



## OUT WITH CAPITALIST GOVERNMENT

IT IS BECOMING clear to all working people that the main issue in the forthcoming election is anti-trade unionism. There can be no cooperation between capitalist government and unions, as called for by the Labour manifesto, except that between master and slave.

The result of such cooperation would be exactly the same as the relationship between government and unions which the Tory Party hopes to produce by bringing the unions under the law - laws enacted by the identical capitalist ruling class.

For centuries, ever since workers formed themselves into unions to protect themselves from capitalism's excesses, the actions of successive governments have been nothing more or less than reactions to the organised working class. Anti-trade union laws from the Combination Acts to the Industrial Relations Act and anti-trade union policies from early wage-fixing to the recent Guidelines have been brought about in the same way as ameliorative reforms - by the increasing struggle of the working class.

The search for profit of early capitalism brought appalling conditions, bad housing, lack of sanitation, poverty, unemployment and general degradation. The search for profit of capitalism in its present decline brings about bad housing, pollution on a massive scale, unemployment, the destruction of Britain's industrial base and general degradation.

How can workers vote in the election of an anti-trade unionist government committed in the name of profit to the destruction of Britain?

## Teachers' conference to decide salaries, class-size and future of schools

DELEGATES to the NUT annual Conference assembling at Scarborough this Easter face two main issues - salaries and falling rolls.

The teachers' struggle for an improved salary is central to the fight to defend education. For without an adequate salary the profession will be unable to attract the best entrants or to retain its experienced teachers.

Teachers' salaries have been eroded by 36.5 per cent, hence their present claim. They have been offered 9 per cent and half of whatever figure a comparability commission comes up with for next April. The teachers have been slow in coming forward to support their claim and teachers in England and Wales have sat by and watched the Scottish teachers take action.

Anger is now building up amongst teachers and if they are to reply effectively to the employers' latest offer then mass action will be needed. The greatest danger to teach-

ers is that they may accept phasing (promises of jam tomorrow) which will weaken their ability to fight next year. Teachers must fight for what they can achieve this year and not make deals today that will be detrimental to next year's battle. Teachers have come a long way from acceptance of government incomes policy and insisted that bargaining on salaries should remain firmly within the traditional relations of employers and employees on the Burnham Committee, without any external interference.

For the future, delegates will have the opportunity to decide on a unifying common percentage increase in salaries for 1980-81 and make clear the union's intolerance of outside restraint.

Voting top of the agenda a motion calling for no class to be larger than 25, shows the concern of the profession for this issue. Agreement to this would signal a major advance not only for education but for



Civil servants picketing Ministry of Defence establishments - Woolwich Arsenal on April 2  
Photo: THE WORKER

## Civil Servants unite in action disregarding general election

MONDAY 2nd April saw an historic day in the British trade union movement. In response to a call from all of their unions nearly half a million civil servants went on strike. United in action for the first time they treated with scorn the hasty 2 per cent improvement on the original derisory offer.

Backed by this show of strength negotiations are proceeding, election or not. Despite their inexperience and widely differing levels of awareness civil servants have demonstrated sufficient tactical ability and unity to severely embarrass the government and the class it represents.

Whatever happens in the future the present dispute will have a permanent effect on

the country's future. Every teacher and parent recognises the benefits to be reaped from increased individual attention that reduced class size would bring. A few years ago there was a shortage of teachers and thus reduced class size seemed a far off dream but now we have 60,000 unemployed teachers reduced class size could be reality.

This is equally the central issue concerning the falling number of children of school age. Falling rolls must mean smaller classes not fewer schools. More and more branches of the Union are declaring their opposition to school closure and supporting the retention of all schools large and small. This issue is central both in inner city and rural schools. In Inner London, North London and Hackney Associations are the most recent to support this line. Those who advocate that the smaller schools should close are isolating themselves from the mass of teachers and parents. The curriculum that a school can offer depends not

the attitude of the workers involved and their appreciation of the class to which they belong.

The government tried to head off the action by a late offer of 9 per cent and attempted to isolate the two main unions by playing on the relative weakness of the others. Both ploys were swept aside by the united response and clarity of the membership.

The government has not yet improved upon its offer described as 'final', but made in the knowledge that settlements cannot be imposed anymore.

Further prevarication by the government will be met with hardening attitudes throughout the unions and solid resistance from those

on the number of pupils but on the number of teachers and the resources provided to do the job. In order to realise the educational opportunities of falling rolls, Conference must oppose the closure of schools because of falling rolls and vote for the balanced reduction of school rolls within an area, and for the retention of all the teachers within their schools with the consequent reduction in class size.

Only in this way can the quality of education be defended and improved. And these policies must be fought for regardless of which government may be in power.

**Celebrate  
International Workers Day  
The CPBML will be holding  
meetings nationwide under  
the slogan:  
'No Peace With Capitalism  
One Solution Revolution'  
Full details page 4**

on strike. This is one section of the class that has not sacrificed its legitimate trade union interest for the re-election of a Labour Government.

Whatever the extent of their victory, civil servants have already shown to the rest of the class that comparability offers no way out of struggle. In doing so they have discovered their own considerable strength. It is this strength in action which must be used to exploit the present problems of their employer and which may well alter the future relations between civil service unions and bring sharply into question the wisdom of Pay Research as a basis for pay bargaining.

## United students can have power

THE FORTHCOMING National Union of Students conference sees student activity on the important issues of grants and the right to education at its lowest level for many years. The Conference will debate a new constitution whose acceptance or non-acceptance will have far reaching effects on the national union. Students have experienced a period of living with the social contract, of leaving it up to the executive committee in London to negotiate for us instead of actively campaigning for a better education system in which everyone has the opportunity to be educated.

Now is the time to recognise our responsibilities. The responsibility of fighting for grants and against cuts and the feeling that mere students are powerless against the might of government pose questions which place the national union at a crossroads. The organised working class has



Students Cont. from p1

shown how a well-organised and disciplined fight can be won by smashing through the guidelines and winning their claim in full. It was very much an ideological victory. We must follow their example in fighting for our wages - grants - and making sure all students are treated equally and fairly.

The announcement of a basic grant of £1240 for next year (not even as much as our grants claim for this year) shows the result of accepting the divide and rule policies of prioritising one or other section of the grants campaign. There is only one way forward and that is to demand 'full grants for all full time students' and to reject ideas of concentrating on discretionary awards or the means test which undermines the unity of the student movement.

The coming conference will debate the merits of the proposals of the Constitution Review Body (CRB). A number of dangerous proposals are present in the review. The CRB has tried to address itself to the issue of the lack of involvement by the membership in the union, obviously a question we should all be concerned with.

But the CRB inaccurately finds its answers in the style of union organisation rather than the non-involvement of the mass. Little debate around the review has taken place in the colleges and this could contribute to an acceptance of proposals which would severely restrict the democracy and campaigning activities in the colleges and nationally in the union.

The CRB claims that student representation should be based on the discipline studied, for example the sciences or languages, thus finding more in common between science students in a sixth form college and in a university than between students studying different subjects in the same college. This dodges the fact that change in educational provision can only come through struggle rather than 'convenient' groups to be represented in a board room.

A single institution is the only adequate basis, not just for the purposes of academic representation, but of forging the unity of students in a college who wish to fight over any issue, be it higher grants or more lecturers. And these issues are the things that affect students and are the key to student involvement in the union. Equally there can be no effective national campaign unless it is based on the activity and unity of students in their colleges. Without this, all national and local negotiations lack the necessary bite to be effective.

The question of involvement, as with the organisational aspects of the democratic forms which students choose for their union, is something that only they can find out for themselves and they will find out as they take up the main issues facing them.

The findings of the CRB, and the lack of involvement, go beyond the question of apathy, finding their roots in the fact that we have run away from the fight over grants and against cut-backs in education. This conference offers us a two-fold chance to dig our heels in - first to oppose and crush the attacks from within, and second to take up the fight for a full grant for all full-time students - opposing the Government and the attacks from without. Stand and fight is the real poser for the NUS this conference and for the future.

# Historic Notes Ireland Easter uprising of 1916

ON APRIL 24, 1916 at the beginning of Easter week, James Connolly led the Irish Citizen Army and the Irish Volunteers against British Imperialism. They marched through Dublin, took over key buildings and held the city valiantly for seven days, against a strong Dublin militia. In this Easter issue of THE WORKER we pay tribute to those workers and their leader James Connolly who fought to their deaths not for Ireland alone but for the working class of Europe.

The Irish Citizen Army was a proletarian army set up to defend their fellow workers during the 1913 Dublin lock-out. They fought again in 1916 against Imperialism and war. The Bolsheviks and the Russian people did the same the following year, turned war into civil war and made the greatest revolution the world had ever seen.

The idea of turning war into civil war was James Connolly's. As soon as it was evident that the 1914 war could not be prevented, Connolly's programme for Ireland had to be that of stopping it. He trained and drilled the Irish Citizen Army. He lectured them on street fighting and every week his paper carried descriptions of past rebellions and armed struggle. He wrote: "Starting thus Ireland may yet set the trend to a European conflagration that will not burn out until the last throne and the last capitalist bond and debenture will be shrivelled on the funeral pyre of the last war lord."

In Ireland the revolution to end the war had to take a nation-

al form, and for Connolly nationalism meant the rule of Ireland by the Irish working class.

The call to arms came with the words:

"We shall continue, in season and out of season, to teach that the far-flung battle line of England is weakest at the point nearest its heart, that Ireland is in that position of tactical advantage, that a defeat of England in India, Egypt, the Balkans or Flanders would not be so dangerous to the British Empire as any conflict of armed forces in Ireland, that the time for Ireland's battle is NOW, the place for Ireland's battle is HERE. That a strong man may deal lusty blows with his fists against a host of surrounding foes, and conquer, but will succumb if a child sticks a pin in his heart."

The rebellion of 1916 failed but the correctness of such a rebellion at such a time cannot be questioned. It was not the work of romantics or idealists. The battle lines had been drawn, Ireland was on the dissecting table and the war had already killed millions of workers.

Of course the rebellion contained those "nationalists" who were not for the working class; many were romantics, many were bourgeois. But social revolution is not like Armageddon where two armies face each other in straight lines - the one all good and the other all evil.

The rebellion failed through betrayal and failure to act. There was no party like the Bolshevik party in Ireland and no similar support. A civil war raged until



Sackville Street, Dublin, 1916, scene of fierce fighting 1921 when again rebellion was defeated and Ireland divided.

Much has happened since 1916. The British Government sent troops and 'black and tans' to murder 'rebels' in their beds in the years immediately following, and fifty years later sent them again but pretended they were something different.

James Connolly's idea to rebel close to the heart of British Imperialism was not lost on those who benefit from subjugating Ireland. A British Army occupies Ireland today knowing that a united Ireland would have

consequences reaching beyond Belfast across the Irish sea. Hence the Fascist laws that apply in both lands.

Our party wrote when the troops went into Ireland ten years ago:

"We call on British Workers to give solid support to the struggle of the Irish people for a United Ireland and an end to British rule. Their employers are our employers, their struggle our struggle. The class which sends the Army against Irish workers today will send it against British workers tomorrow."

## Workers in Bath pay more for less

BATH CITY COUNCIL, in a blatant attack on council house occupiers, has sent a letter to the 8000 odd tenants notifying them of increased rents and rates along with a do-it-yourself proposal for

Contractors of casual labour (the Manpower Services Commission's sponsored pool of cheap labour) now carry out repairs on the houses. To quote the Council: "We want tenants to feel that the council is making a good job of housing maintenance. Cuts in the Council's budget are largely responsible and tenants have to bear the brunt of the expense.

maintaining structure and keeping services up to scratch, leaving them to look after the rest. In the long term, tenants would benefit because the cost of maintenance is to come out of the housing revenue account and be covered by rent increases."

By fighting for better wages and more jobs, the council service unions could force the council and local government to think again. But it is up to the tenants to give the council the final notice to quit by giving a resounding "No" to any cuts which they themselves pay for.

## Homes, jobs, before any road

THE MERSEYSIDE County Council are planning to cut a swathe through the city of Liverpool with a six-lane Inner Ring Road. This is allegedly intended to "restore the economic well-being of Merseyside" by relieving blight caused by the wholesale destruction of large parts of the city in plans for an Inner Motorway in 1966. Those plans were defeated but have raised their ugly head in new form.

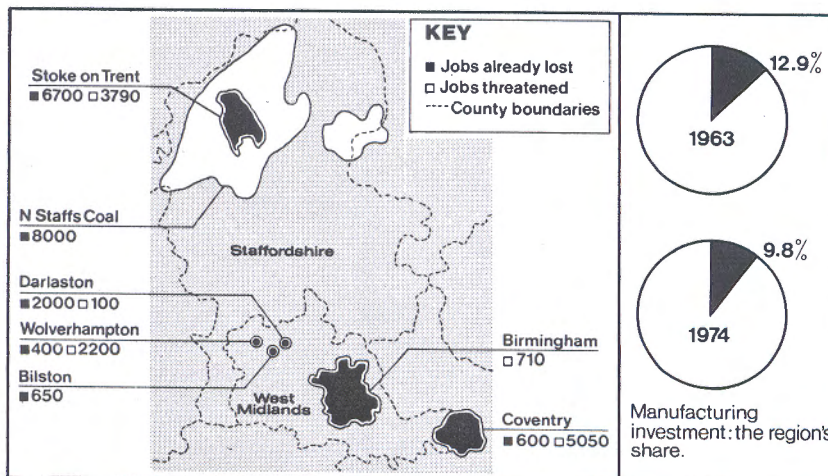
Published plans of the intended route show that the road will cut right through several residential

areas - effectively chopping them in half. These areas include Vauxhall, already largely destroyed by the roads leading to and from the Kingsway Tunnel under the Mersey, and part of 'Chinatown'. In their arrogance, the planners have demolished many buildings on their intended route before even inviting public comment on their plans. This process has been going on for years; large areas of the city are nothing more than vast open spaces, and derelict wastelands.

These spaces could be used for new housing which is desperately needed in Liverpool, at a far lower cost than the predicted £40 million of this unwanted road. (The £40 million does not include loan interest charges, which will be astronomical.) How can a road restore economic well-being to a city murdered by more than 26,000 job losses?

The motives of the County planners cannot be fathomed. Certainly, none of their stated reasons for the 'need' of the road are plausible. Only 7 per cent of the projected traffic on the Ring Road will be goods vehicles, the remaining 93 per cent will be private vehicles, largely commuter-traffic. To justify spending so much on a road for commuters, the road must be used. So public transport will suffer. The planners use the word 'affected' as a euphemism for cuts.

The plans put the cart before the horse. There is no proven need for such a road; the plans are unnecessary and illogical, and there is strong opposition to them in the area.



Industry in the West Midlands is being decimated at an astonishing rate. Between 1968 and 1978 15,700 jobs were lost and at the beginning of this year 1 in 14 were jobless.

Workers at Bilston, Eveready, and elsewhere have pledged to fight back against further cuts and the further destruction of their industry. We cannot permit the West Midlands to be turned from a workshop into a wasteland.



# Editorial

THE PRIMARY form of capitalist exploitation is the appropriation of surplus value by the employer of labour power at the point of production. Whatever the worker produces over and above the value of the goods keeping himself and his family alive, represented by his wages, the capitalist keeps as his profit.

Because this is the major form of class exploitation, the most important form of class struggle within the capitalist system takes place around the issue of wages. For this form of struggle the working class developed trade unions and, in furtherance of it, the working class has been waging its fight for collective bargaining against wage-fixing by fiat.

When capitalism can no longer afford this kind of class struggle, the fight for wages has to be turned by a politically conscious working class into a revolutionary struggle against capitalism itself.

But there are many forms of exploitation in capitalist society. In addition to the profits extracted from workers in the private sector of the economy, the burden of financing the public sector through taxation, all those industries which are necessary, but too unprofitable to attract investment, falls most heavily on the working class. Taxes are taken from the worker's pay which is, by and large, his only income. Avoidance is impossible. Tax avoidance by the wealthy capitalist is the rule rather than the exception, and the big corporations themselves, such as the profit-orientated legal system, pay only so much tax on profits as they are prepared to volunteer.

Workers are also exploited as consumers. The making and distribution of gim-crack products with built-in obsolescence, to say nothing of improperly tested objects which are harmful or dangerous, represents a further raid by the capitalist on the worker's wage packet. Keeping long-lasting light bulbs off the market, or any other new invention which might save the worker money, is just one of many forms of this kind of exploitation.

Inadequate provision of council houses keeps the price of housing high. Then further exploitation takes place when council houses paid out of the workers' taxes are sold back to them to maintain themselves, thus removing them from the public sector at the working class's expense.

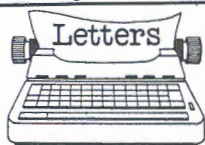
The whole capitalist society is like a giant company store where the worker is paid at one door and not allowed out of the other door till he has been relieved of his wages to pay for the company's products which he is forced to buy on the company's terms.

While workers in their trade unions are organised to fight against primary exploitation at the point of production, they are much less effectively organised as consumers. There are tenants' associations and advisory councils on the shoddy or dangerous products marketed by unscrupulous manufacturers. But all such bodies lack muscle. On several occasions when workers were on strike and the local authority has hiked rents, the workers have simply added that amount to their claim; and it may be that workers, more and more, will have to use their organisation for the struggle over wages to fight these forms of exploitation.

In a period of absolutely declining capitalism, in one area after another the fight over wages gets turned into a struggle to continue to have any wages at all. In an industry under threat of contraction or closure the withdrawal of labour power, the workers' main weapon of industrial action, ceases to be effective. Occupation of threatened sites, seizure of capital equipment which the employer wishes to dispose of, are forms of struggle that workers have developed in such situations.

While workers have long been able to prevent the dismissal of a workmate or a shop steward who has been acting on their behalf, the mass dismissal of workers resulting in millions of unemployed, which is the employers' ultimate assault on wages, is much more difficult to deal with. It is here that the working class needs to think much more deeply about tactics and relate them to the strategy of the fight against capitalism itself. The immediate aim must be to prevent the employing class from using mass unemployment to divide the working class into effectives and non-effectives as far as the possibility of joint action is concerned. One way we can do this is simply to ignore the distinction which the employer has drawn between employed and unemployed. Those still in work can take those who have lost their jobs to work with them. It makes perfect sense from our working class point of view that those who are out of work should be brought in to work sites to give a hand to those who are in work, and all the problems which arise from such action; questions of pay, accommodation and so forth, are not our problem. We did not create the situation.

The fight for collective bargaining has been one of the great successful campaigns of the organised working class. The fight for the right to work at all is an even more fundamental battle which, properly prosecuted by the whole working class, will shake to the foundations a system based on the employer's absolute right to hire and fire.



Dear Friends,  
In enclosing my small token - £1 of association with you, I wish to

express my accord with your policies as outlined in THE WORKER. The booklet by Enver Hoxha on Yugoslav Self Administration theory was informative and revealing. You have convinced me of the futility of voting. False friends are enemies, there is no real destination,  
Yours Sincerely,  
An 87 year old WORKER reader.



Chinese prisoners of war captured in Cao Bang during China's aggressive war against Vietnam. What a change from the time when China's liberation army represented a force for people's freedom!



## Gains and losses at Apex conference 1979

APEX has always cared far too much for the Labour Party and the continuance of the Callaghan administration. It was unfortunate then that the Apex Annual Conference and Rules Revision Conference should have to begin on March 30th, less than 36 hours after the Government's defeat in a no-confidence vote. At times it was like sitting through a four day party political broadcast on behalf of Labour.

But delegates had more important matters before them than the return of Labour. There was free collective bargaining, microtechnology and possible large-scale unemployment amongst Apex members as well as rules revision and a number of motions, all of which were discussed at conference.

On free collective bargaining, delegates voted against by a 2-1 majority. The self-deception continues on this question, which is central to the simple functions of any trade union. Given the election atmosphere, it was made clear that to vote for free collective bargaining was disloyal to the Labour Government, which has always opposed this activity by trade unionists. Delegates will regret this decision in the future because to throw down your weapons when faced by private or state capitalism is really to commit suicide.

Instead, delegates voted to sue for peace, to support a 'pay board', to collaborate with the enemy when he is particularly hostile towards our aspirations as a class. Apparently the lion will lie down with the lamb, as far as Apex delegates are concerned. Well of course the lamb

Dear Editor,

I live in the London Borough of Croydon and have become increasingly concerned by the lack of adequate maternity services here. Croydon has a much higher than average infant mortality rate at 16.3 per 1000 live births, higher than others in the SW Thames Region. Local mothers and others have been voicing concern, and a number attended a recent meeting of the Area Health Authority, where a member of the Authority said it was not safe to recommend people

never gets up again and we are headed for the slaughter disarmed with present policy on pay unless there's a change next year.

Nevertheless, the decisions taken on economic policy were, despite stage management, an accurate reflection of conference thought, two thirds of delegates supporting the social contract under another name.

Conference was erratic in some of the decisions it took this year. An appalling stance on collective bargaining was made a nonsense of by the long discussion of office microtechnology. Delegates see, because it is so clear, that mass unemployment looms amongst office workers as employers use 'new technology' for quick profit at the cost of employment. Delegates were not opposed to technological revolution, but would not wear social counter-revolution in the form of mass unemployment and de-skilling of work.

The characteristic of the collective bargaining discussion was the reasonableness of employers if only we engage in tripartite talks. On microtechnology, the selfsame employers were 'crooked', 'slippery' and 'not to be trusted'. In this sense, conference was erratic and inconsistent.

Microtechnology, used by employers under capitalist relations of production, is estimated as meaning 250,000 redundancies among office workers by 1982-83. Keep in mind that many such jobs are carried out by women, and that a third of the women so employed are the sole breadwinners for their families,

to have babies in Croydon. We learned last week that 61 beds at Mayday Hospital and Croydon General Hospital have been closed because of shortage of nurses. The waiting list for all hospital treatment has leapt drastically in the last year to 3392, almost 50 per cent more than the previous year. At a meeting of the Community Health Council last week, they decided to send a telegram to Callaghan. (As if this Government is not aware when they cut hospital expenditure that services would

and we can see the possible impoverishment and setback particularly for women and dependent children. Delegates discussed these dangers along with health and safety hazards, voting unanimously for the shorter working week. The line decided is no redundancy and no 'natural wastage wastage'. One delegate summed it up to thunderous applause "Technology yes, capitalist no!" There are many battles ahead on this issue which will put antagonistic class relations sharply into focus.

Rules Revision saw some appropriate changes to the rule book, despite executive opposition on a number of the points raised. Staff representatives have now to be elected annually; discussion of the Executive Report is not confined to questions of 'reference back' because previously it has dominated conference discussion; conference is to be a day longer in future which will enable delegates to discuss more motions from branches than is done at present; EC regulations have to gain acceptance from the union's 9 Area Councils before coming into operation.

The right to campaign for office was defeated but the argument was won by progressive delegates who spoke. A shrill reply, reminiscent of the Cold War, was all the General Secretary could produce in winding up this discussion. Conference growled at the slanderous things said on this occasion but the card-vote was narrowly lost. Conference, as it showed, can bite when it has to.

There were some gains and some losses at Apex conference this year. Serious misconceptions remain but so does clarity on certain issues. Clarity will have to spread amongst delegates for the advances made to be consolidated for the future.

decline and human suffering would increase!) The telegram reads: 'Your attention is drawn to the grave condition of the National Health Service in Croydon. Without care and financial injection it may soon die.'

It must become increasingly obvious to everyone that the state does not care for the health of people and even less for that of future generations. I wonder what Croydon's infant mortality rate will be this year and next.

Yours faithfully,  
A concerned mother, Croydon



# NUJ strengthened **\* IN BRIEF**

## by year's struggle

AFTER a year of many severe tests - its first national strike, the lockout at the TIMES, countless local disputes - the National Union of Journalists has emerged strong and confident, with membership reaching a new high of over 30,000. Last year's clear and concise policy on free collective bargaining, instructing members to formulate claims in line with their own needs and desires, has invigorated the Union. In all sections, newspapers, broadcasting, magazines, books, news agencies, improvements in wages and conditions have been won, often only after bitter disputes. The NUJ has gained in stature and respect, its membership in morale and experience. Its democracy has been strengthened by the release of new energies.

A large proportion of the motions at this year's Annual Delegate Meeting deal with 'matters arising' from the marathon but successful nationwide strike by provincial journalists. While it is clear that some journalists wish to avoid a repeat of this traumatic experience the overwhelming majority of motions are constructive - how to improve decision-making and communication during disputes, how to improve the discipline and unity of the members, problems of finance, when best to strike, and so on. Such a positive house-clearing

reflects a new interest in trade unionism and is very positive. It should, however, be kept in perspective. We must not only learn from the past, but look forward too.

This year, still, free collective bargaining is the central issue for unions. Notwithstanding elections, still the attempt will be made to shackle this right and with it our livelihoods, our lives, and therefore our morale. Underlying this debate, and others, like the one on new technology, there is a fundamental question of attitude. Shall we fight for improvement, advance, progress as British workers have done for centuries? Or will we succumb our rights and morality to 'new' 'necessities'?

The main motion on the order paper is again clear and concise. Reaffirming existing policy, it attempts to take the Union one step further; opposing the reintroduction of wage controls and resolving that the Union shall play no part in approaches to, or discussions with, Government bodies to determine whether settlements fall within such guidelines or norms'. Such a determined independence would do the British labour movement a power of good. Building on its gains over the past year, delegates to this year's NUJ ADM should be able to ensure that their union plays its full part.

THE NUPE general secretary says that continued industrial action would, in the forthcoming general election, be detrimental to the Labour Party. In the battle against Labour's guidelines, whom does he think he has been fighting against for the last two months?

AT A TRADE union conference on Chile recently held in London a representative of the Chilean TUC said that the labour movement in Chile was fighting back in spite of savage repression and had rejected the so-called "Labour Plan" which allowed unions to have elections but stipulated who could stand. It was said from the floor that British workers fighting for their own class interests here weakened international capitalism.

NEARLY 1000 civil servants attended a meeting at Bristol's Central Hall on April 2 to hear about developments of their pay dispute. The three unions, IRSF, SCPS and CPSA, were all proud to be on the same platform and speakers stressed the desire of seeing this unity extended.

A WEALTH TAX and the ending of fee-paying schools have been in almost every Labour Party manifesto since the War and yet there are just as many wealthy people and fee-paying schools as ever. Perhaps the best way of saving Dunlops, Corby and other industries under threat of closure would be to get the Labour Party to promise in its manifesto to put an end to them.



SOME 60 workers, mainly Asian, on March 23 walked out of their Harlesden factory, Futters (London), on a half day strike to protest against pay and conditions and to demand union recognition.

The women are being paid about 90p per hour and pay for many workers is about £10 per week less than the average.

Conditions in the factory are unhygienic and one upstairs toilet has to do for more than 40 women.

When their shop steward, speaking through an interpreter, complained about the toilet facilities, she was told that the women could urinate in their saris. Workers get no sick pay and are issued with no protective clothing.

The company has refused to recognise the striking womens' union, the AUEW, on the

usual plea that not all the workers at Futters want union representation. They have circulated an anti-union document among the work force which the Labour MP for Brent South has described as being full of inconsistencies and prejudices.

The document distributed by the company says that the firm could not stay in business with stoppages, disputes and unreasonable demands and in such a situation there would be considerable redundancies. If there was union representation the company would not allow present privileges, benefits and conditions to stay as they were while the union came in and tried to get the workers more beside.

The chairman of the northwest London area organising committee of the AUEW said it was the first time in many years that a firm in that area had so blatantly refused recognition.

### Communist Party of Britain Marxist-Leninist

May Day Meeting 1979

## No peace with capitalism One solution - revolution

Conway Hall  
Red Lion Square  
Holborn WC1  
Tuesday May 1  
7.30 p.m.



#### Other May Day venues

AUEW Hall, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool 3.  
Wednesday May 2, 7:30pm

Dr Johnson House, Bull Street, Birmingham.  
Saturday April 28, 8:00pm

Swarthmore Education Centre, Woodhouse Square,  
off Hanover Way, Leeds 3.  
Sunday April 29, 2:30pm

Shepherds Hall, Old Market, Bristol.  
Tuesday May 1 8:00pm

International Centre, Gwydir Street, Cambridge.  
Saturday April 28 8:00pm

## Bookshops

- Bellman Bookshop 155 Fortress Road, London NW5
- Brighton Workers Bookshop 37 Gloucester Road, Brighton
- Main Trend Books 17 Midland Road, St. Philips, Bristol
- Northern Star Bookshop 18A Leighton Street, Leeds
- Basildon Bookstall Tues, Fri, Sat Marketplace
- Hull Bookstall Old Town Market, Saturdays
- Liverpool Bookstall every Thursday Liverpool University

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### Public Meetings

**Croydon** Don't Vote: Labour = Tory = Capitalism  
Tuesday 10th April at 8.00pm  
Norbury Library, London Road, Norbury.

**Oxford** Don't vote for Capitalism  
Thursday 26th April at 8:00pm  
Cowley Community Centre

**Scarborough** Save Education  
Sunday 15th April at 8:00pm  
Castle Hotel, Queen Street, Scarborough

\* There will be no issue of The Worker over the Easter weekend. The next issue No. 16 will be published on April 26th. \*