

# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 10p.

# SOS

Save your paper!

CLIVE JENKINS, general secretary of the white-collar workers' union ASTMS, and Mr Justice Melford Stevenson have dealt the Socialist Worker a dreadful blow. A libel action, brought by Jenkins and supervised by Stevenson, the most reactionary judge on the bench, has been lost.

We are ordered to pay £3,100 damages to Jenkins and his union. And we will have to pay another £7000 in legal costs.

The sums are  
 Damages: £3,100  
 ASTMS costs (est) £4,200  
 Our costs: (est) £2,400

TOTAL £9,700

If we can't pay this soon, Jenkins and his lawyers will be after our printing press: the heartbeat of our organisation and of numerous other rank and file and political papers. In other words, the libel action has struck at the root of our ability to publish, and at the advance of the Socialist Workers Party.

### Confidence

It comes at a time when sky-rocketing costs, especially of the paper we print on, were already restricting the work of our printshop.

On the other hand it comes at a time when the confidence and enthusiasm of our party is higher than for many years—and when the need for a socialist printshop has never been greater.

Jenkins sued us for a satirical article written by Laurie Flynn which we published two years ago when the fascist General Franco still ruled in Spain. It was written in protest against the scandalous decision of ASTMS and Jenkins to sponsor cheap holidays for trade unionists in Spain.

It took the form of a 'spoof' advertisement from Jenkins which pretended to offer trips round Spanish jails and offer ringside seats at the garrotting of socialist militants.

### Ludicrous

Jenkins complained that this could have been taken as a real advertisement!

This ludicrous view was shared by the judge, who told the jury that 'facts falsely stated' did not allow a defence of fair comment. The judge spent the entire trial displaying his bias against us, refusing to listen when we put our case, making snide jokes about the paper, and grovelling to Jenkins' lawyer.

He refused to allow us to tell the jury about an article in the Times Diary which had reprinted part of our spoof advertisement about the garrottings.

Jenkins had threatened to sue the Times as well. But he dropped that action when the Times legal director wrote back refusing an apology and stating that the sentence about the garrottings was satirical, not libellous.

The jury could not hear this, but they were allowed to hear about our apology to Frank Chapple for

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# LEYLAND: WHAT WE ARE STRIKING FOR

**GOVERNMENT, press and television have launched vicious attacks on several thousand toolroom workers in 11 Leyland factories.**

The workers are accused of 'holding the company to ransom', of causing it 'to bleed to death', of wanting to 'put themselves above' other workers.

What is their real crime? They have gone on strike.

**On strike** against the renewal of the Social Contract in August.

**On strike** for parity between those in the worst-paid factories with those in other factories who can earn up to £40 a week more.

**On strike** for the right to negotiate for themselves now a deal for when Phase Two ends in August.

### Forefront

Socialist Worker asked one of the strike leaders, John Sheldon, a toolroom steward at Tractors and Transmissions plant in Birmingham, to explain what their case really is.

'We've had Phase One and Phase Two. Before that we had the Heath government's freeze—and at the end we're worse off. All the sacrifice by workers has made no difference.'

'We've given them notice that we don't intend to have another Phase.'

'A young lad, married with two children, in our toolroom would be on £66.26. After deductions he would be well down below £50.'

'If he's got a mortgage, that can cost up to £25 a week. That leaves him £25 to pay rates, lights, HP, food.'

'And toolroom workers in Longbridge get £3 a week less than us.'

**Is it a strike directed against other workers?**

'Some people say it's about differentials between toolroom workers and other workers. I don't. The differentials are not going to alter without the agreement of the whole workforce.'

'We've got to improve the situation of

Whatever we get in this fight, production workers are going to get as well. Everyone else can then get it

everyone, not just of toolmakers.

'The toolmakers feel that if they got together, management would have to recognise their negotiating rights. But management know that if they recognise the toolmakers, they will have to recognise other groups.'

'In no way do we want to restrict other workers from their rights. Remember there's a £40 gap between the lowest paid and the highest paid toolmakers in British Leyland. That's the gap we are concerned with.'

'Some of the toolroom workers do regard us as more skilled. But I've been a convenor representing all classes of workers. For the majority, the question of differentials is very low down on the scales.'

'Other workers are in the same boat as us. Their wages are being held down. But the people who represent them are ignoring pickets, calling toolroom workers everything.'

'Our strike is for no more pay policy. We want to negotiate from August.'

'Our fight is not a reaction against other workers. It's not reactionary. The press have made a big play of differentials.'

'Whatever we get in this fight, production workers are going to get as well. Everyone else can then get it as well and fall in line.'

'We're in the forefront of it. Someone has to take up the cudgels.'

**The government say you are threatening the future of Leyland.**

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Dave Evans (IFL)

**WE BUILD PRINCESS CARS FOR MINI WAGES** — a Leyland worker's placard puts it in a nutshell. Meanwhile Leyland managers have been getting free petrol for their private motoring for the past 10 months in a secret Social Contract-busting agreement.

**STOP THE DEPORTATIONS**

Defend Agee and Hosenball: Demonstration Saturday 5 March, assemble Charing Cross Embankment, 1pm. Full details, pages 8-9

All SWP branches and members in London and the Home Counties to support with SWP banners.

# British Leyland

From page one

The government say you are threatening the future of Leyland.

'Varley, the Industry Minister, is using the bogey on us again that we're threatening the future of the company. They're trying to frighten us into submission.'

'Now we want a viable car industry. We pay taxes and it's our money going into Leyland as much as anybody's else.'

'But what price do workers have to pay? Are we going to have to submit to the dictates of government and management every time we want a decent wage?'

'It's tantamount to this. If we bow to their threats again, we're never going to get the wages we need.'

'We had a dispute this time last year over the same problem. Every time workers put legitimate claims, the management refer to the Social Contract. But they don't say the same when it comes to perks for the corporate grades.'

'They use the same argument against any group of workers that takes action. Look at Chrysler. Huge profits in the US, but paper losses in Britain.'

What has been the response of the union officials?

The officials of the union say the toolmakers have a case. But they refuse to do anything about it.

'This gives the press the chance to attack the strike and say it's unofficial. But the majority of strikes are unofficial.'

'The executive of the union are to blame for trying to split

toolroom workers from other workers. Scanlon won't support the strike, but he says differentials are missing out.'

'They don't talk about wages because they're tied hand and foot to the Social Contract.'

'Toolroom workers won't listen to officials like the district secretary, Benson, and the district organiser elect, Jordon. They have cut themselves off from the shop floor. They only repeat what we've heard from Scanlon and Duffy.'

Can you get support from other workers?

'Derek Robinson, chairman of the Leyland convenors' committee, was quite happy about the Social Contract and participation until his members on the shop floor insisted he changed his attitude.'

'If anything comes of opposition to the Social Contract in Leyland, it depends on our fight.'

'We can get support from outside the toolroom. But we have to get the message across. The management have done a job through the media in isolating us.'

'Many toolroom workers think we have to persuade other people to support us. But they've not engaged in struggle before. They have to learn to get the message across.'

'Leyland want to keep the wages of all workers down, to divide us factory versus factory. That's why they are so concerned to break the toolroom workers' strike.'



Strikers in Lalouviere in Belgium last Friday who took part in strikes that paralysed the railways, other public services and the steel industry.

Like workers in Britain, they have been protesting at wage controls, rising prices and unemployment. The protests have brought together French and Flemish-speaking workers in the biggest wave of united action since the general strike of 1961.

They will have gained heart from the success of workers in neighbouring Holland. Dutch workers have forced employers to concede increases which more than keep ahead of price increases.

# Phil Agee - it's a well-trod road...

SOCIALISTS and liberals campaign rightly against the deportation of Philip Agee and Mark Hosenball. But about 100 Irish men have been deported from Britain in the past two years by even less democratic means.

Like Agee and Hosenball they were not told the charges against them.

But unlike Agee and Hosenball they were arrested and held in prison until the farcical Home Office Tribunal reported. They had to appear before the tribunal alone and were not allowed to call witnesses.

This happened under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, introduced in the hysterical aftermath of the Birmingham bombing of November 1974 and due to come up for renewal on 27 March.

Many of those deported have clearly had no connection with 'terrorism'. Some

by EAMONN McCANN

were members of Clan na hEireann, the British branch of the Official Republican Movement, which follows the Communist Party line on Ireland and unconditionally opposes the Provos. Others had merely taken part in demonstrations. All returned to Northern or southern Ireland 'marked men'. Most had to leave jobs. Some had to uproot families who had been brought up in



Britain—even though none had been convicted of anything.

In a report published at the weekend the National Council for Civil Liberties drew attention to the use of the Act for the questioning of people whose sole connection with terrorism appears to be the fact that they come from Northern Ireland.

Says the report: 'No less than three official sports delegations have been arrested under the Act... others who have been detained and questioned include a Labour parliamentary candidate and two Community Service volunteers'.

The operation of the PTA has been as clear an example of legalised racism as any of the Immigration Acts. It has had little to do with preventing terrorism and everything to do with buying off the anti-Irish bigotry encouraged by Tory politicians of both parties and the gutter press.

It is the clear and unmistakable duty of British socialists to ensure that it is not renewed without a fight.

**DAVID WALTER SCOTT**, a soldier with the First Cheshire Regiment, was convicted in court in Belfast on Monday of 'unlawfully killing Jimmy Gallagher'.

Scott shot Jimmy dead while he was sitting on a bus as it passed the Fort George army camp in Derry last April.

Scott was sentenced to five years in prison. If he serves any of his sentence he will be the first soldier to do so even after being found guilty of killing an innocent civilian.

And if he does serve any time, he will undoubtedly apply for a transfer to a British jail—just as Irish prisoners are doing in the other direction and being refused.

No secrets as to the response of Home Secretary Merlyn Rees in Scott's case.

**FOUR** women chained themselves to the railings outside Downing Street on Tuesday in protest at the ending of political status for prisoners in Long Kesh and Crumlin Road jails.

The four were arrested. They were relatives of men imprisoned in Northern Ireland and had travelled to London for a day of protest organised by the Relatives Action Committee.

**LEGALISED TERROR—THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM ACT:** A new pamphlet, written by Steve Berry (SWP Irish committee), 10p a copy (plus 8p postage) from SW Distributors, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2. More than 10 copies, post free.

## Putting the screws on the fascists

**TWO HUNDRED** people picketed the main gate of Strangeways Prison in Manchester on Saturday following evidence of National Front organisation among prison officers. The leading National Front officer in Strangeways is a Mr Baldwin.

The picket organised by Manchester SWP, was supported by Flame, Bolton Asian Youth Organisation, the Overseas Students Action Group and other black student groups.

### Leaflets

Leaflets were handed out to people visiting prisoners explaining that the National Front presence in the prison means a worsening of conditions for all prisoners. Harassment of National Front harassment of black people was cited.

The prison governor attempted to alienate prisoners from the picket by cutting visiting time.



THIS appalling picture has not found its way into any of the newspapers that usually delight in Rhodesian massacre stories. The reason is simple. This wasn't a massacre which could be blamed on the freedom fighters. This is the white racist Rhodesians boasting about what they do to freedom fighters.

Yet murders such as these at Marandellas are going on every week. They stay unreported because the men with wealth and power in the boardrooms of British newspapers and the controlling offices of British TV stations are only too anxious to look after their revolting kith and kin in Salisbury, Rhodesia.

# POLAND? NO, IT'S NOT SOCIALIST

**ONE** of the most prominent of Poland's old Communist militants has issued a strong and totally uncompromising public statement outlining his reasons as a revolutionary socialist for opposing the East European tyrannies.

Jan Wyka was a prominent member of the Polish Communist Party when it was

dissolved in 1938 by Stalin in one of his purges.

Wyka fought in the International Brigades in Spain. He was a member of the central committee of the party at the time of the liberation. He was expelled from it in 1957 for advocating workers' control.

Wyka has circulated his statement to the Polish press as a specific declaration of solidarity with the Czech dissident movement, Charter 77.

But on top of this Wyka goes on to make a clear statement of his position on the Stalinist states.

His position is that these are state capitalist societies ruled by a class which controls the means of production through the mechanism of a so-called communist party.

Wyka's position is one the Socialist Workers Party is proud to share.

Here are some extracts from his statement:

'I have protested against the designation of our system as socialist and the designation of the party (the ruling Polish United Workers Party) as a party representing the interests of the workers.'

'For me this system is a state capitalist system, the Polish United Workers Party being the organ of the class in power, controlling the means of production and the riches of the country.'

It is this which, Wyka states, 'produces a permanent tension and the diverse forms of the class struggle, right up to the profound crisis of October 1956, the Baltic events of 1970 and the strikes of June 1976.'

Wyka's statement also spells out the socialist alternative to state capitalism. 'The construction of workers' and peasants' councils area

and at every level right up to the central level is therefore a necessity,' he writes.

The statement closes with a demand for a total amnesty for political prisoners, an indication that there is considerable support for his position, and a declaration of solidarity with all the other oppressed peoples of Eastern Europe.



**SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY RALLY FOR BLACK SOCIALISTS**

We're black and we're fighting back: against racism, against police harassment, against the deportations, against the cuts, and for the socialist revolution. Come to the rally, join the struggle.

**SATURDAY 30 APRIL**

Full details from (phone 01-739 1878).

JOIN THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

Name

Address

Trade union

Please send me more information

Send to: National Secretary  
Socialist Workers Party, 6 Cottons  
Gardens, London E2 6DH

WHAT WE THINK

WHO BENEFITS from workers' sacrifices under the Social Contract?

Even official statistics can't hide the answer any longer. In February, 59 industrial companies published their annual reports. Pre-tax profits were up 33.8 per cent. Dividends—that's money paid out for nothing simply because people have shares in those companies—went up by even more: 34.2 per cent. £80 million was paid out in dividends.

That's enough to build and staff four new hospitals, or five new schools. It's enough to pay every worker in every one of those 59 companies a wage increase of at least £12 a week! And that doesn't include the banks or the insurance companies. Lloyds Bank, for instance, report profits up by 55 per cent—and Barclays are up from £142 million to an astonishing £197 million.

It's interest payments to the banks that is pushing up council rents—and eating up Leyland's £81 million profit. Lloyds and Barclays paid out £33 million last year to their shareholders. Not content with these huge hand-outs, however, the rich are screaming for more. They are putting pressure on the Labour government to 'relax' dividend restraint. And, at the same time, they are searching for all sorts of new schemes to get the money which they have stored up from frozen wages and sackings into the pockets of their shareholders.

WHO SAYS 'THE COUNTRY' CAN'T AFFORD IT?

ANSWER: The rich (dividends last month—£80,000,000)

Listen to the Daily Telegraph for 1 March: 'Companies must thus fall back on their own ingenuity in seeking loopholes in present legislation. Freddie Wood of Croda pioneered the 'cheap' rights issue, enabling a higher than usual dividend increase. GEC's chosen path was more complex but effective. Neither however is likely to be the vehicle ultimately used by Beecham. Beecham is full of cash. They are all 'full of cash' now, thanks to the Social Contract, the cuts in public spending, and

the cuts in corporation tax. They are not creating more jobs with that cash, as the Labour government pretended. William Harris of the British Insurance Association admits this week: 'Compulsorily retained profits under dividend restraint are not necessarily invested in the overall interests of the national economy'. No. They are kept until they can be dished out to the rich. That's what the Social Contract is all about.

City Office, New Cavendish House, Cavendish Street, London, E.C.A. Tel: 01-606 1234

£120,000 hand-out for ex-FNFC men

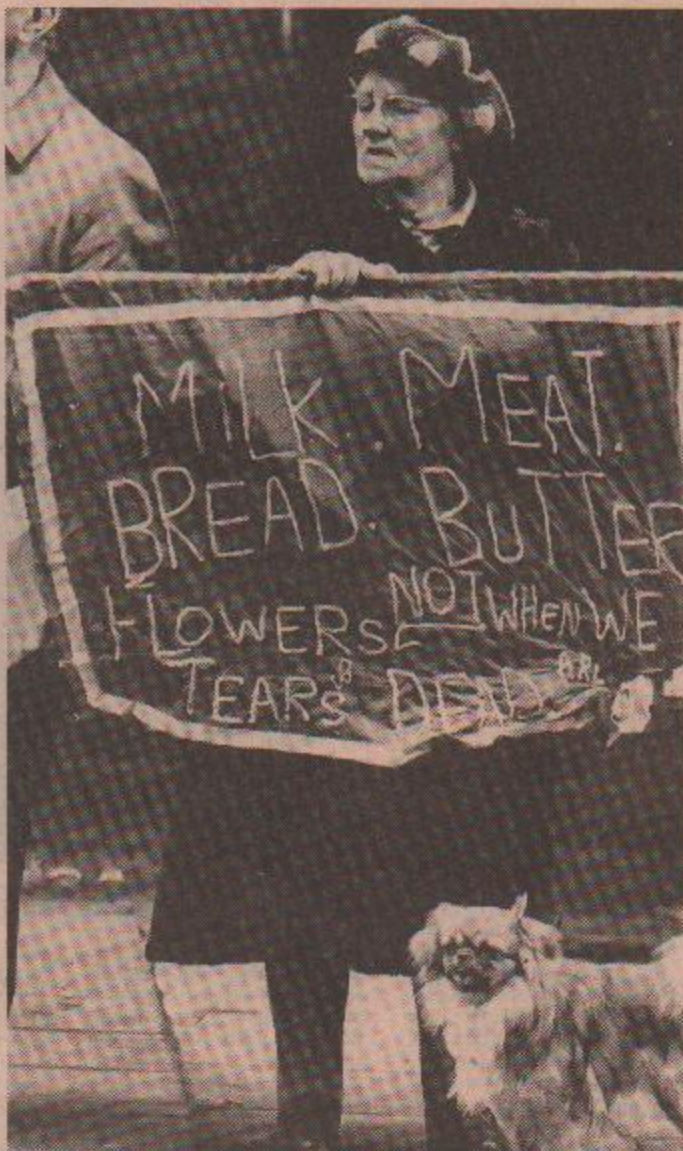
I FEAR THAT Mr. John Glyn and his long-standing director of First National Finance will have a hard day on March 22. Found this out because I have been asked to write a letter to the company which will be sent to the shareholders. The letter will say that the company has decided to pay a dividend of £120,000 to the shareholders. This is a very large sum of money and it is a pity that the company has not been able to do more for its employees. The company has been very successful in the past but it is now facing a difficult future. I hope that the shareholders will understand the situation and will not be disappointed by the dividend.

City Office, New Cavendish House, Cavendish Street, London, E.C.A. Tel: 01-606 1234

Hepworth Ceramic plan a GEC scheme

BY LLOYDS AS though most of them are reluctant, GEC's biggest capital hand-out is destined to go to the Hepworth Ceramic group. The group is a collection of companies which are involved in the production of ceramic tiles. GEC has decided to invest a large sum of money in the group. This is a very large sum of money and it is a pity that GEC has not been able to do more for its employees. GEC has been very successful in the past but it is now facing a difficult future. I hope that the shareholders will understand the situation and will not be disappointed by the dividend.

The other side of the Social Contract: two recent Daily Mail headlines spell it out.

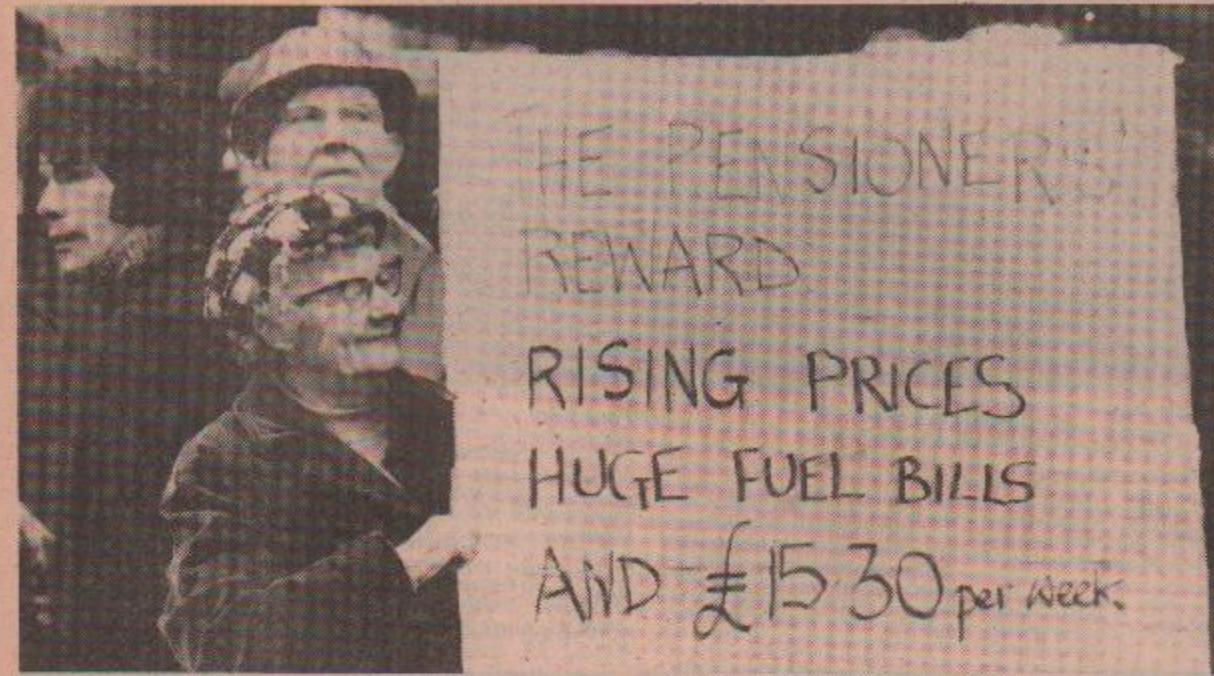


THERE'S ONLY one thing standing in our way—the profit system

THE AMOUNT of wealth available to satisfy people's needs could be increased by a tenth tomorrow—if the economy were not run according to the insane dictates of the profit system. It shows that if the unemployed were allowed to work in factories at present shut down, the amount of goods produced would increase by a tenth.

Since about two-thirds of the national wealth itself goes to workers in wages, that is equivalent to an increase of 15 per cent in wages—without causing any increase in prices. If there was the possibility of unlimited additional workers (for instance, through dropping restrictions on immigration) the increases in production (and wages) could be twice as high. All this without taking into account the enormous amounts of wealth wasted on arms (at the moment much higher than spending on industrial investment), on subsidising Concorde's flights for the very wealthy, on advertising, and so on.

So what stops all this wealth being created? The Institute says 'demand' but adds: 'The long-standing problem remains of how to stimulate demand through investment and exports rather than through consumption.' What it really means is that no-one knows how to solve the 'long standing problem' of making the profit system provide full employment and the massive improvement in living standards that is possible. Of course, it does not draw the conclusion that the time has come to get rid of that system.



Our side of the Social Contract: pensioners lobbying the TUC General Council last week

Save the Socialist Worker!

From page one

calling him 'Franco'. When asked to explain this blatant bias, the judge told us: 'You will just have to smart.' This is the judge whose bias in a murder trial forced George Ince to turn his back on the jury, who victimised the students who protested against Greek tyranny at the Garden House Hotel in Cambridge in 1970, who sent a man to prison for three years for criminal libel—he had written a letter to Harold Wilson complaining about police persecution! No wonder Judge Melford Stevenson sided with Jenkins against Socialist Worker.

After five hours of argument, the jury admitted they were split 6-6 on the 'satire or libel' issue. The judge told them to find a majority verdict, and they came back an hour and a half later with a decision in favour of Jenkins. The whole issue was in doubt until the last moment.

Risks

There is no point in appealing. The risks in expense are enormous—and the appeal court is made up of more Lords Justices hardly preferable to Stevenson himself. We felt we had no alternative but to fight Jenkins, if we were to preserve our right to puncture the pretensions of trade union leaders.

Now we have to keep up the fight against him and all the other trade union leaders who are tolerating unemployment and the cuts. We must beat off Jenkins' attack so that we can fight the harder against the poverty and corruption which is suffocating working people everywhere.

The Socialist Workers Party central committee spent Tuesday discussing urgent means for raising funds. These will be announced in coming issues. But there is no substitute for the direct donations of the working people who read Socialist Worker. Do you want this paper to survive and grow? If you do, put your hand in your pocket now and send us what you can.

Some readers of Socialist Worker can afford to send us a few hundred pounds. A few can afford even more. These big donations are vital at such a crisis time.

And now is the time for people to give. Almost everyone who reads the paper can afford to send a pound—without great damage to themselves.

Offensive

If all Socialist Worker readers did send a pound, we would be able to pay off Jenkins and get a great boost for a new socialist offensive. And that's not very much, is it? Just a pound from you now, as against the collapse of the only

printshop in the country which is owned and controlled by socialists and whose main purpose is the printing of material for the labour movement.

Members of ASTMS may feel especially annoyed. We've had a number of phone calls from ASTMS members who want to do something to wipe out what they see as the blot which their union has smeared on the labour and socialist press. Ellis Layward, ASTMS group secretary at the Great Ormond Street children's hospital and the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases, in London, told us: 'This is despicable. They should never have started those holidays to Spain—and they've stopped them

now, after the Socialist Worker article. Which shows they knew they were wrong.

'I'm going to try to get my branch to demand that the executive waive the damages which the court ordered.

Money

'But above all, I'm going to collect money for the Socialist Worker. I'll have collection sheets out round the hospital—and I urge every ASTMS steward and militant to do the same.

WE MUST GET THAT £10,000 NOW. SO GET YOUR MONEY OFF TODAY

**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.

**Defend the Right to Work marchers!**

What did happen to the Right to Work March at Hendon last March? Why were 44 marchers arrested? What happened at the trials since then? Why is John Deason to appear at the Old Bailey in May? Read the new Right to Work Marchers Defence Campaign factsheet. Minimum price 5p. Proceeds towards paying the remaining fines and to the cost of John Deason's trial. Available from Right to Work Marchers Defence Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Rd, London N4. New collection sheets also available.

LONDON: On the first anniversary of the police attack on the Right to Work March, Mike Lynch is being released from prison. Keep 18 March free. Special Right to Work Anniversary Dance. Live bands, bar, disco. Tickets 75p (1/1 on the door) unemployed 30p.

NORTH WEST LONDON Right to Work Campaign Safety School: Saturday 5 March, 11am-4pm, Tavistock Small Hall, 2 Tavistock Road, Harlesden NW10. Dr Russ Bowman on Hazards and Your Health. Greg Powell on the Law of Health and Safety, Roger Cox on Trade Union Organisation. North West Spanner play on health and safety. All trade unionists welcome. Admission 50p (unemployed 25p).

NORTH LONDON RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN Workers Health and Safety School: Speakers: Pat Kinnersly (author of Hazards at Work), Greg Powell (solicitor and expert on industrial law) and Laurie Flynn (Socialist Worker) Saturday 12 March, 1-5pm, Trades Hall, Bruce Grove, N17. Trade union delegates invited through individual applications will be considered. 25p fee in advance or at door from 1 Brown, 46a West Green Road, London, N15 (0800 8550).

GLASGOW Right to Work Campaign public meeting: After the Day of Action—what next? Speakers: Paul Foot (Socialist Worker) and shop stewards from NALGO, NUPE and British Leyland. Wednesday 9 March, 4.30pm-5.30pm, City Halls, Albion Street.

MANCHESTER Right to Work Campaign Dance: Friday 4 March, 8pm-2am (including bar) 50p. Local band plus reggae/soulsounds. Proceeds to Bobby Buirds fine fund. West Indian Sports and Social Club, Westwood Street, Moss Side (off Moss Lane East).

**Notices**

JOURNALISTS' CHARTER meeting: Stop the deportations, drop the charges. Repeat the Official Secrets Act. Build support for day of action on 9 March. Horse and Groom pub, Great Portland Street, London WC1. Inear Oxford Circus tube. Friday 4 March, 7 pm.

Rising Free People's News Service CRISIS MEETING: Please come and support us. The Roadblock, Tottenham Court Rd, London, Tuesday 8 March, 9.30 pm.

SOLIDARITY with Egyptian workers. Egyptian Embassy, Friday 4 March, 11am-1pm. Picket by G.U.P.S. Anti-Zionism: Picket of Israeli embassy, Friday 4 March, 2-4pm.

COLLEGE RANK AND FILE: National conference, Saturday and Sunday 5-6 March. Sessions on the Cuts, Social Contract, Racism. Polytechnic of Central London, New Cavendish Street (Goode Street tube). First session 11am Saturday. Social Saturday night. Creche available. For details ring 01-854 3760.

SOUTHAMPTON Jamaica Workers Solidarity Campaign public meetings: Tuesday 8 March, 1pm, University of Southampton, 7.30pm, West Indian Association, St Mary's Road. Speaker: Tony Bogue (Revolutionary Marxist League, Jamaica).

Public Conference: RACISM AND FASCISM IN LAMBETH: Saturday 12 March, 1.30pm to 5.30pm, Stockwell Hall, Stockwell Park Road, Branson, London, SW2. Guest speakers: Silvio Sposito, London leader. Anti-Racist League at 1330a, London leader. Called by All Lambeth Anti-Racist Movement. Supported by Socialist Workers Party.

MERSEYSIDE Right to Work Campaign: IMPORTANT NOTICE—5 March local cancelled until further notice.

MERSEYSIDE Organise Work Campaign: Public meeting for the formation of the Organise Work Campaign, 5 March, 8pm, at Telfer Labour Club.

RAILS: Against the Privatisation of the Railways, 4 March, 8pm, 111, Old Street, London. Organised by Trade Union Campaign Against the PSA.

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

# 'You're black - so we pulled you in'

## FASCISTS ON THE MENU...

THE FASCISTS of the National Front have suffered a set-back in Bradford. Local anti-fascists and members of the Socialist Workers Party recently found out where they were holding their meetings—the local Belfry steakhouse. Forty people picketed the next meeting. Although out-numbered 4-1 by the fascists and the police, they leafleted customers and steakhouse workers. After half an hour, the manager, obviously worried about his trade, came out and issued a statement banning the Front from the premises.

**LONDON'S pro-police magistrates' courts have claimed four more innocent victims.** They are black teenagers Kevin Barber, John McCullin, Raymond Sinclair and Desmond Daly from Plaistow.

### TEENAGERS FRAMED BY POLICE

The four were arrested on suspicion last November while shopping in Green Street. At their trial in West Ham magistrates court, it was clear that the magistrates had made up their minds from the beginning. The charge was 'being a suspect person loitering with a view to committing an arrestable offence, viz theft from the person.' The police did not call a single independent witness—not even an old woman they claimed the boys had tried to steal from.

#### Remember

Neither could the police remember whether the woman was black or white. And one of the four

policemen was unable positively to identify the four boys. Another went so far as to say: 'If the boys had been white they would not have been arrested.'

A local teacher, the manager of Woolworth's in Green Street, and the boys' parents, all supported the boys' evidence that they were on a shopping trip. Their barrister exposed the many contradictions in the police evidence. But it was all to no avail.

#### Costs

After 20 minutes, the magistrates came back with a guilty verdict. All four were fined, three getting £30 fines and one getting a £15 fine. They also had costs of £30 awarded against each of them. The boys intend to appeal. They and their parents know they can't rely on courts for justice. So they are busy organising outside for support.

SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM WITH SOCIALIST WORKER CAMPAIGN A

## 250 hear the SWP case - and 18 join

THE SOCIALIST Workers Party's series of public meetings on Why You Should Be a Socialist is continuing to attract large audiences in different parts of the country. 250 people turned up to hear Paul Foot in Clapham, South West London, Eighteen people joined the Party, at the end of the meeting.

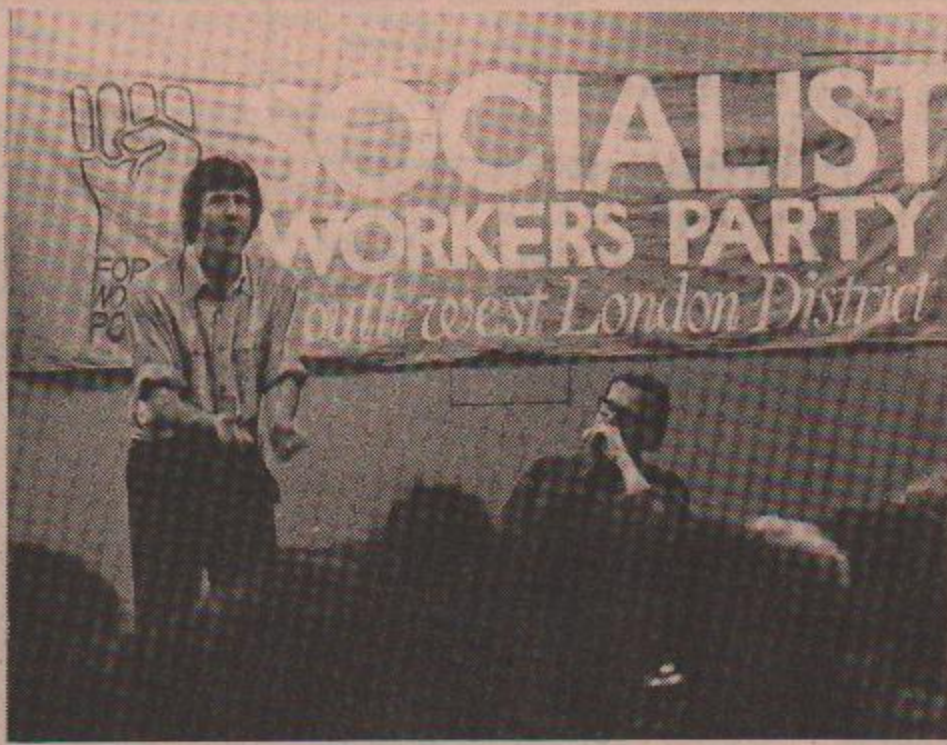
#### Successful

In Clapham more than 100 people heard Tony Cliff speak, and seven people joined. Other successful meetings for Cliff were in Oxford and Portsmouth. But just as important has been some of the smaller meetings organised for workers in particular factories and industries. For instance, after his recent public meeting in Sheffield,

Cliff spoke to smaller meetings of steelworkers, local government workers and engineers. On Sunday he spoke to a similar meeting for Leyland workers in Birmingham. Such meetings can encourage the formation of Socialist Worker groups where they really matter—in the workplaces.  Seventy-five people sent in inquiries for SWP membership to the Party's London HQ last week. And 103 requests were received for the Paul Foot book, Why You Should Be a Socialist.

### THE POSSIBILITIES ARE IMMENSE

THIRTY-FIVE people, including ten non-members attended a school organised by the East London Socialist Workers Party last Sunday afternoon. Ian Birchall, from the Par-



Paul Foot of Socialist Worker speaking to an audience of 250 people in Clapham last week. Eighteen people joined the Socialist Workers Party afterwards. PICTURE: Eric Hands

## NURSE TOLD: GET OUT OF THE COUNTRY

'YOU'VE got to get out of the country'. That was the news that greeted Nurse Phillips, an auxiliary at Bristol's Glenside Hospital recently. She is from Trinidad in the West Indies and has worked here for two and a half years. She started as a nanny at the princely wage of £65 a month.

Now the Home Office are refusing to renew her work permit and have told the management to give her a month's notice. This follows the antics of TUC leaders who have pressed the government to cut down on work permits to 'help' unemployment. These same trade unions leaders also sign away jobs in productivity deals and go along with the Labour government cuts which destroy thousands upon thousands of jobs.

#### Ban

Just 18 months ago, hospital workers at Glenside and Frenchay District were persuaded to pass a resolution banning recruitment of foreign nationals. At that time, the people who moved the resolution claimed that anyone already here would be protected. Now everyone can see where their position leads. Dave Bridge, a NUPE shop steward, said: 'This just goes to show that any form of immigration control is racist. It victimises blacks. Local supporters of the rank and file paper Hospital Worker are trying to force the union to keep their pledge. Contact Dave Bridge, Mason Unit, Glenside Hospital, Bristol.'

**Islington 18  
Defence Committee  
Public Meeting**

Tuesday 15 March,  
7.30pm Manor Gardens  
Public Library, London  
N7.

This vital case involves 18 black youths arrested in the wake of the events at last year's Notting Hill Carnival on conspiracy and other charges. Come and hear their story. Hear what their parents have to say.

# SWP

## WHERE WE STAND

SOCIALIST WORKER is a revolutionary paper that seeks to organise its supporters around the following principles:

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

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

#### INTERNATIONALISM

The struggle for socialism is part of a world-wide struggle. We campaign for solidarity with workers in other countries. We oppose everything which turns workers from one country against those from other countries. We oppose racialism and imperialism. We oppose all immigration controls. We support the right of black people and other oppressed groups to organise their own defence. We support all genuine national liberation movements. We are for an end to all forms of discrimination against homosexuals. We are for real, social, economic and political equality of women. The experience of Russia

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 leaders and 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 Socialist Workers Party, fill in the form on page 16.

# Scandal of the hospital that may never open

By John Rose

**THE OPENING** of a huge new West London hospital has been delayed by two and a half years by Sindalls, the building contractors. And the local authority seems to be a willing victim.

Painters on strike at the King Edward Memorial Hospital in site Southall have told Socialist Worker of a series of scandals about the way the hospital is being built.

□ The painters are on strike over their bonus scheme.

They could only achieve their impossible bonus targets by missing out coats of paint.

□ Sindalls deliberately run a cheap labour policy. It is already going to cost about £14,000 to put right shoddy work done by untrained student labour last year.

There are at least 32 sub-contractors on the site and at least ten others that convener John McHugh has not been notified about.

## Delay

Only 20 men are on the site are directly employed.

Sindalls are breaking the working rule agreement by refusing to give the shop steward and convener details of the contract.

□ According to the Ealing Gazette, the delay has increased costs from the original estimate of £5 million to £18 million. The management say it has only increased to £8 million.

□ The Ealing, Hammersmith and Hounslow Area Health Authority have justified closing four hospitals with the promised opening of this big new hospital, but the strikers are wondering whether it ever will open.

## Vested interest

Dunlop, the Area Health Authority administrator responsible for the site, claims to be satisfied with developments.

Yet running costs of the hospital are estimated at £2.8 million, when at the moment they've only been promised £800,000.

It has to be stated that the area health authority may just have a vested interest in this hospital never opening.

□ The hospital site is riddled with asbestos. Non-union men are cutting it up without protection and are walking round with dust all over their faces and clothes.

There are hundreds of square yards of asbestos, ceiling tiles being fitted into the kitchens and operating theatres. It is lining the ventilation system.

Asbestos dust will be blown all over the hospital when it's in operation.

## AND IT'S THE SAME STORY IN LIVERPOOL

**TRANSPORT** Union members on the Liverpool teaching hospital construction site went on strike last week over management's refusal to negotiate with stewards.

The strikers fear that management's refusal to talk will extend to the expected redundancies due in the next few weeks.

The dispute comes against the background of chaotic mismanagement of the job highlighted recently by Construction News, the building trade newspaper.

The project, planned for completion by 1972, will not now be ready until 1978—and all that time, existing Liverpool hospitals have become older and more overcrowded.

The cost of the building has escalated from an original £17

**THE FIGHT** to build rank and file resistance to the Social Contract is now on.

Massive demonstrations against the cuts are taking place in city after city. The miners, the carworkers and engineering workers are now leading the demand for a return to free collective bargaining, and an end to wage controls.

This fight-back needs co-

ordinating and organising across every industry and union. That is why the Right to Work Campaign, together with rank and file papers and organisations, is organising four vital conferences.

Engineers and Transport and General Workers Union members are holding separate conferences in Manchester on Saturday 26 March. Members of the electricians and

plumbers union, the EETPU, are meeting in Manchester on Saturday 12 March, and hospital workers are meeting on Saturday 19 March in London.

None of these conferences will be talking shops. All will be used to organise links to continue a co-ordinated fight back.

Trade unionists in all four industries should get to them.



SOME of the 2000 trade unionists who marched through Chelmsford on Tuesday in protest against Essex County Council's savage cuts in public spending. More than 2000 jobs will be lost if the £8½ million cuts are allowed to go

through. Among the marchers were several hundred firemen, who have won solidarity action in their fight against the cuts from their brothers in Norfolk and Suffolk, who are answering emergency

calls only. Tuesday's demonstration was the high point of one-day strikes throughout the country. Nearly every school was shut as cooks, cleaners and caretakers struck.



Site management are ignoring the Factory Inspector's report, which complains about the use of asbestos.

## Inquiry

The 16 striking painters are not just chasing a decent bonus, they want an inquiry into the whole affair.

They are ready to spread the word throughout the labour movement.

□ They also call for money and messages of support, c/o Richard Kene, UCATT Shop Steward, 74 Lionel Road, Brentford, Middlesex.

## You CAN stop their vicious schemes

By Andy Kuttner, NUPE shop steward

**MANAGEMENT** at Hammersmith Hospital in West London planned to withdraw cleaning services to the nurses' home as part of their cuts.

Last Monday, before consultation had been completed, the cleaning workers were told to do new bonus-style systems of work to cover for five of their mates who had been forcibly transferred to other parts of the hospital.

When the cleaners turned

up for work on Monday morning, they found they had been locked out. The keys to the rooms had been locked away.

They immediately formed a flying picket which toured the hospital, and, within a half an hour, 100 workers from other sections were out on strike in their support.

A mass occupation of the personnel offices forced management to back down and give the women the right to work.

The fact that masses of workers were prepared to take immediate action ensured a quick victory.

Delegates from Hammersmith Hospital NUPE will be arguing that other hospital workers should follow their example at the Save Our Hospitals Conference on 19 March.

### ENGINEERS CHARTER/Right to Work Campaign Meetings SMASH THE SOCIAL CONTRACT Vote Willie Lee for AUEW National Organiser

**SHEFFIELD:** Thursday 10 March, 7.30pm, The Forresters. Speakers: John Deason, Clive Hartley (Convener, Balfour Darwin).

**BRADFORD:** Tuesday 8 March, 8pm, Rawson Hotel, Rawson Square, Johns St. Speakers: John Deason, Terry Farrer (Convener Metal Box).

**LIVERPOOL:** Sunday 6 March, Noon. Speaker: Willie Lee.

**HARLES DEN:** Thurs 3 March 8pm, White Horse, Corner Roundwood Rd and Church Rd. Speakers: Willie Lee Laurie Smith (National Organiser), John Deason, Billy Taylor (Candidate for Div No 6 ADD).

**MANCHESTER:** Sat 5 March, Noon, Lass O'Gowrie, Charles St, off Oxford Rd, Nr BBC. Speakers: Willie Lee, Tom Smith (convener, Automat).

**LEEDS:** Sun 6 March 7.30pm, Trades Club, Seville Mount, Chapel Town. Speakers: Willie Lee, John Deason.

### Engineers Charter/Right to Work Campaign PROTEST RALLY

### SMASH THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

Saturday 26 March Noon, University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology (UMIST) (Near Manchester Piccadilly Station). All AUEW members welcome

★ Please note change of date and venue to avoid clash with the Leyland shop stewards' call for a delegate conference on 3 April which both the Engineers Charter and the Right to Work Campaign are fully supporting.

## 'We're out to reform the AUEW'

'WE ARE building a reform movement in our union', says Willie Lee, Engineering Union shop steward from Chrysler Linwood.

Speaking at the start of a national tour, he said:

'We are calling a conference in Manchester on 26 March to organise against the twin evils of the Social Contract and unemployment, and to build an effective organisation in the AUEW to begin the fight back.'

## Support

Willie Lee is standing for the post of National Organiser in the AUEW as the candidate of the rank and file paper, Engineers Charter.

Voting is about to start. Over the next week, Willie will be speaking at meetings of engineers urging support for the Charter Conference.



'The union has been moving to the right for years, he added. 'We fought to get a left-wing leadership elected by years of rank and file militancy. But it hasn't delivered the goods.'

'The trouble is we substituted the election of progressive officials for our own organisation, we hoped they'd do the job for us.'

'And it hasn't worked. The substitution has got to stop. 'We can't elect people and hope they'll fight our battles for us.'

'The important thing is building strong rank and file organisations that can control whoever is elected.'

## Mediators

'Democracy in our union has suffered as a result. People like Woodrow Wyatt have a bigger say about who is elected by their articles in the newspapers than the membership.'

'They've stopped us voting in branches. Instead we have the TV and the Sunday Mirror telling us how to vote at home.'

'The officials have stopped seeing themselves as our representatives, as delegates from the membership. They've become mediators between us and the bosses.'

'That is why the conference on 26 March is so important. It is an opportunity for the Engineers Charter to establish rank and file organisation in towns and cities across the country to make the voice and influence of the membership the control of our union.'

THESE are the latest union branches who have agreed to send delegates to the Save Our Hospitals conference on 19 March.

**COHSE** Whitechurch Hospital South Wales; COHSE Guildford Branch; NUPE Whiston Hospital Merseyside; NUPE West Berkshire; NALGO Barnley Health Service Branch; NALGO Kensington Chelsea & Westminster Branch, East Berkshire; NUPE Brent Health Service; NUPE Lancaster Health Service; NALGO; NUPE Moorfields Eye Hospital; NUPE North Camden Health Services; ASTMS St Marys Hospital West London; COHSE East Fortune Hospital Scotland; NUPE Addenbrookes Hospital Cambridge;

NUPE South Manchester Branch; NUPE Queen Elizabeth Hospital; NUPE Great Ormond St Hospital; NUPE St Leonards Hospital East London; Hammersmith Hospital; NUPE Northwick Park; ASTMS; Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital; NUPE Shop Stewards Committee; St James's Hospital NUPE Leeds; West Riding ASTMS; St Georges Tooting NUPE; St Georges Hyde Park NUPE; South Western NUPE.

## SAVE OUR HOSPITALS CONFERENCE

Delegate conference for all trade unionists in hospitals  
Saturday 19 March, Portland Hall, 16-22 Riding House St., London W1 (Gt. Portland Street Tube)

Make sure your trade union branch or shop stewards' committee sends delegates. Observers from hospitals are also welcome. The fee per delegation is £1. Get your credentials for delegates and observers from Hospital Worker Conference, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

Sponsored by Hospital Worker and the Right to Work Campaign

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM Chris Harman

If Scotland and Wales separated from England tomorrow, what would that mean for workers?

# The devolution debate

ONE AMAZING thing about the devolution debate has been the obsession of many Labour MPs with maintaining the integrity of the United Kingdom.

In general, the more you move to the right on the English political spectrum, the more frenzied is the belief in the sanctity of the union between England, Scotland and Wales.

The reasons are simple enough. For hundreds of years, the bread and butter of pro-capitalist politics in this country was boasting about 'the grandeur of Britain'. The grandeur is a bit faded now—but that won't stop its tattered

remnant being waved about through the coming 'jubilee summer'.

Right wing politicians had to persuade successive generations of British workers to make sacrifices—often to sacrifice their lives—in an effort to subdue huge chunks of the world, from Ireland to India, to the British empire.

The myths of 'Great Britain, of the United Kingdom, of the great white Queen' were a necessary part of this persuasion.

## Revamped

Quite naturally, these notions are being revamped in a time of crisis by Tory MPs—and by those Labour MPs who have everything in common with the Tories apart from the party label. For socialists, however, things

should be quite different. We reject all the paraphernalia of British nationalism as a soiled piece of drapery used for generations to cover up for poverty and exploitation in Britain and racist oppression abroad.

We cannot see the 'integrity' of part of this mythology, the 'United Kingdom', as something sacred.

If Scotland and Wales separated from England tomorrow, that act in itself would change nothing for workers in any of the three countries.

Unemployment, low wages, profits, the domination of the big companies, would not be affected decisively.

After all, there has been previous experience of such acts of separation. The results have been neither catastrophic nor marvellous for the workers' movement.

For example, at the beginning of this century, Sweden and Norway were one country. Then the Norwegians insisted on independence, with their own parliament, their own monarch, their own taxes.

## No workers' paradise

This did not turn either country into fascist strongholds, nor did it turn them into workers' paradises. By and large things continued as before.

That is why the workers' movement could not be enthusiastic about the separation of the countries and still less could it be enthusiastic about defending their unity within a single capitalist state.

There is no reason to believe that the consequences of a separation of Scotland or Wales from England would be any different.

Providing, that is, that the argument over separation or devolution did not infect the workers in any of the countries with a nationalism which made them forget what they had in common with workers in the other countries.

## Nationalism

We have argued again and again in Socialist Worker that those in Scotland and Wales who campaign for independence are, whether they like it or not, basing themselves upon a nationalism that turns worker against worker.

They are pretending to workers that somehow there is something to be gained by joining with millionaires like Hugh Fraser to try and build in Edinburgh a pale imitation of Westminster.

Any success for that argument endangers the unity of Scottish workers with workers from other countries. That is why supporters of our Party in Scotland oppose attempts to draw the labour movement into a campaign for a separate parliament.

## Disaster

But there is just as big an argument to be carried out in England, against British nationalism, an ideology inextricably linked up with racism and the remnants of the British empire.

This nationalist argument sees the break-up of the united British state as a disaster, to be avoided at all costs.

It is this argument that last week led Labour MPs like Prentice to unite with Thatcher and Powell to reject the right of people in Scotland and Wales to decide whether they want separate parliaments or not.

And it was the same argument that led left wing Labour MPs who would not seriously endanger the government over issues like the cuts, to sit back and abstain while the right-wing alliance defeated the government over devolution.

# Socialist Worker

## EDITORIAL

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## Ssh! You know who....

THIS IS Sergeant Gunn of the Special Branch. You may have seen him around on demonstrations, although he is very keen to stay out of the limelight.

He had a few choice words for our photographer who immortalised him on one of his most recent assignments, the Troops Out demo.

Sgt Gunn is pictured below with some of his 'workmates'.



## THE PRICE OF CONTENTMENT:

'WE can also keep people happier by providing them with soft toilet tissue. They use it at home so it's natural they want it at work.

'Keep people happy, safe, and healthy and you'll keep them where they want to be.

'And where the country needs them to be. At work.'

—From an advertisement for industrial hygiene products in the Observer Sunday 20 February.

□ 'WE visited the ground which holds 85,000 and were impressed with the facilities.....'

Fifth Column's slag of the week award goes to Ernie Walker of the Scottish Football Association who came out with these immortal words two weeks ago. He was reaffirming the decision to let the Chile-Scotland International go ahead and, to odd insult to injury, to play it inside the Santiago Stadium, Latin America's equivalent of Buchenwald.

□ SOLDIER David Scott, 21, has been sentenced to five years in jail for the manslaughter of civilian in Belfast.

Scott, shot at a bus. He killed James Gallagher and injured two other people. Immediately after firing the shots he told another soldier: 'I am cracking, I am cracking'.

□ SHIRLEY WILLIAMS' Great Education Debate is underway. Perhaps you've been wondering how you could do your bit and take part. If you're a parent perhaps you could become a school governor of your kids' school.

Unfortunately it's not too easy to become a governor. In most areas parents are only allowed to elect one. Most of the places are taken up by local councillors.

Take Salford for example where Labour Councillor Jo Murphy is a governor of twenty schools.

He also sits on seven other educational bodies. His colleague Councillor Murray weighs in with sixteen governorships and two other seats. Another councillor Bryans manages a total of eighteen.

All this devotion to the cause of education is of course completely unconnected to the five pounds and travelling expenses that councillors can claim for attending governors' meetings.

## To Lizzie with love.....

She sits there on her throne each day. Her bum gets bigger in every way. My husband and I is all she'll say. The tax she never has to pay.

Her husband's just the same you see. He spends our money as much as she. When he goes out on his shopping spree In his million pound limousine.

Princess Ann on her horses rides. She thinks she does not need a guide. Whip in hand she makes a stride. Misses the horse, she falls beside.

Then there's Charles, Andy and Ed. You don't know what's going into their heads. They're really all a bunch of twits. First class snobs, I'm glad I'm not she. Who cares about the Jubilee?

—Simone Brady, 11.

MANY Socialist Worker readers have been inspired by the Royal Jubilee. Here are two of the challengers to John Betjeman's masterpiece:

A wish for Silver Jubilee Year. The Duke was in the Palace counting out the money The Queen was at Balmoral On holiday with mummy Young Charles had gone for a spin With the Duke of Norfolk's daughter And the Princess was A'hunting At Bourton-On-The-Water

The Duke picked up the telephone And said this to his wife 'We haven't got the bloody cash To support our way of life. You'll have to tell the P.M.

## No Nazis in Longbridge!

A toolsetter applied for a job as training officer at British Leyland Longbridge. When he got the job he announced that he wasn't prepared to train black workers.

Management said he would have to go back to his old job. But the men on his old job had other ideas. They did not want a National

That we need a million more Or just to be on the safe side you'd better make that four'

And throughout the Windsor family Came a similar tale of woe The Royal rulers of the Commonwealth Were running short of dough.

What has caused this sorry state? I hear the reader sigh Why, obviously the welfare state Has bled the treasury dry

So in this Jubilee Year Let's scrap the National Health And give the Royal Family Their fair share of our wealth!

MICHAEL DUFFY AUEW CHELTENHAM BRANCH

Front member back. He was offered a job on the track and turned it down. He was then offered a job first on gears and then on cranks and was turned down on both. No one wants him it would seem, or his racist filth. So now he's at home on full pay. Let him stay here.

## IF ANYTHING

the situation in Rhodesia is far worse than that in Vietnam. For a start there are far less correspondents. Few readers of the Daily Telegraph will have realised that the paper's Salisbury stringer—Brian Henry—is the same as the Daily Mail's Peter Norman who is the same person as the Guardian's Henry Miller.

'And that all these people are in real life a Rhodesian journalist called Ian Mills who, as it happens, is also the BBC correspondent.'

—From an article on Rhodesia and the British Press. New Statesman 25 February.

## To our visitors

Please remember that you are entering. —

a) an infant classroom

which is also

b) the dining area

and

c) the foyer.

Thank you.

This notice was boldly displayed in the doorway of Gravel Hill County Primary school in Bexleyheath.

## LIAISON CONFERENCE BACKS LEYLAND STEWARDS' CALL

# Now for a national strike against the Social Contract!

## A ONE-DAY national strike against the Social Contract.

That was the call from last Saturday's conference of the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions.

With 1200 trade union delegates it was the most important unofficial rank and file conference for years. As speaker after speaker made clear, the two year lull that followed the defeat of the Tories in 1974 is now over.

### Anger.

From public sector workers in Essex to carworkers in Birmingham all are part of what the conference chairman, Kevin Halpin, called 'the mounting anger of our class.'

## PETER CLARK AND JEAN GRAY REPORT

David Miller, of the Yorkshire Area Council of the miners' union, summed up the feeling when he said: 'The ruling class want a wage freeze. It is mass action that will determine what will happen.'

'We need action like Saltley in 1972, when the engineers joined the miners on the picket line. We need the sort of action like that against the Industrial Relations Act that will push the official movement.'

But there was considerable disagreement throughout the day about the purpose of rank and file action. For many delegates, the point seemed to be to force trade union leaders and MPs to change the Government's economic policies.

Other delegates argued that far from relying on MPs and trade union leaders, the rank and file needed to develop their own policies, which encourage self-activity.

As the Right to Work Campaign's open letter to delegates put it: 'Today's conference could be a vital contribution to the building of such a rank and file movement. A movement that supports those officials that fight while organising to kick out those that do not.'

'But above all, a movement that relies on our own organised rank and file strength within our trade unions. Never again must we blindly trust leaders, however well intentioned they can at different times sound.'

Bob Wright the newly elected Assis-

tant General Secretary of the Engineering Union, argued that 'the movement must insist that Labour's manifesto is honoured... there is a growing force of Labour MPs who are looking to the movement for a lead.'

He dealt with the problem of why he had supported the Social Contract when it came into being. 'At first the Social Contract was about anything but a wages policy,' he said.

For him, it had been about fulfilling the 'basic socialist goals' of Labour's election manifesto. 'I recall at the 1975 TUC our conditioning the Social Contract to the whole of the Programme... it is perhaps a matter of regret that we did not force that matter to a vote. If we had, we might have seen a very different situation today.'

The convenor of Yarrows in Glasgow, Barry Docherty, did not let this stop him declaring: 'Bob Wright, that man is living proof that if you push the right people they'll lead the movement properly.'

Jimmy Airlie, of Govan Shipbuilders in Scotland, caused widespread commotion by declaring: 'Hugh Scanlon has played a magnificent role as President of the engineers.'

One heckler shouted: 'Are you in the AUEW, how can anyone in the AUEW say that?'

Derek Robinson, the convenor of Longbridge, criticised people who attacked Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon.

But then he went on to give an accurate description of how Jones and Scanlon have forced the Social Contract through.

### Rank and file.

'It's not a question,' he said, 'of a few people meeting in corridors of power with a few people from the Government.'

That was why he invited all trade union organisations to attend the Birmingham Conference on 3 April. That was why he was active in organising the 6,000-strong demonstration against the Social Contract when Eric Varley, Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon came to Longbridge.

'If we'd just passed a resolution against wage restraint and

WITH JUST three votes against, the delegates endorsed a seven part declaration, calling for:

□ A day of national stoppages and demonstrations with a lobby of Parliament, the day after Parliament returns from Easter. The most likely date is thought to be 19 April.

□ Support for the Birmingham Conference against the Social Contract on 3 April, called by the Leyland shop stewards combine.

□ All-out support by all workers for days of action organised in towns and cities against the cuts.

□ Solidarity and support for all workers in whatever actions they take for the right to work, wage demands, a shorter working week, and equal pay.

□ The setting up of local committees based on workplaces, where they do not already exist, to help organise the fight back.

□ The TUC not to extend or renew the Social Contract. There must be a return to free collective bargaining.

□ All trade unionists to urge that the elected delegates of trade unions be allowed to meet and decide the policies of their own unions before there is any recall Trades Union Congress.

The one-day national strike will be the first widespread, unofficial, rank and file initiated, national stoppage since the strikes against the Tory Government and the Industrial Relations Bill.

The conference declaration made it clear 'that only mounting rank and file action can influence the trade union movement to use its full strength' and it added: 'This conference pledges to do all in its power to stimulate and develop rank and file activity... for this fight back.'



ALL THOSE IN FAVOUR: Only three of the 1200 delegates voted against the strike call



Eddie Prevest: 'Jack Jones has betrayed us'



John Deason, Right to Work Campaign secretary, addressing the conference

left it at that, we'd go on having wage restraint.'

He seemed to be facing several ways at once. He was against criticising Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon. But he was also leading the campaign to destroy the policies that they had forced on the movement.

Whether he likes it or not, pressure from the rank and file in Longbridge was forcing him to oppose Jack Jones and the policies he represented.

The secretary of the Right to Work Campaign, John Deason, said 'The people who sold us the Social Contract are not the people who are going to lead the fight against it.'

'It wasn't Frank Chapple who sold us the Contract, it was Michael Foot and Jack Beaver Jones, the great left wingers.'

'Some trade union leaders who sold us the Social Contract are trying to deny their very words. It is only the rank and file that we can trust.'

'We need to organise active support for every strike action, including the Leyland tool room workers.'

From the Royal Docks in London, shop steward Eddie Prevest expressed a similar view.

'In my industry, our union officials haven't done the job. In 1967 when Jack Jones was elected there were 60,000 dockers in London, now there are 7,500.'

'I voted for Jack Jones, but he has spent his time betraying us. Our branch has now called for the election of all full-time officials so that we can control them.'

'We need a programme that unites workers in battle, so that we depend on our own

strength, not on some of these people. We need a programme like the Right to Work Campaign's.'

'It calls for a 35-hour week without loss of pay, a ban on overtime without loss of pay, five day's work or five day's pay, no participation schemes, no productivity dealing.'

In December, 1970, more than half a million workers answered a call by the Liaison Committee for a one-day strike against the Tory Industrial Relations Bill. This movement was built by hard and consistent work among the rank and file.

'Such a movement can be rebuilt, not by relying on MPs and trade union officials to talk to Government Ministers, but by organising in the workplaces to destroy the wages policy and the Social Contract.'

□ JIM HILES, secretary of the Liaison Committee, moved two emergency resolutions which were passed without argument.

One called for support for the 43 Right to Work marchers arrested in Hendon last year and called on the TUC to fight to end the persecution of the marchers.

The second deplored the attempted deportation of Agee and Hosenball and called upon the TUC to rake action in their defence.

The National Right to Work Campaign calls on all trade union organisations to support the

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE AGAINST THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

Called by the British Leyland combine, Birmingham Town Hall, Sunday 3 April, 10.30am-4pm. Credentials from P. Nicholas, 88 Newbridge Road, Small Heath, Birmingham, Phone 021 783 2987. Enclose 50p per delegate and a stamped addressed envelope.

## ALL OUT TUESDAY 19 APRIL NATIONAL STRIKE AGAINST THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

Called by the British Leyland Combine Committee, endorsed by the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions and the Right to Work Campaign.

### JOIN THE MASS LOBBY OF PARLIAMENT

Move resolutions now endorsing the strike call and arranging delegations. Arrange transport to London now. Make sure your workplace or trade union is represented on the march.

The date of the stoppage is the first day after Parliament reassembles from the Easter recess. This seems to be 19 April, but the stoppage could be a day or two either side.

ADVERTISEMENT  
National Right to Work Campaign

JOIN the mass lobby of the Public Sector Unions Conference on Tuesday 22 March at 9.30am in Central Hall, Westminster, London.

### STOP THE CUTS SMASH THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

Organise delegations and transport now, make sure free transport is arranged for the unemployed. Details of transport from the RTWC, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.



What the CIA gave to South Africa; (from left) trade unionists and socialists under guard in Santiago Stadium after the coup in Chile — thousands were executed; Pinochet, head of Chile's junta; torture in Uruguay; American secret services and runs training courses in the Panama Zone and the US.

**YOU ALL probably remember Nguyen Van Thieu. He was the last puppet American dictator in Saigon. He got out at the last moment on a helicopter.**

Well, it so happens that the British Labour government has given Thieu asylum and he has set himself up in a luxurious place somewhere in Britain.

Well when I heard this I decided something. I decided that I didn't want him to be the only ex-CIA person living in this country.

This campaign against my deportation has allowed a lot of attention to be focussed on the Immigration Act of 1971. This Act has now been used for coming on six years against immigrant workers in this country—and it takes a notorious case like mine to focus attention on all its racist provisions as well as on those parts being applied in my case.

These provisions mean that under this law I have no right of appeal against the government's decision not to extend my stay in this country.

You see what a security risk I am. They waited until the time came to renew my permit to stay in the country before taking any action against me. I was simply applying for the fourth extension to my permit to stay.



**SOUTHERN AFRICA SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN**

Zimbabwe after the talks. Speaker, Callinicos. Thursday 3 March, 7.30pm, Falmer House, Sussex University, Brighton.

WEST LONDON SASC public meeting, Zimbabwe speaker and film. Thursday 3 March, 7.30pm, Cryptic Club, Gloucester Terrace, Notting Hill.

GLASGOW film show. Last Grave at Dimbaza, on the migrant labour system in South Africa. Thursday 17 March, watch for further details.

CENTRAL LONDON SASC Forum on Southern Africa: Saturday 5 March, 10am-4pm, Central London Polytechnic, Regent Street (Oxford Circus tube). Sessions on South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia, and solidarity work.

SPARK newsletter of the Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign. Second issue now out. Articles on Zimbabwe, black unions under attack, Namibia. 10p plus postage (ten or more copies post free).

**SOUTHERN AFRICA SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN**

**101-103 Gower Street, London WC1**

# You are being wa

by **PHIL AGEE**



*This article is taken from a tape-recording of a speech given by Philip Agee, the ex-CIA man threatened with deportation from Britain, at a meeting held in Edinburgh last week and organised by the Agee-Hosenhall Committee*

## Request

Then, in mid-November, I received a letter from the Home Office announcing that my request for permission to stay had been considered and refused, and that I was being deported under the National Security Provisions of the 1971 Act.

I was further advised that not only could I not appeal against the refusal to extend permission to stay, but I could not appeal against the deportation order that would be coming to me!

Furthermore I would be allowed no legal representation at all and I would only be allowed to know the 'reasons' for my deportation in the shape of three vague and unsubstantiated categories of accusation.

Having got this information I could simply have left.

But everyone was in favour of making a strong fight of it. Partly this was to focus atten-

tion on the arbitrary nature of this law and the fact that it has all these racist provisions, as well as the lack of appeal.

But it was also a chance to focus attention on the CIA as an institution, how it works in different countries, how it has been working and will continue to work in this country,

## HOW THE CIA WORKS

**THE IDEA behind my work is primarily to help demystify the CIA. For too long people have felt that the CIA is practically unbeatable.**

The CIA is not all-powerful. There have been lots of failures, farcical and funny failures.

But what exactly are all its operations about?

Essentially the CIA is a secret political police. It has

the job of manipulating the so-called liberal institutions.

It does this through the penetration and manipulation of the institutions of power, of political parties, governments, the military and security services, trade unions, youth and student movements, cultural and professional societies and the media.

What it all comes down to is to prop up and strengthen certain political forces considered to be favourable to American interests and to penetrate, weaken and destroy those political forces considered to be 'the enemy'. What it means in the end is the best possible operating conditions for American multinational companies.

One of the things we used to do in Latin America when I was in the CIA was fund politicians and political parties. At one time in Ecuador we had on our payroll the general secretary of the Social Democratic Party, the

national leader of the Conservative Party, top people in the Christian Democratic movement and plenty more.

We also had lots of propaganda operations. First of all through journalists. We paid them to put our material in the press and on radio and TV in their names.

We also had the capability of secretly producing leaflets. We had a printing plant which was completely secret.

There we would write up our propaganda messages. Sometimes we would put them out in the name of our many political front groups. Other times we would write leaflets and credit these leaflets to an organisation we wanted to discredit, for example the Communist Party.

We had at our printing shop the symbols of all the places where left-wing organisations got their work done. So we could represent our leaflets as coming from them...

## FRIENDS IN M16

**WHAT IS the real reason for this whole action being taken against me by the British government?**

The British security services know perfectly well that during all the time I was in the CIA I never worked in any joint operations between the CIA and the British secret services; that I never met or instructed or knew the identities of any of their agents.

They know perfectly well that I don't have anything to say that directly relates to British security.

But still they accuse me of being a security risk here. They've also portrayed these vague allegations against me, of contacts harmful to the security of the UK with foreign intelligence officers, of publishing and disseminating

information harmful to the security of the UK, and of aiding and counselling others to obtain information which could be harmful to the security of the UK.

We asked for particulars, but got none.

How can you defend yourself when you don't know what you're charged with? It's like being taken down the police station and told: 'You're a thief. Defend yourself!'

## Thief

So you reply: 'Who me? What did I steal? Where did I do it?' And they say to you again: 'You're a thief. Prove to us you're innocent.'

I think what has happened is this. I think that the CIA and the British Foreign intelligence service M16 have got together and said: 'We've just got to do something about this guy.'

And Tony Crosland, then Foreign Secretary, who was responsible for the foreign intelligence services, was convinced. He convinced Callaghan, who said to Home Secretary Merlyn Rees: 'You've got to get rid of this guy.'

Then Rees is told that under the 1971 Act he could do this just by signing a piece of paper. No appeal, nothing.

## THE CIA IN BRITAIN

**THERE is a connection between what is happening to me and your situation here. There is a CIA office in London with between 55 and 70 people on its staff.**

They are posing as diplomats. That's a rather large group of people to be engaged in shuffling bits of paper back and forward.

And for two years now the CIA has been rather exposed in its activities here in Britain. Their Forum World Features news service has been shown up for what it is—part of a vast propaganda and political action operation.

Forum World Features had to close in 1975. But the man who founded it went on to start something else—a right-wing think tank called the Institute for the Study of Conflict...

Forum also had its own book publishing line. One of

## Defenders now in need of defence



Three members of the Agee-Hosenhall Defence Campaign who are now on Official Secrets Act charges: (from left) journalist Crispin Aubrey, ex-soldier John Berry, and journalist Duncan Campbell.

**REGINA FISCHER** spent ten days and nights fasting outside the Home Office in London to embarrass Home Secretary Merlyn Rees and to let as many people as possible know about the deportations and the Official Secrets Act charges.

During her fast in cold weather she was arrested because her camp had constituted 'an obstruction'. She was also assaulted by three 'patriots'.

Her fast finished before Monday night's campaign meeting.

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Find the body of General Prats in Argentina. The CIA has given massive aid to South

# arned

## The CIA's friends in Britain

ooks they published, that subsidised by the CIA. 'study' of Chile under e, called Chile's Marx- periment. was written by Robert who was one of the eries of Chile during eriod. Chilean government is book so well that you ven have to buy it. All e to do is walk in the Embassy and they will ou a copy for nothing. et CIA document has o light about Forum. It owledged as authentic gency. It was written y the money spent on ng Forum World es. ere's a little annotation e side of this document y says: 'Run with the edge and approval of intelligence'.

more in the future, with rising inflation and unemployment, the polarisation that's developing between left and right, and the red-baiting, 'red scare' campaign which is being intensified on the far right by such organisations as the NAFF.

With this situation, there are those in Britain who may very well decide to back a military regime here.

And one of the things that I've been doing - and certainly will continue doing wherever I am - is to continue working with those people, politically active people, journalists and others in this country who are interested in identifying those here who side with a military regime.

### STATE MACHINE

FINALLY, the CIA is not something which operates on its own. It is an instrument of the President of the United States.

Henry Kissinger himself has testified that anything the CIA does of any importance is done on the authority of the President of the United States.

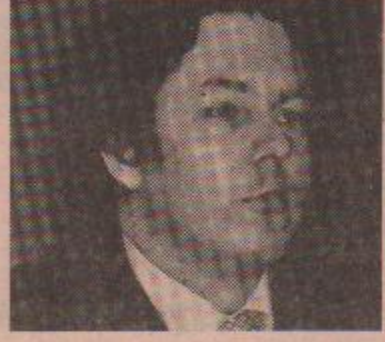
Looking at it this way, the real quarrel isn't with this bureaucratic organisation. It's with the president, vice-president and National Security Commission in the US, which determines the policy that is to be applied.

The CIA has its victories but it's not all-powerful. In the whole southern half of Latin America people are living under a vicious reign of terror.

In Argentina today the situation is worse even than the situation in Chile. A whole generation of radicals, trade union leaders, people who favour change, is being eliminated, murdered, disappearing off the street.

Yet the CIA can be defeated. This is the positive side that keeps hope alive among the Chileans, Argentines, Iranians and Indonesians.

It is difficult to say what will happen with our case. But the fact is that whatever happens, this campaign has aroused a lot of people and interested a lot of people not only in the question of the CIA but in political activities which will continue and should continue long after this case is resolved whether I stay or whether I go.



The men behind the far right National Association for Freedom: (from top) Frank Taylor, boss of construction firm Taylor Woodrow, Norris McWhirter, John Gouriet, whose injunction stopped the postal workers blacking South Africa, and Robert Mass, its director, whose book on Chile was published by the CIA and is handed out free by the junta.

# ABORTION Battle of the bigots' Bill begins

THE REAL AIM of the anti-abortionists was exposed in parliament on Friday when the William Benyon Bill to amend the 1967 Abortion Act got its second reading.

They have claimed that they want to 'tighten up' the working of the Act. But they offered not a single shred of evidence which proved the law had been abused.

Said Liberal leader David Steel: 'Let us not pretend that the case for the Bill is to tidy up the Act. It is to stop abortion.'

The Bill would mean a return to the days when safe, legal abortion was out of reach for most working-class women.

It would sever ties between referral agencies and clinics. That means charity organisations such as the British Pregnancy Advisory Service and the Pregnancy Advisory Service would have to close, or seek ways around the law.

They were set up after 1967 and have kept the price of private abortion down, as well as filling the gap left by the National Health Service.

### Outrageous

The most outrageous part of the Bill is that proposing that senior police officers should have access to clinic files. This makes a mockery of the confidence between doctors and their patients.

Jean Lewis, a doctor from Pontefract, told the Women's Voice rally last Friday: 'The inspection of doctors' files by the police in abortion cases is just the thin end of the wedge.'

'Last week our surgery was being asked to check up on people claiming sickness benefits. The police shouldn't be allowed anywhere near patients' files.'

Benyon claims that he wants to stop women being exploited by private clinics. Anyone who was genuinely interested in this aim would

FORTY-SIX Labour MPs voted for the Benyon Bill. Many are members of, or are sponsored by, trade unions whose committed policy is against the Bill.

Those who voted against are listed below. So are the unions that have declared policies on abortion.

If an MP from your union is listed, get a resolution through your branch to commit him or her to vote according to union policy. If your union so far has no policy, get a resolution to commit national conference and executive to outright opposition to changes in the law, better still for abortion on demand.

ASTMS: Fred Willey (Sunderland North). ASTMS was committed against the James White anti-abortion Bill.

NUR: Richard Buchanan (Glasgow Springburn). Tom McMillan (Glasgow Central), Leslie Spriggs (St Helens).

TGWU: Lewis Carter-Jones (Eccles), James Dunn (Liverpool Kirkdale), Kevin McNamara (Kingston-upon-Hull Central), Gordon Oakes (Widnes), Michael O'Halloran (Islington North), Terry Walker (Kingswood), Ian Campbell (Dunbar-



Demonstrators marching through London last Friday.

campaign for free abortion to be available on the National Health to any woman who wants it.

Only a bigot would try to restrict what few rights women have, and send them back to the exploitation and danger of the backstreets.

Six hundred people supported the Women's Voice demonstration outside parliament. Another 800 were on the National Abortion Campaign demonstration the previous night.

'That's a good start, but we need to mobilise much more

than that to defeat this Bill,' Margaret Gallagher told the Women's Voice rally.

A packed hall heard Margaret, who is student president of Lancaster University, and Lynn James from Oxford University, describe how the students, especially those in the National Organisation of International Socialist Societies, had to organise now. 'Resolutions to the NUS executive are not enough.'

The Bill this time has been carried by a much narrower margin—only 38 votes. Now

we can topple the anti-abortion lobby to defeat.

The campaign needs to be among the members of the union. A resolution to the executive passed on the nod by three people is nothing compared to a resolution carried by 300 people at a special meeting,' said Margaret Renn, SWP women's organiser.

'The National Abortion Campaign has called a national demonstration for Saturday 14 May. We can't hope that people will turn up on the day. We have to start organising a militant campaign now', she said.

## Is your MP here?

- Northamptonshire West): NGA: Ivor Clemiston (Luton East).
- TSSA: Stanley Cohen (Leeds South East).
- EETPU: Thomas Cox (Tooting).
- GMWU: Patrick Duffy (Sheffield Attercliffe), Michael English (Nottingham West), John Smith (North Lanarkshire), GMWU Women's Conference voted 'to preserve the spirit of the 1967 Act'.
- NUM: Alex Eadie (Midlothian), Adam Hunter (Dunfermline), Michael McGuire (Ince), Alexander Wilson (Hamilton), Robert Wood (Blaydon).
- UPW: Harry Ewing (Stirling).
- AUEW: James Hamilton (Bothwell), Dan Jones (Burnley), James Lamond

(Oldham East), William Small (Glasgow Garscadden). Both the AUEW and TASS were committed to oppose the James White Bill.

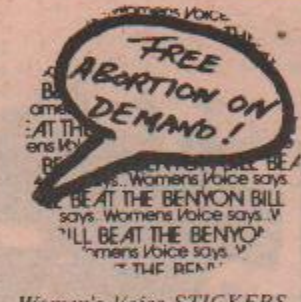
USDAW: Frank McElhone (Glasgow Queen's Park), Walter Padley (Ogmore).

EIS: William Ross (Kilmarnock).

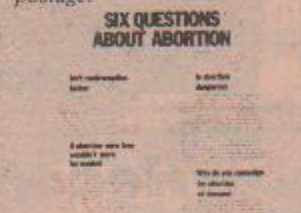
Blastfurnacemen: James Tinn (Teesside Redcar).

Other MPs: Leo Abse (Pontypool), Edward Bishop (Newark), Peter Bottomley (Teesside Middlesbrough), Jeremy Bray (Motherwell), Dennis Canavan (Stirlingshire West), Jim Craigen (Glasgow Maryhill), Tam Dalyell (West Lothian), James Dempsey (Coatbridge and Airdrie), Dickson Mabon (Greenock and Port Glasgow), Gregor McKenzie (Rutherglen), Michael Noble (Rossendale), Robert Parry (Liverpool Scotland Exchange), James White (Glasgow Pollok), Alan Lee Williams (Hornchurch), Harold Wilson (Huyton).

The NUJ, CPWA and NUPE are also committed to a policy of abortion on demand. NALGO was opposed to the James White Bill.



Women's Voice STICKERS available now. 50p for five sheets (12 per sheet), including postage.



Women's Voice POSTERS: Six questions about abortion. 50p for 20 including postage. Money with orders to: Womens Voice, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.



# India Inside Mrs Gandhi's hell-hole, by a woman jailed for five years

SOME people believe that Mrs Gandhi's India is somehow 'socialist'. They should read Mary Tyler's book.\*

It is a picture of the real India struggling beneath all the hypocrisy.

It is a picture of the many millions, the landless and poor, the perpetually hungry, perpetually persecuted, for whom the State and the boss and the landlord are all the same.

## Strangled

Mary Tyler was a Willesden schoolteacher. She saved up to go overland to stay with a boyfriend's family in Calcutta. After four months there, she married him.

But Calcutta was in the midst of being strangled by the central government, beating back the rage of the oppressed.

One month later, on a trip to a village in Bihar, Mary and her husband were arrested, accused of planning armed guerrilla warfare.

There was never a shred of evidence, but from June 1970 until June 1975, Mary Tyler was held 'pending trial'. Then they released and expelled her.

The charge didn't matter, for she joined thousands—perhaps hundreds of thousands—of people who didn't know their charges either.

## Arrested

There was *Old Gulabi*: 'Together with four other day labourers she had been harvesting paddy on a landlord's field, unaware that the ownership of the particular land on which she was working was disputed by his cousin, who promptly had all the labourers and the man who employed them, arrested



ABOVE and TOP: Victims of India's poverty—and Mrs Gandhi's tyranny

released from jail, while the labourers remained behind bars'.

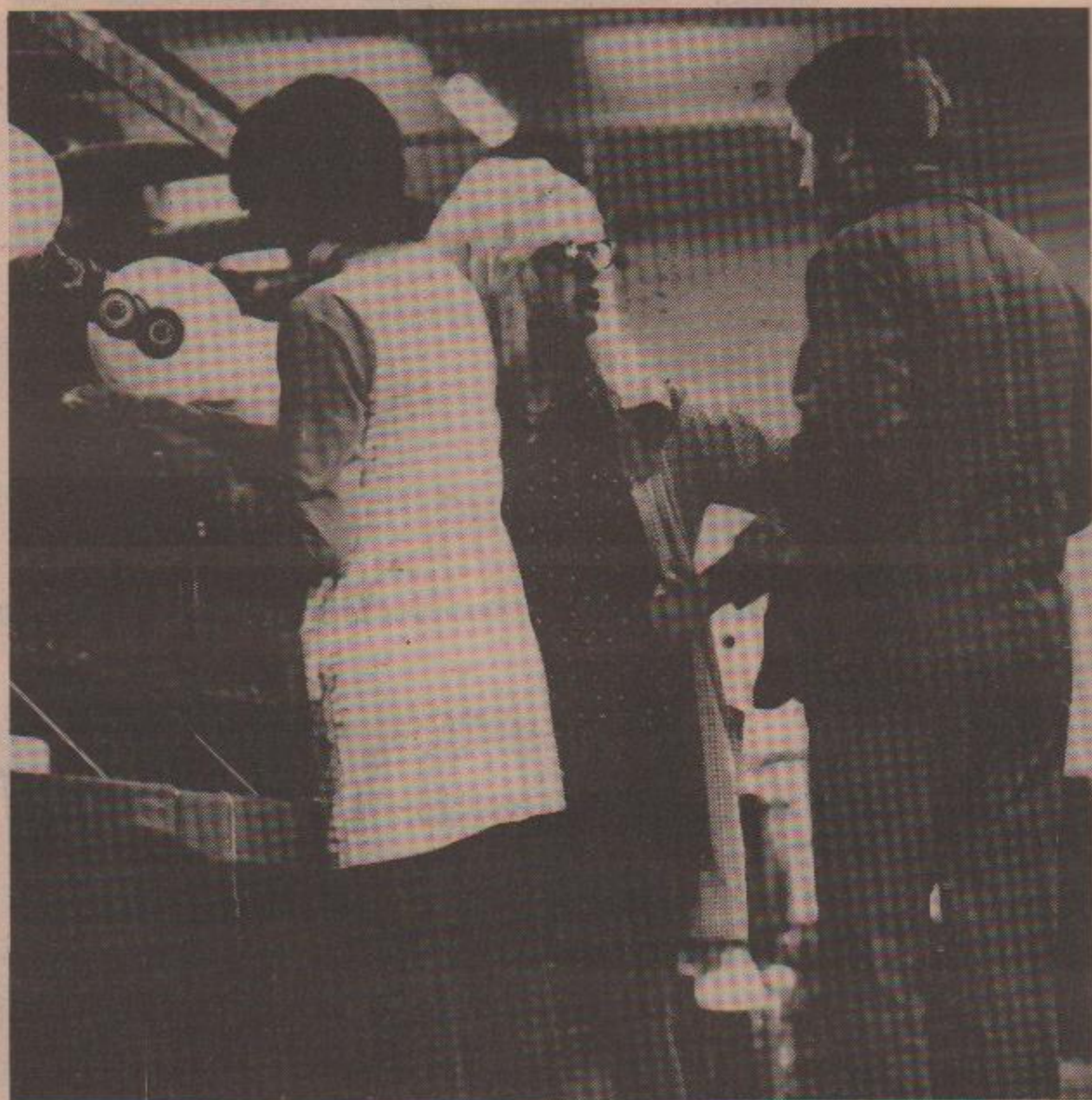
Or *Dulali* who 'had worked as a lavatory cleaner at a copper mine... She had been arrested on an attempted murder charge after intervening to stop some men who were fighting in the street outside her house.

'She could not have been

more than thirty five, and looked younger, but was the mother of seven children'.

They were lucky to be in a small district jail. In the local city of Jamshepur, 1000 prisoners (including 44 women and 12 children in a 15-foot square cage) were packed in a jail built for 137.

In the women's section, children were born and



## DON'T TRY IT ON, MR BLOODY FOREMAN . . .

SHOP-FLOOR confrontation: a textile worker argues it out with a foreman, over piecework rates at a Blackburn mill. It's one of 38 pictures from an exhibition called *Down the Road*. The photographs are to be

published in May in a book of the same name by Bob Golden and Sarah Cox.

The exhibition is available for hire to schools, colleges and trade union branches for a fee of £5. All proceeds go

to the National Right to Work Campaign.

For details and bookings, write to *Down the Road Exhibition*, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4 or phone 01-359 1371 (evenings)

Sometimes the prisoners starved:

'At one stage, even the morning chick pea disappeared, and was replaced by a couple of spoonful of slimy rice cooked in a little molasses.

'The concoction was made from all the broken rice left at the bottom of sacks and was full of straw and husks... The daily vegetable continued to vary between worm-eaten eggplant and cauliflower leaves and stalks.

Illness and dysentery were rife, with periodic epidemics, not to mention the barbarities inflicted on some to make them talk.

Mary was accused of being a 'Naxalite'; men Naxalites were held permanently in leg-irons, crouched in cages, liable to occasional assault and murder.

There were added fleeting 'political prisoners' (Naxalites were not counted as 'political prisoners'). Rich politicians with elaborate privileges and good food, soon on their way.

## Anger

(The Indian Establishment looks kindly on tame rebels.)

Occasionally, the women heard the cries of the men Naxalites, among India's finest youth, permanently incarcerated. Then there were waves of industrial strikers, strong and militant.

At each stage, Mary gathers their story. She rarely rises to anger, for like the other prisoners, it was all they could do to survive.

It is the fact that the prisoners expect so little that

is the most massive indictment of the regime.

They are untouched by the drivel of propaganda that boasts a 'rule of law'.

Nor does she indict her jailers, selling off the prisoners' daily necessities, for they also have to survive. Mary's last wardress weeps as the court dismisses the case:

## Czar's jailers

'She had been appointed specially to guard me, and knew that her job had now come to an end and she had to find some other way to feed and educate her four children'.

Just like the Czar's jailers or those of Stalin, from Attica to Long Kesh, it is a system that subordinates all

participants.

It is the smooth, kindly liberals who, far away, direct the system who are the savages.

Read this book; you will learn more about the real India than from a ton of 'expert' junk.

Or better still, write to the publisher and demand a cheap paperback.

\* Mary Tyler, *My years in an Indian prison*, Gollancz, £5.20.

NIGEL HARRIS

JAILERS SOLD OFF THEIR PRISONERS' FOOD AND CLOTHES. SOMETIMES THE PRISONERS STARVED . . .

the CP, the SWP & the  
**Rank & File Movement**  
**The TGWU**  
**Portugal now**  
**One Hundred Points**  
first complete translation

February  
International Socialism  
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or from SW sellers



# The Red beside the bed

SOCIALISM IS THE PRESCRIPTION, SAYS Dr JEAN LEWIS

WHEN, aged 17, I told my doctor that I intended to go to medical school and learn to be a doctor, he was horrified.

He tried to persuade me not to go. 'Why don't you become a nurse?' he said.

After all, my father was a miner and I suppose I should have known my place.

The things that made me want to be a doctor were not the technicalities of treatment and diagnosis, but interest in people, how they behaved and what they really thought deep inside.

I suppose at that point you would call it nosiness, intermixed with a general feeling of wanting to do good.



Photo: Chris Davis (Report)



Miners, coaldust—and inevitable disease: a doctor can't treat the symptoms and ignore the cause

## Dawn

While at medical school in Edinburgh, it began to dawn on me about the complete discrimination and inequality around me. Women, who have natural talents for medicine, were only allowed a quarter of the places.

*What was more glaring, however, was that 80 per cent of the students came from public school. Rugby was the order of the day, not compassion.*

I was taught that the 'golden age' of medicine was dawning. Deaths from the infectious diseases and TB were rapidly declining. The wonder drugs which were to cure everything from unwanted pregnancies to a sore throat had arrived.

Swallow a tablet and all your tensions and depressions will

## UNDER SOCIALISM, MEDICINE WILL BENEFIT HUMAN BEINGS, NOT THE DRUG COMPANIES

disappear. Have a heart operation and live for ever.

After leaving medical school, I went to work in a hospital and then into General Practice. And it was here that the harsh realities of what life, death and suffering were really about came home to me.

There's a lot talked in medical circles about saving lives but little about the quality of those lives.

Today my surgeries are filled with miners suffering from pneumoconiosis, bronchitis, emphysema. They're full of unemployed people, teenagers playing truant from school, single parents and 'tired' women.

It was the tired women who really worried me a lot because it

was all so insidious. They hardly even recognised that they were depressed and dissatisfied with life.

*I felt I had to do something for them. But could I talk to them forever? I would give them any of the 43 varieties of anti-depressant pills on the market and yet I was making no headway.*

### Reforms

All this time, I was in the Labour Party wishing that they would rapidly get on with their reforms so that there would be

more doctors, more hospitals, more time to spend with patients, and shorter waiting lists. But instead, the opposite was happening and things were getting worse.

The other thing I noticed happening was that as the crisis got deeper, so there was a greater incidence of mental illness among all social classes. The personal, social and economic factors are intermixed.

I could also see that the drug companies were making tremendous profits, paid for by the National Health Service. I felt that I was at the other end of an immense advertising campaign.

Dozens of useless adverts, promotions and little gifts came

through my letter box every week along with 'dressed up' medical magazines filled with advertising.

Reps from the multinational drug merchants sat in my waiting room waiting to tell me about the 'wonder' drugs duplicated by most of the drug companies and guaranteed to cure every disease.

Four years ago, I decided to stand back and look at it all. I could see that I could flog myself to death for ever and make little impact on the quality of life of my patients.

### Responsible

The National Coal Board was really responsible for the state of my miners' lungs. And society was causing the 'tired' women.

I could see that the only way to deal with the situation was the other side of the coin—to try and change society.

I suppose you could call it preventative medicine. At that point I left the Labour Party and joined what was then IS and is now the Socialist Workers Party.

*In other words, I became the red beside the bed.*

### Wish

My colleagues didn't like it. One consultant was even heard to express the wish to string me up from a lamp-post because of my politics. It was a case of 'having let the side down' and, in their terms, moved to the side of 'the rabble'.

As society changes, as I'm quite sure it will, a lot of illness will be more easily coped with. Medicine will be what it really should be.

Technical resources would be administered with compassion and used not for profit and greed but for the physical benefit of all human beings.



February issue now re-printed. More copies from 01-739 1878. March issue will be sent to branches to arrive on 11 March.

10p plus 7p postage from Women's Voice, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

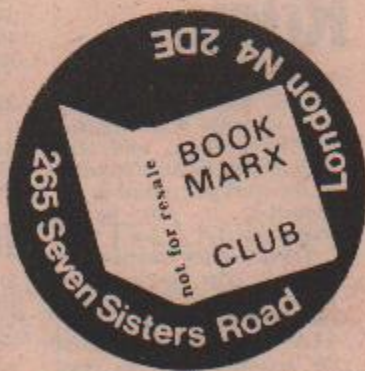
## Bookmarx Club: Don't miss this offer

Selections for the second quarter of 1977 (starts 1 April)

**The First Shop Stewards Movement** by James Hinton. This excellent study of the shop stewards movement which arose at the end of the First World War has, until now, only been available in an expensive hardback edition. Bookmarx have persuaded the publishers to issue it as a paperback.

**The Dispossessed** by Ursula LeGuin. An unusual science fiction novel which, by its presentation of an imaginary society, forces the reader to view our society in new ways.

**God's Bits of Wood** by Sembene Ousmane. In 1947-8 the railway workers on the Dakar-Niger line in the French Sahara came out on strike. This novel is the story of the strike, the



strikers and how their success showed them that they could regain control of their country. **Stella Browne** by Sheila Rowbotham. A

biography of this women's leader of the inter-war years which brings home the fact that there is nothing new in women's struggles and the issues they raise.

**HOW TO JOIN THE BOOKMARK CLUB:** You have to join for at least one quarter during which you will receive all the books advertised. The cost of joining is £4.50 a quarter.

Bankers' orders are available on request. In addition to the advertised selections we are often able to offer members special prices on books eg in the first quarter on Renshaw's *General Strike*, Ehrenburg's *Life of the Automobile* and Barltrop's *Jack London*.

Write to: **Bookmarx Club, Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4 2DE**

# London Transport: Call for action

by PETE GLATTER  
London bus driver

ALL they're interested in is getting us to vote Labour in the GLC election. This was the verdict of one busman after a mass meeting of London Transport workers called by the four big bus and underground unions: IGWU, ASLEF, NUR and TSSA.

Most of us thought we were there to discuss what action we could take in the official Save Our Services campaign. But we were quickly disillusioned. Jim Daly, chairman of the GLC Transport Committee, and the union officials who spoke from the platform had little to suggest apart from giving out leaflets and lobbying parliament. Their warnings about how much worse things would be if the Tories got in sounded rather hollow after the cuts, one-man operation, and fare increases already imposed by Labour.

### Natural wastage?

London Transport is demanding a cut of 500 bus staff through 'natural wastage' and another hefty fare increase this summer will mean they have been raised by 200 per cent in two years. There were angry scenes when they refused to accept resolutions from the floor. Supporters of Platform, the London Transport workers rank and file paper, put forward three ideas for action: □ A one-day strike on 19 April. □ A free fare day on 21 April, the SOS Campaign's Day for Transport. □ The extension of SOS beyond its finishing day—which is 21 April—into a national rank and file campaign.

Jim Daly and the union officials managed to close the meeting without any decision on these positive proposals. But many people wanted action and there were continuous protests about the undemocratic way the meeting was being run. □ Platform is holding a public meeting on 'Which Way for the SOS' on Friday 4 March, 8pm, in The Roebuck pub, Tottenham Court Road, London WC1, near Warren Street tube. We urge all LT workers who want a real fight against the cuts to attend.

# Essex busmen say: Stop fare increases!



Essex busmen picketing last week. Picture: Phil McCowan

BUS workers from Chelmsford and Colchester picketed the Traffic Commissioners last week in protest at last week's application by Eastern National for their sixth fare increase in two years.

The protest was organised by their Transport Workers' Union branches and the Chelmsford Stop the Cuts Committee.

Bus workers know only too well that fare increases lead to a vicious circle of axed services and lost jobs.

The pickets went into the hearing, Cambridge, and gave management a rough ride. One of them, Dermot McGoldrick, said: 'It was a terrific opportunity to show how we feel about company policy.'

Another, Ken Campion, added: 'It let the men know how we feel about company policy.'

Another, Ken Campion, added: 'It let the men see top management face to face—now we know the governors are nothing special.'

Peter Taylor said bus workers should take the fare issue to the public and win their support. Neil Mayhew commented: 'Eastern National's fares are already the highest in the National Bus Company. Far too few people realise they're making a loss because of their 'statutory obligation' to repay their capital debt to the government.'

# 3,000 GASWORKERS STRIKE

by STEVE CEDAR  
MORE THAN 3000 gas workers in London and Essex are on strike against management's increased use of non-union contract labour.

Eastern Gas Board workers—from London and throughout East Anglia—were meeting on Tuesday to decide whether to join the action. The strike started in the North and East London area two weeks ago. But the strikers have had little help from their union, the General and Municipal Workers.

Last Thursday the regional secretary, Harry Heath, would not come to see stewards in East London. He offered instead to see eight of them at this office in Hendon. Thirty angry stewards representing all the depots picketed the Hendon meeting. Inside, the full-time officials threatened to stop the meeting if the noise outside didn't stop. Said Mick Cathome, shop steward at Lea Bridge depot: 'After we had a word with the lads outside we told Heath, Wheatley and Roberts that we wouldn't leave the building until the

meeting was held and finished. So they sat down and heard our grievances.' The officials offered to make the strike official for the service teams but not the fitters, and then only in one depot, Barking Road, where the strike started. Management offered the pickets a day's pay to go back to work at 2pm that afternoon.

After a meeting with management, shop steward Bob Turner said: 'The whole thing is just a whitewash job. Management don't want an agreement. It's just a waste of time talking to them!' Another steward said that the Gas Board has already drawn up plans to bring in outside contractors. What management really want is a new time system, with staggered hours and weekend work. The City and Guilds qualification which the gas workers can get will count for nothing. Management say they are after 'mobility' which, says Stratford shop steward Vic Clayden, means more work and less lads employed. The men are determined to make the Gas Board back down and will be spreading the strike all over the South East, by sending flying pickets to every depot.

# Kettering: Now it's a lockout

KETTERING: Journalists on strike for more than three months returned to work last week for one day—to be locked out the next morning. The main editorial offices and district offices at Wellingborough, Corby, Rushden and Market Harborough were entered at the same time. So astonished was scabbing editor Ron Hunt that when asked how journalists could work when the phones were cut off he replied: 'As far as I'm concerned, you're not here.' Managing director John Ryan went one better, telling the 60 journalists they couldn't be in the building because they were still on strike.

# CARDIFF MARCH TO SAVE HOSPITALS

by MIKE PEARSON (NALGO)  
CARDIFF: About 100 trade unionists and students from all over Wales marched through Cardiff at the weekend against the cuts in public spending and in particular against recent announcements of 'economies' in hospital facilities.

In the Cardiff area alone, Lansdowne Hospital is to close, three wards at Glan Ely Hospital are to close and if that's not enough at St David's Hospital in Canton the accident unit is to close in April, putting at risk half Cardiff's population. A NUPE shop steward said: 'The closing of Lansdowne Hospital will amount to signing many patients' death warrants. It's happened before. When they closed the last old persons' hospital and the patients had to be transferred to Lansdowne, I look nine down to the morgue in as many days.' The local Right to Work Campaign distributed hundreds of posters and thousands of leaflets calling upon all trade unionists to support the campaign to Save Our Hospitals.

# Edinburgh hospital protest

by PAUL MCLEAN  
by NUPE shop steward, Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh  
EDINBURGH: Health workers from Leith Hospital used a horse and cart to organise a demonstration against plans to downgrade their hospital from a district general to geriatric, with a greatly reduced service. The demonstration ended with the presentation of a petition of 30,000 signatures to the Health Board. Supporters of the Save Our Hospitals Campaign helped in the activity and were welcomed with enthusiasm. But official trade union support and organisation was nil.

# UNION FREEZE FOR SACKED 110

by WILLIAM BENNETT  
Paisley and Renfrew TGWU district committee  
AT THE Paisley Transport and General Workers district committee meeting last week we heard two delegates from the sacked workers at Allied Supplies, Paisley. They told us that in early January the company sacked 110 TGWU members for not doing a stocktaking on the company's terms. A branch meeting was held three working days later inside the

company, and the 110 were not allowed to attend. Our district committee decided that this meeting was in no way a properly constituted branch meeting. The regional secretary, Raymond Macdonald, and the district officer, Alec Thomson, are defending the so-called branch meeting. As far as I am concerned the whole business smells and the sooner there is an open investigation into the whole strange affair, the better.

# Meade strike provoked

WELLINGBOROUGH: Meatworkers at a tiny subsidiary of the giant Spillers Group are on strike for union recognition only days after joining the Transport and General Workers Union. Management of Alf Meade provoked a walk out by sacking a manager, installing a TV camera to spy on the workers and making 14 of them redundant. Since 22 February, when the strike of the 26 TGWU members began, management has refused to recognise that they belong to a union. No meat is getting in or out and Meade—Lonsdale goods have been blacked. □ Money and messages to John Gittins, 80 Birchfield Road, Wellingborough. Management of Alf Meade provoked a walk out by sacking a manager, installing a TV camera to spy on the workers and making 14 of them redundant. Since 22 February, when the strike of the 26 TGWU members began, management has refused to recognise that they belong to a union. No meat is getting in or out and Meade—Lonsdale goods have been blacked. □ Money and messages to John Gittins, 80 Birchfield Road, Wellingborough.

Management, knowing that neither the NUJ nor the printworkers' union the NGA will work with scabs, locked the doors on the journalists. As senior management guarded each door of the new £3 million Northamptonshire Newspapers plant, reporters from the national press were shown confidential employment records of the journalists outside. The desperate attempts by the bosses' press to smear the strikers is management's last line of defence in the 13-week struggle. Members of the NGA still working inside the locked building have told the nine NUJ defectors to withdraw their resignations in writing. If they don't the NGA has threatened to restrict editorial contents of the scab edition of the Evening Telegraph to the editor's normal work—a 'comment piece' of world-shattering irrelevance. That should put an end to management's ludicrous claims that circulation figures have remained steady. □ Messages of support to NUJ strike committee, NAAW Offices, Cattlemarket, Kettering.

# Ferodo £65 shocker!

DERBYSHIRE: A hundred engineering workers at Ferodo, Chapel-en-le-Firth, have been told to pay their bosses £65 each. They have been told to do so by the Labour government—and given ten weeks to pay up. The demand for £65 from each man came after shop stewards demanded a cost of living increase. Some government bureaucrat just happen-

An advertisement by the National Right to Work Campaign  
TOMMY RILEY, rank and file candidate in the TGWU general secretary election, is going on tour

TGWU RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN  
PROTEST RALLY  
**SMASH THE SOCIAL CONTRACT**  
**FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK**  
Saturday 26 March, 1977, 11.30am. Lesser Free  
Trade Hall, Peter St Manchester



# T&G Who Rules?

New Right to Work Campaign pamphlet out now! Send orders to 254A Seven Sisters Rd. N4. 10p + 8pp. Orders over 10 post free.

# Vote! for the love of Riley...

TWO WEEKS to go in the voting for a successor to Jack Jones, general secretary of Britain's biggest union, the Transport and General Workers. It is only the fifth election ever held for a full-time position in the TGWU. All the other 450 officials are appointed. Even Jones' successor, like Jack himself, will be elected for life, until he retires. There will be no chance for a re-election. Regular election of all TGWU officials is one of the demands that the Right to Work Campaign candidate, Tommy Riley, has been making. Tommy is deputy convenor at Metal Box, West-



houghton, in Lancashire. For the past week he has been touring factories, branches and workplaces, calling for reform of the TGWU's structure and for a fighting campaign within the union against the Social Contract. The week after voting ends,

there is a meeting open to all TGWU members to discuss how to build a strong and effective rank and file organisation within the union, in the workplaces and in the branches. It will be in Manchester. Tommy Riley told Socialist Worker: 'The election campaign has been a great opportunity to meet rank and file TGWU members throughout the country. Now we must work to get as big a meeting in Manchester as possible. We must make sure that the union represents the interests of all the members, and that we don't have our members stuck out on picket lines like at the present hotel strikes in Oxford and Sheffield without the full support of the union.'

# BURY: 5000 STAGE SOLIDARITY STRIKE

**BURY, Lancs:** Nearly 5000 workers were called out on strike for half a day last Wednesday by the District Committee of the Engineering Union.

The 35 engineers at two factories who have been on strike

since the end of November. A demonstration that afternoon outside one of the factories, Holgate, Fishwick and Laether, was supported by 450, who marched to the other factory on strike, E D Warburton. The strikers there occupied the offices three weeks ago, as they felt that they weren't getting anywhere. The strike is over management

refusal to concede a wage increase of £10 a week to bring them into line with other factories in the district. Both factories are owned by Weston-Evans, who managed to join the bosses union, the Engineering Employers Federation, just before Christmas, after the strike began. Workers at other factories in the combine, Cherry Tree Engineering in Blackburn and Avanti Engineering in

Clifton Junction near Bolton, received the full £6 and the £2.50 allowed under the pay code without any struggle. So why have they held out so long in Bury? Is there an underlying reason for WE's reluctance to cough up? There are several factories in the area which make similar paper making machinery that are having difficulties. One is threatening redundancies.

## Ford's: Campaign for £15 and a 35-hour week

CONVENORS representing 54,000 hourly-paid Ford workers have come out against the Social Contract. And this week workers at the company's largest plant, Dagenham, have started a massive campaign to win backing for £15 and 35 hours. They have issued thousands of stick-on badges, and published a 2p bulletin, *Fordworker*.

At the back of the bulletin is a petition calling for an end to the Social Contract and the £15 and 35 hours. This will be presented to the important national meeting of Ford shop stewards in Coventry on 1 April. If a determined campaign for £15 and 35 hours is not mounted now among rank and file Ford workers, trade union officials like Scanlon, Jones and Moss Evans will be able to wriggle out of the fight necessary to secure the claim. The call by Leyland shop stewards for a one-day strike against the Social Contract in April should be taken up by Ford workers as well.

## Grunwicks: Is this the way, APEX?

**NW LONDON:** The long strike for trade union recognition at Grunwicks is still going on. The national executive of the clerical workers union APEX is now demanding that Grunwicks accept the ballot held over trade union recognition. The ballot was organised by the government's arbitration service, ACAS. The

APEX executive say they will raise the matter on the General Council of the TUC if Grunwicks do not give way. This might not be very effective. TUC general secretary Len Murray has already attended a meeting of the strikers and promised support. But this hasn't led to any effective action. Grunwicks develop films which comes in the post. The postal workers were forced to let

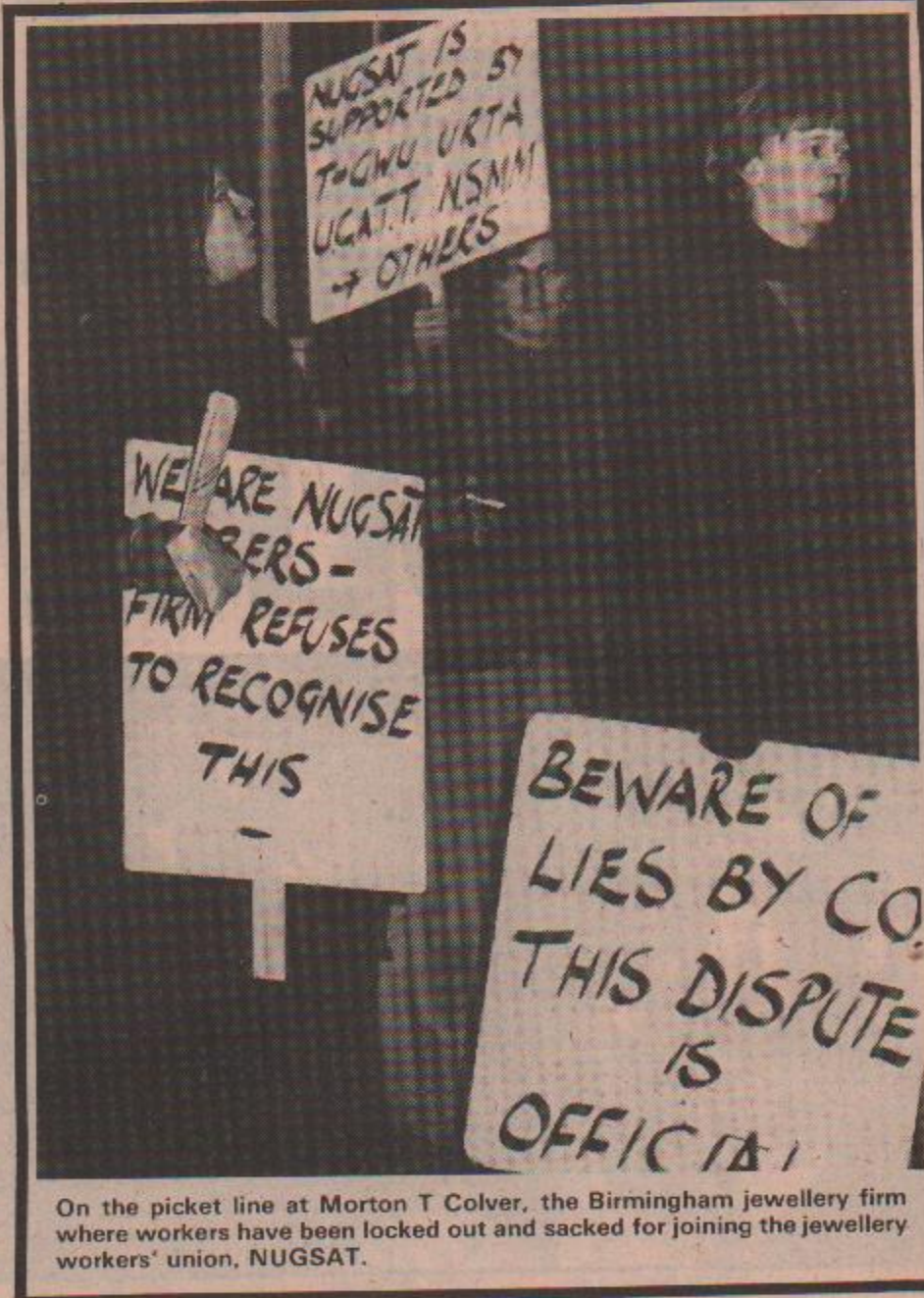
Grunwicks have their mail after a High Court writ was taken against them. Had Len Murray and the TUC General Council backed the postal workers and told them to ignore the courts, the strike would be won. It is tragic that a small firm, employing sweated labour in terrible conditions, should be defied the whole of the trade union movement.

## Trust House strikers win vital support

**SHEFFIELD:** The strikers at the Grosvenor House Hotel have now been out for three months over their claim for union recognition. The press have claimed that the TGWU had organised national blacking of Trust House Fortes. But the strikers have had no confirmation of this. Delegations from the strike committee have visited and spoken to trade union bodies and branches. Said Martin Clayton, a member of the strike committee: 'The response from ordinary trade union members is great. They all want to help.' In contrast, the attitude of the full-time officials of the TGWU, both in Sheffield and in London has been scandalous.

for joining the Transport and General Workers Union. When the pickets stopped the postman, the private detective stepped forward and said: 'You will be served with a writ for impeding the Queen's mail.' The National Association For Freedom have already been around the strike. They are the right wing organisation that forced the postal workers to let the Grunwicks management have their letters and to call off the blacking of South Africa. Messages and donations to: Linton Lodge Strike Committee, 127 Botley Road, Oxford. Workers at the Randolph Hotel in Oxford, part of the Trust House Forte Group,

are still on strike for recognition. Messages and donations: Randolph Strike Committee, 41 Bridge St, Oxford. BIRMINGHAM: Nearly 100 people picketed Night Out last Saturday, the Trust House Forte night club where a waitress was sacked for organising the union. Supplies to Night Out have been blacked. Only six barrels of beer are getting through. Another mass picket has been called for this Saturday at 7pm. Night Out, Bristol Street. Messages of support and donations to: Night Out Strikers, Transport House, Broad Street, Birmingham.



On the picket line at Morton T Colver, the Birmingham jewellery firm where workers have been locked out and sacked for joining the jewellery workers' union, NUGSAT.

### Business

That would show the company and the trade union officials that we mean business for the Ford Claim '77. For further details of the campaign, contact the Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Road, London N4. Tel 01-802 0978. Stickers are 10p a dozen. Money with orders, please.

## COVENTRY 350 FIGHT FOR SICK PAY

COVENTRY: 350 GEC toolmakers and allied workers have been taken off the clock in reprisal for working to rule. They are demanding improved fringe benefits—a sick pay scheme, pensions and better holiday pay. The toolroom workers starting rate of £69 is one of the lowest in the area. Up to £88 is being paid at other major plants. Messages and donations to: Brother Ian Hill, 32 Brinklow Road, Coventry.

### SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

The Industrial Advisory Committee has been postponed until Saturday 23 April. All those attending will receive details.

# SCHWEPPES: 100 OUT

## 2000 vote to fight on

**BIRMINGHAM:** A mass meeting of 2000 Sandwell Corporation workers have voted unanimously to continue their one-week-old strike. They are fighting cuts in the bonus, the use of sub-contractors, to retain gang allowances for apprentices and for 100 per cent trade union membership. The dispute has been made official by the TGWU, UCATT, EETPU, NUPE and the furniture union FTAT

**LONDON:** More than 100 Engineering Union fitters at the Schweppes factories in Sidcup, Park Royal and Hendon are on strike. Management at Sidcup suspended three AUEW members without pay for applying sanctions on new machinery.

### Decent

The machinery was brought in two years ago and the AUEW have been trying ever since to negotiate a decent reward for a new skill needed

to run it. Management have offered just 80p a week. In frustration, the fitters applied sanctions which led to the three men's suspension. Terry Radford, the AUEW shop steward, explained: 'We've operated a 24-hour picket seven days a week. We're all solid and everyone is turning out for picket duty.'

The factory is only being kept running because 'management in ASTMS are doing our jobs. They're scabbing'. Blacking is building up. Metal Box at Rochester, Kent, have promised that as soon as the AUEW National Committee make it official no cans will be delivered.

## PICKETS ATTACKED

**BIRMINGHAM:** Pickets have been having a rough time at Landers Wire firm. Workers are on strike for union recognition and the reinstatement of their convenor, Brian Masters. One picket was arrested for kicking and denting a van. He had been standing next to the van which had obviously been involved in an accident. Management blamed the pickets and called in the police. Another picket, a black worker, was frogmarched into the factory by another worker and two of the management. He is now scared of losing his job and has been intimidated into scabbing. The strikers are now planning to organise effective blacking and to raise money for the strike. The AUEW District Committee have called a mass picket in support.

### Deliveries

Tate and Lyle have not made deliveries since the start of the strike. Terry Radford added: 'The strikers are not getting strike pay and only a few are getting Social Security'. Messages of support, collections to AUEW / Schweppes, Sidcup, c/o 39 Belmont Road, Erith, Kent.

## MASSEY'S: WE'RE STRONGER THAN EVER

**COVENTRY:** In the tenth week of our strike at Massey's, we are stronger than ever. The feeling is growing now that we won't just return to work on our original agreement but on a better one. It's only two weeks till the agreement that the company locked us out over expires. They might try to go for a face-saver then. But the defence of the original agreement has now to

be turned into a fight for a good one, for safeguards against lockouts and for the protection of piecework. The conclusion that we have all drawn from this strike is that without rank and file support we wouldn't have had a cat's chance in getting this far.

We would like again to thank everyone who has helped us so far. Messages and donations to: Massey Ferguson Assembly Shop Strike Committee, c/o AUEW Halls, Corporation Street, Coventry.

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(BLOCK CAPITALS)

# Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

## Basildon: 450 out for equal pay

BASILDON: 450 women, all members of the Transport Union, are on strike for equal pay at Yardley's.

They want to be taken off the bottom grade, which is made up only of women, to grade six, the lowest of the men's grades.

They have been promised upgrading since 1973, and in desperation took their case to an industrial tribunal last December.

They lost because the com-



pany said they spent less than 15 per cent of their time doing the same jobs as the men. So the women decided to do

only 15 per cent of the same work as the men and went on a work to rule. The company immediately stopped production.

After ten days sitting inside the factory doing nothing, they decided to come out on strike. The strike began last Thursday.

It is as yet unofficial and the convenor, a TGWU member, is still working, as are most of the men.

Only 'the magnificent seven' as the women call the seven

men who support them, are on strike with the women.

Yardley's is owned by the huge British American Tobacco multi-national company. The company has threatened the women that they will close the factory if necessary.

'It's harder for them to get a job than for us lot,' was deputy convenor Joyce Garner's answer to that.

'We've been messed about for so long, the girls just won't put up with it any longer.'

# OCCUPATIONS SPREAD - DESPITE POLICE

600 POLICE stormed the London School of Economics at 3am last Saturday to break the occupation by students.

But that has not stopped the spread of occupations against the government's racist fees increase.

The increase is designed to make it virtually impossible for thousands of students from Third World countries to continue their studies.

### Support

It will also hit British students who finance themselves by working part-time.

At Sheffield University students voted 800-600 to support an occupation started the previous day by Overseas Students Action Committee with the support of the union executive and the International Socialist Society.

The vice-chancellor and senior members of the administration then went to a meeting of the Association of University Teachers, which agreed to close the university and lock out the students.

AUT members have since been breaking into the occupation, ripping out phones and causing damage.

### Racialist

The registrar went into the occupation and made a speech attacking Indian students, which many people regarded as racialist.

But the technicians union, ASTMS, has voted to support the students. And in response to the authorities' disgusting behaviour the biggest student union meeting ever, 3,000 strong, voted overwhelming support for the occupation.

At North East London Polytechnic, the director, Brosan, has tried to close down the Barking precinct. In negotiations, his only offer to the students was a teach-in with free beer.

At the Royal College of Art, the director tried to break the occupation by closing the college last Friday. But his action only increased backing for the occupation, and has pushed the lecturers' union NATFHE into support for the students.



ABOVE and BELOW: the occupation busters move in at the LSE and TOP, leave a trail of damage behind

Now the SLADE School of Art has also joined the struggle by occupying.

Manchester University has been occupied for the second time this term, and St John's College of Further Education in Manchester has also gone into occupation.

### Protest

At Middlesex Polytechnic, four sites are now occupied after the director withdrew concessions he made last term.

At North Staffs Poly two sites were occupied after meetings attended by more than 200 people.

City University and Brunel University in

London—traditionally thought of as right-wing—both have strong occupations.

Hull University is also occupied.

At Bradford, students used another tactic of protest. A 400-strong demonstration backed by trade unionists and members of the Right to Work Campaign protested when 200 local dignitaries were invited to take part in the great debate on education with Minister of State Gordon Oakes.

When they learnt there were 600 empty seats in Oakes' meeting, the demonstrators voted unanimously to break into it and let their feelings be heard.

Unfortunately, the militan-

cy of the students has not been matched by the coalition of Labour Party and Communist Party members, the so-called Broad Left, who dominate the leadership of the National Union of Students.

### Tories

At a number of colleges, they have been on the same side as the Tories in opposing occupations. This led to narrow defeats for calls for action at SOAS in London and Warwick University.

On Monday, most of the national union executives went as far as to denounce the Bradford students and to attack the committee of delegates from occupied colleges in London, the Action Committee, as a 'Trotskyite Front'.

### McCarthyism

But such McCarthyism from union bureaucrats is unlikely to prevent the movement spreading.

□ SPREAD the occupations. Action not words will defeat the racist fees increase.

□ SEND messages of support to other occupied colleges.

□ MAKE your feelings known on the national NUS demonstration next Wednesday.

## Wildt: Nothing leaves this plant!

LEICESTER: Workers at the Wildt Mellor Bromley knitting machine factory have ended their occupation and are now organising pickets outside the gates.

The decision was taken at a mass meeting on Tuesday after the Assistant Chief Constable of Leicester threatened to break into the occupation with 200 police.

The occupation began three weeks ago after management threatened to shut the factory with the loss of 800 jobs.

The pickets are determined that none of the machinery inside the factory will be moved.

Last week fellow workers in the Bentley group staged token stoppages in support. A meeting is being organised with other Leicester shop stewards to organise.

Management plans are clear. They are avoiding paying decent rates by by-passing trade union organisation and

sub-contracting work.

They already have done it to workers at Newbridge Street. That plant had redundancies and the threat of closure last year, but is now sub-contracting 80,000 hours to more than 40 different sub-contractors.

This practice is a threat to all trade union organised shops in the engineering industry. It must be stopped here.

□ Messages and donations to: Wildts Occupation Fund, 2 Granby Road, Aylestone, Leicester.



SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA  
Sunday 6 March, Assemble 1.30pm Hyde Park Corner.

Organised by: Anti-Apartheid Movement  
Supported by: National Union of Seamen, NALGO, Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, National Union of Students

The Socialist Workers Party urges all members and supporters to make this a demonstration of massive support for the freedom fighters in Zimbabwe and black workers throughout Southern Africa.

EETPU Rank and File Contact Conference  
SMASH THE SOCIAL CONTRACT  
STOP TELECOMS SACKINGS  
FIGHT FOR UNION DEMOCRACY

Saturday 12 March, 2-5 p.m.  
AUEW House, The Crescent, Salford, Manchester.  
Speakers: Billy Williams (Cardiff), Jack McKenna (EETPU Convenor, STC East Kilbride), Chairman: George Kelly (Glasgow Corporation Electrical Workshop).

NOISS National Organisation of Student Socialist Societies

NOISS annual conference: Friday-Sunday 11-13 March, at Manchester Polytechnic.

Sessions include: The state of the class struggle, Women, Southern Africa, United front, Ireland, PLUS workshops, including Italy, India, Spain, Eastern Europe, Cyprus, Middle East, Education and ideology, Rock against Racism. Also guest speakers and GRAND SOCIAL—accommodation, cheap food etc provided.

All International Socialist Societies are invited to send delegates (one for every five members) and an unlimited number of observers.

Conference begins Friday 11 March, 6pm. Details and registration forms from NOISS, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN.