

# **Socialist Worker**

*For a Workers' Republic and International Socialism 40p*

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*Give TEAM workers their jobs back*

# **SACK THIS CORRUPT GOVERNMENT**

*Goodman's tax fraud covered up  
—see centre pages*

# Third level fees It's about time they were scrapped

WHEN Minister for Education Niamh Breathnach proposed to abolish university fees, the press and opposition politicians said that this country couldn't afford it.

But getting rid of fees would cost no more than

fifteen or twenty million pounds a year, a percentage of Goodman's tax frauds.

And it would make it easier for working class parents to provide a decent education and better prospects for their kids.

But even if fees are abolished, maintenance is still the real barrier to third

level education for most people.

Students on a full grant are expected to live on £35 a week, when the average rent in Dublin is £35 to £40.

Even this lousy assistance is denied to many through the ridiculously low grant threshold limits which hit PAYE workers

hardest.

Any family with a gross income of over £15,000 is exempt from grant assistance.

For equal access to third level education to become anything more than political propaganda, abolishing fees will be only one very small step.

# Stagg presides over housing crisis

EMMET Stagg, as Minister for Housing, is proud of the fact that 3,500 new houses have been started or bought this year.

He could hardly have done worse than the last government. Between 1987 and 1991, £1bn was cut from Local Authority Housing.

In one year, 1989, only 768 local authority houses were built with just one being built in Cork, and six in Dublin.

The one bright spot was the Co. Mayo constituency of the Minister for the Environment at the time, Pdraig Flynn where 52 houses were built.

The new speeding on housing is welcome, but it shouldn't hide the fact that Stagg is presiding over a housing scandal.

Officially 2,667 adults were homeless in 1993. But Streetwise estimate that over 80,000 individuals are in need of housing.

Owen O'Sullivan from Streetwise says about the new housing that "it is a drop in the ocean compared to what's needed".

Although Stagg has claimed that no one need spend a night on the street the reality is that they do and in increasing numbers.

Those most likely to end up on the streets are 16-25 year olds who have no chance of getting state housing.

Paul, a homeless 20 year old, found that "many hostels are full by 3pm each day. Some hostels are infested with lice, have little privacy and terrible facilities".

Hundreds of young people are put into Bed and Breakfast accommodation by the Health Boards. In Dublin there are 427 homeless children, 76 of whom are in B+B's, 29 in hospitals and 3 in a Garda station.

The recent rise in Corporation rents in Dublin means that evictions will increase.

The myth in Ireland is that homelessness is not a great problem. The reality is the opposite and likely to worsen despite the claims of the government.

# NO JUSTICE

THE Incorporated Law Society regulates the activities of solicitors.

But it has no interest in justice for its own workers.

It is refusing to pay the two per cent wage increase due to law clerks. The Society says it has no money.

But these hypocrites have just spent £4,500 on a bathroom for their director general. They also splashed out £5,000 on a garden party.

And just to make sure that everything was spick and span they spent £15,000 on the garden itself.

# How Irish firms are damaging your health Making profits from pollution

DOZENS of companies in Ireland are being investigated by the European Commission for breaking pollution laws.

Several factories in the and water pollution. They include Hickson, Irish Fertilizer, Pfizer and

Smithkline Beecham.

The SFADCO Industrial Estate is being checked out for spilling dangerous metals and chemicals into the Shannon Estuary.

Albert Reynolds' Longford pet food factory, C & D Foods Ltd has emitted up to 160 times the effluent allowed under its pollution licence into a tributary of the Shannon.

## Offence

The local county council gave figures to Greenpeace showing that the factory had breached the terms of the licence 38 times during 1993.

Breaching the terms of a pollution licence can lead to a £1,000 fine or a six month sentence.

But there is no sign of Uncle Albert being marched off to Mountjoy jail for the offence.

But big companies usually get away with a mild



More crap from Albert

## SMURFIT STINKS!

IRELAND's favourite son Michael Smurfit has been causing a bit of a stink Stateside.

Smurfit faces criminal charges and a £32 million fine because of pollution in two states.

His plant in Florida has been polluting local rivers and he failed to clean up after closing a factory in Ohio.

slap on the wrist for endangering the environment.

That was the most Hickson and ADM got after the fires at their chemical plants in Cork Harbour last year.

After all, the courts don't want to eat into the huge profits the fat cats make from putting people's lives at risk.

## SPILLAGE AT SHORTS

A WORKER at Shorts aircraft factory in Belfast told *Socialist Worker* that the chemical spillage at the plant in August was not the first one.

The leak of Hydrogen Sulphide gas left 41 work-

ers injured—three seriously—and 450 had to be evacuated.

But the worker we spoke to said: "It's happened a few times before and each time the management kept it quiet."

"The shop stewards only found out about these incidents when journalists gave them the story."

# Meet Albert's rich pal

MANY workers will not have a holiday this year but Albert Reynolds has been having the holiday of a lifetime on our behalf.

He spent it in the Mediterranean on board the yacht *Paraiso*—Spanish for paradise—owned by his Mexican pal Romulo O'Farrill.

O'Farrill is a sort of Mexican Tony O'Reilly. He is the head of Grupo Piramide SA, a huge newspaper and magazine empire.

He also owns six vehicle

companies, is on the board of two banks and the Telephone company and is involved in paper producing and mining.

O'Farrill's politics are right up Reynolds' street—he is an enthusiastic backer of the Institutional Revolutionary Party, Mexico's answer to Fianna Fail.

One Fianna Fail minister has been reported as saying "they're just like us—a family. You can fall out but never leave."

"They've held on to power for 65 years and they've done it each time through elections too."

But the PRI have a his-

tory of brutal repression. In January of this year they sent in troops to put down an uprising by poor peasants in the province of Chiapas.

## Bloodstained

At the time Albert Reynolds was in Mexico shaking the bloodstained hands of government ministers and staying in O'Farrill's holiday home.

O'Farrill owns the English language paper *News*. His son runs the paper and attends board meetings carrying a pistol!

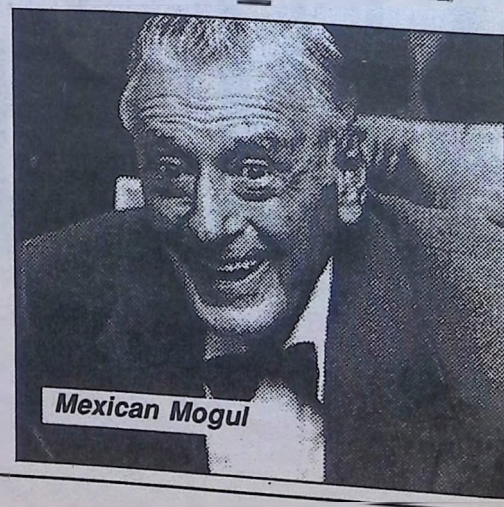
But O'Farrill is not exactly a fan of press free-

dom. In recent years he:

- sacked the editor of the *News* for criticising the government;
- banned all political coverage for a time to avoid publishing articles questioning PRI policies and
- demanded that his editorial board take an oath of allegiance to the Party—upon which they all resigned.

But who are we to criticise the Taoiseach's choice of company?

After all it's probably in the "national interest" for Albert to hang out with Mexican multi-millionaires.



Mexican Mogul

WE THINK

# THE PRICE OF PARTNERSHIP

**THE Labour Party have played a disgusting role since the publication of the Beef Tribunal.**

Instead of hanging Reynolds out to dry, Spring has assured Fianna Fail that the Coalition will survive.

They have even gone along with the Revenue Commissioners decision to give Goodman a tax amnesty.

This is a far cry from the Labour Party that won a record number of seats at the last general election. Those were the days when Spring denounced the 'golden circle' who were ripping off workers.

Now Spring stands with Reynolds when he is caught selling off passports and squandering £100 million in Export Credit Insurance to his former friend, Larry Goodman.

This is the price Labour pays for its policies of partnership. Anyone who tries to manage capitalism in



Ireland has to put up with the corruption and graft which FF wallows in.

The Labour Party's attitude to workers is the opposite. The more they cosy up to Reynolds, the more

they stick the book into their own supporters.

Labour Ministers are orchestrating the attacks on semi-state workers alongside FFers.

They put in hitmen like John Behan into TEAM and Leslie Buckley into Irish Steel because they had a record of slashing 2,600 jobs between them.

Neither the Labour Party or FF would get away with what they are doing at the moment if it were not for the union leaders.

Tragically, the political coalition between FF and Labour is matched by an industrial coalition between the ICTU and this government.

Labour Party supporters in the unions like Peter Cassells of the ICTU and Billy Atlee of SIPTU are working flat out to break the growing resistance to this rotten government.

Annyous ICTU spokesperson claim to be 'worried and angered' by

the TEAM shop stewards. Instead of lifting a finger in terms of delivering solidarity they have sabotaged every effort to win wider support for the TEAM workers.

This is the real price that has to be paid for the type of 'social partnership' policies the unions have played with FF for the last seven years.

But we can fight back and build a rank and file opposition to this rotten partnership.

The key is the TEAM dispute. A victory for the TEAM workers will make every public sector worker walk tall.

That is why we urge readers of this paper should be making collections for the TEAM workers.

\* Approach your shop stewards and ask for a regular levy.

\* Get on the streets with the leaflets from the TEAM workers with a bucket.



£10,000	
£9,000	
£8,000	
£7,000	
£6,000	
£5,000	
£4,000	
£3,000	
£2,000	
£1,000	
£0	

## WATER BILLS FAIL SO FAR...

**THE CAMPAIGN of local councils in Dublin to get people to pay their water charges has been a failure.**

Despite offers of discounts and raffles a very high proportion of people have refused to pay.

Fingal Council in North Dublin sent out 41,000 bills but only got a quarter of people to pay.

The Dublin Campaign

against Water Charges claimed that between 60 and 70 per cent of the population were not paying bills.

### First Step

They warned that if the corporation get away with water charges it will only be the first step

to privatisation.

"In Britain, privatisation has meant that people's water is metered and they are paying up to £400 a year".

**The campaign has produced a new fact sheet on the water charges.**

Copies are available from PO Box 1648 Dublin 8.

## Socialist Worker Appeal reaches £3,115

**THE APPEAL to fund a fortnightly Socialist Worker had raised £3,115 by the end of August.**

We would like to thank to all our supporters and readers who helped us get off to a good start.

Our target is to raise £10,000 by the end of December.

That will help us to buy the equipment needed to start producing Socialist Worker once a fortnight in 1995.

Up to now the paper has only appeared on a monthly basis. This has to change.

Most of the rest of the press is controlled by big tycoons who put over the bosses' side of the story.

One man, Tony O'Reilly, owns a third of all the Irish newspapers. He earns £70,000 a day and uses his papers to put across right wing ideas.

Thousands of people are looking for real answers.

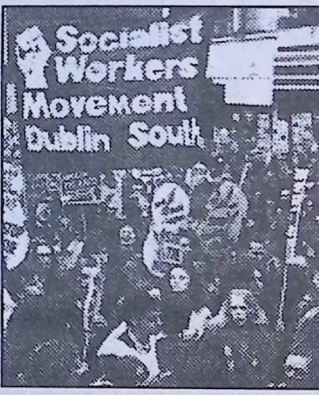
They know that capitalism is not working. But many are not yet sure what socialism

**"I am happy to see Socialist Worker go fortnightly. I think we need a variety of socialist debate as never before. Socialist worker makes an important contribution. I hope that the appeal succeeds"—Mick O'Reilly, ATGWU, (personal capacity)**

is really about.

To win over the thousands who feel like this and to bring them together into a fighting socialist organisation, we need a more regular paper.

That is why we appeal to all our readers to give as generously as possible. We need every donation no matter how small. Send your money in now and help us build.



## ...NOW RESIST THE RENT RISES

**WHILE councils in Co Dublin are pushing water charges, in Dublin Corporation have fixed on another way to squeeze more out of tenants—sharp rent rises.**

At the moment the Corporation are looking for a £1.50 increase from each income earning member of the family.

This means that old age pensioners will have to pay up.

But this is only the start. The Corporation are abolishing the old minimum rent and the graded scale.

This means that groups like single parents face huge hikes of £9.33.

These rises are part of a wider scheme to push up rents to an astronomical level.

As Matt Larkin, from the National Association of Tenants Organisations

put it: "They are hoping to get us to accept the principle now for a new system.

"In four years time the maximum rent on a two bedroom flat could go from £22.10 a week to £60.

### Exorbitant

"A single bedsit could rise from £11 a week to £43 a week.

"These are exorbitant rents which people can-

not afford to pay."

NATO are calling on tenants to offer their old rents to the corporation and to refuse to pay the new increases.

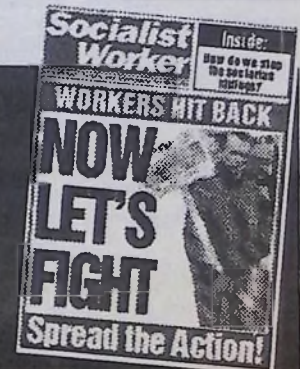
Over 80% of those in Corporation houses are now on some form of social welfare.

These vicious rent rise are a way of making working class people pay for the squandering of money on the Irish rich.

A huge campaign of non-payment can force the Corporation managers to back off.

As Matt Larkin put it, "If enough people refuse to pay these increases we can get the high and mighty to back off"

**Help us raise £10,000 for a fortnightly Socialist Worker**



# Rwanda bled dry by Western banks

## banks

OUR television screens are filled with heart-rending pictures of refugees dying on the borders of Rwanda.

The only explanation offered is that of "tribalism" gone mad in yet another African country.

But we hear very little about the way western banks are bleeding Rwanda dry, even in the midst of the present horror.

Rwanda owes western banks and governments £550 million.

### Owe

This is a small sum relative to what many other governments and big companies owe.

But it is equivalent to

more than half of everything produced in the country in a year and four times the total spent on health and education in Rwanda in 1992.

### Debts

Every month the new Rwandan government is expected to pay £6 million in interest on debts owed since the previous government was in office.

The banks make huge amounts on Third World



debt. British banks alone have pocketed over £40 billion in interest pay-

ments from Third World debt since 1979.

And the Tory govern-

ment has given £3,000 million on tax relief to banks like Barclays who

claim they will not get back their loans from poor countries.

Barclays' profits for one day would buy enough medical kits to save two million people from cholera.

The war in Rwanda is not the result of innate "tribalism"—at root that is a racist lie.

The slaughter is caused by poverty which sets people against another, and western banks and governments are very much to blame for that poverty.

### Fears

France's intervention has only increased the fears of ordinary people that more genocide is on the way—thousands of refugees are likely to flee the French "safe havens".

Western governments and their rich backers are not part of the solution in Rwanda—they are part of the problem.

## NIGERIA:

# OIL WORKERS SHOW ROAD TO CHANGE

IN CONTRAST to the TV images of helpless Rwandans dependent on western aid, the actions of Nigerian oil workers show how liberation can be achieved in Africa.

Several months ago, the country had its first free election in years.

It was won by a man named Abiola who then proclaimed himself President.

However the ruling military junta declared the election null and void. Abiola was arrested on charges of treason for his proclamation.

His trial started in August.

Thousands of workers in Nigeria's oil industry, which is central to the coun-

try's economy, went on strike in protest.

The strike led to pitched street battles between strikers and riot police.

Barricades were erected in many working class areas.

The strike was broadened to include civil servants and other workers.

### Explosion

Faced with this explosion of working class anger, Nigeria's congress of trade unions were pushed into calling a three-day general strike.

This action forced the military into announcing it would hold an inquiry into the running of the election. The trade union leaders then called for a return to work.

The oil workers un-

ion refused to go back until Abiola was released and installed as President. They called for other workers to resume the strike.

The strike shows how the general situation in Africa can be changed.

In Nigeria, South Africa and many other African countries, a large working class is growing.

When this class applies its industrial muscle, it has the power to win its demands.

The pro-democracy strike in Nigeria is an example of workers using their strength for political demands beyond wages and conditions.

It is this strength which can rid Africa of its legacy of colonialism and capitalism.

# Blair: The Labour leader the bosses love

"I COULD even imagine myself supporting the British Labour leader Tony Blair." Rupert Murdoch, owner of the Sun and the Times.

Rupert Murdoch, is one of the worst enemies of the working class movement.

His newspapers attacked every striker and demonstrator throughout the Thatcher years.

He is the man responsible for attempting to break the print unions, by setting up his new plant in Wapping.

When someone like him can consider backing Labour then something must be seriously wrong with the Party.

Tony Blair, the new Labour Party leader, is out to win the backing of business and the British establishment.

He dines with army officers, and received £5,000 for his leadership campaign from top boss, Sainsbury.

His argument is that this is the only way to oust the Tories.

In a pamphlet called "Socialism" he explains that it is old fashioned to argue that we live "in an irredeemably exploitative market system".

Instead he says, bosses and workers should form a partnership.

That way it will be possible "to run a Tory economy, with a bit of social compassion."

Blair is wrong. Bosses in Britain like the world over, are out to hold down wages, sack workers and increase productivity.

When workers resist this by striking or demonstrating, then Socialists should have no hesitation in supporting them. But Blair's position is to avoid taking sides.

Witness the role of Labour in the current rail workers dispute.

The Labour leaders, including John

Prescott an MP sponsored by the signal workers union, have said nothing to help the strikers.

Nor is Labour associating itself with the huge opposition to the Criminal Justice Bill. Instead Blair boasts that he is responsible for some of the ideas in the Bill.

### Accepting

Accepting the Tory economy has meant Labour accepting many Tory ideas.

For example, the Tories have scapegoated single parents as a way of hiding their cuts housing and childcare.

Instead of exposing this, the Labour leaders have taken up the argument.

In a recent speech Tony Blair attacked single mothers, saying "I do

"LABOUR now has a young intelligent, attractive leader. Interested in crime and even welfare dependency it would be hard to slip a cigarette paper between his views and those of many Tories." — Daily Mail

"MR. BLAIR has shown himself a believer in the Market economy, in not penalising wealth, in restoring discipline and standards in education." — The Times



not think it is a helpful way to bring up children. I disagree with what they have done."

All this echoing of the Tories might have won Labour the support of some members of the ruling class, but at what cost?

In terms of beating the Tories at the next election, it is a risky strategy. They lost the last election by playing the same game.

In particular they refused to build on the massive anger against the Poll Tax.

For millions of working class people wanting change in Britain, the current Labour leadership is a disaster.

The real price of Murdoch's support is that Labour leaders now stand for policies hardly different from the Tories.

That's why our sister paper in Britain, Socialist Worker says:

"The argument for a real socialist organisation—to fight against the likes of Murdoch—could not be clearer."

# TEAM AER LINGUS

## Crunch time approaching!



THE dispute at TEAM Aer Lingus is coming to a crunch. Management are doing everything to pretend there is no work at TEAM to justify their lock out of workers.

In the middle of August, the top manager John Behan announced the loss of the ten million pound Virgin contract to the Dutch firm KLM as a result of the ongoing dispute.

But Behan was exposed soon afterwards when Virgin claimed that they had only moved their contract temporarily and that they had been advised to do so by TEAM!

It's not the first time they have tried such tactics.

Basic checking and maintenance of planes has been sent to Shannon Aerospace and British Airways to fuel management's lie that there's no work left.

### Propaganda

Another TEAM worker said, "Behan's just a hatchet man brought in to put black propaganda about us in the press."

"He tells the media how heartbroken he is to see people's holidays disrupted."

"But the most anyone's been delayed is twenty minutes."

"If you read the papers you'd think that we were deliberately out to wreck people's holidays!"

A wife of one sacked worker adds, "The people affected by the protests can go away on holiday and forget about it."

"But we can't forget about it, we have to live with it. The only reason why people are talking about it is because of the protests."

TEAM managers have talked time and time again about the need to stop protesting and sit down and talk. But TEAM workers say that "during the talks chaired by the ICTU, management had no intention of talking. They just want to destroy our morale so we swallow every bit of their productivity deal."

## 'We're fighters—not victims'—Team Mates

THE WIVES and partners of sacked TEAM workers have set up an organisation called "TEAM Mates" to support those involved in the dispute.

At the founding meeting speakers made it clear that they were totally opposed to the 48 hour week and wage cuts.

They argued that skilled workers should be paid a decent wage and not have their work devalued.

Many of the women were

concerned about the put down stories about TEAM workers coming from the media.

A wife of a sacked worker explained:

"They say all this stuff in the papers about how TEAM staff are well paid and so on—but we haven't been on a yearly holiday in Ireland, let alone abroad, for five years because we've got two kids and we just can't afford it."

Another said she was disgusted with the government. "It

is a disgrace. They spend £35 million on the Beef Tribunal -- but it would only take £25 million to save all the jobs at TEAM".

TEAM-mates asked Mary Robinson to meet them when she was flying out to the airport and she agreed.

Now they are planning a picket of a meeting of Labour Party TDs.

As one of the women put it, "We see ourselves as fighters, not victims".

Workers are well aware of what would happen if they buckled down now.

After the recent similar dispute at Irish Steel a deal was rammed down the throats of craft workers the bosses are brought in Alex Spain.

This is the hatchet man who has a long history of attacking workers in companies like B+1.

One TEAM worker also pointed to CIE, where "Bob Montgomery pushed through a deal two years ago, and now they're talking about privatising the company. If you give them an inch then they take a mile."

TEAM workers know that they are not just fighting their own battle.

If management manage to break agreements on the 40 hour week and cut pay, then

other workers in the semi-state sector will come under the same sort of attacks.

And as one TEAM worker puts it, "I've already been sacked, so I've got nothing to lose!"

"But I've got everything to gain—I can get my job back and protect the other semi-states as well."

## High Fliers

THREE hatchetmen are involved in the attempt to carve up TEAM workers.

■ Donnacha Hurley has been brought in from the world of high finance.

■ John 'Jelly Bean' Behan is supposed to be in charge of 'Human Resources'.

■ Bernie Cahill drew up the plans for cuts back on the whole airport.

Cahill and Hurley live beside each other in Cork.

They commute by helicopter to work.

Cahill stays overnight in the Westbury Hotel where he pays out £300 a night to use such facilities as a jacuzzi.

### Let Go

For every night Cahill gave up these little privileges, he could pay the weekly wage of two of the apprentices he has let go before their final exams.

All three hatchet men are on 'consultancy rates' of pay.

This means that get over the norm for top civil servants. They earn at least £1,000 a day.

## THE GOLDEN CIRCLE

A NEW golden circle is starting up among the hatchet men of Irish industry.

Pat Dineen who attacked the wages and conditions of Irish Steel workers is the owner of an insurance company, Sedgewick Dineen Insurance.

This company has just been awarded a contract to insure the new A330 Airbus. The contract involves a multi-million pound deal.

Which proves that if you scratch your workers backs, there is a nice little present in the titty for you.

## WOULD YOU TRUST

### THIS LOT?

HOW can workers trust Behan and Cahill.

Last February they reached an agreement with TEAM management.

Workers agreed to make savings and the management accepted that they could

then make a go of the company.

But within 48 hours they came back and

scrapped the deal. What is to stop them pulling the same trick again?



■ Cahill



■ Behan

## WE THINK

DESPITE the media attacks, there is a massive sympathy with the TEAM workers.

The Coalition government is deeply unpopular.

They spent £35 million on the Beef Tribunal which would never have been needed if

Reynolds gave a few straight and honest answers in the Dáil.

That money could have been better spent in building a thriving aircraft maintenance industry.

The way to win is for TEAM workers to rely on their own strength.

So far the union leaders have played a disgraceful role.

They have worked behind the scenes to prevent any national stoppage in solidarity with TEAM.

They will now try to push a deal down the throats of the TEAM workers just as they did at Irish Steel.

What is needed now is escalation. September is the start of the busy season for aircraft maintenance.

Management have thrown everything they have at the workers.

It is now time to hit back hard.

This means working to bring the whole airport to a halt.

Already other groups there are spoiling for a fight. Air stewards, baggage handlers, cabin staff have all voted individual for strike action.

Pickets by TEAM workers on the airport could be the start of a major fight back against the Cahill plan.

## PUBLIC ORDER ACT

WHEN the Public Order Act was passed by the Dáil last year, the Labour Party claimed it would not be used against trade unionists.

They were lying. TEAM workers have already been threatened with this vicious act which gives the Gardaí unlimited powers to break up protests.

Mary Harney, the Progressive Democrat leader said it was necessary to deal with strikes.

### Terrified

This is just what the Gardaí are now threatening.

But one shop steward summed up the situation accurately:

"The police told us that they could use the Public Order Bill against us."

"But they are also terrified of actually using it."

"They know that if they're locked up one TEAM worker; the whole airport would close down immediately."

# Refugees face racist refusals

IRELAND's immigration policy is designed to help the rich.

Two executives of the BCCI bank which collapsed after it was discovered to be engaged in fraud and laundering money from criminals have been granted Irish passports.

The reason: they had a million quid between them.

But many refugees who have fled torture and threat of execution are being turned away because they are poor.

The Department of Justice have been telling more than hundred political refugees a year that they and their families are not being allowed to stay in Ireland.

One immigration lawyer, who says he has people "coming to me every day of the week who have had their applications refused", has accused the Department of "refusing people left, right and centre who comply with all of the requirements laid down by Section 15 of the 1956 Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, without even having to give reasons for these decisions".

Under the 1956 Act the Minister for Justice has sole discretion in deciding whether or not to grant citizenship.

This has led to the situation where hundreds of Thais, Malaysians and Chinese, who all fulfilled the legal requirements for naturalisation (being of full age and "good character" and resident in the state for four years prior to applying) have been rejected.

Non whites or non EU "ordinary" applicants are often forced to wait anything from eighteen months to three years before hearing the results of their applications.

Between 1987 and 1992 all but three and a half percent of cases were turned down.

No African or Asian has ever won the honour of Irish citizenship. A policy of official racism is operating behind closed doors.

In each and every case no explanation is given, no reason, no justification.

There is no current right to appeal, just three months to get out of the country.

The Irish Refugee Council puts the number of illegal immigrants here at ten thousand.

Some of these "illegals" have lived here for up to fourteen years and have raised families.

Others who enter the country seeking refugee status or political asylum are deported within hours of arrival.

In 1992 a group of Kurdish refugees who got as far as the duty free shop in Shannon were forcibly removed by the Gardai and put back on a plane.

## Turned Down

Libyan and Chinese nationals seeking entry on humanitarian grounds have spent over a year in Mountjoy Prison waiting for their applications to be processed before being turned down.

In January of this year two Croatian women, forced to flee the regime in their own country, were visited by Gardai and told that they must leave immediately or face deportation.

Due to intense campaigning from groups like Amnesty and the Irish Refugee Council and harsh criticism from the UNHCR, the Irish government has had to move.

In June Minister Geoghegan-Quinn introduced legislation which would place refugee applications in the hands of an independent tribunal, create a statutory basis for decision-making and grant the right of appeal.

Sounds good, but is it? No.

When set against the European background, this new legislation appears little more than a red herring.

It's not exactly an achievement they can boast of, but our European politicians have been remarkably successful in building a "fortress Europe".

In 1992 Europe got 700,000 requests for asylum. Since then the welcome signs have been taken down.

By June of this year applications had dropped by two-thirds.

How? The EU has long had an objective to create a common policy on asylum and immigration.

Through inter-governmental agreements—like the Draft Convention on the Crossing of External Borders—it's created one.

It's simple and clean: if you're foreign and poor, keep out.

The new European convention places controls at external borders of member states and forces employees of transport companies to act as Europolice by imposing sanctions on companies who carry passengers without adequate documentation.

Border controls ensure that many prospective refugees won't even manage to get a foot in the door, let alone apply for asylum.

Carrier sanctions have already led to tragedy.

In 1992 a French shipping crew discovered seven stowaways on board.

Fearing dismissal if the company got fined, the crew knocked the seven unconscious and threw them overboard. Six drowned.

In 1989 three Kurdish asylum seekers were returned to Turkey, where they were severely tortured for 37 days.

British airline staff had prevented them from leaving a plane at Heathrow.

A recently adopted EU resolution on "manifestly unfounded applications", or MUAs, establishes the criteria by which a country is deemed "safe".

Any claims for asylum from these countries are deemed spurious and the applicant is a chancer who can be quickly ejected.

Under this pretty piece of legislation the more Afghan applicants rejected, for example, the safer Afghanistan will be assumed to be!

# BEEF TRIBUNAL SHOWS

# One law for another for



## Who goes to jail

THE O'Brien family parked a caravan on a piece of land at the Murrough, Co Wicklow. They were jailed for three days in Mountjoy until they agreed not to return to the site.

They are among score of ordinary people who have been sent to jail recently. Another was Gillian Byrne who was poor and young. One day she walked into the Lifestyle shop and stole a sports bag and shorts. Today she is serving a six months jail sentence.

But Larry Goodman who got millions from the Irish tax payers after donating thousands of pounds to the party is walking free. His company fiddled weights of meat and changed labels in a bid to make profits.

At the Goodman plant in Rathkeale, Goodman executives stole nearly £1 million worth of intervention beef. Nobody has been either fined or imprisoned as a result.

Larry Goodman paid huge fees to barrister. The proceedings to investigate the antics of Ireland's millionaire ended up making a millionaire of one of the top lawyers, Dermot McGonagal.

Now Hamilton has awarded costs of £10 million to Goodman. Papers like the Evening Herald who have run big law and order campaigns are delighted to see people like the O'Briens or Gillian Byrne locked up for their 'crimes'.

But they praise people like Goodman as an 'entrepreneur'. Which goes to prove that prison is only for those who are poor.

## Don't tax us—we're rich!

GOODMAN International ran one of the biggest tax scams in Irish history.

And now they are trying to have the last laugh by getting a tax amnesty.

Right up to the end of the 1980s workers and managers at Goodman were often paid in cash. No PAYE or PRSI was deducted from their wages.

It was Goodman rather than his workers who benefited from this arrangement.

Goodman used the tax scams to avoid paying the employers PRSI and to keep wages really low. According to one worker,

"Workers were hired from the date. You were told to turn up at 8 o'clock.

"But if there was no work for you, you would be sent home again. The wages were terrible"

The cash payments were hidden in the company accounts as payments to bogus companies.

According to the Hamilton Tribunal, the system was 'known to top management and undoubtedly authorised by them'.

### Collusion

But Goodman would never have got away with it if the country's major accountancy firm, Stokes Kennedy and Crowley had reported what was going on.

They discovered the system in 1987—but they never told the Revenue Commissioners.

Although Hamilton denies that there was any collusion, there is also something very strange about

that fact that the tax inspectors visited Goodman International on 90 different occasions and never found out what was going on.

Goodman came from a long line of Irish gombeen bosses who felt that paying taxing was something for suckers on PAYE.

Only 1% of all taxes in Ireland comes from tax on capital.

Until recently, the Irish bosses and the multi-national paid no taxes on profits made from exporting.

According to one study, the to-

tal cost of tax breaks to industry over the ten year period 1980-90 cost a staggering £10,300 million.

The boss class is so used to tax breaks that even when they are caught breaking the law, they still think they can get away with it.

This is why Goodman has now

*"I am disgusted by people of this left wing calibre can do such things to our company, to our country. They are anti-private enterprise, anti-success, anti-everything, anti bloody everything!"—Larry Goodman*

## Whose 'national interest'?

FIANNA FAÏL politicians often play a "Wrap the Green Flag around me" tune to cover over the class divisions in Ireland.

But the Beef Tribunal has exposed why this Southern Irish nationalism is such a fraud.

From 1987 Albert Reynolds ran a fund called the "national interest account".

As Minister for Industry and Commerce he had complete control over it.

It was designed to give Export Credit Insurance to Irish companies exporting to "difficult" countries. If the bills were not paid, they could come to the Irish taxpayer instead.

What was good for the Irish bosses, was supposed to be good for Ireland.

80% of the fund was designed to cover the Goodman company,

But Goodman was not interested in any sentiment about 'the national interest'.

38% of the beef sold to Iraq in 1988 was non-Irish beef. Most of the rest was taken from intervention stocks—the huge beef mountains that have been subsidised by the European Union.

### Nonsense

While the Fianna Fail politicians talked hypocritical nonsense about standing up for "Irish interests", Goodman coined it in profits.

Every criticism of Goodman, was taken as an attack on Irish interests. When Labour Party politicians began to ask questions about Goodman's activities, the former Fianna Fail leader Haughey accused them of "trying to sabotage the entire beef industry in this country".

applied for a tax amnesty.

He has offered a down-payment of just over £4 million and, according to Judge Hamilton, the Revenue Commissioners "are likely" to accept this as a settlement.

But if the Labour Party insisted that Goodman paid up his full tax bill, then they would find that there would not be the need to close down hospital wards or start taxing the dole.

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## Working

NOT ONLY did Goodman International fiddle millions, they are also union busters.

In 1983, Goodman took over Nolan Meats in Ballymun in North Dublin. None of the unionised workforce were re-employed. Instead Goodman brought in non-union labour from outside.

According to James

IT'S STILL ...

# for them, for us

The findings of the Beef Tribunal were leaked during the August Bank holiday weekend when many people were on holidays. The Fianna Fáil Taoiseach, Reynolds, hoped that the web of corruption in Irish political and business life would be ignored. Here KIERAN ALLEN looks at what the Beef Tribunal tells us about who is running Ireland.



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## Picking winners

**GOODMAN was built up by successive governments as part of a 'pick a winner' strategy.**

The Irish state desperately wanted to create a few multinationals so that Irish capitalism could start to expand.

The politicians and the bureaucrats in the IDA believed that if they gave these companies extra resources, they could make the breakthrough.

Close links were established between these companies and the politicians. Larry Goodman could meet with Charles Haughey or Albert Reynolds at any time he liked.

Corruption and bending of rules had to be part and parcel of the set-up.

In 1987, Goodman announced a five year development programme.

The former Fianna Fáil leader, Charles Haughey, personally launched the new plan. The IDA gave over £30 million in grants to Goodman.

The IDA money was linked to a "performance clause"—designed to ensure that jobs were created. But behind the scenes, the IDA was ordered to drop the performance clause from Goodman.

There was to be no talking of clawing back the huge grant if Goodman did not create jobs he promised.

The tragedy was that the Irish Congress of Trade Union endorsed this strategy of "picking winners".

After meeting with Haughey in December 1987, they said that "they welcomed the new strategy

for the food and drinks industry".

They too believed that they had an interest in seeing Irish capitalism expand. And they were desperate to get back involved in centralised pay negotiation with a Fianna Fáil government.

According to Brendan Keenan, the Business Editor of the *Irish Independent*, "Industrial policy is still essentially to pick winners—exactly the policy which benefited the Goodman group".

This is why there is bound to be more Goodman scandals.

## Fianna Fáil—the Irish mafia

**TO BE picked as a winner you have connections with Fianna Fail. That is the rule of Irish business life.**

Fianna Fáil is the party of Irish business. In the 1930s, it set up protectionist barriers to help Irish business get going.

Today it will bend the rules, get the extra grants, siphon off funds from the EU gravy train to help its friends.

Hamilton's report on the connections between Fianna Fáil and the beef industry is a complete whitewash. But the facts show that:

■ Goodman made donations of

£175,000 to Fianna Fáil funds. He paid more to Fianna Fáil than he paid in taxes. Between 1986 and 1989, Goodman only paid £80,000 in corporation taxes.

■ One of the directors of Goodman International is the Fianna Fáil T.D., Liam Lawlor. He once chaired an inquiry into the affairs of Irish Sugar—while the Goodman company was preparing a take over bid.

■ Larry Goodman was a regular attender of FF Ard Fheiscanna in the 1980s.

■ Reynolds knew Goodman for twenty five years and he invited him to his daughter's wedding.

■ Goodman was not the only meat baron to make donations to FF.

Oliver Murphy of Hibernia Meats donated £25,000 to FF before the 1987 election. After the election, he was granted Export Credit Insurance.

Within twelve days of getting it, he made another donation of £25,000 to FF.

Despite all this, Hamilton claimed that there was no political favouritism involved!

## Working for Goodman

Keogh who lost his job in Ballymun:

"Goodman got complete flexibility with butchers sweeping floors and loading trucks.

"Anyone who was interviewed for a job is asked if they ever worked for Nolan Meats—if they say they did, they are not taken on"

A worker in Waterford told Socialist Worker about conditions there.

"It was awful. You were cutting meat with razor sharp knives but they never gave you steel gloves or aprons.

**Blood and Gore**

"There were young fellows standing in the blood and gore with only a pair of runners on. They did not even supply Wellingtons

"Almost every day someone was sent up to the local

hospital in Ardkeen with cuts—sometimes they were fairly bad.

"Things changed when the Factory Inspectors came around. They give the companies a few day notice.

"All of a sudden the health and safety notices were put up. Some of the protective gear was taken out of the store room and given out. After that it was back to normal."

## Trade Unions must take stand on North

**THE following is an open letter to the Northern Committee of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions written by EAMONN McCANN, chair of the Derry Trades Council and Socialist Worker member.**

**“THE TRADE union movement in the North should be responding far more strongly to the continuing campaign of politically motivated murder.**

The Northern Committee of the ICTU should be preparing mass protests to demonstrate the hostility of Protestant and Catholic working class people to the horrors we have witnessed in recent times.

Union officials have already expressed particular concern at the targeting of people at work. The UDA and UVF are clearly embarked on a campaign to drive Catholics out of particular employers by means of murder. More than any other aspect of our present situation, this hits at the very basis of working-class organisation and calls for a specific response.

To suggest a response to UDA and UVF killings is not to condone recent IRA killings or to belittle the grief of the relatives of the IRA's victims. The trades council in Derry has been consistent in condemning all killing, by whichever group of paramilitaries or by the official forces of the State.

But our determination to be even handed should not blind us to the specifics of the situation. The undiluted hatred of Catholics evident in some recent killings is the most ugly and ominous factor facing us at the moment. Some of the scenes we have had to imagine have had a nightmarish quality about them. Literally they don't bear thinking about.

These killings not only inspire horror and fear among Catholics, there is an implicit threat in them, too, to Protestants. To the extent that the UDA and UVF are projected as legitimate expression of Protestant feeling - their activities regretted but regarded as "understandable" they are strengthened within the Protestant community, particularly within Protestant working class areas which have reason to feel under pressure. This makes it more difficult for the majority of Protestant working-class people who regard the UDA and UVF as disgusting thugs to stand up to them.

The UDA and UVF do not represent a legitimate response to the blows deprived Protestant communities have taken in recent years. There is another better way forward which the trade union movement has a particular duty to point towards and open up. Towards this end, union leaders should be concerned to create space for their members and for others in Protestant areas to stand up for the Catholics. An active union centred campaign against the sectarian killers is the best way to do this.

Of course, it works both ways. It is appropriate to respond here on behalf of Derry trade unionists to recent attacks on the Fountain, now the only Protestant area on the west bank of the Foyle. These attacks have been different in scale to the murder attacks of the UDA and UVF. This is the main point to be made about them - that the difference is one of scale.

The people of the Fountain should be assured that those involved in the attacks are not representative of the Catholics of the Bogside or anywhere else, and that they are not planned or approved by any group or organisation. However they do reveal the existence of a level of anti-Protestant bigotry which should be condemned and rejected in clear, unambiguous terms. Trade unionists and community leaders in Catholic areas here should be standing up for the Protestants.

Over the past few years, trade union activity has played a positive role in fighting against sectarian hatred and intimidation. The strikes by rank and file members of NIPSA in DHSS offices, for example, were extremely important in facing down threats to Catholic workers in a number of offices and preventing the emergence of sectarian division among the workforce.

### Walk Out

The walkout at the shipyard after the murder of Maurice O'Kane was a more significant event than has been widely recognised, signalling as it did a clear rejection by the workforce of the Loyalist killers and an anxiety to make Catholics in the Yard feel at ease.

The huge rallies following the Shankill and Greysteel atrocities may only have been gestures, but they were important gestures, and helped to dispel some of the fog of sectarian despair which was threatening to engulf us at that time. Many of us may have believed that they were organised on too timid a basis, but they were positive in their effect. They should have been followed up by a sustained programme of action. Instead, the momentum was allowed to falter.

The trade union movement should now be actively considering how best to intervene in the current situation. It has been a matter for regret by our trades council that positive suggestions for action which we put forward late last year appear not to have been given serious consideration. We will be pressing these suggestions again. The trade union movement must become more positive and pro-active in its approach.

I believe personally that union activists and officials should be arguing now for work stoppages to drive the message of non-sectarianism home and to marginalise the bigots. If the official leaders of the movement are unwilling to take this initiative, shop stewards and other activists from different industries and areas should get together to mobilise a rank-and-file response.

**EAMONN McCANN Chair, Derry Trades Council.**

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by **MARNIE  
HOLBORROW****Alexandra Kollantai****A fighter for real  
women's liberation**

**ALEXANDRA Kollantai** was a name on everybody's lips in Russia 1917.

Workers cheered her as she spoke at packed meetings. Soldiers elected her to represent them on their workers' council.

She became the first woman minister the world had ever seen when she became Commissar for Social Welfare in Russia's new workers government.

The right wing, by contrast, slandered her in their press. She was berated for being a "loose woman".

She was criticised for involving working women in her ministry. The Church was particularly vicious in its attack on her, especially when she converted a monastery into a hospital for invalid soldiers.

"There are only two communists in Russia", wrote one critic of the revolution "Lenin and Mme Kollantai".

From a young woman, Kollantai had fought tirelessly for two aims: revolutionary change in society and freedom for women.

One of her first acts of revolt was to refuse a marriage of convenience from her upper class parents.

Against their wishes she married a distant cousin, Vladimir Kollantai, whose name she kept and with whom she had a son.

She became a socialist during the year of Russia's first wave of mass strikes in 1896. After visiting a textile factory, she collected money for the striking women.

She was inspired by how these women workers had thrown off the chains of peasant customs, and were leading the strike.

She also realised that "in fighting for the rights of her class, the working women was unconsciously paving the way for the liberation of her sex".

She became a socialist and joined the Bolshevik party.

Her support for working class women brought her into sharp conflict with the feminists of the time. Many of the Russian feminists believed that women



could gain their rights without fundamentally changing society. They believed that a separate women's movement to win the vote and access to education.

Kollantai argued that against this. Women were divided into classes just as men were.

**Challenge**

Upper class women were not prepared to challenge the way society was run so working class women would have to fight for themselves.

Kollantai was proved right in 1905, when domestic servants refused to join their lady employers in a "Union for Women's Equality".

The maids voted with their feet and joined their own working class trade unions.

But it was in 1917 that Kollantai the revolutionary and fighter for women's liberation came together.

Returning from exile, and understanding how workers in Russia were ready to fight for a workers revolution, Kollantai was the first Bolshevik to support Lenin in the call for revolution.

She spoke at factories, on streets, on battleships arguing for workers action, for support for strikes, for all power to the Soviets.

She understood how important women workers were in this.

She helped bring out the Bolshevik

paper "Women Worker" (Rabotnitsa) which appeared weekly in June 1917.

Kollantai and others would spend their days going round Petrograd's shops and factories talking to women and returning at night to write copy.

**Rallies**

Thousands of women workers attended rallies which were filled to overflowing.

Thousands more women workers were swelling the ranks of the Bolshevik party.

Kollantai understood how capitalism had forced women into roles that were restrictive and demeaning.

She also saw how things could be so

different.

"I always believed that the time inevitably must come when women will be judged by the same moral standards that applied to man.

For it is not her specific feminine virtue that gives her a place of honour in human society, but the worth of her personality as a human being, as citizen, as thinker, as fighter.

Subconsciously this motive was the leading force of my whole life and activity."

In her novels, "A Great Love" and "Love of Worker Bees", this vision of true emancipation for women rings out.

Her characters fight their old oppressive dependence and fight for their own independent dignity. In the process they find the confidence to make new independent lives for themselves. The books are truly ahead of their time.

One of her characters Zhenya speaks openly of her sexual freedom, her need for sexual relations, the fact that she has no time - because of her political activity - to fall in love.

Kollantai believed that the present society allows us no choice and little freedom in our sexual lives.

She predicted that the revolution would bring a great change in personal lives. She wrote "as the cultural and economic base of humanity changes, so love will be transformed".

Stalin's regime tried to quieten Kollantai's voice by sending her off into the diplomatic service.

From the mid twenties onwards, she escaped Stalin's purges because she was an ambassador in Oslo.

She also had to keep quiet about what was going on in Russia. Sometimes she even went along with praising Stalin's view of motherhood. Undoubtedly Stalin's counter-revolution had affected her too.

But in spite of that, her vision of women's liberation, her fight during the revolution alongside the women and men workers who made real change possible, is an inspiration for us in Ireland today.

**Women and the 1917 Revolution**

AS Russia industrialised, factories brought together huge numbers of workers, including women.

In these massive textile and munitions plants up to 10,000 women were employed.

In the lead up to the first world war, the number of women in paid employment had doubled. In Petrograd, between 1914 and 1917 the number of women reached one third of the workforce.

Women led the February revolution. It was started by a demonstration by "hungry women and children demanding bread and herring" on International Women's day.

The women's demands struck a chord with the workers in the

factories. The demonstration developed into a general strike and forced the collapse of the monarchy.

As workers established their own councils, women workers were to the fore. In Petrograd women in the tobacco factories demanded protection for pregnant workers.

In a textile mill, workers demanded 100% increase for men and 125% increases for women.

Women workers' lives were the hardest and so they were often the most radical. In May 1917, eight thousand laundresses struck in Petrograd, for an eight hour day and a wage rise.

Kollantai was involved in leading their strike and called for them to

adopt Bolshevik demands against the war and the government.

After the October revolution, the new workers' state introduced new legal norms for women that would be the envy of us here in Ireland today—or anywhere else.

**Freed**

Kollantai and the revolutionary government gave women the right to vote and hold public office, but also access to free and legal contraception and abortion for all women.

Marriage was freed of its religious trappings and divorce made easy. Homosexuality was decriminalised.

It decreed the principle of equal pay for equal work, paid maternity

leave for four months before and after childbirth, and legislated for childcare at government expense.

Factories were provided with creches and nursing mothers given time off for breast feeding.

However, laws alone could only do so much, as Kollantai realised. For women's equality to become a reality, far more needed to be done.

Women's traditional role in the home—what Lenin called "household slavery"—could only be got rid of through the provision of communal housing, restaurants and laundries.

By 1920 around 90% of people in Petrograd were opting to eat communally and 60% of the Moscow population were registered at com-

munal canteens.

How successfully the new workers state could revolutionise domestic life was limited by the deprivation and hardship that followed the revolution.

**Challenge**

But it could only begin to do these things at all because it was organising society on the basis of workers' needs not bosses' profits.

It was no easy task breaking down the old ideas that people had. In the east of Russia, and in rural areas, new ideas about women's liberation ran up against superstition.

In 1919 Kollantai and others in the Bolshevik Party set up the Zhenotdel (Women's Department) partly to chal-

lenge these backward ideas. By the mid 1920's, some 500,000 women were participating for the first time in working and peasant women conferences.

In Baku, the Zhenotdel Club reached several thousand members and on International Women's Day thousands of women would gather in the market and tear off their veils.

But these developments were to be short-lived. The Russian revolution was isolated and defeated. When Stalin came to power workers came under cruel attack in labour camps and harsh new production quotas were introduced in the factories.

Women's freedoms came under the same hammer.

During the 1930's,

abortion was abolished, divorce became much more difficult and Stalin proclaimed the "new soviet family" awarding women for being model "soviet mothers". The old ways that had so oppressed women in the past were reintroduced.

Kollantai had said that you cannot separate the way women are treated from how the rest of society is run.

She wrote "Women can become truly free and equal only in a world organised along new social and productive lines".

The Russian revolution gave us a glimpse of freedom and equality for women.

It showed how oppression can be begun to be broken in the fight to change society as a whole.



# GO FOR GROWTH!

THOUSANDS are now looking for a real socialist alternative to the Labour Party.

Dick Spring is doing everything to cover for the stink of corruption that is coming from Fianna Fail.

In the North, republican politics have run into a dead end.

At a time when there is mass disillusionment amongst Protestant workers they are retreating further into right wing nationalism.

The Socialist Workers Movement are now working flat out to build this alternative.

As soon as the findings of the Beef Tribunal became known SWM members were on the streets demanding that no tax amnesty be given to Goodman.

One member described the reaction like this, "People came up and almost grappled the pens out of our hands. We were too soft. We should have been calling for him to be locked up"

A lively picket was organised outside the Revenue Commissioners. Afterwards three people joined the SWM.

Despite the attacks of the media, TEAM workers have kept up their protests at Dublin airport.

SWM has given full backing to the struggle.

Socialist Workers have been put up all over Dublin calling for support for the workers.

A number of TEAM workers have now joined the SWM.

To commemorate the

25th anniversary of the British Army going into Northern Ireland, the SWM organised a speaking tour with an

ex-British soldier exposing the reality behind the 'peacemaker' image.

After the tour, he told Socialist Worker:

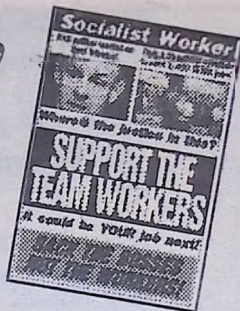
"It was my first time back here as an invited guest and I really enjoyed it.

"I was sent back from Northern Ireland because I started to ask too many questions.

"I had to eventually buy my way out of the army after I got sick of the things I saw.

"Not many people know, for example, that when British soldiers come back from the North they are given a two week amnesty.

"They can go on the town and do more or less what they want to get rid of their frustration. It just shows you what a



horrible role they are asked to play."

After Nick spoke in Derry three people decided to join the SWM.

In all over 40 people joined the SWM last month. But now the pace of recruitment is being stepped up.

The SWM has organised its first meeting in Letterkenny and hopes to get organised there. A new branch is being established in Dun Laoghaire.

But the race is on to build a serious socialist organisation in Ireland. Write in to join if you are interested.

## New pamphlet

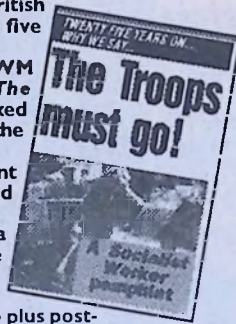
SWM has produced a new pamphlet to commemorate the arrival of the British Army in Ireland twenty five years ago.

Written by Belfast SWM members it is called *The Troops Must Go* and is packed with information on what the army has been up to.

It deals with the argument that any withdrawal would lead to a bloodbath.

It shows that there is a socialist alternative to the dead end politics of republicanism

Order your copy for 50p plus postage from SWM Books, PO Box 1648 Dublin 8.



## What's On

Branches of the SWM meet around the country at the following times and venues

**ATHLONE:** Meets every Tuesday. For details of time and venue write to the SWM national address.

**BELFAST:** Meets every Tuesday 8pm See SW sellers for details or contact national office

**CORK:** Meets every Tuesday 8pm Anchor Inn, Georges Quay

**DERRY:** Meets every Tuesday 8pm Badgers Pub Orchard St

**DUBLIN NORTH CENTRAL:** Meets every Wednesday 8pm Conway's Pub Parnell St

**DUBLIN NORTHSIDE:** Meets every Tuesday 8pm The Old Brogue, Dorset St

**DUBLIN SOUTH CENTRAL:** Meets every Thursday 8pm Trinity Inn Pearse St

**DUBLIN SOUTHSIDE:** Meets every Wednesday 8pm Clarkes Bar, 11 Wexford St

**DUNDALK:** For details of time and venue write to the SWM national address.

**DUN LAOGHAIRE:** For details of time and venue write to the SWM national address.

**MAYNOOTH:** For details of time and venue write to the SWM national address.

**TALLAGHT/CLONDALKIN:** Meets every Wednesday 8pm Tallaght Welfare Society next to Foxes Covert in Tallaght village

**WATERFORD:** Meets every Thursday 8pm ATGWU Hall, Keyser St

To contact the SWM in Athy, Bray, Coleraine, Cookstown, Craigavon, Drogheda, Dun Laoghaire, Galway, Kilkenny, Letterkenny, Limerick write to SWM PO Box 1648, Dublin 8, Phone (01) 872 2682 or PO Box 103 Belfast 15 2AB

# What we stand for

Workers create all the wealth in capitalist society. A new society can only be constructed when they collectively seize control of that wealth and plan its production and distribution.

### FOR REVOLUTION, NOT REFORM

The present system cannot be reformed out of existence. Parliament cannot be used to end the system. It has to be overthrown.

The machinery of the capitalist state—parliament, courts, army, police etc.—is there to defend the interests of the capitalist class, not to run society in a 'neutral' fashion.

To destroy capitalism, workers need to smash the state and create a workers' state based on workers' councils.

### FOR REAL SOCIALISM, EAST AND WEST:

The SWM welcomed the break-up of the USSR and the end of the East European dictatorships. These states were not socialist but were run by a state-capitalist class. Workers' revolutions are needed to win real freedom in the East.

We are against the domination of the globe by imperialist powers and we oppose their wars. We are for the right of all nations, East and West, to self-determination.

### FOR AN END TO ALL OPPRESSION

We oppose all forms of oppression which divide and weaken the working class. We are for full social, economic and political equality for women.

We stand for: free contraception and free, legalised abortion and the right to divorce; the complete separation of church and state, an end to church control over schools and hospitals; an end to discrimination against gays and lesbians; an end to racism and anti-traveller bigotry.

We argue for working class unity in the fight against oppression.

### FOR WORKERS' UNITY IN THE NORTH:

Northern Ireland is a sectarian state, propped up by the British Army.

Catholic workers are systematically discriminated against by the state. The division between Catholic and Protestant workers weakens the whole working class.

Workers' unity can only be won and maintained in a fight to smash both the Northern and Southern states.

We stand for the immediate withdrawal of British troops. Violence will only end when workers unite in the fight for a workers' republic.

### FOR A FIGHTING TRADE UNION MOVEMENT:

Trade unions exist to defend workers' interests. But the union leaders' role is to negotiate with capitalism—not to end it.

We support the leaders when they fight but oppose them when they betray workers. We stand for independent rank and file action.

### FOR A REVOLUTIONARY PARTY:

To win socialism socialists need to organise in a revolutionary party. This party needs to argue against right-wing ideas and for overthrowing the system. The SWM aims to build such a party in Ireland.

# LETTERS to the editor

Agree? Disagree? You can send your letters to: *Socialist Worker*, PO Box 1648, Dublin 8



## Southern Ireland is still a neo-colony of Britain

THE SWM says that Southern Ireland is not a neo-colony.

But sovereign states speak their own language, when they have one.

Unless one wishes to consider stage Irishisms like "Top of the morning to ye, bejappers and begorrah" as our own language, we do not speak our own language.

Secondly, through speaking their own language, sovereign states can think for themselves.

### Whimper

We see every day that our almost automatic solution for any problem here is to whimper "Answer please, London!

New York". Thirdly, sovereign states insist on separate international representation.

We in Ireland are every so happy to take part in

our role as good provincial Britishers in British sports teams—the best known example of which is the Lions.

Fourthly, sovereign states follow their own in-

terests, as we should.

Our stance on the North is one where we blindly follow London's line.

AI/N SPIDEAL READER, Gaillimh

## Gardaí are the only trouble makers

BEING unemployed and unable to pay inflated prices in Dublin city centre pubs the only option my friends and I have when going out is to buy a carry out and go to Temple Bar where there is usually a lot of people drinking on the street in a good atmosphere.

This is now being curbed by the Gardai.

In recent weeks they have threatened to use the Public Order Bill to

clear the streets.

The Gardai are hassling people for nothing more than having a good time.

In the past few weeks notices have appeared in pub windows barring drinking on the streets.

So even if you have £2.20 for a pint you have to drink in a packed pub on a warm summer night.

The only trouble makers you see in Temple Bar these days are the boys in blue. Give us back Temple Bar!

AL GOODE, Dublin.

## SW BACKS THE WRONG BAND!

I HAVE read a few issues of *Socialist Worker* recently and think that it says a lot of sensible things.

But what were you doing in the last issue promoting the music of an Islamic fundamentalist group.

What has this band got to say about Iran where women have to wear the veil? Are they for killing Salman Rushdie?

Surely fundamentalism is as bad as some of the extreme right wing groups in Europe.

Could you not find a better band to promote?

STEVE McNALLY, Dublin

## JOIN US!

If you would like to join the SWM or receive more details, send this slip to: SWM, PO Box 1648, Dublin 8, Tel: (01) 872 2682 or PO Box 103 Belfast 15 2AB

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Third World birth control faces attack

THE POPE has launched a vehement attack on contraception and abortion in the run up to the United Nations Conference on Population and Development.

The Vatican has also forged an alliance with Islamic Fundamentalists and are planning joint opposition to the conference resolutions along with the Iranian authorities in Tehran.

The Vatican is claiming that the UN is involved in "cultural imperialism", by allowing the West to impose abortion on demand, sexual promiscuity, and distorted notions of the family, on underdeveloped countries.

These arguments can get a hearing in countries such as the Philippines, where the sex industry has grown up in response to the presence of both US military bases and western tourists.

Yet politicians who always tolerated the conditions giving rise to the sex industry are now mobilising against abortion and contraception.

When the church in the Philippines called demonstrations against a "global dictatorship" swamping the world with contraceptives, former president Cory Aquino played her part by burning sex magazines and copies of the UN draft resolution.

But Aquino gave full support to US army bases when she was President of the Philippines.

As in the West, the criminalisation of abortion simply leads to backstreet abortions.

Before abortion was legalised in India in 1971, it was estimated that over 2 million illegal abortions a year were being carried out by both medical and non-medical personnel.

Over fifty million abortions are carried out every year around the world, the vast majority of which are illegal. More than 250,000 women die as a result of these illegal abortions.

### Postpone

More than 100 million women in the developing world want to avoid or postpone pregnancy, but do not have access to contraceptives.

The reality is that the UN conference has little intention of promoting abortion rights in the developing world.

At the last Conference on Population and Development, held in Mexico City in 1984, a resolution was proposed recognising the dangers of illegal abortion and demanding that all women have access to safe and legal abortion.

But this resolution was abandoned in favour of one which was distinctly anti-abortion in tone.

There is every possibility that the Vatican can exert enough diplomatic pressure to modify any proposals on the introduction of safe, free and legal contraception, since they already know that abortion is off the agenda.

The argument of the ecologists and environmentalists that the world population is raging out of control and that only population control can save the earth can also lead to attacks on women's rights.

In many Third World countries contraceptive drugs like Depro Provera were injected into women by fanatics who were terrified about 'over population'. This did terrible damage to women's health.

This argument about an over-populated Third World has recently been echoed in Ireland by Professor Paul McNulty of UCD. He argues that since Africa cannot produce enough to feed its ever-increasing population, then the answer is to limit the growth of the population.

It is nonsense. The average population density in sub-Saharan Africa is less than that of Europe. In this part of Africa there are 16 people per square kilometres while in Europe there are 78 people.

The problem is not the number of people—it is an economic system that is based on robbing the people of Africa.

McNulty does not even want to send food aid, since it depresses market prices locally.

He seems less concerned about the fact that prices for Africa's international exports, such as coffee, have been kept artificially low for decades, adding to the profits of multinationals such as the Nestle Corporation.

Focusing on population growth is an attempt to shift the blame from the IMF, the World Bank, and the ruling classes, and to blame the poor for their own poverty.

□ PATRICIA McMANUS

Film:

# Nasty little lies

I'VE nothing against blockbuster movies. In fact often mindless, plotless, special effect laden spectacles are just the thing.

Wildly implausible scenarios, super hero goodies and wickedly nasty baddies battling away for two hours, everyone knows who'll win, it's only a question of how sensational the stunts are—at the end of the day, a bit of harmless entertainment.

*True Lies* appears just such a movie.

Harry Tasker, played by Arnold Schwarzenegger, is a mild-mannered salesman.

He leaves his family at breakfast and returns at night, often working overtime.

He's slightly boring but a steady husband and father.

Except that, unbeknownst to his trusting family, he is in fact a spy, daily fighting international terrorists to make his country a safe place to live.

Harry is a hero. Ironically his wife, Helen, bored by the dullness of her life and on the look out for excitement, is duped by a real salesman pretending to be a secret agent.

(The salesman is a spy, the spy is a salesman—geddit?) Not exactly awe inspiring, but hardly offensive either.



However, *True Lies* is a nasty little movie.

During the cold war the baddies were usually called Nikolai or Boris and were ruthless emotional Russians.

### Ridiculed

There's not much call for old Boris in this new world order. What is a Hollywood film producer to do?

What nationality can be pilloried, ridiculed and represented through a simple character?

In *True Lies* we have Aziz. Aziz is an Arab, we're not told from where, but hey, who cares. He's an Arab, a lunatic, frothing at the mouth, who wants to nuke America.

His followers are also Arab, lunatic and frothing at the mouth.

They're slightly more stupid and follow him with lolling eyes and chanting mumbo jumbo (we know it's nonsense because it's not English).

Harry must single-handedly save his wife, daughter and the United

States from the Arabs and he does so with ease because the Arabs have inferior weaponry and principles and are barking mad.

### Blown away

The racism in this film is awe inspiring.

We're encouraged to laugh whenever an Arab comes on screen swearing revenge on America and to cheer when they're sprayed with bullets, hung from meat hooks, shot in the eye, set on fire, or blown away.

Make no mistake, this is the Gulf War with Schwarzenegger playing Schwartzkopf.

Don't get me wrong. *True Lies* isn't just racist, there's more to it than that.

We also have rampant sexism, jingoism and stomach churning violence, with a body count into the thousands.

And it's educational as well. If ever you're in the vicinity of a nuclear explosion, just look away from the blast and kiss Arnie and you'll be fine.

The director of *True Lies* says he's sick of Political Correctness dictating to Hollywood.

After all it's only a bit of fun, it's all tongue in cheek. There's no agenda, only killjoys and pinkos could object.

So to show I'm no begrudger I've an idea for a sequel in the same style: *Truer Lies*.

The opening shot is a gang of frothing at the mouth terrorists planning to rule the world from their home base at the Pentagon.

The climax is when TEAM workers strap management to the front of a jet and take off.

In the final sequence a small time crook, Albo, from the gombeen party, is overthrown and forced to eat the dog food from his own factory.

Think I'll get funding? Any takers for a couple of dress rehearsals—just in case.

□ CATHY BERGIN

## On the side of the underdog

CONOR KOSTICK reviews Fintan O'Toole's new collection of articles about Ireland in the nineties

THE Hierarchy has been embarrassed recently by the reappearance, in full regalia, of Bishop Eamon Casey.

No wonder they squirm at his presence, for it is a reminder of how much authority the Church has lost these past few years.

Fintan O'Toole has been an excellent chronicler of these changing times in Ireland. His latest book is a collection of essays and articles which try and capture Ireland in the 1990's.

The best articles are those where Fintan O'Toole turns his fire against Fianna Fail and the Church.

At the time of the Bishop Casey affair, O'Toole's sympathies were clearly with Annie Murphy, but he observed in her book something which generally escapes attention:

"What is actually much more striking in Annie Murphy's story is the shock of the familiar.

"The view from the Bishop's bed is a new angle on the sumptuousness and luxury of life at

the top of the clerical ladder.

"Annie Murphy is one outsider ... who became privy to a world whose sensual delights may exclude sex but include the best of food and drink, the finest places to live, the swankiest cars, clothes bought straight from Harrods."

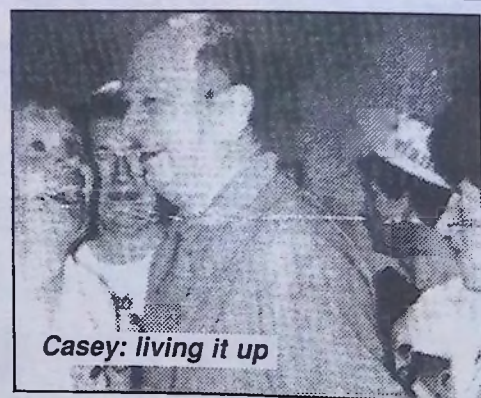
### Bingo

When, in February 1992, Albert Reynolds was about to be elected Taoiseach, O'Toole was scathing:

"Aiben Reynolds's most important contribution to modern Ireland ... is the introduction of the first £1,000 bingo session."

Reynolds has never moved an inch beyond that gombeen business mentality since.

More seriously



Casey: living it up

O'Toole writes well about the way in which Fianna Fail has, despite its best efforts, lost its all-embracing populism.

The fact that Reynolds now leads the Party, is the result of a process that has seen Fianna Fail evolve into an unambiguous Party of big business.

The other articles in the book are wide ranging and thought provoking.

His insights into the relationship between the Irish and America are fascinating.

He explores the complexity of Irish people identifying both with the oppressed in America—the native Americans and blacks—but also with the American dream and corrupt machine politics.

### Oppressed

The essay on the creation of the Crumlin Housing estate is passionate and fiercely critical of the authorities contempt for working class people.

But there is a criticism

to make.

Despite his definite commitment to the side of the underdog, Fintan O'Toole pulls his punches.

He can see the head of steam building up amongst the oppressed, but he seems to imagine that by prodding the Church and the Government, this can be let off, bit by bit.

As a result his essays are sometimes pleading rather than combative.

What should be borne in mind when viewing these past few years, is that although Ireland is changing, the employers, the Government and the Church are fighting tooth and nail to preserve their privileges.

As a result this country will witness explosions which will make that of the X-case look like a minor tremor.

■ *Black Hole, Green Card: The Disappearance of Ireland, Fintan O'Toole, New Island Books, £6.95*

If you have a story from your workplace phone (01) 872 2682

## INDUSTRIAL NEWS

# Dunnes picketed over Sunday trading

**WORKERS** in Dunnes Stores picketed outside branches in Killarney, Galway, Grafton Street and Dun Laoghaire for the second successive Sunday last month.

More than a hundred workers turned up and again got a good public response, with only a dozen people entering the Dun Laoghaire branch during the four-hour picket.

The dispute is over Dunne's decision to roster staff for Sunday work and their refusal to pay the recognised premium rate for Sunday hours.

### Broke

Management at the company broke an existing agreement by arrogantly introducing the extra hours without consultation with staff or their union, Mandate.

The ballot for action got close

to 100 percent support, and the workers concerned are prepared to stay out till the company honours their contract to make Sunday work voluntary and pays the premium rate of triple time

One Mandate member said that the workers were all in support of the action.

"Knowing the company, they won't back down easily," he said, "but then neither will we. For the foreseeable future the pickets will be there."

# Dublin Corppo action

**DUBLIN** Corporation is still facing major resistance from workers they want to move to new buildings at Wood Quay.

An IMPACT member told *Socialist Worker*, "They want us to move in late September but we are refusing to go. It is not about money or anything."

"They built the offices there for 650 people but then discovered that space for 750 was needed. They think that they can simply squash in the extra hundred"

However workers are not putting up with cramped accommodation. They have banned all preparatory work on the move. Four departments - Planning, Law, Surveyors and Architects are also taking industrial action by working to rule.

At first the Corporation tried to intimidate the union by threatening to sack temporary workers if the action was not called off. But after a threat of wider solidarity action, the Corporation backed down from this threat.

According to the IMPACT member "The dispute could be resolved very easily. They could just hold back one of the departments that are supposed to move. But it looks like we are going to have to fight them to make them see sense".

## Royal Mail workers fight sell-off plans

# 'Stick together and fight'

**TWO** hundred Belfast postal workers took to the streets recently against the Tory plans to privatise the post office.

Management have threatened to discipline workers who put up anti-privatisation posters. The marchers were supported by British Telecom workers and members of the Belfast Trades Council

Later *Socialist Worker* spoke to a UCW worker in Belfast's Toome Street sorting office about the mood and effects of cutbacks there.

**SW:** What was the feeling in your office when privatisation was announced?

The first thing people wondered was how they could get any more out of us.

The post office have already changed duties for many workers and forced extra workload on us.

Since I started six years ago the work force has dropped from twelve hundred to little

## MMDS Protest in Waterford

**FOUR** hundred people turned up to a meeting in Waterford to protest about the erection of a Multipoint Microwave Distribution System mast for beaming in extra television channels at Rathfadden.

The site overlooks the whole city and is surrounded by huge working class housing estates.

Recent studies have raised serious doubts about the safety of the MMDS system.

Donal O'Riordan from Galway told the meeting how he developed "chronic fatigue syndrome" as a result of working with non-ionising radiation, and how it "ruined his life".

Professor Roger Coghill: "Little is known about the biological

effects of low level radiation, but many institutions are reducing their level of exposure.

Los Angeles City, Kirkland airforce base, and the US Environmental Protection Agency have reduced their exposure level to one hundred times below the accepted standard for the Irish National Radiation Protection Board. A city such as Boston has already banned the use of MMDS."

One of the major investors in the MMDS system is a company called Princess Holdings in which Tony O'Reilly has a major interest. The system can also be used to set up a mobile phone network.

This is where O'Reilly sees himself making huge profits. He does not care that the system is already obsolete and is a possible danger to the health of people.

## ST MARY'S STAFF SIT IN

**WORKERS** at St Mary's Hospital in the Phoenix Park held a brief sit-in after the management refused to replace staff.

The work of someone who went on maternity leave was only being half covered and a supplies officer's job was not properly filled.

After the action a shop steward who first raised the issue of an apology from management for the way he was treated in a matter was referred to further negotiations.



over six hundred. Any people taken on have all been on part-time temporary contracts.

**SW:** What is the feeling on the shop floor towards these cutbacks?

There is real bitterness and hatred of the bosses. When I first started, when you cleared up your work the supervisor would let you go home.

Now you're hardly allowed from your area for even a short chat to your mates.

The management are constantly on our backs over the silliest things.

Even the people who used to put themselves out doing extra shifts and who would basically do anything for the post office are angry at the way things have gone.

**SW:** You've mentioned a lot of anger. Is there a mood for a fight back?

People are angry but the union is just not taking a lead. Last year the mood was to re-

ject the 1.5 percent pay deal, but when the union official spoke he recommended us to accept and said it didn't matter anyway because the majority in Britain would accept.

We asked the question: If we rejected the deal in Belfast, would the union support any action?

### Refused

But he refused to give us a straight answer. I worked out £2 worse off with increased tax and national insurance brackets. People need a stronger leadership to fight.

**SW:** What about the tremendous examples of unofficial action in Britain, in particular the two thousand people on strike in Liverpool in support of a col-league?

The first anybody heard about them was through *Socialist Worker* leaflets.

These things just don't get reported on the news.

When I asked the shop steward about a strike he said he knew nothing about it.

People thought those strikes were brilliant, but we feel isolated sometimes in Belfast so there's a real need to link the struggles.

**SW:** How do you feel about the future? Do you think the Tories will be forced to retreat?

If privatisation goes ahead it will be a real kick in the teeth for many people. It will mean compulsory job losses and pay cuts.

We have never been faced with that before but it's not hard to picture it happening.

Management have promised to consult and keep us informed and to generally reassure us, but no-one believes in any of that.

The Tories could be beaten very easily if we stuck together, but we need people to stick together and fight to link the struggles in every area.

## IRISH STEEL

**THE** press are delighted with the outcome of Irish Steel.

They are full of stories of craft workers repenting for rejecting a cost cutting plan and accepting the new deal.

The reality is completely different. The union officials of the craft workers accepted the aggregate vote to cut wages—the workers never did.

Irish Steel have not yet dared implement their plan for 'cross fertilisation'—getting craft workers to do SIPTU members out of a job.

Craft shop stewards have pledged that they never will. The battles at Irish Steel are not yet over.

## Cuts threat at ESB

**WORKERS** at the ESB are facing new attacks on their conditions and a threat of mass redundancy.

Management have gone on the offensive after a recent vote by workers at the Poolbeg power station.

Faced with the introduction of new turbines workers at the station were told that if they did not accept changes that the jobs at the plant would be given over to contract workers from the ESB (International).

Faced with this threat union officials argued for a deal which 'blurred the edges' between skilled grades and for a cut in overtime earnings.

Many workers now stand to lose up to 20% of the overtime earnings they got in the past.

The vote for the deal was three to one. As soon as the vote came through management did everything to publicise their new plans for cost and competitiveness.

They want to sack between 2,000 and 4,000 workers and claimed that this will be done through 'natural wastage'.

But according to one worker "There is not enough people at retirement age. They will try on redundancies. We have to start organising resistance now".

## U.C.D. Cleaners ballot

**UCD** cleaners have balloted for strike action. They recently had to face the issue of new contracts.

Some workers were not taken back. In other cases workers found that their hours were being cut from two and a half hours a day to two.

But they were still expected to do the same work.

UCD workers launched an important strike some years ago which set headlines for the treatment of part-time workers. They can do the same again and put some manners on a vicious boss class.

**ACTION** at TCD over the treatment of cleaners has been called off after SIPTU reluctantly recommended a deal where few gains were made. The issue of pension rights for cleaners has been referred to the LRC. Trinity management have agreed to fill create 13 new jobs over two years to replace the cleaners they have made redundant. Further action could have got more from management.

**STAFF** at UCD library took unofficial strike action when they were asked to load a new tape onto the computers network.

Union members argued that the management were trying to break a technology agreement.

The tape was the property of a private company which is connected with some of the top managers of the library.

By taking the action workers showed that they are not going to be pushed around.

# Socialist Worker

For a Workers' Republic and International Socialism 40p

**Inside:**

**Rwanda: bled dry by the Western banks-page 4**

# STOP THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE BILL

**THE NEW Tory Criminal Justice Bill is a vicious piece of legislation.**

The Criminal Justice Bill will arm the police with almost unlimited powers to harass and criminalise road protesters, squatters, ravers, travellers and hunt saboteurs.

It is a disgusting assault on basic civil rights, the right to party, the right to live wherever and however you want and the right to protest.

Anyone who doesn't fit into the Tories view of the world—whether wanting to stop a hospital closure or going to a rave—is under attack from this bill.

The police could be able to bar an assembly from an area of up to five miles for a period of up to four days.

## Disperse

The bill refers to raves as "sounds wholly or predominantly characterised by the emission of repetitive beats".

If police hear these sounds they can move in and disperse people whether it be a few friends listening to music or

an organised rave.

But it also means that anyone having a party at night can be raided by the police and if they refuse to move can be locked up for three months.

It will end the right to silence when arrested in Britain. This will make it easier for the police to extract false confessions.

As Hugh Callaghan of the Birmingham Six says, "taking away the right to silence will cause more miscarriages of justice."

More than that, at the heart of the bill is an attack on workers right to organise.

The Tories know that the bitterness people feel against them is breaking through in strikes and demonstrations.

They want to outlaw all these fightbacks.

If they succeed, they will make criminals of ordinary people organising to defend the Health Service, or workers striking against Post Office privatisation.

It will allow them to push

through cutbacks and job losses, by getting rid of basic Trade Union rights.

However, the Labour Party has played a treacherous role

Its MPs abstained on the vote in parliament.

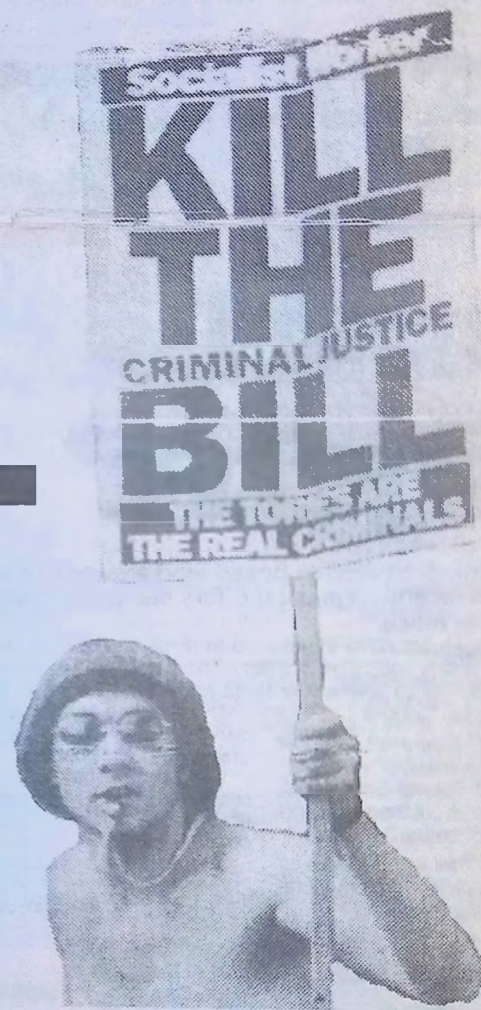
Worse still, their new leader Tony Blair boasted that Labour even helped draft some

**"People have a right to enjoy whatever music they like without the cops coming in telling them to turn it off"**  
—Terry Hooley, Belfast record store owner

## What the Bill means



1. Ends your right to silence if arrested making everyone guilty until proven innocent.
2. Gives police the power to "Stop and Search" you on the streets.
3. Makes it a criminal offence—with a six month jail sentence—for a squatter to stay in a building 24 hours after a court has granted a possession order.
4. Locks up children as young as ten in prisons run for private profit.
5. Any protest, picket or trespass can be banned at the discretion of the police with fines of up to £2,500 or 3 months in prison for noncompliance.
6. Any assembly of people can be banned for up to four days from an area of up to five miles. Raves, street parties, demonstrations and pickets could all be outlawed under this provision.



provisions in the bill!

Yet, the bill can be beaten. If the Tories want to divide us, we need to unite against them.

In July 80,000 people demonstrated in London against the Criminal Justice Bill. We can build a similar campaign in Northern Ireland, if we organise all those under attack by the bill.

Last year in the South, Reynolds brought in a Public Order Act which has the same type of provisions. The second person arrested under the Act dies in a police station.

## Profits

Our rulers, whether in Downing St. or Leinster House have a common interest to protect themselves and the profits of their rich friends from the growing wave of protests and strikes.

It is in the common interest of both Catholic and Protestant trade unionists and workers to fight this bill.

Workers hold the power to hurt the Tories where it really hurts, in their profits.

Mass working class action kicked out Thatcher and the poll tax. If we use our strength, Major and this rotten piece of Tory bigotry and repression can go the same way.

## What you can do

Join the Campaign against the Criminal Justice Bill—Write to P.O. Box 103 Belfast 15 2AB.

1. Leaflet your own workplace or local factories.
2. Order the Campaign factsheet and pass them out to your friends.
3. Pass a motion in your union or college condemning the bill and resolving to support any demonstrations against the bill.