



CUTTLET

number 18

THE NEWSLETTER OF LAMBETH NALGO

21 JUNE 1982

INDUSTRIAL ACTION

23 JUNE 1982

NALGO and all other TUC affiliated unions will be taking part in a one-day strike on Wednesday 23 June.

IT'S OFFICIAL!

NALGO Conference last week unanimously called on all NALGO members to take action on Wednesday in support of the one-day strike in the National Health Service. NALGO will back every member who takes action.

The public service unions are mounting a united campaign in support of a decent pay increase this year which keeps up with the rate of inflation.

Hospital ancillary workers and nurses have been offered between 4% and 6.4%. Hospital workers do vital jobs but are among the lowest paid in the country. Many other unions have already been giving their active support - it is time we in NALGO showed our solidarity.

The government is telling them "with millions out of work we can get two of you a penny, so why should we pay you more?". This attitude will make Wednesday's strike bigger still!

Our increase is due on July 1st and our employers have offered 5%. Using the same "two a penny" ideology they also want to keep down the lowest grades by introducing new Spinal Column Points BELOW Point 1 and
continued overleaf

LAMBETH

All members except those providing emergency services are authorised to take official strike action this Wednesday. Branch members are urged to support the picketing on Wednesday morning between 8 and 10.30 a.m.

We have been asked to help picket the following hospitals:-

Dulwich, East Dulwich Grove
South Western, Landor Road, SW9
Tooting Bec, Tooting Bec Road

Other hospitals in the Lambeth area include:

King's, Denmark Hill, SE5
St Thomas', Lambeth Palace Road, SE1
Belgrave, Clapham Road, SW9
Lambeth, Brook Drive, SE11

Demonstrations and rallies are being organised by health branches - contact our branch office for details (737 2134).

Those members who wish to support the day of action but who are not taking strike action may, of course, take time off in lieu, flexitime or leave, and donate their wages to the health workers strike fund.

reducing the starting points on the AP and T Scales.

NALGO has 100,000 members in the NHS - their fight is our fight.

Inflation is double the pay offer YET AGAIN! We must make a stand to defend our standard of living!

The worst deal ^{so far} in the public services

No other group of public service workers has been pegged to 4% in the present pay round. Key public service settlements have included:

- Judges 18.6 per cent
- Senior Civil Servants 14.3 per cent
- Police 13.2 per cent
- Fire Service 10.1 per cent
- Water Industry 9.1 per cent plus leave/improvement
- Mineworkers 8.6 per cent over 10 months
- Post Office Staff 7 per cent
- Local Authority Manual Workers 6.9 per cent

- Civil Service 6.5 per cent including leave improvements
- Doctors and Dentists - average 6 per cent, 6.3-8.2 per cent for junior doctors
- Scottish Teachers 6 per cent
- Armed Forces 6 per cent

The CBI databank of settlements in private manufacturing industry showed average increases of 7.2 per cent in the present pay round to March 1982. 85 per cent of settlements are said to have fallen between 5-10 per cent. Settlements in the insurance and finance industry are averaging 9 per cent.

SICKNESS PROCEDURE

Many complaints have been received from members about the new self-certification of sickness procedure introduced by Management Services. That procedure contradicts the agreement reached on the National Joint Council which says that if you are off sick for 3 days or less you should not normally be asked to fill or sign any certificate.

A meeting with DMS has been arranged where the Branch will also be questioning the need for some of the information required on the forms.

Further information will be circulated shortly, and until further notice you should not fill or sign these certificates.

TORIES WADE IN - 200 REDUNDANCIES?

The new Tory Council, backed by the SDP/LIB Alliance, is wasting no time in putting our jobs and services on the line.

First the threat to close 2 of the 3 Consumer Advice Centres - but this cut would only save thousands. The Tories are looking for £9 million!

Now they want between 100 and 200 jobs to go quickly so they can save at least 3% on the salaries budget in the current financial year. It is believed that 5% cuts are to be made in some directorates (DMS, DHCS, DTP and DALs). This means cutting filled posts or posts that are about to be filled. It has already led to a total freeze in recruitment in some areas.

The only way to achieve that is through redundancy. The previous Council has already cut hundreds of jobs through early retirement and frozen hundreds more.

The Tories know what they want to do (- look at Wandsworth). If they succeed in closing down the CACs and make a few of us redundant it would encourage them to try for more and more.

WE MUST SHOW RIGHT FROM THE START THAT WE ARE TOTALLY OPPOSED TO ANY FURTHER CUTS IN JOBS AND SERVICES.

DECISION ON CONSUMER ADVICE DELAYED

Heavy pressure from the Save Our Consumer Advice Centres Campaign and filibustering by Labour councillors forced a 10 hour meeting of the Health and Consumer Services Committee last Thursday and a delay in the Tories plans to close the consumer advice centres. The committee agreed to defer its decision to the next committee meeting on 15 July.

Nearly 150 people - NALGO members and members of the public - demonstrated outside the Town Hall on Thursday evening against the closures. The deferment of the decision is a temporary victory but the campaign continues. Thousands of signatures have already been collected on a petition which will be handed in to the council meeting on 21 July; leaflets, stickers and posters have been produced and many local people are involved in campaigning work.

Consumer advice workers need your support - in the campaign, at the committee meeting on 15 July and at the council meeting on 21 July. Put the dates in your diary now!

JONATHAN OXLADE DEHCS