UNEMPLOYMENT:
YOU ARE now on the march the TUC tried to ban.

Everyone is here in spite of a TUC circular trying to stop the march.

But today's demonstration must not be the end of the fight. The Labour government have made it clear they are going to let unemployment rise.

We can only go forward with a policy to be fought for by employed and unemployed workers within the factories and the unions, and not confined to demonstrations.

It has to use the industrial muscle of our movement.

FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK
For all workers, including those discriminated against in the past: black and women workers, school-leavers who have never had the chance of a job.

NO REDUNDANCIES
Whether compulsory or voluntary. An end to natural wastage, which destroys jobs which should be available for the unemployed.

FIGHT FOR MORE JOBS
For the 35-hour week. This should be central to all wage demands. A 35-hour week in engineering alone would create more than a million and a quarter jobs.

BAN OVERTIME
This would end sackings in most places. But it also means fighting for a living wage so that overtime working is not necessary.

BREAK THE £6 WAGE FREEZE
The government's wages policy has meant less money to buy goods, smaller order books and more sackings.

NATIONALISATION WITHOUT COMPENSATION
of all firms that try to introduce sackings and redundancies or closure. Stop all movement of machinery and finished goods.

Campaign for financial help, demonstrations and strikes of other workers in the locality.

OCUPATION
of all firms that fail to guarantee the right to work of all employees.

ORGANISE WITH UNEMPLOYED WORKERS
Every shop stewards' committee and trade union branch should support and help the activities of unemployed workers. Many stewards' committees and branches have paid for unemployed workers to be present at today's demonstration.

This must be followed up with support for local demonstrations, pickets of firms trying to declare redundancies, occupations of job centres and local demonstrations and conferences.

TRADE UNION RIGHTS
for the unemployed. No-one to stop being a trade unionist because he or she loses his or her job.

Join the movement for the Right to Work.

Unemployment: unemployed and employed—we can beat it together.
FROM Fleet Street and television comes the ugly sound of newspaper proprietors and commentators slapping themselves on the back. They are delighted with some of their greatest political triumphs since the war: the election of a right-wing majority on the Engineering Union executive.

But employers and newspaper owners never rest content. So this week they are focussing attention on the elections in the Engineers and Plumbers Union, where right-wingers are badly in need of a hand.

The whole operation is of course connected to the tune of ‘universal democracy’. But the press are not, and have never been, in favour of extending union democracy. Most trade union officials are not elected at all, they are appointed by self-perpetuating dynasties.

WHAT WE THINK

Have you ever read a single article in the Sun, the Daily Mirror or The Guardian calling for more elections in trade unions?

On the contrary. This week, for example, the industrial editor of the Financial Times, complains that too many officials are elected in the AUEW. This week’s paper says, ‘too excessive accountability’.

So the press only becomes interested in union democracy where elections are already held. These elections must be made to look like something which cannot be infected by the ballot box. It must be held by postal ballot, not in the branches. Why? Because more people currently do not—it therefore isn’t obvious, the vote will be more democratic.

No, that’s obvious. In fact, the campaign for the postal ballot fits neatly into their interest in ‘less union democracy’. So, if the campaign for a postal ballot is less democratic, the more people are not lends support to the idea that the whole campaign for postal ballots is less democratic.

LIST

Democracy means much more than a cross on a bit of paper. It depends on discussion of the issues involved among the people engaged in a common activity. Above all, it depends on trade unionists making decisions among those engaged in a common activity, and not on decisions which cannot be infected by the ballot box. It depends on the employers’ organisations and their press.

None of this happens in a ballot vote. The Engineering Union, for example, does not even get with the ballot box form information from the candidates about their ideas. There is no argument or discussion. He gets a list of names, and the Sun and the Mirror tell him who are the ‘fool subservives’ and who are the ‘decent family men’.

Index fingers fall into the hands of gentlemen who are elected once in a lifetime after a press campaign on their behalf, organised from the centre. The energy of their members, they become creatures of the greatest uneducted power group of all the employers.

STEALTH

We stand for more elections in every area of the trade union movement. We want all elections to be carried on in an atmosphere of union democracy.

We know the only way to beat back the victories of the employers and their press is to organise in the rank and file. The election results helped to kill the democratic idea that progressive can get control of the unions by stealth. It shows how the employers and the press want to start that rank and file organisation which has been so desperately needed all the time.

The First National Engineers Charter Conference takes place next Saturday—6 December at 1pm and goes on until 5pm at the Holborn Library, Theobalds Road, London WC1. The retain eight rights on the Charter to work, led by Laurie Smith, AUEW national organiser, and on the following day in Limehouse, London, with Willy Lead, senior steward at Chrysler Linwood. Engineers want to fight should be at the conference.

Credendtions and information from the Right to Work Action Committee, 46 Prince George Road, London NW1.

Police arrest 27 anti-fascists

In a highly-organized swoop, the West Yorkshire police arrested 27 anti-fascist demonstrators in Dewsbury last Saturday. The demonstrators were protesting against a march through the town of about 150 strutting National Front fascists, whose main slogans were “Viva Francisco” and Hitler was right!”

The police used the squads which had been trained to deal with the miners’ strikes of 1972 and 1974. Other police had recently been trained in an army camp.

Hundreds of thousands of demonstrators turned up to stop the fascists. Unfortunately, they were led by the police and ‘responsible local leaders’ away from the centre of the town and from the front march.

Members of the International Socialists and other militants called for a move to the town centre. They were followed enthusiastically by now, however; the police had sealed off the town hall. The demonstrations forced their way on to a roundabout where they yelled abuse at the fascists on the town hall steps.

The police moved in with systematic violence. A young woman was knocked to the ground and beaten by one in blue.

Almost all the arrests were on the roundabout. Among those arrested were four workers from Jonas Woodhouse factory of Oswest, which is threatened with closure.

Severe immigrant workers were arrested. An arrested demonstrator told Socialist Worker: “The police treated the black workers far worse than us. For instance, we were told we would be let out that evening. They were told they would be kept in for several days.”

The arrests show that the police will prepare carefully for these demonstrations. But the Front won’t come to Dewsbury again in a hurry.
No jobs, no hotel, say 140 Jamaicans

Story and picture from Phil McCowen in Jamaica.

ONE HUNDRED and forty members of the National Workers Union have taken over the 95-room Mo Bay Colony Hotel, near Montego Bay, in an effort to force the American owners to pay severance money, which amounts to 200,000 dollars. The workers were told they had to close during the off-season and would re-open on 31 October. An agreement was reached that if the deal was changed, the union would be informed. Because the workers were trying to sell the property, they had also promised that in the event of the hotel not reopening, the workers would receive severance pay.

Nothing has been heard since. Severance pay amounts to two weeks wages for every year of service. After seven years, it is three weeks wages for every year. The workers have been at the hotel since it opened in Nov. Most have been there for eight to ten years.

One man has been a gardener at the hotel for 14 years. He is 74 years old. He asked me, "How am I expected to get another job?" He, along with his workmates, would have been thrown into the ranks of the unemployed without a cent if it had not been for their courageous action of seizing the property.

When the hotel is open, the cost per day at the height of the season is 25-30 dollars a room. How many workers can afford these prices? The cheapest room off-season cost 15 dollars. This is more than Jamaica's average wage of 30 dollars a week.

Trail

The decision to capture the hotel 'until justice comes our way' was made at a meeting earlier in the week between the workers and NWU. Union organiser John Atkins was quoted by the Jamaica Star as saying that “Jamaican people are going to have what belongs to them. We are making history — this is Jamaica's first occupation — and we're going to stay until the last of the workers and children of our children's children.

The local police have been at the hotel, but have not interfered as of November. They have made no attempt to interfere with the workers. It is a fact they are sympathetic, which is something very uncommon to visitors.

The workers are not the only ones with a stake in the hotel. The bank, the National City Bank, is said to own 500,000 dollars. Who is to say that these interests are not making behind-the-scenes transaction. We have no comment in regards to Jamaican workers.

No wonder the workers get no strike pay. Workers are known to support the union, but what happens to your prawn if you have to do this? Support from husbands and wives is as we get to the point of promise. The workers are preparing for what could be a long struggle. Support is vital to ensure that this history-making occupation continues.

Send donations and messages of support to: National Workers Union, Box 377, West End, Jamaica, West Indies.

I want to be a Socialist Worker supporter

Why not take extra copies of Socialist Worker to sell to your mates? We will expect you to pay only for the copies you actually sell.

Please send me extra copies of Socialist Worker each week

(If you sell out, send the copies for our Socialist Worker supporters & contacts £2 50th.)

The workers by the swimming pool of the occupied 70 dollars-a-day hotel. Average wage in Jamaica is 30 dollars a week.

Chrysler: Just say Linwood

by Peter Bain, TGWU steward, Chrysler Linwood

Chrysler workers at the company's Linwood plant gave the right for jobs in Chrysler a huge boost.

The workers — both white-collar and manual — came 700- strong to the mass meeting.

This recommendation was to demand that Chrysler be nationalised without compensation and the plant be occupied if there was no attempt at closure.

When the vote was put, these fighting policies were carried overwhelmingly with only a handful of votes against.

Later that same day, 1,500 shop stewards from all over the West of Scotland answered the call of the

Clay Cross: 'Labour has betrayed our faith'

by May Smith

I've thoroughly disgusted, I've always been a socialist. I've been in the Labour Party for 25 years. The government is carrying on where the Tories left off.

We fought hard to get Labour on the council. Our councillors brought in the water system for old age pensioners, free television licences, home helps, free bus tokens, free milk for schoolkids. They kept rents down and employed extra council workers at a decent wage.

Now, their treatment of the councils is beyond reason. They're nearly as bad as Franco's regime as far as Clay Cross is concerned.

I've never been in a shop stewards — but I've got a name bad enough for 'em — FULL TUBES to take the councils' ears and possessions that they have worked for all their lives.

They treat the councillors like criminals whilst the real criminals go free. It's one law for the rich and one for the poor, like it's always been.

Squeeze

We put the Labour government in at the good... Now it's two-times and selling out. The Labour government 'That knock-off council house — theirs — but ours went up.

Two years ago, my rent was £3. Now it is £8.85. The increase now is another £3.34. This £8 wage limit is no good, knock off rent and rate increases and tax and What are you left with? Nothing.

All the people in Clay Cross should be on the demonstration on Saturday 6 December. They should show their gratitude and defend the eleven. People all over the country should look at what is happening in Clay Cross and should think about it. Support us. Let us know we are not forgotten.

DEFEAT THE CLAY CROSS ELEVEN

Democracy. Saturday 6 December. 2-5pm, Holdgate Community Centre, Crossways, Clay Cross, Yorkshire 15 branches to support.
No right turn... if we steer this way

WE ARE DELIGHTED that John Forrester has replied to the recent Socialist Worker articles on TASS. We would answer his points as follows:

He says he didn’t say what we said he said, which is one way of discussing the ‘modifying’ document. Well, strictly he’s right.

The remark about ‘the Big Man’ and the discussion on the document took place at a Brussels meeting on the Thursday before the EC in the Kensington Close Hotel. Many left-wing EC members were, of course, present at that meeting.

THE CASE OF JUDITH HUNT: At the 1974 TASS conference, it was agreed that the general secretary, Ken Gill, appoint a further member of the business staff with specific responsibility for women.

However, Judith Hunt, the head of the ATTU, and the Communist Party executive were appointed. She could not be appointed women’s organiser because the rule stated that applications for the job had to have five years’ TASS membership.

At the 1975 conference, the executive proposed that all women with the qualifying period—a woman—be made. But, a woman, Judith Hunt, the head of the ATTU, and the Communist Party executive were appointed. She could not be appointed women’s organiser because the rule stated that applications for the job had to have five years’ TASS membership.

The increase in women’s numbers on the executive—three of them women—will give a new face to the union.

INCREASED STRIKE ACTIVITY: As we see it, the work of the recent case of Clarke & Parkinson in Leeds, where the workers were on strike. The members were getting financial support from the union, though only on an ad hoc basis. Suddenly the money dried up.

A union official told a meeting of the men that Ken Gill had decided not to sign the wage claim because of attacks made on the union in the Socialist Worker.

Paupers: When Gill got the job, Linda’s leaving proceeds were set back until someone suggested that she should be union research officer.

The pay that has just been voted substantial salary increases. Perks on house purchase still apply to existing officers, etc.

ELECTION OF OFFICIALS: John Forrester’s letter doesn’t mention the main point in the SW articles: that the appointment of all officials in TASS is not only undemocratic in itself, but that it threatens the whole future of the amalgamated union. Forrester doesn’t even try to defend the appointment of officials for life: still less the appointment almost exclusively by Communist Party members. Yet this feature of TASS, more than anything else, gives Boyd and the right-wing majority on the AUEW executive the excuse to condemn amalgamation as an undemocratic manipulation.

Boyd and Co. will, any day now, be declaring: ‘Why should we have these TASS people in the same union—they don’t even elect their officials as we do.’

This is our answer to John Forrester’s suggestion that by criticising the undemocratic appointment of TASS officials we are playing into the hands of the right.

Risk: It’s a temptation, especially after the recent election results in the engineering section, to imagine that appointment of left-wing officials is better than risking elections which the right-wing may win.

Such thinking always plays into the hands of the Right.

Until the rank and file are allowed the maximum access to and control over the union machinery, the union leadership will always militate against its membership—will always drift further and further to the Right.

AUEW: No wonder Boyd is laughing

Socialist Worker’s 11 October article that started the argument.

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CHOP STEWARD?

FRANK Chapelle is at it again.

In the current issue of Contact, official journal of the electricians’ union he sounds off against ‘Communists and Trotskyists’ who are trying to win control of his union in the current executive election.

His call is taken up by the press, who have printed lists of Chapelle’s candidates.

In his article, Chapelle also complains about ‘one left-wing newspaper’ which has urged people to vote against the right-wing candidates.

He means us. So, we’ll do it again. Vote against the sitting executive member in every seat except the South of England North West.

EEPTU right-wingers complain that statements like this in Socialist Worker are an ‘interference’ in union elections. But a ‘Saftu’ right-wing leader would declare the election void if it saw it as interfering.

That would be the day! One piece of advice in Socialist Worker is ‘interference’—such articles in the Daily Mail and Daily Express are ‘fair’ comment.

M M MORDECAI is a shop steward at Fords. He has the British Empire Medal. He is a member of the executive of the Manor House Hospital in London North London, which is run mainly by and for trade unionists.

Over the last two weeks we have reported the case of Jose Cabra, the Transport Union branch secretary who was victimised by the hospital management but reinstated after the entire membership threatened to strike.

This victory wouldn’t have taken place had Bro Mordecai had his way. Soon after the management had backed down, he summoned Jose and told him to put an end to blocking and appeal ‘through procedure’.

If not, Mordecai threatened, he would see to it that the TGWU branch at Manor House was investigated by Transport House.

Jose’s answer can be published.

AND STILL THE GRAY FLOWS...

AN AMAZING amount of gray is expected to flow at the Richmond Hill Hotel, Richmond, Surrey from 11-16 January.

Some of the country’s top house and trade unionists will be spending the week teaching each other how to organise.

The week’s ‘industrial relations training’ is being organised by the Institute of Personnel Management.

Speakers include:

From the bosses: Eddie Robertson (CBR), J F Gogarty (British Leyland), S Huggett (British Rail), Ken Bennison (Berger Paints) and George Webb
Public sacrifice

THE National Health Service is in crisis. Despite an estimated shortage of 70,000 nurses, student nurses are being sacked the moment they qualify. Junior hospital doctors are threatening industrial action from Monday 8 December because the government is insisting on a payment system which will mean fewer doctors working longer hours.

Yet to grant their demands would cost at least £5 million—compared with excess profits of $8,250,000, made out of the NHS, which the government said the giant drug company Roche could keep last week. The educational system is in crisis, with 34,000 teachers unemployed.

The attack on the social services has been backed by a huge campaign of letter writing and demonstrations.

...MEANS PRIVATE PROFIT

Garry Bushell reviews the latest CIS Anti-Report

The press, on television, on radio, against increased government spending. There is talk about 'vast mobilization of civil servants', about 'too many unproductive workers', about 'the missing $500 million'. We are made to think that only massive cutbacks can cure these ills— at the expense of government employees and of those who depend on social services.

Labour ministers have gone to some lengths to explain that the cutbacks are part of the 'social wage'. They say that each and everyone of us gets this in addition to the money in our wage packets. Government spending benefits everybody, they claim, and if you divide it among the population as a whole, it is all the same— $50 a week, $100 a year.

The CIS Anti-Report makes the point that the only way to avoid still harsher cuts in social services is to make inroads into the 'social wage'.

Computer Information Services have published this week. Computer, the Welfare State, a pamphlet that tears to shreds and shows what the cuts really mean.

To begin with, the services that benefit all of us—education, housing, health and the social services—account only for a fraction of government spending and the so-called social wage.

Of the £1000-a-head of government spending, £69 and 119 in education, and £119 and 19 in health and social security services together get £116.

Hogs

Nori is that all. The pamphlet points out that schools, hospitals and doctors provided much more generously in middle-class suburban areas than in working-class slum neighbourhoods.

Put crudely, the middle-class hogs may well have their share of the 'social wage'. But the way they are cut open means that working-class areas will suffer. It is these areas that need new schools, new hospitals, more doctors, more old people's homes—and the cuts mean these will not be built.

When Labour ministers say: 'We all have to make sacrifices', they are really insisting that those in greatest need make the greatest sacrifices.

Who benefits from our sacrifices? Is the CIS Anti-Report revealing. It shows that government spending is used in a hundred different ways, from private profit—cheap gas for the ICI, massive profits for the giant drug companies, subsidised services for private hospital patients.

The need rapidly mounting of public spending is never mentioned by those who fear demands for cuts elsewhere—the massive growth of interest charges. Because of the way the government chooses to finance itself, it is now paying out £500 million this year, equivalent to £5 a week from every wage packet.

It is to raise this sum that housing, health, education, social services, are all about. The really unemployed, junior doctors forced to work without normal overtime pay, nationalised industries, are all about.

...CUTTER INFORMATION SERVICES

FRANCO IS DEAD. For those who, like myself, first came to political awareness at the time of the Spanish Civil war, it was an event for reflection as well as for rejoicing.

Spain, in 1936, was the scene of a mass, popular, revolutionary uprising with few parallels in Europe since 1917. The strangulation and ultimate destruction of that movement was unnecessary. Not was it primarily the result of fascist strength or German and Italian intervention, or because of Franco, or British and French ‘non-intervention’ in the same colours.

It was the consequence, first and foremost, of the policies of the Spanish workers’ parties—and above all of the policies of the Spanish Communist Party. That party, a small organisation of under 3000 members at the time of the overthrow of the monarchy in 1931, grew quickly into a mass organisation with dominant influence in Republican Spain in 1936-38. With the aim of the right wing of the Socialist Party, it threatened the revolution in the name of ‘democratic unity’ and the ‘People’s Front’. It paved the way for the fascist victory.

That was not, of course, the intention. But it was the result. Left-wing critics said so at the time. Leaders were accused of being fascist agents for their pains—and they have been saying so ever since.

Testimony

I want to draw the attention of readers of Socialist Worker to a new witness, a witness who has a uniquely authoritative position.

His testimony is exceptionally relevant because the Spanish Communist Party (PCE) and the Spanish Socialist Party (PSOE) are today, in the crisis that is now opening up, essentially the positions of a class-collaboration that they had during the civil war.

Fernando Claudines became a professional revolutionary in 1933 and worked as a functionary of the PCE for 32 years. From 1947 to 1969, he was one of the central leaders of its Political Bureau. He knows, at first hand, about the policies and practices of the party over a generation or more.

Claudines, a veteran of the Communist Youth when the Asturian miners, under left-wing socialist leadership, made their heroic armed rising against the fascist regime of the Spanish republic in 1934. He lived through outlawry through the two ‘black years’, the ‘bleak year’, of murderous repression that followed. Claudines was a member of the central leaders of the miners’ union (two Socialist Party MPs among them) were sentenced to death and hundreds of militants were “shot whilst trying to escape” under the clerical-conservative ‘democratic’ regime.

Claudines worked for the election of the Popular Front at the 1933 elections of 1933, and he took part in the workers’ and peasants’ revolt that overthrew the Francoist field casco coup d’etat of July 1936 from killing that government at birth. As a local PCE apparatusman, he played his part in curbing and uniting the workers’ resistance, and in the witch-hunt against the revolutionaries that followed in the republic and territory.

Then, for years, he served the party in the underground and in exile, through all its twists and turns of policy.

But when, in 1966, he was finally expelled from the party, Claudines did not become a renegade like so many others.

Claudines had tricked the PCE.

He tried to understand what had happened to the official communist movement after 1936. He tried to outwit it. He enjoyed many victories. The Communist Movement was back on its feet, in many European countries which cannot be discussed here—and in Spain, at the beginning of the January issue of International Socialism, in which he said he now refuses to support the forces of the Left.

Claudines became a socialist like many others, and he now immediately is what he has to say about Spain.

The July days (1936, DS) revealed the point to which the proletarian revolution had matured in Spain, and how favourable to it was the balance of forces.

‘Although the counter-revolutionary putsch of Franco, who enjoyed many victories, it nevertheless was, and will be, defeated over most of Spain, in the region of Catalonia, economically and in terms of population, by the workers and peasants of the proletarian forces.’

‘It was a socialist collapse like a sandcastle, and the passive, vacillating and opportunistic behaviour of the petit-bourgeois parties contributed to the fall of the socialist forces and achieved the victory of the petit-bourgeois parties.’

‘The victory over the petit-bourgeois parties contributed to the fall of the socialist forces and achieved the victory of the petit-bourgeois parties.’

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For the private object of Soviet policy was to consolidate the military alliances of the Western and the USSR and to achieve an understanding with Britain.

But neither the bourgeois forces of Blum nor the conservative Britain of Baldwin, nor the communists of the CNT, could contradict the programme of the proletarian revolution in Spain. ‘The only way, it seemed, “aided for Spain” could be reconciled with the objectives of the USSR was to ensure that the Spanish proletariat went on its way in the direction of the French and British bourgeoisies. That was the object of political and economic policy and of all the objectives of the proletarian forces, of all the structural and anti-fascist forces, of all the forces of the petit-bourgeois parties, of all the forces of the petit-bourgeois parties, of all the forces of the petit-bourgeois parties.

‘The Communist Movement: From Comintern to Stalinist dictatorship’ by Herrmann

Claudines was expelled and prevented from returning to Spain. His book is available from the Socialist Worker, 267 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

Why not write to Quotidian About Socialist Issues: 65 Brixton Road, London SE2? We'll take up your points.
An Act of Terror...

THIRTY-FIVE men and women—seized by the police in Southampton last week and held under the so-called "anti-terror" act without any contact with their families—were innocent of any subversive or criminal activity whatsoever.

As much was admitted by the police when they released 18 on Wednesday, seven on Thursday and another ten on Friday.

Imagine being picked up on 'suspicion' and held for up to six days without having done anything illegal. You would be angry, and your family would probably be frightened as well as angry.

If you were not accustomed to police interrogation methods you might think that things could be construed as evidence of guilt, just to get out quickly.

What is more, any Irish trade unionist in the local might feel that your sort of militant activity attracted police attention and the same sort of treatment. This is what the 'anti-terror' act means.

This is why any active trade unionist must oppose it.

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Ireland: Why three died

A LARGE SHARE of the blame for the death of three soldiers in South Armagh at the weekend rests on the government of Northern Ireland Secretary Merlyn Rees.

It is, he representing the government, who insists on keeping the Army in Ireland. And it was he who retreated before right-wing pressure a few months ago and sanctioned a series of futile and provocative gestures which led directly to the bloody engagement on Dramacaval Hill.

Local

In interviews over the past weeks, Rees described South Armagh as 'handi country' and the Provos there as 'common gangsters'. He left out of account the fact—admitted by British commanders on the spot—that the Provisionals enjoy overwhelming local support. South Armagh is not handi country. It is

By Eamonn McCann

forming country. And the reason local people support the Provos is that the Provos are local people. At bottom, it is as simple as that.

The present upsurge of activity dates back about three months. After a series of sectarian killings and counter-killings, right-wing Tories on both sides of the Irish Sea began gobering their demands that Rees 'do something' about the area.

In response, Rees drafted in more troops, including units of the revamped B Specials, the Ulster Defence Regiment, and also ordered the cratering of border roads.

As Social Worker pointed out at the time, this would not bring the sects to the negotiating table. Rather, it would make matters worse.

The Provisionals intensified their incursions into British territory as a breach of the truce and, in certain cases, as reprisals. Before last Saturday's shoot-out, they had killed three regular soldiers and three members of the Ulster Defence Regiment.

Hysteric

The fact that they were able to step up activity at will is itself eloquent testimony that Rees's 'new measures' had less to do with 'security' than with demonstrating to Jim Knight, Ian Paisley and other reactionary hysteries that 'something is being done'.

That is why four soldiers were sent to coup in a dog-out on a bleak border hill.

They were not 'defending the border'. They were protecting Labour Ministers against Tory allegations of 'softness' ...hardly the worthiest cause to die for.

The same willingness to sacrifice socialist principle to placate rampant Toryism is evident in the renewal of the Prevention of Terrorism Act. The Act was passed on a stormy night after the bombing of the Birmingham buses by the Provisionals, which gave the police virtually unlimited powers of search, arrest, detention and deportation.

It is the most formidable assault on civil liberty in Britain for more than a century, a blow against the commitment of the Labour government to the rights of individuals.

In Central London, as in South Armagh, the British government reacts to IRA activity not by facing up to the real causes of it in the history of Tory pressure.

The unpleasant fact is that there will be more bloodshed in both places, no matter what action Labour takes, if Labour recognises the reality.

That the truth is, that which all Rees's babbling about 'orderly' cannot hide.

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Racism

What it has achieved is the deportation without charge or trial of dozens of Irish workers, the intimidation of hundreds of others who had promised to involve themselves in socialist or Republican politics, and a continuing attack on anti-Irish racism.

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Support Republica!

By Steve Marks, NUIJ, Magazine branch

solidarity delegation organised by Jouralists Charter, the rank and file organisation in the National Union of Journalists.

The delegation also visited Radio Renascence and the local paper Setubalense, which have also been taken over by their workers.

Republica's crisis has been brought on by a deliberate policy of boycott from the government and the big newspaper distributors. The workers' management has just had to pay off a £200 debt to the Swedish monopoly SODIP, incurred by the old management.

But the government is denying Republica credits given to other papers.

We asked the workers at Republica and Renascence what we could do to help their fight to survive.

Republica workers urged us to help sell the English-language edition of their paper. And they welcomed our suggestion that Journalists Charter would supply them with regular new items on the struggles of British workers with the help of the Rank and File Organising Committee and other organisations.

The Organising Committee is appealing for donations from workers' organisations to buy space for solidarity messages in Republica.

For details contact the Rank and File Organising Committee, 46 Prince George Road, London N16 EBY (01-340 1267)

The first delegation of shop stewards organised by the BFOC will leave for Portugal at the beginning of December.

For full details contact the BFOC on 01-246 1207.
Republican's time for a rethink

NOTHING in the past few years has unnerved people in the Catholic-dominated areas of Belfast as much as the feud between the Provisionals and the IRA, which claimed ten dead, including a six-year-old child. The feud, which started at the same time as the renewed bombings in London, will have convinced many that the present administration is as much a cause of violence in Ireland as the Provisionals and the IRA, that they are not intent on freeing or negotiating with the government.

The first thing to understand about the feud is that if it wasn't for the British presence in Northern Ireland and Ireland, Britain's support through the years for the IRA, sectarian Northern Ireland would not be there. Without it, the Provisionals and the IRA would not attack the British troops in Ireland has any right to moralise about what has been happening.

Socialist Worker defends the right of the Irish Republican Movement to exist and to struggle to end British supremacy. We defend the Soviets, on the receiving end of the initial attack in this case, just as we defended the Irish Socialist Republican party (RSVP) a few months ago when their organisation was attacked by the Soviets. We do so because we recognise that the fight back against British imperialism can only be effectively open if discussions on strategy and tactics is possible for all republican and socialists without fear of armed reprisals.

From its beginning nearly 300 years ago, Irish Republicanism has been the only hope for the masses of the people against crises of slavery and militarism. It could hardly have been otherwise with an armed and automatically illegal revolutionary group, beset by the weight of imperialism. Of necessity it operated underground. Basic

One result is that within the Republican Movement, which both the Soviets and the Provisionals claim to embody, military matters have tended to take precedence over political matters; the political wings of both is to mostly support for the fighting men. Tactics and strategy are decided by the present organisations, the Army Council of the IRA. The rank and file have no strategy, no tactics, not because they have involved in a preceding discussion, but simply because they have never been consulted. That is the way in army.

It is the inhuman form of organisation which demands extraordinary moral loyalty from the members, and this creates a corresponding degree of bitterness and frustration for the forthcoming.

That is what gives Republican spills their special virulence. The Soviets and the Provisionals see each other as cut off from the normal social and political life away from the correctness of the political line but actually as traitors.

**PORTUGAL AT THE CROSSROADS**

Soviet Worker Portugal Solidarity Fund

YOU're the first English person I've heard speak good of the Portuguese in 600 years of alliance. Before, we were always helped where we needed it, and yet we never gave it. Now, we are laughably on the flip side of the Portuguese.

That is what a Transport workers shop steward from Portugal told economist at a meeting of Portuguese immigrant workers in Berlin. He's just come from a meeting in Lisbon, which is, for solidarity with the Portuguese workers, an event organised by the Socialistische Arbeidersorganisatie (SAG), a fraternal organisation of Socialist Workers. The Portuguese Worker, a member of the movement, was on a tour in London this weekend to help raise funds for the SAG.

More than CO50 for the PPP and CO15 towards rebuilding the Radio Renascenso mast. Copies of Revolution, Socialist Worker and the foreign language edition of the pamphlet Portugal at the Crossroads were sold at the meetings, as well as copies of the new 1979 edition of the magazine, to English workers. On Thursday 12th January, we've been volunteering to work as volunteers in the hospital, where we've being helping the workers of the hospital.

ACTIVITIES

The Solidarity Fund is able to give people who are suffering as a result of the Portuguese Revolution. One solidary action we have recently done, was to give a sum of money to the workers of the National Telephone Company.

We want to keep sending money to the PPP and they are doing a great job of supporting them in their struggle outside Portugal. Seven of our members, who are still receiving help, have got their legs and are able to go home with you. We've got a lot of support for the Portuguese Revolution, which is a genuine movement of national resistance.

It was with mounting fury by the corporates. One Solidarity Fund document, promised at 17 per cent angolan control of all foreign companies operating in the country. To Lord Clitheroe and the Majors, this was an outrage. Their class had lived comfortably on starving Angolans for centuries. They determined not to give up their property without a fight. To the government, especially the South African and American governments, made plans to come to an agreement.

They worked with unimaginable self-sacrifice, patience and heroism. Over enormous distances and impossible terrain, with little transport and outdated weapons, they built an army which was an example of the people's struggle. The rebellion against the Portuguese government was a genuine movement of national resistance.

"Detente' mean a meeting of the heads of state meeting in South Africa. "Detente' means the Ceasefire of the Angolian people, a genuine movement of national resistance. We have been volunteering to work as volunteers in the hospital, where we've being helping the workers of the National Telephone Company.

"Detente' is the government's way of getting rid of the Angolian problem. The Angolans have been pushed to the brink of starvation. Its policy is called a "Detente". "Detente' is the internationally-agreed term to describe the thawing of relations between states. They virtually gave up all the political and economic aid they had been given.

Our organisation was set up to provide a voice for the Angolan workers. We have been volunteering to work as volunteers in the hospital, where we've being helping the workers of the National Telephone Company.
FOR 15 years and more the corporate governments of South Africa and America have been preparing suitable black leaders to make an 'independent' Angola free for plunder. In 1962, the American CIA single out Holden Roberto as their man in the Angolan north. Roberto has led a fruitless rising in North Angola in 1961, and had shank back, while his comrades were murdered by the Portuguese, to Zaire and its President Mobutu and governed by the American State Department. It is the second largest recipient of American aid in Africa. A third of all its aid goes to building up its army. Roberto and Mobutu became soul-mates. They set up an 'Angolan government in exile' under a movement now known as FNLA. It proceeded to fight the Portuguese. In fact, it fought the MPLA.

In 1961, Roberto's gang shot down a column of 21 MPLA fighters in Northern Angola. In 1966, the MPLA commander in Zaire, who had been forced to work underground, was captured by Mobutu's secret police and tortured to death.

In June 1967, 200 MPLA soldiers were arrested by Mobutu's army eight miles north of the Angolan border and locked up in the notorious Kinkara concentration camp. Many Angolan freedom-fighters died in the camp, among them the leader of the MPLA women's section, Deolinda Rodrigues.

While Holden Roberto was killing Angolan freedom-fighters, he grew rich. He married Mobutu's sister and dabbled in property speculation. He owns five big office blocks in Kinshasa.

In the south, the Angolan secret services found an even more procurable puppet. Jonas Savimbi, a well-born graduate of Lusana University in Switzerland, was a partner in the secret services. Savimbi set himself up on the south of Angola with a small detachment of troops and announced to the world that he was leading another Angolan independence movement. UNITA.

UNITA did not fight the Portuguese. It helped them. In July 1974, the French journal 'Afrique' printed a series of letters between Savimbi and the Portuguese commander in Angola, General Luis Camacho. The letters, written between September and November 1972, gave the Portuguese information about MPLA post and camps.

As a result of these letters, the MPLA was split, and the Angolan war was won by the Portuguese, not by the MPLA, as the Portuguese believed.
Whitlam had the votes, the Constitution and public support.

Fraser had the bosses and the Governor-General . . . . he won.

So much for democracy in Parliament.

Defend yourself with democracy on the job.

WHY THEY SICKED WHITLAM page 2
THE MAN THEY GOT TO DO IT page 11

A SPECIAL edition of The Battler, paper of the Socialist Workers Action Group, the Australian fraternal organisation of Socialist Worker and the International Socialists. The edition was in immediate response to the sacking of the Whitlam Labour government, to call for a general strike.

The edition was sold out within 36 hours.

A letter from SWAG tells us: "Thursday saw 30 left-lying Victorian unionists declare a four-hour strike of all their members on Friday afternoon and they called a rally for 2pm in the city square. At the demonstration we sold 500 copies of our paper and collected about $50 dollars extra in donations.

They marched up to the Old Treasury and hinted "Go home and be peaceful"—and a plea from state secretary of the Amalgamated Metal Workers Union John Hapkeny to go home before peak hour to avoid disrupting transport!

"We had a megaphone. We started agitating for a march on Parliament House and got our two banners and our members to move on. Everyone followed. We then marched on the Stock Exchange. SWAG was now leading 20,000 demonstrators, although they did not all share our view!" A whole layer of workers is having parliamentary illusions stripped from their view of politics.

Australians in the International Socialists are attempting to organise support in the unions through the IS Australia group. They have speakers who can visit Socialist Worker meetings or trade union meetings, and can supply copies of The Battler. They are especially anxious to contact socialists from or with contacts in Australia. For more information contact the IS Australia Group, 8 Corners Gardens, London E2.

Support for prisoners

Three Provisional IRA prisoners in Warrington, England demonstrating against their unconditional release, are to hold a week's fast and rip off visits. They were imprisoned in order to stop the right to be treated as prisoners of war—and there it is a war on, in Northern Ireland.

Members of the International Socialists in the nearby Harehills Hospital put into action Socialist Worker's call of a fortnight ago for concrete solidarity with the prisoners. They have surrounded the hospital, and have been turned away. The prisoners are demanding unconditional release, and support at their Sunday night hunger strike. Stop the bombings. Troops out of Ireland. Self-determination for the Irish people.

Locals organiser for the rally should start sending forms in now—places are limited, it will be first come, first served.

Portugal: Vital points in solidarity

The Bertand Russell Peace Foundation has invited a number of organisations, to participate in calling a conference in solidarity with the Portuguese Revolution in Paris on 13 and 14 December.

At the first planning meeting IS proposed some basic points which we thought would form the basis of the conference. These were: full support for the workers' and soldiers' committees, support for the workers of Republica and Radio Renascense and opposition to the disarming of the workers.

These were all agreed.

Since then these points seem to have been dropped by the publicity for the conference. We think this has happened for fear of upsetting friendships within the Labour Party and the trade unions, many of which had been supporting the Portuguese Socialist Party.

Together with several other British and French organisations that agree with our arguments we will be going to the planning meeting to put the new arguments regarding the Portuguese workers. We hope that we can express a united line on those present that the only sort of conference that is worth anything is one that is clear on which side it is.

If the conference is on the workers' side then it will provide a fine opportunity for organising working-class solidarity throughout Europe.
BY DAVE SMITH

Don't mouch, organise!

By DAVE SMITH

should be plotted by workers in their ranks,
most of the best American
reformers—and it was
revolutionaries that the
Wobblies were

Established trade union leaders
refused to have anything to do with
them. The capitalist class turned
arms of armed thugs on them.

Joe wrote fighting songs. His first,
"Casey Jones." The Union Scab,
was written to help the railway workers
on the South Pacific Line whose strike
was being broken by scab labour.

The song went:
Casey Jones got a job in Heaven;
Casey Jones was doing mighty fine.

CASEY JONES was scabbing on the
angels,
Just like he did to workers on the S.P. Line.

Before long, workers all over the
States were singing it. Joe Hill became
a frequent contributor to the
Wobblies' Little Red Song Book. His
songs were just so accessible
relevant to the workers they
were written for.

In 1915, Joe found himself in Utah,
where workers were locked in a fierce
battle with the Utah Copper Company
and the Brigham Construction
Company.

He set to work to help organise
the workers, but by now he was marked
man. The police, anxious to crush the
Wobblies, pushed him in for question-
ning over the murder of a grocer and his
son.

Their evidence, if you could call it
that, was that Joe had been injured on
the night of the murder.

Reich argues that fascism
springs not only from
economic and political
factors but is also a
product of the ruthless
suppression of the
individual by an
authoritarian and
sexually inibited society.

Available, £1.15 (incl. postage), from IS Books,
268 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.
LETTERS
Write to LETTERS, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2

Send your letters to LETTERS, Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2. Please try to keep them brief. Let us have your name and town where you don’t want your name published.

POSTAL POINTS

CHRYSER: The real story...

WORKERS at Chrysler Linwood last week voted overwhelmingly to demand the nationalisation of Chrysler and to occupy the factory if the company try to pull out.

I was astonished, however, to read in the Morning Star on 17 November a statement by John Ray, the Communist Party's Scottish industrial organiser, that 'Party members were at the forefront in the big struggle at Chrysler Linwood'.

This letter has also been sent to the Morning Star.

As far as I can recall, the only CP member who spoke at the shop stewards meeting at which the above policies were hammered out was Ronnie Biggs, AUEW sub-convenor.

At the joint shop stewards meeting on Wednesday 28 October, called to bear a report-back from a combine meeting with the company, the JSS chairman Brian Burden urged CP stewards to support Chrysler's demand for £3 million from the government.

What was more monstrous was that the official statement by an official CPSU (Comintern) apparatus CPSU mouthpiece (now) the CP was even more monstruous. I refer to the statement by Joe Gormley, National Director of the Communist Party, that 'the CP have supported the Chrysler workers'.

There is no doubt that the Chrysler workers' struggle was the most widespread strike in the history of the CP but, as I have pointed out in the Morning Star, the CP were not and could not be the vanguard of the struggle. The struggle was the result of the massive upsurge of working class consciousness and militancy which is a direct result of the growing length of time that workers have to be exploited before they get their living wages.

Don't miss this film

DREAMS and Nightmares, the film is now on the big screen. It is a 50 minute documentary made by an American building worker. He finally decided to volunteer to fight against Franco in the Spanish Civil War when he saw a newsreel of the bombing of Guernica.

The film skilfully uses clips of archive film of unemployment, Depression and the rise of fascism. It is an emotional film. He returned to Spain in 1974 with a camera and found the massacre of the Spanish people. He finds the real Spain...behind the surface.

The film should guarantee a popular film, one which made me feel children of our time...DAVID WILKINSON, Islington Prop Com.

WHAT RUBBISH

I WAS STUNNED to see that Fifth Column (22 November) had joined the ranks of the Kennedy cult. John F Kennedy's brother never had a 'peace loving prime'. He was murderous and inhuman.

Recent revelations about the CIA tell how Kennedy ordered them to arrange the murder of Lamumba, the leader of the Congolese liberation movement, and to try to assassinate Fidel Castro. In his election campaign against Nixon, Kennedy managed the feat of being more of a war-monger than tricky Dick himself, inventing a 'missile gap' and demanding arms spending, as well as calling for action against Cuba.

He gave the go-ahead for the Bay of Pigs CIA invasion of Cuba, and was prepared to contemplate complete destruction of humanity through nuclear war. His views were translated into action with Russia over the Cuban missiles.

He had been one of the Congressmen who picked the notorious dictator Devalar to run South Vietnam for the US, and he presided over the build-up of US troops around Saigon.

The book The Best and the Brightest tells how all the 'nice liberals' taken into the White House by Kennedy were behind the mass bombing of civilians in the Lyndon Baines Johnson period.

Maybe some nutty right-wingers did tell Kennedy. Some of the American exterminators right are capable of anything. But I find it difficult to imagine that the Kennedy supporters in high places under LBJ's reign (including the rest of the Kennedy family) would have kept quiet about the affair - especially when you look at the hysteria which broke out over a downgrading of the Democratic Party HQ.

WEEP

But in any case, the Kennedy administration was nothing for the Left to weep over. They were an arch-murderer like that should not cause anyone to lose a tear. It is said that the evil do men live on after them. One of Kennedy's creatures was Holben Roberto, chosen in 1962 to represent US interests in Angola. Roberto is now a refugee, hiding in a forest in Angola to fear that country apart...COLIN SHIPLEY, N London.

BRITISH RAIL have quickly shown that what the Right Dail's defence of Rail is worth. Lawyers have told them that their racial discrimination against women shoppers and housewives going for the train on wet days was illegal.

Men who work on the railways get travel concessions for their wives and kids.

When it suited BR to fill up the trains in off-peak hours, they told the obvious market - women. Now their finance are in the fertiliser, they want to scrimp every penny out of all travellers, regardless of sex - GAIL ARMSTRONG, Coventry.

SWE'S ANSWER to capitalism will involve considerable violence. Yet surely, if no man inflicted violence on another, we would have achieved considerable progress. Violence is sometimes difficult to avoid and may, during a life-time, involve the most non-violent of us. Your road to SWE; however, leads straight to I-K ANDERSON, Ashton-under-Lyne.

ABOUT THAT '66 NORTH

THE JFK article contained an error. Kennedy's funeral was indeed Should have been kept before the assassination, but not by the right-wing fanatics of Dallas. But at the present time, many women are being denied the £6 or having the £6 traded against a loan.

According to Appendix 12 of the Women's Report, it was released by the very same military personnel who were responsible for the actual funeral cortège. I could quote the Warren Commission explanation but readers would probably only say 'fun during their own - BRIAN BURDEN, Braintree.

MAUREEN Tonkinson and Brian William (Letters, last week) miss the point altogether.

Of course we are against wage controls and rent control. But at the present time, many women are being denied the £6 or having the £6 traded against a loan.

It is also likely that women who pay for equal pay and the £6 will be told their jobs are in danger as they are no longer a cheap source of labour for the boss.

HALLAS cits from 'each according to his ability' and 'from each according to his needs, as the basic principle of socialism. The immediate aim is to mean the higher phase of communist society, i.e. to mean the transformation of the whole of society into a community of free, equal and communally significant individuals.' This is important, so long as you are consistent. Hallas is not. He provides the basic definition as evidence against this. It is not clear what he means by 'the communal'. In what sense, what, where? And it is not clear what he means by 'collective' in the communal sense. What, where?

I MOUNBER (8 November) misses the point about Hallas, not about the dangers of anarchism. In maintaining this, the CP are only using the same moral judgements are impossible to distinguish one from another. They means that such dangerous ideas coming outside from the real world must be allowed to die of cold or starvation. This may have been tragic, but at the same time, economic development meant that those who was not allowed to die the same as the others who might live.

When high pay and education becomes organisation, the appropriate and of production have advanced to provide better society, as in the case in the obezy the capital in present-day forms.' - JAMES CROCKETT, Aberdeen.

WHILE understanding and sympathising fully with John Gillet (8 November) on the employment of non-union labour in the TV series Days of Hope and Glory, I want to forward that the working class has little chance to make any change and therefore any opportunity must be used to demonstrate such an opportunity - BILLY SMITH, Carphad, North Lanarkshire.

In the present situation, therefore, we are in favour of women fighting for that is why that those slogans are always together - the £6 does not stand in isolation.

We were against threshold agreements as a means of fighting inflation, but in Groves fighting for the payments when firms agree to a lower rate, such as that of THOMA McGregor, Workers Voice.
Amnesty? 
What amnesty?

WHILE lauding the Salford dote for a few weeks, I have had no real discussions or arguments with the unemployed and have had some good remarks. 
One really liked was from a man about 12 who had been employed for the bad days and been unemployed for a number of months. He started to talk about lack of support from the government and union leaders to smash the system.
He finished up by saying, ‘No wonder the government called for an amnesty. Being a bit baffled by that I said ‘What amnesty?’

Reply: ‘When they stopped us being able to get guns in case we shot the bastards’ I still do not know what amnesty he is talking about but he made his point.

This is the line you get off some people when others are a bit softened and unrealised that they can’t make the effort to get their hands out of their pockets and take a leaf.

So if we are going to have to work harder to push the sales of SW and also consolidate on previous work to get a message across to the class that they are being conned and there is a way to fight back.

BOBBY BURDIE. Manchester

Sacked—for no reason

I HAVE worked at Millwards, a furniture factory in East London, for 18 months. Ever since getting this job it had been down and out for some time and was determined to pull myself up and get back on my feet.
For this reason, the job meant a lot to me, although the conditions in the canteen, toilet and warehouse were dirty and unhygienic.
A couple of weeks ago, I went sick for a few days, when I returned I was told to ‘push off’ and get another job. I was sacked on the spot, without any warning or reason given, and it upset and disgusted.
Yet the Department of Employment put my redundancy down to ‘non-utilisation’. If there’s been bad management or misconduct, it’s on the side of Millwards.

Can I appeal against this decision—why should I have to defend myself? If capitalism cannot be forced to account for its behaviour—MI FLET, LONDON

DON’T LET GUM STRIKE BECOME ANOTHER FALSE TUBE

The Ladbrokes’ strike is looking more and more as a fast-track carrier. That strike for union recognition went on for three years with brave promises from the leaders of the Transport and General Workers Union and the Engineering Industry—and ended in defeat after they failed miserably to win their power to win it.

The Ladbrokes’ strike committee are now considering how they can undo all the work they had achieved. We are all for their support from the TGWU.

They point to the Ladbrokes’ decision on the average manager to build their profits. Pressure, what will happen should the TGWU ask the dockers, bakers, drivers and others up and down the land to picket Ladbrokes’ shops.

BEER

They also point to the way the TGWU organised the TGWU support of a picket of Ayer reprocessors. Instead of shipping all supplies to the company, Wyer organised it so that the beer deliveries were stopped during the Ladbrokes sponsored races alone. That was it. No beer for two races.

When the TGWU called a meeting in Newcastle in October to support the strike, while the strike went on, Wyer attended. When a member of the Glasgow strike committee later went there, the Ladbrokes workers turned up.

Now at least 200 of the 380 employed by the factory shop employer in Newcastle are in the union. Yet Jack Wyer has still not called the TGWU. He is not interested in winning, he is interested in numbers.

Jack is not interested in the way to win disputes. He has a role to play, a position to keep. Certainly he supports the strike and the workers’ claim. That is why, nine weeks ago, he spoke in Paisley at the opening of the new TGWU office. She attacked ‘Victorian employers’ who would not permit trade union rights. That same night Jack Jones dug into his pocket and gave the Ladbrokes strike committee £1 for their fund. What generosity—particularly when he had just accepted a gift of a set of cut crystal glasses worth £250 for opening the new Paisley headquarters. His house must be stored out with such wealth.

With the kind of support Wyer and Jones are giving the strike it could really get on the same way as Fine Tubes.

But Fine Tubes and Ladbrookes’ show that if the rank and file take the initiative, then you’re in a situation of being supported at Ladbrokes’ it’s more than a chance. The strikers are good and can win against the management. They can get rank and file support against the monopolistic and fascist pressures on the TGWU Union.

Contact the Ladbrokes’ Strike Committee at 21 West Regent Street, Glasgow.

By Jimmy McCallum

SIOUX FALLS' 67 BIGGIE

I feel I must report the following to the Socialist Worker.

The meeting was held at the Phoenix Cinema, Soho, on 7 February. It was arranged by the Socialist Worker party and The Peaceful Property Corporation.

Miss Evans, TGWU national official, and Hugh Wyer were told that Ladbrokes would not meet them in the company of any of the strikers.

Immediately Wyer and Evans gave in. With the exception of one trade unionist, they were met without any of the strikers.

When Miss Evans, in the course of the meeting, announced that the strike was over, the trade unionists went out. The strikers were not present.

Evans explained that Ladbrokes would not meet them in the company of the strikers.

The strikers were, of course, to stay sacked. Payments were to be £150 for a shopkeeper £250 for workers £250 for women cashiers.

In the case of the catalogue, the women and men of Ladbrokes are fighting on. The Transport and General Workers Union is no longer on the way out. Last year they won the first signs of a move to withdraw official strike pay.

JOIN Socialist Worker IN THE STRUGGLE FOR SOCIALISM

Become a Socialist Worker supporter—fill in the form on page three.
SOUTH WALES: One up for the women!

SOUTH WALES: Round-the-clock picketing continues at clothing factories where women are out for a 55% pay increase.

The women were furious when management—Kaye Bondor and the Northgate Group—offered only £3.60. Most of the factories in dispute are part of the Courtalds giant, which announced interim profits of £22 million last week.

It's a bad year—1986—we're not prepared to work for a pittance any more," Rita Griffiths, branch secretary of the Tailor and Garment Workers at Maesteg, told Socialist Worker.

The organisation of the pickets is superb. All the sites have comfortable caravans or shelters, and glazing firm. At least one picket is on duty for the caravan rental and top up for gas. At Llandisant and Merthyr Tydfil, local ladies have been sorting out collections to pay for them.

It's not easy for the workers, who have the responsibility of the home and the shopping, to man a 24-hour picket. But they're doing it. At Merthyr Tydfil, the families have three shifts so the women are on duty in every three days.

'It's good this way—one day on and two days off. It's not as bad as it seems,' said steward Barbara Evans.

At Maesteg, 'It's lucky we have the husbands with us. They help keep things up after the kids."

Jane, the husband and wife on strike picket duty with looking after the kids.

The pickets are keeping finishing going on the runways, and searching every vehicle to make sure everything is safe.

Shock

At Neath, where about half the women are still working, two lorry firms are breaking the picket line. Campbell Transport of London, and Math, a local firm, arrived.

Meanwhile, on MERVISEIDE, some of the local papers that supply Marks and Spencer, and Linney Road and Land Hill that supply Mothercare.

Our correspondent says the response is sold. 'We're worth the 16, we need the 16, wages are up and the picket side is better off in the end.'

The women went back last Monday morning to receipt their official ballot, and came straight out again.

'As Barbara Evans put it: 'Conditions are no better at all. No one is one up for the women."

Tyneside begins battle for the Right to Work

Tyneside: 350 delegates from most local trade unions will lobby on a Right to Work Committee on Sunday at a Conference on Unemployment called by Newcastle Trades Council. They also set up an action committee to reduce the cuts.

It's like giving a strawberry to an elephant," said Dave Berman, miners' delegation, referring to the £28 million grant to Newcastle by the government.

This was confirmed by Tommy Hayley, from Liverpool's Spozers Committee, who said: 'We condemn any demand for import controls, which could only go against the multinationals by the establishment of international controls.'

GLASGOW: The occupation by 300 workers at Personna is beginning to get the needed for victory.

After ten weeks of struggle to stop 40 sackings, the men and women inside the factory feel the tide is beginning to turn. The employees' occupation has forced the Engineering Union to give official support.

A delegation was going to Wednesday's Right to Work march in London.

Last Sunday, Phil McBride, AUEW convenor spoke at the Glasgow Socialist Worker Right to Work rally. 'The time to fight is when you have a job,' he said. 'There's no point in waiting until you've lost your job and are on the dole.'

SCINTHORPE: British Steel needed just 50 minutes last week to repair a faulty electrician's switch, but 150 hours after it caused the death of Thomas Parker, 25, at the Appleby-Frodingham, he was crushed to death.

This fault appeared repeatedly on the switch. The worker was cut in half. A man was killed. 11 men have now died after the explosion at the Victoria furnaces. Appleby-Frodingham.

PICKET LINES

SCINTHORPE: British Steel needed just 50 minutes last week to repair a faulty electrician's switch, but 150 hours after it caused the death of Thomas Parker, 25, at the Appleby-Frodingham, he was crushed to death.

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SALFORD: We will not be giving back till they have put £12 on the table—the worst of all the cases of the 102 workers at Salford University. The management has finally decided, after 15 months of struggle, to give the workers an increase of 1%.

The University has decided to give the workers an increase of 1%.

The workers have already gained an increase of 3% in a previous agreement.

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The University has decided to give the workers an increase of 1%.

MANCHESTER: Students are fighting for colour bar.

By Ken Wilson, MPSU Action Group

A COLOUR BAR is being operated by Manchester Polytechnic. Each year its loading bursary and principalhip is advertised in a, questionaire, if they are willing to accept an overseas student. In other words does the landlord wish to discriminate.

Having campaigned against this racialist practice, the students decided to act before the 1986-7 academic year. The deputy director, sent to address the students said he was not sure what the result would be.

The students want to campaign against this preference. But the University should always be committed to the idea of non-discrimination and to prove that overseas students are not sub-

Solid

This isn't the only discrimination against overseas students. Their make is to be slashing their fees. They will continue to pay £75 a week. Overseas students are charged twice the rent charged to English students—£2 a week instead of £1.3. All includes Scottish students, who may come as a shock to those who never realised Scotland was overseas.

A picket organised by Manchester area students, will be at the Polytechnics and other colleges, protested against these fees and the high level of fees.

Last weekend the Poly Students Union and the University Students Union held a conference to discuss colour bar. The campaign should be given national priority.

Workers as management cracks

LONDON: The eight strike at Lawrence's was won in 1985. But the management cracked after three weeks. This was the outcome of the social recommendation to resume work and make our main points.

Lawrence's has guaranteed our bonus demands. The law will be a revised contract but there will be no redundancies before the structure contract entered into force and in the warehouses as it was before the dispute.

A national campaign is being mounted at Sheffield University. Forums for over 80,000 in the clarion. The students union proposed a national occupation of parts of the administration block.

The Clarion (22.000), and then spent £17,000 renovating the house using the money raised. The house is now a centre for the Clarion community. Messages of support and donations to: Tom Keating, 16 Derby Avenue, Saltford 8
Alcoa: We've got them over a barrel

SWANSEA: The strike by 500 electricians employed by Alcoa which is due to get under way tomorrow (Tuesday) have been stopped. The 500 Alcoa's workmen at the Swansea site are on strike for 48 hours which begin at 6pm this evening.

They are demanding a 20% pay rise and an annual cost of living increase.

A spokesman for the company said: "The strike is not planned for today. The Alcoa workers will be monitored closely and any disturbances will be dealt with promptly."

Ansell's:TUC sabotage

BIRMINGHAM: The Ansell's is now in its sixth week—and management are still determined to crush the workers' strike. The T&GWU local section has been closed down and the strike is still on for another week.

A spokesman for the company said: "The workers are still at work and we are trying to get them back to work."

"We are not giving up. We are determined to fight for our rights."

Cowley: 'Work harder' con-trick

The FIRST thing you notice when you walk round British Leyland's Assembly Plant at Cowley is the large number of Princess cars. Yet the company claims the workers don't produce enough. The problem is that all the cars are either fitted with major parts or are short of parts.

That's not the workers' fault—it's bad management. Yet once again the workers were scrupulous. The real facts are rarely known.

The shop stewards' committee have produced a report which makes explosive reading. It says: "Everyone knows that 99% of all parts have to be done to the assembly workshop. They are due to faulty components and rejects."

The report goes on: "A great deal of faulty material is present being fitted on all parts. It quotes a superimposed document which has a high defect of faulty parts which have been known for a year or so."

On top of this, the management have virtually abolished 'good' inward inspection department, so that components are no longer inspected when they come into the factory. And company policy of reducing stocks levels has created a number of shortages.

A few weeks ago, the company tried to meet the diagnosis. But when they were shown the facts, they simply temporized by minor action. The diagnosis remains shining through to the shop floor. Work in the right number of cars aren't relevant, it's part of an overall campaign to blame the workers for their problems.

Workers from management to workforce blame 'industrial relations' in certain parts of the plant. The plant is that Leyland has brought it on themselves. They are responsible for the decisions to make trade union organisation inside Cowley.

The shop stewards met on Monday afternoon but have yet to report to the shop floor. Cowley is in the middle of a battle with the shop stewards to make any more concessions.

Cover for absences in London are already imposing this policy with a vengeance. Now all shop stewards are on the alert. If we can't get action, we will have to consider the machinery of the company and the employers will have to go on strike."

The company states that by doing so, they will lose the privilege of unproductive employment among all the encouragements. The company policy by its representatives has already given a strong impression that the management is not willing to accommodate the new proposals.

By Jeanie Holbrook,Redbridge NUT

THE EXECUTIVE of the National Union of Teachers have decided that teachers should not meet with the new management until a new school is formed for all members of the union.

North London District U.K.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

The N.U.T. are sending cards to all members. For more information, contact the union office.

Christmas Carol

The N.U.T. is organizing a Christmas carol in support of the strike. Details are available from the union office.

TEACHERS: NOW FOR THE ACTION!

By Jeanie Holbrook,Redbridge NUT

Because of the union's stringent position on the strike, any unproductive employment among teachers, any fight must be started by militant teachers on the ground.

Workers who are prepared to picket should be prepared for hardship, a stoppage and for a fair education. Teachers must be confident and in control of the situation and it is to be given.

CHARTER CHALLENGE

LONDON: The Engineers Charter candidate for the post of Assistant General Secretary in the strike ballot is critical of the current situation. He says that the union's strength is declining and that the union's problems are not being handled in an adequate manner.

The first conference of the Engineers Charter is on Saturday 6 December at Holborn. Agenda and credentials from 4 Prince George Road, London, N16.

DATE

George continued: "Management double-crossed us. They agreed to put aside the pickets for pending negotiations. Then they started sending in whoever they could to pull the pickets down."

"They even tried to take the two best fork lift trucks and get others to drive them. But we got wise to this, and the picket line was wiped out."

The pickets on line in Dagenham, Manchester last week against the use of non-union shop fitters on Gerrard's site. Shop fitters employed by the scab firm, Great American Sandwich, were thrown off the site over the weekend.

Cowley: 'Work harder' con-trick

TRIUMPH NC participation

TRIUMPH has made a new offer to workers in Coventry. The company has offered a 3% increase over a 12-month period. If the offer is not accepted, workers will go on strike.

MCCARTY can't participate

Mccarty coalition has rejected the offer. The company says it will go ahead with its plans to cut jobs.

Castle Bromwich strike ends

BRITISH Leyland has agreed to a new offer for workers in Castle Bromwich. The company has offered a 5% increase over a 12-month period. If the offer is not accepted, workers will go on strike.

Rather than argue for immigration control, the N.U.T. is organizing a new campaign, "The Right to the Union," to promote the rights of workers in immigration control areas.

The first national engineers charter conference is being held in London on Saturday 6 December. Details are available from the union office.
Background to the showdown

THE CONFRONTATION in Portugal follows an attack on the working-class movement and on left-wing soldiers.

That attack was underlined when President Costa Gomes declared a state of emergency, banning meetings and demonstrations in Lisbon, where the left is strong, but not in the North and centre of Portugal, where former fascists have been attacking trade union offices and planting bombs.

The aim of the army and government had earlier been revealed by the so-called socialist Mario Soares. After a week in which mass demonstrations and strikes had wrecked attempts

--supported by Soares--to hold wages increase below the cost of living and to weed out left-wing army units, he declared: 'We will fight them on the streets, with guns in our hands, if necessary.' He was openly threatening civil war against those who defended workers' interests.

Naturally, the Lisbon military police, who have openly backed workers' strikes and demonstrations, were the first target of the attack from the right.

All the most reactionary and rotten elements, all those who grew rich and powerful during Portugal's 44 years of fascism, have been using Soares' words as an excuse fororganising.

As we went to press, they were threatening to attack the left in Lisbon with aircraft and commando units recently returned from Angola.

Soares has been playing the same so-called 'moderate' role played by the Christian Democrat leaders in Chile two years ago. Their talk of 'security' and the 'need for moderation' was used by fascist elements and right wing generals as an excuse to attack the working class.

In Portuguese right-wing circles, there has been talk of the 'Commune of Lisbon' making the comparison with the Paris Commune of 1871, when right-wing forces wreaked a bloody vengeance on the workers, murdering 40,000.

They expect full support from the other NATO powers. Indeed, they probably hope their manoeuvres this week will provide an excuse for foreign interventions, perhaps along the lines of the American and South African intervention in Portugal's former colony of Angola.

Workers and rank and file soldiers in Lisbon know there is only one force they can look to for aid in their hour of need--the working class movement in other countries.

We must not let them down.

It must not become another Chile

THE MASS movement in Portugal is even more powerful than that in Chile under Allende, who also has the advantage of open support from many military units, most and all.

But the key questions will now be whether it has learned the lessons of Chile. There, the most powerful parties within the working class tried to negotiate with the right-wing generals--instead of leading an all-out fight for workers' power, based upon workers' and soldiers' democratically elected committees.

That--despite the massive support for workers among rank and file soldiers--has remained the perspective of Portugal's biggest workers' party, the Communist Party.

State

Through its predominant influence in the joint workers' committees of the Lisbon industrial belt--based upon 700 factories and more than 10,000 delegates--it organised massive demonstrations last week and a huge two-hour general strike on Monday.

But each time it ended up telling the workers to return to work or their localities, without organising them for an assault on the power of the state.

The revolutionary left had been putting forward a quite different perspective.

On Friday, a group of 18 revolutionary officers issued a call for the creation of workers' power, based upon autonomous organisations, the arming of the working class, and the creation of a revolutionary army to link armed workers with rank and file soldiers.

Face

Among the signatories were the communist officers' organisation.

This stand was supported on Monday in a joint manifesto issued by the Revolutionary Party of the Proletariat, and MES, the Movement of the Socialist Left.

And, on Tuesday, in face of the attack on Soares, a group of Communist officers called The time has come to give a lesson to the bourgeoisie, against the Sixth government. Against the counter-revolutionary councillors, in the armed working class. Long live socialist revolution.

The revolutionary left are still considerably smaller than the Communist Party.

But they are convinced that unless the working class follow their lead, the danger of another Chile is very real.

WHAT IS STAKE

170 new recruits taking the oath of allegiance at the RALIS light artillery barracks in Lisbon; but this was an oath of allegiance with a difference. Instead of saluting an upper class officer and promising to aid the rulers of the nation, they gave the clenched fist salute.

And as they did so, a representative of the workers' and tenants' co-ordinating committee for the area read to them the famous words of Togliatti, 'and for democracy and people's power, for the victory of the socialist revolution.'

WE RE NOT quite there yet. We need another £50 to reach our target of £6000.

Don't think it's all over and that someone else will help make it up. In your country, however small, that can get us past the target.

Make sure your name is down here next week. Our thanks this week: Wolframhorst (5 £5); Neville on Clegg (£2); Hughie Rafter (£2); Oxford Road (£5); Dudley 16 Bar £2; Carol Electrical Workshop; Glasgow Shop Stewards Committee (£2); Wigan 1; New EETU Appeal Glasgow Central (£3.20); Oldbury 4; Quaker (£2.80); £2; Bristol reader (£2); Northampton reader (£2); Plymouth 5; Liverpool College of Further Education (£2); Walton 1; Colne 2; Bridgend 2; Huddersfield Local College (£2).