

SUPPORT THE UNEMPLOYED

The Press are mounting their biggest ever attack on the unemployed. Tory MPs are screaming about workshy, layabouts and scroungers. This propaganda is timed to coincide with more increases in unemployment due to cuts in the public sector. The Labour Government supports big business interests anxious to increase their profit margins. Trade union leaders collude by restraining wages as prices escalate. Living standards are falling. Claimants and the low paid have to choose between heating or eating.

Production is geared to profit and not to people's needs. Office blocks stand empty while homelessness grows. Children are taught in overcrowded classrooms while teachers are thrown on the dole. People are forced to seek and compete with each other for scarce jobs in which they have no control over what they produce.

The labour exchange is part of this system. It forces the unemployed into the lowest paid, dirtiest and most boring jobs - most of which are non-unionised. Employers treat people as pieces of machinery to be discarded when they cease to make a profit, to be hired when they want to increase production.

At present many employers undertake backdoor redundancies. People are sacked for trivial reasons like arriving late. Any person who is sacked or leaves his or her job experiences the INDUSTRIAL MISCONDUCT RULE. Unemployment benefit is withheld for six weeks and supplementary benefit reduced by 40%. This means for example that an unemployed person over 18 gets only £7.09p a week to live with the new rates!

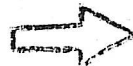
The social security system also discriminates against the unemployed by refusing them the long term rate and the earnings disregard which other Claimants receive. Women suffer most. Difficulties at home force many women to leave their jobs. For this reason, and because of insufficient contributions they are frequently denied unemployment benefit. Any woman who is married or living with a man is also denied supplementary benefit under the Enforced Dependency and Cohabitation Rules.

The trade union movement discriminates again against the unemployed. Unemployed trade union members are denied full union rights. The TUC refuses Claimants Union affiliation to trades councils. The 'labour' movement rejects the autonomous struggles of people not in jobs. The majority of the unemployed have never been in a trade union since they are mainly unskilled, disabled, school leavers, black people & women. Some trade unions have turned their back on these Claimants, just like they have ignored the struggles of other Claimants such as single parents and pensioners.

IF YOU ARE PREPARED TO FIGHT AGAINST THIS DISCRIMINATION & SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE OF THE UNEMPLOYED AND OTHER CLAIMANTS CONTACT:

Camberwell CU, West London, CU East London,
Union Place, 510 Centre, Dame Colet Hse,
Vassall Road, Harrow Road, Ben Jonson Road,
London SW 9. London W 9. London E1.
01-735-6123. 01-969-7437. 01-790-3867.

FIGHT TO LIVE ONE DAY SCHOOL - SAT 18TH DEC.
The Tabernacle, Talbot Road, W9. 1pm - 12.
play..workshops..food..creche..social..bar.



A LIVING INCOME - JOB OR NO JOB.
USEFUL WORK - END WAGE SLAVERY.