ON THE DOLE WITH LABOUR

INSIDE

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TWO more MPs have pledged support for the National Right to Work Campaign of the Rank and File Organising Committee.

Eric Heffer, MP for Liverpool Walton, and Maureen Colquhoun, MP for Northampton North have joined Harry Silby of Glasgow and Reuben Sodergren of Easton.

Maureen Colquhoun says in her letter: "Thank you very much for writing to me about the Right to Work March. I am very glad to sponsor it and if you will let me know exactly what is going to happen in Northampton on the 16th and 16th March, I shall hope to be able to meet the marchers."

Among the trade union bodies which have agreed to sponsor the National Right to Work Campaign are Master Ferguson Joint Shop Stewards Committee, Manchester, and Blackburn Shop Stewards Committee AUEW branches in Leitchworth, Blackburn, Finsbury Park, and New York.

Eric Heffer

MAUREEN COLQUHOUN

Borg Warner Joint Shop Stewards Committee, Leitchworth, Fenton Shop Stewards Committee, Manchester.

90 million a year of taxpayer's money.

At the same time the Labour government has forced up electricity prices to 'save' half that in 'subsidised' electricity. Tens of thousands of families face having their supplies cut off. In the era of Concorde they are being advised by social service officials to buy storm lamps.

That is the picture of Labour's new Britain in a nutshell: a Britain of luxurious playthings for the rich and the loss of the most basic necessities for the poor.

The march against redundancies and unemployment organised by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions in Coventry

THIS WEEK 1,430,369 - and still going up employment Michael Foot announced that 218,911 people joined the dole queues in December—that's 10,000 sacked every working day!

The Concorde so far has cost more than £1,000 million pounds in taxpayers' money.

Meanwhile, the Labour Chancellor is preparing to save half that much by cutting schools, hospitals and public transport.

Every Concorde which flies for British Airways will be subsidised to the tune of £5 million a year. If British Airways get the 20 planes they want, that's £100 million a year of taxpayer's money.

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LEGENDARY Labour leader Sir Aneurin Bevan once declared that every Welsh labourer was a socialist. A Committee of Inquiry into the Services and the Curriculum for Welsh Children was tasked with considering the implications of his statement.

**The Report**

Upon reflecting on the nature of the Labour movement and its educational objectives, the Committee concluded:

- The historical context of Labour's roots in the Welsh mining communities underscores its commitment to social and economic justice.
- Educational content should be grounded in Welsh history, culture, and language to foster a sense of national identity.
- The curriculum should integrate practical skills and vocational training to prepare students for local employment opportunities.
- Policy recommendations include the establishment of initiatives to enhance Welsh language proficiency and cultural awareness among students.

The report advocates for a curriculum that empowers Welsh youth to participate actively in the political and social movements that have shaped their nation. It calls for the integration of local history and traditions into school syllabi to ensure that students are well-versed in their heritage and the principles that guide their community.
UNEMPLOYMENT will remain above the one million mark for the next four or five years, says the TUC's economic advisors, according to The Observer on Sunday. Earnings are now trailing well behind prices, the government's own figures revealed on Monday.

Yet the leaders of the TUC are not budging in their support for the government's policies. Apparently, at the meeting of the National Economic Development Council last week the TUC joint committee backed the government's own figures, believing the CBI to be giving 'broad welcome' to the government's in-

WHAT WE THINK

.unemployment.

Almost all the official leaders of the trade union movement are acquiescing in this policy. From Jack Jones through to Frank Chapple they are telling us to be 'moderate', to 'give the government a chance'. Yet if we fail to follow their advice we will all be worse off in a year's time when we are now and, in four years time larger numbers of us will still be queuing at the dole offices.

There could hardly be better proof of the need for a rank and file campaign for the right to work, regardless of such so-called leaders...

...AND THE NATIONALIST DEAD END

In Scotland opinion polls now indicate that the Scottish and Welsh parties are exploited by the English and that independence would end this. There is no substance in this. The working classes of Scotland and Wales are not divided at all. But they are exploited in exactly the same way as workers in England by the ruling class.

Firms such as Chrysler, or the giant corporation ITT, look on bending national governments as part of normal business practice. In Chile, ITT paid millions of dollars to overthrow Allende's government.

Blackmail

No Scottish parliament is going to take on these companies any more than Harold Wilson resisted Chrysler's blackmail before Christmas. Will there be a Scottish Chrysler that is not controlled from Detroit?

The Scottish National Party certainly won't - they're not even prepared to take over the oil companies. They think they would fail, talk with them better than Westminster could, and put all their programme amounts to.

NDR is the new Scottish Labour Party. To take any improvement on the present Labour Party's line. MF Short is reforming the SNP, the Tories are against the Glasgow fantastic, who won the new Tory wage freeze in 1973. There is nothing to choose between him and Willie Ross, the Labour minister who sent troopers into Glasgow to break the busmen's strike.

Oil companies

But the agitation for separate Scottish and Welsh assemblies can be seen from the statement of another Labour MP, Tony Benn, last weekend, that the oil belongs to the Scottish people. But at the moment the oil does not belong to the Scottish people, but by that you mean the vast majority of us who work for a living and pay taxes to subsidise the oil companies.

That will only be changed when we, throughout Britain establish a fighting rank and file campaign for the present government's policies. This will only be impeded by any sort of nationalist agitation.
WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE MARCH?

WHAT will happen to the campaign after the march? When the marchers arrive in London on Sunday, March 30, they will be met at the Albert Hall by a mass general rally against unemployment. National Right to Work Campaign secretary John Douglas will address the rally. From this rally we will launch the second part of the campaign, the National Right to Work Movement, establishing continuity in the campaign and co-ordination between groups of rank and file in all provinces.

This is why the National Right to Work Campaign is so useful to get official delegations to the Albert Hall. We want to show the world that the march is not just to save workers' jobs, but to save the country.

The matter is too big, too urgent, to be handled by a few local committees, that alone has already established a tradition of opposition. At last national conference more than 400 delegates from trade union bodies elected the secretary, treasurer and chairman.

The march is not a stunt," said John Douglas. "It must be a real fight against unemployment. That is why the rally on Sunday. The march is a way of showing that every working-class body should have a delegate there.

WE received information that at the Central Aircraft Factory in Kilburn, the employers had accepted reduced rates of pay and that a certain amount of overtime was being worked. The matter was discussed by the Willeston unemployment organisation and it was decided that the marchers should support this against this.

"If the unemployed were standing firm against taking work at reduced rates of pay, we felt that the men in the shop should also respond," said Mr. A. Morris, the march leader. "We claimed that when so many workers were unemployed, all overtime should be stopped."

The problem facing the newly-formed unemployment movement in 1921 was not new and still plagues us today. If only overtime working were stopped, hundreds of thousands of jobs could be created for the unemployed overnight.

The fourth article in our series about our struggle against unemployment.

several of them should be carrying footballs and if there were any policewomen about they would be disarmed by the belief that we wore a group of football enthusiasts!

There were very few people who were not to be seen near the factory, and at a given signal, "the walkthrough" was made straight for the entrance. Once inside the factory many of us were quite at home in the surroundings. As engineers, we were accustomed to machine work and lost no time in finding the power-motor and starting them all.

Of course everybody in the factory was taken by surprise. We put men in guard every exit to prevent anybody being sent out for the police and we took charge of the telephones. After stopping the machines I jumped on the bench and called the workers around me for a meeting.

"I spoke briefly on the question of unemployment, the need for all overtime being stopped, and urged the workers to make sure that the organisation of unemployed must work together with them in any fight to prevent any reduction in their wages.

While I was speaking, the manager came up, listened for a time to what I had to say, and then demanded that I stop his side of the matter. He left the factory and I was left in charge of the telephones. After stopping the machines I jumped on the bench and called the workers around me for a meeting.

The success in Kilburn led to a series of similar rags by local unemployed groups in other factories where wages were below union rates for similar overtime work. In one particular
Join the march...Come to the 20th March rally

Journalist
MIKE BUCKINGHAM lost his job in early December when the Scottish Daily News closed down. The closure of the paper, and the Scottish Daily Express—means no work for jour- nalists in the city. Mike is going to the Right to Work march next month.
Mike was one of the unemployed workers who occupied Pinkert Town Hall halfway Christmas and addressed a seminar on the need for a Right to Work campaign.
He was arrested by police, who broke his nose with truncheons. The experience steered his drastic decision to stand for the Union. Branches of the National Union of Journalists all over the country should sponsor Mike on the march. Send money to: more to the National Right to Work Campaign.

GLASGOW journalists have voted overwhelmingly to support the National Right to Work Campaign. The 20-strong branch carried a resolution calling for affiliation to the campaign with only one dissenting vote. The branch will be represented on the Manchester to London march starting on 28 February by delegates carrying the branch banner.
The Glasgow journalists knew only too well what unemployment means. Of the 600 members, more than 100 were on the dole as a result of the collapse of the Scottish Daily News.

In support of the motion, branch chairman John Hoggart said that it was in the interests of journalists to show solidarity with other members of the working class.
In their determination to fight further reorganisation, the branch is also to consider the formation of a chapel (office branch) for unemployed workers. Sold the chairman: "The setting up of an unemployed chapel could show that we mean business. It is vital that we organise in the face of capital's threat."
The organisation has to be local and also national level. It's no good just feeding the unemployed in our own little patch and sitting there hoping that the much bigger problem will go away.

MARCH FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK
MANCHESTER TO LONDON
FEBRUARY 28th
MARCH 20th

Work

AND YOUR TRADE UNION

Sponsor a marcher from your area, from your industry, from your firm, and send sponsorship donations to Right to Work March, Rank and File Organising Committee, 46 Prince George Road, London N16.

ment. Ask this meeting to support the Right to Work Campaign and all trade unions everywhere to support the march.
This meeting raised £20 for the campaign.

Moura needs support and sponsorship from workers in the building industry to help get our message out.
That means branches of UCATT, the TSSU and TRUS, joint site committees everywhere in the country. Send support and money for Moura to the Right to Work Campaign now.

factories
by successful read on a large engineering factory took place straight after a mass meeting at Walthamstow Baths in East London.

Write Walthamstow. "This read on this big works created a sensation throughout London, particularly in the engineering trade. It became the topic of discussion in many engineering circles."

It no doubt did much to stimulate the opposition that already existed in the union against systematic overtime, in the wake of the recent reports. The Amalgamated Engineering Union membership took place on the question whether the union should make an agreement with overtime, which has always been a source of great dissatisfaction among the workers here. The vote was a very large majority against.

"The proposals were hung up on in many localities throughout London during the course of the meeting, which was sometimes successful, sometimes unsuccessful.
On the other hand, the raids and other similar "stunts" were not made in isolation. They were part of the work of building a mass movement involving thousands of unemployed and of fighting within the trade unions for support.

School Worker will take up this aspect of the story next week.

Public meetings organised by local Right to Work Committees

EDINBURGH: Wednesday 25
Tradestones Club, 14-15 Haymarket, McMillan (former secretary, Scottish, Unemployed Workers Movement, in the 1930s). Bobby Bummy (Scottish Right to Work Committee) and local trade union leaders.

GLASGOW: Stop the Jobs Slaughter—Organise now against redundancies and cuts. Thursday 23 January, 7.30pm, McMillan Gallery, 10 High Street. Speakers: John Devlin (Secretary, National Unemployed Workers Movement, in the 1950s), Vincent Flynn (ex-steward, National Unemployed Workers Movement, in the 1950s), Harry McInroy (Secretary, National Unemployed Workers Movement, in the 1950s).

PRESTON: Thursday 28 January, 7pm, AEWU House, Cross Street. Fighting Unemployment and the Cuts. Speakers: Bob Rudin (Manchester Right to Work Committee), Steve Bradbury (Equal Pay Campaign), Preston Engineers' Charter), Mary Bessett (NAGLO converter, Lancashire Area Health Authority of Essex).

WALSALL: Wednesday 28 January, 7pm, Walsall Town Hall, Spalding Hall. Paul Ferris (Sunday Times) and Jim Pollard (Kent and East Sussex) to speak. Sponsored by Walsall Workers' Unity Centre and the AEWU. Available from the Rank and File Organising Committee, price to each delegate would be 10p or 1st class post, Free to all.

PORTSMOUTH: Saturday 31 January, 7.30pm, Portsmouth Guildhall. Speakers: Mike Harnby, local Left to Work committee, and shop stewards committees, and to the unemployed.

NEW PAMPHLET ON THE RIGHT TO WORK

The Right for the Right to Work—The Right to Work movement has grown, and continues to grow, as a result of a united front involving trade unions, workers' committees and local government.

Available from the Rank and File Organising Committee, price to local trade unions, 10p or 1st class post. Free to all.

Railwaymen's rights have been lost. Lead the fight for the Right to Work movement, including details of the campaign and a "sponsoring form" now available. £1.00.

POSTERS to advertise meetings in the campaign. Top for free, £1.00 for 50. Send your orders, stamped addressed envelopes, to the RWF Committee, 46 Prince George Road, London N16. Money with orders please.

 заводных средств выручить деньги от продажи товаров.
What about the family?

KATHLEEN JONES of Shrewsbury asks Socialist Worker to come clean on the issue of the family.

"In all Marxists know, is the exalt of the whole matter," she writes, "and your attitude towards it determines whether you are really revolutionary or just reformist.

I don't accept that, at any rate, not in the form presented. It simply means that the problem is a fundamental one.

Twofold

Engels wrote: "According to the materialist conception, the determining factor in history is, in the first instance, the production and reproduction of the immediate essentials of life. Thus, analysis is a twofold character.

On the one side, the production of the means of existence, of articles of food and clothing, dwellings, and all the tools necessary for that production on the other side, the production of human beings, the propagation of the species.

The social organisation under which the people of a particular historical epoch and a particular country live is determined by both kinds of production: by the stage of development of labour on the one hand and of the family on the other."

For Engels, and for Marxists generally, the family structure is not something eternal and unchangeable. It is a product of social evolution and therefore has changed and will continue to change as society changes.

Fundamentally different kinds of societies will necessarily have fundamentally different types of family structure.

This is, of course, contentious. Traditions of various kinds advance theological or pseudo-scientific arguments in an attempt to prove that there is something called the 'natural family' (usually defined as two parents plus offspring of the first generation which always has existed and always will exist.

More sophisticated critics argue that marxists have failed to show a systematic connection between the development of social evolution and changes in family structures.

And many feminists are sceptical of the whole approach, suspecting, not without some justification, that its 'evolutionary' emphasis can be used to excuse the inferior position of women today.

Differences

To start at the most fundamental level: men and women are not, and cannot be, biologically equal. I cannot bear children, for example. Yet all males, lack the necessary biological equipment.

There are other differences, too. One is that men can be used for war, and women cannot.

Before we get too sentimental about the thought of thousands of years of relative stability, let us consider what we may have been trading for.

We know that it is untrue because, all over the world, women belonging to very different kinds of family structures have existed in the past, and indeed some of them survived into the present century.

The concept of the 'natural family' is a very useful one to some people to justify their attitudes.

Engels, building upon the work of the anthropologist Morgan, tried to prove the evolution of the family from a social group to a family based on economic and social stability.

The 'natural family' of our society is something that has been created as a result of the industrial revolution, and does not necessarily exist now.

Connect

The 'natural family' we are used to is no more a part of a social group than the birds and the bees.

Engels, building upon the work of the anthropologist Morgan, tried to prove the evolution of the family from a social group to a family based on economic and social stability.

Whether we like it or not, it is a fact that the 'natural family' is no more 'natural' than the House of Commons is natural.

None of this means that the family is not important, but it does mean that its role is changing and that we should not be too sentimental about it.

For us, the family is a social institution that is used by the ruling class to keep us in a particular position in society.

The history of the family is a history of the struggle of the working class to win its freedom from the chains of the family.

The family is a link in the chain of the whole class struggle, and it is only by breaking this chain that we can hope to see a future without family structures.

So let us get real. The family is not something natural, but something that we create and change as we go along.
PORTUGAL: As the struggle goes on, an analysis of its biggest set-back

IT'S THE RICH WHO MUST SACRIFICE!

SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND workers demonstrated last Saturday against the rise in the cost of living and the government's wage freeze. A call by the 13 unions in the Lisbon area was announced by 300 different workers' organisations. Workers and tenant committees, other union and co-operative groups, also turned out.

Demonstrators shouted 'Out With the Wage Freeze' and 'Down With the Cost of Living'. As the names of various governments Ministers were mentioned in speeches, the crowds bided their time.

UNEMPLOYMENT

One speaker, a construction worker, said: 'This government speaks of socialism and democracy but takes our taxes to pay compensation to the shareholders of the nationalised banks. It allows the cost of living to rise while freezing our wages and allowing unemployment to increase.'

A union research group has forecast that if present trends continue, workers will be spending a third more by the end of February than last September. In four months, the price of pork has doubled, books have gone up by 30 per cent and price speculation continues on essentials such as bread, olive oil, margarine, eggs and milk.

The right before the general election organised a similar demonstration attended by almost 100,000 people, which marched shouting 'It's the rich who must tighten their belts.' The same day saw a national town-hall stoppage of civil construction workers, most of who are paid less than the minimum national wage. The construction workers' union has called on their 40,000 members to step down throughout the country for two hours on Wednesday.

A defeat—but it can be overcome

first appeared in Portuguese four weeks ago.

A defeat—but it can be overcome.

Prospects

How did the defeat of 25 November happen? And what are the prospects for the workers' movement now?

The points are dealt with in the latest issue of International Socialist Journal and in a new IS pamphlet. The Lessons of 25 November—which

Is this Ireland all over again?

IN LESS THAN nine months 10,000 people have been killed in the fighting in Lebanon—ten times as many as have died in Ireland since 1969.

Press and TV say the cause is 'religious fanaticism'. These ignore the deep-seated causes which go far beyond religious rivalry. Lebanon, like Ireland, suffers from the disease called imperialism.

More than 250 years ago, French merchants gained control over the area then called Syria. To make the territory secure, they imposed French officials, soldiers and even priests. They exploited the fact that Syria's wealthy, dominant group were Christians of the Maronite sect. They used an unbalanced policy of divide and rule. The Maronite leaders, jealous of their privileges, kept control for the French.

The truth about the fighting in the Lebanon

By Phil Marfleet

The truth about the fighting in the Lebanon

There was a growing strike movement as prices continued to rise.

The right-wing Maronites, organised into a party named after Mussulmani fascism, the Falange, moved into action to defend the regime, murdering Muslims and Muslims' trade unions.

There have been repeated attempts by political bosses from the Muslim upper class to do a deal with Christian upper class, and the Falange.

This would leave the present structure intact, but introduce a few reforms to give greater political power to themselves.

But these deals have always fallen through. The extreme right of the Falange will not accept any dilution of their power, and respond to such deals with murder attacks upon Muslims and Palestinian civilians.

The mass of workers and those in the refugee camps, whether Muslim or Christian, have little to gain from such deals either, and tend to ignore the politicians who control their lives.

The murderous carnage is not ended until the whole sectarian struggle is destroyed by the physical smashing of the Falange.

Anything less will leave the sectarian divisions intact, as would partition of the country. The recent order to which the Falange has turned to is: 'Use extreme terror to maintain our hold on Lebanon'.

On the other hand, for the Maronite elites, would there be more hope against the US domination of the area.

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SW Fund: Thanks for your support!

OUR THANKS THIS WEEK TO:仍然是 D. E., CA Parsons 10.

Our thanks this week to:.

Money for the Socialist Worker.

Suppliers Bank should be sent to the National Treasurer, 10 South Australian Road, London E3 4DH.

For 18 months after the overthrow of Fascism, the revolutionary movement in Portugal grew and grew, but the struggle was for a working-class upsurge for decades.

10p (plus 9p postage) from International Dept. 8, Commins Gardens, London, SE10 9D. For 18 months after the overthrow of Fascism, the revolutionary movement in Portugal grew and grew, but the struggle was for a working-class upsurge for decades.

10p (plus 9p postage) from International Dept. 8, Commins Gardens, London, SE10 9D.
THAT’S THE W

THEY WERE underpaid, overwork-
ed and in constant danger but by
early this month, workers at the
Ainslie Wire plant in Macclesfield,
Cheshire had had enough.

Enough overtime, for a start.
Many were working 90 hours
so they decided to join the
Engineering Union immediately.
Eight of them got redundancy
notices.

The workers were advised by
Dave Roberts, a member of the
union's local District Committee
and a Socialist Worker supporter,
to occupy the plant and hold the
machinery... The next day, they did just that.

And last week management backed
down — and the jobs were saved.

THIS IS

India...

Fetters are always clamped
on Naxalite prisoners. They prevent
normal movement. You cannot
bend your legs. Eventually the
legs become bent and deformed.

When Mrs Gandhi imposed a
State of Emergency in India last
June, 10,000 political leaders
were thrown into jail.

And the world-wide blaze of
publicity, it was almost forgotten
that some 40,000 workers,
peasants and students, all of whom
were arrested, remained in jail for
many of them for several years.

But now, as the economic crisis
deprees and political opposition to
Gandhi's regime sharpens, the
government round up ever more
people for its already overflowing
jails.

CONDITIONS

The appalling conditions
endured by those prisoners are spelt
out in a new pamphlet.

Mary Tyler, the English woman
held without trial in a Bhopal jail for
more than three years, states that at
any one time there are at least 150
-250 alleged Naxalite prisoners
in the jail, along with large numbers of
migrant workers.

In 1974, 500 railwaymen
were interned during and after their
strike; on two occasions, 3000
school teachers on strike found
their way into jail and another 100
hundreds of employees.

KICK THESE PEOPLE OUT!

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS
intervened last week in the
campaign to unseat Mrs Gandhi, head of the
Indian Workers' Association in
Southall, West London. Fifty people,
mostly Indians, attended a
Socialist Worker meeting at which it
was argued that any
campaign for a fresh Indian workers' leadership in
Southall must take up the
evolutionary movement against
unemployment now affecting many
young Indians.

The present IWA executive has
terrible record on this issue. It
has suspended elections, with the blessing
of the Indian High Commission,
because it fears losing control to the
anti-Gandhi campaign.

Southall's Labour MP, Sid Bidwell, has just returned with leading
members of the present IWA executive from a 'fact finding' mission in
India. Bidwell has said on BBC radio that 'any socialist had to support
Mrs Gandhi'.

1. The workers take over
the plant
They were used to handling
barbed wire, of course. Just
the job for us.

2. The barbed wire
comes in handy...

Demonstrate against this barbarity on Sunday 25 January
Assembly 12.30pm, Speakers Corner, Hyde Park, London. March to Indian High
Commissioner.
RELEASE ALL PRISONERS! END TORTURE AND
KILLINGS! SMASH THE EMERGENCY!

Spain

THE STRIKE wave in Spain goes on — despite
attack after attack by police on strikers and
demonstrators.

Striking postal workers were
conscripted into the army so as to
force them back to work. So,
apparently, were some striking
railwaymen.

Question

Truncheon-wielding police attacked
telephone workers and tear gas was used
to break up a 2000-strong demonstration
demanding equality for women. Dozens
of workers' representatives have been
arrested.

The decisive question for Spanish socialists is
whether the strike can turn into a
movement powerful enough to bring down the
dictatorship.

In the past, the regime has always been able
to survive by confining strikes to certain areas
with the use of massive concentrations of
paramilitary police. That happened, for
example, during an uprising, nearly as
powerful as the present one, in the
Barcelona and Basque regions early last year.

Conflict

Within the Spanish left there is considerable
debate on how to end such isolation.

The revolutionary left organisations argue
that the only way is to bring the movement
into a general strike, a conflict which would put
into question not only the present
government, but the whole structure of
Spanish big business and the state.

But the biggest organisations on the Spanish
left, the Communist Party, put forward a
quite different perspective. It says it is possible
to form an alliance with all those who are
against the present government, however small
their disagreements with it.

So the Communist Party is taking part in a...
WAY TO SAVE JOBS!

3...as the machines are put out of action
Just in case police broke into the factory with wirecutters, the workers took the ball-bearing feed mechanism from the machines, so no-one could work them...

4 While some guarded the plant...

5...others formed a picket outside to win support

6 But the bosses still would not budge.
Stalemate.
The unions' Right to Work Committee visited the factory. They urged the workers to send delegations to factories and get financial and industrial support.

Convenor Terry Shufflebottom (right) does just that: a striker is briefed on visiting other factories.

PICTURES: John Sturrock (Report).

AND THEN... VICTORY!
The very next day, management agreed to a meeting with the Engineering Union's district secretary. Triumphantly, Terry Shufflebottom emerges from the meeting to tell the workers that all redundancy notices have been withdrawn. The management have agreed to recognise the union and open negotiations for a wage increase.

Contact
Spanish workers cannot expect the support they need in the fight against the police from people who are close to the men who give the police their orders.

What those workers need is not 'national reconciliation', but united and militant all-out action against the regime.

Pirates? Is this the beginning of the end?

A new movement that includes Monarchists, ex-soldiers of the Spanish ruling class who have been co-opted into the new administration, and ex-communists who have been granted a few reforms and membership of the Rajoy government.

Despite the Communist Party's calls for a 'social reconciliation', its leader, Santiago Callejas, has attacked those who cooperate with the government, calling them 'traitors'. Thus, the government is in talks with 'traitors' who are being given a platform for their views.

The government has promised a raft of concessions to the workers, including a modest pay increase and a commitment to consult them on future decisions. However, these concessions are not enough to satisfy the workers, who are demanding a more radical change in the system.

The workers are being watched closely by the police, who are known to be using illegal tactics to try to break the strike. The workers are determined to fight back, and are preparing for a long struggle.

The workers are being supported by other unions, who have joined them in their campaign. The workers are also receiving financial support from the workers' unions, who are determined to keep the strike going.

Despite the government's concessions, the workers are not satisfied. They are determined to continue their struggle until they get the answers they are looking for.

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Easter is a political feast this year

HURRY. Hurry, hurry. There are still places left for the Socialist Worker rally in Singapore next Easter. The rally is Friday, 18th April, Easter weekend. The inclusive cost for adults is £16, which includes the cost of all meals, accommodation and entertainment. Children are free. Ask your local Socialist Worker seller for details now.

Locally, the NUS must send its affiliated toos to SSPW Rally, 8 Garrett's Gardens, London E2. Trademark laws may be too late there, in a similar role of the number of places available.

WILL the strike wave in Spain lead to a decisive confrontation between workers and fascists? I hope we're wrong, but we don't think so. C. Tolkien told 40 members of the International Socialist last week.

It will be some time before a revolutionary situation develops in Spain. The nationalisation of the banks has not, as planned, speeded the strike wave. The government is attempting to placate the working class with an increase in pay, although the rate is only 10%. Strikes continue at a slow tempo through lack of funds. The trade unions have been busy trying to collect subscriptions and have been working on the development of strikes. It is feared that the price of bread will go up.

Paul Harrison, convener of the Spanish Group, spoke about the organisations of the revolutionary left in Spain.

WE'RE BUILDING LINKS

DELEGATES from the International Socialists recently attended a conference of the Spanish revolutionary organisation Comité Acción Comunista. The conference was entirely devoted to a discussion of the political and social situation in Spain.

It was expected that there would be a prolonged crisis, as the regime would try to introduce reforms but be forced to pay to the left. Also present was the main task of the development of a workers' class organisation.

Two Spanish comrades led a long and detailed discussion on the workers' struggles, the anti-workers commissions and the social base of the Spanish regime.

In short, the strike wave in Spain is leading to a decisive confrontation between workers and fascists. The Spanish government has not been able to placate the working class with an increase in pay, although the rate is only 10%. Strikes continue at a slow tempo through lack of funds. The trade unions have been busy trying to collect subscriptions and have been working on the development of strikes. It is feared that the price of bread will go up.

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Paul Harrison, convener of the Spanish Group, spoke about the organisations of the revolutionary left in Spain.
**Every Friday they'd sack 100 men...**

**AMAZING how we forget the dark unhappy days of our youth. Days of rotten clothes, rotten food, drab uncomfortable homes, fathers forever looking for work. Forget our parents' humiliation at their condition as though somehow it was their fault.**

Walter Greenwood's book Love on the Dole brings it all flooding back, and with it an urge. God, did people survive the misery? The overworked hovels of Salford's Hanks Park were peopled by a desperate herd of the unwashed and unloved. Unemployed—except by those who would add a bright spot of color to the otherwise drab scene. They'd work from dawn to dusk, never thinking of the profit they were earning. In the process, they'd often be treated with contempt and cruelty.

In Salford Park, everything from the path to the house was narrow and steep. The path was worn by the feet of the many who trod it. The flowers were rare, and the trees were few. The area was surrounded by ditches and marshes, with only a few houses and small shops. The people lived in small, crowded rooms, with little light and air.

From Greenwood's portrayal, we can see the conditions under which people lived. The homes were dirty and overcrowded. The food was meager, and the work was hard. However, the people had a spirit of resilience and determination, and they lived their lives as best they could.

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**TAKE IT AS RED**

**FIREFIELD is a nine-month-old quarterly magazine of short stories, poems, photos, songs, plays and sketches. The editors are all recent graduates of a university and they are all very interested in the current political and social issues of the day. They believe that literature can be a powerful tool for social change, and they strive to publish works that reflect this belief.**

The editors have decided to publish a special issue on the topic of class struggle, and they are seeking submissions from writers who share their interest in this subject. If you are interested in submitting a piece, please send it to Firefield Magazine, PO Box 1234, Anytown, USA. Deadline is January 1st.

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**FIREFIELD AND THE WASTE LAND**

by PAUL O'FLINN

**Waste land feel so much of the writing and the spoken. The dying drifter, paralyzed by a thievery from a copper-veined town, in Fons McNeil's short story, is a typical figure and one who crops up in all sorts of stories in every tome. There's lots of loving photos of the smashed faces of alcoholics scowling in ruins. Stories tell of the hovels with ash tips, kitchen sinks, idle skiers and sexual frustration. Stories mirror the defeat of the Diggers, paintings detail the somber hero of industrial landscape.**

All these things are true and need an angry recording, but other aspects of popular life and tradition are not to be sneered at. Victorian struggles, strikes that were successful because of the success of the labor movement at the factory gate.

**Love on the Dole is required reading for anyone who wants to know what is going on in our society. The book is a powerful tool for social change, and it is a must-read for anyone interested in understanding the issues of today.**

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**BOOK OF THE WEEK**

**STEBNIECK THE GRAPES OF WRATH**

**Neat little sign on the main street of the town. The sign is made of wood, and it says: "John Steinbeck's "The Grapes of Wrath" is available at the library."**

---

**EYE SORES**

**FRIDAY**

- All rights, all right, step matter now knowing. Your day of reckoning is at hand. You will be paid for your delay.

- Group Two collected 740 prams, which is good. Almost 600 yards of sand is now more than two-thirds of the way we are going. Now we can turn our eyes towards the next area of our experiment to get through Gomshall. We done it, and we've proved that these posters are not to be taken lightly.

**SMITH**

Group Two has also done well. They have completely eradicated Right to Work posters from the wall. The 'White Cat' was a big hit, and they have proved that these posters are not to be taken lightly.

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**ON THE BOX THIS WEEK**

**FRIDAY**

- THE MONEY PROGRAMME (BBC2, 8.00pm) on property speculation, FALL OF THE GIANTS (BBC1) on the Jedburgh Congress and THE CONTINUITY PROGRAMME (BBC1) on the state of the arts.

**SATURDAY**

- BELOW ZERO (BBC1, 11.30pm) on the Royal and Denny Golf Courses, THE RED TOWER (BBC1, 9.00pm) on the history of the town, and THE JUKEBOX (BBC1, 9.00pm) on the history of the town.

**SUNDAY**

- SOUVENIRS OF THE BATTLE (BBC2, 3.30pm) on the Battle of Bosworth Field, and THE DOUGLAS EAGLES (BBC2, 3.15pm) on the history of the town.

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**LABOUR'S MINISTRY OF DRUGGERY**

**GOOD MORNING, DOYS and girls.**

**My name is Mr. Tuggery and I'm the North East Coordinator of the Dope Scouring Department of Unemployed youngsters in Drugabusing England.**

**Perhaps you have seen some of our projects on television. Notably the Sunderland Experiment.**

**We work with young people who are unemployed and are struggling to cope with the challenges of today.**

**We offer support and guidance to help them overcome their problems.**

**We aim to provide a safe and supportive environment for young people to explore their options and make informed decisions.**

**We are always here to help, no matter what your situation.**

**Feel free to drop by our offices at 123 Main Street, Sunderland.**

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**PHIL EVANS**

**THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

**THE WORKS OF THE WASTE LAND**

**The works of the roots of the trees, the moss, and the brambles are all interspersed with the old-fashioned, earthy virtues of the countryside. The people who live by the land are not to be despised. They are close to the earth, and their lives are rooted in it.**

**John Steinbeck's "The Grapes of Wrath" is available at the library.**

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**F1 05c (postage) from J. Books, 265 Seven Sisters Road, London, N14.**
Alison: The press 'ends a hand'

'The Sterling is in serious trouble, and the country is in serious trouble,' said Dr. John Hume of the Ulster Unionist Party. 'We need a government of all-Ireland unity, but we need it now.'

Alison is 8 and dying

Thanks to you, her life's hardly worth living.

Alison's father, a devoted and loving man, had begged the doctors to let him bring his daughter home. "I want to be with her," he said. "I want to hold her in my arms and tell her how much I love her."

But the doctors refused. "We have to do what's best for her," they said. "She needs to be in hospital, surrounded by the specialists who can help her."

"But she's my daughter," the father insisted. "Surely you can't do this to her?"

"We have to make the difficult decision," the doctors said. "We're doing it with a heavy heart, but it's the right thing to do for Alison."

Flashback to Jack Diamond's open letter to Harold Wilson in Socialist Worker, 19 January. The Daily Telegraph's reporter was right: two different reports—mine accurate, one inaccurate—and below, an inspired socialist quote.

Handouts father of doomed girl pleads for help

'Doomed girl's father has too little aid'

A recent letter to the Irish Times from a father of a child with cystic fibrosis described the situation as "too little aid." The child was in hospital, and the father was struggling to pay the medical bills.

The Letter

"My daughter is fighting for her life," the father wrote. "We need help to keep her going."

The reply

"We appreciate your situation," the hospital said. "But we cannot provide any financial assistance for medical bills."

The struggle continues.

Here in Britain £1 for 38 HOURS

I have just joined the ranks of the unemployable. Unfortunately, however, I will only be able to do so for 15 months in a state-owned shop under contract with the post office. The shop has worked 38 hours a week for a total wage bill for the workers of less than £100. The shop owner is paid £100 a week.

Stitches were illegal and punishable by up to six months imprisonment, without trial, upon legal representatives of any kind. It was an offence to leave a machine without the presence of the supervisor.

streets were closed and police were everywhere. It was impossible to get food or water or to go anywhere.

Why shouldn't any other travel such cattle? They are not cattle, because you can kill it in some cases, and you can only do that in others."

The shop is in Northallerton prison, a training prison and a so-called city of work. There are 20,000 people in this country working in various places. Many are at work.

most offences are trivial. Not all workers in this country could help to establish trade union rights in places like this, but it has been useful to the revolutionary.

When we take over...

I agree that we have the right to work, but I feel as if we don't have the right to know what sort of work we do...

For example, I think the car body service [factory] is taking over their factory, but not necessarily to go on making small, run-down car bodies.

Instead, they could consider those of the public which are in the form of public transport, bikes, etc., which could be used to get a lot more use out of the工厂.

the report of a group of people who take over factories and workplaces put that sort of thing into action, that we would get a lot more out of them.

ANOTHER INDICTMENT OF THE VICE SYSTEM

The case of Alison Cinnamond is another heavy indictment of the vicious system we are surrounded by. It's only because the 'authorities' have kept us so busy through the centuries that we can't see the plain view of the nature of the capitalist system.

Alison and her mother would have been better served by a reasoned anti-capitalist article on the cuts, calling for concrete political proposals to revolutionize both sides.

THE MAJOR'S LUSITANIA

is brought to you by the 'sneaking' capitalism of the bank's system, the political standard, and the government standard from page three to the front page. It's all about money, all about money.

The war is already over. Without warning to the ordinary man, the Lord Mayor has declared a victory about the inhumanity of the capitalist system for the government.

Alison and her mother would have been better served by a reasoned, anti-capitalist article on the cuts, calling for concrete political proposals to revolutionize both sides.

We fought...

... and won

As part of our campaign, we held a demonstration at the factory gates. We were successful in bringing attention to the workers' struggle.

One of the workers was asked why they had joined the strike. "We've been worked to the bone," he said. "We want better conditions.""
12,000 STRIKE TO AID PENSIONERS

A MASS strike for better and fairer pensions—the biggest in British industrial history—took place last Wednesday. It closed the huge Vickers shipyard at Barrow, and their smaller works at Swindon.

The strike will be followed by more unless the multi-million pound company, whose chairman is Lord Robens, conceives better treatment for retired workers. It was organised by the three staff unions—APEX, ASTMS and TASS—which are demanding that Vickers pensions be ‘proofed’ against inflation.

The unions are also furious at Vickers’ insistence that the ‘death in service’ benefit should happen to families of workers who die while at Vickers, who should be stopped.

The strike at Vickers is a sign of the increasing militancy of workers about pensions.

They are asking important questions such as:

- Is the ‘deduction’ off our wages for pensions too much for what we get when we retire?
- What’s all that money—who looks after it?

Here Christopher Hird exposes the GRESHAM PENSIONS SWINDLE.

How they gamble with our pensions

Can we afford to take a strike this week—or is it a daft move?

This week’s strike is a very important episode in the battle for pensions and employment. The two issues are closely linked. A strike is a gamble. The worker is risking his job if the strike is successful, and the company’s profits if it is unsuccessful.

Inflation is a serious threat to our standard of living. It means that the value of money is falling, and that we need more of it to buy the same goods and services. This is not just a problem for pensioners, but for everyone who earns a living.

The government is trying to control inflation by increasing interest rates. This means that the cost of borrowing money is rising, and that this will have an impact on the cost of living. It also means that the government is trying to reduce the money supply, which will have an impact on the economy as a whole.

The government is also trying to control inflation by increasing taxes. This means that people will have less money to spend, and that this will have an impact on the cost of living.

The government is also trying to control inflation by spending less money. This means that there will be less money available to pay for goods and services, and that this will have an impact on the cost of living.

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CAMPAIGN ON CUTC NS LINKS TO MARCH

WHEN the Right to March leaves Manchester on 28 February, it will be seen off by a demonstration from the local Fight the Cuts Committee.

The committee is supported by 99 local trade union bodies, including branches and stewards' committees from the health unions NUPE and COHSE, the local government workers' techs, and freighters' unions.

The committee has grown out of a campaign by the local teachers' union and the film and paper Hospital Worker. Said Brian McDonald, editor of the paper: "The fight against the closure of our hospital is an opportunity to fight against the cuts in our hospital."

The committee's plan is to call a meeting of all the unions involved in the strike for a demonstration on 28 February. The meeting will be held at the Drill Hall in Manchester City Centre.

NOTES AND MEETINGS

Advisory for this column must be posted by first post the Monday before publication. We cannot take them any later than Thursday. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 28 February.

CUTS PICTURE ARRESTED

ROBERT MCCARTHY, a member of the National Union of Students, was arrested last Thursday when he occupied the Union's offices in central London. He is accused of破坏 the building and was released on bail.

The police have arrested several people involved in the occupation of the Union's offices as part of a nationwide campaign against student cuts and closures. The Union is a national federation of student unions, which represents over 500,000 students across the country.

TEACHERS: WE HAVE TO FIGHT UNEMPLOYMENT

By Anne Deason (NUT)

This conference is important for teachers and students to get together and fight for the conditions that should exist in schools if they are to fight unemployment. The conference will be held on Saturday 28 February at the Drill Hall in Manchester City Centre.

The conference will discuss the current situation of teachers and students, and the need to fight for better conditions in schools.

The conference will be attended by teachers and students from all over the country, and will be a chance for everyone to come together and fight for a better future for our children.
Support the Right to Work Campaign!

RIGHT TO WORK NEWS

TOTTENHAM
AN UNEMPLOYED worker from Kirkcaldy, Fife, fed up with not being able to get work anywhere in the country, travelled to London and went straight to the first job centre he came across.

He arrived at the one in Scotland Green, and after being refused, he left for another in the North London Right to Work Centre, occupied by some 30 other unemployed workers.

BRISTOL
THIRTY MEMBERS of the unemployed workers committee, along with stewards from Rolls Royce and Commonwealth Securities, occupied the local Job Centre on Monday.

John Evans, an accompanying shop steward at Rolls Royce, said: 'Redundancies are coming at the Bristol Aircraft Corporation. Any loss of jobs is a matter of concern for the workers.'

John Evans, of the National Guardian Association, said: 'Bristol, 17,000 workers are on the dole. This situation is not going to fight, then the rank and file will win.'

The convener of the Commonwealth employers makes committee is to chair a meeting of the Right to Work Campaign for a speech on February in Shipchaders Hall, Old Market St, 7.30pm.

BLACKBURN
THE SHOP stewards’ quarterly visitation was instigated by the local Right to Work Campaign in a demand for an inquiry into alleged bad practices, where overtime is being worked will also be-picotted.

WHY CONFED DEMO WAS SUCH A WASH-OUT

COVENTRY—Millwrights and electricians at Chrysler’s Stoke plant have declared they will not accept a single redundandcy.

But, while the millwrights and electricians prepared to fight back, the Transport Union convenor Rob Morris prepared to leave the factory. After fighting hard all the way for the deal to be accepted, he is taking the money and leaving everyone else to sink or swim.

A week before, the millwright shop steward told Socialist Worker: 'Of 130 millwrights not one is prepared to go and everyone is prepared to fight for the job.'

While the millwrights and electricians prepared to fight back, the Transport Union convenor Bob Morris prepares to leave the factory. After fighting hard all the way for the deal to be accepted, he is taking the money and leaving everyone else to sink or swim.

Elections for new stewards will be held in two months.

Cofed said that if the previous conference had not been held an advernt appeared in the local press. It only mentioned the demonstration in the job.

'Everywhere from short-time and unemployment' they argued, 'We can’t be numbers from a dark wages to go on a demonstration."

So the demonstration was rescheduled for a Saturday, along with a request for a total of 100 people to turn out.

Some factories and organisations were formed when prepared with the decision last week. Understandably, but mistakenly, Rolls Royce, Wickersham Mather and the TASS Divisional Council all decided not to support the demonstration and improve on a one-day strike.

The Coventry and Chetney Workers Rights Committee did not turn out in support of the demonstration.

The Coventry and Chetney Workers Rights Committee did not turn out in support of the demonstration.

By Theima Kennedy

BOLTON: The 450 women machinists at Flour Mills have been on strike for three weeks. The company has cancelled the National Right to Work Campaign. A meeting was held on Saturday from the National Right to Work Campaign. It is possible that some other women will follow this example.

BARACU—120 on strike

The 120 women machinists at Flour Mills have been on strike for three weeks. The company has cancelled the National Right to Work Campaign. A meeting was held on Saturday from the National Right to Work Campaign. It is possible that some other women will follow this example.

RHP: Your reward—the sack

Bill Barry, boss of RHP, the bakers, fired his last worker for a year of record profits. The workers were sacked on July 10 in dividends in two days. He announced the reward for the firm's workers' redundancies and short-term contracts.


At the Smithfield Union's annual meeting, the union's representatives are to be sent packing.

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It is vital that the strike is turned into an all-out struggle against sackings. Helping your redundancy pay unit may mean management fine when they're trying to cut production. And it will only demoralise workers. If you can find a way to organise them,

AVAONU: A mass meeting of the National Right to Work Campaign. The meeting was called to keep strike on the 1975 National Right to Work Campaign. The meeting was called to keep strike on the 1975 National Right to Work Campaign.

GRIMSBY—300 docks workers on strike

A dockers' meeting at Grimsby on the National Right to Work Campaign. The meeting was called to keep strike on the 1975 National Right to Work Campaign. The meeting was called to keep strike on the 1975 National Right to Work Campaign.
STEEL NOW FOR A NATIONAL STRIKE!

by PAUL FOOT

'A NATIONAL steel strike. That's the only way to teach the Steel Corporation a lesson.'

Dul Jones, a rod 63, who spent 22 years in the South Wales pits before getting a job at Trostre tinplate works near Llanelli, summed up the feelings of thousands of his fellow workers.

The story among steelworkers everywhere at the Steel Corporation's proposals for massive wage cuts and sackings in the steel areas is still at a boil point. At Port Talbot, there is no sign of a break in the ranks of 10,000 steel strikers who walked out in protest against cuts in pay for weekend working and have held off the entire plant and its 30,000 workers.

Two-thirds of all steel production in Britain was stopped last Thursday when 28,000 workers at Trostre and Velindre walked out on unofficial strike.

Noel Newton, a member of the largest steel workers' union, ISTC at Velindre, explained what happened. 'Several hundred of us packed into the Mechanics Institute at Gorasdon - members of the two ISTC branches and the Transport and General Workers Union branch.

TINPLATE

The full-time ISTC official reported that his executive was against the strike. He was at last to get out of the room and he got out.

'Even the shop steward who spoke wouldn't recommend anything. He gave a neutral report. Then someone shouted out from the floor. "Come on, let's get out with the bloody gritty. I swore we go on strike." This was recorded and carried without a single vote against.

But leaders of the steel union, local and national, are desperately trying to reach a settlement. When the ISTC general secretary of the ISTC, still hopes to persuade the steel bosses at Thursday's meeting to compromise by agreeing to fewer wage sackings and a smaller cut in weekend pay.

He may have his work cut out. The steel bosses have warned workers they are out for blood, and are not at all keen to play fancy footsy with Steely and his sympathisers.

But even if the steel chiefs agree to a compromise settlement, they will not alter course. They are determined to break the backs of thousands of steelworkers to the profit of their friends in private industry.

Meanwhile, at local level, steel union officials are doing their best to sabotage the action which has already been taken. At Trostre, for instance, the workers in ACTNS and TASS, the white-collar sections of the Transport and General Workers unions, are crossing the picket lines every morning.

Their branch secretaries advise them that they can 'fight better from inside the factory'. This is nonsense. Until they reject the advice of their officials, the white-collar workers at Trostre are scared.

Militants in the TGWU and TASS might like to ask their 'left-wing' officials why their members are being allowed to scab in South Wales.

Steel unions barter, Labour betrays - it's up to us!

THE steel unions, local and national, are completely incapable of defending their members in this great struggle. They react to every crisis by compromising and by defending the demarcation lines between steel unions.

Similarly with the Labour government. Last May, Industry Minister Wedgwood-Benn promised to help the steel workers. But when the disputes started, the Ministry's only gesture was to propose a visit by a Steel Industry Board to the Steel Corporation.

The meeting failed. The Steel Corporation refused to discuss the workers' demands. The Ministry gave in and the strike continued.

Steel workers are now facing a new threat. The Steel Corporation is planning to cut the pay of their white-collar workers and the TGWU and TASS are going to scab.

The TGWU and TASS are going to scab.

Militants in the TGWU and TASS might like to ask their 'left-wing' officials why their members are being allowed to scab in South Wales.

We need £10,000 and if we're going to do that by our deadlines—May Day—we have to start putting a lot of energy now into raising that money. This week we received £181.40, bringing our total since December to £212.61. We're only a fifth of the way there—we've got just three months to raise nearly £8000 so start working on it now.

Our thanks to: Seafarers Union, Paddick SW supporter £1.00, A & J Surry £1.60, Amal, Chand, Solicitor £5.00, Denton £.50 and SW supporters £3.00.

The Steel Corporation, 45 Euston Road, London NW1. Please send to SW International Solidarity Fund, B Cotton Gardens, London E2 8EN.