

woman worker

a paper of the workers socialist league

Number 9 January/February 1981 5p



Act now to stop housing cuts

Changes in the housing subsidy system and tighter government control over housing has brought massive rent rises averaging £3.50 for council tenants all over the country.

Alongside cuts in new building and repairs, sales of council houses at huge discounts will bring an unprecedented rise in the number of homeless families.

In Leicester, the Labour City Council are proposing rates and to use money from other sources to avoid an increase of £3.54 in council rents.

Like many Labour Councils they desperately shuffle around figures at every new attack on public spending by the Tories, complaining that they have no choice. But by increasing rents and rates, they are refusing to challenge this Tory government's right to slash workers' living standards.

For thousands of council tenants, rents and rates rises are the equivalent of a wage cut—in addition to the wage cuts carried out by holding wage rises below the level of inflation.

Lambeth Labour Group called a conference in November (reported in the last issue of *Woman Worker*), which adopted a programme to give a lead and co-ordinate opposition to the Tory's cuts.

The recall conference on January 17th reaffirmed this programme and called for:

- *No rent and rates rises
- *Regional Labour movement conferences to organise opposition to rents and rates rises through rent/rates strikes.
- *United trade union action to prevent closures and cuts in services.

This is, of course, in opposition to Lambeth Council's policy of not cutting

services, but raising rates and selling off council houses.

Coventry District Labour Party recently voted for a policy of no rent rises and 12 Labour Councillors are standing on this policy in the Council, against the majority of the Labour Group who are imposing rent increases.

At present these pockets of resistance in local government are isolated and Labour Councils use this isolation as an excuse, raising the spectre of Clay Cross as a warning.

Tenants' Associations will play an important role in this fight. The recent 97-day squat in South London indicates the strength and determination of tenants to oppose housing cuts (see article on back page).

Another small example is from a council estate in Oxford, where one tenant, on his own initiative, organised a petition calling for rent strikes in opposition to Heseltine's housing cuts.

He gained 600 signatures within days and found almost unanimous support from every house he visited. A committee has now been formed, and a mass meeting of tenants has been called for the end of January.

A programme of action must be adopted, in tenants' association, which includes calls for rents and rates strikes and carried into the trade unions and local Labour Parties to back this action.

The threats by the Tories to cut off finance from those councils who overspend should be countered by a call for cancelling all debts charges to private companies and banks. While costs of services for workers soar and services deteriorate, these private companies are raking in massive profits.



Tenants protest at rent rises under the last Tory government.

POLAND: SHORTAGES PROMPT STRIKES

A daily feature of life for Polish women is the need to spend literally hours queuing for the most basic foodstuffs.

Most women in Poland have a job outside the home as well, so the hours spent in queues are on top of the long hours worked in factories, shops etc.

It's hardship and shortages like these that have made the Polish working class so militant and so determined to fight for better living conditions and against the stifling of democracy in Poland.

Last year's mass strike action forced the government to agree to a 21-point programme of demands which included wage increases and the right to organise an independent union, Solidarity.

Although this Stalinist regime is bitterly opposed to all the workers' demands, they had to appear to give in, although subsequently many demands have been ignored.

The latest conflict between the government and Solidarity members is over the working week.

Now workers are demanding a 5 day week, with an end to Saturday working. On Saturday 10th January, they refused to work, effectively declaring a 5 day

week themselves!

This was followed by more strikes the next Friday—including a four hour shutdown of public transport in Warsaw—in protest at the government's decision to sack workers who stayed at home during the strikes.

These strikes have been organised by local Solidarity branches, against the opposition of their national leader, Lech Walesa, who has been on a visit to Italy.

Walesa has been urging moderation and compromises with the government, since his propulsion to the heights of national union leadership.

As if these strikes were not a big enough problem for Kania, the Polish the Polish Communist Party leader and his Ministers, they are also faced with the emergence of another independent union—Rural Solidarity, which is organising farmers.

So far the regime has refused to legalise Rural Solidarity, but the peasants' union is gaining significant support from its industrial equivalent—including a strike at a big aircraft factory.

The heroism and determination of Polish workers is a lesson for workers all over the world. Their successes so far

show what can be achieved if the working class is united behind common demands and prepared to take militant action to fight for them.

However, they haven't won completely—they need to overthrow their bureaucratic rulers to do that.

Negotiations

Lech Walesa has already shown that he is not prepared to go that far—he is more interested in negotiating with Kania and seeking advice from the Pope.

The other threat to the Polish working class is that the government could, at any time, use its own army and call in Soviet troops to smash the strike movement and break up Solidarity by force.

If it succeeds in doing this it will be a major defeat for workers, not just in Poland, but internationally.

Trade unionists in this country have a duty to help prevent a Soviet intervention against Polish workers and peasants. We should all be calling on our own unions to recognise Solidarity and to inform the USSR that all fraternal links with their unions will be broken if Poland is invaded.

Abortion; new threat

It looks like the 1967 Abortion Act could be under threat once again from anti-abortion Tory MPs.

T. Sainsbury, who came first in the Private Members Bill ballot, had said he might seek to restrict the time limit or strengthen the 'conscience clause'. Instead, however, he's clamping down on 'obscene publications'.

But D. Stewart, who came second in the ballot, and therefore has a good chance of his bill getting time in Parliament, may have a go at the '67 Act instead. If he does, women and the whole Labour Movement will have to organise a campaign as big as the action against the Corrie bill—the last restrictive anti-abortion bill, which fell because of the pressure of the mass campaign against it.

Equally we must fight to remove all limits to a woman's right to choose on abortion—which includes fighting the vicious Tory attacks on the NHS.

WORKPLACE NURSERIES

The attack on nursery and child care provision didn't just start with the election of Thatcher and her monetarist Tories, but it has certainly increased.

Provision for child care is an easy target for local authorities when they're deciding what to cut. They also get the benefit of killing two birds with one stone: women are driven back home to look after their children full-time, while the public sector jobs in nurseries, schools and so on, mainly women's jobs, are destroyed.

School hours

This includes jobs like school meals ladies, where women work precisely because there are inadequate facilities and to fit in with the school hours and holidays of their children.

At the moment we are experiencing the most vicious attack on provision since 1945. Women have fought back to defend the inadequate provision provided at present but are also being encouraged to campaign for work place nurseries.

This encouragement is no accident: it is a deliberate policy of union and TUC leaders who hope that it will mean they can avoid a fight on the many facilities being closed daily.

Under 5 report

The TUC Under 5s Report published in 1978 (and conveniently buried since), examined the drawbacks of workplace nurseries, and stated that they enable the employer to offer lower rates of pay to women workers and to threaten their withdrawal at times of industrial action.

The Report states that there are 70-90 company nurseries mainly in engineering and textiles.

A survey by the Association of University Teachers in 1979 showed that 37 universities had nurseries but that the University Grants Committee were trying to stop them and were advising the ending of subsidies from 1 August 1980.

Many hospitals have had creche facilities and set them up and encouraged them in the 1960s, when married trained staff were needed, but the situation today with the health service cuts and hospitals closing down is that they are being discouraged and closed down themselves.

The most blatant example recently is the nursery provided at the Cowley Road Geriatric Hospital in Oxford to attract nurses back into the NHS and geriatric nursing. When the hospital closed the nursery was supposed to move to another hospital site, but the AHA have delayed the move. In November 1980 they doubled the fees and warned staff that if it was not made 'viable' by October 1981 it would have to close.

Bosses do not provide nurseries for nothing. In Birkenhead, the management of Styleware stated that the absentee rate had dropped from 20% to 3%.

At Hotpoint, Llandudno the Company does not have a nursery but operates a holiday play centre for 6 weeks a year, which costs £1,570 and means low absentee levels for its 300 women workers during the summer holiday.

Union officials are putting forward do-nothing campaigns for workplace nurseries as a means of avoiding the fight against the cuts.

Job loss

The National Association of Local Government Officers (NALGO), for example, has had a good campaigning policy including a negotiating kit for workplace nurseries but no local authority at present has one.

Meanwhile the jobs of NALGO members are diminishing day by day. NALGO members in Oxfordshire's threatened nurseries were simply told in 1979 that nursery nursing was a 'dying profession'.

Workers in the Civil Service found that a nursery in Llanistvan, Wales, for Inland Revenue staff was closed in 1978, because the employers claimed they could no longer afford the subsidy. Plans for a nursery in Croydon were cancelled.

The low cost alternative in the Civil Service is an employer-sponsored form of child minding in which parents meet the full cost of the child-care organiser (between £10-£12). The scheme is operating in only 3 places.

No doubt these schemes will disappear as civil servants lose their jobs because of government cuts.

In February 1979 the South East Region of the TUC held a conference on workplace nurseries which turned out to be a diversion from leading the fight necessary on the attack on state provision.

A speaker from the Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staff (ASTMS) from the Heathrow Airport Campaign announced that the campaign was seeking to use the axed Staines hospital and Ashford School for workplace nurseries!

Terry Marsland of the Tobacco Workers Union in a paper presented to the conference left no one in doubt as to the intentions of the union leadership:

"There is no hope over the next five years of achieving any improvement in the provision of child care facilities by Local Authorities and our only way forward is to persuade the employers who have the financial resources available to establish creche and nursery provision at the place of work."

Far from having financial resources available employers are seeking cheap labour to exploit and restore profits lost by the economic crisis.

When the women of the Chix Bubble Gum factory in Slough began to organise for higher wages, they were sacked and other women were brought in to scab. The employer, aware of the needs of the scabs, provided child care facilities for them in order to maintain low wages and a disorganised work force.

Demands should be placed on union leaders to defend facilities being closed by agreeing to provide strike action to support any occupations of facilities, especially if they are threatened with eviction.

Demands should also be made for union leaders to go on the offensive for more free child care facilities to be provided especially from Labour controlled Councils.

If you have any views on work place nurseries, or any other issues raised in Woman Worker put pen to paper immediately and write us a letter. The address is:

*Woman Worker
c/o WSL, BM Box 5277
London WC1N 3XX*

National Child Care Campaign

The National Childcare Campaign, formed in July 1980, is holding its constitutional conference on 24 January 1981.

This campaign takes up all aspects of childcare (not just for the under 5s) and has lobbied various union and Labour Party bodies and conferences.

The Campaign has over 150 affiliations already, and *Woman Worker* urges its readers to get your organisation—nursery campaign, trade union branch, Labour Party, tenants' association or whatever, to affiliate.

The Conference starts at 10a.m. at Wolverhampton Polytechnic. A creche and pooled fare are being organised—further details from NCCC, c/o Surrey Docks Child Care Project, Dockland Settlement, Redriff Road, London SE16.

If you cannot make the conference, (or have already missed it), you can send off for the new NCCC pamphlet—'Nurseries—How and Why to Fight for Them'.

The booklet is selling for 60p, and can be obtained from the address above or from *Woman Worker*. The next issue of *Woman Worker* will contain a detailed review of this pamphlet.

LONG



Longworth workers and their families give the

In our last issue of *Woman Worker*, we wrote of the determined campaign of staff at Longworth to save their hospital from closure.

Since then, on December 2nd, 50 members of staff have occupied this Oxfordshire hospital for geriatric women to save it from closure.

It was a very big step, but staff, although apprehensive, felt that it boiled down to a choice between saving or losing the hospital, and this was the only way to save it.

School meals campaign

By Margaret Jones

The Lancashire School meals campaign is fighting back against attacks that have been made on the service by the Tory-run Lancashire County Council.

The equivalent of 1,000 jobs are in danger, along with the threat of a less nutritional meal at a higher price, the loss of free school meals for low-income parents.

The Campaign has sought to bring together parents, teachers, school meals staff and trade unions, who are successfully fighting back against the cuts.

Since the fight began, there has been no further price increase for school meals, and a revised menu has been implemented in the area.

A campaign public meeting recently drew a declaration of support from NUPE official Neville Davies.

But he made it clear that he was not willing to lead a strike by those school meals workers who have shown themselves ready to fight to defend their jobs.

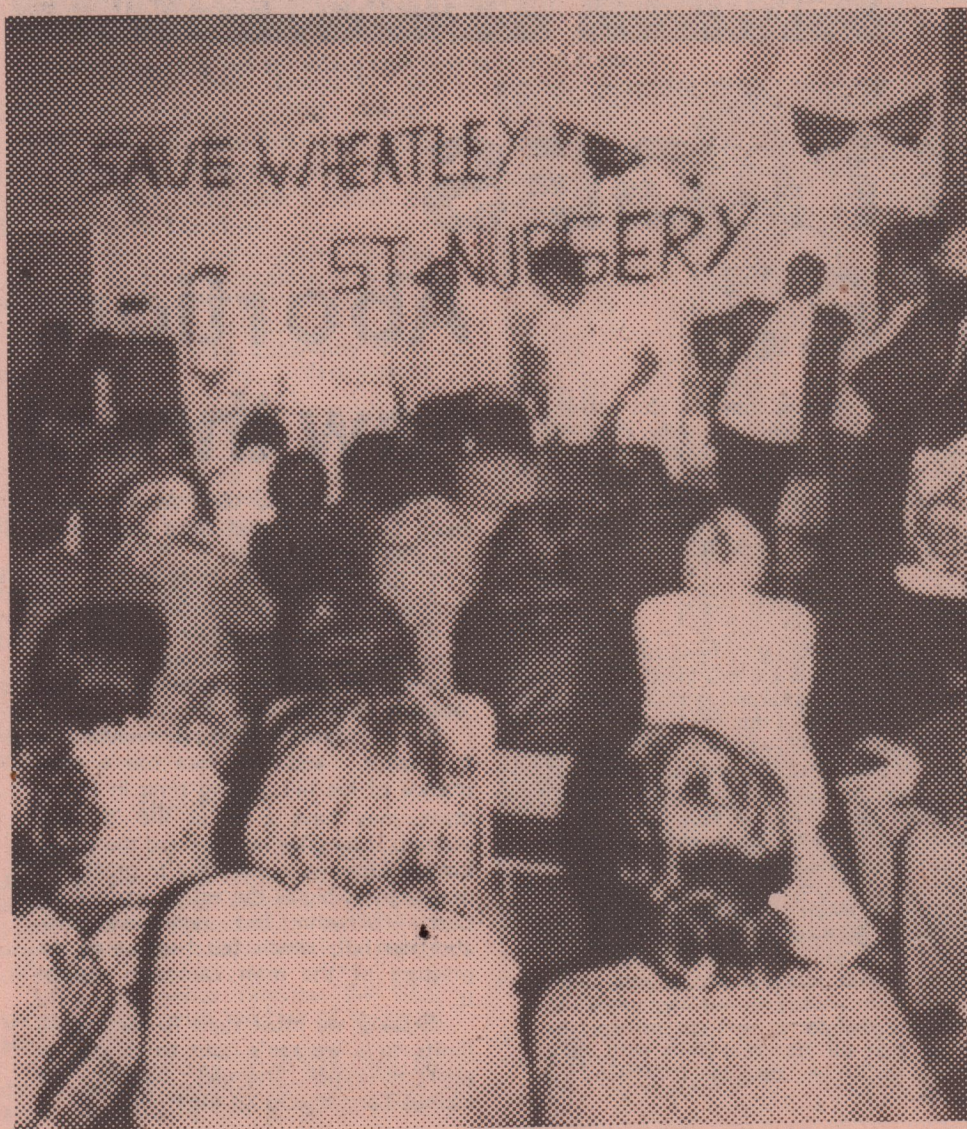
Since our struggle began, the issues at stake in the decline of the school meals service have become increasingly visible.

The cut of the meals service is part of an overall pressure on women's jobs.

If the service is abolished, not only will school meals staff lose their jobs but women in other employment will be forced back into the home to cook lunches for their children.

The Campaign is eager to hear from and link up with similar campaigns in other areas.

More details from 17, Marlowe Avenue, Baxenden, Accrington, Lancs.



Public meeting in Wheatley Street nursery, Coventry during the occupation.

LONGWORTH OCCUPATION

With occupations ended by raids—what's the point?



thumbs up!

What does it mean to occupy?

In a letter to all the staff before the decision to occupy was made the Longworth Hospital Support Committee wrote:-

Good luck, you will have the support of all those who want to see what shamefully inadequate services there are for the elderly defended. Your strength so far has kept the hospital open for over two years. Don't let it close now.

SOME OF THE IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER AND TO DO WHEN ESTABLISHING A WORK IN. The first thing is that a hospital occupation simply means continuing to work as normal—providing the same patient care. Under law all the people who normally work in hospital have an obligation to carry on. The AHA is legally bound to provide all the service necessary to care for patients as long as there are patients in the hospital. That means paying staff, providing supplies, medical cover, laundry—everything that is necessary.

You will probably ask what is the difference then between an occupation and normal working. The difference is the hospital running will be directed by the work in committee, who will take the place of the management. The hospital will be taken out of the control of the AHA so that they cannot do what they like with Longworth ie. close it.

Therefore it is important tonight to elect a hospital occupation committee: a group of people who will ensure the normal running of the hospital and organise its defence.

As the AHA have to keep the hospital supplied and running as normally as long as there are patients there, they will try and make attempts to remove the patients.

They will instruct the ambulance staff to remove patients—we are confident they will refuse to do so. But if they should get anyone to attempt to do so, it is very important that a watch/guard/picket call it what you will, is kept on the gate to warn the hospital of any arrivals that could threaten the work in. Also, if there is a picket (even one person) ambulance drivers can be asked not to go across and are likely not to do so, if the situation is explained to them. A rota should be drawn up for this duty on the gates.

It is also important to establish a telephone tree if the work in is threatened, to call support from COHSE and the community of Longworth.

A press officer must be elected to contact all the national and local press, radios, TV and newspapers.

Obviously we must work to get new patients into the hospital. We will have to by-pass the Consultant Dr. McCarthy. Local and Oxford GPs are to be approached to be asked for direct referrals.

The important point is we must work together, only a responsible, united, determined group of staff can secure this hospital. Don't allow yourself to get demoralised, worried at what people say. Remember the AHA want to do all they can to discredit and isolate the staff at Longworth who are fighting to save it. Remember WE PUT PATIENTS FIRST THATS WHY WE'VE GOT TO OCCUPY!

WHY WOMAN WORKER?

Woman Worker is published by the Workers Socialist League as part of the fight to mobilise women together with the working class in the international fight against capitalism. As Trotskyists we are fighting to reconstruct the Fourth International—the world party of socialist revolution—to lead the struggles of the working class.

Our programme, based on the Transitional Programme, is directed towards linking women's struggles for democratic rights and against economic oppression, with the need to overthrow capitalism.

*Women to take on positions of leadership within the unions in order to fight for these policies.

*Joint price committees of trade unionists and housewives to organise the fight against inflation.

*For a sliding scale of wages on top of flat rate increases: for wages to be linked to

price increases as assessed by elected price committees.

*For strike action and occupations to defend the health, education and social services and threatened factories.

*For open-the-books committees to discover the real financial state of the social services, and private companies threatening closure.

*For nationalisation under workers' management without compensation of firms that declare themselves bankrupt.

*Against all anti-abortion legislation—free abortion and contraception on demand and workers and consumers control of the health service.

*Solidarity with struggles of women internationally against oppression by international imperialism or by the Stalinist bureaucracies in the deformed workers states.

It is true that the hospital occupations of Hounslow, Etwell and St. Benedicts have been brutally ended by police and private ambulances getting patients out. The occupation committee at Longworth are doing all they can to get supporting strike action from other sectors of health workers to deter AHA plans for raids.

The occupation has had a lot of advice from St. Benedicts workers, who are very bitter at the way they were let down by their union leaders at local and national levels.

Six patients from St. Benedicts died within a month of the raid and a vitally needed hospital closed. This could have been averted if the union leaders had

been really determined to fight. They could have organised full strike action against the threat of a raid.

Their standard reply was, of course, that the membership won't fight and that no call for action is better than action that goes off at half cock.

Workers, however, at the two major general hospitals in the area were pledged to strike if there was an official call from the union. The ambulance drivers were prepared to take action with them. But the officials who should have been organising the action shilly shalled around and stood by and did nothing until it was too late.

If these workers can do it —so can you!

The women workers at Longworth had, it seemed, all the odds against taking such action.

The majority of them are not only mothers of large families but grandmothers as well. They work on a system of many part-time shifts to fit in with child care and travel arrangements. They live in isolated villages away from the hospital locality.

It is impossible to get all the staff together for mass meetings. For many, because of family commitments and transport problems the only time they can get into the hospital is to work.

Many of them had never attended a union meeting before because of these problems, let alone organise a major struggle against the Area Health Authority and government health cuts.

But they are totally committed to trying to overcome these problems and to save the hospital—the driving force being the care of the elderly, sick and the loss of their jobs.

If the women workers at Longworth lose their jobs, there is no chance of them getting another one. They will be added to the thousands who are part of the invisible army of unemployed women.

Women workers doing part-time jobs in the public sector are a prime target for the Tories policy of mass unemployment.

The reasons are obvious when you look at the women at Longworth—part-time workers not well organised—an apparently easy target.

They are nearly all married and will not sign on as they are not eligible for benefits. They will not be an embarrassment in the soaring statistics and they cost the state nothing in benefits.

On top of this they will return to the home to do the job they were previously paid for. For instance, the mother-in-law of one of the ancillary workers is looked after in the day hospital. If the hospital closes, the worker will not only lose her job, but also have to look after her mother-in-law full-time at home.

"Support" from COHSE

The obvious duty of a union is to defend workers' jobs and advance their living standards. You would have expected, therefore, that the moment their members made a stand in fighting the cuts, the union would have welcomed it with open arms. They should have heralded it as the way to defend the health service and made sure that it wasn't left isolated by giving the staff finance, publicity, etc.

The reality at Longworth was very different: it took three weeks for COHSE (Confederation of Health Service Employees—the union organising the workers) to make it official. Although the occupation is nearly two months old at the time of going to press, there has not been a single visit from the National

Executive Council of COHSE, no money, no publicity, not even a typewriter.

If the occupation had to rely solely on COHSE for support it would be a very sorry affair.

They should be doing all they can to encourage other health workers in the area to take strike action: eg. by promising full strike pay.

They should be organising a mass national campaign making Longworth an example of how the health service can be defended. Instead, the Longworth workers get the message that, far from being welcomed, they are a bit of an embarrassment. They are rocking the boat on the sea of inactivity that is COHSE's leadership's response to the cuts.

The Labour Party and the cuts

A raging debate has developed within the Labour Party since the Tories took office. On the one hand there are those who claim that there has to be realism—big business can't afford high levels of public spending and we have to cut to get the country back on its feet.

On the other hand there are those who say that the Labour Party should stick to truly socialist policies and refuse to attack the working class in anyway on behalf of profit and capitalism's problems.

Lady McCarthy, Chairperson of the Oxfordshire Area Health Authority is on the General Committee of Oxford City Labour Party. Her husband, Lord McCarthy is the labour industrial relations peer who advised the TUC on disputes. They are powerful figures in the Labour Party, dedicated to solving not the problems of workers but of management and big business.

Lady McCarthy proposes to close six hospitals in Oxfordshire. She has refused to

open a new Community hospital in Witney, which has been mothballed for two years because she says the staffing will cost so much. She is determined it will not open until the top floor at Longworth is closed.

She already has the closure of Cowley Road, Oxford's major geriatric hospital under her belt.

There is no doubt that she is a formidable enemy to those fighting to defend the health service in Oxfordshire. She is pulling all the strings she can within the Labour Party, TUC and COHSE to make sure the Longworth occupation is defeated. We must ensure we mount an equally determined campaign within the Labour Party and trade unions to ride ourselves of those labour movement leaders who are dedicated to attacking our living standards, our wages, social services, and jobs on behalf of profit, the bankers and the bosses.

woman worker

'Ripper'; fear lives on!

When Yorkshire police made the unprecedented move of disclosing that a man would be appearing in court on charges relating to the last "Ripper murder", the press had a field day.

Immediately, full page coverage in all the tabloids relived all the gruesome murders while the 'establishment' press maintained the more dignified stance of discussing the legal niceties of whether it was correct to relate the man's name and other details prior to a court appearance.

Over several days reporters desperate to obtain details of the man's background and family wrote stories on the merest of facts and details and blew them up out of all proportion.

Absurd descriptions of the man's wife (...wearing hot-pants while painting their home ...) assumed headline news and implied that with a wife like that he needs to ravish and murder women.

At the same time, the underlying assumption of all the reports and speculation was that women in Yorkshire and the North of England were not free to walk streets at night and that for women

news of the arrest of the man spelt instant relief.

Nothing, of course, could be further from the truth; while the "Ripper murders" have been particularly gruesome, the media coverage has been of the most sensationalist kind and always to the exclusion of reporting the continual violence directed against women.

Even when the Ripper turned to 'respectable' women, the media still reported as though this was an isolated lunatic living out his psychopathic tendencies.

While a distinction can obviously be made between these murders and "normal" rapes and violence against women, the media never took up the question of violence against women in a broader context.

The fact that women all over Britain, and internationally, live under fear and threat of rape and violence was simply ignored. Although when women started to protest against "soft porn" commercial films which legitimate and institutionalise such violence, the media began to look at this, on the whole it was business as usual.



Angry crowd screams abuse as Sutcliffe is taken into court

Reports of "Ripper attacks" appeared in papers along side standard—usually sensationalised—rape cases with no link made between them.

Sensational reporting

It is this kind of sensational reporting, which bears no relation to the reality of violence against women, that whips up hysteria so effectively against the "Yorkshire Ripper" as one individual, and perpetuates the myth that women have only to fear lunatics rather than fathers, husbands, lovers and other "normal" strangers.

Violence against women is a complex question which is not simply answered by claiming it is perpetuated by lunatics alone.

The level of rape, for example, both inside and outside of marriage, is too great for this to be the case. Rather we have to look at the material conditions of family life and the conditioning of women and their subservient role under capitalism to begin to find an answer.

Joining in with the hysterical "Ripper" hatred mentality will do nothing to end violence against women.

Labour Party in crisis

On Saturday 24th January, the Labour Party is holding its special conference to decide how its leader is to be elected in future.

The conference happens to a background of speculation about the Labour Party breaking up and about a new "Centre Party" being established, with the Liberals and Roy Jenkins.

Already Shirley Williams, former Labour Education Minister has refused to stand for Labour while it has some semblance of socialist policies (eg. nuclear disarmament). Likewise David Owen, the former Foreign Secretary, noted for his stance on Zimbabwe, which was even more reactionary than the Tories—he refused to stand for a place in Michael Foot's shadow Cabinet.

Numerous other right-wing MPs, including Roy Mason, have made dire threats that they will stand against the Labour Party as "independents" if their constituency parties don't re-select them.

The MP for Newcastle has also threatened that about 50 MPs will flee the party, rather than risk being made accountable to their members, or forced to fight for socialist policies.

Of course, this blatant form of blackmail is hailed by the capitalist press as "standing up for principle".

While it is to be hoped that these reactionaries do desert the Labour Party, and leave the way open for a greater fight for socialist policies, it is, unfortunately, not a foregone conclusion.

The likes of Roy Mason and David Owen know that if they leave the party, they are also leaving behind the activists who do all the work to get them elected.

The whole party apparatus, the finances and links with the trade unions will be left in the hands of people who might actually implement policies which benefit the working class.

The best thing that Labour Party activists can do now is to renew the fight for a socialist programme and hasten the departure of these reactionaries into the arms of the Tories and the Liberals where they belong.

DAWN POLICE RAID SMASHES SQUAT

On Friday 9th January, at 6.50 a.m., about 1,000 police, armed with riot-shields and axes and using a heavy lorry as a battering ram, attacked a block of flats in South London.

Doors were smashed to pieces with the axes, and the 50 or so inhabitants thrown into the street with their belongings to find somewhere else to live.

The reason for this, apparently senseless, violence and destruction?

Renovated

The flats belong to the Tory-controlled Greater London Council, and the inhabitants were squatters.

Kilner House, near the Oval cricket-ground, has recently been renovated by the GLC, who hope to make some money by selling off the flats at prices ranging from £19,000 to £22,000.

All this is in line with government demands to sell off council housing stock—bolstering private ownership, while leaving thousands of homeless on the streets.

Homeless

The squatters, about 100 in all (including families with children) were all otherwise homeless. Their 3 month long occupation highlighted in the most direct way possible the scandalous Tory policy on housing.

After the police exercise, the GLC are now faced with the task of re-renovating the flats.

Since the UCATT branch in the GLC direct works department are blacking the work, the Council are going to find it



Police smashing into Kilner House flats.

hard to find buyers before they face re-election in May.

It is to be hoped that a new Labour Council will be returned—one that can

be forced to let these flats to council tenants in the normal way and stop the sale of council property.

If you would like more details about the work of *Woman Worker* and the Workers Socialist League, fill in the slip below and return it to:

Woman Worker
c/o WSL, BM Box 5277
London WC1V 6XX

Name.....
Address.....
.....