IT'S THE RICH WOT GET THE GRAVY

Anti-racist strike holds firm

NORTH LONDON: An unmarked lorry got into the Standard Telephone factory at New Southgate on Tuesday by ramming through the picket line, a time which has held for five weeks and voted on Monday to go on until the anti-racist strike is won.

Management at the ITT subsidiary has been playing it cool with the pickets, hoping that the line will get smaller and less effective. Inside the factory they have been putting the frighteners on Asian workers to prevent them joining the strike.

The pickets are being successful in turning away lorries. The line is being visited by engineering shop stewards from local factories and by other trade unions, including some dockers.

The most important support so far has been the instruction of the shop stewards committee at STC, East Kilbride, Scotland, to transport drivers there not to deliver to the New Southgate plant. This decision is strongly supported by the Electricians' Union stewards at East Kilbride who are adamant that the members of their union at New Southgate are wrong to have any truck with racism.

Bonus

The strike started after ITT management cosigned with Electricians' Union members to stop Roderick Adams, the first black worker on night shift being trained as a setter.

West Indian and Asian workers on low basic wages are given bonus jobs with impossible times. If anyone looks remotely like achieving the targets they are immediately moved to other jobs. Semi-skilled setters' jobs are 'reserved' for whites whose prejudices are used to undermine union organisation and who are encouraged to settle with themselves with comparatively low wages because they feel themselves a cut above Asian and black workers.

The ITT management's public relations officials, tell local full-time officials are playing up to the media and the shameful role of the Electricians' Union.

On Monday the Leeds branch of the Electricians' Union voted 'grave concern' that members of their union at STC, are refusing to train members of other unions for better-paid jobs on the grounds of their colour. The branch called on the union executive to investigate and to make expulsions if the union is being used as a cover for racism. The union's annual conference this year condemned all forms of racism.

IT'S been wonderful weather all week, and some people have enjoyed it very much. The Prime Minister came away early from the Commonwealth Conference so he could attend the Admiral Cup—the most expensive sporting event in the world.

37 yachts were built in Britain for the race this year, at a cost of £2 million—£4,000 each. That's more than the government hopes to raise by charging for entry to museums.

In a marvellous first day's shooting on Britain's grouse moors, Viscount Stormont, the 17-year-old son of the Earl of Esher, of Bath, and some school friends from Eton shot down more than 100 brace of grouse. Lord Biddulph and his party at St Boswell's, Roxburghshire, shot 125 brace, and Viscount Alnwick in Northumberland got 134 brace.

Anyone who wants to join them is free to do so. Sporting Services, a prosperous London company, can arrange grouse shooting in Scotland or Yorkshire at up to £750 per gun per week, or salmon fishing at between £400 and £750 per rod per week.

Grouse can be eaten at the Savoy at £3 per head, 'Young grouse,' says Silvano Tropepe, the Savoy chef, 'is generally accompanied by a green salad and, because a good chablis is recommended, there should be no vinegar in the salad dressing.

The whole meal won't cost you more than a hospital worker's weekly salary.

The Marquess of Normandy delighted a crowd of 300 at Banffshire Estate at Bognor Regis, where, for £3.5 million, more than the entire rateable value of Bognor Regis, which has a population of more than 200,000.

CHAMPAGNE

The headquarters of public schools and preparatory schools are still celebrating this year's entrance application figures, which show that the Tories came to power with a 40 per cent increase in the number of people who want to buy their sons a £20-a-week snob education.

At Rolls-Royce, the directors have drunk several bottles of the best champagne to celebrate the building of a prototype body for their new model, the Delta. It will sell for £20,000, and will be the most expensive car in the world.

This wonderful project is being held up at the moment by a handful of greedy workers who are refusing to exchange their present piecework rates for a flat-rate £4 a week.

Any fool can say that if the workers accepted the £4 and then starved themselves and their families for 10 years, they might just be able to afford one of the cars which they are building.

Sir Arthur Cockfield, a former chairman, said: 'Boots, has had a particularly happy week. He gets £300 a week as chairman of the Price Commission. To approve price increase applications from manufacturers like Boots. Another lucky man is John Mott, deputy chairman of JTI's Mond Division, who will now be paid £300 a week by the government to see that firms like JTI don't cheat customers in the shops.

The Stock Exchange firm of Phillips and Drew, in a special summer bulletin to its clients, talks about an "unprecedented boom" in profits in the first half of 1973. The £1 plus four per cent formula for wages has produced a 40 per cent increase in profits—the highest in the history of British capitalism.

PRETENCE

As director of these booming companies boast themselves the makers of the moors, they are praying for another six months of trade union "responsibility and restraint".

They look anxiously to the trade union leaders who are preparing for yet another round of talks at Downing Street to 'take the sting out of any workers' revolt just as the Price Commission has taken the sting out of Heath's pretence at price control. They imagine that dustmen and miners and hospital workers and dockers and millions of other workers will 'tighten their belts' still further to ensure that wages are held down, profits held up and vinegar kept out of the salad dressing.

HEATH: Yachts at £4,000

facturers like Boots. Another lucky man is John Mott, deputy chairman of JTI's Mond Division, who will now be paid £300 a week by the government to see that firms like JTI don't cheat customers in the shops. The Stock Exchange firm of Phillips and Drew, in a special summer bulletin to its clients, talks about an "unprecedented boom" in profits in the first half of 1973. The £1 plus four per cent formula for wages has produced a 40 per cent increase in profits—the highest in the history of British capitalism.

PRETENCE

As director of these booming companies boast themselves the makers of the moors, they are praying for another six months of trade union "responsibility and restraint".

They look anxiously to the trade union leaders who are preparing for yet another round of talks at Downing Street to 'take the sting out of any workers' revolt just as the Price Commission has taken the sting out of Heath's pretence at price control. They imagine that dustmen and miners and hospital workers and dockers and millions of other workers will 'tighten their belts' still further to ensure that wages are held down, profits held up and vinegar kept out of the salad dressing.

HEATH: Yachts at £4,000

facturers like Boots. Another lucky man is John Mott, deputy chairman of JTI's Mond Division, who will now be paid £300 a week by the government to see that firms like JTI don't cheat customers in the shops. The Stock Exchange firm of Phillips and Drew, in a special summer bulletin to its clients, talks about an "unprecedented boom" in profits in the first half of 1973. The £1 plus four per cent formula for wages has produced a 40 per cent increase in profits—the highest in the history of British capitalism.

PRETENCE

As director of these booming companies boast themselves the makers of the moors, they are praying for another six months of trade union "responsibility and restraint".

They look anxiously to the trade union leaders who are preparing for yet another round of talks at Downing Street to 'take the sting out of any workers' revolt just as the Price Commission has taken the sting out of Heath's pretence at price control. They imagine that dustmen and miners and hospital workers and dockers and millions of other workers will 'tighten their belts' still further to ensure that wages are held down, profits held up and vinegar kept out of the salad dressing.

HEATH: Yachts at £4,000
Chile: President Allende turns sharply right

THE Chilean government of President Salvador Allende took a sharp turn to the right last week.

For two and a half years Allende's supporters in the Communist Party and the Socialist Party have been arguing that it is possible to move to socialism "peacefully", without destroying the power of the existing army and police.

The right wing in Chile has not been so restrained in its actions. Towards the end of last year businessmen staged a 'buses strike', disrupting the country's transport system, in an attempt to overthrow the government. It has now been attempting to do the same again and there have been continual plots aimed at producing a coup d'etat against the left.

Allende's response has been to rely more and more on the army and police to preserve law and order. Last week he brought the heads of the armed services and the police into government and indicated that he was looking for a compromise with one of the right-wing parties, the Christian Democrats. On Monday he announced a state of emergency which gives exceptional powers to the army.

Powers

But the armed forces are run by officers who continue to have inherited hatred for the workers' movement, even though they have so far remained subservient to the left. There is an extreme right to move outside of the government's control.

bymiddle class. When an air force unit searched a factory in Punta Arenas a fortnight ago, one worker was shot and another was severely injured by bayonets. Rank and file members of the armed forces who have shown themselves more friendly to the left than their senior officers have been arrested. The head of the army, General Prats, now a member of the government, has started legal proceedings against one socialista member of parliament for daring to make "attacks on the army".

But Allende, and those Communist Party and Socialist Party leaders who support his policies, have not criticized the generals' behaviour. Instead they have attempted to build up the army and have bitterly criticized workers who have prepared to defend themselves against the right.

The reaction of the workers to the plots of the extreme right has been to occupy factories and to prepare to defend them. The government, however, has denounced the occupations in its efforts to place the generals.

In effect it has said that there is no need for right-wing plots to stop any moves towards socialism. The government itself will put a stop to any such moves, with the aid of the army.

The move the right plots, the more the government cringes before the army officers.

Many people on the left in Chile who until recently supported Allende's government, are now beginning to see that there can be no further progress without destroying the power of the middle-class army and police officers. And that means breaking with Allende and his "peaceful road to socialism".

Airline workers attacked

REPORTS about massacres by the Portuguese army in Africa have made millions aware of the obscenity of Portuguese colonialism. President Caetano's regime was rather more successful in playing down a smaller atrocity committed just before the dictator's arrival in London against workers of the Portuguese national airline, TAP.

Leaflets put out at the time by an extreme left group, the members of the TAP international union, said TAP workers on Tuesday TAP workers had been arrested in the main building at Lisbon airport, where a full-scale attack was launched against the workers. TAP workers continued to harass the workers as they peacefully marched to the TAP main building in Lisbon airport, where a full-scale attack was then launched against the workers. TAP workers continued to harass the workers as they peacefully marched to the TAP main building in Lisbon airport, where a full-scale attack was then launched against the workers. TAP workers continued to harass the workers as they peacefully marched to the TAP main building in Lisbon airport, where a full-scale attack was then launched against the workers. TAP workers continued to harass the workers as they peacefully marched to the TAP main building in Lisbon airport, where a full-scale attack was then launched against the workers. TAP workers continued to harass the workers as they peacefully marched to the TAP main building in Lisbon airport, where a full-scale attack was then launched against the workers. TAP workers continued to harass the workers as they peacefully marched to the TAP main building in Lisbon airport, where a full-scale attack was then launched against the workers. TAP workers continued to harass the workers as they peacefully marched to the TAP main building in Lisbon airport, where a full-scale attack was then launched against the workers. TAP workers continued to harass the workers as they peacefully marched to the TAP main building in Lisbon airport, where a full-scale attack was then launched against the workers. TAP workers continued to harass the workers as they peacefully marched to the TAP main building in Lisbon airport, where a full-scale attack was then launched against the workers. TAP workers continued to harass the workers as they peacefully marched to the TAP main building in Lisbon airport, where a full-scale attack was then launched against the workers.
The title of "Man's palace" in which 1000 people live. The report begins because the guests have not been given enough room.

The 1000 people below in the wet, drizzly weather are effectively blocking the exits from the Rialto Cinema, which is now well lit. It will only take 45 minutes before it is razed to the ground.

In the bathroom there is no indication of any plastic flowers hanging from the roof. The men who are dancing the daicos of a few minutes earlier.

The children and the old are all standing barefooted. They are already unrecognisable. The old lady has done her part. People with hair covers their shoulders are putting themselves out of the windows to get away from this ghastly place where another fire on 7 August gutted six chalets. They are no longer willing to bear the burden of Buitin's management. They are free.

Alas! more than 2000 have perished. Hundreds are sustained for life. All this has happened because the capitalists behind it wanted to cut corners and save on outlay to maximise their profits. And it is the conditions that matter, not safety, not lives.

No, it didn't happen exactly like that. It was a fate in a foreign grace. The fire did not take place until 4am. But already many holiday makers had streamed away from the Rialto Cinema.

by S W correspondent

When he was put to bed at home, his wife said there was no pain in his head. He tossed and turned and said there were signs of his face firming up stiff in his right eye. This caused him to seek the help of the local doctor. As he was off duty, it was his relief who actually came to visit him.

By the time the relief doctor actually arrived, Keith's condition was becoming progressively worse. He was still in bed, and there were signs of his face firming up stiff in his right eye. He felt that he could not hear and was having difficulty in speaking. He also had difficulty in seeing.

Cecil Sampson took the matter in hand and organised a mass meeting to demand that relief doctor that Keith must be sent immediately to a proper hospital where there were adequate facilities and staff to attend to the eye injury. If Mr Sampson had not done this then the loss of time would have meant the difference between saving the eye and Keith going blind. He also saw the need to organise a demonstration and to set up a protective association to provide a voice for the people.

Cecil Sampson knew what to do. He wrote a letter to the chief of the Police Labour Association, and he said that he could not order an ambulance to take Keith there. So once again Keith had to be moved by private transport. He was admitted to Moorfields Eye Hospital. Keith was examined and found to be in a serious condition. So urgent was the need for attention that the operation had to be performed on Keith's right eye the same night. The operation was successful. He was able to see.

Concerned

Keith told his mother that he was in danger. He said that the British Labour Party had been involved in the case of the babies who were raised in a hospital in the town. The hospital was run by the Labor Party. Keith was dismayed that the Labour Party had taken no action to prevent the fire.

Mrs Kelly was very distressed and concerned for her son's condition. She stayed home. She decided to go to the hospital and see what was happening. She was told that the victims were ready to be brought home.

This time Mrs Kelly got into a car with some other friends of the family. They made their way to collect her son. He was in such a dirty condition that he could not even wipe his face from his hand and clear his nose which was blocked up with dried blood.

MEMBERS of the International Socialists are ineligible for membership of the Labour Party.

This ruling has been made by Reg Underhill, the party's national secretary. On 21 September, the former chairman of the Derbyshire High Peak Labour Party, wrote to Transport House asking for a ruling on the question of IS members who are in the Labour Party.

I understand that the matter was discussed at the national organisation sub-committee of Labour's national executive soon afterwards. The sub-committee's membership includes, in addition to Mr Underhill, Mr Connell, Mr Benn, Mr Foot, Mr Dennis Healy, Mr Ian Macdonald and Mr Jones.

Underhill was given permission by the meeting to write to Bracwell stating that under section 2, sub-section 3 of the Labour Party constitution, those parties which have their own programme or principles, or who present parliamentary or council candidates are not eligible for affiliation to the Labour Party.

Wrote Underhill: 'In view of the fact that the International Socialists has its own programme, carries out its own propaganda and has branches in various parts of the country, therefore members of the International Socialists are ineligible for membership of the Labour Party.'

The decision to pass on this ruling is described by the High Peak constituency as 'understand', not 'of the Labour Party.' The ruling has been described as not damaging to IS members only that their organisation has been specifically banned by the national executive. IS has not.

Elementary left grass in the man's eye

Labour party ban on IS members

NEXT Thursday will see the latest episode in one of the longer running Whitehall farces. A collection of men who can be relied upon to announce Tony Blair and the breakdowns from any conference platform will be ushered into 10 Downing Street. There they will discuss the act-Tory himself the terms of a deal on immigration.

Not that the trade union leaders can really be accused of being inconsistent. Over the past two years they have had several union deals to build a monolithic opposition to Tony Blair from office. They resisted the temptation each time. With their acquiescence, Heseltine has frozen wages, put up council rates and, on telephones, is still open to Tory offers. Yet still they go on to talk to him. There could hardly be a clearer indication of the increasing dependence of the trade union leaders from 'leftwingers' Jack Jones to right-wing David Bassett—are incapable of organising a real defence of their members' living standards.
KEITH AND KIN

I UNDERSTAND that Keith Mason, the Sun's industrial correspondent, will not be writing regularly any more in the monthly journal of the Engineering Workers' Union. His decision coincides with a sustained attack on his right-wing articles, on getting into a crisis in a burst of fury about his call for tougher immigration control last June.

The article provoked some adverse comments, left-players, including this column, and this month's letter column of the AURW Journal is full of abuse for the Wretched Mason. J Burn, for instance, of the Beverley Conservative, writes to say that if the black workers in this country are sometimes used as cheap labour, 'that's the trade unions' fault not his'.

Similar points are made in angry letters from R W Foster of the Crayford 7 branch, which has sent a resolution criticising Mason to the National Executive of the North Walsham branch, and F Handy, Eith district secretary. All four writers refer to Mason's attacks on strikes and militancy in the Sun and point to the absurdity of hiring capitalist propagandists to write in union journals.

The man to a great extent responsible for G4's style in Fraser Sandlands, the chairman of the 8th Sandlands, is something of a novelty among the trade union groups of chairmen in that he came up through the ranks as an executive with his company, which, by the way, is a Liberal-Conservative one. G4 is one of the biggest insurance companies in Britain and has its main offices in Canary Wharf, London, and a branch at MA.

- Financial Times, 11 August

SHUTTERS UP FOR COTTERBURY

THIS MONTH'S ISSUE OF EEF NEWS, the journal of the Engineering Employers' Federation, announced that Dr Richard Clutterbuck, who is usually described as 'Lecturer in Internal Combustion Engines, University of Exeter,' will be speaking at the next meeting of the Western Area. Mr Clutterbuck is an officer of the Employers' Association, an offshoot of the EEF.

Dr Clutterbuck is a member of the Great Wight Trilogy. The two other members are Michael Calvert, who is leading a rebellion (and right-wing rebel) in the Monday Club and an expert on counter-revolutionary town planning, and Major-General Frank Kitson, whose recent book advocating the use of the army in a more political counter-revolutionary role.

Clutterbuck's role in this nasty trio is to dig up the dirt about revolutionary organisations and pass it on to it where it matters. For instance, after the bombing of the Old Bailey earlier this year, Clutterbuck rushed on to the radio to name the International Socialists as an organisation which could have been involved.

As far as I know, this is the first time that Clutterbuck has been asked to speak to an employers' association. Unlikely, however, his speech will not be reported.

The Engineering Employers' Association is already reporting that it publicised the meeting at all. When a reporter from a right-wing paper rang them up to ask for a copy of Clutterbuck's speech and permission to attend and report a spokesman for the federation replied:

'Oh, go on, old chap, this is frightfully funny, hush. Oh, no, I'm afraid there won't be any press statement, and no transcripts of the speech either. The meeting is intended for top level management only. Attendance will be by invitation and there certainly won't be any press there.'

SNEEZE WHEEZE

REG WASHINGTON, an electrician who has been working in the Socialist Worker office, has an amazing story to tell about a new defence for political prisoners.

Last December, Reg and his two young daughters were driving in their van down Westminster Road, Croydon. Reg was turning right, and his van was stopped in the middle of the road waiting for a gap in the oncoming traffic.

Suddenly a police panda car smashed into the back of his van, injuring Reg's two daughters. One girl had to wear a special collar to protect her damaged neck for several weeks after the accident, and the other was bruised and shocked.

Only after prolonged inquiries from Reg's lawyer was Constable Charles Morton, who was driving the panda car, summoned for questioning without due care and attention. The case eventually came before Bromley magistrates at the end of last month, and five witnesses told the court that the panda car had been driven recklessly, for no apparent reason.

Constable Morton explained that he had been answering an 'emergency' call, and was driving very fast. Suddenly, he said, he had merced, and the car had got out of control.

The magistrate dismissed the case, and awarded the constable £10 as costs.

Reg's insurance company have accordingly refused to pay any of the cost of the damage to the van, since a sneeze is now regarded as an 'Act of God'.

CONSOLIDATED BARBARISM LTD

AN ARGUMENT has broken out in the engineering industry, and Donald McColl, chairman of Consolidated Goldfields, who are one of the most prosperous companies in Britain, has been involved.

In 1913, when Donald McColl was three, his father, who was chairman of Consolidated Goldfields, was struck by a bullet in the head. Donald McColl lived to become the 2nd Viscount Curzon of Kedleston.

This is possible because he had been left with some money in the bank. His father had been able to leave it to the next generation.

In 1972, when Donald McColl was 59, his father died. After that, Donald McColl was left with Consolidated Goldfields, and he has been trying to live up to that.

Consolidated Goldfields, which is owned by the South African government, has been involved in the Bantustan's war with white South Africa.

This is more than likely to continue, for Donald McColl is a white South African. His property in Bantustan is being taken over by the South African government, and he has been told to leave.

Of the rural Africans in the bantustan, one of them said, "It's a life based on minimum work, maximum leisure and large family units. Such things as running water, modern equipment, beds, modern vegetables are all in the family, but it is in the way of life since immortality, and the standard of living here is very high."
Terror that kept profits high...

HOW THE SYSTEM STARTED

Part Two

by Alastair Hatchett

Schoolchildren in the 1940s: education was "moral rescue".

That tore them limb from limb to death.

With blood, and groans, and tears.

Such terrorism was by no means exceptional. Within the years of the industrial revolution the function of elementary education, such as it was, was seen in mainly the "moral rescue" of the children of the poor.

One little girl who worked down a pit told a Commissioner on Child Labour in the Mines: "If I died a good girl I should go to heaven—if I were bad I should have to be burned in brimstone and fire; they told me that at school yesterday, I did not know it before."

Some of such children did die in the belly of the earth in explosions and fire, but these were the consequences of profiteering in coal.

The employers' brainwashing was not just waged on children but on all workers. A key book published in 1835 gave powerful support to the worst aspects of this subordination to capitalism. In Dr Andrew Ure's Philosophy of Manufactures we read:

"It is, therefore, excessively in the interests of every mill-owner to organise his moral machinery on equally sound principles with his mechanical, for otherwise he will never command the steady hands, watchful eye, and prompt co-operation, essential to excellence of product ... There is, in fact, no case to which the Gospel truth, "Godliness is great gain", is more applicable than to the management of an extensive factory."

Discipline

It is within the context of this statement on the introduction of the factory system and wage slavery that time, work and moral discipline have been examined. But what of the social consequences? How did the first generations of the working class exist in such conditions?

Frederick Engels' The Condition of the Working Class in England in 1844 gives us graphic answers to these questions.

"Immedidately under the railway bridge there stands a court, the fifth and horror of which surpass all the others by far ... Everywhere before the doors refuse and oftal ... privies are so rare that they are either filled up everyday or are too remote for most of the inhabitants to use them ..."

"In Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffield, Leeds and Birmingham these were typical conditions, Driven off the land in search of work, families faced overcrowding, squalor and poverty—the only products of capitalism that were distributed in abundance."

As a result of the long hours and conditions at work, plus the verminous housing and streets, life expectancy was low. In Edwin Chadwick's Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Labouring Population (1842) he analysed the average length of life for employers compared to workers, contrasting rural Rutland with Manchester and Liverpool.

The average length of life for an employer in Rutland was 57 years, in Manchester 38 years and in Liverpool 35 years. For a worker in Rutland it was 24 years, in Manchester 17 years, and in Liverpool 15 years. The figures are a stark indication of the class differences of the period.

The history of revolt and organisation against capitalism at this time stands as a tremendous testament to the spirit of defiance and challenge that was built up—illegal trade unions, organisations in strikes and demonstrations, and in the attempts to establish a working-class press.

Despite every possible form of repression and intimidation (including the death penalty) the period from the 1780s to the 1830s was one of struggle and advance as the new working class, becoming conscious of itself as a class, entered the heroic age of Chartism.

Womens Voice

Price 5p plus 3p postage
Subscription 50p for next 6 isues (inc postage)
WOMEN'S VOICE, 6 Cottesloe Gdns, London E2 8DN

NEXT WEEK: what happened to the country people

"Serv'd old Eliah 90; And bid the prophet go his way. "Go up, thou bald head, go." God quickly stopp't their wicked breast."

And sent two raving bears,
BATTING BEATTIE—that's how Mrs Beatrice Jones is known to council tenants in Sedgley and Dudley in the Midlands. She is chairman of Dudley Tenants and Ratepayers Association, which has been organising a rent strike in the area since October.

"We've been withholding the increases ever since they were brought in on 2 October," says Beatrice. "There are more than 10,000 tenants on rent strike in Dudley and the council now has a debt of £300,000." The Labour-controlled council plays down the number of tenants on rent strike. It tries to split and demoralise them by suggesting that many are now paying the increase and only a few are left on strike. But the tenants have not been taken in by this and are confident of their strength and support.

Beatrice has been living in the same council house for 37 years. "It cost the council £500 to build 53 years ago," she says. "When I moved in, the rent was 12 shillings a week, including rates. "Now with the Fair Rents Act, the rent will be £2.05 a week. Yet over the 53 years the rent we have already paid out will have paid for the house many times over.

"By 1975, if the Tories are allowed to get away with it, the rent will be more than £7. In other words the rent will have doubled in three years."

As soon as the increases were announced last year, Sedgley tenants called a meeting. There was not time to produce leaflets or posters, but 500 people turned up.

Jail

The mood was angry. They were determined to fight the increase. Other areas around Dudley joined the movement and now the tenants' association covers 17 different areas. In December more than 3500 tenants marched through Dudley against the Act.

"From the start," says Beatrice, "we encountered strong opposition from the Labour Party. The Labour councillors said it was a bad law but we had to accept it until it had been changed. They were not prepared to go to jail to oppose the Act. We think that bad laws ought to be abolished and we should fight until we get the Rent Act removed from the statute book. If any of our Labour councillors had stood up to this iniquitous law and gone to jail, we would have supported him to the hilt. "They should have taken their responsibility and given a lead to the rest of us. As it is now, we feel very let down by the Labour Party.

"Almost all the tenants were strong Labour supporters. But we are bitterly opposed to the way Labour just capitulated to the Tory Housing Act."

In Beatrice's opinion, the Housing Finance Act was started effectively by the Labour Party. She is convinced that if the last Labour government had stayed in power after 1970, then it would have passed a similar Act to the Tories.

She wrote recently to Harold Wilson, asking for a commitment that Labour will not just repeal the Act but will bring rents down to the 1972 level and pay back the increases to tenants.

"Otherwise Wilson is trying to get into power under false pretences. It is an easily made and empty promise to agree to repeal the Housing Finance Act if rents have risen to £10 a week and no attempt is made to bring them back down again. "I do not expect a reply from Wilson. But if commitment to get the support of housewives.

Beatrice thinks the councils are doing the Tories' work. But real support. Athrough the gate, the subsidies for a law against the Act,," the Labour movement is meeting in union councils.

The August issue of International Socialism is a special double issue re-producing some of the best and most influential articles to appear in the magazine. They include:

Michael Kidron: Imperialism, highest stage but one, and International Capitalism
Tony Cliff: Permanent Revolution and China in Crisis
Colin Barker: British Labour movement

Zip from International Socialism Journal, 6
cotuna gardens, London E2 8DN
Annual subscription £2.10

Her Story: PAUL HOLBOROW
INDIA: 'POWER' — FOR A FEW

TWENTY-SIX YEARS AGO, on 15 August 1947, the old British Indian Empire was partitioned and independence conceded to the two new states of India and Pakistan. Not that the next day, when the imperial junketings were over, it was anything but 'business as usual'. The same bureaucrats were at their desks, the same bosses were in their mills and plantations. A term coined which aptly summed up what had really happened — The Transfer of Power.

A transfer of power, not to the people, but from the Indian industrialists and landowners who through their political party, the Indian National Congress, had so 'moderately' and 'reasonably' conducted their campaign for independence over the previous half-century.

The gentlemen's agreement between two ruling classes aware of the danger both of them faced from an independence movement led by the working class. Time and again the Congress leadership had held back militant movements by workers and peasants. Even the "peasant" campaign of 1921/2 was called off by Gandhi when he began to hit the posters of the 'people who supported Congress. The sight of steel withering on the vine and the ever prevailing control of their ships and the red flag in 1946 was enough to make Congress bosses and the British ruling class realize the need for a speedy deal to get both of them off the hook.

Both shared the common interest of a peaceful and orderly transfer of power, one wanting to make sure they would retain the reins of power after independence, the other anxious to get as much as possible out of it.

With indecent haste against a background of increased hostility between Hindus and Muslims, the monster created by imperialism's divide and rule policy, the old India was partitioned. The old India was partitioned.

India's independence has meant little for the workers killed and injured in six major fires in this refinery in the last four years. With the government's guarantee of massive profits, the company could afford to take little notice of safety precautions.

In a situation of rampant inflation and declining real wages, the Indian working class gets little except appeals to work harder and longer in the 'national interest'. On 6 July this year in Bombay, Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi welcomed a new agreement signed by a Congress-led textile workers' union. This so-called agreement, which the government was so happy about, provided for a seven-day week and attempted to abolish the lunch break.

Fortunately the workers did not take this attack laying down and on 15 July, 15,000 of them walked out of the mills. This is the same Mrs Gandhi who came to power in 1971 on the slogan of 'Abolish poverty'. The ever-growing wave of strikes and demonstrations have exposed even this sort of trick will not work again.

The sham socialism of the Congress is wearing very thin and the experience of 26 years of so-called independence is being re-assessed in every quarter.

There are many obstacles on the way forward, but the least of which is the disorganisation and confusion of the Indian Left. But the potential of the Indian working class is enormous and they certainly have the capabilities to overcome these problems and to start the fight for a true and meaningful independence.

Peter Anson

This important new pamphlet is an outline of the policies of the international Socialists, the development of modern capitalism — and the urgent need for real workers' party to overthrow it. Its 40 pages are essential reading for Socialist Worker readers and all 15 branches.

The Struggle for Workers Power

Send to:
International Socialists
8 Cartington Gardens
London E2 8DN

Please send 10p for copies of The Struggle for Workers Power.

1 envelope £0.10p a copy plus 3p postage.
12 copies or more post free.

Name
Address

Organisation

Pictures: MIKE COHEN

Mrs Gandhi at a children's home: her 'independence' keeps children in poverty

He gave a firm to his wife that he would use millions of the Clay Cross strike and what the nation could do. 'You're going to fight it, don't you?' he asked. The wife of the man who was killed had organised the tenants and been asked to fight it. 'They say I'm nuts,' she said. The man who had been asked to fight it. 'They say I'm nuts,' she said.

Battle

'Tenants need to realise that the Housing Finance Act is part of a wider attack by the Tories against working people. We cannot fight the Act as an isolated group of tenants in Liverpool, Dudley or any other part of England.

We have to have one body that pools the experiences from all the different areas.'

Beatrice stresses the need for national organisation, particularly as many more tenants are likely to be drawn into the battle against the Act when further increases are brought in this October.

A national organisation of tenants could help to overcome weaknesses and avoid mistakes. Beatrice says, that looking back, the think's it was probably a mistake for the Dudley tenants to have decided just to withdraw the rent increases.

'I think we could have been more effective if we had gone on to a total rent strike. If an organisation had been in existence, we could have discussed the tactics and strategy that should have been adopted. That's why my tenants association welcomes the national tenants' conference to be held in Manchester on 23 September as a step in the right direction. We will be sending a deputation to the conference and we have been pleased to sponsor it.

The tenants can easily win against the Tory Rent Act as long as they are not isolated. Our strength is in our numbers and our unity.

Action

'The task now is to weld together all the different organisations that are fighting and will be drawn into the battle against the Act.'

Together we can show up the Tories and put a Labour Party for what they are. 'We are looking for action, not words, in the autumn.'

Cases are known of landlords refusing to pay the rate of their pet dogs in order to evade the trifling inconvenience of legislation on maximum holdings. Successful governments in Delhi and in the regional states have been curiously reluctant to close these loopholes.

The record of the Congress in the industrial sphere has been dismal. The much-hailed public sector of nationalised industries, in fact, in fact, has been a disaster. The much-wanted public sector of nationalised industries, in fact, has actually proved a disaster. The much-wanted public sector of nationalised industries, in fact, has actually proved a disaster. The much-wanted public sector of nationalised industries, in fact, has actually proved a disaster. The much-wanted public sector of nationalised industries, in fact, has actually proved a disaster. The much-wanted public sector of nationalised industries, in fact, has actually proved a disaster. The much-wanted public sector of nationalised industries, in fact, has actually proved a disaster. The much-wanted public sector of nationalised industries, in fact, has actually proved a disaster. The much-wanted public sector of nationalised industries, in fact, has actually proved a disaster. The much-wanted public sector of nationalised industries, in fact, has actually proved a disaster. The much-wanted public sector of nationalised industries, in fact, has actually proved a disaster.

The activities of these companies...
PEOPLE who moan continually about the apathy of workers forget how quickly this apathy can disappear once workers learn that their activity can bring a real improvement to their conditions.

When that happens, they begin to see some point in concentrating their energies on the problem of why society is as it is and how it can be changed. Workers throw off the effects of their individualism by capitalism at different speeds, depending on the fact that the only way forward is by relying on themselves and fighting hard against all representatives of big business. Others learn more slowly.\n
Lessons

Inside any strike movement, there are always passionate discussions as to how and why it can be won. Workers throw off the effects of their indiscipline by capitalism at different speeds, depending on the fact that the only way forward is by relying on themselves and fighting hard against all representatives of big business. Others learn more slowly. They tend to put their trust in what can be described as the full-time union officials say.

A few workers are even prepared to trust the organization of a strike offer. What is true of a strike is also true of any revolutionary movement. Many of the same workers who are in practice destroying the power of the ruling class can continue to believe that only members of that class are able to run society.

In Germany at the end of 1918 the workers were ready to trust the “officials” with the workers’ councils. But the delegates to a conference of these councils were not the kind of people who were capable of running society. Instead they voted to hand power back to Labour leaders who were hand-in-glove with the old army chiefs-men like Ludendorf and Hindenburg, who later gave the power in turn to Hitler.

Again in Hungary, in 1956, the workers’ councils rapidly became the real force controlling society and organizing the fight against the Russian forces. But many of their members felt that the government should continue to be run by the more liberal members of the old ruling group. They put their trust in Imre Nagy, whose chief claim to fame was that he had been prime minister briefly three years before by the very Russian rulers that the workers were fighting.

In 1968 in France, a considerable number of the workers who had made the general strike so successful still put their trust in General de Gaulle when it came to an election soon afterwards.

In such situations it is not good enough for militants to sit back and wait for workers to see through those middle-class politicians who claim to be on their side.

The Need for a Party

And in 1968 in France, a considerable number of the workers who had made the general strike so successful still put their trust in General de Gaulle when it came to an election soon afterwards.

In such situations it is not good enough for militants to sit back and wait for workers to see through those middle-class politicians who claim to be on their side.

Confidence

The ruling class is easily able to organize its affairs according to a coherent strategy. It is itself highly disciplined, and has a massive state apparatus at its disposal, many newspapers, mass media organizations and even a specialist ‘internal bulletin’ and newspapers such as the Financial Times and the Economist—where it can discuss its policies in the confidence that few workers will read what is written.

In 1968 in France, a considerable number of the workers who had made the general strike so successful still put their trust in General de Gaulle when it came to an election soon afterwards.

In such situations it is not good enough for militants to sit back and wait for workers to see through those middle-class politicians who claim to be on their side.

The ruling class does not sit back. It uses all its resources to regain control of its factories and its workforce. It uses its press, radio and TV to spread lies and to cut across ideas that divide the workers one against another. It organizes things so that while some workers are lured back to work with marginal concessions, others are left out to be starved into submission. It brings some leaders of working class organisations and imprints others.

The million-pound strike

THE STRIKE in defence of trade union rights at Robert-
Aruntel, Stockport, in 1967 was a victory for working class solidarity. Millions threatened to strike in solidarity: thousands blocked the factory’s products, and management was forced to climb down on all the union’s demands in the confrontation that it later went out of business.

Trade unions won the first round at Robert-Arnadel, and lost the second at Fire Tibles, but gained the third.

Conference on the Million-pound Strike, by Jim Aitken.

In Defiance

The report by Tom Deane in last week’s Socialist Worker showed how the executive of the Central Office Workers, headed by Tom Jackson, repeatedly ignored conference decisions. In a letter written in complete defiance of the decisions of the Central Office Workers’ Group, executive member of the Central Council of Trade Unionists (CITU) and full-time secretary, Almara Jowett stated: ‘Every year, despite motions of condemnation of the policy, means are not to be com-
plexed at the insistence of what is demanded is carried out.

In a letter to Socialist Worker, office workers were literally horse-traded with Tom Jackson and transferred to TFW membership in exchange for the withdrawal of his objection to CPSA entry into membership of the Law Council of Police Offices Union. In this way ‘past family members’ (Jackson’s words) were kept in the fold.

This year CPSA members voted to withdraw from the Telecommunications and Office Productivity Programme, a not altogether unimportant event in the light of the TUC’s recent but rather hasty decision to allow employers to work measurement schemes.

The programme, a particularly vicious import from the United States, was sold to the members by Alain Craig, one-time Labour parliamentary aspirant for the division of Brighton. It has now gone nowhere the membership realized how much they have been conned when they learned that the Foot Office was refusing to pay them more than 50p per week for having sold their heretics.

Unanimous, Craig is now feebly lobbying the TUC for another ‘complemen-
tary system’ to replace it. Small wonder it is hard to read the foul mouthed CPSA called Redder Time, a contributory reports on the CPSA members as ‘brow brooder’—SHINING PANTS, a Foot Office clerical workers.

Race Act

WE FULLY endorse the Socialist Worker article ‘Union call on Race Act’ and further fully endorse any working class action taken to reverse the decisions of the Tory party lords.

Immigration Act.—Barb: Menzies (AUEW shop steward), Tom O’Neill (ATrouser group), Jeffery (ETU branch officer), AY Hibbard (ETU convenor), Kristine Carpenter (office workers), Guy Grant (AUEW, J Donnelly (ETU), P Hirst (AUEW) shop stewards), Flour (ETU shop steward), Ferranti St Andrew’s Works, Edinburgh.

Harold Evans

I HAVE only just been told about the allegation you made in March of this year that I killed an article in the Sunday Times as a result of which I was paid £300. As you have recently reminded me. I was paid a fee for writing an article on the Labour paper movement.

Railway times have changed, and it seems that the price of a Sunday Times has been drastically increased. I was paid a reasonable fee for the article, and I know that the paper was not cut to please the advert people.

The Sunday Times is right to investigate such claims with facts about any public matter. As I think we all demurred about the Labour paper movement. The decision was made by the Editor, and the result is a purely unprofitable one.

We are left with the impression that you have decided to sell the paper by giving it a lecture in Tyneside. It was simply because the Daily Mirror called in the Sunday Times to write an article about the paper.

So I would be glad if you could correct your erroneous report.—HAROLD EVANS, Editor, Sunday Times.
Europe: The shining vision ahead

IAN BIRCHALL

A revolutionary experience

Finally, Thomas comes up with the clearest argument of all—the multispecies, multinational, multiracial, multiracial spreading over several countries, are not normally well placed to convince people to go for the kind of change necessary. This is so even though, as we are told, we need a new kind of politics.

But as well as being rich enough to be an idealist, he has another qualification—he is a historian. Historians are people who keep their press cuttings neat and tidy, know exactly who said what and when, and don’t ask embarrassing questions. Is it true?

So Thomas seems to believe it is enough to tell us what the common market bureaucrats say about themselves. He tells us: “Women in general should look towards European membership quite enthusiastically from the point of view of wages.”

Now it’s true that Article 119 of the Treaty of Rome calls for equal pay. It’s also true that it took the bureaucrats three years to decide what Article 119 actually meant. But it’s also true, as Thomas mentions in passing, that women in Europe are still paid 20 per cent less than men.

Again, Thomas quotes with enthusiasm Mr. Marshall of the Commission, who said: “Those who move from one country to another to work must be able to enjoy the ordinary rights of citizenship and should no longer be treated as foreign labour.” Against such stirring utterances, what are mere facts such as that a Belgian mariner, Ernest Mandel, is forbidden entry into France, or that immigrant workers can be deported for joining a political organisation?

Park Lane to the Herffiti Club, connected with the Hilton set is a must in the American style, and its slopes are perhaps the largest in the world. The club is popular with American ex-patriots, with a real English mansion (Herffiti) as its chairman.

You can’t buy your way to your money in London. Try the Wedgewood Clubs in Leeds, Bristol and Teeside, all using

England for the profit made from your bets by your friendly Ladbrokes bookies. Drop in at the Great Britain Palace night clubs in Watford and Luton and get a tan at the Dragonara Hotel in Malta.

No one knows quite where in the world they are, but it is clear that Ladbrokes specialise in betting on football and horse racing. London and Leeds investment, formed to participate in the millions of pounds in prize money that have been won, has buildings in Grand National Way, Wigan, and at least 24 machines which total £600 a week. The firm also has a site in the north of England and a branch in the south. Theалов го рецидив, сретен осиротима низов премиера, во вреќи на криза, и беше уште нека една неуспешна операција.

The police got their back-bander and the regular would return to his post after the arrest of the stand-in. The stand-in would have his time, £5 for a first offence, paid by the bookie, and take another fiver for his services. He only got the job once, because the line increased with each occurrence. There were plenty of unemployed men, but then, there are now, to take the rap.

It’s the workers who keep the wheels of racing running; the punters in the bookies are the city boy a long way from home, the bookies’ clerk.

For the rich there is the satisfaction of seeing their horses beat; for the middle class, the punter is still waiting for the day when his Yankee bet will come up and he can tell the boys where to stick his job...
THREE HUNDRED and fifteen people joined the International Socialists in July, making a total of 1260 new members since the conference in March. The August meeting of the IS national committee heard that although most industrial workers were joining the party, the membership of IS has continued its steady rise.

More than half the new members are manual workers. Five new industrial branches were formed in July—North London banche, among hospital workers in Oxford, Leeds and Merseyside and engineering workers in Manchester. Terry Cliffe from the executive committee introduced a discussion on factory branches. The building of a socialist working-class party, he said, depended not just on a strong organisation of party branches at the point of production, in the factory or other workplaces.

CLIFF drew attention to the experiences of the 10 IS factory branches, all of which have been formed in the last three months. If the factory branches are to prosper, he said, they must attempt to win the leadership of the union organisation in the factories. The factory branch in the IS, he said, is not merely an enterprise inside the factory by workers, but it has proved crucial rallying points for this purpose.

SOCIALIST AGITATION

The factory branches must regularise and appoint secretaries responsible for convening meetings. They must also look outside the area around them, and link up with tenants’ organisations, housing action groups and so on, as the IS branch at Cheltenham has done to great effect. Trades councils are a crucial area for organisation and propaganda among other workers in the area and is one area where we have to be revived and strengthened by socialist agitation.

Finally Cliff spoke of the great demand in all our factory branches for more and better meetings. The meeting was once again told that a flood of pamphlets, the first of which—The Struggle for Power—by Roger Rosewell is already out.

The national committee fully endorsed Cliff’s report, which will shortly be appearing in a pamphlet.

The rest of the meeting was devoted to streamlining the organisation to fit the tremendous burst of activity. A new executive was elected which is not based solely on London, but which has among its members organisers from the main industrial areas outside London.

Growth at GKN

GKN is one of the giant engineering companies which have every reason to be pleased with the ‘success’ of $140 million they are making their profits from the sale of $11 sales in the United States. The 10 million sales in the United States in £13 million on the same period last year. This is the result of the GKN merger, which has been given permission to increase the prices of some of its products.

BLACK CONFERENCE TO BE HELD SOON

The IS Committee Against Racism meeting last week, reported a considerable increase in the number of black workers joining the party. The meeting was told that IS in Bradford, Oxford, Birmingham, Leicestershire and London had decided to call a conference of black IS members to be held in Birmingham on 30 September. IS branch secretaries and delegates were asked to prepare their branches for the meeting.

遘 Copy for What’s On must arrive by first Mon day morning. By the time you read this on the evening of the meeting, you will have had a chance to accept the offer of the phone. Charges are 6p per line, plus fee of 10p per line. CAUTION WITH COPY. No insertions without payment.

I S MEETINGS

CHELMSFORD IS public meeting: Parish Hall, Lytham Road, Chelmsford, Essex. The committee invites all IS members and their friends to attend. Tourney of the Past, 11pm, 1985. 2pm, Church Hall, St Mary Street, Chelmsford. 6pm, 1985.

CARDIFF IS public meeting: Women—the Struggle for Emancipation and Socialism in the Glamorgan, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda and Pontypridd areas. Choir of the IS in Cardiff, 6pm, St Mary Street, Cardiff. 6pm, 1985.


LUCAS women fight

BIRMINGHAM—More than half the workers employed by Lucas are women. But for too long we have been the most badly organised section of the company.

The pay offer now going through Lucas is within the terms of the Tysts wage freeze. As such it represents a seven wage cut to all Lucas workers. The women workers who are still badly organised are in the weakest position to fight this.

The original offer would have given the men an increase of 1.0, the non-skilled men £2.40 and men production workers £4.20. But their pay would go up as their classification, would have got £1.60 with the classification change. The Tysts offer plus 4 per cent would only give men and women production workers £2.03 for semi-skilled and £2.70 for skilled.

The most disgusting part of the offer is that the men get a pay rise. The female Tysts pay law allows women workers to get a pay rise and the men (under the Tysts law) get a pay rise of 10.5%. So the Tysts will allow at
LAING MEN WIN JOBS BATTLE

EDINBURGH—Building workers on John Laing's massive Heriot Watt university site at Riccarton are fighting to protect their union organisation, improve the terrible conditions and wages.

On Monday seven building workers who had been sacked over unauthorised following progress from two mass meetings and meetings with the union, one of Laing's four important contracts in Britain, came out on strike for a 35-hour-plus..

Laing management have been trying to keep wages down by getting rid of militant trade unionists and workers. Other workers have been sacked for similar reasons. But the joint organisation on the job has scuppered the management's plans.

Shop stewards from both Laing's and the sub-contractors meet regularly and decisions have been taken to keep out the lump and obtain a closed shop.

The joint stewards are also drawing up a list of the many breaches of the Factories Act which management commit on site. They are also working on a list of proposals regarding proper amenities.

The achievements in the site underline the need for a real campaign to implement the recent Union of Construction Allied Trades and Technicians Scottish region conference decision in favour of a £1.40 basic wage for working a 33-hour week.

The Laing Riccarton shop stewards committee has also taken a forthright stand against the attempt to prosecute the 24 Shrewsbury building workers for conspiracy and picketing.

Representatives of the defence committee are being invited to address a mass meeting on the site with all expenses paid by a £100 per man levy on all Riccarton workers.

PRINT UNION MOVES IN TO WITCH-HUNT SIT-IN FOUR

LIVERPOOL—The threatened vio- lation of the four Tiltoons chapel officials of the print union SOGAT is now coming to a head.

This witch-hunt is being organised by the SOGAT executive after a successful six-week sit-in earlier this year when the firm declared 26 workers redundant and then sacked the four officials for campaigning against Tiltoons.

Before the end of the six-in Hill Kiely, union president, negotiated an inappropri- ate settlement, which reinstated the four, but accepted the redundancies. Kiely, better at the rejection of his plan at a man meeting, later told the chapel committee that he had again spoken with management and clarified that the agreement meant that 26 jobs were redundant and not just 26 people.

The committee accepted the inter- pretation because they knew that this would force a new crisis with the firm over the redundancy issue. Another reason for acceptance was that the union warned that strike pay would be cut.

Within a week of returning to work, however, the committee's worst fears were confirmed. Keys secretly spoke to the company and agreed that his clarification of the agreement should be reversed. Workers should do the job of those people who had accepted redundancy.

Key's support for the men, who should organise a chapel meeting at which Mills could speak.

The meeting was held in May and was chaired by the local Merseyside branch chairman, who allowed Mills to speak four times before finally declaring, amid uproar, the adjournment carried despite pro- tests that the votes would be made. It was in this atmosphere that SOGAT executive had set up a committee of inquiry to look into the role of the four officials and the rejection of Keys' first attempt at a settlement.

When the inquiry met in June Mills accused the four of being 'anarchists, communists and Trotskyites' and using the meeting to spread the fact that a mass meeting had rejected the settlement.

This verdict has been endorsed by the SOGAT executive, which has summarily dismissed the local branch officials to discuss charges under the Factories Act. Meanwhile, the union has further shown in favour of rank and file democracy by instructing branch officials to take over their and the SOGAT executive at Tiltoons. This would have meant that the chapel's own elected officials would have been excluded from dealing with problems in their own factory.

Quite rightly the membership has refused to accept the crude interference with their democratic rights. SOGAT has a reputation as a 'left wing' union. It is not a reputation that impresses or consoles the Tiltoons boys.

It is in the name of rank and file democracy that the local branch at Tiltoons affair. It is because rank and file democracy needs to be defended that the four must be given every support and any victimisation defeated.

UPRAIR

Key also called the firm that they should organise a chapel meeting at which Mills could speak.

The meeting was held in May and was chaired by the local Merseyside branch chairman, who allowed Mills to speak four times before finally declaring, amid uproar, the adjournment carried despite pro- tests that the votes would be made. It was in this atmosphere that SOGAT executive had set up a committee of inquiry to look into the role of the four officials and the rejection of Keys' first attempt at a settlement.

When the inquiry met in June Mills accused the four of being 'anarchists, communists and Trotskyites' and using the meeting to spread the fact that a mass meeting had rejected the settlement.

This verdict has been endorsed by the SOGAT executive, which has summarily dismissed the local branch officials to discuss charges under the Factories Act. Meanwhile, the union has further shown in favour of rank and file democracy by instructing branch officials to take over their and the SOGAT executive at Tiltoons. This would have meant that the chapel's own elected officials would have been excluded from dealing with problems in their own factory.

Quite rightly the membership has refused to accept the crude interference with their democratic rights. SOGAT has a reputation as a 'left wing' union. It is not a reputation that impresses or consoles the Tiltoons boys.

It is in the name of rank and file democracy that the local branch at Tiltoons affair. It is because rank and file democracy needs to be defended that the four must be given every support and any victimisation defeated.

STRIKE AT WATCH CENTRE NOW OFFICIAL

NORTH LONDON—The strike at the Seiko watch repair centre at Kilburn is now in its third week and has been made official.

All 24 workers there, 16 men and eight women office workers, came out against management intimidation and the lack of action. All of them have since joined the Engineers Union.

In the past week management has added several new demands to its techniques of harassment. It is still threatening to sack all workers if they do not return to work. Seiko is making its contacts with the union either through a solicitor or with the assistance of a slick but placid "troubleshooter".

The solicitor informed union district committee members who have been actively supporting the strike that management was considering moving the repair centre out to Slough is view of the trouble. He also added to be provided with an AWU man.

The troubleshooter, an American called John Reed who was specially flown in, has been down on the picket trying to deunionise and to give the union representatives, but without success.

The workers continue their battle for fair recognition and reinstatement of the sacked member and no victimisation. Donations are urgently needed. Send to: G Riley, Mon, Treasurer, Seiko Strike Committee, 38 Grey Road, London NW10.

I would like to join the
International Socialists

Name

Address

Trade Union

Send to: 15,6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN
SPARKS FLY IN BIGGEST CASE

COVENTRY: Chrysler management has turned the Strike and Ryton electricians' claim for an immediate payment of a £250 interim increase into a test case for all current wage negotiations in the company. The pay-off Chrysler undoubtedly expects for supporting the Phase Two wage ceiling is government approval of cheaper Chrysler cars.

Just after the freeze the electricians negotiated an agreement giving them staff status with better holiday and sickness payments similar to the recent toolmakers' agreement. But the company insisted that the agreement was covered by the freeze and rejected it.

The electricians then demanded a £250 interim payment until the agreement could operate. Management then sought the 'advice' of the government Pay Board and found that they could not pay it. They are naturally very keen on such law.

The electricians put in strike notices and banded overtime two weeks ago. They came out on strike when managers started doing their work during the ban.

On Monday Ryton shop stewards blacked any electricians' work carried out since the freeze. The car transport union co-ordinator Jack Gibson spoke against such a stand because it means an increase in the strike pay.

DECISION

The electricians put pickets on. Gibson told transport drivers to get to work and frustrated increased.

But on Monday millwrights at Ryton refused to cross the picket line. Management then decided to lay off almost all the 9000 workers at the two plants without lay-off pay.

The management has taken a tough line and is not planning on section against section because if fears that if the electricians will work refuse to work still in all other current wage talks.

The crucial aspect in this dispute is to see whether sectional differences and not unity against the Hare freeze.

Steelmen fight

GLASGOW—Workers at the British Steel Corporation Tollcross Foundry are taking the lead in the fight against sacks in the British steel industry.

The workers, who have been involved in the campaign of erect and file stewards, have called a one-stand-off strike in the Tollcross GMP) in North Frederick Street, Glasgow.

Council charity

PLYMOUTH—The local housing action group's campaign for homes for the home- less has damaged last week with the council agreeing to make one house available to the unemployed, none of which are about 100 in the city.

INSIDE:

MOVE TO BREAK RENT STRIFE
AIRCRAFT WORKERS BARRICADE GATES—Page 10

GEC WOMEN STAY OUT—DESPITE CONVENOR

COVENTRY—200 women production workers at GEC Spencetown Street works are stepped on their strike.

The next meeting they were joined by others whose strike started a week after the strike until the two men were reinstated was passed unanimously.

The victimisation of John Nielsen and Frank Logan, members of the United Rubber Workers Union, followed a mass meeting on Friday which discussed branches.

The meeting was important in that if after the first time that the plant had been stopped the two men were found to be not on a mass meeting on the ground that strength of shop floor organisation.

Obviously the management hoped to squash this development by victimising the two influential shop floor leaders.

But the speed and strength of the men's reaction has been impressive, and they must wonder more long they can go on making a £5 week from the men whilst paying £26 for 40 hours.