They’re old, they’re cold, they’re dying

MARY AND TED PHILBIN huddled together last Saturday under two blankets—one only thin cotton—to try to keep warm.

Their coal fire died down, but Ted was afraid they couldn’t afford to put more coal on. He had cancelled regular deliveries of coal to their council flat in Mossley, near Manchester.

He bought a bag from the shop when he could. They had been living on cream crackers and bread to save money.

Ted, aged 70, who had retired from his job at a cotton waste factory with chronic bronchitis, died of the cold that day. Mary, aged 66, crippled with arthritis, died on Monday.

STOP THE KILLER CUTS!

80,000 MAY DIE

Up to 40,000 old people like Ted and Mary may die this winter. They will die of hypothermia—excessively low body temperature—of heart attacks, bronchitis and pneumonia aggravated by the cold.

Every time the weather turns cold, 300 to 400 old people die in the first few days.

What is the Labour government, which promised at the last election to ‘bring immediate help to pensioners’, doing about it?

Making it worse!

By ‘making electricity profitable’.

The price has doubled in two years.

By cutting back on public expenditure.

The social services departments ‘can’t afford’ to give even the wretched help to old people they managed in the past.

CONCORDE

This is at a time when the government are handing out tens of millions in pounds for superfluous Concordes, Birmingham Exhibition Centres and Chrysler showrooms.

The big popular newspapers which, like the Labour government, call for cuts and profitability, are now calling for our sympathy and concern.

But sympathy and concern alone won’t provide the food and heat our old people need.

As Frank Field, director of the Child Poverty Action Group, put it: ‘Our attempts at reasoned argument with Ministers, the Department of Health and Social Security, and the electricity boards have failed. We are asking for direct Industrial action.’

It is up to rank and file trade unionists to turn this call into deeds.

No disconnection! Cut off electricity supplies are putting a resolution to their branch, to refuse to cut off electricity supplies. Electricians around the country should do the same.

If Jack Jones, chief of the Transport and General Workers Union, means what he says about protecting pensioners, he would instruct all his members not to cut off any food supplies.

No social service cut! Demand automatic payment by social security departments of the electricity bills of pensioners, of unemployed and of those on social security. The government is trying to cut back on these payments. This must be stopped.

Free electricity for pensioners!

Let them be warm, not worried.
MAKE ELECTRICITY FREE FOR ALL OLD PEOPLE!

Can we afford it? YES!

Electricity for homes costs 2p per unit. No exceptions are made. You pay 2p per unit if you're a stockbroker or an old age pensioner.

Electricity for industry costs 1 1/2p per unit—on average. Different rates for industry are negotiated by different electricity boards and different industrialists. Where Harold Wilson persuaded Alcan to set up a smelter at Lynemouth, Northumberland, and Rio Tinto-Zinc another in Anglesey, both were permitted electricity at or even below the cost of generating it. If industrialists had to pay the same rate for electricity as old age pensioners, the electricity boards would get at least ANOTHER £20 MILLION A YEAR. In other words the subsidy to industry is more than enough to provide free electricity for every old age pensioner in the country.

FACT: Nine out of ten pensioners live in houses colder than 70 degrees F, the government-recommended temperature.

FACT: Old people who are cutting down on potatoes because of the present high price are missing a valuable source of Vitamin C, which they need to protect them from illnesses.

FACT: There are 27,000 elderly in Tameside and the Manchester area. Tom Foster, director of Social Services there, said: "If we were to provide care for our pensioners, we would create an enormous number of jobs. But the government will provide money only for absolute necessities."

FACT: The national heating allowance is permanently bedfellent-risk pensioner in £1.65. Added to the £2.00 included in the pension, this makes £3.65. This will pay for a (two-bar electric fire for 1 1/2 hours a day. If you don't use any other electrical goods, that is.

FACT: Two million pensioners draw supplementary pension. Less than half of them claim the heating allowance they are entitled to. If you wonder why, just look at this obscene section from Leafield's, Supplementary Benefits, Pensions, and Allowances, based on page 5: "If you have special expenses, for example for extra heating (including central heating), special diet or essential domestic help, a weekly addition can sometimes be made to meet the extra cost."

If your requirements include the long-term scale rates, (a) add to your pension the amount that is due. If you are over 60, there are 50 different types of rates. This is the sum already included for special expenses in the long-term rates. But any addition for extra heating expenses will always be made in full.

The cold and lonely bravery of Frank Stagg

The agony of Frank Stagg, the Republican prisoner who has been on hunger strike in Wakefield Prison for the past nine weeks, is coming to a close. Stagg, who wants to be transferred to a Northern Ireland prison, was described by authorities at Wakefield at the weekend as "progressively weaker in body, but more determined in mind." In face of mounting pressure from many sources, from prison workers to county councils, national newspapers and trade unions, the authorities have been forced to act. The campaign to free Stagg, who was sentenced to 16 years for murder, is gathering momentum. The government report, however, left the hook. He's accused of a murder which took place in 1945, and nothing more. Just like a pile of other slain soldiers, he's been given the chance to die in what's being called a "fortnight's war of extermination." The Tory press denies that he is entitled to "political status" on the basis of the demand for a transfer. But the political nature of the offence cannot be denied. Clearly, had it not been for the political situation in Ireland, Stagg would never have occurred to Frank Stagg.

Murder Gang

Apart from the well-publicised cases of the Price sisters, he has quietly sanctioned the transfer of a tank of arms, which was sentenced for arms or explosives offences in Britain. He also approved the transfer of a man from Northern Ireland to a British prison of Albert Baker, the SAS veteran who admitted leading the Loyalist murder gang in the killing of four Catholics in Northern Ireland.

Frank Stagg was convicted under the infamous conspiracy laws. The only evidence against him was possession of a street map of Coventry and his own admission that he and others had talked in the past about causing explosions if Catholics in Northern Ireland ever seemed on the brink of outbreak extermination.

The Tory press denies that he is entitled to "political status" on the basis of the demand for a transfer. But the political nature of the offence cannot be denied. Clearly, had it not been for the political situation in Ireland, Stagg would never have occurred to Frank Stagg.

Despite a mountain of evidence to the contrary, Roy Jenkins is regarded in some circles as a man of liberal instinct. There may still be time for him to just once to live up to that reputation. He should recognise the justice underlying Frank Stagg's case and lonely bravery and end at once this needless war of wills.

Two thousand people, including a strong delegation from the International Socialists, marched through West London on Sunday to commemorate the fourth anniversary of Bloody Sunday, when 13 Irishmen were murdered by British troops in Derry. At the start of the demonstration a handful of supporters of the fascist National Front charged into the marchers. One 65-year-old man they attacked was taken to hospital with a broken wrist. In return, one fascist received a bloody nose before police halted them off and later released them without making court charges.

We want to be a Socialist Worker supporter!

I want to be a Socialist Worker supporter!

Name

Address

...
THE Tories have a problem. Harold Wilson and his colleagues have stolen their case. The Wilson government is being branded as the workers rather harder than most of the more realistic Tories had hoped to get away with.

Reduction of rail earnings through pay policy, mass unemployment to weaken workers' resistance, slashing of social services, all this is being rammed through by the Trade Union law.

What is more, Wilson and Co. have succeeded in getting the trade union chairmen to go along with it all—something the Tories could hardly hope to do.

So how is poor Madame Milksnatcher to make the running? She can, and does, keep one or two steps in the rear of the government, pass on the debt, make gestures to those defused middleclass Tory voters who have no other right to employment than to march right back into the 19th century when Britain was great, the workers were kept firmly in their places and domestic servants were cheap.

The Milksnatcher needs an issue, a red herring, with which to cover up her inaction and the uncommitted mugs, an issue which stirs clear of the central questions of economic policy on which the decisive sections of the capitalist class agree with Harold Wilson.

She has found her red herring—a red scare. The overwhelming might of the Kremlin's armies is poised, according to this Tory lady, to sweep across Western Europe.

REPLY

And the supporting cast of armaments manufacturers, the A.S.A. Admirals, Generals nearing retirement and Colonels who would be Field Marshals join in the clamour. All the forces of reaction unite behind this thoroughly dishonest and totally spurious stunt.

The fact of the matter is that the huge US army, navy and air force are the biggest in the world, biggest in numbers, biggest in firepower.

And in firepower, at least, they are getting bigger. A new programme of 30,000 million dollars for the US military and conventional destructive power is now getting under way. The inspirational, 'a great leap forward' in destructive power, is about to be introduced by the US.

It is certainly true that the Russian forces, which the main job is to hold down the Russian workers and the East European countries and to threaten China—are also growing, in terms of the know-how of the day. The deadly competition in the multiplication of the means of mass-destruction between the super-powers continues, and even grows, in spite of détente.

STATUS-QUO

But the ruling groups on both sides have a common interest—the maintenance of the status quo. The war, the war-like are profoundly conservative, and they are not going to fight each other if they can possibly avoid it.

The Thatcher campaign is a diversion. It is aimed, first of all, to rally her own party's supporters and, secondly, to those workers who are foolish enough to allow themselves to be distracted from the real and immediate threats to their interests—the government's policies—which are supported by the Tories.

THE COD WAR

The British Labour government has refused to settle the Cod War with the Icelandic government.

Yet again Britain's Labour government has refused to stand up for the rights of Associated British Fishers, the associated Small Group, Bird's Eye and other British-based multinational fishing companies.

We are on record as stating our determination to stand up for the rights of Associated British Fishers, the associated Small Group, Bird's Eye and other British-based multinational fishing companies.

What are these 'rights'? The fish, which provide the means of maintaining the usual patriotic garbage?

The right to fish on land, to give us the fish we have on our plates. When we want to buy it, we will get it. Why? Because it is the right to fish that is the cause of the outburst of protests in Iceland and Norway. The right to fish is the cause of the outburst of protests in Iceland and Norway. The right to fish is the cause of the outburst of protests in Iceland and Norway.
The monsters straining at the leash...

IF THESE BARBARIANS RETURN.

THE DAYS OF BACK-STREET ABORTION WILL RETURN WITH THEM.

The Select Committee must not be reappointed. The National Abortion Campaign is calling a demonstration outside Parliament on Monday 9 February. The debate is timed from 7pm to 10pm. Demonstrate outside Parliament 4-7pm. Rally Central Hall, Westminster, 7-10pm.

Every SW supporter who can get to Parliament should be there, particularly those from unions which have organised against the changes in the law. 6-7pm is the most important hour.

WHY KAUNDA ATTACKS MPLA

THE SUCCESS of the MPLA in defeating the South African and CIA puppet forces in Angola is already having an impact on neighbouring states.

The president of Zambia, Kenneth Kaunda, last week declared a state of emergency, claiming that the country was threatened by a 'plundering tiger coming in through the back door'. Zambia has played an important role in encouraging South African intervention in Angola and is supporting the anti-MPLA forces.

But the successes of MPLA are not Kaunda's only worry. He also faces growing opposition within Zambia.

SOUTH AFRICA OUT OF ANGOLA!

Torched picket of South Africa House, Trafalgar Square 5-7pm, Wednesday 11 February Called by Anti-Apartheid Movement Supported by National Organisation of International Socialist Societies London IS Societies to attend
Support the Right to Work Campaign!


give the unemployed a £5 rise

Why Brian's walking for work

Marchers: 64 on the list so far

The unemployed cannot win the battle for jobs unless we employ workers take the lead in fighting unemployment. We know what the policies are: a ban on overtime, the 35-hour week and so on.

Militant electricians all over the country have got together to put the fight for the right to work.

We've got sponsors from all over the country, and a large number of workers are fighting to win rights to qualified workers. We're holding a national meeting on Monday 16 March.

Here in Glasgow, all electricians who work for the council have banned all overtime from last week.

The three EETU branches in Glasgow, two with more than 2000 members, have asked that the national office affiliate to the Right to Work Campaign and allow us to affiliate.

We are sending one unemployed electrician to the Right to Work March, and an unemployed man is taking a week's holiday so he can go on part of it. We hope to raise enough money to support them the whole time.

And we're hiring a couple of buses to go to the Albert Hall rally on 29 March.

Employed workers everywhere should be doing the same thing. It's a small start for us—but already many of the lad's beginning to connect with the fight against unemployment.

Back This Campaign Say Sparks Militants

Five and forty Electricians' Union stewards and rank and file electricians have signed a leaflet calling on members of the EETU to support the Right to Work Campaign. They are:

Sandy Anderson (former shop steward, St James Square, Edinburgh),
Phil Baker (Central Electrician, Glasgow),
Maggie Callander (shop steward, Pollok, Edinburgh),
Patricia Paton (shop steward, Bridgeton, Glasgow).

The march is on next Sunday from Partick to Bridgeton, starting at 2:00 pm. There will be a rally at the Albert Hall.

What they're marching for

These are the ten demands of the National Right to Work Campaign, which is organizing the march:

ONE: Opposition to all forms of racism and discrimination, no job loss through 'natural wastage'.

TWO: For 100 per cent trade union closed shops with shopfloor trade union control of hours and minimum wages. No discrimination by the board.

THREE: No cooperation with the employers. No to all participation schemes.

FOUR: Upholding the terms of trade union agreements and the agreements to the right of women to a full-time job.

FIVE: For the 35-hour week without loss of pay. For official overtime bans to forestall more jobs.

SIX: For five days' work, five days' pay. For cooperation to force the nationalization without compensation of firms that cannot guarantee the right to work.

SEVEN: Stop the cuts.

EIGHT: Break the freeze, for across-the-board increases to previous standards.

NINE: Full wages for the unemployed and no means testing. Two-week increase now for all unemployed workers in an immediate step towards this.

TEN: For full trade union rights for the unemployed.

Right to Work Campaign SPONSORSHIP FORM

I/WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR

FOR

(Name of marcher) (length of time sponsored)

NAME OF SPONSOR And or TRADE UNION ORGANISATION

I ENCLOSE

Can I use this form and send to:
Right to Work Campaign, Rank and File Organizing Committee
46 Prince George Road, London N16.
The rule of law...

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM
Duncan Hallas

In this country, we have tried to reach a fit-for-purpose solution for Jeffries. Who elected this vile creature?

ANYONE WHO CAN hold a private lunch party and much less throw one of the most expensive cocktail parties of the season cannot be without influence and friends. In which other industry can any person boast such a wide and diverse circle of acquaintances? Now.

That was the trade newspaper Construction News writing about the 1976 McAlpine Christmas lunch at the McAlpine-owned and built Dorchester Hotel in London's Park Lane.

At the 1976 McAlpine banquet, Construction News disclosed, there were a total of 760 guests. 31 Lords, 92 knights and baronets, housemen and politicians of every hue, including, of course, close friend and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Shortly after printing this story, the editor and journalists of Construction News began to discover that pressure was being applied by their employers, the Thomson Organisation.

Before long, the editor had resigned, the staff were threatened and McAlpine and other construction and architecture bosses had got rid of almost all their hatchet men on their enemy list.

The Clan McAlpine have their enemies. But they also keep on elaborating lists of all their many more enemies.

They publish, for external consumption only, a special McAlpine 'Who's Who' and 'Are You with Us?' in the civil service, in local authorities, in public corporations, in private companies, and in the City.

The book tells every person who does not do business with the company in some way. It is, of course, constantly updated and expanded.

The day they evicted Sir Alec's nephew...

free, of course.

But, in October 1984, a terrible thing happened. Sir Alec fell from power. Before very many weeks had passed, voicing Robin was suddenly and without explanation evicted.

They show the links achieved by company recruiters.

When McAlpine took over Fleetline, they bought a valuable ally - former socialist - Minister of Housing and Planning in Britain - Tony Greenwood, now elevated to Lord Rothermere.

There's membership in the upper echelons of London's 'social set'. Sir Alfred McAlpine, for example, holds membership of Bond Street. His cousin, Sir Edwin, is a Garrick man.

Sir John Passmore Wrigley, Lord Chief Justice of England, is a member of both Garricks and Bondstreet.

It was Lord Wrigley who sent the Sherwood pike to jail last August. He was told by a 16-year-old boy in a Wellington hat that he had sent a Sherwood pike to jail last August. He was told by the 16-year-old boy in a Wellington hat that he had spent the previous week in the company of a lover, who was a suspected member of the Black Gang.

The evicting McAlpine pike was on the same side of the fence as the Labour government... and as the Labour government were forced to resign, the evicting McAlpine pike was sent to jail.

The Clan McAlpine are the biggest civil engineers in Britain. And when they run into any opposition, they know how to take care of it themselves.

Their biggest success in this field concerns a number of innocent building workers who had the temerity to picket a McAlpine site. The Clan McAlpine's power is such that they got a City government to jail those men, the Sherwood pike... and then persuaded a Labour government to keep them there.

One of them, Des Warren, is still inside. That's why the Clan McAlpine is interested in the case of Des Warren.

In his one published interview, Sir Alfred McAlpine went on record about his 'practical dislike' for a man who expresses a desire to live in the same part of the country.

He said: "I am not afraid of the difficulties..." and then proceeded to outline the difficulties that the man had to face in the future.

He added: "I believe that..." and then went on to repeat his dislike for the man.

In another recent case, Sir Alfred McAlpine Ltd were brought to court for breaches of the asbestos regulations. They were said to be using asbestos shooting out of an illegal way, throwing deadly asbestos dust into the air. In court, McAlpine's attorney claimed that they had not heard of the asbestos regulations. So the magistrate let them off.

By McAlpine's logic, since Des Warren was not actually killing anyone with asbestos dust, they shouldn't ever have been found guilty.

On appeal by the Factory Inspector, McAlpine were eventually found guilty and fined some petty sums.

The Clan McAlpine's asbestos violence, and more recently, violence on construction sites, has killed dozens of men this year. But it's not punishable in any real sense at all.

The rights of such and every individual to make profits are cherished in the country. That's why Des Warren is still in jail.

McAlpine's are on expert. They have the clout to influence and anywhere.

But the McAlpine style shows up clearly when their home territory, North Wales, where they have a large estate, or rather a kingdom.

Two recent stories will tell you all you need to know:

Last autumn Sir Alfred McAlpine was driving his white Rolls Royce through the country. He was caught in a milk flood. Amazingly, he came home to court and put his own name in the papers of the Daily Mail. It has done away with the McAlpine style, one which can only be called mysterious.

Conflicting

Sir Alfred's representative was testifying that the evidence was confusing. Sir Alfred was clear.

The evidence at Sherwood was also confusing. The man who had gone to jail for three years, Ricky Tomlinson, claimed that he had never heard of the man who should have been found guilty.

There is no evidence that anyone has ever written to the Secretary of the Campaign.

What the Right to Work Campaign is all about: An important new pamphlet by John Sillett, Secretary of the Campaign.

To order copies please write to: 30's, 16 West Work Campaign, 44 Prince George Road, London, N16.
Italy: 
CIA backed a coup...

THE US SPY NETWORK, the CIA, was directly implicated in attempts by extreme right-wing officers and former supporters of Mussolini to carry through a coup in Italy five years ago.

And they were indirectly involved in a bombing which killed 16 people in a Milan bank a year earlier.

These astonishing facts were leaked to the US press last week from a secret Congressional report. Over the last 25 years, the CIA's budget has grown to $5 million, but right-wing Italian politicians. One of those figures to receive substantial sums was General Vito Miceli, former head of the Italian secret service, the SIS.

So right were Miceli's policies that even the head of the CIA in Italy objected to a $400,000 grant to him. He was overruled by the US ambassador and by Henry Kissinger, who was in charge of US foreign affairs.

When Miceli's payments were authorised two years after Miceli had tried to organise a coup against the Italian government, with the aim of introducing a military dictatorship supported by the neo-fascists. Vitez is currently aiming at this.

As part of the run up to the attempted coup, the right wing decided it wanted to create a climate of insecurity and tension which it could then blame on the left. And so it set off a bomb in the Milan agricultural bank.

One of the men now facing trial for that action is Giovanni, an agent of the secret police working under Miceli's control at the time. But the first people to be accused of the crime were Finelli, a railway worker who felt in his details from a window while under interrogation, and Vitez, a socialist who was in jail for more than two years.

Published
When various left wing papers throughout Europe, including Socialist Worker, published the names and addresses of CIA agents a couple of weeks ago we were accused by Tory and right wing Labour members of 'damaging people's lives in danger'.

But these politicians have said nothing about the CIA's activities in Italy and elsewhere, perhaps because they do not want to be seen to do so. But they would do that real danger to life and liberty lies in the CIA's international political masters.

Tear gas attack on strikers

TWO workers were seriously injured and 21 were arrested when 1600 strikers at the Pitson electric factory in Athens were attacked by police a fortnight ago.

The workers, who had been on strike for 42 days, were trying to protest against cuts and getting into the factory where tear gas vehicles and their water cannons were turned against them.

The government's own police surveillance officers have been involved in hand with its attempt to rig the trade union movement.

It has appointed its own supporters to positions in the unions to prevent the overthrow of the military junta 18 months ago, and called a congress of trade union leaders earlier this year.

Unions were given three days to withdraw their demands, which are substantially resolved.

Many of the most powerful unions could not attend because they had been harassed by previous right wing government.

Ten thousand workers marched in protest to the Congress, where they were met by police and armed soldiers.

On 23 January a Patras court heard the appeal of six revolutionaries sentenced to eight months jail for putting up posters protesting at the use by the government of tear gas.

The General was backed by a protest meeting supported by many political organisations from the Pitkins and Kaleidoscope.

The sentence was cut to three months.
Nightmare on the

TWO LETTERS FROM SALFORD

From Ken Anderson (AUEW)

I had a full-time job about 12 months ago. At that time myself, my wife and my baby were living with my parents in a two-bedroom council house and it was very overcrowded. Well, with having a job, this led to trouble with my parents and also with my wife. We were always fighting and arguing about never having money and sitting about the house all day. All this led to the wife and baby leaving with bad health. All this time I was trying to find a flat or a house. Anything so we can get out of that house.

Then I heard about this house in a demolition area, that had come empty and was going to be bricked up. Well, I was so desperate that I decided to squat in it. We moved in, made some repairs, decorated, and made it fairly nice. That was nearly 12 months ago and I have made attempts to pay rent to the owners, who are the North Western Water Board. But they said no, and that I was trespassing.

So I approached the social services, and asked them if they could help me. Also at this time my wife was eight months pregnant. Well, they said that when we get thrown out on the streets we should go back then, and they would put my wife and kids in a hostel and I could walk the streets. A lot of good that would do us.

Well, I am not leaving this house till I get somewhere for us to live. While all this is going on, I am still trying to find a job. Because all the trouble I am having with a house and financial trouble all stems from being out of work and not being able to afford anything.

Terrible

This house being in a condemned area, some of the conditions around it are terrible, and with having a young baby nearly three years old, and the wife expecting another baby any day now, me being out of work—well, I don’t see how we are to look forward to it.

I have joined the Manchester branch for the Right to Work Committee and hope that my little bit will help in some way in this very bad time.

From Joseph Cronshaw (AUEW)

I DON’T know how many jobs I’ve had since I came home from Australia in 1973.

I left one job because the firm threatened to close down. I was paid off from the next two weeks before Christmas 1974 without any notice. I got myself another job as a lorry-driver, but was made redundant three times. I went to Lincoln and got a job and a promise of a house—but the house never appeared. I was trained and went into the factory—but I couldn’t get a job, and couldn’t afford to live away from the family. I came back to Manchester.

Nightmare

Housing here has been one long nightmare. We moved into the previously-rented house on the advice of the Manchester Housing Department. We were promised it wouldn’t affect our position on the housing list.

But when we went back to change our address on the form...
PARLIAMENT'S 'GREAT DEBATE' ON UNEMPLOYMENT

Hear no protest,
See no protest,
Speak no protest

by Laurie Flynn

ACCORDING to every newspaper, radio and television pundit in the country, last week's House of Commons debate on unemployment was absolutely crucial: "a vital test for the government and its whole range of policies".

From my vantage point in the press gallery of Westminster's most beautiful chamber, I could clearly see that this was so. At the height of the debate, as left MP John McDonnell spoke of the obscenity of the system, in which we live, there was a grand total of 37 out of 630 MPs present.

The rest of the MPs on their respective teams were clearly so anxious to take part in reasoned debate and to upset the tragedy of unemployment that they had to draw their hortatory in the House of Commons. But for some other, more effective, form of evidence.

For those 37 there was the usual cut and thrust of debate, which was, as usual, as sharp as a Gillette branded razor handle system six months after the blades got thrown away.

For even if every one of those people whom we sign over the democracy in our lives had been in their places it would have made little difference.

Here in Parliament, the results are known in advance. The compassionate rhetoric of MPs that the Prime Minister has been belaboring of late is usually enough to entice one to the conclusion that there is precious little left left in them.

The truth is that Government and its crucial debate on unemployment is that there is about as much power and ability in parliament to do anything about unemployment as there are substitutes on the substitutes bench of a fourth division football club. Two hours after the end of a match.

Deliberate

Unless, that is, Denis Healey and his minions in charge of the Labour government can find ways of increasing it still further. And there is a very good chance of that. For once they set their stage compensation slide, the clear creation of unemployment is deliberate policy.

Healey's own contributions to the debate did not directly address this. Instead, in his rich rose-hip syrup voice, he talked of what the government was going to do to the people in their homes or the Parliamentary procedure that there is precious little left left in them.

The truth of the House of Commons and its crucial debate on unemployment is that there is about as much power and ability in parliament to do anything about unemployment as there are substitutes on the substitutes bench of a fourth division football club. Two hours after the end of a match.

Suckers on the railways and plenty more besides

What Walker was saying in short was, in store for non-MPs is continuing high unemployment. And what are we to do about it? Are we to book our places for another 'keynote' House of Commons debate on the subject in a year's time?

Hypocrisy

There were more than a few people at last week's debate who had little respect for Walker's words. They were from the Right, and one hopes, from the Left.

They even flung some Right to Work leaflets on to the House of Commons floor before the aten-
Students back Right to Work fight

The Right to Work Campaign is gaining support among students. More reports of money to sponsor marches are coming in.

TROOPS OUT CAMPAIGN

The campaign of violence in the past few months in Northern Ireland, with assassinations, illegal and illegal attacks on buildings, will not be broken down, if the student community wants to win a political recognition of the burning campaign in Britain.

This makes it more important than ever to organise a broad-based campaign in the British labour movement to withdraw the troops. Members of the International Socialists and supporters of Socialist Students have been moving the TUC to withdraw troops to the Trades Councils and trade union meetings. Where no TUC branches exist on where it has no base, 15 branches should hold meetings demanding TROOPS OUT of Ireland.

A campaign launched by trade unionists is called for to put it forward to 15,000 people on a better way for a 15,000 month to organise a trade union rally in Belfast. The TUC One-Million March was another call for the 15,000 troops in the army and for an immediate withdrawal of troops.

Details of activities and speakers are available from the Irish Left Campaign, 8 cottages Gardens, London E2.

Socialist Worker RALLY

Some of the films will be shown at the Socialist Worker Screenings this evening at 7.30. For details, see the Socialist Worker, 7 January.

STATE OF SEIZE, starring Jane Fonda, Donald Sutherland

ONE DAY IN THE LIFE OF IVAN DENISOVITCH, starring Tom Courtenay

STATE OF SEIZE

VIVA MARIA, starring Brigitte Bardot, Jeanne Moreau

The IS Office needs the phone number of the nearest National Council. Write to L. Balfour, 8 cottages Gardens, London E2 IMMEDIATELY.

How to sell out SW

By Bernie Wiczak, Socialist Worker

Organizers, West Manchester

CYNICS MIGHT be on the way of selling Socialist Worker at a time and get rid of the very left of Socialist Worker. The question is who will buy SW at a time when the socialist movement is growing?

How to sell SW

How can you find the socialist movement growing and help keep it growing? How can you persuade the SW to buy SW at a time when the socialist movement is growing?

IS meetings

IS OFFICE

The IS Office needs to contact the socialist movement growing and help keep it growing. How can you persuade the SW to buy SW at a time when the socialist movement is growing? How can you persuade the SW to buy SW at a time when the socialist movement is growing?

IS SOCIALIST

Students' National Socialist Union meets Wednesday, 7 February, 7.30 p.m., Central Labour Hall, 70-72 Old Kent Road, London SE1. All are welcome.

SOCIALIST WORKER MEETINGS

CROYDON public meeting. Thursday 7 February, 8 p.m., 70-72 Old Kent Road, London SE1.

LONDON public meeting. Thursday 7 February, 8 p.m., Central Labour Hall, 70-72 Old Kent Road, London SE1.

IS SOCIALIST meeting. Thursday 7 February, 8 p.m., Central Labour Hall, 70-72 Old Kent Road, London SE1.

Entertainment issues, including the role of the socialist movement growing and help keep it growing. How can you persuade the SW to buy SW at a time when the socialist movement is growing? How can you persuade the SW to buy SW at a time when the socialist movement is growing?
Let me tell you 'bout Hurricane
RON SENCHAK ON HIS BOY-HOOD FRIEND,
NOW A PRISONER AND A LEGEND

All of Ruben's cards were marked an advance.
The trial was a pig circus, he never had a chance.
The judge made Ruben's witnesses disappear from the stand,
That's why he was a revolutionary.
And in the black folks he was just a crazy ninja.
No one dared touch him, nuthin'.
And although they could not produce the gun,
They said that he was the one that did the deed.
And the whole jury agreed.

—from Bob Dylan's song, Hurricane, CBS Records, 650

The Apaches were a local gang of black youth in Paterson New Jersey. USA. In 1948 they got done for knocking off some sweatshirts from a shop. They were put on probation for two years.
The leader of the gang was 11-year-old Ruben Carter.

Today Ruben Carter is going blind in the New Jersey state penitentiary for his release for a crime he was framed for by the police and the racist state structure of New Jersey.

Made
Oh, but if you had known him and seen him in 1943 in the Market Street gym in Newark, or played pool with him even, you would have thought he had it made. For even though he'd been in prison for ten years since 1948, he was one of the best middleweight fighters in the world. He was good and

Hurricane Carter worked his way to being a top-class middleweight boxer. He had put in for himself on the street, he was a mean jungle, to you you kin.

e he always encouraged the kids in the gym like myself.

You would have thought that was some man, you know, Hurricane. But the troubles of racism and ghetto life never let up. If you're black, you're always in trouble.

They got Hurricane Carter back, the 11-year-old, the Paterson police force, and the court.

In the summer of 1946 Carter and a mate, John Aris, were picked up for questioning for the murder of three whites. They were released when a wounded victim positively stated that they were not the men who had done the shooting. Four months later they were picked up again. The police had come up with 'new evidence' two ex-comrades testified against them, after being promised a 10,000 dollar reward and reduced sentences on burglary charges.

The court sentenced Hurricane and his mate to life

The ex-com who identified him now admit they lied. Hurricane has been getting consistent support from Mohammed Ali. The black mayor of Newark, New Jersey, Kenneth Gibson, declared Hurricane 'Justice for Ruben Carter Day'. Bob Dylan has written a protest song which is in the top of the charts in the States, and he is raising money for Hurricane's defense fund.

Hurricane has been in jail for eight years. He is now appealing. He might get released. Even if he does, it's right back to square one, with the same old people. He killed those kids who were the Apaches in 1948. In between jail sentences on minor charges, miserable health in the squalor of the shams.

Frame-up
He is just one of thousands of black kids—on a frame up or for a petty crime. How many of them will manage to get out? And how many more of the kids in the local gangs in Paterson will be caught by the same noose police tactics?

What we want is justice for Hurricane Carter. And justice for all blacks incarcerated in American jails.

There is a great booklet out called Noise. It is a must for all shop stewards and workers who are employed in noisy conditions. It must be used in talks with management, especially now the new safety and health act is in force.

FOR TOO LONG MANAGEMENT HAVE GOTTEN AWAY WITH THE NOISE PROBLEM BECAUSE WORKERS THOUGHT IT WAS JUST NOISE

ON THE BOX

THURSDAY 14/11 THE BOAT COMES IN (BBC) 11pm feels the heat with Alan Gallagher

FRIDAY The Friday Film on

TUESDAY 13/11 EXAMINES THE WAY Occasional Petrolium

DECEMBER OIL TV[D] EXPERIMENTS WITH Occasional Petrolium

Thursday Film on the

BOOK OF THE WEEK

VICTOR SERGE MEMOIRS OF A REVOLUTIONARY 1901-1941

WHICH WAY TO SOCIALISM? Every socialist asks the question. The Russian Revolution mapped the road part of the way, but then turned to the more difficult task of turning all our incomes and detar in and deciding whether or not to send for the Sergetics. His memoirs are essential reading.

£1.45 including postage, from the following:

BBC, 2 Portland Place, London W1

LONDON N4, or direct from IS booksellers in

Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Hull,

Glasgow, Liverpool, Dundee and Coven-

try.

PAUL OFLINN
INSIDE Linda Lovelace is a book about sex, and we should all be relieved to know that the jury has decided that it is not likely to come out of the counter.

If they had found otherwise, half the books on the market would have needed to be hidden under the counter.

Which is where most things about sex are to be found. Sex is the biggest urban subject of all, and it's a subject that many women are afraid to talk about.

What is it that some people dislike so much about this book? Not only is it about sex, but it is written by a woman who is a woman. So that, if widely read, encourage some women to fantasies, greater expectations, greater meanings.

And if you happen to be Mary Whitehouse, it is the sort of book that is part of a clear indication of the declining moral standards of the nation.

Which is all about sex, and is hereditary, and is by itself a reason to encourage women to talk about it.

And then pornography flourishes.

It fills a gap created by the society. We live in an age of sexual needs, a society that is not yet, that is not yet, a society that is not yet.

If inside Linda Lovelace had been based on my own experience, it would have cost me £5 instead of £5.50. MARGARET BENN. London NW.

You've got it wrong
NO. Ron Burford (Letters, last week), no one is responsible for the cheapening of women's status, for the closing of the trade unions. That just was such a poor attempt to raise our women's status.
POSTAL POINTS

I WAS DISAPPOINTED by Bert Ramsey, industrial secretary of theordinate Labour Party, when he appeared on a recent BBC radio programme. The Party, he stated, elected to power, would implement the programme the Party had put forward. I would have thought it might be a different approach. After all, a party that would like to remain in power would have to consider its policies. The struggle to the recognition of the rights of the workers within the economy is what constitutes the most profound difference between an ordinary party, as well as to hit back at the Labour Party, for example — between the trade unions and the workers. — Grahain Williams.

MY FATHER is dying from cancer of the spine. He has 38 years of service in the industry and is now in the final stage of the disease. I would like to thank all the workers and the trade unions for their support. — C. W. WILKINSON.

COME OFF IT, Ethel Freeman (Letters, 10/17). Have the working class been defeated in every revolution? One only has to look at Russian reality to realise that IT IS NOT the working class who are defeated under the Soviet system, but rather the workers under the capitalist system, which destroys them. The working class never dies. It always finds new forms and new methods of resistance. Sooner or later, we will see a new revolution in this country. — Richard Johnson, Durham.

ART-RESEARCH is a revolutionary school (among other things) open to the general public, including the disabled, poor, dumb and disabled. No studies for a degree or leadership in art or the public. — John Smith, London.

A FASCIST has been allowed to sit as a delegate to the Norwich Trades Council. This disgraceful decision was taken by the council even though there were no arguments made by the delegate. — Peter Ingham, in his edition of 17 January.

It is unfortunate that your paper has chosen to link an analysis of the situation in the nationalized steel industry with a thoroughly negative and destructive campaign against the constitutional steelworkers’ union, the ISTC. 

Mr. Ingham is factually inaccurate in his comments on the formation of the ISTC. On the contrary, the then MVPA, the ISTC’s forerunner, actively took steps to ensure that the former ILGWU members did not join the new union. — J. R. H. Scales, Tipton.

Your articles ignore points like this in the union’s history but concentrate instead on personal attacks on individuals (ISTC officials) as if they alone were the union.

At this time, a considered analysis of the situation must be made by the BSC’s actions is needed, and a realistic programme which meets the needs of British steel and seeks appropriate solutions to the triple threat of plant closure, industrial action and the need to pay guarantees.

This analysis and programme will not be achieved by harrying negatively the demerits of particular organisations — such a trend approach shows a poverty of theoretical analysis, and presents no real alternative for steelworkers.

In addition, Mr. Ingham’s cynical appraisal of the achievement of an Annual Delegate Conference, which is a major democratic advance, ignores the distortional changes that take place in organisation under the pressure of events such as the current dispute and is, therefore, a fundamentally non- democratic approach.

Instead, the Socialist Worker article is useful to the methods of the BSC’s work: a class war, personally and politically motivated against any organisation that challenges its grip on the trade unions and its pay guarantees.

Why then was conference abolished?

Peter Ingham comments:

Brother Jones’s facts do not disprove my facts. The law did require a two-thirds majority of the members to approve an amalgamation, so the leaders of the five steel unions called for a conference, and this side of the argument is closed. — Peter Ingham, in his edition of 17 January.

Sixteen delegates who voted against the fascist have written an open letter to the Norwich Community Party. It reads:

‘We deplore the position of those delegates who, as members of the Community Party, refused to support the union’s conference decision. We believe that the National Front is an unworkable organisation and that the movement must be resisted at all times. Refusal to fight the National Front is certainly an admission to the trade union movement to the detriment of trade unionism and the labour movement.’

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Become a Socialist Worker Supporter — fill in the form on page three.

Why should we stop slanging Sirs?
A LETTER FROM THE MAIN STEEL UNION

The Communist Party are not supporting a fascist

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Why should we stop slanging Sirs?

A LETTER FROM THE MAIN STEEL UNION

I WRITE with reference to the article ‘Why should we stop slanging Sirs?’ in the Socialist Worker (17 January) which states that the ‘Communist Party are supporting a fascist’.

This is factually inaccurate. The Communists are supporting a policy of unity with the main steel unions.

It is not the case that the Communist Party are not supporting the main steel unions. On the contrary, the main steel unions have been at the forefront of the struggle against the fascist delegate.

The Communist Party are supporting the main steel unions and their struggle against the fascist delegate. — E. M. E. Jones, Phoenix, Islington.

Are you a militant socialist? If so, why not make a point for your union? — Peter Ingham, in his edition of 17 January.

Fascist delegate.

I refer to the letter ‘Why should we stop slanging Sirs?’ in the Socialist Worker (17 January) which states that ‘The Communist Party are supporting a fascist’.

I write to correct this statement. The Communist Party are not supporting the fascist delegate. The Communist Party are supporting a policy of unity with the main steel unions.

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Fascist delegate.
Teachers: Stop this rule!

By Jeannie Hollbauer, Redbridge NUT

THE DAILY MAIL and the Southend Post were among those who reported the story that the National Union of Teachers has cancelled the last meetings in this year's campaign to stop the proposed North Korea nuclear test. The union has written to all members of the union to inform them of the decision, and to call for a halt to all further action until a resolution of the issue is reached.

The union's General Secretary, Mr. H. J. C. Smith, said: "The decision was taken after careful consideration of the situation and the views of members. It is our belief that any further action will be counterproductive and could lead to a worsening of the situation."

The union has also launched a campaign to raise awareness of the issue, and has called for a national day of action on September 11th. The union is urging members to take part in the campaign and to support the resolution of the issue.

Support

The company has been challenged to offer a better offer, and a new round of negotiations has been set up to try to resolve the dispute. The union has expressed its determination to continue the fight for a fair and just settlement for its members.

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the members of the union will be held on Monday, September 12th, at 7.30 pm in the union's headquarters. All members are strongly encouraged to attend.

Right to Work Committee

The Right to Work Committee has been established to represent the interests of the workers, and to negotiate with the company on their behalf. The committee is made up of representatives from the union and from the workers, and is chaired by the union's General Secretary.

In Brief

TOTTENHAM: Members of the National Union of Metalworkers' and Allied Workers' Union have called a strike for September 12th, affecting all factories in the area. The union is demanding a 10% pay increase and an end to the use of casual workers.

LONDON: The Community Development Project has announced a 24-hour strike by its members, affecting all the council's social services departments. The union is demanding an end to the use of casual workers and an increase in pay.

OXFORD: More than 70 Transport Union members at Oxford University have voted for a strike action in support of their colleague who was dismissed for legal reasons. The union is demanding that the university reinstate the worker and pay him compensation.

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GLASGOW: NOW: THREI STRIKES FoR EQUAL PAY

THE EQUAL Pay Act became effective a month ago. But, like all such legislation, it promises much and gives nothing. There is only one way to get equal pay for all: to demand it. As Maguire and fellow workers in Hamilton, Glasgow, 60 TASS workers, including 23 women, have formed a strike committee to demand three weeks' equal pay. Some of the women were 50 or 60 years old, but none had ever received equal pay before. The strike, which began on November 1st, has now lasted for 12 weeks. The women are refusing to return to work until they have received the three weeks' pay due under the Equal Pay Act.

Inside the Union

All NUT members should support this new strike, which will be brought to a head before Christmas. It is the first major test of the new legislation, and all members should be prepared to participate. The union's leadership must be supported in its efforts to negotiate with the management, and to ensure that the strike is successful.

POSTSCRIPT

The strike is expected to last for several weeks. The union is prepared to continue the fight for equal pay, and to demand that the Equal Pay Act is enforced.

The Right to Health and Safety

ILEA OF GRAN, KENT: 12 workers have been hospitalised after a fire in the Fire Station at the town's fire station. The fire is said to have been caused by a short circuit in the electrical system.

Three workers are in a critical condition, and the others are being treated for burns. The fire service is working to control the blaze.

The workers were alerted to the fire by a member of the public who saw smoke coming from the station.

Mansell's Strike Goes On

EAST LONDON: When Terry Collins started work at Mansell's Barrow Street site 11 years ago, he joined a union and became a member of the Trades Union Congress. Since then, the company has been on strike for the third time.

Management refused to agree to a better offer, and the workers have been on strike for the past week. The union is demanding an end to the use of casual workers and an increase in pay.

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CHRYSLER: The fight for jobs goes on

Our chances are great – so let’s fight back!

‘DESPITE past setbacks we now have the advantage. We must now lead the fight to save the plants, the jobs, and the future of our communities,’ said Chrysler workers at a rally last night.

That’s how Andy Economics, Transport Workers Union (TWU) national president, spoke as workers in the Chrysler plant assembled last night to fight for their jobs.

The important and useful meeting was chaired by TWU national president Tom McMillan, who was supported by TWU members from across Canada.

The meeting was well-attended, with many members expressing their determination to save the plant.

The plant is crucial to the economy of the region, providing jobs for thousands of workers and their families. Workers are determined to fight for their jobs and to ensure the continued operation of the plant.


denied. The vote was carried despite the company’s attempts to suppress union activity.

Avital conference

THE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY COUNCILLORS (ACC) announced last week that there would be ‘substantial’ numbers of drivers unemployed next September.

This grim prediction came from the ACC, which estimates that 200,000 drivers will lose their jobs next year.

The ACC has launched a national campaign to ensure that drivers are not left without work.

The campaign is supported by the trade unions, who are calling on the government to take action to protect the jobs of drivers.


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CHRYSLER STRIKE

by a Chrysler Linwood steward

AT Linwood this week we have been lucky, in that we have avoided the very existence of a trade union.

Not that you'd get that impression from reading the paper, watching the television, or listening to Brian Vaule, Labour Industry Minister, or John Boyd, general secretary of the Engineering Union. According to these creatures the Linwood layoffs have been strike for an extra £1 a week for a hundred.

But just pause for a moment and ask yourself a question. If your boss walked in and said, "We're having a wage agreement, I can't talk to you till the union has agreed," would you be prepared to go along with it? If you were asked to do something for your boss that wasn't being paid for, would you do it? If the union came to you and said, 'We're ripping you off', would you do it?

We have. We are prepared to use our union skills. We are prepared to stand up for ourselves.

And that's the difference between us and the rest of the world.

The strike is on. The strike is on. The strike is on.

THIS ISN'T A NIGGLE OVER £1. IT'S WAR!

JOHN HEPBURN is the shop steward at the heart of the Linwood plant. A member of the Transport Union, he works in the knockdown department where the men work on the chassis of the cars from the clean Johnstone plant were moved.

John went to the Chrysler Worker Fightback meeting in Coventry last weekend. This is an extract from his report.

"We have to get the message across loud and clear, this is a big battle about anything which threatens the Linwood plant. And that's the greatest danger to any trade union organisation."

"They are prepared to upgrade the forklift driven from the Johnstone plant, which are E1 under the Linwood farm. They are prepared to downsize other workers at Linwood. But they are not prepared to upgrade the Johnstone workers, whose differential is only £1.09.

"Apart from the fact that this is against our national agreement, a dispute on this scale for £9.00 a week to them is nothing other than sheer provocation."

"This is a battle that is going to continue. The company is trying to push us as far as they can, but the workers are 100 per cent. I've never seen them so solid. The membership is solid too. "If this is it, we say, 'To hell with everybody under these conditions.""