Why I'll go 400 miles to march

THERE is a demonstration in London in a fortnight which every reader of Socialist Worker should support. It is to express solidarity with the revolutionary struggle of Portuguese workers and to oppose these right-wing forces here and in Portugal that are trying to turn the country into another Chile.

John McKenna, senior Electrician's steward at Standard Telephones, East Kilbride, explains why he will be travelling 400 miles to be on that march.

The company I work for is part of a multi-national concern which has interfered in the politics of countries all over the world. Everyone knows about ITT's involvement in Chile. Not so many know about ITT's involvement in countries such as Portugal.

The big multi-nationals are clear about what they want when it comes to international events. Trade unionists, on the other hand, don't always make the connection with what's happening in their factory.

The events in Portugal have changed that in an important way. In a company like ITT it is difficult not to be concerned about the issues involving our fellow workers there.

That is why it is vital to support the Portuguese solidarity demonstration and why I will be going.

INSIDE

Revision: Yes! Right-wing government not! Unity of the Revolutionary Forest! Part of a gigantic demonstration of workers, tenants and rank and file soldiers and sailors in Lisbon last week. The demonstration was hardly mentioned in the British press.

Full report and analysis — pages 8,9
IRELAND: WHY THE MURDERS CONTINUE

THE RISING TOLL of sectarian murders in Northern Ireland and the new wave of bombings in London have proved once again how bankrupt the government’s Irish policy is. Despite the talk of a ‘truce’, more than 140 people have died violently in Northern Ireland this year.

The seven people who died on Monday night were only the latest victims in an unending succession of murders. In the wake of the shooting of four men in an Orange Hall in Altnagelvin, Armagh, prominent Unionist politicians have been demanding ‘action’ from British troops. Yet these politicians, like many of their colleagues, are themselves largely responsible for the existence of sectarian murder.

The present wave of sectarian murders began with the killing of individual Catholics for no other reason than the fact that they were born into Catholic, not Protestant families. The republican organisations, including the IRA, have denounced them. They are the loyalist paramilitary Ulster Defence Regiments who, in their efforts to solve sectarian murder, have served Ireland.

By contrast, the men who provide the power base for the Protestant and Catholic politicians, the leaders of the Loyalist paramilitary Ulster Defence Regiments, have been largely responsible for the existence of sectarian murder.

Organisations like the UVF have boasted publicly about setting off bombs and have sent letters that killed 14 people. The UVF’s publicity officer has said that the claims are not made just to win public sympathy.

Yet men like Paddy McDonald have been too happy to work politically with the British soldiers who have only rarely taken action against the UVF.

There are clear indications that not only the UVF, but all units of the British Ulster Defence Regiment, have been involved in recent murders.

Bombs

The result has been to inflame centuries-old sectarian hatreds within the Catholic community, despite the anti-social policies of the Republican leaders. The result has been a series of bombings attacks onGLISH targets in Britain. Socialists oppose any notion that society is better off when frightened attack the lives of British workers who solve Ireland’s problems.

But the responsibility for these attacks lies with individual Irishmen. The real blame rests with those who have brought Ireland to its present state—British and Northern Ireland loyalist politicians who have deliberately inflamed sectarian feelings over the years to maintain their own political hold.

When Marylin Reese talks today about sending more troops to an area like South Armagh, he is not talking about a solution to the problem of sectarianism but of actions that can only make it worse.

If he really wanted to work sectarianism in Ireland, he would withdraw the Ulster Defence Regiment and the sectarian Ulster Defence Regiment from the British Army.

He would break all relations with the Unionist and Loyalist politicians, who have so far worked with the British army.

By opening all relations with the Ulster and Loyalist politicians, whose whole motive is to work sectarianism.

Portugal: Why your cash is so vital

The New York Times revealed last Friday how the Portuguese Socialist Party has been able to make such a big impact on the sale of bonds and pro-NATO policies despite its lack of national support within the factories.

‘The West German Social Demo- cratic Party,’ the paper’s Bonn corris- pondent notes, ‘has been able to sell several million dollars in aid during the last few weeks.’

‘They have openly sent office supplies, typewriters and computer software to Portugal. They are well aware that the Socialists here have quietly made money transfers from their treasury in order to support pro-Western parties in the Portuguese elections.’

It is no wonder that the Socialist Party has been able to flood the country with its posters, to dominate the daily press (as well as the paper Republika until its workers’ unions, controlled by the party’s supporters, were forced to withdraw), and to pump out literature for parlia- mentary elections.

Claim

Western politicians have tried to justify this interference in Portuguese politics by saying it is huge sums of money, allegedly supplied by the Russians to the local Communist Party.

It may be true, but it is not being able to supply any evidence to back up their claims.

More important, however, is the fact that the Portuguese Communist Party is not a day-to-day political party and is not in a position to work for a revolution in Portugal. The socialists, on the other hand, are in a position to do what they want, and to provide the necessary funds.

In this sense, it finds itself in the same position as IS in this country—

Real

This is why every penny sent to Portugal by revolutionaries in this country is a real source of help to Portugal’s revolution.

This week the Socialist Workers’ Party Solidarity Fund, a Cottages, London, E2, or any of the E9 shops.

Our efforts are now being assisted by Workers Power in the UK, which is also assisting us.

But we need much more than we have collected so far.

If every reader of Socialist Worker to help us raise this money, if you can, please write to us, telling us what kind of help you can give, and if you want your name added to the list of those who have contributed.

Printed collection sheets can be obtained from the Socialist Worker, PO Box 2391, Cottages, London, E2, or any of the E9 shops.

Contributions have come this week from J. Sartre and B. Ross, from Wigan, and from workers in the Vans factory, £10. Cheque holders, 1358258, 1387676, are to be sent to Socialist Worker, Swift, 6, Cottages, London, E2.

Send donations to the Socialist Worker, PO Box 2391, Cottages, London, E2.

15 IUEW Fractional National Aggregate

Saturday 13 September

Mitford House, 30 Church Hill, Manchester 11.
All AUEW members urged to support Socialist Worker by membership at this meeting.

A new system will operate to keep travelling costs to a minimum.
TUC CONGRESS: This is why we need a Rank and File Movement

IT'S difficult to open a paper or turn on the television without seeing some dignitary deploiring the rising unemployment.

With the exception of some cranks, but honest, right-wing Tories it is impossible to find anyone who openly supports higher unemployment and the freezing of wages. It is the unions who are betraying the TUC Congress this week. And not one seeks to commit the trade union movement to any such policies.

Unemployed members of the General and Municipal Workers Union (GMWU) will be pleased to learn that the union is calling for 'budgetary measures designed to bring down the level of unemployment'.

SOLUTION

Building workers will be just as thrilled to hear that their union, UCATT, 'realises the gravity of the situation' and insists that Congress 'stand by its view that the solution lies in a voluntary agreement on wages, profits, prices and all other forms of income coupled with impementation of the economic policies outlined by the TUC-Labour Party liaison committee'.

But what a relief that is for the old Square scaffolders and the Cammillard builders who are threatened by the courts and intimidated by the police. What a fantastic boost to the 400,000 jobless building workers who could be roused to fight! In fact, what a kick in the teeth for the whole of the building industry!

Fighting unemployment and redundancies needs more than piecemeal resolutions. It requires action—action to unite employed workers behind unemployed workers, action to fight every redundancy, action to force the government to nationalise without compensation firms that claim they cannot afford to continue providing jobs for their workers.

Yet action is the one thing missing from all the TUC's resolutions. The only action they are interested in is action to hold down pay!

Occasionally the leaders of the trade unions come up with some allegedly new scheme to patch up the 'faulty' system. Jack Jones unveiled one this week with his plan for a £200 million compulsory investment insurance system. This is far from original and in no way socialist.

Yet Jack Jones and company have great difficulty in getting even their blatantly pro-capitalist policies adopted. Because when the Confederation of British Industry shoots the proposition down with cries of 'unwarrented interference with the rights of management', the leaders of the TUC are not prepared to take action to force government and big business to adopt their proposals.

Even a superficial glance at the history of the working-class movement in Britain shows that the TUC General Council has never led a real fight against unemployment. In 1932 the TUC was humiliated and humiliated then attacked the National Unemployed Workers Movement, the rank and file body which was growing and growing.

Under the last Tory government, which the TUC was committed to oppose by a ton of resolutions, was the ankles of the General Council which led the fight against the unemployment and unemployment has been a history of rank and file initiatives. The TUC threatens to cut down on national level, then a real struggle could be launched.

Some of the 10,000 pensioners who lobbied the TUC Congress to demand action for a CEBR weekly pension for a couple and £16.00 for a single person, compared with £19.50 and £11.90 now. Supporting the demands, Transport Union general secretary Jack Jones agreed that this would breach the EEC a week pay大纲．PICTURE: Chris Davies (Roope).
AUEW: It's empty talk again

By John Desson

AS USUAL, the Engineering Union are leading the opposition at this week's TUC to the government's right-wing stampede and to its allies in the General Council.

The engineering section of the AUEW list action necessary to fight attempts to impose unemployment. It includes 'maximum solidarity action with all affected workers', a shorter working week, longer holidays, reduction and ending of overtime, and no voluntary redundancy or natural wastage schemes in any agreement.

These points are part of the basic framework. The engineering section go further. They call for an emergency of the export of capital, lowering of export rates, increases in social services spending and increases in wages to push up the demand for goods and therefore create jobs.

And they call for more nationalisation and greater government control of large-scale investment, particularly in areas of heavy unemployment.

Battle

Many of these policies are essential to bring down unemployment. The government is doing almost the exact reverse. Every effort to push up wages and so create jobs is now a battle against the government. How have the Engineering Union succeeded in their efforts so far? The policies they are usually supporting this week at Blackpool?

They call for higher wages to push up consumption and create jobs, but have avoided submitting, let alone fighting for, across-the-board national wage increases. The union has the strength to push up wages in thousands of factories in a national battle. In plant-by-plant negotiations, the weakest factories go to the wall.

The resolution calls for solidarity action with workers facing redundancies. But when was the last official blacklisting directive, the last official solidarity picketing?

The resolution calls for a shorter working week. But the present AUEW leadership sabotaged the only major battle for 35 hours, in Manchester in 1972. The demand has since been dropped from successive claims.

It is a bitter irony that the AUEW are the only powerful section of workers who have not won a decent national wage rise in recent years. The union's left wing 'Broad Left' leadership is trapped between a re-emerging right wing, led by John Boyd, and its own distance from the rank and file militants who fought to get Hugh Scallon and others elected.

There is no disagreement on the left about the sort of general policies needed to fight unemployment. But there is every difference about how to translate, for example, the resolution at the TUC into real policies and into action.

The central reason for the failure of the left in the recent AUEW elections was that many militants who have traditionally campaigned for Broad Left candidates found it difficult and impossible to argue the need to support candidates with a clear black-and-white record of left talk and no action.

In most areas of the country, the traditional Broad Left organisation is in a state of collapse. The Engineers' Charter has been drawn up by rank and file engineers in an effort to end a situation where we have to rely on the good intentions of the men we fight to elect.

The Charter seeks more control over officials by the rank and file, and to increase rank and file activity. The Charter is not finalised.

The vote is being set up across the country to discuss the draft and argue for it inside the union.
Ossie Lloyd is 17. He left school in June and, like most of his mates in South Shields, cannot find a job.

His father is a West Indian who settled in England after fighting in the Second World War. He had high hopes of life and a career for his son. However, when Ossie disappeared at the age of 15, he was taken off as a draughtsman, despite his seven-year apprenticeship.

Fed up with being rejected for every job in his chosen trade, he became a tailor's model for a job.

I asked Ossie about his school, his friends, the problems of being unemployed—and what he thought schools were for.

"There was a total lack of preparation at school—they never told you that you were unemployed, they never told you how to claim sickness benefits."

"There was no part-time careers officer for 1500 kids. But all they told you was how to join the armed services, which is closed.

"There was a general attitude that those who want to work can find a job.

"Every year there was a thing called Work Experience week. This meant sending a few kids out into the factories for three or four days."

Ossie Lloyd, aged 17, unemployed
1,250,334 people are now out of work in Britain, according to the latest figures. And 165,023 of them are school-leavers.

South Shields schools are all closed today and Ossie attended the former grammar school: But the headmaster and the head—wanted to preserve the image.

"There was a circular that said it was a year-round school."

His Sixth Form is regarded as good mainly because of the Sixth Formers and the two hours a week the armed services make their annual appearance.

"The headmaster started the system that we must wear uniforms and he was supposed to make us responsible. What we've got is all the put the caretaker out of a job.

"We had to open and close the school ourselves."

One of the mates has to open and close the gates of the school. Once, he had to threaten to close the school if he was not allowed to go out. He went on strike for two days.

"When 1 left, the headmaster said he didn't have the right attitude. His last words were "get out of here!"

Ossie and his mates have, on average, each had 12 interviews for jobs. They find continual rejection depressing.

"One of my mates has been to 25 interviews. He is even worse off than the rest of us. His last is pregnant and they're gettingmarried in October.

"She works six or seven days a week as a hospital cleaner and brings home £19 after tax. A few of the kids have jobs, but they're all dead-end or temporary."

A couple of examples from Ossie's experience show how bad the situation is.

"Ossie was employed by the South Shields corporation for nine labouring jobs. 500 kids applied for them. There was a job going with Northern buses as a diesel mechanic—and 15 kids that I know went after it.

"At school they make a big thing of getting academic qualifications but plenty of kids I know with "O" levels can't get jobs."

"Now that unemployment is rocketing in South Shields, the black population is feeling it most. One of my friends is half-Arabs. He has a few "O" levels and tried for a lot of jobs when he left school last year."

"In desperation he went to the Army recruiting centre, passed the test and was told he was just the type they needed. He was taken on as a radio technician.

"A week ago he was thrown off the course. They told him he was too stupid. But then, of course, he was the only black lad in the barracks—and the NCO used to use him as a stick."

"One of the worst things about being unemployed is the boredom. Ossie and his mates have nothing to do and most of them wander the streets every day."

"The £6.85 social security has to go into family housekeeping—so they can't even go for a pint. Ossie thinks the labour movement should be doing more than unemployment."

The CIA, by a man who knows

Philip Agee, the former CIA agent whose book Inside the Company: A CIA Diary is now a worldwide best-seller, will be starting a tour of Northern Britain on 15 September.

He will be speaking mainly at Socialist Worker party meetings in Manchester, Glasgow and Newcastle. To set the scene, Agee will be talking about next week's Socialist Worker on how a CIA case officer would work in the British trade union movement.

'el CIA issue is useful,' Agee says, 'because it is the secret police of the most advanced and most powerful Western capitalist nation. The question is not so much as to whether the CIA or other intelligence services is this big a problem. The crucial fact is that they are simply instruments of the ruling class."

'The Government of the United States, for example, serves the interest of the 5% of the population who own the corporations who are an infinitesimal percentage of the population."

Agee was recruited by the CIA when he finished university in 1957. 'I was a product of the McCarthy era,' he explains. 'I accepted our intervention in the affairs of other countries was justified because we were helping them buy time.'

We provided internal stability so they would be able to install some economic growth and reform. It was still after I got down to Latin America that I realized that the more successful we were in our operations, the further away the reform programmes became."

After spending three years in the Air Force doing military training, during which time he was commissioned a lieutenant, Agee was assigned to the Western Hemisphere Division of the CIA's clandestine services.

'I have received my first orders when I was told in 1960 to leave Washington where we worked under 62,725 tons of the CIA and its style of work in situations such as that in Portugal today. He has already named several CIA men at work in Lisbon."

'John Morgan, the CIA Chief of Station, was in Brazil during the period when the death squads were operating at full force,' he points out.

And James Lawler, who was on the same training programme as Agee, and who is now deputy-chief of station in Lisbon, in Brazil in 1962 and in Chile in 1964, when millions of dollars were spent financing candidates and in keeping Allende out.

Agee's opinion, the CIA are moving in people who have got a lot of experience in repression and its election operations in Latin America — to try to spring the type of event that occurred in Brazil and Chile."

By agreeing to this tour for Socialist Worker, Philip Agee has given our readers a tremendous opportunity to find out more about how the other side works.

Full details of the tour will be published in next week's issue alongside his article. Make sure you don't miss them.

Cathy Cotton

Ocean

'Bernard Appleton, secretary of the local Trades Council, said recently that firms should be compelled to take the government-approved quota of apprentices.

'At the moment, they just get a £100 fine if they don't. That's a drop in the ocean for the big engineering firms.'

Ossie knows first hand the harsh realities of living in a society based on greed and exploitation. He says: 'I've been a member of the International Socialists for 12 months now. It has done more to fight racism and the National Front than any other group. It's important that we now take the fight against unemployment seriously.'

By Jefferys
A new mug everyday

The news that the National Front are holding an anti-mug demonstration in East London this weekend should cause some surprise. The NF's previous record, and the record of its founders, has been that of an enthusiastic group of muggers as one is likely to find.

Take KEITH SQUIRES for example. He was the NF candidate for Wood Green, in North East London, at the last general election. His celebration of the campaign culminated in him hurling a public address system at others gathered to hear the result. His subsequent conviction is the only momento he has left of his crusade for law and order.

Searchlight, a monthly paper which surveys the activities of the various fascist groupings in the country has published interesting lists of the NF's action in bringing peace to the streets.

LIKE ROY MENNIE, who was charged with carrying 'an offensive weapon' and attacks on a fascist with a wooden stick.

Perhaps the NF would like to explain their anti-mugging policy to the West London trade unionist whose eye has been permanently damaged after an assault by various NF hooligans last year.

In the good old days of the early 1960s the fascists were less reticent about putting on the black shirts and swastikas. Also, the results began an impressive toll of police convictions with the Speenhamland case of 1962. There they gathered, in Temple Guiting in Gloucestershire, to try on their uniforms and play with their guns.

Playtime was sadly interrupted, while the gathering were 'drinking English ale' under their 'beloved National Order'.

The locals apparently objected to them. Speenhamland was abandoned.

If there weren't plenty of people around Britain who have been injured by NF members, if Kevin Gately wasn't dead, and if Adolf Hitler hadn't been defeated, there would be no need for the anti往上 movement.

ARE you tired of the daily grind? Is your job too much for you? Are your hands tainted by that nasty tap water, when you do the washing up? Are you appalled by cooking fumes when you prepare delicious gravy meat? Are you driven to the bottle as a consolation?

Do you long for the open air? For the wild west and the plains of the West? For the peace and the quietness of the hawk on the wind?

Then Throstle Nest Cottage, near Comiston in the Yorkshire Dales is the place for you.

For only £5 a week you can enjoy all the above.

The kitchen equipment, from Germany, Switzerland and America, including an electric car boiler with built in extractor fan, costs more than £4000. The 'master bath' features a double bath and a separate toilet, and the front of the house has a small loggia.

From the bustle to the Throstle...

FRANKLY HELPFUL...

LABOUR Party democracy is again under threat. Frank Tomney, the 'hang em and fry em' MP for Harrowsworth is faced with the sack by local Party members.

Tomney knows how to fight back. He is sponsored by the General and Municipal Workers Union. So he has suddenly developed an interest in making sure that the 13 representatives that the union is entitled to appear on the constituency committee.

How heartening that he should seek to encourage trade union interest in the Labour Party. So enthusiastic is he that he's been writing out cheques for the GMUW members' Labour Party subscriptions himself.

It's all within the rules,' explained a Labour Party spokesman. Tomney has explained that the new members had been paid by the GMUW by cheque - and he had merely made out the cheques to the Labour Party.

Tomney is doublet just being helpful. He obviously realises the hardship that the Labour government is wreaking on his union members makes it difficult for them to afford to join the Party.

It is quite understandable that the press haven't dwelled on his cheque writing, when he too is under threat from the red menace. He isn't the only MP to realise the importance of union representation and GMUW members' participation.

The house is a perfect refuge from the outside world and is in complete surroundings.

The perfect place to escape the pressures of everyday life.

Mild

The Party has fallen sadly away from its former commitment to socialism. They believe, but no one had that commitment and it can recover. It is the only fine, careless rapture, then at least the essence of the Party. Com- monly the golden days are located in the mid-sixties. A decade, before the First World War.

That is not how it was seen by left-wingers at the time. 'To attack the Parliamentary Labour Party political may look like bumping off a dead horse,' wrote C D H Cole, among all those on the left on the Labour movement in this century.

The Party consists of about 30 Labour MPs and 50 who type, and six or seven socialists. It is led by a man [Kamay MacDonald- BELL] who is a housewife but he believes in independent Labour representation but believes also in the Liberal alliance. It consists largely of men who do not believe in independent Labour representation at all.

Next, please note, men who do not believe in socialism, that was obvious to be worth saying, but who do not believe in the idea of an organisation independent of the Liberal Party.

The Parliamentary Labour Party there were then no Labour Party organisations outside parliament there is no organisation as such. The Labour movement under the unwavering recognition by Liberal trade union leaders that they needed a parliamentary organisation to defend the existence of their organisation, to attack attacks and especially attacks from the right - like the Tuff Yake case, the Osborne judgement.

But it is the socialist minority that matters to us. What sort of socialists were they? They were men thoroughly imbued with two ideals: the notion that socialism means simply the extension of the powers of the existing state and the inevitability of gradualism.

Freed

These ideas were the contribution of the Fabians, the immensely influential little group of intellectuals who provided at the Labour Party with the idea of gradualism (other than liberalism) that it ever had.

Fabianism was a conscious attempt to steer the Labour movement against acceptance of the 'struggle' and the socialist revolution in its first achievement, as already mentioned, the propaganda and the spine of Marxism in England,' wrote the Fabian Soc'y in June in 1916.

The Fabian Society freed English Socialism from this intellectual bondage, and freed it soon and swiftly. But the Fabians have succeeded in doing anything else.

He was not boasting. That might perhaps have been not simply orthodox liberals but contemporary liberals who have succeeded in doing anything else.

The consequences, the emergence of the 'left wing' opposition and its confrontation in revolutionary victories, set the mould, so to say, for the whole of the future Party. Which to that will have waited until next week.
Death sentences for Franco's enemies

REPORT BY LAURIE LYNN

ANC EXILES: WE FIGHT ON

ZIMBABWE: Failure for the Vorster and Kaunda carve-up

IMMEDIATELY after the collapse of the Victoria Falls talks Benda Chinga, interviewed for Socialist Worker by Comrades Nkalala and Malanga, two of the African National Congress representatives, said that his return to exile in London last week.

In the interview the two made it clear that the ANC, the non-racial liberation movement, and the ZANU, the Zimbabwe African National Union, were not opposed to a negotiated settlement with the white minority government of Rhodesia.

But they said that the ANC had no intention of entering into a peace agreement with the white minority government and would continue their struggle for the liberation of South Africa.

ANC EXILES: WE FIGHT ON

by Alex Callinicos

ANC exiles have met many times in Zimbabwe to discuss their strategy for the liberation of South Africa. This is a report of one of those meetings.

The meeting was held in a remote part of Zimbabwe near the border with Rhodesia. The participants were a small group of ANC leaders, including Mandela, who had been arrested in South Africa and was now living in exile.

The meeting discussed the ANC's strategy for the liberation of South Africa. The ANC agreed that the only way to achieve this goal was through armed struggle.

ANC exiles have been involved in armed struggle for many years. They have been fighting against the white minority government of South Africa, which they believe is responsible for the continued oppression and exploitation of the black majority.

ANC exiles also discussed the importance of building a strong international movement in support of the ANC's struggle. They agreed that this movement must be based on a solid foundation of solidarity and support from all those who care about justice and freedom.

ANC exiles believe that the struggle for the liberation of South Africa is a struggle for the liberation of all the oppressed people of the world. They are determined to continue their fight until victory is achieved.
Defend the revolution!
IS public meetings

TESSSIDE IS public meeting: The meeting was well attended in Britain. Speakers: John Charlton and Tony Melia. The International Group of British left and the Scottish-English Action in Lisbon held the meeting.

N LONDON IS public meeting: Portugal: the struggle for workers' power. Speakers: Laurie Flynn and Pete Glatter. Thursday 11 September, 8pm, Lord Morrison Hall, Central Chelmsford Union, 165 Chelmsford Road, E17.

DUDLEY IS public meeting: Solidarity with Portuguese workers. Speakers: John Johnson and Tony Melia. Saturday 11 September, 7.45pm, Smiling Man pub, Hall St, Dudley.

INNER N LONDON IS public meeting: Portugal: the struggle for workers' power. Speakers: John Johnson (recently returned from Portugal), Saturday 11 September, 8am, Civic Centre.

E LONDON IS public meeting: Solidarity with Portuguese workers. Speakers: Pete Glatter (a London sculptor) and Julia (also just back from Portugal), Wednesday 9 September, 8pm, Paradise, Forest Gate.

CHELMSFORD IS public meeting: Portugal—the struggle for workers' power. Speaker: John Johnson (recently returned from Portugal). Tuesday 8 September, 8pm, Civic Centre.

INNER E LONDON IS public meeting: Solidarity with Portuguese Workers. Speakers: John Dassan and Dave (a local trade union worker) just back from Portugal. Thursday 11 September, 8pm, Music Library, Cambridge Heath Road, E2 (just two minutes walk from Bethnal Green tube).

CENTRAL LONDON IS day school on Portugal—Saturday 13 September, 11am-4pm. The Bank, 50 Herenstraat, London W1 (behind the station) TUC, Swanslea.

MID-HERTS IS public meeting: Solidarity with Portuguese workers. Speakers recently returned from Portugal: Tony Melia and John Dassan. Thursday 10 September, 7.30pm, The Bebidge, London Road, St Albans.

CARDIFF IS public meeting: Defend the Portuguese workers' revolution. Speakers: John Dassan (recently returned from Portugal), Tuesday 8 September, 7pm, The Four Elms, Elm Street, Cardiff.

CAERPHILLY IS public meeting: Portugal: the struggle for workers' power. Speaker: Allan Saxton. Thursday 11 September, 7.30pm, Treforest Community Centre.

SWANSEA IS public meeting: The Revolution in Portugal. Thursday 9 October, 7.30pm, AUBW House, Orchard Street, Swansea.

NEWPORT IS public meeting: Solidarity with Portuguese workers' revolution. A speaker just back from Portugal, Wednesday 10 September, 8pm, King William IV pub, Newport.

HULL IS public meeting: Portugal—the struggle for socialism. A speaker just back from Portugal, Wednesday 10 September, 7.30pm, Central Library, Hull.

NORTH WALES IS Day School: Sessions on revolutionary party and Portugal. Organizers: Students Union, Bangor. Details from: Pakistan, University College, Bangor.

S E LONDON IS DISTRICT Hall: A slide show of photos of Portugal. The Society Industrial, 4 Cottons Road.
file unity

...organisations, it would provide the means for smashing the right wing throughout the Lisbon area and beginning a real taking of power by the workers. But the Communist Party leaders soon showed that they had not dropped their dream of gaining power for themselves by manoeuvring with the enemies of the workers.

Instead of ending the demonstration as had been agreed in advance, with a united call for action, they arranged for the prime minister, Goncalves to address it—and, even worse, followed him with the president Costa Gomes who, all week, had been consorting with the right wing officials.

The PRP led a large number of demonstrators in a protest walk-out.

When Gomes spoke of the need for 'tolerance' towards the right wing and made veiled hints about the need to come to an agreement with the pro-western leaders of the Socialist Party, it was too much even for those who remained. They drowned his voice with cries of 'Death to the CIA, down with Social Democracy'.

Within 24 hours, the Communist Party leader, Conhal, who had agreed to demonstrate under the 'down with social democracy' slogan, was calling political discussions with the Socialist Party leaders!

In a communiqué, the PRP pointed out that this was treachery by the Communist Party to its own rank and file. And on Monday the Communist Party was expelled from the united front. One Communist leader tried to rewrite history by claiming the front had never existed. It remains to be seen whether the rank and file of the Communist Party will allow the leadership to abandon the revolutionary left for conciliation with those forces that have been leading a reign of terror against Communists and revolutionaries in Northern Portugal.

AMONG THOSE who back the Socialist Party are a Marxist splinter group who hate the Communist Party and call themselves the Portuguese Communist Party-MarketLeninist.

Their members have made themselves popular with the right wing by their talk of the CP as 'social fascist'.

But on an SP demonstration last Wednesday, the demonstrators noticed they called themselves Communists. All the pleadings in the world that they were PCP-M-L—no CPC—could not dissuade the demonstrators from beating them up.

THE UNITED Revolutionary Front has not continued its activities in the Lisbon area.

On Friday it called a united left-wing demonstration in the main Northern city, Oporto, backed by a number of workers' committees, neighbourhood committees and trade unions.

The demonstration was at least 25,000 strong, at least a large part of which had held two days before by the Socialist Party and the right.

In this state of flux, the baby, has aaim must stay in the arms' main aim Party allowed itself by the revolution. On Sunday smash the workers in the would only at if the newspaper in the hands of the soldiers, they will rather than...

love

...from the Angolan... Internation Inter-Portugale, respond to the policy of the Sec-...barriers. Indeed, he believed that he...fall. To have done something serious about partition would have brought him into renewed conflict with British Imperialism and the class he represented, having achieved sufficient 'freedom' to exploit their 'own' workers, had no interest in such conflict.

traior'

'...De Valera was buried in Dublin on Tuesday amid pomp and stateliness, a ceremony of sympathy from the Queen and, from the British press, a chorus of praise for his outstanding qualities. Yet, in his time, he was denounced by British politicians and newspapers in the terms now reserved for Provo leaders like David O'Connell. There was a price on his head and a 'shoot-on-sight' order to British Army units.

Obituaries in Irish republican papers, drawing attention to this contrast, described de Valera as 'traitor'. In so doing, they miss most of the point. Because what is important to understand about de Valera, what makes his life so relevant to the struggle in Ireland today, is not the limits of his idealism but the limits of his politics.

After the execution of Connolly and the other leaders of the Easter Rising in 1916, de Valera—spared on account of his American birth—emerged as an unchallenged political leader of the emergent Irish Republican Movement.

He, more than any other single individual, dictated the ideology of the Movement— Sinn Fein and its military wing the IRA—as it launched the War of Independence which was to end with the Partition Agreement of 1921.

Triaor'

'Labour must wait', de Valera pronounced in 1918, meaning that class was irrelevant to the Republican Movement. A sentiment which even today is implicit in much Irish Republican ideology.

Benefit of Connolly's Marxist leadership, Labour Party abstained.

Since there was no separate working class presence in the struggle to bring an independent Irish state into being, it was inevitable that, after the withdrawal of the British army in 1922, Irish workers found that they had indeed got rid of 'foreign exploiters'—but had lost in the process acquired a new set of national 'capitalist exploiters'.

De Valera at first opposed the Treaty—and, as is sometimes sup- posed, because of partition, but on the grounds that some of its provisions hampered the development of a viable, independent capitalism.

Avoid

Then, after a vicious civil war, he finally abandoned Sinn Fein and entered the Dail (Parliament) as leader of the newly-formed Fine Gael Party.

In 1932, Fine Gael won a majority. From then until February 1973 it was in office for six years.

De Valera never lost his talent for rhetoric about a United Ireland.

But at no time did he challenge the existence of the se-...leadership. Indeed, he believed that he...fall. To have done something serious about partition would have brought him into renewed conflict with British Imperialism and the class he represented, having achieved sufficient 'freedom' to exploit their 'own' workers, had no interest in such conflict.

EAMONN McCANN

1922—De Valera reviews anti-Treaty I.R.A. units; but his Republicanism always contained the seeds of betrayal
Labour Party backs out

"Labour moderates back out of talks"—that was the headline in The Times on Tuesday's front page. The Labour Party had agreed in principle to negotiate with the Socialists, led by Patrick White, but the negotiations were called off last week.

A spokesman for the Labour Party said: "The Labour Party has decided that it cannot support the Socialists' proposals for a new coalition government. We believe that the Socialists' proposals are not in the best interests of the country and do not represent the views of the majority of Labour Party members."
JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA has disappeared. He is almost certainly dead.

The biggest gangster in the United States trade union movement has fallen foul of his own machinations.

The only regret of socialists will be that he is not dead. The Mafioso is dead, at the hands of the Mafioso and not of some pious, right-thinking union official.

More than any other man, Hoffa was a symbol of the takeover of the American unions by gangsters and bureaucrats.

Tough

Born in 1913 in a working class family, he grew up in Detroit, the capital of American auto workers. After the stock market crash of 1929, the United Auto Workers union called for a strike that Hoffa led.

An autoworker with the skills of a politician, Hoffa was a master of propaganda and political manipulation, always ready to exploit the divide between the owners and the workers.

His most famous appearance was when he was arrested for plotting the disappearance of a young woman in front of the media and the public.

The Franklin D. Roosevelt administration saw Hoffa as a threat to their plans for the New Deal, which included a strong labor movement.

They used Hoffa to divide and conquer. The scheme worked.

In 1957, Hoffa was arrested for conspiracy to fix contracts and to bribe union officials. He was convicted and sentenced to prison for 11 years.

Hoffa was released in 1960 and immediately got back into the racketeer business. He lived in a secret hideout in Los Angeles, which was actually a sprawling complex of buildings.

In 1959, Hoffa formed a new labor union called the Teamsters. He abolished the ranks of the old union and created a new one, called "power to the people, power to the worker, power to the people."

Hoffa had no time for the old ways.

His ascension to the presidency of the Teamsters was not without controversy.

When Hoffa took over, he immediately started to clean house. The leadership was completely changed and the union became more democratic.

Hoffa's main rival was Jimmy Hoffa, who had been the head of the old union.

Hoffa was eventually arrested again in 1961 for conspiracy to bribe a union official.

This time, however, there was no chance of Hoffa's release. The new administration did not have the same leniency towards labor union leaders as their predecessor.

Hoffa was sentenced to 15 years in prison for conspiracy to bribe a union official.

He died in 1971 in a federal prison in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. His remains were never found.

Hoffa's disappearance and death were never solved. The Teamsters Union has never provided any answers to the public.

On his last known words, Hoffa reportedly said: "If you don't believe me, just ask the union's president."

THE FUNERAL in August 1973 of Juan De La Cruz, a Californian farmworker shot dead on a picket line by a United Farm Workers' Teamsters' lodge, was a grim reminder of the violence of the period.

The strike by members of the United Farm Workers Union was gaining momentum, and despite the murder of De La Cruz, the strike continued.

The strike was a turning point in the history of the union and the United Farm Workers.

By the time of the end of 1973, with thousands injured and more than 3000 members in jail, the UFW called off the strike and sought worldwide boycotting of California grapes.

They were supported by the American equivalent of the TUC, the AFL-CIO, who had expelled the Teamsters Union for what they saw as their role in the strike.

The new crop of grapes has been blacked by docks in Britain, but some will still get in through unorganised ports.

On the picketing Committee is issuing a leaflet to affiliated bodies on how to recognise California grapes, and making suggestions for picketing of central fruit markets in London and other large cities.

Tactics

In the course of these battles, the Teamsters had developed new tactics. Mass pickets had won pitched battles with the police and deputies.

The links with local farmers had been set up. Hospitals had been seized.

The Minneapolis Teamsters had built a model of workers' organisations in which the energy and initiative of the rank and file was harnessed through thorough decision-making and regular mass meetings.

Dobbs spread organization out from Minneapolis by using the strong organization of the long-distance drivers to force union contracts on the bosses in a fairly well-organized town.

We all know that this was Jimmy Hoffa. From Dobbs they learnt tactics and organization, and got his methods and ideas from very different sources.

He had a hand in the government purge which kicked the socialists out of office in 1941, and he quickly moved into the vacant position on the Central States Drivers' Council.

Hoffa replaced the power of the rank and file by the guns and blackjacks of the Mafia. Any firm could buy a trouble-free time if they gave the Teamsters a contract and a kickback for Hoffa and his friends.

Any group of workers who stepped out of line faced the poor unions. At attacking their picket lines.

But at the same time, Hoffa was always careful not to go too far. He was ready to call effective strikes if any employer thought he was bluffing.

He made sure the men he depended on, the inter-state truckers, got good contracts, although weaker sections found sweetheart deals that hurt their interests.

In 1957, Hoffa moved into the big league as President of the Teamsters. He re-organised the union and concentrated all power in his own hands. He was making sure that no bright young man could get into the office as he had before.

He needed a secure position, for his robbery of union funds had moved into the big league as well. He hired his own pocket, embezzling union union funds for himself and family.

In 1964, he was caught by a bank of rich liberals and other union racketeers. He was tried for 13 years for embezzlement and jury rigging.

But even on jiff Hoffa had cards to play. He fixed the biggest deal of his life.

For years, the Teamsters' money had gone into the Democratic Party's election funds, but suddenly the House of Representatives switched to the Republican Party.

Richard Milhous Nixon was elected President of the United States and James Riddle Hoffa walked out of jail on parole. He had served just four years.

But things were not so easy now. The American economy was moving into a slump and murrings from below began to break up the peaceful world of the bureaucrats. The cheque at the top began to fall out. Hoffa's disappearance is part of that story.

Hoffa had built his power in the boom conditions of the war and the years of capitalist expansion. In those days, it was possible for the bosses to buy off well-organised sections like Hoffa's long-distance drivers.

Corrupt

Hoffa knew this and used it to his own advantage.

His legacy is thus more than a corrupt union. In caring with his empire, he fostered an utterly corrupt vision of labour struggles in which the workers became the servants of the bosses.

Under Hoffa, the American working class was beginning to rediscover the militancy of the thirties. They are starting to relearn the tactics of the twenties.

Hoffa's methods will no longer be enough to stop them. The bureaucracy and gangsterism which fed on the passivity of the rank and file still flourishes with Hoffa gone, but his fall is a sign of a changing world.

ON THE BOX

FRIDAY

ITV: 8pm, THE VIRGIN AND THE GYPSY, a 1970 film based on D H Lawrence's short story, is worth watching. 

ITV: [London Wickstead] 7pm, The power of the rank and file by the guns and blackjacks of the Mafia. Any firm could buy a trouble-free time if they gave the Teamsters a contract and a kickback for Hoffa and his friends.

SATURDAY

ITV [London Wickstead] 7pm, The power of the rank and file by the guns and blackjacks of the Mafia. Any firm could buy a trouble-free time if they gave the Teamsters a contract and a kickback for Hoffa and his friends.

SUNDAY

Tom Conti, always worth watching, appears in HEARD THE OWL IS CALLING MY NAME, a film specially made for television about an Indian legend (LWT, 3pm). Later, at 7.20pm, ITV launch their latest 'comedy' series about two brothers, one a coppper, the other a copper.
SEND YOUR LETTERS TO LETTERS, SOCIALIST Worker, 53-55 Canvas St, London E2 8BY. LET US KNOW YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS, BUT SPECIFY IF YOU DON'T WANT YOUR NAME PUBLISHED. PLEASE TRY TO KEEP LETTERS TO MORE THAN 250 WORDS.

Like E. Phillips (Letters, 30 August) I am a member of the Labour Party, but I cannot support him in any of the recommendations he makes.

It is true that 12 million people voted Labour last year. They voted Labour because they had seen the attacks on the working class made by the Tories, yet now we see the same right-wing policies being carried out by the Labour government, without any opposition from Foot, Benn and Co.

The Labour Party today is no more than a bureaucratic election machine which is geared towards keeping in office at all costs, rather than challenging capitalism. The only real opposition within the Labour Party comes from the Militant group, yet their analysis is far too superficial and their policies too soft to attract the many good socialists who are still in the Labour Party. Many members are totally disillusioned with the Party yet do not feel the time has come to make a break. There is no organisation strong enough to offer an effective and viable alternative to the Labour Party, but the embryo of such a party does exist around Socialist Worker.

If the International Socialists, or any other socialist group, does succeed in transforming itself from its present state into a party with a strong base in the working class, then there are a great many Labour Party members who will follow the policies of comrades Bunch and Toms.

-HUGH ROBERTSON, branch chairman LPS and general management committee member, North Aberdeen Labour Party (in personal capacity).

That £25-a-week rise

Socialist Worker is in my opinion the best-left wing newspaper on the market. This week's article (SW 30 August) sums up the political frustration we all feel about the dead-beats in the present Labour Party. As a pensioner I was shocked when they awarded themselves a rise of £25 a week and at the same time took enough out of the pensioners' £100 bonus for Xmas. Are we paying for their rise?

Keep up the good work friends!' rumble' then up—JOHN A BEST, Glasgow.

Chile 1973: A left-wing magazine banned as Allende's 'parliamentary road to socialism' is brutally blocked

Chile had previously been called the Britain of South America because of its democratic traditions. The parliamentary road to socialism is a dead end, a road that leads only to the cemetery. We need to fight for the self-activity of the working class. If comrades Phillips and other militants in the Labour Party want socialism then they should join IS and build a revolutionary party in the working class instead of fostering dangerous illusions about parliamentary socialism—MARTYN HANDLEY, Southwark IS.

Socialists in straitjackets

MORE articles like that headed 'Two faces of the Labour Party' are needed. I think that the 'General Election' title is not a bad start.

I think the 'Two faces of the Labour Party' article (SW 23 August) is very relevant for many people. It has highlighted for me some of the problems which have been raised by comrade John Stott, Peter Regan and others. Some of us have been raising the issues for years. The Daily Worker did it back in 1951 when it ran articles on the 'women's question'-Charlie Bury and the nuns, etc., the Brontës and the women in the working class, etc. They were quite aware of what they were doing when they reported these stories. They may not be doing the same now.

-Samuel Alley

Points Postal

SOCIALIST Worker is a great paper but it ignores TV and radio programmes. A set of conversation seem to start with what was on the other night... what about more coverage of programmes of general interest, music, controversial programmes. They all have a big influence on people's lives.—SALISBURY, Hertford, Herts.

COLIN Sparkes' conclusions about Frank Heath also need to be considered: your feet are marching to the same gendarmes. It is a great pity that Peter Regan has to say that there is no body for the working class—HARROW, Middlesex.

-CAN SOCIALISM COME THROUGH PARLIAMENT?

by Roger Kline

An International Socialists' pamphlet on the Labour Party and why 'the parliamentary road to socialism' is not necessarily the answer. 202 Seven Sisters Road, London N17.
THE recent occupation by Asian women workers at the Decca colour TV factory in Birmingham was just the latest in a series of strikes that put the skills under the local employers and the trade unions. A 'female' is being arranged for the women workers to join the Department of Employment, Wandsworth Council for Community Relations and the Employment Service agency as a 'stepping stone towards encouraging local employment for these groups of immigrant workers'.

While the factory is assembling television sets with the idea of providing tuition in work skills, for any workers who do not speak, read or write English, we must condemn the racist nature of the force of the immigration. Out of the 46 workers, none of them say that they have been subject to harassment in the workplace in low-paid jobs and in small sweatshops or factories, do not get ongoing support from the trade union. Even when a worker's name is not known to a community in the factory, they are treated as if they are separate and apart from the others. It is a different world for the 'other side' of the barrier, fancied when they were told that she could not see her daughters.

The children were clearly questioned. They were threatened that if they did not speak the truth they would 'go to prison'.

What crime had they committed?

The nationals and the immigrants have been living and working in Britain without being processed by the bureaucracy in Bombay.

LACK

The lack of children explained that when she came to Britain in 1972, she joined the firm of her husband. The firm is not popular with the workers, and the firm is not popular with the community in the factory. The firm is not popular with the elected representatives of the trade union who have their offices in the community. The firm says that the children are 'illegals' and they are treated as such.

The next morning they were taken to the airport by car and given bread and water and put in a taxi and driven to the factory. The factory is not popular with the workers, and the factory is not popular with the elected representatives of the trade union who have their offices in the community. The factory is not popular with the elected representatives of the trade union who have their offices in the community. The factory is not popular with the elected representatives of the trade union who have their offices in the community.

They had no food and were not allowed to leave the factory until they had been interrogated by a hindu-speaking interpreter. They were taken to the factory and interrogated by the officials of the factory.

For example, the father was asked how many 'chow' he had. To the interpreter 'chow' meant rice. To the father it meant meat. There was trouble.

WROTE

Parbat Hingi's family has a letter signed by the immigration official that the children had signed documents to read out in their language. In fact, they had been read out in Hindi. He insisted that no action could be taken before a Gujarati interpreter had talked to the family. He managed even to change the name of the child that night after refusing to accept that minors could be kept at the detention centres alone.

After that there were six more interviews. The girls would be taken away and questioned. Once they were kept for eleven hours, and their requests for food were turned down. Mihran Moghul had been interviewed several times, but the girls were still not given food and water.

He then took the case to the Indian Workers Association (IWA) who began to campaign. After three weeks of interrogations at the airport, and the intervention of these parties, the children were given permission to stay.

If the immigration officers had had their way, the girls would have been deported to become homeless and orphaned in Bombay. By the time their appeal was considered by the British consulate, the elder girl would be too old to qualify as a dependent. That assumes the family would have survived that long without anyone to care for them.

They got into the country because they were people willing and able to take their case up and fight. Hundreds like them in the same or similar situations are denied entry with out any chance to fight back.

THE HOME OFFICE MARRIAGE TRAP

The Home Office has found a novel way of harassing and insulting a large section of the black community. It is using a piece of legal technicality to declare void the marriages of thousands of Pakistanis living in the country.

The wife of a British citizen has the right to become British herself. But many of the wives of Pakistanis registered as British citizens have had their applications turned down on the grounds that their marriage is not legal.

According to an amendment to an Act of Parliament passed in 1973, if you were married in a country which permits a man to have more than one wife, then your marriage is not recognised in Britain. This applies even if both husband and wife are single at the time of their marriage.

The law is being used retrospectively. Marriages that took place before 1973 are treated as void.

Sylvia Whittard, author of a pamphlet on this subject, describes that Home Office practice as 'undesirable, unreasonable, and technically suspect'.

These people were married in good faith, believing their marriage to be legally acceptable. Yet by a simple administrative procedure the Home Office is now forcing people to re-marry, and to accept that they were not properly married before. This is an affront to human rights.

The undressing of marriages, after all, is a very serious matter, and should not be dealt with in a cavalier way.
GLASGOW - The 230 workers locked out by Ladbrokes decided at a mass meeting last week to step up their campaign for recognition and an end to the most profitable gambling empire. They are demanding recognition of their union, the TGWU.

The strike committee's recommendation to extend the picket lines was enthusiastically taken up. They wish to keep secret some of the actions they will take, but feel that the dispute will begin to hurt the company soon.

Many of the strikers saw the decision taken at the meeting as a turning point in the dispute. In the ten weeks of the strike Ladbrokes had so far not suffered any serious blow to their betting shop operations. The strikers blamed this on the lack of real support from the TGWU officials.

Ladbrokes have just announced increased profits for the past half year and steadied increases in their takings in the past two weeks. It isn't surprising then that Ladbrokes management felt entitled to reject any compromise solution suggested by the TGWU and to continue with their lockout of the 280 strikers.

The only way to break the company is by building mass pickets and extending the solidarity for the dispute.

AEREOQUIP 600

DEMAND £5

CARDIFF - 600 workers at Aerquip are striking one day a week to force management to their betting shop operations. The strike is part of the annual wage agreement last year.

Aerquip, which produces seals and bushings for the aircraft industry, is a profit-making firm with a good name for treating its workforce fairly. They have signed with the TGWU and have won themselves a 7% increase this year.

Carl Cave, GMWU steward on the negotiation team, said: "The strike is the result of the failure of the company to negotiate with the union that represents all Aerquip workers." The company has refused to accept the union's demands and has imposed a 7% increase.

The union has warned that the strike will continue until the company agrees to negotiate with the union.

SAFETY STRIKE PROVOKED ON THAMES BARRIER

EAST LONDON - The strike at Commercial Cables over a parity claim with Westminster is now in its fifth week. It is still solid, though there are backlogs building up. The workers' union, the Co-neelee Workers' Union, has set up a new committee to negotiate an end to the strike.

Management, in effect the multi-national ITT, is playing a waiting game. A month ago, one of the workers' leaders, Mr. John, threatened to stop work if the TGWU offered the workers a better deal. The TGWU offered a deal but the workers rejected it.

The management is now refusing to negotiate with the union, citing the lack of a strike ballot. The workers have been picketing outside the company's gates since the strike started.

Cables: Waiting game

SAFETY STRIKE PROVOKED ON THAMES BARRIER

EAST LONDON - Workers at the Thames Flood Prevention Barrage are on strike for safety reasons. A month ago, a workman from the company's engineering department was killed when he fell into the flood barrier. The workers are demanding better safety measures, including the provision of protective clothing and equipment.

Management has so far refused to negotiate with the union, citing the lack of a strike ballot. The workers have been picketing outside the company's gates since the strike started.

DOCKERS BLACK COURTDAULS

SFINNOMYR - The strike at Courtoulds is now in its eleventh week. The workers, who are members of the TGWU, have been on strike since August 5th. They are demanding an increase in wages, better conditions, and the right to negotiate with management. The company has so far refused to negotiate with the workers and has imposed a 7% increase.

The union is planning to continue the strike until the company agrees to negotiate.

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LAY-OFFS: CHRYSLER PUT THE BOOT IN

Chrysler is putting the boot in. After several weeks of phone negotiation over workers' participation, mass lay-offs have been announced.

Last Friday, the Chrysler combine committee was on the point of giving the company everything they wanted. Now the company has turned round and smacked them in the face.

More than 17,000 of us in Coventry and Linwood now face short time working throughout October and we have no guarantee for November.

We said in May that the workers' participation scheme was only a smoke-screen set up by the company to put off and to take the heat out of the wage talks. Now Chrysler's time has run out.

Chrysler's British operation depends on export orders, particularly that special order with Iran, and Chrysler are claiming that Iran is backing off because of balance of payments problems. Iran has no balance of payments problem, nor is it likely to because of its massive oil resources. Chrysler have also indicated that news of the lay-offs to newspapers so they can claim they cannot borrow money because backers' confidence has been undermined.

Chrysler have produced yet another explanation. The new paint and tool shop in Iran has not been completed on time. It was due to be completed in May. This shouldn't cause a sudden decision to introduce mass lay-offs in August.

Avoid all the verbal trickery. One thing is clear. Senior management have decided that they can get away with murder. Constant weakness has encouraged them. Now we can give the managing director that Linder is due to return to Britain on Thursday 'maybe with worse news'.

We need to prepare the fight now. Our future doesn't lie with trying to improve Chrysler's plans but with ourselves.

If Chrysler can't improve our jobs, we have to fight to make the Labour government change the law.

We have to fight for nationalisation of Chrysler without any compensation and under full shop-floor control.

Only in that way can we guarantee that WE will be in control of our wage and conditions. Chrysler has been prevented from building its roads until now.

BAN

The steam engine committee at Linwood started the fight last Thursday. They called a strike vote and complete and continued withdrawal of co-operation throughout the County for a pre-conference meeting of the National Car Industry stewards committee. The meeting was reconvened after the introduction of new agreements in the yellow book, which merely shorten the working day and reduce overtime working and six weeks in areas where unemployment is higher.

If the company refuses, recommendations to the workers could be made by the stewards to a mass meeting of Linwood workers.

Special stewards' meetings are being held in all districts. All stewards must follow the Linwood stewards and prepare to fight and the way to fight is to demand an immediate withdrawal of overtime and all co-operation to make the company walkouts the lay-off.

Five days' work or five days' pay. Thirty-five years' service with no loss of earnings.

If the company refuses to withdraw the lay-offs and declares any worker redundant, immediate occupation of the plants.

For the nationalisation of Chrysler, without compensation and under shop-floor control.

Mark and Spencer employees

marks and spencer bosses blackball ritzi workers

WHO MAKES the clothes you buy at Marks and Spencer's? In Glasgow in Derbyshire, workers at the Ritzi factory make skirts and blouses to boost the Marks and Spencer's profit margin.

All they get for it is a flat rate of 54p an hour. After weeks of existing on the flat rate, they were offered a big bonus by Marks and Spencer's—after which they accepted returning for each job—a collar which took four minutes would be timed at three and a half, of which only 12½ per cent was wages. A mass meeting of the 200 machinists voted by a majority of 2 to 1 not to refuse the order on these crippling terms. As one worker put it: 'We have no choice; we can't afford things now—let alone after taking a wage cut.'

Management reaction was swift. Workers returned from their annual fortnight's holiday in August to a three-day work. The original order was paused on. Then a new order emerged from the Glasgow and Ritzi is back on key days this week.

Break

Management took advantage of a half-hour absence by Tullows and Curtain workers helped Betty Dune. They threatened returning.

One time was taken from the skilled workers and the top rate. Then the collar job could be reclassified as a semi-skilled job in two minutes. Cuts that apply to collar production would apply to all the Ritzi workers.

Ritzi workers will not put up with this. Betty Dune has won an agreement from the management for payment at the old price pending further retiring and discussion with the national office.

The two-minute collar makers, for top performance, workers, the possibility of making only 16 per 15 dozen collars at an under £.95. In week one of the struggle, the workers were offered a 12½ per cent wage cut. Six weeks later, they are being offered a 33 and a third per cent cut. Some of the highest skilled workers will earn less than the flat rate.

Shop steward Betty Dune says: 'The girls must realise that the union is only as strong as the rank and file. It is no good adopting a policy of doing nothing. We're better off going along with management and accepting a wage cut.'

Says what is a 'safe job' if you end up getting less than your job? About six months ago Betty Dune's pay went up. 'I'm very pleased,' she says. 'I used to be paid 10s 3d—now I'm earning 15s 6d. I don't know what I did to get it, but I'm very pleased."

The fact remains that if they refuse to accept the national office's offer on the Ritzi workers, they will be just as bad as the Ritzi workers and will be paid as much as they are at the moment.

We are not going to work a job in half the time we have accepted as normal for the past four years. Our real estate is Marks and Spencers and the only way to fight them is to stand together and to make the situation to oppose across the factorie.

Observer bosses try to con NATSOPA

OUR WORD is our bond—until we've got you back to work. That was the message The Observer management attempted to deliver to NATSOPA rank and file room workers last Saturday.

"But fighting to get a week's pay—and the man angrily rejected any notion of a return to the old days when the last week, the shop stewards attended a meeting that if management didn't give its way, they would strike.

At this, David Aslee and Co gave way. Everyone backed down. But the 50 or so NATSOPA members started walking immediately.

But at 12.30 that night, management returned to the office and announced Petter Steer, the office manager, and again proved to them that promises from Fleet Street employers are worth little.

Bill

The chapel is due to meet again this week for a discussion on management. Management attempts to force through redundancies, together with the behaviour of national union officials, has meant that many men are trapped in getting out of The Observer in a hurry for fear that the paper will soon fold.

But to do this will have serious consequences. It will mean that the Newspaper Publishers Association will have succeeded in pushing through the first step in plans to destroy jobs throughout the whole of Fleet Street.

By walking away, workers will face reduced job opportunities elsewhere.

A united struggle for jobs in The Observer could still be won. There's precious little to lose since management may try to close the paper anyway. And there's everything to win, since the NPA's schemes to manage the print workers of Central London would receive a decisive setback.

Tenants in rent battle

LANARKSHIRE: Tenants are fighting back against a £3.50 rent increase retroactive to the end of the month. In Bothwell, 1,000 angry tenants attended a public meeting called by the recently formed Action Group and voted overwhelmly to withhold their rent.

A few miles away in Shotts, tenants put up barricades in an attempt to draw attention to the increases and to the appalling standard of housing.

Two years ago, the Labour council promised to improve the housing and that in the meantime, rents and rates would be frozen. This promise has got even worse. Tenants in some houses have not been paid rent ever since the last rent was paid to the walls. The temporary flat roof, built to allow further illegal slots into the houses, means that every time it rains, these water down and Room cricket team, in addition, the winter.

Cut

The fight has spread to Maryhill and Grantham, two districts of nearby Glasgow, where tenants have held a demonstration to protest against action accommodation.

These tenents are organising to fight in a joint battle of the week. After work they have tried to industrialise rent and drinking and a massed increased food bill. They are fighting for the right to live and for their rights to build and to protect their rapidly disappearing wages. They are organising because they know that a rent or rate rise is an attack on their standard of living.

BACCOOCK AND WILCOX: 1500 OUT

REVIEW—At Bacboock and Wilcox, 1500 workers on strike against management, they have won a victory over management.

They have established that there is no differential between welders and other workers and the agreement has been settled.

The Town Hall the workers rejected the settlement and the meeting was still in progress when they went back to work. They are now in the

Swan Hunter: We fight on

NEWCASTLE: 5000 shipworkers at Swan Hunter are continuing their battle against the £6 wage limit. They have been on strike for £1.30 for eight weeks.

Last week, the pressure to return to work increased when local full-time union officials claimed the strike was endangering government contracts essential to the shipyards. Thus the Department of Employment said the men could not get more than £50 because they have already had one settlement in the last year.

Now they are demanding that partly with other workers in the shipyards to be established as soon as the £6 limit is over. The difference between ancillary workers and shipworkers is so much that the shipyard is to be continued to the men.
JURY RUMPHS AS PICKETS FACE TRIAL

The vitaly important trial of building workers from the Eldon Square site, Newcastle, started on Monday against a background of increasing legal attacks on workers and dissidents.

The Clay Cross councillors who defied the Tory 'Unfair Rents' Act only to be sold out by the Labour government were brought 'docile' by a bankruptcy court.

In Leeds three 'Free George Davis' campaigners were still being held without bail on conspiracy, the same sinister charge used against the Shrewsbury pickets.

A string of other conspiracy trials against Pitsinni miners and various magazine publishers are due to start soon.

And in Glasgow on Monday the prosecution case opened against seven of the trade unionists and socialists arrested after the picketing at Kingston Hall on 24 May this year.

The Newcastle trial involves the prosecution of ten of the pickets involved in the bitter struggle against McAlpine's builders earlier this year.

The pickets were charged with threatening behaviour and assaulting the police. No charges have been brought against scabs or police officers.

The defence lawyer told the court that if it comes to it, 'it would be difficult to secure an uncountaminated jury for the trial. In fact there are ten separate trials covering the pickets, each one with a separate jury, even though eight of the ten are on the same charge.'

The defence lawyer said, 'The police's threat of violence and assault of a police officer. Already significant discrepancies have arisen over police evidence. Even the judge was confused at one point.

During the afternoon break on Monday two women jurors were seen talking to the police, a routine of witnesses. One of the policemen said about the defence lawyer: 'He likes to get you over a bed of nails doesn't he?' Laughter followed.

Several people complained to the defence lawyer and Ken Trench, vice-president of Newcastle Trades Council, who overheard the exchange. 'I'm sorry about this,' he said, and it was discussed by an inquiry.

The inquiry found that the evidence was insufficient for a new trial. But the defence lawyer and Robert Henderson agreed to continue the existing trial after getting an assurance that in future the jury would be provided with separate provisions at recesses.

Already the trial has proved that the word of the police is often automatically accepted at the expense of the hard honest truth.

Shrewsbury picketsacks scaffolders

A public meeting was held the night before the trial started in Newcastle as a picket at one of the pickets jailed at Shrewsb-

York. Last week we got from, to raise a pub.

Lairds: Police back off for mass picket

A mass picket of 500 building workers last week won a round against the police in the battle outside Cameron Lairds shipyards. 40 building workers are demanding that they be employed on the site by a new contractor, who has been brought in to replace the original firm.

Last week the police arrested eleven pickets in an attempt to intimidate and break the pickets. All eleven have been reminded on bail that if they do not go within half a mile Lairds, police will be brought against scabs or police officers.

The pickets forced the police to keep out of the way. About 20 police stayed on the other side of the road while others waited down sides of houses.

The scaffolders employed by Wimpey, the new contractors, never arrived.

The next morning the normal picket of 30 building workers was faced by the usual array of police and scabs in coaches. But there was a complete change. All the coaches were stopped. Pickets were allowed inside to address the scabs. Later in the day a delegation was allowed onto the site to address the scabs.

Inside the yards (100 fitters stopped work in solidarity)

Now 1600 boodermakers have taken control of the main gate, the security offices, and the main administrative buildings. They are demanding that lay-offs affecting 100 boodermakers be stopped and that there be a guarantee of no more lay-offs.

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STOp thE NATIONaL FRoNT

THE National Front is staging a provocative march through London's East End this Saturday (6 September).

According to their July internal bulletin this 'really big and immigration' march is 'the really big event of 1975'. All National Front members are being asked to treat themselves as if they do not attend.

This march is just the latest stunt from a political organisation whose purpose is to stop workers working at any price.

The National Front always wants hard to play on the fears of ordinary people. So this time they're calling their demonstration 'against racism and for law and order'.

But the National Front knows plenty about law and order. George Davis, for example, knows about it in detail. He's serving a 20 year sentence after being found guilty of murder in 1976.

The kind of 'order' that the Front wants to bring to the streets of East London can be judged by the fact that Front leaders have a string of convictions for attacks on black people.

ASSULT

One of their speakers after this Saturday's operation is Hackney National Front branch chairman Derrick Day. Day is due to appear in court on charges of assaulting a West Indian woman who lives on the same council estate.

Make no mistake, the National Front are new Nazis. That is why they have to be stopped from spreading their poison. For if they ever succeed, outside the Front did not commit. But...