Three days! Labour's fastest sell-out in history

HAROLD WILSON

Socialism

The law is costing us money

The case against Paul Foot and Jim Nichol, editor and publisher of Socialist Worker, has featured in the high Court on Wednesday after this issue went to press. The Attorney General in the Labour Government, Sam Silkin, claims that we committed a contempt of court when we named the two witnesses in the James Jones blackmail case last April.

Our defence argues:

ONE: That the judge gave no direction in the case that the names should not be published. He even admitted: 'I have no jurisdiction over the press.'

TWO: That, even if he had made such a direction, judges have no power in such cases to order journalists not to publish witnesses' names.

THREE: That, in any case, the information given by judge and reporter not to reveal the names was a fragmentary example of the unlawful conduct of both and dreadful witness-who might in other cases, such as this, be so closely connected to the witness that his unconnected witnesses are not protected.

The judge was 'likely to be impressionable' by the Solicitor General for at least a year. If we can name at all, whatever the penalty, the costs of the case are large and this case may be our last or second case. We must meet these costs—and those of many other carriers who are standing in the battle for fighting fascism or selling our paper.

This week our Fighting Fund received a magnificent £285.65, bringing the October total to £2,366.61 as far. A series of films shown have raised some large donations. Croydon District £40, Oxford District £20.17 so far. Other collections for the defence fund have included: Hein SW readers £77.50, Supporters and members of the GLO 15 branch £20, SW readers, Edinburgh Corporation £16.50, Hawker Hill shop £3, TASS, Clydesdale £5, Credon: Ararat £3, BSC, Poorhouse £3, Radio Times, Park Royal £6, Moorcambe, Bari, York, £3.50, Vinyl, 28 NE £16, £3, £10, £2. SW readers Fulham £3, and GMW presents at Turner Brothers Adelphi, Leigh, sent their second £1, totalling £6.

Donations and collections to: National Treasurer, Jim Nichol, 8 Criterion Gardens, London E2 8DN.
Fords: How we organised to win.

A Kent, a steward in the Dagenham press shop at Dagenham stresses in this interview...

We won against the company because we were well organised. We did not stumble into our dispute—preparations were made and the action was only taken after the strike came.

The company had been warned that the strike was imminent, despite their claims to the contrary. The workers were determined and confident of victory.

The strike was a massive success, with the company paying out large sums in order to keep the workforce onside. The workers' determination and organisation were key factors in their success.

It was a significant victory for the trade unions and a blow to the company's attempts to break down the workers' unity and solidarity.

...and free for the police to harass black people

by Lewis Davies

MIDDLESBROUGH—It is sweeping Teenan's small West Indian community after yet another police harassment and legal injustice.

Last Wednesday Steve Brown was sent to Durham Jail for two and a half years on a drugs charge.

Earliest in April a London local police officer told Steve: "Your blood is going to get you. This is becoming a national standard to West Indians and Africans in Teenan and it isn't an idle one.

Shortly afterwards Steve was approached by three strangers who asked for a lift in his car. Later he was arrested and told that he was being charged with offering the three a ride.

The guards of the law searched Steve, his car and his flat and found no drugs. Nevertheless he was brought to court and found guilty on the evidence of two of the three. This was though the third denied the accusations and had any substance and a friend who had been in the van all the time supported him.

In court Steve claimed that the whole case was a frame-up.

The two witnesses said they had left the van and then "jumped onto a van" which they recognised as a plain clothes police van. Very clever for "complete strangers", as the police told us, this is how the prosecution described them. The jury twice failed to agree on a verdict.

The whole case might be seen as an individual miscarriage of justice...
WHY WE MUST GET TOGETHER

STRIKES, occupations and overtime bans are going on all over the country in defiance of Government orders. The workers will not sit by and see the country and industry being pillaged by the R.A.S.C. (a militant union) and the Government. We need an organisation prepared to fight against the Social Contract and redundancies.

This is what the Rank and File Conference is all about. In the last year, two disputes have stood out more than most as ones where the rank and file had to go it alone—the Glasgow women and the strike at Stanlow against Shell.

Two supporters of the conference write below of their experiences during these disputes—and why they are calling for support for the conference.

RANK AND FILE CONFERENCE: BIRMINGHAM, 30 NOVEMBER

RONNIE ROBERTSON, secretary of the Parkhead branch of the Fire Brigades Union and a delegate to the union's Glasgow Area Committee

During the Glasgow women's strike last November, rank and file leadership, aided and abetted by Len Murray of the TUC and James Jack of the Scottish TUC, attempted to isolate the women. The Glasgow Area Committee of the FBU was removed from office: Murray and Jack sent letters to trade councils and trade unions instructing them not to support the strike by either word or action.

The response to this from rank and file trade unionists was a flood of messages of support and financial donations amounting to thousands of pounds. The lesson to be learned is that workers cannot rely on the bureaucratic trade union leadership to fight for them. The unapologetic support for women received must be channelled into an organisation prepared to link up and reinforce the rank and file militancy among workers in a united fight against the employers.

In the coming period of wage cuts and reduced living standards, the social contract is a vital that all rank and file militancy push within their union branches and committees for negotiations to the Second Rank and File Conference in November. I will certainly be doing this in my own branch and at the Glasgow Area Committee of the FBU.

Conference details: turn to page 12

SPANISH ARRESTS

THE FASCIST regime in Spain has made hundreds of political arrests in the last few weeks following a strike wave which workers have shown tremendous courage and determination—and shakc the ruling class rigid.

The country's rulers are petrified because of the impending death of Franco, and the right wing and the international monopolies fear this could lead to the same situation as the victorious breakthrough of the Portuguese working class from the shackles of Fascism.

Against the threat of death, imprisonment and torture, the workers of Spain are on the move in a country where all strikes are illegal, all strikes are also political.

The warning signs

A GENERAL STRIKE was called in Italy this week to protest at the lack of action by the Fiat workers and to demand increases in the cost of living in wage deals.

Fiat, part of Italy's largest private concern, has 300,000 unsold cars littering the country. Last week 65,000 Fiat workers in the massive Turin complex went on strike against an imposed three-day week...and were promptly locked out.

The struggle at Fiat is part of the world crisis in the car industry. The need for united action and links between car workers throughout the world is becoming more and more urgent. British Leyland and Chrysler are threatening mass lay-offs. As the crisis develops, we can expect more unemployment. The fight against redundancies will have to be fought not just on a national basis, but with all eyes on the international situation.

The pattern of British elections since 1961 shows a growing disillusionment and contempt among workers for Parliamen
tary politics of all description and for you and will be all right' form of politics not only leads to apathy, it disarms the workers where they have the power—on the factories and workplaces.

The unashamedly parliamentary approach of the Communist Party has increased the irritation and despair among many fire Party militants who are urged by the Party to devote their time and attention to Parliamentary and local government elections—with less and less to show for it.

Those members should ask themselves and their Party why so much of their slender resources are spent on electoral activity, and why, after so many years of electioneering, the Party's attitude and policies are indistinguishable from those of the Left wing of the Labour Party.

The answer is that the Parliamentary road leads all who take it in the same direction—away from socialism.

They must stay free

NEXT THURSDAY, Ricky Tomlinson and Des Warren will once again appear in the High Court before Lord Chief Justice Widgery. Once again the system that fines factory owners a few pounds for killing and maiming workers will move against two North Wales building workers whose crime was to picket for a wage claim and against the cancer of the lump.

They have already been in prison—they may go back again. The Labour Government could at any time have repealed the law which saved them there—the 1876 'security act'. They did not because they may yet want to use it against socialists and trade unionists themselves.

Their appeal is not to jail, it will be the duty of every trade union to see that they are released. The slogan 'an injury to one is an injury to all' must be out in practice.

Socialist Worker

WHAT WE THINK

TWO MILLION people who voted in February's general election did not vote again last week. Politicians and newpapers described it as the most important election this century, yet the turnout at the polls was DOWN from 78 per cent in February to 72 per cent.

And, according to one survey, a higher percentage of the population than ever before—more than 14 per cent—declared that there was 'no real difference between the two major parties'.

Profound boredom with the electoral process dominated the election. The Labour Party failed to capture either the imagination or the enthusiasm of the voters. The Tories persuaded Labour that there is no reason to be in any other election since the war. Fewer even than in 1959, when Labour lost the election by more than 100 seats to the Tories. Fewer even than in 1959, when there were eight million more voters than today.

Labour has gained its tiny majority not because it enthused the electorate with its policies but because the Tory vote has splintered. More than five million people—most of whom had Tory sympathies—voted Liberal. Nearly a million Scots—a third of the adult population—voted for the Nationalists.

Workers' indifference to electoral politics is not affected by Parliamentarians who field more 'left-wing' candidates than Labour.

The Communist Party, which had 29 candidates (44 in February), took a terrible drubbing. All 29 deposits were lost, including that of Jimmy Reid in Dunbartonshire, who saved his deposit last time. Reid got 3,417 votes compared with 5,259 before in 1959.

In almost every constituency where Communist candidates stood, their vote was badly down on the already pathetic February result. In some places, the vote was wiped out. The total Communist vote—17,426—was the lowest the Party has registered since 1931.

LABOUR PARTY VOTES: COMMUNIST PARTY VOTES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Labour</th>
<th>Com. Party</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1945</td>
<td>12,038,971*</td>
<td>102,780</td>
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<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>11,518,360</td>
<td>91,736</td>
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<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>13,948,368</td>
<td>21,600</td>
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<td>1952</td>
<td>12,405,246</td>
<td>33,144</td>
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<td>1959</td>
<td>12,216,172</td>
<td>38,897</td>
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<td>1964</td>
<td>12,205,821</td>
<td>44,567</td>
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<td>1966</td>
<td>13,064,951</td>
<td>62,112</td>
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<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>12,178,341</td>
<td>38,431</td>
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<tr>
<td>1974 (Feb)</td>
<td>13,654,726</td>
<td>22,744</td>
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<tr>
<td>1974 (Oct)</td>
<td>11,458,704</td>
<td>17,426</td>
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*Includes Independent Labour Party vote

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Carriageway Works, Carriageway Crescent, London E2 9DS

Phone 01-739 9043/0631/0185
OILING THE VOTERS

P'raps under the super-

cial response of many sociologists to the
Scottish National Party election

campaign we have overesti-

mated them very important because they

have pointed out that with a few key re-

marks the SNP can dominate the

electorale.

The SNP has campaigned for Labour

in South Angus (one of the seats

where we expect a close result)

and it was one of the most
difficult seats for the SNP to win.

The majority of farmers and non-

unionised workers for family firms

refused to believe that anyone except

the SNP could win.

They seemed to believe that the

ruling class had a natural ability
to stay in power and to the voters Tony Blair

and Tony Blair were just the ideal

candidates to discuss and be

accepted by the working class.

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WHAT WE STAND FOR

THE International Socialists are a revolutionary socialist organisation open to all who accept our main principles and who are willing to work to achieve them. These principles are:

INDEPENDENT WORKING-CLASS ACTION

We believe that socialism can only be achieved by the independent action of the working class.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORMISM

We cannot reform existing capitalism, not patching it up or gradually trying to change it. We therefore support all struggles of workers against capitalism and fight to break the hold of reformist ideas and leaders.

THE SMASHING OF THE CAPITALIST STATE

The state machine is a weapon of capitalist class rule and therefore must be smashed. The present parliament, army, police and judges cannot simply be taken over and used by the working class. There is, therefore, no parliamentary road to socialism. The working-class revolution needs an entirely different kind of state—a workers’ state, based on councils of workplace delegates.

WORK IN THE MASS ORGANISATIONS OF THE WORKING CLASS

We believe in working in the mass organisations of the working class, particularly the trade unions, and fighting for rank and file control of them.

INTERNATIONALISM

We are internationalists. We practise and campaign for solidarity with workers in other countries and strive to develop a world-wide socialist movement that can organise fully support the struggles of all oppressed peoples. We are opposed to all immigration controls.

The experience of Russia demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation in one country. Revolution is defeated by isolation. Russia, China and Eastern Europe are not socialist but state capitalist. We support the workers’ struggle in these countries against the bureaucratic ruling class.

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

To achieve socialism the most militant sections of the working class have to be organised into a revolutionary socialist party and all the activity of the International Socialists is directed to the building of such a party by fighting for a programme of political and industrial demands that can strengthen the self-confidence, organisation and socialist consciousness of the working class.

WE ARE

For rank and file control of the trade unions and the regular election of all full-time officials. No secret negotiations.

All settlements to be voted on by members.

For 100 per cent trade unionism, against all victimisation and blacklisting. Against anti-trade union laws or curbs on the right to strike and on effective picketing.

Against productivity and efficiency deals, and any form of incomes policy under capitalism.

Against unemployment, redundancies and losses. For a 35-hour week. For nationalisation without compensation under worker control.

For militant trade union unity, joint shop stewards committees at plant and combine level.

For the building of a mass workers’ revolutionary party, organised in workplaces, which can lead the working class to power, and for the building of a revolutionary socialist international.

International Socialists

If you agree with the views expressed in this paper and would like more information, or would like to join the International Socialists, then send this form to:

The International Socialists, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN

Name

Address

Trade Union

GUEST WORKERS—FORGOTTEN DYNAMITE

THE FAILURE of most of the British revolutionary left to grasp the increasing political importance of the immigrants issue saddens and disappoints me. It is surprising to see how rarely mentioned (except recently by the National Front), Thaisians mainly because we’re white and so matter how long they remain in the country we rarely settle here permanently. Yet, as unemployment mounts, we shall, for sure, become a suitable scapegoat for those same people who bring us here to fill those dirty low paid jobs that no English people would probably care to do in normal times.

Unfortunately very few of us are involved in trade union work, let alone revolutionary politics. The attitude of the Left in this country (with very few rare exceptions) is very much to blame.

Looking at it in the international context the importance of the issue should itself. In Switzerland there are one million foreigners, 150,000 of this are ‘guest workers’ (guest workers) and amongst these are about 70,000 Spaniards.

Now there’s talk of a national referendum on whether to repatriate them. In Germany they have stopped any new foreign workers arriving and have taken action to bring back many of their contracts have expired.

Imagine the effect of this on a country like Spain. There the economy is based on the earnings from tourists—which decreased this year in great numbers, and above all on money from emigrant workers abroad.

Sending these workers back means a big drop in national earnings and a big boost of people who couldn’t be absorbed. Unemployment is already high in Spain. All this could create a highly explosive, potentially revolutionary situation. In present times of international instability and social unrest this could have wide consequences for the international struggle.

JOSE M CABA,

London NW3.

HOW A RACIST GOT OFF

I WAS SITTING on a 270 bus the other day, when my attention was attracted by the gentleman sitting opposite, who held his nose every time a black passenger went past him. At one black girl even said ‘stink, you all smell.’

An argument started. I shouted at him, ‘If you want the National Front out of this country, then maybe you should put one of them on the bus.’ He looked at me as if I was crazed. He then said, ‘I’m tired of them.’

I called over the conductor, who was a white worker. I told him he should be put off. The other passengers, both black and white, agreed, and shouted at him to get off. He refused to go.

He pulled out his season ticket and and showed it to the conductor, making sure she didn’t come into physical contact with him. The bus was stopped, and the conductor refused to let anyone on or off till he left.

The driver was called, but he still refused to go. Suddenly a Scottish voice from the top deck shouted, ‘What’s keeping the bus?’

The man came down, and the situation was explained to him. He immediately grabbed the offending passenger by the scruff of the neck, and ejected him forcibly, to the cheers of the other passengers.

This may be an extreme example, but it shows how racism can be fought. It shows that racist remarks must not be allowed to pass unchallenged, but should be argued against. Racism must be nipped in the bud before it is allowed to grow. The majority of black and white workers unite against racism. What can be done on a 207 bus should be done in the factories, and over the whole country.

P O’KEEFF, Harlesden.

Black Magic for the bosses

IT’S HIGH TIME something was done drastically to improve conditions at Rowntree Mackintosh in York. If you don’t work on Saturday you can’t work Sunday. What archaic rubbish!—but it’s true.

The shop stewards on the whole couldn’t care less, when they are elected they are put on a day job and shift workers only see them once every three weeks. They have an awful job to find them.

The management here are having it all their own way and will continue to do so as long as we have such weak-kneed shop stewards. Even time study men can walk around, taking stock of the situation unnoticed by a shop steward. Not that this would matter much in such as ‘anything goes’ situation.—NAME & ADDRESS SUPPLIED.

Coach crashes—the avoidable accidents

I’m angry but not surprised when I read reports of coach accidents. Two trips recently by coach opened my eyes to the conditions the drivers are up against.

We were going to London when the coach suddenly lost a front wheel. Fortunately it had been able to slow down, otherwise people would have been killed. The worst aspect was that the driver had known something was wrong with the wheel.

On a second occasion the gearbox went and the party and the driver didn’t get a replacement for four or five hours. Again the driver knew something was wrong.

There’s a new model Leyland coach with such heavy steering that it could be impossible to quickly avoid a child running into the road.

The recent motorway coach accident involving 1/7 people was due to design. The suspension was so weak that, when the driver braked and skidded the coach rocked over on one side. All three accidents are avoidable if more time was allowed for maintenance. Practical and safe designs should be well tested before going on the road.

Drivers should have the last word on whether a coach handles well. Coaches on their last legs should be scrapped, only when drivers control their jobs and conditions can we expect to get all this—MARION TOWNSHEND, Manchester.
Inflation? workers find an answer

IT BEGAN, more than a month ago, on the 5.20am bus that leaves the Piazza Cavour in Finestrat, a small town near Alicante.

The 50 workers who take the bus to Finestrat on one of Turin's many Fiat factories, found the cost of a weekly ticket had suddenly jumped by 400 lire (25p).

For a week they paid the increase. Then, on Friday, they took control of the cost of tickets.

A table was set up near the bus stop and a local engineering union delegate handed out pink slips with the union stamp on them. Each pan cost the old weekly price.

Within a few days, despite the protests of the bus companies and their refusal to let the buses leave the depots, the idea had caught on in all the industrial areas of Turin.

The local council ordered the bus companies to cash the price rise.

But the movement has not stopped there. 'Civil disobedience,' as the newspaper is calling it, is spreading rapidly over northern Italy.

After finding that a massive increase in the price of electricity was going to fall mainly on home consumers, the national government has ordered price increases of 50 per cent.

In Turin, 13,000 families have already sent the national electricity company a form which declares: 'As instructed by the union movement, we are paying only half our next electricity bill.'

The ruling party, the Christian Democrats, have responded hysterically to what they are calling 'extremism and anarchy.'

Many members of the trade union and Communist Party hierarchy have also expressed their doubts about such actions.

But the majority of trade unionists and the revolutionary left have welcomed what they see as important steps in 'self-government from below'.

With the Italian government unable or unwilling to set up any effective price controls, the workers have begun to do it themselves.

IN TYNECASTLE last week, bus conductors boycotted an increase in fares. They decided on the action as the latest move in their dispute with the local bus authority, the Tyne and Wear Passenger Transport Executive. The boycott was organized by the Newcastle and South Shields branches of the Transport and General Workers Union.

Royal Marines loyal to notions doing their duty

By former CH/XX4537 Marine (Jack) Wright

Price: 20p + 4p postage
10 copies or more post free
Paul Grimbo's introduction deals with the main political arguments which Lenin used in his work in the Russian and World Revolutionary movement.

Available from IS Bookshop,
265 Seven Sisters Road, London, N4

The politics of Lenin

The NUMBER of miners killed or injured in British pits last year rose by a twelfth, according to the annual report of the Inspector of Mines. The three major 'accidents', at Lathouse, Seafield and Markham, are named as major factors in reversing the trend of the last ten years.

They brought together the Coal Board, the miners' union and the British Association of Colliery Managers, who pledged themselves to review all safety arrangements in the industry.

The inspectors, J W Cadle, 'welcome this development and call on management and men 'generally' to devote more attention to safety matters. He also points out that half the accidents in 1973 were a result of 'failure to comply with recognised good practice'; inadequate training instructions or supervision caused another 25 per cent.

This, he says, prompts the question - 'Is the pace of technological change outstripping the progress made in improving training and instruction techniques?'

Management and workmen must dedicate themselves to a form of 'job safety appraisal' in an effort to combat apathy and complacency. 'Workmen should receive clear instructions in the proper way to perform their duties and official instructions through improved supervision, should ensure that these instructions are carried out.'

In the wake of the 'reviewing of all safety arrangements' the 'Triple Alliance' (NCR, NUM and RACM) launched a major campaign, the ultimate in plans designed to check the rising accident rate, as seen might have thought.

But the document appeared. Instead, we find the arch enemy of safety, the 'golden carrot', a plan to make safety second best, a 'productivity deal'.

The land of milk and honey, money for the asking, is what the prof deal offers. It will also entice you to take that 'little risk', 'we're on bonus, don't stop the job, it will be 'right' this time.

Above ground, taking that 'little risk', that 'extra' pint, can either be bus or bury you. Underground that 'little risk', that 'extra' pint will also give you star billing at a certain funeral.

company, the theory being that in the event of a man being shot in the back, or being injured in some way, you can't use the job safety appraisal or the plan to make safety second best, a 'productivity deal'.

The politics of Lenin

By Terry Britowse,
NUM Dodworth Branch Committee

Refused

The process of turning a normal working class lad into a hard, mindless, moronic automaton takes 12 months. This is the longest initial training of any service, but even then they don't have 100 per cent success.

Marines, to the everlasting shame of a few apoplectic generals, were the only British servicemen who refused to be reprimanded from a Korean prisoner-of-war camp.

But the Marines usually did what was expected of them.

To state that in 1948, more than 600 Commandos took over the dockyard during a strike. Violence had broken out in the streets and the mutineers had heaved a rock through the window of a window of a local government building.

In the tramway strike in Hong Kong in 1949, thousands of fully armed Commandos waited in side streets around a mass meeting, ready to move in if the mutineers made any move.

The Malaysians were out again, but the workers had the last laugh. They stopped collecting fares.

The Malay campaign to protect the tea and rubber estates and tin mines of British capitalists involved the Malaysians in some awkward public relations.

The Daily Worker and Daily Mirror published stories about the Malay campaigners being used by the Malaysian government as trackers.

But situations of miners holding heads, hands and legs found their way back to the Daily Worker.

This filthy campaign ended when the Malaysian army assaulted the strikers from their smallholdings around the jungle.

This consisted of the forcible removal of the strikers from their smallholdings around the jungle.

The peasants were put into new villages behind barbed wire and fences.

If Pincher is right, and the Marines are disarmed, they will have the choice of transferring to another side. To the generation of the 1960's, get out quickly before you are lost. To the younger, I wish a soldier's farewell.
SOME businesses are unaffected by the collapse on the Stock Exchange, including those to do with groaning shoot or deer stalking.

KINGSLER REID BRINGING Back RATIONALITY TO BRITAIN: 'I am proud of being a racist and an imperialist. If the National Front come to power we will whip juvenile delinquents till the skin comes off their backs.'

WALKER: Nothing to greeen about

BEHIND THE FRONT

ONE of the best aspects of the confrontation with the National Front was that some of their candidates were forced to reveal something like their true colours. Kingsley Reid, for instance, the smooth NF candidate in Blackburn, was so angry when he couldn’t speak to a meeting in Haxey, England, because the meeting place was occupied by International Socialists and other demonstrators that he yelled out: 'God willing, the police will go home so that we can trample these loons under foot as they deserve.'

I am proud of being a racist and an imperialist. If the National Front come to power we will whip juvenile delinquents till the skin comes off their backs.

'Oly law and order,' concluded the demoted Reid, 'will bring this country back to rationality' (Hachney Gazette, 8 October.)

I was interested to see that a doctor in Haxey, David Baxter, was standing for the National Front in the Glasgow of London and West

Tessco branch to buy some toilet roles and he noticed that identical roles were priced at 11.9p and 14p respectively. He pointed out to the manager who was unsympathetic. Jack then stood in the centre of Tesco and addressed the shoppers for half an hour. The manager called the police and Jack was ejected out of the supermarket.

Jack stood outside and talked to passing shoppers until 6.15pm. At this time Jack alleges that he was assaulted by the manager, the butcher's manager and a grocery assistant from the nearby Crystal Palace Tesco. Jack claims that he was kicked in the face and head about the body in the testicles.

Picket

The police came and questioned Jack, but they stayed outside the supermarket until 5pm when he spoke to the manager of the Tesco near the bus stop. After this Jack was不允许 to go for a drink together in the local pub. Jack remembers before he passed out in the pub the manager suggesting that they come to a settlement.

Jack was taken to the local hospital where he was given oxygen because his pulse had stopped and he required oxygen at 10.15pm.

The next day Jack decided to picket West Norwood Tesco with a placard which stated 'Watch your prices — I was beaten up by Tesco thugs'. He picketed the supermarket for four days during which time he won the support of other shoppers. One woman handed him identical packets of washing powders — 'Square Deal' — one priced at 16p and the other at 21p.

The Sun newspaper interviewed Jack shortly after the incident for four hours and photographed him, but the next day’s edition did not cover the story. When Jack phoned the paper he was told, 'We don’t think it was in the public’s interest'. Three pages of Tesco advertising was carried that day.

KEEPING UP WITH THE JUSTICES

I WAS interested in the comments of a senior official of the London Chanceller’s office after it had been revealed that the department paid £10,000 for a 36-room maison de retraite for new judges to be used exclusively by visiting judges. The money was spent on necessary accommodation and their wives.

Picket

A man with a loose free lodgings imagine, the judges also described the government’s announcement of ‘about £10 a day’ for ‘entertainment of local dignitaries’ (no Tom’s, Dews, Harries allowed here, of course).

MANEUVERS in the French army are usually carried out with two sides called the ‘red’ and ‘blue’s’. This year, however, the names have been dropped, as not to cause offence in the Far East and in Eastern Europe. Instead the sides are called ‘east’ and ‘westerns’.

Worse was to come: the ‘western’ troops fought so well that they almost won, something quite against French army tradition.

Comin’ on a Leamington textile mill for 60 hours a week. A basic wage of £12 is guaranteed to me in the heat of the moment, but it did serve a useful purpose — it made me stop and look around. It made me take a close look at my world.

I went on a London-to-Stockport bus for 90 minutes. A basic wage of £12 is guaranteed to me in the heat of the moment, but it did serve a useful purpose — it made me stop and look around. It made me take a close look at my world.

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The first major policy initiative of the new Labour government is directed towards providing hard cash for private enterprise in the small and medium-sized businesses and industrialists who find it hard to get bankers' backing at present.

The plan for an 'Investment Bank', already prepared, is the outcome of unexpected, but significant, opposition between Harold Lever, the Prime Minister's economic adviser at Downing Street, and Tony Benn, Secretary for Industry.

This collaboration between Mr Benn, the humourless man, and Mr Lever, who rarely smiles or demonstrates any emotion, in business and industry that they have nothing really to fear from a Labour government and a powerful backing of Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Sunday Times, 13 October

WHO IS THE MYSTERIOUS ANTHONY WEDGWOOD BENN?

He is, in the business press, a Mr T, a Trotskyite, a crypto who has crept into the Cabinet and is now breaking out again. The means of production are firmly nationalised in the hands of the State and the unions.

Is he the radical wisest kid of his own image, proclaiming 'direct action' and 'revolutions'? Or the duplicity of a bureaucrat and democra
tisation of the mass media? Frighten.

How seriously should workers take the first signs of a middle-class among the middle class at the name of Benn? In one way, very seriously. For, while the left-centre trend in the Labour leadership may be the right active movement among working people, its flirtation with socialist language can frighten sections of the capitalist class into a right-wing, even authoritarian policy in the long term.

With left-wing philosophy so and so, citizens could provoke the same sort of right-wing backlash that would come if a Labour government were treated as a move for the real revolution.

For, while the left-centre trend in the Labour leadership may be the right active movement among working people, its flirtation with socialist language can frighten sections of the capitalist class into a right-wing, even authoritarian policy in the long term.

The Benet's political philosophy shows how far to the right Labour policy is really going. Example.

Already in 1969, after the first major economic crisis of the Wilson government, the party statement, Labour's Economic Strategy, anticipated Benn's present proposals for a National Enterprise Board to acquire chunks of industry. This proposed a State Holding Company to expand the public interest in 'the lines of the Italian IRI'.

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the troops out!

Mike Heym

If the cuts continue, there will be no war! Not as we know it, with the British troops on foreign soil, but a war of their own making. The British government is preparing to launch an attack on the working class in Britain and around the world. The British military is being prepared for a new round of aggression. The outcome of this conflict will be determined by the people of the world. The struggle for peace and justice is the only way to prevent a new world war.

The struggle in Ireland

Chris Harman

The aim of this pamphlet is to give a brief history of British domination, to show its effects on Ireland today, and to show that the problems of the people of Ireland will not be solved until the domination is ended, and to indicate the way this can be done.

An International Socialists pamphlet 15p

Available from IS books, 265 Seven Sisters Road, N4.
This is Jackie Smith, an office worker. She is a member of the Civil and Public Service Association, and she was among the NHS temporary office workers banned. She was on the march last September with thousands of other women who felt the same way.

In the building trades it's called the Lump. In offices it's called topping, in hospitals it's agency nursing. The name may be different, the problem is the same. The problem is employers who don't want to put full-time workers a decent wage and conditions, and provide decent working conditions. The result? Bad pay for full-time workers, a divided workforce and no security for lumpers, agency nurses or temps. A nurse explains the problem in the National Health Service, which shows how agency workers keep bad pay, rotten hours, and rotten jobs a feature of life in the office...

Agency nursing—drug that's killing the health service

DURING THE recent nurses' strike one of the industrial actions we used was to go on working with agency staff. Why did we take a move which could be seen as divisive? Well, one of the issues involved in our struggle was the reorganisation of the National Health Service and involved in this degeneration was obviously the profits being made by various organisations such as the drug firms and not least the nursing agencies.

As agency nurses are obviously employed by the agency, and not the NHS, they are a mobile workforce which can be employed in any hospital where there is a staffing shortage. Hence they are used to keep the hospital staggering on and distorting the true picture of the NHS’ failure to either attract or retain staff—because of the abysmal pay and conditions.

When the agencies first appeared it was for the use of a time-limited private practice for the rich who wanted private rooms and their own personal nurses. But as the 'cracks' have deepened in the NHS agency staff have been increasingly used simply to keep wards open. Just look around you at the numbers of nursing agencies that are flourishing!

Obvious

Of course, because they are not employed directly by the hospital, agency staff also have a great 'scab' potential. As yet we have not reached the situation of strikes lasting longer than 24 hours but even in overtime bars etc. agency nurses are the obvious answer to fill the gap.

Simply because of the increased numbers of agency nurses employed it was obviously a useful industrial weapon to employ to undermine the solidarity of the NHS workers. Unionsising and organising cannot be done effectively inside a hospital unless you can get rid of agency staff because it must involve all layers, and all departments, of workers.

Agency nurses cannot be involved when their employers are the agency. They cannot even organise inside the agency as they are, through their situation, isolated inside the hospital. Hence agency staff are a stumbling block to industrial organisation in the hospital.

The only way the agency nurse has a chance of getting a raise is on a purely personal level of leaving one hospital and going to another. She has no power to fight for change.

Having said that, I must explain that we tried, certainly in London, to organise by taking to the streets to explain to agency staff in the hospitals involved why we were taking the action and asking them to join us in the fight.

Prepared

Why do people go into agencies? It has been said that nurses go in for freedom of choice, variation. There are probably some who do, but in fact there is rarely any choice about where you are sent and little variation in work.

The main reasons are more cash in hand, and/or more convenience in hours. For example, a married woman with children can say how many hours she is prepared to work. In fact agency nurses lose out all round. They don't get sickness benefits, paid holidays, normal increments, superannuation etc. They can find themselves 'carrying the can' for words and patients they may know little about.

How can nurses be kept out of agencies? Through higher wages; 24 hour sick facilities, allowing choice of convenient hours; maternity leave, not being laid off through gaining through break in service, etc.

When will these be achieved? Only when we form an effective union organisation inside the NHS hospitals.

The Meaning of Marxism: A simple introduction by Donald Hallan: 250p (add 10p for postages)

Marsun and the Sociology of Trade Unions: A revolutionary approach by Richard Hymn: 300p (add 5p for postages)

Available from Pluto Press, Unit 10, Spencer Court, 7 Chalcot Road, London, N1 8BH or Books, 261 Seven Sisters Road, London, N4.

BOOKS FROM PLUTO PRESS

Books and pamphlets published by Pluto Press:

Workers against the Monolith: Ian Brashall's study of the world's Commercial Unions—1975: £1.50, £3.75 hardback (add 10p for postages)

Marxism versus Sociology: A partisan guide to reading for revolutionaries—1976: £2.75, £6.75 hardback (add 10p for postages)

The Baham Group: How British Capitalism is Exploiting the Third World: Roy Grimes describes how 12 people, including himself, led the revolutionary fight in Britain against Soweto: 75p, £1.80 hardback (add 10p for postages)

The Origins of the International Socialists: Pioneers on the break-up of Britain Trotskyism in the late forties and early fifties, this book is must for all members. £1.50 (add 10p for postages)

The Meaning of Marxian: A simple introduction by Donald Hallan: 250p (add 10p for postages)

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What have they done to the rain?

By DAVE PEERS

Fall of 50,000,000 metric tons of artificial rain.

The report absolves all concerned of any blame. Most of the victims were American Indians. Military rain-making and plant-killling programmes illustrate just how integrated basic scientific research has become with war technology.

What could appear more innocent than the investigation carried out by the Department of Physics at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology into "the role of electrical forces in the development and destruction of clouds and fog"?

The scientists who carried out the project probably saw only the beneficial effects it could have in improving the safety of motorways and aeroplanes. And yet the project was financed by the US military, and when the head of the Pentagon's European Research Office was told that some of his sponsored researchers were defying that their work had military applications his comment was simply: "If it's not military, they're not doing it for the United States."

The extension of the tentacles of the military into every aspect of basic scientific research, seeking to transform every discovery into a new tool of death and destruction, is a striking example of the bankruptcy of this social system.

The techniques of modern industry open the possibilities of a world freed from hunger, disease and conflict, but they are perverted to serve the interests of the lethal competition of capitalist states and firms.

In the Communist Manifesto, Marx likened the capitalist class to the sorcerer who is no longer able to control the powers of the Nether world he has called up by his spells.

The powers now unleashed are so destructive that the struggle to dis arm and overthrow the capitalist system is now also a basic struggle for survival.

MAN-MADE earthquakes and tidal waves... the melting of the polar icecap to cause flooding... increasing ultra-violet radiation from the sun to cause damage to animal and human life... and the modifying of the electrical properties of the atmosphere to affect your brain and behaviour.

These chilling facts were revealed at the hearings of the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee earlier this year. Meanwhile, look what they've done to the rain.

At the same hearings, Pentagon officials admitted that they had been using weather modifications as a weapon of warfare in Indo-China since 1966.

Destroy

According to Lt Col Seyston: "The programme was to increase rainfall sufficiently in carefully selected target areas to soften the road surfaces, cause landslides along roadways and to wash out river crossings."

But the main target was the rice crop, the staple food for most Vietnamese.

By seeding clouds with silver or lead iodide, the rainy season could be prolonged and major flooding produced to sweep away dikes, and destroy crops and irrigation systems.

Up to 1972, the US Air Force flew 2,602 cloud-seeding missions from its bases in Thailand and dropped a total of 47,409 canisters of rainmaking chemicals over Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

This was supplemented in the autumn of 1973 by the systematic bombing of the irrigation network of North Vietnam.

So far, the Pentagon denied it. But now, even this claim has been abandoned. The US military is now openly admitting that it has used weather modification as a weapon of war. The US military is now openly admitting that it has used weather modification as a weapon of war.

The US military is now openly admitting that it has used weather modification as a weapon of war.
CATERING WORKERS
STEP UP
THE FIGHT

ISSUE Number Three of Hotel and Catering Worker, the rank and file paper for workers ground down by the 'inflator' combination is in preparation. Contributions and orders should be sent to 345 Hamilton Road, Hove, Sussex.

The issue will come out in the wake of a significant victory. Negotiators in the Wimpy bars in Remford, London have won union recognition.

They came out on strike in support of their sacked shop stewards at the end of August.

On the second day of the strikes, one blackleg attacked with a knife the President of the Union of Turkish Workers, Mr. Haluk Yurtsever, who joined the pickets in sympathy. Mr. Yurtsever defended himself with a banner. He was promptly arrested by the police for carrying an 'offensive weapon' and later charged with getting off the offence, found guilty and fined £50. He was also in danger of being deported.

But the Turkish workers sent an appeal for support and threatened a wider strike involving the International Branch of T&G if the deportation was enforced.

FIGHT WAGE
RESTRAINT AND
UNEMPLOYMENT

Support the Second
National Rank and
File Conference

Saturday 30 November, Digbeth Hall, Birmingham
Make sure your shop stewards committee, union branch or
district committee is supporting this important conference.

Delegates' credentials 50p

The Rank and File Conference Organising Committee has compiled a list of imprisoned Chinese trade unionists in all the main industrial and service sectors for adoption by British trade union bodies. Copies of these and a covering letter can be obtained from the secretary.

If you want credentials, get your trade union branch or shop stewards' committee to fill in this form and send it to the Secretary, Rank and File Conference Organising Committee, 214 Roundwood Road, London NW10.

Send us credentials for delegates to the Rank and File Conference on November 30.

NAME OF TRADE UNION BODY

ADDRESS

CHILE: HOW YOU CAN HELP

This is the only approved way of getting trade unionists out of jail.

To get a work permit, an OWI must be filled in and signed and stamped by the employer, and then returned to a local employment exchange.

The permit should then be sent to the relevant Wac Council in Chile (which can decide on the prisoners' fate) and copies sent to the prisoners' families or the Church Committee. Addresses of all these bodies can be obtained from the Rank and File Organising Committee.

BLACKED

The committee also has lists of firms exporting Chinese products and exporting British goods to Chile. They must be boycotted and blacked.

For any of this information—and details of how trade union organisations can get copies of Hello Piro's book 'The gorillas are amongst us' at reduced rates—contact the National Rank and File Organising Committee, 214 Roundwood Road, London NW10.

Branches which adopt prisoners are urged to inform the Committee.

THEY'RE TRYING TO
TAKE THE HOOVER
STRIKERS TO THE CLEANERS

The Hoover strikers have been blacklisted by another group of workers, according to Mr. Boyd, who is in charge of the strikers.

Brothers Aitken and Milligan, to beat the drum for a return to work.

Boyd announced that the strikers did not stage a mass meeting in line with his requirements, the union executive would.

Boyd's play failed. The strikers did call a mass meeting—but it once again overwhelmingly re-affirmed the decision to stay out.

Meanwhile, the left on the executive have now been sworn to secrecy. They have a free hand to deal with the strikers.

More interestingly, Boyd and two other executive members met Hoover in secret and negotiations between the two sides have been held.

Performance

Four weeks ago, Boyd put in another bold and reasonable performance. He appeared at the Mid-Lancashire district committee, to which the Hoover stewards had been summoned.

From the start to finish, he kept telling the stewards they must go back to work. Nothing they could say would be accepted, change his mind.

This was a not untypical performance from a man recently seen at a union meeting in Hunslet, Kilburn dressed in his Salvation Army uniform.

Boyd also tried to threaten the stewards over the course of mass meetings. Not that there has been any lack of democracy in the conduct of the meeting. But there was another opportunity for his assistants.

A vote for broad left candidate Bob Wright will stop the union being manoeuvred to the right. But is that enough?

The Hoover strike has, among other things, shown that you cannot trust your destiny to 'left-wing' holding national office.

To defeat the right you need a fighting strategy and a fighting movement which will put pressure on leaders to lead. And if they do not lead, that movement must be able to deliver the goods they keep in such short supply.

SW BAN

The Wakefield and Dewsbury District Committee has sent a resolution to the AUWE Executive about the withholding of press credentials by Socialist Worker.

The resolution, from TASS Bursley branch, expresses grave concern about the refusal to grant Socialist Worker press credentials 'for the attendance of conferences, which the press in general are normally allowed to attend.'

It adds: 'Although the executive of AUWE may have certain (possibly personal) grudges with this paper, this branch maintains that, as a definite workman's paper it has more right to access than such anti-working class papers as the Daily Telegraph, the Daily Express and the Daily Mail.'

WITCH-HUNTERS ON THE MOVE

JOHN FRASER, NALGO's witch-hunter extraordinaire has made another move against members of the rank and file pressure group NALGO Action. At a meeting of the executive of NALGO's Leeds branch last Monday, he and his associates moved against three NALGO Action members.

Frasier put a motion of no confidence in the three on the grounds that they had broken a mandate imposed on them by a Leeds branch executive decision.

It was stated that the committee decision had been over-ridden by that of a full meeting. Therefore they were entitled to abstain on a delegate vote in the course of the London weighting struggle.

The vote of no confidence, when first put, was not carried, the vote being 32 to 32. It was then taken again and carried 34 to 33. This means that the three are no longer members of the branch executive, which, it seems, is not controlled by the branch, but by its own members.

The gentlemen so worried by 'complacencies' and 'alleged intrigue' in NALGO resorted to manoeuvre to get their way.

Normally the branch executive takes correspondence first. But this was avoided, perhaps because to have done so would have raised some intriguing issues. Issues such as the Press backing by Brother Fraser's Save NALGO campaign, his letter on the subject, which is full of smear and distortion, and NALGO Action's reply.
Jail savagery protest

HULL - 50 people, mainly from Clunna na lifti and the International Socialists, picketed the local prison last Sunday. They were protesting over the treatment of imprisoned striking fishermen Bobby Gallagher, Martin Brady and Father Patrick Fell.

Bobby Gallagher had smuggled out a letter to the republican newspaper Roe Othna describing the conditions the prisoners were working under. 16 men work in a 20x10 yard shed making tar. They are supposed to make 16 gross a week for 64p. Many of them are 16 year olds in an effort to get this - because of an "incentive bonus scheme."

For writing this letter, Gallagher was thrown into a punishment cell where four warders beat him savagely with batons, and one tried to choke him - causing him to pass out. Then he was given 14 days solitary confinement for a "breach of the prison regulations."

Father Fell was given solitary for a similar letter to the Irish Post and Martin Brady was subjected to a brutal attack at forest leading during his May hunger strike. Bobby is dejected despite fights from all his immediate family.

The Home Office denies that he has been beaten but put in solitary. Bradford North's Labour MP, Ben Ford refused to take action because Gallagher had made no formal complaint to the prison authorities.

The protests have led to a reduction in the tariff. Clarence are demanding as an end to the victimisation, a public inquiry into the Hull jail situation and political status for these republican prisoners.

The Scottish National Party is now hailed as the second political party in Scotland after the election results. Although Labour remains the biggest Scottish Party the SNP comes second in numbers of votes and is the main challenge left to Labour in most working class constituencies.

How is possible for a right wing party such as the SNP to take even tempo of the rich industrial areas as Govan and several, even better, hand over.

An excellent pamphlet produced by Glasgow International Socialists should be read by every Scottish socialist. The author quotes under the name of nations to show the SNP's main campaign dogma - Scotland's oil is not just a public relations job for the big oil companies (which oil it really is) but an attempt by some of the Edinburgh bankers to increase their share of the oil.

The pamphlet looks at the SNP's record. Apart from their verbal militancy in Ch. when they backed the rent fight, they have won against increases after the Labour and CP councillors had voted for them, their record is one of violence and trade unionism and more than a tinge of fascism.

The pamphlet is available from IS Books, 64 Queen Street, Glasgow, price 3p.

IS public meetings

PRESTON is now meet every Thursday from 6.30pm at the North Manchester Hotel, St.rett Street. Details from E. Wm.

TOTTENHAM IS JUMBLE SALE: Satuday 26 October, 7th (an, 19th Street, Haringey, London N10. Details from J. A. 0.0.0.0.

NORTH WEST LONDON: IS is publishing a discussion paper on the conference of the Glasgow Socialist Federation, Speaker: Tony Gough. Thursday 24 October, 8pm. Westminster Hotel, Harrow, London.

GREATER LONDON COUNCIL: 5th annual public meeting. The Group for Convention for a New Society, Brixton Road, London SW8. Details from the IS History Group.

Meetings for IS members

MEETINGS of the re-constituted IS in , Saturday 19 October, 12.30pm, Manchester University, Room 50, contact a member of Middlesbrough IS. J. R.

WEEKEND SCHOOL for black and Asian members, Saturday and Sunday, 13-14 November, at the Centre for Advanced Training for Mature Students, 125 mainland road, Blackley, Manchester. Contact: teacher for details.

CAMBRIDGE IS public meeting: The world and the British Left. Speaker: R. S. Stowe. Saturday 23 October, 8pm. The Old Rectory, Cavendish, Cambridge.


LONDON: IS student aggregate meeting at the International Socialist London Poly Students Union, Ixton house, 34-36 Cardiff Road, Hornsey, London N8, for a special resolution on the assembly. Contact J. O. 0.0.0.0.


NATIONAL ORGANISATION OF STUDENTS' LEADERS: 9th meeting, Saturday 2nd November, 2.00pm, Leeds University, Leeds Students Union, Leeds.

IS SCHOOL ON ITALY: Saturday 20 October, 6.30pm, at 2 Cottons Gardens, Manchester. Contact: IS, 64 Queen Street, Glasgow.

IS AND EAST EUROPE: A meeting will be held in the University of London on 15th November to discuss the future of IS in Eastern Europe, speakers: Mr. John Longstaff (propaganda secretary, Project: 800), Mr. John C. H. Morgan (student representative). Contact: 800 programme, 85-87 Basingstoke Road, Basingstoke.

AUEW weekend meeting: Blackpool. Friday 15 October, 6pm. IS meeting. Contact: AUEW, 72 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2A.

IS Notices

IS INDUSTRIAL DEPT. Debate on unionism, and how to stop the redundancies. Tuesday 2 November, 5.00pm. Room 50, Manchester University, Manchester. Contact: Steve, 64 Queen Street, Glasgow.

POSTERS and leaflets for IS Societies: 82 Manchester Road, Manchester. Contact: G. P. Churchill, 952 5428. Orders form: IS, 64 Queen Street, Glasgow.

WYATT—washing the bosses' men

WHO does this punk Woodward Wyatt think he is? In his columns this week, Sunday Mirror, he manages to stick his nose into the affairs of the AUEW. On the coming elections for general secretaries, he writes: 'These are the names of first-rate candidates whom the Communists and extremists do not want...' This is amazing. How does he know they're the names of first-rate candidates in the AUEW in his life? Why does he recommend these names, for that is what he does, to a but a housewife?

What interest does Woodward Wyatt campaign in the pages of the Sunday Mirror? Consider a few facts...

Woodrow Wyatt owns a printing firm called WW Offset which has factories in Banbury and Selwyn Grade City. They are profitable firms, printing anything from FA News to Soviet Weekly. He is in fact one of the paradoxes who lives off the back of the working class. Each column 'earns' him at least four times the pre-tax weekly wage of most engineering workers. The Mirror is owned by Reed International—profits £22 million in one quarter—whose shareholders sit on their acres all day long doing nothing other than living off the sweat and blood of their workers.

Woodward Wyatt and his cronies, like the others who opposed redundancies and fought for a living wage...

Would you hell! You'd push for the candidates who would help you keep your profits rolling in, and the dividend cheques rolling. They want a job at the AUEW...you'd do anything to keep them in...

IT'S A FREE COUNTRY IF YOU KEEP ON WORKING...

Dunden-TGWU members at International Harvester’s Whaley plant are striking for the reinstatement of their victimised colleague John McCandless. He was sacked last week on a trumped-up charge of absenteeism.

Mac has played a key role on the shop stewards committee in preparing for their next meeting and his absence means a large increase within the limits of the Tory pay norm.

But now militant stewards are determined to lead a serious fight for £12 a week or to sack him.

The sacking is clearly an attempt to split the shop stewards' committee in preparation for the struggle over the claim.

Brian Kelly, AUEW steward, told Socialist Worker that he had expected Mac to move against McCandless for some time. 'I would have got his sacking a week or two if John Worth at Chrysler and Alan Thorp at Bath Leyland went for him in the year,' he said.

The company’s claim that Mac was removed for absenteeism does not stand up. No previous warning had been given and there is no procedure of verbal and written warnings.

This was made clear in further talks with management. Then they said they would reinstate him, provided he resigned as senior steward.

The AUEW...and the bosses began...

MITCHAM-EETPU shop stewards were left without work last week after working in Mullards CRT shop for three years.

A year ago, he came into the running for shop steward. He then received official warnings for a day off sick and for talking. He got another for 'attitude', another for not washing enough TV tubes, although 'no one could change it in the management of the firm'.

He was warned for going to buy food in his break. This had been normal practice. He was suspended after his doctor had asked him not to wash tubes. The heat and damp of this job was opening a wrist wound.

Other workers had been moved off it because it affected its effects on the skin and chest. Management had agreed not to leave workers on it, but John was suspended.

He carried on working because of his fringe support. Finally, John was sacked for fighting. The company rule is that any two workers fighting get sacked. John was attacked by Bro Belfon, who was known to be a taskmaster.

On four occasions, Bro Belfon bit into or tried to hit a fellow worker in front of witnesses. He wasn’t suspended. He was called into the shop floor manager. He broke nearly every decision taken by the shop and this suited the management.

BOSSES’ PLOY FAILS

MILTON—A new house action has led to the reinstatement of six men sacked on Woodrow's Steinber factory management and said the sackings were for ‘bad workmanship’. But a mass meeting of the 250 men on that and other Millen sites saw it as a case of victimisation of the charge hand because of his known militancy. They voted for an immediate strike on the four sites.

Bostocks' PLOY FAILS

By Mick Prendall UCATT Convener.

The house action is an action to break the strong union organisation on the job. They think that because of huge unemployment in the building industry they will be able to hire and fire as they please in the old days. They want to take out the workers for a few meals and stop mass meetings during work hours. But they will fight back. They will fight for the rights of workers. The Job.

Little incidents like this have been going on for ages. This is the first action against a new house. We recommend that all members support the job. At Camberwell Court, Lewis was fined £30, and his comrade Thomas Patrick O’Neil was fined £10 for objection to the new house. The Trade Union Act banned the stirrup pump. Metal Union was fined earlier this year for killing six workers in an accident of avoidance explosion at their plant in Birmingham.

The three workers were bound over to keep the peace for 12 months, JM however was not ordered to pay over order. They are free to superclerical to do anything they like. They are subject only to a maximum fee of £10.

THE COMRADE

MERCIA—In his column Woodrow Johnstone has been victimised by the engineering firm Brown and Watts. He started them to his office. Offered a job as a progress checker, he applied for membership of all the engineers’ sections of the AUEW through his shop steward. He was proposed by the steward and seconded by the Branch Secretary.

The AUEW organisers have not been seen by any of the workers. At only of the workers.

THE COMRADE

AFETERS

John Ramsey; sacked

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LOCK-OUT

'Questions are now being asked about all this talk of management being all-powerful. It is not the workers who are running the factory.'

'The engineers have now locked out all of their staff. The company is now in the hands of the union.'

The dispute started as a work-to-rule over a 40-hour week - a claim to which management retaliated with a lock-out.

The battle has been stepped up. On Monday the chairman and secretary of the company's committee, Charles Lamb and Alan Atkins from Manganese Metal Box attended a mass meeting at Walthamstow, which urged all shop stewards in committees to call a blockade on hold. The company is combining into a national 17-point plan, including an overtime ban and no shift work.

The support of workers is expected to be sent to the shop stewards' committee, c/o 9 Manley Crescent, Walthamstow, London.

Militant unions throughout the country are angry that the Transport Workers Union is not taking the full, final and binding of the strike action. The end of the strike is a partial victory for the TGWU officials who support the Social Contract. The strike, enabled for the first time in the TGWU's history, was called following the death of a TGWU member. Bob Lee. But George refused to be quiet and asked his mates in a meeting to discuss his case and other grievances, at which Lee Kay, editor of the North West paper and Pete Gratt, editor of London Platforms, spoke for determined action to win back his job.

Lee lost a history of collaboration with management, he bitterly opposed to defend George and another union has been sent down the road since.

The meeting decided to form a new Platform group. Its first job is to campaign for industrial action unless George is reinstated.

A motion deplores the actions of LEEC, those who have fallen for the disease of politics and failed to defend two SKH bosses suspected for winning taxes was to be put to the TGWU Central Bus Delegate Conference in London this week. The conference represents 20,000 union members.

Links between militants in different unions have already begun to form through the rank and file paper, Platform, The Second National Rank and File Conference called for 30 November could not come at a better time. If militancy men win a delegation a major step will be taken towards a national rank and file organisation for the future.

Women act

HRALSSON-1500 production workers at McVitie Food staged a one-day strike demanding the implementation of long-standing grievances on a new wage claim to be settled.

The strikers, mainly women, are members of USDAW. Most earn £50 for a 40-hour week and despite the massive increase in the canteen prices they are paid are only to be offered a £1 per week increase.

The conference includes factories at Swindon, Manchester, Glasgow and Peterlee. The Manchester factory is due to come out on strike on Friday. The workers in London felt that united action by all the factories could prove decisive.
Heinz – imports from a graveyard

From the Heinz branch of the International Socialists

NORTHERN IRELAND: A trade dispute going on at Heinz, Hartlepool, with a new brand of beans, which means that more than tomato sauce will go into Heinz baked beans. Workers’ blood will be there as well. For these are part of a special batch brought from Ireland.

Heinz wants to buy there because they are cheaper than the Canadian and American beans they normally use. They are cheaper because they are produced by one of the world’s most ruthless dictatorships, which has murder, and continues to murder tens of thousands of trade union militants.

Those who have survived this massacre are now a minority within the trade union movement and are forced to work for starvation wages. These workers are being paid less now than they were in 1984, when the price of the beans was more than doubled at the point of a gun.

We do not expect the Heinz management to concern itself with the plight of Heinz or any other workers. But what about our union, the Transport Workers’ Union, which is connected to a policy of opposition to Chile and has blocked imports from that country?

Despite demands from Heinz TGWU members, the company is content to avoid the matter and take the line of quiet resistance—the management’s line. This goes as follows: ‘We’re running out of American and Canadian beans, and we have to get them from somewhere or we’ll lose the market.’

This is insulting nonsense. How is one supposed to respond to such a policy in the firms in which we work and in the face of the threat of closure? We are simply trying to cut costs further and make still more profits with the backs of our fingers on the triggers.

This dispute is not isolated. All Chilean imports must be blocked, and firms like Heinz must be encouraged to support stopping the military regime, the same stomach and sanity as that of the Chilean communists who are starving and dying, and of the Chilean trade unionists who are being beaten and their organs removed.

TENANTS’ COURT

BATTLE GOES ON

NORTH LONDON: The High Court hearing of the Tenants Campaign opposed in an attempt by Peabody Estates to evict the tenants of a housing block being run by tenants after being run by the local council were adjourned to another day.

Last Saturday Ronald Hubbard of Peabody asked the judge to move a tenant on, claiming they were causing an obstruction. The judge said he was only able to move a tenant. In the case of this block a protest could be a play by Peabody tenants to support stopping the military regime, the same stomach and sanity as that of the Chilean communists who are starving and dying, and of the Chilean trade unionists who are being beaten and their organs removed.

‘SACK NF TEACHER’

SOUTH LONDON: Parents and teachers have distributed a leaflet calling for the dismissal of the National Front member who is a maths teacher at Tulse Hill School.

A demonstration this Friday at 3.30am at the Lambeth branch of the National Union of Teachers has been called, said a spokesman, ‘to give parents and teachers the chance to discuss the problems that have arisen from schools in Lambeth, and to call on local trade unionists to join in the struggle.

LONDON: Fifty members of the National Union of Journalists picketed the Home Office and the Law Courts this week protesting over police treatment of journalists covering demonstrations—particularly the National Front demonstration and counter-demonstration in London on 7 September.

A letter from the Action Committee for the Defence of Journalists was handed in to the Home Secretary, Roy Jenkins. It called for an end to special Metropolitan Police press cards, for non-interference with journalists covering their work, the removal of police photographers from demonstrations and the destruction of Special Branch files on demonstrators.

The pickets also called for the dropping of prosecutions against Prof. Alan Grage, the British National Party’s candidate for the borough of Hove, and David May, editor of Time Out magazine.

WHAT WE THINK

3,000 locked out after pay insult

WEST LONDON: Nearly 3,000 workers at British Leyland’s AEC Bus and Truck plant in Southall have been effectively locked out of the factory for 10 days. A week last Monday managers removed the clocking in cards and fired the workers. Management in British Leyland have a goon director, Jesus. He used the pay talks to complain that workers were not co-operating on the flexibility, or with the Indonesia plans. The strike was signed by 90% of the workers. The next meeting is around Wednesday.

The AEC claim is based on the fact that workers have only received an average increase of £1 for the last two years and that they have removed the threshold payers. The management brought in British Leyland’s goon director, Jesus. He used the pay talks to complain that workers were not cooperating on the flexibility, or with the Indonesia plans. The strike was signed by 90% of the workers. The next meeting is around Wednesday.

DRIVER’S STRIKE BITES HOME

THE STRIKE by over 3,000 road haulage drivers in Scotland is beginning to bite. The strike, which started last week, in Greenock, spread in a week to all the major companies in Scotland, and is spreading rapidly. The road haulage workers have now massed in support of the drivers. The strike is supported by all the unions and by the Scottish Transport Workers’ Union.

The drivers are employed by the road haulage companies. The drivers are asking for a 10% increase in wages and the end of the two-tier system in the industry. The drivers are supported by the National Union of Railwaymen (Scotland) and the Scottish Transport Workers’ Union.

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Boyd does it again

SCOTLAND: The Engineering Union has called a four-day strike at the National Engineering Co. at Huddersfield. The strike is supported by the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and the Amalgamated Engineering Union.

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