



IT'S STILL THATCHER OUT

WE, THE British labour movement, will have to do the job ourselves. We will do it by absolutely preventing her from carrying out against us the threats for which she will now claim a fresh mandate.

NO SACKINGS; NO CLOSURES; NO PRIVATISATION;
We will make every factory, mine, school and hospital a bastion from which Thatcher will be thrown back and then thrown out.

We are in the position of German workers waking up one morning and finding that Hitler has been elected. Do we accept it because the process is described by those it serves as democratic?

We do not. No fascist government has ever achieved nominal power with so strong and undefeated a labour movement - still intact, still united in its opposition, still determined to save Britain from destruction. The level of class struggle among shipbuilding workers, teachers, local government and health workers, miners, factory workers generally has never been higher.

The fact that those already committed to getting rid of Thatcher are now twice as determined to do so was not

reflected in this poll - but it will be reflected in the history of capitalism's demise in Britain.

The TUC was united in its call to vote Labour. The TUC must be united in its call to oust Thatcher. No compromises, no talks with Tebbit. **DEFY THEM! DEFEAT THEM! DEPOSE THEM!**

Industrial Britain must be made ungovernable by those who are bent on the carve-up and destruction of British industry.

Thatcher spat in the face of the working class and many members of the working class voted for Thatcher - or for her allies, the SDP. In Latin America the same goat that leads its kind to the abattoir is called a judas goat. We will not be led to our doom by judas sheep.



The March for Jobs will go on gaining support from employed and unemployed until it becomes an army investing No. 10. Photo: The Worker

South Atlantic war crimes

WE DID NOT need documentary proof that the Belgrano when sunk was well outside the exclusive zone and had been heading for a home port for nine hours to know that Thatcher was determined to have the war which could win the election for her.

We did not need Haig to tell us that a Peruvian attempt to arrange a peaceful solution between Britain and Argentina might have succeeded but for the sinking of the Belgrano with a loss of 400 lives.

The billions of pounds the war cost and is continuing to cost and the thousand lives lost are the

price we have paid so that she could have her majority.

The failure of the Labour opposition, with a few honourable exceptions, to oppose this jingoistic war of Thatcher's root and branch at the time made late attempts to indict her during the election sound hypocritical.

The danger is that the next time Thatcher needs to change her image from the most unpopular prime minister since the war into a larger than life mook-up of Rule Britannia she will plunge us into war again.

Unless we stop her and make her answer for her crimes,

Sacked workers at Hindle Gears reply with works occupation

ENGINEERING workers at Hindle Gears in Bradford have occupied their factory after resolving to force a conclusion to a dispute which has run on now for 13 weeks. Initially sparked by management's refusal to negotiate over a pay claim, the struggle escalated in significance when the striking workers were sacked.

Hindles still refuse to negotiate, preferring the unsubtle pressure of unemployment to do the job for them, but to their credit the workforce, all AUEW members but not experienced in struggle, have refused to bend the knee and now press the attack back on the employer.

Bundles of brown envelopes,

bearing a court injunction for each striker lie ignored on the office doorstep, and threats of court bailiffs and police eviction cut little ice. AUEW district secretary Peter Walker said this week that "As this is a dispute against redundancies as well as over a claim for higher pay, the executive is fully supporting the Hindle members."

Messages of support have been pouring in, as well as more tangible gestures, including sleeping bags, food and two TV sets donated by local engineering workers. The men are aware that they are in contempt of court, but that is nothing to the contempt felt here for a petty and tyrannical employer.

Support for resistance in occupied Ireland

THE CONDUCT of the General Election has served to emphasize at least one thing - the distinction of northern Ireland from the rest of Britain.

Although the fight for northern Ireland's 17 Westminster seats is supposed to be an integral part of the British General Election the reality is very different. It is not one contest but two.

Of Britain's political parties only the Ecology Party put forward candidates in northern Ireland and that with the same expectancy of success they had in Britain.

No British politician visited northern Ireland during the campaign and the fact of Britain's occupation of that part of Ireland, what it was doing and where it

was going, was hardly raised as an election issue. The usual conspiracy of silence was maintained with remarkable ease.

The question of northern Ireland did make the manifestoes but only as an afterthought, an unpleasant duty that had to be performed, the less said the better. Even the Labour Party's commitment to "unity by consent", in an age unknown, under unspecified circumstances, had an air of unreality about it.

There was no sense of urgency as the idea merely hung miserably in the air. It certainly played no part in their campaign as once again the British working class were denied the opportunity of effectively declaring how they saw

Ireland's continued occupation.

Out of the EEC, yes. Out of Ireland, well not really. It was left to the electorate of northern Ireland to take the issue up. As always their election was about nothing else. While British workers voted on jobs and peace in a confrontation between progress and reaction Irish workers voted on the link with Britain as Sinn Feinn took on all the shades of unionism from Ian Paisley to Gerry Fitt.

Just as Gerry Adam's arrest on the eve of polling day could not prevent his being returned to Westminster so too the increase in popular support for Sinn Fein shows the drive towards a United Ireland continuing irreversibly.

DHSS ban overtime to defend jobs and service

THE SLASHING of 5000 jobs from the country's social security offices is one more step in Thatcher's aim to destroy the civil service. DHSS unions are continuing their longstanding fight for proper staffing levels, and have adopted the tactics of a ban on overtime working, a ban on the sharing of work, and a ban on the employment of casual, temporary staff.

The unions also insist that if Thatcher can find jobs for her despised and thoroughly discredited specialist claims control teams - the knocker

squads - she can certainly provide enough staff to ensure that the 7 million people she has made dependent on supplementary benefits receive an adequate service from the DHSS.

Specialist claims control teams continue to be opposed wherever they carry out their purulent work. The first day that they set foot in the Hove DHSS office recently was marked by an impressive demonstration outside the office. 200 people took part, including workers from inside the office, staff from other local DHSS offices, delegates from the

CPSA annual conference in Brighton and a contingent from the Brighton and Hove Unemployed Workers Union. The demonstration called for the scrapping of the specialist claims control teams and the immediate increase in benefit paying staff.

The Victorian values so beloved of Thatcher are embodied in the specialist claims control procedures with its basic role the hounding of the working class as workshy scroungers: specialist claims control is the precursor to the workhouse.

Local Government Workers' Central Task

Soup and cold charity

THE RE-ELECTION of Thatcher for a second term of office increases the threat to the existence of our social services. The past four years has seen a ruthless and systematic dismantling of these services. The fact that they are starved of funds when need for these services is greater than ever before shows the callousness and determination of the Thatcher administration to attack our class at every level.

We should not see this fundamental attack on the wellbeing of our class in isolation for it is the policies pursued by Thatcher that have brought the higher burden. She stands for our total destruction. Why fund a service providing for those in need? Much easier to return to the soup kitchens and christian kindness.

Four years of destruction

*Since 1980, 80 per cent of local authority social service departments have drastically cut their level of provision
 *78 per cent of local authorities did not have the resources to meet increased demand on provision for the elderly, those in need of residential care or those suffering from mental disorders.
 *900 day care places for the

young physically handicapped have been lost between 1979 and 1981 - 9 per cent of total provision

*10 per cent of local authorities are at least 15 per cent short of finance to maintain the 1980 level of provision

*54 per cent of local authorities are experiencing cuts in real terms

*Day care provision is available to only 1 per cent of children - 60 per cent of places are provided by the voluntary sector

*The number of social workers has been frozen at 23,000 since 1980 leading to a mountain of unallocated cases, and severe pressure on existing staff

*An increase in charges for social service provision. 35 per cent of social service departments increased day nursery charges beyond the rate of inflation

*owing to staff cuts and the use of scarce resources for other options, local authorities have been forced to take larger numbers of children into care. The number rose by 5000 between 1978 and 1980.

The message to local government workers and others is clear. Thatcherism stands opposed to any concept of humanity - there can be no peace with her.



ORGANISE AGAINST THATCHER



- ▶ Charges for local govt services up by over 30% to £306 million
- ▶ Rates increased by average of 90% over 4 years
- ▶ 110,000 local authority jobs lost since 1979
- ▶ Public spending cut by £11,500 million in 4 years

THE RE-ELECTION of the Thatcher government lays the groundwork for further attacks on the very existence of our class.

We can expect these attacks to come in many forms, but always with one central theme - the destruction of the 200 years of civilisation built up by our class through its organisations in terms of health, education, housing, the social services, jobs and skills. It is against our class, and thus against all of these, that Thatcher directs her venom and destruction.

To the extent that local government has resisted Thatcher's attacks it becomes her enemy. Therefore the trade unionists from local government at the NALGO conference this week will make decisions not simply of importance to their own members, but to our class as a whole - particularly as they meet as the first collective voice of the working class following Thatcher's re-establishment.

It is essential at such a time that we formulate policy for the defence of every area of our work and in defence of every job within it.

The very existence of local government is under threat: Thatcher seeks the increasing centralisation of state power in order to pursue her policies of destruction. She attempts to control local government finance and to abolish the metropolitan county councils and the GLC to this end. We have it in our power to resist and prevent these measures. It is a fight against Thatcher's new brand of fascism and must not be undertaken lightly, but in a way designed to achieve the maximum unity between all workers in both private and public sectors.

We are facing a counter-revolution against all we have achieved. But it is a counter-revolution based on their weakness and fear of us. We will respond with offensive action against the Thatcherites and their dying system of capitalism. We will defend the existence of local government, defend the GLC and the metropolitan counties, fight for our services and jobs. As long as she remains, she remains our enemy. In the week after her re-establishment we say again as we said in 1979: prepare and organise for industrial action to get Thatcher out!

Water job loss conspiracy

WATERWORKERS now have absolute proof - if any was really needed - of the Conservative Government's plans for future job cuts.

A private letter sent by Environment Under Secretary Glen Shaw to water authority Chairmen has been leaked to NALGO.

The letter says that the minister was 'glad to note that manpower was reduced by about 3 1/2 per cent overall during 1982/83' but that he was 'not yet convinced that water authorities generally have fully got a grip on the problem'.

It goes on to say 'I understand that authorities' plans forecast a much slower rate of manpower reduction over the next 4 years, amounting only to some 3 per cent over the whole period. This rate is 'disappointingly slow'.

He ends up asking water authorities to revise their manpower reduction forecasts especially in the light of the strike.

Water trade unions have expressed outrage at the letter. NUPE's Ron Keating said "the letter signals the determination of this government to see unemployment rising".

NALGO's water group meeting on Monday June 13th is to discuss an emergency motion passed unanimously by the Devon Water Services Branch deploring the letter and calling for co-ordination between water unions 'so that an industry-wide response to the threat of future job cuts can be made'.

The NALGO water group meeting will also hear a report from their negotiations on the acceptance of a 5.6 per cent pay offer.

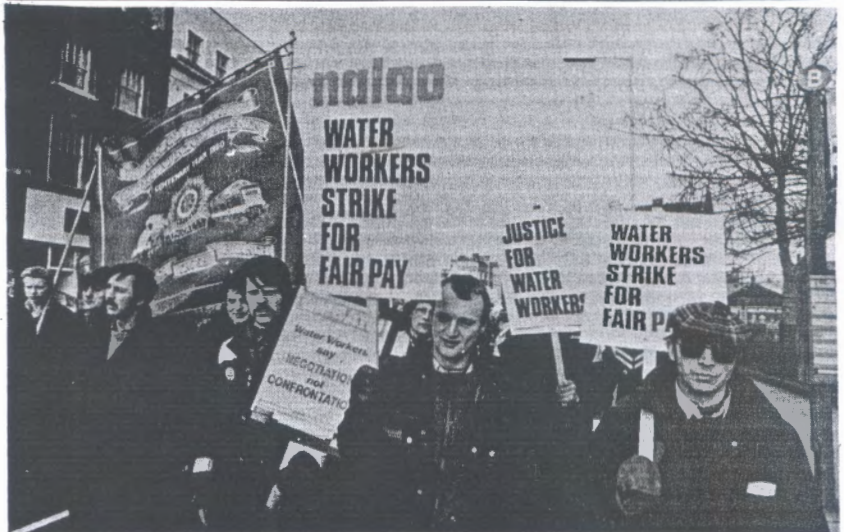
Power - no fight, no money

THREE to five per cent is the spectrum of pay award being recommended for acceptance at the NALGO conference Electricity Group meeting. Some rumblings of discontent have been raised in certain branches, but rumblings are not resistance. The need to get the question of pay into perspective is long overdue amongst Electricity branches. Its importance, the need to be involved, the need to use our untapped strength, our ability to improve and provide genuine support to our negotiators are issues we can work upon

and enhance without doubt.

Pay is the key to bringing together all sections of our industry. We do not have to look to mythology about power engineers or manual workers on how to fight. If we prepare, we could launch a campaign through the finance and computer sections that would severely rattle this £6.5 billion industry. We must set aside the Electricity Supply Industry's spectacles and don ours.

Reorganisation of the ESI, be it Marshall's 'soft option' of piecemeal breakup; the Tories'



Water workers fight for pay.

Photo: Andrew Wlard (Report)

'hard option' - total immediate selloff, or Labour's holding action, involves us all. Since 1979, 11,000 jobs have been destroyed in the ESI. For Marshall read Tory, for Tory read Marshall, prospects of 10,000 more jobs are on the executioner's block. Management compare their reorganisation with the decimation that has occurred in British Steel, hence no power industry and no manufacturing industry.

The Electricity Supply Industry, in Marshall's eyes is an example of 'state socialism', its nearest parallel is in the Soviet Union. The ideological attack on nationalised industry, generated by Lawson, Thatcher, Marshall, is about profit, greed, asset stripping. We must counter this; generation and distribution of electricity is for the people of Britain not US multinationals and their handmaidens in government.

- Meeting - 'The Fight Goes On'

6PM TUES 14TH JUNE.
 THE LOUNGE CARLTON HOTEL (nr conf' centre)
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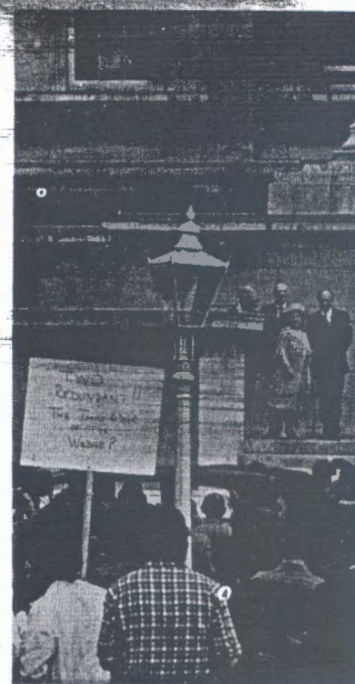
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What you didn't hear in election week

THE enquiry into BL's dispute at Cowley, which in part forced the anti-Thatcher election, upheld complaints by workers against management's behaviour during the "washing-up time" strike.

The report of the joint union-management enquiry condemned the screaming and abuse of workers by managers.

The district secretary of TGWU, David Buckle, said that the unions would continue to maintain that it was unnecessary for workers to give up their washing-up time.

HULL DOCKERS have rejected their employers' latest pay package and voted to step up action. Walter Cunningham, Chairman of the Docks District Committee of the TGWU explained, "We began negotiating last year for an increase with no strings attached. When the employers, the Port Authority, offered one per cent across the board plus five per cent in return for a 25 per cent cut in Manning, the men completely rejected it."

After 20 weeks we stepped up the action. The employers have posted the men a paper saying it's their last offer - one per cent across the board, five per cent for a 25 per cent cut in Manning.

"If we accepted this, it would mean we were on £136 last year, and £128 this! - an £8 cut in wages in return for a 25 per cent cut in Manning. There's no way we're going to accept that. We're going to fight!"

Red faces and red banners at royal visit to University College

WHEN the Queen Mother visited University College in central London on Friday June 3, she was greeted by striking technicians who were holding a protest over the dismissal of two of their engineering colleagues. The timing of the strike and the visit was a complete coincidence, because the visit had been kept secret by the college authorities. This is what made the demonstration such an embarrassment for them. The strike was the first of a series unless the threatened redundancies are withdrawn. The technicians, many of whom are on fixed-term contracts, are concerned that if these jobs are allowed to go, many more will follow. Photo: The Worker.

26 DIVERS, working for Subsea Offshore, a US subsidiary which operates on oil rigs in the North Sea, were sacked for pursuing the right to unionisation, better wages and conditions and improved safety.

In pursuit of their claims, the 26 divers occupied an oil platform in the Ninian field. Evicted by court order and promptly sacked by Subsea, the divers took their fight to other trade unions in the industry for aid. The National Union of Seamen, the AUEW and Norwegian oil industry Trade Unions have responded to the call. Already three contract supply vessels for Subsea are blacked and laid up.

THE Ford worker whose dismissal by management for alleged damage to a bracket worth 86p caused a £90 m strike has had his job restored by an ACAS tribunal.

The report on the incident and the decision that Ford management was "unreasonable" in sacking the worker completely justified the strike by 4,500 assembly workers.

130 workers at the Unit Superheater and Pipe Co's works in Swansea have been in occupation for three weeks following management plan to make 50 redundant.

Following the failure of sacking threats against the whole workforce, management is now seeking repossession through the High Court.

Civil servants strike over poor conditions

CIVIL servants' willingness to fight to defend their living conditions and the services they administer has manifested itself in recent actions.

In Hackney, East London, over 200 members of the CPSA and the SCPS returned to work last Friday after forcing management to back down from their attempts to tear up an agreement regarding the frequency at which the unemployed are required to sign at the Hackney unemployment benefit office (UBO). The UBO, with 15,000 claimants using it, is the largest in London, and management

admit that the office is "grossly overcrowded"; if management had succeeded in their intentions, the new procedures would have made conditions in the office totally unbearable.

441 jobs to be axed from Merseyside, 5000 nationally

The UBO workers were consequently locked out for refusing to operate the new procedures, and when management brought in scabs, all work from the UBO was blacked by CPSA and SCPS members working at the Hackney and Stoke Newington DHSS offices. When suspen-

sion notices were issued, DHSS staff came out on strike. The disciplined and united action by the UBO and DHSS workers forced management to capitulate and revert to the previously agreed method

of signing on claimants. Important concessions on new accommodation for the UBO staff have also been won.

In Liverpool, civil servants working at the Toxteth and Belle Vale DHSS offices went on indefinite strike from Wednesday in anger and disgust at the latest

barbarism displayed by Thatcher in cutting jobs from DHSS offices, 441 jobs are to be axed from Merseyside, 5,000 nationally. The CPSA and SCPS members in Liverpool are demanding that no jobs should be cut until the review set up to examine the understaffing in DHSS offices reports in August.

Meanwhile, both offices have been shut down by the strike. The local Branch of the CPSA put it clearly: "DHSS staff in Liverpool have had enough, there is no way that these cuts can be made and the service continued."

Cubans arming against Reagan intervention in central America

THE REAGAN war-machine is intensifying United States interference in Central America despite growing opposition to his policies. His latest move is to triple the number of American military advisers including the infamous Green Berets in Honduras and open a training base there.

A senior defence department official admitted that more than a hundred advisers will be sent to the base at Puerto Castilla on the Caribbean coast. It is expected to begin operations this summer and will be used for training Honduran and other Central American troops. Not surprisingly, a battalion of El Salvadorian soldiers (some 250-1000) will be amongst the first. This decision flies in the face

of a policy statement by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that any training of El Salvadorian troops should take place inside the United States.

One member of the committee sensing a circumventing of these guidelines said, "We do not want training missions to become the opening wedge for deeper direct US involvement in conflict in Central America."

The shooting of the chief of US military trainees in El Salvador - the first American military to die there - brought a defiant comment from Reagan. "It is not going to change our attitude about the economic or military aid we are giving", he said. The year from October 1983 will see \$76.5 million go in military aid to El Salvador from

the United States.

American people do not seem so convinced. A Washington Post/ABC News Opinion Poll carried out in May revealed 3-1 against the proposed aid to El Salvador and 6-1 against sending any troops there. A minority of people believed Reagan when he said troops would not be sent.

At the same time as he desperately tries to shore up the El Salvador dictatorship Reagan is busy destabilising Nicaragua and now with renewed venom Cuba. A vitriolic attack on Cuba by the President was recently followed by Senator Barry Goldwater. He said that the Cuban problem should have been solved long ago by United States invasion and annexation.

In reply to this clearly co-

ordinated attack on their independence, the Cubans have begun a massive campaign of anti-American propaganda. Their Communist Party newspaper; Granma said, "Once again Reagan demonstrates to what extremes he's ready to descend. In his hysterical arrogance he is capable of any adventure." Referring to Goldwater the paper likens the threat to Cuba with Hitler's threat to gobble up Austria before World War 2.

Mass demonstrations have taken place all over the country. In one province it was announced that their territorial troops militia would be doubled to 100,000 in answer to Reagan's "Imperialist madness". An official said, "All the people must prepare for the war."

Minority Government Return to basics at Aire Valley Yarns

IN CALLING for struggle to get Thatcher out we will no doubt be charged with flouting democracy.

Let's look at this bourgeois 'democracy' they are touting.

Nearly two thirds of the electorate voted against Thatcher. She remains one of the most hated prime ministers the country has ever seen and can go practically nowhere without massive police protection.

Her 'landslide' in spite of a lower Tory vote than before means that she can make decisions which have nothing to do with her promises to the electorate (and they were bad enough.) which cannot be effectively challenged in Parliament and which need not even have the approval of her own cabinet to become the law of the land.

The most important group in the country, in whose interests she wields this dictatorial power - the company chairman, the boards of directors and their shareholders, the merchant bankers, the pension fund managers, all those who prosper at our expense - they do not have to stand for election.

Such is their commitment to majority rule that they have fits at the idea of even token worker representation on their boards! It's a very funny democracy where the smug and better off can, through a minority vote, force others, the weaker and the poorer to suffer - for the good of the nation of course.

It's not like that in the unions which Thatcher's axeman Tebbit is pledged to destroy.

Stop cuts and stop privatisation

WITH 8000 hospital beds closed since Thatcher came to power, health workers at NALGO Conference will have much to discuss and plan.

The "NHS is safe with us" slogan, far from soothing and reassuring people, has enraged them, for it was a lie. "Efficiency" savings, contracting with private companies for hospital support services like catering, cleaning and transport, and enforcing low pay are among the means used in the attempt to dismantle the NHS.

Fortunately for the working class, health workers know their service well and are prepared for the fight for health on all fronts. The heat of the strategy is set out in the resolutions tabled for discussion at the Health Group meeting that precedes Conference proper. It reminds health workers that the pay campaign of last year was based on demands for better conditions and a range of other improvements in services, as well as an increased rate of pay.

Where privatisation has been the issue, local government has attracted most of the attention. There has, however, been quite a long tradition of "contracting out" in the NHS, and an equally long one of reverting to direct labour after some time. Never-

In the unions those who vote have to carry the responsibility for their decisions. They cannot vote for someone else to strike for them or for others to take wage cuts. In a union the membership can overthrow policies and leaders without departing from their own rule book.

Calling on our unions, calling on the Labour movement to oust Thatcher to save Britain from destruction is a call to the immense majority to act in the interest of the immense majority, it is the only real democratic appeal in Britain today.

AS PREVIOUSLY reported in The Worker, textile workers at this rat-hole of a firm have been on strike for four months. A demonstration in support of the sacked men is to be held in Farsley, West Yorks., on Saturday June 18th. If the workers' courageous action in support of their attempts to unionise is to be successful, however, there will have to be a return to the central issue, that of union recognition and the right to organise rather than the emphasis on race.

The workers weren't sacked because they were Asians, they were sacked because they were workers who refused to tolerate any longer the appalling wages

and conditions which these tin-pot Thatcherites were trying to impose upon them. The Farsley workers' strike is repeatedly referred to as Yorkshire's Grunwick. There is no merit in that, Grunwick was a classic defeat, like Fine Tubes before it, because the central issue was replaced by bogus ones - OK for campaign medals and martyrs to tout around to meetings but little else.

The demonstration and all the other activities around the strike should be led by the T & G Textile Trade Group and led forcibly. That would cut out all the poncing off the strike which is occurring at present by the committees for this and that. If the demo is wrong and marching around the back streets of Farsley on a Saturday afternoon doesn't sound too promising, then the union should step in and say so. It should exert that class discipline which led to the men wanting to join in the first place.

Blacking of Aire Valley

products has been successfully implemented at Union shops regardless of Tebbit's laws and that's all to the credit of the union members and the leadership which has worked hard to ensure that success.

Like the William Donby case back in the 60s where textile workers were out for a year and more, this case is crucial to the union. Applying the right tactics, going beyond sympathetic and generous collections, the case can still be won. Victory would pave the way to rebuilding the Union in all those other mills and dyehouses where workers are being forced to accept compulsory overtime working, pay at just over a pound an hour, 60 hour weeks and so on. The leadership of the old Dyers and Bleachers has done a good job at salvaging the wreckage of what was left after years of indolence in the 70s. Firm leadership in this struggle, taking it back through the trade, is what is needed for all.

No US bases here



Three onto one won't go. A member of Britain's indigenous population is dragged away from a lorry at Upper Heyford. He was protesting with hundreds of others by blocking a gate at the airfield, where the US trespassers keep their F-111 nuclear bombers. In England's green and pleasant land the N111s screamed overhead as hundreds of protesters were arrested. The week of action culminated in a march to the main gate of all those involved in blocking the subsidiary gate. The police were distinctly nervous as they linked arms, in true Greenham Common style, encircling the gathered marchers. The US occupation of Britain is now a burning issue. To stop Britain burning come to the CPBMM meeting to discuss this topic. 'The US Occupation of Britain' is the title of our meeting on Friday July 1st, 7.30pm at the Bellman Bookshop. Below - another face of the opposition.

Photos: The Worker.



theless, Health Service managers have now been instructed to invite tenders for a range of services presently provided by NHS staff. There is opposition to this move at all levels. Health Service staff are called on to make "efficiency" savings and to provide a cost effective service when it is hard to provide any

service at all under the constant pressure of shortage of funds. Private contractors suffer no such burden. Able to pay lower (yes, lower!) wages than the NHS, private firms cannot provide the same standard of service. Cheaper for Thatcher, of course, but dangerously expensive for the rest of us.

Mastersingers take a break

RESOLUTE action by the members of the Scottish Opera orchestra last week has forced their management into negotiations and highlighted the chronic starvation of the Arts under the Thatcher government. A work-to-rule, backed by the Musician's Union (whose closed-shop policy operates throughout the country) brought about the cancellation of the Third Act of Wagner's Mastersingers at the Edinburgh Playhouse after the interval, extended for an hour, had allowed the players to discuss and vote on implementing the walk-out. Earlier in the week the management, warned that the orchestra would work no more than the

usual three hour session (Wagner's comedy lasts nearly six hours), ignored the threat and stuck to their offer of a mere 2.5% increase (one which, incidentally, other unions involved with the opera had accepted.)

With the Scottish Arts Council (not yet allowed to have become a mouthpiece of Thatcher's government in the mould of the University Grants Commission) throwing its efforts behind the attempts to save Scottish Opera and spread its activities, the action will in the end raise standards and morale and pinpoint the source of the chronic decline - Thatcher's continued attack on our culture.

A foul act of murder

CHURCH BELLS in Soweto tolled before dawn last Thursday in sympathy for three African National Congress members who were hanged by the South African Government. Treason was the charge: fighting for freedom their act.

A mother said of her son, one of the three, 'Go well my son, I love you. I am proud of you because you're to die for your people. You must know that the struggle will not end even after your death'.

The murders by hanging in-

cited world outrage at the fact that ANC fighters are not granted prisoner of war status and a white man who beat a black man to death has merely to spend some of his weekends in prison. This odious regime is supported by Dennis Thatcher who urges that we continue to play sport there.

While the black majority of 21 million are oppressed by loathsome apartheid, heroes of the ANC fight for the freedom and dignity of their people. We must not forget them.

Shipyards to be occupied

BRITISH Shipbuilding employers must have heaved a sigh of relief when Thatcher's election notice gave them the opportunity to postpone the meeting fixed for 25 May with the Shipbuilding workers National Committee.

The decision by shipbuilding workers to occupy their whole industry to prevent any further redundancies or closures had forced the employers to agree to a negotiating meeting on the question of the future of jobs and yards in the industry.

Meanwhile the shipbuilding workers are getting on with their practical plans for occupation by making contacts with unions outside the industry and setting up committees to advise members

on rent and rate claims and DISS payments during such a nation-wide industrial action as that planned.

This kind of solidarity is the bastion of working class resistance against the attacks of British capitalism.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

London Summer Series

Fri. 24 June, 7.30 p.m.
"Britain's Economy - What Future?"

Fri. 1 July, 7.30 p.m.
"The US Occupation of Britain"

All meetings held at the Bellman Bookshop, Fortress Road, London NW5.