Drivers show power of the rank and file

LORRY MEN CRASH THROUGH

No, sir, you can’t have your ship back

WHY WE MUST DEFEND SOCIALIST WORKER

ENDED

To the managing director, Heniz: DEAR SIR, I have read in Socialist Worker that your company intends to use beans imported from Chile in some of your products.

Our union is affiliated to the Chile Solidarity Campaign and therefore if you do use Chilean goods in any way I shall recommend the members of this branch to “black” any of your products delivered to this hospital.

This fine letter from Derek Abbey, NUPE branch secretary at Moorfields Eye Hospital in London, has set the cat among the pigeons in the boardroom of Heinz. The big beans manufacturers are threatened with action against their decision, exclusively reported by Heniz workers in Socialist Worker six weeks ago, to import beans from Chile.

That’s what this paper is about. It gives workers the information they need about the crimes of big business, and organizes workers’ opposition.

That’s why, in the weeks to come, more and more workers, members of the International Socialists and sympathizers are sending us money to meet the £5000 costs imposed on us in the recent High Court case.

Thank you all those from all over the country who have sent money. We received more this week than last. £1600 brings the total to £3409.

But we still need £1591. Keep it up. Make cheques, postal orders out to Socialist Worker Defence Fund, and send them to Socialist Worker Defence Fund, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2.

In Preston, drivers’ shop stewards called all the country met in October to set up a national shop stewards’ committee covering 50,000 workers in the National Freight Corporation. The meeting agreed a series of demands—including £2 an hour minimum wage—and declared war on management and union officials unless they improved their “clerical and managerial” competence to “consolidate the threshold” and pay no extra money.

On the delegation of five elected by the meeting to lobby the union leadership was Ken Meldrum, chair of the West of Scotland NFC unofficial strike committee, and chairman of Socialist Worker. 

‘One of the key issues is rank and file participation. For 46 years negotiating machinery has precipitated rank and file involvement in discussions. What we need is a campaign of demand and planning that whatever happens on Tuesday, when we learn the result of the negotiations, we’ll be prepared. We need to go!’

The social contract means wages held down while prices rise. The union officials tell us to accept it.

Rank and file workers, by acting together can improve their conditions and point the way to a new society.

The lorry drivers’ strike is the beginning of a workers’ pay claim, the great strikes at Cammel Laird, IMI Whitton, Metal Box, Bards in Bradford, Thorns in Skilsedale and scores of others in one direction: to the need for rank and file workers organizations across the country.
DISGUSTED by the antics of their full-time union officials, busmen in Fife have taken matters into their own hands. One of them explained: "Our organisation started from the Fife Passenger Shop Stewards in June, we drew up a manifesto and decided to send our circulars to all depots in Scotland - 88 in all. We decided through this circular to call all Scotland Shop Stewards meeting for 11 August. 16 depots took part."

Further meetings resulted in an overtime ban on 16 September. The management broke this by sending out buses at the weekend so ten deposits struck, six of them for a fortnight. A number of depots are still operating the overtime ban and all the depots are requesting for an action on 14 November. An official meeting of the five district committees covering the central industrial belt on 11 October they often call for industrial action from 14 November if the men's demands were not met.

THE response to our call for the 30 November Rank and File conference has been good. With a month to go, we have received 180 shop stewards' credits from 80 trade union organisations, including 15 shop stewards' committee.

As the fight against the Social Contract hot up, it is becoming clear that the Conference is being set up to deal with the failures of the trade union rank and file. The Organising Committee has been considerably strengthened by representatives of the Dundee Engineering Shop Stewards Committee (Sheffiel). The North of Scotland Hotel Stewards Committee (Hammersmith Hotel), and Winton James Joint Shop Stewards Committee (Wimbledon).

We have sent invitations to all shop stewards committees and work place branches, of all unions and lodges, who have supported us in the past, to send representatives onto the Organising Committee.

It is intended to arrange a conference of elected representatives from rank and file and shop stewards committees with the three officers (Secretary, Treasurer and Chairman) being subj ect to election at conference.

The Conference, which has been an overwhelming success. A number of trade union bodies have already begun the process of adopting a resolution.

But the rank and file committee are aware that this work, although vital, is still not enough.

"We need to roll this action right out of the British Isles and inside the border. To do this a national organisation is needed, with the full backing of the most militant sections and drawn others in the movement."

"That is why the chairman of the rank and file committee, Mr. George Brown, is going to his own branch this week to argue for support for the rank and file conference on 30 November."
The Morning Star and an ‘ultra-left venture’: Two replies

THE RANK AND FILE ORGANISING Committee were saddened to read the attack on the Rank and File Movement in the Morning Star (Friday 1 November). Far from being ‘ultra left’ such a Rank and File Movement bears out the experience of the fight to maintain living standards against the Social Contract.

The fight is not being led from the top by trade union officials, but from below by the rank and file. We need to build rank and file links in each industry and trade union. The Rank and File Conference on 30 November is a step towards this.

We feel it would be better for a newspaper like the Morning Star to support us in this task rather than insulting militant workers just because they happen to be members of IS. We are pleased to include IS members within our ranks. We are also pleased to have CP members, Labour Party members and trade union activists of no political affiliation at all. We all work together because of the urgent need for workers to unite in struggle.

We would like to believe that Friday’s report by an unnamed special correspondent was merely a mistake. Unfortunately we cannot bring ourselves to believe this for it is not the first time that the Morning Star has discriminated against us. Advertisements for the 30 November National Rank and File Conference were sent to the three biggest circulating papers on the Left—Morning Star, Socialist Worker and Tribune. The Morning Star alone refused to run the weekly adver.

The Rank and File Organising Committee is open to re-election and constant change. The Rank and File Conference is totally democratic and open to delegates from all bona fide trade union bodies. It is not the property of the Communist Party or the International Socialists. The 30 November Rank and File Conference is an important step towards building a genuine democratic Rank and File Movement.

Copies of this statement have been sent to the Morning Star, Tribune, Socialist Worker

DEAR BROTHER,

We are involved in the present dispute that is taking place in the West of Scotland.

We would like to inform you that none of our strikers has yet received official support from the trade unions. As second is that the strikers so far are all isolated one from another.

We therefore believe that the call for the 30 November National Rank and File Conference is in no way ‘ultra left’ but actually meets the situation as it faces us.

All activists in the trade union movement who are genuinely concerned with the fight against wage restraint and unemployment, which repressive forces are responsible for them, should be there.

Yours sincerely,
Lewis Collins, treasurer, Glasgow Corporation Sewage Workers strike committee
John Keenan, senior steward, Rolls Royce, East Kilbride
George Kelly, convenor, Glasgow Corporation Electrical Workshops
Eddie McAroy, senior steward, Hoover Camlachie
Jim McElrath, chairman, National Freight Corporation
Edith MacKay, chairman, West of Scot-

You are reminded that you are entitled to a copy of this letter

The Rank and File Conference Organising Committee has compiled verifiable lists of imprisoned Chilean trade unionists in all the main industries. A list of names has been distributed among 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 Howwood Road, London NW10.

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

NAME OF TRADE UNION BODY

ADDRESS

TRADE UNION STAMP

SOUTH AFRICA: SUPPORT FOR APARTHEID

RUMOURS that the British government intends to end its military agreement with South Africa over the use of the Simonstown naval base have received enormous publicity. Here, it seems to many people, is a real example of the ‘left wingers’ in the government influencing its policy.

Ending

A look below the surface, however, reveals a rather different state of affairs. The rumours about Simon-

town came only days after the government had vetoed attempts to expel South Africa from the United Nations.

That was rather embarrassing for the government. Talk of ending the Simonstown agreement provided an embarrassment for diverging attention. It is worth adding that the government’s embarrassment is not caused by its so-called left wing ministers. Its real fear lies elsewhere.

The success of the liberation movements in forcing the Portuguese to promise independence to their colonies means that much of the wealth of Southern Africa will soon lie in territories under the control of black governments.

Much of this wealth is owned by the same British and American companies that operate in South Africa—

for instance, on the Anglo-

American Corporation.

The owners of these companies want to enjoy the protection and low wages guaranteed by the racist regime in South Africa, without being so much identified with it as to lose their black states.

And so while backing that regime in their deeds, they criticise it with their words.

The Labour government is trying to follow the same policy. On the one hand it gives practical support to the apartheid regime by using its veto at the United Nations.

On the other hand it talks of withdrawing from a military base that is of little use to it, allowing the French or the Americans to take its place if necessary.

CHILE: Support for the Junta

THE LABOUR government has just announced one of its first victories: the signing of a deal that will see the Junta be given another nine years to pay off its debt to the International Monetary Fund.

A year ago, while in opposition, the Labour Party leadership made clear its complete opposition to any aid or any arms going to the Junta. After coming into office, it has made great play of its cancellation of a goodwill amount of aid to the Junta worth about £250,000 and of any new arms contracts.

And two months ago, while demonstrators against the Junta were taking place throughout the world, it gave the impression that it was blocking plans to ease the embargo.

Now, however, it has shown that for a Labour government the needs of international big business are more important than its own words against a regime that has murdered thousands of workers and keeps many more in jail.

Estimates suggest that the big new loans being negotiated for Chile may eventually be worth £124 million—or 500 times as much as the aid Labour claims it has ended.

HYPOCRITERS SIGN HERE . . . Harold Wilson has put his name to two documents—one allowing low-interest loan terms to Chile, the other ordering his back in the United Nations to veto the expulsion of South Africa.

Don’t phase them out, kick ‘em out!

'I DON’T want pay-beds phased out,' pointed out a junior doctor. 'Those 5000 private beds mean the difference between life and death for many patients, and a cancer on the NHS.

Only the consultants benefit from the existence of private beds. The protesting consultants argue that the beds account for only one per cent of the NHS total—they ignore the fact that the time devoted to them by consultants is 15 per cent of the total.'

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Organise to free the two.

by Jan Gobac (UCATT) and Terry Horan (TGWU)

Shrewsbury.
They were not charged with assault or intimidation. In this kind of free, if you meet and talk about something which may not be itself criminal then you may be liable for a criminal prosecution under the Conspiracy Acts, with no limit on sentences. The sentences given to the pickers were shocking.
How did all this happen?
The bosses attacked a weak link in the working-class movement. They chose the building industry, where trade unionism is weakened by the TUC. They chose North Wales and Shrewsbury, an area not noted for militancy. They delayed the trial for

NOBODY could have foreseen two years ago when 24 building workers in North Wales were first put on trumped-up charges that they were to face two years of ruthless harassment by employers, courts and police.
Or that they were to meet cowardice and treachery by the leaders of their two unions, the Transport and General Workers' and the construction workers' (UCATT).
Yet the ordeal is far from over. Two, Ricky Tomlinson and Des Warren, are serving two years and three years in jail for conspiracy to carry out the unions' instructions designed to break the building picket strike. In other words they organised the flying picket in North Wales and

BUILDING workers are responding already to the jailing of their brothers Des Warren and Ricky Tomlinson. In Liverpool on Monday more than 1,000 building workers marched through Liverpool. Several sites struck including the Loop Line and the Teaching Hospital. The men stayed out on Sunday and sent delegations to lobby the UCATT offices for all-out strike action.
In London a rally in Clapham on Thursday was led by 600 strikers heard George Smith, UCATT general secretary, pledge support for the freeing of the men. The demonstration included a Birmingham delegation.
In Manchester 2,000 workers from 11 sites struck and marched to a meeting, which called for an all-out official stoppage, rejecting one-day strikes and arguing for the extension of the campaign to all workers. The men agreed to send flying pickets to the docks.
In Glasgow the Knightswood site and Yarrows shipyard struck. 100 strikers at a Building Workers Charter meeting called for a mass rally next Wednesday.

HARLESDEN and NORTH WEST LONDON District Executive meeting on FRIDAY, 15th November, 7.30-10.30 p.m.
FREE THE SHREWSBURY PICKETS
Speakers: Building workers' leaders and the TUC delegates. Come and join us.
Organised by North West London District International Socialists

THE SHREWSBURY 24: A unique and magnificent history of the building workers' trial, in song, word and theatre, now has a new finale. Use it in the line to free the two, build the theatre around your local trades union committee.

by Jeff Shaw
UCATT convenor, Taylor Woodrow Bradford Interchange site
THE sending back to jail of the Shrewsbury pickets came as a blowshell. No one really believed the case would be lost. Letting them out on bail was a compromise to save the 24 workers, bosses and the law and Order brigades. With the new builders' claims in the sentences are again facing for a fight. The judges want to make more examples regardless of the effects on men's lives.

The arrests and fines of the builders at Brixton, South London, during their recent strike shows the desire of the bosses to harass and intimidate trade unionists who organise against them. A press barrage has already been launched to undermine the wage claim, while the press has remained silent on the jailing.

We are now capable of publicising the truth in the labour movement. That is why Socialist Worker too has been fined so heavily.

The sites in strike in Liverpool, Glasgow, Manchester and London show the way forward. In less well-organised areas we must put pressure on union officials, raise the matter in trades councils and with Labour MPs. The Labour government must be made to free these men.

THIS IS WHAT WE MUST DO

Socialists and militants struggling to get the two Shrewsbury pickets out of jail face a different situation now to when the trials were going on. Then there was a Tory government, and the trial itself held the whole of the stage.

Now it is not so easy. The struggle to free Des Warren and Ricky Tomlinson is now much more of a political struggle. Looming in the background is the social contract, with Jack Jones, leader of one of the building workers' unions, the TGWU, orchestrating the fight to defend the Labour government's position.

Over the summer, when the men were on bail, we heard from the trade union leaders how terrible the sentences were. The TUC came out against the sentences and even George Smith of UCATT, who had scabbed on the men all along, got up at Congress to protest at the sentences. Now that the men are back in jail and we have a Labour Government, which is easily capable of freeing these men and repealing the Conspiracy laws which sent them down in the first place, we have not heard a whimper from Jack Jones, or the others on the left of the Labour Party.

The appeal against the jail sentences was turned down and now against appeals against the sentences which were brought by the building pickets, including the TGWU, which has been able to devote the necessary resources to keep the building class in the place.

Socialist Worker too has been given heavy penalties by the High Court. The economic climate is going to mean more cuts in working-class living standards and there will be

further attacks on working-class organisations to make sure these cuts go deep.

These men are in jail not only because of the reach of their union leaders, but also because there was no organised response from rank and file trade unionists.
The struggle to free these men may not succeed overnight. A movement has to be built that has the strength to achieve their freedom.

To build this we must be demanding:

- Demonstrations for their release,
- Lobbying of TGWU and UCATT offices,
- Resolutions to TGWU and UCATT branches calling for all-out strikes,
- Resolutions from all trade union branches to union executive, propos-
ting at the sentences and calling for action.

A lobby of the Labour Party Conference later this month.

To the building industry we should call for strikes immediately.

Where strikes are taking place we should call for support.

We must focus all attention on the building of the Rank and File Movement as the only lever by which all the struggles of the forces that are the birthright of the National Rank and File Conference should be starting local branches.

This is a struggle which is only beginning. If it is successful, we can move a building strike which is a new order, and which can be as successful as the kentish strikers. We must build a movement to free those men. All government treat cannot be used. Jack Jones and the social contract must be allowed to stand in the way.
By Christ, what rubbish

This social class of families referred to by Sir Kenneth and his critic is defined by the Governor of the Job of the layout and the deference class, the class of their career applications, etc.

Class I: Professional, including doctors, lawyers, architects, writers, metallurgists.

Class II: Intermediate, including members of the Cabinet, Ministers, Journalists, Engineers, Artists, etc.

Class III: Skilled, including engineers, painters, plumbers, repairmen, railway enginers, drivers, tradesmen.

Class IV: Semi-skilled, including machinists, operators, mechanics, machinists, fitters, electricians, plumbers, boilermakers, boilermakers, blacksmiths, blacksmiths, fitters, etc.

Class V: Unskilled, including laborers, ticket collectors, store clerks, errands, window-cleaners, messengers,erry driver, etc.

The rankings of the demented Sir Kenneth have highlighted the clashes and deaths led by different occupations in British society.

They are all the same, isn't it? I'd love to point out just one of the more ludicrous scales that Joseph has his 'serious' speech on.

You will note that class in Social Class I are vicars, and in Social Class X are shopkeepers. Now 50% of vicars get to be top of the tree on Sunday. Of course not.

As we are often told, vicars are on the point of death, and we are led to believe that shopkeepers and doctors earn fortunes. So it must be useless to society that they get this high rating, while unskilled workers like dockers and stevedores are useless, and therefore in the lowest class.

If a vicar didn't do his job properly, he might sloth too much holy water, quote the wrong passage from the Bible or even be late for a funeral.

If a doctor does his job wrong, he could easily get a broken leg or broken neck, or, if he was really careless, kill someone with his medicine.

Victims don't have money in industrial accidents. A stevedore might even work with such a lack of skill that the cargo might shift at sea, and overturn the ship.

If dockworkers go on strike the streets are horrible. We are holding the country to ransom, and the whole economy could collapse in five weeks.

If vicars went on strike—nobody would notice it for five years, but alone five weeks. Except God may be.

That's how useful vicars are to society.

Which goes to prove these tables are about as logical and "scientific" as a game of bingo.

I WAS disappointed to read that Vanessa Redgrave, who just a few weeks ago was standing post at a bus stop in Newham for North East London as part of a job to get a public school (St Paul's, £14,50 a year) if Vanessa had got elected she would be just about the only person in the Eastern region with a kid at public school. Vanessa stood, of course, as the workers' candidate.

Following the arrest in London of an American journalist, 22 dustmen for demanding money with menaces, Scottish Yard have carried out a large scale operation all over London. Special squads of armed officers known as the 'Gang of Busters' and led by Chief Inspector James Street and Commissioner John Gough have been in action for the past five weeks. 10.942 taxi drivers, 9197 barbers, 49 undertakers, 792 greengrocers and 16 small boys, who were carrying offensive weapons, nick-named 'pups'.

Yesterday, the squad swooped on a man described as 'Mr Big'. Ex-Royal Artillery Sergeant Major Albert Carruthers was picked up at the Ritz Hotel by armed detectives and 54 dogs.

The National Front, the party that stands for Law and Order, especially the quality of student disorder, certainly believes in getting first-hand knowledge of the subject.

Their chairman, John Tindall, an acknowledged expert on law and order from experience gained during his six months in prison for carrying firearms and organizing para-military groups, has been placed by Kingsley Reid, the Front's candidate in Blackburn and an expert on student 'militia'.

He was himself expelled from Leeds University for what he describes as 'student agitators' which resulted in a police action being called off in a house.

The Front have denied reports that General Amin has been elected as the Front expert on race relations and immigration.

WHEN TO SWITCH ON

THURSDAY

ITV: (Some Regions) 11pm. WHAT THE PAPERS SAY With Socialist editor Paul Foot, SATURDAY

ITV: 8.30pm (most stations) UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS With John Simpson, the first World War period has been consistently good.

SUNDAY

7.30pm. ACTORS OF FREE- DOM looks at the radical thought of the past in English Civil War period, through its publications and debates.

MONDAY

BBC-1: 11.00pm. Yes we'll live at London's Goldsmiths' Hall facing Harold Wilson confronting the assembled

Wally Belely column

WHO SAY: CAN'T WORK?

THE OTHER day there was a documentary on the lives of lifeboatmen. It set me thinking about them.

As long as I've been a socialist, there's been one stock argument that I've had spet at me day after day. Socialism is a good idea, but it's like Prohibition—it won't work.

It's working class is too selfish, too greedy. All they're interested in is pound notes. You must have heard the arguments as many times as you've had hot flushes.

But how do these philosophers explain lifeboatmen? Men who risk their lives to save the lives of strangers. Many who only put to sea in the most dangerous conditions.

They don't do it for the money. Most of the men interviewed wouldn't have had the time if it was full-time. They don't do it for the glory. You never even hear of their names until there's a tragic accident.

One TV Programme every 150 years doesn't make you a film star. And I'm fairly confident they don't do it for the healthy sea breezes. They do it because they care about the lives of other seamen. Yet when you've seen their faces, when you've heard them speak, they were just ordinary working men.

It's this kind of heroism that only our class is ever capable of. Our 'betters' will never even understand compassion like that. For them charity is buying Oxfam Christmas cards.

The programme set me thinking about record-keeping. Just what kind of world is it when something as life-and-death as a lifeboat service is run as a hobby? To my un-

Socialist Worker

Crossword No 1

ACROSS

1. Powerful anti-Darwinian novel by Switzleragen written around charac- ters in a Western hotel.

2. B. Reeves is back up (7)

3. Underground commuter or potato (6)

4. Aldenay (5)

5. Tall, redhaired and blue-eyed Scotch footballers (6)

6. French singer of lengthy factory occupation against redundancy by watch-worker workers (3)

7. Revolutionary founder of United States, engaged in the bloody hanging by British by committing suicide in 1798 (4)

8. Mutton dish once popular with British sailors (4)

9. 'All animals are...but some animals are more...than others' (5)

10. 'Grease' and 'greasing' popular with Nixon (3)

11. Person who attempts to promote sites of product by appearing to be knowledgeable, sentimental and sexual appetites of potential customers (11)

12. N.U.V. OFFICIAL PICTET (9)

13.していますの漢字って何ですか？ (5, 6)

14. The scene of a factory occupation against redundancy by watch-worker workers (3)

15. The scene of a factory occupation against redundancy by watch-worker workers (3)

16. One thing on top of another (5-4)

17. Put money into undertakers' (5)

18. Falls behind persistent offenders (11)

DOWN

1. Primitive communist and bipolar tropists (6, 2)

2. Imperial fraddler (4)

3. They loom up your movement (5, 5)

4. Leader of 1831 Peasants' Revolt which seized Tower of London and despatched Archbishop of Canterbury (3, 5)

5. Word meaning 'automaton' popu- larized by London presentation of Karl Capek's Czech play 'R.U.R.' (7)

6. B.S.A. or M.G. headgear (5, 5)

7. One user record-breaking top- scoring Middlesbrough centre- forward (5, 5)

8. Notorious Paris dungeon demolished by Paris workers on 14 July 1878 (3)

9. One thing on top of another (5-4)

10. No Ross from Picket (9)

11. Yes he can live in London's Goldsmiths' Hall facing Harold Wilson confronting the assembled
AM I A BUILDER-OR A PLASTIC SURGEON?

BEWARE of guard dogs, filthy toilets—if there is a toilet at all and never wandering about in total confusion. Is this Lochinvar in some other internment camp in Northern Ireland? No, this is the average building site in this country today.

I am a plastic surgeon by trade-otherwise known as a painter and decorator. My job is to cover up the errors of others.

A bleak picture I've painted, you might think. But let me assure you that the situation is in fact a lot bleaker.

In the area where I live the norm is the small back-street builder with about 20 men of various nationalities. Not one day goes by without some change. Yet we're all given the scope of work or the supervision to make him a decent tradesman.

LUMPIES

The important thing to remember is that these boys are not employed under the pretext of having a trade but end up doing all the donkey work for the professional builders. So it's up to all tradesmen in this country to see that these young lags are given the opportunity to become decent tradesmen.

In the past 12 months there's been a spate of power company improvement grants in South Wales and with it the increase in sub-contract lumpies. In fact, it's quite common now to see these characters making the most of their team look like master builders.

The one way to end this madness is for our union and local trade councils to pressurise the local authorities who give these grants into writing into these contracts that the work must be done by direct labour only. If this is not done at local level I think we will see a marked improvement in this situation.

Where do the International trade unions stand on this? Well, IS is the only organisation in this country whose beliefs make any sense in these times of materialism and greed. The road is clear on what is needed.

Abolish all forms of productivity testing.

All safety regulations to be adhered to.

A national shop stewards' movement in the building industry.

An end to lumpies.

Workers' control of the building industry.

I appeal to you, for the sake of the 30,000 builders and tenant owners for the building barons, to join the trade unions and to form a socialist workers' party and let's build a world fit for human, not rats as we are now treated today.

JOHN POWELL (UCATT)

MINNEAPOLIS is a gaunt industrial town in the Mid-West of the United States. Its position on the edge of the prairies made it a centre of lumber milling, mineworkings, foundries, freight and railways. It became a centre for immigrants, many of them socialists, from Scandinavia and the Baltic Coast.

The pioneers of industrial militancy in Minneapolis had been the railwaymen and mineworkers but in the 1930s it was the local iron workers, union carpenters based in St Paul, who took the lead and beat the town's entire establishment, the Citizens Alliance, the police, the state troopers and the employers in a stand up battle which made Minneapolis a union town.

The iron workers' strike in May 1934 was the climax of two years of organisation by Local 574 who had used their members' mobility to get their leaders onto the scene and play a large part in the famous attack on the Minneapolis Federation of Labour.

That May the strikers' first objective was to take complete control of transport in the town. A fleet of cruising pickets were patrolling every street and when a truck, bus or car was seen a picket would signal it to lock-out drivers. The force was small, a medical centre and offices of the strike committee.

Volunteers' car mechanics kept the strikers' cars in working order. Union carpenters built in storks, stoves and counters and the Cooks and Waiters Union sent expert mass cooking to provide a 24-hour meal service. A women's auxiliary of strikers wives, girls and mothers was set up to do the cooking and took over the running of the HQ towards the climax of the strike.

Ten thousand copies of the strike paper were produced every day. A general assembly was held every day to report progress, answer the bosses' lies, hear solidarity speeches and enjoy music. A loudspeaker system had to be employed to transmit the special Courts, convicted on little or no evidence and thrown into military prison camps which are ready to accommodate large numbers. This is the real reason for the Prisons Bill that allows civilians to be imprisoned in military camps.

The Cosgrove government fear militants, Socialists and left-wing militants because they are afraid these people will give leadership to the growing discontent amongst workers. The working class are constantly struggling against capitalism in order to gain a decent standard of living. Because of this the Cosgrove government seek to destroy any working-class leadership to protect the interests of big business.

Evidence

Top level meetings concerning the large scale arrests of militants have been held and blueprints for such operations have been drawn up. Militants will be dragged before Special Courts, convicted on little or no evidence and thrown into military prison camps which are ready to accommodate large numbers. This is the real reason for the Prisons Bill that allows civilians to be imprisoned in military camps.

Only a 32-county Workers' Republic, by nationalising all sections of industry, will be capable of satisfying the needs of the working class. This is why we must be prepared to make the Southern Labour leaders withdraw from the coalition along with the trade union leaders in order to fight against all repressive legislation.

Now Long Kesh goes south

700 members of the women's auxiliary marched in protest to the town hall, the building workers called a strike at the site and the electrical workers marched in a body to the site. The pickets lay motionless.

LEFT. Suddenly without any warning, the cops opened fire on the pickets. According to two of the pickets lay motionless.

FROM TELESTAFF REBELLION, by Farrell Dobbs (SLI, 315 plus A Postage from IS Books, 255 Seven Sisters Road, London N4).
THE left-wing on the executive of the miners' union won a vital victory last week. The vote to recommend the members to reject the National Coal Board's productivity scheme demands massive support.

The NCB's proposals are designed to split the unity born out of the great strikes in 1972 and 1974. That unity, which took years to achieve, was made possible by the industry's national wages structure. The NCB's proposals would mean face-workers at the same pit earning the same wages and bonus. But there are huge differences in the output and richness of the seams from face to face.

A miner could earn vastly more than his fellow worker on a less productive seam at a face just a few miles away.

The scheme would also introduce a new method of productivity: a scheme which should be opposed by every miner.

Over the years, the workforce has been de-skilled and productivity has been last year's statistics. There is much to be gained by putting the miners' lives first. Real increases on the basic rates are the answer and this can only be achieved by unity, not by trying to go it on their own.

Gormley has already begun his left-baiting against the Communist Party to divert attention from the real enemies in the union—men like himself and Len Clarke of Northumberland. They would love to see the miners split up to avoid any more struggles like the last two-strikes. The left wing on the executive must be supported if we are not to see the miners weakened and the union rent apart by local and sectional negotiations.

NO TO THE NCB'S PROPOSALS FOR A NATIONAL WAGES STRUCTURE. KEEP THE UNITY AND SOLIDARITY OF THE MINERS.

The Government's policy is to "divide and rule"—to divide the NUM politically over the productivity issue and to divide the industry by concentrating a considerable amount of a miners' wage packet, and therefore its potential militancy in the pits and individual coalfields. In this way the national solidarity of the NUM would be broken and the chances of it once again being able to challenge and defeat a Government would be considerably reduced.

Don't let them do to you what they did to us

by Michael Ferr, NASD

IF THE miners fall for productivity dealing and different rates for different areas, the consequences—if the dock industry is anything to go by—will be appalling.

In 1967, after a government report carried out by Lord Devlin, the dockers in the main ports were allocated to permanent employers. The new golden era for dockers had begun, or so we were told by the press and trade union officials.

But the next phase of Devlin, Phase Two, was to bring about the real aim of that phase—to divide the ports into different wage deals. Manning scales, too, would be different. So would work practices, with London abolishing piecework and Liverpool keeping it.

The wages were different, but there was something else that really shook the agreements were carefully taken so they did not expire at the same time.

Liverpool started in September, Hull in October, Southampton and London in January. The employers had effectively split the dockers port by port, just as they are now scheming to split the miners.

By trying to get the government over against Scotland they are trying to push through a procedure already successful in the docks. Men in the container operations at Tilbury now get more money than men in the same dock working less profitable conventional cargo.

The result of all this is that dockers' wages are dipping down the wages league.

When London dockers struck last year over the wage review they were isolated and defeated. Dockers in other ports can't identify with them. The same applies if a wage dispute breaks out in Hull or Liverpool.

The only national agreement men can return to is a £25 minimum. Any stewards' committee asking men to go back to those levels would stand no chance. The only national strike the dockers have staged recently was in 1972. Then the issue was jobs being lost in every port through containerisation.

Dockers were united in that struggle by a common bond. The miners have such a bond—a national wage agreement.

To lose it would severely weaken any future fight in the mines. The employees would have succeeded once again in using their oldest tactic—divide and rule.

NEW LINES ON OLD KING COAL

Dear Socialist Worker,

Please dedicate these lines to the rank and file of the PUM. I am a miner's wife, who until the recently won pay award, spent 20 years on the poverty line. I urge all miners not to accept any divisional productivity scheme, which is aimed primarily at splitting the solidarity of the miners. Their strength is in solidarity.

Now old King Coal was a cruel old soul, And his enterprise coal was fee, And he said to his men, you must dig the coal, And dig it all for free.

And your wages will be sweat and tears, Hardship and pain and blood, But you'll dig the coal, the Company coal, And all for the Company's good.

Now the new King Coal is a crafty old soul, And his name is NCB. And he said to his men, you must dig more coal, To boost productivity, And we'll close each pit as the Board thinks fit, And we'll sell you electricity.

Oh, our incentive scheme, the NCB dream, Will be good for the NCB.

But there's another King Coal, with a living soul, And his name is NUM. Who remembers past days, and the bad old ways, And the exploitation of men, Who remembers the Board, that stood over, When the energy was low, While the man benefited, for his toil received, A wage that was merely 'idle'. And who'll speak of the price, and of the lives sacrificed, And who'll answer that unity's strength?
Men have transformed the world with their knowledge. The short lean wheat has been made big and productive. Little sour apples have grown large and sweet, and that old grace that grew among the trees and fed the birds has multiplied a thousand varieties, red and yellow, black, green and paler pink, purple and yellow, and each variety with its own flavor.

The men who work in the experimental farms have made new fruits: nectarines and forty kinds of plums, walnuts with paper shells, and always they work, selecting, grafting, changing, driving themselves, driving the earth to produce... but men who can graft the trees, and make the seeds fertile and big, can find no way to let the hungry people eat their produce.

Men who have created new fruits in the world cannot create a system whereby their fruits may be eaten... Cardboards of oranges dumped on the ground. The people came for miles to take the fruit, but this could not be. How would they buy oranges at 20 cents a dozen, if they could drive out and pick them up for nothing?

Food
There is a crime here that must be denounced.

TENS of thousands of people have starved to death in Bangladesh in the past few weeks. In India, the government is too weak to keep count, but newspapers carry routine reports of the dead and dying. A quarter of a million are starving in Mozambique.

In Tanzania there is a government crisis over food supplies. In Sahel and Ethiopia, scarcely free of seven years of drought, the terror of famine has begun again.

In Bangladesh, most people fear a repeat of the terrible famine of 1943, when three million died. Most, not all. Great families were made out of the grain trade in 1943, and some would like to repeat the trick.

The rich farmers complain that the government price of grain is too low to cover their costs. An independent estimate suggests that if the price is increased, profits for the rich farmers will double or more.

British newspapers make out that the deaths are purely the result of harvest failure. They are not. The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization argued recently that the shortage of grain in Bangladesh is slight.

The starvation continues because rich farmers and merchants hoard the grain in the hope the price will rise, or smuggle it out of the country to where prices are higher.

Cash
For ten years the governments of these countries have been bringing the rich farmers to grow more grain. The result has been a market increase in the number of peasants who have no land and are forced to work for the rich farmers to live.

Farm laborers used to be paid in grain. Now increasing grain prices mean the farmers pay in cash and the laborers cannot afford to buy grain.

Next year the famine will be worse. The landlords who survive will be weaker and even more hopelessly in debt.

Meanwhile the government of India moves majestically forward from a nuclear explosion this year to the possible launching of its first satellite in 1975. The Indian parliament took time off from its chores to congratulate an MP on his modest performance in the Asian Olympic rifle contest.

As hungry peasants [ref. to cover] celebrate.

WORLD food stocks are at their lowest for at least as much by the large-scale selling of grain to India either for sale on rupees, which can be exchanged for rice at a handsome premium on the black market, or in exchange for goods in short supply at Bangladesh, such as salt.

Unless the government can stop the smuggling and control the black market trade in rice by compulsory procurement of the big farmers’ marketable surplus, the excellent crop now in the fields may be unable to prevent a repetition of the tragedy.

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There is a crime here that goes beyond denunciation. There is a sorrow here, that weeping cannot symbolise. There is a failure here that topples all our success.

The fertile earth, the straight tree rows, the sturdy trunks and the ripe fruit. And children dying of pellagra must die because a profit cannot be taken from an orange.

Then there come with nets to fish for potatoes in the river, and the guards hold them back. They come in rattling cars to get the dumped oranges, but the kerosene is sprayed, and the potatoes flow by, listen to the screaming pigs being killed in a ditch and covered with quicklime, watch the mountains of oranges slop over, and in the eyes of the people there is a failure and in the eyes of the hungry there is a growing wrath.

"CRAUSE IS PROFIT..."

The system turned surplus into shortage

Indian workers voting to strike for higher wages earlier this summer

**Confronted with the sheer size of the problem, workers are inclined to throw up their hands in despair. What can be done to stop the profiteers and feed the hungry?**

This week, Jack Frost, the Labour Party of the United Nations World Food Conference in Rome. He could count on a special rapport with his government colleagues and the UN officials. What can be done to improve the situation? The delegates will argue for 12 days about what to do about the grain shortage. No one will put forward a single proposal to deal with the farmers, the road map, or the speculators who make a fortune on the food for the masses even when there is plenty to go around.

There will be no solution from the well-fed experts in Rome. But there is a solution to the fury of the starving people of the world, who are moving with increasing urgency to revolt.

Last year, the countries of the G23 and B20 states in India were selling food for large profits. The government immediately showed which side it was on. Police shot 177 people while putting down the revolt. These measures have not decreased the protests. All through this year, the landless peasants of the subcontinent have risen in a millionente. That is why the Indian government is devoting so much time and money to building up its police force.

But, for the first time in the history of the world’s starving peoples, the revolt is not confined to the landless peasants. For the first time the urban poor, the industrial workers, themselves smitten by the food shortages, have started to wield their massive strength in protest.

**Where the money goes**

India needs another five to ten million tons of grain this year. The extra will cost 1,250 million dollars, a third of India’s export earnings. Already a quarter of these go to pay interest and profits on past loans. Increased oil prices are likely to take another third.

This leaves little to pay for machinery needed for development and fertilizers for next year’s crop.

The Indian government’s spending on DEFENCE increased five times over in the 1960s. Spending on POLICE increased 52 times over in the past 24 years. The riot police (CRP) had 16 battalions in 1964-65. It now has 60. The Central Industrial Security Force, or CISF, which now stands for 11,000 men. The Indian Home Minister says it is still too small.

Workers in Britain can act against the famine—by cutting further their standard of living (which will only help the capitalists), by refusing to work in solidarity with their brothers and sisters across the sea. The same capitalism which demands wage cuts and price increases in Britain causes the famine in Bangladesh, Africa, South America.

There is one world—and one struggle.

**Corrupt**

1974 has heralded some of the greatest industrial strikes in Asia’s history. Summer 230,000 railwaymen fought a mighty battle with the Indian government. In June a massive strike by textile workers in Thailand forced the government to raise the minimum wage and, for the first time, to introduce redundancy payments. In South Korea a series of mass strikes have terrified the country’s corrupt dictatorship.

This is the power which can shake the world’s capitalist class, their speculators, their banks, their police and their politicians.

Workers in Britain can act against the famine—not by cutting further their standard of living (which will only help the capitalists), but by refusing to work in solidarity with their brothers and sisters across the sea. The same capitalism which demands wage cuts and price increases in Britain causes the famine in Bangladesh, Africa, South America. There is one world—and one struggle.

**Untilled**

More money spent on medical and insecticide research to control the vector than would be spent on controlling the disease. By 1980, the world would have cultivated an area of Africa larger than the US. In South America land owned by big foreign companies and landowners is kept untilled. In Asia, a fifth of the land used by the US and Russia on arms production could be used to feed the people. There is the money to do it, if the power to do it.

**Chingari**

The International Socialists’ paper in Punjabi and Urdu by and for Asian workers in Britain.

"Sell it in your factory, workplaces, offices and community. Order copies from..."
In AUTUMN 1968 the Batley Trades and Friendly Club moved to new premises. A strike was called by black workers, racism has increased.

The labour movement has tended to ignore the conditions of black workers and the police have been let off as having acted unchallenged.

However the members began to realize the problems and general naivety of a colour bar. Various unpleasant scenes occurred when black people were turned away. A visiting dance team left after one member of their number was black was turned away.

The Sunday hunchback drinkers were deprived of their stripers because she was black. But the colour bar continued till January 1974.

The Eddie Mannish, a committee member and local socialist, moved a motion to end the bar, which was passed. It took six years but finally collected results.

Now a local pop group called Jandall play regularly at the club. Previously they would have been barred as the two leaders are Jan and Dilber Shah who were born in Batley of an Indian father and an English mother.

We’ll win in the end! FOR OVER TWO years I worked in a fairly big general hospital in Eastern England, as a male nursing auxiliary, and another nurse was asked to help out on nights and weekends.

We agreed and the hospital hired us for eight days and backed it up. One of the drivers told the men to cost the National Health Service about £4 a day for the service—£23 for eight return journeys.

Because of the class distastion that exists in all hospitals there was an unpleasant atmosphere among the staff.

Our local National Union of Public Employees branch used to meet every three months and only a few people ever bothered to turn up, although the branch secretary brought back the money to over 800 members. She did nothing.

Another international Socialist sympathizer and my self did in the end seven of the staff to start fighting back, we made headway but it was a struggle I think hospital officers in the front line fight against them, but its going to be worth it when they eventually win.

Take Hospital Worker and Socialist Worker into the hospitals with you. Help convert your sisters and brothers to revolutionary socialism. You’ll soon have the bureaucrats on their knees. And when that happens sling them out SAYS SYM PATHISER, Address supplied.

 workers at British Leyland aec bus and truck plant in Southall have been locked out by management in dispute over their pay claim.

The dispute committee set up by the shop stewards has been sending workers to other factories to appeal for support.

As a trade unionist I only hope that our brothers in AEC get a better reception than they did at last branch meeting of Transport union members at Heinz Harlesden.

The convoy reported the visit to the AEC workers and seemed very sympathetic yet he failed to offer any suggestion for practical support. A motion was then put from the floor proposing a donation of £10 from branch funds and a factory gate collection.

A discussion followed and the district official who always sits in on branch meetings opposed the idea of a collection saying that ‘People get fed up with collections nowadays’. Next week you might want to collect for Hoover’s.

The fact is that we have never had a factory gate collection! The motion was defeated and the convenor who sympathetically received the AEC workers abstained from the vote.

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It was an angry and militant reaction from workers.

The reaction from the ruling class after the protest strike was one of panic, and there is talk of arranging a compromise in the cases of the other 39,000 or so workers.

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n

The reaction from the ruling class after the protest strike was one of panic, and there is talk of arranging a compromise in the cases of the other 39,000 or so workers.

The tragedy is that the revolutionary left is too weak to decisively intervene. Communist in the Kommunist Party is not seriously committed to smashing the Anti-Strike and Class-Collaboration laws.

Since the Party got back into parliament recently they have become even more moderate, and in the unofficial general strike in May did their best to restrict the strike movement to a one day affair, and opposed the calls from the workplaces—including from their own unions—for an all out general strike to topple the Liberal Government. EVA KOCK, Odense, Denmark.

Yet again workers in struggle have been let down by brother trade unionists and sold out by a trade union bureaucracy who in his own admission doesn’t know much about Heinz ‘because he doesn’t work there’.

There is substantial support for the AEC workers on the shopfloor, no doubt a message of support will come from them.

This shows the very real need for a genuine rank and file movement to unite workers fighting for a decent wage in the face of trade union officials waving the stick of the Social Contract.

A step in the right direction will be taken by the calling of the Second National Conference of New Left and the decision to be held on Saturday 30 November at the Digbeth Hall Birmingham. Be there—STEVE FOREY (CRTC 177/77), Harlesden.
TWO LEEDS CLOTHING WORKERS WHO WERE INVOLVED IN THE 1970 STRIKE WRITE ABOUT THE TV FILM 'LEEDS-UNITED!'  

Two leading characters in Colin Welland's TV version of the Leeds clothing strike which blew the Northern trade wide open for two weeks in 1970 were John and Pat, played by David Mottram and Marjorie Rhodes. Welland, a West Yorkshireman, was never more at home in the streets of Leeds than he was in the union meeting rooms that hosted the wildcat strike. The characters are described as John, the young and idealistic shop steward, and Pat, the middle-aged woman who experienced the strike from her home. The TV film, which was broadcast in 1975, was critically acclaimed for its portrayal of the strike and its impact on the local community.

BULLETINS

We asked Dennis to ask some girls to go up to the North East clothing factories. Before we knew what had happened, half a dozen girls had got together, written to the Evening Post, and started a campaign of strikes.

MAGGIE: Yes, it did feel right. We used to have a meeting every week. And the girls used to ask, 'What do we have to do to get the strike going?'

It was all hell let loose and there was a feeling that we were fighting for our livelihood. We've had many meetings, small and big, but this was the first time we felt we were really making a difference.

DEFEND

'I don't really know how the film will affect the union and the movement but I do know that it makes the trade look unattractive. It shows the girls who were involved in the strike and how they were able to defeat it. The girls feel that they were let down.'

The film doesn't put women's problems as trade unionists much on the map. The girls feel that they were let down by the union and the management. They want the union to pay more attention to the needs of the girls and to support them in their struggles.

The film has been shown in many places and the girls who were involved have been interviewed. They want to use it to show that the strike was a success and that the girls were able to defeat it. They want to show that the union needs to be more democratic and to give the girls more say in the running of the union.
Film tour success—thanks to oil and Swarfga

THE International Socialists' first nationwide film tour has been a success. Blow for Blow, the story of French women workers and the occupying textile factories, was seen in 11 industrial centres and raised more than £170 for the Socialists. The Women's Worker Defence Fund after paying all its costs. Every exhibit was a success: no poster, no tools, no fliers. When the film finished, the audience clapped and shouted, "Long live socialists!"

Alastair Marden, who showed the film, said, "My confidence in the movement has grown considerably as a result of the tour. I feel that the weight of the occupation is on the move. I also enjoyed the job, even if I was soon reduced to a cent of the time costed with oil and gas from a tin of Swarfga.'

Packed

The most exciting showing was that at Manchester. Strike for Strike was shown at five major working-class venues, and at all of them the audience was enthusiastic. When the film finished, the audience clapped and shouted, "Long live socialists!"

The film was shown in a packed hall of the working class. The audience was enthusiastic, and during the film, the audience clapped and shouted, "Long live socialists!"

Why I joined International Socialists

by JUNE MORRIS
NUPE full-time
nursing officer

enthusiastic about capturing leading positions in the unions. My experience as an appointed full-time official has shown me that I am more removed from the workers than the workers themselves. This is more often impossible for appointed full-time officers to influence the membership. They are under the sway of the general secretary and the executive committee, nor are they subject to the wishes and desires of the members. We are often expected to suppress the actions of the members.

The full-time official ought to be elected an accountable member of the management. I hope to play my part in building the Rank and File Movement, particularly among white-collar workers, where the rank and file have less influence. But I joined IS, most of all, to build a revolutionary party that can lead the working class to power by smashing capitalism forever.

DEFEND SOCIALIST WORKER!

public meetings

IPSWICH: Thursday 14 November
Speaker: Steve Ludlam (NUPE)
8pm, Rose and Crown, Norwich Road

NOTTINGHAM: Thursday 21 November
8pm, Lion Hotel, Clumber Street

MANCHESTER: Friday 8 November
7.30pm, Milton Hall, Deansgate

EDINBURGH: Tuesday 19 November
7.30pm, TUC Centre, Princes Street

DARLINGTON: Friday 8 November
8pm, Red Lion, Speaker to be arranged

EALING, WEST LONDON: Thursday 14 November
8pm Special showing of film Blow for Blow, followed by meeting. Speaker: Alice Murray, Ealing Town Hall. Admission 25p.

SHEFFIELD: Sunday 17 November, 8pm
Speaker: Ruby Light (TGWU) and Greg Douglas (CEU)
The Royal, Abbeydale Road.

WORCESTER: Thursday 7 November
8pm The Plough Inn, Shawfair (near Cathedral).
Speaker: Neil Davies

KEELE UNIVERSITY: Monday 18 November, 8pm
Students Union, Speaker: Laurie Flynn

COVENTRY: Friday 16 November, 8pm
Speaker: Duncan Hallas

LEEDS: Thursday 21 November, 8pm
Travel Club, 131-133 New Clubwoman Rd, Chapeltown.
Speaker: Andrea Nogali

ABERYSTWYTH: Thursday 7 November, 8pm
Skinners Arms. Speaker: Margaret Renn

KINGSTON: Tuesday 12 November, 8pm
Speaker from Socialist Worker and a local trade unionist, Kingston Hotel.

WHY JOIN INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

by JUNE MORRIS
NUPE full-time
nursing officer

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WHAT'S ON

WALTHAMSTOW IS Socialist Worker Benefit Dinner. The best in food and wine - give yourself a treat. Come along, have a good time and help Socialism. Friday 11 November, 7.30pm, Nomisma, Finsbury Park, London. Admission fee.

PARTINGTON AND SALE IS public meeting. The I. Party week and 30 per cent across the board. Speaker: John Deegan (IS) Institute of Commerce, 13 November, 8pm, Finsbury Park, London.

NEWHAM IS 18th meeting: Peace and friendship for all. Where there's no real war, there's no real peace. Speaker: John Deegan (IS) London. 13 November, 8pm, Finchley, London.

ROCHDALE IS 18th meeting. To discuss our economic, social and political situation. Speaker: John Deegan (IS) London. 13 November, 8pm, Rochdale.

TOWER HAMLETS IS Socialist Worker Dinner. Friday 11 November, 7.30pm, Tower House, Church Street, London. Admission fee.

AUSTIN (LONGBIDGE BIRMINGHAM) IS public meeting. The I. Party week and 30 per cent across the board. Speaker: John Deegan (IS) Birmingham. 13 November, 8pm, Austin (Longbridge), Birmingham.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION IS STUDENT SOCIETY Rally and dinner at 7.30pm. Speakers: Paul Field (IS) London. 13 November, 8pm, Croydon Gardens, London.

MEETINGS FOR IS MEMBERS

WEST YORKSHIRE district approves of the IS Manifesto for Bradford City Council. 13 November, 7pm, Leeds, City Hotel, Leeds.

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ENGINEERS PLAN FOR ACTION

LAST WEEKEND 25 Engineering Union members of the International Socialists met at Blackpool. Mick Ray, shop steward of the IS AUEW section, opened the meeting. The IS AUEW section, which has 300 members, is now the largest union in the IS. The meeting agreed that the support of the engineering workers was to call for a strike on Wednesday when the national minimum wage comes into effect. The national minimum wage is now £20 per week and no more.
THE International Socialists are a revolutionary socialist organisation open to all who accept our main principles and who are willing to work towards these principles. They are:

INDEPENDENT WORKING-CLASS ACTION
We believe that socialism can only be achieved by the independent action of the working class.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORMISM
While we support the overthrow of 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 requires 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 practice and campaign for solidarity with workers in other countries, against racism and imperialism, and 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 to fight for a socialist future.

For a national rank and file movement which will fight for these policies in the trade union movement.

Against racism and police victimisation of black people. Against all immigration controls. For the right of black people and other oppressed groups to organise in their own defence.

For national, economic and political equality for women.

Against all nuclear weapons and militarist alliances such as NATO and the Warsaw Pact. Against all forms of imperialism, including Russian imperialism.

For unconditional support to genuine liberation movements.

For the building of a mass workers' revolutionary party, organised in the 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 2DN

Name
Address
Trade Union

METAL BOX

WEST HOUGHTON, Yorks.-The Metal Box Engineers' Union is continuing its meeting with the Conciliation and Arbitration Board in an attempt to prevent the launching of a new strike. The TGWU members in the factory have voted to strike at the end of the day to demand that the new site be closed. The TGWU and the MBU have agreed to a new meeting on Monday to discuss the situation. The union claims that the new site is not suitable for production.

Thames-side is being challenged by the TGWU, which is demanding a 5 per cent increase in wages.

Thames-side has been locked out by the company.

The company has offered a 2 per cent increase, which has been rejected by the TGWU.

The union has also threatened to strike if the company does not meet their demands.

Court attack on dustmen

LONDON—27 dustmen in Kensington and Chelsea have been charged with blackmail, demanding money with menaces and stealing council property after allegations by a local council official were made on a programme. The trial is due in 1975 and there are more charges to come. The 27 have been suspended on half pay.

Dustmen in Nine Elms, Southwark, have already been suspended after an early meeting. They have denied any knowledge of the actions, or as the feeling is, the breaking up in the background which would be potentially disastrous.

The paper produced by rank and file councils on the action and dustmen's trade union had just produced its third issue. 2500 copies, plus payment from 254 Hampton Road, London W10.
Mass sackings: Does Benn have the answer?

MR BENN said Alfred Herbert represented an important management problem. The factory was a difficult one and the government was concerned about it. It was important, he stated, that the problem was solved to the satisfaction of all parties, that the government continued to support the company, and that other interest groups in the company were also consulted.

According to the government, the factory was being run by an independent company. The government had been working with the company to solve the problems. The company had been experiencing difficulties and was in need of financial assistance. The government was supporting the company in this time of need.

Mr Benn said the government had been in contact with the company and had been working to resolve the issues. The government was committed to supporting the company and ensuring that the workers were treated fairly.

The government was working closely with the company and other interest groups to ensure that the issues were resolved to the satisfaction of all parties. The government was committed to supporting the company and ensuring that the workers were treated fairly.

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We must make this a fight to change society

Before going into the Glasgow Royal
Defnary this week for a minor operation,
HARRY MCShANE speaks to Socialist
Workers to discuss the present strike wave.

We boast about the strikes we used to
make in the First World War. We still
need to get into mass political engineering and shipyard workers in
Glasgow. But now that the unions have
more workers and they extend far beyond
Glasgow in the coal, steel, transport, fishing and
construction workers are involved, as well as engineers.

The other remarkable thing about
the strikes is that in each case the official
leaders had nothing to do with them. The
lorry drivers’ strike in the 1970s was
organised without the blessing of Jack Jones and
Hugh Scardant.

Jack Jones in the 1930s when he
was involved with the National Hunger
Marchers. But now that they are on the
footsteps of his two predecessors, and
some of his political ideas, the BMA, with
whom went into the government. No one
else, you know, from any other union,
has gone directly from union office into the
cabinet.

For any Marxist, a ‘social contract’
between workers, the ruling class and
the state is a sham. It means
nothing but what he believes, has forgotten a lot.

The social contract is directed against
unofficial strikes. That’s what makes the
state so determined to get the workers to
fight apart. They are still fighting
separately from the Rolls-Royce strike. The
sewage men are separate from the
buses. The postal workers are separate from
the same.

The state are not fighting
anything with a vision of changing society.
The fight is as yet confined to the
bottling of power. It still needs to be
challenged with any of human being.

Glasgow Corporation has a bad
history of corruption. Between the wars
they spent £2 million on a park in Castlereag,
and there’s been a few since. The
counsellors do talk about the public:
the paying-off licences and so on.

But corruption now is
by far big business.

The councillors won’t pay up to
the workers. That’s because of
the social contract. They see
the councillors as ‘bosses’ and they
won’t pay out more money on
wages. It’s the least unions corpora
tion have to do.

To really move ahead, what’s needed is
to change the whole character of the
workers in the various industries. When
Wilson says: ‘You can’t have
any wages up’, it’s because he is
fighting wages. If wages were
transformed into the struggle to
transform society.

HOOVER SWEEP ON
CAMBUSLANG—At Hoover pickets
still out after 10 weeks of their strike.

The picketing session last week took place at the Glasgow HQ of the
brokerage company. Hoover is just as cut
as it ever was.

It’s clear that the reactionary postures
of John Boyd, Scottish EC member of the
Labour Party, has determined the
mobilisation of the Hoover management to
defend the firm. Unfortunately they were
swamped.

HOOVER have been out 10 weeks without
support. Send donations to Eddie Cram, Hoover
Worldwide, 15-17 Wellesley Avenue, Blantyre.

IMI—Biggest-ever strike
wins £6 wage increase

ERBINGHAM—The last few weeks
have seen the largest strike in the history
of IMI Witten. The skilled indirect workers
put in a claim for £15. And rank and
file mandated the shop stewards not to
hold any more mass meetings until the
money was on the table. They got it.

The workers, however, have seen the
value of trade union organisation at
all levels. They have seen the
value of mass meetings and mass
discussions. They have seen the
value of solidarity and of the
craft association.

The shop stewards and the Union
have done an excellent job of
organising the strike.

The Witten picket has been
well attended by the public. The
Witten workers have
been supported by the workers across
the country.

The Witten pickets have been
supported by the WETUWU
organisation.

The Witten workers have
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This is why we need your cash

Our comrades appear at Clerkenwell Magistrates Court in London last Wednesday for charges arising from their participation in the "destruction of property" demonstrations in the street. They were arrested on 7 September, during the picketing of the Smithfield Market, which ended with the destruction of property by arousal of their anger at the destruction of property. We all know that miners do plenty of overtime.

At the time of that demonstration we informed your readers that we would have to make a small contribution to the cost of the legal defence of the miners arrested. We have now decided to raise a small sum to meet the legal costs of the miners who have appeared in court.

To: 5000 WALK OUT

More than 5000 workers at the Austin Longbridge. Last week's walk-out was on strike against the closure of the plant. Workers have been on strike for three months, and the company has offered a pay increase of 10%.

The workers are determined to fight for their jobs and are prepared to continue their strike until a satisfactory settlement is reached.

WHILE bus workers as far apart as Brighton and Fife are preparing to fight, their national claim is being watered down behind their backs.

The original claim was set out by a bus delegate as far apart as Brighton and Fife are preparing to fight, their national claim is being watered down behind their backs.

The original claim was set out by a bus delegate and was supported by a group of representatives from the eight national transport union meetings. The delegates have agreed to support the claim in principle, but they have also agreed to reduce the demand for a 35% increase to 15%.

The claim for a 35% increase has been met with opposition from the company, which has stated that it cannot afford the increase. The company has offered a 10% increase, which the delegates have rejected.

The delegates have agreed to return to their meetings to consider the company's offer, but they have also agreed to continue their strike until a satisfactory settlement is reached.

The strike has been supported by a large number of workers, who have held meetings and demonstrations in support of the claim.

A strike by bus workers in Southall, London, has been called to protest against the closure of the plant.

The strike has been called by the National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers (RMT), which represents bus workers in London and the South East.

The RMT has called the strike to protest against the closure of the Southall plant, which is due to close in 1975.

The closure of the plant will result in the loss of nearly 1,000 jobs, and the RMT has said that the closure is a threat to the future of the industry.

The strike is due to start at 07:00 on Monday, 15 October, and will last for 24 hours.

The RMT has said that it will not rule out further strikes if the closure of the plant continues.

The strike is the latest in a series of strikes by bus workers in London, which have been called in response to the closure of the Southall plant.

The last strike, in September, lasted for five days, and resulted in the loss of nearly 1,000 jobs.

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