


Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p



The front page of last week's Socialist Worker has been reproduced as a leaflet in answer to the continuing racist barrage from the national press. £1.50 for 1000, 15p for 100 from Socialist Worker, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

NO DEAL WITH HEALEY!

Lobby the TUC, 16 June, in London

CUT YOUR OWN THROAT, HEALEY - NOT OURS!

WHEN the first bout of Labour's cuts was announced last year, Socialist Worker predicted it wouldn't be long before they were back for more.

Sure enough, that is exactly what Chancellor Denis Healey is up to this week.

He and his masters in the Treasury have quietly prepared a second savage assault on health, welfare, education, housing and social services. Another £2000 million is to be taken, on top of the £4000 million cuts programme already announced.

Spending on what Healey and big business describe as 'essentials'—such as armaments, the police, tax relief for businessmen, will remain untouched.

And this won't be the end of the nightmare.

For even as Mad Denis was demolishing a hospital ward here and withdrawing a children's nursery there, the pound was taking another hammering.

On the rumours that Britain's coalminers might not have voted to swallow the 4½ per cent pay deal—equivalent to another wage cut even bigger than the last, the speculators (£100,000 a

year, payable in Cayman Islands) got to work again.

They used their well-disguised but massive economic power to push Labour into policies still more brutal, still more reactionary, still more to their own advantage.

The crisis could be solved without cuts or price rises.

But that would mean nationalisation without compensation of industries where workers and machines are left idle in the interests of the profit system.

It would mean seizing the wealth of those who live it up at Quaglino's or in the Bahamas while pensioners worry how they are going to pay for spuds.

ADVERTISING

It would mean ending the enormous waste on advertising, two-thirds empty Concordes and so-called 'defence'.

It would mean the government and the trade unions intervening directly to prevent the rich from moving their wealth abroad.

The Labour government has consistently refused to do any of these things. Instead it is preparing another attack on the very people who elected it.

In a desperate attempt to justify this final betrayal, its supporters are saying it is the only alternative to the return of the Tories.

But the Tories are still frightened to return to office, because they know they cannot yet defeat the strength of the unions. They could not impose their policies on the miners now any more than they could in 1972 and 1974 when Heath was prime minister.

The desperate need in this moment of crisis is to build up this working-class strength, to release it from the bonds put on it by elected-for-life trade union leaders.

That is why every worker should support the miners if they do vote against the Healey deal.



HELP STEP UP THE FIGHT FOR SOCIALISM!

THE International Socialists' annual conference this week agreed on many new ways of stepping up the fight for socialism.

Already 100,000 copies of last week's Socialist Worker front page on immigration—THEY'RE WELCOME HERE—have been issued as a special leaflet.

We agreed to produce new pamphlets, expand present publications such

by MEL NORRIS
International Socialists national treasurer

as the black workers' paper Flame, more leaflets and posters, as well as take on new full-time workers.

None of this can be done without money. Already in this year we have doubled the political output of our printshop compared with last year.

Conference decided to appeal to all members of

the International Socialists to hold a special levy of £5 a member.

Obviously some members, particularly those unemployed with families, will not be able to pay the full amount. Others will be able to pay far more, to make up the levy for each branch or district.

This money must be raised by the end of June

at the latest. It is the central task of branch treasurers.

£5 is equivalent to not drinking four pints of bitter a week for a month.

We ask our readers to boost the Socialist Worker Fighting Fund. We know times are hard. But unless we organise to fight the government's policies they will get worse.

Send donations for the Fighting Fund to 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN. Get the levy under way now!

FLAME

Let's do it again!

**FLAME BENEFIT DANCE
SATURDAY 12 JUNE**

8pm, Camden Town Hall, London

Presenting
THE HIGH FLAME
(formerly Young Groovers)
plus **MAFIA DOWNBEAT HIFI**
and **Late Bar**

Tickets 80p from your Flame or Socialist Worker seller, £1 on the door

EQUAL PAY, THE TRICO WAY!

ONE of the largest strikes yet for equal pay has started at the Trico car components factory.

The issue at this factory in Brentford, West London, is crystal clear, uncomplicated by grading problems and union rivalry. Men production workers earn £52, women earn £46.25. They need £5.25 to bridge the gap.

The 350 women, all members of the Engineering Union (AUEW), walked out a week last Monday after years of negotiation. They were joined immediately by the dozen or so men on the production lines.

Shop steward Eileen Ward told Socialist Worker: 'The men on the production lines are grand. All the men in the factory get lousy wages—they're among the worst paid in the district.'

Publicise

As the strike started the women gathered in large numbers outside the factory gates. This quickly wiped the patronising smiles off the faces of the local police who realised that the women wouldn't easily conform to their tidy picketing instructions of six per gate.

The women organised a march around local factories to publicise their case.

A key issue in the first week of the strike has been the attitude of the other non-production men workers in the factory—the toolmakers, labourers, storemen and so on. Although production is at a standstill, this is a big factory employing over 1500 people, including office staff, and the women have rightly wanted to know whether their fellow AUEW members would cross the picket lines.

Last Thursday the Southall AUEW district committee recommended that the strike be made official, but the following morning the men still at



The Trico strikers marching round local factories to win support.

Picture: Chris Davies (Report)

work voted only to hold a one-day stoppage this Wednesday in solidarity rather than walk out completely.

Some of the men still working, particularly some of the skilled men, are notoriously hostile to the women's claim.

Expectations are high that the company is going to be brought to heel. But if these expectations prove false then a massive campaign will have to be launched.

□ Immediate pressure on Trico's other firm in Northampton employing 50 women on production for solidarity stoppage.

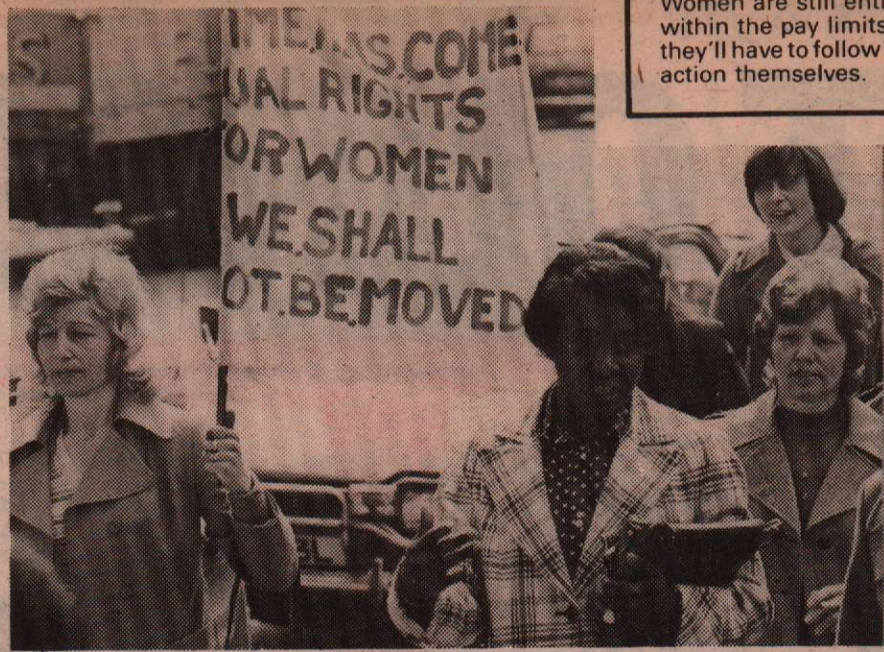
□ The strike must be raised in the car industry itself. The firm supplies windscreen wipers to Ford, Vauxhall, Rolls-Royce and Chrysler. The first hint that wipers

would not be fitted to any of these firms' cars would bring the big car bosses down on Trico like a ton of bricks.

This means forcing the AUEW to use its official machinery to get the blacking. Delegations of strikers would have to go to AUEW headquarters and directly to the car plants themselves.

□ A district and nationwide fund-raising campaign of support.

Meanwhile the strikers are astonished at their collective strength and spirit. Said Eileen Ward: 'This is the first real strike ever to hit the company. We have been taken by surprise at how solid we are. Women not even in the union have joined the strike enthusiastically and are volunteering for picket duty. They can't stop us now.'



How Healey backed down on equal pay

WHAT is the truth about equal pay?

Four weeks ago when the Healey 4½ per cent pay deal was announced, Socialist Worker announced: EQUAL PAY SCRAPPED. Alone in the press, we declared that the TUC leaders had agreed not to press for equal pay payments over and above the 4½ per cent limit.

Our source for this suggestion was Chancellor Denis Healey himself.

At his press conference after the deal he said: 'There will be no special provisions for equal pay as there were in last year's settlement.' On television that evening he repeated himself even more clearly: 'We won't have to pay more for equal pay over and above the limit. We've drawn it very tightly.'

Then on 13 May, Harold Walker, Junior Employment Minister, announced in the House of Commons that equal pay payments were an 'allowable addition' to the pay limit. The TUC statement on the Social Contract, in a carefully-hidden paragraph, also states that 'the same exceptions' in last year's policy applied this year.

Socialist Worker asked the Department of Employment for an explanation for this contradiction. The chief press officer said: 'I'm pretty sure that the Chancellor didn't mean to say what in fact he said at his press conference.'

It is difficult to believe that Healey could have made so specific a statement without meaning it. Yet now it has been reversed. What happened?

The TUC leaders *did* agree not to press for equal pay during the period of the freeze. They assumed that Healey would keep their promise secret.

Healey ratted on them. In order to improve his package in the eyes of bankers and industrialists, he 'threw in' the equal pay commitment.

The TUC couldn't hold the line with their women members. They forced Healey to change the commitment.

But they still don't intend to fight for equal pay. Women are still entitled to equal pay—even within the pay limits. But if they want to get it, they'll have to follow the Trico women and go into action themselves.

CHURCH AFFAIR

AT a meeting of the general management committee of the North Islington Labour Party last year it was suggested as an economy measure that instead of the agenda for future meetings being sent out in the post to each member, perhaps Father McNamara would agree to pin up a notice in the foyer of St Gabriel's.

The proposal was withdrawn when it was pointed out that not every member attended St Gabriel's.

Some, it seems, go to St Joseph's...

TROOPS OUT



Police plan to deport man they arrested wrongly

THE DAY after six letter bombs were delivered to establishment figures, the Sun reported a significant success for the police in the fight against the IRA.

Joseph Coyle... the brother of IRA gun-girl

Marion Coyle, was detained by police at Heathrow Airport,' wrote Michael Fielder on the front page. Marion Coyle was the girl involved in the kidnapping of Dutch industrialist Tiede Herrema in Ireland last November.

On Friday, Joseph Coyle

told Socialist Worker from his home in Derry: 'If the police think it's me they have got, they are far mistaken.'

The Express had a slightly different story—that their prisoner was a brother of Marlene Coyle—whom the police say they want to interview about bombings.

Marlene Coyle, too, does have a brother called Joseph. He is ten years old.

Dumbfounded

There is no doubt police believed the man—arrested when he arrived from Dublin the previous Sunday—was Joseph Coyle, the brother of a notorious IRA woman. Police at West Drayton, where the man was initially taken, were dumbfounded when told by an Irish journalist on Friday that

their prisoner was definitely not Marion Coyle's brother.

By then Roy Jenkins, acting on police advice, had issued a deportation order against the man. He was taken to Brixton prison, classified Category A and allowed no visitors.

A solicitor contacted by the Trade Union Committee against the Prevention of Terrorism Act, spent a fruitless holiday week-end trying to get into Brixton to see the man.

Scotland Yard told Socialist Worker: 'We are certain in our own minds who this man is. We are not saying when we became certain who it is we are certain he is. Or who he is... It is not our policy to say anything. We will say who he is after he has been deported.'

What seems to have

happened is that police at Heathrow arrested a passenger from Dublin called Joseph Coyle, believing he was a brother of either Marion or Marlene Coyle and that such a relationship, on its own, was reason enough for an arrest.

Mistake

After the letter-bombs of Wednesday they released this 'information' to a couple of their less principled press contacts in order to show that they had things under control. It was only after the resulting publicity that part of the truth began to emerge.

In order to cover up their mistake the man is now being deported as a 'suspected terrorist'. The police do not, of

course, have to tell anyone—even the man himself—why they suspect him.



□ The Emergency phone number works. Remember it. You may need it tomorrow if you or one of your mates is held under this Act.

01-603 8654.



Picture: John Sturrock (Report)

ABOVE: The answer to the racists—blacks and whites together in struggle. In Blackburn last week young Asians and their white brothers and sisters occupied the social services department in protest against the appalling treatment of Jack Shorrocks, seen here in his wheelchair.

Thanks to years of underfinancing of the social services, plus the recent cuts, the Shorrocks have been deprived of the aids for the disabled to which they are entitled.

□ Full story page 7.

DEMONSTRATE against the racists this Saturday: Smash the National Front. Rally and March: 10.30am, Ridley Road Market, Hackney, East London.

Labour bows to racism

THE speech by Enoch Powell and the barrage of press propaganda has done its work well.

Again the Labour government has surrendered before the dispensers of racist poison. Again black people from Asia and Africa are to feel another turn of the screw.

The Labour government has quietly agreed that from now on all short stay visitors to Britain will have to sign away their rights to go to an appeals tribunal if later refused permission to stay. If they do not sign when they first arrive they will not be allowed in.

It doesn't stop there. Apparently the government is considering another despicable proposal that Asian workers who return to Pakistan or India to meet their brides-to-be before they marry will not be allowed back into Britain.

So the racists who dominate the Home Office have won another victory. By British government order a young woman who has a marriage arranged with a man in Britain will have to travel across the seas before she first meets her husband.

One law for rich

No such restrictions are to be applied to tax exiles. These parasites are allowed to come in and out freely every year.

They contribute nothing to the social system. Instead they live in places where the riches that workers, black and white, produce for them can be enjoyed without any attention from the taxman.

So, as ever, there is one law for the rich and another for the poor, particularly if

Socialist Worker

WHAT WE THINK

you are poor and black.

Socialist Worker is opposed to these barbaric new restrictions. We're opposed to the old and equally barbaric ones too. We're opposed to the whole bureaucratic mountain that has been raised against black people coming into Britain.

Such restrictions inevitably involve the most heart-rending tragedies. Just last week we saw the misery of 21-year-old Safira Begum unfolded before the High Court in London.

Revolting system

She was refused entry to Britain because some immigration official believed she was already married to her husband-to-be and was pretending to be a fiancée to jump the huge queues of wives kept waiting for entry to Britain.

What a condemnation of this whole revolting system.

First, by a whole barrage of racist and other restrictions, you keep women from exercising their right to live with their husbands in Britain.

Then, if you think that in desperation they might have tried to jump the queue that you and your laws create, you send them back.

At this week's conference of the International Socialists in London, delegates from all over the country vowed to fight against immigration controls and against the poisonous ideas from which they spring.

Immigrants, black or white, Irish or Australian have nothing whatsoever to do with the causes of unemployment or bad housing. They are often the worst afflicted victims of these and the system that creates them.

It is the duty of every trade unionist and socialist to fight against this torrent of racist propaganda and to turn that tide.

PARLOUR GAMES IN PARLIAMENT

'TYRANNY!' 'The end of democracy!' 'The collapse of society as we know it!'

In one edition of television's News at Ten these three disasters were announced in succession—by Tory leader Margaret Thatcher, and by Maxwell-Hyslop, a ship-repairing employer and Tory MP. They were talking about the Labour government's decision to press ahead with their Bill to nationalise the shipbuilding and aircraft

The Tories whined that the government had 'broken the rules of the House of Commons'. They had not noticed, apparently—neither had anyone else—that the Bill was 'hybrid', a technicality dug up by these masters of technicalities and intrigue, to stall the Bill.

The same Tories who retrospectively

'legitimised' the power of British troops in Northern Ireland in a single day of parliamentary discussion, the same Tories who helped the Labour government rush through the Prevention of Terrorism Act in a one day session are now insisting on 'upholding the rules of parliament'.

Shipyard and aircraft workers will have to prepare their industrial strength in the months ahead to ensure that the Bill goes through.

Needless to say, the SNP, joined the Tories in their parliamentary parlour game without a thought for the future of 40,000 shipyard and aircraft jobs in Scotland.

Again the employers found faithful allies in this bunch of Tartan hypocrites.

THIS 'DEFENDER OF FREEDOM'

IS A NAZI

DID you sign a petition in your factory in support of Robert Relf, the man who put an 'English only' sign outside his house? Did you contribute to his defence fund. Are you thinking of doing so?

If so you're being conned. For Robert Relf is one of the most dangerous men in Britain today.

Dangerous to working class people of whatever origin, white and black. Dangerous because Robert Relf is a self-proclaimed Nazi.

As a Nazi he believes in a pure race—a race 'cleansed' of Jews and blacks Irish and Scots, the mentally sick, the physically ill and deformed and those afflicted by other so-called 'diseases' or 'prevariations'—such as trade unionism, socialism and anything else that smacks of human decency, and points the way to a better society.

Relf has been in jail before for his Nazi and racist activities. Twelve years ago he did three months after he refused to pay a fine for daubing racist slogans on a

wall in Leamington.

He was then a member of the National Socialist Movement, and so trusted that he was bodyguard to the British Fuehrer himself, Colin Jordan.

KKK

In 1965 Relf was back in jail again. This time he had become involved in an attempt to launch a British version of the US organisation of racists and murderers, the Ku Klux Klan.

Then a year later Relf himself went—inside again after he made an attack on an Indian shop.

This time his jail sentence follows charges for advertising his house for sale to an

English family only.

While on bail on the charges of putting up this offensive sign, Relf did a bunk to Rhodesia. There he tried to sign up for the white racist Rhodesian army. He failed and returned to Britain.

And you are being asked to feel sorry for this Nazi, to help him in some way?

Naturally you're not being asked to help him because he's a Nazi. The National Front and the National Party, who are organising the petitions, keep very quiet about his—and their own—revolting past.

Instead you're kidded along with an appeal over 'free speech'. Free speech for someone who is anxious to

set up gas chambers to liquidate people who fight for higher wages, resist unemployment and fight for safety and health at work, or who happen to be black skinned.

You must be joking!

Who built his house anyway? The chances are that it was Irish or Scottish or perhaps even Sikh building workers.

Are they not to be allowed to buy it? What about their freedom?

RATION

All the rubbish about 'the English' covers up the real situation. Most so-called English people, that Relf pretends to offer his house to can't afford to buy it because other so called Englishmen own the land and the bricks and mortar needed to build houses and carefully ration them to keep prices high.

To be sure Fuehrer Relf isn't giving his house away.

The truth is that the National Front and the National Party are using the Relf issue to win support for their divide-and-rule poison.

They want you to blame black and Asian workers for rising prices, unemployment and the overcrowding that

has always been the lot of working people.

How many black workers are there on the board of GEC, which has sacked 50,000 workers and trebled its profits in the past few years?

Not one! The truth is that the black and Asian workers in Britain are the natural allies of those English, Welsh, Scottish or Irish workers who really want to fight for the right to work and a decent life.

If we let the racists and the employers divide us and cut us off one from the other then we are lost. They will walk all over us forever.

But if we stick together we will be able to fight back and solve the unemployment and housing problem once and for all. As the old, but tried and tested, trade union slogan puts it: 'Unity is strength'.

That's why Socialist Worker says:

To hell with Robert Relf. Don't swallow the racist poison. And if you're got even one piece of it inside you, get rid of it fast and start fighting for the Right of all workers to Work.



Robert Relf with British Nazi leader Colin Jordan when his bodyguard



Nationalised? We'd see that it benefitted the workers



by DICK HALL (NUM)

UNDER socialism the coal industry would become a powerful machine for improving the wellbeing and standard of living of all workers.

Ever since the massacre of the 1960s, with the so-called economic miracle performed by the Labour government, we have seen the loss of tens of thousands of jobs. Whole mining areas have been wiped out.

So much so that the Durham coalfield could best be described as Britain's Sahara desert.

All this has been done in the name of technological advance. As defined by the miners, rather than the Oxford dictionary and the so-called free press, this means fewer and fewer workers and more and more policemen—supervisors, gaffers and foremen.

In fact it wasn't until when stood on the picket lines during the 1972 strike

that you could really appreciate the growing army of these characters. All this shower could be set to useful work in a socialist system for a start.

We'd also end the toil of overtime and create new jobs. We'd stop the hellish toll of so-called accidents.

Now, by not having any sort of economic planning we are showered with other strange blessings. We have mounting stockpiles of coal which make the Common Market's butter, wine and meat mountains look like children's sandcastles on Skegness beach.

Heat

So why on earth, with these vast stockpiles, do we still have old age pensioners dying of cold, or hypothermia as the newspapers prefer to call it? There is no logical or financial reason why we can't heat the homes of all workers for a fraction of the present cost.

The same with electricity. How many more murders like that of George Stevenson, the old age pensioner from Dundee who died because his electricity was cut off, must we tolerate before we get the priorities right? And be sure this system of society can never do it.

Yet the Coal Board can sell coal to the electricity board at around 40 per cent of the pithead price! For their big business friends they can arrange a deal and lend a helping hand.

Meanwhile the poor lonely old age pensioners have to pay two and a half times as much as rich businessmen for their fuel. They have to pay the full pithead price!

If we were free of the parasites, the old coalowners and landowners, those who lend money to 'expand' the industry, we could do tremendous things.

Cow

We could supply free coal and electricity to all workers at very small social cost. This would be achieved in part by ending the biggest con of them all, the set-up whereby free enterprise firms milk the nationalised cow.

The history of nationalisation so far is a most interesting one. Nationalisation has taken place when capitalists have stripped their industries too quickly and in their eagerness, have left their big business friends in the proverbial apple-cart.

The trick is that the mineowner who ran the industry into the ground gets massive compensation for his heaps of old scrap. A new nationalised industry is set up, with the workers and the taxpayer bearing the burden.

Then comes the proverbial killing, through making the industry buy machinery from private businesses.

The lessons of socialism are crystal clear. Complete nationalisation without compensation and under workers' control.

Truth about the NUM 'vendetta'

BILL O'BRIEN, secretary of Glasshoughton Colliery in Yorkshire and right-wing champion in the Yorkshire NUM, has been suspended from union office for two years.

So has Tom Roebuck, former president of Manvers Main Colliery.

The Yorkshire press, in a frenzy of witch-hunting, has suggested that these suspensions are arbitrary, or part of a personal vendetta against O'Brien by the Yorkshire NUM president, Arthur Scargill. The facts show that O'Brien and Roebuck are lucky to keep their union membership.

In May 1974, the Sheffield Star published an article which suggested that Arthur Scargill had shown favour to pickets from the Barnsley area during that year's miners' strike. The article was wrong in almost every detail.

Voting

The Yorkshire Area Council of the NUM unanimously instructed Scargill to sue the Star. Among those voting for that instruction was the delegate from Glasshoughton pit, John Walsh.

In September 1974, O'Brien was interviewed by a Star journalist. Without even con-



Bill O'Brien

BILL O'BRIEN stands for free enterprise. He practises it in a garage which he owns at Nevison, near Wakefield.

John Poulson, the corrupt architect who is doing six years in Wakefield Prison, said at his trial that all his firm's cars and lorries were filled with petrol and serviced at O'Brien's garage.

O'Brien was chairman of the Pontefract, Goole and Selby Water Board when the Board supplied Poulson with its biggest-ever contract: for a huge pipeline complex.

O'Brien is deputy leader of the Metropolitan District Council at Wakefield, the council which pays out more per councillor in expenses than any other in the country.

O'Brien was boasting last week that he was going to 'take Scargill to court over this'. He said he was travelling to London last Thursday 'to hire Lord Goodman'.

Lord Goodman told Socialist Worker: 'Who is this fellow O'Brien? I've never heard of him. Is he on the side of the angels? No. I have no appointment to see him.'



Arthur Scargill

Picture: John Sturrock (Report)

sulting his own branch, or anyone else in the union, he gave a voluntary statement which was damaging to Scargill. He also handed over private union correspondence from Scargill.

The libel action was heard earlier this year. It was won by

Scargill. O'Brien was the chief witness for the Star.

Scargill won £3000 damages, which he has donated to the union.

The area executive meeting of the Yorkshire NUM after the action summoned O'Brien to give an explanation at its

meeting on 11 May. That morning O'Brien rang up to say he was going to London 'on council business'.

The meeting did not discuss the O'Brien case, but adjourned the whole matter until three days later.

This time O'Brien did

attend—and started off by denouncing the executive for 'taking a decision in my absence'.

The executive, after much questioning, decided by 16 votes to 1 to suspend O'Brien until the area council meeting on 24 May. At that meeting, O'Brien was asked three questions.

Fair?

He made a voluntary statement to the press about picketing during the strike in 1974? He said Yes.

Did he divulge private correspondence between the area president and Glasshoughton Colliery? He said Yes.

Did he get a fair hearing at the executive? He said Yes.

At the end of another series of questions—and a long debate—the council decided by 75 votes to 1 that he had acted against the interests of the union.

All 75 delegates agreed that O'Brien should be punished for conduct which brought the union into disrepute. Some wanted him suspended from union office for life. Some wanted him severely reprimanded.

The council voted by 50 votes to 24 for two years suspension. The majority represented 51,000 miners—against 13,000.

How many votes?

THE vote at the NUM national executive for the 4½ per cent pay deal highlights again its ridiculous system.

The 11 people who voted against the deal represented 125,000 miners; while the 13 who voted for it represented 111,000.

Syd Vincent, who abstained, represents another 9000 miners from the North West—whose conference voted against the deal.

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and how to change it



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EETPU Rank and File London Meeting

Smash the Right Wing Build the Rank and File

Speakers: Billy Williams (Rank and File EETPU candidate for general secretary), Mike McGrath (Redder Tape, CPSA executive member), Alan Watts (convenor MK Electrics toolroom and Engineers Charter)—all in personal capacities.

Thursday 3 June, 7.30pm Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1

EETPU Rank and File National Meeting

No TUC deal with Healey Build a fighting Rank and File

Speakers include Billy Williams (Rank and File candidate for EETPU general secretary) and Jim Atkinson (Rank and File candidate, EC Division No 8). Chairman: George Kelly (EETPU convenor, Glasgow) Saturday 12 June, 2-5pm Digbeth Civic Hall, Deritend High Street, Birmingham.

The May issue of the Collier, the rank and file miners' paper. Copies 5p each plus postage, from The Collier, 38 Abbey Lane, Cundy Cross, Barnsley, South Yorkshire.

Let's talk it over...

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM
Duncan Hallas

In the interests of dialogue on the left, take a good look at the two new pamphlets—one from the Communist Party, one from Socialist Worker—advertised below.

THE OTHER day Gordon McLennan, General Secretary of the Communist Party, was quoted in The Guardian as summarising Communist Party strategy with these words:

'It's the same as France and Italy. We are working towards a coalition of the left in the Labour movement and progressives outside it, strong enough to determine government policy democratically.'

No sensible person takes the unsupported word of any organ of the

capitalist press on any matter, least of all on matters like this.

But in this case the quotation corresponds pretty closely to what the CP's own publications have been saying.

The party programme, for example, says 'it is not the aim of the Communist Party to undermine, weaken or split the Labour Party' but on the contrary to help 'the strengthening of the left trends' within it.

True, Gordon McLennan's statement implies a bit more than this. In Italy, the CP is running its election campaign around the pledge 'to get

Italy out of the crisis, to renew it and to save and develop democracy'.

Coalition

To this end, the Italian CP proposes a 'grand coalition' which would include not only the Socialist Party but also the Italian Tories—Christian-Democrats as they call themselves.

The CP, the Italian one that is, call this scheme 'the historic compromise'. To the more sceptical it sounds more like 'if you can't beat them—join them'.

Because, of course, such a coalition would have nothing whatever to do

with socialism. It is exactly like proposing a British coalition headed by Mr Callaghan, Mrs Thatcher and Comrade McLennan!

If that sounds too daft to be worth thinking about, well, perhaps that is because the British CP lacks what the Italians have—a large bloc of MPs and the prospect of more.

In fairness I must make it absolutely clear that the British CP, unlike its Italian comrades, is not, at the present time, calling for a coalition with the Tories.

But the Morning Star enthusiastically supports the line of the Italian CP for Italy. And once in the past the British CP has called for such a coalition in Britain.

Surely not? Oh yes. It was in 1945, at the end of the second world war. Which brings me to the commercial.

A new pamphlet in the Socialist Worker training series, entitled The British Communist Party, is just off the presses.

It does not deal with the early history of the party, which is fairly well-known, but concentrates on the period from 1945 onwards.

During the 1945 election, the pamphlet points out, 'the Daily Worker (forerunner of the Morning Star) carried a statement by the Party Executive under the headline "All Party National Government Is Essential After The Election".'

Invite

A London District Committee pamphlet in April of that year spelt this out, saying:

'... the Labour Party should then form a new National Government and invite others, including Tories like Churchill and Eden, to participate.'

The Labour Party turned this down flat, won easily, and formed a purely Labour government.

The point of recalling this incident is not to score a sectarian point.

As the introduction to the SW pamphlet says: '... we are not interested in CP-bashing for the sake of it'.

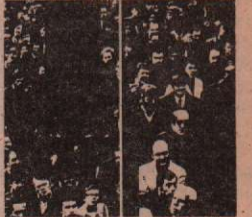
The point is to help comrades to understand how and why CP policy, especially in industry and the unions, has developed as it has.

Pamphlet

The CP itself has just published a pamphlet on The Soviet Union, subtitled A Marxist Critique of the International Socialists (reviewed by Chris Harman last week).

In the interests of dialogue on the left I give it a free advertisement and suggest, in return, that CP members and sympathisers will find the new SW pamphlet instructive and profitable reading.

THE SOVIET UNION



STATE CAPITALIST OR SOCIALIST?



The British Communist Party

40p and 10p from Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4 (add 10p for postage).



FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK meetings

NATIONAL EETPU RANK AND FILE MEETING: Saturday 12 June, 2pm-5pm, Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham. Transport details from Rank and File Centre, phone 01-802 0978.

Central London Right to Work Committee Fund-raising Social: Bar, Disco, Light Show, the Film: Fighting The Cuts will be shown at 8 pm. 50p employed, 25p unemployed and/or claimants. Friday 4 June, 7 pm, Roebuck Pub, Tottenham Court Road.

HULL Right to Work Campaign: Defend the 441 Benefit Group. North West Spanner Theatre Group in 'Winding Up'. Monday 2 June, 7.30pm, Stevedores and Dockers Club, Posterngate, (off Princes Dock Side). Tickets 30p from Socialist Books, 238 Spring Bank.

EXETER Right to Work Campaign public meeting: No Deal With Healey. Thursday 10 June, 8pm, Upstairs at the Devonport Inn, Fore Street, Exeter.

BIRMINGHAM Right to Work Campaign meeting: No Deal With Healey, Fight The Racialist Solution. Tuesday 15 June, 7.30pm, Digbeth Civic Hall. Speakers: Paul Foot and local trade unionists.

SCHOOL STUDENTS and recent leavers day school: Speakers John Deason and Dick North (NUT). Sunday 20 June, 10am-6pm, Rank and File Centre, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4. Details and registration from Glynis Cousin, 8 Buller Road, London N17.

SOUTH WEST LONDON Right to Work Campaign public meeting: No Deal with Healey. Chairman: Doug Murdoch (CPSA regional secretary, in a personal capacity). Speakers: John Deason (national secretary, Right to Work Campaign), Alistair McSween (UCATT shop steward), Ruth Martin (NUS Southlands College president), Sam Strudwick (local Right to Work marcher). Thursday 3 June, 8pm, Battersea Library, Lavender Hill, Battersea, SW11.

SOUTH WEST LONDON Right to Work Committee: Next meeting Thursday 10 June, 8pm, at WCCR, 172 Lavender Hill, SW11. Delegates, unemployed workers and observers from potential sponsoring bodies are invited.

Socialist Worker

EDITORIAL

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POLICE VIOLENCE? ASK PC MAYNARD...

JEREMY Maynard is fast learning that it pays to keep your mouth shut about police brutality... specially if you're in the force.

Since he reported his sergeant for beating up a young Irishman in a cell, PC Maynard, 22, of Alton, Hampshire, has been subjected to Serpico-style treatment.

Instead of an investigation into the activities of Sergeant Hewiston, disciplinary action is being taken against PC Maynard.

So far his application for legal representation at the hearing has been turned down by High Court Judge, Mr Justice Griffiths.

He has been called 'an established and compulsive liar' by Hewiston.

And he has to answer charges of making a false statement against Hewiston, disobeying an order and sleeping on duty.

The young Irishman, David O'Connor, was known to PC Maynard through his work with a Catholic boys club. He was

arrested with his two brothers for being drunk and disorderly and started banging on the cell door when he was refused a solicitor.

Blood

Hewiston went into the cell and came out with blood on his hands. David O'Connor was left inside with a split lip and bruises on his face.

Hewiston wrote in the report book that he had been hit by the cell door...

Maynard claims Hewiston told him: 'If you don't like what happened you are better out of the police force. Your loyalty is with your colleagues.'

How long will it be before PC Maynard falls down the steps at the station... or decides he wants to become a bank clerk?

Say, Gerry baby, d'ya hear the one about the starving peasants...?



HENRY Kissinger cares about the world's poor. Well why else would he have been at the recent UNCTAD conference in Nairobi to discuss the redistribution of the world's wealth?

Why indeed. Kissinger's personal contribution to re-distributing wealth quickly emerged when he announced that the cars laid on for him—brand new Mercedes 280, no less—weren't up to requirements.

So he had two large new limousines flown in specially from the United States to ferry him back and forth to the local Hilton, where he occupied a mere three floors.

Student teachers: The facts

THE PRESS, with its usual penetrating logic, has been claiming that teachers can't get jobs because of a 'fall in the birthrate'. But consider this:

□ The average size of state primary school classes last year was 30 pupils, and 22.7 in secondary schools.

□ In private schools, the average size, according to the Independent Schools Information Service, is 'rarely larger than 18'.

□ If state classes were the same size as in private schools (to which, of course, the press barons send their children) jobs would be created for another 150,000 teachers.

□ And if they were cut by only 1.5 children, every unemployed teacher would be able to get a job.

WITHOUT COMMENT:... there undoubtedly lies an official recognition that a large number of unemployed whose life expectations have been boosted by higher education could become a ready-made force for manipulation by revolutionaries. The need to avoid this danger while holding public spending in check is a severe challenge to government skills.

—from the Financial Times, 26 May

The Employment Service Agency

VACANCY NIGHT PORTER. (MAN OR WOMAN)
DISTRICT ROCHD LE.
BUSINESS HOTEL.
SALARY £11.75.
HOURS 10pm-8am ALTERNATE NIGHTS.
REMARKS GENERAL NIGHT PORTERS DUTIES. WOULD SUIT ACTIVE O.A.P.

IT WORKS OUT to roughly 30p an hour. The above insult was recently advertised in a Lancashire Jobs Centre—and it's by no means untypical. Can you 'beat' it? Send your 'best' Jobs Centre ads to Fifth Column... if you can bear to part with such rich treasures.

Meet Jack Shorrock, invalid. His bed's in the kitchen ... he can't get out because of the cuts in public spending

by GARTH THOMASSON and LAURIE FLYNN

TURN on the radio any morning and you'll hear them on about the need to cut public spending.

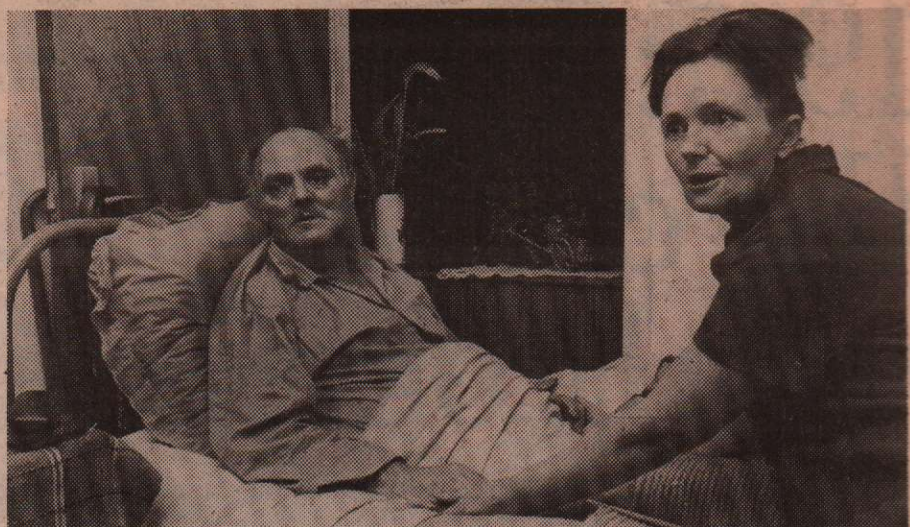
If you want to know what that means to real people, listen to the story of Jack and Anne-Marie Shorrock, who live in Blackburn.

For the past five years their lives have been dominated by Jack's illness. Jack, a former member of the printworkers' union SOGAT at Crown Wallpapers, has a desperately serious disease of the spine called spondulosis. It has crippled him completely, and confines him to his bed for life.

You'd think that a sick man would have his bed in a bedroom. You'd be wrong. Jack Shorrock's bed is in the downstairs kitchen.

That's right, the kitchen. His wife Anne-Marie's bed is in there too because she has to tend him in the night.

The Shorrocks haven't got a chair lift to take Jack up and



Jack and Anne-Marie Shorrock—in their kitchen.

down the stairs. They haven't got handrails so that Jack can move around whatever room he is in.

They haven't got an electric wheelchair, or concrete ramps so that he can be taken out of the house now and again without being a burden to his wife.

They haven't any of these things because the local authority 'can't afford' to buy them. That's the local govern-

ment spending which everyone from Margaret Thatcher to Denis Healey wants to cut.

Just this February Anne-Marie Shorrock got a letter telling her that Mr. Leybourne, the divisional director of social services, has 'personally investigated the situation and has totally satisfied himself that those items which are recorded as having been provided to you, have been

received by you ... This is an interesting new departure in official policy. You don't give people what they need and are entitled to. And then you tell them again and again that they *have* been given them.

This isn't Jack Shorrock's only experience of the health and welfare services in Britain today. Not so long ago he had to have a massive operation. He was being carried to the operating theatre when the stretcher gave way under him and threw him to the floor.

Wrong

The stretcher gave way because it was old and poorly maintained. Another time a resuscitation machine broke down when he was on it.

The Shorrocks have tried all the conventional methods of getting the wrong that is being done them righted. They've had promises galore from professional politicians of every description, including Blackburn Labour MP Barbara Castle, who until recently presided over the destruction of the welfare state as Health Minister.

They've been to the News of the World. Nothing doing.

They've been to the Lancashire Evening Telegraph. But that paper is so busy printing fictitious stories about illegal immigrants and other racism that no room was found for the Shorrocks' terrible tale.

In Blackburn, racists can get a hearing. But the Shorrocks aren't racialsists.

Support

The Shorrocks know that the only way working people will get what they want and need is by unity.

That's why Anne-Marie Shorrock gave her fullest support to the demonstration against the National Party in Blackburn two weekends ago.

That's why socialists from the International Socialists and the Asian community will be helping the Shorrocks in their battle.

For theirs too is a battle which shows that contrary to the guff about the welfare state and the ease with which people get things from social security, the poor and the needy only get their rights by tough, united struggle.



Street scene, Kingston, Jamaica 1976

Jamaica on the brink

THE political temperature in the Caribbean island of Jamaica is rising to boiling point.

Michael Manley, the prime minister who calls himself a 'democratic socialist', has openly attacked 'external elements' which he says are seeking to 'destabilise the economy'. He means the American Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the big American corporations that control most Jamaican industry, especially bauxite and tourism.

These corporations are staging a powerful investment strike, running down the bauxite mines and bringing tourism almost to a halt. This is their protest against Manley's support for Cuban armies in Angola, Fidel Castro's visit this autumn, and the increasing militancy of the Jamaican working class.

Troops

Manley is pleading for workers' support for his policies. But these policies have been directed against workers in struggle.

He has introduced an industrial relations act

modelled on the British Tories' Act of that name in 1972. Troops have been used against strikers at Kingston airport.

The government's wage guidelines make even Healey's 4½ per cent deal look generous.

More and more workers are seeing through Manley's appeals. The rich of the Jamaican and expatriate ruling class still bask in the suburbs of Beverley Hills, Ocho Rios or the beaches of Montego Bay, while 200,000 unemployed fester in the slums—that's one worker in every five.

Politics

More and more workers are coming together in rank and file movements at shop-floor level. More and more are responding to the politics of organisations such as the Revolutionary Marxist League. As the League's paper, Socialist Weekly, put it in a recent issue:

'It is becoming increasingly obvious that the unions under the present anti-worker leadership do not represent our true interests. Look at what the TUC said to the workers at Paper Processing Plant. They sided with the company rather than the

workers. unions and their ties with the two capitalist political parties.

'Unless the union is controlled by the rank and file workers themselves and not big shot boys who talk sweet and drive big cars, then we are in for a beating. We have to struggle for a democratic workers' union, and break the leadership of the present


workers.

'Not only do we need to struggle for rank and file control of the unions, but we need a workers' organisation that can topple the capitalist system once and for all. Clearly Manley and the Peoples National Party are not prepared to do this, despite all their fine words.'



Slum housing: Tens of thousands of workers in Jamaica live in huts like these

THE MEANING OF MARXISM



Duncan Hallas

This pamphlet is intended as an introduction to some of the leading ideas of Marxism

25p plus 7p postage from IS Books, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4

Lecture series

GLASGOW: Every second Thursday, 7.30pm, Paisley Town Hall.

3 June: Nationalism and Socialism.

17 June: The State—Is there a parliamentary road to Socialism? Speaker: Jim Henderson

1 July: Reformism and the trade unions. Speaker: Jimmy McCallum.

8 July: Building the revolutionary socialist party. Speaker: Mike Gonzalez.

EAST LONDON: Every second Friday, 7.30pm, Centreprise, 136 Kingsland High Street, London E8.

4 June: What is imperialism? Speaker: Nigel Harris.

18 June: Building the revolutionary party. Speaker: Tony Cliff.

SOUTH WEST LONDON: Every second Monday, 8pm, Lower Town Hall, Brixton.

7 June: First Workers' Revolution, Paris 1870. Speaker: Ian Birchall.

21 June: The Family. Speaker: Joan Smith.

5 July: The Minority Movement and the Communist Party.

19 July: Russia 1917. Speaker: Tony Cliff.

1917: The year the chain was broken

IN the murky history of the 20th century one event stands out like a gleaming beacon—the Russian Revolution.

A link in the worldwide chain of drudgery and unemployment, of war and oppression was briefly broken. The workers had seized control of a major country and it seemed mankind was on the verge of a completely new life.

The new society was all too quickly corroded by the corruption around its borders. Foreign intervention brought economic devastation and economic devastation brought bureaucracy.

But even that could not destroy the magnificent experience of 1917 itself.

Since 1917 several countries have gone through similar convulsions. There have been general strikes, street fighting, barricades, the disintegration of the armed forces, even workers' councils. The latest was in Portugal before 25 November last year.

But never has the workers' movement succeeded since, as it did in 1917, in taking control for itself.

At decisive moments the most influential workers' leaders have directed their followers in the wrong direction. Those who have seen what needs to be done have had their voices drowned by those whose policies—whether by accident or design—allowed capitalist politicians to reassert their hold. The near-revolutions became the near-misses.

Transmit

We need to learn from the experience of 1917 above all how to avoid these tragic mistakes.

The second volume of Tony Cliff's biography of Lenin, published this week, aims to transmit that experience to the new generation of revolutionaries that is growing throughout the world. It is not just a book of history or biography. It is above all a textbook for revolutionary socialists, an account of what was done in 1917 and of what socialists need to do in revolutionary situations today.

Cliff has first to deal with some poisonous myths that have been spread about Lenin and the Bolsheviks.

He shows, for instance, that the Bolshevik Party was far

Chris Harman reviews

LENIN: ALL POWER TO THE SOVIETS



from being the blind tool in Lenin's hands that both Stalinist and anti-Communist historians portray. It was a mass party, made up of thousands upon thousands of militant workers who had to argue its politics day-in, day-out to their workmates.

Even before the February revolution had destroyed the Tsarist police machine, the Bolsheviks had more than 20,000 members. By summer 1917 they had more than 250,000—nearly one worker in ten in manufacturing industry.

Its militants did not blindly obey Lenin. On several important occasions he found himself a minority in the party and had to argue strongly for his policies.

Replace

Even leaders of the party who had worked with Lenin for years tended to be too conservative in their response to events. In February 1917 many tended to believe that they should support the capitalist governments that replaced the Tsar. In October many did not grasp that a socialist revolution was possible.

After years of building up the party organisation within capitalism, they were frightened of the risk involved in

overthrowing the system.

For Lenin, the party was not an end in itself. It was a means to achieving the revolution. So when the party leaders stood in the way of the revolution, he went over their heads to the rank and file to put his case.

At the same time, the party was indispensable. This was shown in April, June and above all July.

Many newly-politicised workers and soldiers wanted to give immediate vent to their anger against capitalism by seizing power before the majority of workers supported them. The mass revolutionary party had to prevent a premature battle that could have led to a massive defeat.

And in October, even though the party leadership were slow on the up-take, without a party that organised the most militant sections of workers there could not have been organised taking of power.

Relate

Lenin himself was able to grasp what needed to be done at each point because he continually related the theories of the party to the live experience of working-class struggles. When those theories clashed with that experience he was willing to re-examine the theories.

That is why Cliff's account of Lenin in 1917 is also an account of the development of some of the most important ideas in the history of Marxism.

He shows, for example, how long and apparently arid debates on the national question between Lenin and other revolutionaries, such as Bukharin and Rosa Luxemburg, were indispensable in preparing the Bolsheviks for 1917, when millions of non-Russians rose up against national oppression by the Russian empire.

The arguments hammered out by Lenin then are still fantastically important today for any revolutionary living in a country that oppresses other countries.

Distorted

But most important of all is the account of how Lenin took up and developed Marx's view of the state. This has been completely distorted before Lenin, and has been distorted since by people who claim there is a parliamentary road to socialism or that a bureaucratic dictatorship can be a workers' state.

Lenin stressed that a workers' revolution had to smash the state as a bureaucratic machine and replace it with workers' councils and a workers' militia.

But he also translated that general argument into specific arguments about how the workers should achieve this in Russia. Even today, these read like pure poetry after the nonsense you get from those who advocate 'the parliamentary road'.

Cliff's book presents Lenin as he really was in 1917 in the most accessible, readable and exciting form. Buy it and read it.

And when you've finished reading it, read it again.

26 MAY: DAY OF ACTION FOR THE R



Some of the 100 nurses, porters and other hospital workers who came out from the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, to send off a delegation of 50 to the London demonstration.

Sackings threat swells protest

LONDON: 'Why isn't the TUC General Council organising this protest?' Labour MP Dennis Skinner asked the massive crowd at Tower Hill. 'It's you, the rank and file, who have the power,' he said.

'After the 26 November demonstration TUC general secretary Len Murray called us eccentric for supporting the march. We're still here,' he said, and with a few other MPs he led off the march.

The mass of trade union banners were joined by big contingents of student teachers from training colleges under occupation and by unemployed workers organised by the Right to Work Campaign.

Solid

One of the biggest contingents on the demonstration came from Crosfields in North London. Until the day before they had agreed to send a delegation—then management stepped in and announced 20 sackings.

On the morning of the 26th the shop stewards called a mass meeting. They voted solidly to shut down the factory—and nearly the whole workforce marched behind the shop stewards' committee banner on the demonstration from Tower Hill.

Stewards' chairman Tom Connolly said: 'This is our spontaneous reaction to these sackings. The whole factory came out. TASS members in the

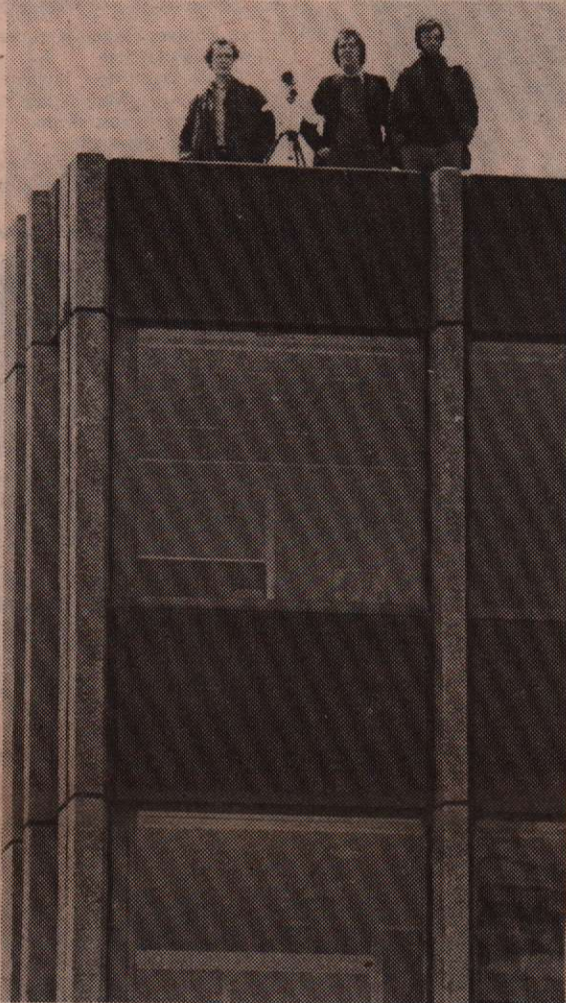


Dennis Skinner speaking at Tower Hill

offices have already accepted the sackings—with us it's different.'

Crosfields was occupied for 10 weeks last year to defend jobs after a mass sacking of 350 workers.

Sheet metal shop chairman Bill Hayward said: 'You'd think that the damage they did then would have weakened our front—but it hasn't. In fact some people who were a bit less active before are now standing up to be counted.'



Watching the London demonstration on top of a convenient office block—are they the Special Branch? Among those on the demonstration was one man in ordinary clothes and wearing a Right to Work badge. Normally he is a police constable on duty in East London. On the recent demonstration in Blackburn against racism four police photographers were identified taking pictures of the anti-fascists. When the fascists turned up they put their cameras away.



Some of the 600 workers from Tate and Lyle on the demonstration to Pier Head. They stopped work for the whole day and came on the march in working clothes to protest at the threatened closure of the sugar works. Dockers, carworkers and building workers were also on one of the biggest marches seen in Merseyside since the battle against In Place of Strife.

16 June 'NO D

IF tens of thousands of workers demonstrated throughout Britain in support of the Day of Action, the newspaper would have been full of it, but the strikes demonstrations in support of the Day of Action for the right to work were ignored by newspapers and barely reported on television.

Despite stoppages, demonstrations, resistance to the In Place of Strife and TUC does not yet have the strength of the opposition to In Place of Strife and Industrial Relations Act.

Action

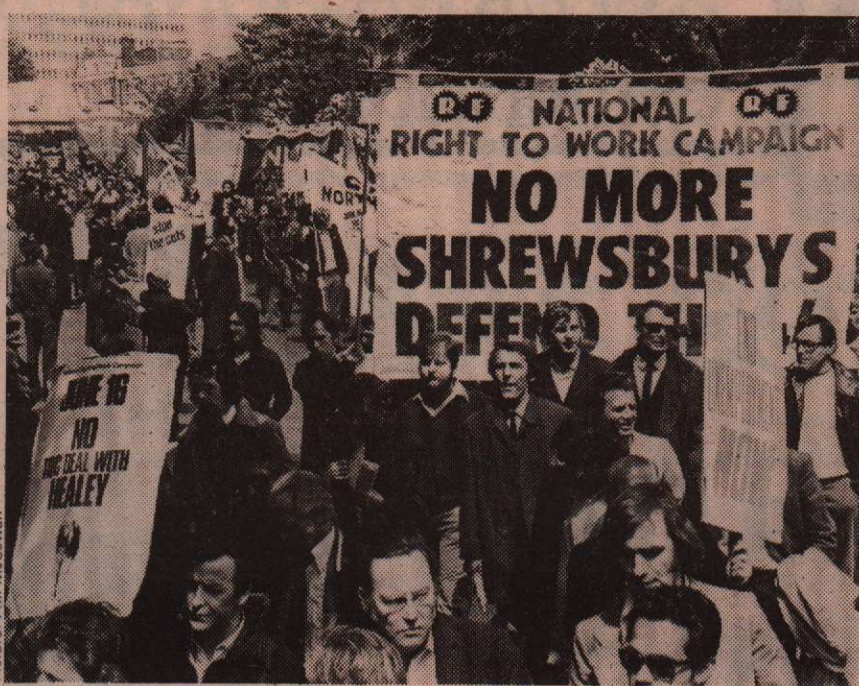
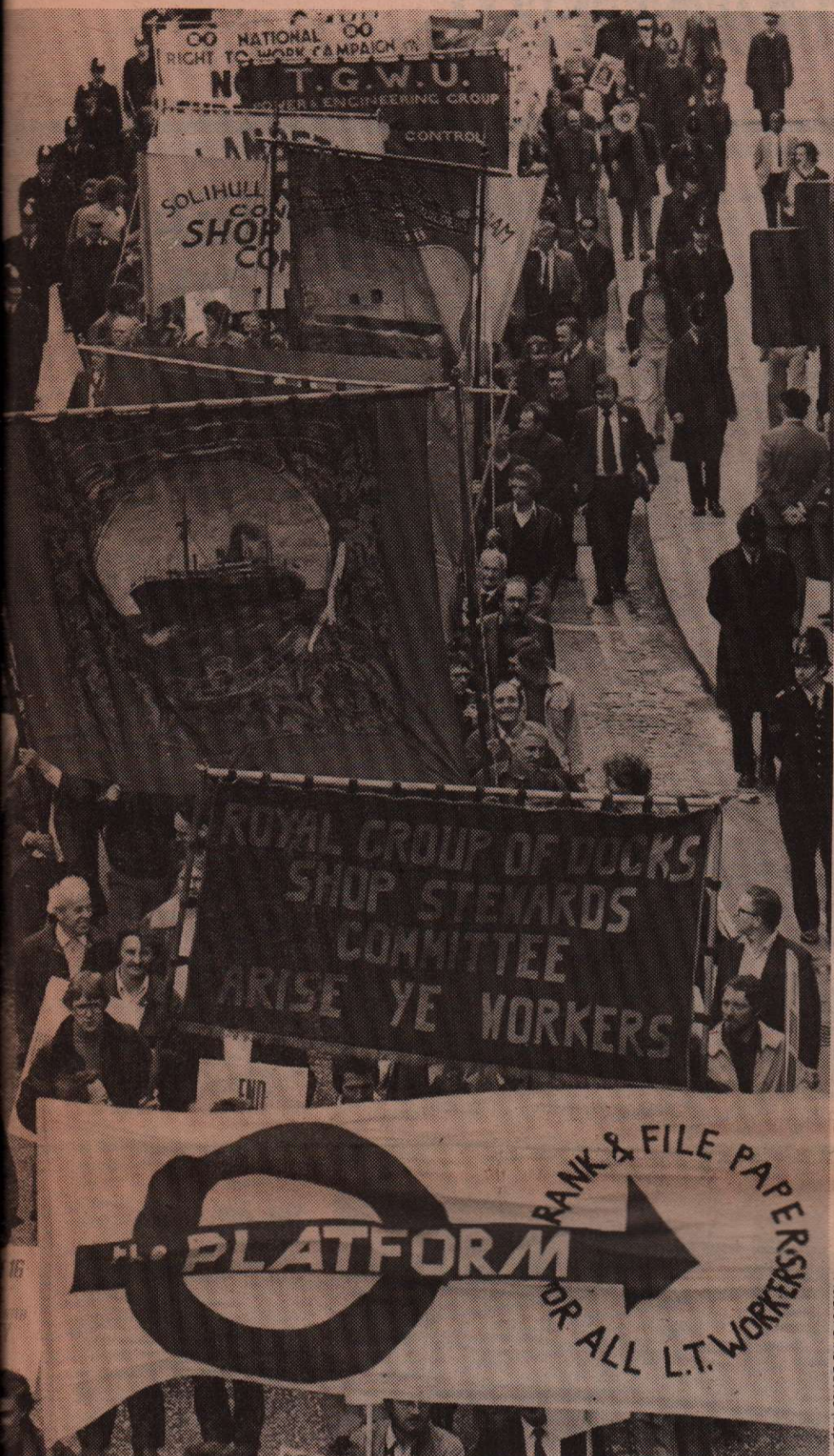
The next stage in the campaign promises a major impact. On the Day of Action, speakers throughout the country called for a massive demonstration outside the Recall TU London on Wednesday June 16.

Tony Cliff:
LENIN
Volume 2
All Power to the Soviets



PRE-PUBLICATION OFFER until 14 June: Volume 2 for £2.50 (published price £3.50). Volumes 1 and 2 for £5 (published price £6.50). Post free. Cash with order.
PLUTO PRESS Books will be sent out early June.
Unit 10 Spencer Court, 7 Chalcut Road, London NW1 6LH.

RIGHT TO WORK



Picture: Phil McCowan

ABOVE: The banner of the Right to Work Campaign on the London demonstration. The campaign handed out hundreds of placards (right) and thousands marched behind its banners in Glasgow, Dundee, Liverpool, Manchester and London.



Picture: Phil McCowan

Right to Work Defence Fund

FIFTH FORMERS at Derby School. Littleover—like many thousand others—face the dole when they leave school. With their collection of £2 for the arrested Right to Work marchers they are helping make sure that the campaign for the right to work for school-leavers this summer is not intimidated by the police and the courts.

Other donations to the Defence Fund this week include:

- South East London Medical ASTMS collection £1. NATFHE Middlesex Poly. Enfield £5. Northampton General Hospital NUPE members £1. Letchworth No 5 AUEW £2. UCL Gay Society £5. Goodrich Students Union, York £10. Bedford College £10. Workers Action Supporters, Cambridge £1.50. Shell Chemicals Carrington Craft SSC £5. Chester IS inaugural meeting £32.26. CPSA members Newcastle Central Office Branch £5.05. Reading RTW Committee £1.50. Kirkby No 2 AUEW members £10.50. Ossett 506E AUEW £2. Thames Pleasure Boat Crews £14. Witney No 2 AUEW £1. GMWU 115 Manchester Branch members £4. Harlow and District Trades Council £5. NATFHE collection at Llandaff College of Technology, Cardiff £4.60.
- Trades Councils Conference collection £14. Scunthorpe workers collection £3.80. Northampton LPYS collection £1.60. W A Sutton, NUPE branch secretary, Northants Hospital £1. W Hall Rainey, AUEW convener, Bostram Northants 50p. D Room £3. London College of Printing collection £9.20.

COACHES TO THE 16 JUNE LOBBY

COACHES are arranged for the 16 June Right to Work lobby of the TUC.

BRISTOL: University Union 6am. Christadelphini 6.15am.

LEICESTER: Secular Hall, Humberstone Gate, 6.30am.

LIVERPOOL: Train block booking, meet Lime St 6am.

LEEDS: Corn Exchange, 5.15am.

WAKEFIELD: Bus Station, 5.15am.

BARNLEY: Railway Station, 5.45am.

WOLVERHAMPTON: Faulkland St, 6.30am.

COVENTRY: Pool Meadow, 7am.

BIRMINGHAM: Hall of Memory, 7am.

SHEFFIELD: Pond St, 6am.

For other areas contact your local Right to Work Committee who will be organising transport. Socialist Worker will publish any further details of transport arrangements for the lobby.

... on the London demonstration

Now tell the TUC 'DEAL WITH HEALEY!'

Socialist Worker

WHAT WE THINK

The result of that Congress is being fixed. Jack Jones has lined up all the TGWU votes in favour of the 4½ per cent pay deal. Last week's disgraceful manoeuvres by Hugh Scanlon and John Boyd at the AUEW have ensured that 1,250,000 votes by engineering workers will be cast for the deal.

But outside the hall the rank and file have the chance to make their opposition to the deal heard. The mass lobby called by the London Confed and the Right to Work Campaign is not like the almost pointless lobbies outside parliament. It is a chance to make the TUC General Council and the men who control our unions aware that they will not get away with phase two of Healey's

policy as easily as they are fixing phase one. The larger that demonstration, the easier it will be to convince thousands of other workers that the deal has sacrificed everything the TUC promised to argue for. Pensions, unemployment, equal pay have all been sacrificed—and for what? A cut in everyone's standard of living.

Argue

The Right to Work Campaign has called the lobby to begin at 9.30am. Mass delegations from factories all over Britain are expected. Transport should be booked now in every area. Where possible trades councils should be approached to book special trains. Right to Work Committees and trades councils should organise fleets of coaches from as many factories and workplaces as possible. The Right to Work Campaign says it will be making

a special effort to get unemployed workers, on the demonstration, school-leavers and unemployed students getting trade union bodies to pay for unemployed workers' travel costs.

ADVERTISEMENT

RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN RANK AND FILE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

LOBBY THE SPECIAL TUC CONGRESS JUNE 16TH

NO TUC DEAL WITH HEALEY

Wednesday 16th June, 9.30am
CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER



ABOVE: 'What do we need a Tory government for with a Labour government like this?' university lecturer Martin Robinson asked a crowd of 5000 in Dundee City Square. From the occupied college of education, Alex Bell told the demonstration: 'We are occupying for the Right to Work.' And from Methil came a large group of construction workers from the Redpath, Dorman Long site, where massive sackings are threatened.

Glasgow 7,000 march

GLASGOW: 7000 turned out on one of the noisiest and most militant demonstrations the city has seen for some time. A large part of the demonstration came from the occupied teacher training colleges. About 2500 students demonstrated.

Many of the big factories and shipyards did not answer the Clyde Confed call for action. Yarrows, Marathon, Govan, Rolls-Royce and Chrysler stayed at work. Among the factories that did strike were several affiliated to the Right to Work Campaign—Albion, Reyrolle Belmos, Rawplug, Glasgow Council electrical workshops and MacDonalds, East Kilbride.

Around 500 marched behind the Glasgow Right to Work Campaign banner.



MONDAY

Your immediate reaction, understandably, might be to switch off when you hear of a TV series on the trials and tribulations of a Labour MP. But BILL BRAND (ITV, 9pm) is a marvellous portrayal of what electoral politics are about today.

The first episode shows that even at the election the MP is cut off from the workers who vote for him, treated more as a commodity to be sold by his election agent than as someone developing arguments among those who vote for him.

Future episodes highlight the futility of the attempts of a newly-elected left-wing Labour MP to move the system.

The author, Trevor Griffiths, describes his series as 'an extended critique of parliamentary democracy.'



INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

Conference 1976

Wages, jobs and the cuts

THREE FRONTS IN THE WORKERS' STRUGGLE

'FOR big business,' said Chris Harman, introducing the annual conference of the International Socialists at the weekend, 'there is no serious alternative to the continuation of the Social Contract and collaboration with the TUC.'

'But even the most optimistic perspective for British capitalism is very pessimistic. All the indications are that there will be a further recession after 1977 and more unemployment.'

The National Institute of Economic and Social Research is forecasting 1,200,000 unemployed at the end of 1976 and at least a million in 1977 even with a partial recovery.

There are three fronts of struggle—wages, jobs and cuts. All are closely interconnected.

On wages, the government has held the line since last August for three reasons. First, 15 months ago large numbers of workers got rises of around 30 per cent. Second, unemployment has had a demoralising effect. Thirdly, the massive ideological offensive in the press and television has held workers back from fighting.

But now the cuts in living standards are beginning to bite. And there will be a considerable increase in confidence when a few more workers are taken on. If only one worker is taken on, you still know your job is safe.

British Leyland's talk about all the order books being full is in fact increasing the confidence of the workforce.

The ideological front will also be much more important. Workers on strike will be more open to our ideas because the political implications of the smallest strike will be so considerable.

Equally on the unemployment front the more talk about the end of the recession, the more fight there will be on unemployment. There will be real strikes against unemployment as people react against losing their jobs while the papers talk of booming Britain.

The third front is the cuts. There will be continuing small guerrilla actions but these can explode. Battles like that of the student teachers can transform the consciousness of thousands of workers.

It is wrong to see one front as more important than another. All three—wages, jobs and cuts—are directly inter-related. If there is more unemployment, there will be less fight on wages, for example.

THE TARTAN TORIES

A CALL for a national fight against the 'Tartan Tories' was made by Scottish conference delegates.

A woman teacher from Glasgow told the conference that the Scottish National Party and Scottish Labour Party could be one of the biggest threats to the left.

'They are having major successes in local government elections,'

she said. 'People see devolution as the answer, with Scotland growing richer on Scottish oil, leaving England to sink or swim.'

'But it isn't enough to leave the fight to our members in Scotland.'

She suggested a Scottish section to be produced as a supplement to Socialist Worker, putting the arguments against the policies of the SNP and SLP.

'The Right to Work marchers hit the consciences of workers, began to undermine the ideological hold of the Social Contract, and to raise the whole question of No Deal with Healey in a concrete way.'

'The student teachers are fighting for jobs as a result of the education cuts—they are part of the fight for the right to work.'

'Events will change very quickly. We shall have to learn to change gear, to move from one front to another and back again.'

'Now we have to be clear: the major battalions are not yet moving. But there is the beginnings of discontent.'

'Small groups of workers who fight will feel isolated.'

They will see the need for a national framework in which to fight.

'In these small struggles we can fight to be part of the leadership. Our strategy is the building of the national framework, of a National Rank and File Movement through the Right to Work Campaign.'

'In the coming period small groups of workers will be increasingly open to our ideas in a way that was not true over the past two years. We must also actively take the opportunity to increase our membership in the branches.'

The perspectives debate was being held at an awkward time in view of the miners' ballot on Healey's pay deal, said BILL MESSAGE from Pontefract.

But the dates of the ballot were convenient for the trade



Liverpool's Day of Action: That's the message.

union leaders who supported the deal. 'Most of the pits in the country are on holiday which means there is no time for an effective campaign against the deal!'

PETER BAIN, a shop steward from Chrysler Linwood, pointed out that some workers had been fooled by the prospect of redundancies and the Golden Handshake.

COLIN CALDER from Swansea stressed the need to organise around the pit-heads. 'The South Wales miners'

conference voted overwhelmingly to reject the pay deal, but their executive has made it clear they won't go against the national ballot,' he said.

PAUL HOLBOROW from East London said the atmosphere was beginning to change. 'On 26 May we saw the dockers out in real force for the first time in 18 months. Morale has been low among teachers but the no-cover issue has given them something to

be taking up.'

JOHN DEASON, national secretary of the Right to Work Campaign, explained that the majority of disputes involved workers on the defensive, on issues such as victimisation and union recognition.

'There are more disputes over people trying to get overtime than there are against it,' he said.

He added that student teachers should take their confidence and enthusiasm out of the colleges and involve teachers in the fight.

Link with the Party - in action!

A CALL for increased co-operation with the Communist Party in each area was made from the conference.

JIMMY McCALLUM from Glasgow summed it up: 'It is not a question of approaches between leaders, but of local initiatives through the Right to Work Campaign. We have played the leading role in getting the campaign going while the party has held back. Now we must approach them to take a more active part.'

'The crisis has pulled the trade union bureaucracy to the right and they in turn have pulled the Communist Party with them. The party still argues that men like Jack Jones are of the left and that nothing must be done to upset the Broad Left atmosphere.'

'This policy is so entrenched that many shop stewards and convenors who are party members have also moved to the right with the party leadership.'

TONY CLIFF told conference: 'The united front is not about resolutions or joint committees. It is about action around the ten demands of the Right to Work Campaign.'

'We want to discuss in action the way forward, not abdicate our independence.'

A delegate from Ipswich said that some party members in his area had moved to the left of the national leadership.

'It is possible to work with them on some issues like unemployment, but you have to be clear that the International Socialists is a revolutionary party. You run into problems when it comes to politics.'

TERRY ALCOCK from Leicester emphasised that not just the Right to Work Campaign has split the CP. In Leicester, where the National Front polled 45,000 votes, the party's answer on the trades council was a broad front activity—and it split the party.

JOHN DEASON warned of the party's control over the bureaucratic trade union machine in some areas. 'We are still very much the junior partner and we should never underestimate the negative effect that they can have on our activity in the trade union movement,' he said.

He added that the impact of the Right to Work Campaign has given greater credibility to the activity of the International Socialists because we had played a part in its success.

PHIL JONES from Gloucester said: 'There are local members of the Communist Party who are now selling Socialist Worker and the Engineers' Charter in the factories. It was a member of the party who proposed that the trades council join the Right to Work Campaign.'

OUR NORMAN



INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS Conference 1976



THE Right to Work Campaign was the most important initiative the International Socialists had ever been involved in, said PETER BAIN, a shop steward at Chrysler Linwood.

The campaign had been discussed at literally thousands of trade union bodies and it had kicked off a serious fight against unemployment.

'There is a spectre haunting the Communist Party,' he said. 'The Right to Work Campaign. The specific demands really put them on the spot.'

Hugh Wyper, a former executive member of the Communist Party and Glasgow district officer of the Transport Union, had simply run away from the demand for the 35-hour week demand, though this really offered a way forward against unemployment. Instead Wyper advocated import controls—a reactionary demand, which—what's more—doesn't require anyone to do anything.

Bain reported that following the success of the Albert Hall Right to Work Rally, the stewards committee considered sending a delegate to a Glasgow Right to Work Committee. There was no outright opposition, but a move to avoid delegating was made.

At this a non-aligned militant insisted that the stewards committee must be formally represented at the meeting.

'The next move was to bring out the familiar "It's an IS front" smear. But again non-aligned stewards came in and said it was the committee's duty to support any body that was serious in fighting unemployment.'

Now, said Bain, it is a question of investing in the future. Just three months after they got away with sacking 1500 workers, Chrysler are talking of setting on 130-770 workers depending on overtime and flexibility on what conditions they can force through.

'So again the Right to Work Campaign would be put to the test,' he said.

MIKE McGRATH, from Central London, argued for stronger emphasis on wages. This was the issue increasingly facing the members of his union, the CPSA.

'The Healey deal offers most of us £1.88 over two years. There is no way we are going to accept this.'

DICK NORTH, from South London, argued that the Right to Work Campaign was absolutely central to any fight for higher wages.

'The first time a group of workers goes into action against the Healey deal, they will be subjected to the most massive attack by press and television on the lines that

'If people like us don't set aside our nervousness and get on with the struggle, no one else is'

their demands "are causing unemployment".

'The Right to Work Campaign would immediately support them. This support from unemployed workers would be the most fantastic bolster to them.'

BOBBY BURDS, from Manchester, stressed that the campaign had offered a lead to a lot of people and had forced other sections of the working class movement to get their fingers out.

Now it was important to bring the TUC more directly into the firing line. They were responsible for the fact that a real fight back had been dodged. That's where another march, much bigger in size but shorter in distance, came in, a march to the TUC.

A woman shop steward from Glasgow illustrated the significance of the campaign in her workplace.

Just last year, she said, the stewards committee accepted the £6 deal by 17 votes to her one. They accepted because they thought that unemployment and prices would come down and if they did not then there would be a fight back this spring.

Since then the impact of the £6 wage off. They had not come down and there was no fight back. There had been an immense build-up of frustration. The Right to Work Campaign had come at the very time when on the shop floor worker was turning against worker, skilled against unskilled, men against women and vice versa.

'Up till then my workmates saw people like me as individuals. But then they were forced to relate to a campaign.'

'For the 26 May Day of Action we were able to get the shop floor to vote support for a one-day stoppage, but we were stabbed in the back.'

'We have to spell out loud and clear to rank and file militants that if people like us don't set aside our nervousness and get on with the job, then who else is going to do it?'

'No-one is, that's what we've got to get through our heads.'

'The situation now is turning. Now the arguments about the 4½ per cent are coming at us from the shop floor. "Hugh Scanlon is casting our votes for this pay deal—but he never consulted us," that's what people are saying to me.'

ROHANA MINHAS, from Leeds, said that the demands in the Right to Work Campaign on import controls and racism had to be highlighted again and again.

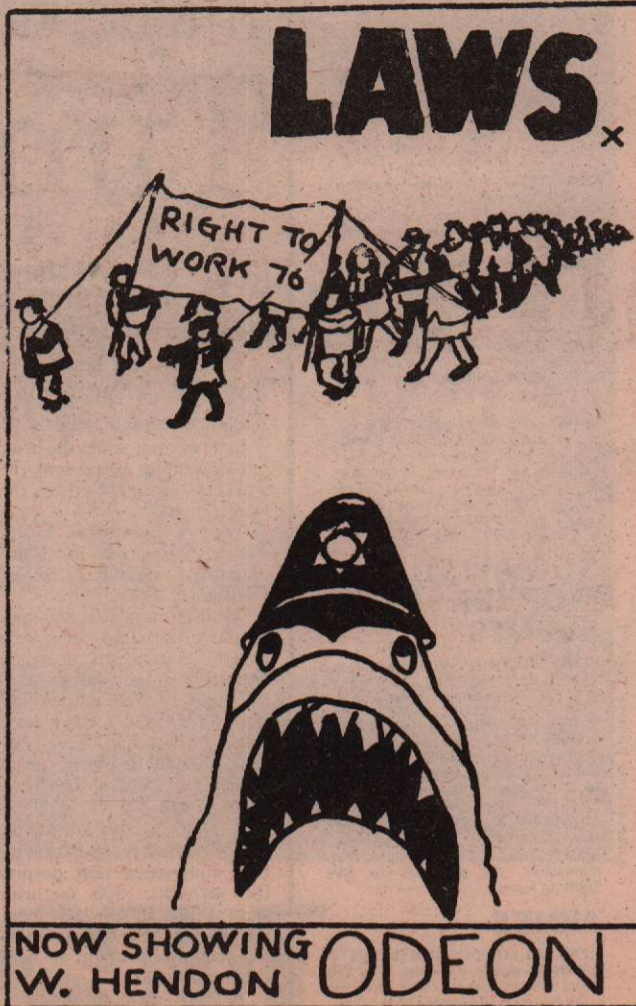
Summing up the discussion, JOHN DEASON stressed that the key was to build an opposition to those in the labour movement who had collaborated with the government in cutting workers' living standards.

In this, the battle over the government cuts would play an important role. 'They can't explain these away. This could be the soft underbelly of the government.'

The wages struggle is an offensive struggle, he argued, and people lack confidence. That's why the Right to Work is so central. It's at the heart of the battle for ideas.

The campaign was stretching and testing people, he said. A whole number of people were developing as leaders in the process. The campaign now meant that rank and file militants were a recognised part of the opposition to the Healey package.

Now the question is how the fight for the leadership of that opposition was carried.



THE CUTS HIT ALL OUR LIVES

'YOU can take a pound out of someone's pocket, but you dinnae kick their bairns.'

These words sum up the importance of opposing the government cuts in the Health Service, schools, indeed all the social services. For these hit directly at people's lives.

Here the way the government is trying to solve the crisis at the direct expense of working people is clear.

And the cuts are still increasing. The continuing fall in the value of the pound means the press are calling for more and more.

'A year ago we knew the cuts were coming, and forecast sackings, but we've been slow, and the attack has been more fragmented than we expected,' said STEVE JEFFERYS.

The cuts attack workers

in two ways: they attack trade unionists in hospitals, schools and so on over jobs and working conditions—and they attack workers' living standards. So to fight them we must bring together teachers and parents, hospital workers and local factory workers, bus workers and their passengers.

We need: a short programme for each area relating the local Right to Work Campaign to the cuts, a local cuts committee where there is action, and we need to tie these to the national Right to Work Campaign.

The coming cuts are like a rumbling volcano, said a delegate from Edinburgh. You can hear the rumblings, but you don't know when it's going to burst.

In Edinburgh the Right to Work Committee was able to act quickly to help the Borders school cleaners and the students who occupied Moray Hn.

TERRY ALCOTT, from Leicester, told how teachers refusing to cover for absences had formed a committee. Then, when other school workers were threatened with loss of jobs, the committee had worked out a policy of action and approached the NUPE and NALGO members.

NEIL DAVIES, from North West London, told how some local schoolkids had themselves opposed the increase in class sizes. One day they lined up outside the classroom and allowed only 30 to go in.

PETE GLATTER, from North London, told how the bus fare increases had been overtaken by the busworkers' frustration over new rotas. The intensification of work because of the cuts was forcing many workers to fight them.

JOHN GLEN, from Glasgow, told how the local Right to Work Committee had been initiated by the council building workers. It was they who had helped the students occupying Jordanhill college of education to organise flying pickets to spread their struggle. Now the committee is to draw delegates from other workplaces hit by the cuts.

THE PLAN for a three-day march of unemployed workers from London to the TUC in Brighton in September, which was put forward by the Right to Work Council last week, was discussed by the conference.

The decision was reported by Socialist Worker last week.

This would be a much more political task than the three-week Right to Work March. With a direct protest to the TUC as its aim, it could expect greater opposition from within the trade union bureaucracy at all levels.

'Don't rock the boat', would be a cry heard more and more. This was why members of the International Socialists must swing their weight behind the campaign.

JOHN DEASON, secretary of the Right to Work Campaign, told the conference that the lobby of the Recall TUC on 16 June must be the launching pad for continuing pressure on the TUC, as it represented employed workers, to fight for the unemployed.

The TUC leaders are calculating that they can bash their 4½ per cent pay deal through the Recall TUC and then have a quiet summer leading up to the September TUC.

'We've got to make sure it isn't like that.'

The march to Brighton needs to involve as many unemployed workers as possible, and when we get there we need to be met by a mass lobby of employed workers. Not just delegations of one and two from workplaces, but big delegations. The 4½ per cent hits everyone.

MIKE McGRATH (CPSA) said: 'That mass lobby is the most vital. Going to the TUC in the CPSA delegation last year was the most disgusting experience of my life.'

'It's a total stitch-up from beginning to end. The rank and file delegates never get a word in.'

The only time it came alive was when there was the mass protest over Shrewsbury. It tell you: the trade union leaders were actually terrified at the voices of the rank and file coming in from outside.

'That's what must be done for the Right to Work.'

BILL MESSAGE, from Pontefract, said that we should be winning trade union delegations to go on the march, not just the lobby. It was a short march and easier to get time off work.

GEOFF HEATON, from Glasgow, said that raising support for such a protest to the TUC would be hard, but that much more effective.

'We all know what the normal lobby to the TUC is like. A polite affair, with the "left-wing" trade union bureaucrats coming out to greet it. To that we've got to counterpose direct action—and they're not going to like it.'

JOHN ROSE, from West London, pointed out the dangers of 'pulling out all the stops' for such a march and leaving other important issues uncovered. The campaign against racism was particularly vital, he said.

UNEMPLOYED? NO, YOU'RE NOT ALONE

'WHEN you're unemployed, you're totally alone. When you argue with the unemployed you have to go straight to the political arguments.'

'You have to say you're not alone, you're part of a whole class of working people that's being brutally attacked. You have to say "You're unemployed because of the system".'

'Very often the unemployed are not in the union. What's more, they partly hold the unions to blame for the situation.'

'We've got to get through to them. We've got

to persuade them that the unions can put up a fight.'

—BRIAN HIGGINS, from Northampton.

'I HAD been unemployed for two years before the Right to Work Campaign. I had always been a militant, but I was getting frustrated.'

'The march motivated and inspired me. I'm fighting harder now than I ever fought before in my life.'

—PIP JONES, from Cardiff.

The fight for equal pay page 3

the worker
Paper of the Socialist Workers Movement

EAMONN McCANN photo by WOLFE TONE page 4

WAGE

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INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

Conference 1976



OCCUPATIONS SHOW STUDENTS WILL FIGHT THE CUTS

THE occupations of teacher training colleges show the enormous potential among students for fighting the cuts, said LINDSAY GERMAN.

'We must fight to create a relationship between the Right to Work Campaign and unemployed teachers in every area. The student teachers must take their case to every factory, picket line and demonstration.'

'Many of the students are not in their final year. With these it is particularly important to argue the politics of cuts and unemployment.'

'The level of many occupations is very low. In one college the nuns called a religious mass in support. They haven't seized the switchboards, locked out the staff, or stopped the administration.'

JOHN PENNY, from Manchester, said: 'The success of the National Organisation of International Socialist Societies has led to all sorts of careerists leaping on the NOISS electoral bandwagon. It is a problem of success.'

'We still have a constant battle in our district to explain to other IS members that the orientation we have agreed on means students must build in their own colleges.'

JOHN DEASON said the scale of the occupations was potentially enormous. 'But we have been too slow to react. If it had been factories occupying we would have been down there quick enough. Thousands of teachers are taking up our demand for the Right to Work.'

'The Right to Teach is a right-wing demand. It means "Cut something else, not teachers." But the demand for the right to work expands the battle to everyone. Teachers must be part of the overall fight.'

ALEX CALLINICOS, from Oxford, said: 'The experience of the NUT is not directly relevant for student teachers in their last year at college. The occupations are student battles.'

'Look at their exclusive nature. Look at the rapidity with which the most right-wing sections of the student movement has shifted to fighting for the Right to Work.'

'Whatever happens in this particular struggle, our task is to make sure that groups of students committed to revolutionary politics, grouped around NOISS, are left in the colleges. The only organisation that holds together when the reactionary tide reasserts itself is a political organisation—and that means NOISS.'

★★★★★ Lets Do It Again! ★★★★★

FLAME

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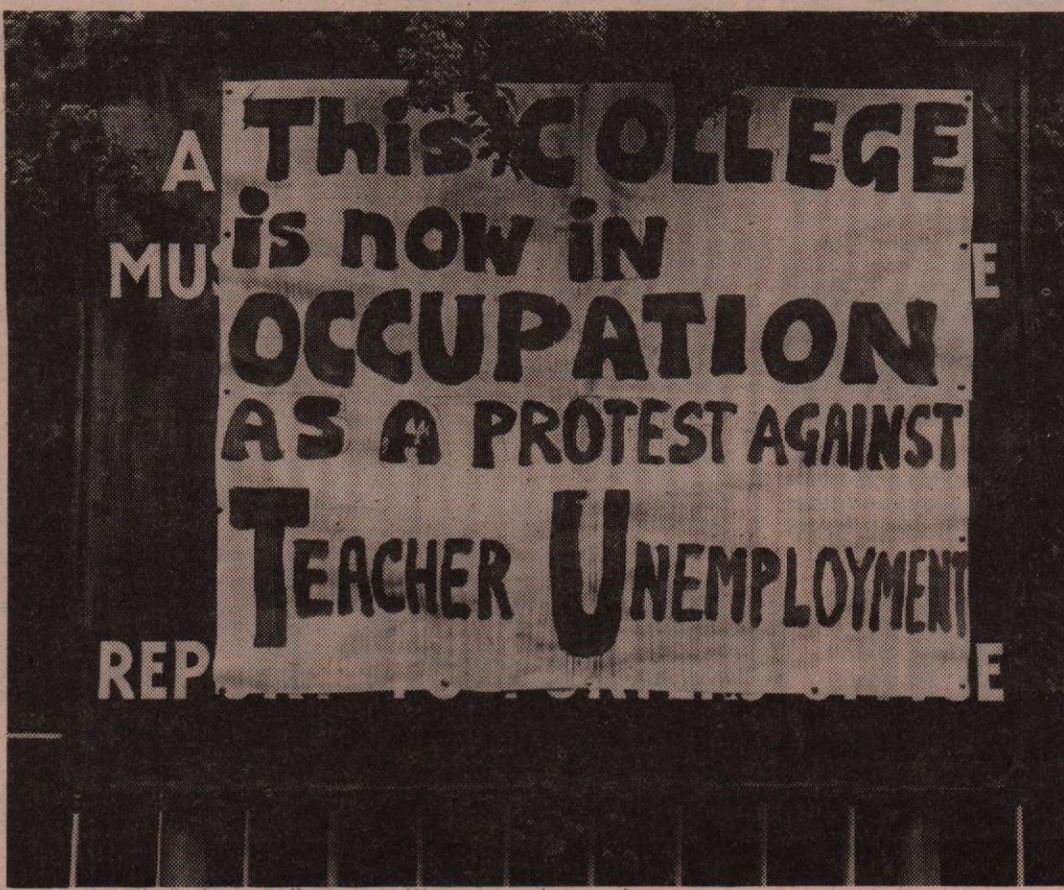
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★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★



A sign outside Padgate College, near Warrington, last week

We're women AND we're workers

THE key problem in drawing women into revolutionary socialist politics is to approach them both as women and as workers, taking up issues of women's oppression — abortion AND equal pay, for example.

SHEILA MCGREGOR told the conference: 'The potential is there. In many unions—NALGO, NUPE, NUT—the majority of members are women. But even in rank and file groups in these unions, men dominate.'

'We should argue that every rank and file paper must make a specific effort to appeal to women. Women today are not a downtrodden mass. They

have high expectations. It's out job to tap that.

'We have to get away from expecting the national IS women's organiser to do the whole job. Women have got to say: We are going to fight to develop as leaders. We are going to be delegates to conference, to party council on district committees.'

Women are now a quarter of IS membership.

TIM SOUTH, from Leeds, moved a resolution to stop publishing 'Women's Voice'. 'We have to ask ourselves why we are publishing it. We can't sell it or use it in Leeds.'

A delegate from North London, said: 'I used to say I was ready for any emergency as long as I had Socialist Worker and my umbrella with me. Now I've got Engineers' Charter and Women's Voice.'

'These are the tools we've got. Don't anybody take that tool away from me or other women.'

GLASGOW said: 'We could make real inroads with women manual workers. Take the question of Equal Pay. When there is a dispute over it, we cover it. But no one—including us—is running hard campaign.'

'And look at the implications on the shop floor when we win equal pay. In my shop, we have it with no strings. The men say now: "Since Equal Pay, they won't sit down, they're always fighting".'

PIP JONES, from Cardiff, had been visiting factories in the area about the EETPU elections. 'It starts a real good fight when I point out that there are 50,000 women in the EETPU and not one woman among the 140 union officials.'

'Some of the best shop stewards I've come across are among the women.'

MAGGIE RENN has been appointed as national IS women's organiser by the IS central committee. She said: 'We want a leadership among the women. There are a small number of women's delegates here. We have to work quickly to change it.'

'There is a women's sub-committee on Saturday 19 June. Discuss Women's Voice in your district and be sure a delegate comes—with ideas to improve it.'

Central London IS district is running a series of classes about women's oppression and the family... she said: 'Other districts should do the same. We have stood back and let the Communist Party recruit women interested in women's politics.'

SHEILA MCGREGOR summed up the discussion: 'Women are fighters, leaders. We have to tap them. It is our responsibility to organise them.'

'Women are on the lowest grades. They will get the least out of the 4 1/2 per cent deal. We can get them on the lobby of the TUC conference on 11 June and on the Right to Work march against the TUC in September.'

RACISM Strong, socialist trade unionism is our best weapon

WE ARE in the middle of a new wave of racism.

In Bradford, Blackburn and Leicester the fascist National Front has gained a foothold through the elections.

The Labour government has encouraged racialism: their campaign against the overseas students has been to get themselves off the hook over the cuts in education spending. The TUC and the government has opened the door for the fascists.

CHRIS HARMAN told conference: 'We must make no concessions on immigration control, even when our members are completely isolated. We will gather round us those people who aren't racists.'

'The Nazi organisations are still small, but we have to prevent them from growing. We have to harass them. But we don't just go in for Nazi-clobbering. We can't sustain it and it won't be successful to hold back the racist wave.'

'Fascists are strongest where the labour movement is weakest. We have to find the forms of agitation that will bring workers to us to undermine the fascist base.'

'We have to become the political presence in the locality.'

ALAN WATTS, from North London, said: 'We have to force people to argue rationally about racism, something which is irrational.'

NADEEM argued that our work must be more than either fighting the National Front or recruiting black workers to IS. We need to do the slow and systematic work, perhaps call a conference, to really build.

NEIL DAVIES, said that there was no contradiction between the areas of work. In North West London all posters and leaflets for the Right to Work Campaign included photographs of black workers.

Black speakers had been on the platforms at the meetings, even if black workers didn't come.

Now black workers were joining the picket line when Irish workers are arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, he said.

AZIM HAJEE, from Birmingham, said that only by doing race work among whites will we gain any credibility with the black organisations. We should have public meetings on racialism and unemployment.

'The slogan "No Deal with Healey" won't be heard if everyone else is shouting "Kick Out the Blacks".'

TONY CLIFF said: 'We have to understand oppression and exploitation. We are talking about black workers, not workers who happen to be black.'

'Working-class struggle is the answer. There are three things we have to do: we have to demonstrate, we have to organise on the factory floor, and we have to build a

revolutionary party, with black cadres.'

KIM GORDON, editor of Flame, the IS black workers' paper said the paper has to talk to young blacks who are prepared to fight, and particularly to organised black workers—for two-thirds of blacks are in trade unions, a higher proportion than among whites.

'We should organise a demonstration with the slogan "They're welcome here", he said.'

One of the most difficult problems is the integration of our black members, said an Asian delegate from Loughborough. 'The black caucus will enable us to exchange experiences, but we don't want it to become a black ghetto.'

Anyone can sell Chingari, the IS Asian workers' paper, he said, but there are lots of young blacks who can't read Punjabi or Urdu. 'We should have English pages in Chingari. We also need more full-time workers for our black work.'

SOONU ENGINEER also argued that the most pressing problem is the development and integration of our black members, the black caucus can do that, she said. Chingari now has Asian workers around it who write for it and work with it.

'We have been soft in recruiting black workers', said ROHANA MINHAS, from Leeds. 'We don't connect the work we do in the community to the workplace. The Right to Work Campaign has been the major driving force to wage the battle of ideas against racism: Blacks lose their jobs first.'

'We need to produce pamphlets in Asian languages arguing our politics against the Labour government, arguing for revolutionary politics,' she said.

If they come for the Irish...

HOW do we equate the attack on the Irish community from the Prevention of Terrorism Act with the other attacks on working-class people?

That was the question posed by PAUL O'BRIEN when he opened the debate on Ireland at the IS conference.

'We would like to see trade union committees against the PTA set up in other districts—North London, East London, Birmingham, Glasgow.'

'The PTA comes up for renewal in November. We should be leading a campaign against it then.'

GENE KERRIGAN, of the Socialist Workers Movement of Ireland, outlined the crisis in Ireland.

'The capitalist chickens are coming home to roost. Unemployment in the south has doubled in two years to 120,000. Prices go up 2 per cent a month. Wages are held down.'

'Within the next few years we will have a quarter of a million unemployed—in a country where the workforce is one million.'

JIMMY McCALLUM,

from Glasgow, said: 'The central problem is frustration. How can we mobilise around the problem in the North?'

'We have to take up Ireland just as we take up racism. We tend to rely on Eamonn McCann and Socialist Worker journalists for coverage. But there are cases in our own districts that we should report.'

'It's difficult to raise on the shop floor, but we can do it especially around the Prevention of Terrorism Act and Troops Out Movement delegations to the North.'

ALAN WATTS, from North London, told conference he had tried to raise the Prevention of Terrorism Act after a worker from the next factory was picked up under it and then lost his job.

'There were some men in the union branch from that factory. When I mentioned Ireland, it was like an iron plate came down over their faces. They didn't want to know.'

'We came to the issue cold. We should have raised it

before.'

PAT O'KEEFE, from the Trade Union Committee Against the Prevention of Terrorism Act, told conference what they should do.

The best reaction to the PTA came from a factory mass meeting where they voted not to allow Special Branch police in the factory unless accompanied by the convenor and two stewards. Ten per cent of people held under the PTA have been taken from their workplaces.

People should support pickets outside police stations where detainees under the PTA are held. They should join the telephone pyramid (or form one) to contact support when someone is taken under the Act. And set up a trade union committee in their area.

SHEILA MCGREGOR told conference that the meeting for defence of the 43 Right to Work marchers also had a speaker from Sinn Fein. 'If they come for the Irish in the morning, they'll come for us at night,' she said.



Picture: John Sturrock (Report)

Action for ETV

by IAN FERGUSON and SHEILA SIM
NALGO shop stewards

GLASGOW: A day of action on Thursday 24 June has been called by the local government workers' union (NALGO) to save the jobs of 35 workers in the Educational Television service (ETV).

The Strathclyde Regional Council plans to close ETV completely. The service provides piped and video-recorded education programmes for hundreds of schools.

The majority of the 4000 council employees are already operating an overtime ban, but mass meetings in the six

NALGO divisions decided that the ban was not effective enough.

At a special delegate meeting of the regional branch on Saturday, full-time NALGO official Andre Jack attacked Strathclyde Council for taking the decision to chop ETV without consultation.

The axing, part of the government's 'restructuring' means a saving of £150,000 — which will be used for redundancy pay and compensation for termination of contracts to private firms.

The token one-day stoppage on 24 June will be followed by indefinite strike action in selected council departments.

Strikers at the Greenings plant, Warrington, being entertained on their picket line by the North West Spanner socialist theatre group. The dispute, now in its eighth week, is over the sacking of the AUEW convenor in an attempt to break one of the most militant plants in the Firth Brown engineering group. The performance of Dig for Victory, the Spanner's new play about unemployment, boosted the strikers' morale.

□ North West Spanner theatre group, phone 061-881 7845.

Boost for equal pay strikers

NORFOLK: The equal pay dispute at East Coast Plastics, North Walsham, is now in its fifth week. So far the company has refused to negotiate, but the strike by 48 women members of the shopworkers

7.30am to 11.30pm daily, with the line reinforced by local trade unionists from the Crane Fruehalf factory.

Transport Union drivers are respecting the picket and no milk, post or parcels are being delivered. In Norwich a collection at the trades council raised £22.50 and all union branches in the city are being asked for help.

The students union at the University of East Anglia has sent £30.

□ Donations and messages of support to: Miss Penny, USDAW shop steward, 40 Spurdens Crescent, North Walsham, Norfolk.

Cowboys break Rom River lines

WITHAM, ESSEX: Workers striking for union recognition at the Rom River steel plant got a clear idea last week of what they are up against.

Five scab lorries burst through their picket lines late on Thursday. Less than 24 hours earlier, general manager James Fish had dismissed claims that the firm were using cowboy drivers as nonsense.

The incident clearly hardened the resolve of the 25 strikers, who have now been out for four weeks for the right to join the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation.

They now know they could be in for a long and bitter fight.

And so they have extended their picket round the clock and have begun seeking support in the local labour movement.

But they also badly need financial support from ISTC branches and other Rom River plants around the country.

Messages of support and donations to: Bill Connor, 10 Court Thirteen, Milton Road, Witham, Essex.

Nurses' ban

MANCHESTER: Nurses at Ashton General Hospital are operating a ban on all non-urgent admissions and on overtime in three departments, in protest over low staffing levels. Management are refusing to replace staff who leave.

'Work faster or go'

CONSTRUCTION of the new Dartford tunnel under the Thames has stopped as 350 tunnel workers on the Kent side refused to carry out contractor Balfour Beatty's ruthless productivity drive designed to increase profit from the government contract.

The company has told the men to increase the rate of tunnelling or they'll be sacked.

Said Jimmy Cavanagh, TGWU site convenor: 'The men working here are tough, experienced, tunnel workers but they're scared. This proposed rate of work—seven 'ruigs' a shift—has never been done before.'

The men are already working in a pressurised atmosphere which creates such hazardous fire conditions that the Fire Brigades Union won't let their members go down

There have been three fires since Christmas that the men have had to put out themselves and a total 170 accidents in the past three months. Conditions are so appalling that the company are trying to stop all publicity.

Rather than wait until 12 June for the decision of an arbitration board the men have decided to take immediate action.

'We all know the outcome of that meeting in advance. Not one person there will have been anywhere near a tunnel, even the TGWU official has refused to go down,' said Jimmy Cavanagh.

With several construction sites in the area facing similar threats from ruthless employers, the need for a safety campaign co-ordinated by a delegate committee from the various sites becomes an urgent task.

CRIPPLED - AFTER THEY SACKED THE SAFETY FIGHTER

by TONY DELZALL

OLDHAM: Working conditions at Square Grips steel reinforcement factory have been a joke for years. They're not any more.

On Monday last week Jack Cochrane was crushed beneath a crane which collapsed when its cable snapped. Both his thighs were smashed, and he is lying in hospital in terrible pain.

When the firm's general manager, R H Smith, was told of the accident, he said: 'Have you got any witnesses?'

He should be worried. The crane cables should be overhauled by the manufacturers' fitters. Instead, Square Grip have

left the job to their own fitters who don't know what they're doing.

Square Grip is a subsidiary of the multi-million Transport Development Group, which has always hated trade unions. We organised the workers there after a tough battle three and a half years ago.

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He would have had nothing but disgust for the anti-working class policies of the Scottish National Party.

The strikers held a protest march and demonstration through the centre of Cumbernauld last Saturday to win support from local people and trade unionists. Strikers and the Trades Council spoke in support of the strike.

Picketing throughout the dispute has been solid, particularly at the giant shopping precinct in the centre of town where rubbish is piling up.

Atmosphere

The atmosphere is reminiscent of Glasgow's city centre during the dustcart drivers' dispute last year.

If defeated, these local authority workers will suffer a tremendous cut in their living standards. Already they have the support of Cumbernauld Development Corporation manual workers. If they are to win, that support has to come from other local authority workers throughout the area.

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They must not be isolated and forced into defeat. They need the support of every trade unionist.

□ Donations and messages of support to: Cumbernauld Trades Council Local Authority Strike Fund, c/o Joe Lynch, 20 Rowan Road, Cumbernauld, Glasgow.

Victory for gay teachers

BRIXTON: Teachers at Dick Sheppard school, have been picketing the local office of the Inner London Education

authority. The picket was held because he had discovered his homosexuality with students.

Peter, a supply teacher, was told that he was no longer required, despite a shortage of maths teachers at the school.

After the picket, which was backed by the Lambeth Teachers Association and local gay groups, the council agreed to employ Peter at a school in Wandsworth.

The NUT is still fighting for his right to work at Dick Sheppard school, but they see the fact that he is still employed by the council as a step forward.

Socialist Worker



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Support!

SPELLS IT OUT ON THE 43

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John Phillips, president of the Barnet Trades Council, read out copies of his own letter to the TUC and the reply from Ken Graham, secretary of the TUC's Industrial Relations Department.

The reply says: 'As you appreciate, it is the function of the Congress and the General Council to draw up the movement's national policy and whether or not the movement mounts a campaign of unemployment marches is solely a decision of them...'

Indeed, national demonstrative action would be counter-productive in harming the close and developing relationship with the Labour government.

'Under these circumstances we cannot comply with your request about the circulation of an appeal.'

Issue

John Phillips, who tried without success to raise the question of police violence at the conference, wrote in a leaflet handed to delegates: 'The TUC's attitude to the unemployed is a disgrace. It is a disgrace that the Labour government are not sponsored by the TUC.'

'These trade unionist unemployed marchers were either attacked or not by the police without due provocation and the inquiry was called to find out the facts which will be published as a report very shortly.'

Barnet Trades Council asked the TUC for help in setting up the inquiry, but was refused. They still need help to finance the investigation.

□ Donations to: Wolsey Grove, Edgware, Middlesex.



Picture: John Sturrock (Report)

Action for ETV

by IAN FERGUSON and SHEILA SIM
NALGO shop stewards

GLASGOW: A day of action on Thursday 24 June has been called by the local government workers' union (NALGO) to save the jobs of 35 workers in the Educational Television service (ETV).

Strathclyde Regional Council plans to close ETV completely. The service provides piped and video-recorded education programmes for hundreds of schools.

The majority of the 4000 council employees are already operating an overtime ban, but mass meetings in the six

NALGO divisions decided that the ban was not effective enough.

At a special delegate meeting of the regional branch on Saturday, full-time NALGO official Andre Jack attacked Strathclyde Council for taking the decision to chop ETV without consultation.

The axing, part of the government-ordered cuts, means a saving of £150,000—which will be handed out in redundancy pay and compensation for termination of contracts to private firms.

The token one-day stoppage on 24 June will be followed by indefinite strike action in selected council departments.

Strikers at the Greenings plant, Warrington, being entertained on their picket line by the North West Spanner socialist theatre group. The dispute, now in its eighth week, is over the sacking of the AUEW convenor in an attempt to break one of the most militant plants in the Firth Brown engineering group. The performance of Dig for Victory, the Spanner's new play about unemployment, boosted the strikers' morale.

North West Spanner theatre group, phone 061-881 7845.

Boost for equal pay strikers

NORFOLK: The equal pay dispute at East Coast Plastics, North Walsham, is now in its fifth week. So far the company has refused to negotiate, but the strike by 48 women members of the shopworkers' union has held.

Picketing is going on from 7.30am to 11.30pm daily, with the line reinforced by local trade unionists from the Crane Fruehalf factory.

Transport Union drivers are respecting the picket and no milk, post or parcels are being delivered. In Norwich a collection at the trades council raised £22.50 and all union branches in the city are being asked for help.

The students union at the University of East Anglia has sent £30.

Donations and messages of support to: Miss Penny, USDW shop steward, 40 Spurdens Crescent, North Walsham, Norfolk.

200 march in Skelmersdale

SKELMERSDALE: The largest demonstration the town has ever seen was the unemployment march on 26 May. About 200 unemployed and employed workers marched through the town, making token occupations of the Town Hall and Development Corporation offices. The march ended in a rally at the Concourse town centre.

'Work faster or go'

CONSTRUCTION of the new Dartford tunnel under the Thames has stopped as 350 tunnel workers on the Kent side refused to carry out contractor Balfour Beatty's ruthless productivity drive designed to increase profit from the government contract.

The company has told the men to increase the rate of tunnelling or they'll be sacked.

Said Jimmy Cavanagh, TGWU site convenor: 'The men working here are tough, experienced, tunnel workers but they're scared. This proposed rate of work—seven 'ruigs' a shift—has never been done before.'

The men are already working in a pressurised atmosphere which creates such hazardous fire conditions that the Fire Brigades Union won't let their members go down

There have been three fires since Christmas that the men have had to put out themselves and a total 170 accidents in the past three months. Conditions are so appalling that the company are trying to stop all publicity.

Rather than wait until 12 June for the decision of an arbitration board the men have decided to take immediate action.

'We all know the outcome of that meeting in advance. Not one person there will have been anywhere near a tunnel, even the TGWU official has refused to go down,' said Jimmy Cavanagh.

With several construction sites in the area facing similar threats from ruthless employers, the need for a safety campaign co-ordinated by a delegate committee from the various sites becomes an urgent task.

CRIPPLED - AFTER THEY SACKED THE SAFETY FIGHTER

by TONY DELZALL

OLDHAM: Working conditions at Square Grips steel reinforcement factory have been a joke for years. They're not any more.

On Monday last week Jack Cochrane was crushed beneath a crane which collapsed when its cable snapped. Both his thighs were smashed, and he is lying in hospital in terrible pain.

When the firm's general manager, R H Smith, was told of the accident, he said: 'Have you got any witnesses?'

He should be worried. The crane cables should be overhauled by the manufacturers' fitters. Instead, Square Grip have

left the job to their own fitters who don't know what they're doing.

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'Indeed, national demonstrative action would be counter-productive in harming the close and developing relationship with the Labour government.'

'Under these circumstances we cannot comply with your request about the circulation of an appeal.'

Issue

John Phillips, who tried without success to raise the question of police violence at the conference, wrote in the leaflet handed to delegates:

'Remember that the Jarrow hunger marchers and the flying pickets at Shrewsbury were not sponsored by the TUC.'

'These trade unionists and unemployed marchers were either attacked or not by the police without due provocation and the inquiry was called to find out the facts which will be published as a report very shortly.'

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PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

OCCUPIED COLLEGES HIT THE 100 MARK

NINETY-FIVE colleges occupied by the student teachers—and more to follow.

The student teachers' campaign for the right to work is still growing. Support is rolling in from thousands of other workers, from teachers, lecturers, building workers, hospital

workers, railway and bus workers. In many areas students have been travelling round factories and schools calling for support. The response has been very good. But the executives of the NUT and EIS have failed to do anything to help. Unfortunately they have been assisted in this by the National Union of Students executive, which refuses to call on the teaching unions to call official action in support of the students.

The NUS Executive has also called for a week of action next week. This is a week too late and anyway will be made up of meetings addressed by local trade union officials, representatives of the local education authorities who are implementing the cuts, as well as the students.

Contrast

By contrast, John Deason, Secretary of the Right to Work Campaign, said: 'This is one of the most important fights for the Right to Work.'

'Every Right to Work Committee should be down at their local occupied college, offering support, trying to get the students round factories and schools, helping to organise activities like Job Centre Occupations or local unemployment demos. We have to move quickly—these sorts of activities over the next few days can make a tremendous difference to the campaign.'

The occupations must not lose the initiative. The momentum of spreading the occupations and the fight must be kept up.

TEACHERS' BLACKLIST SHOCK

WHO IS ON the notorious Department of Education and Science List 99? That's the question that should concern all teachers.

The confidential roll of teachers and students who are banned from getting jobs in schools and colleges is circulated regularly to headmasters and principals.

Students occupying several of the colleges have seized the list and copies of letters from

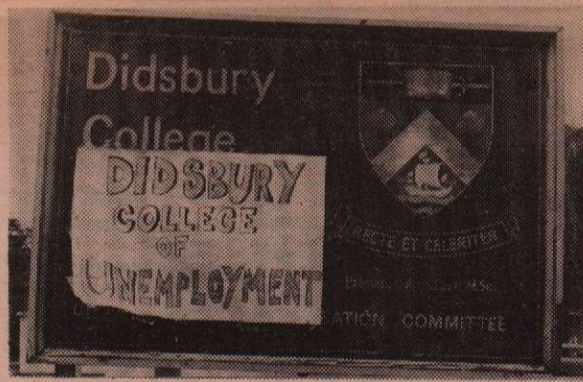
SHOCK

the DES and sent them to Socialist Worker. They prove that List 99 is up-dated from time to time when names of teachers who have disgraced themselves, either through their conduct in school or by committing criminal offences, are added.

A senior civil servant at the DES admitted that the list operates,

but refused to say what sort of criminal offence warranted a name on it. Neither would he talk about the other sort of misconduct involved, except to deny that you could get on the list through political activity.

But as the list is top secret, who's to say in future whether he is right?



Students at Didsbury College show their solidarity in a vote to occupy (top).

The different occupations are part of a national campaign for the right to work. Local demonstrations, occupations of Education Offices, pickets of council meetings and support for all actions against unemployment and cuts by other groups of workers, will help link up student teachers with all others fighting for the right to work.

Focus

There also needs to be a national focus for the campaign—a demonstration to Downing Street to

demand to see Callaghan and make him provide jobs. It is unfortunate that the NUS executive is calling a demonstration on 15 June—over two weeks away. The need for urgency in this situation is vital—we can't sit around waiting and doing nothing or the impetus will go out of the campaign. No-one on the executive called for that sort of national demo for the middle of next week, when it is really needed to give a lift to the campaign. Hopefully the conference called by Didsbury this weekend—and backed by NUS—will decide on a more active and campaigning policy.

OCCUPATION CONFERENCE

DIDSBURY COLLEGE of Education, Manchester, is holding a conference to discuss the student teacher occupations and the cuts. All occupied colleges should send delegates, other colleges and teachers' branches should send observers. Saturday 5 June, 10am-5.30pm, 799 Wilmslow Road, Manchester 20.

ROUND THE COLLEGES

EDINBURGH: Moray House students who began the wave of education college occupations, are considering whether to occupy over the summer.

They argue this can provide a focus for all students in the Lothian region and keep up the pressure into next year. On 17 June there will be a meeting of all Lothian students.

MANCHESTER: Students at Didsbury College of Education were to meet on Tuesday to discuss the development of the campaign and the lecture boycott. Last week they successfully won NUS executive support for their delegate conference.

Students at Stockport College of Technology have now decided to reoccupy after the weekend pause. Approaches are being made to the main college lecturers' union (NATFHE) for support.

The recently established Manchester Occupation Coordinating Committee has organised many visits to local factories and £18 was raised for the Automat strike fund.

The Automat workers are striking to reinstate eight sacked workers who set up the union. We are in the same boat as them—fighting for the Right to Work,' said Pete Gates of Didsbury College.

GLASGOW: Students have taken the education cuts into the workplaces. Factory gate meetings have been arranged and held successfully around one major industrial estate. Now it is the turn of the shipyards.

SOUTH WEST LONDON: Garnett College will be holding a meeting on fighting the cuts next Thursday.

Graham Packham told Socialist Worker: 'We aim to show that the education cuts will not just hit students, they involve everyone who has a child at school or who needs a job. That is why Garnett students went out to the NATFHE annual conference and won a resolution of support for the occupations.'

BRISTOL: Redland college students voted by 370 to 3 to occupy. Other colleges in the area have already followed their lead. Leaflets have been distributed all over the town to get parents and teachers involved.

COVENTRY College of Education occupied last week and has drawn active support from other local colleges. Students were shocked to hear that so far only about 79 of more than 390 students leaving this year have jobs, and this figure is unlikely to rise much over 110.

NORTH EAST LONDON: The Polytechnic occupation has taken over the whole Barking precinct. The students are linking the two major campaigns against the cuts—the student teachers and overseas students by occupying in protest at both.

There will be a meeting of overseas student activists on Friday, 4 June, 2.30pm, at Barking Precinct, Longbridge Road, Barking.

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