

DERBY AGITATOR

free fortnightly ANARCHIST newsheet

ISSUE NO. 1. 17.8.84.



THE MINERS FIGHT IS EVERYONES FIGHT!



The Tories have tried to beat the miners back to work, riot police, cavalry charges, road blocks, mass arrests, kangaroo courts, phone tapping and who knows what ever else. They have tried an orchestrated propaganda campaign

to try and con the miners back, talk of Ballot's with the help of Labour leader Neil Kinnock, personnel letters & threats, T.V. and press distortion, bribes and paying scabs and as this was'nt enough they are trying to starve the miners back, they've cut social security payments, harrasment of street collections and so on, but the miners are still fighting on.

The Tories are trying to slash 20,000 miners jobs and that would be just the begining, they say pits are uneconomic, this is their way of saying put profits before people, and why should

workers pay for the crisis of the Bosses system, but no doubt the Tories real aim is to smash the organised power of the mineworkers union which is one of the strongest working class organisation's and if they succeeded this would be the green light to screw even harder the rest of the working class, if they can beat the miners they can beat us all.

Also with the destruction of the mining industry that would open up the way for the expansion of the nuclear power industry (which got helped along by left winger Tony Benn when he was energy secretary under the last Labour goverment) with the danger of radidation leaks and it just so happens that Uranium waste from the plants can be used towards making nuclear bomb's, also the workforce in these plants is small unorganised and thus easy to dictate to.

The Question of a ballot you still here people talking about, well the miners have been voting with their feet for months, the vast majority of miners are on strike and are fighting to save job's and whole mining communities while the Scabs with the i'm alright Jack attitude are scabbing.

Why did'nt the Tories before they started the strike, hold a ballot and say do you want 20,000 job lesses vote yes or no, the vast majority of miners would have said no in fact 99% would say no, you always get the one scab who falls for Tory propaganda, then the Tories should have withdrawn their pit closure plan. It is worth noting that does a man have the right to secretly put a cross on a bit of paper and vote another man out of a job, is that working class democracy.

The miners need the support and solidarity of every employed worker, housewives, youth, students and the unemployed, Remember if the miners lose we all lose.

footnote: The Tories have so far spent more money trying to smash the miners than they did on their Falklands war, Thatcher calls the miners the enemy within, lets show her who our enemy is!



Editorial

Welcome to the first issue of the Agitator, it's aim is to spread revolutionary class struggle Anarchist, Anarcho-syndicalist and Libertarian views and to act as a forum of news of working class struggles in Derby also nationally and whenever possible internationally.

You will realise that a local fortnightly newsheet is limited in what coverage it can give.

Let me state that the aim of this newsheet is definitely not to put out a correct line which you are expected to go home and learn word perfect and then go around and parrot it off to anyone who you can get to listen to you and generally bore and confuse them.

Why is this newsheet free, their are two reasons really, first of all i didn't want to go around nagging people to buy it, i think there is already enough varieties of paper sellers knocking around and the main reason to be honest is who in the hell would part with money to get this fortnightly scrap of paper.

One of the main problems of the Agitator is that one person compiles, edits and does everything else, am i the only person in Derby with these political type of views, the eventual aim is to form a collective to bring out the agitator.

At the time of writing i don't know what the cost of printing this newsheet will be, but i hope to get about 200 printed, hopefully they will be passed around meaning more than 200 people will read it, also any small donation's to help cover printing costs will be greatly received.

Issue no.2 will be out on 31.8.84 hopefully forum bookshop will stock it or if you are desperate send 60p for 5 second class stamps and i'll send the next 5 issues through the post.

As stated this is a fortnightly newsheet and i will do my best to bring it out fortnightly, the only circumstances where i can foresee difficulties would be due to lack of cash, a revolution, getting locked up or taking a week off to celebrate a miners victory.

News, Views, letters & comment are most welcome, i will try to print most things, if you want a reply please enclose S.A.E. write to: Derby A, 39 Denbigh st, Chaddesden, Derby.

RAIL DEMO



Up to 1,000 railworkers from all round the country and supporters marched through Derby last Fri. (10.8.84) against threats of joblosses, the march ended with a rally in Derby market place.

Earlier in the morning pickets were mounted outside entrances to all Derby railshops, the responce was quite good although some workers crossed the picketlines-scabs!

At the rally in the market place among the speakers on the platform was Derby's very own "stab you in the back" Mick Walker(sic) leader of the Labour city council, it was only a month or so ago that Walker and his crony councilor Laxton were trying to bash Thatcher style, Derby city Refuse Workers. Walker should have been kicked off the platform.

Another blackspot to the day was at the assemble point for the march, this marschall with a loudhailer told miners who had come down to show their support to go to the back of the demo, he thanked them for their support but said this was a railworkers demo, we can do without this sort of sectionalism workers from different industries should be united, the miners should have led the march, after all they are the ones who are at the forefront of the fight against job-losses and closures. footnote: How many varieties of papersellers did you spot on the demo - answers on a postcard to..... I nearly got caught by a R.C.P'er (sic)



the rally in the market place

Derby Miners Support Group hold weekly collections for the miners every sat. on Albion st. on the slope up to the eagle centre, so far they have collected up to a thousand quid, more collectors are needed so why dont you go along also organising meetings are held every week.



WISE UP!
ORGANISE
MUTUAL AID

HINDLES GEARS

Part of the union (originally known as union maid reworked by the strawbs) and year and abit are the two sides of this benefit single in aid of the striking workers from hindle gears in Bradford. Since march 1983 (over 15 months) the 22 strikers have been picketing. They have joined forces with local musicians to publicise the situation and continuing battle. The record (price £2 - that includes post and packaging) and further info. on the strike from: Stuart Firth, 21 Throxenby Way, Bradford BD14 6E2.

THE MINERS' FIGHT IS YOUR FIGHT

SOLIDARITY RALLY

SPEAKERS:

PETER HEATHFIELD - General Secretary NUM
JEAN MILLER - Women Against Pit Closures
DAVID BOOKBINDER - Leader Derbyshire County Council
ROGER SMITH - President, Derby Trades Council

at

**The West Indian Community Centre,
Carrington St (behind Queens hall),
Derby**

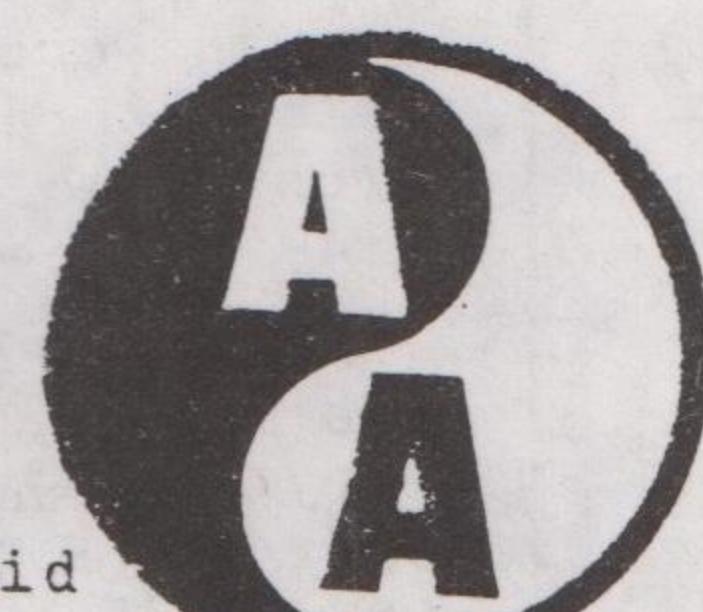
7-30, Weds, August 22nd

ORGANISED BY DERBY MINERS SUPPORT GROUP

Printed by DERBY CO-OPERATIVE PRESS A Workers Co-operative (TU) Tel. 38

The support group held their second benefit gig on 13.8.84 at the Blue Note club, saddler gate, bands what appeared were from Derby Catina Twist and from Nottingham Visible Targets also local rant poet Pete Ramskill read out some poems. Their was quite a large crowd and the night was a sucess. Up yours Magregor!

ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT (DERBY)



A Derby branch of the Anti - Apartheid Movement has been formed for more details Tel. 383387 or 368039.

All spelling mistakes in this issue is a trotskyist plot!

scab scab scab

A local scab firm.
FREIGHT INTERNATIONAL-BFI-
Trent Lane, Castle Donington,
Derbyshire. TELEPHONE DERBY -
811736. (of course it is against
the law to harass them)

BERNI FREE ENTERPRISE INNS.

Berni Inns a Long Eaton restaurant which has temporary closed down for new decor, it has laid off its women workers and said it will only remploy those who could fit in to a size 14 outfit, just another sick example of free enterprise capitalist style. Wouldnt it be ironic if the women workers stuck together and all turned up on opening day wearing size 20 outfits!

LATEST: Unions are planning a one day national picket of the Berni Inns establishments.

ANARCHIST PUBLICATIONS

BLACK FLAG, national fortnightly paper - newsbulleten. 30p or so. Its on sale in Forum Bookshop.

HUNGARIAN WORKERS REVOLUTION

Kulak Press (London & Doncaster) have republished the Syndicalist Workers Federation pamphlet of 1957. The Hungarian Revolution was a shot which went the length and breadth of the post-war Stalinist empire. This short but useful introduction to a subject of great historical interest is also an inspiration for the struggles that are to come. An introduction by Terry Liddle begins this excellent work. Its 20 pages A4 folded format. 80p from SYAG, PO Box 96, Doncaster DN4 0QU OR Volya, 83 Gregory Crescent, Eltham, London SE9 5RZ

DIRECT ACTION NO. 17

Large A3 format. 20p (plus postage). Contains reports on the miners strike. Cuba today, the Barking Hospital strike plus lots more. 8 pages. Box DAM, 59 Cookridge St, Leeds LS2 3AW

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A non anarchist paper that is worth a mention is the bi-monthly CITY ISSUES thou its views differ somewhat from this rag it is worth getting caus it is produced by ordinary people coming together to produce something, it is on sale now from forum bookshop price 25p.

MAXWELL MONEY & MANURE!

Ian Maxwell little sonny of big daddy Robert union busting Maxwell has took control of Derby County for a mere $\frac{1}{2}$ a million! no doubt daddy lent him the doe. Now people like them don't give a damn about football to them its a potential money making commodity, Derby County div.4 here you come, heres hoping (not really). Now Maxwell always brags about his rags to riches climb, its always put across that anyone can make it, just look at Maxwell he came from a working class background, but that's a con, everyone can't make it, theirs only room at the top for a selected few, but its enough to keep the myth going.

If you want to try to make it to the top here are a few tips, a sharp knife and quick reflexes - so that you can stab any competition in the back before they can get you, a bag of manure - so that you can crap on your workforce and it does help if you can lie, cheat and generally be a bastard also remember to wear your blind fold so that you never see the suffering you caus working class people. p.s. Robert Maxwell used to be a Labour M.P. footnote: Robert Maxwell recently required the Mirror newspaper group, a snip at 10 million and the logo of his paper is Forward With Britain, why is it then his business empire is registered in Liechtenstein, the tax haven duchy in Europe.

NOT THE NINE O'CLOCK NEWS

TAKING THE BISCUIT

When clerical staff were dispatching McGregor's latest begging note some heartless sod put a biscuit in the envelope containing the letter. Thinking of hungry miners perhaps? The NCB Barnsley area were not amused, neither are the miners who got the biscuit and they are now searching for the culprits.

GREENHAM AND MINERS

On Tuesday 24th July at Port Talbot, South Wales, Greenham Common Women joined the 200 women's support group members and 300 miners who tried to stop lorry supplies of coke to Llanwern Steel works. Grass verges were set on fire billowing smoke across the M4 motorway and pickets sat in the road. Police arrested 34 after much struggling to clear the way for the scab drivers lorries.



As pickets flee in panic, the mounted policeman truncheons them from behind, at the same time appearing to crush another miner, whose arms are just visible in front of the horse, against the van.

CONVOYS AND BLOCKADES

500 miners blockaded the Humber Bridge after cops stopped them joining pickets at Scunthorpe. Pickets tried to arrive at 5.30 am and were stopped. At 7am 150 cars drove up to the North end Humber-Bridge toll booths and refused to pay. Meanwhile at the Southern end more cars stopped and cop cars had their windows smashed and were then turned over. 9am most of the miners drove off, no arrests a good one-off tactic.

WITNESS EXPENSES

On top of a £90 fine for 'threatening behaviour' a Cortonwood miner has been ordered to pay £230 expenses for two Surrey cops to travel to Mansfield and persecute, oops Prosecute him. With his wife and two children he gets £24 a week from the Social 'Security'... £90 and £50 awards to pay for fares & lunches for cops are the going rate. Bail conditions banning miners from demonstrating and picketing are very common as is compulsory photographing after arrest.

PROFITS FOR SOME

The Dowty Group who make profits from workers who make coal mining machinery have just announced a £36.5 million profit. To cover themselves Director Sir Robert Hunt has expanded with aerospace and electronics divisions.

Cops Stop collectors

In an attempt to clamp down on door to door food collectors Welsh cops in Abernant, S. Wales stopped 4 miners saying that a "danger from break-ins at houses" existed. Why let the cops get away with it, support your local miners/collectors!

