among musicians to combat this exploitation.

This pamphlet is an excellent introduction to reggae which, in my opinion, is the only true style popular music has to offer at the JOHNNY COPASETIC moment.



Militancy or fanTASSy?

BROTHER SMITH challenges us on a number of issues. Let's take a closer look at them.

STRIKES: The figures quoted by Bro Smith prove nothing. How many members were involved, for how long, what proportion of the increasing membership did they represent? Surely it is better to consult the treasurer's reports between 1969 and 1973.

They show that dispute benefit (£202,201 in 1973) has almost fallen back to the 1969 level (£192,990), while

membership is up 31 per cent.

Bro Smith, from his exalted heights, may not have noticed it, but TASS activists are aware of the qualitative decline in the union's militancy.

We suggest this decline is directly related to the Communist Party's attitude to the Broad Left in TASS. Provided they co-operate with the election machine, right-wingers can now find a home. Indeed, because the Broad Left exists along a considerion machine, it increases the state of the st

soley as an election machine, it increasinly attracts careerists to its ranks.

Perhaps Bro Smith could explain why CP members in TASS have, over the years, consistently opposed the election of full-time officials. Could it be that their

machine couldn't cope.

At a Broad Left meeting at conference, several non-IS delegates were outraged to see people attending who were, until a couple of years ago, members of the 'right group'. 'right group'

WAGES: Bro Smith really has got

his sums wrong here.

His figure of an £11.49 per week rise between 1971 and 1973 doesn't even agree with the statistical information published by the Executive Committee (page 44, conference report 1973).

44, conference report 1973).

Their figures compared with those of the Department of Employment Gazette, show that between 1971 and 1973, wages for TASS members over 30 went up by 23.1 per cent from £32.79 to £40.78. For skilled workers on time rate they went up by 25.9 per cent, from £32.66 to £41.67; for skilled workers paid by results, they went up by 24.9 per cent, from £33.27 to £42.

There figures prove that for form

These figures prove that, far from the effectiveness claimed by TASS, most of our members actually fell back in comparison with skilled workers on the shop floor. These figures are also confirmed by a TASS research department fact sheet.

But the key questions are not just those of facts and figures.

There are the issues of amalgamation with the other three sections of the Engineering Union, job evaluation and the activities of other socialists in unions.

AMALGAMATION: A report submitted to conference by the executive had

THREE weeks ago, Socialist Worker carried a critical article on TASS, the white-collar section of the engineering union. Within four days delegates at the TASS annual conference were given a copy of the May issue of the union's journal which carried a reply by its editor Communist Party member Harry Smith.

KEN APPLEBY, an IS member in TASS who helped write the Socialist Worker article, has written the answer.

not been circulated to branches before conference and could not therefore be

Delegates were placed in the position of total acceptance or total rejection, despite the statement by last year's president (and Communist Party member) Arthur Scott at the 1973 conference:

'The results of the discussions [on amalgamation] would be submitted in a report to branches . . . amendments would be received to the report in the normal way. The subject would be debated, if necessary there would be further talks and a further conference until an annual conference had agreed on the final acceptable package, which would then be put to the whole membership.' (p120, 1973 conference

This procedure was not carried out. Proposals which were accepted have serious

Approved

One little item casually thrown in and defended by Ken Gill, general secretary and Communist Party stalwart, is that while conceding that officials would in future be elected, all existing officials would not stand for election.

They will be there for life, which is very convenient for one K Gill, Esq, who would have a lifetime position on the AUEW NEC.

The reference back of the EC repor was moved on the grounds that it should have been submitted to the branches for possible amendment. This was lost after a lengthy discussion.

The president then moved to a vote on the acceptance of the report, which had not had any of the detailed proposals discussed. Acceptance was carried.

The president then ruled that we had at the same time approved an 'enabling motion' moved by the EC. This gives power to the amalgamated NEC to call a ballot of the whole AUEW membership, at any time, on future proposals for amalgamation without the necessity of discussing the matter with TASS.

On top of that, the NEC could amendwithout consultation - amalgamation proposals appearing on the ballot. This item really showed the steam-roller in DEMOCRACY: The role of the EC was further altered by one sentence stuck away at the end of one of the paragraphs of their report. It read 'the EC has also decided in principle to hold EC meetings mid-week.

In our opinion, this will be the first of many moves towards a full-time executive. It will obviously be extremely difficult for any militant at odds with his employer to manage more time away

The final blow to any pretensions of democracy was the move by the conference standing orders committee to prevent IS TASS delegates from producing

their daily conference bulletin.

President Arthur Housden refused to allow a speaker against the committee's report, which was then approved without discussion.

It's amazing that someone elected with the help of the circulation of un-official material (the Board Left list) could be a party to the kind of bureau-cratic manoeuvre normally associated with the right wing in the trade union move-

It would be interesting to hear what CP members in the EEPTU who are active around the rank and file paper Flashlight think of their fellow Party members in TASS who resort to the kind of tactics Flashlight is campaigning against.

STOP SMEARING OUR COLLAR

A Reply to "A Stain On The White Collar"

N April 27th Socialist Worker carried an article on the Technical, Administrative and Supervisory Section of the AUEW. Authorship was attributed to a number of un-named "TASS members of the International Socialists," Anonymous writings should usually be ignored. This article so misrepresents TASS and its Executive that it is necessary to reply.

Strikes

The following indicates the incidence of official strikes in TASS in recent years of official strikes in TASS in recent years (1906 and 1959) 128 1970 and 1971 128 1972 and 1973 178

This is the way the article misrepresents the position:—
"Over the past three years TASS has undergone what many union members describe as a decline. The Executive has been increasingly reluctant to back disputes."

The TASS leadership is producing more activity at all levels than everbefore. There are a whole number of healthy new developments. For example, there is an increasing readiness of members to fight at less cost to the union. Thus a wider front of action can be supported.

Wage campaign

"Bore lays been an absence of national "There has been an absence of national wage campaign task. TASS successfully resolved many of the problems. There has never been less than several hundred going on at one. (By the same reasoning, the authors of the article could have once argued that the Vettramanes were not conducting a "mational campaign" by ignoring the sum and meaning of thousands of co-ordinated small actions. So one could go on. The authors been less than everal hundred going on at one.

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So one could go on. The authors of the article could have once argued that the Vettramanes were not conducting a "mation proposals, the work of the

Far from failing its members TASS was more effective in the hostile circumtances of the later period.

The authors do not recognise a national ampaign when they see one. Up to 970 it was possible to work for and win 970 it was possible to work for and win

antly refused to reach national agreements. So, instead of designing a general campaign of building pressure within a national central claim TASS stimulated a campaign in which its units of organisation had to independently tackle their own managements.

Any intelligent trade unionist will recognise the difficulty of creating and commanding such a complex and difficult organisational and campaign task. TASS successfully resolved many of the problems.

apathy of the runk and file. "
TASS has never referred to the
situation as hopeless. Neither has it
referred to the rank and file as apathetic.
It will not, however, involve the union
in impossible adventures. The growth
of TASS has been two-and-a-half times
faster since 1970 than in the golden past
the critics refer to.
The bewildered authors then deliver
themselves of this pearl:—

The TASS article attacking Socialist Worker: 'anonymous writings should usually be ignored.' Our article was unsigned because several different people compiled it. Possibly a mistake. Hardly

AUEW: SELLING OUT OVER TEA AND BUNS

Worthing was like a Second Coming to the Waverers and Social Contractors on the National Committee of the AUEW. A way out for the big sell-out.

The vote of Ron Baumbach, a National Committee delegate from West Cornwall-our area-was decisive selling-out the Engineering Workers.

Ron, a Waverer, according to the

by Jimmy Rule, Senior Steward, Holman's, Camborne -It is some weeks since the sell-out on the engineering wage claim. Nonetheless, this is still a vital issue, not least because the next claim is not so far off. Socialist Worker welcomes other AUEW members' contributions to the paper on the way ahead for engineering workers.

Sunday Times, was under constant pressure during the break for tea and buns from those tireless right-wingers from Birmingham, Coventry and elsewhere.

After a lengthy wrestle with his conscience, he surrendered-and the engineering wage claim was sold out for £3.50.

The £3.50 is meaningless, skilled workers will be lucky to take home £1 and, in a few weeks, many workers will be trying to live on less money than at present.

A measure of the disastrous performance by the National Committee is that, even if the £10 claim had been met in full, engineering workers on the national minimum would have still only got £35 gross for a 40-hour week

The campaign for the claim was conducted with vigorous inertia by the Executive Council. No attempt was made to involve the members. Hardly a leaflet trickled through. All National Committee members

who voted to sell out the claim should resign to make room for representatives prepared to fight.

Workers in the localities should revive the fight and pressurise the Executive Council with resolutions through the branches and with telegrams to AUEW HQ.

Already the Holman's Shop Stewards Committee has sent a telegram to Hugh Scanlon and called a mass meeting not to lift the overtime ban, as instructed by the Executive Council-but to decide how industrial action should be

Attempts will also be made to involve the whole district by the rank and file acting on their own, if necessary. All districts should do the

The first Rank and File Conference, in Birmingham in March, was attended by about 500 delegates from a wide range of unions.

The next ought to be attended by 1,000,000.

All trade unionists must reserve the right to act on their own when their elected representatives fail to the job they were elected do.

Dockers act over Chile

THE HULL Docks Shop Stewards' Committee has sent a message of support to the recent demonstration against the Labour Government's decision to supply arms to the Chilean junta.

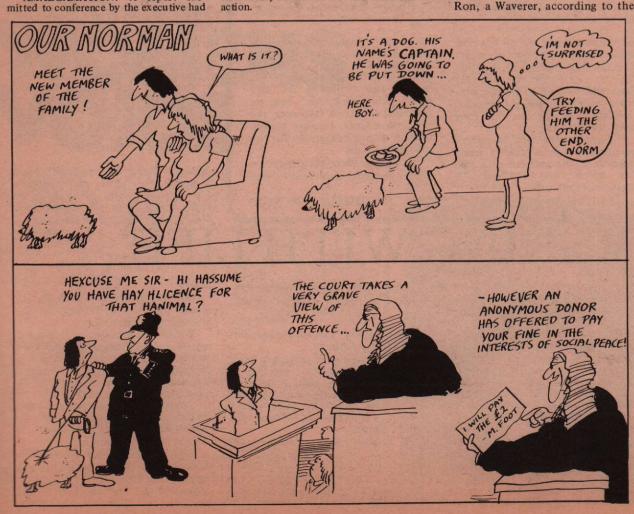
In a press statement issued this week, the stewards announced that they have affiliated their committee to the Chile Solidarity Committee.

They have also reaffirmed their call for a total boycott of Chilean goods, which was made as soon as the coup took place. The statement

We believe that dockers everywhere will support this call when they realise that in Chile it is an offence to show any working class solidarity, to the extent that in October last year six dockers were shot for asking for their rights in the port of San Antonio.

Finally, we condemn the British Government's supply of warships and planes to the Chilean regime, and call upon MPs who represent us in Parliament to support the courageous stand of Eric Heffer and others on this issue, which is in line with the Labour Party's official

NO ARMS TO THE JUNTA!





INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST NEWS

WHAT'S ON

OPEN UP THE ARGUMENT.

THE National Committee of the International Socialists, which met last Saturday and Sunday, has issued the following

The May National Committee has been the most important for many months. It took a number of decisions which will improve the internal communications and life of the organisation. They will be fully reported

A number of differences of opinion relating to Socialist Worker **National Committee** statement

emerged in the past two months and the National Committee recognises the National Committee recognises that the way in which these differences have been presented to the membership was inadequate and thereby opened up the danger of a factional struggle within IS.

The National Committee has re-

solved that a pre-conference discussion must now be opened out, in the course of which these differences can be clarified in a calm and comradely

way, leading to decisions at Annual Conference. However we are convinced that these differences arise from different assessments of the situation and are containable within the IS tradition.

The political situation in Britain has opened up tremendous possi-bilities for the growth of our influence and membership, and the National Committee is determined that the necessary political debate takes place in such a way that these opportunities are fully seized.

The National Committee expressed confidence in the political record and achievements of the executive committee but censured its deficiencies, particularly in regard to the way in which relations with the member-

John Charlton; Tony Cliff; Paul Foot, editor of Socialist Worker; Duncan Hallas; Chris Harman, editor of IS Journal; Nigel Harris; Steve Jefferys, industrial organiser; Jim Nichol, national treasurer; Dave Peers, national secretary; Ross Pritchard.

ship have been handled. Accordingly, and taking into account that five vacancies existed due to resignations, the National Committee decided that a re-election of the Executive Committee was requried. The new Executive Committee is:

STRUCTURE

The National Committee considers that the changes made will facilitate a responsible and open preconference discussion which should have a positive outcome at the Annual Conference in September. This can only be achieved if this discussion is seen as part of our overall responsibility to carry forward the struggle for socialism in the present favourable circumstances.

After a long discussion about organisation, the committee set up an organisation commission. Its object will be to examine all aspects of organisation structure and performance in IS, and to produce an interim report and recommendations to the July National Committee. The crucial task of the Commission will be to promote the building of a worker-leadership in IS.

The Commission will consist of the national secretary, industrial organiser, one other member of the Executive Committee, five worker members of the National Committee and representatives from most of the districts and all the trade union

The Commission will be conven a meeting at the earliest possible and districts and branches are asked to discuss organisation problems and the building of a worker-leadership so that they can contribute to the discussion.

MICK NAPIER has been appointed Glasgow organiser of IS, and Steve Jefferys, former Glasgow organiser, will be moving to the Industrial

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ENTRIES for this column must be posted to reach Socialist Worker by Monday morning—and remember the 'first class' post takes two days as often as one. Due to pressure of work we cannot take What's On entries over the phone. Entries here are free for IS branches and other IS organisations.

IS HISTORY GROUP Day School in Coventry: Saturday 18 May, 11.30am-5.30pm, Rootes Hall, Warwick University, Coventry; Sessions on the work of the IS History Group, contributions to Socialist Worker, education courses in IS branches. IS members only—members interested in working on the history of women and the women's movement should make particular effort to come. All intending to attend, please contact Alistair Hatchett, Coventry (Phone Coventry 76458).

WARLEY IS Spring Party: CAST Theatre Group present Come in Hilda Muggins, plus a rock band, Le'argo, disco and bar extension. Friday 24 May, 8pm-midnight. The Bear Hotel, Bearwood Road, Bearwood, Tickets 50p in advance (60p on door). Inquiries: phone 021-426 1350. Proceeds to Birmingham IS Centre and Fighting Fund.

HIGH WYCOMBE IS public meeting: Why Labour cannot bring socialism. Speaker: Paul Foot. Thursday 16 May, 8.15pm, Saracen's Head, Green Street, High Wycombe. All welcome.

WIGAN District IS public meeting: Socialist Worker and the struggle for socialism. Speakers: John Llywarch and Margaret Renn. Thursday 23 May, 8pm, The Market Hotel, Wigan. All welcome. Admission 10p.

IS Training Committee, Specialist Groups: A meeting of scientists in IS will be held in the near future to map out a programme of work. Interested comrades please write to Training Committee, 22 Weetwood Court, Leeds 16.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE IS public meeting: Labour Government—Socialism or social contract? Speaker: Paul Foot (Socialist Worker), Friday 24 May, 12.45pm. Civil Eng. 201, Exhibition Rd, London SW7.

TEESSIDE DISTRICT IS RALLY
The Politics of Corruption. Speaker:
Paul Foot.
Labour and the trade unions. Speaker:
Mike Atkinson (NUPE Chairman, Darlington District Hospital Shop Stewards
Committee).
Thursday 30 May, 7.30pm, AUEW
Hall, Borough Road, Middlesbrough.

N LONDON DISTRICT
IS SCHOOL
Black workers and the struggle for socialism. Saturday 18 May, Trades Hall, Bruce Grove, N17. 2.30pm: Film 3.30pm: Introduction—racialism and imperialism. 4.30pm: Discussion groups on black workers, the unions and industry: racialism and how to fight it; the West Indies, who owns it, and its future. 5.30pm: report back and summary. All black members and contacts urged to attend.

N LONDON IS SOCIAL: in aid of Brockwell Park 3 and Socialist Worker Fighting Fund. Saturday 18 May, 7.30pm-midnight, Trades Hall, Bruce Grove, N17. Disco and bar. Admission 40p.

N E MANCHESTER IS public meeting: Labour Party: Socialism or Social Con-tract? Speakers: Gerry Walsh (AUEW), Kath Broadbent (former Labour coun-cillor) Wednesday 22 May, 8pm, The Drovers Inn, Ashton Old Road/Bartlett Street.

NORWICH IS Public Meeting: Building the socialist alternative. Speakers: Steve Cherry (ASTMS), Ian Gibson (ASTMS NEC), Derek Calvet (ETU). Thursday 23 May, 8pm, Norwich Central Library. All welcome.

TWICKENHAM IS open meeting: Chile. Speaker' Ian Birchall. Thursday 23 May, 8.45pm. The Red Lion, Heath Road, Twickenham.

WIGAN AND EAST LANCS IS districts joint aggregate. Discussion on Socialist Worker. Speakers: John Deason and Ken Appleby. Monday 20 May, 8pm, Waterloo Hotel, Friargate, Preston. Branches to attend: Burnley, Accrington, Blackburn, Preston, Wigan, Earlestown and Leigh.

EAST LANCS DISTRICT IS public meetings: Why Labour won't fight. Speaker: John Deason. Wednesday 22 May, 8pm, Blockade Hotel, King Street, Accrington, and Thursday 23 May, 8pm, Grapes Hotel, Northgate, Blackburn.

HIGH PEAK IS public meeting: What's gone wrong in Russia? Sunday 19 May, 8pm, Grove Hotel, Spring Gardens, Buxton.

EXETER IS: Staverton Bridge and Friends with Songs of the People. Wednesday 22 May, 8pm, Ship Inn, Fore Street, Heavitree, Exeter. Admission 30p.

Meeting and Publications Committee: Meeting for IS members interested in political economy in Leeds, 22-23 June. Aims: to discuss current economic perspectives and to set up working economics group to service IS. Details from Jim Kincaid, 11 Moseley Wood View, Leeds 16.

Yorkshire Regional IS Schools: Society as a battleground. Sessions on the Ruling Class and their allies, trends in the Labour Movement. Speaker: Nigel Harris. Saturday 18 May, 2.30-5.30pm, Sheffield University, Council Chamber, Students Union, and Sunday 19 May, 2-5pm, New Trades Club, Saville Mount, Chapeltown Road, Leeds 6.

IS ETU Fraction: Sunday 19 May, 11am. IS Books Birmingham, by Digbeth Civid Hall. Details from Ind Dept. 01-739 6273.

IS AUEW Fraction: Saturday 1 June, 11.30am. Milton Hall, Deansgate, Man-chester. Details, agenda etc from Ind Dept. 01-739 6273

IS TASS Fraction: Weekend School. 1-2 June. Milton Hall, Deansgate, Manchester. Starts 11.30am. Afternoon includes joint session with engineers. Details from Ind Dept. 01-739 6273.

IS Automotive fraction executive: Saturday 18 May, 2pm, IS Books Birming-ham, by Digbeth Civic Hall. Details from Ind Dept. 01-730 6273

LUTTE OUVRIERE fete: Festival for revolutionaries near Paris. Stalls, music, theatre, film, etc, in revolutionary socialist setting. Saturday-Monday 1-3 June. Discounts for IS members and Socialist Worker readers. Write now for details to Box F, IS Books, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

WARLEY IS Spring Party: CAST Theatre Group present Come in Hilda Muggins, plus a rock band, Le'argo, disco and bar extension. Friday 24 May, 8pm-midnight. The Bear Hotel, Bearwood Rd, Bearwood. Tickets 50p in advance (60p on door). Inquiries: phone 021-426 1360. Proceeds to Birmingham IS Centre and Fighting Fund.

LEEDS DISTRICT IS public meeting: Lenin. Speaker: Tony Cliff, Wednesday 22 May 8pm, Guildford Hotel, Headrow.

WEST LONDON International Socialists Disco: Saturday 25 May, 8pm, Kings Head, Fulham Broadway (next to tube). Admission 40p.

How to fight the **Asbestos murderers**

by Mick Napier

A HUNDRED and twenty people attended last Tuesday's Glasgow IS meeting at the AUEW Halls to hear Pat Kinnersly and John Todd speak on The Fight for Safety at Work. Pat is the author of the book The Hazards of Work and John Todd is on the committee of the Glasgow laggers branch of the Transport Union. The intention of the meeting was to push the labour movement in the area to fight seriously on the issue of job

Pat Kinnersly gave example after example of the unwillingness of employers to spend even small sums to prevent serious injury and death to the men who work for them. Where there are no laws the employers give the workers as much as they will take. Where there are laws they break

them with impunity.

Workers suffer injury, or are poisoned, in a very short time. There is no time to wait for factory inspectors or full-time officials to visit a hazardous building site, or test a new material. The only guarantee of life and limb and health, he stressed, was shop-floor organisation.

John Todd and Arthur Rhodie spoke-without a trace of sentimentality-of their own incurable disease, asbestosis, the widows they know and the men they knew who died

When John Todd raised the issue of safety on a site he was suddenly

found a job 30 miles away. The union claimed to have a fine record on compensation. One widow was given £500 and Arthur Rhodie was paid £2500 by the people responsible for his catching a malignant disease.

John and Arthur stressed that not only laggers suffered from this hazard. Demolition workers created and worked in huge clouds of deadly poisonous dust, insulators in a car factory caused poisonous dust to fall around the men on the track below.

Publicise

Martin Cassidy, a carworker, spoke about the hazards in his factory and argued that the only way to combat them was by shop floor militancy.

It was stressed that the pages of

Socialist Worker were open to workers to campaign on the issue of safety and to publicise their cases.

There are laggers everywhere in Britain. The Glasgow death-rate is not exceptional. IS branches everywhere should examine the possibility of meetings and campaigns around

No one else will start it. The degree of organisation necessary on the shop floor to fight on the issue of safety is of a very high level. The trade union leaders shy away from this and play games with management and lawyers. Only the rank and file, including IS members, can carry the fight.

statement:

to the branches.

and our industrial perspectives have

The International Socialists is a democratic organisation whose membership

is open to all who accept its main principles and who are willing to pay contributions and to work in one of its organisations.

We believe in independent working-class action for the abolition of capitalism and its replacement by a classless society with production for use and

We work in the mass organisations of the working class and are firmly committed to a policy of internationalism. Capitalism is international. The giant firms have investments throughout

the world and owe no allegiances except to themselves and the economic system they maintain. In Europe, the Common Market has been formed for the sole purpose of

increasing the trade and profits of these multi-national firms. The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by inter-

national action by the working class. A single socialist state cannot indefinitely survive unless workers of other countries actively come to its aid by extending the socialist revolution. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country

we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of either Washington or Moscow. To this end we have close relationships with a number of other socialist organisations

We believe in the necessity to unite socialist theory with the day-to-day struggles of working people and therefore support all genuine demands that tend to improve the position and self-confidence of the working class.

For rank and file control of the trade unions and the regular election of all

Against secret negotiations. We believe that all settlements should be agreed or rejected by mass meetings. For 100 per cent trade unionism and the defence of shop stewards. Against anti-trade union laws and any curbs on the right to strike, whether

the strikes are 'official' or 'unofficial'.

For equal pay and a better deal for young workers. Against productivity deals and job evaluation and for militant trade union unity and joint shop stewards committees both in the plant and on a com-

For a minimum wage of at least £25 a week.

Against unemployment, redundancy and lay offs. We support the demand:

For all workers in struggle. We seek to build militant groups within industry. Against racialism and police victimisation of black workers.

Against immigration restriction.

For the right of coloured people and all oppressed groups to organise in For real social, economic and political equality for women.

Against all nuclear weapons and military alliances such as NATO and the

Against secret diplomacy Against all forms of imperialism. We unconditionally give support to and

solidarity with all genuine national liberation movements. For the nationalisation of the land, banks and major industries without

compensation and under workers' control. We are apposed to all ruling class policies and organisations. We work to build a revolutionary workers' party in Britain and to this end support the unity of all revolutionary groups.

The struggle for socialism is the central struggle of our time. Workers' power and a world based on human solidarity, on the increasing of man's power over nature, with the abolition of the power of man over man, is certainly

It is no use just talking about it. More than a century ago Karl Marx wrote: 'The philosophers have merely interpreted the world. The point is to change it.' If you want to help us change the world and build socialism, join us.

FOR THE ADDRESS OF YOUR LOCAL BRANCH OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS, WRITE TO THE NATIONAL SECRE-TARY, 8 COTTONS GARDENS, LONDON E2 8DN.

Blacklegs spark sit-in

by Jack Cummins, AUEW

BOLTON:-Workers at Automotive products have staged a sit-in following management's refusal to discipline 35 blacklegs who worked through last week's national engineering strike.

When a meeting was called over the blacklegs, the most militant workers proved to be the usually-moderate women. The meeting decided to stage a sit-in until the management agreed to discipline the blacklegs by either not paying them for the half-day of the strike or suspending them

for half a day.

The sit-in met with 100 per cent support. On Thursday evening, proposals which would have created a virtual closed shop brought a management offer to negotiate if normal working was resumed. The decision to continue the sit-in

until the blacklegs were disciplined was unanimous

Management have refused to take the blacklegs from the production line and are refusing to negotiate over other demands until normal work is resumed.

We have already achieved a victory. The vast majority of workers are united, and the divisions between the sexes or different sections of workers have disappeared.

'Wildcats'-all 1,200,000 of them

by Terry Tull
REDRUTH, Cornwall:-The AUEW strike had an unusual aftermath at the Rank Radio International factory. When the spokesman for the AUEW fitters told the personnel manager, Mr Barry Watson, of the men's decision to return to work, Watson said they had taken part in a 'wildcat' strike and could consider themselves out of work.

Earlier, he had accused the EEPTU senior steward of disloyalty to the firm

by not stopping the fitters from joining

The fitters are, however, now working normally, despite Watson. But the West Cornwall engineers were standing by to support their Rank brothers in case of victimisation and further escalation would undoubtedly have followed.



MICK McGAHEY, Scottish miners' president, addresses 3000 students in Trafalgar Square after a march through London last Sunday.

The students were demonstrating in support of their campaign for

higher grants and in protest at the victimisation of militant students at Essex and Oxford universities.

PICTURE: Christopher Davies (Report)

WHY SCANLON HAD TO ACT

by Steve Jefferys

BEFORE LAST WEEK, the engineering union's opposition to the Industrial Relations Act was confined to token action. The court continued to sit and fines continued to be levied.

But when Tory judge Sir John Donaldson grabbed its funds last week to 'compensate' a union-bashing employer, two scabs who had left the AUEW and two former union employers who had used the National Industrial Relations Court, he found times had changed.

The late Jim Conway, the union's leading right-winger and saboteur of militant action, no longer ruled the union machine. Hugh Scanlon is now acting General Secretary. Scanlon also knew that newspaper boss, Lord Goodman, was in the wings ready to pay the compensation on behalf of

Classified

Copy for the Classified section must arrive by first post Monday morning. Adverts will not be accepted over the phone. Charges are 1p per word, semi-display 2p per word. CASH WITH COPY to Classified, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS.

CRISIS IN LONDON SCHOOLS. Speaker: Dick North (NUT Executive). Thursday 23 May, 8pm, Chiswick Town Hall. Organised by Rank and File Teachers.

FEMALE IS member would like her own room in house/flat with other comrades in North or East London. Phone Wendy 985-4637 (day).

GORDON WILLIS, please contact Pluto Press (01-722 0141). Kilroy's trying to get out.

FARMHOUSE HOLIDAYS in North-Wales: within easy reach of the station, fishing, friendly pubs, pony trekking, frequent transport to the coast, bring your wellies . . Six-berth self-contained caravan, all mod cons. £10 per week. Bed, breakfast, evening meal and packed lunch, £10.50 per week—reductions for children. Phone Chirk (069186) 2272.

HOLIDAY IN LONDON—three bedroomed house to let in S E London—August. ½ hour central London. Local theatre, cinemas, restaurants, markets, woodlands and historic Greenwich Park. MUST BE PREPARED TO FEED ONE PUSSY!! TV, central heating etc. £100 for the month. Phone 01-856 3174.

WORM'S EYE VIEW magazine—a new formation etc, plus cartoons and satire.
Annual subscription (six issues) 60p from UM Publications, Box 787, Pembroke Road, London W8.

HILLINGDON CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACIALISM is holding a conference at Brunel University, Theatre E, Lecture Block, Uxbridge, on Saturday 18 May, 2-5.30pm, Speakers: Mark Bonham Carter (Community Relations), Mike Cooley (AUEW), Ron Keating (Race Relations Board), V D Sharma (Joint Council for Welfare of Immigrants).

BRITISH and IRISH COMMUNIST ORGANISATION meeting: The Working Class and the Two Nations in Ireland. 7.30pm, Monday 20 May, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London W1.

TYNESIDE AD HOC COMMITTEE DEMONSTRATION for the repatriation of the Price sisters to Ireland. 2pm Demonstration outside Durham Jail, 3pm, Rally at Durham University, Saturday 18 May. Main speaker: Jim Murray (AUEW convenor, Vickers Leswick Works). Meeting: Sunday May 19, 8pm, at Bridge Hotel, Newcastle. Main speaker: Eddie Milne (Independent Labour MP for Blyth). Speaker from Belfast also invited.

HOSPITAL WORKER No 8 OUT NOW. Articles on How to Fight Bonus Schemes, Organising Canteen Boycotts, the National Rank and File Conference, NUPE reorganisation. News from Dundee, Liverpool, London, Manchester. Price 5p. Orders to The Business Manager, 8 Beverstone Road, London SW2. FIRST NATIONAL DAY CONFERENCE ON GRAMSCI, which was to be held at Edinburgh University on Saturday 11 May, is POSTPONED until Saturday 22 June from 10am to 8pm. All welcome, no registration fee. Held under the auspices of EUSPB and New Edinburgh Review.

MOVE AS A COMMUNITY: The full inside story of the Brockwell Park Three. Plus Black People in Jail; Asian worker's struggle in North London and interview with Chilean worker. June RACE TODAY. 15p all IS bookshops or £2 annual subscription from 184 Kings Cross Road, WC1.

RANK AND FILE
TECHNICAL TEACHER
Meeting on Women in Further Education. Introduced by Ann Bridgwood,
plus discussion of London Allowance
campaign. Sunday 19 May, 7pm, The
Roebuck, Tottenham Court Road.

FIRST CONFERENCE of North London Workers' Control Group, Saturday 1 June, 11am-5pm, Montem Annex, Holloway Institute, Hornsey Road, N7. Speakers: Ernie Roberts, Assistant General Secretary, AUEW, (Engineering Section), Brian Nicholson, Chairman TGWU SE Region Docks Group. Seminars on: Workers' Control: Inflation' London's Transport: Adult Education. Registration 30p. Write Nina Stead, 138 Lordship Rd, N16 or ring Mike Cushman 272-6081 (daytime).

FILM SCHOOL doing film on Russian Revolution needs costumes and actors, particularly for Lenin etc. Phone 01-340 8436 (evenings). Sorry, no bread.

FLAT WANTED for two comrades in Camberwell area from 1 September. Can afford £10-12 a week. Contact Dave Campbell, 423 Katherine Road, E7.

SMALL ROOM in large IS flat in Sou Ring Jenny, 01-997 2318.

JUMBLE SALE Saturday 18 May,2.30pm, Whittington Park Community Hall, Yerbury Road, London, N19.

SOCIALIST GAY GROUP has speakers throughout the country on the Gay question and sexism. Inquiries from IS branches specially welcomed. Details from 18 Dickenson Road, London, N8.

THE WORKER (paper of Socialist Worker Movement) May/June issue now out. Articles include: Repression North and South, Chrysler Ireland, Army life, IRA/UVF unity? Order from 8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2. Debtors please pay.

WOULD one or two people over 25 (with baby?) like to join co-operative household of two women, one man, one baby, in Muswell Hill area? Fairly cheap. Contact Alan Dalton, c/o BSSRS, 9 Poland Street, London, W1 3DG.

SOCIALIST LITERATURE, books, pamphlets, newspapers, etc wanted for sale in our bookshop. Please send prices, terms and, if possible, samples to Serendipity, Irving Street, Dumfries.

THE SOCIALIST PARTY aims at building a moneyless world community without frontiers based on common ownership-with production solely for use-not profit. It opposes all other political parties, all leadership, all racism, all war. Write for Specimen socialist literature to 'One World (SW), The Socialist Party of Great Britain, 52 Clapham High Street, London SW4.

The political situation in the union -one of Britain's most political, a result of its strength and its belief in regular election of all officialshas also changed.

When Scanlon followed the reactionary Lord Carron as President of the Amalgamated Engineering Union in 1969, the union shifted clearly to the left.

Since 1972, however, that shift has been reversed. The defeat of the 1971 national wage claim and the shabby settlement last month of the 1973 claim are partly responsible. Weaker sections of the membership have been allowed to go to the wall.

Scanlon's role in the TUC General Council's surrender to the Tories' wage legislation after September 1972, and his part a year later in picket-busting when along with Jack Jones of the TGWU, he instructed his members to cross the Chrysler electricians' picket lines and work with scab labour have also produced disenchantment.

The lack of a decisive reply to the mounting fines on the union further encouraged the union's right-

The extent of the shift to the right is indicated by the recent election defeat of Manchester District Secretary Bernard Panter right-wing candidate Walter

Manchester District is Scanlon's main base in the union. A rightwinger las also won the contest for National Organiser.

The 'broad left' clearly needed to re-assert itself.

So on Tuesday last week the unexpected happened. No preparation or campaigning had been done among the membership, but the pressures were too great to be

Pickets arrested

DAGENHAM:-IS member Colville Rainey, a shop steward at the Ford body plant, while picketing during the engineering strike.

He and two more of the 40 pickets were taken to Barking magistrates' court where they were charged with obstruction and remanded on bail until 1 July.

Len Edmondson, who bounces between left and right on the executive, went for action. Bob Wright had decided not to alter his holiday plans to be in London for the meeting. So Edmondson's decision to line up with Communist Party member Les Dixon and Maoist Reg Birch meant the vote was tied.

This allowed Hugh Scanlon to use his casting vote in favour.

The strike was on. It was against the NIRC. And it was all out and indefinite.

This raising of the stakes made victory certain. The ruling class likes its judges to be shown proper respect but it likes its profits and continuous production even more.

Lord Goodman found some anonymous friends and Donaldson was persuaded to change his mind and allow them to meet the £65,000 bill. Nothing Michael Foot or Len Murray of the TUC tried to do had any effect.

The engineers won straight decisive victory by using straight decisive strike action.

STRIKERS DIG IN

by Jim Tolton (AUEW) Secretary, Strike Committee

LEICESTER:-The strike at Economic Stampings is now in its third week. The 50 toolmakers have elected a strike committee and are prepared for a long battle.

Even moderates are determined to fight for their full claim of a toolroom agreement based on the average pay of

Bentley Group Toolrooms.

The Bentley Group shop stewards' combine committee are levying the 4,000 members 20p a week each and have warned management it could face strike action by all Bentley Group workers if it does not negotiate.

Even the 'moderates' got tough

WITHIN hours of the Engineering Union's call for an indefinite strike against the seizure of union assets, engineering workers were walking out

all over the country.

In DARLINGTON AUEW members at Eaton Axles, Smart and Browns, Courtaulds and several other factories were on strike by 4pm. Night shift workers followed them and by 11am on the Tuesday 98 per cent of the district was on strike

An AUEW convenor said' 'This reaction proves that at any time the membership was ready to take action to bring the Act to an early end. It should be a warning to managements that there is and always will be unity at shop floor level.

'The shop stewards and convenors in

the district have been given the green light. They must now ensure that the Labour Party does not continue to pussy-

foot over the Industrial Relations Act.'
At Black and Decker, SPENNYMOOR, where for many years management have refused to recognise the union, several AUEW members joined the strike.

Response

In TEESSIDE, a traditionally right-wing AUEW district where the response to previous political strikes has been poor, there was a massive and enthusiastic response. By 8am on Wednesday 95 per cent of the area's AUEW members were

Alan Watts, AUEW steward at MK Electric, North London, writes:

The response of the membership should prove a thing or two to the AUEW executive. For the rank and file took up the fight immediately.

In the ENFIELD district many factories came out without waiting for the bits of paper from their officials telling them to do so.

them to do so.

At MK Electric toolroom workers refused to start work on Wednesday morning and waited for stewards to call a meeting. A tour of the district later in the day showed that many other factories had done the same.

The call for an indefinite strike was what did the trick. That was what the members had been waiting for since the beginning of the struggle against the Industrial Relations Act. The argument on the shop floor was always strongly critical of one-day protest strikes.

The executive has now shown that mass action can win. But it must be stressed that it was no easy task to get the members out. Many believed it was wrong to strike just as the Industrial Relations Act was about to be buried, wrong to be ment and wrong not to have taken in-definite strike action in November over the first Con-Mech sequestration under the Tories.

Let us not kid ourselves that the leadership of the union has learned the lessons. Let's ensure the members have.

STRIKE ANGER ERUPTS INTO

by Chris Hall (AUEW)

BRADFORD:-A mass meeting of shop floor workers at Crofts Gear Works voted unanimously last week to strike over a parity claim.

An Action Committee was elected and

picketing is being organised.

Militants feel management is worried by the solidarity of the men and that a vigorous campaign of picketing and blacking could force it to concede the demand

Crofts is part of the Renold combine.

This includes Holroyds of Rochdale where workers earn up to £6 a week more for comparable jobs.

The rates at Crofts are about the lowest in the district-skilled dayworkers can be taking home less than £25 a week. Anger at these low rates has been building up amongst the workforce and when the offer of £2.60, £2.35, £2.25 became known, earlier in the week, there were large-scale walkouts.

As present rates are below the new national basic rate, the effective local rise is reduced further as over half of it will be consolidated into the new national basic. The response to the national overtime ban ment obtained was seen as nothing less than

The present mood is a fantastic step forward as there is little previous history of militancy at the works. The shop stewards' committee has just started producing a shop-floor bulletin which has already shown effects in strengthening the determination

Strachans battle steps up

EASTLEIGH:-Strachans workers, faced with a total silence on the part of Giltspur, the parent company, have decided to take the fight

They have decided to issue a call to black all Giltspur subsidiaries and Ford's, the sole client for Strachans when it was

the sole client for Strachans when it was still in operation.

'It appears that management wants to play a waiting game. We feel that blacking will help bring this to a satisfactory and speedy conclusion. We want all our jobs back—nothing less', said Andy Nangle, shop steward and member of the fund raising and solidarity committee.

A delegation from Strachans is visiting South Wales this week on a fund-raising and blacking tour. Coventry and Birmingham will be the next areas to be visited.

Dockers in Southampton and elsewhere are being contacted with a view to pressing

The financial situation of many of the pickets is extremely difficult now that the dispute is in its 11th week. Strachans pickets are therefore appealing for levies as well as blacking from as many firms as

Donations to: Peter Hann, c/o T&GWU, 67/71 London Road, Southampton.

STRIKERS SACKED

ATHERTON, Lancs:-AUEW engineering section members, who have been on strike for two weeks at Greenhalgh's for a 70p a week rise, have been sacked.

Management have shut down the fac-

Management have shut down the lactory, laying off the moulders, members of the AUEW foundry section.

The strikers have been picketing since 28 April in a bid to close the differential

with the moulders to 67p a week, the amount stipulated in a national agreement which expired 14 months ago!

BOSSES' PLOY FLOPS

by Ian Lanning (SOGAT FoC) SOGAT workers in the Southern News-papers group decided at a mass meeting on Saturday to strike if their demand for up-grading to the Class One Rate was

not accepted within two weeks.

Eventually the management tactic of dividing the workers by paying different pagination bonuses brought strike action by the drivers at Southampton's Southern Evening Echo for two days last week.

The management have improved their offer on bonuses but now the drivers have joined with other workers throughout the combine to demand the up-grading through a combine committee.

BOURNEMOUTH:-For the first time in the history of the Union of

Post Office Workers, a censure motion

Although the mover of the censure motion, Tony Clarke, secretary of London District Council, implied that this was an isolated aberration, he is later scheduled to

Seconder, John Taylor, district organiser for London postmen, said that

when unity was required above all else, Jackson's words had been used repeatedly

against trade unionists, even in Tory Party election hand-outs. Jackson had let

The censure of the executive came after

move a further motion of censure.

the trade union movement down.

THE MAN WHO

SHOT HIS MOUTH OFF...

-NALGO STAB-STRIKERS IN THE BACK

THE LEADERS of the local government workers' union NALGO are now doing everything in their power to sabotage their Islington branch members' all-out strike and prevent the £400 London weighting campaign being really stepped up.

Islington's 1500 NALGO members have been on total strike for

five weeks now in support of the London weighting claim.

They have been spearheading the struggle, attempting to push the executive into broadening the strike to include other London boroughs and floating the ideas of linking up with teachers and civil servants who are also in struggle.

But on Monday the union executive made their response to the growing strength of the

Islington strike and their suppthroughout London orters NALGO.

One EC member moved to get the strike called off altogether This was defeated. But then a deceitful manoeuvre was tried and an equally deceitful motion

The executive on 'a re-assessment of strategy with a view to producing more effective action.' They suggested more selective strikes.

And then they recommended 'consideration' of a return to work in Islington, where the most positive action in the campaign has been underway for nearly six

'We expect an instruction to

scrapped, is now being conjured back into existence and given full powers to halt the Islington

bring forward a Pay Board report

So the most reactionary elements in the leadership moved

passed.

Gordon Peters, one of the Islington strike leaders, said this week: 'Our strategy to extend the strike across London has been thwarted and stabbed in the back in the most disgusting way. Our members will be considering what to do this week.

return this weekend. We intend to do everything in our power to keep up the fight and wherever possible other NALGO members must step up the selective strikes.

The executive has also decided to set up an emergency subcommittee to do their dirty work for them.

This committee, previously

all-out strike.
The NALGO leadership had hoped they could extract some compromise from the government They begged Michael Foot to

on London weighting by two weeks. He refused.

to pack in the struggle altogether.

What leaders think of the rank and file

THE NALGO leadership's attitude to the members is well expressed in a confidential memo about how lobbies of the execu-tive should be handled. It reads: It has been decided that in

future all demonstrators will be kept outside Headquarters. The front door to the building will therefore be locked at a pre-determined time before the commencement of the meeting in connection with which the demonstration has been called.

The earliest notification of this time will be given to Heads of Departments. This time will be subject to variation if circumstances demand.

The Police will stand men outside the main door with instructions only to permit entry to persons who have been identified by a senior member of the staff posted immediately inside the front door.

Once the front door has been locked staff should not normally leave the building until the closing of the office for the day or the demonstrators have dispersed.

On occasions staff will be requested to return from lunch before the time of locking the front door.

Any interviews which may have been arranged which coincide with the demonstrations should where possible be cancelled. If this is not possible the particular Department or member of staff will have to identify the visitor before entry to the building.

The Police have particularly

asked that members of the staff should not congregate at windows to stare at the demonstrators or attempt to communicate with them through the windows. The back door of the building will be locked at the same time as the

Now teachers get a painful lesson

LONDON:-Area strikes by teachers in support of their London weighting claim are 'provisionally' off.

But a final decision on whether to call out a number of individual schools will be taken at the NUT Action Committee meeting on 23 May.

This follows a ballot in which the membership was presented with these

membership was presented with three alternatives: a one-day strike, a two-week strike or an indefinite strike. A two-thirds majority of the new membership is required under rule for strike action.

The results of the ballot have not been published but the executive claim that only one area (Wandsworth) showed the necessary majority for extended strike action on an area basis.

The executive did not campaign for any one of the alternatives and the multiple choice necessarily split the pro-strike vote. Even so, it is admitted that many schools, particularly big secondary schools, voted by more than two to one for an allout indefinite strike.

The teachers' rank and file movement is calling on NUT members in London to a mass lobby at union HQ (Hamilton House) on 23 May at 4.30pm to demand that the Action Committee call out all those schools which showed the two-thirds

An earful from the executive

THE FIRST morning of the white collar union ASTMS's annual conference last weekend featured a 20minute denunciation of Socialist Worker on behalf of the union's

It came from Communist Party men ber Arthur Sier and was aimed at International Socialist Ian Gibson for suggesting in the paper that there was a difference in interest between the union's leadership and the rank and file. The membership,' announced Sier, 'must unite behind the leadership.'

Later at the NEC's investigating com-

mittee meeting Gibson was questioned on his article. Disciplinary action against

Michael Foot; speaking in what he called his 'extraordinary post of Secretary of State for Employment' forecast an end for the Industrial Relations Act, the Pay

Board and Phase Three.

'The events of the past week' he argued, 'prove the need to get rid of the Act, as it is against the higher interest of the country'. Only one employer, he said, had written to him protesting about its

Transition

He added that he had always been in favour of a return to free collective bargaining and dangled the prospect of worker participation in the management of companies.

He warned the confernece that if the end of statutory control led to a 'wages explosion' it could wreck the government's plans. What was needed was a 'smooth transition' at 'the most intelligent time'.

Many delegates wondered if the transiwas going to be so smooth that no-body would notice any c'ange!

Despite being called 'ultra-left wing rowdies' by General Secretary Clive Jenkins, rank and file speakers managed to convince conference that NEC members' votes should no longer be kept secret.

A Grays Essex militant said: 'It's a shame that conference time is wasted on trivial matters when serious matters, Composite B, calling for full-time members to acknowledge their responsibility to the membership, are not dis-cussed.'

He was backed by a delegate who argued that the NEC set up the agenda to suppress real union democracy and give preference to trivia to maintain the NEC's power.

A collection from Socialist Worker readers at the conference reject 60

readers at the conference raised £9.

RAY OF HOPE

by John Ramos (EEPTU)

MITCHAM, Surrey:-The cathode ray tube department at Mullards, where 25 electricians work, is a strong and successful shop. We have pushed our wages from £23 to £36 in 18 months but need more to offset inflation.

Seeing this, the boss tries to split the shop by saying some workers are not pulling their weight.

One steward was victimised and management blatantly interfered with the election of others. For some time it looked as though management might achieve its aim of individual bargaining to pave the way for productivity bargaining (more for productivity exploitation).

The members have united to back a claim of £3 across-the-board plus staff conditions, so far backed with a one-day

has been carried against the executive This week's UPW Conference agreed that general secretary Tom Jackson's remarks during the miners' dispute had brought the union into disrepute and had aided the enemies of the trade union Jackson had remarked on TV that 'I believe that if Stage Three is broken, as far as the vast majority of workers are concerned, then they will have a worse deal than they would if Stage Three remains'.

they had met a number of setbacks. One important reverse was the carrying of an amendment put by the London Overseas Telephone No 2 branch, which regretted the collapse of the executive to the Industrial Relations Court, which had given rights to the scab telephonists' union, the TSA.

JBBING

ber workers at the Goodyear factory in Drumchapel have received an enormous boost in their struggle to eliminate the Friday night shift without loss of earnings.

After seven weeks on strike, they have been joined by 800 workers on the India-Tyre factory at nearby Inchinnan.

The Inchinnan workers have taken the decision the Goodyear men took two months ago—to refuse the Friday night shift and retaliate to any management 'discipline' with a full strike.

The rubber factories of Fort Dunlop in Birmingham and in Speke Liverpool are also to refuse to work the Friday solid in their determination to wipe out the shift.

As Tommy Duffy, the T&G branch secretary said: 'Shift working is a social evil and any reduction or improved conditions must be to the advantage of workers and their families.'

The Goodyear workers, employed on a three-shift system over five days, want to eliminate the Friday night shift by substituting three short shifts on Fridays. Management have not come up with any-

Management have not come up with anything like an acceptable offer and are using members of the staff to strike-break by bringing in some materials. The stewards are undoubtedly right in seeing the fight is really against the Rubber

Manufacturers' Association, who will come to the aid of any company faced with a claim for a reduction in hours.

An agreement for a reduction in hours similar to the present claim at the Avon plant in Melchan was repudiated by management after pressure from the RMA. Stewards will be touring the country

muster support from dockers, T&G transport drivers, and other rubber wor-kers. A meeting has been called on Saturday in Wolverhampton to escalate the fight, at which the different factories will work out plans for greater co-ordination and effective blacking.

Donations to T Duffy, T&GWU District Office, 129 Renfrew Road, Paisley.

International Socialists



If you agree with the views expressed in this paper and would like more information, or would like to join the International Socialists, then send this form to: The International Socialists, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN

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Trade Union					

FOUR benevolent and charitable friends of the wealthy Lord Goodman paid over £65,000 to the Industrial Relations Court last week. Their action confirmed the beliefs of many socialists that money is no object to the managing directors and boardrooms when it comes to bailing themselves out.

If the truth be known there was probably a long queue of industrialists at the cashier's office. The amazing speed with which the money was found was also interesting.

Socialist Worker doesn't need bailing out but it does need your financial help urgently. We don't have the sort of friends who can give £65,000 but there are thousands of socialists and trade unionists who can help with the odd £1 and they all add up.

This week's donations of £243.22 takes the Fighting Fund total so far this month to £632. There is a long way to go. Don't wait till the last day of the month to send your donationput it in the post today.

Among contributions received were Ford Leamington workers £5, Colindale IS branch £55, London printworkers £14, Birmingham City IS branch £10, C A Parsons workers £8.40, readers on East Moor estate, Wakefield £1.50, Portsmouth IS branch £14.45, Welby readers £12, Woolwich IS branch £12.

Please send all donations to Jim Nichol, National Treasurer, International Socialists, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN.

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

TROOPS OUT!

AS THE movement grows to get the British Army of occupation out of Ireland, the Labour government is stooping into the gutter to whip up hatred for the IRA.

In a speech in the House of Commons on Monday, Harold Wilson 'revealed' alleged plans for an IRA 'scorched earth' policy

Documents picked up by the army, said Wilson, showed clearly that the IRA were about to embark on 'ruthless and indis-

Wilson concocts IRA 'scorched earth' plan as movement grows

hatred and chaos'. The plan was to 'take hold' of two key areas in Belfast, and, if driven out, to burn everything in their wake, he said.

Every national newspaper seized on Wilson's unprecedented statement and uncritically trumpeted it in headlines. The Daily Mail-arch-enemy of the Labour

our full support'.

The story was a tissue of lies from start

Only a fraction of the 'documents' about the alleged plan were published. So the 'incriminating' pieces in it could be stitched together into a fictitious whole.

Even the published documents stated clearly that the madcap 'plan' was only
proposed as a last-ditch effort in the

> proposed as a last-ditch effort in the event of an 'armed offensive against the Catholic people'.

> The Provisional IRA know perfectly well that a guerrilla army commits suicide if it voluntarily engages in open warfare against a numerically much stronger army

numerically much stronger army.

But the transparent absurdity of the plan did not deter Wilson from trumpeting it in the House of Commons. To his aid came the Northern Ireland Chief Executive, Orangeman Brian Faulkner, who spoke by coincidence in Sheffield

the same evening. Faulkner, whose Orange supporters have at regular intervals for 300 years unleashed killing and burning on Catholics in Belfast, said that the IRA planned 'to kill and burn Catholics

HYPOCRISY

Faulkner, whose entire political upbringing trained him to twist the law in order to hound, bully and discriminate against Catholics in the North of Ireland, said that 'the real victims' of the IRA were 'the lawabiding Catholic community'

This disgusting hypocrisy was fully reported in the press and television and welcomed without criticism by Wilson, Merlyn Rees and other Labour hacks in the House of

The reason is simple. The movement in Britain for the return of all British troops from Ireland is growing fast. Last Saturday, 600 people attended a 'Troops Out!' conference in London. Of the 170 delegates, 14 were from trades councils, 29 from trade union branches and 47 from student unions.

conference learnt that repression was increasing in Northern Ireland. The Labour government has interned 190 people since the beginning of March-bringing the total interned to 690.

Mike Cooley, a former president of the draughtsmen's union (TASS), called on trade unionists in Britain to respond to the situation in Northern Ireland and to call for the recall of all British troops.

All over Britain, even in parliament and among rank and file soldiers in the army, the futility and the brutality of the army's presence in Ireland is being recognised.

International Socialists branches are encouraged to hold 'Troops Out' meetings in all areas. The International Sub-Committee of IS should be contacted for

STEWARDS VOTE TO SPREAD STRIKE

GLASGOW:-40 electricians from Crown House Engineers Sites throughout the West of Scotland picketed their employers' office this week. At a meeting held outside the office on Tuesday the stewards, from various sites, pledged support for a fight to win £1 an hour with no strings.

The stewards all agreed on the importance of spreading the strike and decided to picket all Crown House jobs



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Sir Peter Law and Order

From front page

Rawlinson's denunciations of 'violence for political ends' are strictly for the court-room. He supports violence for political ends as long as that violence fills his pockets.

How can we stop these lawabiding gentlemen from subsidising and profiting from the Chilean dictatorship?

We can't leave it to the Labour government. Already Roy Mason and James Callaghan have promised the junta that they can have their frigates, their destroyers and their submarines.

Last week, the executive of the engineering union showed the way to do it. Following the decision of engineers at Rolls-Royce East Kilbride, near Glasgow, to refuse to work on engines for fighter planes for Chile, the executive instructed all its members to stop work on Chilean arms contracts.

At once workers responded to the call. On Monday, at Yarrow's shipyard, at Scotstoun on the Clyde, engineers walked off their jobs on the Chilean frigates. The next day, the instruction was passed on to engineers at Scott Lithgows yard, Port Glasgow, where the Oberon submarines are

At once the smiles on the faces of Sir Peter Rawlinson and Lord Aldenham were wiped away.

The workers at Rolls-Royce and Yarrows have paved the road to ruin for the Chile junta. They must be supported by unions and workers involved in Chile contracts all over the country. ..