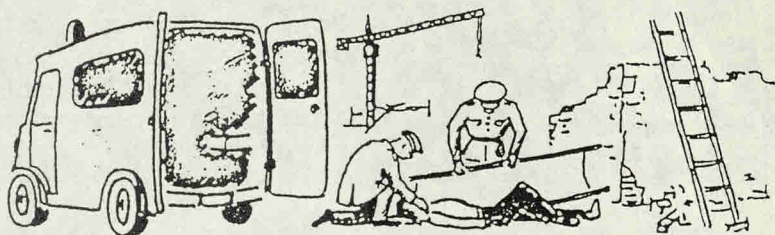


CONSTRUCTION SAFETY CAMPAIGN



YOUR HEALTH- THEIR WEALTH!

157 BUILDING WORKERS WERE KILLED LAST YEAR

The latest accident figures are frightening. There are two deaths every week, and the incidence of reported major accidents is rising faster than ever. The truth is that 90% of so-called accidents could be prevented, since they are due to the negligence of management. Such negligence should be regarded as criminal and those responsible should be prosecuted in the crown court and imprisoned. No employer has ever been imprisoned in this country for causing the death of a worker. Instead they are fined an average of £400. *This is not justice - this is an insult.*

Construction accidents London. April 1987 - March 1988		Fatal and major accidents in construction up by over 65% since 1981 per thousand workers employed. (Source HSE)
Deaths:	36	CAMPAIGN
Major injuries:	413	
Prosecutions:	18	
Average fine:	£1050	
No action was taken on over half the sites where a death or major injury occurred.		

CONSTRUCTION SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Health and Safety at Work: **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS**

Your employer has a legal duty to ensure your site is safe and healthy. In addition your site must have:

- * toilets and washing facilities with hot water
- * supply of clean, fresh drinking water
- * training and information on hazards
- * protective clothing for work in rain, snow, sleet or hail
- * heated shelters
- * place to dry clothes
- * place to heat and eat food

BUILDING

Despite legal duties and industry agreements, most building sites are death traps lacking many of the provisions listed above. Employers will try intimidation to stop you obtaining these basic rights. Your only hope of winning a safe workplace is to unite with your workmates and demand it.

Unions have health and safety experts, solicitors and researchers who will work for their members, defending their health, pay and conditions.



KEEP DEATH OFF
BUILDING SITES

These services—all free to members. And trade union safety reps have many legal rights other workers do not have. Being in a union could save your life.

ACTION:

- * contact the Construction Safety Campaign
- * talk to mates you trust on the site, with the aim of building strong union organisation
- * make contact with building workers on other sites
- * if you're not in a union - join one

ORGANISATION

ILL HEALTH

Accidents have killed over 1500 building workers in the last ten years. Bronchitis, cancer and other diseases of dust and lousy working conditions have killed in the region of 40,000 more. Injuries run into millions. The perennially cautious HSE admit that at least 500,000 were sufficiently badly injured to be off work for three days or more. The situation on site is getting worse.

Ill-health. In the event of a building worker evading the 'accidents' that cause a site injury once every couple of minutes and that kill 150 every year, other hazards lie in store. The incidence of many cancers, back injuries, respiratory diseases such as bronchitis, emphysema and asthma and of many others ailments are much higher in building workers than in the general population (*Hazards 4*, June 1985). As many as 4,000 building workers may die every year from industrial disease.

Not everyone on site is at risk. The chances of a site manager or agent dying of lung cancer before reaching retirement age is half that of the general population. A plasterer, by contrast, runs three times the risk of an early death from the disease as the boss (*OCPS Occupational Mortality Decennial Supplement 1979-80, 1982-83*). The story is repeated for other building trades and other diseases. For those at the dirty end, building work is a death sentence.



NATIONAL INSPECTION WEEK

The 9th-13th January is the TUC's first National Inspection Week, an initiative supported by the CONSTRUCTION SAFETY CAMPAIGN. But we believe that every day of the year should be an inspection day.

'INSPECT AND PROTECT'

If you want details about the CONSTRUCTION SAFETY CAMPAIGN, how to join a union or about health and safety, contact:

Tony O'Brien, Construction Safety Campaign, 72 Copeland Rd., London SE15. Tel. 732 3711.

CONSTRUCTION SAFETY CAMPAIGN

THE DEMANDS OF THE CAMPAIGN

The aims of the Construction Safety Campaign are:

● *to get the labour and trade union movement to make deaths and serious injury in the construction industry a major political issue.*

● *for local authorities to refuse to employ contractors and sub contractors with a proven record of wilful and serious negligence in the matter of safety in construction.*

● *to make a prison sentence on the employer mandatory where gross negligence is proven, or in the event of death or serious injury.*

● *to ensure no sacking of workers who raise health and safety issues on sites and a statutory right to immediate reinstatement.*

● *to canvas the support of the medical profession.*

Building Workers Fight Back



'You only get what you fight for and if your life and limbs are not worth fighting for, what is?'

IF YOU SUPPORT OUR DEMANDS
JOIN THE CAMPAIGN

We take action including:

- * picketing coroner's courts
- * leafletting sites
- * picketing sites
- * public meetings

- * IF A WORKER DIES ON SITE - STOP THE JOB

- * UNSAFE SITES - REFUSE LOUSY CONDITIONS

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