

**"Leave me alone, police shit - I want to enjoy myself. Life is boring
.....WE WANT EVERYTHING!"**

- Looter in Brixton, September 1985.

"WE WANT WAR!"

- Black teenage girls, Brixton, September 1985.

REBEL VIOLENCE

V.

HIERARCHICAL VIOLENCE

A CHRONOLOGY OF ANTI-STATE VIOLENCE

ON THE UK MAINLAND

JULY 1985 - MAY 1986

"I've got Power - you're just scum!"

- Cop to couple evicted from squat on the Buckingham Estate by bailiffs and police under the orders of Southwark Labour Council, end of January 1986.

A CHRONOLOGY OF ANTI-HIERARCHICAL VIOLENCE IN MAINLAND U.K., JULY 1985 - MAY 1986.

What happened in Handsworth, Brixton, Tottenham and in the mining areas the year before was so vast that there was no way the media could ignore it - so they had to content themselves with smothering the events in ideology, half-truths and lies instead. What received a lot less publicity were the scores of smaller revolts that have happened round the country (in addition to the riots that took place in Holland [not reported], West Germany, Greece, the prisons of France [hardly reported], Tokyo [hardly reported], a mini-riot in Berkeley USA [not reported], Guadaloupe, Uganda, the Phillipines, Haiti and, of course, the revolutionary uprisings in South Africa - not to mention probably innumerable other places). The following is a chronology of all the known exemplary actions which have taken place here since July 1985. Certainly there must have been others. As far as is known, all the facts here are completely accurate, which is the minimum that can be expected: it wouldn't be worth putting this out if they weren't. Perhaps there are some unintentional inaccuracies: those who have different details about events or who know of other incidents can put out their own chronology or whatever.

13/7/85: Cops attacked by large crowd at a fairground in the mining village of Knottingley, Yorkshire.

27/7/85: 200+ battle with the cops in Wombwell, S.Yorks., after an attempted arrest following the bricking of a police car.

27/7/85: 50 youths attack cops with spikes torn from railings and bricks in Toxteth in the early hours. Roof of a patrol car is pierced. This is a relatively common occurrence in Toxteth, but, since '81, all mini-riots outside those connected with the miners strike (or the NGA dispute at Warrington) have been subject to a press blackout. Talking of such things in the media becomes a way of making them seem a lot less common than they are - making spectators think that when the media doesn't mention such things they're clearly not happening.

This event, which was initially subject to a police-enforced press blackout, was given publicity by the vice-chairman of the Merseyside Police Authority and by the Labour M.P. for Liverpool Garston. The incident was one of the many censored by the media since the summer of '81 but known by those with a bit of suss. Given that hundreds of thousands of people knew about things which were happening on the streets which the media remained silent about, the aim of making this public was clearly to restore (some) people's faith in the lie-machine, to bolster up it's function of mediating between facts people know about and the ideological distortion of these facts after several years of increasing mistrust on the part of vast sections of those at the bottom of the ladder. Since the end of the miners strike, when the media had been clearly seen as an arm of the State, sections of the media have reformed their image - being much more critical of the government and generally boosting the liberal/left wings of capital at a time when the right appears to be too crudely manipulative & vicious.

Also in July (no dates available): attacks on the cops at the Durham Miners Gala after the cops had arrested a miner; attacks on the cops outside the Mayflower Club, Bradford; attacks on the cops in Bristol.

Beginning of August (no precise date available): Bikers attack cops with petrol bombs etc. at Silverstone after the pubs close.

15/8/85: Derek Hatton struck across the ear and knocked to the floor as he enters a meeting in Liverpool; he is there to justify his appointment of Samson Bond, a Militant supporter from outside Liverpool, as community relations chief, when those relatively few - but vociferous - Liverpool blacks who give a toss about this bureaucratic appointment, want someone from the area. Disgust with such nepotism, however, is used by the equally obnoxious Kinnock wing of the Labour Party - though it's impossible to say whether the guy who punched Hatton was a Kinnock fan or someone who hates all bureaucrats. The Kinnock wing, of course, don't care about string-pulling amongst other Labour councils (e.g. Blunkett in Sheffield, whose friends and relatives have a finger in large parts of the city's businesses and administration) because these sections are more under the control of the NEC. More blatant corruption amongst the Liverpool council - never mentioned by the Leftist opponents of Militant - is the deal they made with Asda, the Tesco of the North: against their election promises, which were to favour rate reductions for small petit-bourgeois shop-keepers against the large supermarkets, they gave a special rate-reduction to Asda to help their expansion in the Liverpool area. When a leading council member was photographed on holiday in North Africa with

TOP HATTON- FANATIC WITH FLAIR

DEREK HATTON, the Left wing fanatic who currently presides over the misery of Liverpool, continues to surprise us all with his silky middle-class life-style.

Mr Hatton attended a debate at Oxford University this weekend and after the proceedings he retired to the city's most famous hotel, The Randolph, an establishment which whispers with snootiness and exclusivity.

Councillor Hatton booked a tastefully appointed double room with bath, television, air conditioning and all the rest of it. It cost £60.

Bustle

He had glided up to the front door of the place in a chauffeur-driven limousine and presented himself at the reception desk dressed, as is his custom, in one of his generous collection of dandy £155 suits.

the top manager of Asda only the naive were surprised. Another thing the Labour Right never attack Militant for is their threats of eviction to the tens of thousands of council tenants in Liverpool who are in rent arrears. I wonder why. A Merseyside uprising is constantly on the cards - but what's demoralised the Liverpool proletariat more than anything else has been all the competing Leftist political gangsterism attempting to take over the local State bureaucracy with their own particular flavour of the month. A rivalrous favouritism which pits one Union/Municipal power bloc against another Union/Municipal power bloc. The trouble is, Liverpool workers haven't broken free from all these cliques claiming to represent them, at least not with any sufficient clarity. A corporatism between council employees and City Hall is the death of any clear-sighted direct action. Only when Militant is treated with the violence that all bosses deserve is it possible for a clear strike wave to rip through the city making possible link-ups with the riotous youth of Kirkby, Toxteth or Everton.

The right-wing hypocrites denounce the left-wing hypocrites, who are busy denouncing the right-wing hypocrites. But beyond what anyone with a tiny bit of sense can see is just a false choice, the real choice is simple: you either submit to the alternative forms of bullshit - or you undercut in practice your own participation in what makes you a full-time loser

17/8/85: Clashes with the cops in the shopping centre of St. Peters Port, Guernsey.

21/8/85: 2 petrol bombs thrown at the home of Malcolm Graham, chairman of the Wolverhampton Express & Star newspaper group, which is in dispute with the NGA over sacking 69 workers who refused to accept terms for the introduction of new technology. In the previous month corrosive fluids were poured on the bowling green and cricket pitch at the Express & Star sportsground. And since then several managers' cars were damaged.

25/8/85: Armed cop shoots & kills 5-yr. old John Shorthouse whilst he's asleep in bed. That evening a crowd of 50+ ambush cop cars answering a hoax call in the same area. 1 cop is injured, 2 patrol cars are overturned. A radio report states, "There is widespread anti-police unrest throughout Birmingham". This is over 2 weeks before Handsworth erupts.

26/8/85: Last night of the Notting Hill carnival - 100, mainly black, youths, attack cops with bottles and bricks after cops beat up black guy in basement area. All Saints Road is sealed off for an hour by the cops, but they avoid bringing out their riot shields for fear of ruining the peaceful image of the carnival. The very moment they put away their truncheons and unblock All Saints Rd., they break up into groups of 2s and 3s and slowly stroll off at 1½ m.p.h. with their hands behind their backs and polite relaxed expressions on their faces in keeping with their nice community cop image, as if nothing had happened at all. Whereas for over an hour no women cops could be seen, suddenly women cops with sweet rehearsed smiles join the male ones in their snails-pace amble through the abandoned battleground (which doesn't look much of a battleground by now as the cops had taken out their frustrations by enthusiastically truncheoning any potential missile into dust and splinters). The decision to use women cops for riots 6 months or so after this is another example of the prevalent soft cop image: riot pigs joined by sows can seem to be not so macho after all. A Home Office spokesman said it was so that they could search the increasing amount of women involved in riots, as if arrested women are never searched by male cops. Apart from the need for more wo/manpower, the State's motivation is the usefulness of a nice image, a counter-balance to the fact that rioting can no longer be made to appear to be the prerogative of men.

Nothing of this mini-riot in the press. Sadly, before the riot some blacks attacked and mugged isolated white youths - an easy target. Not that the carnival isn't crawling with well-off trendies vibing into the natural rhythm, many of whom deserve to get their patronising 'anti-racism' shoved back in their faces, just that the criteria used in these cases wasn't social position, class, but colour, and whether these whites were on their own or not. Many blacks, excited and inspired by the South African revolution (Notting Hill is filled with 'Free South Africa!' graffiti) tend to identify with it superficially by attacks on proletarian whites whose material position's just one or two rungs higher in the hierarchy. Of course it's not some moral liberal-left question of "Blacks and whites uniting and fighting" but a practical question - and whites involvement in the explosions, particularly in Liverpool, show that whites too are learning practically from the inspiration of black proletarians in South Africa. White youths might

not get done over by the cops as much as black working class youths but this is hardly a privilege: significantly, during the mini-riot on this hot Monday night, a white guy was seen being beaten up by the pigs with the same brutality that they meted out to blacks. The cops are clearly happy to see things like mugging amongst those they are paid to crush - it helps the old divide 'n' rule.

The Standard, 20/12/85.

Nine years
on... victim
of carnival
violence is
found dead



NOTTING HILL TAKES ITS TOLL: Mark is helped from the riot scene in 1976.

Kilburn Times,
beginning of
September, 1976.

Challenge to a Carnival

SOME of the happiest
faces at the Notting Hill
Carnival this year were
those of the youths
throwing bricks and
bottles at police on
Monday.

Tragedy of P-c Mark

by Diane Chanteau

A FORMER London policeman whose "character changed completely" after he was beaten up and stabbed in the 1976 Notting Hill Carnival riot will be buried in Devon today.

Thirty-one-year-old Mark Turner's body was found last weekend near his car at a Dartmoor beauty spot where he played as a child.

Devon and Cornwall police puzzled over his identity for several days until he was identified by his family who live only two miles from where he was found. They had not known he was in the area.

His younger brother Piers, who lives in Velverton, near Plymouth, believes Mark killed

himself in one of the recurring fits of depression he suffered since he was injured in August nine years ago.

"If it wasn't for the injuries he received, I'm sure he would be alive today," he said.

The former P-c, who lived in Loftus Road, Shepherd's Bush, had been in the Met for less than a year when he was attacked. He received an early pension in 1982 on grounds of ill-health as a result of his injuries.

Piers, who described his brother as a "gentle giant," said: "Mark was never the same after he was attacked. He wasn't so tolerant as before, he lost his sense of humour and he was just a different man."

"I didn't even know he was in the area—he was due here on Christmas Eve. I knew

nothing until the police contacted me. Mark had apparently taken some pills."

Mark's father, Mr. Michael Turner, 50, said: "The attack gave him severe depression but none of us was aware to what extent. He kept it hidden from everybody and none of us realised he was so desperate. We thought he had got over it."

After he was pensioned out, he did a number of different jobs but then he joined the civilian unit supporting the CID in Ealing eight months ago.

"They found him at a place called The Pound. It was always a particularly favourite place of his. It was where he used to play when he was little."

One of Mark's former colleagues, who met him after he left Notting Hill in 1977



DAY OF SORROW: Mark's mother and brother, Piers (at back), at today's funeral.

for Chelsea, P-c Bob Harvey, very good friend to a lot of said: "He was well-known and respected by the people. An inquest will be held of Notting Hill and he was a later.



27/8/85: Cop patrols stoned in Toxteth after chasing joyriders; cop car stolen when the cops chase the joyriders on foot.

30/8/85: Police station in Toxteth besieged by crowd of 150 after cops nicked an innocent black guy in connection with a murder. Windows are smashed & burning barricades are built around the building. Crowds enter the station & steal bottles of spirits & documents listing pigs home addresses. I cop injured. No arrests.

2/8-9/85: Cops stoned in Hulme, Manchester, after attempting an arrest; they flee empty-handed.

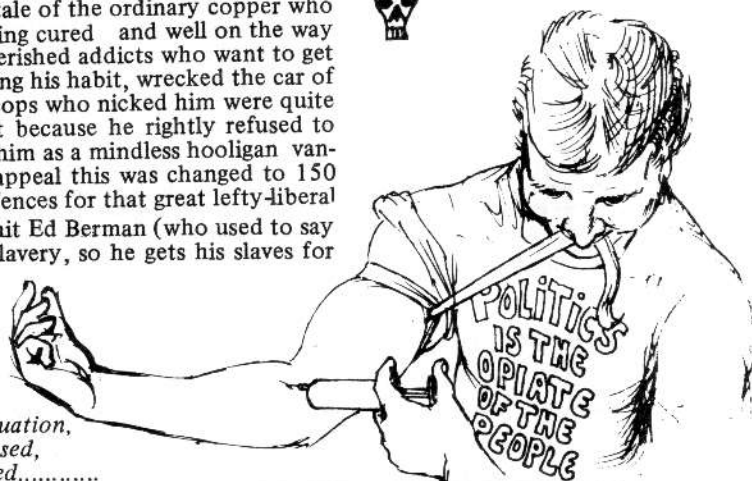
2/9/85: Cops attacked after throwing 50 youths out a cinema showing Rambo in Gloucester. 2 cops injured. 7 arrests.

8/9/85: Looting and attack on the cops in Northampton after a football match.

9/9/85: Large scale rioting in Handsworth, Birmingham. Shops looted and burned, with shopkeepers defending their property, and firemen dampening high spirits, getting stoned. Getting down to an open attack on religion, a church was raised to the ground. 2 Asian brothers (one, a sub-postmaster) - who, incidentally, lived in a reasonably well-off house outside Handsworth - stayed inside the sub-post office to pull down shutters and - in their own words - to "defend Queen's property". Urged to leave by both rioters and firemen, they refused and, overcome with smoke, died in the heat of the moment. Since then a couple of blokes have been charged with their murder. They were not charged with aiding and abetting a suicide. Cops come under sustained attack from petrol bombs, with 15 injured. There are 12 arrests on the night. Asians and whites take part in the riot, though the press try to make out that the riot was Afro-Carribeans only, and that their motive was anti-Asian racism.

revolution is the carnival of the oppressed,
carnival is a reform for the depressed.

The cops blame drug dealers for the riot - as if having your area swamped by the Law is a clever way of earning an honest illegal living. Now how come every-time the State says it's doing a crack-down on heroin, marijuana dealers get busted left, right and centre, and heroin becomes easier to get? Sure, they nick a few token heroin dealers - such big-shots as impoverished addicts selling a gram or two to support their addiction. I heard of one addict who recently got sent down for LIFE for dealing a GRAM (whether this got changed on appeal or not, I don't know). The State hopes to pin "The Dealer In Death" label on every desperate hustler who maybe rioted in '81, then got into heroin after prices conveniently dropped because the gear was coming into the country conveniently. (This tactic had already been successfully tried in the Haight-Ashbury district of San Francisco, when the Mafia moved heroin in in 1968, and in Italy, where heroin was cheaply available to youth after a massive movement against the State in 1977.) Cops who used to plant cannabis, are now sometimes planting heroin - one way or another, hoping to send potential rioters away for a long stretch. Meanwhile, a big chunk of the police force have heroin deals going, though generally with a lot of hostility from other cops who find out about it. One Kilburn cop who was dealing got grassed on by his ex-girlfriend (she'd run off with some wealthier dealer, so the story goes). His superiors sent him off to get cured of his addiction - and no mention of his nasty little dealing habit appears. No scandal - instead a sob story in the Sun headlined P.C. JUNKY - the sad tale of the ordinary copper who sought escape in heroin but was now bravely being cured and well on the way to recovery. No such luxury cure for the impoverished addicts who want to get off, of course. One Kilburn addict who was kicking his habit, wrecked the car of one dealer & smashed the face of another. The cops who nicked him were quite sympathetic because they knew his motive, but because he rightly refused to grass on these well-off dealers the court branded him as a mindless hooligan vandal - and he got sent down for 9 months. On appeal this was changed to 150 hours community service - slave labour building fences for that great lefty-liberal project - Interactions' City Farm, run by slick shit Ed Berman (who used to say he's "against money": yes - he's against wage slavery, so he gets his slaves for free).



*the buzz of a buzzless situation,
the screech of the oppressed,
the religion of the resigned.....*

<p>O.K. SO I USE MONEY NOW AND THEN</p>	<p>MONEY'S NOT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING. I COULD STOP ANYTIME COULDN'T I?</p>	<p>I'VE GOT THIS THING UNDER CONTROL... IT'S NO PROBLEM</p>	<p>I'M ALRIGHT. I'VE JUST GOT A TOUCH OF ALIENATION TODAY, THAT'S ALL</p>	<p>YEAH, BUT AT LEAST I'M STILL ALIVE... I SUPPOSE</p>
<p>WHEN PEOPLE TOLD SUSAN HOW MONEY WOULD MAKE HER FEEL GOOD, WHAT THEY DIDN'T TELL HER WAS HOW LOUSY IT WOULD MAKE HER FEEL TOO...</p>	<p>...HOW, SLOWLY, SHE SHE'D COME TO SEE MORE AND MORE THINGS IN TERMS OF MONEY...</p>	<p>...HOW SHE'D SOON SEE EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE AS SOURCES OF PROFIT...</p>	<p>...HOW SHE'D START TO LOSE HER FRIENDS BECAUSE SHE'D NEVER DO ANYTHING FOR NOTHING...</p>	<p>...HOW, IN THE END, SHE'D LOSE HER SELF - RESPECT, HER FRIENDS, HER LIBERTY, HER HOPE - EVERYTHING.</p>

EVERYONE THINKS THEY CAN CONTROL MONEY
UNTIL IT STARTS TO CONTROL THEM

Money Screws You Up

Meanwhile, managers and would-be managers of the economy obviously have to be seen to be "doing something" about the heroin epidemic - but, as with all hierarchically organised 'remedies', the cure exacerbates the disease. Thus, the official anti-drugs campaign understates the hell of heroin and makes it seem too corny to be real; likewise, it understates the initial pleasure - the paradise of not having a care in the world which makes such future addicts so careless. Besides, if the power-drugged vampires who run the system seem to be against junk, then taking it can seem like an act of rebellion to many young people. And only pathetic wimps would identify with the nice nonentities from Grange Hill who insipidly drone out the anti-drug song 'Just Say No'. Above all, the campaign takes for granted - as an unassailable reality - the commodity system that makes people anaesthetise themselves, that makes people addicted to commodities, in the first place. All in all, the effect of the campaign to discourage drug-taking is - if anything - to encourage it. This is not the result of some conspiracy but is the product of the moralism with which those in authority inevitably avoid saying anything essential - whether about drug abuse or whatever.

'We don't live - we survive'

Headline in 'The Birmingham Post',
just after the Handsworth riots.

In Dublin, where surveys of some working class areas have shown that over 50% of 12 to 16-year-olds have at some time been offered heroin, Corporation tenants have got together to drive pushers off the estates. Direct action (threats, attacks) has been employed with such success that it has set off a moral backlash amongst the petty criminal fraternity/sorority. One group, calling itself "Concerned Criminals" (what next - the "Festival of Light Fingers"?!) complained that the Concerned Parents' campaign against the pushers is also having a drastic impact on their own living standards.

Initially, the police did not react to these events. But as the campaign gathered in momentum, the filth decided it was time to reestablish "order". They called for the disbandment of the vigilante groups, claiming that they were better able to deal with the problem.

But "deal" is the right word. Wherever drug pushing is profitable, the police get in on the racket somewhere along the line. By recycling drugs seized in raids, drug squad and customs officers can top up their wages. The police allow favoured pushers freedom to pursue their vile business in exchange for tip-offs (which means prison for many forced into crime and other proletarians who are in the wrong place at the wrong time). Junkies too are notorious sources of police information. Further up the crim-

inal hierarchy, police involvement in the rackets keeps them informed on what is going on; in exchange for a piece of the action, the police protect their criminal concessionaires by launching the occasional anti-drugs campaign to wipe out any competition arriving on the scene. The sanction of arrest allows them to make sure that the drugs market runs smoothly and profitably.

The impact of the anti-heroin campaign on organised crime has been a defeat for the police. But it has also attracted attention from less obvious, but therefore more insidious, enemies of the proletariat. Firstly, left-wing politicians and their soft-cop shock troops in the social services departments, are ready to exploit this opportunity to draw the tenants into the mainstream of democratic politics. The aim of these people is, in the words of the *New Statesman*, to ensure that proletarians' anger and rediscovered sense of power is safely "channelled into effective political action on broader issues". The "inner city" is allowed to fight back, but only through the mercenaries in town halls and parliament, and in the housing and civil rights pressure groups.

Secondly, there is the danger that the IRA, who already have a foothold in the estates through local Sinn Fein activists, may exploit the situation to establish in Dublin what they have already achieved in Derry and West Belfast: a terrorist protection racket that sustains

its community support through a pseudo-opposition to the prevailing social order, but is in reality no better than the police and the rest of gangsterism. Already the IRA has intervened with a botched attempt to retaliate against a gang attack on tenant activists. The Provos are on the look out for a cause that will help them build up support in the Republic, and give weight to their claim to be a movement of consequence throughout the 32 counties.

In Southwark, the story has been a bit different. Some local tenants made the mistake of inviting local MP, Simon Hughes, to give their campaign early media coverage and acceptability. In Dublin, MP Tony Gregory only muscled in on the act after the tenants had already made visible successes. But in Southwark they soon got an insight into what Liberal "community politics" means. Their meeting was swamped with Hughes' entourage of Police, social workers and other experts in distortion, who attempted to take over the meeting, and ram home the message that only institutional reforms (from better policing to more addiction centres) could solve the problem.

Although angry tenants challenged this arrogant imposition of authority, by reinforcing a sense of dependence and helplessness, Hughes and co. had helped sabotage the practical tasks that the problem requires. (Dublin beware - we need vigilance against the bureaucrats as well as the pushers!).

10/9/85: More rioting in Handsworth. Douglas Hurd gets stoned after just a couple of minutes in the area and is hustled away. 18 cops are injured. 92 arrests. There are clashes with the cops in many other parts of Birmingham, including Moseley, Balsall Heath, Perry Bar, and in nearby Coventry. The massive rioting dispels the myth that the cops have got the inner cities sewn up, that since '81 they've learnt how to crush a riot within 15 minutes of one starting. The rioting boosts the confidence of 100s of thousands of proletarians depressed after the defeat of the miners strike. Amongst inner city youth there is a massive advance in the consciousness of their own power, a consciousness which is unlikely to retreat in the near future. Thousands of youths are quickly discovering that a revolutionary attack on the immediate expressions of their boredom, humiliation & alienation - the cops and shops and the architecture of the prison-cities in general - is both the most exciting activity available as well as the most dignified and appropriate, the most immediately available way of making sense of a senseless world.

Sir, -- The recent Cabinet reshuffle may all be for the best, and undoubtedly our Mrs. Thatcher knows what she is doing, but it seems to me that the replacement of Mr. Leon Brittain as Home Secretary - one of the few who has shown any purpose or determination - was hardly a sound move.

Mr. Douglas Hurd may well have been an excellent diplomat and civil servant, but can hardly be described as forceful.

What is needed, in these days of disrespect for the law, and growing crimes of violence, is not a quiet former civil servant but perhaps somebody more on the lines of the late Heinrich Himmler.

T.E. WILLIAMS

Sutton Coldfield,
West Midlands.

10 + 11(?) / 9/85: Rioting in Salford, Manchester. Petrol bombs thrown and cars overturned.

11/9/85: Reports of 50 black & white youths stoning a police car in the early hours, in Toxteth.

Believe it or not, this letter sent to the Birmingham Post just before the Handsworth riot, was meant seriously, not ironically: the next week the same person wrote a letter calling for the use of tear gas and water cannon, without the slightest trace of sarcasm.

SONG OF JOY BY RIOTERS

● WHOOPING West Indians sang Oh, What A Beautiful Morning as they surveyed the riot wreckage yesterday.

● They laughed and drank while one section of the community mourned the victims of the violence.

● And they jeered and booed police and firemen dealing with the burnt-out cars littering a stretch of road nicknamed Mayhem Mile.

11/9/85: 150 'incidents' reported in the Birmingham area - including Sparkbrook (one radio report said that Roy Hattersley had been stoned there, but, if this was true, there was a complete blackout about this afterwards), Moseley, Wolverhampton, Coventry.

12/9/85: Firemen stoned in Bootle, Liverpool, and a road is barricaded.

12/9/85: Shops looted by crowds of 100+ in Wolverhampton. 11 arrests.

13/9/85: Cops stoned in St.Pauls, Bristol.

Also round about this time (no precise dates available) there are riots in the Manchester area - in Hulme, Lollyhurst, Cheetham Hill and nearby Stockport.

13 & 14/9/85: Blyth, Northumberland - several fires started by teenagers; firemen attacked. Whilst firemen put one blaze out, the youths hid & then started another.

14/9/85: Caldicot in Wales, near Chepstow - 9 cops injured, their uniforms damaged & their helmets stolen in punch-up after the pubs closed & the cops tried to arrest a man.

16/9/85: Disturbance at Albany prison, Isle of Wight. 5 screws are injured.

21/9/85: Reports of riot at Wakefield prison, York. No further details.

28/9/85: Large-scale rioting in Brixton, South London, after cops shoot & cripple Cherry Groce, mother of 6, in dawn raid. Brixton police station besieged & petrol bombed, with community 'spokesmen' (both black & white) getting attacked when they told everyone to disperse and go home. Cops in the station shout out "Fuck off home, niggers". There is widespread looting, extending to Tulse Hill, Stockwell & Denmark Hill, with everything from cakes & nappies to double beds and jewelery being nicked. Although there is some occasional fighting over the spoils, with some blacks getting territorial and exclusive and possessive about the shops being looted - even to the point of telling whites to keep out of 'their' battle, there is also the usual joyful potlatch of laughter, fire-raising and pillage, an intense desire for life expressed with a spontaneous generosity. 7-year olds were seen helping their grandmothers carry away boxes of alcohol. One old woman, terrified by the atmosphere of the riot, was calmed down when some black guy gave her a couple of bottles of stolen brandy. Someone nicked a whole load of electric kettles, piled them up into a vaguely pyramid shape and set fire to them: the kind of thing which modern forms of art turn into museum-pieces become subversive when practiced without authorisation. The unofficial cops - reporters - were also savagely dealt with, with one of these defenders of the status quo - a freelance journalist - being beaten up and eventually dying because he'd stupidly taken photos of youths looting a jewellery store. Unfortunately, proletarians with no stake in the shit-heap were also sometimes attacked. Insurgents, rightly searching individuals for some form of I.D. (to see if they're from the media or plain clothes cops), sometimes turned to indiscriminate mugging (although, in at least one instance, a guy who'd been mugged argued with the people who mugged him and, after 5 minutes, they returned the money, saying "You're o.k.").

Nevertheless, some incidents were rubbish. One or two old people were stoned after cussing the fact their flats had been inevitably torched because they were above a burning store. And in one miserable incident, a couple of Hooray Henries tried to show off their prowess by winding up some of the rioters who'd interfered with their load of high-class polished tin - a posh car. They were chased off, but a couple of rioters set about raping the girl-friend of one of them (a daughter of a Tory M.P.) and another woman who, depending on which story you believe, either had nothing to do with the rich kids or was the girl-friend of one of the Hooray Henries. Either way such rapes, attacks on easy targets, are crap - a degraded expression of 'sexuality'. Obviously the media, trying to ferment an even more oppressive law 'n' order backlash than present, had a field-

day with these incidents. And it's not much use saying that rapes & mugging occur as much outside riots as during them: though true, this doesn't get to grips with confronting the problem - how to start making the streets safe for all but the defenders of this society. Obviously, anyone who thinks the State can solve rapes is just plain stupid - and resigned to not trying to change things so as to stop such humiliating reduction of people to objects in all its' forms - not just rape.

After a couple of rapes at University College London in the late 70s students organised a campaign for tightening up college security. This eventually led to the authorities placing gates throughout the college, with guards checking ID cards throughout the college. The effect wasn't to reduce incidents of sexual molestation (though it did change the venue of such attacks) - all it did was to reduce the amount of equipment being nicked, stop non-students (e.g. the unemployed) getting cheap beer in the bars and given the authorities a far greater ability to control student occupations. So all it's done is increase the privileges of good students, enclosing them even more in their ivory tower ghetto than before. As always, the demand for hierarchical security imposes even greater constraints on individuals than before. At least in Canada womens' anti-rape groups used to confront (where possible) rapists with their victims and sometimes give them a beating, putting graffiti on their homes, etc. It's a bit of a sick joke to look to the authorities for protection against rape - women can't even carry plastic containers filled with lemon juice and pepper without facing prosecution from the cops. Apart from anti-rape vigilante groups, only something on the lines of South Africa's street committees (where everything from attacks on collaborators and cops to stopping men from harassing their ex-girlfriends is organised by mass meetings) could begin to provide real security.

Nevertheless, in criticising these rapes and muggings, we should also remember something of the various changes since the riots of '81. London, unlike the northern or midland cities, has, since '81, become incomparably more gentrified than ever before - particularly in Brixton, where the older generation of blacks have sold up and moved back to the West Indies, leaving the 'radical' yuppies, anxious for a bit of street cred, to take over the houses: the rich young (and not so young) things have moved in & sent property prices soaring. What's more, as the proletariat has become more au fait with chic, a greater levelling in terms of fashion has meant that it is becoming difficult visually to tell the difference between the rich young things and those who are more thoroughly alienated than before. Behind the tendency towards style levelling, though, there's a major counter-tendency: the chasm of social apartheid is getting wider & wider, and, in the riots, there's been a direct response to gentrification with physical attacks on owner occupied housing, especially those with 'Neighbourhood Watch' stickers in the window.

These increasing displays of wealth in ones' immediate neighbourhood go some way towards explaining some of the craziness of the riots in London. The anonymity of London, despite the fact that, along with the greater amount of money here, it enables those on the dole to survive in the black economy or doing various fiddles more easily than those on the dole elsewhere, and, despite the fact that those in official work generally get better wages here (though, unless you're squatting, 40% of that can go on rent), despite all this, the blatant contradictions and the isolation and separations make for a more explosive, desperately ferocious, situation. Beneath the bleakness up North, there's a constant spontaneous class solidarity which, despite a lot of bullshit about 'community', really does develop into a community of struggle sometimes. Sure, it happens in London in short spurts, but with the anonymity and blasé cynicism, indifference and mistrust towards each other is far harder to break.

The Brixton riot also brought another little reform in the cops' image: a cop spokesman went on TV and virtually conceded that the anger and violence directed at the cops outside the police station (where molotovs were thrown) were, considering the sad situation, virtually "excusable" - but that the looting and arson afterwards was gratuitous and opportunistic. Sadly, Cherry Groce's

family also gave interviews to the media condemning the burning and looting, collaborating with the forces that make such "unlawful wounding" inevitable. Of course, the burning and looting was one of the reasons behind the State's decision to prosecute Inspector Lovelock for crippling Cherry Groce. Another reason, though, is to give the State the appearance of being able to correct its' excesses, to punish those who 'abuse' their power, thus narrowing people's focus on the misery of their lives down to just specific individuals and isolated incidents.

28/9/85: Same night as Brixton, there's a mini-riot of 50+ in the Cambridge Gdns./Lancaster Estate area of Notting Hill, with several cars being overturned and cops getting stoned.

28 - 29/9/85: Clashes reported in Brecon and Crickowell (Wales).

29/9/85: More rioting in Brixton but nothing on the scale of the night before due to the whole area being saturated by riot cops.

29/9/85: Crowd of 200+ loot shops in Walworth, S.London.

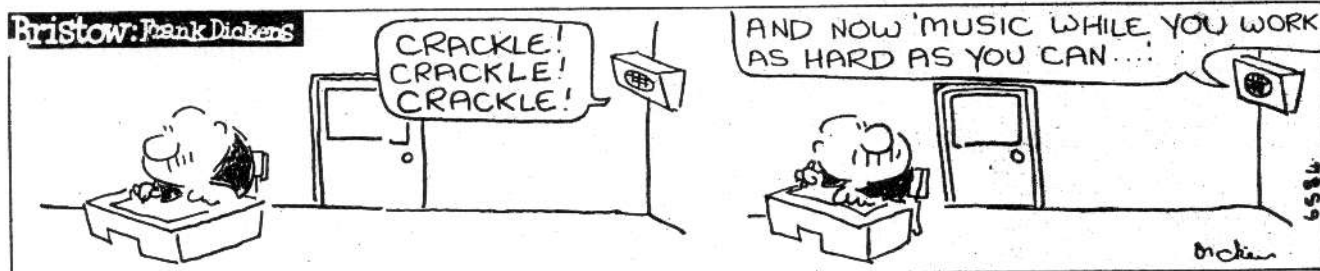
30/9/85: Confrontation in Peckham, S.London, beginning with a black woman leading the bricking-up of a racist pub. Shops looted and barricades built. No arrests, but the whole area is surrounded by cops and cut off for a few hours.

1/10/85: More rioting in Peckham - with shops looted (one burnt), and cops petrol-bombed and stoned from housing estate walkways. In the periods where the cops aren't around there is a generally vibrant atmosphere, with strangers chatting in an area known normally for it's paranoia and anxious air of mistrust and suspicion. As usual during riots, the streets, normally alien places serving the speedy circulation of merchandise where you pass through as quickly as possible (especially in this country), become the terrain of history and community in struggle, where people discover they have something to talk about other than purely external boring events. A Peckham youth worker on the radio put it neatly, "Peckham's just a place where people sleep and buy and sell commodities." Another youth worker heaped shit on the endless 'spokesmen for the community' interviewed ad nauseam by the media, "Who are these spokesmen? I've never seen them...nobody I know has ever seen them". Youth workers at the bottom of the social work hierarchy are increasingly refusing to fulfill the policing function they are paid for, and even sometimes join in the rioting. Nevertheless, they still like to talk to the media and often hope to be considered 'genuine' spokesmen because they have the day to day contact with the kids on the streets. The ambiguity of their situation tends towards them becoming authorities, representatives of revolt, whose vanity leads them to feel flattered to be given media interviews in which they unintentionally inform the system of previously hidden rebellious attitudes all the better to enable the various specialists to organise against these attitudes.

1/10/85: 10 hours on and off rioting in Toxteth. By early evening the cops have brought out Northern Ireland-type armoured trucks, hoping to provoke impotent attacks on threatening and blatantly humiliating vehicles. The few bricks thrown at these trucks don't even manage to scratch the surface, so the rioters beat a tactical retreat.

2 or 3/10/85: Pop star Pete Burns of Dead Or Alive & his wife, who live in Toxteth, are pelted and attacked by rioters as they return home in a taxi. "It was dreadful ...we were surrounded by a mob. They were trying to roll the car over and screaming all sorts of obscenities...Rioters were on the roof and banging on the windows. Eventually the police got through the crowd to us, and the taxi was able to move on but we were chased and stoned", he said to The Mirror. "We simply cannot carry on living there - with so much poverty in Liverpool we are obvious targets", he generously conceded. This guilty self-effacement is the standard reflex of those who recognise their privileged niche in the system but have fuck-all intention of subverting it in practice. Burns came out of this more dead than alive. The even more famous 'Echo and the Bunnymen' also live in Toxteth. But 'street cred' is becoming rapidly suspect. The term has always implied go-getting, pulling yourself up out of the shit by the boot and root straps into something even worse; it gets you into the best parties and the more intriguing social circles, the very environment which reinforces your cynicism and which ultimately destroys

Bristow: Frank Dickens



Musical Truck Plays for Riots

JOHANNESBURG, Sept. 23 (AP) — A South African company is selling an anti-riot vehicle that plays disco music through a loudspeaker to soothe the nerves of would-be troublemakers.

The vehicle, already bought by one black nation, which the company did not identify, also carries a water cannon and tear gas.

GELDOF DEFENDS ROYALS

BOB GELDOF, the British pop star, defended the royal family yesterday and dismissed comparisons in Australia between their wealth and the poor and starving of Africa.

"The gap with africans is something you accept; we are wealthier, they are not. That is it," said the man behind a pop music campaign that has raised millions of pounds for African famine relief.

Geldof arrived in australia to discuss his campaign with officials in Canberra just as the Prince and Princess of Wales began a two-week tour of Victoria.

"Their lifestyle is perfectly justified," he said in Melbourne. "They represent something that a lot of people feel they embody. They are like human flags."

Geldof said he was sorry the Prince was not able to do and see things that really interested him,

noting today's royal visit to an aluminium smelter.

"I'm sure if you asked he would like to camp out in an Aboriginal site for a couple of weeks. I'm sure he'd dig that. But he can't because of who he is. It's not an easy 'gig'.

Geldof will meet Mr Hawke, Prime Minister, in Canberra today and hopes to get the use of Australian transport aircraft and a commitment of surplus grain for famine victims.

THE ROCK STAR IS ALWAYS ALWAYS ALWAYS THE ENEMY OF THE
MASSES OF INDIVIDUALS, THE ENEMY OF THE INDIVIDUAL IN
HIMSELF AS IN OTHERS.

Dylan fans go on village rampage

From Paul Johnson
in Belfast

Five hundred extra police had to be drafted into the tiny village of Slane in the Irish Republic yesterday after some fans of the rock star Bob Dylan attacked police, burned vehicles and stoned buildings.

About 400 fans, who had gathered in Slane, 30 miles north of Dublin, in advance of yesterday's open air concert staged a full-scale riot, at one point laying siege to the local police station and trapping a dozen officers inside.

Observers said the events began when a group of youths

attacked a police sergeant in a car.

The trouble escalated quickly and many more fans, who had gathered to camp overnight before the concert, joined what onlookers said were roaming mobs.

Three vehicles, including a police van were burned out, there were attempts to set fire to buildings, and at one stage firemen had to turn their hoses on the crowd when it attacked them with stones and bottles.

Last night three people were charged in connection with the rioting. The body of a young man was also recovered from

the River Boyne. Police believe he had been out for a late-night swim, and that his death was not connected with the rioting.

The climax of the trouble came when the rock fans ringed the Garda station, forcing the officers to barricade themselves in.

Reinforcement eventually arrived from Dublin and a baton charge cleared the main street, forcing the fans back into the camp site. A total of 18 people, including three policemen, were injured.

Yesterday's concert featuring Dylan and the groups Santana and UB 40 went ahead in a

natural amphitheatre, accommodating an estimated 40,000 crowd on the River Boyne. There were suggestions yesterday that the area had not seen anything like it since 1690, when the first Battle of the Boyne took place.

The site, a stately home, has been used on previous occasions for concerts. The Rolling Stones performed there two years ago without any trouble.

A spokesman for the promoters said that if there were to be future concerts then the provisions for overnight camping and extended drinking hours would have to be looked at.

FLASHBACK TO THE SUMMER OF 1984.

you. A situation of permanent riot in the inner cities would not only serve to drive out the social climbers, the rats who are getting richer by succeeding in the rat race, but would also help to reduce the expensive property values the latter have forced up by their unwelcome drift back into the cities after they'd found out that the detour of suburban/country living was far too mundane and mediocre. This is a realistic possibility - more so than an immediate over-lap with the sadly as yet more bureaucratised forms of the employed workers' struggles.

2/10/85: Riot in Pucklechurch prison near Bristol.

4/10/85: Riot in Oxford, crowd of 100 smash shop windows, loot shops and attack cops. 2 cops injured, 9 arrests.

5/10/85: Clashes after the Goose Fair in Hyson Green, Nottingham. Burning barricades built and shops looted.

5/10/85: Windows smashed & roads blocked by crowds in Bridlington, Humberside.

6/10/85: Chester: vandalism and clashes with the cops after a football match.

6/10/85: Large-scale riot in Tottenham, North London, after Cynthia Jarret has a fatal heart attack during a police raid in which the cops push her then callously ignore her gasping and all pleas for help. Broadwater Farm Estate becomes a no-go area to cops for over 7 hours. Making 'the best of a bad job' they managed to contain the rioters to the Estate, putting a 'brave' face on a situation which they'd lost control of: "If they want to shit in their own back-yard, then that's okay, as long as they don't do it out here" said one inspector, whilst the front-line cops hurled racist abuse even under the direct gaze of journalists and photographers.

Some people have criticised rioters for 'shitting in their own back-yard', suggesting everyone goes off en masse to Hampstead, South Kensington or Holland Park. Besides ignoring the fact that most successful rioting happens relatively spontaneously and that success depends on people living in the area joining the riot, what this attitude (apart from ignoring obvious facts) implies is that where the dispossessed are forced to live is, in some vague way, their 'own'. This attitude is blind to the fact that almost every formerly exclusively proletarian area in London is criss-crossed with streets, houses and shops owned by the rich. Unlike most areas in the Midlands or the North, where the poor live in areas where everyone is relatively in the same impoverished condition, the London poor are constantly reminded of their dispossession by the displays of 'wealth' in the neighbourhood.

Some people who complain about this "shitting on our own doorstep" moan about the inconvenience caused by rioting in proletarian areas - they're forced to travel further to cash their giro because their local sub-post office got burned down, for example. This attitude wants a revolution without inconvenience, except for the ruling class and its collaborators. This is the same argument the dominant class use against strikers: they inconvenience 'the public'. If the miners strike had won it could only have done so if it had inconvenienced large numbers of proletarians. There is no way of struggling without, in the short term, inconveniencing oneself and others. Revolt is inconvenient and cannot get anywhere through idealistic niceties. At the beginning of September 1984 in Sebokeng, South Africa, virtually every public building - shops, offices, launderettes, beer-halls, administrative buildings etc.etc. were damaged or raised to the ground. This explosion sparked off a wave of unrest throughout South Africa. Yet in the few days after the orgy of fun, fire and ferocity the people of Sebokeng were very hungry because there was nowhere to get food. But such inconvenience was worthwhile, because the blacks had discovered their own power, and their own dignity. Sure, some attacks could have been more strategic and specific, less arbitrary, less likely to cause unnecessary hostility from potential friends who have no liking for the cops. But equally, if those who had, say, their cars smashed for no good tactical reason had participated in the riots rather than remained content to just watch they would have been in a far better position to prevent this: there's no such thing as an 'innocent bystander'. In the 19th century, when there was an attack on the cops almost everyone who was able to joined in the fight. Nowadays, we are all so conditioned to be spectators that even the most explosive situations are just seen as "better than the telly", as one woman walking her dog through the Broadwater Farm on riot night put it.

It's not for nothing that endless movies, eg. *Superman*, represent the destruction of cars as fun: capital has learnt well how to profit from the spectacle of our desires. The representation of our fantasies of wrecking the commodities which maintain our isolation and separation is not meant to be practiced in reality, of course; we're all just meant to pay to watch it in passivity on a screen. Rioters who act on such desires are inevitably seen by spectators as "animals" because spectators have to see their submission to the "civilised" alienation which turns these desires into cultural fantasies as innately superior and 'human'. The compensation of the spectacle of our destructive desires is not meant to be taken seriously but appreciated without risk. Most car-owners are no less consumers of this spectacle of the destruction of cars than those lower in the street hierarchy (pedestrians & cyclists). But they're less likely to carry out such fantasies if only because insurance doesn't cover most sorts of riots. If insurance *did* cover riots, there'd be masses of car owners driving to riots and wrecking their own cars, like in other countries in the world. Nevertheless, there are many who couldn't give a toss about the insurance. As a car-owning Parisian worker said in May 1968, "What does the destruction of my car matter if it saves the destruction of people's skulls?". Of course, since then, the intensification of cynical raw survivalism has made many hang onto their miserable 'privileges' in the commodity hierarchy: destruction of cars implies the destruction of this identification and they react with horror.

Vandals pour paint stripper over four cars

Vandals who poured paint stripper over cars in Stafford are being hunted by police. At least four cars were attacked in the Pickersgate area.

IRRESISTIBLE

A DRIVER who rammed sixty cars in Calumet Park, Illinois, told police: "It felt so good after hitting the first one I just couldn't stop."

Acting Chief Insp. Michael Lee said today that the repair bill would run into hundreds of pounds.

"This is just sheer wanton vandalism," he said. "The attack happened in Plant Crescent. Vandals poured paint stripper over the cars, blistering the paintwork."

Chief Insp. Lee said: "One woman is going to have to have her car repaired at a cost of about £300."

"It all happened in one night and appears to be a one-off thing."

"If anyone saw anything or knows anything we would ask them to get in touch."

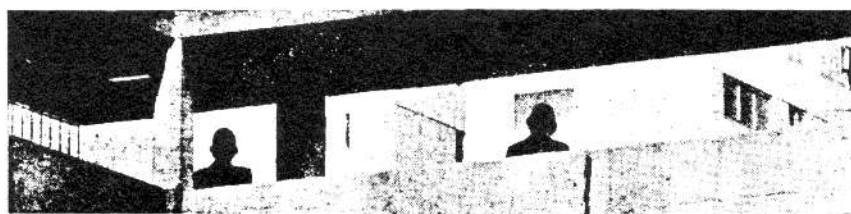
Another myth put out by the cops and the media was that this was the first time outside Ireland that guns had been used in a riot. Crap! Up till 1916, when the government put through a law which gave the State a monopoly control of arms, guns were readily available to all who could afford them. Before this, guns were constantly used. For example, in the massive London dock strike in the summer of 1912, when the self-elected strike committee (which included such anarcho-syndicalist heroes as Ben Tillet and Tom Mann) unanimously called off the strike against the equally unanimous decision of the mass of assembled dockers to continue (no question of permanently revocable delegates here), a wild-cat strike developed with riots - and scabs were shot as hundreds of dockers armed themselves.

One Tottenham rioter said to a New Society journalist, "Don't write any of that crap about unemployment and all that. We just don't give a shit, that's all". People who call themselves 'revolutionaries' or 'socialists' (or some such label through which various people pump up their petrified critique into a fantasised 'higher consciousness' which makes them special, separate from those who rebel without fitting their anger into a set programme of ideas) may moralistically react to such a nihilistic formulation. In fact, saying this implies a lucid recognition that having work doesn't make anything better (50% of those arrested during the riots were in official jobs), that no demands can be made off this society because it's all shit - and in this sense the rebels of Tottenham are far more advanced than the arrogant elitists who possess a so-called 'high consciousness'.

Of course, "Not giving a shit" could mean not giving a shit about whether you cynically, mercenarily, arbitrarily piss off your friends and potential friends or not - just randomly exploding under the pressures. Sadly this is sometimes the case in riots - and there are no simple answers to dealing with it. Certainly the hypocritical contempt of the dominant media and of most of the Left who dismiss riots as producing a barbaric indiscriminate violence (as if normal life, or life amongst the Left, wasn't dominated by a depressing survivalist cynicism, by an 'each against all' attitude) act as confusing obstacles towards dealing with the desperate contradictions expressed in riots.

Others have criticised the excessive upping of the stakes which the use of fire-arms and machetes implies - with the filth ready to use plastic bullets next time (though they obviously hope that just the threat of their use will be sufficient deterrent for most, since the chances of bystanders getting killed or maimed are pretty high). But it's easy to be coolly strategic outside an immediately desperate situation - and, in the absence of better practical suggestions for combatting the violence of the State and the market economy it protects (e.g. the 2000+ kidney disease patients who die each year because of the cuts; the 250 construction/demolition workers who die each year because of lousy safety conditions which safety inspectors have been told by the government not to report on; etc. etc.), such criticisms smack of moralism. Sure, the State has weapons far beyond the reach of what you or I could get together, but that's no reason to not use, where possible, the weapons that everyone can get hold of. Sure, the use of guns in this instance helped the cops' strategy of "Winning by appearing to lose" (Sir Robert Mark) - but then there's no way the ruling media couldn't and wouldn't use any explosion of autonomous opposition to justify intensified repression: the point is to uncover how the State tries to win by appearing to lose, and attack all the ideologists who express sympathy for cops hurt or killed in defence of this society, particularly those who half-sympathise with the rioters, such as the agonising moralists on the left of the Labour Party. Nevertheless, the class struggle will certainly not be won or lost just on the basis of superior arms: insurgents are going to have to combat the forces of ideology, to reflect deeply and analyse their mistakes, hesitations and impasses, to defend violence with practical ideas that will put the pitfalls behind and develop forms of struggle that will overcome odds which seem to overwhelm them.

Tower block links to be demolished



PATH OF FEAR: Police patrol a walkway on the Broadwater Farm Estate where the Tottenham riots erupted.

No way out for 'muggers in the sky'

After walkways - Estate could be showpiece

Mr Grant blamed police for the riots, and said they got a "bloody good hiding."

Mr Kinnock wrote: "It cannot help anyone to allocate blame for tragedy and uproar exclusively to the police."

Grant lectures Tottenham on 'inexcusable violence'

Mr Bernie Grant, the Labour leader of Haringey council, north London, delivered a stern lecture last night to the young people of Tottenham, saying that the sort of violence that resulted in the death of a police constable in the riots eight days ago was inexcusable.

During a stormy emergency debate, heckled by about one hundred members of the public, he said in words of measured reconciliation: "You cannot fight violence with violence."

The police, he said, had to show respect for young people in Haringey and added, to applause: "Two people have died in the chain of events which started on Saturday, October 5. That is enough."

"There must be a rethink of how Tottenham is policed and the council is prepared to play a full part in that."

But it emerged during the evening that Mr Grant had sought the postponement of a meeting tonight at which council representatives were to have discussed informally with the police preparatory work on setting up a new police consultative committee.

Conservative councillors charged Mr Grant with pulling out of the tentative consultative process.

Mr Grant opened the debate by offering wholehearted personal sympathy to the family of Police Constable Keith Blakelock, who was killed in the rioting, and Mrs Cynthia Jarrett, whose death came just before the street violence.

Later, the debate degenerated into chaos, with Conservative councillors' speeches inaudible above the public gallery din, and a Broadwater Farm estate councillor, Mrs Patricia Salim, was excluded from the chamber after describing Mr Grant as "an evil man".

Winston Emmanuel Silcott, aged 26, a greengrocer, of the Broadwater Farm estate, Tottenham, north London, was remanded for seven days by Tottenham magistrates yesterday charged with the murder of Police Constable Keith Blakelock in the riots in the area.

At Tottenham Juvenile Court, a boy aged 14 was remanded in care in secure accommodation until Wednesday on the same charge.

The institutionalised 'radical' seeks, at one & the same time, the thrill of refusal & the security of submission: despite the inspiration of South Africa, insurgents here have yet to attack (at least, on anything but a very small scale) local councillors, despite the evictions - & other anti-proletarian acts - that they all carry out. In 1981, Claire Doyle of the Militant Tendency, patronisingly dismissed the riots, before a Liverpool audience, as "Understandable but inexcusable". When she pleaded for (doubtless Trotskyist-led) "street defence committees", she was shouted down with the cry of "We shall organise ourselves". According to a first hand account, she was further silenced by the repeated chorus, "BIGGER CAGES - LONGER CHAINS!" But Bernie Grant has learnt well to play both sides at once: and, like most of the rest of the Afro-Caribbean careerists, has so far found reasons for feeling secure with this strategy. Unlike Rudi Narayan, the black barrister who in 1981 got attacked in Brixton by blacks when he tried to speak "on their behalf" to the press, Bernie Grant has so far managed to walk the tightrope without worrying whether the dispossessed might pull away the safety net

by Dick Murray

A MAJOR campaign to stop muggers and other criminals operating on London council estates was launched today by a housing chief.

Mrs Patricia Kirwan of Westminster City Council plans to remove or block hundreds of walkways linking blocks of flats on estates.

The overhead walkways are often used by criminals as an easy escape route.

Mrs Kirwan said today: "We have to remove or block these walkways. They are a design disaster and lead to mugging and other crimes."

"They can be dark and fear-some places to go. Often tenants won't use them at night for fear of mugging."

Now Mrs Kirwan is contacting Home Secretary Mr Douglas Hurd asking for Government funds to back the project.

"This is a London-wide problem," said Mrs Kirwan, "not something just confined to Westminster."

"There are estates where people can run from one end of the complex to the other just by using the walkways - and that can make catching criminals almost impossible."

The walkways on some estates in Southwark and Haringey were used by rioters as they fought with police recently.

At the Broadwater Farm

Estate in Tottenham, where P-c Keith Blakelock was killed, police were bombed by missiles thrown from the walkways.

And at a smaller riot in Peckham police refused to venture into a Southwark Council estate for fear of having petrol bombs dropped on them from the walkways.

Westminster is basing the campaign on exhaustive research of council estates conducted by leading urban geographer Dr Alice Coleman, of Kings College.

Mrs Kirwan said: "She has investigated 3000 problem estates in the country."

"She says that an awful lot of crime and vandalism is not caused by urban deprivation, as so many people would have us believe, but because of building design, which actually encourages crime."

The council is currently concentrating its efforts on the Mozart Estate off the Harrow Road - and is planning to spend between £400,000 and £500,000 removing two walkways.

"But the whole estate is criss-crossed with these walkways and the entire programme would cost in the region of £4-£5 million, which is why we badly need Government help," said Mrs Kirwan.

Leader comment: Page seven

7/10/85: Crowd of 100+ smash windows and burn cars in Radford, Nottingham.

9/10/85: Rioting after football match in Highfields, Leicester. A cop spokesman said, "It had nothing...to do with the police. It was just football and a matter of what team you support. It was territorial, like animals - only animals are not that bad". Bullshit, of course: there were no reports of inter-fan conflict whatsoever. The riot started when the cops were pelted with shoes stolen from a city centre shop and developed into an attack on the cops with stones and petrol bombs. Several shops were looted, at least 2 cars set on fire & 4 cops injured. 17 arrests.

10/10/85: Cops come under attack in Guthlaxton, Leicester. 5 youths were arrested after a petrol bomb was thrown at a general store, and later 40+ youths of different races stoned cop vehicles and threw another petrol bomb.

12/10/85: 100+ Asian youths stone a passing patrol car in Southall, then go on to throw petrol bombs, overturn 2 cars and attack cop reinforcements.

12/10/85: Cops stoned and shops looted in Welshpool, Powys.

13/10/85: Clashes with cops reported in Gloucester Town Centre.

13/10/85: 100 rampage through Rugby town centre, smashing windows etc.

13/10/85: In the early hours in Harrogate, W.Yorks, a crowd of 150 working class youths ran through the centre of this bourgeois town, smashing shop windows, looting and attacking the cops with bricks and fireworks. This spa town was largely the creation of 19th century industrialists: here, miles from the manufacturing districts of W.Yorks they could flaunt their wealth without fear of reprisal. The town possessed a service proletariat and not an industrial one - and the servants quarters of Bilton and Starbeck concealed in dips on the fringes of the town were hidden from the gaze of the well-to-do. The personalised "Upstairs/Downstairs" nature of class relations in Harrogate have changed more in favour of impersonal hotels, plush conference centres and there has been a vast increase in the number of restaurants. What remains the same is the stench, in the town centre, of immense prosperity and privilege.

It there can be a riot in Harrogate there can be a riot anywhere in the United Kingdom. In this case no arrests were made. Was this because the police simply could not believe the evidence of their senses?

The Daily Telegraph, a day or so after the Harrogate riot

13/10/8 : A petrol bomb is thrown into a crowded street full of football supporters and shoppers in Edinburgh after a football match. Luckily it fails to ignite. Stupid wally - probably just trying to impress his mates. Such arbitrary acts give molotovs a bad name. This kind of mini-terrorism, like the more elitist political kind, reduces rebellion to cliché - an unthinking repetition of fetishised tactics, trivial gestures devoid of strategy. Either rebels aim their kicks or such uninspiring kicks will become a long-lost memory.

15/10/85: Reports of clash in Gosport, Hants; one cop injured, no further details.

15/10/85: Cops and businesses come under attack in the Carnwadric scheme in Glasgow.

18/10/85: 2 molotovs filled with paraffin or meths thrown at police station at Sedgeley, near Dudley, West Midlands. Cops say they both failed to ignite and blamed "copycat hooligans". "Copycat" is a typical paternalistic bourgeois put-down of anyone who learns from others, a form of belittlement which has been copied by professional copywriters throughout the media.

19/10/85: Clashes with cops in Torquay.

19/10/85: Cops attacked by crowd of 150, throwing petrol bombs and bricks, on the Sheepridge Estate, Huddersfield.

19/10/85: Further clashes reported in Harrogate.

20/10/85: On the Queens Road in the Everton area of Liverpool 30+ youths, some wearing masks, ambush a patrol car. 2 cops injured as bricks smash through windows of their car. Petrol bombs are thrown. Cops say it is a revenge attack for their attempts to clean up drug dealing - their standard reflex response ever since Handsworth. "If in doubt - blame anti-Asian drug-pushing drug-crazed muggers and rapists."

20/10/85: Through the high-density Asian area of Larkholme, Keighley, West Yorkshire, there's a rampage of white racists shouting "Sieg Heil!". Even during the ferment of the miners strike, there were occasional attacks on Asians in the mining areas of W.Yorks - although the attacks were not carried out by miners who gratefully received the generous donations given them by the local Asians. Asians in the North have generally, and for sometime, looked to the miners as the group of workers who could stem the reaction taking place throughout the whole gamut of social life. Attacks on Asians remind one of the anti-semitic outrages of a few decades ago. There's the same complications: a very different, inward-looking culture, seemingly (but *only* seemingly) immune from the modern erosion of old-time values, a proprietorial orientation amongst a small number and a concern with education which both black & white find somewhat unsympathetic. Just like with the Jews before them, all this conveniently ignores the fact that 80% of Asians are proletarians and that, individually, some Asians are beginning to develop an amazingly astute revolutionary awareness that leaves most others standing. A vital contribution would be a revolutionary analysis from the inside of all the complications and tendencies within the Asian 'community': it would do it's small bit in clearing up some of the misunderstandings and prejudices which abound. In particular, the media has gone even more berserk in its utter lies, especially in trying to ferment an especially anti-Asian divide & rule in the U.K. No wonder that what was begun in '81 - with direct attacks on the media, followed up throughout the miners strike and since - has got heavier and heavier against the arthritic mercenary vampires of the press, radio and TV.

22/10/85: Police attacked with bottles and bricks in Allum Rock, Birmingham.
21/10/85: Alton, Hants, cops attacked by 30+ chanting "Tottenham... Tottenham" and "Kill the Bill". 5 arrests.

24/10/85: 60+ youths attack cops in Mill Lane, South Kirkby, Yorks. Mr Clarke, South Kirkby, NUM secretary played the usual role of soft cop, as to be expected from any official. "I succeeded in getting the lads off the street, & asked the police to keep a low profile...For some reason, police are out in large numbers and if we are going to get back to normal, this is not the method. I do not condone violence at any time...there could be a riot and some innocent people could get hurt...I want trouble on the streets to stop. I don't want to see an 'us and them' situation..." he said revealingly. In the next couple of months, South Kirby becomes a no-go area, with any cop vehicles travelling around getting stoned and being forced to retreat. Significantly, there had been a major strike there from April to May ('85) which the NUM did its' best to stop spreading. The following is taken from Counter Information, June '85 issue:

South Kirby miners walked out immediately when management victimised and sacked yet another miner on 29th April. The strike soon spread to other pits in the Barnsley area.

But the Yorkshire NUM leaders went all out to sabotage the struggle, and the miners returned to work on May 9th with the men still sacked.

A local miner sent us the following information:

"At the time of writing South Kirby pit walked out on strike after yet another man was sacked for alleged intimidation of a scab, this now brings the total number of men sacked to 5 all for alleged offences of this nature. The word SCAB is now good enough to get any man sacked, combine this with a manager who thinks he's God Almighty and we have now reached the stage of true 'Capitalist democracy'. To use the managers own words when one of the sacked men said he could produce 25 people to say he had not done anything. 'Bring them and I'll sack them as well.'"

This action is due directly to the hard line attitude of the management, under strict guidelines from "Mack the knife", well they are in for a fucking shock if they think we are going to tolerate the bastards much longer and it is about time other people started to take the same stand, all conscious elements should now stand up and say fuck off you bastards we want every sacked man back in this pit or you want get another cobbler of coal cut."

- Miner from Yorkshire.

Another local bit of described how the strike started with a pit labourer who was out at the beginning of the last miners protest in front of the fans and that's where we began our own struggle.

It is good to see the NUM movement saying they will want to be in the struggle, but they are not. The NUM is a union, the NUM is a union.

officials issued orders restricting picketing. They said that miners could only picket pits that had already pledged support, that pickets should be limited to 6, that the sacked men shouldn't picket.

Nevertheless the South Kirby and Ferryvor Riddings pickets met with success - solidarity strike action was taken at Royston, Doodsworth and Houghton Main collieries and at the shunt workshops miners were bringing up all round Yorkshire asking for pickets to come to their pits.

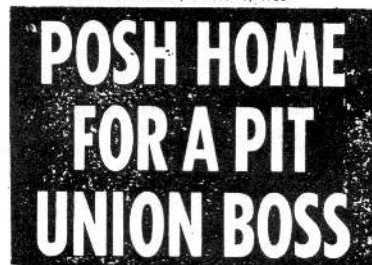
A South Kirby miner told us that he and many other strikers believed that the strike shouldn't only be for reinstatement for the sacked men but that the aims of the year long struggle should be taken up again.

However on 7th May the Yorkshire area executive of the NUM refused to make the strike official and urged that everyone return to work, and ordered the withdrawal of their pickets. Though South Kirby and Ferryvor Riddings strikers stayed out for another day, there wasn't the confidence to defy the NUM and continue the strike. I'll believe.

If we need relying on support from the Trades Union structure, they're now part of the whole system of exploitation. We must expect that they will try and stop struggles of certain kind. From the start, struggles must be continuing, not by the NUM, but by the workers themselves, with the NUM as a counterforce to the management and other bosses.

Negotiations are now underway about the future of the sacked men in South Kirby. If the sackings are not stopped, may be further strikes will be called.

SUNDAY PEOPLE, October 6, 1985



BY SIDNEY FOXCROFT

A POSH £70,000 rent-free retirement home for life is the reward for one of Arthur Scargill's most loyal pit strike lieutenants.

Former area president Tom Callan and his wife Kitty are moving into one of Durham's most fashionable streets.

A delighted Tom said there was just one snag with the house—it had no garden.

But the 65-year-old ex-Durham NUM president added: "I'm looking forward to getting settled in. It's fortunate."

The three-bedroomed house in South Street is near some of the finest examples of Georgian architecture in Europe and has a unique view of the cathedral and castle.

A union spokesman said it was normal practice for all top area officials to have rent-free retirement homes.

But Tory MP Neville Trotter said: "It's beyond belief. There is such a gap between some trade unions' leaders and their men."

"Some union bosses are real bosses in every way."

And another local Tory MP, Piers Merchant, said: "It's sheer hypocrisy."

Scargill's most loyal lieutenants are now being rewarded with a posh retirement home.

While he was hobnobbing with the Kremlin comrade in the Middle East, 800 men back home were fighting to save Bates Colliery in Blyth, Northumberland, from closure.

They say Scargill should have been in London putting their case before a pit review body.

MINERS' leader Arthur Scargill is in trouble over a sunshine trip with a Russian union boss.

While he was hobnobbing with the Kremlin comrade in the Middle East, 800 men back home were fighting to save Bates Colliery in Blyth, Northumberland, from closure.

They say Scargill should have been in London putting their case before a pit review body.

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SUNDAY PEOPLE, January 26, 1986



'New class of criminals after strike'

SUBSTANTIAL numbers of miners and their families have become the new class of criminals as a direct result of the 12-month-long pit strike, a prominent judge claimed at Wakefield Crown Court last week.

Judge Vivian Hurwitz's comments came when members of the mining community appeared before him charged with committing a series of burglaries in the Ossett area and of handling stolen goods.

The precedent of the defeat of the miners strike is still too often used as a symbol of "the inevitable". The right-wing bureaucrats use it as a negative model - an example of the disasters that befall the Union if proletarians explode violently. The left-wing bureaucrats use it as a model for the Ideal Union - the Union that backs its members *all the way*. Both positions are half-truths, lies by virtue of omitting a vast amount of essential truths. For both, the preservation of the Union comes before the progress of the struggle, because their niches depend on the Union. But the struggle and the Union are in no way synonymous. The Right conveniently 'forget' how pathetically the peaceful steelworkers were defeated - far more easily than the miners ever were - and that the violence of the miners continues to be an inspiration - yet who remembers anything about the *peaceful* defeats? The Left want people to forget all their ambivalent, apologetic attitudes they held (and still hold) towards class violence: after the Merthyr Vale killing of the mini-scab driver, Scargill (in Stoke) condemned all "violence away from the picket lines", whilst Kinnock, under a barrage of heckling, said of these great Welsh guys, "You sicken us all" (miners themselves were a little more enthusiastic: in Yorkshire, picket lines took up a new anti-scab chant: "Go get a mini-cab!"). Underlying these omissions is a defence of trade unionism as an ideology of workers' interests. But in so far as the miners hung onto this Trade Unionist ideology, even when they genuinely *did* express their rage against this society, they could only help to maintain a hierarchical separation from other workers: miners were the heroes - and other workers were meant to go on strike *for them* - not directly for their own interests. And when the necessity for solidarity was expressed, miners almost always left it up to the officials to meet officials from other unions in order to organise 'solidarity' *officially*. Rarely did miners expressly organise solidarity actions with other workers or unemployed *directly*. Likewise, it was rare for the minority of miners who came up against the hypocrisies of the NUM officials to express their rage directly. One exemplary exception has up till now hardly been mentioned publicly: a few days before Christmas 1984, hundreds of Durham miners, promised £40 Christmas money by the relatively cosy officials, when given just £10 each ransacked the whole of the Union building, looting everything that hadn't been nailed down. Just over 2 months later, these same smug officials, with the help of the Communist Party, managed to manipulate Easington colliery into calling off the strike, thus turning all the Durham Area delegates against the strike...a "sell-out" as even the Scargillite Wearmouth official for Sunderland, Davey Hopper, called it (though on the Sunday the strike was called off, Scargill himself said, "I feel great!"). It's not for nothing that - in the few days following the end of the strike - Kinnock was pelted with tomatoes, Willis was pelted with sticks and bottles, and, most vitally, Mick McGahey, Scotland's Stalinist manipulator, got badly beaten up. In fact, the long-term *success* of the miners strike has been in the explicit anti-State violence that this traditional sector of the work-force has launched - a violence inspiring a minority of workers *everywhere*.

26-27/10/85: On the council-owned Westham Estate in Bournemouth, school-children and teenagers smash up shops and clash head-on with 40 cops in riot gear. The youths involved formed the "Westham Riot Squad" to fight cop harassment. No reports in the local or national press (apart from, a week later, in The Morning Starlinist).

27/10/85: Woodbridge police station, King's Heath, Birmingham, 2 blacks and a white walk in and try to take official books and documents, then slash the left arm of a policewoman.

27/10/85: Same day - arson attack on police station in Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire: inflammable liquid is poured through the letter box and ignited, setting fire to the station.

End of October: in a fight in Kilburn between members of the same gang, a fight motivated by sexual jealousy, a 16 yr. old gets pushed through a window and dies. The gang then re-unites to make a collection for his funeral. They go from door to door asking for money from shops and individuals alike. Many shops refuse to give money and one shopkeeper in Kingsgate Rd. says, "Good riddance - one hooligan less". The shop is trashed and looted and the youths go on to smash up other shops who refused to give money.

Also in October:

Attacks on cops and shops in Stockport, Norwich, Knaresboro and Luton.

2/11/85: Cops bombarded with missiles during clashes at anti-apartheid rally, in Trafalgar Square. Black cops are amongst those defending South Africa House.

At least 10 cops are injured. A crowd of about 30 run up Charing Cross Road shouting "Tottenham! Tottenham!", breaking shop windows as they do so. 144 arrests.



The November 2nd Anti-Apartheid demonstration, Trafalgar Square. According to 'Socialist Worker', the snarling filth in the centre of the photo had just knocked out his inspector (arrowed right). For once the long arm of the law was doing a great job....Or perhaps the lefty-liberals of 'Socialist Worker' wanted to make out that only the cops were violent...?

2 - 3/11/85: *Coventry - firemen pelted with bottles and bricks by youths as they tried to stop flames from a bonfire spreading to a sports' pavillion in Lyt-halls Lane, Foleshill. In the previous two weeks fire crews have been repeatedly ambushed when they were called to blazes in Bloxwich, near Walsall (where youths had set booby traps by replacing manhole covers with pieces of cardboard), and in the Highgate and Ladywood areas of Birmingham. In Bloxwich firecrews have been escorted by the cops on several occassions, which necessarily makes their role seen to be an arm of the State. In the class war firemen cannot pretend to be neutral - they are going to have to take sides and be selective in their fire-fighting, though, of course, this is going to require a confrontation with fire-chiefs, who have the right to impose a military-style discipline on the rank and file. For their part, most rioters have been relatively selective in their attacks on fire-crews, though certainly a few attacks have been pointless; in future, it would be worth experimenting with better contact with firemen, who can't simply be written off as some alien State gang. This isn't a moral question - but a question of consequence for the development of the struggle, the question of how to consciously develop practical subversive communication & activity in which the dispossessed can recognise their own possibilities and desires in the rebellion of one another, to recognise their own common interests. Firemen, whose pay & conditions are appalling - especially considering the risks they take, have a history of militancy which should make them identify more with the violence of rioters than with the State. See, for example, this cutting taken from The Times after the Labour government had defeated the popular firemens' strike of 1977 with the use of the army:*

Pickets on rampage: Flying pickets from London fire stations yesterday went on the rampage in Hertfordshire after the county's firemen had voted to return to work (Our Luton Correspondent writes). They drove to Potters Bar, Welwyn Garden City and Stevenage, leaving a trail of damage. At Welwyn hydrants were turned on, blue lamps knocked from

fire engines, and tyres let down.

Smoke bomb: At Woburn Abbey fire station, Essex, striking firemen hurled a smoke bomb and shattered glass in the front door. The action was cheered by a 150-strong mass picket. The station has had several mass pickets since 10 non-union firemen returned to work at Christmas.

4/11/85: Crowds of teenagers rampage through the streets of the Yorkshire pit village of Askern, near Doncaster, laying siege to the police station and hurling stones, milk bottles and fireworks, breaking many cop shop windows.

5/11/85: Cop patrol cars stoned by crowd of 50+ in Cricklewood, N.W. London. 1 cop injured.

5/11/85: Reports of cops being stoned in Notting Hill.

5/11/85: Birkenhead, outside Birkenhead North station: when firemen arrive to deal with a large bonfire, they are met by a crowd of 150+ teenagers & kids and petrol bombs, bricks, bottles & fireworks are thrown at them. Cops are called to disperse the crowd. No arrests. Damage to 2 fire appliances. No-one injured.

5/11/85: Bloxwich again - same trick with the manhole covers again; bonfire is booby-trapped.

5/11/85: Halewood, Merseyside, petrol-bombs thrown. 4 teenagers arrested. No further information.

5/11/85: Everton - crowd of 50+ youths, aged 10 - 16 attack firemen with bricks and bottles as they put out blaze in derelict house.

6/11/85: Skelmersdale, near Liverpool; crowd of 50 youths aged 12 - 16, some throwing petrol bombs, rampage through shopping centre. A neighbourhood health centre and a greengrocer are set on fire, and 6 shop windows are smashed. Obviously shops and other businesses are ripe targets. But health centres? One doesn't have to be a moralistic defender of the Welfare State, whose policing function is the pay-off for a reduction in some of the more brutal consequences of the commodity economy, to dismiss such attacks as unthinkingly arbitrary: such random attacks replace strategy with the repetition of a few fetishised tactics, reducing rebellion to a self-perpetuating triviality. With unemployment at over 50% in Skelmersdale, health centres, however patronising the 'service', however much you may feel you're being treated by the doctors the way garages service a car, are still worth keeping, at least until a revolution transforms such places beyond their present band-aid role.

6/11/85: Bailiffs bombarded with flour bombs and water from barricaded squats on the Pullens Estate in Southwark, where the Labour-controlled council has served notice to quit on more than 1000 squatters. Most tenants support the squatters, partly because council tenant rent arrears in the borough are the highest in the country: a large amount of 'legal tenants' are effectively squatting.

8/11/85: David Waddington, the Home Office minister responsible for immigration, is punched in the face during a demonstration at Manchester University. This is a part of a whole series of attacks on junior ministers and right wing M.P.s at universities - notably John Carlisle, attacked at Bradford University by non-students and at other universities and polytechnics for his support for South Africa, the out and out racist Harvey Proctor (attacked in mid-January at Southampton University) and George Walden, junior minister for Education (spat on at Bolton Institute of Higher Education at the beginning of March '86).

Most students here, though increasingly impoverished and with a future often as not in the black economy, are some of the most spineless vapid creeps around. Their vague fantasy of some possible future financial security, a little bit more privileged than others, is the carrot which keeps them on the straight and narrow in the present. They choose safe political targets - like right-wing Tory M.P.s, but only very few take any risks like the miners or the inner city youth. Compared with what some sections of the dispossessed are daring to do, the present passive nihilism & political activism of student life are about as risqué as exposing your ankle. Sure, there are some anti-students doing it for the grant - but not many use their free time to experiment, to think of strategies that go beyond mere survival.

9/11/85: Cops stoned during and after football match at Millwall, East London. Rival fans were largely untouched by the Millwall gangs, notorious for their tribalism. Millwall supporters in South London pelt the cops with glasses, bottles and stones, injuring four police horses and four cops, one of them with severe face injuries.

16/11/85: *Frickley Athletic F.C. fans from the mining areas of South Elmsall, Hemsworth and Frickley launch a violent attack on the cops during and after the match. No rival fans from Halesowen Town are attacked.*

23/11/85: *Northern Counties East League cup-tie played on the ground of Grimethorpe (scene of several mass attacks on the cops during the miners strike) Miners' Welfare F.C. has to be abandoned at half-time after a crowd riot. The visiting team from Blidworth, Notts., were attacked by home fans chanting "Scabs!", and were then besieged in their dressing room for 50 minutes, until rescued by an 80-strong police squad.*

After the miners' strike, the football hooligan changed places with the striking miner as the authorities' Public Enemy No.1.

With the Luton v. Millwall battle on the 13th March 1985 the hooligan became the symbol of The End Of Civilisation As We Know It. Black and white kids were shown on TV giving the cops a good battering, with the cops shown as being temporarily on the retreat - a scene that hadn't been on the telly for some-time. Of course, much was made of the couple of people who landed up in hospital alongside the brave men in blue (or "cowards in uniform", as a piece of pro-Millwall graffiti, written after the riot, on Borough Police Station put it). "The hooligan hits out arbitrarily" was the message. What horrified the media, though, was not that you or me could be a victim of "the hooligan" but the fact that "hooligans" were tending to become more selective - increasingly aiming their rage for life at their real enemies - the cops.

Then, a few punch-ups later came the Bradford Fire Disaster. Initially sections of the media, desperate for a convenient scapegoat, pinned the blame on hooligans. But, as it turned out, it was the Economy in the form of the authorities' need for cost-cutting, that was responsible. The authorities had refused to do the necessary expensive alterations to the hazardous terraces and also locked exits to insure that no-one sneaked in without paying. However, neither cops nor media blamed the Economy.

For the authorities - media, cops, politicians, etc. - Heysel Stadium was a god-send: the memory of the worse massacre - the Bradford fire - could be obliterated under endless condemnations of animal hooligans. The reality of Heysel Stadium was a little different.

"DURING the daytime we were talking to Juventus supporters, swooping hats and we even bought a scarf off some of the Italian fans."

"We were arguing with them, but just about football, sort of ribbing, but it was all very friendly and it certainly wasn't causing any trouble."

"Then during the day a jeweller's shop was broken into in the town so the police used this as an excuse to come into the squares and start cracking skulls. The good mood around the town was first broken by the Belgian police."

"The ground was in a real state. At one point during the second half I leant against a crash barrier and it just crumbled underneath me. Earlier, when the fighting started, me and my mates ran to the back of the stand and jumped onto the roof of a hut to get out of the way. The roof just gave way and we fell straight through it."

"There would never have been this outrage if the ground had been in a decent state. It would never have happened if the authorities had got their act together."

"The trouble started with about 50 to 70 Liverpool fans charging the Italians after a ten year old lad had been beaten up. After that, only about 50 fans were fighting the Italians. The rest were fighting the police."

"The initial charge went through the middle of the terrace and it wasn't really serious up until then, but

then the riot police started moving in from the pitch and from the back of the stand. There was murder on with the police attacking people all around the ground."

'Disgust'

"When they were trying to get out onto the pitch the riot police wouldn't let them get out. There was a fence around the pitch and people could only get through a small exit. If there had been an electric fence it would have been even worse."

"It's like at Bradford. If the authorities have their way and force through even tougher measures, the disasters will only get worse."

"We didn't know anyone had died until half time, and people started walking out in disgust."

"After the initial trouble everything calmed down. Some of the fans had put their banners over the fence at the front of the terraces. The police moved in and started tearing them down just for the sake of it. Then there was murder on again."

"Now they are calling for national service to come back and all that crap. Then you can really kill people. Give them a rifle to do the job properly."

"They treat you like animals—Liverpool Football Club have never given a fuck about their supporters. When we played in Paris last year they discouraged fans from

going with horror stories about how bad the CRS was and so on."

"Liverpool fans went into the Juventus enclosure because so many had been packed into the Liverpool part."

"If clubs are banned from Europe next year, the gates will probably go up to make up for the lost revenue."

"It's already £2.20 to get in and they are talking about introducing identity cards next year. They'll probably make us pay the 50 pence for the price of the cards."

'Opiate'

"Up our way football is the opiate of the people. When you've got nothing to do, and no money, it becomes the be-all and end-all."

"You're treated like cattle. I used to go to away matches. In a car it's alright, but it's terrible if you go on the coaches, so I don't really bother now. If you step off the kerb you get a kicking. When I was 14 I got kicked by a police horse in the back of the head at Nottingham—it knocked me out."

"Last year on the way back from Rome they stopped us all at Dover and searched everyone coming off the ferry, dragging people around. One coach got a police escort all the way from Dover back to Liverpool. It was all just to say to everyone else, "We've got all these animals; they can't be

SOCCER NEWS

British Rail, it was reported yesterday, have employed a team of psychologists who will travel to and from football matches in order to observe hooligans in action. Over the last fortnight observers have already travelled to two matches and in both cases have returned with overwhelming evidence to show that the movement of the train somehow simulates the sex act and is responsible for a great flood of sexual energy which is then sublimated in vandalism. Measures are being taken to change the rhythm of the train. It is believed that the traditional chu-cha-poo is no longer compatible with today's youth. Experiments have been carried out to alter the rhythm of the train to chu-chu-cha-cha-poo. But the results have so far proved to be negative. It is believed that the final poo is the critical sound and efforts are being made to eradicate it from the noise of the engine.

Over a sample of ten chosen hooligans there is overwhelming evidence to show that the bone structure of certain classes is such that hooliganism is the result. Allegations that it may have had anything to do with boredom have been flatly denied as "absurd" by the German hooligan specialist, Dr. A. Lienation: "No correlation can be found between the lack of power over their lives and the vandalism - since it has been established that such people don't want any power, nor, indeed, are they capable of determining their own lives." Dr. A. Lienation, it will be remembered, was the doctor who was beaten to death after the West Ham - Arsenal match last year.

So far, British Rail have reported 10 psychologists and hooligan experts missing or feared dead. A spokesman asked the awful question, "What do these people want? Why do they tear the trains to pieces?" He went on to blame families as not providing the proper discipline. "There should be training in the homes, the schools, the factories and the offices". A hooligan who was asked his opinion of this comment made rude noises and spat profusely.

Yesterday we spoke with a personnel manager for a large computer firm in the Midlands, Mr. Hirem: "Everything has been given these kids - good wages, factory clubs, discotheques, weekends free. This seemingly isn't enough. These kids have got it into their silly little heads that everything we give them is just a bribe to make them keep quiet about the way we treat them. That's all the thanks we get for the education and services we provide out of the goodness of our hearts. There's definitely no gratitude left in the world." Mr. Hirem's colleague, Mr. Firem, said worriedly, in recollection of the riots of '81, "Supposing these hooligans forgot their petty regional differences - where would it all end? Supposing they all got together and....."

(Contd. P.98)

APELDOORN: *Convicted Dutch soccer hooligans may soon be facing a weeklong sentence of training Dutch riot police, a police spokesman said yesterday.*

Under a plan devised by two Police Academy officials, soccer hooligans are to fight riot police trainees instead of being fined or sent to gaol, according to a spokesman, Mr Peter Van Lochem.

trusted to go up the motorway".

"There were Nazis at the match. I picked up a British National Party leaflet in the ground. But the Chelsea supporters were there, largely because if Liverpool won, then Chelsea would get into the UEFA cup next year."

"There's going to be bad blood between Italian and British people for years to come. It's all down to nationalism."

"It's always the same for international matches, you have an underlying current of nationalism."

"Last year, we were in Rome and Bob Paisley, then the Liverpool manager, said: "Last time I was here I was driving a tank!"

The sports commentators, journalists, professional liars of all shades, given the task of instantly re-writing what was going on in front of our eyes, drooled even more deliriously than usual in their efforts to stereotype everything. One guy was seen on TV walking between cops and Italian fans, who threw a brick at him. He walked over to the cops to complain, and several cops bashed him on head and shoulders with their long batons. Justifying the cops, the Sports Commentator gasped, "He was being extremely provocative, that man". Such blatant manipulation is rare because these pigs usually have a bit of time to rehearse, or to re-order the chronology of the video-tape. In Paris, a leading sports journalist and leading light in the French sports journalists' union, had to pay a little bit for his particularly obnoxious slanders of the Liverpool fans. One day he had a visit from three polite, well-dressed young men claiming to be student journalists. Without hitting him, they somehow incapacitated him physically and proceeded to mess up the walls with a mixture of glue, ammonia and shit, then threw around some leaflets attacking journalists for their coverage of Heysel Stadium, and left very quickly after a couple of minutes, without being nicked.

A policeman was in hospital with severe face injuries last night after being beaten up by a mob of soccer fans in London. Three other policemen and four police horses were also injured - they were confronted by 500 supporters after a match.

The six-point plan of action agreed by the two bodies consist of:

- The installation of more effective perimeter fences around pitches.
- The accelerated introduction of closed circuit television to identify trouble-makers and provide evidence to police.
- The introduction of membership cards.
- More ticket-only matches when trouble is anticipated.
- More family enclosures at grounds.
- A review of the FA's rule 31 which governs the requirement on clubs to take precautions and a possible toughening of actions against clubs where trouble occurs.

Last chance to kick off with 50 arrests

Soccer 'war' cabinet 'clean up football' Fighting fans 'identified from TV match of game'

Thatcher's 'animals'

Police bear the brunt of Leeds' fans venom

Soccer fan gets life for riot and assault

by DAVID JACK

Soccer violence returned yesterday - even before the first match of the season had kicked off. It immediately raised a question mark against the effectiveness of the Government's new ban on alcohol sales inside the grounds.

Liverpool fan gaoled for Heysel incident

From Derek Brown in Brussels

A Liverpool youth was led sobbing and protesting from a court in Brussels yesterday to start a gaoled sentence for his part in disturbances at the European Cup final at the Heysel Stadium in May.

John Michael Ellis, aged 19, shook his head in disbelief as the court president announced that all the charges against him had been proved. Three months of his 12-month sentence were suspended, and he will serve only eight months

as he has already spent a month in gaol.

Later Ellis's defence lawyer, Mr Mark Van Roy, said his client was a scapegoat. He would appeal against the sentence.

"It is unbelievable," he added. "The whole atmosphere since this match at the Heysel has been rotten."

Ellis, from Wilbraham Street, Liverpool, was arrested at the stadium after an incident at a hot dog stand. Money was stolen, and Ellis was later charged with causing criminal damage, resisting arrest, and theft with violence. He was arrested before the rioting which led to the deaths of 38 spectators before the Liverpool-Juventus match.

A hot dog saleswoman, Ms Patricia Van Brusselen, testified yesterday that although Ellis was present she had not seen him take part in the theft or general harassment. Ellis denied causing trouble.

The court president, Mrs Jeanne Vaes, questioned Ellis at length about his movements before going to the stadium. She was particularly interested in disturbances in the Grand Place, and in a jewel shop robbery in the city, neither connected with the charges against him. He strongly denied any involvement.

The court proceedings were conducted in Flemish, with an interpreter murmuring in English to Ellis. The prosecutor, Mr Jos Colpin, listed Ellis's previous convictions in Britain, and revealed that he was wanted for questioning by Swiss police in connection with the theft of a gold necklace, valued at about £85,000, from a shop in Lugano in July, 1984.

After the verdict was announced, Ellis shook his head and asked his lawyer and interpreter to explain the sentence. Then he turned back to the court and shouted: "I am innocent. I didn't do nothing at all."

Merseyside police yesterday said that there was no evidence to link the Brussels riot with the National Front or any other political group. The statement was made by Detective Superintendent Bill Sergeant, who is leading the officers investigating the disaster, in response to a direct inquiry from the National Front.

Soccer fan gets life for riot and assault

By David Pallister

A CHELSEA football supporter was dragged screaming and struggling to the cells of the old Bailey yesterday after being gaoled for life for riotous behaviour and assault.

The police had to clear the public gallery of friends and relatives who shouted and swore at Judge Michael Argyle when he announced the sentence. Kevin Whitton, a 25-year-old tiler from Croydon, was found guilty under the common law offence of riot, which carries an indeterminate sentence, although lawyers last night said that the most severe punishment in the past had been 10 years.

Most people's initial response to the Heysel Stadium deaths was to leap into the morass of pro-hooligan v. anti-hooligan stereotyping. The spectators' need to hide their servility by verbally asserting a Black/White "opinion" - their need to take sides rather than make sides, produces the myth of 'The Hooligan'. The only practical consequence of this superficial mythology is to irritate everyone with a string of half-true clichés: "a bunch of animals", "unemployment...social deprivation", "tribalism...Falklands spirit chauvinism", "Bring back National Service", "would-be revolutionaries", "Law 'n' Order, Law 'n' Order, Law 'n' Order". Such ineffectual opinions obscure contradictions - they don't want to distinguish between subversive hooligan acts dangerous to this society and sick hooligan acts symptomatic of and in support of this society.

It would be stupid to understate the stupidities of some 'hooligan' acts - a lot of them really are mindless - those who chuck bricks in any direction just to make a noise, those who think they're great if they can be as bullying as the cops to anyone on their own, the ones who beat up people with the wrong accent, particularly if you're outnumbered ten to one, or the psychotic ones who cut you up, then leave a note saying "Nothing Personal - You Have Just Been Served By The Anti-Personnel Firm", the Chelsea hooligans who chanted at Liverpool fans "You'll never get a job" to the tune of "You'll never walk alone" & then waved £10 notes above their heads. All these express the success of this society and add to it. It's these kinds of acts - like the Chelsea gang who ripped off a miners' collection box in Kilburn in November 1984 - that give the "hooligan" his fascist reputation. Even though the cops are clearly guilty of similar, and a lot worse, humiliations, the State is able to capitalise on the popular disgust for these mini-terrorists by tarnishing all hooligan acts with the same fascist brush. In this the State has been well supported by the Left, who, from the New Statesman to Black Flag, have smugly categorised all hooligan acts as "tribal", hoping no-one will notice their own political version of tribalism - the clique, the sect.

But there are a whole load of hooligan acts which go beyond self-defeating tribalism, which are beautiful. And it's not surprising that many of the best anti-cop hooliganism has been in mining areas which were the most combative in the miners strike: since the end of the strike many miners have taken to football hooliganism the way they once took to the picket lines. And the 'famous' Featherstone Rovers rugby league - the majority of them miners - were banned from Blackpools' posh hotels in October '85 after a night of vandalism.

Police hurt as soccer supporters run riot

DOZENS of football fans will appear in local courts today after mob violence in the region at the weekend.

In the worst incident on Friday night, about 300 youths rioted in Doncaster town centre.

One policeman had facial cuts and bruises when officers were bombarded with missiles as they tried to disperse about 70 youths who had gathered in Trafford Way, chanting and throwing bottles.

Eight arrests were made during the disturbance, which began when 40 or 50 Sheffield United supporters smashed two windows in Bradford Row. Running fights developed after they were chased into Hallgate by other gangs. It is not known why United fans were in Doncaster.

Twenty-six soccer fans were arrested

and a policeman was injured by a brick during trouble in Chesterfield involving 150 youths on Saturday night.

Most of those arrested were from Chesterfield, but fans from Sheffield, Derby and Newcastle were also involved. They were charged with assault on police and public order offences. All except one will appear before the town's magistrates today.

Fourteen fans will appear in court in Barnsley after being arrested during the cup-tie with Liverpool yesterday. A further 16 were ejected from the Oakwell ground, and five were released without charge.

Thirteen Derby County fans will appear in court today after several cars were damaged and residents injured in Cotmanhay, near Ilkeston, Derbyshire yesterday. Police said charges would include causing an affray.

The Doncaster Star,
11/3/85.

In 1984, 500 hooligans from West Ham's 'Inter-City Firm' went to Paris and completely wrecked the outskirts of the rich St. Denis area. One hooligan declared "We wanted to do over the fascists of the (French) National Front, but your cops didn't give us the time to do it. So afterwards we had only one aim: to smash everything". Sadly, the Inter-city Firm can be pretty racist towards Asians.

In September 1984 Chelsea and Brighton fans joined together in big battles against the cops.

In May 1985, the same day as the Bradford fire, there was a riot at the game between Birmingham and Leeds, with the cops on the receiving end of the bulk of the violence - 150 of them were injured. But because of the Bradford fire, the media were able to significantly play down the events at Birmingham, even though a 14 year old was killed (the media created the impression that he was killed by rioting fans, when in reality a wall, which many fans were sheltering against to avoid a police baton charge, collapsed and he was crushed to death). And here's to the Chelsea hooligans who conned £300 out of an Observer journalist with a story about the APF's 'calling cards' being vinyl and gold-embossed!

10/4/86: At a football match in Bilbao, Barcelona and Bilbao fans begin the game by pelting the cops with bricks and bottles. THERE WAS NO INTER-FAN FIGHTING WHATSOEVER. After the match, between 9p.m. & 7a.m. the next morning, there was massive looting - particularly of liquor stores, arson and barricades of cars in the streets, in hours upon hours of mass rioting against the cops, with supposedly 'opposing' football fans and others fighting together. For obvious reasons, not a single word of this appeared in the media.

Football's accumulated profits are not being threatened by players putting in for Himalayan pay rises and record transfer fees but by the side-winder missiles being lobbed from the terraces. For example, the profits of Manchester United LTD's are down from £2 million in '83 to a mere quarter of a million today. It is football hooliganism that is responsible for this falling rate of profit and there's plenty of evidence to suggest that the schizoid praxis of much football hooliganism is becoming less so as it merges with more tangible expressions of class anger such as inner-city riots and strikes.

Violence, Sex in the Streets

By David S. Billen and
David M. Thompson

PITTSBURGH, Pa. — (AP) — A massive World Series victory celebration exploded Sunday night into a rampage of destruction, looting and sex-in-the streets.

Newsmen reported two apparent assaults — some of them in full view of hundreds who cheered the assailants — displays of public lovemaking, nudity and drinking.

At the height of the melee a police desk sergeant said he had calls reporting about a dozen rapes. But officials denied today that they had such reports.

"This isn't a riot. It's a goddamn orgy," a motorey-

The football riot in Pitsburg '71 was clearly an exciting event: but unless these kinds of explosions of festivity develop an explicit and ongoing social class consciousness they tend to become one-off 'flings' with little consequence. 15 years later and Pitsburg has 50% unemployment and very little social contestation.

Pittsburgh Goes Wild -An Orgy

cle policemen said during the disturbance which left the downtown area in shambles.

More than 100 persons were injured and 300 others were arrested in the melee, which erupted after an estimated 100,000 poured into the downtown area.

There was scattered shooting, but only one reported wounding. Hundreds of explosions caused by fireworks often were mistaken for gunshots.

At least 30 stores were looted and 30 or 40 more were damaged. More than a dozen cars were overturned and in some cases burned.

The melee ended 10 hours after it began when flying wedges of riot - equipped police, some with dogs, stomped head - on into the crowds and drove them from the downtown section.

Because of the increasing money involved in football, the game in the top leagues has become increasingly risk-free - excessively well-organised defence, a computerised professionalism with no magic. The fan's identification with the game - each one trying to outdo the other fan in specialist knowledge, acting like would-be managers of "their" team: "We should put X (£60,000 p.a.) in Y position and concentrate more on blah blah blah" - becomes increasingly pathetic & boring. So, for those with any life, the sport moves onto the terraces. Others give up.

SUICIDE OF A FAN AS SIDE FLOP

Teenager 'crazy on soccer'

By MARTYN SHARPE

SOCCKER crazy teenager Conan Cunningham killed himself because his local team Sheffield Wednesday were doing badly, an inquest was told yesterday.

Conan, aged 17, was found dead at home just five days after a disastrous defeat had made once-proud Wednesday virtually certain of relegation in the Football League.

By his side were four near-empty drugs bottles, a suicide note and other notes referring to the team he had supported since childhood.

The Sheffield coroner, Dr Herbert Pilling, recorded a suicide verdict on Conan, of Fishpounds Road Sheffield.

And afterwards, Conan's mother, Mrs Lilian Cunningham, spoke of her son's obsession with the Owls.

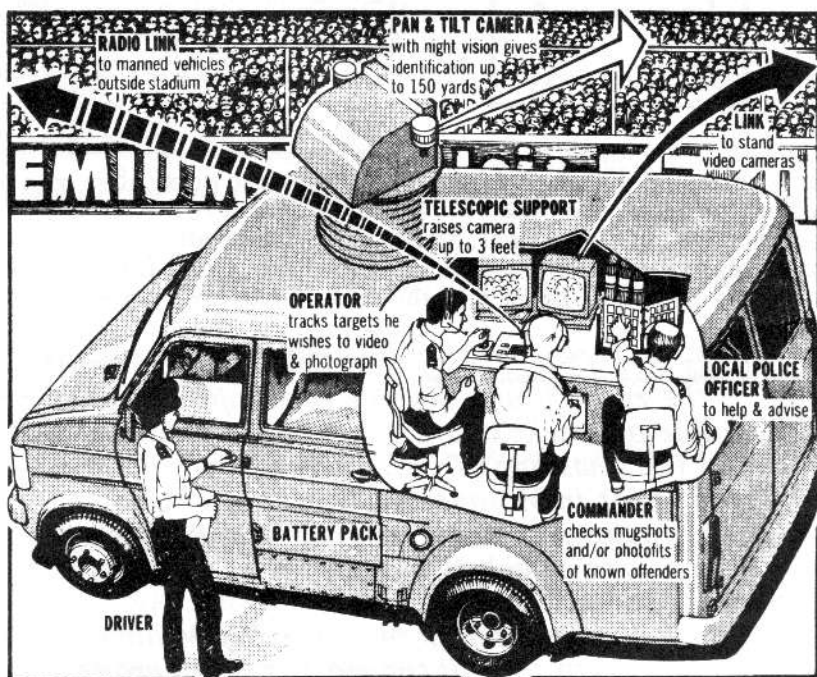
He had been ribbed at work about the team's dismal League record, she said.

Fanatic

"I understand he was involved in a fight at work over Wednesday," Mrs Cunningham went on. "He was a real fanatic - he spent all his money following the side, and had been to London and York in the weeks before he died."



Cunningham... a team's defeat "got him down"



Surrounded by barbed wire, forced to carry ID cards, watched by super-equipped video surveillance cameras, unable to drink, with the chances of a week inside for shouting 'Bastard!', of life for 'riot' - what the State can get away with at football stadiums it is trying to get away with *everywhere* (go to Wapping!).

Why we should use the troops to police the football hooligans

Sir - As a probation officer in Luton, most of my clients are offenders in the 16 to 25-year-old category; many regularly visit Kenilworth Road and other football grounds, not to watch or discuss football's artistic value, but to "have a laugh" and, of course, to fight.

Their anger is directed not at the opposing team, but primarily at the police. My group of lads are mainly unemployed, ill-educated, bored, lack basic social skills, and have a low tolerance level. But, above all, they hate the police.

Apart from the odd madman who wishes to attack players, referees or both, most soccer violence involves mass destruction of property and organised attacks on the police supervising the game. Why the police, and why mainly at football matches? On March 13 at the centre for young offenders where I work, I held a discussion



THIS ONE?
IT'S THE
1985-86
SOCCER
SEASON
CAMPAIGN
MEDAL



with 13 lads: 10 had been at the Luton-Millwall game on March 13. I expressed my general concern at the way a small minority of "fans" would eventually cause games to be postponed, clubs to close, and perhaps a player's death. Incidentally, each had condemned the violence as silly, stupid, etc. But as the discussion went on, they began reciting stories about how good it felt to be in with a large group with the common pur-

pose of creating havoc with little or no chance of getting caught. All the group agreed on one point: football grounds provide the ideal "stage" for physically assaulting police officers with impunity, for "attacking" swiftly, then withdrawing into the crowd. We then discussed what should be done and, yet, all my lads favoured "harder and longer prison sentences." From this conversation, I conclude that extreme

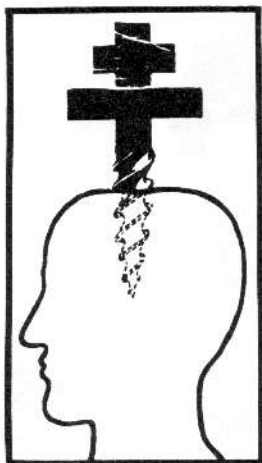
disorder was required, not a ranting, half-witted public who wishes to "hang or fog the sons, and I don't believe there is a "hang" My ideas are simple: For a trial period, "problem" football grounds should be patrolled by troops, thus withdrawing the "fans" from the police's main target. The police force: Make all games all-ticket, ban British Rail and coach firms from running "short specials" the "shorts" thing in - your was day and ban alcohol. All serious offenders should receive long-term imprisonment: for the law, serious "police" superstitious orders when big games are being played. And the players: they selves should be made more accountable for their behaviour on the pitch - Yours, Mike Hardy, 88 Riddell Green, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire.

What, for the part-time football fan part-time hooligan, had previously been mostly a laugh, a way of having a good time on a Saturday, has rapidly become a political issue. Everything in support of the living death of this society is forcing "hooligans" to either become intelligent about who their *real* enemies are or to become their own worst enemy.

Also in November, round Everton's Queens Road estate, a factory was burned down, a vicars' van was set on fire, all the windows in a pub were smashed after a crowd of youths stoned it, and a brand new car was burnt out. No dates available.
10/12/85: Soccer fans used sticks, knives and snooker balls against the cops and opposing fans in Portsmouth, before a Milk Cup tie against Tottenham at Fratton Park.

Telegraph & Argus, Saturday, December 21, 1985

THE SEASON OF GOOD WILL:



Arson leads to jail term

CHRISTIAN Philip Walmsley has devoted his life to God and other people.

But one day he cracked and set fire to three buildings — including his own parish church. He poured petrol through windows of the church, tax offices and a welfare centre in Shipley.

He then threw in fireworks, setting fire to all the buildings causing £17,000 total damage.

But he immediately flagged down a police car to admit what he had done.

Walmsley, 43, of Trenance Drive, Shipley, had the amazing character change to draw attention to the

by T&A Reporter

plight of the unemployed and underprivileged.

Simon Lawler, prosecuting, told Leeds Crown Court: "He had grievances for others who were far worse off than himself." Walmsley, described as a man of "impeccable character" was jailed for three years after admitting three counts of arson.

Exploited

Defending, Michael Mansfield, told the court that Walmsley had devoted his adult life to helping the unemployed and homeless.

He even drove a minibus for the handicapped every week.

"He had tried everything within the law to get action from the

authorities to help the underprivileged," said Mr. Mansfield.

Mr. Mansfield added that Walmsley had become frustrated with the lack of action from the authorities.

Unemployed Walmsley even helped families of units in Northern Ireland.

But he had cracked and set fire to St. Walburgas Church, Shipley, because he felt it did not do enough to help the needy.

And he felt the Volsec welfare centre for the unemployed exploited them by paying low wages.

Passing sentence Judge Herrod QC said: "This is a heartsearching case. You are a man with an impeccable character and have devoted your life to others.

"But the public must be protected from those who seek attention by causing danger."

The contradictions of religion in crisis: when the ruling class tries to make sure that altruism is no longer profitable, the desire for solidarity which is the radical side of altruism comes up against the harsh wall of class power. So the more sincere altruists crack - but still for a cause, for an individual martyrdom that's sacrificial. This guilty Good Citizens' "honesty" with professional liars is his way of nailing himself to the cross for today's good deed (but at least it got him a lighter sentence).

Christmas Eve (24/12/85): Sheffield - festive spirit leads large crowd to attack cops in the early hours. Several cops injured. 50 arrests. This is the culmination of a couple of weeks of anti-Christmas vandalism, with the burning of Christmas trees and the smashing of Christmas lights well up on previous years.

24/12/85: Riot in Monmouth, Gwent after closing time. 150+ smash cop station and shop windows and overturn cop van. 8 arrests.

24/12/85: Cops attacked by crowds of 40+ chanting "Kill the Bill!" in Littlehampton.

25/12/85: As crowds pour out of Biddy Mulligans in Kilburn High Rd. at night, large groups begin to loot the clothes shops around, and then there's a big battle with the cops. No further information.

26/12/85: After the Scarborough v. Frickley match, after the pubs have closed, Boxing Day becomes Bricking Day with a big battle with the cops.

Also over the Christmas period, attacks on the cops were reported in Leamington Spa (80+) and New Cross, S. London (50+).

31/12/85: Cops attacked by crowd of 100+ in Bicester, Oxfordshire. 1 cop injured. 1 arrest.

Also over the Christmas period, the manager of an East End pub disappeared mysteriously, leaving the doors of his very large pub unlocked. By the time the cops arrived, virtually all the booze in the pub had been consumed, and the pub was crammed with hundreds of drunks. No-one was arrested as, even though the drink had not been paid for, those who hadn't long left had consumed everything on the premises and, therefore, were not technically guilty of theft.

Also:

In the weeks and months in the last quarter of this year, there's a general escalation of the Silentnight strike in Sutton (West Yorkshire) and Barnoldswick (Lancs.), where they've been on strike since June 11th against the firms refusal to honour the 1985 pay deal. Instead of £5.25 most workers were offered a few pence. The bosses had said there were to be no redundancies, but within a few weeks they announced 52. Tom Clarke, the boss (Thatchers' "Mr. Wonderful")

said that unless they returned to work he would sack them. They didn't and he did. The bosses immediately started recruiting scabs. The bosses claimed everything was going smoothly - the large lorries were coming out regularly - but when the pickets stopped and opened them, they were empty! Strikers have attacked lorries, putting them out of action. The lorries were moved to make them more difficult to attack, but this meant that when they were found they were usually in more secluded spots. One lorry full of b...s was burnt out in the early hours outside a scabs house. There have been many instances of stone throwing at the gates. The factory has had windows smashed and been attacked with paint. On one occasion a petrol bomb was thrown in the doorway of the Sutton plant, setting it alight. Damage to the factory is estimated at at least £3000. Scabs have been hospitalised. They are bussed into work with cop escorts and drivers wearing helmets, just like in the miners strike. One morning as scabs waited for their transport in Keighley Town Hall Square, they were attacked by strikers, causing a fight between scabs to get on the bus as quick as possible. The press and the cops have talked of a secret weapon the strikers have - a huge mobile catapult like something out of the Trojan Wars!. No-one has been arrested as a result of the hit-squad operations, most of which have taken place in December.

Although there now seems no hope of the strikers getting their jobs back the fight is still in full swing. The company has lost nearly £4 million in the last 6 months - the first time in its 33 year history. There is a lot of local support for the strike and miners support groups have joined rallies & pickets by the bus load. Dockers have refused to handle imported raw materials bound for the Silenight factories.

31/12/85 - 2/1/86: 2000 invade millionaire's empty Hampstead home for giant party, and cause damage running into tens of thousands of pounds.

1/1/86: 50+ attack the cops in Bicester, Oxfordshire.

?/Dec. or Jan./85 or 86: Cops stoned in St.Pauls area, after arresting someone for shoplifting.

1/1/86: Police station besieged by crowd of 50+ in the early hours at Nailsea near Bristol. Station doors smashed and windows broken, cop car overturned. 1 cop injured. 1 arrest.

?/1/86: Police stoned in Laurence Hill, Bristol, by crowd of 80+. 1 cop injured. 3 arrests.

Mid-January/86 (no precise date): After cops evict white & Asian youths from a Bradford dance hall, a large crowd of white and Asian women attack the cops with planks of wood, and other sticks. Several arrests. Generally, women have taken a far greater part in the riots this time round than they did in '81. The acquiescent non-violent sacrificial image of women perpetuated by the decrepid Greenham Show hardly even commands the support of women who, in the past, had enthusiastically approved of this sorry spectacle. The aggressive assertive struggle of women during the miners strike have played their part in revealing the impotent symbolism of the Peace Women for the embarrassingly quaint gestures that they are. Those women not clogged up with pacifist dogma have begun to discover that anti-hierarchical violence is a lot less demoralising and infinitely more dignified than any pretension to a 'moral' victory, which comes down to putting a smile on your face as they lead you to the gas chamber. The morality of masochists.

face. 'She gets her Giro, goes out and crashes it straight away, and then she lies in bed all day reading horror stories, when she's not running wild with a lot of black girls. And they do get up to some things. They take things from shops and goodness knows what. I'm not talking about, how shall I say? *stealing* - like, done *secret*. They just all march into the shop together and take what they like. Quite open. Nobody stops them. It's terrible. I got this blouse from them, because they sell stuff at backdoors.

Apparently, while the last lot of rioting was going on in Tottenham, round the corner here, at the bottom of the street, thousands of

23/1/86: Southport, near Liverpool, Ray Moran, a 19 yr. old youth dies in police custody. Cops say he died of an epileptic fit, but he's never suffered from epilepsy. 30+ youths attack cops with bricks in response. At least 3 shops smashed and looted.

24/1/86: Second night of rioting over Ray Moran in Southport. 40+ youths attack cops with billiard balls and golf balls. At least 3 cops injured, a patrol car smashed and at least 2 shops attacked. Petrol bomb thrown at police station. No reports in the media up to this point, but an anonymous leaflet is distributed to spread the news.

"I say, I say, I say - What's the difference between a cop getting killed in a riot in Tottenham and a teenager getting killed by cops in Southport?"

"I don't know - what is the difference between a cop getting killed in a riot in Tottenham and a teenager getting killed by cops in Southport?"

"About 20,000 lines in the press and a massively publicised ceremonial funeral".

25 -26/1/86: 150+ youths attack the cops in the pit village of Stainforth, near Doncaster, after cops try to arrest a 15 year old for absconding from Keppel View assessment centre. 5 cop cars are damaged and 4 cops are injured, one with a cheekbone fracture. Sheffield Telegraph reports: "Police chiefs now fear efforts to forge new links with the community have been set back".

26/1/86: Petrol bombing of Eddie Shah's Manchester printshop. Door burnt.

27/1/86: 300 youths run onto pitch during half-time of the FA Trophy game between Southport and Scarborough, shouting "Ray Moran!" and "Murderers!". Cops come under a hail of bricks and bottles as they confront the crowd in riot gear, and later a molotov is thrown as the riot spreads to surrounding streets. Barricades are built and 2 cops are injured. This time the media reports it.

Three nights of violence rock town

Riot police storm Haig Ave terraces in hail of debris

POLICE stormed the terrace at Southport's Haig Avenue football ground at Monday night's FA Trophy game when youths threw bricks and other missiles.

The police, who wore helmets and carried riot shields and truncheons, charged the crowd at half

time after facing a hail of debris during the third night of violence in the town.

Trouble flared on Thursday night when a gang of about 40 youths smashed shop windows in Ainsdale following the death of 19-year-old Raymond Moran in police custody early on Thursday morning.

Moran was arrested on Wednesday night on suspicion of theft with three others. He was taken to Southport police station

where shortly afterwards he collapsed and was taken to Southport General Infirmary and pronounced dead on arrival.

Precinct

Thursday's trouble erupted shortly after 9 pm when three shop windows in a shopping precinct, near the Moran family home in Shirdley Crescent, were smashed. Police reported no arrests or injuries.

At last night's game, youths on the Scarisbrick End terrace

were chanting "Ray Moran! Ray Moran!" three minutes into the first half. Shortly after the half-time whistle, trouble erupted when youths wearing scarves over their faces hurled bricks and stones at police at the Scarisbrick End entrance.

Debris was also thrown on to the pitch and into the main stand where a spectator was hit on the head by a stone.

The man, who refused to give his name, suffered a two-inch gash to his forehead. Two police officers were slightly injured by

flying debris but remained on duty.

Riot police, who faced similar attacks outside the ground at half time, charged the crowd and dispersed the crowd, arresting a 15-year-old youth for "disruptive behaviour".

As the slightly delayed second half got under way, about 20 police kept guard at the rear of the terrace.

There was no further trouble. Full match report on front page.

Police hunt for leaflets group

DETECTIVES in Southport are trying to track down the group distributing leaflets about the death of 19-year-old Raymond Moran which have been handed out in the town.

An investigation is under way for the authors of the leaflet which Merseyside Chief Constable Mr. Kenneth Oxford has branded inflammatory.

A senior police officer from an outside force is holding an investigation into the teenager's death while in police custody.

Hundreds of the leaflets were given out on Monday night at the town's Haig Avenue football ground.

Teenagers went on an orgy of violence on Monday night, at the ground and later on the High Park council estate.

Free Speech 1986 Part 1.

29/1/86: Cops are called to cinemas in Bradford, Halifax and Huddersfield after seats are smashed and refreshment kiosks robbed during near-riots by hundreds of teenagers fighting for ringside seats for the film 'Rocky IV'.

Could this be the end of culture as we know it?

7/2/86: Another riot in the St.Pauls area of Bristol, scene of the famous inspiring riot of 1980. After a car chase in which a patrol car hit a family saloon not involved in the chase, badly shaking the black driver and his son, the cops abandoned the cop car and pursued the suspects on foot, after which a crowd of 50+ mainly black youths, many of them masked, gathered round the cop car, threw missiles and then overturned and set light to it, leaving it gutted. This is the 4th mini-riot reported in the Bristol area this year so far. Will 1986 live up to its Chinese name, The Year Of The Tiger?

7/2/86: The Mets' 'Police Review' describes the cops who beat up the 5 teenagers in Holloway, N.London as "bastards", hoping thereby to avoid the label being applied to themselves. The random beating up of youths - particularly black youths - by cops has been everyday occurrences for years. The fact that this incident hit the headlines makes it all seem like something very rare. But the cliché "There's always a few rotten apples in the barrel" nowadays even sticks in the throat of the most wishy-washy of liberals. The ruling show hope that a successful prosecution of the cops involved - with the help of the 'independent' Police Complaints procedure, Labour Party parliamentary pressure, the anxious appeal of Sir Kenneth Newman (the sly upper class turd who presided over the torture of Irish Catholics in Castlereagh, Northern Ireland), plus the investigative journalism of that great impartial objective paper - the Standard - will boost the image of the system as 'democratic' and 'free', where all the checks and balances insure the eradication of corruption. Of course, Police Review's main concern was not the humiliation and pain of the kids beaten up but "the enormous harm done to the reputation of the force". As the violence meted out by the forces of law and order intensifies with the intensified crisis of the economy, so its' soft image constantly needs to scapegoat a few of the excesses. Of course, the now discarded avuncular paternalistic "Dixon Of Dock Green" image was never a reality for blacks and rebellious youth - and always depended on the acquiescence of a lethargic and resigned post-war proletariat. Though only complete fools and bosses say it nowadays, the phrase "The best police force in the world" only ever meant "The police force with the best P.R. in the world". And in Britain this old humanist illusion - that the cops are somehow human despite what they've chosen to become - still lingers amongst some workers, like some neurotic habit, helping to stifle anger and to justify timidity.

There's still enough of these archaic illusions around for the Labour Party to try to harness them to their electoral chances by reviving the Dixon of Dock Green fantasy of what the cops could be. The Labour Party hope to win their small chance of managing the British share of the world market by trying to pose themselves as defenders of this old Nice Cop image: the cop as the protective father making sure you get home safe and soundly unmolested by those vicious strange strangers out to get you. Saying the truth - that kids are more likely to be assaulted, raped or murdered by members of their own extended family than by those lonely sadistic perverts on the streets - doesn't win votes (winning votes depends on upholding The Family - the pseudo-community which puts cops on every corner of your mind and body). Sadly, far too many people who should know better retain this ideal fantasy of what cops should be like - a Good Daddy solving the "real crimes" - not particularly those necessary for preserving the power of property and the proprietary classes. This idea of detached Specialists-In-Order, who are somehow aloof from their own self-interest in maintaining their privileged position of power, has been the justification for every crusade of slaughter over centuries.

Stress in marriage theory on massacre

Detectives in Cornwall believe marital stress may have driven a former policeman to massacre his entire family.

They are convinced that 42-year-old Mr Colin Gill shot dead his wife, Linda, aged 38, and sons Stephen aged 17, Robert aged 15, David, aged nine and Dorian, aged two, before turning the gun on himself.

THE BIRMINGHAM POST,

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1986

8/2/86: Wapping - over 5 lorries have their windscreens shattered, as does a police coach carrying scabs. Best of all - Murdochs' Merc gets the same treatment.

13/2/86: Plumstead, near Woolwich in E.London - 30+ youths smash up & loot local shopping centre. No arrests.

13/2/86: Wapping - cops bricked whilst distribution of Murdochs' lies is held up for 2 hours. At least 2 TNT trucks have their windscreens smashed.

15/2/86: 30+ smash up and loot clothes stores in Portobello Rd., Notting Hill.

15/2/86: Wapping. Crowd of 5000 outside Murdochs' work-camp. About 1000 hang around an exit ¼ mile from the main exit. SOGAT bureaucrat, standing next to cop, tells everyone to disperse through his megaphone. There are shouts of "Where's your uniform?" etc. The official, whose job, unfortunately, is not on the line, denounces the crowd, which includes sacked printworkers, for not being much support for the printworkers. Everyone initially ignores his pleas to disperse, but after a short while, a large contingent of Militant leads the retreat back to the main entrance, and the majority of pickets disperse. So much for Militant's militant image. Later, several lorries leave by the very exit which the official had told everyone to abandon. At the main entrance, when the cops attacked on horses, with the snatch squads in riot gear behind them, a few missiles are thrown, barriers are dragged across the road, and there's a bit of hand to hand fighting. Not very much happened, but with 58 arrests the media and the cops could pump this up as something approaching a riot, even though what happened was hardly bigger than the mini-riot in the Notting Hill carnival at the end of August, which received virtually no media coverage whatsoever: one can only assume that the intention of this exaggeration was to prepare the masses of spectators ('The Public') for justifications for a future escalation in cop brutality well ahead of time. On the Union side, complicity with the cops is aimed to get printworkers to police themselves, their friends and allies against any expression of autonomous activity independent of union control, and to heighten mistrust of, and isolate, any unofficial forms of solidarity from other proletarians. These are caricatured as 'outsiders' in order to reinforce an archaic trade unionist mentality which identifies with a craft status now made redundant by capitalism's development of new technology. But, despite the lies of the Met and the Union, the most useful damage that night was done not by so-called 'outsiders' but by printworkers to 2 lorries quite early on -

when everyone, including the cops, had disappeared. Later, at 5.40 a.m. a scab driver was attacked in Wandsworth Bridge Road, Fulham, by five men wearing face scarves. The driver escaped with minor injuries as the group smashed the windscreen of the vehicle with pick-axe handles and bricks. Wyn Jones, Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Police said, "We saw the classic example of honest well-intentioned union members supporting their cause being joined by diverse elements whose only interest was in causing as much trouble as possible...disrupting business and assaulting officers." Brenda Dean, who models her image on Thatchers', also condemned the violence, "I want to have orderly picketing and no violence...Our people have been genuinely trying to keep to that". Thatcher, MacGregor and Scargill also refer to "Our people": though they each mean something a little different, the same patronising possessive attitude shows the same common aspiration - the hope of commanding the ownership & leadership of the masses, the ambition of every form of hierarchy. Rupert Murdoch had stated, some time before, that "So long as Brenda Dean is in charge, I think things will be fairly peaceful". In other words, so long as the union can command the allegiance of, and maintain control over, its' members, the bosses will win an easy victory. SOGAT 82, like all the unions, is pinning its hopes for reversing the rapid demise of the unions at the hands of the bourgeoisie on the return of a Left-wing capitalist government, which could only have a slight chance of coming about if the Left and the unions can be seen to be able to repress and contain proletarian violence better than the Right. Unions cannot be reformed or made to fight with a 'more radical' leadership or even with more militant shop stewards. Unions, like pimps who negotiate the rate for which prostitutes get screwed, assume a social function of mediating between capital and labour which inevitably escapes the control of each member and of the union members taken as a whole. Even during the miners strike every initiative of consequence was organised not by the NUM structure but by miners, their wives and friends organising themselves (although often local union delegates played as much a part in these initiatives as those without any official status).

22/2/86: 4 TNT lorries attacked and smashed in Commercial St.

28/2/86: Arson attack on Reading Crown Court.

1/3/86: Manchester United fans smash down the gates at Southamptons' football ground, then attack the cops with CS gas cannisters (available over the counter in Spain, France etc.) leaving 35 cops "gasping for breath".

SOCCER THUGS IN GAS ATTACK ON POLICE

By PETER BOND

THIRTY-FIVE policemen were left gasping for breath in agony after a CS riot-gas attack by rampaging soccer thugs.

Trouble flared when 750 Manchester United fans smashed down wooden gates at Southampton's ground. The Dell, after Saturday's 1-0 defeat.

The hooligans charged out of the stadium spraying the CS gas into the air.

As well as fighting for their breath, the officers had streaming eyes, sore noses and burning throats.

A police spokesman said yesterday: "The gas was sprayed with an aerosol. Nothing was thrown."

Ban

The gas cannisters are thought to have been brought in from the Continent. They have been banned in Britain for five years.

Fighting also broke out during the game and 14 fans were arrested.

5/3/86: Wildcat strikes at Rossington pit and at Hem Heath colliery, Stoke-on-Trent, where miners walk out in support of sacked miners, a protest which marks the first anniversary of the end of the year-long strike.

5/3/86: Printers under threat of redundancy from Maxwells' Scottish papers - the Daily Record and Sunday Mail, begin an occupation of the Anderson Quay printing plant in Glasgow.

15/3/86: Massive demonstration of local residents, printworkers and supporters at Wapping. 100+ people shake the hard metal fencing outside the printworks, and, after 10 minutes it's pulled right down, some of it coming away completely. People start throwing crash barriers over and on to the rolls of razor wire that cover the ground leading up to the fortress - but cops on horses and snatch squads charge forward before the place can be stormed. The event is a big high, however, and people hang around until 2a.m. or so chatting together in a festive atmosphere, delaying Murdochs' papers for over 5 hours - too late for most deliveries outside London, costing Murdoch an estimated loss of over a million quid. A quiet, but still relatively satisfying, victory. Sure, it can be arrogantly dismissed as just a Left v. Right Show - and certainly if you just listen to and look at the Union stewards you'll get an impression of utter stupidity. For instance, one steward, a couple of days after a TNT lorry had hospitalised 2 pickets, told everyone through his megaphone that they should all sit down in front of on-coming lorries, telling everyone to "remember that little man from India" (Gandhi, if you remember, set up a scab union in the textile industry and threatened to kill himself if the super-exploited went on strike; unfortunately, they didn't). But picketting at Wapping and elsewhere is not just controlled by the Union cops &

Raiders' blazing revenge!

A GANG of thieves stole thousands of copies of The Sun early yesterday and burned them.

The raiders, calling themselves the Swindon Action Group, swooped on six newsagents in the Wiltshire town and grabbed papers which had been dropped on the doorsteps by wholesalers.

Three hours later firemen were called to a blazing garage, where they found the papers burning.



PC HURT BY SNOWBALL OF GLASS

By GEORGE LYNN

A DEADLY snowball packed with razor-sharp glass fragments ripped open a policeman's cheek outside The Sun's hi-tech plant at Wapping.

The murderous weapon was hurled during a mass picket on Saturday by striking printworkers. It hit PC Philip Cross full in the face.

With blood streaming, the shocked officer was rushed to hospital where he had three stitches put in the wound. He was sent home to recover.

Collapsed

Another policeman and policewoman were hurt, one woman demonstrator collapsed, and there were 32 arrests.

by the polite policing inside people's heads - cops get hospitalised, fences are torn down, lorries are delayed...Sure, it's no Broadwater Farm - but the losses Murdoch incurred this night meant one of the biggest successes for picketting for several years (which is one reason the media kept pretty quiet about this picket). And nothing would have happened that night if the Unions had been in control. That even this traditionally quite complacent conservative sector of the workforce are coming out with the age-old tune, "I used to support the police but not any-more..." is indicative of a bubbling anger which could sweep both Unions and cops aside.

20/3/86: All Saints Rd., Notting Hill - cops intervene to break up a fight amongst blacks only to be attacked by the blacks who'd just been fighting one another. For 20 minutes the cops get stoned by 40+ until they beat a retreat.

23/3/86: In the early hours, a few hours after Tony Dubbins, NGA leader, gets nicked, 7 TNT vans get all their windows smashed, close to Wapping. This kind of attack, together with the theft of Murdoch papers from newsagents and their subsequent destruction, are very common - and so most of these kinds of incidents are not listed here.

23/3/86: Also in the early hours, a petrol bomb is thrown at the National Ballroom, Kilburn High Rd.

24/3/86: 50+ youths battle with the cops in the Forest Gate area of London.

31/3/86: In Scarborough, rugby-playing cops and their families are punched and kicked by 12 youths, believed to have come from the Middlesborough area. Supt. Paxton of Scarborough police said, "This was a totally unprovoked attack."

5/4/86: Riot of Sheffield Wednesday fans in Derby.

5/4/86: Rampaging Southampton soccer fans smash up an intercity train - two carriages were so badly damaged they had to be taken out of service.

6/4/86: Wapping - corrugated iron fencing torn down by pickets, whilst leftist paper merchants sell their wares urging the picketting to be stepped up, but doing fuck-all themselves, as usual. Missiles are thrown and 6 coppers are hospitalised. Before this, at a tedious rally, the Unions had rejected Murdochs' offer of a Labour movement paper, though they keep their options open for a compromise deal involving compensation payments. They know that too readily accepting a labour movement journal as pay-off for a cop-out would make the paper too obviously a way of leading workers up a fatal dead-end. After all, if Murdoch wants the paper, then it must be a con. But if they can make it look like "the best in the circumstances" then perhaps the Labour movement paper can seem more "concerned and committed" than just a cynical attempt to boost the chances of a Leftist capitalist government. The wet-dream of these left-wing Murdochs is that an alternative to The Sun will be able to push The Great New Hope - Labour Into Power! (so that they can rearrange the weights on our backs).

DAILY MIRROR, Thursday, January 17, 1985

PAUL FOOT reporting

THE MICKEY MOUSE SWINDLERS CLEAN UP

● WHILE MPs make laws in the House of Commons, cleaners who work all round them are paid in "Mickey Mouse" names to avoid tax and national insurance.

The Department of Health and Social Security and the Inland Revenue know all about it, but have taken no action.

In June, 1983, Mr Ted Cheeseman,

regional manager for Exclusive Cleaning, was arrested outside a London bank. He had just cashed 29 cheques made out to false names.

Mr Cheeseman had an office at the House of Commons, where he had helped his firm get the lucrative contract for cleaning the Palace of Westminster.

He told Scotland Yard's Fraud Squad that his company employed "about 50" people at the House of Commons. But the police noticed that regular wages were paid to 85 people and most of these did not have House of Commons security passes.

Mr Cheeseman explained that many of

the 85 did not exist. A lot of workers were paid using false names or given cash. He would personally endorse falsely named cheques, cash them and hand over the money to the cleaners. He insisted he wasn't taking any money for himself.

After a long inquiry, the police accepted his story.

In April last year, Mr Cheeseman was charged only with the technical offence of signing a false name on a cheque. He was fined £100. By that time, he had been sacked.

Soon after his arrest Mr Cheeseman went to the DHSS offices in Lisson

Grove, West London.

He handed over all the documents about the House of Commons.

A DHSS spokesman told me: "In October 1983, the papers were passed as they were supposed to be in these situations, to the Inland Revenue Audit Centre."

Check

The Inland Revenue say there has been no prosecution.

The "Mickey Mouse" practices at the House of Commons are still going on. Documents leaked to me show payments

received last October and November by the same false names as those which were being used before Mr. Cheeseman's arrest.

Two workers signed for payments in eleven different names.

Mr. Cheeseman is not happy. "I was sacked and convicted for helping out the cleaners," he said. "But no action was taken against the company or the workers who benefit."

Mr. R. D. Pope, managing director of Exclusive Cleaning, told me:

"I can say first and foremost it is a fact that each individual person is obliged to declare him or herself on a certain piece of documentation that we have, and that person would only be paid in that name."

"In relation to what you say about the House of Commons, I am absolutely staggered. What I'd like to do is have our own security people check this and ask them to respond to you on Monday."

But nobody did.

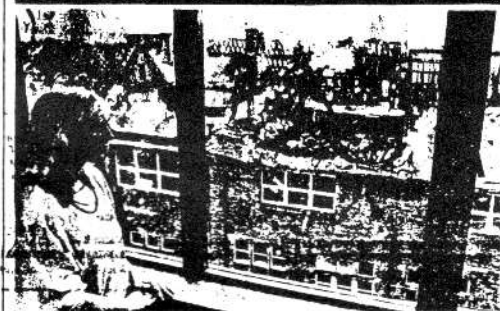
Perhaps the new Labour Movement paper will contain such investigative journalism like the vicious crap above, now being churned out by the Daily Mirror's tame Trotskyist. Leftist shit like this don't normally come out with such blatant grassing - but this article blowing the whistle on the black economy reveals in a crude form the aim of all investigative left-wing journalistic revelations: to get the State to rationalise the anomalies and incongruities in the organisation of the market economy which the State manages - and, in so doing, putting even greater constraints on the dispossessed (usually the pay-off for a few reforms). Paul Foot and the SWP opposes Kinnock, but with enemies like these Kinnock needs no friends. How come those rebellious youths at the bottom of the SWP hierarchy accept the humiliation of being led and ranted at by such élitist scum? Do they really think that their lives & struggles, their anger, become 'meaningful' by being in such a crass organisation (which even condemned the miners' violent attacks on scabs because it was bad for the miners' image)? Not that there are any better organisations: there's no such thing as a Revolutionary Organisation - none are either worth joining or setting up. Being part of an Organisation is just a sectarian way of setting up a screen to project a collective image that just adds to the wall of mediations keeping you apart from other proletarians. Being part of such an Organisation is a way of hiding your resignation by appearing to 'do something', swallowing your point of view & losing it in The Collectivity. There's a world of difference between this and organising theoretical-practical activity that subverts this society. For instance - the attack on Brixton police station began because individual blacks, and later whites, organised themselves together, not because they organised an Organisation which would then attack the cops.

11/4/86: *Southend TNT distribution depot smashed up, with typewriters and furniture being wrecked by 40 or so printworkers. Also several lorries smashed. SOGAT and the NGA threaten to discipline these pickets for not following their picketting guidelines urging non-violence. Peregrine Worsthorne, now editor of the Sunday Telegraph, said in a TV interview on May 11th 1980, "We haven't had fascism in this country because...the trade union movement has done what in Italy and Germany had to be done by the police force". So if the cops don't get you the Union cops will. The printworkers' Unions want to demoralise the strikers with the impotence of purely symbolic acts - the humiliation of "doing your bit" by shouting 'scab' from behind 3 lines of barriers, over the heads of row upon row of cops, to a lorry moving away from you 400 yards in the distance. This totally frustrating gesture is known as "Freedom of speech" - say what you like (within certain limits) - but do as you're told. Putting some desperate anger into this cry of "scab!" doesn't make it any the more useful or morale-boosting: most of the real morale-boosting goes on in the side streets and in little groups of people who trust each other. And the Union bureaucrats are doing their best to make sure that the activities of these hit squads receive as little publicity as possible - preferably none, even to the point of telling their members that some 'outsiders' who publicise some of what's going on are agents provocateurs (it's well-known that, like in the miners strike, there are cops dressed as pickets down at Wapping, so obviously this gives printworkers and their families good reason for mistrust).*

12-13/4/86: *Bradford - over £3,500 worth of damage to shop windows and goods, and to Bradford University's Block B building.*

14/4/86: *"Rampaging hooligans...in Broadgate Lane, Horsforth, kicked in a warehouse window and smashed a £400 plate glass window at Wineways, then broke a glass panel door at Horsforth Library" - Bradfords' "Telegraph & Argus".*

Grim picture of desolation



DEWSBURY: THE ART COLLEGE, to a significantly greater degree than other places, West Yorkshire is currently going up in smoke. Sat'day night in Bradford is known as "Burns Night" to the local Fire Brigade - a pun on the yearly haggis and whisky celebration of Scotland's national poet Robbie Burns. In the event Bradford's fire raisers prove more elusive than the spirits in Tam 'O' Shanter. Sure, much is down to "Jewish lightning" (i.e. collecting fire insurance before the Fire Brigade even arrives) but there's a fair proportion that is not. A branch of Carrefour's supermarket (the French retail multinational) was burnt down for the second time in 11 months in Castleford in the heart of the mining region. Similarly Dewsbury's Art College "inexplicably" went up in smoke shortly after the completion of a £5 extension. All that the local Manager and the Principal stand to collect out of this is their pension!

14/4/86: A police chief calls off his planned visit to the profitable Betws drift mine, after a 24-hour unofficial strike was launched to protest against the visit. An NUM lodge official said, "Relations with the police were not good during our year-long strike because of their behaviour on the picket lines and we have not forgotten...If they [the NCB] had only had the decency to tell us that an invitation had been extended to the police I could have tested the reaction of the men to avoid embarrassment to anyone. But we were not afforded that opportunity."

15/4/86: Scotland - Dumbarton Baptist Church set ablaze by 14 yr. old.

16/4/86: When a large number of pickets, bored by hanging around the main gates at Wapping, walk off down a side street, they come across a TNT lorry out on a limb, with the cops caught unprepared. The windscreen is smashed and the few cops around get a good battering.

19/4/86: CND (Cops' New Disguise) condemn the 'violence' of fringe groups (the SWP, Class War) during the blocking of Oxford St. as part of a demonstration against Reagans' bombing of Tripoli. In fact, the cops were particularly violent - and the violence of the crowd (e.g. 3 cops hospitalised) was largely a belated reaction to their viciousness. When they tried to move a posse of buses through the crowd, even to the point of trying to run people over, a bus windscreen was smashed and the driver, refusing to continue, abandoned the bus. Unfortunately much of the response to the bombing ends up as a superficial anti-American Eurocentrism, which could become the basis for a future European war against America - industrial capital in the form of Europe v. finance capital in the form of the USA. Whilst this seems extremely unlikely in the present, such anti-Americanism could be the last chance of a European capitalism confronted by massive internal movements of opposition. In this scenario, America can be made to seem like the essence of capitalism, whilst European capitalism plays its "socialist" card. Sure, in the present, anti-Americanism has an overriding objective basis whose criterion of judgement is indisputable: for the most part (though, with a few vital exceptions - e.g. the 1979 San Francisco gay riot and the uprisings in Miami) the class struggle in the USA is pretty dead. American proletarians are mostly resigned to the isolation and humiliation that the US ruling class has organised for them, whereas here - in Britain in particular - the class struggle is slowly but surely becoming the central issue of people's lives.

In West Berlin, after a demonstration against the Tripoli bombing, they did a bit better than in London: almost every shop & restaurant window in the city's wealthy Kurfürstendamm was smashed. There wasn't enough glass in all the glaziers in the city put together to mend all the broken windows.

COLD KILLS

1,000 IN

ONE WEEK

By DAVID FLETCHER
Health Services
Correspondent

DEATHS at the peak of the freezing weather jumped by more than 1,000 to 14,754 for the week ending Feb. 21, the Office of Population Census and Surveys, part of the Government Statistical Service, disclosed yesterday.

This figure was far higher than the previous week when 13,694 people died, which itself was more than 600 higher. The jump in deaths confirmed warnings by old age specialists that old people were particularly vulnerable to the cold.

Throughout London and the Home Counties, hospitals have been told to take emergency admissions only as beds are full of patients suffering from hypothermia, heart attacks, and other effects of the intensely cold weather.

'Red' alert'

Sixteen hospitals, including several major London teaching hospitals, have been put on "red alert" by the NHS emergency bed service which gets patients into hospitals when GPs cannot find them a place.

It is the first time that a "red alert" has been sent out since the 1975 influenza outbreak in London. A further 13 hospitals in the South East Thames Region running from South London to the tip of Kent remain on a slightly less serious "yellow alert."

2,000 HURT IN JOB TRAINING

More than 2,000 young people are injured each year in accidents while working in the Government's Youth Opportunities Programme for the Unemployed.

In the 12 months to June the accidents included five deaths and 25 amputations and now the special programmes board of the Manpower Services Commission is to seek advice from the Health and Safety Executive.

Can Reagan or Gadaffy beat this? (Answer: Yes - but who's counting?). We are so numbed by statistics of death, and by the living death imposed on us by the dead labour of Capital, that most people's "horror" at the deaths they hear of in the media is merely a moralistic show: people are no longer horrified - shock is a sensation that's been stolen from us, and sold back to us in the form of cliché. The chief effect of deaths publicised in the media is the feeling of compensation that the spectator gets simply because he's able to survive.

HOME NEWS

Girls who want to end it all

by Daily Post Reporter

MORE than one in 10 girls between 15 and 17 attempt suicide, and a third seriously consider it.

The findings come in a stress-survey carried out among 2,000 teenage girls and young women by Look Now magazine.

Over half of the girls who returned questionnaires said they were afraid to go out alone after dark and 17 per cent they had been assaulted, and in some cases raped.

Nearly three-quarters said they drank alcohol—some as much as 30 shorts a week—and 32 per cent confessed to smoking up to 100 cigarettes a week. More than a third also said they over-ate when under stress.

Half said they did not have enough money to live on, and over 50 per cent admitted having fallen seriously into debt.

Nearly half of the 18 to 24-year-olds were unhappy with their work, seeing it merely

as a means to earn money. Over two-thirds felt their jobs put them under too much pressure.

Relationships with men were major causes of stress. Over 37 per cent who took part in the survey said they had experienced the break-up of longstanding arrangements during the past year.

One in five were encountering sexual problems, the biggest worries being over pregnancy and contraception.

Most of those surveyed lived at home, although 46 per cent wanted to move, mainly to find independence and a better social life.

Because of stress, young women suffered headaches, dizziness, nausea and insomnia.

Doretta Sarria, features editor of Look Now, said: "Our survey shows that young women in the 1980's are under an awful lot of pressure and many of them are in great need of advice on how to cope. The suicide figure is quite astounding and very sad."

21/4/86: Dozens of drunk unemployed kids, on a course financed by Charles's Princes Trust rampage through a holiday camp in Great Yarmouth, a camp which is part of the course, causing Charles to threaten to call off his visit to the scheme, planned for the 24th. They caused over £3,000 worth of damage. This, in the early hours of the sweet old hags' 60th birthday, is the best critique of the

monarchy so far this year (not, of course, on the same scale as the rioting in Toxteth throughout the night leading up to Charles & Di's wedding in July 1981, when the cops ran over and killed David Moore, a cripple, a murder which received virtually no mention in the press).
22/4/86: An arson attack at the same camp.

APRIL 23, 1986

Mayor's home attacked by 'political vandals'

THE home of Hackney's Mayor Betty Shanks has been attacked by vandals a few weeks before the local council elections.

A chunk of concrete was hurled through the front room window of Cllr. Shanks' home at Silverbirch Court, Middleton Road, Dalston, in the early hours of Friday morning.

And a heavy glass vase was thrown through the bedroom window at Mrs. Shanks and her husband George slept around 11.30 on Saturday morning.

Attackers also aimed a brick at the bedroom, but it missed the window sill.

Mrs. Shanks' home has been vandalised before during the 1982 local council election campaign and again before the 1983 election.

TERRIFIED

She said: "It's terrifying. Both myself and my husband have been made ill by these incidents."

"I heard a loud crash and breaking glass downstairs and when we went to investigate we found a large lump of concrete on the floor."

"The vase could have hit either of us as we slept."

"I haven't a clue who keeps doing this. But their motive is obviously political."

"But I will not be forced out of politics. This country is a demo-

cracy and although I am frightened, I will not stand down.

"If anything it makes me more determined to continue my work on the council."

Cllr. Shanks, 56, is standing for re-election in the Queensbridge Ward.

The attack on her home is not the first incident of violence in the current Hackney Council election campaign.

Blind Conservative candidate Freda Jackson, 62, has been threatened by men who called her "a stupid old blind bitch, who is standing for the Tories."

had windows at her shop in Stoke Newington smashed and in the most recent incident, had a missile thrown through a window at her home in Powerscroft Road, Lower Clapton.



Mayor Betty Shanks. "Terrifying ordeal."

VOTE:-

LABOUR	
TORY	
ALLIANCE	
N.F.	
R.C.P.	

OR



CHOOSE YOUR POISON!

"Neither Left, Right nor Centre" - Brixton rioter, April 1981.

In the increasingly barbaric and brutal situation which is the UK today, the patrician British State, rearing itself up into its old-style essence (hopefully, before it's vanquished forever), is treating its own proletariat as its last colony and final territorial imperialism. Its Imperial contradictions are finally coming home to roost and not only with its own ex-colonial subjects, residing now on its own doorstep. Every proletarian, no matter what colour, though within differing degrees, is treated as an underdeveloped childish subject. The UK is entering a period of great commotion with no easy ride over the rapids. The atmosphere out there is extremely tense. In daily life there's an allover, sharpening aggro - and individuals are snapping with each other everywhere, with hidden aggressions and contradictions exploding on many levels. The simple pleasures that once constituted immediate life have now been colonised by a bourgeoisie which - since '68 - has toyed with and slept on every facet of life which belonged to the total revolution. Breakdown/schizophrenia/madness are on the loose everywhere. What was once a unity becomes disunity as the restless search for a way-out intensifies - and solidarity is no longer the solidarity of a labourist sentimentalism, which is more than ever in crisis. As has often been pointed out, the proletariat is not weak because it is divided; on the contrary, it is divided because it is weak. Those at the heart of all this shit - the only ones able to change it - respond in differing ways. Some are moving towards violent action on many simultaneous fronts; others are unsure, full of hesitations moving this way and that, whilst many become more & more withdrawn, solipsist & suicidal. Some, because of economic poverty, cannot consume; some refuse to consume; whilst some cannot break from a survival sickness, a junkie-fixerated consumerism which is driving them towards a black despair. Beyond these nuances, the basic separation has yet to be superseded. The gap between the employed and the unemployed blows like a suspension bridge in a force 10 gale. The search for subversive unity is extremely complex. Nevertheless, apart from a series of ad hoc measures which keep falling down, the State doesn't even have a semi-coherent strategy to deal with what's around the corner, let alone knowing how to prevent a link-up between the employed and unemployed, which will *one day* be made.

Powell warns of danger of 'split Britain'

By David McKie

Britain is fast becoming "that most dangerous of societies, a nation in which Government and the governed speak different languages," Mr Enoch Powell, Official Unionist MP for Down South, told a meeting in Manchester last night.

"The atmosphere is reminiscent of the counteries on the eve of revolution in the past, where the ruling class never mingled with the people at large, did not know how they lived, and seemed not to care what was to become of them."

26/4/86: Half-hour punch-up with cops at Wapping, with injuries on both sides, though the worst was one guy badly truncheoned on the head, needing 5 stitches. No delay to distribution this night, as the cops had blocked off any advance past Wapping Lane.

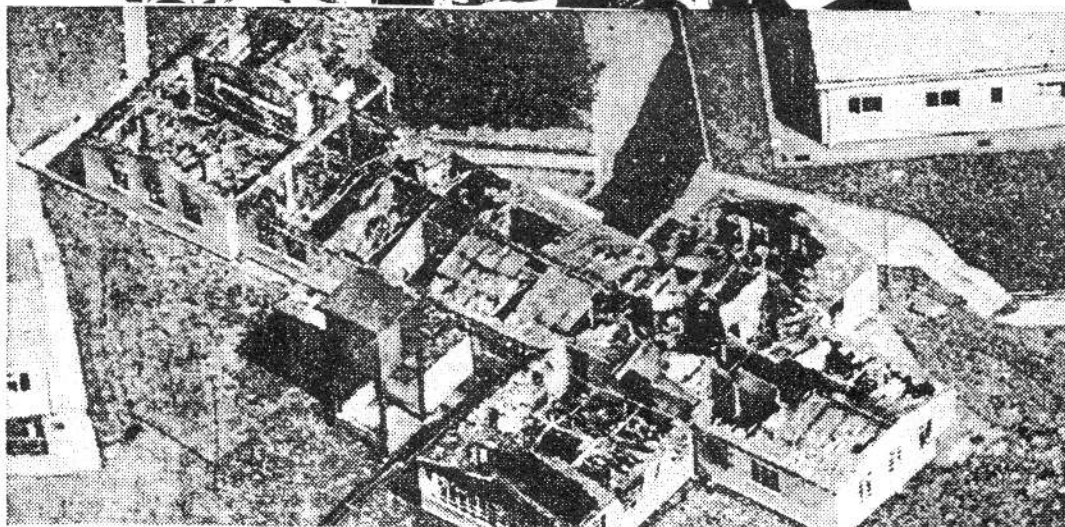
28/4/86: 2 women escape from Holloway Prison.

29/4/86: Petrol bomb after hours at pub in High Wycombe.

29/4/86: Several prisoners take to the rooves at Gloucester Jail, after the screws, on an overtime ban in support of their desire to have as much overtime as they like, were locked out by the Governor. One guy said to the BBC that they were on the rooves in support of the prison warders. A likely story, probably just intended to give their smashing up of the rooves a nice 'reasonable' image. According to one 20 year old prisoner, the screws had egged them on: "Warders were shouting to us from their mess window things like 'Cause as much damage as you like, we don't care'." The screws get up to £20,000 per year, with massive overtime. The misery they impose obviously gives the prisoners no reason to be 'protesting' on their behalf. The prisoners are clearly using the hole opened up by the screws' disruption to fight for what they want, which, as the next day shows, is completely at odds with the Home Offices' guard-dogs no longer jumping to their Master's Voice because their steaks aren't juicy enough.

30/4/86: THE MOST BEAUTIFUL EVENT OF THE YEAR IN THIS COUNTRY.* Between 18 and 21 prisons (depending on which figures you accept) involved in varying degrees of 'disturbance'. 841 gaol places (just under 2% of the total) are destroyed. There are several escapes, with at least 26 remaining uncaptured at the time of going to press. Virtually the whole of Northeye prison in Bexhill, on the Sussex coast, is raised to the ground. It began as a crowd of 60 prisoners confronted guards who were trying to stop them breaking into the canteen. Some prisoners wore hoods and wielded clubs & knives as staff retreat. Then, after the canteen is looted, fires are started & firemen from the outside are kept at bay with a hail of missiles. Only the prisoners sleeping quarters remain untouched (though one report says the chapel was untouched, another says it too was burnt). The prison is virtually a write-off. The prison is supposedly a 'soft' prison - C category, but a prison is a prison, and humiliation cannot be humanised - only irreversibly wrecked. At Horfield prison, Bristol, trouble started when prisoners learnt that visits from friends and relatives were to be stopped. They began smashing up their cells and could be heard shouting from outside the prison walls. Sheets and bedding were hung from cell windows, whilst some were set alight. More than 320 prisoners from A wing, allowed out on exercise, refused to return to the cells and staged a sit-down protest in the main yard. A local POA spokesman said "They can run amok anywhere inside the prison. They are beginning to tear the place apart." Another POA spokesman said "I have never come across scenes like this before in a British prison." The revolt was crushed by riot pigs. At Lewes, Sussex, after outside visits were halted, about 60 prisoners refused to budge from F wing, some

*so far



THE REMAINS OF NORTHEY PRISON

saying they were protesting because parcels weren't getting through, some saying they were supporting the prison warders' dispute (given the fact that most prisoners would be banged up for longer with less overtime, there is some logic to this attitude of 'support', apart from the defensive facade of a 'reasonable' image). By the evening, screws withdrew from F wing, because the prisoners had taken control and were starting fires. After this, other wings join in as prisoners escape from their cells - with cell doors being smashed down to free those inside. The whole of F wing, the remand wing, is wrecked, including plumbing and electricity. Masked prisoners climb onto the rooves and hurl hundreds of slates at cops patrolling the main gate. One remand prisoner shouted, "We are all supposed to be innocent. Why should we suffer? We are being treated worse than dogs." Ian Dingwall, the POA's secretary at Lewes, said, "I am horrified. This is the worst day of my life. I honestly hoped this would not happen." Precisely. The screws, hoping to use the threat of disturbances from the prisoners as a bargaining counter with their bosses, were clearly shocked by the ferocity of these 'disturbances', which threatened them as much as the Home Office. Very little information is available so far about the other prisons involved. Pentonville had a sit-down protest. At High Point prison, Stradishall Suffolk, unrest broke out after two fires were started. A screw commented, "We're under a bit of pressure. The whole place is in chaos." At Erlstoke, Wiltshire, detention centre, 40 prisoners broke out and the building was set on fire. At Albany prison, Isle of Wight, the governor of the top security prison was showered with a bucket of shit as he did his rounds. At Wymott prison, at Leyland, Lancashire, prisoners left their cells and started several small fires. Other prisons involved were Cardiff prison, Swansea prison & Belfast's Crumlin Rd. Jail. No further information known so far.

Bad Samaritan

RESCUER Mark Ellis revived a heart victim who collapsed in the street - then stole 160 from his pocket. Plymouth Crown Court heard yesterday. Ellis, 23, was jailed for 27 months.

With the declaration of war that the ruling class has launched against the dispossessed, anyone who so much as raises his head has a good chance of being banged up inside for a long stretch. As this cutting shows, blatant repression is becoming increasingly common. If this mugger had been a private doctor he would have got away with £100 and been congratulated for his quick-thinking.

1/5/86: May Day - march from Tower Hill to Wapping. Barriers protecting the cops and the Wapping fence from demonstrators, are removed - but the union stewards intervene to put the barriers back into position, telling everyone, through megaphones, to move on. Abuse only is hurled at the stewards, by printworkers and 'outsiders' alike. Some men half-heartedly continue taking the barriers away, but being urged, in dull 'reasonable' tones projected through the dominating voice of the megaphone, to continue walking has its intended demoralising effect. So most people walk on, drawn away by the added enticement of the Pied Piper band on the lorry, churning out uninspired sleep-inducing drones. Then a scuffle with the cops at Breezers Hill: bricks are thrown, barriers taken away. But in such a mixed crowd, it's hard to be sure how others might react if a little group took the risk of a direct attack on the cops, and generally it's hard to keep more than 4 or 5 people whom you know together for any length of time. On the highway down to Glamis Road, there's the usual taunting of cops - and threats - but peace peace peace is the useless reality. Then, at Glamis Road, riot cops on horses get pelted with about 40 missiles - and 1 cop gets hospitalised. But most people are content just to watch - too used to treating events like a TV show. Top steward Hicks, appeals through a megaphone for reverential silence from the band and the crowd, and then outlined his street cred credentials - "I got arrested the other day, my house got raided etc.etc.", using this credibility as the basis of his demand for a PEACEFUL picket, saying that a peaceful picket is an effective picket. They've been saying this for ages - allowing the pigs to hospitalise pickets, intimidate residents and let the scab lorries through, Sure, even some of the peaceful picketting sometimes delays distribution, and is sometimes effective. But such "peaceful" moments of picketting happen mostly because a bit of violence has boosted peoples' confidence and sense of fun to make them



A hopeful but inspiring graffiti on a wall in Newcastle Upon Tyne. Wallsend is one of the main shipbuilding centres in the UK. In September '85 a strike broke out there which spread to other yards belonging to the Swan Hunter group on the Tyne. It lasted for some 2 months &, though pickets were mounted daily, these were scarcely needed to prevent scabbing. It began initially as an occupation of the main yards, above which there hung a banner saying "Under Workers' Control". The strike remained unofficial throughout its duration, when, after 7 weeks, the management unexpectedly capitulated to meet the main demands in full. These included an end to on ship rest breaks & an assurance there would be no return to the bad old days of the right of foremen to hire & fire. The victory was all the more remarkable considering the degree of demoralisation that existed amongst the working class especially of Durham & Northumberland after the defeat of the miners. There was even talk of setting up a breakaway Union. Put like this the central question of the Unions as capitalist institutions was never posed - but there was enough self-activity and initiative to throw a scare into the Confederation of British Shipbuilders.

feel that it's worthwhile hanging around for longer - and not just going home or to the pub after an hour of boredom. After a fight with the cops 'strangers' talk with each other without inhibition - in London, this is a breakthrough! What's more, it's the violence that brings in the kids from the area, the kids who might not know all the details of the struggle of the printworkers, but who have good reason to hate the cops who hassle them all the time, whilst protecting the rich pigs who are removing the poor from the area (on a previous occasion, Wapping kids, who had nicked a couple of crates of milk intended for the London Marathon runners, were seen lobbing open milk cartons at passing posh cars - Rovers, Rolls, Bentleys, etc. - but not the cheaper cars). Only abuse (not rocks) is hurled at Hicks who asks anyone who sees people throwing stones to point them out to the stewards "who will deal with them". Hicks is a notorious shit - he's often called over the cops to deal with people who remove barriers at Wapping. And on this day, a couple of blokes who'd removed barriers argued with the stewards who'd replaced them, upon which the stewards called over a couple of muscular loyal printworkers who punched each of them in the face. These hypocrites - like the cops - can only "preserve the peace" by violence. Inevitably: there is no middle ground between the violence of this society and the violence that opposes it. Of course, it's up to the more rebellious printworkers to hurl more than abuse at these Union cops: unless it's the only way to avoid getting hurt or arrested, for 'outsiders' to fight with these scum would be substitutionist. Nevertheless, there are lots of liberal-lefty 'outsiders' who believe that, since it's not directly their struggle, all they can do is grovel at the feet of the official representatives of this struggle. Their notion of 'support' is to masochistically tag along with whatever the bureaucrats want them to do.

Towards the end of the evening, a couple of cops eager to make an arrest beat a hasty retreat after being surrounded and spat at. Then - with no cops around - a mini-barricade made up of roadworks is thrown across East Smithfield opposite St. Katherine's docks. A fun ten minutes which partly made up for the frustrations of the rest of the evening.

2/5/86: At least 2 more prisons join the revolt. At Send detention centre, near Guildford in Surrey, where more than 70 prisoners have been temporarily housed after the destruction of Northeye, about 20 of these ex-Northeye prisoners barricade themselves in the gym and threaten to burn it. At Stafford medium security prison, 20 prisoners climb on the roof and throw down tiles and burning paper; they remain there for 19 hours. Other men at the gaol, which houses about 690 in cells designed to hold 400, smashed furniture. In France, last year (May 1985) there were also about 20 prisons in revolt. But there there was some support from the outside. In Montpellier, the prison was wrecked and set alight, whilst outside a large crowd, including prisoners' families and friends, took up the fight for the rebels by attacking the cops from behind. There were several actions in support of the prisoners - like the destruction of a business which made its profits from the almost slave labour of the prisoners. Also, several trains, including the Paris metro, were held up and delayed as groups of people supporting the prison rebellion disrupted the railway tracks (though without any danger of an accident), spray-painted slogans on the trains and threw pamphlets in support of the prisoners into the carriages.

Fire bomb attack

From Joe Joyce,
in Dublin

A "prisoners' revenge group" yesterday fire-bombed the home of a prison officer in Dublin as unrest continues inside Irish gaols after last weekend's riot on Spike Island.

Mr Patrick Farrell, his wife and four children were awoken by the gang smashing a window to throw in a petrol bomb. They escaped without injury on to a flat roof before they were rescued by neighbours. Fire destroyed their house.

An anonymous telephone caller to RTE, the broadcasting service, claimed that the attack was in retaliation for ill-treatment of four prisoners in Mountjoy prison, Dublin.

5/9/85

3/5/86: At Gloucester prison, where the screws have still been locked out, prisoners, normally locked up for 21 hours a day, are given 12 hours free association a day, and are allowed to watch videos & TV and play snooker for much longer than usual. The prisoners chanted, "We don't want the screws back." At Holloway Prison for women, part of the prison was set alight as 12 prisoners burnt their clothes and furniture inside 2 dormitories. Women barricaded themselves in and hurled abuse at the screws, who later extinguished the fires. The Sunday Telegraph wrote, "The women failed to explain the reason for their actions." Of course, revolt - particularly prison revolts - need no explanation, but the following quote taken from a book called 'Criminal Women' gives some outline of the circumstances surrounding this rebellion:

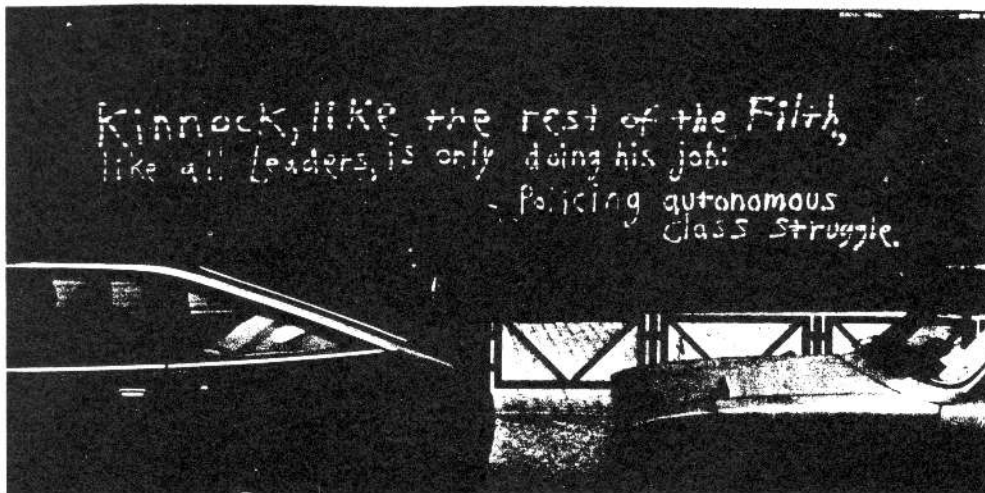
This old Holloway had a different feel about it. I'm not saying that it was a sort of haven because it wasn't. It was old, smelly, uninfested and people would actually shit in newspapers and throw them out of the windows because they couldn't stand the smell in the cells all night. But you could see what was going on. If another inmate was upset you could see it and say, 'Come on, come and have a roll-up with me.' You could help each other. There were only two officers to supervise seventy-five inmates.

Nowadays there's four of them to every twenty-five of you. There's toilets in your cell, a sink and slatted windows, but it's harder. You're all on top of one another like in a battery hen enclosure. So it's claustrophobic and yet at the same time you're all separated from each other. It's all narrow corridors and everything and everyone is round a corner. You can hear the screaming and the shouting but you can no longer see what is going on.

3/5/86: After Chelsea lose to Liverpool in London, Chelsea fans wreck ten shop windows in Edgware Rd. - but they also hospitalise a few Liverpool fans (this is not just pathetically sick - in the present resurgence of the class struggle, this inter-fan viciousness is clearly archaic).

3/5/86: As about 7000 marchers join up outside the main entrance along The Highway, 2 orange smoke bombs are hurled under the police horses, whilst a few stones are chucked at the cops. The pigs launch a cavalry charge, and all hell breaks loose - rocks, barriers, anything that people can get their hands on is thrown at the strikebreakers in blue. At least one mounted cop gets dragged off his

horse. The riot squad then launch largely indiscriminate attacks into the crowd, with the cops making most of the running after their first few minutes of retreat. One guy, truncheoned by the cops, has a heart attack - and, as he leaves by ambulance, a cop smashes 1 of the ambulance windows. All through the snatch squad charges, Union & leftist speakers, including Tony Benn, spew out impotent horror shock statements declaring that "this is not the British democratic way....I've never seen anything like it....Glasgow cops aren't like this...." etc.etc. They're either plain ignorant or, more likely, just trying to present a purely moral concern and boost up the idea that the 'Nice British Bobby' has been polluted by the aberrations of Thatcherism. Their main theme was that the cops had launched an unprovoked attack - an insulting but convenient way of reducing the demonstrators, who have a million good reasons for being violently angry with the cops, to merely innocent victims. One Union official shouts, "I appeal to the police to withdraw - we can keep order amongst our people." Quite: the Left don't like the cops' heavy thuggery because it weakens their ability to mediate between the angry masses and the powers-that-be, it weakens their ability to 'keep order' (i.e. keep THEIR order). Meanwhile, in the side streets an ITN van gets its' windows wrecked, and a car is overturned. Much of the evening is spent hurling frustratingly useless insults at the ruling classes' mercenaries, which they're trained to ignore or laugh at. One young guy shouts out, "Just you wait till Labour comes to power - you'll be out on your arses." When someone points out that Kinnock had recently declared himself "the policeman's friend", he replies, "Yeah - I know, the bastard! He even said he'd wanted to be a cop". It would be a little heavy to make a big thing of this kind of contradiction. Sure, it ex-



The Right To Work = The Right to be humiliated, to be exploited; the right to be forced to sell our activity in order to buy our means of survival from a system which insults, isolates and lies to us without end; the right to produce surplus value to maintain the accumulation of commodities & of commodity relations. The 'right' to be reduced to the absolute margins of existence - with or without work, food or video recorders - is the only 'right' capitalism grants to the vast majority. The choice is simple: death to the world market & it's guard-dogs - or else our death - slow or quick.

presses at one and the same time the banal hope for an exit from misery by a change in the personnel of the State, and an underlying despair that doesn't want to draw obvious logical conclusions. But there's a simpler explanation, however: when winding up the cops to say what you know is the truth is a waste of time. Nevertheless, since shouting at the cops is not a communication with these scum but is really a communication between those who are fighting them, the best wind-up s are those that get to the heart of the situation, ones that speak the truth to potential friends.

Though the electricians at Wapping are scabs, we shouldn't therefore underestimate the minority of good people who happen to be in EETPU. EETPU - appropriately pronounced EAT POO - run the Union like a mafia more viciously than the other Union protection rackets: it makes autonomous action difficult. Rebel electricians in the past have been sectioned by Hammond & Chapple - 28 days shoved in a bin by order of the court. Freedom and democracy. In November 1984 - at the height of the miners' strike - there was a majority vote amongst electricians to go on strike - not for the miners, but for their own - wage - demands (which, anyway, would have been the only effective way workers could have expressed their solidarity with the miners: solidarity begins at home). Nevertheless, when fighting for ones own demands submits to the ballot box, it inevitably means fuck-all. In the November '84 ballot, the majority was not the necessary two-thirds - only 55%. Thatcher came to power with under 44%. The secret ballot was so secret that the results weren't released until January (and then, virtually only the Financial Times gave it publicity). Democracy moves in mysterious ways. Some electricians have a good history - in 1977 they were almost the only sector of workers which had courageously risked an attack on the Labour governments' Social Contract (the Social Con-Trick, as it was known then). And they were almost as vilified by the press as the miners were in '84. Some workers at the end of the unofficial strike even organised against the divide & rule tactics of the 'militant' shop stewards. Supported by the right-wing press, the then Minister of Energy, fading hero Tony Benn, even made contingency plans to call the army in if 'necessary'. But he'd found this unnecessary when the militant shop-stewards accepted a deal worked out with Benn and the CEBG bosses which created a skill hierarchy (status, 'responsibility' and small differentials) as the 'reward' for weakened solidarity. If Hammond & Co. can get away with organising the shit conditions for his loyal slaves at Wapping he owes it to a certain extent to Tony Benn's part in the crushing of the rank and file electricians in 1977. Which makes Benn's presence on the picket line at Wapping all the more ironic. Hammond, of course, will make sure that the recent 72% vote for strike action remains just a vote - with no action (like NACODS in 1984). After all, if there were power cuts today like there were in 1977, then...oh what a beautiful morning, oh what a beautiful night....

Names, telephone numbers, and addresses of printers and coach companies operating at Mr. Murdoch's plant in Wapping, East London, are regularly published in bulletins produced by members of Sogat and the National Graphical Association.

The bulletins, printed from an address in Tottenham High Road, North London, claims: "It has reached the stage where pickets are escalating the fight by thinking and acting for themselves. Our hatred becomes harder, quicker and better aimed. Scabs and their defenders will burn in the heat of that anger."

The bulletin expresses sharp criticism of the print union leadership at national and branch level, saying that the speeches on the picket line last week by print leaders "had a significant effect in disorientating and pacifying pickets." It goes on: "Are bare fists and rubble adequate weapons to the task we face?"

Mr Freeman said yesterday he had seen copies of Picket and deplored its contents. Steps were being taken to locate its authors and prevent further publication, he said.

For the best ongoing written contribution to the printworkers dispute see PICKET, c/o 628 Tottenham High Rd., N.17.

■ Police chiefs and print union leaders met for two hours yesterday to discuss ways of avoiding the violence which broke out at an anti-Murdoch Wapping demonstration last Saturday.

They agreed to establish better communications between demonstration organisers and police both before and during rallies. Police and union control centres are to set up telephone links.

