FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK

THIS WEEK the Rank and File Organising Committee launched a campaign throughout the working-class movement to fight for the right to work.

Roger Cox, secretary of the organising committee, told Socialist Worker: 'The British economy is slipping steadily into a 1930s situation. In the 1930s a quarter of the workforce was out of work. A whole generation of working people was sacrificed to the waste and greed of the profit system. 'Day after day we read of closures and sackings. Workers who have worked all their lives for a firm or industry are thrown on the scrap heap. Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of young people roam the streets unable to find work.'

'There is a conspiracy of inaction between trade union officials and Labour politicians who are meant to represent us. 'Union leaders are falling over themselves to accept short-time and sackings. Why? Our movement is not weak - nothing like as weak as it was in the 1930s. Then the miners were still recovering from the terrible defeats they had suffered in 1926.

Now, the miners have smashed through a Tory government twice in the last three years.'

The Rank and File Organising Committee's campaign is based on the formation of rank and file committees - committees which link the industrial strength of the employed workers with the anger and energy of the unemployed.

Said Roger Cox: 'We workers can fight and beat unemployment. But we will have to do it ourselves.'

No return to the Thirties!

THIS IS WHAT THE CAMPAIGN MEANS - page two
THE RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN

WHAT IT FIGHTS FOR

RIGHT TO WORK committees will be fighting in work places and Labour Exchanges for:
- Shut floor control of hiring, firing and laying off—no discrimination or blacklisting.
- Official ban on overtime to force more jobs. For the 36-hour week.
- Break the 18-hour freeze. Across-the-board increase to offset inflation and compensate for the shorter week.
- Stop the cuts.
- Five days' work or five days' pay.
- Nationalisation without compensation of all firms who can't guarantee the right to work.
- Full wages for unemployed workers now.
- Uncompromising opposition to all forms of discrimination against black and women workers.

OUT-OF-WORK steel workers in South East London this week picketed a site which stands as a monument to the lunacy of unemployment.

Some of the men outside the Thames Barrier Site in Eastmorel Street, Charlton had worked for only a few weeks this year. Meanwhile, inside, 360 other men—many of them members of the same union, the construction section of the AUEW—are working 12-hour shifts.

Another mass picket was being organised for next Wednesday, 22 October, at 1pm.

SPUC: ALL OUT ON SUNDAY

National Abortion Campaign Conference, Saturday and Sunday 18/19 October, Imperial College, London. Registration £1, £50 for unemployed and students.

Back Street Abortion Killers Counter-demonstration to SPUC. Sunday 19 October. 1pm. Speakers Corner, Marble Arch.

WHAT IT MEANS

What will the Rank and File committee do?

An Organising Committee Secretary Roger Cox explains: 'We're not going to organise marches begging the government to give out a few jobs. We want to unite the energy, the drive and the time of the hundreds of thousands of workers on the dole together with the organised strength of the shop stewards.

In every area we are launching campaigns to save local jobs in the work places and to fight for more jobs.

What can you do to get the committees going?

The organising committee is calling on its supporters to set up local Rank and File committees. Linking up employed and unemployed workers. Trades councils, branches and shop stewards committees will be asked to support these committees.

But, said Roger Cox, 'If necessary we'll get local Engineers' Charter groups or workers in the locality who support rank and file papers like the Leyland Worker or Pop Action News to get the committee going.'

This is where the fight-back begins: a mass meeting at Alfred Herbert, Coventry voting last Friday against sackings

ORGANISATION of rank and file committees in combines is crucial for fighting redundancies. At Plessey and GEC, for instance, where huge sackings are planned in the wake of the Post Office cuts, the fight-back is already being obstructed by slyne union officials and plant bureaucrats stuck in single unions or areas.

Ernie Evers, TASS convener at Plessey, South Shields, told Socialist Worker: 'We'll never get a battle against redundancies until there are strong rank and file committees across the combine.'

The Rank and File Organising Committee has already taken the initiative. This week a letter has gone out to all stewards and shop stewards in the machine tool industry in Coventry calling for a meeting to discuss rank and file action against redundancies.

The letter is signed by the Rank and File Organising Committee and by Dick Burdett, Engineering Union convenor at Wickmans, one of the biggest machine tool factories in the area.

COMBINES THE CRUCIAL LINKS

Women Voice and Socialist Worker supporters will be going to the National Abortion Conference this weekend to argue that, unless we take the campaign into the trade union movement it cannot win.

The conference isn't enough. Action is the key. That is why, when the Right-wing Society for the Protection of Unborn Children demonstrate on Saturday afternoon, we want to be there—tackling them. Socialists. Workers are among the women and supporters as possible to be at Hyde Park at 1pm on Sunday 19 October. Any counter-demonstration is better than no demonstration at all.
**WHAT WE THINK**

"LAST week the Wilson government of 1974-75 gained its Revin (in Mr Jack Jones) and its Crips (in Mr Michael Foot). It now can carry out any domestic policy it wishes."

Bevin was the ex-TGWU boss who took Britain into the cold war, a pillar of the extreme right in the labour movement. Austerity Crips was the ex-'left-wing' who presided over the wage-freeze in 1944, a pillar of Treasury orthodoxy.

The new one, Mr Foot, which makes the comparison quoted above, goes on to say that the policies it anticipates: 'very right-wing policies; higher unemployment, more wage controls, high interest rates, protectionist import licensing (which he-Wilson does not want) or taking new medicine (with new money) from the government.'

In the same week the government has 'yielded to mounting pressure to relax some of the regulations of the community fund bill' (Daily Telegraph, 12 October) and announced that it cannot be committed to the Attlee-Roy Jenkins on the promised law to protect pickets.

**EFFECTIVE**

There will now be no protection for pickets who are trying to operate in 20th century conditions, no right to stop lorries and therefore, in practice, all effective picketing is now illegal.

More and more concessions to the employers and the police like the 14.4 hours a week of negotiation, more and more blows for the workers. No wonder the Economicist is delighted and young civil servants are伟ing at the antics of the extreme right-wingers of 1945-51.

In this respect we are, in some ways, inadequately equipped to deal with the extraordinary unemployment, high interest rates, and high wages. The government's policy is to put British capitalism on its feet again after a decade of war.

**NOW WE NEED MONEY FOR THE CHAPPEL FUND!**

In the High Court this week, it was announced that Socialistic Worker has raised Michael Chapple, general secretary of the Electricians' and Plumbers' Union, damages for libel. The libel arose from two publications. One was a special electricians' edition of Socialist Worker two years ago. The other was an article in Socialist Worker itself dealing with EETU-sponsored unionism in Spain.

We are not allowed to disclose the amount paid but you can take it that it is a lot of money, especially if you add on the usual huge lawyers' fees.

Libel actions of this kind are always a hazard to a campaigning newspaper and both unions costs heavily just when we were getting our top off (our fund for new photo-offset presses)

The Chapple action makes it more than ever that you keep up your contributions to our Fighting Fund. We rely on you more than ever.

In fact we've had another good week, with £347.90 collected.

A trade unionist from Manchester writes: "After years of fighting, I've finally managed to win the CMAIS, The 'compromise' that he referred to, his right-wing opinion. While the troops were assembling at Creswicke, the right-wingers of them all. William Craig, won a vote of confidence from a noisy meeting of his Vanguard Party. This has sparked off a great upsurge of optimism in the press that a 'compromise' settlement is in the offing.

This is a distortion. Craig has said that he's stayed out of the Catholic SDLP two seats in the Cabinet if they in return will give full backing to the army and the RUC in all security operations. Even if they did get such a deal signed and delivered, access would depend on the SDLP managing to deliver the support of the mass of Catholics. A five-minute conversation in Crossmaglen, still something after Saturday's events, makes it clear that the chances of that are slim indeed.

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Right pushes army into 'Operation Harassment'  

By Cameron McCann

AT 11 o'clock last Saturday morning, 1400 members of the security forces searched the houses of 45 men and women in Dungannon, Northern Ireland. They were officially looking for" paramilitary activity, although it is toughed up about 40 men of ages ranging from 21 to 35.  

Meanwhile, the army's press office at Lisburn charged out that the final eight searches were in "Prae" and "tactics" with "nasties results. In the event, nothing was found during the searches and all the men arrested have now been released. There was being no evidence whatever against any of them.

There had been no military justification for this elaborate pre-emptive harassment: it was simply a response to mounting right-wing pressure for action against Republican areas.

Military chiefs continue to make high-level policy decisions without reference to Marilyn Reen, a 25-year-old woman in Northern Ireland, and frequently in response to, if not in consequence of, policy decisions of the Department of Health, Education and Social Services in London.

**Free speech not a right, says Judge**

**PERIL**

"It's not a right," he said. "A right is a legal right, enforced at law. There is not a right to free speech. There is a liberty to speak freely."

The judge went on to say that people gave out leaflets at their peril.

The trial so far has mainly been taken up with evidence from soldiers and police about the frequency with which soldiers visited Devices market, where the 'talking' leaflets had been handed out.

The judge and the prosecution counsel have gone to fantastic lengths to maintain an aura of menace of the army's role in Ireland. The judge refused to allow the whole of the leaflets to be read by the jury. However, the defence lawyer made a strong appeal for the right of people to say things they had said outside the court. But the judge interrupted him.

There is no right of free speech in this country—and the law says so. Mr Justice McKewan, who is presiding, maintained that the incitement to Insurrection, told the Old Bailey last week.

So you can say anything you want to outside the court, but not at the court. The police have directed the distribution of leaflets—and the sale of Socialist Worker—on previous days.

The defence lawyer made a strong appeal for the right of people to say things they had said outside the court. But the judge interrupted him.
IT'S BUILDERS' QUESTION TIME!

By C Minton (UCATT)

MEMBERS of UCATT, the building workers' union, will soon have a chance to make their union more democratic.

The branch must hold two or three meetings to vote on the change of rules. There are 750 members in each meeting so if all three meetings vote on, all of them on a straight-forward vote, it will be vital that all members attend the Special Summoned Meetings at the branch office or by mail. The meeting will also be announced.

The two questions are printed in the October issue of the UCATT Journal — and perhaps the most important one is number 51.

This is about changing the rules so that all branch, area and regional secretaries stand for election every five years as well as standing for re-election.

At present, secretaries are appointed and quorum is needed for election twice in their life-time, ideally, members should stay at the meetings for the full time of the meeting so a vote on a no quorum decision is not a loss of power for the branch.

Another important FOR vote is 20, which asks for the incumbent book says: "Only members who are not paid members of the organisation prescribed by the Labour Party shall take part in the ballot and the branch shall not poll." These rules cover the political and parliamentary activities of the union.

This rule is hardly ever used but it could stop some of our political meetings. If the question which should be voted on AGAIN is split into three groups. Questions 2, 7, 12, 13, 15, 16 and 17 are an attempt to cut down the size of the branch.

FRAUDS

Questions 6 and 8 would stop members attending other branches who were not members.

The other questions have been a right-wing demand for years in an attempt to cover up voting irregularities.

Questions 19, 30 and 34 would make it illegal to destroy branch books which would destroy branch life.

There is no reason to oppose the constitution of the union.

The proposals are for the benefit of branch officers.

For the moment, members won't be able to vote on the question of the current book as this has not been included in the Rules Revision Congress. There are some made suggestions on this to the Joint Committee.

Selection committee are used by the union leadership to stop members who are defiant.

The most blatant example occurred in 1970 when a group of candidates for the post of an organiser in London, which included one of our members, Mr Terry Hope, who was most likely to get the majority of votes.

The organiser, a right-wing named Chilton, was deselected the elected candidate.

Boiled Ham

TREMENDOUS applause greeted the speech of Tom Ham at the Tory Party Conference — and for good reason. His speech was very clear and very to the point.

The speech was well received in the audience, which had no idea that Tom Ham was a new candidate.

"This is the first time that we have seen how the National Union of Dockers, Stevedores and Dockers' Union (NASU), the dockers' union that has been battles with the Royal Dock in the Royal Group in 1972 and 1973 has been proposed.

True to the courage and devotion to workers' rights which he argues for on the boxers and spectators at the Tory Party Conference, Tom Ham expressed his concern for the himself and scuttled out of the dock.
WORKERS BUILDING LUXURY FLATS... PLAIN TO HAND THEM OVER TO SLUM-DEWLLERS

The workers, who were building luxury flats, had to use force and violence to hand them over to the slum-dwellers. The workers built these flats with their own hands, using their own tools and skills. They were not paid enough for their work, and they were forced to live in slums and shanty towns, which were unsafe and unhealthy. The workers had to fight for their rights and fight for their dignity. The workers built these flats to give the slum-dwellers a better life, but the government did not give them any help.

Cheer

The airport was in the opposite direction. "No, we’re revolutionaries from Britain. We’re with you, on your way to London," the French-speaking woman said. She smiled and made a great cheer with her hands. The airport was very crowded, and the plane was about to take off. The plane took off and flew down to the front of the bus and repeated the same thing. The passengers smiled and clapped in approval.

A moment’s embarrassment, and then we were suddenly a part of the Portuguese workers and soldiers fight. It didn’t matter that we couldn’t speak the language. Perhaps we were the only ones in the army. In the army, the British army is about giving orders and taking them. In Portugal that idea is being challenged.

By MARGARET RENN

At the EPAM barracks, in the north of Lisbon, the soldiers have a delegate assembly. It’s written into the rules, they told us, that the number of soldiers’ delegates would always be a majority over the number of officers. Surely, I pointed out, if there are more soldiers in the barracks than officers there’s no need for such a rule. It had touched on the real issue, and they knew it. They explained that the commanders of each unit are delegates by right, and the rest are distributed between officers and soldiers. Hence the number of officers.

They knew this wasn’t good enough, and complained that the delegate assembly was a concession to be used against them. They built a revolutionary army from the base, an army with no hierarchy.

We talked about SUV, the social organization, and its demands for reorganisation, better pay and so on. A young soldier from Braganca, in the north told us that as a conscript he received 250 escudos a month, about 1.4.

He also got 48 hours leave a month. It cost him 200 escudos for the return fare to Braganca, and the journey took 33 hours each way. He still depended on his father who worked in a factory for pocket money.

A captain who had been working in the room throughout this discussion, could keep quiet no longer. "I volunteered for the army and gave it 21 years of my life. I earn 10,000 escudos a month, and have actually lost some of the concessions I once had."

October 1, 1975

I asked a man what was happening. "It’s Soares, he’s just walking here. He’s got every right to, you know. Those other people are all Communists. Not everyone in our country is like this."

He was proud to be a member of the Socialist Party. Other people will tell you that Spinola needs to come back, and, of course, reaction is organizing.

The country is poor. Even on the government buildings the paint seems to be peeling. Except of course, for the Sherton Hotel and the Ritz, where American money pays for American businessmen and the world’s free press is allowed to remain unfettered.

Shreds

He simmered – 10,000 escudos is about £200.

A young soldier jeered and provoked him. Eventually he gave up and went back to work. All the soldiers laughed. His only sin was losing his authority, came from a hierarchical structure that is now discredited.

Not everyone agrees. When Soares got pushed and shoved out side Lisbon’s Town Hall on 5 October, I asked a man what was happening.

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The country is poor. Even on the government buildings the paint seems to be peeling. Except of course, for the Sherton Hotel and the Ritz, where American money pays for American businessmen and the world’s free press is allowed to remain unfettered.

You job is to push that thing. Your job is to assist the workers to assert their power and smash a state which can no longer give workers and customers what they want and need.

THIS IS THE FRONT COVER OF A NEW EDITORIAL \ RUSIA

The Socialist Worker anti-opium last week was a success. It had to be or else the contents were. Having said that, no one can have worn a copy of the pamphlet to read, of course. He told one or two other airport workers of his. One or two others told me, and we are putting together a collection for your factory office. We can also provide badges (with 100 escudos) and revolutionary posters from Portugal, 50p a time.

The text of all four is to give regularly via a banner’s order. We can send you a sample copy of the pamphlet and one collection sheet for your factory office. We can also provide badges (with 100 escudos) and revolutionary posters from Portugal, 50p a time.

The National Bank can be found at 1 South East London place, E3 50, NUR, TOMPAS and NUT members in Everton E5 50.

THE NATIONAL Bank

The National Bank is the largest bank in Portugal. It is the one that controls the economy and decides on the distribution of money. The bank is owned by the government and is run by a top management team. The bank is a key player in the Portuguese economy and is responsible for controlling the flow of money and credit in the country. The bank is also involved in loans, investments, and other financial activities.

The National Bank has branches all over Portugal, including in Lisbon and Porto. It offers a wide range of services, including banking, investments, and loans. The bank is known for its financial stability and its commitment to providing excellent customer service. The National Bank is a trusted source of financial advice and support for individuals and businesses in Portugal. The bank is a key player in the country’s economy and plays an important role in shaping the economic landscape of Portugal.

The National Bank is a public institution, which means that it is owned by the government. The bank is accountable to the Portuguese Parliament and is subject to oversight and regulations set by the government. The bank is governed by a board of directors, which is appointed by the government. The board is responsible for setting the bank’s strategic direction and ensuring that it operates in accordance with the law and regulations.

By the end of the day, the bank was closed and the workers were able to take a break. The workers were happy and satisfied with their work. They were able to have a good day and enjoy their time at the bank.

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And this is the news.

DURING THE GREAT days of Islam, the Caliphs of Baghdad used, every now and then, to throw the head of the Grand Vizier to the people. It satisfied the popular indignation, and allowed the reigning Caliph to appoint another Grand Vizier to console himself and his master by the same methods as before.

Symbolic

Or so we are told. And whether the tale is true or not, as a point of self-fact, it embodies a kind of symbolic truth. This is indeed what intellectual and establishment divergencies hostility from themselves.

Attraction is drawn to the secondary evil, and a replay of trauma is staged, so that the root cause of the evil is untouched. At the moment, a pantheism of this sort is being played around the themes of TV news and comment. Robin Day, in a newspaper trailer for his new book, declares what is called "good" television may often amount to an irresponsible misuse of power which tele-

SAYS JAMES TAYLOR, "An interesting phenomenon: a rising star of TV and news trade, is on record in much the same sense.

Now the credibility of TV news and comment is a vital matter for our rulers. Various surveys indicate that a big majority of the public largely or wholly on TV for their picture of what is happening in the world.

There has never been such a powerful established mass opinion. Widespread scepticism about its reliability would be most bad for the establishment. The 'reformers', shrewd and knowledgeable men, understand this better than most.

Second rate question and the remedy proposed is worse than the disease. This is seen, perhaps, in a Grand Vizier's head, not a genuine change.

What is never, at the moment, of concern to the media, it is that the news should be news. This simple and indisputable fact has to be kept always in mind.

For example, quite a large number of people die every year or so of old age or disease, of some sort of trauma, some are murdered, shot or stabbed.

Whether a particular death is or is not news depends entirely on the decision of the comparative hangers-on who write the news.

The other weekend, 11 people died in sectarian killings in Northern Ireland. That was not news. The next weekend a considerably greater number of people were killed or maimed in motorway accidents, and was not even mentioned in the average weekend in this respect. That was news.

What is the basis on which the news is created? It is, and can only be, the assumptions of the news-makers. The media.

And what determines these assumptions? In the last resort their views, their attitudes, their biases, their personal views about society, their political and social beliefs and prejudices.

Contrary to popular belief, there is no clear distinction between news and comment. The selection of some as news and of some not is not, as the case may be, itself a kind of comment.

What is the basis on which the news-makers want to comment further on the news, in which they wish to preach.

They take a very simple example: when Portugal was ruled by the Salazar and Caetano dictatorships, it was hardly ever mentioned by BBC or ITN.

Worthy

Never mind the absence of what passes as newsfocused articles. The government and torture of opponents of the regime, the arrest and torture of the secret police, these things were not news.

They were not news because the news-makers felt it was not worth of report. The British political establishment was more or less satisfied with the fascist regime.

Now, when our rulers are pro-

The CIA is funding 'Socialist Party', according to the New York Times of 23 September, the money, which arrives via European Labour Parties and trade unions, amounts to several million dollars a month and is sent with the personal approval of President Ford.

They call this the Rule of Law

DOUGLAS PURKISS has just broken the £6 wage freeze single-handed. He's gone on the job—after being sacked from his £10-a-week.

That's right, £10 a week. And he hadn't had a rise for six years. So he decided to ask for more—and promptly got the bullet by Bournemouth estate agent Gray and Brooks.

Douglas, a 50-year-old negotiator, took his case to an industrial tribunal. He told the tribunal chairman,

IT'S A FREE COUNTRY... 1

ALFRED HERBERTS, the country-based Labour MP, threatened Dave Gallard with dismissal from his job at their Letchworth, Herts, subsidiary, Herberts Controls. Why? Because, as a Labour councillor, Dave has to take time off for council meetings. A Tory councillor in the same plant has not, however, been given the same treatment.

This is not not connected with the fact that Dave is also an engineering union shop steward who believes in fighting for his members' interests. And the Tory is... well, a Tory.

Meanwhile, the Labour government is handing Herberts billions in government support to make up for the £25,000,000 it has lost in the coupons.

You know Labour government makes sense.

G.P. CHAPPLE has affiliated another 400 members of his pro-socialist union to the Northern East Labour Party, so getting five more delegates in the general representation committee which recently gave his mate Dave Pemberton a hammer.

This is known as democracy.

It's a free country... 2

THINK OF GLASGOW and you think of Communist Under the Clyde. Everywhere, Communists.

You don't think of it like that? Well the Ministry of Defence does. With 6,000 of its jobs going to the Scottish Clyde between 1942 and 1944, it is more than a little frightened at what it can be letting slip out.

Thus a team of spies has, according to The Times, been sent on an investigation into the Scots Communist influence in the area.

Thank God it's a free country

WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO WRITE SOMETHING FOR FIFTH COLUMN?

MARIO SOARES raised a clenched fist at the Labour Party conference and cheered him. His name is Harold Wilson's Labour Party 'the most left-wing of all the Portuguese parties'.

The real Marxist is, however, so more a 'socialist' than is Harold Wilson. And, like our slippery, silver-tongued leader, he is also a pragmatic, professional politician.

In other words, a snake.

For instance, in 1972 he published, in exile in France, a book called Portugal Gagged.

After the fall of fascism, it was also published in Portugal—but not before he had made some judicious changes.

FEW

The French edition attacked the reactionary biregime of the Catholic Church, and merely noted how there were a few progressive elements among the clergy.

But, in the Portuguese edition, much is made of these progressive clergy and how, in fact, they are in conflict with the Bishop of Oporto.

And, even more interesting, is the disappearance of a footnote on the Fatima cult used by Salazar to prop up his regime.

Two words are: Many Catholics today place in doubt the religious value of the Fatima miracles. Its political implications are undesirable. The Church took over the process of the Corts, and struggle against the Republic and later as a key word in the anti-communist crusade.

Workers' control of publishing would put a stop to such deceptions.

That's probably why Soares fears it so much.

YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHING YET

PRESS COVERAGE of Portugal may be biased, but it's indeed a good job, to go to get a lot worse if the workers (Communists and democrats) do take power (sorry, democracy). After October 1973, revolution in Russia, the imperial press of the 'civilized' world turned any fiction into rumour and any rumour into fiction.

This interesting democratic process reached its peak in 1918 when a mass response, the revolution in Russia, showed that they were, had invented a new and vastly electric guitars capable of cutting off 500 heads an hour.

MAuled
These two men were murdered

The Shah and the terror
Labour condones British 'justice'

by friends of 'our' government

Why were the Iranian students, having killed or injured no-one, suddenly threatened with conspiracy charges and, as a result, unlimited sentences?

Part of the answer can be found elsewhere. As the 21 students were getting ready to leave the London Embassy, Labour Chancellor Denis Healey was in direct contact with the Shah and his Government.

He was due to have gone to Tehran on 29 April as part of a top-level government and business delegation seeking to live up to the Shah. The Shah had, of course, just bailed out the Labour government with a £500 million loan.

Healey's trip was postponed at the last moment. He finally flew off to pay homage last week, accompanied by madam top bankers and civil servants.

Healey had, more than anything, been trying to win a well-worn trial. Harold Lever, Harold Wilson's personal economic advisor, was due to go to Tehran just before last Christmas. Peter Shore Labour's foreign minister, followed in January.

Other visits will follow Healey's. Little jaunt. Edmund Dell Labour's Paymaster General, is expected to put in an appearance shortly. So is

Little

Naturally, the delegation got little or no assistance. They were trying to find out about the whereabouts and situation of 15 political prisoners.

The British Ambassador Sir Anthony Fanshawe and other officials made it known that there was as much a shuttle service for British ministers coming in. What's more, 4000 British business executives were expected this year alone.

The Shah is, of course, a very powerful dictator. British ministers, civil servants and businessmen fear him greatly.

Stoke

For if he gets upset, he is capable of cancelling lucrative contracts at a stroke.

British capitalism's strong defense of the Shah's policies, however, is a main reason for the crucial job of the 21 students.

There is another reason which brings the issue even closer home in the personal, democratic sense of the word. Those with power, wealth and control of the legal system in this country, use it to stem the tide of dissent.

If we can help in whatever small way to win back some of the Iranian working class, they will become our allies.

Butchery in Iran, silence in Britain

Political prisoners and to whose torture and death in a stock in trade were shocked. This was the first time since Amnesty was founded that prisoners had adopted itself been killed.

The members of the Iranian Confession of Students, who were stunned, too. But before long, they resolved that something had to be done. A picket of the Iranian Embassy in London's posh Princes Gate was organized.

For seven days the picket was kept up. But there was scarcely a word about it in the British press.

Manouchehr explains: 'There was a conspiracy of silence. The petro-dollar, the dependence on the Shah's oil and funds means that the mass media say little or nothing critical of the Shah and his prison camp of a society.'

The same newspapers were, of course, finding plenty of space to bewail the threats to democracy posed by workers taking control of factories in Portugal.

But they could find no space to publicise the bloody murder of nine leading members of the resistance in Iran.

On the contrary, those same newspapers were queueing up to praise the Shah's regime, often by hiring the despotic Lord Chalfont to write a glowing tribute to his new-found moderate friend.

Numbed

The double standard applied the pickets outside the Embassy all over again. Something more had to be done—something that the hypocrisies who own and control the national press would find it more difficult to ignore.

So, on 29 April, 21 Iranians moved into the embassy in a peaceful 20-minute occupation.

They took down official portraits of the Shah and replaced them with pictures of their murdered comrades. This done, they got ready to withdrawing.

Then the police arrived. The 21 were taken to the station for questioning.

Initially, it was implied that nothing serious would happen. After all, they had only engaged in trespass, minor civil, not criminal offences. What's more, extenuating circumstances were considerable, to say the least.

Thirty-six hours later, however, they were charged with conspiracy to trespass. This is a criminal offence. The charges are designed to nullify their action to the authorities. There is no limit on sentence.

The Iranian students in fact were being handled with the same device used at Shrewsbury. They were being tried for conspiracy, easy to prove and fares some in its consequences.

By Laurie Flynn
LAST APRIL, Manouchehr Kalantari, organiser in Britain for the Iranian Confederation of Students, got the most startling message of his life.

His brother Moshof, he was told, was dead. So was his nephew Bidjan Jazani.

So were seven other prominent Iranian socialists, each of them known to him, each of them like his brother and his nephew, political prisoners in the Shah of Iran's jail.

The murders were confirmed in the semi-official Iranian newspaper Alifeh on 19 April.

The note, the paper 'reported', had been shot while trying to escape. There were no post mortems and no relatives would be allowed to see the dead men's bodies.

Appalled

'I cannot explain to you how numbed I felt', Manouchehr told Socialist Worker. 'It wasn't just that two of the murdered men were part of my family.

It was that the nine were known to all of us. They were the best known of the many political prisoners held by the Shah.

It was as if they had shot the Pentonville Five or the Shrewsbury pickets while they were in jail here in Britain. It was appalling.'

Even Amnesty International, the agency which exists to defend

The Twenty-One Iranians facing conspiracy charges will come up on trial next February, which means that there is some time to organise opposition to the shameful operation being mounted against them.

They need support from the working class movement in the shape of money and the opportunity to explain their case. The chances are that your work in a local branch of the ILP is essential to this task and defines the conditions faced by workers in Iran.

The Iranian Confederation also need money for their defence fund. Some of the defendants are British residents in Germany - please come here for each court appearance. This means that the Confederation faces punitive court costs. To meet them you need your support.

Write to the Confederation at 101 Gower Street, London, WC1.
BRITAIN 1975: WHERE FEAR OF HARASSMENT MEANS YOUNG BLACKS WON'T BE PHOTOGRAPHED

Police terror in Birmingham

"People's going to get mad, people's going to get killed, you watch. These words were uttered after the police in Birmingham launched what must have been one of the biggest police raids in British history. In six days more than a thousand black youths, girls, old men, women and children were picked up from the street, from pubs, from their homes.

"People's going to get mad, people's going to get killed, you watch. These words were uttered after the police in Birmingham launched what must have been one of the biggest police raids in British history. In six days more than a thousand black youths, girls, old men, women and children were picked up from the street, from pubs, from their homes."

When we're at school, we're convincted. When we're left school, we've been convicted again. By the time we’re 16, we’ve dono a prison sentence or a borstal. You can't go before the courts and beat the police. No matter how innocent you are, you are a black man. Whether it's before a magistrate or jury, you can't go in a courthouse and win, and the police know that.

Take any youth over 14 years old, and he's got a scar—something that's influenced him against the police—there must be some way that the police have got through to him and done him something really nasty.

When a man has his back against a wall, he'll say I can't take no more—and that's what they don't realise—it's going to happen. It's going to take only one more incident and its going to be a concrete jungle.

If a policeman knows you, and don't like you, he'll just come and annoy you for nothing. Any time he sees you, he'll come and ask you questions like: 'Where are you going?' 'What are you doing here this time of night?' And if you say: 'None of your business' you know the first thing he's going to do? He'll pick you up on an assault charge. Whether you kick him or not, when you're in the police station, he'll beat you until he's sick.

It was one Saturday night at about six o'clock—me and my mates, about three of four of us, just walking down town, whistling away—not loudly you know, pretty soft. And this big hairy copper come behind us.

He grabbed me by the neck and he started pushing me about—said 'stop whistling'

"So we stopped. He pushed me about, you know, too much. He didn't arrest us, he said: 'You do that again your in.'"

"Later on we went to the cop station. We asked the cop if anyone can have you for whistling. The copper said 'Whistle and I'll fucking well arrest you.' So I just walked out."

There was one case in about April. Me and about three other kids, One of us got on a bus which was going to drive away and leave the rest of us, so he stopped the bus and called us.

The same time two police officers came to tell him to come off the bus, and they pulled him off. As he was walking away the two of them bounced into him. They took their truncheons out and started beating him.

Night

'I know because from Thornhill then to Stockwell were arresting people all day. A Wednesday or Thursday, people were going to lock their photo prints.'

On the Sunday the police black man, 18 and Wilson, and that killing of the police officer. Four days later the mother was taken in by a few they had brought drink for him, officers said he because he was unable to eat.
REPORT BY

KIM GORDON AND

AZIM HAJEE

WHY are we beaten humiliated and hospitalised by the police?

Why are we told 'Sorry, no vacancy here, when we go after a job that we know exist?'

What is it that when we do get a job it is the lowest job with the least prospects?

What is it that we end up in the lowest streams in schools?

What is it that we live in the areas where the housing is the cheapest and worst?

Because this society is corrupt and dying. Because the rulers of this society always going to have somebody on the very very bottom and that is us... As a brother said: I think it all really boils down to us uniting together and sticking together to fight... wrong... this society's wrong.

But how do we fight? The recent victory in the Cliff McDaniel case by the new Black Parents Movement of North London has shown us the way. Parents must take up their children's fight. Parents in work must take the fight to their workplace to their unions. We must organise self defence groups.

We must use our spare time usefully to build us a future together in which we can all have hope, this is a socialist future where we all-old, young, black and white, men and women-collectively rule the country. Where we are the rulers and the rich and powerful the ruled.

Meetings for supporters of Flame and Socialist Worker in Birmingham AGAINST POLICE HARASSMENT

Sunday 26 October 3:30pm


FIGHT UNEQUALITY AMONG YOUNG BLACKS

Sunday 9 November 3:30pm

Meet at Leytonstone Social Development Club. 1 Finch Road, Leytonstone.

PORTUGAL AT THE CROSSROADS

Tony Cliff's party list on the green is vital reading for anyone looking to the road to socialism, not just in Portugal, but in Britain or in the world.

50p including postage to Sue Baytell, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DZ.

Poland: The long queue to socialism?

by a special correspondent

the 'need to export'. They say: 'The economy has been expanding for years, but the government is reluctant to make sacrifices for the sake of your country, your civilisation.'

And so it goes on. Why hasn't it changed?

A strong feeling of nationalism is the first way the excuse is hammered home. The second step is to make everyone accept the situation by being realistic.

The third, and most important process, is to make people believe that protest is impossible. This is achieved by close infiltration of all groups, and restrained use of the army and the police.

In Poland everyone knows it's bad. Class consciousness is strong. People don't have to be won over to a socialist way of thinking. But everyone is terrified of actually doing anything.

Faction

so how come the December 1970 uprising? One theory is that it was all planned by a faction in the higher echelons of the Communist Party as a solution to its internal problems.

A price increase was due to go through with an increase in wages very early in 1971. But, the apartment run, 20 per cent price rises were announced earlier, in a bid to dispose Gomulka and his closest associates.

The increases were announced last but one week before Christmas, when food and money was particularly important. Workers took to the streets spontaneously and Gomulka went in the streets. Hundreds of men, women and children were beaten up by the tanks. But the desired effect was achieved, the theory runs. Gomulka surrendered his position to Gierek.

This is the most widely accepted explanation of the events. But it plays down the role of the workers and plays up the role of the Gomulka-Style 'Party bureaucrats like Gierek.'

Drastic

So what are the prospects? Unless there are drastic economic changes, Polish workers will not dare to challenge openly the state bureaucracy, unless they are prompted by similar struggles in other countries.

Nevertheless, there are signs of revolt. Last month large posters appeared in Warsaw showing Gomulka at the end of a food queue. How and where were they printed? Who stuck them up? No one knows.

Last year's festivities for the anniversary of the so-called workers' papers were disrupted by so-called hooligans.

There have been several unreported and officially unofficial strikes in the port of Gdynia, Stettin and Danzig over the past 15 months.

Sighs

These are signs of a growing restlessness. Let's hope the workers in the so-called People's Democracy can find suitable forms of organisation to unite themselves, and overthrow their oppressors, the Polish party puppets and their Russian overlords.
Socialist Worker news...

BUILD NOW FOR WOMEN'S RALLY

By Shaila McGregor

VOWENS VOICE is organising a massive rally on 26 November. It’s a call to all women to campaign against the way the crisis always affects us first.

Women are already fighting back against cuts in school dinners and lack of school buses for their kids. At the cuts in social services really bite, yet more facilities will go. Jobs will be lost. And unemployment means women have to go without their second wage, shifting work among family members.

Those of us who want to fight back are looking for a lead in the socialist movement. That’s what Vowens Voice is all about.

The rally is for all working class women wanting to fight, whether at work or on the estates. They must come, discuss the problems and plan how to fight back. This is a chance for us to rebuild a women's leadership in the working class movement.

LIST

Each IS District must draw up a list of women militants in the area with a view to recruiting them to go to the conference.

Nursery and baby-sitting must be organised in the districts, so that every woman can attend. That means starting now with organisation.

THE SOCIALIST Workers Movement in Ireland have launched an appeal for £1000 for typewriting equipment of which the International Socialists have agreed to raise £500, for the purpose of forming a national typewriting fund and the Portuguese fund this with the help of their members and supporters.

British workers, having lost the support of the national movement, now face a real threat of an attempt to establish a new, uniliated, pro-British left-wing movement.

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Northern Ireland is a special case. The Irish left has a long tradition of fighting for national liberation and social justice. The Socialists have always been involved in these struggles, and we continue to support the campaigns.

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Days of Fear for the middle-class

IN THE BBC, they get into this habit of conforming to popular spectrum versus documentary. Drama is art, they say, and not really about anything.

So in a way, they don't really know how to cope with a Jim Allen Days of Hope. It's far removed from what they think of as life.

Look at the different way they treated Days of Hope, and the documentary that went out last year on the General Strike. Did you know that documentary was scheduled originally to be shown when the General Strike was on air?

But they withdrew it at two weeks' notice, because they thought it was too explicit. Then they showed it off Friday night on BBC 2, so it wouldn't be seen by too many people. The director of that programme, incidentally, got the sack over it.

Superb

So you might say they underestimate the power of plays like Days of Hope. They judge them on their quality as drama, and that's where people like Garnett and Louch and Allen stand up high: they're superb.

In fact most good modern playwrights are left wingers of one kind or another. But most plays the BBC produce are certainly not left wing. It's crazy to think the right wing is run by lefties. Most of the plays you see present a right-wing, middle-class, suburban world aimed to show the middle-class that their life is true, that their world is real.

As soon as you see the working-class acting as if they are not conscious of being articulate, they can't accept that that's true to life. Because it frightens them, and threatens them.

So they say it's propaganda. But all the brightest ideas of middle-class life is it's not propaganda.

And all the most important class people have been stirred by what was put over. It's a danger to the middle-class. It is London's most important class people old enough to remember those days.

And it's never been aimed first of all at Labour supporters and trade unionists. It was aimed at the old illusions and who were betrayed. They are deeply touched by what was put over.

Louch cast some of the workers' parts using trade unionists, not professional actors. They could really understand the politics behind what they were playing.

The hole who played Smith comes from Barladn, and was one of those workers who put all their life into the Labour Party. But he broke with it about three years ago, over the Rent Act sell-out.

And he's close to F2 now. Some of his people have made the break, you see.

When Louch brought us together professional actors and workers we all had books to read about the period, and we were also shown the General Strike documentary I mentioned earlier.

Sink

I was a bit concerned about the woman I was playing. At the beginning, she had a political consciousness, working with Labour in the early days. But then she seemed to sink into domestic life.

Dramatically it was good, because she could then step in during the general strike. At times in the middle episodes I felt she was being used for light relief, while the fellows had all the political scenes.

Logically she would have come into contact with the East London Women's Federation and Sylvia Pankhurst. She could have gone on and developed politically.

But on the other hand, a whole generation of women did get sucked into domestic passivity.

You have to decide what to follow through. You can have an accurate reflection of the situation, or you can raise the possibility of some women achieving more, following their rebellion through. These women were in touch with revolutionary feminism.

I'm not sure that by just showing them sinking into subjection and uselessness you don't help carry on the harm.

But in the last episode you did see her coming into her own, because of her sense of having been badly let down and betrayed.

In spite of losing Philip, she faces the crisis of telling him he can go his own way without her.

I felt a bit uneasy that the mass of the people involved in the strike weren't shown enough. The play concentrated on the sell-out at the top.

Partly, of course, this is a question of budget. They really over-spent on the first two episodes, and this was the most expensive thing the BBC drama department has done.

Focus

But, on the other hand, you can be simply realistic if you just show the strikes marching and organizing. The point of this section was to focus on the manoeuvres at the top.

The strike sex wrangles with the hysterical reaction to Mayday Hope by the Daily Telegraph. They usually keep a low profile.

By kicking up such a storm they made sure we were in the news, and gave the play publicity. They must have felt they were strongly threatened that they blew it.

They just can't bear to see the truth. The BBC drama chiefs must be feeling a bit confused. It was a fantastic success. They've already sold it to Germany for instance. But it really stirred things up.

The question, I suppose, is will they show it again, and if so when?

Pam Brighton was interviewed by Judith Cowan.

PAM BRIGHTON (Sarah in TV's Days of Hope) talks to Socialist Worker

Sarah and MP husband Philip Harrawee are: the BBC's expensive and most expensive drama.

FASCISM'S IRON HEEL

FOR thousands of young people denied any serious socialist books, The Iron Heel was a landmark in our political development. I remember being thrilled to find that a man whose adventure stories were accepted at school could also write so totally committed stuff. It was my own road to Damascus.

The novel was first published in 1907, the tragic prophecy that Jack London made in the book has been cruelly acted out in countless countries and decades since.

For The Iron Heel is about fascism. It is the Germany of yesterday, the Chile of today. Written in the form of a diary, it tells how the ruling class their liberal veneer to hold on to their economic power.

BRUTALITY

The 'diary', supposedly written by the wife of a socialist leader and discovered after the socialist revolution, describes the brutality of the repression which begins with, is aimed only at the organised working class but spills bloodily even into class genocide, destroying liberal academics, farmers and small boars, far removed.

It describes how the Iron Heel uses different sections of the confused lower middle class against the workers only to turn on them in the future. How it employs agents provocateurs to incite the workers to resist and then mercilessly crushes that resistance. How a timely bomb outrage can be blamed on the socialists and used to justify their suppression.

The novel also describes the heroic response of the working class to the Iron Heel. It shows how individuals are forced by the enormity of events to take sides. It is London's personal testament to the courage and integrity of our class.

But the book has definite and tragic faults. London was a self-educated man, a one-time pearl diver, sailor, boxer and prospector who taught himself to read. Sadly, like many self-educated men, he can't resist proving it all the time.

The language and style of the book is often ponderous, stuffed with irrelevant detail and superfluous references. The opening chapter contains London's socialist ideas expressed through a series of dinner conversations with suitably stupid opponents. The arguments against socialism are shadows that our hero can easily dismiss.

More important, however, is London's inability to describe the organised working class. We are not told how the Socialist Party organise or what the American trade unions were doing. London relies on hearsay when he thinks that in 1907 American trade unionism, under Samuel Gompers, would make the CBI look like a red plot.

RACIALIST

A son of the people he was, but Jack London never held a union card in his life. Equally bad is the complete absence of blacks. Odd that in a society obsessed with race, that the Iron Heel should not use this most handy of weapons to split the working class. The reason is that London himself was a racist.

Worth it all, The Iron Heel is well worth reading. If only to see how far socialist ideas have come since 1907.


By MAL COLLINS
North London: The strength is there to fight sacking

One of the troubles that plague prisoners is the way in which they are treated. On the question of the current conditions in the prison system, it is clear that the strength is there to fight sacking.

I LIKE your feature about North London last week. It's time somebody wrote something about what's happening around here.

One of the problems that people are used to full employment is that they find it impossible to believe that redundancy is here to stay. We had a case here at Smith's the other week, where 20 people in the toolroom were sacked. Of course, these included the best matriculants in the toolroom.

There could be a lot more of this sort of thing going on all over the country. Of course, the other week, we had a case at Smith's. The company said they had to sack 20 people, and what they did was to give them the chance to apply for the jobs in the toolroom.

I hope the Brent Trades Council acts as a powerful reminder to all the companies in the area to see what strength they have if they come together to use it.

Anonymous, North London.

Official silence to hide Irish prison beatings

The British Home Office has recently decided not to give any more information in reply to inquiries about the treatment of Irish political prisoners.

This decision, obviously not taken at civil servant level, follows immediately on the recent disclosures of the beating of prisoners in Winson Green prison, Birmingham, the appearance of Sean Kinsella in court in Liverpool where he killed another man, and his admission of the Home Office through the pages of the Daily Telegraph that Gerald Harter and Michael Sheehan had been assaulted in Wandsworth Prison, South London. Other less publicised incidents of physical and mental torment of Irish prisoners fall into the same category.

Until September, complaints to the Home Office by both inside and outside prisoners were met by a bland, non-committal reply from a Mr J C Evans at the Home Office who appears to be in charge of all Irish prisoners. In September Mr Evans announced that he would reply to no more requests for information.

Until September, a member of the Prisoners' Aid Committee was denied permission to visit a 17-year-old prisoner. John Cleary in Strangeways. Manchester. John Cleary is on remand and we have reason to believe that he is being ill-treated. No reason was given for the refusal and other visitors leaving the prison confirmed that suspicions in the prison told of his being beaten.

It is clear that the British authorities are determined to build a wall of silence around Irish prisoners. In the case of Gerry Gorm, Eddie Byrne and Martin Coughlan, friends who had been cleared by police and allowed to visit have now been told that they can no longer do so. No reason has been given.

Some prisoners with families in Ireland have very few visits as a result of these tactics and are isolated at the mercy of the authorities to whom they are responsible for what happened in Winson Green last November.

"Anyone who remains silent now in face of the evidence of a deliberate policy to brutalise Irish prisoners and to make them suffer isolation and mental anguish will have only themselves to blame when the screams from the cells are their own."

JACQUELINE KAYE, Prisoners' Aid Committee, London E2.

WRONG ABOUT LABOUR?

YOUR COMMENTS on the Labour Party conference (4 October) have been published.

The party membership in the constituency has moved considerately to the left. Get your facts right. ARTHUR GEORGE, London E1.

Pension scandal

The government's new pension scheme will be operational some years in the future. There will still be a degree of difference between low paid and top paid. Single people on £20 a week will be better off. Top paid, over £81.20 will get £29. Married couples will get proportionate amounts.

At today's prices, pensions are not enough, but with the present rate of inflation we will certainly have died of starvation.

Why, on retirement, should we have to accept a greatly lower standard of living? the pension should be equal to your wage. And it should increase accordingly to that in the cost of living.

If only we need a socialist government, a conservative Labour government, Socialist Workers is very much in the way I think. ARNOLD ASHWORTH, Rochdale.

How can you fight if you're isolated?

I WORK as a nursing assistant at a psycho-geriatric hospital in East Anglia which employs about 50 nurses, only about ten of whom are trained.

Most of the nurses belong to CORSE, but there is no shop steward and never any union meetings.

This week we had a unit meeting at which the senior nursing officer announced that the local Area Health Authority did not intend to employ any more nursing assistants or even replace those who leave. Only trained staff would be replaced.

Once again, there was the same old story. They had 'over-staffed' and the present difficulties were 'inevitable'.

We were allowed a few questions on how we were going to cope with this crisis, but nobody seemed really concerned.

I have been an IS sympathiser for some time now, but everyone I work with seems disinterested or else confused about the political aspects of the cuts in the National Health Service.

And, as most of the staff have a right-wing outlook anyway, I feel terribly isolated as it is so easy to be victimised. I was when I first started the job about a year ago and, quite frankly, I got really demoralised.

If only we could see a socialist reality to the truth of how bad this crisis is and soon. What can one do in a situation like this? I.S. SUPPER, Norfolk.

WHAT ABOUT THE PRP?

SOCIALIST WORKER's reports from Portugal are unfounded among the British press. One feeling, however, has been the lack of coverage of the PFP, the only revolutionary group capable of leading the Portuguese working class to power.

The publication of the 'Open Letter to the PRP' last week showed the problems still to be overcome before workers' power can be achieved. Yet many readers must have read it without knowing that the letter had been drawn up, given the lack of...

PETE WATERS, London E2.
Local support helps hospital workers' picket beat the cuts

Delegates at the conference called by the Medical Committee Against Private Practice last Saturday. The 500 delegates included miners from South Wales and port shop stewards from Hull. They agreed unanimously that they would return to their organisations and work for the formation of local action groups. Supporters of the Rank and File Organising Committee have been working for such committees in some areas already.

Hampshire: ‘United action will win’

Rob Silverstone, NUPE shop steward, Royal Portsmouth Hospital.

HOSPITAL workers at the Royal Portsmouth Hospital head of the latest cuts to be made in our health service last week—no replacement of names who

Aworkers’ paper?
Well ask us!

SOCIALIST WORKER calls for solidarity with Portuguese workers.
But think how much stronger the case would be if it was a better paper.

We need a strong, honest paper that puts out the facts and analysis in depth. Why not a Socialist Scope like the Daily Mirror? But that's just a few pages a week.

We have a consistent campaigning. For instance, 8 weeks ago we had a strike at the Ealing Hospital.

And let's have a better paper. Why not ask for a Socialist Scope like the Daily Mirror? We have a strong record of campaigning.

What other readers think? Send us your ideas.

POSTAL POINTS:
ALREADY one worker in 20 is unemployed in Britain. There are no secure jobs. Some of the unemployed are being thrown out of work, and others are being forced to accept worse conditions. The government responds to unemployment by cutting social services, health services, and education. The working class is being made to pay for the costs of unemployment.

SOCIALIST WORKER is calling for new ideas for increasing the ranks of the working class. We will not achieve a socialist future by relying on the working class to organize itself. We need a socialist party that provides a lead and a program for the class. The Socialist Worker is a tool for this.

What we stand for

SOCIALIST WORKER is a socialist paper that seeks to organize its supporters into a socialist party. We believe in working class action—acting independently of the working class. We believe in working class action—acting independently of the working class. We believe in working class action—acting independently of the working class. We believe in working class action—acting independently of the working class.

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STOP THE CUTS! STRENGTHEN UNION DEMOCRACY!

by Murray Armstrong

COVENTRY:—The Chief Officer of Warwickshire County Council has drawn up a "crisis plan"—a list of cuts in spending to be made in 'an emergency'. This plan is to be presented to the county council this month.

The plan is a list of 142 services which can be made, in order of priority, so that the government and local authorities can make savings for next year. The list has been carried out, and so the council can cut back in the event of a crisis.

Details of the plan have been kept secret by the Tory-controlled council, but sections have been leaked to the local Tory paper. They mean:

• Five-year-olds would not be admitted to schools.
• School and street lighting maintenance would be cut.
• School dinner supervisors would go.
• Homes and hostels would be closed.
• Fire brigade services would be cut.

All this means redundancies—999 full-time and 1614 part-time workers would lose their jobs. It means massive cuts in education and youth grants, ten per cent off the youth service and £83,000 from school equipment, materials and books.

It means 15 per cent cuts in the fire service, such that national fire standards could not be met.

We are told that this plan is only for 'an emergency'. The plan would save £65 million, but for the council a 'no-growth' policy means a cut-back of £7 million. So they mean to go ahead with it.

This means that as a matter of urgency the cuts have to be fought. A combine committee covering the whole area has to be built and the redundancies and cuts resisted.

CALL FOR BAN ON BALL CLASSES

GATESHEAD:—A second meeting of unemployed teachers last week decided that the NUT should immediately have classes of more than 25 in secondary schools, 30 in primary schools, and 40 in junior schools. This is a crucial if educationally sound decision.
FOR SHOP FLOOR CONTROL! STOP THE SACKINGS!
Treachery by Triumph convenor

COVENTRY: The sit-in at Triumph by members of the clerical workers' union, ACTSS, is continuing all night in an effort to put the results of a grading exercise into operation before the company finally dismissed the strikers. But the exercise was agreed as part of the 1975 wage deal, which said the results 'shall be implemented'.

In advance

As picketing became more effective, stewards from the company moved to the effect on production, approached the strikers last week. They knew of the protest of Workers' Union convenor Eddie McGrory had been told

By Barry Collins, ACTSS shop steward a week in advance. McGrory has tried to get to go back to work while he organised the action. He also got the AllTri TLU, TFWU full-time official, to tell stewards that the picket line is 'in effect and they could cross.

Some production stewards threatened to escort lockouts through the pickets. In the face of this treachery, one of the ACTSS branches produced a leaflet asking their cash. This led to support from the shop floor which undermined the stewards' threats.

Jim Mathews, another ACTSS shop steward, told Socialist Worker: 'We are forced to comply with formal requirements, but we have our own arbitrary decisions. Why do they make agreements they

do n't intend to honour?'

Bill Bell, an ACTSS shop steward, told Socialist Worker: 'It's a disgraceful state of affairs when a so-called trade union can act this way, having his stewards escort lockouts through the picket line.

Support promised

Not content with that, McGrory has contacted the convenor of Harpers Transport, who being the body shunts from Liverpool, and asked him to get his men to come through. Neither he refused. How low can you

'At the York (BILMC Combine meeting) we were promised support from all the agencies except the two in our factory, McGrory and Griffin'.

THE MEN OF MONEY

BEHIND AEWU RIGHT

By Laurie Flynn
 голосование закрыто in the crucial Engineering Union elections—and an astonishing conspiracy to oust 'democrats'.

A couple of the top businessmen have been falling over to themselves to plug right-wing candidates. And the 'freedom fighters' are ready to pit 'the Treasurers and outspoken enemies of trade unionism Men such as 300,000-a-year editor of the Daily Express and intimate of the Prime Minister, Sir Hugh Scanlon.

The August Stalinist-multi-millionaire boss of Coventry firm, Ford, has joined the Beaversbrook publishing house, his own personal newspaper on democracy in the trade unions. It is called The News.

This gentleman, a close friend and initator of the London branch of the AEWU, Lord Lucas, is certainly, of course, both a right-wing in the AEWU and for himself and his friends. Says one of the company which 'a decent businessman must want a decent union'.

The election in the AEWU may help to explain the relationship between the right-wing organisation Treasurers and outspoken enemies of trade unionism, and the collaboration of former British industrialist COLONEL DAVID STIRLING.

NEEDED

Treanor have, suddenly, expanded to the point where they can afford its full-time officers to have no rank and file. They have also arranged for three trade unions to field candidates for the right in the AEWU elections.

Moreover, Treanor understands that the company workers understood the consequences. Often proprietors of a wellestablished newspaper, perhaps a major business lie a syndicate to the London. The other is Engineering union, which is the largest of the three unions involved in the AEWU. London, where Engineers Chart the local branch of the AEWU, was working as a way to organise against the tremendous press propaganda in support of the right.

Workers at the Birminghams are lining up to defend it, and its leadership will not be allowed to win. They also added a well-organised, but uncoordinated, demonstration to deal with the intrinsic of the bogus.

Ladbrokes: This way to victory

ON THE PICKET line at Louis Newmark's, Ipswich, this was the second week of an equal official pay strike for a rise of between £16 and £13 a week. Production is at a standstill.

The women's take-home pay is £21 to £23 a week for skilled and semi-skilled office jobs. They all joined TASS in July and, with the support of Tony Foley, District Organiser of TASS, set up a picket line on Monday.

A mass meeting of the men decided to join them on the picket line and they say they will not return to work until the women get a fair deal, even if the men's bonus claim is dealt with.

Management say the Equal Pay Act does not apply to the women, so no, no, no. No deal, no job. Both men and women workers are taking part in the campaign.

The union has offered the same pay as the lowest-paid man, who ran it off, and the men say they.

WALTER LAWRENCE BATTLE

LONDON: Work stopped at the Walter Lawrence site in Honour Street, Ladbrokes has marched into its 17th week. Despite the determination of the strikers, Ladbrokes have re-opened several betting shops in the West of Scotland with cash staff.

But in one area in particular the workers have shown that Ladbrokes empire can be beaten. The Eastendhe shop in Glasgow, the biggest in Britain, has been closed for the third time in a row, because of its effective picket line supported by trade unionists.

This is the key to victory. Calls by officials of the Clyde district of the CISU, the TGWU, and the Burnermakers, while welcome, are not enough.

If only financial and physical support can get to the rank and file of the trade union movement will the strikers win.

Donations and messages of support to Michael Doolan, Ladbrokes Strike Committee, 214 West Regent Street, Glasgow. Glasgow. This Saturday the strikers are looking for support on the picket line at shops still open to the City Centre and at Easterners.

Strathclyde: 'shock' report

BERMINGHAM: The ten-week strike by nine workers at Power Development has ended in victory. They have been reinstated and have been paid £2,700 in back pay to the AEU. And they have won a minimum of 40p an hour (instead of 40p), 10 hours' holiday with pay, shorter hours, a long break and holidays.

The strike was well supported financially not only by the AEU members, but also by members of other unions, and the AEU. It shows what determination can win, even in a small firm.

Motor Industry: Now let's fight back

THE FIGHT-BACK in the motor industry is under way. On Saturday 15,000 workers in Vauxhall, Ford and Rover will take part in the campaign to fight against the car companies' plans to close plants.

A new fact sheet prepared by the organisers makes it clear that the

car companies are planning cuts daily on meaning of between 12 and 15 plants in Britain. This money will be lost along with 200,000 workers' jobs in the next two years. In the industry it will be difficult to do this through voluntary redundancy alone. Some manufacturers are planning opt-out packages.

All the trade unions in the motor industry should attend the conference, which looks to form a national shop stewards' organisation in the industry.

Losing

Peter Henderson, Short Metal Workers' shop steward at Austin Longbridge, Oldbury.

The major companies are suddenly pushing their workers' participation on one hand and pushing further redundancies on the other side. The workers are losing what independence from the management they have gained.

And that's why the November Rank and File conference is so important. It will give us the opportunity to discuss and fight together with colleagues from right across the industry.

CRISIS IN THE MOTOR INDUSTRY

To be discussed at a meeting of the Rank and File Organising Committee. The meeting is extra–bulk orders, 100 plus, free post.

NATIONAL RANK AND FILE

To be discussed at a meeting of the Rank and File Organising Committee. The meeting is extra–bulk orders, 100 plus, free post.

We'll resist Dale's sackings

NORTH LONDON: Workers at the John Dale factory have been told that it will shut, section by section, over the next month. The loss of 600 jobs is added to the 490 lost at Dale's in the last eight months.

This has nothing to do with falling orders. They have been going up. The problem is a clash of interests by, Bury, Middleton, Huddersfield.

Engineering Union steward Khan "The line manager said: 'It was a terrible shock—the way it was done was a shock. Some of the workers have already been sacked, and it will be impossible for them to get jobs in the industry."

Yet on the shop stewards committee have told management we will be opposed to the closure of the factory by whatever method we can. The whole situation is diabolical. We intend to fight."
ROTHER SIDES are arming fast. On one side, the workers and rank and file soldiers. On the other, the wealthy and the privileged, and the political parties that support them, ranging from the extreme right to the so-called Socialist Party.

They believe that they have a god-given right to control industry, the banks, the radio stations, the newspapers and, above all, the army. Ever since several times a day, they issue communiques ordering soldiers not to support left-wing demonstrations, commanding the radio stations to report the decisions of soldiers' meetings.

These orders of the freedom of information and the press have sent in command to shock troops -- armed to the teeth -- to control the Radio Renascença broadcasting mast. They have also sent them into the CICA barracks in Oporto.

Despite this, the rank and file revolt in the army is spreading wonderfully. The rank and file soldiers ejected from the CICA barracks immediately occupied the RASP Heavy Artillery barracks nearby. They seized the artillery as well as the barracks. And, in place of right-wing officers, they elected representatives, their own representatives, to give orders.

They have received massive support in Oporto and in the Central Military Region to the South. Last Thursday, in the university city of Coimbra, 2000 soldiers and 15,000 workers, marched on a demonstration called by the rank and file soldiers' organization, SUI.

OWN MOVEMENT

The rank and file movement has also been growing in the air force, traditionally a haven for the right wing. Rank and file airmen refused last Friday to take part in the officer dominated Air Force Assembly and made it clear that they were going to build their own movement.

Regular meetings are now being held of delegates from 16 out of 18 military units in the Lisbon region. Most delegates are private.

At Bairanas, where most of the armaments factories are situated, workers have voted not to allow any more men to leave the dump. They took this decision after reports that the government wanted to put the arms into the hands of 'reliable' units.

'Revolution the only solution'

THE STRENGTH of the left lies not only in the rank and file soldiers' movement but in the working class. Last week's half-day strike of 200,000 metalworkers showed the union's call was followed even in the most reactionary towns of the North.

The most widespread slogan among the working class is 'For Popular Power'. But the slogan is capable of at least two interpretations.

For the revolutionary left, it means a structure of rank and file councils which will completely replace the existing set-up of the factories, estates and barracks.

PAGE FIVE: The face of revolution

But many workers are still not prepared to go all the way with this. The Communist Party, still very influential in the workers' movement, give the slogan a different meaning.

For them, rank and file pressure should be put on the Sixth Provincial Government to win small changes and concessions.

In line with this approach, the Communist Party is raising the slogan 'No to Civil War'. But the right has already shown it is prepared to use force to protect its interests.

Realities

In reality, the only way to prevent a repetition of the bloody disaster of Chile is to prepare the armed forces of the working class. As an SUI speaker put it, the Combra march.

The only way to prevent civil war is by preparing to fight to the end against capitalism. ... in fight for the conditions which allow the replacement of the bourgeois army by the armed wing of the working class power.

Soares incites the middle-class

THE SO-CALLED Socialist Party moved in hard in Oporto last Friday against SUI, the growing rank and file organisation in the army.

Mario Soares addressed a demonstration supporting discipline and opposing democracy in the armed forces.

The left fears that the events of the previous evening would be repeated. Then right-wingers had attacked the RASP barracks and troops had opened fire on the left.

So on Friday night the left organised. 30,000 strong they came to the RASP barracks which the soldiers had occupied and then smashed in red flags.

United

'Soldiers always, but always, on the side of the people' was the cry. 'Workers, peasants, soldiers; united we will win.'

A soldier from SUI spoke: 'We will fight side by side. For in victory or defeat we are the people. We are the majority. When reactionary soldiers talk about discipline, they mean their discipline, their orders for us to act against the people.'

This was the discipline Soares was upholding at the nearby Socialist Party demonstration. He sought to inflame the passions of the middle class.

His words were quickly translated into deeds by the crowd. The offices of two left parties were immediately attacked by members of extreme right-wing organisations who now use the Socialist Party as cover, and who wear Socialist Party badges.

The great crowds at the RASP barracks held firm, refusing to be drawn by what they saw as a deliberate provocation.

But the lesson was not lost on them: these marching attacks will cease only when the workers and soldiers have sufficiently expanded their own power and armed forces.

BOYCOTT FRANCISCO SPAIN

STOP THE REPRESION

March this Saturday, 18 October. Assembly 2pm, Speakers Corner and march to Trafalgar Square for 3.30pm to be addressed by Bob Edwards and George Anthony. ALNEW.

Supported by the Committee against Death Sentences in Spain.