

CLASS FIGHTER

PAPER OF THE NATIONAL LEFT-WING YOUTH MOVEMENT

Inside: UB40

THIS MONTH'S ISSUE....

UB 40 give Class Fighter the benefit of their thoughts on riots, unemployment and the high cost of gig tickets...Page 4.

Official Tory Government Job Offer

No. 3 March 1982 10p

WANTED: SLAVES!



Fascist violence: horrific report from Chapel Market, London and how the local ANL has countered the threat.....Centre Pages.



Rape: Some questions. Will women ever be free of the threat of male violence?Page 8.

Can't afford to employ more people? You can now under the new Young Workers Scheme.



If you have always wanted to exploit young people but never been able to persuade them to work for rock bottom wages, we can help.

Under our new scheme, Social Security snoopers and Unemployment Benefit heavies will press-gang any numbers of young workers into your factory – and pay you, yes you, to keep their wages low!

The youth trapped by our scheme will be under 18 and in their first year of employment – with no experience of unions and ripe for maximum exploitation.

After that, the meaner you can be, the more you win out! We will give you only £7.50 a week for each youth you pay between £40 -45 a week.

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So, for example if you get one to work for £15, you could get a worker for nothing! Even if you pay £25, each youth only costs you £10.

Cash in on our scheme – and pocket the difference!

The scheme is open to firms of any size in Great Britain except public services and domestic households. It gives unscrupulous employers a golden opportunity to screw as many young workers as they want at a price they can afford!

We can't guarantee that all the youth that arrive will be as slick, white, middle class and male as the one in our picture; you may have to put up with a few more scruffy young working class women or black youth. But isn't it worth a gamble?

Find out more by sending off for our free leaflet to your local Slave Centre, Unemployment Office or Careers Scrapyard!

Please send me your free leaflet giving full details of the Young Workers Scheme, and an application form.

Name _____

Position in Company _____

Number of Employees _____

Company _____

Address _____

OB317/1

Post to:- Shelagh Molloy,
Young Workers Scheme,
P.O. Box 702 London SW20 8SZ



YOUNG WORKERS SCHEME
Department of Labour DE

YOUNG? UNEMPLOYED? Want a job? Well, here you are. 40 hours a week, 37½ p an hour, [that's £15 a week], three weeks holiday a year, repetitive, boring work and just in case you can't make your mind up... we'll stop your dole money if you refuse.

That's what Norman Tebbit is asking of Britain's youth. Are you going to stand for it?

Tebbit, the man who thinks a bike marathon of 4 million people will solve the unemployment problem, has been appointed by Thatcher to replace the 'wet', James Prior, to run the 'Unemployment Department'.

His aim is to turn the young unemployed into a sea of compulsory cheap labour. This is what his new scheme means:

- ★ £15 a week for school leavers, £25 for 17-18 year olds.
- ★ An end to your dole money if you refuse to go on this slave labour scheme.
- ★ The possibility of being packed off to a work rehabilitation centre, out in the country, with no chance of getting home.
- ★ Having much less chance of getting a real job than you have even now. Employers would much rather take on cheap labour than fully paid workers.

For Tebbit this is only the beginning; he's got a lot more up his sleeve. If we allow this to go through, there will be wage cuts for the whole working class. This scheme is part of a plan by the Tories to defeat the working class.

It affects everyone, 16-18 year olds as the direct victims, and all other workers, including the older unemployed, who will find there is no employer prepared to take on labour at union rates. Already YOPs schemes have resulted in workers being sacked and replaced by cheap labour.

So it's not just a fight for YOPs workers and the young unemployed - the whole labour movement has to be involved.

We must organise to get YOPs workers into the unions, not to defend the present schemes, but to fight for trade union rates and rights, and better conditions. We should demand a guaranteed job for all Yops workers, that there is free travel to and from work. But YOPs or any other cheap labour scheme is no answer to unemployment.

The TUC should get up off its knees and refuse to support this cheap labour scheme. That means mobilising workers against the scheme as well as fighting for a real alternative to the dole queues for the thousands of unemployed youth. We need useful jobs with real wages!

The national YOPs strike and lobby of Parliament on February 25th can only be seen as the start of this action. Now we've begun to show our strength, we must pile the pressure on.

OPINION !!!!???

OPINION: a new column for 'opinionated' Class Fighters. This month, - Why should skilled workers get paid more?Page 7.



A message from the Labour Committee on Ireland's new Youth Officer Page 6.

JOIN THE LABOUR PARTY
YOUNG SOCIALISTS!

**Become
a Class
Fighter!**

CUTS

STAMP OUT APATHY!

CONTRARY to the popular myth that our universities and polytechnics are hives of revolutionary political activity, I have found that the overwhelming feeling throughout my particular poly (Kingston) is apathy.

Apart from a handful of 'trendy' left-wingers, the majority of students cannot be bothered with politics.

Consciousness-raising is a very difficult enterprise! — mainly because of the huge proportion of middle class students, quite content to casually observe the continuing onslaught on the living standards of the working class.

Even the proposed cutting in student grants causes little more than murmurs of disapproval.

These students know that the legislation will mean that 'Mummy and Daddy' will have to dig a little deeper into their pockets, but they do not see that it also constitutes a conscious effort on the part of the Tory government to further exclude working class youth from going on to HE, as the parents of working class children will no longer be able to afford to send their children to university or polytechnic.

This plan of the Tories, in the long run, leads to the continuing availability of factory or dole fodder, and prevents the development of class consciousness that should occur in Higher Education.

realise, though, is that this legislation will result in even more working class youth on the dole or in cheap labour schemes, and increasing hatred of the system, and that these youth, given the support of our movement, will turn increasingly to the politics of the revolutionary left.

On our part we must ensure that these youth are not turned in any other direction through distrust of the Labour Party whom they see as just as bad as the SDP or Tories.

Despite my gloomy opinion of student politics it is vital to work within NOLS and the NUS to develop the left. It is pointless and dangerous to exclude students from a revolutionary framework.

Many working class students and a few honest middle class students, although left, are unsure in their beliefs and, with help, can channel their efforts along the correct lines into revolutionary politics.

This should be done through local events such as fighting the grant legislation and organising sit-ins throughout the country. The role of youth who are already politically active should be to encourage students and not be sectarian towards them.

It is a difficult task but one that must be done if we are to achieve our aims.

AL SYRETT
(Kingston NOLS)

What the Tories do not



TRANSPORT

LAST MAY, a million Londoners voted for cheap fares in the GLC elections. Now a bunch of judges, the Law Lords, have decided that they're illegal.

Double

This means fares will double on March 21st. Services will be cut by 25%. Seven tube stations will close immediately. Many night buses will be scrapped. One in five buses won't run, so we'll have to wait longer for fewer buses. Tubes will close earlier at night, and there will be 5,000 sackings on London transport.

The judges declare that it's illegal to run a public transport system that the working class can afford to use, judges don't use buses or tubes! Unemployed youth do though and it's us who will be particularly affected along with old people.

Thanks to Ken Livingstone and the GLC's cheap fares, it is much easier to get around London. You can afford the fares. You can go and try to look for jobs, go to meetings and demonstrations, or just go and see friends. Now we won't even be able to go out at night as there won't be much chance of getting home.

Signatures

The Fares Fight campaign organised by the GLC has been collecting signatures outside tube stations and bus queues, holding meetings and planning a lobby of Parliament on March 11th.

On March 13th there will be a rally outside County Hall. If this doesn't force the law lords to change their minds, not a very likely event unless we have all-out strike action from the London Transport unions, then some councillors on the GLC are planning a 'Can't Pay, Won't Pay' campaign.

This involves passengers on the tubes and buses refusing to pay the increased fare, but paying the old fare and handing over their name and address to the conductor with their reason for refusing to pay.

Support

For this campaign to be successful we'll need to win the support of the ticket sellers on the buses and tubes with their union backing them.

Workers at Chalk Farm bus garage have already decided to collect only 10p fares after March 21st. That, along with all-out strike action on London Transport is the only way to make the judges think again.

DON'T FORGET THE LOBBY OF PARLIAMENT MARCH 11th.

'RECREATION FOR THE UNEMPLOYED'

THE GOVERNMENT no longer seems happy simply to smash the education system by massive cuts alone. Their latest attack is on students relying on Social Security. They are trying to force them out of education by threatening to stop their dole money.

After months of hopelessly looking for work, many unemployed youth saw their only chance of escape as being to go back to college and trying to improve their chances of getting a job.

For the last ten years the unemployed have been able to attend college for up to 21 hours without it prejudicing their supplementary benefit.

But when it came round to filing in the examination forms many of us found that the £20 we'd spent on text books and stationary had been wasted. How could we find up to £50 to pay exam fees?

We were faced with a choice. Get the money off our parents (who are often just as badly off), we could leave college without taking the exam or we could fight back.

So we in the student's union set to work. We contacted the Department of Health and Social Security, the Student Grants section at Leicester County Hall and the Manpower Services Commission. The MSC didn't reply. The Student Grants Section refused to pay our exam fees because we were not full time. And the DHSS informed us after much searching through the rules, that they saw further education as a 'recreation for the unemployed'!!!

The Government's attitude to unemployed students is also highlighted

in a confidential circular to Newcastle DHSS. This said that payments to the majority of voluntary students should be stopped. This should be done by claiming that the students were working more than 21 hours including private study time, or that they were not looking for a job. This letter will no doubt be sent to other DHSS's soon.

The Tories are clamping down. When levels of youth unemployment were lower, the Government considered it acceptable for the unemployed to receive part-time education. Now that youth unemployment has risen steeply and more youth have taken advantage of the opportunity of part-time education on the dole the Tories have decided that this is unacceptable - they might need to employ more lecturers!

Our student union churned out letters to bodies who might just fill in the gap. The Leicestershire Area of the NUS has been contacted to co-ordinate a campaign to fight for the rights of part-time students. We are organising a meeting of all unemployed students at our college from which we hope to form an action committee. We are proposing marches and lobbies of County Hall and the DHSS.

The Tories find it easier to make cuts in this way through smaller FE colleges where the students aren't well-organised and there often isn't an effective union. So it is absolutely vital that we get the support of the bigger student unions with better facilities.

Judy Goss,
Charles Keene FE
College, Leicester.



TORY CONTROLLED Buckinghamshire County Council are planning drastic education cuts. The recommendations on how to reduce spending are taking place in sub-committees which are not open to the public.

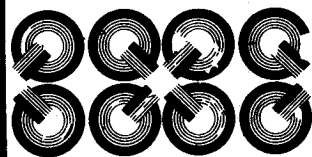
Labour councillors who have protested are denounced as 'GLC-type Marxists' by Tory councillors!!

Aylesbury LPYS organised a day of action and a petition against the cuts in which over 30 students

took strike action. The council was lobbied and a petition presented with over 500 people had signed calling for a halt to any education cuts.

But with the Tory majority on the council, the cuts will only be stopped if the public sector unions join with the school students, college students and the LPYS in organising direct action to defeat the Tories.

Andrew MacDonald,
Chairperson, Aylesbury YS.



NUS Week

of Action

THE NATIONAL Union of Students has called a week of action in early March against the government's plans for a 4% limit on grants increases.

Although this does not affect that many of the NUS membership as about 70% of FE technical college students don't get grants, it still deserves our support. Instead of fighting for a grant for all, or for a general week of action against the cuts, the NUS leadership will use this week as an excuse for no other action on cuts.

At the last NUS conference, the Left Alliance leadership helped defeat a motion calling for direct action against the cuts, such as using occupations.

Despite these 'leaders' many students have taken action against the cuts. The London Student Organisation has been in the forefront in organising support for direct action. The occupations at the Polytechnic of Central London and other smaller colleges such as Southall Tech, point the real way forward. The large demonstrations against the cuts show that there is a willingness to fight back when adequate leadership is given.

We should build for the NUS week of action if we want to build a genuine revolutionary socialist leadership in NUS.

A step in this direction is the setting up of the magazine 'London Call-

ing' produced by socialist students in London's FE's. This could be done to co-ordinate action in other areas.

The week of action lasts from 1st -5th March. On the Monday, a national lobby of Parliament is planned and walk-outs of each sector have been called. Universities (Mon) Polys (tues) and Techs and FE's (Wed).

Demonstrations

On the Friday two national demonstrations have been called, one in London and one in Glasgow.

All Class Fighter supporters should organise for these events and plan activities to help get the message across to the Tories.

Neil James

CLASS FIGHTER Editorial

EVERY DAY we see more attacks on youth from the Tories; cheap labour, the growing certainty that we won't be getting a job when we leave school, the increase in police harassment and the withering away of the education system.

These attacks are taking place all over the bosses' world. In Ireland, there's mass unemployment, repression from the British army of occupation; West Germany, a massive housing shortage, thousands of homeless youth and even the Americans who we were brought up to envy their high living standards, face mass unemployment and the threat of being conscripted into the army to put down the workers and peasants of Central America.

These attacks are not being made just because the bosses are nasty and don't like us. The reason is that their system is in a right mess. In fact, its bankrupt.

They think they can get out of the mess, not by spending their millions, but by putting down the working class. They want to make us accept unemployment and cheap labour schemes to get their rotten system 'back on its feet'.

But while these attacks go on, there is a courageous fightback. There were the riots last year, triggered off by the Tories attempts to 'swamp' high crime areas with police; there's the growth of CND and particularly the youth section, refusing to accept the bosses' barbarous 'future'. And there's the youth who have fought back in Ireland, giving their lives to get the British out.

But how many of these fights have been directed towards solving once and for all the problems of the working class, by doing away with the bosses' system and establishing socialism?

The riots turned out to be a few weeks of anger answered by locking us up or finig us. YCND likewise will fail unless the youth in that campaign are won to the broader fight for socialism which goes hand in hand with building a mass CND.

Why haven't we got a mass revolutionary youth movement? The answer to that question lies in the leadership of the labour movement. We argue that youth must be a part of the labour movement, that's why we're a part of the Labour Party Young Socialists. But many young people ask 'Why should I be part of the labour movement? What's it done for me?'

The truth is that the leadership of the trade unions, the TUC and the leadership of the Labour Party are doing nothing for us. The picture most of us have of the labour movement isn't one of socialists determined to get rid of capitalism, but more one of the stooges that want to change the bosses' system little by little. They spend most of their time holding back any action that threatens capitalism.

The TUC argue against militant action to kick out the Tories. Len Murray, TUC General Secretary, has 'asked' Geoffrey Howe, Tory hatchet man at the Treasury, for a 'budget of hope'. In return for this 'budget of hope', Murray has offered an incomes policy. Mr Murray, the democrat, has gone above the heads of the trade union rank and file who are opposed to incomes policy (even under a Labour government).

And if the Tories decide to take no notice of the poor grovelling Murray? Poor Len pleads 'If you ignore us, then you also turn your backs on those people who desperately want to work but are being denied the chance to do so by your policies of despair'. What a threat!

And the Labour Party leadership? Their alternative is to wait till the next general election, while they vote against the Tories in Parliament and call them names. Anyonw who opposes this policy which means we sit back and let the Tories smash us up is against 'Parliamentary democracy' like Peter Tatchell. And they threaten to close the LPYS down if we don't toe the line.

Well, Messrs Murray and Foot, we are different from you. We want socialism and we are not prepared to grovel to the bosses. We are not prepared to be lead into defeat by the likes of you. The riots last year and the growing numbers of youth on the dole queues are looking for answers and a fightback. So we'll fight in the labour movement for democracy and accountability and new leaders. That process has already started in the Labour Party and that's what you're so frightened of.

We have an answer to the witch-hunts - the fight for socialism. And we'll fight for that, to turn the LPYS into a mass revolutionary youth movement that will offer youth a real alternative to the misery of the bosses' system.

DAVE CURTIS, ex-YOPster, from Wallasey YS, is standing as the Class Fighter candidate for YS representative on Labour's National Executive Committee. Invite him to speak at your YS branch. Write to BM BOX 5277 London WC1, for copies of his election address.



CLASS FIGHTER



Sid gets vicious

A young worker from the NUR looks at flexible rosters.

LAST SUMMER a pay agreement was reached by Sid Weighell and the British Rail Board (BRB). This meant a 9% immediate increase to be followed by a further increase of 3% in January '82 and the introduction of 'flexible rosters'.

There was no ballot or sounding of the members' feelings in the NUR. The NUR Executive and Weighell just decided on behalf of thousands of rail workers. This effectively ripped up a work practice of sixty years standing.

As far as Weighell is concerned, the 'flexible rostering' is a stamp that's already sealed, but to a great many rail workers this will mean even more redundancies and insocial working hours than we have at present. On January 22nd some guards defied the union officials and walked off the job.

In NUR branch meetings up and down the country, resolutions are being passed condemning Weighell and the Executive for signing the agreement and calling for fresh elections.

We've seen the anger of the train drivers who weren't paid their 3% at the beginning of this year. There is no doubt that this was an attempt by the BR Board to smash up the drivers' union, ASLEF. But that has failed as even Lord McCarthy had to come out in favour of the drivers getting their money. The fight is now on to defeat the 'flexible rosters'. This affects all rail workers.

ASLEF and NUR members need to unite and strike, if necessary, to throw out the 'flexible rosters' that Weighell's agreed to for us behind our backs.

POLAND: The winter is yours but the spring will be OURS!!



Any idea that the military regime in Poland is going to let up is loony.

On February 19th, Jerzy Urban, a Polish government spokesman, threatened that 'sinister slogans' encouraging resistance to martial law could lead to even tighter military rule. In other words, 'When we knock you down, stay down or we'll really put the boot in.'

This sinister slogan is one that has been appearing on walls and in leaflets all over Poland: 'The winter is yours, but the spring will be ours.'

Urban says, 'Martial law had corked the imp inside the bottle' and 'if the slogan was put into effect in any form whatsoever, the cork is bound to be pressed

in deeper and harder'. The authorities had already put on a big show the previous week by arresting 3500 people and fining thousands of others for breaking the curfew.

The fence straddlers in the labour movement in Britain who dredge up any excuse not to come out in solidarity with Solidarity have been hoping for a let up in the military regime so they can sleep soundly at night in the knowledge that Jaruzelski is getting things back to normal.

The problem for them is that the Polish working class aren't taking the repression lying down. These people in Britain make a big thing of supporting solidarity with Turkish workers, but not Polish.

They 'don't want to be seen on the same side as Reagan or Thatcher'. Or they complain that trade union rights are under attack in Britain too. Funnily enough they never seem to get round to doing much about Tebbit and his union-baiting laws either.

The struggle in Poland is against the bureaucracy and the military and must be supported. Yet it has brought out some of the most sickening hypocrisy I've heard for a long time.

There should be no conditions on our support for Polish workers. Don't be wary of taking on the arguments. What better time to show up Reagan and Thatcher's crocodile tears over Polish workers?

Chris Hosea

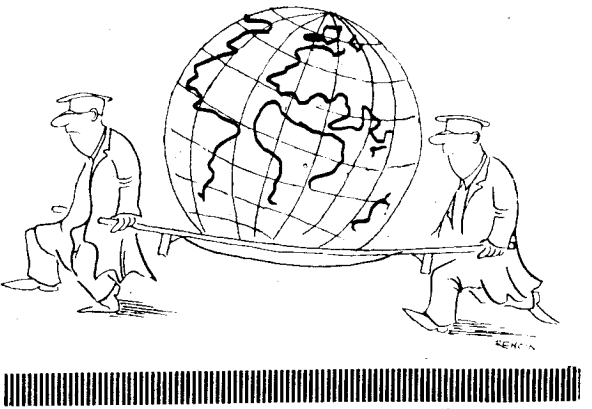
Where we stand

1. Build a mass campaigning socialist youth movement.
2. Build the National Union of School Students! We will fight to win support for school students in the unions, YSs, and in the National Union of Students.
3. Turn the Labour Party Young Socialists out to industrial workers' struggles.
4. Fight for democracy in the Labour Party and in the Young Socialists. The National Committee should be elected from the YS Conference. No extended speaking time at YS Conference for National Committee members. Equal speaking time for different viewpoints in the YS. 'Socialist Youth' to carry open debate and discussion.
5. Full union rights for the unemployed. Unionise the YOP cheap labour schemes. For full trade union rates and rights on YOPs. Cut the hours, not the jobs. Build an unemployed workers' movement.
6. Fight for the YS to take a lead in the fight for women's and gay liberation. Campaign against sexism in the labour movement and in the YS to make it possible for women and gays to play a full and equal part in the labour movement. For a woman's right to work. No discrimination on the basis of sex or sexuality.
7. Unilateral nuclear disarmament and withdrawal from NATO. Build CND. Fight to draw youth from CND into the struggle for socialist policies in the labour movement. The war drive comes from imperialism! Defend the Soviet Union.

8. Troops out of Ireland now! Political status for Republican prisoners. Repeal the Prevention of Terrorism Act. Support the Labour Committee on Ireland. Support all actions in solidarity with the anti-imperialist struggle in the North of Ireland.

9. Fight racism. Purge racists from all positions in the labour movement. Organise to drive fascists off the streets. For united black and white labour movement defence squads. Build labour movement support for black self-defence — including against the racism and anti working class brutality of the police.

10. Fight for genuine rank and file control of the whole labour movement — unions, Labour Party, YS. Fight for a workers' government — based on and under the control of the labour movement — to break the economic, military and state power of the ruling class. Never again a Labour Government like the last one!



FASCIST VIOLENCE

Fascists in London have been trying to establish Chapel Market, in Islington as their sales pitch for several years. Everton Williams charts the growth of fascist violence and describes the fight of the local ANL to drive them out.

THE PAST year has seen a sharp increase in street violence from racist and nazi groups. Left-wing and community book shops, as well as individual activists have come in for greater attention.

Nationally last year saw about 5,000 racially motivated attacks, over 100 racist arson attacks, and 26 people were killed. Organised fascist groups are implicated in most of these.

While the Anti Nazi League (ANL) has disappeared as a mass mobilising force on a national scale, many local ANL groups and campaigns against racism and fascism continue the fight.

The struggle for Chapel Market in Islington, North London is probably the longest, and most violent, of local campaigns. It is also important for learning the lessons, and problems, in building an effective local anti-fascist campaign. And it shows the need to re-build a national movement.

The Nazis interest in Chapel, one of London's biggest street markets, began in July 1980. Their attempted paper sale failed, as did another later on in October of that year. This time they tried to attack socialist paper sellers, but they were chased off.

The nazis tried to establish a regular sale, but every week a large group of Islington ANL supporters appeared to leaflet the

market and counter nazi propaganda.

Islington ANL is supported by most local trade unions and labour party branches. It has a group of activists from most of the local political and community groups. It also consistently produces new leaflets and initiatives. Support, active and sympathetic, has grown considerably over the years.

The nazis, frustrated by the local ANL, began a systematic campaign of violence aimed at intimidating the opposition.

In April, 1981 ANL members were attacked, beaten up and one supporter was hospitalised.

In May, 1981, a sixty-strong nazi hit squad attacked ANL supporters after leafletting.

Hit-list

Next, the local NF newspaper, Islington Press, started to publish a local hit list. This included a socialist bookshop and a community press. Following this, a sales woman in the shop was attacked and had her skull fractured. A week later the community press was destroyed in an arson attack.

The responsibility for these was claimed by 'SS Death's Head Legion' and the nazi 'Legion 48'.

In July, 1981 the local NF and NewNF decided to work together. On the 26th July a joint NF and NNF hit squad launched

an attack on ANL leafletters, using sharpened poles. Two NFers were charged with actual bodily harm and three with obstruction. All were later acquitted!

An indication of the importance of Chapel to the fascists has been the involvement of local nazi leading light, Graham Johns (NF North West London organiser).

On 16th August, the most vicious attack to date took place. About 50 nazis took part in a military-style assault on a dozen ANL leafletters. A barrage of bricks, followed up with bottles and iron bars, severely injured several ANLers and one was kicked unconscious. It was only the intervention of local shoppers that saved his life.

However, even this did not stop the dedicated and

very brave ANL group from continuing their leafletting and campaigning among local people. For one ANL activist, fighting fascists is a family tradition. Her dad fought the Moseley blackshirts at the infamous 1934 Olympia rally and was involved in the battle of Cable Street, when the fascists were kicked out of the East end in the '30's.

The week after that attack, a 5-strong nazi gang attacked the local ANL organiser's son. He was viciously assaulted - the fascists systematically carved up his face and body with a razor.

On the 23rd October an Islington ANL activist was stabbed through the lung by a nazi who regularly sells at Chapel. Although the ANL member nearly lost his life, he has continued to be active at Chapel

each week.

In November the local ANL called a local labour movement conference. It was attacked by fascists (who came from as far away as Brighton) throwing smoke bombs. But they were repelled.

The conference was a great success. It was well attended and showed the high level of support for the campaign as well as fruitfully discussing the way forward for the anti-fascist movement.

Chapel Market shows us that to oppose the fascists we must organise consistently and openly on the streets to drive them out. We must work to a greater extent I think, among the black community as well as winning the labour movement. But as Chapel Market shows, we need to organise to defend our supporters and events from attack.

The local ANL has organised many other initiatives to counter the

fascists and build the anti-fascist campaign; petitioning among shoppers, paint outs of estates with fascist graffiti, and extensive and varied leaflets throughout local schools and estates.

It is unfortunate that many socialist groups and activists have not got as involved as they could have done (in fact the local SWP has expelled people for their involvement).

Chapel offers us the hope of a much needed victory for the anti-fascist movement. The ANL has seriously cut the NF paper sales in the borough and at the last election the NF only got 50 votes.

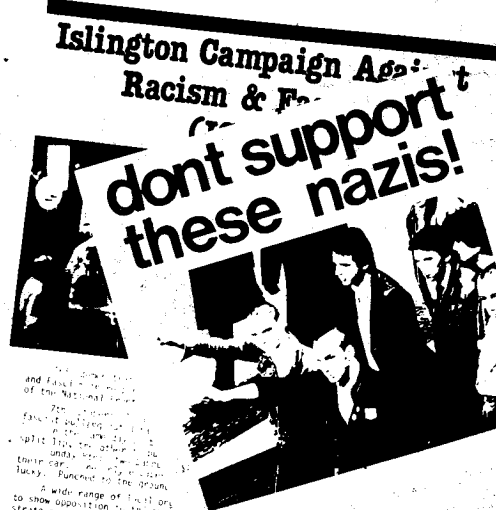
But if the nazis are to be crushed it will need the active participation of all socialist, black and trade union activists and members in Islington.

Crush

Only when these forces help and strengthen the local anti-fascist work and expand it to other areas will we be able to form the workers defence groups necessary to crush the nazis and drive them off the streets.

Anyone interested in helping should come down to Chapel Market on Sunday mornings from 10.15am. You can also write, send messages of support, donations and affiliations to the ANL group at 265 Seven Sisters Road London N4.

ISLINGTON ANTI NAZI LEAGUE
nazi violence - police silence



Graham Johns (centre) NF North West London organiser



UB 40 played in Leicester recently and a Class Fighter leaflet was handed out at the gig.

Alex Owolade, from Leicester South YS, after a long wait, was finally granted an interview.

★ Given that your songs are often about unemployment and racism, and exploitation of the 'Third World', what apart from making music do you hope to contribute?

What we hope to do and what we can do are two different things. We don't think that we'll be making any great difference at all - all we're doing is voicing our own opinions, we're not trying to give anybody any solutions.

Actually, we haven't got a song that's just about unemployment. We do make reference to it though and use lots of statistics like One in Ten. Songs like 'Present

Arms' aren't specifically about unemployment - it's about the effects of propaganda on unemployed kids. Propaganda like joining the army. But we don't aim to be spokesmen for anybody except ourselves really.

★ What's your view of racist attacks, like the killing of Satnam Gill in Coventry and the fire-bombing in Deptford.

What can I say? Its sick and sickening.

...What did you think about the riots?

I think they were about young people, not just black kids, the youth of

Britain, showing their frustration. Now white kids are starting to feel the kind of pressures that black kids have been facing for years. They can't get jobs, they're treated like second class citizens and so on.

They're hitting back at authority really, and the embodiment of authority is the police.

When we played in Bristol we made reference to the kids 'being active' there recently. But we're a band first and though our lyrics are political, we're not propaganda merchants. We're not trying to incite riots. We just reflect what's happening through our songs. If the result is that somebody goes out and riots, well...

And we support the Bradford 12 campaign.

★ Did you know that your first album when it was sold in South Africa had 'Burden of Shame' [which in my view was

the best track, as it challenged racism.], deleted?

We didn't know about that till a reporter from the magazine Time Out phoned us up and told us. That was the Graduate record company and that was the last thing they did that made

us decide to split from them.

★ Why do you charge so much for people to get in at your concerts? I know you cut prices for the unemployed, but £2.50 is still a bit expensive.

I don't think they're expensive. They're the

cheapest we can do. We can't do it for nothing!

Everyone's under the impression we're rich, but we're not. We're in this business to make a living and we don't make money on tours.

We try to keep prices down as low as possible. We're ludicrously cheap compared to other bands of our status!



LYNVAL GOLDING, ex-Special, and now with Funboy Three suffered a brutal knife attack not long ago. The incident happened in Shades night club in Coventry city centre. Three white guys picked an argument with a black guy and were making racist remarks and getting quite heavy.

LYNVAL: WITH FRIENDS MERELY STEPPED IN TO CALM THINGS DOWN: The attackers then exhibited their intentions. One lurched at Lynval and with a quick flick dealt a heavy cut across his throat. Then all three made a hasty departure.

Despite 'security' on the door, these attackers managed to get in with weapons they intended to use. The did not know who Lynval was and it was not a case of attack because he was a celebrity, as the local press tried to make out.

Shades nightclub has previously been in the news for operating the racist policy of only allowing a certain number of blacks in [thus evading any prosecution for racial discrimination]. This was

Luck



WE WONT BE SLAVES

IF YOU'RE out of work, you're under vicious attack from the Tories, but now, even if you've got a job, they're after you.

You may have seen an advert in the national newspapers promoting the new 'Young Workers' Scheme'. The Tories say this scheme is meant to create jobs for young people. It is in fact an attempt by the Tories to control the amount of wages young workers can earn in private industry.

The idea is that every employer who pays his young workers less than £40 a week, gets a £15 bonus payment every week from the Government. If he can only keep the wages down to £45 he gets a £7.50 bonus from the Tories.

This scheme has been so popular with the bosses that there have been 20,000 applications since the beginning of the year, with more pouring in at the rate of 4,000 a week!

So the next time you ask your boss for a rise, and he's benefitting out of exploiting you from the 'Young Workers' Scheme', he'll say 'Don't ask me, ask the Government'.

This is the story the Man power Services Commission tells YOPs workers and we know what their record on wage rises is!

POLICE HARRASSMENT

ON NOVEMBER 30 1981, the Woolwich Right to Work campaign organised its second march against unemployment.

The first one, on June 1st, had been a great success, with over 2,000 people on the march — mainly unemployed youth and striking school kids. This obviously upset the police, who set out to ensure that our second march would be harassed as much as possible.

At the end of October, the Greenwich Trades Council gave us the use of a shop in the middle of Woolwich to use for organising the march. The local police used to just talk in to warn us that if anyone 'got out of line', they would be ready to kick us.

The first thing we decided to do was to call school strike on the day

of the march, as we had successfully done on the previous one. This involved leafletting all the local schools.

The police visited all the schools we were leafletting and threatened to arrest any school kid turning up on the march. They also turned up on one of our morning leaflettings, asked who was the organiser, and then arrested him and charged him with obstruction, despite the fact that the NF are allowed to leaflet the schools without any interference from the police.

Change

On the day of the march we learnt that the police had decided to change the route to a much shorter one without offering any sort of explanation. They also prevented schoolkids from getting into Woolwich from nearby Eltham by stopping the buses they were on and making the kids get off.

At one o'clock about 200 people had gathered at the assembly point, which was much less than we had hoped for, but taking into account the police harassment this low figure was hardly surprising.

The police then announced that they had changed the route of the march again. This time they were only allowing us to march around the town centre.

The march led off, following a band playing from the back of a truck. During the now short march, the police prevented late-comers from

joining and generally pushed and shoved the kids on the march.

As the march finished, about 40 or 50 of us decided to go to the local poly for a meeting. As we were walking down the main street, many of the kids were still shouting slogans and were in generally high spirits.

Following behind us were a couple of large people with crew-cuts who kept pushing us around.

At first we thought they may have been Nazis, but then were realised that they were probably police. As we climbed the steps of the poly, the two large blokes, who

later turned out to be plain-clothed SPG officers, jumped on two of the organisers of the march.

At this point a car and a vanload of SPG reinforcements turned up. Two more SPGers ran into the poly. The vice-president of the students' union asked them what they were doing, and was sent reeling to the floor with a kick in the balls.

They then arrested another two, including myself.

We were all held for about nine hours and charged with threatening behaviour. Many local people were outraged by the behaviour of the police and the presence of

the SPG on the streets of Woolwich.

Using this support we organised the 'Woolwich Unemployed Marchers Defence Campaign' to raise money and publicity the arrests. Already we have held pickets of the court and are organising a delegation to speak to the council. We hope to force the police to drop the charges and pressurise for the disbandment of the SPG.

For more information, speakers, leaflets, donations, etc. contact:

WUMDC, c/o Thames Poly Student Union, Thomas St, London SE18. (853 0618).

NAZI THUGS

ANYONE WHO believes the police are impartial or that self defence against fascists is extreme should have been with me on Bloody Sunday.

A minibus full of Irish solidarity supporters was attacked by fascists on the way back from the Bloody Sunday march in Coventry. Two coaches going back to Birmingham had already left and had been stopped by police saying that there were fascists ahead. But the police allowed the minibus to go through, not telling them about the fascists.

The mini-bus drove straight into a convoy of fascists - 3 coaches, 4 minibuses and a private car.

There were at least 220 fascists. They were not just youth, but included middle aged men. They hurled missiles at the van, stopped it and tried to get in to pull people out and rock it over. All the windows in the van were smashed and people were choking from orange smoke bombs. The NFers were waving union jacks and shouting 'Kill, kill the Irish bastards'. The people in the private car were laughing at this.

Where were the police? Happily chatting with Martin Webster, traffic controller extraordinaire, about which route to take back to Birmingham.

The police did nothing, in fact they allowed the

minibus to be attacked as they knew there was a convoy of vicious fascists cruising around the Midlands and did nothing to stop them. But what's a van load of Irish militants when 13 blacks were burnt to death in London and Asian families are terrorised as a matter of course?

The police even tried to cover up what happened later on when I phoned the local radio to tell them about the attack. They said they couldn't really believe me! I asked why. They said 'Well, we've already had a police report.'

Judith Bonner
Coventry North
East LPYS.

DEFEND THE BRADFORD 12

THE CASE of the Bradford 12 is very important because these youth have been charged with conspiracy. This carries a penalty of 10 years to life imprisonment.

They were accused of making petrol bombs with intent to cause grievous bodily harm and to destroy property. The Bradford youth themselves say that the real reason for the charges is because of their successful work in campaigning for black

people's rights against racism. EG their help to Anwar Ditta in her fight to be reunited with her children, Nasira Begum, helping prove Gary Pemberton's innocence by exposing a police frame-up, and helping free George Lindo.

The situation is unbelievable as there is no evidence. They were not caught red-handed, or even involved in any subversive activity, yet they face the possibility of life imprisonment.

At around the same time last year Reed Herbert, a fascist solicitor, and ex-National Front candidate, was shown on the TV programme 'World in Action' conspiring to supply guns for racist organisations in Britain. He is so far, a free man. Why is it that he has not been arrested for conspiracy? Even now he's still allowed to practise in the courts.

So far a broad-based committee has been formed to defend the youth in Bradford and some other

towns.

The cases come up in court on April 26th and it's important that there is labour movement support. There is a national conference in support of the Bradford 12 in London on 27th February, at County Hall SE1. And there is a national demonstration planned for April 3rd in Leeds. All Class fighter supporters should make sure they're there!

Alex Owalande

Can't afford to employ more people?
You can now under the new Young Workers Scheme.



The advert blatantly encourages the bosses to pay youth poverty line wages. The headline says, 'Can't afford to pay more people? You can now under the new young workers' scheme'. In fact the Tories are paying the bosses to keep young workers wages down.

What is worrying is the lack of protest that this new attack has received from the labour movement. We must fight to highlight it. Get your YS to hold a public meeting on it. Send resolutions condemning the scheme to the Labour Party NEC demanding that they launch a campaign against it. Get your trade union branch to fight it. If you're affected by the scheme, start some action.

What can you do with £40 a week now, let alone in two years time when the Tories will still be offering the same 'bonus' rate? This scheme attacks the whole labour movement as the bosses will be much keener to employ young workers and get a £15 gift from the Tories than to keep on their older workers at union rates of pay.

OCCUPY!

TWO OF THE biggest fights to save jobs are taking place in Bathgate. BL workers have been chucked out of their occupation by the courts, but they're still fighting. And 200 women workers at Plesseys have occupied their factory to save their jobs.

GERARD FITZPATRICK, from Stoneyburn, close to Bathgate, told us what Bathgate and the whole of West Lothian would be like if these two workplaces were to close.

AT THE moment there is one in four unemployed in Bathgate, that's not counting the number there'll be when Plessey and BL are shut. There'll be more redundancies at Queen Anne Distillery, in Newbridge, nearby.

When most of the mines closed down about 20 years ago, the workers moved to BL and Plessey and Cameron Iron Works in Livingston. If BL and Plessey close, there's nowhere else to go for work.

It used to be that you could go to Livingston (Make it in Livingston...), but that's no use now as all the jobs there have been taken by the overflow unemployed from Glasgow.

Already shops are closing down because of the recession and there'll be more. They redeveloped the centre of Bathgate in the '70s to create a big shopping centre for the whole of West Lothian.

I remember the last big strike at BL vaguely. I was quite young at school. And the town centre was almost like a ghost town, so many shops had closed. But people came back that time.

There's been a lot of solidarity with the strikes.

Generally people tend to be rather narrow about supporting strikes, but this time the support from the local area has been good, with other factories in West Lothian visiting the Plessey sit-in. A nice little touch, I thought, was when one shop in Bathgate gave the women a colour telly for the occupation.

Added to the lack of jobs, there's cutbacks in community centres as well. That'll mean there will be even fewer facilities for the huge numbers of unemployed.

There are six secondary schools in West Lothian and one FE college, so come the summer unemployment in West Lothian will be astronomical.

Fighting for jobs can't be won by one particular group of workers. We all need to get together to fight the Tories, so support for the Plessey women is really important.

Donations and messages of support should be sent to the treasurer, Mary Murphy, 30 Main Street, Fauldhouse, West Lothian. Money is very important as no-one has had any money coming in since January 15th.

ay!

brought to light when Armatradings bro- was refused entry. local press then made weak-kneed 'Isn't this terrible' hue and cry out it. was lucky - lucky cause two people had already died in Coventry m racist attacks. He had the privilege of private nursing care after immediate NHS attention the hospital which his life.

The Tory proposals for charges for overseas students had been operated, then he might not be ve today.

overseas students will ve to provide passports I have proof of ability pay before treatment. nce any black person in situation where the NHS understaffed will not be n immediately as staff assume them to be overseas students. he lesson to be learnt m this is that we st fight racism at all els of society - on the ets and from the state. must not only defend pple from racist attacks also go on the offens- against racist state-lation.

International Solidarity

"DISGUSTING HYPOCRISY"

LAST YEAR the Tory minister of State at the Foreign Office wrote to Peter Thomas, Tory MP:

It is understandable that the US government feels the need to resume military assistance to the government of El Salvador. Their interest in countering Cuban and Soviet subversion in South America is one we share.

In January this year, horrific reports of massacres committed by Duarte's government troops appeared.

The only survivor of one massacre, in Mozote, a village in Morazan province, was Rufina Amaya. She described the butchery to reporters. The entire village was forced into the village square, then marched off to be shot. Reporters went to the village a month later:

'Inside the church the stench was overpowering, and countless bits of bones - skulls, rib cages, femurs, a spinal column - poked out of the rubble...In the corn fields behind the houses were more bodies, unburned by fire but baked by the sun. In one group in a clearing in a field were ten bodies: two elderly people, two children, one infant - a bullet hole in the head - in the arms of a woman, and the rest of the adults.'

These were the 'Cuban and Soviet subversives', no doubt, that the Tories share an interest in countering along with Reagan.

Reagan and Thatcher are the most disgusting hypocrites. They have the gall to make a TV programme about the iniquities of the Polish junta, yet they support, at precisely the same moment, massacres of peasants, children and freedom fighters in El Salvador. Only the day before, reports had appeared showing that the National Guard had killed another 800 civilians.

Over the past two weeks, advances have been made by the FMLN/FDR, the forces fighting Duarte's barbarous regime. Half of his airforce has been destroyed and the liberation forces now control a quarter of the country.

But Reagan continues to

pump money in to support Duarte - he's due for another 55 million dollars. But what is it that Reagan and Thatcher are so scared of? It isn't the 'Soviet threat', though they are rabid anti-communists. What Thomas Enders, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs said recently is more like it:

'We must use our assistance to help El Salvador control violence, make land reform work, develop a democratic process and bring murderers to justice. How long would it be before major strategic interests - the Panama Canal, sea lanes, oil supplies - were at risk?'

The Duarte regime plans to hold elections on March 28th. These are nothing more than a sick ploy to gain 'respectability' and to pretend that the regime is moving towards democracy.

Even the former US ambassador to El Salvador says it is impossible to have elections during a civil war.

Yet Thatcher intends to send 'observers' to these elections. This will simply be used to legitimise Duarte.

The last time elections were held in El Salvador in 1977, they didn't bother to announce the results! In order to stand in the elections, political parties have to show that they have 20,000 members. A list of this sort would simply be a hit-list for Duarte's death squads.

A large section of the liberation movements is young, younger than most of us in the LPYS. When your politics are a matter of life and death, as they are in El Salvador, you start as soon as you're old enough to handle a gun. This is graphically shown in the film Revolution or Death which you should show in your YS branch. (It can be hired from the Other Cinema, 79 Wardour St, London W1).

In Britain, we have a responsibility to force Thatcher to get her and Reagan's hands off El Salvador.

★ El Salvador Solidarity Campaign, 29 Islington Park St, London N1.

Demonstrate against US intervention in EL SALVADOR

MARCH 28

Assemble 12.30 p.m.
MARCH from Speakers Corner to
RALLY in Trafalgar Square, 2.30 p.m.



Pete Cashman, LCI Youth Officer, at last year's YS conference.

LCI YOUTH

AN IMPORTANT emergency resolution was unanimously passed at the Labour Committee on Ireland AGM held at the beginning of February.

For the first time there was a discussion on the involvement of youth in the LCI. A workshop was held where a resolution was drawn up suggesting that a youth officer be elected, that the LCI should organise a public meeting at LPYS Annual Conference in April. (Plans are already underway for this; Ken Livingstone has been invited to speak), and that we should make a special effort to get across the ideas of the LCI to the youth active in YCND (who are more likely to be open to anti-imperialist campaigns, like the LCI).

Other suggestions included producing a national leaflet aimed at winning youth to the LCI and a short document or pamphlet outlining the LCI's positions.

Anyone interested in helping with this campaign should write to me; LCI Youth Officer, LCI BM BOX 5355, London WC1 N3XX



DERRY MARCH

ON THE tenth anniversary of the killing of 14 unarmed civilians in Derry by British troops, JIM KEARNS of East Kilbride LPYS along with others fighting to get the British troops out of the North of Ireland, attended the commemoration march in Derry.

ON SUNDAY 31st January, we went over for the annual Bloody Sunday commemoration march in Derry City.

We had the great privilege of an RUC escort (which we all appreciated) from Larne to Derry

[to keep us safe, of course!].

The route of the march followed that of the original march through the Bogside and the Cregan, two nationalist housing estates in Derry.

The numbers on the march this year were particularly large (estimated by Sinn Feinn to have been in the region of 20,000, though the British capitalist press said nearer 1,000!). Marchers came from all over Ireland to commemorate the murder of 14 innocent people by

British paratroopers after the original march in 1972.

Nationalist people in Derry were particularly angry at the acquittal of two British soldiers charged with killing two Republican youth; Gary English and James Brown. One of the speakers at the rally described the trail of the soldiers as a charade.

The route of the march was completely lined with people, out to show their solidarity with the cause of the march and also with the families of the two murdered youths.

Background

800 years of British rule!

Barry Walton starts the first of a two part article on the background to present events in Ireland.

THE RELIGION of English and Scots settlers who began to colonise Ireland in the 17th century was Protestant, while the native Irish were Catholics. It became established that the religion of the ruling class in Ireland, known as the Ascendancy, was Protestant.

As capitalism developed, trade and finance links grew between the Protestant community in Ireland and England. Land, factories and property were owned by the ascendancy and the well-paid jobs went to loyalist (loyal to the British Crown) workers. Catholic workers suffered unemployment and exploitation. We can see how protestant workers began to support the ruling class, because of the marginal benefits they got from imperialism, ie. jobs, houses, better pay.

Challenged

British rule in Ireland was constantly challenged by rebellions. In Easter of 1916, a rebellion in Dublin tried to establish an independent Irish Republic. It was followed by a war of independence in 1919-21, and then a civil war in the South.

Britain was unable to control all of Ireland, but

the country was partitioned in 1921, and six of the nine counties of Ulster, containing the main industries, remained part of Britain. The other 26 counties formed the Irish southern state, governed by the Dail.

We can see how the Orange state of Northern Ireland was created to serve the bosses' interests. Loyalist workers allied with Britain because of small benefits they got from imperialism at the expense of Catholic workers.

Constituency boundaries were altered to ensure Loyalist majorities on local councils, and the trade unions became divided on sectarian lines. This situation continued till 1969, with the IRA fighting hopeless campaigns. The situation in the North reached a crisis in 1969, with discrimination against Catholics in jobs, housing and voting. A civil rights movement developed, demanding equal rights with protestants. It had massive support amongst the Catholics.

The privileges of the Protestant workers could only last as long as the Catholic workers were down-trodden. The Loyalist thugs of the RUC and B-Specials attacked the Catholic areas. Catholic youth fought back with petrol bombs, establishing 'no-go' areas.

There was talk of the Southern army going in to the North to help the Catholics. Britain could not stand the sight of the 'no-go' areas and sent the troops in August 1969. They were supposed to be keeping the peace. A Labour government did this.

Confused

The Republican response to the troops was confused. Some Catholic areas welcomed the British troops as peace-keepers, only to find that Free Derry was brutally attacked. Rubber bullets and CS gas were used by the troops on the Falls Road. The pro-Loyalist role of the army became clear, and Catholic workers began to join the IRA in order to defend themselves and their homes. Loyalist workers began to support the army in everything. Any attempt at reform in the North has been met by solid opposition from the Loyalists, including strikes.

The experiment in power sharing ended with the Ulster Workers' Council strike, which the army refused to break.

The capitalist crisis has affected the North of Ireland particularly badly and clearly has nothing to offer any worker in Ireland.

Republican prisoners in jail in the North and in Britain are political prisoners. They have taken up

a political and military struggle against British imperialism. Under the Special Powers Act, republicans are arrested at whim, held without trial indefinitely and tortured into making a confession.

Male republicans are held in the H-blocs of Long Kesh concentration camp and women are held in Armagh jail.

In 1972-76 it was accepted that Republican prisoners had a right to special status; they could wear their own clothes and had their own command structures in the prisons.

In 1976, the Labour government said Republicans no longer had special status. This was the beginning of the criminalisation programme, which tried to portray Republicans as common criminals and deprive them of any political status.

Blanket

The prisoners responded by refusing to wear prison uniform, wearing only a blanket. In the face of increased brutality, they began the 'no-wash' protest. This attracted international solidarity. The struggle for political status continued, but the IRA offered little leadership and initiatives were left to the prisoners themselves.

Unable to see any alternative, the prisoners decided on the tactics of a hunger strike to win political status.

Seven men and three women began a hunger strike in 1980. A compromise was reached on the clothing issue and the strike was ended. But the government back-tracked and the prisoners were not allowed to wear their clothes.

On March 1st, 1981, Bobby Sands began the second hunger strike, winning a massive propaganda victory when he was elected as an MP for Fermanagh South. Huge numbers of republicans were mobilised during the hunger strikes. Support that has been wasted as the IRA did not use it to try to win the British labour movement to their side. The IRA has returned to the military strategy and the bombing campaign.

Next month: Why troops out must be won.



LETTERS

Agree with us passionately? Disagree with us violently? Just want to write a letter? Write to **CLASS FIGHTER** at BM Box 5277, London, WC1 3XX.

Livingstone and Violence

Dear comrades,
CND conference was the first time I came across your paper. I am very interested in it. The only thing I find strange is your stand on Ken Livingstone's statements about the Chelsea bombings.

He said in an interview on 14th Oct. last year: 'I condemn all violence on London streets. My concern is to see the threat of violence removed. These people believe they have strong political motives and this makes them much harder to crush.'

Britain has been fighting a bloody and brutal war in Ireland for 12 years. In the past 6 months the government has forced 10 hunger strikers to death in its callous determination to subdue the Irish people.

Now the IRA has decided to bring the war British troops have been fighting on the streets of Belfast and Derry onto the streets of London. And at the peak of the wave of anti-Irish hysteria that follows every IRA offensive in Britain, Livingstone chooses his moment to condemn 'all violence'.

The Irish war - like all wars - means violence, it means death and mutilation of people not directly engaged in the conflict.

While the British press condemns violence, terrorism and the deaths of innocent people in Britain, it wholeheartedly approves the violence of the British Army in Ireland. It accepts fatalities and maimings in Ireland on a scale of about 40 times greater than in Britain. To condemn the violence of the IRA while

Britain is at war in Ireland, is to lend support to the violence of the British state.

The backlash against the ira bombings makes it more important than ever to declare **unconditional support** for the republican movement, whatever tactics it uses and wherever it carries out its attacks.

Any criticism of the IRA can only fan the flames of British chauvinism and make building solidarity for the Irish struggle more difficult.

I ask you to print this letter because I see it as another point of view and not an attack on **Class Fighter**. I would welcome hearing other comrades opinions.

Simon O'Dell
Stevenage.

CRUISE

Dear Comrades,

A Stevenage Youth Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament group has been set up in the area in response to the feelings of many young people.

We are campaigning to withdraw American Cruise missiles from Britain, and for disposing of Britain's own nuclear weapons leading to total world-wide nuclear disarmament.

Citizens should no longer accept the threat of annihilation posed by the ill-advised planned introduction of Cruise missiles and the continuation of our own nuclear arsenal.

Not only do these weapons cause a threat to the lives of millions of people, but they also allow massive resources to be squandered when they are urgently needed in other areas.

R. Roberts,
Stevenage YCND.

YCND GROWS

IN WARE there has been a surprising response to a Youth CND group which we have set up.

The group has been formed for just three months and in this time we have gained 30 members.

The group has been very active and sells '2nd Generation' every week on Saturdays and collects signatures every Monday. We organised a local gig and since then other local gigs have offered us some of their profits!

Also a few members have been to the local peace camp at Molesworth and offered support.

In a small place like Ware, it is very encouraging that such a large number of supporters have come forward and I hope that other areas will follow our example by making sure **Class Fighter** supporters are involved in setting up YCNDs.

Linda Mouldsdale,
Secretary Ware YCND

USEFUL ADDRESSES

National Council for Civil Liberties
186 Kings Cross Road,
London WC1.
01 - 278 4575

British Pregnancy Advice Service.
Guildhall Buildings,
Navigation St.,
Birmingham 2.
021 643 1461

Brook Advisory Centres
(mostly for young girls and women, contraception and advice)
233 Tottenham Court Rd
London SW1

National Abortion Campaign
374 Gray's Inn Road,
London WC1
01 278 0153

Rights of Women
(same address)
01 278 6340

Women's Fightback
41 Elington St.,
London N1
01 607 9052

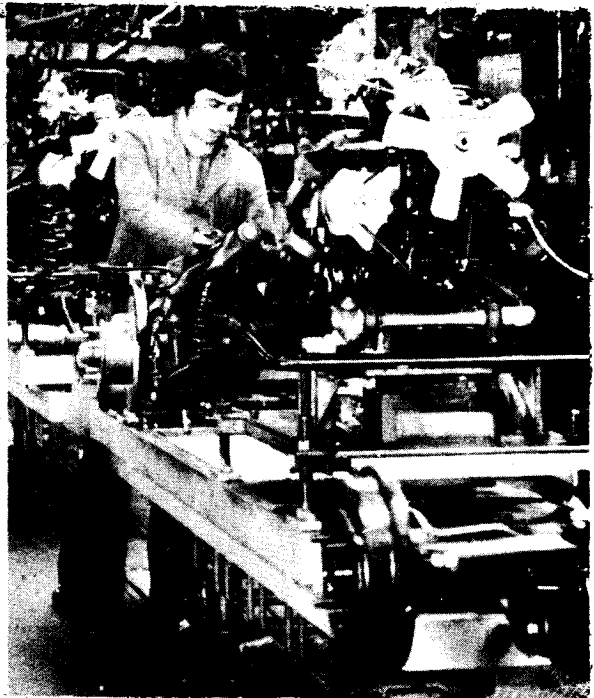
Freind
(gay and bi-sexual men and women)
274 Upper St.,
London N1
01 359 7371

Gay Switchboard
5 Caledonian Rd.
London N1
01 837 7324

Release
(legal advice, drugs, abortion etc)
1 Elgin Avenue,
London W9
01 289 1123

Sappho
(lesbians)
20 Dorset Square,
London NW1
01 724 3636

Rape Crisis Centre
(there may also be one in your area)
PO Box 42,
London N6
01 340 6145



Well, you've seen the ad 'No FT, no comment... Here's **Class Fighter's** answer. If you've a comment or strong viewpoint on work, politics or life in general - send it in to this column.

"!!!???" OPINION

Tony Cashman, a young car worker at Vauxhalls, Ellesmere Port, starts off with an argument against higher wages for skilled workers.

Given the fact that every worker in society has to rely on other workers, whether white or blue collar, in manufacturing or service industry, why should so-called skilled workers get more money or better conditions?

Answer: they can do work you cannot do, because they have served an apprenticeship or done some kind of lengthy training.

place and in the unions where they are treated slaves who have no rights, not even the right to vote or strike.

Most are used as cheap labour, doing routine work like making tea, sweeping up and only learning what is best and most profitable for the company.

Because of the crisis in capitalism over the last few decades and the obvious effects of new technology and automation, the demand for training and skilled workers has dropped dramatically with lots of firms now not training youth at all.

While this and future developments will obviously do away with the massive divides between skilled and unskilled, there is still a need to organise the relatively smaller numbers of apprentices and trainees around the following demands:

*Shorter apprenticeships with no age bar to entry. (As most apprentices learn the trade in the first year or so.)

*Trade unions should supervise them and trade union cards should be used as proof of skills.

*No apprentice should be employed in routine production work or tea-making or sweeping up.

Capitalist

*Full trade union rates of pay from the start for all workers.

*Full trade union rights: the right to strike and organise.

*The right for everyone to study both job-related courses and the extension of general education in the firm's time.

*Sexual equality in pay and employment.

Inequality in pay, like any other inequality, whether in sex or in race only serve to divide the workers by making them fight each other rather than fighting the real problem of the capitalist system.



Racism in Reverse - say MILITANT

EVEN DURING times of relatively low unemployment, it has always been extremely difficult for black people to get jobs in Liverpool.

Although Liverpool has quite a large black population, very few have been able to get jobs on the City Council.

After complaints of racial discrimination used when hiring staff for the Liverpool City Council, the Liberal Party (the majority party on the council) were forced to make proposals

for positive discrimination in favour of black people.

The Liberals' proposals however came in for some stiff opposition from what some might think, an unusual quarter. The 'Militant' supporters on the City Council, led by Derek Hatton, condemned the proposals as racism in reverse and made banal remarks - like jobs should go on merit.

The point that Derek Hatton and the 'Militant' miss is that racists

in the City Council have been positively discriminating against black people for many years, and the only way to redress the balance is to hire more black people.

It is a sad situation when the assorted rubbish of the Liberal Party are seen to be doing more to stop racism in the City Council than the self-proclaimed 'marxists' of the 'Militant' group.

Mick Cashman
Wallasey LPYS

EVENTS

If you want to advertise your YS, YCND NLWYM or any other meetings, marches or events, just send in the details to **Class Fighter**, BM Box 5277 London WC1 3xx. Its free!

NOLS conference, 14-17 April, York Univ. Contact J. Dennis, Student Organiser, 150 Walworth Rd.

13 March London Students organisation Conference at ULU, Malet St.

NLWYM Sottish regional School, Glasgow May 1st. Contact Ian on 041 641 2204.

10 March 'Fighting Fascism' meeting, with film 'Blacks Britanica' and speakers from; Bradford 12 Defence Campaign, Nwe Cross Massacre Action Committee and Class Fighter. 7.00pm, Co-op Hall Acton High St.

Socialist Trade Union Democracy Conference, Sat. 3rd April.

Stevenage YCND c/o S. O'Dell, 80 Salisbury Rd., St. Nicholas Stevenage Herts.



Women's Fightback Trade Union conference, March 27th, Kingsway Princeton college, Princeton College Sidmouth St. London, WC1

Women's Fightback and NLWYM joint meeting to discuss the young women's campaign. Sunday March 21st Birmingham Univ.

LPYS ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1982.

Bridlington, 9th, 10th & 11th April.

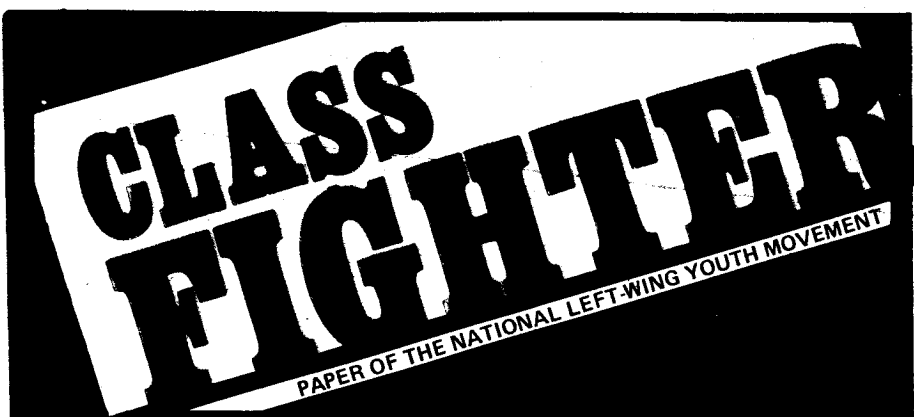
All **Class Fighter** supporters should attend. Apart from the debates in the conference there are many fringe meetings to attend. You should try to get sponsored by your union as a visitor to the conference. All you have to do is ask! Accommodation should be booked now.

There will be **Class Fighter** meetings at conference on Turkey, Racism and Fascism and a NLWYM Rally. We will also be helping to organise a Women's Fightback meeting and a meeting of the Labour Committee on Ireland to which Ken Livingstone has been invited to speak.

So, get cracking and organise your transport now!

LPYS SUMMER CAMP 1982

Thinking of summer holidays? Well, don't forget the YS Summer Camp 1st-7th August in the sunny Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire. Start fund raising for it now. Write to LPYS, 150 Walworth Rd, London SE 17 for details.



Put it in the KITTY

CLASS FIGHTER costs money to produce and all we can rely on is you, our readers and supporters, to keep the paper and the activities of the National Left Wing Youth Movement, going. We don't have any adverts for fast cars or washing machines or even baked beans and we don't get well-to-do entrepreneurs sending in fat cheques with 'Keep up the good work' written on the back.

We need money not just for the paper but for building the National Left Wing Youth Movement. Leaflets, meetings, speakers' travelling costs, are all important to our movement and it's up to us all to make sure there is enough in the kitty to keep things going and even to expand.

So if you're working, think about how much you could send in a month or week and then do it. Or if you got a tax rebate send some in. If you are on the dole, even 20p a week is worth putting in. If we had all the unemployed doing that it would make a real difference.

The other thing is to get donations when you are selling the paper or tell your mates that Class Fighter is worth supporting and get a collection going. Think up different ways of getting the cash and then get it in to us. You'll get the satisfaction of knowing that your bit has helped to print an article or helped send a speaker to a YS that's been dying to hear what Class Fighter is doing. Happy Fundraising!

DEFEND THE LPYS!

THE LABOUR leaders are getting worried. If they get elected again they might be forced to answer to the rank and file of the Labour Party. To wipe out this prospect, they have launched a witch-hunt on the left of the party.

With the help of the 'soft' lefts like Neil Kinnock, and of course, the bosses' press, they have whipped up a hysterical attack on 'trotskyist infiltrators'.

Clean

Apparently this includes the whole of the YS! And this is supposed to be in the interests of party unity!

James Callaghan (on his way to the House of Lords) has come clean by calling for the closing down of the YS: Not that we should be surprised at this. Callaghan was never a friend of ours - he threw thousands of youth on the dole when he was Prime Minister.

The right-wing trade union leaders have, of course, joined in and no wonder. The last thing

they want is militant extra-Parliamentary action against the Tories.

Attack

Many left groups in the party have come under attack including the Campaign for Labour Party Democracy, the 'Militant' and 'Socialist Organiser' newspapers.

While we disagree politically on many issues with the 'Militant' newspaper Socialist Organiser and Class Fighter supporters have proposed a joint campaign with Militant supporters to defeat the witch-hunt and defend the YS.

Stopped

We must fight to defend the gains of democracy and accountability, and not stand by and see them crushed. The right wing have lost the argument, so now they are turning to these anti-democratic methods to defeat the left. They must be stopped!

We condemn the inquiry into 'Militant'. They have nothing to hide. A look in their paper tells you where their finances come from - the readers of the paper. Its the same with Socialist Organiser and Class Fighter.

We stand fully behind Peter Tatchell and the Bermondsey party in their fight to choose their own candidate.

And we condemn the NEC right wing on the NEC for putting the stoppers on the constituencies right to select the candidate of their choice.

Get your YS, Labour Party and trade union to send resolutions to the NEC condemning the witch hunt. Stand firm and fight for democracy in the Party and the unions. Defend the YS!



We could do with a bit more 'extra-Parliamentary action'.



2 TONE RECORDS

..... nothing I could do

THE number of rock musicians who make a valid social comment are in the minority. Most records you hear in the charts have pretty meaningless lyrics. Now and again though a singer comes up whose lyrics hit you in the face.

Boiler, by Rhoda with Special AKA did it to me.

Rhoda, formerly of the Bodysnatchers, recites (against a haunting drum and horn beat which was used in the Specials' single 'Ghost Town') the story of how a girl is raped. The tone of her voice is unexciting at first but then the song builds up into a deep crescendo. "It was awful—like he was so big, hitting me he was, tearing at my clothes and there was nothing I could do, I was helpless". Then the record ends in an earpiercing

scream, frighteningly clear and real.

Because of that scream the BBC won't give it air time, which in effect, guarantees it won't get into the charts.

The Boiler is not a record to be played when the reactionary grandad is in the house.

Although the words are unmistakably clear and it puts into music the degradation a woman suffers at the hands of a rapist, sexist attitudes are very deep rooted—not least among rock singers, in particular black musicians under the influence of Rastafarianism, who have virtually a feudal attitude towards women.

Rastas consider women having their periods to be 'sick' and not to be allowed near men. She is locked away and on no account may she be

permitted to contaminate a Rastaman's food by cooking it for him. The Rasta's consider that a woman's body must be concealed at all times in long African dresses that touch the ground, and that she must never wear trousers.

Rastas believe that women who have abortions are using their bodies for 'internal cemeteries'. The Black Uhuru's latest album describes abortion as 'first degree murder' and worse still the bass player in Black Slate is quoted as saying that "I'm more opposed to the National Abortion Campaign than I am to the National Front."

Singles like The Boiler directly challenge these attitudes. The record is undoubtedly worth your £1.10

Andrew MacDonald

Support us!

- () I want a subscription to Class Fighter, and enclose £3 for 12 issues.
- () I would like more information on the National Left-Wing Youth Movement.
- () I would like a National Left-Wing Youth Movement speaker for my LPYS, YCND or other meeting. I enclose details.
- () I want to become a Class Fighter supporter and enclose £5 (waged), or £1 (unwaged). This entitles you to NLWYM Newsletters, mailings, a supporters card etc.

JOIN THE LABOUR PARTY
YOUNG SOCIALISTS!

Tick as appropriate.

Name

Address.....

Age.....

LPYS branch..... Phone no.....

Return to NLWYM, BM Box 5277, London WC1 3XX.

Become
a Class
Fighter!

RAPE SOME QUESTIONS

BURGLARY and murder are both crimes and have to be investigated. But when it comes to rape, you have a choice, report or leave it.

It does not come into the same category as other crimes. It is one of the few crimes that the police will not investigate unless you positively discourage you from reporting.

Police

So what does this really mean? A woman can be sexually assaulted by one or more men and there will be no guarantee that the woman's case will go beyond the interview room. For the man it means he has a free licence to sexually assault any woman in the knowledge that the police won't bother too much.

Why are the police so slow

when it comes to catching rapists and why are judges so biased when it comes to rape cases in the courts?

Is it because of the position of women in this society? As inferiors, there for the use of men (and capitalism). Or is it because the police and judiciary are predominantly male and sexist?

But the question of rape must have a deeper meaning. In capitalist society it is necessary for women to be subservient to men. Her role is keeping the family healthy and reproducing the next generation of workers.

The police's role in capitalism is to ensure that the capitalists can rule and to break up any threat to that rule. So when a woman complains of a sexual attack from a man to the police, there's bound to be con-

flict. The woman is questioning men's power in the system, while at the same time asking the police for help. The police have to uphold the system, while at the same time appear to be fair.

What is needed to help women who have been raped, I think, is a sympathetic organisation run by women who can put the case to the police for the raped woman and follow through the whole case. We also need to train for self-defence, not just physically, but also to stop being frightened and assert ourselves.

But to what extent is rape a product of capitalism - a male dominated society? Will rape eventually disappear under socialism when men and women are equal?

Morag Sarker