

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS 10p



WHERE FASCISTS FEAR TO TREAD

—see page 5.

Full coverage of the nationwide struggle

against racism —pages 2, 5 and 13

SPAIN 1936



1976

Four-page special —pages 7-10



ANGOLA ACCUSES

—page 3



The men who helped Amin to power

—page 3

OUTRAGE!

Labour's cuts steal pennies from the handicapped

by JIM BARLOW

'THEY'RE attacking the weakest section of the community. The Labour government as a whole are responsible for this crime'.

These are the words of Willie Jack, Dundee wallpaper worker.

Willie and his wife are feeling Labour's cuts with particular pain and anguish. They have a 22-year-old handicapped daughter Betty, who goes to work at the Dudhope Training Centre for the Mentally Handicapped in Dundee, doing occupational therapy.

Until this month Betty and the others at the school were paid 25p to 50p a week for working on contract for well-heeled and profitable firms like Valentines Cards, Holochrome and Beatties Bakeries.

But now, because of the cuts ordered by Labour Chancellor Denis Healey and the Tayside Regional council, even these pathetic payments have been scrapped.

Betty now gets precisely nothing for her work.

To add insult to injury, the free meals allowance

This girl was born with Down's Syndrome. She is just one of the 200,000 mentally handicapped children who are losing even those pathetic benefits they had. Meanwhile Labour is spending an extra £209 million this year . . . on the police



has also been scrapped. Parents now have to pay an extra 20p a day. Some have two kids at the centre—this means an extra £2 a week.

A lousy 5p daily attendance allowance has even been scrapped.

So Willie and his wife now have to pay £1 a week for Betty's meals. And throughout Britain there are 200,000 families with mentally handicapped children in the same situation.

As Willie, treasurer of the Dundee branch of the Mentally Handicapped Association, puts it: 'It's a disgrace. We're already saving the government

thousands of pounds by having Betty at home. Now they do this to us.'

But the government is not drawing back from its policy of attacking the weak and the handicapped. Far from it. This week Chancellor Healey was telling Labour MPs that more cuts are on the way.

His announcement has been greeted with cheers from the press, the Tory Party and the international bankers.

The only people not cheering are those, like Willie Jack, who have been voting Labour all their lives . . .

FIGHT THE CUTS! JOIN THE RIGHT TO WORK MARCH! PAGE FOUR



EUROPE SINGH

IMMIGRATION CONTROLS 'LIKE SOUTH AFRICA'

EUROPE SINGH, from the International Socialists' Black Caucus, spoke to the rally in Hyde Park before the march set off.

'White South Africans try to keep the blacks contained in the homelands—only letting them come to the cities to work under a rigid pass system. They do this to guarantee cheap labour for their factories,' he said.

'In the same way Europeans use immigration controls. They bring blacks in as cheap labour to do the dirty, lowest-

paid jobs.

'This demonstration is just the beginning. We have to go back to our towns—to win people round, away from racist ideas. We have to be bold enough to say Enoch Powell is a murderer—and say why, to argue against all immigration controls and not shirk the issue.

'And we have to go back—as we have done in Balham and Tooting in South London—to set up defence groups to make the streets safe to walk in for everyone—women and children especially.'

MAGNIFICENT

TWELVE THOUSAND people took part in the biggest demonstration against racism for years in London on Sunday.

They came from Asian communities, trade union and socialist groups from all parts of Britain. They marched defiantly but peacefully from Hyde Park to Whitehall.

If it had been a march of 12,000 National Front supporters, the press would have made it front page news. Instead they virtually ignored it. Even the Morning Star gave it only a brief mention.

When the press did mention the demonstration it was to refer to 'clashes' and 'arrests'. But these were caused by the police, who picked on individual demonstrators.

FOILED

As the tail of the march was passing through Piccadilly they grabbed three members of the Southall Youth Movement. But their plans were foiled when the whole back two-thirds of the march moved back towards the arrested youths and refused to move until the police had freed them.

Ten minutes later the police struck again, this time in Whitehall. Suddenly a wedge of police pushed their way into the crowd and seized some more marchers. This time when the rest of the demonstration refused to move on, police horses were brought in.

Mohinder Singh Benning, a welder from Gravesend, told Socialist Worker what happened to him.

'They took me behind the van and tried to humiliate me. They said: "We don't want you here, you black bastard." When I tried to tell him I hadn't done anything, the policeman said: "This policeman here says you did, and so does this one."

'It's just a lie. Mohinder told Socialist Worker.

But police attack as 12,000 demonstrate against racism



The police 'wedge' charges the demonstrators

Pictures: Phil McCowan



A Sikh demonstrator who was kicked in the groin by a policeman

THE MISSING PROTESTERS

ONE section of the left was notably absent from the demonstration. The traditional Labour left and the British Communist Party were nowhere to be seen.

There were not all that many of them on the

demonstration the previous Sunday either, although they claimed to be backing it. Nor has their presence been all that marked in local activities against the National Front and the racists.

This is a matter of great

regret. But it has to be faced that there are political reasons for such a failing.

In the case of the Labour left, some of their leading figures, such as MP Frank Allaun, have even urged people not to demonstrate against the Front. That was the advice of the Labour Party national executive. It was also the advice of the weekly paper Tribune, which said the local Labour Party in Grays, Essex, was right to ignore the Front.

In the case of the Communist Party, its leaders seem interested only in peaceful counter-demonstrations, and demonstrations led by priests and bishops, which keep well away from the Nazis. But past experience—for instance the fight against Mosley in London's East End in the 1930s—shows this is not the way to fight racism and fascism.

Supporters of the Labour left and the Communist Party will have to ignore the advice of their leaders if they are going to join the fight against the racists.



Asian women on the 12,000-strong march

THE LONRHO SCANDAL

WITHOUT warning, one of the most sensational exposures of big business ever published was quietly put on sale by Her Majesty's Stationery Office last week.

Titled simply 'Lonrho Limited' and costing £13.20 a time, it centres on the multi-millionaire Tiny Rowlands, one of the most ruthless, and so one of the most successful, businessmen in Britain.

But it also involves all that is

'respectable' in British business. Rowlands was brought into Lonrho by the Royal Family's own businessman, Princess Alexandra's husband Angus Ogilvy—described in the report as 'postman' for the company. In business it pays to have a Royal for your messenger boy.

Rowlands, Ogilvy and others were engaged in one set of dubious dealings after another. All were calculated to achieve one end—the stuffing of the maximum cash into

their respectable pockets. And in the very week that this indictment was published the government has given Tiny a £5 million loan to buy Brentford Nylons.

Socialist Worker will be publishing details from the report each week. We start this week of how Tory ex-Minister Duncan Sandys was brought to Lonrho to use his influence to get favours for the company.

How £130,000 vanished in the shifting Sandys

living expenses abroad. I leave this entirely to your discretion. As you can understand, I do not want the bother of presenting bills.

Lonrho replied on 28 July 1971:

'Dear Mr Sandys, I am now able to confirm your appointment as a consultant to this company on the terms set out in the attached memorandum.

'Perhaps you would let me have a note of the address of your bank in Jersey to which your salary can be remitted.'

Higher

The arrangements only remained in force for one month. They were superseded on 1 September 1971 by a second series of consultancy agreements at a much higher level of remuneration, handed out while big business was getting ready to smash the miners.

'During the short period that the first series of agreements was effective Mr Sandys performed certain services for Lonrho in relation to the Sudan,' says the report. These services doubtless related to the coup in Sudan which greatly benefitted Lonrho and in which the British government was secretly involved in engineering.

Rowlands was clearly well pleased—for Sandys' consultancy fee now went up to £51,000 a year, payable in the Cayman Islands to avoid tax.

But not for long. Sandys was offered the chairmanship of Lonrho, at £25,000 a year. Alas, this would mean losing his profitable consultancy post. Never mind... Lonrho would pay him compensation of £130,000.

The letter agreeing this was written on 9 March 1972, but

its date was altered to 19 March 1972 since the company that was supposed to pay the money didn't exist until 17 March 1972.

Lonrho also set out to pay it tax free abroad, to withhold information from other directors and to disguise these payments altogether. The £130,000 compensation related to one month's work that Sandys has done for the company. It was in fact his price for accepting the chairmanship.

Evidence

Lonrho goes all the way to the top. Listen to Sandys giving evidence to the government inquiry:

'Before accepting I did consult people of the very highest level in the City—the Governor of the Bank, the chairman of Barclays and the chairman of National and Grindlays Bank. They all positively encouraged me to take on the job. That was the reason I took it on.'

There was also the £130,000 of course. £130,000 is more than a farmworker or a miner could earn in a lifetime.

NEXT WEEK: Free houses and flats, the Lonrho slush fund, the Conspiracy charges that will never be brought.

Trico
EQUAL PAY
BONANZA
SPECIAL

Friday 23 July, 8pm,
Park Hotel
Hanwell, London
W7
£1 admission
25p for strikers

Singer
Frankie
Armstrong
FREE FOOD
Dancing till 1am
and Braces
Roadshow band

West Middlesex
International Socialists

AMIN: Those who sneer are the ones who taught him

THE press has had a field day since the Israeli raid on Entebbe airport in Uganda.

Page after page of propaganda about 'plucky little Israel' has poured from the presses, without a word about the million and a half Palestinian refugees.

But that's not all. The Entebbe affair has also been used to develop the news papers' already poisonous line in racist propaganda.

If you need proof, consult last Friday's edition of that great 'liberal' paper The Guardian. There you will find a blatantly racist cartoon of General Amin of Uganda drawn as the gorilla King Kong.

Socialist Worker holds no brief for Idi Amin. But we most certainly do object to the racist way the British press caricatures black people in general by sneering at Amin.

The British press has not always sneered at Amin. On the contrary. At one time it was full of praise for Uganda's dictator.

It was not black people who put Amin in

control of Uganda. His rise to power was promoted by precisely the same white interests that now taunt and deride him.

His career began as a non-commissioned officer in the British armed forces in Kenya. His job was to help smash the black liberation movement there, the Land and Freedom Army—the so-called Mau Mau.

The thuggery he displayed recommended him to his white, British superiors. They ensured that when Uganda became independent he was one of the most powerful black army officers. They believed they

could rely on him.

In May 1970 the then President of Uganda, Milton Obote, made a mildly left-wing gesture and took over a majority of the shares in several British companies. In January 1971 he was the foremost critic of the Tory decision to sell arms to South Africa.

At this there is no doubt Amin's British friends told him to move against Obote.

On 25 January 1971, a military coup overthrew Obote and brought Amin to power.

Less than a week earlier, 700 British troops had landed in neighbouring Kenya. Commentators suggested they were prepared to intervene in Uganda if the coup looked like failing.

After this the public relations job began: 'The president, General Amin, is without doubt a benevolent, dedicated, hard-working man,' wrote the Financial Times.

The Times wrote of Amin's 'warm-hearted generosity'.

The enthusiasm wasn't confined only to Britain. In Israel there was great delight. Obote indeed claimed that 'foreign elements, particularly Israel, were to blame for the coup'. (Financial Times 27 January 1971) and that Israelis manned Kampala radio station during the crucial hours.

Again according to the Financial Times: 'Israel rapidly became one of the two most influential countries in Uganda, the other being Britain. The Israeli presence in the early ceremonies to celebrate the coup seemed a little on the conspicuous side.'

Scapegoats

Amin's first trip abroad was to Israel, where he met various members of the government, including Prime Minister Golda Meir, before going on to London to meet Prime Minister Edward Heath and have dinner with the Queen.

Amin eventually turned against those who had put him in power. He found that the economic policies they had recommended did not work—and he looked for scapegoats. The Ugandan Asians suffered as a result.

With the prospect of aid from oil-rich Libya, he threw out his Israeli advisors and pretended to support the Palestinian liberation struggle.

Like so many governments in the impoverished, underdeveloped world, the Amin regime zig-zagged in a desperate attempt to retain popularity and deal with the shattering impact of the world economic crisis. Amin even went through a spell of renationalising the foreign firms previously denationalised.

Mercenaries

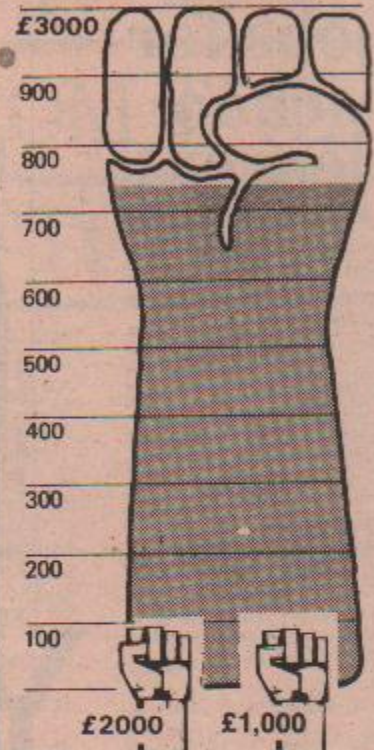
Then he returned again to praising 'private enterprise' and 'foreign investment'.

He claimed to be for the liberation of South Africa. Then earlier this year he was helping his friend Mobutu, ruler of neighbouring Zaire, who was employing mercenaries to help the South Africans invade Angola.

Meanwhile, Amin has remembered a few things he had learnt from those white British officers 20 years ago and used murder, imprisonment without trial and torture to maintain his rule over Uganda.

And those who taught him these have the hypocrisy to sneer.

Socialist Worker FIGHTING FUND



Dear Comrade,
 Leicester
 7 July 76
 With my parents
 are members of the National
 Front. I enclose £5. Their
 birthday present to me, to
 help in Socialist workers
 fight against racism.
 fraternally
 Ted Philby
 5/295 (1550)

AGAIN FUND HITS THE £1000 MARK

AGAIN Socialist Worker's call for funds to help fight the racists has met a magnificent response.

£1034 has come in this week. That takes the Fighting Fund to a total of £2772 for just the first two weeks of this month.

A £9 donation from four student teachers in Bedford originated from an unusual source. They wrote: 'This sum is the proceeds from informing the Daily Mirror of an incident where soldiers directing a convoy were disarmed by the police after complaints from local residents.'

'In view of the current tremendous stand taken by the Socialist Worker against racism and considering the role of the British Army in Northern Ireland and the racism to which this gives rise, please accept this money as a donation to help spread the fight.'

Perhaps the most heartening single contribution this week comes from six workers at Standard Triumph, Coventry, who collected £21 between them.

Thanks also to:
 Wolverhampton SW supporters £2.20, Central London civil servants 50p, Mike Ross 25p, NATFHE SW supporters, Manchester Poly, £6.30, Dudley £3, Hull £20, A Gibson £16.90, E W P Owen £5, York £5, Mrs P L Cred £5, Ossie Lewis £5, F Mann £1, Kingston 50p, Lambeth council workers £25, P G Wormwood £1, Cricklewood £25, Dumfries £2, High Wycombe £5, Southwark £17, Bedford £19, International Socialists' levy: North London £3, Edinburgh £10, Harlow £29, Newcastle £103, Aberdeen £35, Preston £20, Stockport £37.90, Durham £7, Kingston £35, Norwich £35.30, Lowestoft £29.30, Leeds £75, Leicester £25, Coventry £138.55, Northampton £6, Bangor £5, East Manchester £7, Mansfield £5, South West London £30, Lambeth Teachers £25, Outer East London £38, Medway £20, Swansea £10, South East London £65, West Middlesex £18.64.

Money is still pouring in from the £5-a-head levy on International Socialist districts and branches. If yours hasn't sent its contribution, make sure it does in the next few days.

In London our stickers have almost obliterated the National Front's filth. Our mobilisation for demonstrations against racism has been excellent. This work we must keep up—and that costs more money than even the magnificent total so far.

Donations please to Socialist Worker Fighting Fund, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN.

RIGHT: Demonstrators in Luanda. The banner reads: 'The people of Angola condemn the governments that support mercenarism'.

Socialist Worker

WHAT WE THINK

On the executions in Angola

PRESIDENT Ford, Prime Minister Callaghan, Tory spokesman Reginald Maudling and the British press have all deplored the execution of four mercenaries in Angola.

Socialist Worker thinks the executions were absolutely necessary.

We believe that on this occasion President Neto of Angola was right when he declared: 'It is not possible to admit in any way that men can be recruited in certain countries to come to fight in Angola or other countries. Never more will mercenaries want to come to Angola. For it is certain that others who come will meet the same fate.'

'We are applying justice not only in the name of our martyred people but for the good of the brother peoples of Namibia and Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) against whom new mercenary aggressions are already being prepared.'

Those who say that being a mercenary should not be a crime are saying that those with sufficient wealth to employ other men to kill should be free to do so.



warranted,' declares President Ford.

From their statements you might think all these people are against capital punishment in principle. But look more closely.

In President Ford's own country some 554 people are in death cells awaiting execution—318 are black. Neither Ford, Maudling, Callaghan nor any of the others have made pleas for clemency for these people.

In Ireland at the moment two anarchists are under sentence of death for killing a policeman in a bank raid. The 'international community' doesn't give a damn about their fate.

The hullabaloo about the fate of the hired killers in Angola has nothing to do with 'humanity'. It is little more than an attempt by the rulers of powerful Western countries to assert their right to employ armed thugs in countries such as Angola, Rhodesia or South Africa.

Not first time Royal Family has been involved in execution

Dear Socialist Worker,

Those of us who have been overwhelmed by the humanitarian concern of the Queen at the plight of the British mercenaries in Angola will be relieved to hear that the Royal Family has a consistent

record of deep personal involvement in securing justice in such cases.

Princess Margaret took a keen interest in the problems of African nationalists in Kenya during her Royal Visit of 1956. At the time of the Kenya Emergency over 1000 partisans were judicially hanged for their part in the independence struggle.

The Princess, however, was deeply concerned at the situation and even took great interest in individual cases. For example, she became involved in securing justice for Dedan Kimathi, the nationalist leader.

Kimathi's trial began with the magistrate presiding at his hospital bedside. Kimathi was sentenced to death for illegal possession of a revolver and then hanged while still ill from bullet wounds.

However, the Princess did not stand idly by. In the closing hours of the operation to arrest Kimathi, Superintendent Henderson, who led the hunt, was rushed to be presented to the Princess.

Later, news of Kimathi's capture was given to Princess Margaret by the Governor of the Colony as she left Government House in Nairobi to attend Divine Service at All Saints' Cathedral.

Superintendent Henderson, for his part, was later awarded the George Medal for gallantry.

It is very touching to realise that the Royal Family does not remain aloof when the chips are down. In this case, at least, the views of Royalty were doubtless taken into account.

IAN GODDARD, Norwich.

How we created jobs for school leavers

JOBS for 18 school-leavers have been created by trade union pressure at the Carborundum factory in Manchester.

Said convenor Tony Parker: 'If every factory in the area did the same, we'd soon get the dole queues down.'

'In the four years since we've worked hard at the union here, this is the greatest achievement. It's made it all worthwhile.'

Management had wanted to take on some students for the summer. But the shop stewards committee argued instead that the jobs should go to school leavers.

Rate

The shop stewards are confident that they will be able to make most, if not all, of the jobs permanent.

Tony Parker added: 'The school leavers are getting the rate for the job, the same as everyone else. Some of them are getting around £50 a week.'

'All the kids have come straight into the union. They're going to hear everything straight off from the union point of view.'

'If a kid wants a job he ought to be able to get one. Go down to the dole in Stretford and look at the length of the queue there.'

'We're making a contribution to fighting this here and we hope others will follow.'

WHY WE'LL BE ON THE MARCH

TWO MORE marchers for the September Right to Work Unemployed March to the TUC in Brighton.

Twin brothers Steve and Neil Parkin, 16, left school in Leeds at Easter.

They have since had 2½ weeks' work and now, with another 500,000 youngsters due to join the dole queues, see their chances of getting a decent job growing thinner and thinner.

Steve told Socialist Worker:

'Me and Neil will be on the Right to Work March to show them all—the bosses, the trade unions, and our mates—that we don't have to take it lying down.'

'If all the people willing to fight get together, we'll have to be taken notice of.'

□ Tell the Right to Work Office about marchers from your area.



Steve and Neil Parkin: 'We're not going to take unemployment lying down.'



Picture: Richard Platt

North West London Right to Work Committee

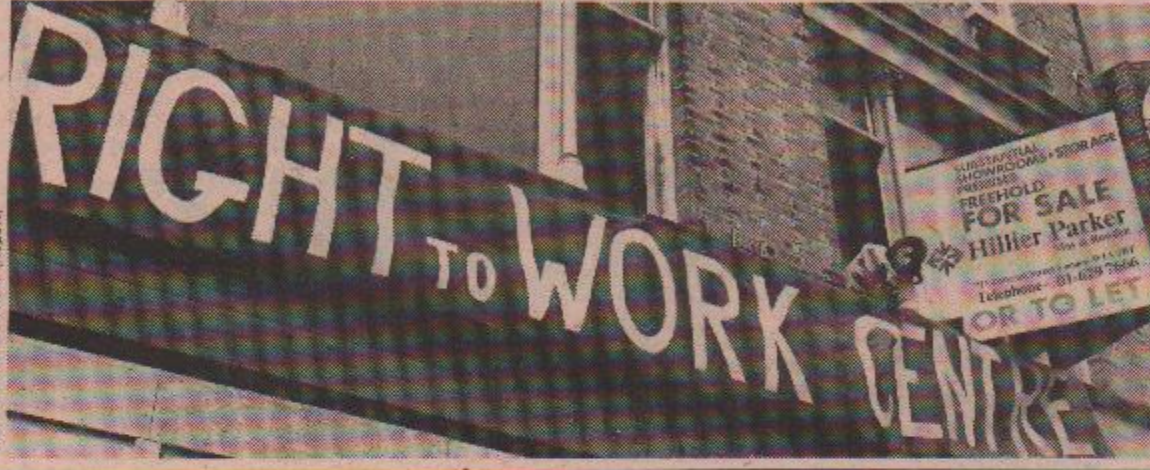
DANCE

Friday 23 July
8pm-2am with Tridition and Peoples Sound



Acklam Hall
Acklam Road
Ladbroke Grove
London W10
Food Reggae and Soul
Music - Tickets 75p in advance
£1 at the door

NOW IT'S OUR SHOWROOM!



Picture: Andrew Whard (Report)

THE LOCAL Right to Work Centre in Harlesden, occupied last Friday by the North West London Right to Work Committee. The building is the old gas showroom. The council were going to turn it into a centre for the unemployed, but they announced they couldn't afford it because of the cuts. So the Right to Work Committee showed them how to fight the cuts. The facilities are open to local community organisations. Already a coffee bar, a West Indian food bar, a television, and a Right to Work information room have been set up by the unemployed committee which runs the centre. Karate classes and reggae music are being organised. The first public meeting is being held there this Wednesday on the Right to Work Campaign. The speaker will be John Deason, the campaign secretary.

Young and old-let's march together

FIGHT THE CUTS, build for the march and lobby at the TUC, fight the racials and all attempts to create scapegoats in the movement.

Those were the three main points that came out of last Saturday's National Right to Work Council, described by the campaign secretary, John Deason, as 'the most representative Council yet with far more delegates than we expected. It was highly businesslike. We got through a lot of work.'

There were 72 delegates present, and 23 observers. These included 14 shop stewards, six convenors, 18 branch officers and two members of union national executives. Trade union bodies represented included two NUM branches, 12 AUEW branches, two SOGAT, ten TGWU, two UCATT, one EETPU, one Bakers Union, three Trades Councils, three NALGO, two NUT, two GMWU, four NUPE, two NUJ and seven National Union of Students bodies.

The council discussed the surrender of the trade union officials to the Healey deal—the 4½ per cent wage freeze, and the cuts.

And it went on to discuss the fight in the workplaces over flexibility, manning levels and excessive overtime.

The Council also welcomed the large number of marchers for the September march on the TUC.

Involved

But, as John Deason explained: 'We pointed out that it was very important not to forget the older unemployed. There are lots of 30 and 40-year-olds on the dole queues as well.'

'We also emphasised that whatever the official movement does, we are going to make sure that the youth are won to trade unionism and involved in the movement.'

The Council agreed to issue a special broadsheet for young people fighting for the Right to Work. The first issue will be out before the September march.

The Council made a special appeal for the Trico and ICL disputes. The Council felt that the Automat dispute was supported by a District Levy and was not in need of money to the same extent.

The appeal will be circulated throughout the trade union movement.

WELCOME, HATCHET MAN

EDINBURGH: Secretary of State for Scotland Bruce Millan arrived for his meeting with Scottish councillors last week to demand more cuts—and was met by a picket from the local Right to Work Committee.

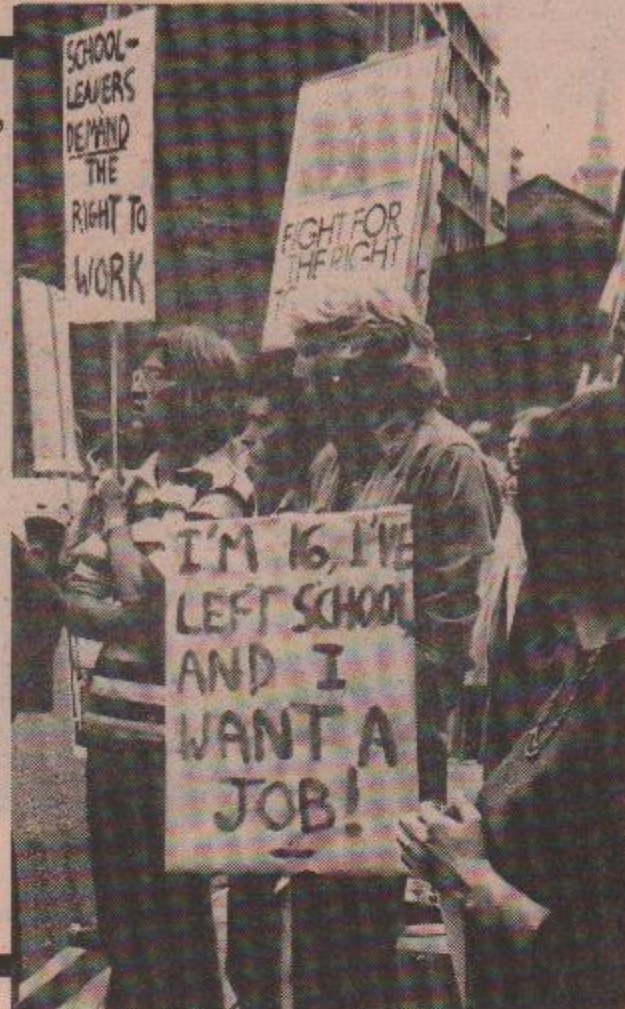
He told the councillors that more cuts must be made, even though this means the loss of 440 council jobs in the city.

Lead

School leavers and student teachers from Moray House joined the picket. Together they chanted 'Bruce Millan hatchet man.'

The demonstration proved too much for the police, who moved in and arrested one unemployed worker.

Social workers and gas worker in Edinburgh in the local government workers union, NALGO, have already taken a lead in the fight against the cuts by banning all overtime.



That's the way to beat blacklist

By Brian Higgins, UCATT

MICK Presland, Trevor Barrat and I—all paid up members of UCATT—were hired last Monday on Shanley's Brick Hill site in Bedford.

When we arrived the next day, the foreman told us the joist was at the wrong height and so he couldn't offer us a start.

He claimed there was no other work on the site—even though not one of the 233 houses being built has been completed.

It didn't take us long to work out that it wasn't because of the joist height, but because of a blacklist against Mick Presland, who used to be the convenor at Shanley's site at Marsh Farm in Luton.

We phoned the full-time union officials. They conciliated. We activated.

Blacklist

As soon as we left the site, we visited Shanley sites at Luton, Stevenage, and Hertford and told the men of the circumstances.

Management were operating a blacklist and if they could use it against us, they could use it against any of them—or any card-carrying member of UCATT.

The sites promised action if we called on them.

We got together and wrote out a simple leaflet explaining our case.

99 per cent of the time, people would go away and try to get work elsewhere. But we didn't—because of our politics. Mick and I are in IS, and Trevor is an SW supporter.

We leafleted the Shanley site in Bedford at 7.45am on Wednesday.

Response

After a meeting at the gate, the men voted unanimously to strike for our right to work.

The leaflet had had its effect.

Some of those men weren't even in the union, and all the rest were on check-off. But there was the response from every one of them.

The steward told the management they were now on strike in solidarity with the three brothers on the gate.

Five minutes later, the foreman decided that the joist wasn't so bad after all.

He agreed to start us on Thursday morning. But we demanded pay from Tuesday—and the firm coughed up.

□ THE FIRST Cabinet Minister to come out openly in support of the arrested Right to Work marchers is Tony Benn.

In an important contribution to a collection held at the Workers' Control Conference, he gave 10p.

Tony Benn earns £16,000 a year.

SUPPORT THE RIGHT TO WORK MARCH

The National Right to Work Campaign appeals to all trade union and labour movement organisations to sponsor the London to Brighton Right to Work march.

SPONSOR THE MARCH FOR £1. Raise Collections to help pay for the march

For further details, speakers, sponsorship letters, write to the National Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4 (Phone: 802 0978)

JOIN THE MARCH

- I would like to join the march
- I would like further information about the march.

Name

Address

Send to The national Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4. Phone (01) 802 0978.

Princess gets the bird

SHEFFIELD: Princess Margaret got a cool reception when she went to a slap-up dinner in the Town Hall.

School-leavers from the dole queue joined a picket called by the local Right to Work Committee to picket her.

Police tried to arrest a local reporter when he went to interview the pickets. But the pickets still got big coverage in the paper and in an interview on local radio.

Clive Hartley, convenor of Balfour Darwins and chairman of Sheffield Right to Work Committee, told Socialist Worker: 'We are now stepping up our activity.'

Mobilise

'We will be going direct to shop stewards committees to get support and finance for the September march.'

'We must mobilise the anger of the youth for this march.'

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN



The 'roofers' at work: black and white, united and fighting . . .

UNITY! SHOUT IT FROM THE ROOFTOPS...

THE ONLY white face regularly attending SYM meetings and demonstrations is Ken Stokoe, who works with a group of Asian 'roofers'.

Carrying a scar on his right cheek from a fight with racists, Ken is a giant of a man, a top class weight-lifter and with a very special and tender concern to support Asians in their struggles. He explains:

6 In 1969 I was in the Commando Unit sent to Bangladesh to clear the floods. Our job was to drag out the

dead bodies, the bones, the legs, the arms, the limbs, the heads, the drowned pregnant women, the drowned babies.

We pulled thousands of bodies and bits of bodies out of those floods. I felt horrible and I stopped eating for a fortnight.

I like children and I like life. I can't describe how it feels. You start thinking why does this happen.

It made me have a very powerful love for coloured peoples. I can't say I felt sorrow. It was a feeling stronger than that. There is no word to describe that feeling.

Although it was by chance I ended up in Southall after I quit the marines, that same



Ken Stokoe: note the scar

has helped me find a friendship here I have never known before.

Another roofer, Harmail Johal, interrupted: 'I want to say this though it will embarrass him. He once told us—"just pay my rent and give me food I don't want anything else. I'm just happy to be here with you".'

Ken continued: 'I can't stand the racists. Why we're all paying tax and we all work the same. We are all the same. The racists must be put down.'



Harmail Johal: we need politics

'I got this scar when I saw racists pick on two young Indians in a pub. I went for them. So one of them smashed an ashtray and cut my face open. But I stopped them all the same'.

Harmail Johal is a revolutionary socialist with clear ideas about the future of the SYM.

SURVIVE

'We are going to have to introduce marxist politics into the SYM if it's going to survive. The fight against racism cannot solve anything by itself.'

'You've got to make the links with all the other things that lead to an attack on capitalism. That's the only way.'

'We've got to unite black, brown and white in the working class. Capitalism has to be broken up because it is the cause of racism.'

'By the way, tell your supporters not to worry. We're about to join the union. We know we must set an example . . .'

PICTURES by John Sturrock (Report)

Where fascists fear to tread

JOHN ROSE INTERVIEWS MEMBERS OF SOUTHALL YOUTH MOVEMENT

SOUTHALL'S youth have now emerged publicly with their own organisation and with militant anti-racist contingents on demonstrations in the last ten days. Some of their leaders and supporters spoke to Socialist Worker.

Balraj Singh Purewal, unemployed, and **Jaz Vara**, a student at Brunel University are both on the Committee of the Southall Youth Movement (SYM).

JV: Our aim is to oppose racism. Our first task is to unite ourselves, by ourselves. We must forget all the petty differences and we must be independent.

Our leaders have failed to stop racism by their methods so now we must find new methods of fighting.

BP: Our movement grew directly out of Gurdip's death. At first there were calls for revenge but this was, and is, no solution.

The weekend following the murder we called a meeting of hundreds in the Century Cinema in Southall and it was there that our movement was born.

Experience

Some of the boys assumed leadership because they were already well known—we all went to school together in Southall and have had experience in fighting racialism in the past. Some years ago



Balraj Singh Purewal and Jaz Vara, members of the AYM

we had to organise against the skinhead gangs.

To pull our support together we don't need leaflets and posters. We can just put the word around in the right places.

The SYM Committee is based on representation from those areas where we are concentrated, such as the schools, colleges, factories and temples.

We will have membership cards soon and we will invite local white youth to join.

We don't think we need patrol groups at the moment. We have a headquarters with a well-known telephone number that can serve as an incident centre.



But in any case, we don't need special organisation if racists show their faces in Southall because our youth would gather immediately and spontaneously and throw them out of town.

As far as I'm concerned, the police would prefer to ignore racist attacks on us. They themselves are racist to a great extent.

All this is nothing new. Anyone arrested by the police in any racist context will have our immediate support in terms of defence, money and so on.

Balraj is awaiting his Higher National Diploma examination results in electronics from Southall Technical College. He's been on the dole for four weeks.

Even if I pass I'm pretty sure I'll remain unemployed. There's certainly going to be no jobs for us in the coming months. There's going to be more and more of us without work.

Yes, I'm interested in this march to Brighton against racism and unemployment. I think I'll go on it if I haven't got a job and I'll certainly be raising it with the SYM Committee.

Unemployment will increase the racist attacks if it goes on like it has been.



GURMAIL BRAR, above, a TGWU steward at Lyons in Greenford, Middlesex, is a member of the Southall Youth Movement Committee. He said:

The National Front and National Party want to send us 'home'. But they are Nazis, aren't they? They're making us scapegoats for the unemployment. We're not going out, mate. We're staying here forever.

There's no racialism in the department in my factory. There are plenty of white workers and we get on fine with them. The white workers in my department don't think that we've taken their jobs over.

Far from it—if we have a problem together, then we sort it out together. I'm the shop steward for 50 Indians, West Indian and white workers.

Many of the white workers voted for me. They knew I was capable of representing their views.

We had a nine-day strike last August over shift allowance. We all struck together because it was an issue that affected all of us. That is unity. We've never had a racial incident in my department.



Rupri Ahluwalia and Harjit Madhas, two of the 'roofers'



The Nazional Front and How to Smash it.

A Socialist Worker pamphlet 10p a copy plus 7p postage (more than 5 copies: post 3p each) from: SW Distributors, 6 Cottons Garden, London E2.

Socialist Worker says Don't be fooled: Unemployment is caused by the bosses & the government, not by black workers. Jobs for everyone!

Socialist Worker says Don't be fooled: Fewer blacks are let into Britain each week than Rhodesian whites. Migration controls are racist!

Socialist Worker says Don't be fooled: In the '30s they blamed the jews. Today they blame the blacks. Houses & jobs for everyone!

Socialist Worker anti-racism stickers—six different types. £1.50 for 1000, 30p for 200 from Socialist Worker, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Money with orders please.

TALKING ABOUT
SOCIALISM
Duncan Hallas

Labour's Minister for 'Consumer Protection' has just fiddled the regulations to enable manufacturers to add £1000 million to prices. Some protection!

Call this a price code?

'A WARNING that the private sector of industry might not survive if rates of return on capital continued to fall was given yesterday by the Secretary for Prices and Consumer Protection, Mrs Shirley Williams.' (Guardian 8 July).

You might suppose, if you were very innocent, that a leading member of a party whose official aim is stated as 'the common ownership of the means of production'—that is the abolition of the so-called private sector—would welcome such a development.

Not a bit of it. The very thought fills her with horror. 'Our position as an economy is perilous,' she told the House of Commons. 'We are committed to making the mixed economy we have work because there is no alternative.'

Relaxation

'That is one of the reasons why we have decided that a limited relaxation of the price code is necessary.' In support of this proposition, Mrs Williams cited some figures which showed, or so she claimed, that profits have fallen away to practically nothing. Without actually mentioning those widows and orphans who, we used to be

told, depended on ICI, Shell or whatever to eke out their precarious existence, she painted a picture of gloom and doom about the plight of the rich calculated to bring tears to the eyes of the stoniest-hearted worker—if he or she was mug enough to believe it.

A figure that Mrs Williams did not find time to quote was the Treasury estimate that profits will be up 30 per cent this year (over last year)—with a pay rise norm of only 4½ per cent.

Nor did she mention the Economist's kind words about her colleague Denis Healey's budget ('could hardly have been more favourable to the City', 'Mr Healey, who has produced his third businessmen's budget in a row...'). A big boost for pre-tax profits... company profits will absorb a bigger share of a rising GNP.' Economist 10-

16 April). Of course, it is a fact that profits fell during the recession of 1974-75. What else would you expect? Profits have fallen in every recession or slump in the history of capitalism.

Now they are rising sharply again. But not sharply enough for Mrs Williams and her cabinet colleagues.

The Minister for 'Consumer Protection' has just fiddled the price code regulations to enable manufacturers to add £1000 million to prices. Some protection!

This is on top of the government sponsored price rises for electricity, gas, telephones, posts, beer, tobacco and so on, and massive fare increases—London Transport is putting up underground fares by an average of 26 per cent this month.

All this is officially described as the 'anti-inflation' policy.

In common speech, inflation means rising prices and anti-inflation presumably means the opposite.

However, the government's use of the phrase must be understood in an Orwellian sense.

The late George Orwell coined the term Newspeak for official jargon that means the opposite of what it says.

Mrs Williams is a Newspeak Consumer Protection Minister in a government pursuing a Newspeak anti-inflation policy.

Dirty

The reason for all the double-talk is simple enough. Though we are told every day that 'profit is not a dirty word', Labour ministers cannot help feeling that there is something obscene—and electorally disastrous—about a policy that stakes everything on increasing profits.

In other words, on a policy that can only be successful by increasing the wealth and power of the rich at the expense of the rest of us.

Yet that is their policy. To make it succeed, wages are being held down below the level of price increases, every kind of public service is being cut, unemployment is being kept high and all manner of 'inducements' are being made to persuade the rich to cooperate with the government.

And so 'a web of lies is woven' to hide the ugly truth.

Mrs Williams says 'there is no alternative'.

What she means is: there is no alternative if capitalism is to be kept going.

The alternative is the socialist alternative, under which 'the private sector of industry' will certainly not survive.

What are your Questions About Socialism? Write to Duncan Hallas, c/o Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

ASBESTOS: WHY ARE THE BBC SUPPRESSING THIS FILM?

THE BBC are refusing to hire out the film of the excellent Horizon TV programme on asbestos, Killer Dust.

In letters to asbestos campaigner John Healy, they claim 'contractual difficulties' make it impossible for them to offer the film for 'sale or hire'.

The power of the asbestos companies—and the 'difficult' political problems

raised by the film—do not enter into it, of course.

In the same way, political considerations did not enter into the suppression of another important BBC film two years ago.

In February 1974, at the height of the miners' struggle, the BBC were due to show the splendid Robert Vas/Tom Scott-Robson documentary on the General Strike.

It was removed from the schedules and shown after the general election (with strong competition on the BBC's other channel).

REFUSED

Subsequently an agitation was mounted against the film's 'bias'. Since showing it two years ago, the BBC have

steadfastly refused to put it in their catalogue of films for hire.

This is despite requests to hire it from the Open University and several other colleges.

The BBC did not re-show the film during the recent period of the General Strike anniversary, even though the film was ready made and would not have cost them a penny.



BOSSSES OF THE WORLD UNITE: ... on the economics of the issue which blew up in Poland last week, we think the Polish government was right and its worker-opponents wrong'.

—from the businessman's magazine, The Economist, 3 July.

NURSES at the Victoria Hospital in Kirkcaldy, Fife, have been given tracksuits, as part of a new issue uniform 'designed for outside emergencies'. Local socialists suspect the tracksuits foreshadow impending abolition of the ambulance services.

Louvre-ly!

A STRIKE to cheer every socialist has begun in Paris. It's at the Hotel Louvre, where the workers—most of them immigrants—have kicked out the management, staged an occupation and tasted some of the £40-a-night luxury for themselves.

Normally they are forced to live and work in conditions of the utmost squalor. As The Guardian reported: '... the entire staff dining room could fit into a customer's bath.'

Today the Hotel Louvre, tomorrow the world...

The 'dignity' of a Labour peer...

WHEN Wilson got his royal garter recently, some readers were no doubt wishing it had been placed around his neck and not his knee.

Wilson is, of course, not an exception in the Labour Party. For instance:

While trade unionists and socialists have been agitating against racism, unemployment and cuts in public spending, some Labour members of parliament have been

concerned with other issues. Lord Leatherland, the Labour peer, was getting all hot and bothered over a proposed change in the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, which would have allowed private hire cars to display their owner's name and telephone number.

'Do I want', he asked indignantly, 'to see a notice on top of my Rolls-Royce at a banquet at Buckingham Palace?'

'If I hire a private car, I want it to have the appearance of a private car.'

To put my name on top of a car would destroy and undermine its dignity.

Say n'more... TERRY WARD

AMID the commercial orgy of America's 200th birthday you can get, in New York, a sticker that reads: Boycott the BUY-centennial. Somebody is still sane.

YES SHAH, NO SHAH

A STUDENT in Sheffield recently received an interesting reply from the Home Office when he wrote to protest over the jailing in this country of an Iranian, Mohammed Reza Poorian. Part of the letter read:

... this and previous British governments have taken the view that diplomatic contacts are needed to protect our

interests abroad and also to keep open channels of communication that are of vital importance.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office point out that we have no standing to interfere in the internal affairs of Iran, a country with which we enjoy friendly relations and where important trade issues are at stake. Exactly...



New homes? Sorry, we can't afford it...

WHEN YOU next hear a Labour Minister saying that we have to accept cuts because the country can't afford the level of public spending, remember these two facts:

The Labour government's spending

on armaments—sometimes called 'defence'—is not being cut. It is going up.

The cost of just one anti-submarine cruiser, £150 million, would pay for 18,750 new council houses. That's more than enough, for instance, to

replace every council house in a town like Blackburn and still have enough left over for two new 500-bed hospitals.

It's all a question of what your priorities are. Ana whether you're a 'Labour government'...

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Socialist Worker

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SPAIN

1936-1976

FORTY YEARS SINCE THE CIVIL WAR

FORTY YEARS ago this week a long series of military conspiracies in Spain came to ghastly fruition.

On 17 July 1936 Generals Franco and Mola began their rising against the Republican government that had come to power a mere six months before.

They were determined to crush the growing strength of the workers and poor peasants of Spain.

They calculated that it would be no difficult task to sweep aside the wobbling, equivocating Republicans and seize power.

They calculated right about the government and professional politicians. Just three days before the rising the government issued a statement insisting that Mola was a loyal general.

But the loyal general and his wealthy backers calculated wrongly about the working masses. They rose against the fascists. They seized arms, threw up barricades and created their own organisations.

Their struggle against the fascists swiftly grew into a social revolution that could have defeated not only fascism but the system it comes from—capitalism.

But it was not to be.

Despite fantastic heroism, the resistance was defeated in a bloody civil war. Defeated not least because some of the best weapons that workers under fire can lay hands on were given up in the drive for 'moderation' and respectable allies: arms like giving land to the peasants, independence for Morocco, workers' militias and workers' power.

Spain came under the jackboot. A ruthless dictatorship took over.

The great struggles of the Spanish working class in 1936 have many messages for today. Today, 40 years on, the Spanish working class is moving again. Today Spain and other parts of Europe are once more approaching the crossroads.

This time our side must win through.



Workers man a barricade in Barcelona

Why I went to fight in 1936

LIKE many others I went to fight in Spain. In July 1936 I was 14 years old and unemployed.

I had left school—or rather an orphanage—the previous Easter, had my first job and lost it after joining in my first industrial dispute. I had also been on my first demonstration, a protest of the unemployed that was attacked by the police.

Already I was committed politically and was reading voraciously—Karl Marx, Lenin, Jack London and Shelley. Like many new converts I was desperately trying to influence others.

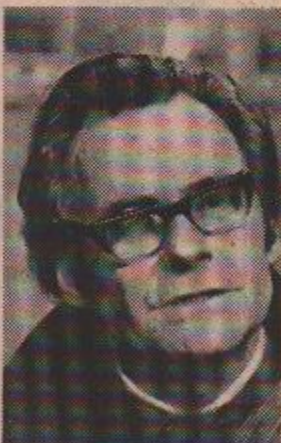
But things that seemed so simple to me also seemed hard to convey. Often I had the terrible feeling that no one was listening and no one understood.

Overnight, in the middle of July, there was a tremendous change. Suddenly not only were people listening, they were becoming vocal themselves.

One word had brought about the change, one single word that fired the mind, a word that was soon to become etched deeply into the hearts of that generation and even more deeply into

by **JACK CUMMINS**

A member of Bolton International Socialists



their political consciousness—Spain.

Already in England we had seen Mosley's Blackshirts strutting through the streets of working-class districts, trying to take over the minds of working-class people with their racist filth, blaming Jews as today Mosley's successors blame blacks.

Suddenly, there in Spain, was living proof of all we had been saying about fascism.

Now the rank and file needed no more convincing. Now they could see the evil in action. They could see the resistance of the Spanish working class.

Now it had become really easy to take sides. Out there all that we hoped for and believed in was being paid for in blood. Yes, it was easy to take sides and the world did.

My heart was in Spain. I longed to get out there and fight with my comrades—but was considered too young.

Instead I joined the navy and after training joined a cruiser destined for the Mediterranean.

13 March 1938, my sixteenth birthday, was a black day indeed. The press was full of speculation that the Spanish Republic was on its knees. Hitler had marched into Vienna.

The cruiser I was on, the Devonshire, was hovering around Valencia and I made up my mind to jump ship and at last do what little I could.

I fought in Spain throughout the period that the republican resistance was crushed. How could I have done anything else? Unlike many of my comrades I came out alive.

SOME of the young comrades want to know why I and others like me joined the International Brigade and went to fight in Spain.

From the first rising of the Spanish workers, our hearts and our minds were in Spain. We fought alongside them even though we weren't there.

I worked in the Govan wireworks in 1937. In Glasgow then you couldn't be active in the class struggle. Poverty was rife. Most workers lived in single ends—or a room and kitchen without toilets.

Glasgow had a strong workers' movement then as now and we all fervently believed in the emancipation of the working class across the world.

In an attic above Collett's bookshop in Glasgow we had a Daisy air gun. This gave the comrades from all over Scotland some practice, very discreetly—one or two at a time at the most. All who practised were on their way to Spain.

I was desperately anxious to get to Spain. Like many another I believed that the whole future of humanity was being fought out there. Either

by **TOMMY NICHOLSON**

A member of Glasgow International Socialists



socialism or fascism would win through.

That's why we felt that we had to go. Spain became your life blood.

But I was not a member of the Communist Party, having disagreements then as I do now. So I wasn't allowed to go.

But come 1937 they relented. There were conditions attached of course. The conditions were that I

should not discuss politics.

Needless to say, I accepted the handcuffs and went on my way to fight for what I believed in then and still believe in just as fervently now.

For socialism, for the revolution, for a society where the workers rule their own lives and where production is undertaken to meet the needs of all.

September 1923

The Spanish King Alfonso XIII scraps the 'parliamentary monarchy' and, with the backing of the propertied class, installs a military dictatorship under Primo de Rivera.

January 1930

Faced with rising opposition, Rivera is replaced.

April 1930

King flees Spain after municipal election results show a massive increase in the Republican vote. It takes nine months before a new Republican, bourgeois-democratic constitution is brought in.

January 1933

Anarchist rising in Barcelona spreads but is crushed.

September 1933

The 'two black years' begin. Lerroux-Gil Robles governments launch massive assault on working class and peasants.

October 1934

Armed miners rise and create the magnificent Asturian Commune. This is put down with immense ferocity: 80,000 jailed, 5,000 dead and 10,000 wounded.

September 1935

Lerroux government falls. Reign of terror against workers.

15 January 1936

Popular Front pact, in which the workers' parties accept a purely republican programme.

16 February: Popular Front wins election. Franco and others insist that the government must never be allowed to assume office.

17 February: In Valencia workers force opening of prisons. Popular Front government takes office April: General strike in Madrid, spreading throughout Spain. Extreme right-wing turns increasingly to bombings and terrorism.

17 July: Franco and Mola stage uprising in Morocco. Franco delivered there in a plane provided by Britain. Popular Front government equivocates and refuses to hand out arms. General strikes called by Socialist and Anarchist union federations.

19 July: Barcelona Rising prevents surrender of republic to the fascists. By 2pm next day armed workers control the city.

26 July: Arrival of German Nazi and Italian fascist planes in Morocco to support Franco.

14 August: Capture of Badajoz, first major victory for Franco and Nationalists.

10 October: Decree creating Popular Army out of workers' militias.

1937

24 April: Bombing of Guernica by fascists.

2-6 May: Rioting in Barcelona brutally suppressed as the final act of restoring capitalist government.

16 June: POUM (left socialist party) leaders arrested.

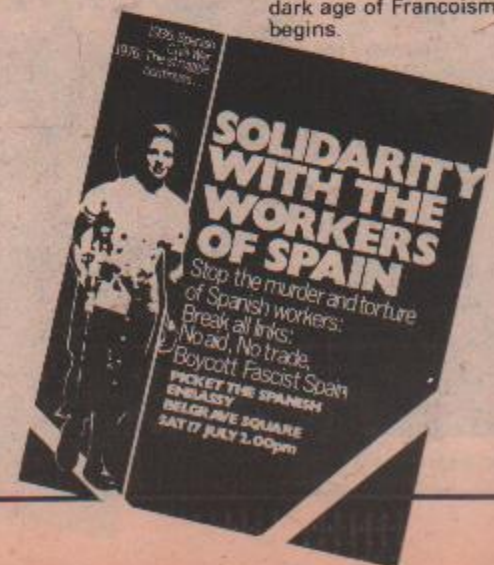
1938

8 April: Nationalists cut Spain in half.

1939

26 January: Surrender of Barcelona to the fascists.

28 March: Nationalist troops enter Madrid. The dark age of Francoism begins.



SPAIN 1936-1976

17 JULY 1936 in Spain was meant to be like 11 September 1973 in Chile.

The generals had decided they had had enough of a mildly liberal government and a powerful workers' movement. Franco seized control of the Spanish colony of Morocco and throughout Spain the army officers led the garrisons in support of the coup.

In Burgos, in Pamplona, in Seville, in Cadiz, in Granada, in Algeciras, the coup worked with clockwork precision. After seizing the barracks, the generals murdered any opposition.

Witnesses described what happened in Seville as 'not a struggle but a massacre'.

'With a fierce war cry the men [Franco supporters] charged into the streets. Then came relentless mopping up operation with grenades and knives. There was no mercy'.

The College of Lawyers stated that 9000 workers were slaughtered in this single city.

The generals relied on the authorities doing nothing to fight back.

When it came to the liberal ministers who made up the Popular Front government, they were right. Although elected by workers' votes, the ministers feared the workers' movements more than they did the generals.

On 18 July, a government communique told people not to worry: 'The anti-republican movement has been wiped out. It has received no help from the mainland'. Yet troops in Malaga and Seville had already declared for Franco.

In Madrid, the workers' organisations were refused arms. The left-wing press remained censored and

THE FASCIST COUP

leaders of a builders' strike remained in jail.

But in most cities the coup was foiled. Not by the government, but by the workers' parties, the Anarchists, the Socialists, the left socialist POUM, the Communists, and by the two great unions, the anarchist CNT and the socialist UGT, acting in defiance of the government.

Struggle

Pierre Broue and Emile Temine describe the struggle in Madrid:

'On the 18th the CNT, on a war footing, decided to use force to reopen its headquarters, held by the police, and began to requisition cars

and search for arms.

'The two big unions gave orders for a general strike. In the UGT offices they rapidly began to set up an information centre with the help of post office workers and railway workers from all over the country, which would enable Madrid to know in precise detail the situation in the provinces. The Socialists unearthed and distributed arms hidden since 1934.

'In the streets the first barricades were erected. The first workers' militia was already on patrol, although nothing had stirred in the barracks.

'It was only on the 20th that the decisive fighting started. The insurgents were ultimately forced to surrender. Two field guns began to shell the barracks. Finally, the workers launched a mass attack and stormed the barracks at the cost of heavy casualties.

'The next day improvised columns set off all around the capital for Guadalajara, where the garrison has supported Franco. They captured it, shot General Barrera and marched on Toledo which they also seized'.

Mass

In Barcelona the mass of workers belonged to the Anarchist organisations. Their leaders demanded arms from the government to fight the coup. But instead of giving them arms, the authorities took back some of the weapons they already had.

Broue and Temine describe it: 'During the afternoon of the 18th, the militants seized everything that they could find, from shot guns in shops to dynamite in the docks. Groups of anarchist dockworkers made off with all the arms from ships in the harbour.

'Some Assault Guards distributed arms from sacks in the barracks to workers.'

'The plan of Franco supporters was to march 12,000 soldiers to the centre of the city. On the 19th the troops from the Pedralbes barracks set off. All over the town the workers, with makeshift weapons, lay in wait for them



An armoured car and the workers' militia who made it

'ill-armed, even empty-handed, without any central control, they had only one tactic, which was to surge forward against their enemies' guns, suffering heavy losses. But the dead and wounded were at once replaced and the soldiers overwhelmed by the crowd.

The workers' militants were in the front ranks and fell by the dozen. The secretary of the Socialist Youth, the secretary of the POUM youth, the secretary of the Anarchist youth, fell in the Plaza Cataluna where the fascist forces held the most important buildings.

Melted

'But the calculations of the regular soldiers melted before a crowd that was not afraid of death and in the face of masses who exposed themselves to the fire of machine guns and made off with them.'

A section of the regular army then came out in support of the workers and by the next morning the commander of Franco's troops in the city had surrendered.

'In many barracks the soldiers mutinied. In Fort Moutuich, they shot their officers and then distributed arms to the workers'.

Similar events occurred in city after city. The government did nothing. But the workers moved, won over sections of the army and police, and smashed the rebellion.

The story was much the same in the fleet, of key importance because Franco needed to move his troops from Morocco to Spain itself.

The vast majority of the officers supported the coup, but the crews defeated it. On nearly all ships small secret cells were formed of Socialist or Anarchist sailors. There was a central council of sailors on the cruiser *Liberated*.

Everywhere the sailors' committees were in control. After executing the majority of the officers, they forced those who remained to serve under their orders.

But the workers suffered some important defeats, because there was a willingness to accept the advice of the government and to trust generals or governors who pretended to oppose Franco.

The fascists still held a large area in the north. Franco's forces were crossing from Morocco. The civil war had only just begun.



Franco



Guernica after bombing

'One Spain cannot take'

JACK CUMMINS

THE rising of the workers ag feared most: a revolutionary history books.

These speak of the civil war as a quite different to that based upon

The French trade unionist Robert 'As soon as you cross the frontier they are militiamen

normal clothes but armed with rifles or revolvers and with signs on their arms

The committee is the group of men in charge, who exercise complete power in the village. It is the committee who see to the normal municipal functions, who formed the local militia, armed it, and supplied it with food.

The historian Pierre Broue writes:

'In the towns and villages all over Spain similar committees were operating under various names.

'All of them in the days after the uprising had seized all local power, taking over legislative as well as executive functions, making decisions not only about immediate problems, such as the maintenance of law and order, but also about the revolutionary tasks of the moment, the socialisation of industry, the expropriation of the property of the clergy, the



Fascist volunteers march through Burgos



Fascist reprisals for resistance



The Nazi Condor Legion which Hitler sent to support Franco. RIGHT: Their camp in Spain—note the German signs



WHOSE SIDE ARE

by JACK CUMMINS

FOR two or three years before the outbreak of the war, emissaries from Spain's extreme right wing had been frequent visitors to fascist Rome and Nazi Berlin.

The British oil millionaire Sir Henry Deterding placed huge sums of money at Franco's disposal.

A week before the fighting started, French planes left London Airport. Its English pilot was Bebb, a British agent. With him was another British agent, Commander Hugh Pollard from Scotland Yard—reputed to be a weapons expert, and a Spanish journalist from a

right-wing newspaper, Louis Bolin.

After refuelling at Lisbon, the plane flew to the Canary Islands, picked up Franco and landed him in Morocco.

British intelligence and probably the Tory government must have connived in the flight.

On the first day of Franco's insurrection, five oil tankers belonging to a subsidiary of Standard Oil were at sea on their way to Spain. They were ordered to change routes so that their cargoes could be landed at one of the ports held by Franco.

This was only the beginning. Throughout the civil war vast quantities of oil were supplied to Franco by Stan-

dard Oil. Uniquely for any rebel movement, this precious oil, unobtainable from Italy or Germany, was supplied on credit.

Without that oil, Franco would have been crippled.

Also supplied on credit were thousands of trucks from Fords and Chryslers.

Bombs

Roosevelt, the American President, once admitted at a press conference that American bombs were being dropped on Barcelona. They had been exported to Germany. Certainly American fuel was used in German planes that bombed Guernica.

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...remembers ...in and those ...es, and a ...ched fist salute ...es on meaning'

... International Brigade, Spain 1936, International Socialists 1976

... against the coup produced what the generals
... situation, a situation totally ignored in most

...ght between 'republicans' and 'rebels'. But in fighting
... workers had already set up the beginnings of a society
... middle class republicanism.

...uzon described the Spain he saw in summer 1936:
... are halted by armed men. Who are these men? Workers.
... that is, workers wearing their

THE WORKERS' REVOLUTION

...s or simply the big
... owners, the distribution
... land, the confiscation
... bank accounts.

...se committees were
...ously effective in the
...ays.

...y meant that the fight
... the fascists was not
...rk of a few individuals,
...f the whole working

...the committees sut-
... from one overriding
... They were local bodies
...e civil war against the
...-held areas required

...national coordination.
... There needed to be a
... centralised authority.

... There were two ready
... answers.

... **Wrong**

... The first, put by the
... Anarchists, was that all
... centralisation was wrong. The
... folly of this was shown when
... lack of coordination on the
... anti-fascist side led to several
... military defeats in August
... and September 1936.

... The second, favoured by

... the middle-class
... Republicans, the right-wing
... socialists of Prieto, and the
... Communist Party, under
... instructions from Stalin, was
... to call for power to be
... concentrated in the hands of
... the Madrid government.

... This resulted in centralisa-
... tion. But it did away with the
... one thing that had ensured
... success in the fight against
... Franco in July—the
... revolutionary initiative of the
... mass of working people.

... The Madrid government
... was based on an alliance



Clenched fist salutes from sailors on the Spanish cruiser Miguel de Cervantes, who put their fascist officers in chains

... between the workers'
... organisations and middle-
... class politicians. But these
... politicians proved again and
... again that they feared the
... revolution as much as the
... fascists.

... They moved the
... Republican fleet from the
... Moroccan coast—to placate
... 'international opinion'. Fran-
... co was left with a free hand to
... ferry in troops from Africa.

... They refused to make an
... announcement of inde-
... pendence for the people of
... Morocco. Yet this would
... have done more than
... anything else to destroy
... Franco's base.

... The government dis-
... couraged the searching of
... middle-class homes for guns
... and fascist collaborators, in
... case it 'frighten ed' the middle
... class away. All too often,
... when the fascist troops ap-
... proached a city, the middle-
... class fifth column would
... come out and open the city.

... It made more and more
... efforts to placate capitalists
... and landowners who said
... they were 'anti-fascist'.

... It insisted that their wealth
... should not be touched, that
... their workers should con-
... tinue to slave to make profits
... for them, that they should be
... allowed to flaunt their power
... and their privileges.

... The workers, who had
... often seized the property of
... all capitalists and landowners
... in July, resented this. The
... government—and above all
... the Communist Party—

... responded to this resentment
... with physical repression.
... Already in November, the
... Russian newspaper Pravda
... was boasting that the
... Anarchists—the biggest
... workers' organisation in
... Spain—was being repressed.

... In May 1937 thousands of
... militants were arrested. Work-
... ers leaders were murdered, in-
... cluding Andres Nin, leader of
... the POUM and a founder of
... the Spanish Communist Par-
... ty.

... In private, no less an
... authority than the Com-
... munist Party leader Her-
... nandez admitted these actions
... meant 'destroying the
... fighting front'.
... The workers were told to
... sacrifice themselves for the
... war, but not to touch the
... wealth of the rich. Their will
... to fight and their courage was
... slowly sapped. Two years
... later Barcelona fell to the
... fascists without a shot being
... fired.

... Typical of the division
... inside the opposition to Fran-
... co were the events in Bilbao
... in 1937, where shooting broke
... out between the Basque
... middle class, in favour of
... surrendering the city, and the
... Anarchist militia, who want
... to fight to the end.

... The Anarchists were dis-
... armed and a white flag
... hoisted above the telephone
... exchange. The republican
... police continued their work
... of preventing resistance until
... after the entry of the fascist
... troops.

... I have always felt that
... Spain was never really
... defeated. That some day our
... Spanish comrades would rise
... again. When that day comes,
... let us make sure that they
... have complete rank and file
... international working class
... solidarity behind them and
... they will not fail.

... **Salud!**

by TOMMY NICHOLSON

I ARRIVED in London
on 1 May 1937 and partic-
ipated in the
demonstration in support
of the Spanish workers.
What enthusiasm
permeated the whole of
the march. It was fan-
tastic. What unanimity
there was for this cause
was hard to believe—
between communists,
anarchists, reformists of
all shades.

Yet sad to say there was
antagonism among those
beliefs which played a big
part in the defeat of this
heroic struggle.

But make no mistake about
the rank and file members of
the Communist Party. They
were magnificent for sheer
determination to succeed.

After arriving in Paris by
devious routes, we were taken
to a restaurant owned by the
French Communist Party.

We were split up in groups
of four and made our way to
the frontier.

Saddest

My saddest experience
came while waiting in a loft.
A communist Party leader
announced that an officer
was coming to train us how to
use the rifle. He said we
would have to shoot our way
through the anarchists.

There were between 20 and
30 comrades—all Com-
munist Party members except
me. My whole enthusiasm
degenerated to zero.

Obviously I objected and
demanded the right to ques-
tion this covert action of the
Communist Party. They told

WITH THIS, WHY DID WE FAIL?

me I could speak on the
subject after tea time.

Meanwhile a discussion
among the group led to about
half a dozen agreeing with my
analysis: 'The anarchist
ideology prevails in Spain. As
they are the most organised
and powerful force, we must
support unity at all costs
against Franco.'

Surprisingly word came up
that there was no need for
discussion. Things had
quietened down.

This was the May Day
uprising. Just think of it!
Revolutionaries shooting and
killing one another. History is
making us pay dearly for our
degenerated leadership.

Picture

But what a picture this was.
An international Red Army.
The English, Scots, Irish,
Hungarians and Polish, Ger-
mans and Americans all
singing their revolutionary
songs. I could never visualise
defeat for such enthusiasm.

After the defeat of Franco
we could count our successes
and our losses, building that
Red Army on Spanish soil,
becoming stronger and
stronger, waiting for the
French masses to rise against
their exploiters, then this
international Red Army
would march in to help our
French comrades to liberate
themselves from capitalism
and imperialism.

What went wrong with
this?

I tell you the fault lies on
many doorsteps. But one
outstanding one was Russia.
They gave us four anti-tank
guns. There were picked
comrades for this job. I
happened to be one of those. I
say the reason we only got
four guns was because the
anarchists were the predom-
inant revolutionary force.

Essence

The way I see it is that you
cannot defeat fascism by
conventional military means.
Politics is of the essence.
Sadly, tragically, the Com-
munist Party kept this in
abeyance and the parties to
the left of them failed to put
up a proper challenge.

It is important to me to
remember all the magnificent
fighters of Spain. It is impor-
tant to commemorate them.
But the most important thing
of all is to learn from the past,
so the mistakes our move-
ment made then are not
repeated in the future.

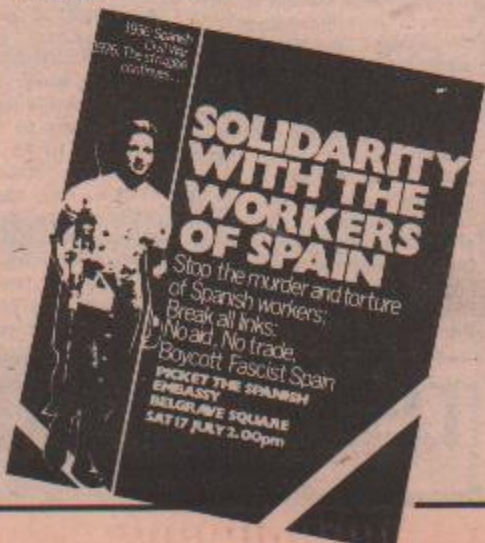
Again I have to say that the
Communist Party leadership
refuses to do this. Look at
Chile and you will see
elements of the Spanish
defeat repeated all over again.

I want to finish this letter
by saying I was on three
fronts in Spain. We did not
win. But there never was a
revolutionary failure in
history—even in Russia. The
international working class
will build an international
Red Army that will smash the
forces of capitalism and
imperialism wherever they
are based.

I believe that as firmly
today as when 40 years ago I
first found a deep desire to
fight in Spain.



'They shall not pass!' An anti-fascist banner in Madrid



SPAIN 1936-1976

THE fascist victors of the Spanish Civil War set out physically to destroy the workers' movement.

At least 200,000 opponents of fascism were murdered by Franco's forces in the immediate aftermath of his 'triumph'. Twice that number were imprisoned. Hundreds of thousands of others had to flee across the border to France.

In the early 1940s Franco did not conceal his intention to set up a regime modelled on Hitler's Germany. Workers who went on strike were dealt with appropriately. The unofficial leaders would be taken out and shot. Wages were half of what they had been under the republic.

Despite all this, resistance never stopped. Until 1949 there was large scale guerrilla warfare in some of the mountainous regions, involving, at the peak, 15,000 fighters.

In the cities, the workers' organisations maintained a tenuous existence.

But the conditions under which the remaining militants lived were demoralising. In towns and villages informers abounded. Curfews and systems of safe conduct were in force.

Hunger and the virtual impossibility of getting work diminished the combative capacity of the Republicans.

One thing made the demoralisation worse. Most of the opposition had expected the Allied victory over Hitler to lead to the end of Franco as well. But within a few years, the Western allies were giving in to Franco.

Protest

The first mass workers' protest came in 1947. Sheer economic desperation led workers in Madrid engineering factories and Catalan textile workers to protest. On May Day some 50,000 workers struck in Bilbao, in the Basque country.

But the strike was smashed after ten days of arrests and searches by the armed Civil Guards, and by the victimisation of 14,000.

Then in 1951, a new generation of young workers showed that workers still had the power to shake the regime. On 1 March the workers of Barcelona walked out on strike in protest at rising prices.

By the next day 300,000 workers were on strike, despite the attempt of the police, the employers and the official fascist 'unions' to stop them. There were daily demonstrations in the centre of the city and in the working class districts.

There were 300 arrests, 300 armed police and 2000 marines were sent to the city to smash the strike.

But the government was forced to make marginal concessions.

Massive

In the 1950s, the Franco regime tried to modernise itself. It encouraged massive industrial development. This led to still worse housing conditions in the cities. Wages were worth a fifth less in 1954 than in 1940.

But the most dramatic proof of the workers' new strength came in the 1960s.

In 1962 massive strikes broke out in the Asturias mining area and spread to Catalonia, Andalusia and the Basque country.

The most significant thing about these strikes were not their demands, but that they gave birth to a new form of organisation—the workers' commissions. These were elected from mass meetings to run the strikes.

The law stipulated that negotiations over wages and working conditions could only be carried on by the fascist-run unions, the Syn-



Spain, June 1976: Demonstrators in Madrid, giving the socialist clenched fist salute, demand the freeing of political prisoners, free trade unions, and a reduction in the cost of living

THE AFTERMATH

*The sea is always suspect and subversive,
Who knows, the gulls may organise a strike.
The pinewoods must be watched for fear
they harbour
The illicit duplicators of the spring.*

*The whisper of the cornfields may be
treason,
There's danger in the peace talk of the
doves.*

From the poem 'When I love freedom', by Vidal de Nicolas, who served 30 years in jail under Franco from 1939 until 1969.

*Or in the dog-eared pages of a book,
In human laughter and in human kisses
And in the multitudinous hopes of man.*

*Prisoner as I am, I burst out laughing.
How will they manage to arrest and torture
the sun
Now on its way from my home town?*

Now the struggle is on again

SHORTLY before Franco died last year, he showed he had forgotten nothing about repression.

He ordered the execution of five of his opponents—and among those who gave their full support to the executions was his carefully-groomed successor, Juan Carlos.

But when the new king came to power, he soon found that it was not possible to continue precisely in Franco's footsteps.

In December the biggest wave of protest since the civil war broke out. It began with the Metro strike in Madrid, and within weeks the strike wave had spread to virtually every industry in virtually every part of the country.

Juan Carlos' advisors have been divided on how to deal with the workers' power.

One section has pressed for concessions to the workers, designed to tie them into a reformed version of the system. They speak of giving the workers greater rights inside the fascist unions, and even, occasionally, of trying to turn the workers' commissions and the illegal unions into a respectable trade

union movement presided over by a Spanish version of our own Jack Jones, the Transport Union leader.

So they allow 'non-Communist' trade unionists to hold meetings, and 'socialist' parties to organise.

Argue

But other people think Franco's methods are still best. They argue that free trade unions would make it difficult for industry to be profitable.

They are backed by tens of thousands of old-time fascists, who would lose out in any reforms. These are particularly strong in the fascist unions and the police.

Big business has wavered

between the two sides. They see the need for reforms. But they also see the need to victimise militant workers and keep wages low. So when it comes to it, firms like Chrysler and Massey Ferguson, have gladly collaborated with the fascist police.

They want reforms to buy off the workers' movement. But they also want the fascists in the police to keep the workers' movement in check.

The waverings of King Juan Carlos himself reflect the dilemma. His new government is committed to repression and reforms. It will have phoney elections—and it will have more killings such as in Vitoria in March.

It hopes to survive because

of the confusion among its opponents on the left. The main influences in the workers' movement talk of negotiating with the fascists, not building a revolutionary movement to kick them out.

There are several Socialist Parties, and each would like to develop into a Spanish version of our own Labour Party, with its own imitation of James Callaghan.

The most powerful single influence in the workers' movement is the Communist Party. But this too talks of a 'negotiated change' and opposes 'violent revolution'. Its aim is a 'broad alliance of all forces'—broader even than the Popular Front of the 1930s, which led to disaster and defeat.

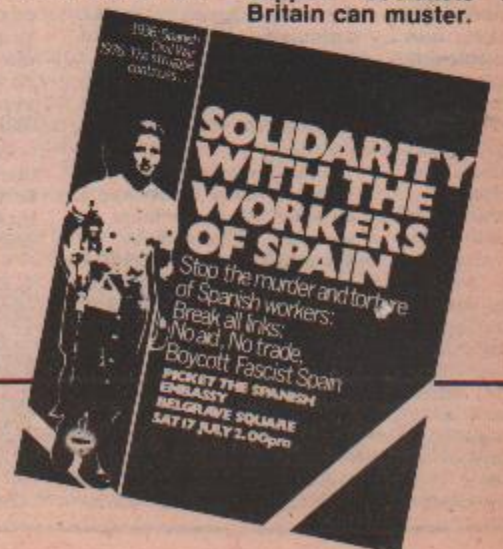
That Front was at first

designed to prevent a government of Gil Robles. Today the Spanish Communist Party want alliance with Gil Robles!

Spain's workers have ruined the manoeuvres and schemes of reactionaries and opportunists in the past. They could unquestionably do so again. In the recent strikes they insisted that elected, recallable representative commissions run the strikes and do the negotiations.

There are several revolutionary organisations in Spain that see the demand for such bodies as the way to build a real workers' democracy that can defeat the regime and prepare the ground for a socialist society.

They need every bit of support socialist in Britain can muster.



PICKET THE SPANISH EMBASSY

Saturday 17 July, 2pm, Belgrave Square, London W1—organised by the Spanish Civil War Commemoration Committee.

Letters

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

1776- The year of the sell out

I WAS PLEASED to see your article on the American Revolution in this week's Socialist Worker. Amid all the Bicentennial junketing there will be little mention of the fact that it was as Lenin said one of the few really liberating revolutions which overturned the established social order and laid the foundations for the great European revolutions of the 19th Century.

However it is important to point out that in many ways Washington and Jefferson were the counter-revolutionaries who took control of the grass roots struggle of the growing urban artisan class and watered down their militant idealism to a nationalist cause in the pursuit of property owning democracy.

Another important point is that one of the first Americans to die in the revolution was Crispus Attucks, a Boston black. Many blacks fought in the revolutionary army only to be faced with the continuation of slavery and quasi-feudalism in the Southern colonies. Both Washington and Jefferson were slave-owners.

There is an increasing amount of information and research about the rank and file in the revolution. Socialist Worker readers might be interested in an excellent biography by American radical historian Eric Foner called Tom Paine and the Revolutionary America.

□ Geoff White, Leamington Spa

Postal Points

I MUST congratulate you on the welcome facts you have recently printed about the immigrant issue. They are most useful when confronted with the bar-room bigot and office racist who have been fed on the 'facts' presented by the mass media.

After referring the full facts to the anti-immigrants and racists they are left speechless, muttering and thinking.

□ Morris Rider, Bournemouth

THE GUARDIAN reported on July 1 that the editor of the magazine Counter Spy was refused entry into Britain because the Home Office said the presence of Mr Perry Fellwock, who had published names of dozens of CIA agents, would not be 'conducive to public good'.

I wonder if Jenkins and his Home Office cronies ever bothered to consider whether the presence of CIA agents in pre-coup Chile was 'conducive to the public good'.

□ Jim Roper, Stockport.

THE NATIONAL Abortion Campaign has been fighting restrictive legislation for over a year. The select committee is expected to make another regressive report any time now. NAC desperately needs money to carry on the fight.

Donations and collections would be greatly appreciated. Send them to: NAC, 30 Camden Road, London N1.

□ Nina Streich and Maggie Renn.



Cuts: Those who suffer

A NEW and scandalous trick to avoid paying social security to school leavers has emerged in Leeds and this is how it works.

With the change in the school leaving date to the end of May for this term's leavers, they can leave and come back to sit exams.

The local education authority says that in order to do this they must stay

on the school roll. However, when they then go to the social security office to sign on they are told they cannot have any money if they are on the school roll.

They then have to either accept getting no social security money or miss their exams. There have also been cases of people being refused time off to do exams when they get jobs.

□ John Nightingale, Leeds

A RECENT visit to hospital has shown me how undermanned the hospitals of Coventry are. In my ward there were well over twenty-five children and only five nurses to look after them, and of course there were very awkward children.

The teachers who came and taught the children in the morning often had to do nurses' jobs, like take temperatures and pulse rates, and put them down on charts and graphs, as well as doing their normal job of teaching the sick children.

This under-manning is mad as there are many, many nurses without jobs. In one case pupil nurses could have a choice, pass the nurses' exam and be unemployed, or fail it and stay on as a pupil nurse.

An example of this under-manning is that one of the nurses called me Francis instead of my real name, Frazer. This proves that there were not enough nurses, because nurses should be able to remember the names of their patients, even if they have a very poor memory.

So why is it that there are unemployed nurses and a shortage of nurses in hospitals? The answer is plain, it is the mad government measures saying public spending should be cut back because of over-spending, on the contrary, the civil service has under-spent! This is why it is so important to fight these ridiculous government measures.

□ Frazer Goodwin, age 12, Coventry.



A witness points an accusing finger at the mercenaries during the Angola trial.

IS THIS THE ONLY WAY?

SO 'EVERY socialist should support the sentence imposed on the mercenaries in Angola should they?

Well I am amazed. Since when have socialists supported capital punishment? To the contrary, they have always been in the forefront of the fight against it.

Israel is currently considering using the death sentence on terrorists. Should every socialist support that? After all they have murdered innocent people just as the mercenaries did.

Socialists should be against all kinds of brutality from all kinds of states. We should show that there are other ways of behaving.

□ Jenny Wistreich, Parlington, Manchester.

Why the mercenaries had to die

MERCENARIES are hired, paid killers. Nothing less. They cannot be excused because they are the unwitting victims of capitalist (Socialist Worker 10 July).

Robert Reif, Enoch Powell and barbaric torturers of the Brazilian state police are equally the victims of capitalism, but that doesn't for a minute stop us organising against them.

Cries of clemency and justice are now pouring out of every right wing mouth in this country. International law has not yet established that being a mercenary is a crime. How

dare the Angolans put themselves above international law?

International law has never stopped oppressed people being lined up and shot. The Angolan people were fighting the combined forces of the United States, via the CIA, and South Africa. We supported them and it is no good now, because they have decided the mercenaries should die, saying they cannot interpret justice themselves.

As revolutionary socialists we are not violent by choice. Capitalism is violent. At some point we will have to be

prepared to use force to establish the sort of society we would like to see. That does not reduce us to the level of people who are prepared to kill for money.

The war in Angola and the rest of white racist South Africa is not yet NONE of those mercenaries should be left to fight another day.

□ Margaret Renn, North London.

G.B. LTD IS NOT FOR US

RICK NOSS and his colleagues (19 June) raise an important point but they do not go far enough. The real problem is the demand for nationalisation.

Nationalisation is nothing to do with socialism. It is carried out by all sorts of governments (including the fascists) for all sorts of reasons.

Many workers today have experience of nationalisation and know that it means a change of boss. Between this and socialism there is a world of difference—which cannot be expressed in phrases such as 'under workers' control' tacked on afterwards.

Capitalism can, indeed, have produced nationalised economies and could doubtless add a pretence at workers' control if that became necessary. Furthermore the demand for nationalisation in no way poses the necessity to see the world capitalist system as a whole. The very word reveals that it is precisely concerned with building GB Ltd.

In the coming crisis sections of capitalism will turn to nationalisation as a solution. Socialists must be absolutely clear that they are as much the enemies of the working class as are Aims of Industry.

□ Phil McShane, Oxford.

WITH THOUSANDS of school leavers starting their 'working life' on the dole, would it not be possible to produce a monthly magazine aimed at getting school leavers and school students involved in the fight for the right to work and against the cuts?

□ SW Reader, Lanarkshire.

A BOOK ALL JOURNALISTS COULD WELL DO WITHOUT

IS THERE any wonder that the newspapermen of this country are so ready to jump on the anti-immigration bandwagon? Just look at the two extracts I picked out of a book called The Simple Subs Book a manual for sub-editors written by Leslie Seller, production editor of the Daily Mail in 1968.

The first, on page 14 was while urging subs to be cynical when approaching hard luck stories such as the eviction of 'penniless mother of seven'.

'Investigation is quite likely to show that not only has mum not paid the rent for 18 months but that she is living with a West Indian pot-peddler and has put her children in the gravest moral danger.'


The second, on page 140 concerned the law of defamation. 'Suppose . . . I tell the window cleaner . . . that a certain high official at the Home Office is abusing his position by setting up home with a teenage Negro

homosexual prostitute who is on probation for flogging referees.'

This second is a masterpiece of bigotry, pointing the finger at blacks, homosexuals, prostitutes, probationers and drug-sellers. What a dreadful shame Mr Sellers is so successful at his part-time job writing newspapermen's manuals, which, judging by how well British journalists have learned his lesson, he undoubtedly is.

□ SW Supporter, York University

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

Series of Socialist Worker meetings on THE MEANING OF MARXISM

BIRMINGHAM: Every second Thursday, 7.30pm, Socialist Bookcentre, 224 High Street, Digbeth, Birmingham (near National coach station).

22 July: Imperialism—The fight back. Speaker: Nigel Harris.
5 August: The Law, the police and the army. Speaker: Laurie Flynn.
19 August: Is Russia Socialist?

SOUTH WEST LONDON: Every second Monday, 8pm, Clapham Common Library, Clapham Common North Side.

19 July: Russia 1917. Speaker: Tony Cliff.
2 August: Fascism and Counter-Revolution.

LIVERPOOL: Every Wednesday, 7.30pm, IS Books, Berry Street.

21 July: Rank and File Movements. Speaker: Jack Robertson.
28 July: How the System Works, an introduction to Marxist economics. Speaker: Brian Jones.

CAMPAIGN WITH THE Socialist Worker

WHAT'S ON

Notices for What's On should be posted to reach Socialist Worker by first post on the Monday before publication. Adverts will NOT be accepted by phone. Send to: What's On, SW, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS.

SOCIALIST WORKER NOTICES

Inner East London District Socialist Worker PICNIC. Food, drink, music, frisbees. Meet at Chingford Station, Sunday 18 July, 11 am. £1 per person (50p for unemployed and under 15s) includes food and drink. Proceeds to SW fighting fund. If interested, ring Sharon 806 4691 (we need an idea of numbers).

RACIALISM, Immigration Controls and the fight against them: Speakers notes now available for branch/public meetings. Send stamped, addressed envelope to Joanna Rollo, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

SPECIAL OFFER—Isaac Deutscher's RUSSIA—THE UNFINISHED REVOLUTION £1 including postage, from the Socialist and TU Bookcentre, 224 High Street, Digbeth, Birmingham 12. Open Monday to Saturday 10am-6pm.

INNER EAST LONDON Socialist Worker Fighting Fund Social: Friday 16 July, 8pm to midnight, St Hilda's East Community Centre, Club Row, London E2. Admission: 65p, unemployed 35p.

NOISS

NOISS school on revolutions of the 20th century for 17-18 July has unfortunately had to be postponed until further notice.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

SW Litho are offering a PRINTING APPRENTICESHIP, to start as soon as possible. Applicants must be under 19 and have a mechanical aptitude. Applications in writing for Training Officer, SW Litho, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

SOUTH EAST ASIA: National IS day school for members and supporters, covering the history, current situation and political organisations in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, and Asian workers and organisation here. Speaker: Nigel Harris. Sunday 18 July, 10.30am-5.30pm, Trade Union Books, 260 Deansgate, Manchester. There will be a pool fare, and we are trying to arrange transport from some areas. Phone Joanna Rollo—01-739 9772, for details.

CRUMPSALL International Socialists (Manchester) meet every Monday at 8pm in the Robin Hood Hotel, Queens Road (just off Rochdale Road).

IS couple seek room or flat in Nottingham or Derby. Phone Stavelye (Derbyshire) 4238.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED in London for IS member moving from Manchester. Room in shared house or flat preferred but anything considered. Contact Pete Gates, 20 St Mary's Hall Road, Crumpsall, Manchester. (phone 061-795-7230).

IS couple need accommodation in London. Contact Andy Durgan, 1 Hampshire Street, Buckland, Portsmouth.

TO LET. Two-room, self cooking flat. July-September, to IS member(s). London E7. Phone 01-552 4143.

EAST LONDON: Room to let for four weeks in August-September. Rent £6 per week. Phone 01-739 1870, Hughie.

WANTED for IS printshop: A fridge. Must be electrical. Can collect up to 50 miles from London. Phone 01-739 1870, Hughie.

IS Gay Group: Meeting of London comrades at East London Gay Centre, 19 Redmans Road, E1 (01-790 2454) on Thursday 15 July, 8pm.

POLAND: Speakers and speakers' notes available from IS East European Group, c/o International Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

SOCIALIST WORKER DISTRIBUTORS needs a London-based comrade to work unpaid 10 hours a week. Some evening work. Qualifications: Must be willing and able to work with other groups including libertarians. Ring/write/visit Pete Fysh, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 (phone 01-739 2639).

NALGO: National meeting for all IS members in NALGO. Weekend 17-18 July, starts 10.30am Saturday, Students Union, Barnes Wallis Building, UMIST, Sackville Street, Manchester. Accommodation: phone Penny Parkes, 061-434 7255 (outside work hours).

PORTUGAL: Robin Peterson, just returned from Portugal, is available to speak at meetings. Contact the International Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 (phone 01-739 9772).

Will all IS comrades going abroad for their summer holidays and willing to make contacts, take literature with them, please contact the IS International Department, 6 Cottons Gardens, London, E2, phone 01-739 9772.

IS Building Workers Fraction National Meeting: 24/25 July, starts 12 noon, Saturday in London, place to be announced.

ROOMS TO LET in North London house. Phone 607 6521.

Your newsagent needs this paper!

by JANET WINTERBOURNE

I'VE been taking Socialist Worker into my local newsagent for several years now.

I started during a Fleet Street dispute—which we supported of course. There were no other papers and it sold out! Since then the average sale has risen from six to 12 papers, more some weeks.

Every seller of Socialist Worker should try to get the paper into the newsagent they use regularly and are known in.

Offer the newsagent 3p on each paper sold. If they want more, bargain up to 5p.

Try to persuade him or her to put it in the window or outside on a rack. There are special stickers available saying 'Socialist Worker on sale here', which you can get from 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. The posters can be ordered from the same address—£1 for 100.

Then use every opportunity to spread news of the round-the-week availability of the paper to casual buyers and so on. And insert local notices of meetings and activities inside the paper and try to involve the buyers you don't know.

It's an easy way to sell more papers and it helps get Socialist Worker established.

Good luck to you!



Socialist Worker in the window and on the counter of a London newsagent. RIGHT: The posters and stickers available for newsagent sales.

HELP US SELL WHERE YOU LIVE

COME and help spread the struggle for socialism! Socialist Worker is sold every Saturday in the following places—come and help us!

- SHEFFIELD:** 10am-4pm, outside Boots, Fargate.
- ROTHERHAM:** 11am-1pm, outside markets entrance.
- HEMEL HEMPSTEAD:** 1pm-3pm, Marlowes, by the market.
- SLOUGH:** 10am-12 noon, outside Woolworths.
- INNER WEST LONDON:** North End Road, outside Woolworths, 10.15am-noon.
- ALLOA:** Clackmannanshire Shopping centre, 11.30am-2pm.
- NORTH WEST LONDON:** 11am to 1pm, Cricklewood Broadway, Kilburn Square, Kilburn Broadway and Jubilee Clock, Harlesden High Street.

- READING:** Junction of Broad Street and Union Street, 10am-3pm.
- PETERBOROUGH:** 2-4pm, Cathedral Square.
- STAMFORD:** 10am-12 noon, The precinct.
- HULL:** Monument Square, 11.30am-2pm.
- SOUTHEND:** Shopping Precinct (next to Guy Norris) 11am-1pm.
- HACKNEY:** Ridley Road market, 11am-1pm.
- BOLTON:** Precinct, 11am-4pm.
- BURY:** Precinct, 11am-1pm.
- WIGAN:** Makinsons Arcade, 11am-3pm.
- CHELtenham:** 10.30am to 1.30pm, outside Boots on the Promenade.
- DUNDEE:** City Square, 11am-4pm. Thursday and Friday evenings 4.5.30pm.

- SOUTH EAST LONDON:** Lewisham, Clock Tower, 11am-12.30pm. Woolwich, Powis Street, 11am-12 noon. Dartford, outside the new shopping centre, 11am-12.30pm. Gravesend, outside the market entrance, 10.30am-12 noon.
- EDINBURGH:** Princes Street (east end) 11am to 4pm. Thursdays: Entrance to Wester Hailes shopping centre, 4.30pm to 5.30pm.
- WEST BROMWICH:** King Square, 12 noon-2pm.
- EXETER:** High St, outside Boots, 11am and 2pm-3pm.
- STRATFORD, East London:** Stratford shopping Precinct, 11am-1pm.
- COVENTRY:** City Precinct, 11am-1pm, Foleshill, The General Wolfe, 11am-1pm.

- BRIXTON:** Outside Brixton tube, Saturday 11am-1pm. Outside Brixton and Stockwell tubes, Friday 5pm-6pm.
- ABERYSTWYTH:** Outside Post Office, Friday 12.15pm-1.45pm. Saturday 10.30am-12.30pm and 2pm-3.30pm.

Since the cuts in the weekend postal service we are receiving many articles and notices for meetings too late to put in the paper. Please post by Friday evening at the latest so we can make sure to have what you send by the first post Monday.

CAMPAIGN WITH SOCIALIST WORKER

CAMPAIGN WITH THE SOCIALIST WORKER



WHERE WE STAND

INDEPENDENT WORKING-CLASS ACTION:

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

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

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

THERE IS NO PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

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

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

upon councils of workers' delegates and a workers' militia.

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

INTERNATIONALISM

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

in other countries.

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

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

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

We are for real, social, economic and

political equality of women.

The experience of Russia demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation in one country.

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

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

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

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

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

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

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

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

If you want to know more about Socialist Worker and the International Socialists, fill in the form on page 15.

Drop the charges, convenors demand

We've taken enough - now we're going to hit back!

THE SOUTH YORKSHIRE police have decided that the slogan 'Black and white, unite and fight, Fight for the right to work' is an offence under the Race Relations Act.

Altaf Abani and Ann Silverleaf were covering up National Front slogans with those words when they were arrested.

They were held for 20 hours in solitary confinement before being charged. Altaf was refused access to the toilet and a solicitor.

Picket

After Robert Relf has just shown the Race Relations Act to be useless against racists, the police cannot be allowed to use it against anti-racists.

Shop stewards committees and trade union branches all over Sheffield will be discussing the matter this week. A picket of the court has been called for Tuesday 10 August.

BLACK YOUTH STABBED

A WEST Indian youth is critically ill after being stabbed by three white youths in Ladywood, Birmingham.

He was walking past a pub with two black girls, one white one. Three white youths

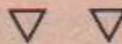
started shouting 'black bastard' and 'white slut' and tried to hit the white girl with a bottle. A fight broke out and the black youth was cut in the face and stomach.

Two white youths later appeared in

court, but charges were dropped against one of them for lack of evidence. The other was remanded until 9 August.

This was just one of many racist attacks in Birmingham in recent weeks.

the courts or the Government to take a stand against racialism. We call for a campaign within the working class against unemployment, cuts in wages or services, which cause people to look for scapegoats. We must fight racism and its causes together, and we call on the TUC to mount such a campaign.



- C Hartley, AUEW convenor, Balfour Darwins;
- S Greenwood, TGWU Convenor, Easterbrook Allcard;
- A Doughty, AUEW convenor, Osbourne Mushetts;
- A Hope, AUEW convenor;
- P Burrell, AUEW shop steward, S Hill, AUEW shop steward, W Halgarth, ASTMS Chairman, B Sykes, ASTMS Secretary, River Don British Steel Corporation;
- B Balm, AUEW convenor, J May, TGWU convenor, Doncaster;
- D Bell, AUEW Convenor, James Neils;
- D France, AUEW convenor, Sheffield Twist Drill.

YOUNG ASIANS in Rotherham have formed their own youth organisation to fight racism.

A spokesman for it, Raja Khan, explained the background to Socialist Worker:

'Our people are being insulted and harassed on a widespread scale. White youths provoked by the NF have made attacks on us and we are determined to put a stop to this.'

Soft

'Setting up our own organisation has meant rejecting the leadership of our elders. We believe they are far too soft.'

'During the National Front's election campaign, the NF were allowed to come through our area with the full backing of the police. Follow-

ing this, our elders thanked the police!

'Our organisation is open to anyone willing to fight the racists. We intend to hold demonstrations against racism and other forms of oppression.'

'We intend to organise social activities. We intend to help the old and the needy.'

'And we intend to campaign against the arrest of our comrades under the Race Relations Act for painting up Black and white unite and fight slogans.'

'When the Front came into Rotherham last time we didn't have an organisation. So we weren't able to stop them. But now we've got our own organisation.'

United

'Our first meeting was a great success. We got a much bigger response than we expected. This is because there is growing concern about the increase in racial tension.'

'Our main aim is to get the young Asian people together. We've got to take part in politics. We've got to face up to the fact that you can do nothing to solve your problems if you're not organised.'

'United we stand, divided we fall. Our intentions are clear. Blacks and whites have got to live together. We must work together for a decent life.'

Now the police take to the air

WHAT DO the police need to arrest six schoolboys thought to have nicked £1.60?

Answer—a helicopter (costing £65,000 a year to hire), a meat wagon, two rovers, a security van with four police dogs, various panda cars... and lots and lots of police.

No, it's not a bad joke. It really happened last Tuesday morning in the recreation ground next to Drayton School, Tottenham, North London.

Ten West Indian boys who saw this talked to Socialist Worker. They don't want their names used so as to prevent police reprisals.

Caught

'There were a lot of police, searching all around the school, up the roads, all over. They were around most of the day.'

'The boys were caught and taken to the station. They were all fingerprinted—though they are all under 16.'

'Where do the police get all their money?'

That is a very good question. Why should the police be wasting £1250 a week on a helicopter?

Why should the pathetic youth clubs and sports halls that do exist be closed down while this waste goes on?

This money should be spent for the enjoyment and betterment of our youth—not to arm and equip jumped up pigs.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH

TAKE THAT, bully boy! John Roberts, the Nazi National Front candidate in this week's Parliamentary by-election in Thurrock, Essex, getting some of his own medicine on Saturday.

200 anti-fascists turned out in Grays, Thurrock's major town, to thwart the Front's attempt to whip up local support by importing 500 of their fascists to march through the streets.

With one in 14 local workers unemployed and no real alternative on a mass scale to the Labour-Tory coalition, the area is ripe for the fascists.

But the tiny local branch of the International Socialists, along with supporters, worked hard to counter the racist propaganda and to begin to present that alternative.

Support

Grays was flooded with tens of thousands of leaflets and posters exposing the fascist nature of the Front.

The key success of the campaign, however, was the support of the anti-fascist demo by 50 Asians from the local community.

The community had been divided over whether to support the demonstration—not through lack of militancy, but through genuine fear provoked by press reports that there would be 2000 fascists on the streets.

But after personal assaults in the streets and attacks on their temple, the community knew they had to do something and had already set up a system of defence groups on 24-hour call.

Scales

The question was: were the anti-fascist forces strong enough to go on the offensive? The scales were finally tipped when one determined Asian woman courageously led the community out of their temple to join the demo.

Although the fascists may pick up a reasonable protest vote at Thursday's election, far more significant is that none of the local population were prepared to march with them.



The day a fascist got some of his own medicine



The National Front on the streets of Grays last Saturday: they were harassed and jeered all the way

Colour bar at disco is smashed on head

THE MANAGEMENT of Charlee Brown's Disco in Tottenham, North London, have been trying to keep out Greeks and West Indians.

A white girl summed up everyone's feeling: 'If they don't let my friends in, I'm not going in. It's really stupid.'

Almost no one went in. By the end of the evening last

Sunday, the manager was rushing around giving out membership forms to everyone.

Then on Wednesday he tried another game. No jeans allowed. No sandals allowed. No tee-shirts allowed.

So everyone stayed outside. By the end of the night, he gave in.

This disgusting attempt at racism has been smashed on the head.

I LIVE on an estate in Southwark, South London and when we heard about some local housewives taking a petition around the area and organising a racist march against Asians, we decided to take round our own anti-racist petition.

We started on my estate and so far the support has been

By Mary Phillips

very good.

Several people who had signed the anti-Asian petition—but who have since read the Socialist Worker leaflet They're Welcome Here and argued with me over the issue—changed their minds and signed our petition.

One woman who changed

her mind has offered to take the petition to the factory where she works.

A woman on the next estate is taking copies and some of our children are taking them to their schools.

I've found the Fifth Column list of quotes from Enoch Powell very useful, as most people who are confused about the issues seem to think he's great, until they hear the other side of the story.

I think that list should be duplicated with a heading like Enoch Powell is a Liar and taken round when we're having this kind of argument.

We're going on with the petition at every possible opportunity, putting the facts to people on their doorsteps, and we're also having a meeting against racism to which we hope to get some of the people who've got involved.

Pictures: Chris Davies (report)

PRE-VIEW

SATURDAY
SECOND HOUSE (BBC-2 10pm) commemorates the 40th anniversary of the Spanish Civil War with a look at the involvement of authors and journalists in the struggle.

SUNDAY
Six political thinkers air their views in the second series of The Jay Interview (LWT 11pm). The first is Professor Milton Friedman.

The title of the series is Alternatives to Liberal Democracy and themes include free-market capitalism, democratic socialism and classic communism.

MONDAY
THISTLEWOOD (Radio Four) is about the 19th-century revolutionary Arthur Thistlewood, who was executed for his involvement in a plot to assassinate the government.

PANORAMA: WHO FIGHTS FOR RHODESIA? (BBC-1) exposes an illegal recruitment racket which sends scores of young Britons and Europeans to fight in the Rhodesian Army. Don't forget BILL BRAND (ITV 9pm).

Notices and meetings

Notices for this column must be posted to arrive by first post the Monday before publication. We cannot take them over the phone. Send CASH WITH COPY (10p a word) to Classified, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS. No invoices can be sent.

CYPRIOU WORKER in Greek—June and July issue out now. Articles on Racism and How to Fight Back, The TUC Deal with Healey and the Fight for the Right to Work, Recent events in Greece and Lebanon, Cyprus—why the ruling class have called the election, Emigration of workers from Cyprus. Interview with a sacked Cypriot machinist. **PRINTED IN GREEK**. 5p a copy, plus 7p postage from Cypriot Worker, 265 Severn Sisters Road, London N5.

THE CRISIS IN ITALY—what next after the elections? A meeting organised by supporters of the revolutionary left alliance, Democrazia Proletaria. Speakers from the International Socialists and Italian revolutionary groups. Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1. Friday 16 July, 7.30pm.

BENEFIT FOR TRICO WOMEN WORKERS. Thursday 15 July, 8pm, Greenford Hall, (junction of Oldfield Lane and Ruislip Road), Greenford, Middlesex. Support the Equal Pay dispute! 7th week of strike—funds vital. With Sandra Kerr, Broadside Mobile Workers Theatre and others. Admission £1. Organised by Hammersmith WWCC.

SALFORD and MANCHESTER Anti-racist committees joint public meeting for all those anxious to fight racism and fascism. Speakers: Dave Roberts, who infiltrated the National Front and local black spokesmen. Friday 16 July, 8pm, AUEW Building, The Crescent, Salford.

South West London Student Teachers and Lambeth Trades Council Conference against the cuts. Saturday 24 July, Furzedown College, Welham Road, London SW17. 2pm-6pm. Speakers include Dick North (NUT Executive), Brian Hodges (Lambeth Trades Council) Ken Livingstone (GLC councillor).

SALFORD and MANCHESTER ANTI-FASCIST COMMITTEES public meeting. Friday 16 July, 8pm, AUEW Building, The Crescent, Salford. All those anxious to fight racism and fascism welcome. Speakers include Dave Roberts, who infiltrated the National Front and local black spokesmen.

HARINGEY. Demonstrate against racialism, the National Front and police harassment. Saturday 24 July, 10.30 am. Meet outside Tottenham Trades Hall. March to Wood Green.

Out no—THE HOSPITAL WORKER, national rank and file paper for all hospital and health service workers. 5p a copy. Orders to Mel Bartley, 18 Fife Terrace, London N1.

BENEFIT DANCE for North London Committee against Repression in Spain. Music by The Erelids. Saturday 17 July, 8pm till midnight, The Old Red Lion, St John Street (Angel Tube). Admission 80p.

THE GENERAL STRIKE and the STRUGGLE FOR POWER. Speaker: Reg Groves. Tuesday 20 July, 7.30pm, Covent Garden Communist Centre, 27 Shelton Street, London WC2. In conjunction with the General Strike Exhibition.

REMEMBER 1926! Sunday 18 July, 8pm, CAST socialist theatre group in Samuel J Keir Hardie Muggins MP, Covent Garden Community Centre, 27 Shelton Street, London WC2. Admission 50p (half price for pensioners and kids).

I.L.P. PAMPHLETS. Send for our Spanish selection. Spain after Franco—20p. Jequisimur. Madrid—20p. The Basque Country—20p. Postage free if ordering all four, plus 7p for smaller orders. 49 Top Moor Side, Leeds LS11 9LW.

PRESS/COMMUNITY WORKER needed for the Half Moon Theatre. Knowledge and commitment to East End important. Call 480-6464.

GERMAN COMRADE seeks contact with English comrades engaged in political education with adults and/or young unemployed workers. Meeting in Britain in August possible. Please contact K Watter, Postfach 11 05 03, 1 Berlin 11, Germany.

Guitarist wanted for touring socialist theatre company. Starting mid-August. Pay £50 a week. Apply: 7 84 Theatre Company, 31 Clerkenwell Close, London EC1.

BROADSIDE MOBILE WORKERS THEATRE needs 1. A versatile actor. 2. A musician who can play one or more accompanying instruments (e.g. accordion, guitar, concertina, mandolin, etc.) write songs, arrange and transpose, sing and do some acting. Both must be socialists prepared to make a long-term commitment. Trade Union and labour movement experience useful. Write with details of experience to '58 Holbein House, Holbein Place, London SW1.

PIRATE JENNY (formerly West London Theatre-Workshop) in Breakers Yard—a play about miseducation. 12 to 14 July at Kings Head Pub Theatre, 115 Upper St. Islington (226 1916). At 8pm.

NATIONAL ABORTION CAMPAIGN public meeting to discuss coming report of anti-abortion Parliament Select Committee. Tuesday 27 July, 7.30pm, Grand Committee Room, Westminster Hall, House of Commons.

Miners throw down a challenge

MINERS' delegates threw down a militant challenge to the government last week on the final day of the National Union of Mineworkers' conference in Douglas, Isle of Man.

They unanimously supported demands that by January miners should retire at the age of 60 and that the retirement age should be lowered in stages to 55 by

By Bill Message

1980. If this is not conceded by the Coal Board or the government by January, it was decided that the National Executive Committee shall consult the membership by way of ballot vote in order to determine which course of industrial action shall be taken to bring this matter to a successful

conclusion'. The policy would create 22,000 new jobs, rising to more than 100,000 by 1980.

The successful resolution, which is outside the terms of the government's wage limits, was a kick in the teeth for NUM president Joe Gormley. But he will do all he can to manoeuvre the right-wing majority on the executive into sabotaging the claim.

Delegates had earlier given

a snub to the executive when they voted against its wishes by 177 votes to 96 for the immediate implementation of a fourth week's annual holiday. The result, however, was confused by the passing of another resolution calling on the executive merely to press the claim for four weeks' annual holiday.

By voting so determinedly for the resolutions on retirement and holidays which are

forbidden by the wage freeze, delegates gave expression to the growing rank and file frustration at the erosion of wages and conditions caused by the Labour government.

Stern warnings were given by Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire delegates of the results of the implementation of a Coal Board plan to level out the amount of concessionary coal given to miners by taking some away

from certain areas.

Frank Cave, delegate from Brodsworth colliery near Doncaster issued an ultimatum to Gormley and his friends: 'If a single cobble of coal is taken from the Yorkshire miners we shall take industrial action.'

On the final day of conference, delegates passed unanimously a resolution urging the whole Trade Union Movement to oppose, at every step, any effort by the National Front to infiltrate democratic bodies, and further calls upon the Government to outlaw this evil organisation.

Arthur Scargill, president of the Yorkshire NUM, argued so forcefully for the banning of the fascists that much to his surprise not a single 'moderate' stood up to plead for freedom of speech for fascists.

Hope

Conference also passed unanimously a resolution in support of all men demanding the right to work'. One delegate said that he hoped it also included women.

Sadly missing from the resolution, however, were concrete proposals for how this should be done.

THE COLLIER, the rank and file miners' paper, is publishing a full report and analysis of the conference. Its next issue, due out on 16 July, also exposes a racket in which South Wales miners are being conned into paying up to £200 more than they should for central heating. 5p, plus postage, from The Collier, 38 Abbey Lane, Cundy Cross, Barnsley, South Yorks.

Why the dustmen lost

CUMBERNAULD: The dustmen's strike is over.

It ended in defeat last Friday when they agreed to accept a £5 a week cut in bonus pay and a £400 lump sum payment for clearing the backlog of rubbish which had built-up during the eight week strike.

The determination of the 80 dustmen to resist the Scottish National Party-dominated Council's attack on their living standards was impressive.

But the local fulltime union officials from the General and Municipal and the Transport and General Workers unions were not prepared to have the strike made official.

Instead, they isolated the strikers and pressurised them back to work.

Claim

The dustmen claim that two weeks ago Hugh Wyper, TGWU full-time District Secretary and member of the Communist Party, told them that the District Committee were sympathetic and would make the strike official.

The next day, the TGWU denied this and a few days later Wyper was proposing a compromise offer for a return to work.

The strike was provoked by the SNP Council and throughout they have shown a ruthless disregard for the living standards of the workers they employ and the services they are supposed to provide.

The lessons of the strike and the role of the SNP have not been lost on workers in the West of Scotland.

STRIKE FOR SAFETY 1000 BATTLE ON...

KENT: The battle for the right to work in safety at the Isle of Grain power station site is now in its fifth week.

1,000 construction workers are on strike in support of safe working conditions. The strike began when the employers, Babcock and Wilcox, sacked six men on the spot for refusing to work without protective clothing in boiler rooms lagged with hazardous fibreglass. Two others who also refused to work without protection were sacked.

All sacked

Babcock and Wilcox went on to sack all 1,000 strikers, mainly members of the construction section of the Engineering Union.

As Socialist Worker reported last week, Babcock's policy toes the line of the powerful Engineering Employers' Federation: the so-called 'right to manage'. For Grain workers, this means smashing shop-floor organisation in order to risk life and limb in pursuit of profit.

Safety committee launched

THE NEWLY-FORMED South Essex Health and Safety Committee met for the first time last week.

17 trade unionists from the transport workers, the public employers' union, the fire brigades union, the shop workers union and the white collar union ASTMS discussed how to help fight for safety at work in the area. They agreed to build up a directory of infor-

mation on dangerous materials, treatments and possible preventions, available to all local workplaces.

Transport workers are being approached so that dangerous materials can be effectively blocked.

The meeting also collected £4.50 towards the cost of the campaign against the National Front in the Thurrock by-election.

Information about the committee and

details of the next meeting from: Paul Tharby, 60 The Rundels, Benfleet, Essex.

Health and Safety at Work schools are organised by the Rank and File Organising Committee in different parts of the country.

If you would like to organise one in your area, write to Roger Cox, 214 Roundwood Road, London NW10. Phone 01-451 0739.

This was clearly shown when negotiations broke down last Friday. Babcocks were told by the Factory Inspector that conditions were a hazard and overalls should be provided.

Shop stewards rightly insisted that the employer must pay for protective clothing. Babcocks have refused and

are taking advice from their legal counsel, none other than Tory backwoodsman Quintin Hogg. And if Hogg is insolent enough to tell his business friends to pay up, then Babcocks have another card up their sleeves. They have stated that there will be no reinstatement unless bonus

Overtime ban to create jobs

By Anne Robertson, ASTMS steward

MANCHESTER: Members of the health workers union, COHSE, have banned overtime to force management to employ more people.

The ban includes nursing staff, ancillaries and domestics. In one ward alone, more than 100 hours of overtime were being worked—enough to create three jobs.

The action has the full backing of the North Manchester General Joint Shop Stewards Committee. COHSE workers at Springfield have appealed to other workers to follow their lead.

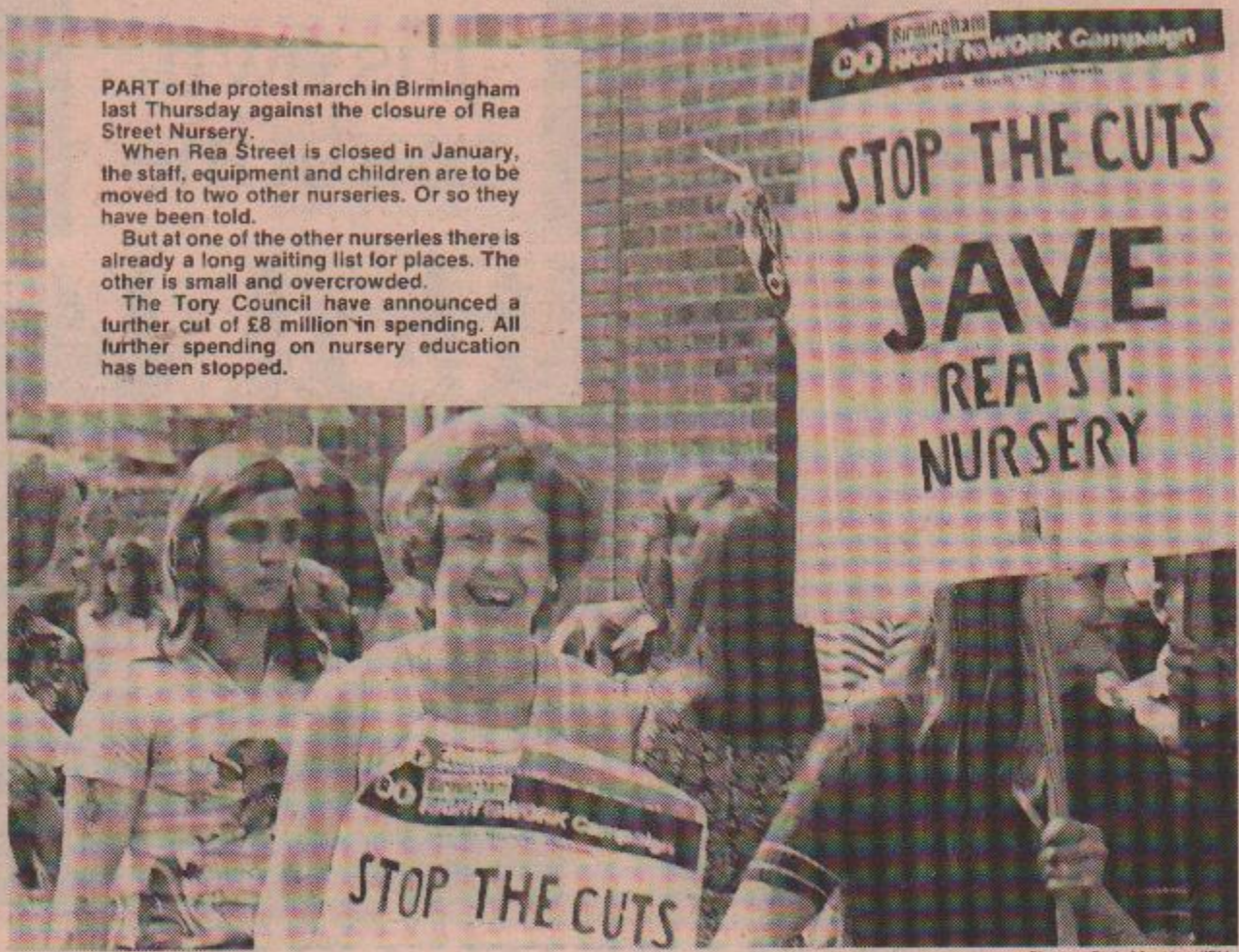
Physiotherapists at the same hospital are working to rule to protest about abominable staffing levels.

A ONE-MAN STRIKE

CHARLES NEVILLE, a school caretaker, shut down Portchester School in Portsmouth for one day by padlocking the gates and announcing he was on strike.

This was the first step in a campaign by his union, NUPE, to fight wage cuts of up to £2.50 a week.

So far, 30 schools have been stopped for one day across Hampshire.



PART of the protest march in Birmingham last Thursday against the closure of Rea Street Nursery.

When Rea Street is closed in January, the staff, equipment and children are to be moved to two other nurseries. Or so they have been told.

But at one of the other nurseries there is already a long waiting list for places. The other is small and overcrowded.

The Tory Council has announced a further cut of £8 million in spending. All further spending on nursery education has been stopped.

BOOST FOR HOSPITAL CAMPAIGN

THE SAVE Acton Hospital Campaign, begun by the West London Hospital Worker, has won the first round of the battle.

Acton is threatened with being changed from a general to a psychiatric or geriatric hospital, with a drastic cut in services and a big loss of jobs.

People in Acton would be

shoved into Hammersmith Hospital, which is already closed half the time to all admission.

The Area Health Authority came up with a new plan which threatened both Hammersmith and Acton.

At the Area Health Authority meeting called to discuss this, all the shop stewards from Acton and

Hammersmith, with support from other workers in the area, filled the public gallery and made our opposition to the plan clear.

Under pressure from our shouting, the new plan was defeated by 13 votes to 11. We are now going on to fight the other threat to Acton, and all cuts and redundancies at Hammersmith.

Picture: Path Mazelan (IFL)

1000 walk out at EEV

ESSEX: 1000 Engineering Union members at the English Electric Valve factories in Chelmsford and Maldon staged two walk-outs last week in protest at management attempts to trick them out of a pay rise.

EEV is part of the giant GEC group, which only a few days before had announced a £45 million increase in profits to a record £207 million.

The dispute hinges on varying interpretations of the government's pay rules.

AUEW members at EEV agreed last year to a three-phase pay agreement, which included the consolidation of a £2.04 bonus payment.

But now management are trying to say the bonus must be offset against this year's £6 increase.

And they appear to have Department of Employment officials on their side.

When the shop stewards committee went to the DoE in May, an official called Hawkins assured them that the payment did not need to be offset.

Changed

Then, two weeks later, after 'communications' with EEV management, he mysteriously changed his mind.

Undeterred, the stewards battled on. Last week they invaded AUEW headquarters in South London to demand support.

And then they went on to GEC offices in Stanhope Gate to confront Sir Arnold Weinstock.

Weinstock—who claims 'my door is always open'—kept it firmly shut. But his number two was forced to meet a delegation.

The outcome was another meeting as Socialist Worker was going to press.

Whatever the result, the EEV workers have shown they are not going to let GEC ride roughshod over them.

We've had enough!

MANCHESTER: Staff at the ASDA superstore in the hated Moss-side shopping precinct have had about all they can take.

Last week it was so hot in the store that several bottles blew up and butter from the fridge was like oil. Yet the radiator in the women's toilet was full on.

After a day of fruitless negotiations, most of the staff walked out.

'We are overworked already,' one worker explained. 'There are supposed to be 57 people working in this store. But even on a Saturday there's only about 20 or so.'

'We get people coming every day for jobs. But management turn them away. They take several thousand pounds a day. Yet our average pay is only £30.'

The staff won fans for the canteen and office. But they still have to fight for fans for the cash office and a cooling system for the shop floor where the heat can be stifling.

Victimized

REDDITCH: Two office workers have been sacked by C Relfs for being active trade unionists.

And their colleagues—members of TASS, the white-collar section of Engineering Union—have come out on unofficial strike in support of them.

Messages of support and donations to C Lomas, AUEW/TASS, AUEW House, Smallbrook Ringway, Birmingham.

SUNBLEST BOSSES BACK DOWN

STOCKPORT: The Sunblest bakery strike is over. It resulted in victory for the Bakers Union.

Within hours last week of the strike being made official, and of threats to spread it throughout the company, management were forced to swallow their pride and meet the bakers stewards.

They had previously refused to meet until the strikers had returned to work. They had

been confident that they could starve them back to their machines with production kept going by a 'rent a scab' team.

Until the strike was made official, most other workers at the plant, van drivers and craftsmen, had continued working.

But with the nationwide ABF strike call, they began to honour the pickets. A few

hours later, the plant was silent except for the manager's phone frantically ringing London.

The strikers have returned to work on a status quo basis, with the management withdrawing their 'fines' which together with the breaking of a shift patterns agreement led to the strike.

The management have pledged to honour the shift

agreement in full.

Despite this pledge, the workers are wary and will be observing the implementation of the deal closely.

The strike committee all attended the National Council for the Right to Work Campaign in Manchester on Saturday and told the meeting:

'In the past, bakers have accepted the dictates of the ABF. We have shown that

times have changed and that we are now a force to be reckoned with.

'We would like to record our thanks to the Stockport Right to Work Committee, which gave us a lot of help during the strike.

'Now that we've won, it's our turn to offer our support to you. We are only too happy to say, if you need any help, let us know.'

Avery Hardell sit-in

HAMPSHIRE: 160 Engineering Union members have occupied their factory—Avery Hardell in Leigh Havant—after management suspended them for taking sanctions.

The occupation is the latest stage in a long-standing dispute over the position of workers in a new pump section.

Shop stewards say men who should be in skilled work have been classified as semi-skilled.

When the first stage of the dispute procedure broke down the workers stopped mobility of labour.

They refused to take part in stocktaking, which is outside their normal work. Management then suspended all 160 workers.

The workforce are determined to win and are manning picket lines 24 hours a day.

Unfortunately TASS members are scabbing.

Messages of support and donations to: John Lancaster, 58/60 Middle St, Southsea, Portsmouth, Hants.



On the picket line at Trico in Brentford, West London, where scab lorries are still being used to break through the picket during the night. The 400 women on strike for equal pay have received a big boost for their struggle. Ford convenors have agreed to black the windscreen wipers made at the firm. Last week a delegation went to a Trico factory in Northampton. Even though the Northampton plant is not fully unionised, they received a warm reception. Women even came out during their tea break to meet the strikers.

The nine-week strike has been made official by the Engineering Union, but money is still desperately needed.

Send donations and messages of support to Trico Strike committee, c/o Southall AUEW District, 1 Woodlands Road, Southall, Middlesex.

Donations to the ICL strike, c/o AUEW Offices, The Crescent, Salford, Lancs.

ICL: Is it Chrysler all over again?

MANCHESTER: 700 electricians and wiremen in the EETPU are breaking a TGWU and AUEW picket line at ICL in West Gorton.

60 EETPU members are even carrying out the jobs of the strikers under the leadership of the EETPU convenor, super scab Sammy Davis, MBE.

How many convenors do you know with the MBE, awarded for services to management?

50 fitters in the Engineering Union have been on strike for nine weeks, joined by TGWU members and six EETPU members. The strike is against management's introduction of 100 per cent flexibility.

Davis and the management claim this was agreed to in the 1970 agreement. This is totally untrue.

Severe

The dispute has many similarities to the 1973 Chrysler electricians dispute when AUEW and TGWU members were instructed to cross the official EETPU picket lines at the Stoke plant.

The result was a severe weakening of trade union organisation in Chrysler. The same could well happen at ICL.

The National Right to Work Council has called for a special effort to be made to help the ICL strikers. Campaign secretary John Deason said:

'All trade unionists should support this dispute. It is a fundamental question of trade union principle that we do not allow these scabs inside the factory to get away with it.'

The Right to Work Campaign has issued special appeal sheets, available from 265a Seven Sisters Rd, London N.4.

Donations to the ICL strike, c/o AUEW Offices, The Crescent, Salford, Lancs.

ARRESTED AT GUNPOINT

By Eamonn McCann

DUBLIN: A few weeks ago two members of the Unemployed Workers Action Committee were arrested at gunpoint by Special Branch detectives while handing out leaflets at Navan Labour Exchange.

They were taken to the local police barracks, stripped naked and warned to be 'more careful in future'.

They were released ten hours later.

The incident was a timely reminder that the authorities here will not hesitate to use laws 'to deal with terrorists' against rank and file workers' organisations.

Such incidents are likely to multiply in the coming months. If Britain has economic problems, Southern Ireland is a disaster area. Unemployment is at 10.2 per cent, the highest in the Common Market, and rising.

Inflation roars ahead at 18 per cent with food, fuel and transport costs bearing the brunt. Calls for swingeing cuts in public spending echo those from across the water.

Until a fortnight ago, government strategy was centred on the national wage agreement, the local version of the social contract. But delegates to a special conference of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions—reflecting widespread rank and file disillusion with the coalition—rejected the agreement by a narrow majority.

Now many Fine Gael ministers have called for a full-blooded statutory wage freeze. Already a move to freeze the pay of bank officials, now in the fourth week of a national strike, has been rushed through the Dail (parliament) with Labour Party support.

LINKED

Members of the Socialist Workers Movement have been involved in meetings to form shop stewards committees in Dublin, Galway and Waterford, arguing that the economic issues must be linked to the struggle against repression and for the rights of political prisoners.

As the crisis deepens, the state itself certainly makes less and less distinction between 'political subversives' and 'economic subversives'.

The laws drawn up to 'protect the public from the IRA' are now used to protect the system from the working class. The lesson is worth noting—and not just in Ireland.

Nottingham radio lock-out

NOTTINGHAM: 20 broadcasters at Radio Trent have been locked out.

Since the journalists and DJs organised, there has been a series of short but bitter clashes.

A 48-hour strike forced the management's industrial relations committee—led by USDAW executive member Sidney Williams—to sign national wages and conditions agreements for both unions.

The final straw came in the wake of a letter from the Department of Employment backing the management claim that the settlement was outside the government's pay norm.

The angry chapels called a joint mandatory meeting and took over the station's main

studio complex. Management took a hard line. They locked the protesters in, refused them access to food, water, and adequate toilet facilities, and transferred broadcasting to a makeshift studio.

The occupation ended after 30 hours with assurances that the pay agreement would be implemented, if possible, and that there would be no victimisations.

The members tried to return to work on Monday but were locked out. Management insisted on individual guarantees about future conduct. Both unions refused. John Kiddey, spokesman for the National Union of Journalists, explained: 'We have tried bargaining with this

management but they won't listen. They make promises and then ride roughshod over them. Confrontation is the only thing they understand.'

Messages of support and donations: phone John Kiddey, Nottingham 602272.

CRICKLEWOOD VICTORY

WORKERS at Cricklewood bus garage have won their week-long strike against filthy toilet conditions.

Since London Transport management took the lavatory attendant off the job last year, conditions had got increasingly foul with the smell reaching the canteen and street outside. Members were solid behind

TGWU rep Freddie Byrne, despite management attempts at organising a strike-breaking force at the end of last week.

Willesden and other local garages refused to run services over Cricklewood's routes, and delegation from the garage called for similar support at Victoria, Stockwell, Peckham and Norwood.

Orlakes menace

DAGENHAM: The strike for union recognition by 150 women at Orlakes has been going on for 12 weeks.

The women are demanding recognition of the Transport Workers Union and the reinstatement of three victimised members.

Conditions at the factory are appalling. The women were on 53p an hour.

As the strikers' leaflet says: 'Cheap female labour is a menace to all workers, men or women, and we believe our struggle will benefit all women.'

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RDL jobs battle grows

By Bill Brown

A PUBLIC conference in Methil, Fife declared its support on Saturday for the setting up of a community action committee to fight redundancies due at Redpath Dorman Long oil rig construction site in November.

Shop stewards committees present included GEC, Haig's Whiskey, National Steel and Balfour's.

All speakers referred to the

disastrous effect of 600 lay-offs in an area where the male unemployment rate is already 11.6 per cent.

But there was little sign from either MPs or trade union officials present of any willingness to put up a real fight for the jobs, apart from the usual deputations to ministers at Westminster. In general, their message

was that if the workers were 'responsible' and kept to the agreement on bonus, overtime and float-out dates, this would 'impress oil companies about to order new rigs'.

Jim Murray, of the Boiler-makers executive, said that the workers should think about offering the company 'a strike-free period'.

The best speech came in the summing-up by J McHugh, shop steward and secretary of the action committee.

Stating that no lay-offs would be accepted, he referred to some of the experiences and tactics of the struggle at UCS.

He saw the conference as the start of a campaign which would have to extend to the rest of Scotland and probably to the UK.

'Multinationals recognise no barriers or borders', he said.

The conference was a success in taking the campaign to the local community. The first meeting of the action committee was planned for Wednesday.

Crawled

But it is clear that the MPs and full-time officials do not want to be part of the real fight for these jobs.

They will not use the main weapon the workers have—the rigs, platforms and jackets now being built.

The rank and file workers must organise within the action committee if possible, and dare to use that weapon, the fight is to be won.

'CALL IN ARMY' THREAT TO LONDON FIREMEN

TWENTY-NINE of London's 116 fire stations are now at a halt. Another 30 to 40 are working well below strength.

For five weeks, London's firemen have been taking sanctions against the Greater London Council.

The Council have refused to negotiate. On a number of occasions, they have even arranged meetings and then failed to turn up.

Already there are rumours that the army might intervene against the firemen.

This, it is being said, is necessary to prevent fires, particularly in wooden areas in the hot weather.

Reason

The real reason has nothing to do with preventing jobs. The army would be used to break the firemen's action.

The Tory Government sent the army into Glasgow in an effort to break a firemen's strike there.

That time they failed. But the GLC are ready to try it again.

If the GLC are worried about the state of the fire service, they should drop some of their plans for London's firemen.

They want to get rid of 2000 out of 5500 jobs.

At the same time, they are refusing to grant London



Four of the people arrested after the march against racism on Sunday. They were charged with threatening behaviour and assault under the Race Relations Act! Full story—see page 2.

weighting to ordinary firemen. The officers were given it weeks ago backdated to July 1975.

The GLC will not discuss new disciplinary procedures and they are refusing to discuss any reduction in the working week from 48 hours to 40.

Instead, they want to introduce a shift system on the same pattern as the police shifts.

As Paul Franklin, a fireman from the Stoke Newington Station, told Socialist Worker, the effect of this would be to drive more firemen into other jobs.

'It would be impossible for some of our members coming from Ilford or Northampton to work on that sort of shift'.

While the GLC hides behind a lot of rhetoric about the importance of the fire service and the irresponsibility of firemen taking industrial action, their plans will result in a far smaller and less effective service.

It is the firemen's action that is saving the fire service from being slashed back in another round of cuts.

Murdered—by the James White gang

PAM SLATER desperately needed an abortion.

She went to her doctor. But he told her she was 'on the border line' for a legal abortion.

She could not afford the private nursing homes of Harley Street.

So she paid £40 to a backstreet abortionist in Finsbury Park, North London.

She got an abortion all

right—from the stem of a plastic flower which was used to inject soap and water into her.

She screamed with pain—and later died in hospital at the age of 23.

The backstreet abortionist was sentenced this week to seven years in prison.

But the real murderers, those who forced Pam Slater to go to the back streets, have gone free.

These inhuman hypocrites have spent the last two years doing their utmost to make it impossible for Pam Slater and women like her to get free, legal and safe abortions.

No doubt, as they sit on the House of Commons committee on James White's Abortion Bill, working out how to make legal abortion still more difficult, they will be congratulating themselves on how they killed Pam Slater.

Overseas students bombshell

By Lindsay German

THE GOVERNMENT dropped a bombshell last week on every overseas student.

Their fees—at present three times the level of home students—are to be raised to a massive £650 a year.

Education Minister Fred Mulley has tried to disguise the racialism involved in this move by saying that all student fees are to be raised to this level.

But at the same time he declared that most home students will get their fees paid automatically by local councils. So it is overseas students who are hit.

Mulley's racism is revealed even more blatantly by another move, announced at the same time.

A 'quota' system is to operate to make sure that the number of overseas students does not rise. This is pure racial discrimination.

The government is hiding behind the pretence that overseas students have to pay an 'economic contribution' towards their education. But this is the same concept as the 'economic rent' for council housing—it involves paying for the vast sums given as interest payment to moneylenders.

Absurd

The 'economic' argument is shown to be absurd by one side-effect of Mulley's new scheme.

The parents of a select group of home students will benefit from it—those whose incomes are so high that they have to subsidise their children's college fees.

Now the state will automatically pay the fees for them.

Mulley is taking money out of overseas students, whether rich or poor, to give to rich British parents.

Finally, there is one group of home students who will suffer—those who have been refused the so-called 'discretionary awards' by their local authorities and who have to pay their fees themselves.

Like many overseas students, many will be forced to give up their studies.

Socialists should oppose this latest scheme of the Labour government and demand instead that education, at any level, be free as a right. An Overseas Students Coordinating Committee has been forced to campaign nationally for a link-up of all overseas student groups, committees and activists.

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TWO MILLION OUT IN AUSSIE GENERAL STRIKE

TWO MILLION trade unionists joined Australia's first official one-day general strike on Monday.

They were protesting at the plans of the recently elected right-wing government of Malcolm Fraser to wreck the proposed national health service, the

Medibank.

At present it costs about £5 just to visit a doctor and another £1 for simple medicines.

The Medibank was designed to be a national system which all workers would contribute 1½ per cent of their wages to finance.

Now the government plans to allow private medicine to flourish. The Medibank will

aim to deal with poorer patients only.

These will be offered second class service.

Meanwhile, the families who can afford to pay £7.50 a week to insurance companies will be able to get privileged access to doctors and hospitals.

The philosophy behind the scheme is that of 'cutting public expenditure'—the same

philosophy Healey is trying to impose on us.

The official leaders of the unions at first seemed prepared to let the government get away with it. The head of the Australian TUC, Robert Hawke, began by opposing calls for a general strike.

Forced

But key groups of workers went ahead last month without him. Hawke was forced to call Monday's general strike.

The British press has claimed that Monday's strike was 'not effective' because about half the white-collar workers and some small factories kept working.

But two million workers struck, roughly the equivalent to nine million in Britain.

2000 JOBS THREATENED

By Socialist Worker supporters, Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre, Swansea

Times.

This is all part of the attempt to cut back jobs in the civil service by any means possible.

A mass meeting was called in response to the threat by the civil service unions involved, the CPSA, the CSU and the SCS.

Nearly all 5000 members attended, and messages of support were received from other civil servant trade union bodies.

Further meetings are to be held to discuss further action.

TWO THOUSAND jobs are at risk at the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre at Swansea. A further 1000 jobs promised for the future are to be scrapped.

This will be the effect of the government's plan to put up the price of petrol by at least 20p a gallon and to scrap the £40 a year road tax. The plan was reported in the Financial