YES, that’s the word for it: CLOBBERED.

If the Tories get back on 1 March, it will be Black Friday for millions of workers.

We’ve had nearly four years of Tory onslaught: Prices up by half as much again. Fewer council houses. Fewer schools. Weaker unions. Greater fortunes for the rich.

That’s nothing to what they’ll do next time. Phase Four will be worse than Phases 1, 2 or 3. Wages will be held down more rigidly, prices will soar higher than ever.

Of course, a Labour government won’t have the answers to these problems. Of course, a Labour government will act to protect the Tories’ fortunes. It will try to hold wages down while allowing prices to rise.

But a huge Labour vote will strengthen the unions. It will make it easier for workers to fight back against government wage control. A new confidence and militancy can be used to offset price rises with a massive wage offensive.

A Tory victory would demoralise the unions. It would weaken the workers’ will to fight back.

That’s the difference. Its crucial—perhaps the most crucial in any election since the war.

That’s why every socialist, every worker must spend all the days before polling day shouting two simple slogans at work, in the home and whenever anyone will listen:

DEFEND UNIONS—VOTE LABOUR
**Prices: Tory Les exposed and City slickers boost inflation**

*by Paul Foot*

IF THE OPINION POLLS are right, there are a lot of people around who are so sick of the proved hypocrisy of Heath and Wilson that they are intending to vote for the unhoped hypocrisy of Jeremy Thorpe.

The Liberals, it is clear, are picking up support from the few thousand members of workers who are disillusioned by Labour’s failures and Labour’s inability to fight the election campaign.

But the fact is that the Liberals are a second Tory Party. Their anti-Tory talk is often better than that on all the major issues of the last government (or next government) line up one hundred percent behind the Tories and their allies.

They voted in favour of the Industrial Relations Act.

**Taxes**

They equivocated on the Rent Act, vote against the second reading but refusing to fight it in committee.

They oppose the Tories’ wage freeze—because it is too generous and not generous enough.

Their home affairs spokesman, John Pardoe, has consistently argued that the Tories should be ‘fiercer’ with the unions. His party proposes an automatic increase in taxes for any workers who win a wage award above the government’s target.

They are for more ‘free enterprise’, whatever means less price control.

They have no proposals to subsidize food prices, or to return to a cheap food policy.

They are against any increase in public ownership or control, especially over North Sea Oil.

All this is not surprising, since the Liberal Party has always been led by rich men and women with a ‘consensus’. The money still pours in from property speculators and boardrooms.

**Wealthy**

Last year for the first time the Rank Organisation—a traditional donor to the Tory Party—decided to give £500,000 to the Liberals (compared with £355,000 to the Tories). This is known in boardroom circles as ‘hedging your bets’ by putting money on both acts of Tories.

The Liberal leaders are all wealthy businessmen, and each individual himself would have made a fortune if the dubious business in which he was directed—London and County Securities—hadn’t gone bust.

In any case, Thorpe is heir to an enormous family fortune made in the main from the sweat of Dunderdude workers. And John Pardoe, the hard-line wage freezer, is a director of an international metal trading company owned by a man who is a member of the family that owns the Bank of Scotland.

EVERY TIME the attention of Tory ministers is drawn to rocketing prices, they retreat into bluster and excuses about world prices—over which governments, they say, they have no control. It has all happened before, they say.

The truth is different. World prices have risen; but they have been massively understated by speculation, in the City of London.

For 18 months now, speculators have been watching the prices of sugar, tea, rubber, copper, tin and other metals as if they were the new ‘commodities’ of the year. The trick is to buy at ‘futures’—contracting to buy—say, the sugar harvest of an estate in the West Indies in three months or at £74.50 a ton. By then, inflation will have pushed up the price at £10 a ton and the speculator sells at a hefty profit.

This speculation itself raises prices higher. It is a lot of speculation after a limited amount of sugar, and as they try to outbid each other they push prices up.

This, naturally, creates a spiral—for the faster prices rise the bigger the killing to be made from speculation.

The Tories claim the London Metal and Commodity Markets, they say. But these ‘markets’ exist only to push up the commodity market prices before fixing their own prices.

The Tories claim the London markets account for only a small proportion of world commodity trade. Not so. Apart from the Chicago wheat exchange, London is the biggest and most influential in everything.

**Speculation**

So if speculation takes off in London, it will trigger inflation throughout the international commodity markets. Recently the Guardian reported a recent deal for £23 million for tobacco speculation was directly responsible for between 30 and 70 per cent of the price rise of the tobacco.

A year ago average trading in cocoa ‘futures’ was seven tons. Today the average deal is for thousands of pounds. That’s a measure of the amount of money that has moved into the commodity markets. Little wonder prices have doubled. So has sugar. Other food prices have more than doubled.

The government’s price policies have been based on their support for the speculators in their commitment to a new gold standard. But this has meant that the government has had to foot the bill.

The government has kept the price of gold at £35 an ounce, which means a 30 per cent raise in the price of tobacco. So the government has been forced to pay the speculators in tobacco.

**Meeting on rights**

LONDON—More than 500 women trade unionists met for a conference on ‘Women’s Rights’ organised by the National Centre for Women’s Rights. The conference was the first of a series of national campaigns to be held in the first half of the year.

Women spoke of the problems of women who have been exploited in the trade union movement and paid tribute to the women’s liberation movement for its work in raising the level of debate over the last few years.

The meeting broke into lively discussion over the issues of discrimination, child care, protection of women’s rights and equal pay for equal work.

The meeting concluded that women’s rights are matters for all of us and that a national campaign is needed to ensure that women’s rights are protected.

**Scots Nats want ‘home rule’ Toryism**

**by Steve Jefferys**

THE SCOTTISH Nationalist Party is mounting one of its biggest election campaigns this year with candidates in 70 of Scotland’s 71 constituencies.

Some workers have been confused by their militancy-speaking language. They promise, for example, to give pensions of £25 for a couple and £17 for a single person and that there will be no income tax on family incomes below £200.

The SNP believes that Scotland’s oil will provide a bonanza to a separate Scottish economy that will mean Scottish capitalism will flourish. This is supposed to lead in turn to vast benefits for the Scots people.

Their case is weakened by the fact that the Scottish Nationalist Party is also owned by companies based outside Scotland.

Secondly, there is no evidence at all to suggest that the giant oil companies will surrender any share of returns to the producing countries. Without a major battle, the SNP is strangely silent about whether it supports the idea of a major assault on the biggest capitalist firms in the world.

In fact such a revolutionary notion contradicts the SNP’s promises of a wealthy capitalist economy.

Yet it is clear that they are not living in an international economic and social system in which they would be able to avoid its deepest crisis, however much they may have been forced to do so by their own natural resources.

The SNP, which has been given money by the Labour party in the Scottish parliament and elected a Scottish government, has been driven by the same pressures that face every other political party.

The SNP, with which has been given money by the Labour party in the Scottish parliament and elected a Scottish government, has been driven by the same pressures that face every other political party.

A vote for the SNP is either an indirect vote for a British Tory or a direct vote for a tarty Tory.
Students fight police crackdown in Nigeria
by Martha Otito
SIX UNIVERSITIES in Nigeria have been closed down and students ordered to return to their home towns after violent clashes between students and police.
The trouble began at Badan where students and others were commemorating the death of Kunle Adekunle, a second-year agricultural student shot by police three years ago during a demonstration over university fees.
In 1972 and 1973 the anniversary had led to student strikes and some of the leaders were arrested. The police involved in the arrest were later promoted and ordered his men-who had taken up strategic positions around the graveyard—to shoot teargas canisters and molest the students.

Protest
The clash that followed Kunle Adekunle's death came on his birthday and his younger son, who was in the graveyard, was shot in the back and 150 people, including 60 students, were arrested.

Warned
The Association of University Teachers has protested against the police action.

SW Reporter
A GLIMPSE of the grim reality behind the Tory 'law and order' campaign was on display in Harlow, Essex, last weekend.

Ammu for election battle
A USEFUL GUIDE TO the Tories' economic record has just been rushed into print for the election campaign by Counter Information Services. The 12-page handout, entitled The Tories' economic record, sets out in considerable detail the benefits of the Tory offensive on wages, the boom in prices and profits, and the government's performance on housing, taxation and North Sea oil.

Sharks
The report also looks at Heath's housing record, with house prices doubled, council housing down 40 per cent and the lowest total of new homes started since 1958. It quotes cases of builders' profits up sevenfold and building the government's performance on housing, taxation and North Sea oil.
**WE'VE SEEN THE LIGHT. LET'S GET STUCK IN!**

**WE ARE STUDENTS at the 'Grammar' school in Steyning and we have rapidly changed our opinions in the last six weeks. From support of what we saw as a fair system of anti-inflationary policy now I feel it is totally biased against the workers.**

**It is blatantly obvious that those who 'have' continue to get richer, while the workers are trampled underfoot in one great stampede to increase profits and profits.**

**We've got several mates who feel the same way, and in our spare time, we are at school and we want to do something positive. The miners need a pay rise, not only to bring their standard of living to a necessary level but to symbolise the industrial strike which the Tory government have unleashed on us.**

**We have got, though with incredible difficulty from our staunch Tory teachers and our Head Master, who feel we are understating his mine-empire, to raise strike money. Can you give us support?**

**Where can we gain connections with other student minersworkers we sympathise with? How can we help to get postings and leaflets needed to raise money for the Strike Fund? For Christ's sake help us get organisations and help us meet?**

**We've passed your letter on to the International Socialist Student organisation, You, or anyone who feels the same, and a student should contact him—Simon Turner at 16 H. Caradoc Road, London N.2.**

**LET'S GET IT RIGHT**

**IN POSTAL POINTS (16 February) Ron Murphy attacked a passage in one of my articles on the rank and file conference. In that passage I pointed out that Scandanov's opposition to the Industrial Relations Act had not been anything like strong enough. In his reply, Ron says 'The AUEW played a key part in making the Act unworkable...’**

**Let us make our position totally clear. The AUEW have never done so, the AUEW principal stand of non-co-operation with the Industrial Relations Act.**

**WE HAVE BEEN asked by the members involved in the Scottish Ambulance dispute from the Edinburgh ambulance depot to come to you for their thanks for the interest shown by your column. Your representatives in Edinburgh were virtually the only press to report the strike, and we want you to know how grateful we are and listen in detail to what the job is like etc. Or to try to get a true picture of our pay and conditions—A. D. SHEILS, Secretary 92 SASS, 132 Binnie Street, Edinburgh, Eh 025, (Gig Middletoun) Health Service Employment.'**

**SOLIDARITY**

**THE FOLLOWING resolution was passed at Norwich Transport and General Workers Union Branch.**

**This branch pledges solidarity with the National Union of Miners and offers full support and assistance if needed and where possible—D. WHITE, Norwich.**

**YES BUT LOCALLY**

**We were so heartened by your letter (9 February) stressing the need of the women for women's groups for the women of this country to move into the International Socialists.**

**There is a need for the other 'sub'ethnicities' to be much more effective for they can draw attention to local issues and promote a day-time meeting on issues. It only needs a couple of women to produce such a leaflet and arrange the meeting. If no room is available it can be held in someone's house with Mum taking turns to watch the kids while you chat and plan.**

**Are we right? If so can you follow-up to this can be through Women's Voice, or picketing the local bus if cheaper profits and prices are high, and hopefully, and we hope to introduce more women to our politics now. We must all be prepared most directly at them.**

**JENNIFER WATKINS, Holborn, London N.1.**

**MARX OR ANDREW CARNegie**

**Had to laugh at Kathleen Jones letter (16 February) joining the International Socialist meeting, Kathleen, You may be inspired, as I had to draw more women into the International Socialists. Who knows? There will be much more visible and effective for they can draw attention to local issues and promote a day-time meeting on issues.**

**I was in the Commons party during the Second World War and we used to have a leaflet and hand it out. Sometimes along the line they seem to think we are going to Her Majesty's Friends and Influence People—KEN HARDING, London N.W.1.**

**NATIONAL FRAUD... was disgusted to read that with 50 candidates the National Front are 'entitled' to broadcasting time. This is an organisation is a threat to the Republican potential and class conscious¬ness of the working class... they must be stopped.**

**This is a threat to the Republican potential and class consciousness of the working class... they must be stopped. We must all act.**

**Readers should join the BBC and IBA with the signatures to the complaint.**

**PAUL SUMMERS, Sheffield.**

**CENTRE POINT... is a result of the Eastern Front of women's movement, they are on various charges including excluding the police, obscuring facts, and threatening behaviour. We would like people who witnessed any arrests or the events leading up to arrests to get in touch with TIME OUT, 274 Gray's Inn Rd, London WC1, Box HH 100, Photographs which document the arrest should be appreciated.**

**We are appealing to the Centre Point Occupation Group itself, who called for a mass rally, but then left the street—democracy—to contribute to our high defence costs. All public contributions will be gratefully received, and should be made payable to: Centre Point Demonstra¬tors, TIME OUT, Box HH 100, COMMISSION, CENTRE POINT.**

**PAPEY UNDER THE DRAPE?... Apart from the Piccadilly who 'have infiltrated' the upper level of the new chain, the use of descents of other 'subversives' of quite a different kind have been sanctioned by the Public Service Association. I have know¬ledge of two cases—Case Study: Communist body, Catholic Action who hold the office of 'Officer for Catholic Action and General Secretary' from the National Front and one who used to be on the editorial of the Conserva¬tive Association of Trade Unions. With the new style of women's liberation, how can these women still stay under the blanket of 'Free Speech' are getting overlooked. OSIE LEWIS, Chelmsford.
Stark choice for old folk: food or heat

WHEN Sir Keith Joseph, the Tory in charge of health and welfare, dines out at The Savoy, he has to choose between La Tortue Claire des Iris en Tasse au Sherry or just Les Paillettes Dorées au Quater. Mrs Buncombe, who exists on a £12 widow's pension in an Islington basement, has a simpler choice to make each week.

She chooses between food or heating. She has to decide whether to spend her pension in the shop or put it in her gas meter. Each day of her existence she must decide whether she is to go cold or go hungry.

Mrs Buncombe has become used to this choice. She has become used to sleeping on her sofa because she can't afford to heat her bedroom.

Luxuries

She's forgotten the taste of fresh meat and doesn't even feel like an orange.

'The last time I had a orange was about five years ago,' she says. 'I had a dream about it. I was looking at it and thinking, 'I can't get my hands on one any more.'

And it's not just food. She's forgotten about clothes, too.

'I don't go to the shops any more. I just wear what I have,' she says. 'I used to have a wardrobe full of clothes, but now I just wear what I have. I don't even have a hanger any more. I just hang my clothes on a nail on the wall.'

Nowadays Sir Keith's department gives them just enough to stay alive, but reduces their life to a mere existence, where the sheer effort to stay warm and clean and not too hungry, eats out everything else from life.

In 1971 Sir Keith expressed the Tory welfare philosophy rather well. He said: 'The new system of dental charges will give a financial incentive to patients to look after their teeth.'

I suppose he would be rather proud of the savings he has made. Mrs Buncombe's diet, consisting of tea and sandwiches, doesn't give her much incentive to chew.

David Widgery

What's happening to your wages?

A Socialist Worker pamphlet 3p

Elba head Savoy dinner attended last November by Sir Keith 3p, eggs 48 per cent, margarine and bread 20 per cent. And every winter it seems like a harder winter to get rid of the dampness in her basement flat. Strongly enough Mrs Buncombe has met the Minister. Sir Keith did not come on a social visit. But after his Food Force workers had sat on his doorstep in Mulberry Walk, Hornsey, he agreed to be driven by Task Force Commander John Ingham to visit some Islington pensioners' homes.

The Minister took his hard Tory face with him. He told one pensioner that he had no right to smoke cigarettes and then complained.

When an old gentleman broke into tears, he stopped, 'Pull yourself together, man.'

But he did agree to investigate Mrs Buncombe's case, to make sure she was getting all she was entitled to, according to our calculations.

After a month, while the Minister investigated the gas meter rate and recommended an extra heating allowance, he wrote back that he 'very much hoped that this adjustment and the increased help which I am pleased the Supplementary Benefits Commission have been able to give will make it easier to manage her weekly budgeting.'

That increased help that the Minister had so generously arranged was precisely 55p extra social security a week.

Starvation

And this is what Tory Britain means too. The Ministry in charge of welfare, one of the richest men in Britain, who thinks nothing of a nine-guinea banquet at The Savoy, thinks a widowed pensioner in a damp basement ought to be grateful for 55p extra.

'He just refuses to admit what's happening to the face,' says John Ingham. 'The basic pension rates are starvation rates.'

But pensioners themselves are moving. They are tired of being iced on every politician's platform cake. They are tired of the TUC's crocodile tears.

They are bitter that official strike action, promised for 25 February, is being buried by the bureaucrats. But when the Lord Mayor and his do-gooders are out of the way, pensioners are meeting themselves politically and Pensioner and Trade Union Action Committees are mushrooming.

Their demonstration in Trafalgar Square on Sunday for a £10 minimum single pension and £16 married pension will be an angry one.

Vicious

Unless an increase of these proportions comes very soon, pensioners will simply be unable to survive, let alone afford 'luxuries' like Horlicks or be able, as they desire and deserve, pay their way with dignity.

The bureaucrats who administer the Tory's modern poor law are actually more vicious than the skinflints of Dickens' time. At least the 19th century old could die in dignity.
The bosses’ heavy mob

‘PEOPLE stood in groups looking at the patches of blood and weeping. We had thought in the Bogsides that we had become used to violent death. But there isn’t a human experience which prepares you for what happened…’

There seemed to be bodies everywhere, bundles lying on the street and on the pavement.

‘And all the while at the bottom of the street there were soldiers kneeling, rifles aimed, picking off anything that moved. Had the whole world gone mad?’

That quotation comes from Socialist Worker—
a eyewitness account of Bloody Sunday in Derry, January 1972. The day when the British Army, under the direct control of the Tory government, opened fire on an unarmed demonstration. The day when 13 people were massacred.

A face of Tory Britain.

The patient has multiple injuries. The in- juries are all keeping with the patient’s statement of having been punched in the abdomen, prodded in the ribs and side, and having been kicked in the knees and lower legs.

Rafferty says he was assaulted, under interrogation, over a period of two days. He also says he was held over an electric heater until he lost consciousness. He is still in custody.

Suspects had what had become known as sensory deprivation treatment.

‘Black hoods had been kept on the man’s heads for several hours. They had been given only bread and water, kept standing facing a wall, kept without sleep for days, and subjected to continuous noise.’

The two quotations come from Granada TV’s World in Action programme on Bloody Sunday, in Northern Ireland. The second repeats the report of ex-Officer Rafferty to Edmund Compton—

A face of Tory Britain.

5 August, on the gates at Horne’s, the firm responsible for the threat to Britain’s arms sales, were attacked by the police on Thursday.

Mid-afternoon police of the Special Patrol Group moved in, using truncheons against the picket of printers and dockers, throwing middle-aged women against a wall and beating up anyone who fell into their hands.

‘Even the local police officers who normally patrol the pickets, were astonished at the behaviour of the “heavy mob.”—Socialist Worker 5 August 1972.

A face of Tory Britain.

In late February 1973 two young Pakistanis went down to India House in London. They were angry at the failure of the Indian government to return Pakistani prisoners of war. They were armed with toy pistols, and they entered India House, shouting.

The toy pistols were tiny imitations, the kind you buy at Woolworths, not replicas ‘easily mistaken’ for the real thing as claimed by the Fleet Street press, the TV, radio and police.

The police arrived—in the form of another Special Patrol Group like the one the printers and dockers had encountered the year before, only this time there were no truncheons. Special Patrol Groups are armed. The two teenagers were shot down, and killed.

Internal

The case didn’t end there. At the end of the year three members of that SPC went before Stipendary Magistrate K J Barrasclough at Bow Street Court. They received cautions for bravery andcheckout.

Another face of Tory Britain.

Since 1970 the Special Branch, Britain’s internal secret police, has nearly doubled in size. The Special Patrol Groups formed in 1964 have operated until now everywhere in London, and elsewhere.

Young black kids have plenty of them. A meeting of Lambeth’s Community Relations Council heard them described as ‘hooligans and lawless thugs’.

When you read in the Daily Express, or the Daily Mail, or hear Heath talking about the violent ‘elements’ in society, be very sure who they are. They aren’t the people that Heath is attacking—workers, socialists, pickets fighting against this system.

They are the people employed by Heath on behalf of his bosses—the ruling class.

‘Usher terrorism usually requires soldiers to become policemen…’ We must pay more attention to our intelligence services. It would not be an exaggeration to say that our Special Branches have been in a depressed state at the beginning of every counter-terrorist campaign that we have fought. Our armed forces have not been able to operate effectively until these weaknesses have been cleared up.’

Attacks

So says the Conservative Political Centre’s pamphlet titled In Defence of Peace. The authors, five Tory MPs, are allegedly referring to the problem of the IRA and similar organisations. But it is clear from the period since Bloody Sunday that the Tories are not just worried about ‘urban guerrillas’ and terrorists.

The history of this Tory government has been a history of continuous attacks on the working class, attacks on living standards, on trade union democracy—physical attacks on workers on strike, the imprisonment of workers.

But as their attacks increase so does the response of more and more workers. So the Tories are driven more and more to by-pass their own laws, and rely on the weapon which lies at the very root of their rule, the weapon which established their class and which is always ready to hold it in power.

The real face of Tory Britain.

by Nigel Fountain

Phone: 01-802 6145

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Mr Sydney Chapman

IN an article in the issue of Socialist Worker dated 2 June 1973, we stated that Mr Sydney Chapman, former Conservative MP for Handsworth, Birmingham, and now prospective Conservative parliamentary candidate for Handsworth, owned 3340 shares in the building firm of Bryant, Mr Chapman has drawn our attention to the fact that he neither owns nor nor ever had any shares in the company. We regret the error and apologise to Mr Chapman for any inconvenience caused him by the mistake.
MOST of the faces of Edward Heath are well-known: Heath the Puritan, Heath the Moralist, Heath the Moderate, Heath the Red-Baiter, Heath the Defender of the National Interest, Heath, the Scapegoat. Not so well known is Heath the Public Relations man for his friends' business interests.

This Heath is best illustrated by the hitherto untold story of the Prime Minister, Timothy Kitson, and the £9 million of taxpayer's money which found its way into the coffers of A & P Appleford International, a shipbuilding firm.

Private

Kitson looks at first sight like a typical Tory squire. He has a lovely house at Northallerton in his constituency and the 400 acres necessary to qualify for a Tory candidate seat. His hobbies are "shooting, hunting and horse racing."

He was parliamentary Private Secretary to former Jim Prior when the latter was Minister of Agriculture. Prior was so impressed with his fellow farmer that he recommended him to his old friend Ted Heath. So Heath took Kitson into his private office in 1972.

But Kitson is not as ordinary as he looks. He has what is known as a 'Shrewsbury business sense.'

Until shortly before the company went bankrupt in curious circumstances in 1972, Kitson was chairman of Britannia Colour Printing in South London.

The 600 workers promptly took

Charles Longbottom, former Tory MP for York.

The company was an instant success, turning in a profit of £85,000 in its first 21 months. But the man in charge of the company wanted desperately to move in to the big time, and this meant establishing 'contact' with and impressing the world's top shipping magazines.

So John Young, managing director of Court Line, organized a tasteful little 'private lunch' at the Savoy Hotel.

Among the guests were Stanos Nærchon, the Norwegian shipowner and multi-millionaire, Fred Olsen, the Norwegian shipowner and multimillionaire, and George Lurancé, Nærchon's nephew, another shipowner and multimillionaire.

It is not easy for small shipping firms to get these such giants in the business to one lunch party, but the real attraction for the magnates was the presence at the lunch not only of the charming Tim Kitson, but also of his boss, the Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Edward Heath.

Success

Heath listened approvingly as John Young filled in the details of the A & P operation, and openly trusted for orders. He even murmured something about the "best of British technology" in relation to his friend's company.

The lunch, from the point of view of A & P, was an unqualified success.

But Heath's government's generosity to Heath's private secretary's firm didn't stop at a few polite words at Savoy lunches. Last year, A & P Appleford got the contract for advising on the building of Court Line's mammoth Pallion Shipyard on Wearside.

The yard is costing rather more than £10 million, but Court Line will not 'save' to pay out much of this. In November last year, Christopher Chatowsky, Minister for Giving out Grants to Importers, after a cordial meeting with the business colleagues of his boss's private secretary, announced a government loan of £9 million for the Pallion project.

If the money had been borrowed on the open market according to the principles of free enterprise, interest rates would have been in the region of 14 per cent.

The Department of Trade and Industry will be charging Kitson and his colleagues a mere 8 per cent.

And all interests for the first two years have been "waived." In addition, the company is likely to get a regional development grant of £4 million.

As the Tory election slogans, only circulated in the City of London, goes: If you want to get ahead, get a friend of Ted.

Lunch guest who impressed the magnates

Macho attracted

Kitson and friend (right)
THE CIVILISED SOCIETY

Norma Levy: life's better under the Tories

I. NORMA LEVY, the life story of the 'most famous whore in the world' was published last December and was virtually boycotted by the media. No newspaper in Britain was interested in serialising it, although its contents would normally be regarded as juicy meat for serialisation.

W H Smith, who controls about 35% of the country's bookshops, refused to stock it. So did Menzies, Smith's main rival.

*Briony and Briggs, 50p

The effect of these two refusals was to knock about 25,000 off the book's sale. Only one national newspaper published a substantial review of the book. What must have upset the book sellers most was the newspaper's frankness about the habits of some very respectable people.

The bulk of the book is taken up with her description of her various clients in high society, and their remarkable demands.

Some of her comments are worth remembering next time you hear a merchant banker, an industrialist, or an American president talking about national sacrifices and Christian duties.

CLINTON NO 1, ALFRED: 'A man in his late fifties, six feet, grey-haired with a moustache. . . . He was chairman of one of Britain's largest public companies."

He bought me a beautiful house . . . he used to pay all my bills for the flat and the accounts he opened for me at London stores.

CLINTON NO 2, DAVID: 'One of Britain's most successful merchant bankers. He kept talking about black leather trousers, whip fantasies, about girls dressed as French maids. He kept this up for about an hour and he gave me a booking fee of £500.

I arrived at the Dorchester the following evening at 10:00 pm wearing my mink coat and carrying my portable chamber of horrors in a small suitcase . . .

'What on earth do you want me to do?' I asked.

'If you can stop now, I'll get a taxi.'

'Just before the taxi arrived he handed me a large bulky envelope . . . as he pulled away he opened it and couldn't believe my eyes. There was a mound of brand new £20 notes. It turned out to be £5000 in total.

I kept my date for lunch the next day, and I was five minutes late. It was one of those people who are terribly pernickety about people being punctual.

'Why are you late?' he greeted me. As an excuse I said I had lost the car. He thought it was a joke anyway. Afterwards he took me into a Mercedes benz showroom and made me choose the car I wanted. He paid for it by cheque and I collected it the following day.'

CLINTON NO 3, 'a tailed man, with a large country house in Sussex', had a regular friend.

On the table he had laid out a huge oak coffin surrounded by about 30 silver candle-holders.

COFFIN

'I had to take off all my clothes, except a white slip, and then climb into the coffin and lie there in my slip with my eyes closed pretending I was dead . . . he would very slowly light the candles and put them in the holders all round the coffin.'

The fee: £60.

CLINTON NO 4, 'a middle-aged English Duke . . . had apparently limitless money, and a never-ending sexual appetite and much too much time on his hands. I used to see him about once a month in the company of never used to see girls at a time, frequently having dinner in a day with the girls each time.'

The fee for each girl was £70-

CARLTON NO 5, of the top indy country, was one of the little clients. He was said to be beaten, of a humble background.

NORMA LEVY, the belle of the afternoon's Whitehouse who is chief pimp at the Flat and whose main ambition is to satisfy the lusts of the dignitaries, especially on royal visits.

Mr Whitehouse was a close friend of Princess Diana, Jean Marais, and his pet dog, whom he named Norma, that was running a ton of operations as the most profitable and most high-class call girl in London in no time.

Among those few who Norma had for the Whitehouse were Socko, a famous client of Claretian, and Greta, a middle-aged English Duke who had apparently limitless money, and a never-ending sexual appetite and much too much time on his hands. I used to see him once a week, about once a month in the company of his wife. He used to say he had never used to see girls at a time, frequently having dinner in a day with the girls each time.'

The fee for each girl was £70-

CLINTON NO 5, of the top indy country, was one of the little clients. He was said to be beaten, of a humble background.

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Mr Maudling on ‘sacrifice’

IN FEBRUARY, 1967, Reginald Maudling hurried home from a business trip in Malta to write an article for The Times newspaper. The article bitterly attacked the Wilson government for lowering its standards in modern Britain.

‘When we survey the state of our society,’ he wrote, ‘can anyone doubt that this dwindling sense of personal responsibility and lack of personal pride is at the base of most of our problems?’

At the time, Maudling had a number of responsibilities. He was deputy leader of the Tory Party, and the Conservative Party’s spokesman on foreign affairs.

He still made speeches about the importance of sacrifice and personal responsibility in the House of Commons, but his main efforts were concentrated overseas.

He was executive director at the Bank of England, a director of the Bank of England, and a director of AEI for another £20 a week.

When AEI was merged with GEC, Maudling was removed from the board and promptly joined the board of the fork-lift truck manufacturer, Laming Bagnall for £60 a week.

This was not enough for Maudling’s ‘highly developed sense of personal responsibility’.

Six months before writing to The Times he had joined the board of a company called John Maudling Ltd, and the board of a company called John Maudling Ltd.

Maudling went round the world for Poulsdon. He went to Saudi Arabia where he won the contract for £7 million hospital which was not to be used exclusively by the friends, family and harem of the King.

Desert

He went to Abu Dhabi in the Persian Gulf, where he won the contract for a luxurious palace in the middle of the desert for £2 million. He met the Sheikh, son of the Abu Dhabi ruler.

He went to Malta and fixed up another hospital on the island of Gozo. He flew first class around West Africa trying to sell Poulsdon’s equipment.

In 1969, he went with his wife on a so-called ‘peace mission’ to Mexico City, where the party stayed in the best hotels and ate at the very best restaurants for three weeks without winning a single contract.

Maudling joined the board of another of Poulsdon’s companies for £200 a year in 1967. Poulsdon paid for Maudling’s other services by donating £22,000 to a theatre in which Mrs Maudling was singing in East Grinstead.

In 1969, Poulsdon’s bankruptcy was becoming a bit of a problem. So Maudling and his son Martin—who had been ‘general manager’ for Poulsdon at about £20 a week plus expenses—jumped off one sinking ship. But Maudling remained chairman of Poulsdon’s overseas company right up until the general election of 1970.

Maudling’s ‘sacrifice’ and his ‘sense of responsibility’ led him elsewhere. In 1969 he was introduced to a notorious American swindler called Jerome Hoffman. Maudling and Hoffman got on very well indeed, and Maudling agreed to become president of a new and magnificent Hoffman ‘enterprise’.

It was called The Real Estate Fund of America, and its chief object was to solicit money from gullible parasites in Europe, the Middle East and South America.

Maudling used his powerful influence in banking circles to squeeze about a quarter of a million pounds from a Norwegian bank for REFA.

In July, when he heard the truth about Hoffman’s plot he resigned as president for fear of adverse publicity. But he clung on to 50,000 shares in The Real Estate Fund of America given him by Hoffman which Hoffman valued at £350,000.

Disabled

Maudling was still holding the shares when the Tories won the 1970 election and the first new president of The Real Estate Fund of America and the first chairman of Poulsdon’s.’

He was desperate to try to sell the shares in November 1970, when he made a speech to the British Council for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled.

‘Britain,’ he said, ‘has lost some of her pride. We need a new sense of self-discipline based on a pride in oneself and responsibility and on the recognition of individual courage and achievement.’

A few weeks later, he was forced to renounce ownership of Hoffman’s shares. For Hoffman was wanted for swindling in the United States and hundreds of idiots who had invested money in The Real Estate Fund of America were shouting for their money back.

Most of them never got it.

REFA went bankrupt, and Hoffman went to American prison. Poulsdon went bankrupt too, and now he is gone to prison.

When police inquiries started into the Poulsdon scandal in 1972, Maudling was finally forced to resign. Earlier this month he agreed to pay 100,000 dollars damages to some American investors in The Real Estate Fund of America.

Maudling never made the ‘little pot of money’ for his old age which, he once explained, was his real reason for teaming up with Hoffman.

But he is still very comfortable thanks to generous cheques from newspapers and television companies which are still employing him, almost once a week, to pontificate about the need for a ‘new sense of national pride’.

Reginald Maudling will be standing for the Conservative cause in Burnet next week.

Reggie’s great fall...

(To the tune of Humphry Dumpty)

Reggie Maudling sat on a board. Reggie Maudling went down for fraud. All the Queens Counsel and media men couldn’t put Reggie together again.

DISABILITIES

IS BOOKS, 265 Seven Sisters Road
London N4

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Ugly face of Toryism

Are you frightened to ask a policeman the time?  
Do you fear the midnight knock on the door?  
Are you the subject of police harassment?  
Do you fear to collect your miserable pittance from the social security?  
Are you liable to arrest if you are not carrying your passport?  
Are you discriminated against at work or at leisure?

IF YOUR answer to these questions is yes then it means one of two things. You are either a black, second-class citizen of the Republic of South Africa, or a black, second-class citizen of Tory Britain.

Truth to tell the Tories inherited the Immigration Act from their Labour predecessors, but it required the special Tory violence of Robert Carr, a man with a totally unsmirched reputation for liberalism, to institutionalise the harassment and terrorising of black people.

The 1968 Act was a harsh attack against black people. One of its provisions, however, permitted illegal immigrants to become "legal" so long as they remained here undetected for six months.

This situation was quite unacceptable to the Tories. So they set out to make illegal retrospectively—that which had previously been legal—a situation that cast considerable doubt on Tory devotion to 'Law and Order'.

Panic

The House of Lords, never slow to oblige in any reactionary venture, agreed that retrospective changes in the law were a good thing. At a stroke tens of thousands of black people were thrown into panic. Ordered, secured, or unemployed, for these people became a thing of the past.

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary for the Social Services, issued instructions to all the welfare agencies to demand passports from black people who applied for benefits. Despite a refusal by the Civil Service Union to accept these police duties, many blacks were deterred from applying for benefits to which they were fully entitled and for which they had paid taxes and insurance contributions.

Carr gave the green light to the police for a campaign of harassment.

In Bradford immigrant organisations reported that police were asking black drivers for their passports, as well as their driving licences, when stopping them for petty driving offences.

In Manchester policewomen went to a restaurant and arrested two of the workers on suspicion of illegal entry.

In Sheffield Social Security officials were asking black claimants about their entry into Britain.

In Goldsmythe House, a 31-year-old Ugandan Asian girl asked a policeman how to get home. She was promptly bundled into a police car and held until her passport was produced.

At Kings Cross station, London, George Peake, a South African CIPColour and member of the International Socialists, was accosted by a policeman. 'You look suspicious,' said the policeman. 'Can I see your ticket and your passport?' George handed over his ticket, with the comment: 'I didn't know you needed a passport to get to Huddersfield.' The policeman's polite reply: 'Now then, wog, don't you get soppy with me.'

In Southall families have been deserted by their menfolk, who are not sure if they are 'legal' immigrants. In Gravesend mothers are frightened to go into hospital for fear they will be asked for their passports.

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At any time there are between 40 and 80 'illegal' immigrants locked in Pentonville jail in London. There have been up to 160.

Last week Solomon Mumboso was deported to South Africa. He is unlikely to be admitted there. If so he will be returned to Pentonville to rot until the Home Office decides to deport him to another unwilling nation.

Our Norman

At first a bit late…

You'll wish you hadn't.

You'll wish you hadn't.

We have drawn a curtain over the next few seconds in order to protect our employees from the sight of Anthony Wedgewood Benn.

Peter Wedgewood Benn.

Peter Wedgewood Benn.

You'll wish you hadn't.

You'll wish you hadn't.

With that said, sometimes you have to vote with the knee.

Forced

Satnam Kaur worked for a garage in Southall. When £50 was stolen from the till, Satnam was, because of his colour, a prime suspect. Under police questioning, he confessed to the crime, was forced to take the police to his home and pay over his savings of £11.50.

Later the money was found. It had never been stolen. To this day the police have not explained how Satnam came to confess to an offence that had never been committed.

Veneer

The men in Pentonville are in a more favourable position than the many others in British jails. At least they are all together and have certain additional privileges in regard to letters and visits. Other black people held in Winton Green prison, Birmingham, and Ardingly Prison, Leeds, are restricted to one letter a week and to the normal prison visiting rights.

These men and women are held indefinitely, submitted to gruesome prison conditions and the inhuman, degrading process of shaking around the world, rejected by nations unwilling to accept Robert Carr’s deportees.

Tory Britain is a more and more racialist Britain. The thin, stammering, liberal veneer of Robert Carr ineffectively masks the willing concessions to the Monday Club racists and their National Front allies, the Fowsellian lunatics of the Tory constituencies.

The war against racism will not be finished by this election, but the chances of organising a real fight back will be improved by removing the Tories, once and for all.

STORY: JIM HIGGINS
PICTURE: MIKE COHEN
The Tory cuts: Who eats meat now?

The Inner London Education Authority alone has had to axe the building of 32 new primary schools planned for 1974-75 as a result of the cuts. Most of the new building was to replace schools built before 1900.

Leeds Education Authority is considering replacing meat in school dinners with soy-based substitute KESP. Cold school meals are also likely to be cut every week.

Wolverhampton Education Authority is one of several looking into the possibility of extending next winter’s school holidays and shortening the Easter holidays. The aim is to save £32,000 on electricity bills.

In the Times Educational Supplement of 28 December John Valeye reported on the gloomy prospects for state education after Barber's budget. On the opposite page the paper reported that the outlook for private schools, the state-relegated, semi-private, fee-paying schools, was far from gloomy.

Outfit

Mr R S St John Pitts-Tuck, secretary of the Headmasters' Conference, was asked by The Times what the Tory government would be giving his outfit an 11 per cent increase in their allowance for this year. Two-thirds of the direct grant schools’ annual income of £27 million comes from the state.

The whole budget Birmingham Education Authority was definitely prepared to phase out a building a replacement for the 80-year-old Osbourne Junior School at Edington. The cuts mean the scheme has now had to be cancelled.

It is not the first time rebuilding plans for Osbourne have been felled. Definite plans to rebuild were first announced as early as 1934, but then the school had been on and off the list of scheduled projects as education spending was being cut back by successive governments.

Last week Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon moved their 12-year-old son Viscount Linley into a new school. Exams were getting near and they had left that classes at his old school, £600-a-year Ashdown House, were too big. There were 15 to a class. At his new school, the even more expensive Millbrook House, there are more teachers and only eight to a class.

The pennypinching and downright lack of concern about state education is not new. But it's still bad. They're short of teachers yet.

"And Graham has never been swimming since July 1971 when he got his bronze Amateur Swimming Association Medal. There's a pool just about to open on this estate, the second amenity they've been pleased to grant us in more than 25 years. The first was a golf-course."

Graham has survived thanks to himself and his family. But the new comprehensive school which has emerged is now better off than the old problems, the normal everyday ones of all state schools.

Problems

As Graham explains: "My friend worked hard doing his school work and school activities. To get an apprenticeship he needs to pass the Certificate of Secondary Education in both metalwork and technical drawing. But at our school you can't do both—because of the teacher shortage. You can only do one or the other."

Stan Stewart has plenty to say on the subject too. "I've been to see them all about this, headmaster, teachers, education officers, the lot. One head... I almost had him in tears at what is going on. He said the Essex Education Authority had admitted that teachers' wages were the problem.

"And what was the Tories' answer to that? A wage freeze which will make the situation even worse."

"My father taught me to fight for what I wanted and I'm going to."

In the great general strike I was six and 30 years old. I was locking kids protecting us in the school playground during the dinner breaks to keep us away from the picket lines, the so-called "marauding hordes of strikers".

Even as children we had a glimpse of what it could be. Round the Elephant and Castle where I was raised it was a rare event to eat properly, never mind have a bottle of lemonade or a packet of crisps, the strikers just used to commande the local shop and take our lemonade wagons.

"I wasn't running with blood. They were running with lemonade."
ONE THEME runs through all Tory election propaganda. The country, the way is, in dire economic straits. We all have to make sacrifices. And that means pay claims beyond the Phase Three limit just cannot be afforded.

This argument the Labour leaders have utterly failed to answer. Yet it is nonsense from beginning to end.

Last year more wealth was produced in this country than ever before in history. Industrial output grew by more than 5 per cent and profits by 25 per cent. Yet workers' living standards fell by about 2 per cent.

If the wealth which flows to the very rich were divided among the workers who actually produce it, real increases in living standards would be possible.

In 1972, even before last year's profits boom, the total amount paid in rent, dividends and interest was £572 million enough to have increased the old age pension by half and to have given an increase of £2 a week to every wage and salary earner.

But very rich get their high incomes not just from rent, dividends and interest. Most also get massive salaries and directors' fees. The redistribution of these would mean vast improvements in the lives of all workers, skilled or unskilled, white collar or blue collar.

In 1973 the people of Britain received a total income, after tax and after making allowances for industrial investment, of £39,360 million. That works out at £400 for every man, woman and child.

Before paying tax, the average family with two or three children would receive around £95 a week and every old person £15 a week. While most families have to live on less than half this figure, no workers should listen to any talk about 'What the country can afford'.

If politicians say the country cannot afford further wage increases, what they really mean is the country who control society cannot afford them.

Minority

Under capitalism, the well-being of all or of any group depends on keeping the minority who own the wealth. In British today, 81 per cent of stocks and shares are owned by 1 per cent of the population. About 1500 men sitting in the boardrooms of 100 companies employ half the workers and control two-thirds of industrial output.

This small minority will not allow production to continue and will not put money into new industries unless guaranteed high profits. If profits are not to be had, they close down factories, impose wage cuts and impose short-time working.

In short, they operate a protection racket far more extreme than anything the Krays Brothers ever imagined.

The crisis now facing this country is not a crisis of production which is stagnating in the capitalist systems all over the world. The cause is simple.

In the hell-scramble for profits, big business has caused shortages of key goods. As prices have risen, other businessmen have seen that a quick killing can be made by hoarding goods, so as to force prices up even more.

This is most obvious in the case of oil — not only the Arab shrieks but also the giant oil companies have been reaping unheard-of profits. Shell's profits more than doubled in just three months last year.

Now suddenly, the owners of industry all over the world are frightened the upsurge in raw material prices will cut their profits. So they are refusing to expand production any more, pushing up unemployment, and demanding that governments use 'incomes policies' to cut living standards.

Governments that accept the capitalist system can do nothing to solve this crisis. The giant companies are big enough to escape governmental control. In the US the oil companies, for instance, have been able to force the government to value of the pound.

The only way to prevent this would be to nationalise all major industries simultaneously. At the same time, workers would have to demand that the government be put in to impose their control in every factory and office as the only way of preventing economic sabotage by the bosses.

But this could not be done while the army and police were left to operate as they do now. The officers in the armed forces are relatives and friends of those who own industry. They would move in, as happened in Chile, to stop a genuine workers' takeover. To prevent this, organised workers would have to build defence groups and encourage rank and file soldiers to turn against their officers.

Finally, such a movement could not be led by 350 or so MPs sitting in parliament and debating with a similar number of Tory MPs. It would require instead a leadership made up of delegates from every section of workers, trusted by the workers because they were continually subject to democratic control from below, and capable of co-ordinating into a single fight the separate activities of millions of men and women in thousands of factories.

On such a basis the split of the ruling class industry could be broken. Workers, through their delegates, would then be able to ensure that the wealth they themselves produce is used for the benefit of all.

Under such a system, there would be no chance of men and women facing unemployment merely because a few people were not satisfied with the level of their profits.

There should be no doubt that workers are capable of running society in such a way. After all, at the moment most of the actual running of society and industry is done by workers - if you include such skilled workers as draughtsmen, computer operators, technicians, the lower ranks of the civil service, and so on. Under capitalism they are subject to the control of the owners of wealth, who have no skills - being experts only at shifting their money around and controlling the rest of us.

There is no reason why they should not be controlled, instead, by those who own the wealth.

Illusion

Of course, such a revolutionary change in society cannot happen until the mass of workers are convinced of the necessity for it and are prepared to fight to cut the old ruling class.

The majority of workers still do not see the need for such a change. Many still have the illusion that if they only wait a bit, things will begin to get better without their needing to do anything themselves.

This illusion is going to clash more and more with reality in the months ahead, whatever wins the election. The problems facing working people are going to get worse, with continued attempts to cut living standards, attacks on the unions and picketing, growing unemployment, increased poverty for the old.

What is going to be needed is the building of a revolutionary party — both to lead a fight back on all these issues and to convince large numbers of workers of the necessity for fighting for a real socialist alternative.

Roger Kline's CAN SOCIALISM COME THROUGH PARLIAMENT? draws the lessons from the antics of the Labour Party, in government and in opposition, as reformers of capitalism and argues what we can do to bring socialism.

IS Bookshop
265 Seven Sisters Road
Finbury Park, London N4
19p plus 3p postage (10 or more copies post free) from

Chris Harman

'Workers, through their delegates, would then be able to ensure that the wealth they themselves produce is used for the benefit of all.'
CERTAIN small revolutionary groups are putting up candi-
dates in the elections in some cases have appealed to the
individual members of IS for support in their campaign.
The national committee of IS has decided that its policy in this
election is to pursue our own independent strategy and to
not put up a candidate for a Labour victory. In these circum-
cstances we do not give support to the miners candidates, even
where the Labour candidate is an extreme right opportunist
such as R. F. Prentice.

Because we are opposed in principle to revolutionary organi-
zations contesting elections, nor
because we believe that a Labour victory will solve any of
the fundamental problems of working people, we are
against a Labour victory because the government has
chosen to solve its problems on the issue of the trade
unions, and a Tory victory would give them the
confidence to launch an intensified attack upon the
right to organize.

For revolutionaries to stand candidates in such an
election is simply a diversion from the main issues and
will divert the attention from the tactics which will not
advance the cause of revolutionary socialism.

THE 'Economic crisis, the election and the miners' strike
have combined to put a new dimension and influence of Socialist
Workers on the dreams of the most fervent IS activists.

Last week 46,000 copies were
printed, an increase of nearly 5000

CHINGARI STRESSES CRISIS

WHOSE CRISIS? is the main story
story in the latest issue of the IS
Punjabi paper, Chingari, published last week. The article
provides an important insight into the importance of the miners' strike
and the recent election.

The crisis is causing Indian workers in this area to seize on the
whole election as a means of making demands on the
developers, and the local Labour Left is

in all areas. Here are some examples:

Relevant

Other increases show that the spread is tight across the country, in
new and established branches, in town and country areas. Here are some examples:

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Reading 125 to 225
Stockport 125 to 225
Sunderland 50 to 150
Barnet 150 to 200
Leeds 775 to 1400
Liverpool 125 to 240
Lowestoft 650 to 1000
Luton 100 to 150
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Meetings and Notices

LONDON 15 students' separate meeting:

LONDON SOCIALIST WORKER 23 February 1974

WHAT'S ON

Victory to the miners.

Print order hits

46,000...forward

to the 50,000

in one week. All reports indicate that

in most of them were sold.

adds value because it is much easier
to organise a facsimile of the IS

in IS, and a member of IS and John Palmer.

series to Thursda, 27 February, 7.30pm, Kings Town Hotel

way, 1st floor, London NW1.

SOUTHWAICH IS public meeting: Kick

the Tories — the union will not support

the miners. Speaker: Roger Pringle (UCW)

Thursday, 27 February, 7.30pm, Kings Town Hotel.

WAKEFIELD IS public meeting: Support

the miners — kick out the Tories. 24 February, 7.30pm, Kings

KINGSTON IS public meeting: Victory

to the miners NUM (speaker, Tuesday 26

February, 7.45pm, Kings Town Hotel (opposite Kingston station).

EARLESTOWN and ST HELENS IS public

meeting: Support the miners NUM, the

three, Speakers: Jim Clarke (NUM),

Chairmen (control of picketing at Shrewsbury). Saturday 23

February, 7.30pm, St John's Church Hall, Oldham.

WATFORD IS public meeting: Kick

out the Tories — the union will not support

the miners. Speaker: Jim Nicholls, and 21 February, 7.30pm,

Trade Union Hall, Watford High North Watford.

HYDE IS public meeting: The Tory

lie — the miners. Speaker: Glyn Cowell (UCW), Tuesday 26

February, 8pm, Hyde Town Hall.

ST HELENS IS public meeting: Support

the miners NUM, Speaker: John Bradley (control of picketing at

Shrewsbury). Wednesday, 27 February, 7.30pm, St John's Church

Hall, 132, 3rd floor, St John's Town Hall.

FLEET STREET: Socialist Worker public

meeting. Back the miners — the Tories,

Speaker: Paul Foot (NUJ), Thursday 21

February, 7.30pm, St Bride's, Fleet Street.

PRESTON IS public meeting: Why the

Tories will lose and the miners win.

Speaker: John R. H. Turner (Labour)

Friday, 21 February, 7.30pm, Arnot Street Presbyterian Church.

OXFORD: IS public meeting: The

Tories — they will lose. Speaker: Jim

Williams (UCW), Oxford Town Hall, Thursday 27

February, 7.30pm, The Civic Hall.

PARTRIDGE IS public meeting: Kick

out the miners. Speakers: Peter Rolinson

and Frank Logan. Tuesday 25 February,

7.30pm, Pavilion, Chapel Lane.

YORK IS public meeting: The miners

and the Tories both lost. Speaker: David

Hyde (UCW), Thursday 27 February,

7.30pm, Laverther Hotel, Kirkgate, York.

BRIGHTON IS public meeting: Victory

to the miners — the Tories. Speaker: Pat

George, Trafalgar Hotel, Queen's Road, Brighton.

LONDON IS students' separate meeting:

Tuesday 25 February, 7.30pm.

Meetings

WEST MIDDLESEX District IS public

meeting at Watford. Speaker: Martin

Harrington. Tuesday 25 February,

7.30pm, Park Lane, High Wycombe.

HACKNEY IS public meeting: Support

the miners' struggle. Speakers: Ed

Herbertson and Lovell. Tuesday 25

February, 7.30pm, St Matthew's Church Hall, 46-48

High Street, Hackney.

GRIMSBY IS public meeting: The Right

of the miners to work. Speaker: David

Clarke (UCW), 30th February, 7.30pm,

Denby's Hall, Cleethorpes.

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the miners' struggle. Speakers: Ed

Herbertson and Lovell. Tuesday 25

February, 7.30pm, St Matthew's Church Hall, 46-48

High Street, Hackney.

GRIMSBY IS public meeting: The Right

of the miners to work. Speaker: David

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Denby's Hall, Cleethorpes.

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CLAY CROSS:—They are not fit to be counted. The sooner they are disqualified the better... Others must be elected in their place—others who will fulfil the duties which these 11 have failed to do. I trust there are good men in Clay Cross ready to take over.

The words come from the Court of Appeal, from Lord Denning, one of our rulers' leading judges. They were directed at the Labour councilors of Clay Cross in Derbyshire, whose crime was that alone in Britain they had carried out Labour Party policy by refusing to put council rents under the Tory "Fails to Pay" Act.

There are good men and women ready to take over. Six miners, two housewives, a student teacher, a lorry driver and a publican.

"The faces have changed, but the policies remain the same. The people are behind us and we're going to carry on where we left off.

Copy for the Classified section must arrive by first post morning Monday. Adverts will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Charges are 1p per word, semidecibel 3p per word. CASH WITH COPY to Classified, Socialists Worker, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.
**Militants gain among teachers**

DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS against prominent Rank and File teacher supporters, Eric Porter, Fred Scott and Dave Whitely, are likely to be dropped. The charge, which could have been alleged under the Teachers' Union mass meeting in London last year. Executive members on the platform for discussion on a motion and themselves effectively disrupted the meeting.

The resignation of Porter, Scott and Whitley was a clear case of the kind of teaching behaviour that the teachers' union is seeking to root out. The action of the minters' union has been welcomed by many teachers, particularly those who have been fighting against the closure of the Whitley Sunday School in Sheffield.

The NUT special conference last Saturday cut a Phase Three salary deal.

The union executive made eight acceptance—and four London FE college departments spoke against, all by Max Morris. The NUT committee of heads appointed a 'consultation committee' to meet the country, the delegate, voting for the acceptance.

However, left the four-day-old miners on a line to the NUT leaders are now saying the deal with the London teachers.

The national rank and file rank makes the task even more difficult. Fire Rank and File inspired resolutions have been placed in the union's hands, including the top place for Rank and File leaders' salaries motion. At the union meeting level the Rank and File made big progress.

It hasn't broken through among the delegates electronically, against a machine by ballot, often aware of the issues, but the motion of getting the resolutions out, but will never have been so far as the machinery which has been boosted by the miners' strike. It is possible to put through the strategy at the special conference. Support the rank and file and alliances with all sections fighting Phase Three, and no Olympic Games, but a government which cuts its living standards.

WEEKENDS—Workers at New Act, a sheet-metal factory at Kirkby, have been occupied, their factory by three workers who demanded that they be paid. The union for the first time has been occupied, their factory by three workers who demanded that they be paid.

The managers directory called a meeting in the canteen and threatened the factory by three workers who demanded that they be paid. Since the lock-out began the factory has been occupied, their factory by three workers who demanded that they be paid.

The head of the factory has been occupied, their factory by three workers who demanded that they be paid.

**AMBULANCE**

**REJECT NEW DEAL**

LONDON—Ambulance workers have overwhelmingly rejected the 'new deal', 67% voted in favour, and 33% against. Shout workers voted 368 in favour, and 275 against, Shout workers voted 368 in favour, and 275 against.

The 'deal' gave management the right to sack any worker 'needed' in the course of working and night shifts ending at 11pm. To satisfy the unions, the workers were willing to accept a 'deal' which was not acceptable.

One independent productivity deal expert told the unions that they were being asked for advice that the workers have never been a more skilled or trained workers on this issue. The unions have never been a more skilled or trained workers on this issue.

The 'deal' was put to workers in the TUC since 1965, and because of everything I’ve said about the new deal, I was asked by several union members of the union, we need to argue the fact that the issue is asking for, the deal.

In the current deal, the NUT, are saying that the deal is asking for, the deal.

**WILL FANCY** is a member of the national executive council of NALGO, the local government employees' union, and a member of the national steering committee of the Methodist Action Group. In 1970 he asked for 15 per cent and got 12 per cent.

'Now we have groups organized in each district of the union. In London we are very strong. We come up big enough now to organize on a branch basis.'

**POLICIES**

'At the union conference last year, we had a long and far reaching debate about NALGO Action News and its role in NALGO. We have a common goal of seeing that all trade union faces are treated decently.'

'Some of the branches are not the same, but we are all united by the branch. We are facing job evaluation, clerical work management, enormous pressure on rationalisation. And our union, like no other, is just a small, health service, gas, electricity and water, is the same as the NUT, if we are working.'

'The problem for us is that for years the branches have been dominated by the older members who were climbing up the local government ladder.'

'The breakdown really came in 1978 it was economic. We accepted an average 3% per cent wage. For the first time since the 1960s in 1969 at a special conference we organized to fight the claims. We forced the leader of the national executive council of NALGO, the local government employees' union, and a member of the national steering committee of the Methodist Action Group.'

'The meeting of the Methodist Action Group. In 1970 we asked for 15 per cent and got 12 per cent. Now we have groups organized in each district of the union. In London we are very strong. We come up big enough now to organize on a branch basis. We have closed down the deal and got 12 per cent.'

'Now we have groups organized in each district of the union. In London we are very strong. We come up big enough now to organize on a branch basis.'

**CASTINGS STRIKE:**

**130 NOW OUT**

NUNEATON—The strike at Coventry Art Castings' goes on. 130 men, all but six of them immigrants, are now on official strike. Pickets are mounting all their trucks but the management is keeping up. The Coventry Art Castings' asks them to let us return to job evaluation. To counter the strike workers must be spread to all A. D. Dunn factories.

Art Castings' components are now black at Alvis and Chrysler factories but not elsewhere. Some of the 'patriotic' pickets are needed on the other factories.

The main unions that have been arrested on the picket line and charged with assault, threatening behaviour and obstruction and obstruction have been assaulted.

This is a crucial political point. It can be won. If it is not it will not be for want of the strikers. Their refusal to let the government and their bosses go unpunished is commendable. The long fight goes on. Only one independent productivity deal expert told the unions that they were being asked for advice that the workers have never been a more skilled or trained workers on this issue. The unions have never been a more skilled or trained workers on this issue.

The whole trade union movement must stand in solidarity with these workers. We must rally to the defence of these men, who are being blackballed and persecuted. In most cases the tactics necessary to win strikes.
What we think

THE MINERS’ STRIKE is solid as a rock. But now for the first time doubts are being expressed about the wisdom of the union leaders’ decision on picketing which says in effect that all the miners save to do for victory is stay at home.

It is true that the trade union movement in many areas is giving the miners a substantial solidarity backing. But there are other points where solidarity is weak and needs to be bolstered.

Durham mechanics and miners picketing oil refineries on Teeside have insisted on delivering their full load of industrial fuel to power stations and steelworks. And yet the mechanics leaders have begun talking about the need for mass picketing, finding that the six-man teams are not enough.

But in other places miners’ pickets are reaching a quite different conclusion. At places where little is happening, they talk of small scale picketing being boring and demoralising and even about packing it in.

This is an understandable feeling. But it would be a bad mistake to abandon the small-scale picketing. Picketing is necessary, to continue having workers get effective practical support. It is also vital for keeping that solidarity going over a period of time.

One picket outside a factory is the conscience of hundreds of workers inside.

Even more important, picketing involves building ties and file miners in the running of the strike, and in determining the final outcome, the terms of the settlement.

Leadership

Despite the feeling of the rank and file for the full claim, there are those in the NUM leadership who are not at all happy with the strike. They would sell the claim short at the first opportunity and they do not dispute their hostility to picketing.

Frank Smith from Leicester for example has come out his enforced sick leave and is back in circulation. And he and his friends in the national leadership have been doing everything in their power to get the picketing stopped. They are arguing that the NUM strike is now exhausted and cannot be replenished from other funds because of the Industrial Relations Act. They have been arguing that this means pickets must be halted and picketing itself be called off.

They feel that if they can minimise involvement in the strike, they will have more room to manoeuvre and reach some accommodation on the claim than if they carry on with the full claim.

At the relativity hearing on Monday Lawrence Daly insisted that the union was staying by the full claim. But on the day of the hearing, Gormley announced that the dispute would be settled by the end of the week after the election. The question is: On whose terms, Joe Gormley’s or the full claim?

It is not just a question of money, either. The 1972 NUM conference decision insisted on a return to November 1971 wage agreements. In the miners’ present powerful position this too is something that should be insisted on. After all summertime is not the best time for the miners to have any advantages.

There is a relative claim in the battle at the moment. But the situation could change and the Torres more on the offensive. Then the miners would need pickets, pickets.

Marchers back pickets

South Wales miners were among workers from many parts of the country who took part in a 400-strong march in London yesterday in solidarity with the pit building workers who have found guilt in the first Shrewsbury frame up trial. The marchers were to the Law Courts where the strike—Don Winter, Sidney Tomlinson, John McKinley Jones, John Llywelyn, Ken O’Shea and John Carpenter—were appealing against conviction. Picture Chris Davies (Report). Second Shrewsbury trial verdicts: page 15.

Blackleg lorries run riot at Saltley

The Battle of Saltley coke depot lasted in the high point of the 1972 miners’ strike when mass statistics and picket lines won the day.

But this week there were no signs of mass action at Saltley. Six pickets came from South Wales and two from the Midlands and there were no complaints from the gates. On one day 158 lorries arrived to pick up coke.

Two were turned back, 12 passed from their action showing they were getting coal for schools and hospitals. The remainder 144 had no papers, were stopped and successfully loaded and removed coke to unknown destinations.

Many of the lorry drivers were non-union. At least one of them claimed the coming 11.10 per load.

Jack Leslie, righting acts NUM president, has admitted that he has come to an agreement with West Midlands GMB about the movement of coke from Saltley. But he said GMB had sold out the strike.

"At Saltley we are carrying on our business as normal. We have no quarrel with any owner who has settled under Phase Three. We do not have an agreement with the NUM, a loading arrangement. This "arrangement" applies in these terms: 'That the coke is going to places where both sides went to.'

ACTION

The Durham miners who are picketing the Teesside area are threatening mass picketing this week in order to get their demands continued.

The decisions on strike ballot were followed by successful miners more successfully. They managed to stop a train carrying coal from the South Durham pits to the Saltley power station.

Evidence from Alnaron and Swansea joint unions committee, with more than 1,000 miners, including factory workers and other workers, called out by the miners, the action was considered necessary if non-violent measures were to be successful.

Jim Clarke of Lea Hall NUM says: "The miners have had to take present strike tactics, because many of the men don’t feel that it is possible to be violent. This means that it is more difficult to get support from other workers and leaves the possibility of a quick compromise settlement.

Roger Godfrey, a footworker from the Ulster and John Atkinson, a footworker, say that while the miners must not be SQLite to prevent further attacks on the pickets.

But even if Labour wins, workingclass solidarity must be strengthened to prevent attacks by a Labour government on workers in any of the NFC.

In Scotland, despite the fact that the new picket lines are at power stations, the union does not demand a return to normal wages. This is not the way to win the full claim, or to gain the support of all the workers who have been the government and the NFC.

The miners are fighting for a fairer deal, the massive 81 per cent vote for strike by the Southern miners needs to be backed by mass united action. Strikes are more than putting up the picket lines where it really hurts the bosses.

Victory to the Miners

Kick out the Tories

Saturday 23 February. Assembly 1.45 Kibblesworth Hall, 250 townott Road, Chesterfield, Notts. Speaker: Terry Smith, NUM, 3rd district elected delegate, 2nd Northumberland, Sunderland, Northumberland, Headquarters.

Trade Union and Socialist Coalition, 10-12, Old Bedford Street, London WC1. Tel: 01-240 0656. Public meetings this week: Manchester (Tuesday), Liverpool (Wednesday).