2 MILLION OLD FOLK LEFT TO FREEZE

By PAUL FOOT

THE LABOUR Government has washed its hands of responsibility for the desperate suffering of two million old people this winter.

It has withdrawn its own minimum standards for heating in old people's houses.

Recently government documents, such as the Department of Health's How to Keep Warm in Winter, 1972 recommended a temperature of 70 degrees in old people's living rooms.

This year, in a letter to the Royal Institute of Consumer Affairs, the Department of Health and Social Security has withdrawn the recommendation. The letter makes it plain that the government now sets no standards at all for warmth in old people's houses.

George Dunn, general secretary of the National Federation of Old Age Pensioners, told Socialist Worker:

"The basic pension allows for £2.90 for water and space heating. Anyone who thinks you can keep warm on that is either a lunatic or doesn't care."

AT RISK

"If you rely on electricity, you can't even keep half a room at 70 degrees."

"There are two million pensioners who will be seriously at risk this winter."

"Old folk should wear socks and woolly hats to keep warm in bed."

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY LEAFLET

"These two million get the basic pension—and a rent and rates rebate. They don't qualify for the latest government heating allowances."

"If they get hypothermia because of the cold, they could die."

"Not content with shuffling off responsibility for old people who die of cold, the government is searching round for new ways to damage old people—and the sick and poor."

This week it is agreeing to more cuts in public spending—by order of the International Monetary Fund.

"Housing subsidies will be slashed again—and council house rents will soar."

"David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, and Stanley Orme, his left-wing Minister of State, are launching a Good Neighbour Campaign."

THE INLAND Revenue is losing a cool one thousand million pounds a year because it refuses to tax a tax scheme most enjoyed by Britain's better-off classes."

So Sunday Times journalist Nicholas Faith revealed on 31 October.

He told how the rich were setting up 'discretionary trusts' in the Channel Islands to evade tax—and how they were getting away with it.

A thousand million pounds is almost all of what the government hopes to save by pushing up council house rents and driving down welfare benefits.

Meanwhile, acute spending is up £14 by £517 million to £1,000 million.

The government hopes to buy the new boiling early-warning plans at £60 million each. The cost of one plan would buy heat and light for every old person in the country.

Sir Hugh Fraser, the department store boss and Scottish Nationalist, admits that he has lost about one and a half million pounds in gambling at roulette. In one evening, he lost a quarter of a million pounds.

A spokesman for the gambling club said: 'This was not remarkable.'

They are asking people to be 'kind' to old people in their areas.

The 'kindness' of Messrs Ennals and Orme boils down to a handshake for the television cameras, and a kick in the teeth from behind the Cabinet doors.

And it's not just the pensioners.

SEE PAGES 8 & 9

And it's not just the pensioners.
**COUNCIL PUTS STRINGS ON MOSQUE**

THE Watham Forest Islamic Association finally received planning permission for their new mosque—but only just. The chairman of the council's planning committee had to see his council vote to carry the plan.

The conditions attached to the permission will make it difficult for the new mosque to be opened. The council is demanding alterations to the windows—soundproofing, glazed windows in the back, car parking space made within the premises—which will cost £150,000 before the building can be started at all. This would be too high except that the permission is only for a "trial period" of three years.

Dr Nazmul Ali, president of the Islamic Association, told Socialist Worker: "We are pleased, we will have difficulties like this. The local authority has had seven years to see how we use this mosque where we are now. They don't really need another three years. We feel the council is making a decision to avoid taking full responsibility.

'We will appeal for the time limit to be removed. Our intention is to fight for this.'

Khalid Hassan

BY PHIL MARFLEET

BRITAIN'S insidious immigration laws and the racist police who enforce them near the Walthamstow mosque last week, Khalid Hassan, a Pakistani-born worker living in Walthamstow, London, was taken in for questioning.

Police were at his home when he wasn't there. They came to his workplace Photocopy, told the fifteen that they were "witnesses" and then having laid Khalid out, told him that he could either go straight to the airport for immediate deportation or 'stay home to collect things'.

Khalid's determination and promptness in organizing support from friends and workmates stopped the police from carrying out their plans. But how many times do they get away with it?

Phone calls to the police this morning were not returned.

Daye Fews

**Apology**

He asked the police to visit him that evening and sort things out.

But after work Khalid found that the police had already visited and entered his house. Telephoneing the police again, they claimed to be a "police officer" and apologised from the station commander: "Sorry, there has been a mistake."

On Tuesday, after a personal visit to the police, Khalid was told he could not go to his work or he would be arrested. Khalid was called by the police again the next day. There was no demonstration, and Khalid learned of the Socialist Workers Party's apology.

**Protest over jailed Cypriots**

FIFTY supporters of the Socialist Defence Campaign picketed Pentonville Prison in north London last Saturday. At least 12 Cypriots sentenced under the immigration laws have been held under false charges of escaping from the tragic war in Cyprus in 1974.

A demonstration from the pickets was banned. The Committee for the release of Cypriots was banned last week under the Terrorism Act, but its activities are being continued.

The march ended up in Whitehall. The five Cypriots in Westminster's new jail are held on charges which are now being investigated by the Home Office. Khalid Hassan is also in custody. The Cypriot community was shocked.

The campaign is now receiving widespread support, primarily from the large Cypriot community in Britain. Reporters of the island, who report as of July 2002, were arrested in January and have not been heard from since.

The police are putting pressure on the Home Office to release the Cypriot community after their trial.

**Guilty of the impossible!**

MANY thousands of British people are seriously considering the idea of not paying their taxes this year. The idea is nothing new. It was first mooted by Christian White, editor of the British Nationalists, in 1973. White proposed a number of measures to the British Nationalists, which included non-payment of taxes and non-payment of fines.

Many thousands of British people have been influenced by this idea. They have decided that the British state is not worth their money. They have decided that the British state is not worth their time.

The British state is not worth our money. The British state is not worth our time.
Sensation! Wilson Discovers Labour Infiltrators...

Sir Harold Wilson waddles out of semi-retirement to issue a "girlie" warning to the Labour Party.

What bothers him? Is he concerned that his Party in government is ripping up the pledges which he gave in two general elections two years ago?

Is he disturbed about the cuts in the living standards of the people who voted Labour? Or about the mass unemployment which his policies have created? Or about the rocketing prices which he promised to curb?

Not at all, Sir Harold warns, against "infiltration of the Labour Party by small and unrepresentative groups", who are attempting a "take-over bid for power".

Communists

In 1961, Harold Wilson, then Shadow Chancellor, warned the Tory Chancellor not to defect public opinion away from his reactionary policies by demagoguing Communists. "Let him not look for red plots", trumpeted Wilson.

Now, Wilson has a "red plot" to distract attention from government policies inimical to the workers.

Sir Harold Wilson had some interesting things to say about the Parliamentary democracy which he espouses. After an MP is elected, he said, he is morally and democratically the property of the country and should be an office-holder to be dismissed by an unrepresentative caucus.

Wilson concluded that an element may now be dismissed by approval of the entire Parliamentary Labour Party which he described as the MPs' trade union. "In any democracy we don't have the people. They represent the members of that MP's trade union."

Wilson's proposals, MP's would have to be elected for life, Labour Party members would have no right to vote even to in-out of the caucus.

Ron Haywood, Labour's general secretary, agrees. He said last week that MPs should not be removed because of their views. Why should they be removed? Because of the sake of this Party? Wilson attacked "leftist" infiltrators "who share no sympathy or aim with the Party..."

But he's not talking about the 'small and unrepresentative group'...

How did Jeremy Bray, a right-wing mathematical professor, come to represent the steelworkers of Motherwell? Or David Marquand, Emmanuel School, Oxford, the miners of West Nottinghamshire?

These MPs were selected by an "unrepresentative caucus" in Transport House. A phone call to the party faithful put them on the road to fame and fortune.

Wilson, Hayward and the entire Press want to ensure that fame and fortune are not interfered with from below.

Richard Crossman, in his diaries, wrote of the Labour Party. "The most we can hope for is a progressive oligarchy..."

That's what the Labour Party is, an oligarchy, in which power is selected for the educated few. And there's nothing remoter from progressive about it.

There's no point in being what Wilson calls a 'political aristocrat'. In the Labour Party, there are no assets to be got.

We urge socialists in the Labour Party to dump Wilson and his oligarchs and join with us in building a new Party out of the fighting spirit of working people.

Big Vote to get Troops out

A Motion calling on Britain to take the lead in bringing all British troops out of the Middle East was defeated at the annual conference of the Social Democratic and Labour Party in Newquay, Cornwall.

The report reflected pressure from within the Catholic community after the failure of the "special arrangements" sponsored by the Pentagon over the past seven years.

The Socialists are now weary of being taken for granted, and are beginning to think in terms of the "real" British North. Unemployment: speeches by their Prime Ministers, G. F. Hume, John Fitch and John Hume, couldn't prevent all MPs from delegating voting for Britain to the 70s.

Naturally, the vote gave the Prime ministers a huge majority.

Blitz

Their campaign of bombing the Middle East and no signs of stopping—when the Blitz hits, last week, demonstrated.

The last time the army beat up a Catholic area—when it opposed the Provisional IRA—was in 1916.

That trend, British military tactics are futile. The SPA菈B campaign is the political strategy and is doomed to failure.

Gradually, the Provisional IRA is winning more and more, and will only be defeated when the whole of Britain is in the North, where the tricks will have no place.

We urge socialists to see the real point of view, it is by no means an ad hoc action, but a long analysis which ignores it has been consistently right.
Now for a national youth rally

By Geoff Heaton

Since it was launched three months ago, Socialist Worker Youth Movement has made modest but important strides.

Branches have been set up in most areas of the country, at least the major industrial centers.

Our members have shown great enthusiasm, attracting other young people to SWYM as an organisation fighting for youth issues.

Alongside other Socialist Worker supporters, SWYM members have been in the forefront of fighting the cuts on the streets of London, Leeds, Sheffield and elsewhere.

Occupying

In Hull, SWYM organised pickets and占领ing during an anti-replacement strike. In Cadderburne, Glasgow, SWYM members were very active in the local NUR Action Group which has been occupying an empty nursery in order to save the kids from the privatisation threat.

We try to organise working young people, unemployed and school students around specific and decisive struggle confidence to fight.

Our plans are to organise more young workers into existing action groups and to strengthen our links with the Structures on Access, the TUC youth and the NEU.

Building a national youth movement will take time. But it has been a great start, with support from home counties, and thousands on the pickets.

SWYM will be making a national youth rally at the end of February. This will be an opportunity for you to experience everything we're doing. We encourage you to come and help us to build aggressively national socialist youth movements that can challenge the fight for young people's future.

Socialist Worker Rally!

If you don't believe it, you should have been at the East of Scotland Socialist Worker Rally in Edinburgh on Saturday. It was due to start at 2pm, but by 1pm the hall was already packed with people.

Long queues

Punishers got in from ten miles away, never mind on trains from Glasgow, Dundee or South of the Border.

Two of the organisers, who were a bit late until

Freedom to be briped? Alpine?

By Julian Goss

Chris Bailey, owner of Bristol Channel Ship Repairers, describes himself as a small business owner for freedom.

For six months, he's masterminded a battle against nationalisation of shipyards and aircraft factories.

The newspapers and TV stations have been working tirelessly to help him. He does not want to lose control. He wants his enterprise.

What he has is a free enterprise 74-year-old capitalism and we’ll get rid of 198 workers, who used to work for Bristol Channel Ship Repairers and Mr Bailey.

Petition

They are demanding the government's full support. In April 1978, they refused to take part in the nationalisation demonstration which Bailey organised for his workers.

Alas, the local newspaper, the Bristol Evening Post, did not carry their letter to the paper.

Before the summer break, Gerry Gitt, SLPD MP for West Bristol, pledged support for the independent MP for Fernhaugh and gave interviews to newspapers, who came to him to complain to the Speaker of the Commons.

The situation was further complicated by the increasing presence of the parish church in the town.

During the summer, two hundred people gathered outside his house, blocking entrances to the building. The nationalised branch of the factory was smashed.

In July, Chris Bailey was also arrested and charged with 19th-century laws.

They knew

For a few weeks, they told Frank Maggs, the Bristol Ship Repairers’ special advisor, especially at a result of the Fer- nhaugh MP’s one. They knew they would be turned.

Our Bernard Bulkin, who ran the organisation, was invited to a meeting with the MP to discuss the situation. He was met by a group of 20 people, who had been waiting for him.

The MPs all said they would resist the cuts, but in the end, they didn’t.

The financial aid for the organisation made by Vincent Flynn on Sunday brought in a splendid £30.

Independent Working Class: Action

The workers create all the wealth under capitalism. The working class society can only be a socialist society when they collectively seize control and plan its production and distribution.

Revolution, not reform

The workers cannot be patched up or reformed as the socialist Labour and trade union leaders believe them to be.

Where we stand

Socialist Worker is a revolutionary paper that includes discussions of the following principles:

- Socialism
- Worker-owned unions
- No parliamentarian road
- Independence: working class action
- No capitalism
- Reform

There is no parliamentary road?

The structure of the present parliament, government and judiciary cannot be changed by reform. They are designed and maintained by and for the working class.

In order to win a socialist state, we need an entirely planned economy, the workers’ state, a new class of delegates and workers’ militia.

At the same time, we see power being used to make workers’ conditions worse. We oppose the workers in themselves can destroy the system.

Inter-unionism

The struggle for a workers’ state is part of a world-wide struggle. We campaign for socialism in all other countries.

We support the right of workers from all countries to organise and defend this universal area of struggle. We support the right of workers to organise across frontiers.

We oppose all forms of discrimination against women.

We see the need for social, economic and political equality of women.

The struggle for a democratic socialist society cannot exist in isolation. We support the international socialist movement.

Socialist Worker is the newspaper of the Revolutionary Party.

To achieve socialism, classes of the working class and the working class society in general. We support the revolutionary socialist movement.

Such a party can only be built by a revolutionary socialist movement.

In the towns on Sunday, 75 were sold in the first hour at the Socialists’ Filling Station in Leeds.

The Socialists’ Filling Station in Leeds led a campaign of the national average of 250 in three hours. The paper was also excellent.

We have a strong backing in Leeds, which was estimated at £6.

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Devolution - isn't the first letter wrong?

by LAURIE FLYNN

THERE'S only one thing wrong with the word devolution - and that's the first letter.

The words of a young Conservative socialist Harry McClintock, director of the Scottish Labour Party at the Albert Hall Rally to greet the right wing in March.

The publication last week of the Labour government's White Paper on the subject proved just how right he was. Labour's devolution proposals will not increase the power people have to control their own lives. The current proposals are just the more radical proposals being bashed by the Scottish National Party or the Scottish Labour Party.

A parliament in the Royal High School in Edinburgh will do nothing in all to challenge the power of the Distillers Corporation, or of the water companies, for Sir Hugh Fraser and his kind. It will do nothing to tackle the fantastically powerful of these policies that are to those of the Highlands and Islands and those who work hand in hand with the multinational baron of oil and other industries.

Devolution is a sham, designed to perpetuate the role of a gang of ruling-class stooges.

Demolishes

Just how big a sham is exposed in a pamphlet a week by Socialist Worker. Title: Nationalism or Socialism?

The politics of the SNP and the SLIP exposed, it attacks the notion that nationalism is a key way forward for workers in Scotland.

This is how the pamphlet demolishes the myth of Scotland's oil, showing how the SNP and the SLIP intend to keep oil in the hands of the multinational.

"Exxon, Standard, Gulf and British Petroleum, these companies control the production and marketing of North Sea oil. Its geographical position to Scotland means that whatever workers will benefit from the proceeds of the oil will face millions of pounds of taxes. These profits will be kept by these companies by multinationals working in the oil industry."

There are other pamphlets by Scottish capitalists which claim that the profits of the multinationals will be kept by the Scottish state. The only difference is that the profits would be kept by multinationals working in the oil industry. Unlikely.

The SNP are unlikely to be able to control the oil. They face a conflict with the multinationals. That's the SNP's oil is merely to advance the relation between Scottish and capitalist companies on one side and the multinational on the other.

Scottish capitalists know their own interests. They do not want to control the profits of the multinational. They have a vested interest in the creation of a Scottish Assembly. They have a vested interest in the creation of a SNP.

Revenue

The SLIP sees its negotiations, not with the workers but with the Scottish government. The SLIP is keen to sell the worker the illusion of a SNIP to American oil companies.

Accountable

Trade union, tenants associations and other bodies have repeatedly said that we are being sold a Snip. That we are being sold to the SNP.

The kind of independence that is being called for by Scottish workers is independence from the capitalist class. Independence so that we can control the multinational companies which are living off our wealth. Independence so that we can control our own wealth.

The kind of independence that is being called for by the SNP is economic independence so that we can control our own wealth. Independence so that we can control our own wealth.

More than 100 students, supported by 29 students and various other groups, marched in Glasgow 9pm to 11am on May 11, met in Manchester last week to discuss the collapse of the National Union of Students service companies and how to fight the right wing.

The meeting was called by the International Students Union. We have asked all members of the service companies to come to meetings to discuss the situation.

What we can do about NUS collapse

by LINSEY GERMAN

What was needed was a campaign to fight against cuts in the NUS's activities - yes only those that are the genuine ones - or to say the students have the right to fight the right wing.

A delegate from Swansea- fully aware of the situation. Andy Struthers, student president at North East Lon- don Poly, who has just been expelled for political reasons. Left members from Swansea who came to the conference and was all right. He did not belong to the union because he was a socialist. He was expelled for political reasons.

Rented

Neither of these points was answered by Dave Aschomont, the NUS's ex- ecutive member responsible for international affairs to the conference and was all right. He did not belong to the union and only because he was a socialist. He was expelled for political reasons.

Despite these rows, the meeting did not get off to a good start. Some speakers were asked to stand up and ask to speak their minds.

There was also a call to make the NUS more unaffiliated with the Labour Party, to a generation of more socialist members and sympathizers of NUS Conference. Friday 16 December, 6pm, in conference hall, Blackpool.
**Who are these scabs?**

**Punk rock** rules?

PUNK ROCK has surfaced with a torrent of abuse. Its images spelt out the political spectrum, but the common denominator is anger, a desire to wipe out the system. Rock &amp; Roll TV 'interference' can be a bad habit, because it kicks at the very fabric that has given us our lifestyles. The Democratic Mirror had overshot its mark.

**Gentleman Jack**

AS WE all know Jack Jones is a man of the people. And last week at the crucial Dockers Conference, there was a good example of his love for his fellow man. At the conference, several delegates raised a furor over the threatened sackings in Preston Dock. The anger was taken out when one of the delegates, a member of the TGWU National Dock Group Committee, made a speech. The speaker was Michael Jones, who had travelled thousands of miles to reach the conference. The delegates were impressed by his speech and his ideas.

**Off the record**

AN OBSCENE little pamphlet called 'Did Six Million Really Die?' was sent to the head of learning at a Manchester school. In it, a member of the famous Richard Haywood (otherwise known certainly Richard Vera) of the Preston Dockers, who had struggled mightily to reach the conference. The speaker was Michael Jones, who had travelled thousands of miles to reach the conference. The delegates were impressed by his speech and his ideas.

A damaging accusation was made by an official. The speaker was Michael Jones, who had travelled thousands of miles to reach the conference. The delegates were impressed by his speech and his ideas.
BOB Marley, the reggae singer, was shot and wounded last Saturday—because of his politics.

His wife, and two members of his band, were shot too. They are seriously ill.

The group were sitting in Marley's front room discussing plans for a free concert in support of Prime Minister Michael Manley's People's National Party.

The PNP is defending its large majority in a general election on Wednesday.

TERRORISTS

Its opponents, Big Business, is already titled Jamaica Today, is trying to terrify the people into voting against the government.

It is standing out again and again, asking people to show up to support the PNP.

Now, if they lose, Jamaica workers will have to pay the cost for the failure.

So far, the new government has a bad record. It looks as if it may be a new chapter in the history of Jamaica.

If you want to make Jamaica free for the masses, work for the People's National Party, which is due to be elected in the next general election on Wednesday.

In 1972, the People's National Party was elected with a large majority on a programme of reform.

Manley's government has been called the American State Department by trade, supporting the MPLA liberation forces in Angola, and helping the people from Cuba who were in the MPLA's army.

Manley joined forces with Cuba and other governments of non-aligned countries in a campaign to cut the prices of food and raw materials.

Big business in Jamaica and Britain responded by imposing new taxes and cuts on the government.

The result was increased unemployment.

But the people of Jamaica have been the victims of the US and the US and the British governments.

BAUXITE

At the same time, the working people of Jamaica have been attacked by the politicians, the people of this country are left with nothing to live on, and the people of this country are left with nothing to live on.

Unemployment is at 26 per cent—higher than ever before.

The minimum wage has not been increased.

By PAUL FOOT

JAMAICA WORKERS SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN

Public meetings

MANCHESTER: Sunday 19 December, 7:15pm, Whitley Hotel, Bicker Bar

LEEDS: Friday 10 December, 6pm, Trades Club, Savile, Mount, Chapel-down, Speke, Byrom

BIRKENHEAD: Saturday 18 December, 6:30pm, Asbom Centre, 3 Gresham Road

CIA OUT: Pick-Up US Embassy, Thursday 3 December, 4:30pm

SOUTHERN AFRICA SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN

PICKET SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE, 59-61 Greek Street, L7.5-6.30pm, for release of political prisoners.

BIRMINGHAM LIBERATION DISCO—Thursday 9 December, Poly South Community Centre, Bristol, 60p on the door/50p in advance.

PICKET OF SOUTH AFRICA AIRWAYS—Saturday 11 December, 10am, Waterloo Street (Victoria Square), Birmingham.

SOUTHERN AFRICA SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN—103 Gower Street, London W1.

PICKET SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE, 59-61 Greek Street, L7.5-6.30pm, for release of political prisoners.
THE Unions

Whose side are they on?

WE ARE members of the National Union of Dyers and Bleachers. We believe that our union is rotten.

We have been trying for months to learn how to get our legitimate grievances and complaints heard in the central machinery of the union. We have had no luck.

Resolutions have been presented and our grievances have been heard in private. Our grievances are treated with contempt and we are blackballed.

We are writing to Socialist Worker in the hope that you will give publicity to our case.

On 3 January 1975, two striking dyers and bleachers were expelled from the union: Keith Griffin and Claude Lavender.

They were expelled for supporting angry workers who occupied the head office of the union—then dismissed 1,000 workers in protest against the exploitation of workers at Innes Yarns.

Brave

Keith Griffin was also expelled for supporting Socialist Worker! Claude Lavender, for himself and two elected members of the union executive, was refused the right to appeal.

Subsequently we lost two other good members: Dave Hallworth and D. E. Thomson of Innes Yarns, where they had conducted a struggle to get trade union rights and against victimisation.

The latest member to be expelled is Tommy Miskell, former convenor at Bristall Carpets, at Batley in Yorkshire, who has a formidable history of defending his union members.

His crime? He told an official, Eddie Haigh, what he thought of him.

His punishment? Suspension from holding any office in the union for three years. He is not allowed to attend meetings of the branch at Batley, where he has consistently upheld trade union rights for many years.

What sort of people have been carrying out this attack on rank-and-file members?

As an example we cite Ivy Abson, branch secretary at Wakefield and a member of the executive. Rules 8(a) and 12(b) of our union state clearly that any officer or executive member of the union must be 'working in the trade'.

This is a bad rule which is often used by the executive against militants standing for office when they have been victimised, or when they become unemployed. But why doesn't it apply to Ivy Abson?

She hasn't worked in the trade for ten years or more, as we've found out from her former employer, Paton and Baldwins, of Horsby, near Wakefield.

Is there one rule for Claude Lavender and another for her persecutors, like Ivy Abson? We'd like to know.

We'd also like to know whether Ivy Abson receives payments for loss of earnings when she goes to union meetings.

Less good

Our union officials are good at looking after themselves, but less good at looking after the membership. In 1975, the full-time officers' salaries review, which normally comes into effect in September, was brought forward to June, thus neatly avoiding the 10% pay limit of that year, which came in August.

So the officials got rises of about £3 a week. The members were fobbed off with £3.50.

What is happening in our union? How is it that fine militants who keep the organisation going are checked out and suspended, while the officials look after themselves more than their members?

How is it that rules are applied against members, and not to others if they too break the rules?

It is true that executive members are paid twice for their meetings, once by the union and once by the employers.

Every member of the union should seek an answer to these questions NOW.
THIS IS THE WELFARE STATE

Unemployed and homeless, a family with seven children lived (left), in a van in Essex. Social services sent them back home to Barking in East London, where another social services department stepped in—and found them a space for their van on a gipsy caravan site. A Barking social worker commented: 'The gipsies did more for the family than us'.

Thirteen million in poverty

THIRTEEN million people in Britain live in poverty—a quarter of the population.

And during two years of the Labour government's Social Contract the number of people driven into poverty has risen by a third.

These horrifying figures were published this week by the Child Poverty Action Group. They show how, instead of conquering poverty, government policies are pushing more and more people into destitution.

The poverty-stricken used to be pensioners, the sick, single parents with families, the physically handicapped. Now those millions have been joined by millions more—the unemployed and the employed. According to the Child Poverty Action Group, tens of thousands of families are living in poverty and are working at full-time jobs.

Two million people now get less than the supplementary benefit level. Most do not receive supplementary benefit because they have full-time jobs.

Another 7,700,000 are living on supplementary benefit. A man and wife with two children under five receive £27.85 a week, plus rent.

The payment for each child is £3.60 a week—just 51p a day to live on.

Another 7,300,000 are living on an income of no more than 40 per cent above the supplementary benefit level. For a man, wife and two children under five this means just under £34 a week.

As thousands have been forced on to the dole, small factory sweatshops have opened in every city. Long hours, little or no protection against injury, low wages, and no union organisation mark out these places.

Sweatshops

At Grunwick's film processing plant in West London, Asian workers have exposed one such sweatshop. One worker there told Socialist Worker she was taking home 48p for a 48-hour week.

The Grunwick workers are now on strike. Hundreds of thousands of others are still living under such conditions, in sweatshops, in offices and in hotel and catering jobs.

They are among the millions driven into poverty by this government. And now more cuts are on the way—by which only can make this poverty worse.

THE FACTS

IN 1975 it took a worker on the average industrial job 1 minute and 48 seconds to earn enough to buy one pound of potatoes. In 1976 it took 4 minutes 38 seconds.

Britain imported 3.2 million bottles of champagne from France in the first ten months of this year, more than double last year. Britain is now the world's leading champagne importer.

1,200,000 houses were "unfit for human habitation", according to official government figures in 1971. All were being lived in.

At the same time there were over 675,000 empty houses in England and Wales—100,000 in London alone. More than 300,000 rich people also owned two or more homes.

In 1970, 26,323 families, including 10,000 people, applied for temporary accommodation because they were homeless. In 1976, the number of families was around 250,000 people working in Britain. Many are single people and are for England and Wales.

Kitchens is on the stairs for this family in Lambeth, South London. Mother, father, and three children live in one room.

Gildstone.

Last year he got a pay rise of £50.34 a week, bringing his weekly wage up to £151.44. He also holds about 370,000 shares in the Ward and Gildstone Group, which pays him cash dividends.

In 1972 one of his employees, then Mayor of Salford, recommended he be made a Freeman of the City of Salford. This was agreed 'in recognition of his eminent services to Salford in industry and social welfare and as a Justice of the Peace of the City.'
BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

Socialist Worker public meetings

Send notices — to reach us first post Monday — to What's On, SW, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2

Scotland

SCOTTISH Social Worker public meetings

WEDNESDAY, 14 December

LUNDONBURGH Socialist Worker public meeting at the Free Church, Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh. 8pm. All welcome. Refreshments served.

ABERDEEN Socialist Worker discussion on 20th December at the Kinnoull St. Church, Aberdeen, 7.30pm. All welcome. Free entry.

WEDNESDAY, 15 December

CHESTER Socialist Worker Movement public meeting at the Red Lion, Chester, 8pm. All welcome.

WEDNESDAY, 16 December

WARRINGTON Socialist Worker discussion on 20th December at the Renaissance Hotel, Warrington, 8pm. Refreshments served.

MANCHESTER Socialist Worker Movement public meeting at the Plaza Cinema, Mosley Road, Manchester, 8pm. All welcome. Free entry.

SOLIDARITY RALLY in red, black and white for Soviet workers. Socialist (Int), 6 Bickerton Street, Manchester, 8pm. All welcome.

WEDNESDAY, 17 December

SOLIDARITY RALLY in red, black and white for Soviet workers. Socialist (Int), 6 Bickerton Street, Manchester, 8pm. All welcome.

Birmingham Socialist Worker Movement public meeting at the Free Church, Bordesley Green, Birmingham, 8pm. All welcome. Free entry.

WEDNESDAY, 18 December

LEICESTER Socialist Worker Movement public meeting at the Renaissance Hotel, Leicester, 8pm. All welcome. Free entry.

WEDNESDAY, 19 December

SOLIDARITY RALLY in red, black and white for Soviet workers. Socialist (Int), 6 Bickerton Street, Manchester, 8pm. All welcome.

SOUTH AFRICA Victory to the freedom fighters! Build the solidarity campaign!

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NOTES:
National Organisation of Student International Socialist Societies

GLASGOW

UNIVERSITY SOCIALIST Society

SOLIDARITY RALLY in red, black and white for Soviet workers. Socialist (Int), 6 Bickerton Street, Manchester, 8pm. All welcome.

WEDNESDAY, 17 December

CHRISTMAS PARTY at the Cafe The Cité. The struggle is for our revolution, our party. Speakers: Tom, John, Mark, Tom. 8pm. £3 per person. All welcome.

WEDNESDAY, 18 December

LONDON Socialist Worker Movement public meeting at the Westminster Town Hall, Westminster, 8pm. Free entry.

WEDNESDAY, 19 December

LONDON Socialist Worker Movement public meeting at the Westminster Town Hall, Westminster, 8pm. Free entry.

Super 8, Next, Brights, 16mm. All proceeds to NSPCC. Organised by the socialist campaigner's Twin Peaks Film Society. £1.50 for ten postcard film, or £1.00 for 100.

SOLIDARITY BRIGADE in red, black and white for Soviet workers. Socialist (Int), 6 Bickerton Street, Manchester, 8pm. All welcome.

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LONDON Sociali
A LOT OF THE WEST HAM LADS ALSO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL FRONT

There was an incident which I was involved in at West Ham. A goal was scored and I jumped up in the air and accidentally came down on this copper's foot.

She grabbed me by the ear. I didn't know who it was so I turned round and pushed her. She tried to get hold of me, I tried to get away as I thought it was another supporter and I was going to get hit.

So this other copper came up and grabbed me round the head and just threw me out and pulled me down the stairs, kicking me in the back of the legs.

Another copper got hold of me and they just pulled me over the wall and onto the pitch.

They took you underneath the stand into this room where there's a lot of kids sitting round. The cop just come up to you and say: 'What have you done?'

You say: 'Nothing' and he say: 'C'mon, don't give me that, what did you do?'

'Straight up and down in the air when West Ham scored.'

A 'like' story. You're just an angry boy, aren't you? You get your boots on, come down for a big fight did you?

'No, I came down to watch the game.'

'Don't give me that shit,' he say.

And that's what the police are like.

Truncheon

I remember once when the West Ham fans went down to where the Manchester United coaches were, waiting for the fans. So the police came up and didn't ask them to move on, anything, they just got their truncheons out and the police on horse back charged without any warning.

The truncheons were flying everywhere. So what happens then is that the fans fight back. There's not a lot more you can expect when the cops behave like that.

It's the police's attitude. They've dragged me out on a couple of times just for talking to them watching the match. And you then, 'what a lot of bastards'.

Now I'm not against cops, I'm against the copper, but a lot of kids would.

Interviewed

by Steve Cedar

They think, straight after a match, 'those fucking supporters of the police get a lot of their main, find a copper and get him'.

But if you put a label on somebody you get a hooligan then score or later he's going to start acting like one.

For about a month we had incidents. One kid got stabbed. He was a Liverpool supporter.

He stabbed a West Ham fan at Liverpool and the black recognises him in the press game. So he's a few of his mates get round him and, as he was backing up the stairs, this kid just gets a knife, walks up to him and puts it in his side.

And then there was the time a group of West Ham fans took two unoffenden supporters on the Kop at Liverpool. They didn't get fines, there's a lot of Liverpool supporters on the Kop. They get pretty badly hurt.

wreckers

A lot of the West Ham lads just National Front supporters that come in and charge into Asian shops near the ground and turn over the tables and wreck the place.

If the NF marched past the ground I'm sure a lot of them would join in.

It's the same as on a Saturday afternoon, just one for a fight, a lot of a laugh.

The kids see it as being hard or something to say 'All gingers are bastards'.

What you're got to do is show them that the NF aren't the only ones that can give them something to do on a day when they're not at a football match.

You remember all the bad weather and thunderstorms that's been during the summer holidays. The kids were off school. No football matches, nothing.

No way to get rid of their tensions. Might be at home all day with their mum who'll say 'Get out of under my feet'.

Riding

Maybe they'll just be riding about on their push-bike or mucking about with motorbikes or ticking cars.

Then the NF come down the street and say: 'Why don't you come with us and do over a couple of Pairs?'

And they think: 'Oh, great, I've never really liked Pairs much and now just join in on the back of the match.'

When it comes to hard-core fascism they don't know what it's about. If you call them Nazis they laugh in your face.

They don't know what you're on about.

Legalised hooliganism: This is known as preserving 'law and order'...
**Letter**

**Preparing for power?**

IT'S not often you get a chance to talk to our friends in blue or khaki when off-duty, so I thought I'd write about a conversation one Saturday night in a Brecon hotel.

I was sitting in the bar talking to people as individuals - the army has its own unique characteristics which make it unique.

Anyway, these boys had been in Northern Ireland.

I asked them what had happened that night which was to recur in the press. One answered that when the Moira Patty was burned down in PV4 they used to be beaten to death. There was a press-blackout as the government with the army's help kept the British public opinion behind the army.

The soldiers also complained that they were in Northern Ireland only because "plodded" politicians "popped" tax and order and had meant nothing to the army since they had been there. They were not able to do their job.

The story that was going around was that the army were in Northern Ireland only because they are a politico-military machine and had a readhead and that's what costs.

**DONT FORGET PHONE-INS**

ONE of the more recent innovations has been the "Phone-ins" which are part of the Socialist Workers Party's attempt to make the sow a more accessible medium for the political discussion.

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**LETTER BOX**

Need for Socialist Workers' Party' 

From the Keighley News

ENCLOSED (left) is a letter from a local member of the SWP printed in the Keighley News. It seems to have been quite a stir in the town.

"Whether by coincidence or not, we were stopped and talked to. They then said Socialists, this letter is to be passed on to you. The letter, said it was a steel worker in the town.

Said such a man, "We were talking about the situation, the economy and the future of the country. The government's figures are not accurate, and we know that there are many more unemployed.

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**THE DEPTHS OF EXPLOITATION**

NOT everyone who is cabbed is getting the benefits of the supplementary benefit. The national hospitals often work there, especially on the night shift, for long hours for a pittance.

**Great but tell the world**

1 WAS told by Jimmy Kell's, the editor of the Economic League, in a speech to the South Wales Socialists, that if we do not raise £5 million to save the 500,000 people who still have to pay rent, we are not going to be able to save them.

1 enclose my letter that was written to the editor of the paper, which I think is a very important letter that I think the League's paper should publish. But many of the letters that I have received so far have been almost word-for-word from the SWP. Some I think, have been written in the wrong way.

"SANDRA SMITH (Labour Party), Torquay, Devon.

WHY LEAVE NUCLEAR PROTEST TO THE BISHOPS?"  

1 WAS at a recent rally in Trafalgar Square to protest against Britain's growing nuclear energy programme. I see this as a matter of concern to all socialists, but I was disappointed but not surprised to find that the platform dominated by such champions of the labour movement as the Bishop of London, the Lord Chief Justice and the Archbishop of Canterbury. It was a matter of concern to all socialists but I was disappointed but not surprised to find that the platform dominated by such champions of the labour movement as the Bishop of London, the Lord Chief Justice and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Said such a man, "We were talking about the situation, the economy and the future of the country. The government's figures are not accurate, and we know that there are many more unemployed.

"PETER BACON, Leeds

Germolene?  

IF you would like to try the product, we can provide you with an appeal to take the product for 30% of its price. We are looking for people to take part in a trial.

"JOHN GREGG, Strikers, (names and addresses supplied), London

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?  

I WRITE to congratulate your speaker Sheila McGregor on her recent talk on Women and the Struggle for Socialism in Northampton.

She is a member of the International Socialists and seemed to have discussed the issue of the Feminist movement but not the role of socialism. She was informed that nothing was said about socialism.

"PAT DUFFIELD, Hopton Wood, Birmingham 20.

OPPOSITION to the peace marchers must be a matter of concern to all socialists. The peace marchers are not a collection of the various Left-wing and pacifist groups by the organised violence of the right.

Our opposition must be a matter of concern to all socialists. The peace marchers are not a collection of the various Left-wing and pacifist groups by the organised violence of the right.

"JIM FENTON, Ynys

POSTAL POINTS  

I SUBMITTED my article for the AWEU Journal, with a query as to whether Brother Boyd could prepare the article. He gave the answer of the AWEU Journal, the North AWEU branch.

The article and letter were ready to be sent out to determine whether they should be forwarded to Brother Boyd.

The branch decided unanimously that they should be sent. They also decided to send a covering letter asking Brother Boyd for an explanation regarding the article.

"DAVID DAVIES, Neath, Glamorgan.

**ROCK AGAINST RASCISM and the anti-Nazi front fight on its hands in Oxford, the Free Trade Hall (ST) has decided to ban reggae, because of the well-known song of an alleged 'hit' at the Kool and the Gang ball.

I was at this particular concert, and I was shocked and moved by the song that was played.

"RALPH WHITTREDGE, 5th Partrington, Manchester.

YOU STATED (SW, 20 November) that Terry G.Fuller was not allowed to write to his union branch since a GPO telephone regulations do not allow such a thing. I was shocked.

The reason I have an explanation to all socialists and unions that know that this is happening.

Said such a man, "We were talking about the situation, the economy and the future of the country. The government's figures are not accurate, and we know that there are many more unemployed.

"DICK WILLIAMS, Balmain, Sydney.
If you believe Russia is socialist, listen to this man...

I HAVE a lot to say to sincere people who believe Russia is socialist.

I ask them to look at the distribution of wealth and income.

Lenin once wrote that the income differential between top and bottom should never be more than six to one. This was to be the bourgeois specialists for their services until we got the workers.

Now if you take a prominent politician in the Ukraine, whose job is it get in comparison with an ordinary worker he gets six, four workers a month, whereas my mother gets 60. And he's far from being in the top salary range.

Secret shops

All the inhabitants of the major cities know of the existence of the secret shops for members of the bureaucracy. In their places, they can get all the products ordinary people can't.

The extent to which goes on in Ukraine. Krinkens, for example, had 111 tickets. I was told this when Krinkens was so sick in November. 100 tickets for medical expenses.

Outside Kiev, people buy everything from rice to meat, to potatoes. In fact, in all the big cities, there are no limits to what they can buy.

There are thousands of enterprises where people get tickets to order food, clothing, and other necessities.

The whole mass media is for democracy, the involvement of the masses in controlling their own lives. The dictatorship is that every state has to begin with.

Yet even Krinkens was found hanging over the misuse of the role of the public apparatus.

The state's laws regulating elections are not written and not in your own words. In this way, the state allows some genuine elections.

But in reality, this is quite useless unless you have some kind of propaganda and collectively, freedom to hold elections, the ability to make out of printed matter.


APRIL

Lauren Flynn

By Leonid Plouitchtch

INTERVIEW: LAUREN FLYNN

PICTURE: RED SAUNDERS

Leonid Plouitchtch, a socialist who spoke out against the lack of workers' democracy in Russia, was arrested by the KGB in January 1972. Charged with producing anti-Soviet propaganda, he was imprisoned in Kiev and Moscow before being sent to the notorious Serbsky Institute of Forensic Psychiatry, where doctors declared he was "mad."

As a result, Plouitchtch was incarcerated in a mental hospital last January, following an energetic campaign both inside and outside Russia. He was allowed to leave the country. He now lives in Paris with his wife and two sons.

It is, therefore, hard to talk of the role of the working class, the intelligentsia and the bureaucracy in the elections.

AS YOU KNOW, there are workers' strikes in the Soviet Union. There was an enormous Novocherkask uprising and others.

Yet nowhere in any of these reports does a trade union of any kind appear as defending the workers' interests. In the Soviet Union, the working class has no parties and no organisations which defend its interests.

Take one example of a collective farm. Its head is appointed by the local party officials. The workers play some part in choosing a section of the "leadership," but in practice, the farm is controlled by the appointed functionaries. There is, of course, some opposition between theory and reality.

In some cases, the head of a collective farm will defend the interests of the workers. But very often means will be used to have him removed. And if the workers don't agree to this, he is simply removed without consultation.

This is what happened in the famous case of Ivan Yastremski. He had assisted in transforming a farm into a model collective. But when he declined to go along with local party directives, there was a very demonstrative action by the workers.

His protest against political trials was used to have him coloured. He ended up in a psychiatric hospital like many others.

Anti-Semitism

WE HAVE a mono-party state, which claims to have mono-powers. These are subject to the whims of a particular group or even of a particular individual at the top.

Thus from the theoretical point of view, socialism is the rule of the whole development of culture. Yet from the practical point of view, it is difficult to find even semi-communism or communism against the exploited nations.

The most obvious feature from this point of view is the growth of state socialism, the absolute opposite of democracy.

In theory, too, you would expect a socialist state to support working-class movements in the world. We know that under Stalin there was the Paris with Hitler. We know that Krinkens was giving money to a "party of the Soviet Union" in the United States at the time.

We also see that this state is putting money into other countries and nations.

We can also see that this state is putting money into other countries and nations.

And it is true that all these types of decay do exist. There is a moral vacuum, moral bankruptcy, especially among the youth.

Chauvinism

There are immense social problems, the growth of drug addiction, the destruction of nature and the environment, the monopolistic capitalism of natural resources, the exploitation, the exploitation, the exploitation, the exploitation, the exploitation.

I say all this. But I am not a man of those hopes. On the contrary, I look forward to this being changed.

I am a Marxist. I look to the intelligentsia and the working class to succeed in realising the noble ideals of socialism, and perhaps sooner than anyone thinks.
HOPKINSKINS: TASS CALLS STRIKE ACTION

HUDDERSFIELD: 1,300 office workers are striking for the first time in 20 years. Workers at the support of the 250 office workers siting in at Hopkinskins. The union is being organised by TASS, the white collar section of the engineering section.

This week the company secured the wholehearted support of the Hopkinskins members in the High Court. The company's top stewards, who have been sacked by Hopkinskins to stay off the trouble, have now set up a headquarters close to the factory and the sit-in is now in progress.

The management has now begun to demand more of the union. The courts are the police are not taking any action against Hopkinskins who have been acting so far in London. The financial support and backing of Hopkinskins by the main customers has been encouraging. Rumours that the sit-in by the country are contributing to weekly strikes are denied.

There is no doubt that the Engineering Employers Federation is supporting this strike, saying the Hopkinskins office workers.

Office workers at one of the main customers. Protests at a number of the office workers have agreed on a final refusal to order Hopkinskins and order Hopkinskins. Hopkinskins other leading customers are today & 's, Cranes, Grampian and Baobab and Baobab.

A number of the office workers have been sacked and three others have been tried and have not been charged with assault on the trade union official.

Andy Stroudhouse

POLY CLEANERS STAY OUT

MANAGEMENT at the North East London Polytechnic has turned a deaf ear to the protest of women strikers at the Hepworth Avenue site.

Five OWMA cleaners have been on strike for ten weeks after being ordered to clean up the loadable parts of the building. The Poly director met them two weeks ago and agreed to meet them to demand.

The cleaners had been told they had the support of the Poly union. This was not extended to the cleaners yesterday.

The cleaners have been told they will be sacked if they don't return to work. The cleaners are on strike for unreasonable working hours.

Andy Stroudhouse

DEFEND

"We're called on to organise a national campaign to defend our union's autonomy," said South Bank Poly's by-election. "We're called on to organise a national campaign to defend our union's autonomy," said South Bank Poly's DHECA representative.

The South Bank Poly has passed a resolution in support of the LSE and SOAS. West Ham Trades Council are supporting us.

Black these bingo clubs

Riley fights TGWU election

NOMINATIONS close on 18 December in the election for Jack Jones as general secretary of the Transport Union.

Tommy Riley was the Met Police's chief constable in charge of the right to work campaign. He was not re-nominated by the TGWU.

The importance of this election cannot be underestimated. Jack Jones is the architect of many sell out in the movement.

Crisis

Tommy Riley is not standing for personal advancement, he is supporting the fight and sea struggle. He is standing to gain the fight for a more militant stance in the union.

If you want to support the campaign, nominate Tommy Riley in your branch and support the campaign. On 10th July, Seven Sisters Road, London, N1.

Black these bingo clubs

ACAS is organising a ballot of workers at Grunwicks. Most of them have been on strike for three months in an ACAS union recognition.

A demonstration has been called on Saturday, leaving the TGWU's Front Election Campaign, on 12th March through to the meeting.

On Sunday, 11th March, the TGWU's Front Election Campaign, APEX General News and possibly Len Murray, will be speaking.

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Hobson's choice?

LADROKE'S bookshop, self-proclaimed 'Ladrones of Leisure', have a novel item on display at their main administrative building at Charles St, Glastonbury, Clifton, Bristol.

Dealing with the students, the bookshop said: "We shall have to tighten the noose around the workers."

"Grainwicks" bosses hunt for loophole

Grunwicks are on the lookout for loopholes in the law to prevent the workers from getting union recognition.

The Full report is available from 16 Wyen Grove, London NW2 3AD. Once you have read it, please act on it at once.

The last day of the strike action ends.

WAGES STRIKE ENDS

The 120 maintenance workers have called off their strike and are now negotiating about regrading. The strike was called off after the week of pressure from the OWMA officials in the engineering plant and the dispute.

The strike at Hopkinskins in Rugby Owen is being organised by the OWMA. There was a strike at the EO in 1973 when the management attempted to force them off the plant.

Dispute

The effect of the management's move was to disrupt the workers. Other workers crossed the picket line throughout the strike, although after five weeks the OWMA officials were called off.

In 1974 there had been five collective bargaining and the strikers' committee decided to negotiate departmental agreements with the OWMA.

The OWMA officials have been sacked by Hopkinskins and the OWMA have been called in at the factory. The OWMA are the architects of many sell out in the movement.

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The last day of the strike action ends.
Thousand builders strike over cuts

by JOHN GLEN and PAT GILLIGAN
EPUTU shop stewards, Glasgow District Council Central Employment

GLASGOW: More than 1,000 building workers employed by the Glasgow District Council struck for almost half an hour last week as part of the campaign to stop the City Chambers being knocked down from the building department's headquarters.

The stoppage was a success despite the threat of the council's union, UCATT, and the council, and the council's men will be among the first to be laid off if the building department goes.

Some officials have also suggested that the UCATT officials have decided to break the council's own committee and protest the strike.

The demonstration was supported by the TUC and the TUC's General Secretary's Committee.

The strike comes at a time when the council's building department is in a state of flux and the union is poised to launch a campaign against the cuts.

NATIONAL WORKERS call on strike

by IAIN FERGUSON
Reform National Division

NATIONAL WORKERS call on strike

The decision makes a mockery of the Save Your Services campaign. The £26 million building department wants to implement the cuts immediately and the council wants to keep the workers on in order to help keep the council's services running.

Day of Action against the cuts

by BRIAN CORRIGAN (UCATT, central employment)

EFLD: Jim Callaghan and Denis Healey refused to speak to pickets outside the Committee of the Last Lunch Party.

The picket, supported by local hospital workers, was challenged by a woman from the NHS and the picket was told to stop the strike.

Killingbeck Hospital, one of those threatened with closure by the NHS, is facing its own consultation.

HOSPITAL PICKET FOR JIM

Students back workers

by BIRMINGHAM: 400 students demonstrated in support of students' demonstrations against the University of Birmingham's refusal to allow them to hold a march through the city centre.

NATIONAL WORKERS call on strike

by JIM CALLAGHAN and DENIS HEALEY

- £7 for one year
- £7 for six months
- £10 for three months

Please rush me my weekly copy of Socialist Worker. Check: Name and address, and I will send it to you. 

EVA workers call action conference

by LONDON: EVA workers called an open conference on Saturday to discuss the next steps in their campaign.

The conference, held in Easton, London, one of the two women's housing units in the EVA campaign, was attended by about 200 people.

The EVA workers are demanding the right to live in their homes and the right to be treated as equal members of society.

At the conference, EVA workers called for a national campaign to demand the right to live in their homes and the right to be treated as equal members of society.

The next steps in the EVA campaign will be decided at a meeting on Saturday.
Lend a hand—by refusing to handle these products

All products from Edgar Allen Balfour, in particular the following tools: Stag, Easicut, Steeleaf, Axe, Renuka, Enthoven products, Sandacre screws, Rema plant equipment, Turton Platts Forgings, Humphreys Engineering Products.

FOR SPEAKERS from the shop stewards' committee to explain the case to trade union bodies please contact the Sheffield Right to Work Committee, 0742 584651.

DONATIONS and messages of support to Brother A. Glossop, 261 Ower Lane, Sheffield 4.

MINERS: BE READY TO BUILD SUPPORT

BRITAIN'S 250,000 miners have been voting in a pit-head ballot this week.

They are expected to give their executive the power to call industrial action. They are demanding the right to strike at 60 in January and at 55 in 1980.

The majority of the union executive are desperately anxious to do a deal which will avoid industrial action. If they fail they will lose the claim.

The fact that the executive has been forced to call a ballot gives many of the younger miners some encouragement. They want to see the Social Contract tested. But the older men can get their earlier retirement, but for a younger man it would give every encouragement to get more than 8%. This is the very factor which will cause the miners to win.

Several important areas have already come out in favour of all-out strike action instead of an unofficial ban.

If a strike does take place in January, the NMA will be hard hit and the government will be hard hit too.

Jack Jones, the architect of the Social Contract, is now in trouble. If the miners do strike, it will be worse than 1972 and 1973. It will mean a victory for the miners over the coal barons and the government.

BOOST FOR THREE WHO FACE JAIL

Join the International Socialists

The CONFEDERATION of Engineering Unions calls on all Sheffield Balfour workers to join the picket line.

In South Africa, 3,000 workers are on strike for the right to work. The Edgar Allen Balfour factories throughout the city have struck against the closure of one factory in the group and the loss of 450 jobs.

Last week, in factory after factory in the group, workers downed tools in answer to the Sheffield Confederation of Engineering Unions' call for national blacking of all Edgar Allen Balfour products.

The Confederation called for this to start the fight against the closure.

The result was disputes in every factory until the whole group was brought to a standstill.

Keith Adams and Les Frith, two shop stewards from the Furnishings Works, told Socialist Worker: "The Confederation didn't go far enough. They should have called the whole group out on strike straightaway, instead of having it to each other."

This has delayed the dispute, but now we are determined to fight all the way to save the jobs. A thousand jobs have been lost throughout the group in the last year. Our factory could be next on the list. You are people thinking: are they going to be next?"

The Confederation needs more support from the shop stewards to force a national strike to save the jobs.

MEMBERS OF the cast of Isi Tombi, a musical now showing in London, demonstrated outside the South African Embassy last week.

They were protesting against the arrest and imprisonment of a member of the cast, Trusty Nuni, who was sacked by the management and returned to South Africa. In South Africa, Verster's police arrested him. Trusty Nuni was sacked after leading a protest against working conditions. He was told by management that he would be in trouble in South Africa if the cast 'caused trouble' in Britain.

DISTRIBUTED on behalf of the National Right to Work Campaign by the National Right to Work Movement, which is campaigning for the suspension of the miners' strike.

The date of the appeal hearings has been changed by the Courts to 31 January from 13 December. Organisers are asking for official delegations and mass support at the picket outside the Middlesex Crown Court (by Westminster Tube).