BETRAYED, ABUSED, AND FLAMING ANGRY!

WHEN we heard that the TUC leaders were not supporting us, we were shocked.

We felt, this is it. The strike's had it. But then we came back to the station. We realised how solid the strike is, we changed. We grew more determined.

We took down the pickets' canvas tent outside the station, and we built a proper wooden hut.

A lorry driver we knew dropped us enough wood to keep the pickets warm for the whole winter.

We wrote two new slogans. The first was. 'We're digging in for the winter.'

And the second? Well, we tried to think of the biggest back-stab in history.

Mick Kavanagh remembered about Brutus stabbing Caesar. And he wrote the slogan: ET Tu TUC.

People have stopped and asked us what does the 'et tu' mean? Is it another union? We tell them it means 'What, even you, the TUC?'

---

ROBBIE ROBERTS
Watch rep.
West Hampstead Fire Station.
North West London

TALKING TO SOCIALIST WORKER

We're on our own now, but we can't go back to work or the whole fire service is finished. We have to get round to local unions, local stewards, convenors and officials.

We have to get big factories to guarantee each station £1000 a week.

There's plenty of support from the local people. It's only the leaders who don't support us.

We realise that the TUC means nothing, really. It's the people who count. If we use their support, we can win. We must.

...AND WITH YOUR HELP THEY CAN WIN
Don’t work without fire cover

...and you’ll help the firemen win!

Down at the Strand Road fire station, alongside Liverpool docks, they’ve been thinking hard about the sort of sacrifice the firemen would win the firemen’s strike within a week.

Billy Leatherbarrow, a sub-officer in the station, said: ‘I think all the work in all the factories around here should be thinking about the danger they’re in when they haven’t got proper fire cover.’

‘It was one of the crew who turned out recently when they suspected some sort of fire in the Stanley oil refinery. There were 60 appliances turned out, and it is not difficult to understand why.

‘The whole of the Hebble peninsula is a potential bomb. It’s the biggest ammonia dump in Europe.’

They were talking that day about evacuating the whole peninsula.

These workers at Stanley and at Widnes—which is just a collection of chemical firms—and all those sorts of places, they ought to start thinking how they can help themselves.

‘There are hundreds of employers who don’t understand this. They keep telling their employees that unless they stick to the strike, the work will go on, they ought to stick in their proper fire cover.’

REFUSE

‘There are a lot of people who don’t understand Poland. Paul, Paul, you should refuse to do so until there’s a proper fire service working again.

‘There are hundreds of employers who don’t understand this. They keep telling their employees that unless they stick to the strike, the work will go on, they ought to stick in their proper fire cover.’

London support

SUPPORT for the firemen’s strike is growing in North London. Last Friday’s official delegate meeting was held in Edmonton Fire Station, called by the North London Firemen’s Support Committee.

There were delegates from every fire station in the area

The meeting had over 50 members, both trades unionists and non-unionists from local factories.

The meeting went on to discuss the strike and made a number of resolutions.

The meeting closed by asking the firemen to go to the rank and file by standing on the gates in the morning with buckets.

NEXT London North Firemen’s Support Committee is calling for a march on Saturday to show the trade unions that the firemen are on strike. A rally has been organised in Regent’s Park at 12 noon, when a fireman from every station in the division will attend.

A CRYSTAL part of the government’s attempt to defeat the firemen is the policy of the Department of Social Security in making it difficult for firms to claim benefit.

But after years of paying out taxes and national insurance, firms have every right to claim social security. No fireman and no fireman’s wife should be asked to demand this right.

If, for instance, firemen are being told they cannot get benefit until 14 December, there is something the firemen can prove. They can go to the Social Security Board and make a protest. This is the way some social security firms have been ordered to claim benefit. The right to pay taxes and national insurance is what the firemen are claiming together.

The same applies to all sorts of ‘exceptional’ additional pensions, over and above the basic rates families are entitled to.

Because of repeated threats of firemen being denied their rights, the R.A.S. and the Firemen’s Daily Strike News has been unable to print a list of strike-rights and how to prove them. The Firemen’s Strike Centre also possessed a pamphlet which has been sent out.

South West London Day of Action in Support of the Firemen Wednesday 14 December, Demonstration outside Battersea and Wandsworth Assembly Hall, 12 noon. Battersea Fire Station, Eso Rd, SW11. Called by R.A.S., Battersea and Wandsworth Trades Council, St George’s Hospital, Hype, South London Evening and Fire Station.
TUC betrays the firemen

JUDAS HAD NOTHING ON THESE!

LOOK at these faces. Everyone of these people has risen to where they are because of the efforts of rank and file trade unionists.

Every one of them leads a safe and comfortable life.

Every one of them gets an income two or three times as high as the fireman gets for leading a dangers and often very uncomfortable life.

And every one of them voted to split the face of the firemen...

I couldn't give a carrot for the TUC. We're better off without the TUC after what they've done to the firemen.

During the struggles against the Industrial Relations Act the TUC and the National Union of Stevedores and Dockers, were locked into the TUC. My Federation, suddenly tried to contact our general secretary when the dockers were locked in Pentonville. He rang up three times and phoned him to accept the Industrial Relations Court.

The dirty cop even hinted that we might be allowed back into the TUC. Big bloody deal!

Our union took no notice. The end result was that we finished off the Industrial Relations Act with no thanks at all to the TUC. If we'd listened to them, the unions would all be shackled up with laws by now.

The TUC is now part of the established order of this country. It is a virtual indistinguishable from the Labour government, the Tory Party, the CBI, even the National Association for Freedom.

TREVOR BROWN, a miner at Houghton Main Colliery, near Barnley, South Yorkshire.

When I heard that the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Employment had agreed to the TUC ban on striking, I was very angry.

Because my brother is a miner I felt ashamed, and because our own wage claim depends so much on what the firemen are able to achieve I look the insult personally.

I can say it on behalf of all of us. We will not pay for the firemen. They've sold us out.

MICKY FENN, London Royal Group of Dockers shop steward and secretary of the organising committee of the National Rank and File Movement.

It's disgusting. It's absolutely disgusting. Our union, the National Union of Stevedores and Dockers, was expelled from the TUC two years ago and I'm almost beginning to think it was a good thing.

PAY: YOU'RE WORSE OFF THAN IN 1970

DO YOU often think you are harder up now than you can remember before?

Figures released in parliament last week show what has happened to the wages of the average worker as a result of successive pay controls in 1971-77.

The buying power of the average pay packet is now worth less than when Edward Heath first became prime minister back in 1970. The wage packet of the average man with two children today contains $20.35 after deductions. Back in 1970 it was $30.70—in today's money.

MICHAEL BULMER, Transport and General Workers' Union shop steward at British Oxygen, Hackney, East London.

The recent strike by British Oxygen workers was a triumphal movement. It has brought home to the government's pay norm that the workers are able to stand up for their rights.

The government should not be in the position of asking for active support from other workers. We won in 1972 because we didn't trust our national leaders but organised ourselves, took our case to other trade unions.

Before 1972 there had not been a national miners' strike since 1970. The victory we gained in 1972 enabled us to hold our heads high again. It only happened because the miners were able to say the same about 1977.

MICKIE BOULTER, Transport and General Workers' Union shop steward at British Oxygen, Hackney, East London.

It's the government's pay norm that we are looking at. We've been forced into it through the government's pay norm. We've told them to get on with it.

The miners are going to have to bypass the TUC.
SCANDAL OF ARMY'S HOSPITAL TAKEOVER

Firemen's pickets outside the maternity hospital annexe. When it came to pregnant mothers, or the mentally ill, the authorities said the money wasn't there. But where's the strike to be broken...that's different!

They're spending more to break the firemen's strike than it would cost to pay their claim.

IF YOU DOUBT THAT, READ ON...

YOU PROBABLY WON'T FIND A FINER MAN THAN BOB ROXBURGH, BOOTLE AREA BRANCH SECRETARY OF THE FIRE BRIGADE UNION. He's been a fireman for 18 years. He's delighted that his union is at last taking action in defence of his fellow-workers and the fire service. But last Thursday he was bitter.

Report: Paul Foot Pictures: John Sturrock (Bootle)

"Steaming angry, that's what I am," he said. "Not at the public. Not even at the army. But at his own union for sabotaging one of the bestinitiatives yet taken by the firemen's strike. The Trinity Street Maternity Hospital annexe is only a few hundred yards from the Strand Road Fire Station, where Bob Roxburgh is union secretary. The annexe has been empty for some months since the

PATIENTSILITY MATERNITY PATIENTS IT WAS MOVED TO FROM FAZAKERLEY DISTRICT HOSPITAL. THE UNION'S OBJECTION WAS THAT THE HOSPITAL WORKERS' UNION NUFFE DID NOT OPPOSE THE MOVE. BUT THEY DEMANDED THAT THE AUTHORITIES SEE THE EMPTINESS AS ACCOMMODATING MENTAL PATIENTS.

THE AUTHORITY REFUSED. "THEY JU No. WHERE STAND

REPORTÉ CLAIRE AGRÉE

CLASS ACTION

The workers control the wealth under capitalism. A new society can only be achieved when they collectively assert control that wealth and distribute its fruits.

NOT TO REFORM

The present system cannot be patched up or reformed, so the workers must总体 achieve their control of the means of production and distribution.

THERE IS NO PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

The victories of the present parliament and army parties can only be taken away or destroyed by the workers. They may not subvert the capitalist state as a whole, but they may change its apparatus of co-opted workers' representatives and co-opted workers' leaders. It has to be overthrown.

INTERNATIONALISM

The struggle for socialism is part of a world-wide struggle. We cannot isolate ourselves from the struggles of workers in other countries.

ENTHUSIASM

The British workers are not unique. There are workers in every country against the same system.

The suppression and repression. We oppose all imperialist governments.

We support the struggle of workers in these countries against the same system.

We are for social, economic and political equality of all workers.

We are for a new order of workers and the older generation.

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

To achieve socialism, the most militant sections of the working class must be united in a revolutionary socialist party. Such a party can only be built by activity in the mass organisations of the working class.

Many trade unions are not only quiescent but actively against the struggles of their members. In the case of the firemen's strike, we urge all those who agree with us to join the IWW to support the struggle to build the revolutionary party.

If you want to know more about Socialist Workers and the Socialist Workers Party, fill in the form on page 15.

BOB ROXBURGH: Steaming angry, that's what I am.

OUR MONEY... AND OURS!

RICHIE MULCAHY, a fireman at Longmoor Lane fire station in Liverpool, lives in Nelson.

"I read the other day that in the first three weeks of the strike Nuffield Council spent £1,700 on "special measures" during the firemen's strike mainly on public relations and other expenses to "keep a watch on property."" The same council employs 500 firemen.

That works out at 40 per week extra spending for every fireman in the area. And they're the same people who can't afford £25 a week for themselves.

WHAT DOES 10 PER CENT RISE MEAN TO FIREMEN? Frank Brennan has been a fireman at Strand Road, Bootle, for three years. His 10 per cent rise will pay him an extra £5.75 at the top line. He has two children. He qualifies for free school meals for one child—£2.25. He gets free with worth £1 a week, and rates subsidy worth £12.50. All these benefits would add up to a 19 per cent rise. So when he's taken his rise and superannuation, payments off his £1,700 and final sum of about £10,000 worth of benefits, he will get £50 more in his pocket!
But Tyne shipyard workers refuse to bow to the government

NORMAN LAFFEY, Engineering Union convenor, Swan Hunter

The Polish order is not the main issue. It is being used as a stick to bash the workforce. Thereal problem for the employer is the overtime ban, because it means that the yards are blocked up. There are four ships sailing without cranes. These jobs cannot take place unless the overtime ban is fulfilled.

This puts the fitters in a far stronger position than is realised. They will not be blackballed by the Polish order. The press have also played up the division between ourselves and the boiler-makers. It is a tactic to divide the fitters from the rest of the workforce. They are working overtime. We need to find a way of achieving unity with the boilermakers. We need agreement with them on a basic wage and then allowances for the different types of jobs.

I have the full support of the fitters. They are just as angry for the government and the men. However, I think we can win. Of course the other yards must back the ships. I'll go down to Scophy Dock on Tyneside if necessary to try and stop them agreeing to work on the ships.

DAVE HANSON, chairman

SHIPYARD workers in Tyneside, taking home less wages than the firemen, are bearing the burden of government blackmail.

This is the only conclusion that can be drawn from the Polish order. The Polish ships contract was withdrawn from Swan Hunters after the outitters refused to lift their overtime ban.

But it is not just the overtime ban. The government are using the Polish contract to try to shatter trade union organisation in Britain's shipyards.

Unbelievably they now find one of the leaders of the great Upper Clyde Shipbuilders' sit-in of 1971, Jimmy Airdie, ranged against the Tyne. In an act of uncharacteristic treachery, he and the shop stewards at Gowan Shipbuilders have agreed to accept the Polish order into their shipyard for Swan Hunter.

Below, workers from Swan Hunter tell how the blend of dreadful working conditions and pathetic wages provoked them to take action.

However, I think we can win. Of course the other yards must back the ships. I'll go down to Scophy Dock on Tyneside if necessary to try and stop them agreeing to work on the ships.

DAVE HANSON, chairman

BLACK THESE SHIPORDERS NOW!

by PETER PORIEUX, ETUPU shop steward, Yarrow Shipyard Clyde (in a personal capacity).

HALF-TIME SIGNAL

Shipyard workers & Government Redundancy Team (shown by James Airdie).

The Polish order is the final insult to the workers. The trade union leaders have failed to live up to the Labour Government's promise to nationalise shipbuilding.

The Tyneside workers have taken a courageous stand and deserve all the support we can give.

There is another matter that should be probed. Would it not be good if we knew what the Polish shipyard workers think about it?

They have been on strike for the reinstatement of workers who took part in the 1978 strike.

Meanwhile, the ships that should have been placed on Tyneside should be blacked. We must not allow overtime to be compulsory on a condition of work.

STATE CONTROL: A LESSON FROM POLAND

by HARRY MCSHANE, one-time secretary, Scottish Unemployed Workers Movement, in the 1930s

WHAT would the shipyard workers in Poland think if I permitted to know the facts about what is happening here as it is the order for ships placed by the Polish government?

These men are more aware than most state control of the conditions of labour, but we are beginning to learn.

The efforts of the British government, helped by trade union leaders, to defeat the shipyard workers are more than a threat to their lives. What happened there must have shown every worker.

The government did not send out troops to defeat the workers, as happened in Poland some years ago, but this was different. When the shipyard workers there went on strike the workers were shot.

The fear of massacre was enough to make the workers fight the strike.

Reportedly could be pointed to for a year now that Poland wanted 14 ships built in Britain, but orders would only be placed in yards where the workers accepted the government's 'guidelines' on wages and other conditions.

It is too late for the workers to win. Only the workers can win in a struggle of this nature.
Marxism made EASY
by Chris Hargham

Salisbury, Rhodesia: 'The white man's burden'.

We have the happiest Africans in the world.' Ian Smith, Rhodesian Prime Minister.

Will your name be in the computer?

The Home Office is giving the Special Branch some £135,000 to spend on a new computer. Into this machine they will feed the names of political activists.

According to research carried out by State Research, they have some 600,000 people on file. The computer has a capacity of 1,300,000.

In the late 1940s there were between 100 and 150 Special Branch officers. In 1966 there were 100. Today there are 250 in London alone, and another 500 plus outside London, says State Research.

The ordinary local police are under police standing orders to inform the Special Branch of all known political and in-
dustrial meetings and demonstrations. Local councils are excluded but not much else.

The Special Branch provides shorthand writers for some of these meetings and generates reports on it as of others. Local police are expected to report on meetings and demonstrations not covered by the Special Branch.

If anyone is arrested on a political demonstration, picket line or similar activity, local police are expected to check with Special Branch whether or not they are on its list. These files do not refer to past criminal charges, but to political activities.

In America a computer can tell houses which are the 'high risk' militant states. Information including results of trade union elections is fed into the computer in Chicago and is used by companies deciding on the best areas for expansion, where unions can be avoided.

The most anti-social states are Florida and North Carolina.

Shorth the break down will be available county by county.

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TROOPS SENT AGAINST MINERS IN RUMANIA

MANY PEOPLE on the left have been stunned by the latest round of the fascist party in Rumania. The Tresnische power workers over the contract negotiations of the Polish government with our own local government in black and white, the Tresnice shipyard, workers and are able to strike at the moment. It is not only British workers who find themselves crushed by Eastern European governments.

In recent weeks, workers have been coming out of the Union Valley to protest against the closure of the Union Valley colliery. The miners have had a long strike and the police are under considerable pressure.

GRAB

The miners were arrested for work and jack-ass. Not only could they not disperse the strikers by means of their horses, but the miners grabbed two miners, serious and Peasants, and arrested them saying they should not be fed. The miners carried them to the police station and were let go after 35,000 miners in the yard of the 2nd open mine.

The miners had a lot of support on the local police, the regular police and even the police on strike.

JUGE

Not only the miners are angry. According to the New York Times report, "For two weeks things did improve. There was more and better food and clothing than the troops came."

Thousands of troops occupied the valley, large numbers of plate-cutters police were taken on the pit, as miners, and miners tickets were stolen.

Many were forcibly moved from the valleys with their families and dumped hundreds of miles away. For instance, Dobrat, the miner, who presented the workers demands to the government was arrested in Bucharest. The police and miners are now living in the valley and they are being beaten.

BERMUDA BEHIND THE BACKLASH

BRITISH colonialism is far from dead. Over the weekend the Labour government sent troops to the island of Bermuda to uphold the powers of the colonial governor.

Bermuda is an island in the Atlantic on the fringes of the Caribbean. The island has a population of 60,000, two-thirds black. It has been a colony, ruled from outside, for 300 years.

The ruling party in the island, the United Bermuda Party, in all-white party. At the last elections, three years ago, it brought in four white and three black. In the last elections, 30 per cent of the black population.

There are over 400 policemen in Bermuda, 80 per cent of them contracted ex-police from the United States. 20 per cent of Bermuda's judiciary is white.

Although the island has internal self-government, Britain maintains control over diplomatic affairs, police and army, and the civil service is 75 per cent British.

Haven

But it is not only the British ruling class that maintains an interest in Bermuda. The island's main source of income is from tourism. The Americans own, lock, stock and barrel, the beaches and the hotels. Americans and British multi-nationals pay $200 a year each to operate in this tax haven where they often have their head offices. It is said that many companies there have links with the racist regime of South Africa. In the colony, there is no unemployment insurance system and there is no complete unemployment. It is not what you want them that the young blacks, who are called by the colonial government, are there? The two that were hanged in the colonial government will be our countrymen.

The two that were hanged were said to be just plain criminals. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Killed

They were supporters of the Black Beret Cadre, a group formed under the impact of the Cuban revolution. At the moment, they are in the underground. They stand for life, not death, and in 1971.

The two blacks who were hanged had killed the colonial governor and a supermarket owner who was at the same time the Commissioner of Police. They were hanged by the government to teach the black population a lesson. The facts that came as news of the hangings show that it is the white colonial government that will be taught a lesson.

IS SOCIALISM POSSIBLE?

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IS SOCIALISM POSSIBLE?
GRUNWICKS: A reply to Police

POLICE, the journal of the Police Federation, carried a slanderous attack last July on the Socialist Workers Party. It was headed 'Foot, the Face in the Crowd', and ringed a picture of a demonstrator at Grunwick who was not Paul Foot at all.

Police have since apologised for their mistake, and, this month, they print in full a reply from Paul Foot. Here it is:

In The July issue of Police, you printed a ridiculous attack on the Socialist Workers Party and on myself.

You pretend that the Socialist Workers Party tactics are a 'blend of provocation, provocation, incitement and plain thuggery'.

That is just silly abuse. I have been a member of the SWP and its forerunners, the International Communist.t's, for 15 years and I have been to hundreds of demonstrations, meetings and meetings in which there was no incitement, provocation, incitement or thuggery.

The vast bulk of our members' time is taken up in argument and organisation - against anti-union employers, against racism, for living standards and communities where the productive resources are owned and controlled by the working people.

Of course it's true that a lot of our members supported and still support the call of the strikers at Grunwick for a picket if possible to prevent blackbusters from going into the factory.

Useless

What would your members have done in such a situation?

You are trying quite rightly, to free your union from government regulations which make it difficult to engage in campaigns to get a free trade union and the right to strike for the police.

But because you know that any trade union organisation is useless unless it has the right to strike, and so

£11,194

It is not easy, not all landlords are as generous as yours.

So far we have tried to rent, buy or let a dozen places, each to no avail.

Or necessity we have been forced to spend some of our fund on the campaign against the Nazis, in Hyde and Stockport. Recently we have spent funds in support of the Finigan campaign.

This, added to the repair work carried out at Cottons Gardens, means that we are approaching our £12,000 target by Christmas.

If we are to have any chance of finding a new home, Christmas is a good time for fund-raising. Raffles, parties, sales, bazaars, parties are all good places to raise money.

We need to raise this money before Christmas because we all know what happens after we're skin.

Donations and collections please to SW Fund, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

Thank this week to:

Kris, Bournemouth
Paul, Barnsley
Diana, Worthing
Barry, Wimbledon
Alan O'Doherty
Roger, Leeds
Mash, Worthing
South Yorks CIWA
Atlee, Liverpool
A. Scott, Sheffield

The only human thing to do to save our sanity, before we throw ourselves off the balcony, is to get out of here - anonymously.

To ease the depression I've had this year, I take three weeks off and don't see anyone.

Without them, I don't know how to cope.

The Hulme Crisis Report

The Hulme Crisis Report was written by the Hulme People's Right Centre co-ordinator, Peter Thompson. It is a small office in a ground-floor flat and you are the only group of work to understand, to control, to communicate, to make decisions, to inform, to mobilise, to organise, to publish, to distribute, to campaign, to campaign, to campaign, to campaign.

Peter Thompson described the methods of his team of co-workers how the centre tried to restore people's confidence by treating them as human beings rather than statistics.

'So we were perhaps a little surprised to hear that the centre has been closed by the government, even more surprising was the information that it is to get no more cash. It has also been served with an eviction notice by the council.

For many, the centre is the only source of direct help, the only place their problems will be dealt with professionally.

The only human thing to do to save our sanity, before we throw ourselves off the balcony, is to get out of here - anonymously.

I feel the whole area is a prison, that's one reason why I get along with people who want me growing up in prison.

To ease the depression I've had this year, I take three weeks off and don't see anyone.

Without them, I don't know how to cope.
This is Hulme: Where children grow up in prison

PRISON... that's what Hulme is to the people who exist there, trapped like battery hens in high density maisonettes and flats.

Here, people have no privacy because the walls are paper thin. If you are old, disabled or have young children, you have to struggle up and down stairs because the lifts don't work. You have to walk along rubbish-drown decks, because the refuse chutes don't work either.

Children have nowhere to play, except on the ground above paths, risking a fall up to six storeys... or near Manchester's urban motorway, where they face even greater dangers.

The maisonettes and flats are all electric: Bills are astronomical and cut-offs a parity of everyday life because tenants can't pay the bills of as much as £100 a quarter.

Drugs is life. Vermin, too, are common. By building inner walls of 'Stramit', a compressed straw material, bugs have been given ample and luxurious accommodation by the council, which is more than can be for the tenants.

Repairs are constantly needed.

The annual cost of maintenance in these cardboard boxes that masquerade as homes is one and a half times the original building cost.

Social amenities are appalling. If you want to get out for an hour or two, you have a few pubs, two clubs, about nine churches, two betting shops, a large bingo hall and a cinema to choose from.

There is a library, but moves have been made to take that away. There is no community centre.

In the words of a report, recently published by the Hulme People's Rights Centre, it represents the worst example of modern inner city deprivation and inner city development.

Public attention

The report has brought to public attention issues which have concerned local people since the estate was built seven years ago.

It has also brought the vultures of the Tory press on flying visits to the area. But after they have gone, life will still be a nightmare in this 20th century slum.

Thanks to the way Manchester City Council has actually built a ghetto here, Hulme has the highest incidence of broken homes, mental breakdowns, children in care, vandalism, venereal and violent crime in Greater Manchester.

Unemployment is very high. So is poverty.

In the Crescents there are more than 900 dwellings, over half the tenants are on the dole or social security and over a third are single parent families.

Hulme is a social disaster area, a seeming monument to the sheer incompetence of the faceless men who 'plan' the lives of working people.

Living there you are: Seven times more likely to commit suicide and 41 times more likely to be murdered than anywhere else in Britain, excluding army-occupied Northern Ireland. This year alone there have been five murders on the Hulme Estate.

No wonder the tenants regard Hulme as a prison.

No wonder 9000 people want to get out immediately.

No wonder local doctors prescribe 250,000 tranquillisers a month... and no wonder one person in two on the estate is having to swallow them!

The rubbish chutes don't work either...

what would happen.

Granville Campbell

somewhere to live. But this is worse than the previous house.

They have two children under five and have requested housing many times. They got an offer to move more to the Crescents. These flats are like cages. If there is vandalism and violence, it's because of unemployment and the frustration it produces.

LLOYD and LINDA BELL have been in Hulme for only a few months. "We went for a look last week, but when we told them we live in Hulme they checked our address to see if it was blacklisted or not."

"It seemed OK on Thursday, but on Friday they didn't send the television because our address is blacklisted! The shop is local. If they won't serve us, who else do they expect to use the shop?"

Lloyd said he thought the estate was built wrong: "People are too chilled out, but I'd rather live here than in the Crescents."

"If you moved too many people here would be the same. The buildings can't support it."

"I don't think the whole place was knocked down. Hulme would still have a bad name."

She is expecting a baby and praying that it's a girl so that she can be rehoused. There's Clifton here and they can't make us bring up a boy and a girl in the same room.

ANITA LAWRENCE took us to her house. It's in a block, no windows, and she said it's a paradise in a psychiatric sense.

"The doors that hold this place together wouldn't let me in. You have to knock and stand with a lot of pressure on the door to get in."

Their work undone.

"I have treatment for depression. People talk in different ways. Quite a number become aggressive and violent when they've lived up here for a long period. Men who aren't basically violent and end up taking it out on the women and children."

You even find women getting pregnant in each other's bedrooms. Go out shopping and someone rams you, so you have to watch the doors. You can't go to the cinema because you've done to deserve it.

"Nobody will jump on the top one day and that happens there will be no use to the Town Hall saying afterwards. We had it in mind. We were going to rebuff you next week."

ANITA did not rebuff us, but her daughter, DELLA, is less fortunate. She has a 15-year-old son, KIRK, who is separated from her because he has a morose disquiet in his legs and can't always climb the stairs.

The strain of life in the Crescents has led her to attempt suicide twice.

She told us: "It's got unbearable. You cannot get anything done. I've been planning for a year about Kirt's room being damp. The bathroom ceiling is black with damp."

"I asked the council to deal with it. I'm still waiting. But no wonder, when they eat the termites all the time."

LEWIS WOMERSLEY doesn't live in Hulme. He lives in an elegantly-decorated house overlooking Lake Withington. He described Hulme.

He ranted to us about what is happening to Hulme is this. The development was planned with a better class of person in mind... it could even now become a shophouse if only the tenants were determined to look after it.

When life don't work, there's only the stairs.
Scotland

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

1. Bend details of meetings and notices to reach us by first post Monday before publication, to What's On, Socialist Worker, PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.

December issue of What's On, Socialist Worker, PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.

ឈុតុវិម្រើណីចុងក្រោយស្តែងក្នុងពីរមួយសប្តាហ៍ដើម្បីរួមជាងអ្នកទាំងអស់នាយកដ្ឋានទូទៅរបស់ធម្មតា។

Womens Voice out now!

Children's books, reviewed by children, our first short story, the Virgin birth; news; reviews; and much more.

Copies available from Women's Voice, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2, 2p including postage, or from your Socialist Worker seller.

SWP branches should collect their copies from the stations this week.

WHY RUSSIA ISN'T SOCIALIST

Socialist Worker Recordings produces quantities of meetings, discussions, and debates on political subjects relevant to the struggle for socialism.

Our list includes:

1. CHILDE: A documentary, in sound, dramatic and realistic, under the direction of the leading actor who plays the lead. Presented in 6 episodes, from £3.50. (Available from PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.)

FASCIST MOVEMENT IN BRITAIN by Robert Benewick. Most complete record of pre-war Fascism. Price £2.50 (Available from PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.)


CENTRAL LONDON Socialists Workers Party Public meetings. What's On, Socialist Worker, PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.


SW Notices

1. BURGESS HILL Socialist Workers Party public meeting. Please come and support the party in this important seat. Details from PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.

2. SOUTHAMPTON Socialist Workers Party public meeting. Please come and support the party in this important seat. Details from PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.

3. STANFORD-ON-THE-HILL Socialist Workers Party public meeting. Please come and support the party in this important seat. Details from PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.

4. BOWES Lilian Wills. Socialism conference. Please come and support the party in this important seat. Details from PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.

5. LUTON Socialist Workers Party public meeting. Please come and support the party in this important seat. Details from PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.

6. LONDON Socialist Workers Party public meeting. Please come and support the party in this important seat. Details from PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.

7. LOUTH Socialist Workers Party public meeting. Please come and support the party in this important seat. Details from PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.

8. CAMBRIDGE Socialist Workers Party public meeting. Please come and support the party in this important seat. Details from PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.

9. LEICESTER Socialist Workers Party public meeting. Please come and support the party in this important seat. Details from PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.

10. DERBY Socialist Workers Party public meeting. Please come and support the party in this important seat. Details from PO Box 82, London E2 8DS.
**Strawberry Songbook**

*Strawberry Songbook* was a 1978 compilation by The Beatles, released as a double album. It featured songs from their solo careers and collaborations.

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**Public Opinion**

Public opinion has been increasingly influential in recent years. Politicians and leaders often rely on polls and public sentiment to shape their policies and strategies. This has led to a greater focus on public opinion research and its impact on governance.

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**Conspiracy? No, it's only Official Secrets**

The official secrets act in the UK governs the protection of sensitive information. However, there are concerns about its potential impact on freedom of information and the press, and its role in maintaining secrecy about government activities.

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**Television by Ossie Lewis**

Ossie Lewis, a British journalist, writes about the government's censorship practices and the limitations they place on the press and public information access. He discusses the government's efforts to control and shape the narrative of news and events.

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**Emblitter**

Emblitter is a fictional term used in the context of this document. It could be a playful or satirical reference, perhaps indicating a critical view of the manner in which public opinion is shaped or manipulated by political and media forces.
Russia ripe for change?

SOVIET workers have no say in what is produced, how production takes place or over what the fruits of production are distributed. Workers cannot buy a car, a house or anything else in the Soviet Union.

The costs of housing and food are part of the worker's salary; this is being reasserted under the new economic reform, which is being carried out in Russia.

Russia is rich in a stark warning to those who expect state planning to solve the problems of a state-operated economy. Socialism can only be built from the consciousness of the working class themselves.

D. Gregory, Middlebrough.

Is Russia socialist?

LEF ME advise, "Two Peasants' Report," SW 26 November, 1917, of how the report was apprehended through the streets. Is not the present report, if distributed and not really?

Don't fall into the trap of thinking you are being anti-Communist. Most of the criticisms of Soviet Russia are based on a return to the pre-revolutionary way of life and even as you possibly can. As a "Some Communist Party member, I am assiduous about how helpful this can be. What you say about the social services in the Soviet Union is true, but only on the surface.

Afford

The list below, and the different, are those who have higher salaries than I do. They are able to afford better housing, in better districts. These districts all have their own schools. Since the

Hardly a working class vision

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So this is

CHRISTIAN?

At the end of August, my wife and Iare on our way to Jordan where we will be away for 5 days. We have been given a very warm welcome in Jordan and we are looking forward to our stay there.

In our family, we are Christians and we believe the Bible is the word of God. We are looking forward to our stay there and to see what God has in store for us.

Bill Conner, London UK
TOWARDS the end of the last century, my grandparents fled from Russia and Poland. They were among the millions of Jewish workers being forced into exile by the terrible repression that was being conducted by the Tsarist government. Although many Jews were able to stay and fight against the Tsar during the revolution, many of the Jewish socialists, millionials took the long road towards America and Western Europe. At the same time, a few thousand of those fleeing from Poland and Russia, together with a handful of Jewish people from the West, were heading towards another country—Palestine. These refugees believed they had a solution to their tragedies that had befallen the Jews. They wanted to show the world that to keep Jews from being Jewish they wanted a country where everyone would be Jewish. They called themsevles Zionists.

IGNORED WARNING

It was an understandable reaction by millions of frightened Jewish poor. But they ignored the warnings from socialism.

Socialists said that the anti-Semitic, like all racist attacks, divided worker from worker. The unemployed, supported—and often even manufactured—this anti-Semitism in order to exploit the labour movement. Zionism, they warned the Zionists that fleeing to an all-Jewish country would not only drive off the Jewish workers from working with other workers in the rest of the world, it meant the Jewish state would not be a welfare state. It was to be financed and run by Jewish workers, workers elsewhere such as in Russia. The Jewish workers would have to work in a struggle with the rest of the world.

These predictions have been proven correct. In 1948, a state of Israel, which was set up in 1948. Since that date, Jews in Israel have been harassed. Unfair trials of which there are many—prison sentences. Wages are held down.

Meanwhile prices are constantly forced up by huge devaluations of the Israeli pound. This month alone saw another devaluation by 33 per cent.

There's a joke in Israel that every time a soldier dies in the desert, there's a new millionaire in Tel Aviv. Such is the extent of war-profiteering.

But it wasn't only their own ruling class that Israel workers sold themselves to. They also made a deal with the world's main imperialist powers. The pogroms of the Jewish state was a simple story; the Zionist settlers—flushed land for themselves, but the needed powerful allies to get that land taken away from the Arabs.

At the beginning of the 20th century they turned to Britain, just as today they depend on America to ensure the existence of their state. Yet these powers were not going to give the Jews a state out of the goodness of their hearts, or guilt over anti-Semitism. The Jewish state had to offer something to the imperialists—it had to act as their agent in the Middle East. And time and again since 1948, Israel has acted for the imperialists. They have threatened war and even gone to war, in order to protect imperialist interests in Arab countries.

The Six Day War in 1967 is just one example, Israel, with Britain and France, invaded Egypt in an attempt to reclaim Western control of the Suez Canal.

SIMPLY EMOTIONAL

Jewish socialists, such as myself, are often accused of being anti-Semitic. Most of the time this is simply emotional blackmail. However, the point is that socialists are not only dedicated anti-racists but are also against the belief that just living in a country that is not one's own is a solution to anything. In fact, this racial exclusiveness has terrible consequences. In Israel, non-Jews do not have any place. This is because if people believe that in the Jewish state everyone has to be Jewish, even non-Jews have to be ignored.

Since the time of the first settlers in the last century, attempts were made to ignore completely the non-Jews, especially the native Arabs. Exclusively Jewish communities were set up, social services and an administration only for Jews were established, even a trade union uniquely for Hebrew workers was formed.

All this went on in the Jewish community without any reference to the much larger Arab community which surrounded it. But it is difficult to treat neighbours as ghosts. So the settlers said that if they couldn't ignore them, then they had to remove them.

Theodor Herzl, who wrote one of the first books on Zionism, planned to 'gently' remove the Arab peasants from their land. Arab land was to be bought over the heads of the occupiers. The landless peasants were then dented work by the settlers and they were forced into exile. But 'gently' expulsion had its limits. Millions of Arabs remained.

By the end of the war which followed the founding of the state of Israel in 1948, Zionist policy had changed to forced expulsion. Over one million Palestinian Arabs found themselves outside Israel's borders and in refugee camps. And still the settlers were not free of the Arabs—there were hundreds of thousands of Arab who remained. The Zionists turned to revenge.

For almost 30 years, Arabs in Israel have been repressed. They mostly live under military control. They are under constant night curfew, unable to move home, unable to travel. They are barred from higher education and many skilled jobs. They are forbidden from forming their own independent political parties.

Repression breeds yet more repression because there are always those who will fight back. The penalties for Arabs opposing the Zionist state are enormous. They will be blacklisted from jobs, they may be moved away from home or even, as is known, driven over the border, their homes or their whole villages may be bulldozed to the ground.

At worst, dissenting Arabs will be insulted and tortured. The cases of torture are too many and too well-documented to be questioned.

ULTIMATE WEAPON

In the end, Zionism has to resort to its ultimate weapon to maintain itself—indiscriminate massacre. When Israel does not carry out these murderous attacks with its own weapons, as in Lebanon this month with the aid of a hacks from the USA.

It is the ultimate irony for Zionism that it has helped Lebanese fascists to destroy Palestinian refugee camps. By the end of July 1982 all this for socialists Jewish or non-Jewish. Why should the Israeli regime be treated any differently to any other murderous regimes in the world? In action, Israel behaves with a brutality comparable to Chile or South Africa. Perhaps a war to destroy Israel differently the opposite of the war against the oppression.

My war is on.

At the same time socialists should do what the Zionists can never do—fight anti-Semitism in every form... whether it's racist jokes on the ship or racist jeans in the fascist organisations."

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**CAN ISRAEL BE A RACIST STATE?**

**WHAT attitude should socialists take to Israel?**

Most of the left in Britain are sympathetic to Israel, even though they pay lip service to the principle of self-determination of Palestinian refugees driven from their homes by the Israelis.

The latest Socialist Worker article by Patrick Pamphlet, titled a letter to the editor, notes that these questions. It explains how Zionism came about and how the Zionist organisations and migration into Palestine, with the foundation of the state of Israel, the war at 1948, 1967 and 1973, then discusses what happens to the Arab in Israel today, and why the socialist position towards Israel that there is no place for the Arab in Israel. The letter ends with a call to the socialist position in the world towards Israel that there is no place for the Arab in Israel.

The letter states that the Zionist movement in the world is a minority and that the majority of the world’s population is against Zionism. It also states that the Israeli army is a criminal force that is committing war crimes against the Palestinian people.

The letter ends with a call to the socialist position in the world towards Israel that there is no place for the Arab in Israel. The letter concludes that the socialist position in the world towards Israel is a minority and that the majority of the world’s population is against Zionism. It also states that the Israeli army is a criminal force that is committing war crimes against the Palestinian people.

**LIST A**

Conquered City, by Victor Serge

A novel of the origins of Russia in 1919, when the world was changed from the Tsarist regime to the first socialist state. A story of revolution and counter-revolution in a society on the brink of destruction.

**LIST B**

No Mean Fighter, by Harry Shapira

The story of the fighting of the white South Africans and the black South Africans in the country.

**LIST C**

Unemployed Struggles, by W.E. Hocking.

The story of the struggles of the unemployed people in the country.

I wish to join the Bookmarx Club and encourage £6.

NAME

ADDRESS

Send to Bookmarx Club, 267 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.
KILLED-BECAUSE OF RACIST LAWS

BRITAIN's racist immigration laws claimed another victim on Sunday: Edmund Asley, from Chingford in East London.

Like thousands of other poor and desperate people, Edmund was an illegal immigrant to Britain. That is, he came to this country from Ghana because that was the only way to get enough food for himself and his wife and children.

Police go missing as Nazis attack socialists

by TED PARKER

ART the police in Lewisham in direct collusion with the Nazi Front?

This kind of assertion is sometimes rightly made by sections. But evidence of police activity in Lewisham during the past fortnight gives the question a chilling reality.

The National Front have been active in Lewisham for some time, and there has been a constant stream of complaints from local residents about their activities. So far, only a few of these have been investigated by the police. But last Saturday, when the NF went on the attack, the police were missing.

None of the 11 NF leaflets were delivered to the post office, and the police no longer went on the beat.

The Bid to burn bookshop

AN ATTEMPT was made last Sunday night to set fire to the Trade Union and Socialist Bookshop.

Despite these attempts, the shop remained open. But the damage was considerable, and the police were unable to prevent any further incidents.

The police have been very active in the area, but have not been able to prevent any further incidents.

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Hospital battle at Bethnal Green

EAST LONDON. Hundreds of hospital beds will be axed in the East End if the Area Health Authority gets its way.

The authority plans to turn the Bethnal Green Hospital into a geriatric unit and use the site for its own dormitory. The hospital has been gradually run down for several years and is one of the major departments from which it was carved up during the typhoid epidemic in 1973.

However, the "dormitory conversion" plan, while virtually certain to be approved — has already been pressed to the area committee.

A Public Employees Union shop stewards and members have written to the authority, claiming that other equipment has been taken out of the staff's offices.

We're not having anything else stolen, said John Good. NUPE told us to stop any of the loading but this affair has been blown out of all proportion.

Collected

Hospital staff and other landmarks and landmarks are crucial to keep the Bethnal Green Greeninks. Last week had already had a public meeting attended by NUPE from the floor.

But any meeting between the East END health service will Mostly NUPE leaders anyway says that it will hold the Basel and Bethnal Green plays staying once the emergency number of beds in the area has been reduced.

NUPE: Vote No to 10%

do BY JOHN BLAKE

The government makes its land any other occupation items workers on the next Friday. We've had an extra, but the government will be working an extra 6.7 per cent or about 6 2 a week.

NUPE is battling all its branches on the other from Tuesday onwards. We have no choice but to vote yes.

But at least we won't make NUPE president Alan Fitch and NUPE Medical Workmen's Union, GMWU, CONSI, and Asle share the ballot without a ballot. Even though NUPE and the NUPE Medical Workmen's Union are still overreduced on the white collar workmen in an escape to settle.

But we can and we should. NUPE can do it.

The last time they had their executive a hand and foot by installing an template and made a trip to a recall conference. We can do the same thing by installing an template and making them to a recall conference. We can vote to make this a template.

A special Hospital Management team comes out this week on the ancillary workers' claims. It needs to get into every Hospital Management team statement starts on 13 December. 205 737 9966.

Central London: One of the first steps has been to have the Metropolitan Hotel. It was someone who was living in the management living during his time. He's been criticized for his previous work, and this has led to the desire to change the strike. The driver is still holding out for a long strike minimum wage after nine long stages.

Some of the strikers have retained to work because of the refusal of full-time officials of their union, the General, and Municipal, to support the strike.

Another problem has come from workers in other hotel groups in London accepting offers below the £80 per week.

But inside the Metropolitan area, the management was not willing to make many minor concessions. More important, the strike has provided a focus for many other hotels and catering workers fed up with the utterly apalling wages. They have recently been in trouble and are still working for the same union.

EYES

By MIKE DUGGAN

CPA branch secretary, Driss. South West London

In the executive's intentions for the week of action, however, local area committees felt that 24 hour strikes were the least they should be doing.

In London alone 24,000 civil servants were on strike for a day. 600 of them, including a rally and among other things gave out a refuse cart was loaded by a driver from Fitzpatrick in a standing ovation.

The rally called for bigger strike action for the beginning of the year.

Department of Health and Social Security offices were closed down all over the country for at least one day. In South Wakes the Driving Licence Vehicle Centre had to close when 3300 of 3900 walked out.

A special meeting was called to call a national call out strike action. We can do it.
Protest against army torture grows

by EAMONN McCANN

THE VITAL part that torture plays in British government operations in Ireland became even clearer last week.

On Saturday the leaders of the four main churches in Northern Ireland became the latest group to speak publicly about the savagery regularly meted out to people detained in Royal Ulster Constabulary barracks.

Choosing their words carefully, the Catholic Church, the Church of Ireland archbishops, the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church and the president of the Methodist Council issued a joint statement—in itself a rare event—saying that they were 'concerned about the allegations' that torture cases are being given a false trial.

By appearing in court he said, 'It is helping to create the illusion that defamation breaches are being given a false trial.'

The taking of 20 solicitors—Catholic and Protestant—will hold a joint meeting in Belfast to decide whether to follow the same line.

And among those who last weekend gave evidence of torture in British prisons from Amnesty International investigating the allegations was an actual member of the Northern Ireland police authority.

Bitten

Jack Hassard, a Protestant and an ex-RUC Special, detailed the case of Tyrone man Jim Ballantine who the beaten to a pulp in an RUC station last year.

But he is not surprised to the fact, a brief allegations of RUC torture.

The RUC's irregularities over the recent days and its inability to explain how its police force can be seen as the body that can be 'fully satisfied' with the RUC's behaviour.

Every battered body that comes out of an RUC station is an offering to police the Orange's unseeing eye that the ultra-right can eventually be fully pacified and the Catholic, by the same token, can be fully docile.

Mention will be made to the fact that the RUC, under its own admission, is deeply bigoted against some of the nationalist people of the North.

Machine

One problem in the fact that the methods are being is now anything to do with making that the RUC is being altered, that the police man is being exalted, that the police officer is being exalted.

Now that church and state, police, and so on, are the same machine, the police will be able to get away with it.

It is not too much to hope for a sort of 'Fair to All' Community, but it is not something that we think it would make the change in the Irish Parliament.

Terror Act: Nurse held

STUDENT nurse Mairead McLeary, aged 19, who works at Dudley Road Hospital in Birmingham, was arrested on Sunday night by the Special Branch on the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

She was being held on suspicion of a £2,500 holiday with a man from Dublin, on Tuesday afternoon.

Socialist Worker were informed that the man was from Cork.

Kork Carlig, of the Birmingham Committee of the Movement for a Freer Ireland, has told the Socialist Party that they should take up the question at the national level.

LEGALISED TERROR - a Press release from the Prevention of Terrorism Act

The Socialist Worker, 10 December 1977