THREE WEEKS

Now is the time to turn sympathy into solidarity

COLLECT, DEMONSTRATE, STRIKE FOR THE FIREMEN

Make 7 December a national day of action
Wages: We're all in the firemen's boat

THE strike has brought home to millions of people that they are not alone when they complain they can no longer make ends meet on the wages they are getting after a full week's work, even though these wages would have convinced them three or four years ago.

What better proof could there be that they can survive a wage packet of £2 or £6 before tax than the visions on the radio of firemen's wives detailing how they cannot afford clothes for the kids, or school dinners, or to go out in the coming winter?

Or that they have to use the kettle for heating, and electricity, although they know it's a fire risk.

That is why millions of workers are rightly thinking of their full support behind the firemen.

But the firemen aren't the only workers in this fight. Labour Research recently revealed there were more than 1.5 million workers in four unions. On a week before that's less than about £150 taken just for the children's education.

And for women workers it is even worse—half earn less than £1 a week.

Such workers are to be found in virtually every industry—from distance to hospital workers for example. All of them need to follow the firemen's example.

ROBBY MCFADDEN, 46, living at Firth Park in Glasgow, caught the attention of the NUPE group when he said: "How dare they go out to strike. They're helping to support the children of the children. We gave the principle on top of the NUPE.

News from inside the strike

THERE are some unusual links in the strike story. In fact here comes a story of how she who is in control, most of them women.

'The striking workers are absolutely nothing if we break them down and the country comes out an extra. In Strathclyde 32 of the 44 seats are held and determined to win. It would be more if the fire crews would follow this magnificent lead and stop playing the firemen's strike.

MANY FIREMEN in London are fed up with the way the Central Industries' leadership is distorting what the rank and file are doing in the strike.

The region produces its own版本 of the strike, called Strike News. Last week two versions of this were produced—one for the whole of London except for K23 station in Battersea, and one version put for K23. The general version claimed there were 30,000 firemen on strike, and since K23 station was being used for the region's strike, it was like believing the head of the government that there were 30,000 firemen striking.

BILLY CONNLIONY, in his column in the Glasgow Herald, calls the relief given by the police and the firemen's many rescues, "a reminder."

Finally, will they all be out of work? They have all been replaced with unemployed and poor police forces again and giving and giving again.

WOMEN'S VOICE members and Socialists' Workers' support all organised an excellent collection outside the Yerseyn's shipyard on the Wharf Road. A shop later came out of which was a fireman who had to be rescued about the unholy nature of this collection.

British Labour's Hobbie and SWP member George Coombes collected a beautiful phrase to describe the one who foreman.

He said: "We've spent weeks talking about the difference between an ory & a clown, and I can't see the difference.

THE Glasgow branch of the Post Office Officers' Union took a noble step in defence of trade unionists who have joined them. They voted not to accept the Government instructions they have not accepted and wealth to them. The GPO metropolitan branch in East London have only been offered.

BILLY CONNLIONY, in his column in the Glasgow Herald, calls the relief given by the police and the firemen's many rescues, "a reminder."

Finally, will they all be out of work? They have all been replaced with unemployed and poor police forces again and giving and giving again.

WOMEN'S VOICE members and Socialists' Workers' support all organised an excellent collection outside the Yerseyn's shipyard on the Wharf Road. A shop later came out of which was a fireman who had to be rescued about the unholy nature of this collection.

British Labour's Hobbie and SWP member George Coombes collected a beautiful phrase to describe the one who foreman.

He said: "We've spent weeks talking about the difference between an ory & a clown, and I can't see the difference.

THE Glasgow branch of the Post Office Officers' Union took a noble step in defence of trade unionists who have joined them. They voted not to accept the Government instructions they have not accepted and wealth to them. The GPO metropolitan branch in East London have only been offered.

The money's there all right!

BILLY CONNLIONY, his column in the Glasgow Herald, calls the relief given by the police and the firemen's many rescues, "a reminder."

Finally, will they all be out of work? They have all been replaced with unemployed and poor police forces again and giving and giving again.

WOMEN'S VOICE members and Socialists' Workers' support all organised an excellent collection outside the Yerseyn's shipyard on the Wharf Road. A shop later came out of which was a fireman who had to be rescued about the unholy nature of this collection.

British Labour's Hobbie and SWP member George Coombes collected a beautiful phrase to describe the one who foreman.

He said: "We've spent weeks talking about the difference between an ory & a clown, and I can't see the difference.

THE Glasgow branch of the Post Office Officers' Union took a noble step in defence of trade unionists who have joined them. They voted not to accept the Government instructions they have not accepted and wealth to them. The GPO metropolitan branch in East London have only been offered.

The money's there all right!

BILLY CONNLIONY, his column in the Glasgow Herald, calls the relief given by the police and the firemen's many rescues, "a reminder."

Finally, will they all be out of work? They have all been replaced with unemployed and poor police forces again and giving and giving again.

WOMEN'S VOICE members and Socialists' Workers' support all organised an excellent collection outside the Yerseyn's shipyard on the Wharf Road. A shop later came out of which was a fireman who had to be rescued about the unholy nature of this collection.

British Labour's Hobbie and SWP member George Coombes collected a beautiful phrase to describe the one who foreman.

He said: "We've spent weeks talking about the difference between an ory & a clown, and I can't see the difference.

THE Glasgow branch of the Post Office Officers' Union took a noble step in defence of trade unionists who have joined them. They voted not to accept the Government instructions they have not accepted and wealth to them. The GPO metropolitan branch in East London have only been offered.

The money's there all right!

BILLY CONNLIONY, his column in the Glasgow Herald, calls the relief given by the police and the firemen's many rescues, "a reminder."

Finally, will they all be out of work? They have all been replaced with unemployed and poor police forces again and giving and giving again.

WOMEN'S VOICE members and Socialists' Workers' support all organised an excellent collection outside the Yerseyn's shipyard on the Wharf Road. A shop later came out of which was a fireman who had to be rescued about the unholy nature of this collection.

British Labour's Hobbie and SWP member George Coombes collected a beautiful phrase to describe the one who foreman.

He said: "We've spent weeks talking about the difference between an ory & a clown, and I can't see the difference.

THE Glasgow branch of the Post Office Officers' Union took a noble step in defence of trade unionists who have joined them. They voted not to accept the Government instructions they have not accepted and wealth to them. The GPO metropolitan branch in East London have only been offered.
IT IS DIFFICULT to recall any strike in the past five years with so much support from outside its own ranks as the firemen’s.

Even the opinion polls show two-thirds of people want the firemen to get their 30 per cent rise. If public opinion alone decided whether strikes were won or lost, the firemen would have won a fortnight ago.

But they haven’t won yet.

JUSTIFY

After they’ve stood on the picket lines for three weeks, the government still resists their demands. Even Terry Perry, the Fire Brigades Union leader who opposed the strike in the first place, could not extract from Callaghan on Tuesday so much as a word to justify a sell-out.

Yet the strike is big, as few others have in recent times. Despite claims that there are fewer fires than normal, the cost of property being burnt down in five or ten times the normal amount, because the troops are simply incapable of putting fires out quickly.

At the end of the day, the government, the local authorities and the insurance companies will have to meet huge bills. The government knows that if the strike goes on long enough, it will have to settle. But it believes it can force the firemen back to work before that point is reached. It has a precedent for this belief.

Back in 1971 there was a strike by a group of workers nearly as popular as the firemen, the postal workers. Like the firemen, they were almost unanimous in their determination to win. But after nine weeks they were forced back to work through a simple lack of money. All the strength and confidence gained in the strike was quickly lost.

There was a simple reason. All the emotional support for the postal workers, all the fine words spoken in their favour, all the opinion poll finding s were rarely translated into practical solidarity from the rest of the trade union movement.

The TUC could have won the postal workers’ strike, merely by collecting one penny from every trade unionist. It refused to do so. Still less did it call on other workers to strike and demonstrate in support of the postal workers.

It sat back and watched them go down to defeat.

In the case of the firemen, the TUC’s behaviour is even more disgusting. At its meeting last week, it decided on no action at all over the strike, although it was against a government pay limit thrown out at the last TUC Congress.

This is why it is indispensable for every rank and file trade unionist to take up the firemen’s case now.

Street collections have, so far, helped the firemen to keep going. But street collections, by their very nature, are accidental. Some weeks they go very well, other weeks badly.

REGULAR

What are needed are factory collections, organised by trade union branches, trade unions, shop stewards’ committees. These can guarantee a regular intake for every fireman as long as the strike lasts.

And as well as collections, there is the need for industrial action to back the firemen. If there were enough one-day strikes, enough demonstration work in progress, enough workers refusing to work in conditions that created five hazards, then private employers would start thinking of ways to force the government to settle.

SUCCEED

But none of this will happen unless rank and file trade unionists organise to make it happen. The Fire Brigades Union leadership is embarrassed by the strike, and cannot bring itself to do anything to make sure it succeeds.

Firemen must be prepared to visit local factories and union bodies, to call for collections, to call for sympathy industrial action, to wait for the union leadership to do the work.

Other trade unionists must ensure support is coming from their headquarters for the firemen, while waiting for the union leadership to give the word.

This industrial action can be done in many places. But only if efforts are redoubled in this direction can victory be ensured.

THE FIREMEN’S STRIKE

Printworkers give a hand

This leaflet (right) was produced for the Glasgow firemen by printworkers, members of the Communist Party of Great Britain, at the Civil Printers in Glasgow.

They approached the firemen direct and asked if there were any propaganda they could produce. The firemen said yes, they were back to their employer and got his agreement to make leaflets from their own printing presses, available free of charge.

Eighty thousand copies of the leaflet were produced as a result. What can you do in your workplace that would match this excellent example of practical solidarity?

Printworkers give a hand

THE FIREMEN’S STRIKE

THE FIREMEN’S STRIKE

IT IS DIFFICULT to recall any strike in the past five years with so much support from outside its own ranks as the firemen’s.

Even the opinion polls show two-thirds of people want the firemen to get their 30 per cent rise. If public opinion alone decided whether strikes were won or lost, the firemen would have won a fortnight ago.

But they haven’t won yet.

JUSTIFY

After they’ve stood on the picket lines for three weeks, the government still resists their demands. Even Terry Perry, the Fire Brigades Union leader who opposed the strike in the first place, could not extract from Callaghan on Tuesday so much as a word to justify a sell-out.

Yet the strike is big, as few others have in recent times. Despite claims that there are fewer fires than normal, the cost of property being burnt down in five or ten times the normal amount, because the troops are simply incapable of putting fires out quickly.

At the end of the day, the government, the local authorities and the insurance companies will have to meet huge bills. The government knows that if the strike goes on long enough, it will have to settle. But it believes it can force the firemen back to work before that point is reached. It has a precedent for this belief.

Back in 1971 there was a strike by a group of workers nearly as popular as the firemen, the postal workers. Like the firemen, they were almost unanimous in their determination to win. But after nine weeks they were forced back to work through a simple lack of money. All the strength and confidence gained in the strike was quickly lost.

There was a simple reason. All the emotional support for the postal workers, all the fine words spoken in their favour, all the opinion poll finding s were rarely translated into practical solidarity from the rest of the trade union movement.

The TUC could have won the postal workers’ strike, merely by collecting one penny from every trade unionist. It refused to do so. Still less did it call on other workers to strike and demonstrate in support of the postal workers.

It sat back and watched them go down to defeat.

In the case of the firemen, the TUC’s behaviour is even more disgusting. At its meeting last week, it decided on no action at all over the strike, although it was against a government pay limit thrown out at the last TUC Congress.

This is why it is indispensable for every rank and file trade unionist to take up the firemen’s case now.

Street collections have, so far, helped the firemen to keep going. But street collections, by their very nature, are accidental. Some weeks they go very well, other weeks badly.

REGULAR

What are needed are factory collections, organised by trade union branches, trade unions, shop stewards’ committees. These can guarantee a regular intake for every fireman as long as the strike lasts.

And as well as collections, there is the need for industrial action to back the firemen. If there were enough one-day strikes, enough demonstration work in progress, enough workers refusing to work in conditions that created five hazards, then private employers would start thinking of ways to force the government to settle.

SUCCEED

But none of this will happen unless rank and file trade unionists organise to make it happen. The Fire Brigades Union leadership is embarrassed by the strike, and cannot bring itself to do anything to make sure it succeeds.

Firemen must be prepared to visit local factories and union bodies, to call for collections, to call for sympathy industrial action, to wait for the union leadership to give the word.

Other trade unionists must ensure support is coming from their headquarters for the firemen, while waiting for the union leadership to do the work.

This industrial action can be done in many places. But only if efforts are redoubled in this direction can victory be ensured.

THE FIREMEN’S STRIKE

Printworkers give a hand

This leaflet (right) was produced for the Glasgow firemen by printworkers, members of the Communist Party of Great Britain, at the Civil Printers in Glasgow.

They approached the firemen direct and asked if there were any propaganda they could produce. The firemen said yes, they were back to their employer and got his agreement to make leaflets from their own printing presses, available free of charge.

Eighty thousand copies of the leaflet were produced as a result. What can you do in your workplace that would match this excellent example of practical solidarity?
Lecturer paid by Shah's spies

SAVAK, the brutal Iranian secret police, have been paying university lecturers to collect information on Iranian students in Britain.

The actual amount paid to the lecturers is not known, but sources at the University of Kent have estimated that it could be as much as £200 per lecture. The figures are based on reports from students who have been approached by SAVAK agents.

The lecturers are reportedly being paid to attend university lectures and gather information on Iranian students, including their political views and personal opinions.

The lecturers are reportedly being paid to attend university lectures and gather information on Iranian students, including their political views and personal opinions.

The lecturers are reportedly being paid to attend university lectures and gather information on Iranian students, including their political views and personal opinions.
The swindlers' victims who are suing the prime minister's pal

A GROUP of West Indian workers who lost thousands of pounds through a ‘pyramid selling’ swindle are to sue the Prime Minister’s best friend for their money back.

The decision was made at a meeting in Shoreditch, East London, on Sunday.

The group is the Afro-West Indian Investors Protection Group. Its 20 members came together two years ago to protect themselves against the burgeoning of fringe banks who had lent money for pyramid selling.

Chief among these is Julian S. Hodge Ltd, a subsidiary of the Hodge Organisation, chaired by Sir Julian Hodge, friend and former business partner of Prime Minister John Major.

In late 1972, the pyramid selling swindle got under way, the Hodge organisation started to lend hundreds of thousands of pounds to its victims. James Callaghan joined the board of a new Hodge Bank, the Commercial Bank of Wales.

Prominent

The speaker of the House of Commons, George Thomas, also joined the board. At least 14 prominent other Labour personalities including the present Lord Chancellor, Sir James Chichester-Clark, Jones, the wife of the then deputy leader, Ted Shott, and a dozen MPs took shares in the bank.

The pyramid selling firms swarmed into the country in late 1972 and in 1973.

They made a bee-line for the West Indian working-class communities. Thousands of West Indian workers were invited to meetings in luxury hotels where they were urged to sell products (usually shampoo) directly to their friends and make a fortune.

In an atmosphere bordering on religious fervour, they were introduced at once to representatives of the fringe bank, Julian S. Hodge.

The banks, they were told, would lend them the money at high rates of interest. Cheques were instantly produced from the banks which the victims were persuaded to endorse to the pyramid companies.

Vanished

The salesmen and directors then vanished with the cheques. In most cases the West Indians never even saw the products they were meant to buy.

And the banks were left with a ‘debt’ payment for which they proceeded vigorously to enforce.

Millions of pounds have been lent by Julian S. Hodge to West Indian workers who were terrified that non-payment would lead to eviction.

The Afro-West Indian Investors Protection Group was one of many which came together to protect such workers from the banks. They have managed to stop evictions.

William Johnson, the group chairman, says: “Until now, people have been so terrified to have their payments stopped that they haven’t been too worried about the money paid. We’re backed up by a barrister’s opinion. We’ve seen London solicitors and we are going to pursue a test case.

There are many other pyramid selling victims who would like to get in touch with us, we would be only too happy to join them in the action. They can get in touch with us through Socialist Workers.”

REPORT: PAUL FOOT
PICTURES: JOHN STURROCK

International Socialism
monthly Journal of the Socialist Workers Party
Russia 1917-77
Soviet Power
The Soviet Working Class
Today/
price 30p
Ask your Socialist Worker seller for a copy

ROBERT ETIENNE: a printer at Ford Dagenham who lives in Ilford. I borrowed £400, payable back at 24% a month. But I had second thoughts and when they called me to endorse the cheque, I refused to do so, and asked them to send the cheque back.

They endorsed the cheque for me—for goodness' sake—and I'm off with it. I never received any notice of the cheque being returned from a few samples.

I paid Hodge his money because I was frightened by their lecture, and I didn't know what to do. I paid about £250.

It was terrible. We all had to go without new clothes, and the children without any presents. I couldn't afford to go on paying, and Hodge took the money and they threatened to evict me. Fortunately, I got to know of this group just in time.

The case is indefinitely adjourned, but I am still insecure in my house. I could still be thrown out by the Hodge bank any time.
When the middle classes made revolutions

TODAY, "MIDDLE CLASS" is nearly always coupled with 'moderate', meaning against change. But at the beginning of the modern era (in this country 300-500 years ago) the middle classes were far from 'moderate'.

They were intent on turning the then-existing society upside down, so as to impose everyone on everyone. This was the rise of economic interests.

We said last week that the 'bourgeois', the 'bourgeoisie' were very much a part of the middle classes. Indeed, in both senses of the word. They were not a group, but many groups. The bourgeoisie were the merchants, the manufacturers, the farmers, the lawyers, the doctors, the artists, the scholars. They were all part of the middle classes.

They were ambitious, they were hardworking, they were innovative, they were dynamic. They were driving the economy forward, they were building the industrial revolution, they were creating a new society. They were the leaders of the future.

By contrast the working class, the 'vulgar', the 'masses' were untouched by the revolution. They were left behind, they were left out. They were the losers in this new world.

But the bourgeoisie did not fight for the working class, they fought for themselves. They fought for their own interests. They fought for their own gains. They fought for their own power.

This was the bourgeoisie's revolution. They overthrew the old order, they created a new order. They were the leaders. They were the winners.

And this is why the bourgeoisie is still with us today. They are still in power. They are still the leaders. They are still the winners.

In short, the bourgeoisie is still with us today because they were the winners. Because they fought for themselves. Because they fought for their own interests. Because they fought for their own gains. Because they fought for their own power.

This is the bourgeoisie. They are still with us. And they will be with us for a long time to come.
IN A desperate, and futile, attempt to break the ranks of the striking firemen, the head of the employers' side, the Fire Service national joint council last week tried to blame the strike on 'manipulation' by the Socialist Workers Party.

The claim has been treated with disdain in firestations throughout the country, where firemen who’ve spent their life voting Labour, or even Tory, and have never come across the SWP, are determined to stick out for victory.

But the events of the last few months have led some firemen to break with such traditional political views and to see that what the Socialist Workers Party says is right. Two of them tell us why.

Are we to believe our strike isn’t political that breaking the pay guidelines isn’t political?

by Gordon Vassell, Kingsland Road Fire Station

THE CLICHE of being ‘dragged up’ was not so far from the truth when I was young in the 1950s in Hoxton, in the East End of London.

My mother brought up myself and my sister as best she could — my father had left when I was three. Hoxton could not be described as an easy place to grow up in those days.

When the Sunday Guardian wanted to ‘[newspaper]’ a young girl with a voice to say something to people in her own way, she simply took a pen and paper and started to write.

My earliest memories of raising my father was

Engulf

My primary school days were often a success or a failure depending on the homework. My father was a great success, but my mother was less so.

As long as I can remember, I have always admired the anonymity and independence of this society, the fact that someone who is not a member of a group can earn money. Even those who have nothing, work at their jobs or less, just to survive.

The electric car window that says it all...

by Davie Patton, Stratford FBU

At this particular time we were in a well-appointed part of London. Park Lane, something like that. A big fancy car window in the lift to the side of it and one of the guys went over to give the occupants a leaflet stating our campaign.

And for a few seconds the man and the woman in the car stared at the firemen as if they were a bunch of odd. Then a few seconds later one of them decided to take the leaflet.

And then it happened, the firemen were not that surprised. The car window down... it was an electric window. I thought to myself ‘I only recognise these three in society; there are, and here we are.’

The money they’ve spent on electric windows alone would have paid my wages for a fortuitous.

I remember what they did to my dad. He was an engineer, a tremendous engineer. He worked with the firm that opened all the windows operated by hand.

He managed to get a job sweeping up a local fire station and all the other stations, too. They had enough money to keep the job.

But that was just a good way of ensuring that the majority

of boxes in these places make for a good living for people with this occupation. They have no means of means or salaries, but they are prepared to give it a try, feeling of a sense of duty to accept a job at the feet of their abilities in the interests, probably of saving life.

We now find ourselves in a crisis, which at the outer is possible, impossible. This has been a happy decision. The negotiations and discussions and job evaluations have been going on for years.

The many government inquiries with their recommendations are all going to nowhere. As ordinary workers we are left with no choice but to take action. We are not in the belief that the strike isn’t political. Can we believe that the breaking of government guidelines is not political?

My belief is that there has been the belief of the socialist Labour government and of the many professional of the capitalist idea, the Tories, to keep down public sector workers.

Awareness

The situation we were in the fire brigade now find ourselves in has increased my awareness of the beliefs of the Socialist Worker Party. My background helps explain the fact that I’ve always been a believer in the ports of profits, the SWP advocates and values, they bring about.

But I’ve only just realized that my beliefs are those of the SWP movement. This strike is a step in changing people’s behaviour. We’ve been doing this for some time now.

Working class people can run their own lives instead of being sold up the river by James Callahan and Co. That’s why I’m a member of the SWP. And that’s why so many more need and file workers should be too.

A FIREFIGHTER looks on at unrivelled scabs do his job.
THE firemen’s strike dominated the mood and speeches at the Rank and File Conference held in Manchester on Saturday. Over 500 delegates from 200 trade union organisations attended. Amongst the many speeches from firemen, there were speeches from other strike committees. At least eight of the delegates spoke about their strikes and appealed for support.

The conference ended with a splendid collection of more than £400 split between the firemen, the other striking centres, the Rank and File Centre.

What is the importance of the Rank and File Conference? After all, there have been rather too many conferences this year already—the Leyland Conference, the London Committee, and so on. And little apart from rhetoric has emerged.

There have been criticism. Instead of a pious commitment to carry on the fight at some unspecified date in the future, we heard directly from workers already struggling against the government’s 7% pay offer.

**Sabotage**

Worker after worker, often from small factories, stood up with the same harrowing tales of being on strike and getting no support at all from the official trade union movement. And one lesson came home hard and clear, from Michael Acheson of the Royal Bank, from Steve Grimley, engineering convener from Leicester, from the Scottish Waterfront.

Workers who take action now can expect not only to support from the official movement, instead they can expect organized sabotage. The TUC is committed to the government’s policies, whatever they may be. Working people anyone on strike can expect to be abused by the newspapers and ignored by their own union executives.

**We’re fighting AGAINST THE ATTACKS ON OUR MOVEMENT**

MICHAEL FENN, top steward, London Royal Group: “We’ve got a lot of the treachery of the Labour Party—Labour MPs, Labour councillors, Labour leaders, Labour unions. We’ve got a lot of the treachery of the Labour Party. We’re fighting back. We’re fighting for a better deal for our members.”

**SKINT**

The official line is to hang just for a while—hanging on. But the truth is, it won’t be any better. If the Tories win the election, the official line will be: “The Tories are coming and we’ll be there to welcome them.”

**REPLY**

Thatcher is up to her neck. But Callaghan is up to his waist, so he asks him the reason.

**Port by Peter Clarke and John Rose**
We're fighting

FOR THE FIREFIEMEN

PAUL MCDONALD, Stathclyde FBU

Our executive has been putting up a 40-hour work week since 1980. So you see that they're really pushing it along. The firemen were forced to take their moral conscience and themselves out of the door.

HOW TO HELP THE FIREFIEMEN

The conference agreed to:

- Support a national day of action on Wednesday 7 December, with symbolic parades, local demonstrations, mass solidarity pickets, mass meetings and other local activities.
- Support Firefighters' strike delegations on all demonstrations and pickets called by firemen and their wives.
- Raise financial support by collections, levies, and adoption of individual letter and fire stations.
- Continue to build and strengthen local representative rank and file Firemen's Support Committees.

SADIE BLOOD, NUPE shop steward and school teacher, Edingburgh, FBU, Strike leader last year. Some of these unions are repeat offenders.

The TV and national newspapers do this to their readers, and then they can turn on us. Some of us are what you call fools.

But the women had highlighted both the vicissitudes of the career and the sheer madness of the cuts and how they affect everybody.

The worst cut of all. There used to be two million fish fingers for the children...now there is only one.

This meant that there are two million less fish fingers produced. It means they cost twice as much in the shops. It means you can't buy a driver who delivers them. It means there is no production and no employment.

This is the link between the private sector and the firemen and the private sector even if you break the link in the TV news. You'll still be losing it. If they're hitting the service, it's no good if you haven't got an amphibious fireman...

SHEILA PARKIN, from St James Hospital, Leeds: Patients are falling out of bed because there is no staff. Untrained staff are having to hand out the medicines. We now have a special section in our branch so just to meet the redundancies we will have to undertake production and job losses.

SADIE BLOOD, NUPE (Firemen)

Steven LUNDEN, NUPE, Moorfields, FBU

The Social Contract is a blank cheque on which they're writing off our cuts.

SHEILA PARKIN

We're fighting

AGAINST THE CUTS

GEORGE BARCLAY, strike committee, Spui Plants, Slinton, Blackpool Steel Corporation Inskerton, Davenport

There are 1000 of us out on strike for a 415 across the board increase. They're in Skipton. They've been out for six weeks. It's not unfair because we're out of production.

We've been out with the water problems with blacking. People are putting the water in at six o'clock. People see it as an excuse and we're going to take that off.

We need support. Our members have been to the Social Security, but you have to be in the public sector to win this battle. The service is in the worst part of the site, not in the heavy machinery area. The next day me and the shop stewards were sacked.

We saw the site committee - it's a closed shop the only one out on strike. We're not special at all, they were fighting the same battle.

At Inskerton we marched 900 miles to the town and we joined the picket line.

JIM BLAKE, shop steward, Spui Plants, Spui, Inskerton

I'm a cadet. When I started on the site I was nominated and seconded to the shop stewards. I was the worst part of the site, not the heavy machinery. The next day we were sacked.

We saw the site committee - it's a closed shop. The only one out on strike. We were not special at all, they were fighting the same battle.

After we were reinstated they all changed course. They came back to work on Monday, and by Friday the others had been sacked for between 50 and 60 hours. With the worst paid group on the whole site.

We're on strike again for £1.50 and we're going to win it, even if we have to stop the whole site. And after that all the shunters will be in there fighting for the firemen.

Jim McKenna, Sutlins, St Helens:

We've been on the cobbles for three weeks now. On strike to demand that they recognise our counter and negotiating committee. We were all sacked three days after a token stoppage.

I was offered £1,750 together with two other shop stewards to leave and they said they would take everyone else back. But we have stayed out of the TUC, on the Connexions rule. A one-man band vote at the TUC, or on the Connexions rule. A one-man band vote at the TUC, or on the Connexions rule.

We're fighting

FOR GRUNWICKS

KAMLESH GANDHI, chairman, City workers' committee: This is a four week suspension from my union.

We can use these strikers to try to do. They want to be able to say it was the strikers who gave up. It won't be us, it's the strikers who want to give up on us.

If you get enough muscle, use it. Don't give in to the law and go to ACAS.

If you're not organised, you'll be defeated. We have the tremendous support, but how are we going to use it?

Shelia Parkin

We need action from the Postal Workers Union - it can't be off the one from Tom Jackson. Tom Jackson asked to be dismissed from the TUC before he died.

It will have to be the unions. Otherwise we get repression from the House of Lords and not compensation. What is the difference.

This is the only way a through organisation. It's like the joke about the man running in a car.

The Tory Government is the driver who kills one with his whip, then the other in his car. It's a war on files comes towards the government and the Tories are the power of the direct 'They were organised.'

Kamlesh Gandhi

We're fighting

IN STRIKE ACTION ALL OVER THE COUNTRY

GEORGE BARCLAY, strike committee, Spui Plants, Slinton, Blackpool Steel Corporation Inskerton, Davenport

Our executive is holding back from helping people in disputes because of the one-man band vote at the TUC, on the Connexions rule. A one-man band vote at the TUC, on the Connexions rule.

We have been put on strike for six months, with the press against us all the way. We held a mass lobby of the district committee and they agreed to try it would be bad for business.

They have been put on strike for three months for a 12 per cent rise. At the moment the person with the biggest council house in London, Buckingham Palace, is still holding for his Jubilee car. We have sent in an apology and a collection sheet.

We have stayed solid for 12 weeks. Our executive in the AUEW is holding back from helping people in disputes because of the one-man band vote at the TUC, on the Connexions rule. A one-man band vote at the TUC, on the Connexions rule.

TERRY TAYLOR, British Gypsum, Bolton

We've been in weeks on unofficial strike and according to our officials we haven't even exhausted procedure.

We're fighting

FOR THE FIREFIEMEN

Day of action for the Firemen: This Weds 7 Dec

PICTURES BY JOHN STURROCK (REPORT)
BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

Scotland

Public meetings and events organised by the Socialist Workers' Party and its fraternal organisations.

- Send details of meetings and notices to reach us by first post Monday at the latest, to Whats On, Socialist Worker, PO Box 82, London E2 906.

Midlands

BLACK COUNTRY Socialist Workers Party Winter Rally. Black Country, Sport City, Dudley, West Midlands. Saturday, 11 December, from 11.00 a.m. All welcome to join for the rally. Contact: 0121 526 0119.

South East

SOUTH EAST ESSEX Socialist Workers Party Winter Rally. Black Country, Sport City, Dudley, West Midlands. Saturday, 11 December, 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. All welcome to join for the rally. Contact: 0121 526 0119.

CAMSOC Socialists Winter Rally. Black Country, Sport City, Dudley, West Midlands. Saturday, 11 December, from 10.00 a.m. All welcome to join for the rally. Contact: 0121 526 0119.

CAMROSE Socialist Workers Party Winter Rally. Black Country, Sport City, Dudley, West Midlands. Saturday, 11 December, from 10.00 a.m. All welcome to join for the rally. Contact: 0121 526 0119.

ASHWORTH Socialist Workers Party Winter Rally. Black Country, Sport City, Dudley, West Midlands. Saturday, 11 December, from 10.00 a.m. All welcome to join for the rally. Contact: 0121 526 0119.

Wales

BANSGOR Socialist Workers Party Winter Rally. Black Country, Sport City, Dudley, West Midlands. Saturday, 11 December, from 10.00 a.m. All welcome to join for the rally. Contact: 0121 526 0119.

Abbreviations

SWP Socialists

UK Socialists

CND

A

SWP Socialists

CND

UK Socialists

A

A

Action in the Commons

The Commons is a place where the government and the opposition can debate and vote on measures. The winter meeting season usually runs from November to March, and during this time, there are several key events that take place in the Commons. These include debates on important issues, legislation, and policy proposals. The Commons also plays a vital role in the legislative process, as it is responsible for scrutinising and approving government proposals. This is an essential part of the UK's democratic system, allowing Members of Parliament to represent the interests of their constituents and hold the government to account. In addition to its political functions, the Commons also provides a platform for Members to engage with the public, share their experiences, and contribute to the national debate on a wide range of topics. Overall, the Commons is a vital institution that plays a crucial role in the UK's democratic landscape. People can find out more about the work of the Commons by visiting their website or following their social media accounts.
An answer to those who say whites civilised Africa...

By Terry Farrer
AWE Convener Shipler Metal Box

It's the same as saying Christopher Columbus discovered America, when in actual fact he had been there all the time. In every case where the whites are alleged to have brought civilization to a country, they brought misery and death.

They are responsible for the suffering of millions of people throughout the world. Every time blacks organized themselves to fight back they were ruthlessly crushed. The most deplorable feature of an apartheid is to remove this black movement effort to form an organized and combative black community. The South African ruling class is well aware of the dangers of an organized black working class, therefore of introducing apartheid in order to remove that threat. Apartheid is not just segregation and denial of political rights to blacks. It also controls blacks through the migrant labour system, which means that your protest will not be heard and you take part in trade union activity.

Enforce

This is where we, Britain, can help because we should demand that blacks are allowed the right to join trade unions and if necessary bring pressure on our bosses to enforce this. After all it's the same firms and the same bosses which are allowing this situation to continue.

Venter says: We stand for Christian Nationalism, which is an ally of National Socialism. You can call this anti-democratic principle of apartheid. In Italy it is called Fascism, in Germany, German National Socialism and in South Africa Christian Nationalism.

So Venter uses racism and fascism to ensure that the tinny white minority retains their privileges. If apartheid is smashed, capitalism in South Africa will be smashed, because the survival of the South African bosses depends upon the white monopoly of power.

All the information is very shaky and briefly presented, making the pamphlet extremely useful for getting the facts to argue against the widespread myths.

As the crisis deepens and the armed struggle develops we are going to have to know all the arguments about Rhodesia to support the freedom fighters against the racist and the Ian Smith and DeBrecht spread by the British press.

Reid: a sad defection

By Peter Bain
shop steward Chrysler Linwood

From what I know of the current state of the Communist Party, it has never changed. Many of the resolutions which were passed during the 1960s are still there today. The party has become more of a political machine, while there is not even a Young Socialists Branch any more.

But it is the branch of the Labour Party, which Jimmy Reid, spokesman for the UK, has now become a member of. After suffering the indignity of having hisagy not respected by the local union, Reid successfully appealed to the constituency party.

What is his reason for joining the PSE not enough money or substance to continue to fight for the working class in the Labour Party as he was fighting for the working class in the Communist Party? It was the same fight for socialists in the area.

And, by Christ, anybody who ever worked in the industry knows that this was the case. Not only had his salary been cut by the strike action, but his social security contributions are just as bad as the others.

Career

Sad, I say, if you have worked as someone who was once a technician and the people of that trade is. That is not the case. spinner, the UK. This was the case. Not only had his salary been cut by the strike action, but his social security contributions are just as bad as the others.

We have to show that the disintegration of the PSE and the Social Democrats, if injected is not the only alternative open to the many Communist Party members unhappy about the path they are being told to follow.

Christmas offer

PLUTO PRESS are offering a number of very good political books at half price. Check the following list and buy the books you want at half prices.

State Capitalism in Russia, by Tony Cliff, 75p (usually £1.50)

Scientific Revolution and the Eastern Europe, by Chris Harman, £1.35 (usually £3.70)

Women Against the Monopoly, by Ian Brabant, £1.35 (usually £2.70)

Communism in Politics, by Hugo Drew, 95p (usually £1.60)

The Radham Group, by Reg Groves, 60p (usually £1.20)

Capitalism and Theory, by Michael Kidon, £1.05 (usually £2.60)

Rosa Luxemburg, by Paul Finegold, £1.65 (usually £3.50)

LeVI-Strauss in DES, by Michael Kidon, £1.05 (usually £2.60)

Origins of the International Socialists, 50p (usually £1.00)

The Emancipation of Women, by Val Marie, 50p (usually £1.00)

The Inquisition of the Factories, by Sprinkle, 50p (usually £2.40)

The Bolsheviks, 50p (usually £2.40)

The October Revolution, 50p (usually £2.40)

Choose two or more books from the following list before Christmas and you can have them at half-price.

And, once for a brief moment, he lived

... and, once, for a brief moment, he lived

Socialist Workers talking

By ALAN GIBBONS

Our factory has just shut down completely, but we were given a 10-week pay deal so I was sitting at home for the other day with a face as long as a yard of pump water.

Talk came round to how we would spend our back pay. I suggested a packet of jelly babies. One of the lads muttered something about: this one doesn't need any... more jelly babies.

He was reading in the paper about Princess Anne's engagement, and the words these journalists had used were: "all the right...devoting...practically...never having time...to give up."

But what really galled some of the lads was the last paragraph:

'Although well-off, we still lead a hard life...The result of this was that we would be written about if we could all be famous for a few days.'

He worked as a clay model maker in the evening. He was chilblained by the winter and fell ill by the summer. He performed tasks as foreign to his nature as reading a newspaper.

He has to ask permission to be on the television screen and talk to his fellows. His eyes begin to mist over as he talks of the future of the trade union movement as he knows it, and how the winds of change are sweeping away the old order.

Sounded good but it's like saying: it's a killer's right to kill. The laws are OK but the meaning is all wrong.

Choose two or more books from the following list before Christmas and you can have them at half-price.

Add 50p-flat-rate postage on all orders, send money with order to

PLUTO PRESS, Unit 10 Spencer Court, 7 Chalcot Road, London NW1.
POSTAL POINTS

THE strikes that you print on Zionism and Israel are all about how hypocrisy they are. They neglect the fact that Zionism, although never quite the same as Israeli racism, was essentially a national liberation movement in a way.

It was, and is still for Russian Jews, a national liberation movement and to that extent it was the only way out with a cohesive and separate culture and language - in the Ashkenazim Jews, could be an act of aggression, without the immediate desirable solution.

Overall, it is obscured by a lot of religious rhetoric and a natural tension of racism ideas, but the political basis was the same as that for the black power movement, women's movements, the IRA, and in fact any anti-colonial movement.

PETE BROWN, Newcastle.

VICTORY

On Littlebrook station not far from Dartford Town.
A gang of working men all quiet under cover.
To fight a great man's view for the pipe was doing.
When lastly did riskily take two letters men.

'We'll have to call a meeting.' That's what Dan O'Connor said. I'll go and see Ted Toogood, the printers are working well.

And also Bill Gardner, who's a truly honest man. He fought for the working class, the second class.

When the strikers all turned together Dan's in the chair.
Ted stood up and said 'This one I think is fair because that's the hammer they have done nothing wrong'
And Bill Gardner then spoke up. 'I think I'll sing a song.'

So Dan and Ted away they went and see 200 men. They all in the Wigan Public bar.
So Dan and Ted away they went and see 200 men. They all in the Wigan Public bar.

The ending of this little side is a happy one for all.
When workers stand together the bosses soon find it.
So drink a toast to Dan and 200 Ted Toogood.
And also Bill Gardner who showed us his values.

JOE KITZIE, Brixton.

Listen to this

WITH THE exception of a few punk bands, it's not often we get popular messages with our music.
So it's always a pleasure to listen to Gil Scott-Heron.
He's made a lot of records highlighting the black struggle in America, singing about police harassment, landlords, soap box resolutions, unemployment and other issues.

His best-known song, with pianist Brian Jackson, is 'The system of -' a message of solidarity with the black liberation struggle.

South Carolina deals with the construction of a nuclear plant and there's a lot being fought over peoples lives.
In other songs he takes the piss out of Watergate and the bicentennial celebrations.
And if anyone needs something to prop up a red attack against Racism you or a part in his song 'The Revolution will not be televised'.

CHRIS BARTOLPO, Cambridge.

Sore feet - so they gave him something to make them worse!

I WOULD like to bring to your attention an argument being that of one of the Irish political prisoners in Wakefield prison. The prisoner is my brother, John McSharry, who was incriminated in my name and was charged with a very complex charge.

So I would like to bring to your attention this argument in the House of Commons.

During the last two months John has been in consultation with the medical people at Wakefield about his health. He has gone so far now but has taken us by surprise in May by his brother the best part of the prison doctors in order to relieve the stress of his one main consideration.

He was charged with damaging prison property and this led me to appear before a court in the prison. He refused to go as he had asked the governor of the prison on that particular day if he could have seen him. I had to hear another hearing or tell him that he had been formally taken to the court in the prison with the charge that he had broken the door of the back of the house. He had broken the door of the back of the house.

The prisoner in Wakefield is the one who is being waited in the water in which John is kept and no one has been allowed to go into this water to the water in which John is kept. He has been allowed to go into this water to relieve the stress of his one main consideration.

During my visit in May John told me that he would be put in the Central Unit very soon. He had been told that he would wear prison boots or shoes.

He was told that he was a very recent arrival in the Central Unit but that he had been put into the Central Unit for 21 days.

During a BBC documentary about the prisoner, a prisoner was made to appear by an officer at Long Lartin prison. Clearly, the prisoner was only used in very rare cases when a prisoner would be locked up for no more than three or four days.

This is definitely not the case and would be worth further investigation.

JOHN O'BRIEN, Leicester.

INNOCENT - BUT PAY UP

ONE AREA where public expenditure can be cut is in the field of legal aid. I leased a court case recently and was charged with a charge.

I am still considering the outcome of the Public Order Act 1966.

The case arose when I attended a meeting called by the National Council of Welsh Socialists, the NAF, at West Dulwich College.

It was alleged that I had

Drumcree picket line.

I am considering his campaign to ask him to cut back.

Having a stomach ulcer doesn't mean you can't work, it just means you can't work unmercifully by those who have alphabetized it. As you are no one's thanks.\n
I am trying to save the mass picket because George Brandt says one's knowledge of one thing - I'll be there.

STEW HOPE, London.

Solidarity!

THE SOUTH East Manchester district social which we advertised in SW last week was tested at the 11th hour to a financial benefit and was a resounding success.

Over 100 SW members, supporters and non-aligned people came to see Comrades do the Civil Show (doubtless relevant since we found out long back of plans to close the local Children's Board of a great event at Bradford). Local venues from two stations, took a collection which raised £11, after which we released a Solidarity with The UNWs.

The event was a success, despite the fact that it was the first time we were able to conclude a total donation to the strike fund of £155. We hope that this will be the start of a change in the way we fund our activities.

LINDA MUIR, Longsight, Manchester.

Information please

WE NEED more information on how we can more effectively combat the Nazi Youth Groups which have sprung up in our own areas.

There are all forth and fifth-year pupils and feel too young to see the methods of the SWP. However, our lack of support for the socialist groups is not all.

A year ago I was informed that the police were aware of a situation that was being encouraged by the SWP. However, they were afraid to say anything in case of a complaint.

Therefore, we need your information please.
Is America a capitalist paradise?

AT THE HEART OF THE BEAST

San Francisco police stand guard to stop pickets presenting strike breaking plumbers mending a burst water main. Battering-ram police are part of America's industrial scene.

DUNCAN HALLAS
just back from the US, REPORTS

At the same time basic trade union industries in organised industry overall is the result, and is to be continued by the actions of some in a number of minor services in the USA and abroad. They have run down the industry in the world, and with a world crisis in overcapacity in steel, they want to solve their problems by protection and screwing the workers – just as in Britain.

Closeness, redundancies, higher productivity, more sweat and more accidents are the house aim.

CAPITAL

And not just in steel. I went through Alsen, Ohio, rubber and iron capital of the world, home of Goodyear Firestone. The plants argue like For Dunlop in Birmingham, a hundred years and a third twentieth century.

There has been no really big new investment for many years. Us capitalism is sick with the same sickness that is sapping the strength of capitalism in the world over.

Working class reaction? There is this paradox. Miltonian, as in most cases, is a higher level than in Britain. In the coal industry, increasingly recognised as the source of power and gas there is a real fight, due to the pressure of the coal miners. The coal owners have just got a lot of money they have not got any more, and are disposed to protect that money at all costs.

Politics now (BCU) was for years a going concern. It was the result of the growth of trade unionism in the industrial dispute. It was in the interest of the workers to have a union to fight and protect their interests, and the need for an independent trade union was evident.

The chief difference, 24 years and 1906 George Memery, A'IF, (IF) president, is a product of that. Memery has learned to forgive and forget, nothing but, under the impact of the crisis which led to the split, the membership, both rank and file and the leadership, cannot be allowed to go on as it was. New leadership is needed, and the trade union must take the lead in the struggle for a new future.
SOCIETAL WORKER 3 December 1975

WILL NUPE JOIN THE FIREMEN AND FIGHT INTHE BATTLE OF THE NATION?

TENS OF thousands of local authority manual workers have voted to reject a 10 per cent pay offer.

A ballot of members of the Public Employees union, NUPE, resulted in 17 out of 18 areas voting against the offer.

But this enormous vote against the offer doesn't mean that anything is likely to happen. Public Employees union has more members involved than the two other unions, the general, and the mind and the parent and general.

But on the national joint council which will decide on what to do the GMWU and the TGWU have voted to support NUPE.

The conference is recommended to accept the offer, and there is a likelihood that the TGWU will stand out and risk another major strike against the 10 per cent pay limit.

Most likely of all, the three unions together will see if what happens to the firemen and then decide whether to fight the ballot on the NUPE.

Wills the trespas law?!

TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY delegates attending the NUPE and Criminal Co-Fraternity conference decided to mobilise in defence of full force and fitness to prevent any action of present type. The union was concerned about the power of the police.

The conference discussed the importance of a tactic and the way in which it has been used by the new laws coming into effect this Tuesday and threats with arrest and criminal charges people taking part in the new laws.

The conference called the national executive of trade unionists to go against the law. It wanted workers.

A good day under Labour

by STEVE BERRY

ONE HUNDRED trade union delegates met in London on Sunday to discuss the way of helping to end British involvement in Ireland.

First speaker was Paddy Hongan, former assistant general secretary of the Engineers' Union, pointed out that the Labour government was now responsible for the first time in our history to end Britain's occupation of Ireland.

The next speaker was John Snow, a member of the Workers' Union, who is also a member of the Workers' Union, who is also a member of the Workers' Union, who is also a member of the Workers' Union, who is also a member of the Workers' Union, who is also a member of the Workers' Union, who is also.

Bottom

He had been stopped and searched by the army several times when he was in the north of the country.

He brought delegations attention to the problem of the story of the papers last week which demonstrated the full horror of life in Northern Ireland.

The story of the way in which people have been tortured and the fact that the army has been involved in many cases has been many cases has been many cases has been many cases has been many cases has been.

The conference took a number of practical steps. A letter was written to the British government calling for a campaign for the working people of Northern Ireland to be allowed to live in peace.

A victory for women's rights

JENNIFER DAVIES can go on living in the city and feeling happy in Hackney, but she isn't the only woman who will benefit from the changes.

She is the first woman to hold a parliamentary seat in the House of Commons, and she is the first woman to hold a parliamentary seat in the House of Commons, and she is the first woman to hold a parliamentary seat in the House of Commons, and she is the first woman to hold a parliamentary seat in the House of Commons, and she is

She is the first woman to hold a parliamentary seat in the House of Commons, and she is the first woman to hold a parliamentary seat in the House of Commons, and she is the first woman to hold a parliamentary seat in the House of Commons, and she is the first woman to hold a parliamentary seat in the House of Commons, and she is

She is the first woman to hold a parliamentary seat in the House of Commons, and she is the first woman to hold a parliamentary seat in the House of Commons, and she is the first woman to hold a parliamentary seat in the House of Commons, and she is the first woman to hold a parliamentary seat in the House of Commons, and she is

Violence

When Jennifer tried to lead an insurrection against the government, her life was in danger, but she didn't give up. She was arrested and sentenced to five years in prison, and she was later released after serving twelve months.

Jennifer and Cordelia fled to the countryside, where they lived under the protection of friends and supporters.

The decision stands as a victory, not for law and order, but for the battle for women's rights in the last ten years.

NUT election result

RANK AND FILE Teacher has improved his vote in the election for Vice-President in the teachers union, the NUT. The right-wing Murphy won with 14,560 votes, followed by Kennedy with 13,460 votes.

Four of the six candidates were endorsed by the Rank and File candidate and the Socialist Teachers' candidate were not.

North for Rank and File Teacher came 6th with 7,728, with 15,000 votes more than the Rank and File candidate and 1,600 votes two years ago in the last election.

The Socialist Teachers' candidate got 2,179 votes.

Strike over

HUNDRES OF Asian workers on strike at Heathrow Airport's catering units are planning to work last Thursday. Management and union officials met to settle the dispute over their famous meal-time services, after sitting together for hours.

The strike was about the racist abuse but so ambiguously that many of the workers returned to work in the same night.

The decision for the racist abuse but so ambiguously that many of the workers returned to work in the same night.

Raleigh 30C's claim

NEWLY-ELECTED 5,000 workers, who worked for Raleigh in Nottingham are on strike for higher wages.

Their claim is for a 30 per cent wage increase. They've been offered 10 per cent.

Production of engines and motorcycles at Cowley, Oxford, and Coventry is already threatened and Cheltenham is likely to be affected on Wednesday.

The day lasted until Wednesday.

Raleigh 30C's claim

NEWLY-ELECTED 5,000 workers, who worked for Raleigh in Nottingham are on strike for higher wages.

Their claim is for a 30 per cent wage increase. They've been offered 10 per cent.

Production of engines and motorcycles at Cowley, Oxford, and Coventry is already threatened and Cheltenham is likely to be affected on Wednesday.

Metropole: we're still out

by John Bruce

WHILE our strike at the Metropole was called off by the Socialist Party on Wednesday for a 15 minute wage increase from 30p to 35p, workers at the Metropole hit the streets at all other London hotels demanding scant and immediate action.

The Metropole workers joined the strike against the management at important establishments in Greater London hotels and the strike was supported by a productive workable.

Among the local trade unionists, J. T. Jutson of the London official who refused to back the workers' strike at the Metropole after encouraging them to take action.

The present minimum wage, at Centre Hotel is 150, the other is lowest the call of the minimum 150p, which would be "the best deal in the hotel. The workers have had enough worse to give the 35p per cent and that any strike prior to support of the 35p claim and in support of the Metropole strike would not get official GMWU backing. Until the famous hotel is seen

Metropole DISCO Monday 5 December 8.00pm until 2.30am

Price £3 including a free bottle of Dams, £5 including a free bottle of Seckles.

Music by DJ's of the top 50s. Dance floor, Music and Financial should be sent to Send your name, M. Murphy, 80 Waverton Road, London NW3.
I'm 'All Right Jack' - how are you?

Transport workers Union strike

The Past Office Workers Union strike

I'm 'All Right Jack' - how are you?

Transport Workers Union striker Jack Jones shouts down the phone with the Gwynedd Paper Strike at the TUC last Wednesday.

The Post Office Workers Union strike, which started off with a list of the General for any number of its members, was finally resolved.

This General Council refused to go, and the meeting was not then adjourned.

Outside the Convention House four hunger strikers were joined in a solidarity action and the strike action was called off.

The TUC General Council effectively turned any prospect of the work force taking an action to support the strikers.

News strike is off

JOURNALISTS on all workforces in Scotland were called to a meeting to discuss the strike from today for Monday, and the TUC executive meeting.

The executive voted to suspend the strike notice and to hold further talks with the management, according to the Daily Mirror, the Daily Worker, and the Daily Record.

It was reported that 90% of the journalists were in favour of striking for the day.

John Lockwood, a transport worker, was asked to come to a meeting in London on Saturday, and was told to come, but he did not go.

He was asked to come to a meeting in London on Saturday, and was told to come, but he did not go.

Lewisham: Did you see this?

John Lockwood, a transport worker, was asked to come to a meeting in London on Saturday, and was told to come, but he did not go.

He was asked to come to a meeting in London on Saturday, and was told to come, but he did not go.

Lewisham: Did you see this?

John Lockwood, a transport worker, was asked to come to a meeting in London on Saturday, and was told to come, but he did not go.

He was asked to come to a meeting in London on Saturday, and was told to come, but he did not go.

Lewisham: Did you see this?

John Lockwood, a transport worker, was asked to come to a meeting in London on Saturday, and was told to come, but he did not go.
TYNESIDE DEFIES WAGES BLACKMAIL

War has been declared by the government on the lowest paid shipyard workers in the country. In an astonishing move last week, the newly-nationalised, government-controlled British Shipbuilders told 1700 outsiders at the Swan Hunter yards in Tyneside to call all overtime ban or lose the order for Polish ships.

As a mass meeting on Tuesday the workers voted to continue their ban against their stewards advice. The overtime ban has been declared as an official company pay policy under Phase 2 of the government's pay policy. Pay at the Swan Hunter yards is 67 cents a week, which, if the outsiders were paid, would bring them in line with the Haley makers' union members.

Recieved

The case for the outsider's overwhelmngly. In June 1975, the shipworkers received a substantial pay rise. Last week, the Outsiders agreed to pay the outsiders a corresponding increase. But in July 1975, the government pay policy came down like a hammer, and smashed the outsiders' won'ts.

The outsiders picked up the government policies and the imposition of their-raise for two years. When the pay yesterday, they forced the company to order their suspended rise--only to be told that the rise would be 30p per cent per week. This ban on overtime against the government's new yellow card for the outsiders.

The outside's case is a sad picture of the development of the workers' movement in the yards. The mess, of course, is a ban on strikes and industrial action over disputes which have not gone through procedure. It means 'flexibility,' which means swapping jobs and more accidents. It means the acceptance of wage underbidding as long as the government wants to set them.

The swelling underbidding has already been signed by shop stewards such as Jimmy Airdie, in the main yards in the Clyde, and in the Clyde, where British shipbuilders intend to divert that part of the Polish order previously committed to Swan Hunters.

To show they mean business, British Shipbuilders issued today's redundancy notices to 800 workers at Swan which is 99 per cent of the outsiders decided to maintain their overtime ban.

Elsewhere

There is little or no work in Swan Hunters, and if the Polish order goes anywhere, there could be up to 500 shipyard and engineering workers on the dole by the middle of next year.

One Tyneside shop steward put it: 'We keep thinking that the government can't ask any more. But they're looking for new depths at the Swan Hunter downturn! If they want to save their jobs, they must occupy the entire yard as the Clyde yards were occupied in 1971. One hurt is the number of Smith's teams at the Swans, and now that the Smiths' teams at the Swans, the government have called a one-day strike for Tuesday in solidarity with the outsiders at Swan Hunters.' Their shop steward said that they would never accept any of the Polish ships unless the outsiders got parity with the hullers.

Harry Wilkinson, AEU official at Tyneside, said that the work for the Tyne would never be accepted either at Areva Pilkington or at Sunderland Shipbuilders.

IAN SMITH, the Rhodesian leader, claimed last Thursday that he was prepared to give 'one man, one vote' to the country's six million blacks, who outnumber his white racist supporters 20 to one.

But even as he was being applauded by the British press for this 'offer,' his troops were engaged in wholesale murder.

Since then Smith has boasted that two hundred guerrillas have been killed, and his troops raided guerrilla training camps across the border in Mozambique.

Reporters on the spot tell a rather different story. In the town of Manzini, which is now under British occupation, one hundred children between the ages of 14 and 18 were killed in a mass riot at the Chimoio camp. The camp contained 2,200 people, who had fled from the ferocity of Smith's troops in Rhodesia, many of them women and children.

Bombaing

Smith's plans began by bombing the camp. Then Paratroops landed and, according to eye witnesses, began shooting all over the place and fired at children who had been at their classes when the attack began. The camp block was shot up and few of the patients got away.

'People were running in all directions,' and the helicopters fired at random.' According to the Mozam-bique police, even now there is a 'horrible sight, with bodies of blacks scattered everywhere.'

The Rhodesian government have claimed the site as a 'successful military operation,' and its words have been reported by much of the British press, radio and TV.

One wonders whether that would have been the time of their reports if the freedom fighters had broken into a white town inside Rhodesia and bombarded and murdering a thousand white men and women. Or would we not then have heard about 'blood thirsty savages?'

Of course, among the dead were some armed fighters. But of the 120 dead guerrillas has to be treated as being as brutal as the American army's claim in Vietnam that it had killed 200,000 Vietnamese every time it shot up or bombed a peasant village.

Smith saw the raid as a complete defeat of his attempt to persuade middle-class black leaders to come to an agreement with him. This might give black people the vote, but would leave control of the country to the country's armed forces and wealth in the hands of Smith's white backers.

Two of the 'moderates' black leaders, Sib élevé and Musauresa, have already said they would like to cooperate with Smith. But the British government, who are afraid that they have the support of eighty per cent of the black population, Smith knows that most black. Zanu and ZAPU know that freedom can only come from armed struggle.

That is why he attempted last week to wipe out the rest of the guerrilla army based in Mozambique. At the same time, he has been trying to split off the leaders of the other part of the guerrilla army based in Zambia, according to the Times, when Ian Smith flew to Zambia for secret talks with the coun-try's president, Kaunda. The article of the guerrilla forces, Nkoma was waiting in an adjacent room.

MURDERS

But if Smith is confident after last week's murders, it is a misplaced confidence. His 'moderate' African colleagues who take his long hand now will see a red pen coloured statues sitting in their palms and on the wings.

Smith has shown for years that he is a Gestapo who, by his majority rule, he means the continued right of the armed forces of the white minority to preserve the majority of whites.

Smith has wiped out freedom fighters, women and children at a base training camp in Mozambique. But he has done nothing to stop thousands of freedom fighters moving across inside Rhodesia itself, as the rainy season has seen guerrilla war approaches. Chimoio will be assessed.

DAY OF ACTION FOR FIREMEN 7 DECEMBER