It has been pointed out more than once that the International Socialist Club is the organisation behind the demonstrations of the unemployed. This Club lately received £1,000 from the funds of the Communist Party which, in turn, received its funds from Russia.

The names of the Communist agitators in London recur in reports from the provinces showing that they are moving rapidly from place to place.

The organisation of the unemployed is proceeding feverishly, the outstanding feature being the demands made on the Guardians in practically every English county. The Labour Party appears likely to be hoist with its own petard, for the demand for full maintenance has been adopted by the extremists to an extent which has alarmed even the Woolwich Labour Councillors. It is satisfactory to note that there has been comparatively little disorder, although the tendency to demonstrate is spreading with lightning rapidity as may be judged from the reports given below.

The feeling of responsible Labour leaders is that Parliament should be summoned in October to reconsider unemployment and a national campaign organised to whip public opinion into a "turmoil." Many of the Boards of Guardians are of opinion that the problem should be tackled nationally.

The great mass of genuine unemployed is still quiescent, but this state will scarcely stand the strain of increased distress and cold weather. It is understood that the Ministry of Health is advising the Guardians to give relief in kind rather than in money. In regard to rent, it should be possible to issue vouchers, which
the landlords could cash at the Councils. The varying demands put forward this week are shown in tabular form below.

**LONDON AND THE HOME COUNTIES**

This week the number of processions and meetings shows an increase on last week and the Communist organisation of the unemployed is proceeding apace. The London officials, who frequent the International Socialist Club, are reported to be making a good living out of the unemployed agitation. The attitude of the genuine unemployed, however, remains reasonable.

The Executive Committee of the London Labour Party has addressed to the Prime Minister a letter on the unemployment question, in which it is stated that the Government "has not faced the fundamentals of the problem" and "is guilty of grave neglect of its duties towards large masses of the population." The Executive urges that a special session of Parliament should be called immediately in order that legislation may be passed and administrative action taken on the lines suggested in the report of the Trade Union Congress and Labour Party on Unemployment, published in January last, (summarised in my report No. 90 of 27.1.21) Alternatively the Executive suggests that if the Government prefers the matter to be dealt with by the Poor Law authorities, it should provide the money.

The question of out-door relief has aroused considerable anxiety in middle class and even in trade union circles in London; it is urged that relief should be given in kind only and that, wherever possible, work of some description should be provided if for no other reason than that the "work-shy" could be distinguished from the genuine unemployed.

**Bermondsey**

On September 6th the unemployed crowded Bermondsey Town Hall and passed a resolution demanding immediate solution of the/
the unemployment problem by the Government. The Mayor presided and was told by the men "It's grub, not resolutions we want."

Brentford

On September 5th about 1,200 unemployed, mostly men in the engineering and building trades, with their wives and children, marched from Acton, Hanwell and Chiswick to the Brentford Guardians' Offices, and were informed that the Board would meet on September 13th to draw up a scale of relief.

Camberwell

On September 3rd, about 500 people attended an unemployed meeting at Brunswick Square, Camberwell. Burnett stated that there were 16,000 unemployed in the Borough and that on the previous day he had applied to the Guardians for relief. If the Guardians refused to grant their terms he proposed that the Camberwell unemployed should march en masse to the Gordon Road Workhouse and demand admission. The audience unanimously agreed to this proposal. The chief agitators in this district are Burnett, Fannin, Rey, Vincent and Bowden. On September 6th the Guardians informed a deputation that they would consider the demands and give a decision not later than September 12th.

Clerkenwell

Meetings have been held and a committee is being organised to demand relief on the Islington scale.

Deptford

Deptford unemployed have been organised chiefly by a Communist named Harmsworth; he stated at a recent meeting that if the demands of the unemployed did not receive proper attention, direct action would be adopted. This man is a member of the International Socialist Club and other members of the Committee are Sivyer, Flowers, and Killock, the secretary. Meetings were held on August 31st, September 2nd, September 3rd and September 4th; Harmsworth spoke at each meeting and at the last all the speakers were Communists.

Finsbury

Meetings have been held and a committee is being organised to demand relief on the Islington scale.

Fulham

On August 31st, Hanson, who has helped to organise Fulham unemployed, stated that the local committee proposed to organise a deputation to the Guardians. He advised them in the event of the Guardians refusing to see them, to see the Relieving Officer in twos and threes, refuse the relief offered as inadequate and ask for an order for admission to the Workhouse. When 300 to 400 had obtained these orders they should go together one night and demand admission. He knew they would all be refused because/
because the Workhouse was full now, but this course of
action which had been successful in Battersea and
other Boroughs, would compel the Guardians to grant them
out-door relief.

The organised unemployed have several times
approached the Clerk of the Guardians with the request
that a meeting be called to discuss relief and Hanson
addresses meetings daily: the Board meets to-day and it
is possible that a deputation from the unemployed will
seek admission.

Greenwich

On September 6th a deputation asked the Guardians
for work or maintenance on a high scale, but preferred
work; the Board decided to make a temporary order, after
allowing for income, to respectable working class families
up to 10/- for a husband, 10/- for a wife, 5/- for each
child and "an allowance in approved cases to keep the
home together." The offer was accepted under protest.

Hackney

On August 31st a procession of the Hackney unemployed,
which increased from 300 to 3,000, marched to the offices
of the Board of Guardians. Their secretary, W. Bullen,
and Kelvit, of the London Trades and Labour Council,
headed a deputation which was informed that every case
would be dealt with on its merits and that no general
system of relief would be allowed. Bullen and Kelvit
then invited the unemployed to demand immediate admission
to the Hackney Infirmary, where the Guardians were
sitting: 99 men and 6 women responded and were admitted.
Of these 26 remained in the institution and the others,
when they were informed that their cases would be the
subject of enquiry, left the building.

Prior to the procession, speeches were made by
Bullen and McPherson: the latter said:

"To-day, in the Borough, there are ten
thousand men out of work, and what do I find. You
are still content to walk the streets and look for
that which you know you cannot find. You are
still content to allow the blood sucking pestilent
class to live on your backs...You have got to
remember this, to Hell with all this Government
that is bringing us into the degradation that we
are in to-day. To Hell with the Board of Guardians.
To Hell with those who say, neither shall we have
work nor maintenance. I know the difficulties you,
who are unemployed, have got. I know that you, a
good many of you, are afraid to go out for something
that is going to benefit you...When you took up that
responsible position that you would look after that
woman right through the piece, yet you men to-day
are not even looking after those who you fought for.
Therefore we find that they have not boots, not
even sufficient in their stomachs. You would
rather allow the boards to deal out doles."

The temper of the crowd was very ugly and on their
arrival at the Infirmary, extra police aid was summoned
to keep the situation in hand.

The Master of the Workhouse reports that on
September 1st at 8 a.m., when he refused to grant discharges to the unemployed without due notice, a concerted effort to break out of the Institute was made in the course of which he and the Relieving Officer were assaulted. When told to work 21 refused to do so and were arrested and conveyed to the North London Police Court, where they were charged with refusing to perform work allotted to them, an offence under Poor Relief Acts. Bullen, after objecting to the cases being heard together, was sentenced to 7 days' hard labour. The remaining 20 were given the option of the same sentence or of returning to the Institute and completing the day's work required of them. 6 refused to return and were sentenced; the remaining 14 were re-admitted and performed their work satisfactorily. The leaders in this district are George Bullen and Albert Keyes. There have been subsequent meetings in the vicinity of the Hackney Town Hall and another effort is to be made to interview the Guardians.

Hammersmith

Deputations waited upon the Hammersmith Guardians on September 1st and 5th and the following relief was granted: 9/- for each man, 9/- for wife, 5/- for each child under 16, rent to be paid up to 15/-, each case to be decided individually. George Turner is the Hammersmith leader and other local agitators are Bollen, Hatcher, Howe, Robbins, Patworth and Mrs. Crocker, who comprise the committee who intend to lead a march to the Town Hall today.

Hendon

On September 5th Hendon unemployed occupied the Hall used by the Relief Committee of the local Board of Guardians and the ejected committee continued their meetings in the Vestry of the adjoining church, where they received a deputation from the demonstrators, many of whom had been thrown out of work by the closing down of factories in the vicinity of the Hendon Aerodrome. A mass meeting was held yesterday and a visit in force to the Guardians is contemplated.

Islington

The Clerk of the Islington Board of Guardians reports that during last week relief was given to 1,936 unemployed at a cost to the ratepayers of £2,402. It is expected that there will be an addition of 900 men this week.

Lambeth

The Lambeth unemployed are organising and have held a series of meetings during the week. They have asked that a special meeting of the Board should be held to discuss existing scale of relief and the provision of shelter, but the chairman has replied that he can find no reason for calling a special meeting at present and adds that there is no fixed scale, relief being given according to necessities of each case. He will, however, consider calling a special meeting, if the unemployed can show that one is necessary. Last week 922 men were relieved as compared with 890 during the preceding week. The amount expended in money was £280, while relief in food represented £760.

Although/
Although the number of families was 32 in excess of the previous week the amount of relief was less by £2. Perrin, Meet and Sinclair are the chief agitators, but are assisted by Ray and Bowden of the Camberwell Unemployed Committee.

Leyton, Walthamstow and Stratford

On September 1st the unemployed of these Boroughs visited the West Ham Workhouse and a deputation demanded increased relief. The demonstrators agreed to wait until to-day, when the full Board will meet. On September 1st, at West Ham Police Court there was a list of 1,232 summonses for rates.

North Kent and Essex

Meetings have been held at Erith, Bexley Heath, Dartford and Eltham, organised chiefly by members of the Woolwich Committee; Erith, Dartford and Bexley Heath intend to send a deputation to the Guardians on September 13th. Straker of the London District Council of Unemployed is arranging the demonstration.

On September 6th unemployed from Orpington and Grays marched to Bromley Board of Guardians and put forward a scheme for road-widening; the Guardians agreed to start relief work as soon as possible.

Gravesend and Strood

The Board of Guardians, as a result of pressure from Gravesend and Northfleet Unemployed Committee, has granted relief.

Peckham

On September 10th the first meeting of Peckham unemployed will be held on Camberwell Green. Hannington and Mrs. Taring of the London District Council, Beecham, David Ramsay, W.F. Watson, Burnett and ex-Inspector Syme are expected to speak.

St. Pancras

On September 1st a procession of about 2,000 unemployed went to the St. Pancras Town Hall, where a deputation was informed that the Board had decided to continue to give relief in kind and to deal with individuals on their merits. Amid stormy scenes the unemployed took possession of the Board Room and refused to withdraw, a leader shouting that he was prepared to smash every window in the High Street. The Guardians withdrew but later returned to announce that they could not alter their decision and after a sitting of over 3 hours adjourned and the unemployed dispersed.

Shepherds Bush

The Hammersmith organisers are turning their attention to Shepherds Bush, where Turner, Burke, Meacham and Bowler addressed a meeting of about 400 on September 5th. The men marched twice to the Guardians who refused to make any advance on their first offer of 9/- each for married men and women, 5/- for each child and 15/- rent. This offer was rejected by the unemployed who contemplate going to the Workhouse.
Shoreditch

On August 31st, about 1,000 unemployed were marshalled at Hoxton to march to the Board of Guardians; on arriving the number had increased to about 5,000 people, who were addressed by Bishop, Bowers, Lester, Palmer, ex-Councillor Berry and Councillor Mayer of the Shoreditch Borough Council, while a deputation of 6 was received by the Guardians. The deputation stated that after "a stiff fight" they had received the following offer: "Man and wife 30/-, one-third in kind, two-thirds in cash; each child 5/-, rent 3/-, coal 2/-; single person not living with parents 15/-, 5/- in kind, 10/- cash; single person living with parents, 10/-, 5/- in kind, 5/- cash; no rent to be paid; money received from trade unions of labour exchanges to be deducted from these amounts, but not ex-Service men's pensions; no relief to exceed £3 per week. After a speech by Rannington the audience unanimously rejected the Guardians' offer.

On September 1st a meeting was held by the Shoreditch Unemployed Committee at Hoxton Church: after a speech by Squair, the chairman, the audience, which numbered about 500, voted unanimously in favour of a No-ren t strike. Bowers then said that they wished to conform to law and order, but that law and order must go to Hell when it was a question of whether their wives and families starved or not.

On September 3rd about 1,000 unemployed were addressed near Hoxton Parish Church, by Squair and other members of the local unemployed committee, who recommended temporary acceptance of the Guardians' offer. Squair stated that the unemployed man was entitled to relief and that the authorities had no right to ask him how he came to be destitute. No answers to questions of this kind should be given. This Committee claims to have collected the names of nearly 6,000 men.

On September 4th the Shoreditch Labour Party held a meeting at Pittsfield Street, Hoxton, at which the Labour Councillors attempted to justify their attitude towards the unemployed. Squair was allowed to address the meeting as a critic and maintained that the Labour Party had failed and that it was therefore up to the workers to organise and demand, not ask, for the standard of life to which they were fully entitled. There was considerable recrimination between the Communists and the followers of the Labour Party.

On September 5th Squair informed a meeting of Shoreditch unemployed that the committee intended to put forward increased demands and that the need not worry about the country or borough going bankrupt, for it was only the capitalist class who had anything to lose; their bankruptcy would merely hasten the time when the workers took over the factories and produced riches for themselves, instead of for their employers. He added that there has recently been a meeting of representatives of the unemployed from all parts of England, Scotland and Wales, (i.e. the National Administrative Council of Unemployed Organisations) and they had decided that when the Prime Minister returned from his holiday, they would go to see him about this matter at 10, Downing Street. If they could get the two millions of unemployed to go to Downing Street to help them to force a favourable decision it would probably soon be settled, but even a half million in London would be enough. Jennings stated that the reason why the unemployed movement was creating such a stir, was because the Committees were formed largely of Communists who did not care/
care who knew it, in fact the more wide-spread the knowledge the better. The newspapers were making a great point of this and they were only telling the truth. A deputation will go to the Guardians on September 13th and schemes for a no rent strike are being pushed forward; the borough is divided into 16 divisions, each of which will be placed under a "marshal" under whom will be pickets who will patrol each street, the whole body giving assistance in case of any attempt at the eviction of a striker.

Southwark

Southwark unemployed intend to march round the borough to-day; the Guardians have agreed to receive a deputation at 6.30 p.m.

Stepney

The Stepney unemployed sent a deputation to the Guardians yesterday. The Committee states that in addition to the 15,000 unemployed, who are on the register of the Local Labour Exchange, there are at least 5,000 who are unregistered and who are in receipt of no unemployment pay whatsoever.

Wandsworth

Processions of unemployed carrying banners and singing the "Red Flag" have paraded Wandsworth during the week but no disturbances have so far occurred, neither have the Guardians' offices been visited. Last week 1,911 destitute families comprising 7,377 persons were relieved at a cost of £2,326. The number of applications for relief is increasing rapidly and has necessitated the employment of an extra staff of investigators, entailing an expenditure of £150 a week. The scale of relief is 10/- each for man and wife, 6/- for the first child, 5/- for other children and an allowance of 15/- rent for married people.

Westminster

On September 6th the Westminster unemployed sent a deputation to the Guardians, who refused their demands, but offered 14/- per week for single persons with additional allowances for married couples: maximum 42/6 and all relief in kind. On September 7th the offer was provisionally accepted until September 14th owing to the intervention of more moderate leaders who are endeavouring to depose the extremists, Callaghan and Quinn.

Woolwich

Meetings were held in Beresford Square daily during the past week, the chief speakers being McCarthy, Wardley, Bailey, Reay and Bowden, most of whom are active Communists. Bailey and Bowden have also been organising in Camberwell.

On September 1st a procession of unemployed estimated to number 8,000 - 10,000 marched to the offices of the Woolwich Guardians and sent in a deputation. The Board decided not to pay rent, but offered a scale of 15/- each for man and wife and for single men and women, and 5/- per child, the maximum to be £8, and all income to be deducted from relief. Stormy scenes followed, the unemployed barred the doors and windows/
windows and refused to allow anyone except the medical officer to come in or go out. After a series of hysterical speeches, the seige was raised on the following morning at 6 a.m. and outdoor meetings have since been resumed. The leaders of the deputation were Mrs. Thring, Leaf, Pembery, Straker and McCarthy, who is the district organiser. At week-end meetings speakers have advised the unemployed to accept the scale of relief offered "under protest" and a further meeting is to be held today. There is considerable friction between the Woolwich Labour Party and the leaders of the unemployed and the latter have challenged the Labour Party to address a meeting on Thursday, at which they will occupy the second platform. On September 6th the Woolwich Labour Party issued a manifesto upholding the right of the unemployed to maintenance but pointing out that the scale demanded would amount to a charge on the local rates of at least £25,000 per week, a sum equivalent to more than a 6d. rate per week and involving an increase on rent of 6/- a week. The Party protests against the "disgusting treatment" of the Board by the deputations and is convinced that the latter did not represent the great bulk of the Woolwich unemployed.

BEDFORDSHIRE

Luton

The Guardians, in response to a demand for a higher scale, have granted relief at the rate of 10/- for each adult and 5/- for each child. The Unemployed Committee is asking them to reconsider their decision.

CUMBERLAND

West Cumberland, Iron Ore miners have held several meetings; to-day they propose to march from Cleator Moor, Frizington, Egremont, Cleator and other centres to the Board of Guardians at Whitehaven to demand relief.

DURHAM

In the mining districts of the County of Durham demonstrations have been held to protest against the Guardians' proposals to stop out-relief to the miners who have received benefit from their County Association. It has now been decided that the ordinary relief shall be given irrespective of benefits from the Miners' Association. There are at present 15,555 unemployed on Wear-side; 38,494 on Tees-side and 45,111 on Tyne-side, decreases respectively of 445, 2974 and 2671. Many of the unemployed are genuine cases and are householders who are pawning most of
of their possessions in order to get food. My correspondent considers the outlook "very black indeed", and is of opinion that serious trouble will arise in the winter unless local or national steps can be taken to alleviate distress.

**Gateshead**

On August 31st about 1,600 unemployed marched to the Guardians' Offices and a deputation placed before the Board a resolution asking for justice to be done to the unemployed and urging that they should be assisted in their own homes rather than forced into the Workhouse. The Guardians, after discussion, passed a resolution calling upon the Government to supply the various districts affected by unemployment with financial aid from national sources, and thus relieve the local burden. Copies of this resolution were sent to members of the Government and to all Boards of Guardians, the latter being asked to support a petition on these lines to the Government and to Members of Parliament.

**Jarrow**

On September 5th between 2,000 and 3,000 unemployed assembled at Jarrow and a deputation interviewed the Mayor, who stated that the Town Council would probably send a deputation to London.

**Sunderland**

On September 2nd a deputation of unemployed headed by their local secretary, a Communist named Lenagh, demanded relief from the Sunderland Guardians, who decided to increase the scale from 10/- to 15/- per adult and from 2/- to 3/- for each child. They also agreed to send a deputation to the Town Council to urge relief work schemes to be pressed forward. The visit to the Guardians was the outcome of several meetings organised by Lenagh and Wheeler.

On September 7th about 4,000 unemployed assembled in West Park, where speeches were made by Lenagh and Alderman Dunlop. The former then led about 2,000 to the Guardians Offices where they were informed by the Clerk to the Board that there would be no meeting for a week and that nothing further could be done by the Relief Committee. The crowd then went to the Workhouse, where they threatened to force an entrance and seized a passing tram-car; they subsequently returned to the Guardians' Offices and rushed in but withdrew on the arrival of the police. The demonstrators whose number had decreased to about 300 returned to West Park and resolved to hold another meeting to-day.

**Essex**

**Southend**

On September 6th about 250 unemployed marched from Southend to the Workhouse at Rochford, where the Guardians were sitting and demanded admission, under threats to force their way in. A deputation was received by the Guardians and after being promised relief through the relieving officer, the unemployed returned home without disturbance. The 2,000 unemployed/
unemployed at Southend are not yet organised, but it is thought that another visit will be paid to the workhouse.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Bristol

On September 7th serious disturbances were caused by the unemployed in Bristol. The Guardians consented to receive a deputation but stipulated that it should not number more than 4; the Unemployed Committee insisted that 11 should be admitted. The gates of St. Peter's Hospital, the office of the Guardians, were stormed; the police were pelted with stones and wood-paving blocks and struck with the banner poles of the demonstrators, who carried red flags. The police made a baton charge but the crowd, escaping through Bridge Street, broke most of the shop windows and used the road repairing material as ammunition. Several police and demonstrators are reported slightly injured.

The organiser of the Unemployed is a man named Hamilton, who arrived in the city about 10 days ago. He is thought to be identical with R.C. Hamilton, who was arrested in 1916, when secretary of the Clyde Defence Committee.

Warrley

On September 6th about 400 unemployed visited the Guardians' Offices at Warrley and were granted relief at the rate of 15/- man, 10/- wife, 5/- for each child. There was no disturbance.

ISLE OF WIGHT

Cowes

On September 4th over 1,000 unemployed held a meeting to protest against the attitude of the Isle of Wight Guardians in refusing an application for an extravagant scale of relief. It was decided that failing payment by the Guardians of the Islington scale of relief the unemployed should march en masse to the workhouse.

Lancashire and Cheshire

The unemployed position in these counties is very serious and there is growing exasperation.

Accrington

The relief scale is 13/6 for single people - married couple 26/-; 10/6 each for 2 children; 10/- for each subsequent child.

Ashton-under-Lyne

On September 1st an unemployed deputation was informed by the Guardians that each case would be dealt with on its merits/
merits and that they did not feel disposed to absolve people who entered the workhouse from the ordinary tasks. The Guardians subsequently passed a strong resolution protesting against the action of the Government in forcing local authorities to shoulder the Government's responsibilities.

** Blackburn **

The position has improved. Relief is being granted at the rate of 15/- for each adult; 20/- for man and wife and 5/- for each child.

** Burnley **

The reduced scale adopted in June is still in force. The average weekly payment for relief is £2.50. The Improvement Committee of the Burnley Corporation has refused to proceed with road making in order to provide work for the unemployed, and attempts made by the Labour councillor to reverse this decision were defeated by 13 to 11.

** Bury **

Each district relief committee decides the amount given and able bodied men do test work.

** Liverpool **

On September 7th a demonstration of unemployed was held behind the Town Hall during the monthly meeting of the City Council and demanded that the Lord Mayor should address the meeting. Be refused but consented to receive a deputation. The crowd, which numbered nearly 10,000, adopted a threatening attitude, forming a solid mass in front of the Town Hall and stopping all traffic for half an hour. Eventually the Lord Mayor appealed on the balcony with the deputation, whom he informed that schemes for the provision of work were under consideration. The deputation replied that work or substantial maintenance must be found for all, not a few. The crowd dispersed after deciding to parade the principal streets each day.

** Manchester **

Relief is given on the following scale: Man and wife 9/- each; 3 persons in one house 3/6 each; 5 persons in one house 6/6 each; 5 or 7 persons in one house 7/6 each; rent up to 16/-. Manchester Guardians expect to have spent about £100,000 on relief at the end of the September quarter. My correspondent reports that there are a great many unemployables, as well as the genuine unemployed.

** Oldham **

There is little distress, as most of the workers are working Trades Union benefits; less than 20 able-bodied men are receiving out-door relief.

** Preston **

There is no stated scale and no abnormal demands for relief have been made.

** Rochdale **

The relief scale is: Man and wife 16/-, 5/6 each for first three children; 4/6 additional children.
St. Helens

On September 1st about 600 unemployed marched to the Labour Club and a deputation asked Councillor Waring to take them to the Mayor. He replied that it had been decided to proceed with certain road improvements at a cost of £26,000 and that he would consult with the Mayor regarding further measures.

Southport

There is little unemployment and no fixed scale, but a man, wife and child receive approximately 25/- a week.

Warrington

On August 31st about 2,000 unemployed assembled outside the Union Workhouse and a deputation of 8 asked the Guardians for relief on a scale similar to that being given in certain London boroughs. The Chairman replied that each case would be considered individually and no minimum or maximum fixed. The deputation also asked the Guardians to call upon the Government to extend the period of unemployed donations. The Warrington Guardians are spending about £2,000 a week on relief and food tickets varying from 10/- to 50/- weekly. It is estimated that their overdraft at the end of September will be £24,000.

There are 15,000 unemployed and partially unemployed and between 3,000 to 4,000 are not receiving State benefits.

Widnes

On August 31st about 600 unemployed marched to the relieving offices and a deputation was asked to return the next day, when its members were taken to task by a Labour Councillor named Mac Donald, who stated that he was entirely opposed to a flat rate of relief. The Guardians subsequently informed the deputation that each case would be dealt with on its merits and adequate relief given in the form of food vouchers for married men, but that nothing could be promised to single men. The organiser, Hunter, thereupon threatened that a descent would be made in force on the Guardians in the near future. The Town Council has since made arrangements to start work for a number of unemployed, 40 hours a week for married men and 34 hours for single men. There are no signs of disorder.

Wigan

On September 2nd a deputation of unemployed interviewed the Guardians after threatening that they would return thousands strong if they refused admittance. The Board refused to agree to a flat rate but promised individual consideration and adequate relief for destitution.

LEICESTERSHIRE

Leicester

Distress is increasing and, although the extremists have not yet re-started the Unemployed Committee, they are doing their utmost to arouse the unemployed.
NORFOLK

Norwich

On September 2nd a crowd of wives of the unemployed led by two unemployed ex-Service men swarmed into the offices of the Norwich Guardians and demanded that the Guardians should provide their children with boots. The authorities refused to recognise the demonstration but an ex-Service man named Ley, stated that they represented the East Anglian Council of Unemployed. The crowd eventually dispersed without disturbance.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Northampton

The Town Council appears to be doing its utmost to provide work for the unemployed and it is reported that a new £60,000 scheme is to be started. It will provide some hundreds of men with work for several months.

Wellingborough

On September 7th about 400 unemployed marched to the offices of the Guardians who decided to grant temporary relief.

NORTHUMBERLAND

Newcastle

At Newcastle there have so far been no unemployed demonstrations but Major Barnes, M.P. promised, at a meeting of unemployed held in the East End Liberal Institute, to bring before the Government a suggestion that the Government should give £1 in relief for every £1 from local funds. It is stated in shipbuilding circles that unless the cost of production can be reduced in the near future, there is every possibility that many shipyards will have to be closed down entirely. The shipyard workers when questioned in this connection stated that they would have no objection to a reduction in wages, if it were preceded by a reduction in the cost of living and added that if the price of food and the price of beer came down and there was work for the genuine unemployed the agitators would have no hold at all.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Nottingham

The lace, hosiery and engineering trades are still very depressed and the unemployed are restive, but lack a leader although the formation of a committee is under consideration. On September 2nd about 700 unemployed engineers appealed for relief but were told by the Mayor that the distress fund was exhausted, over £20,000 having been distributed since December last. On September 6th a demonstration went to the Guardians and was told that genuine cases would be relieved in kind but not by cash payments.

Staffordshire
STAFFORDSHIRE

Smethwick

Feeling is running high: the deputation to the
Ministries of Health and Labour reported that the
unemployed may expect "plenty of sympathy and no assistance
from the Government." A movement has been started to
organise a Federation of Midland Municipal Authorities to
seek the Government to empower a Treasury grant under
reasonable conditions. On September 3rd a meeting was
addressed by Grant, chairman of committee, and a
resolution passed pledging assistance to anyone who
spent relief money on food instead of rent.

Walsall

On September 6th the Walsall Unemployed Committee paid
a second visit to the Guardians, who decided not to grant
the demands but to adhere to the present scale of relief,
plus 1/- per week for each child. Much dissatisfaction
was shown by the unemployed, who expressed their
determination to go to the Workhouse.

Wolverhampton

The Guardians have used practically all their funds
and 1,500 of the unemployed, who total about 15,000, have
exhausted their State benefit: the scale of relief
proposed by the Unemployed Committee and the Trades
Council has been refused but an additional allowance of
1/- in kind to each child has been granted.

Unemployment in North Staffordshire is not serious,
as the staple industry, the pottery trade, is doing well.

SURREY

Woking

On September 7th about 150 men, apparently genuine,
unemployed, marched to the house of the relieving officer
and demanded relief: he took the names and addresses of
the majority and promised to submit their application to
the Board of Guardians which is expected to meet on
September 10th. The procession was quite orderly.

WARWICKSHIRE

Birmingham

On September 5th a meeting was held in Winstone Green
to form an unemployment committee with a view to
approaching the Board of Guardians for relief. About 300
people were present to organise the Birmingham unemployed
as an entity.

The Communists continue to hold meetings for the
benefit of the unemployed and on September 3rd an
inflammatory speech, which has been submitted to the
Director of Public Prosecutions, was delivered in the Bull
Ring by James McHugh:

"Why/
"Why do you want to starve when the shops all around you are full of food-stuffs? There's your Market Hall full of commodities, and still you are content to go about in a quiet and orderly manner. Look at other places, they have organised their unemployed and marched to the Board of Guardians. Why are you afraid? Well, I'll tell you this. I am not going to starve. If I don't get what I want I will go thieving. Wake up and organise yourselves and when you have done that you will be able to take over the machines of industry."

Coventry

The Unemployed Committee has so far proceeded on constitutional lines and the meetings on Pool Meadow have been attended by men of the steady working class, who have shown no sympathy with the extremists.

Wiltshire

On September 4th there was a demonstration at Trowbridge at which it was stated that the unemployed of Trowbridge and Melksham intended to march to Semington and appeal to the Guardians.

Worcestershire

Dudley

On September 7th a demonstration of unemployed was held at Dudley.

Yorkshire

Bradford

There does not appear to be any acute distress so far, but arrangements are being made by the Joint Committee of Trade Unions to hold an unemployed demonstration at an early date. Applications for relief are coming in at the rate of about 200 per week and the relief scale is: Single men 14/-, man and wife £1.8.0, man, wife and one child £2.2.0, increasing to man, wife and six children £3.6.0.

Halifax

About 3,000 men and 1,000 women are totally unemployed and 2,000 men and 2,000 women partially unemployed. About 1,000 men and 400 women have exhausted the State benefits and meetings are being held practically daily. The Corporation is endeavouring to find work on sewage and road mending: about 1,000 men have registered their names for this work. The scale of relief adopted by the Guardians is: Men, single or married, 15/-, wife 12/-, single women 15/-, children 10/- to 5/-; widows with children 15/-.
Huddersfield

On September 7th between 2,000 and 3,000 unemployed marched to the Guardians' Offices, where they were informed that the Salvation Army would provide food for those in immediate need and that the Board would afterwards issue food coupons. The secretary of the Unemployed Committee is J. Bowle and the chairman is J. Bryant.

The Town Council of the Board of Guardians are arranging a Joint Conference of Representatives of Public Bodies in Yorkshire to consider the unemployment problem.

Leeds

The scale of relief is: Single person 12/6, 2 adults living together 18/-, one adult and one child 17/-; increasing to one adult and six children £2 2s. 0. Rent is paid in each case. No Unemployed Committee has, as yet, been formed.

Middlesborough

Meetings of unemployed have been held, but no disorder has so far been reported.

Sheffield

The city is quieter; most of the men who went into the Workhouse have now left, including the Rev. - Pickering, who seems likely to foment trouble again. About 10,000 summonses have been issued for rates and a demonstration in this connection is expected. These summonses are said to be due to the decision of the City Council in March last to abolish the usual method of compounding rates with rent in the cost of all houses under £7 a year. Owners of such houses have been credited with a certain discount in consideration of the fact that under the compounding system they acted in one sense as rate collectors.

The Communist, Alphonse Wilson, who achieved notoriety in the recent disturbances, stated at a meeting on September 1st that the people summoned should protest at the Police Court and if they received a distress warrant should keep some boiling water and tell the officers that they would pour it over them. John McLean, of Glasgow, addressed the same meeting and stated that he was going round the country to organise the unemployed.

Shiroy

On August 31st about 2,000 people attended a meeting organised by the Unemployed Committee and were addressed by Knox, Clark and Scharfe, the last named is a member of the Plebs League. No disturbances have been reported.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE

Glamorgan

On September 5th Communists organised a march of the unemployed from Pontypridd to the Trades Union Congress at Cardiff; 21 started, the number increased to 100 at Caerphilly but only 70 reached Congress. They were headed by Holt, secretary of the National Administrative Council of/
of the Unemployed, A. Z. Cook, secretary of the South Wales Division of the Communist party and John Maclean of Glasgow. All delivered violent speeches and J. Maclean seriously disturbed the Congress. Abusing individuals by name he urged that a general strike was the only immediate weapon that Labour had at its disposal, and that unless the Congress decided to act he would tell the Scottish workers not to let any of them speak in public.

Unemployment in Cardiff, especially in the ship-building industry, is acute, and a demonstration is to be held in Cathey's Park to-day. A large demonstration of unemployed occurred at Pontypridd on September 7th.

Monmouthshire

On September 7th about 1,000 unemployed left Abertillery at 9 a.m. under the leadership of J. Jayne, vice-chairman of the Monmouthshire Western Valley Miners' Council and W. Lane, chairman of the Cwrtillery Lodge of the South Wales Miners' Federation; the march continued through Risca, Nantyglo and Ebbw Vale to the Bedwelly Union Workhouse at Tredegar; on arrival at 1:30 p.m. the demonstrators numbered 5000. The leaders, who included W. Harris, political organiser of the South Wales Miners' Federation, asked the Guardians for relief on the same scale as obtains in Poplar. Many of the demonstrators were ex-Service men, only a minority wearing Communist ribbons.

SCOTLAND

Dundee

On September 6th about 5,000 unemployed marched to the Parish Council Offices at Dundee, but found the doors locked and speedily became restive. A rush was made for the door and stones, taken from a cemetery opposite, together with other missiles were hurled at the windows. The demonstrators were arrested but subsequently released. The Board met later and agreed to register all applicants for relief. On September 8th several thousand unemployed marched through the streets of Dundee smashing windows; numbers went to the residence of the Lord Provost where stones were thrown at his motor car, some of which broke a window injuring his daughter. Disturbances continued until a late hour the crowds looting shops; several baton charges were made by the police.

Glasgow

Meetings are being held under the auspices of John Maclean's unemployed committee, but there is some dissension among the members in regard to money matters.

The communists have only just begun to organise the unemployed and held their first meetings in various districts on September 4th, when the audience were urged to form committees and approach parish councils for the Islington scale of relief. Communist delegates have been appointed to each area in which the unemployed are at all numerous, and have been instructed to advocate total maintenance by the Civil authorities. The communist
activities are, however, hampered by the antagonism of John McLean, who already controls the hooligan element in the South Side.

Fifeshire

The Bellingry Parish Council has been surcharged by the Scottish Board of Health in connection with the adoption of the Labour Party scale of out-door relief. The chairman, a labour man, states that he will go to jail before he pays.
## Scales of Relief Demanded This Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOWN OR BOROUGH</th>
<th>MARRIED MAN</th>
<th>MARRIED WOMAN</th>
<th>SINGLE PERSON</th>
<th>CHILDREN</th>
<th>RENT</th>
<th>FUEL</th>
<th>REMARKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashton - Under-Lyne</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>30/-</td>
<td>7/6</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>3/6 gas or coal</td>
<td>Nourishment in case of sickness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camberwell</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>7/6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cowes</td>
<td>40/-</td>
<td>5/-</td>
<td>35/-</td>
<td>5/-</td>
<td></td>
<td>Full Payment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deptford</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>12/6</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>5/- to 2/6</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fulham</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8/-</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>1 cwt. of coal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenwich</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>25/-</td>
<td>7/6 to 5/-</td>
<td></td>
<td>Full payment of coal</td>
<td>Boots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hammersmith &amp; Shepherd's Bush.</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7/6 to 5/-</td>
<td></td>
<td>Full payment of coal</td>
<td>1 cwt. coal 3/6 gas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hendon</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7/6</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>Coal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruddersfield</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>7/6</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>Coal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leyton, Walthamstow &amp; Stratford.</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>25/-</td>
<td>7/6</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>1 cwt. coal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limehouse</td>
<td>12/-</td>
<td>12/-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8/-</td>
<td></td>
<td>Full Payment</td>
<td>1 cwt. coal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sutton</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>5/-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stepney</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>7/6</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunderland</td>
<td>36/-</td>
<td>36/-</td>
<td>36/-</td>
<td>3/-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

continued/
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOWN OR BOROUGH</th>
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<th>MARRIED WOMAN</th>
<th>SINGLE PERSON</th>
<th>CHILDREN</th>
<th>RENT</th>
<th>FUEL</th>
<th>REMARKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walsall</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>12/6 to 4/6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1 cwt. coal</td>
<td>23. 5. 0. maximum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westminster</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>1 cwt. coal</td>
<td>23 maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolverhampton</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>20/-</td>
<td>7/6 to 4/6</td>
<td>Full Payment</td>
<td>Coal</td>
<td>23. 5. 0. maximum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woolwich</td>
<td>25/-</td>
<td>25/-</td>
<td>25/-</td>
<td>8/-</td>
<td>Full Payment</td>
<td>Two-thirds of relief in kind.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>