

# WAPPING STRUGGLE NOT OVER!

After a bitter twelve months of struggle outside the gates of Wapping, the leadership of SOGAT and the NGA finally waved the white flag of surrender on February 6th and 8th, and "called off" the strike. Blaming the cave-in on Murdoch's court action—which threatened both unions' assets—Brenda Dean and Tony Dubbins sold the rank and file down the river.

But, despite the sell-out by the union leadership, the struggle at Wapping is *not over*.

## CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE

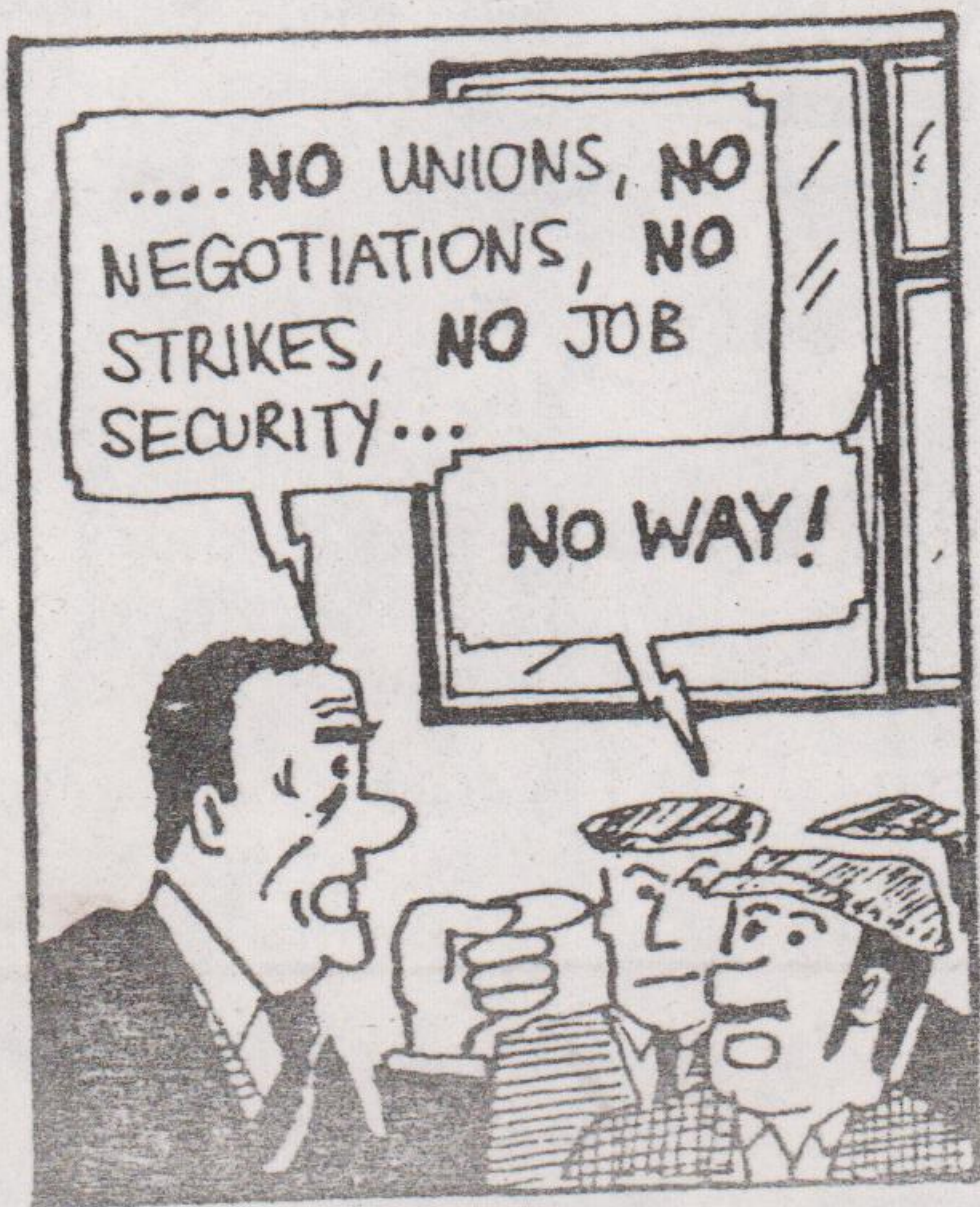
Pledging to continue their struggle, strikers have realised that they have to reject their timid leadership and take control of the dispute themselves. Many came to realise

that their leaders had been looking for a "way-out" of the dispute for months.

It's not just the leadership of the print unions that is to blame. The total failure of the TUC to mobilise support for the printers helped undermine the strike. The TUC wouldn't even expel the electricians union (EEPTU) whose connivance with Murdoch stabbed the print-workers in the back.

Len Murray (now Lord Murray) ex-TUC leader even attacked the mass picketing at Wapping, and called for an end to all demonstrations at the plant. Norman Willis—current TUC boss—looked set to follow suit, but the SOGAT/NGA sell-out beat him to it.

The struggle against Murdoch *must* be won. Following the miners' strike,





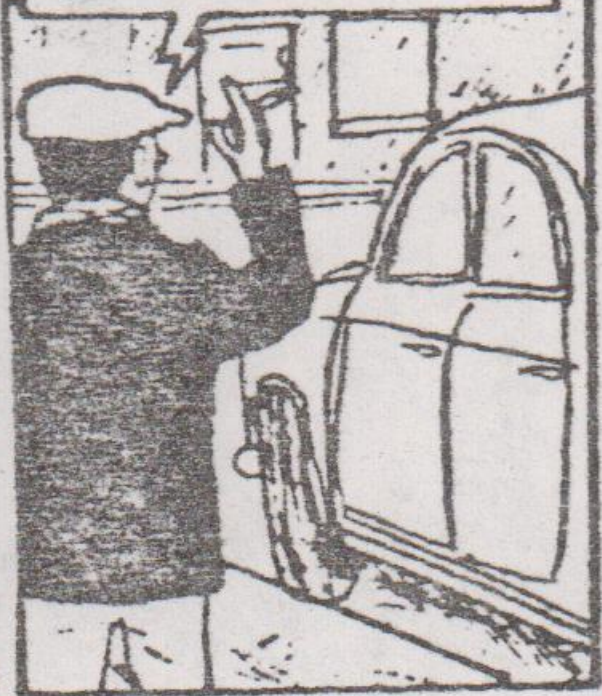
...IT'S THE SAME WITH ALL THE LEFTIST RACKETS .... THE PARTY ALWAYS COMES FIRST !!!



THAT'S WHY THEY ALL MARCH UP AND DOWN ON THE PICKET LINE, TOO BUSY FLOGGING THEIR PAPERS AND MOUTHING THEIR SLOGANS TO EVER DO ANYTHING !!



...SO IT'S DOWN TO US, LIKE IT'S ALWAYS BEEN... NO LEADERS, NO PARTIES, NO BOSSES .....



defeat at Wapping would be another major blow to workers everywhere. Victory at Wapping could inspire others to resist attacks on working people.

Strikers at Wapping have learnt a lot of lessons during their struggle. Whatever the final outcome of the strike, all that experience can *never* be taken away from them. We can all draw inspiration from their continued militancy and fighting spirit.

Some London branches of SOGAT are already defying their leadership and pledging to continue the struggle. The angry Saturday night marches to Fortress Wapping are still on. The "boycott campaign" against Murdoch's titles must be maintained and spread, and militant support actions intensified.

### TAKE THE STRUGGLE ELSEWHERE

Now is surely the time to spread the Wapping struggle to other workers. Direct links between workers in different industries—by-passing the union bureaucrats—could build really

effective support action. The struggle could then be taken to Fleet Street and beyond.

With the union leadership pulling out, many Left parties will move in like the parasites they are, and try to force their "leadership" onto the strikers. They think working people aren't fit to organise themselves. But the printers at Wapping don't need leadership (be it TUC or SWP) they need *support*. And they need it now more than ever.

The lesson of Wapping is a lesson that should be learnt by all strikers everywhere: That, when it comes to the crunch, the union leadership will always sell their members out.

### WORKERS TAKE CONTROL

The only way to win victory at Wapping—and in disputes everywhere—is for workers to take control of their own struggles.

Only when *workers*, not bureaucrats, run their own strikes will we finally get bastards like Murdoch on the run.

*Jimmy and Rich. Feb 11th 1987.*