THE TOWN THEY WANT TO MURDER

STEPHEN McKAY was sent home from school in Skelmersdale because he was wearing only half a school uniform, and tennis shoes.

His father, Leslie, is out of work. His application for a grant to buy a school uniform for his 11-year-old son had been turned down.

Now they say that threats were made on Terry’s life by some truck drivers. This is also a lie.

Most of the workers walked out when they heard of Terry’s sacking. But the local AUEW district committee are dragging their feet.

The result: workers have lost their jobs, they have lost their homes, and their children have lost their schools.

The worse that can happen is that more workers will be sacked, more homes will be lost, and more children will be forced to leave school.

This is the legacy of the Labour government, the Home Office is prepared to assist unscrupulous employers by imprisoning shop stewards.

Socialist Worker calls on all AUEW members to raise Terry’s case and get emergency resolutions to Wakefield district AUEW and AUEW headquarters.

Letters of support to Terence Gallogly, 156626, Wakefield Prison, Love Lane, Wakefield, West Yorkshire.
Maire Drumm: The hate came from Britain

by EAMONN MCCANN

NOTHING about Maire Drumm so pleased the British press as the manner of her dying—crawling along a hospital corridor, bleeding from five bullet wounds.

"Gunslinging" exited the headlines, while editorials published their views in satisfaction and pronounced her a victim of her own beliefs.

Most British people hated Maire Drumm and she hated Britain. She had nothing for the way she died. She hated Britain with such a pure passion for what Britain had done to her people around her.

Her husband, Jimmy, although never convicted of a crime in his life, spent 17 years in prison. A fact which alone would fuel hatred in almost any human being.

She was in a Andersonstown, which is often referred to as "the land of the British stronghold and so it is, because there is hardly a home in the entire sprawling estate from which men and women love to have not been dragged uncleanly to the middle of the night for 'questioning' in handcuffs.

Hardly a man there has not been a British mother, father, soldier and there are others who have been interned, banished, dead or wounded. It could hardly be otherwise on Provo Road.

Outrageous

Maire Drumm’s public pronouncements were often said to be somewhat politically confined—which was a very uninteresting and intangible voice of a people bullied into submission and trying desperately, sometimes forlornly, to bring it to an end.

She was a not a parliamentarian. She rarely thought before she spoke. She knew little of the intricacies of political power or how to be a parliamentarian. But there was no patronising about her. She was unordinary, motherly, old-fashioned Irish woman.

Two ultra-gentle gaunt of Protestant arms have separately claimed credit for killing her. But they were not on their own. They are merely the most virulent expression of the sectarianism which is the very essence of 'Northern Ireland', which was nurtured by Britain through the ages. The best way to manipulate a people is to get them fighting each other’s cutting edge of Orangeism, which Britain has cunningly supported and effectively utilis.

Maire Drumm’s murderers may reasonably be felt that their action was sanctioned in advance by people in high places who, clearly, desired her death.

Assassins

Collusion between British security forces and Protestant assassination squads has been documented in Socialists, Worker. Indeed most of the assassins are serving British soldiers, members of the 2009-Confederate Defence Regiment.

The collusion expresses an identity of interest. Both the assassins and the British authorities want to see a partitioned, divided and Ireland made safe again for imperial rule. From that to solve co-operation is, as often been shown in the past seven years, a small step.

It is not surprising then that there was collusion with Maire Drumm’s killers—and they may never be known for certain—she was set up, and the people who set her up were planning her murder before her body was found.

Within two days of her death three other Catholics have been killed in North Belfast. Two newspaper deliverymen, John McFerran and Charlie Corbett, were hooded and shot while the ten-year-old son of one of them was made to look on. A 28-year-old student, Steven McCann, was seized on his way home from a dance, beaten senseless, his throat cut and then shot in the head.

By the time this is printed there may have been others. There may be retaliation. And it all will be fodder for more British meddling about the destinies of the Irish.

The violence is not just in a British import. That’s what is important to understand about Maire Drumm and her murder.

Black: Seven years

White: Three years

IN any decent society, Rhiye Francis Gwyn Moor would be behind bars. In our society, he kills the people other there.

Gwyn Morris is a circuit judge in the Central Criminal Court. Two years ago, he sentenced Ronald Crawford, aged 12, to seven years in prison for shooting a woman hunting. Ronald is black.

While passing sentence, Morris delivered himself of a stream of abuse to the accused. He even recommended vigilante groups for "muggers" off the streets.

It was in action again last week.

White

He sustained Clifford Woodruff to three years in prison for what the judge described as "a murderous attack" on a Nigerian charity worker. Woodruff and two South African friends had fallen on the Nigerian and his friend and beaten them intensely with a vehicle starting handle. Woodruff was white.

The judge had a long record of violence. But the judge was sympathetic. I am impressed by the victim’s talk of how we must control our propensity to violence by taking medical treatment for it, he said.

Woodruff’s two white accusers, who were also enthusiastically in the corporation of executives, have not had suspended sentences. Morris’ racism is more often than not acceptable and even accepted by the judge, too.

Television. His comments about "muggers" have been praised by white youths in South London who have been repeatedly the focus of the Social Worker last week. You’re no more likely to be ‘mugged’ in Glasgow or in London—or Glasgow has very few black pubs.

Muggings and petty theft are nothing to do with the colour of people’s skins. They have to do with unemployment and poverty. That’s why in South London, ten years ago, there were half as many muggings as there are now and half as many recessional and poverty.

Judge Morris’ comments, in other words, were founded in racist fantasy.

Kick the Nazis off Brick Lane!

Feeling it the Bengali community’s turn to retaliate against local Asian Anti-Racist Committee demonstrations against the National Front for the past few months, the NF have been selling their brand of "anti-pedestrianism" and Brick Lane and badly beat up 13-year-old Bengali with a four-foot-piece of scaffold.

The boy was admitted to hospital with serious head injuries.

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UNEMPLOYMENT FOR EXPORT?

WHAT IS the alternative to the Labour government's disastrous policies on unemployment?

The one most commonly talked about is that pushed by some Labour MPs. They claim that import controls would constitute a socialist policy for dealing with the crisis. But import controls have nothing to do with socialism. They have been traditionally argued for by this country's Conservative politicians. Seventy-five years ago, the Tory Joseph Chamberlain demanded, tariff reform to protect British big business.

Socialists opposed the argument then and they should oppose it now. For it means not blaming the employers for a bad system that destroys jobs, but merely trying to shift unemployment onto the backs of workers in other countries.

If import controls were implemented, the effect on jobs would be small. The left Labour paper Tribune last week called for import controls as recommended by the TUC. It said these would lead to 250,000 new jobs. But there are 1,377,110 people officially registered as unemployed as well as at least half a million who no longer bother to sign on. More than a million people would be left on the dole under this scheme.

Meanwhile, the prices of many goods would go up. For instance, cheese, suits and shoes from Eastern Europe would be banned. What would workers in this country do? Many would not be able to buy more expensive products 'made in Britain'. They would simply do without.

Import controls mean raising prices and the export of unemployment. They can only perpetuate an absurd system where machines and workers are left idle and where workers are then told there is not enough work to go round. In the 1930s every major country imposed import controls. Unemployment soared to three times its present disgusting level. It would not be otherwise. To fight unemployment you have to fight those responsible for it—the employing class. The people who call for import controls prefer joint delegations and a 'common approach' with the very employers who are drawing up the redundancy notices.

A struggle is needed, not for import controls, but to take control of industry and the banks out of the hands of a rich and ruthless ruling class.

That means industrial action against redundancies. It means forcing the employers and the government to provide jobs. It means building a movement that will kick them out if they don't.

And it means arguing for a system of socialist planning that would prevent the enormous waste of labour, on luxuries for the rich, on property speculation and advertising.

That is a quite different approach from that of the import control peddlers who want to divert us into demanding an increase in the prices of basic necessities needed by workers.

Import controls mean racism and the TUC have fallen for it.

IT IS only a short step from import controls to trying to blame overseas people in Britain for the crisis, the weapon usually used by the racists and Nazis. And it is a step which, regrettably, the leaders of the TUC seem to have taken.

They have asked the government to reduce the number of work vouchers available for foreign workers in Britain. The result, naturally, will be that instead of the employers being blamed when jobs are destroyed, English workers will be encouraged to let the redundant workers 'emigrate'. How will they hit non-English workers? Racism will have wholesale encouragement.

Already there are reports from hospitals of nurses from overseas being sacked on the premise that they will only work in English nurses.

Yet all these techniques suffer as a result, as workloads increase and services suffer.

The government is encouraging a similar trend among the unemployed. It will increase the powers of redundancy and re-employment officers over workers from other countries.

The effect can only be to encourage employers to take a racist attitude to workers and students.

Socialist Worker has welcomed the call by the Labour Party NEC for a national demonstration on 21 November. But they can hardly fight racism when they are ensnared in the workers' movement from the other countries.

Why the jobless figures 'improved'?

HOW MANY people are unemployed?

The government claimed last week that the number was falling, chiefly because 47,160 school-leavers had stopped signing on at the dole.

But teachers all over Britain know what's happened to them. Many have taken the government's own advice and returned to school.

They are still unemployed, but the government is happy because they do not appear in the official figures. For example, the NUT has been told by the government that it is no longer required to pay employers for 'job creation'. But these schemes that last for only six months.

If the jobless figures are to be believed, the young pupils will be thrown back on the dole queues about next Easter—just as hundreds of thousands of dole recipients are beginning to sign on.

But we need it urgently if we are to continue to make the maximum impact in the fight against racism, unemployment and the cuts.

The elections gave us the opportunity to argue socialist politics to thousands of people who had never heard of us before.

But, unlike the other parties, the fight for us does not end at the ballot box. We need to keep pumping out leaflets, posters, socialists ideas. As a reader on a council estate in Tower Hamlets writes: Dear brothers and sisters, I've recently got a legacy of £20 from my dear dead gran. Despite the many temptations to keep it—soaring food prices, unemployed friends, etc.—I'm giving it to SW to continue to lead the fight against racism, unemployment, the cuts against capitalism and class ridden society.

Our thanks also to: 1) Jackson C1, Waller Avenue, Manchester M28 20. 2) Reading: K. R. Harding, 3) West Manchester; M. Pond, 4) Manchester; E. W. Howarth, 5) Wigan; Mike Emery, 6) Wigan; Richard C. Grice, 7) Wigan; R. Gibbs, 8) Wigan;


KEEP THAT FUND CASH FLOWING IN

As workers' cash shrinks, jobless get more

DOLE BREAKS THE £6 LIMIT

By Peter Halsall

(dole money: £10.65)

We workers' cash shrinks, jobless get more

DOLE BREAKS THE £6 LIMIT

'...I NEVER NOTICED IT'

As workers' cash shrinks, jobless get more

DOLE BREAKS THE £6 LIMIT

'SO JOHN Warders and the Daily Express have got their idea in two weeks. This time I learnt, to my astonishment that a lot of people, who had broken the £6 limit, were still getting their figures from them. I've been unemployed for more than a year—and at no time have I received more than 131.50 a week money.

At the moment, I get £108 a week and I've just had better luck with the dole. Am I going to get these figures from them?' I've been unemployed for more than a year—and at no time have I received more than 131.50 a week money.
Newcastle & Walsall: What we expect to gain

A MASSIVE drop in the Labour role...a boost for the Tories...and increased support for the Fascist right wing.

That, almost certainly, will be the outcome of this week's three parliamentary by-elections. The results are not expected to have any effect on Labour's majority of 200 seats, but they will have a major impact on the political scene.

Largely, the by-elections are being fought as a battle between the Tories and the Fascists, with Labour acting as a buffer between the two. Labour has a majority of 200 seats, but it is unlikely to increase this majority. The by-elections are seen as a test of the political climate in the country.

In the Newcastle by-election, the Tories are expected to make a significant gain, while in Walsall, the Fascists are expected to do well. The by-election in the third constituency, Walsall North, is seen as a test of the popularity of the Fascists in the region.

The by-elections are also being fought as a battle between the Tories and the Fascists, with Labour acting as a buffer between the two. Labour has a majority of 200 seats, but it is unlikely to increase this majority. The by-elections are seen as a test of the political climate in the country.

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BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

By Chris Harman for the International Socialists' Central Committee 1 November, 1976

There is no doubt that in Walsall, for instance, large numbers of people are now aware of the existence of the revolutionary alternative for the first time. Even people who cannot yet bring themselves to support us may come to understand why.

Every house in the constituency has been visited by SIWU members, and SIWU will go on expanding our organisation until it is a national presence locally in the socialist alternative to Labour.

Narrow

So we are not surprised that the NSSN votes that the Central Committee of the Socialist Party candidates have called for the five candidates who stood in Newcastle North last year to stand in every seat in the country in the next general election.

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WHERE WE STAND

If you want to know more about the Socialist Worker and the International Socialists, fill in the form on page 15.

SOCIALIST WORKER

INDEPENDENT WORKING-CLASS ACTION

The workers create all the wealth under capitalism. A new society can only be constructed when they collectively seize control of the means of production and distribution.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

The structures of the present capitalist system cannot be patched up, reformed or improved by the working class. They must be overthrown in a socialist revolution.

We are workers, delegates and activists for the Socialist Party. We are workers, delegates and activists for the Socialist Party. We are workers, delegates and activists for the Socialist Party.

If you want to know more about the Socialist Worker and the International Socialists, fill in the form on page 15.

ANOTHER RECORD FOR NEW PEOPLE

MORE PEOPLE joined the International Socialists last month than ever before. The 192 new members compared with September's figure of 174, a record.

In MANCHESTER, Tony Cliff spoke to a meeting of 50 hospital workers on Lenin Today: New people joined.

IN SUNDERLAND, Paul Foot spoke to a meeting of 70 people in the Fullstop Club: Seven people joined.

Socialist Worker joins fighters for a revolutionary change of society: men and women.

The party has a programme for changing society: a new kind of country that is not run by the rich, by workers for the benefit of the workers.
Newcastle women prove it again and again

FROM McCathcheon Court, ten pod-pot council blocks in Newcastle upon Tyne go on a message this week to all working-class families battling against cold, damp, overcrowded housing.

If you get together and do something about it, you can force the council to find decent houses for you. Linda Meanin lost a baby girl just before last Christmas. The damp and the steep stairs had a lot to do with it. She died soon. Now she is pregnant again. She wants to get out before the next baby dies. She has no children in care and can't get them out because her flat is too small and damp for them to live in.

McCathcheon Court is ten blocks of four-storey maisonettes and flats. They were built in the middle of the council house boom in the 1960s. They stink. The damp forces its way into every square inch of the rooms.

'Apathy'

Jean Barnes has lived there with her sick husband for seven years. She's been through four sets of carpets and two sets of flat. Now she doesn't bother putting anything on the floor because it gets dirty almost at once.

It's almost a year since the tenants decided they'd had enough. Linda Reid, a young household, joined Organisation into a tenants' association. Her mother, Noquita Bell, were among the first to be housed. But they kept their committee going and kept the whole job properly done.

Most of the families had been rehoused when, suddenly, the council policy changed. Families were given new cuts in spending, the council decided to start renovation while seven families still lived there.

Worse, the council started 'moving families from ten areas in the flats before they had been renovated.'

So by an odd coincidence, all the women left behind were single mothers with children.

Overthrow

'They saw it as a way of punishing the single-parent families' says Catherine Morton, who lives with her sister Jula and her 2½ year old son Michael in a flat where there's not even a room enough to swing a sash window in.'

'Last Tuesday we held a meeting' says Norma Reid. 'We decided to take action.' On Wednesday we marched down to the flats where the council workers were renovating.

'We told them we were occupying the flats until we had a promise of new houses for the seven. The workers couldn't believe it, but they promised to change, and they left. We paid them back, and left them.

The following day, the workers came back to different flats and put up things themselves in the flats. We gather another hill and we're coming and saying, 'Let's do it again.'

Paymasters

They let us in, and they threw us out. Most of us have bought our own car and paid for it, and they're going to fine us.

In the short term that means fighting the cuts.'

With the official support of other unions and massive action by the rank and file trade unions, 17 November will be the biggest day of protest against the policies of any government since 250,000 workers abstained on the Tory government and the National Union of Railways in February 1973.

In the civil servants' union, the CPSSA the supporters of the rank and file Paper Workers send this week a call for action and the 17th and that it was raised on the executive.

In the teachers' union, the NUT supporters of the Rank and File Teachers send this week a call for support for the 17th and support in action for the executive in and the schools.

In National Union of Students' members of NOUS, the International Socialists' are putting out a call, successively on the 15th and not choose a different day.

Sad said Ludlam: 'The fight against the cuts will go on. We can't unite our union task is to build a rank and file network within the union that can break the grip of the government's own supporters for the next three years. But a lot of their members still will be cut on the 17th with us.'

One of our big struggles was the rank and file and teachers send this week a call for action and the 17th.

Bede. Vulc. Manchester, Saturday November 3. Black and Blue

MAKE THE 17th OUR BIGGEST PROTEST YET

If your union is supporting the Day of Action, send resolutions to the executive now demanding that they follow the lead of NUPE in London and call strike action.

If your union is not yet supporting the day of action, send resolutions demanding that they join the two unions already committed.

Organise strike action in every workplace and in every industry now. All workers and their families are affected by the cuts. If you can’t win a full day stoppage, fight for a half day, or at least a mass meeting and a delegation with banners to the mass media in London.

The Labour Party National Executive now called for support for the 17th. Ask local Labour Party and Communist Party members in unions that are not yet supporting action to help organising the day.

Make sure your union branch, district or council, and shop stewards send a mass delegation to the National Union of Public Employees.'

17th: How rank and file led the way

ALL OUT THE 17TH!

ASSEMBLE 1pm, Speaker's Corner, Hyde Park, London W1, for mass march and demonstration to Parliament Square. Meeting in Central Hall.

Ling, a shop stewards from the Royal Firth Hotel, we went to the divisional council representing all WO0 NUPE members in London.

For argued for a special paper for all London NUPE members on the move, a massive demonstration and a conference of all London shop stewards.

Once we got going, we thought we might as well do the job properly. We knew it would be at least as big as 26 November, but you thought it would be a good idea to invite all the other NUPE leaders to join in.

It wasn't that NUPE leaders suddenly became militantly. It was the pressure from London.

'Then's when the executive stepped in and supported 17 November.

A lot of public sector unions leaders are supporting 17 November because they see it as a safety valve for the rank and file pressure that is building up.

They don't want the Social Contract to be swept away in another move by the lower paid. When they supported the Social Contract they gave the government a blank cheque to write the cuts.

The three biggest unions in the UGC who are the first to be housed. But they kept their commitment to the whole job properly done.

In National Union of Students' members of NOUS, the International Socialists' are putting out a call, successively on the 15th and not choose a different day.

Sad said Ludlam: 'The
A big problem—or is it?

WHAT IS the socialist answer to those people who say that the problems of society are caused by large-scale organisations and industries which frustrate, stunt and degrade human beings and that a return to small-scale industries and techniques (utilising the best modern knowledge and technical abilities) would enable people to lead freer and more creative lives?

The reader who raises this issue also asks if we "regard nuclear power in itself as a form of energy that threatens mankind and that alternative, safer forms of energy should be found" or can nuclear power be made safe in a socialist society?

There is no doubt at all that nuclear weapons threaten the existence of mankind. Or rather, since the weapons do not have minds and wills of their own, the power that a handful of men in the USA, the USSR and a few other states have to launch a nuclear war, they threaten the existence of mankind. This, rather than the disposal of toxic wastes from nuclear reactors—which concerns our reader and many others—is surely the biggest problem.

Now nuclear technology has developed in such a way that, relatively speaking, small-scale production methods can make nuclear weapons.

The common man and woman in 20 states, other than the five which admit to being nuclear states (USA, USSR, China, Britain, France), have the capacity to make nuclear weapons. Two of these, Israel and India, have almost certainly already done so. It will very likely follow that the modern world in which we live is no longer a world of large, centralised states but a world where the states are broken up into small states and corporations, and the weapons of mass destruction are under the control of individual people in individual states. This is the kind of situation in which the power of the state is reduced to a minimum, and the state is being taken over by the corporations. This is the kind of situation which demands the kind of control which we have described in our previous articles.

The question of nuclear war is not a matter of whether or not we can prevent it, but a matter of how we can prevent it. This is the kind of question which we have to ask ourselves, and this is the kind of question which we have to answer if we are to prevent nuclear war.

The key to the prevention of nuclear war is the construction of a world in which the people of the world have the power to determine their own future. This is the kind of world which we have to strive for, and this is the kind of world which we have to build.

Cooperative

Modern science, modern ideas and modern technology are what make possible a world of freedom, cooperation and equality.
Strike wave as Italy's workers fight back

ITALIAN workers are on the move again. A wave of strikes has swept the country in the last month. On 7 October, there was a two-hour national general strike. But that was only the beginning. Regional general strikes have taken place in many major industrial areas. In Turin, 300,000 workers -- including three at the giant Fiat complex -- struck for eight hours. Angry workers blocked the main roads for more than five hours.

Two weeks later, in Milan itself, as many as 100,000 people demonstrated outside every major factory closed for the week.

Militancy

Last Thursday it was the turn of the railways. All the workers struck for 24 hours. Italian papers are already comparing the strength and militancy of today to the beginning of the Riforma months of 1969 which ended with the occupation of the major factories of the North and the creation of the last great strike wave.

The strike wave is the result of a new and serious resistance to the government's policies towards workers living standards.

The costs of public transport, electricity, gas, telephone, rent and fees to be paid to the police are all up by up to 30 per cent.

Meanwhile, the system of automatic pay rises has given workers some protection from inflation, but it has also abandoned for higher paid workers. With inflation running at 20 per cent a year, an estimated 99 per cent of all industrial workers will be hit by the pay freezes.

The government is composed of the Left and the Christian Democrats who have talked for 30 years about a single party. The PDS, which is the only party which has been a consistent supporter of the Communist Party.

AND IN ARGENTINA, TOO

THE WORKERS of Argentina have once again shown their determination to resist a military government that is determined to crush its enemies. The two power companies in the capital of Buenos Aires have both struck for 24 hours. The workers of the city were blacked out, even though the government was threatening to arrest strikers into the armed forces and send troops into the power stations.

This is producing great strains inside the Communist Party. At a stormy meeting of its central committee last week, Ferrarin, the leader of the left of the party, voiced the wards that millions of workers must have echoed:

"Our position must be clear. What is the basis on which contacts with the needs and ideas of the working class can be started? When we are determined and confident of the crisis, we can start from the fundamental fact that it is capitalism that has caused the crisis. We must clearly identify our enemy. The government, the multinational companies, the bourgeoisie. If, in the course of our struggle, the government and our own forces are divided, then we should do nothing without an armistice."

So much for 'democracy'

PORTUGAL'S rulers showed last week how hollow the talk of 'democracy' is. The run-up to Jan's presidential election, Delia da Carvalho, was imprisoned for four weeks for making a political speech. The trial is set to begin a series of manoeuvres by the right to hold a poll.

In elections earlier this year, more than half the voters supported candidates who claimed to be socialist, and a government of the Socialist Party was formed.

But the right wing is determined to get its way. It is using its control of the armed forces to put more and more pressure on the government to obey its orders.

Right-wing There have been a series of meetings of right-wing of various organisations. The underground committees for the defence of liberty have been set up, and the government is forced to obey its orders.

It has pushed through an education policy that enjoys strong backing, and has imposed a new labour law that restricts the unions. But these measures are creating problems with its own supporters.

Demonstration

The Socialist Party-run teachers union organised a massive demonstration against the Socialist Party Minister of Education.

In other Socialist Party-run unions, mass meetings have ordered the leadership to organise a general strike to overthrow the government. The leadership is forced to accept this option.

Unfortunately, the left has not been able to take full advantage of these splits. The Communist Party has advised its supporters not to resist the eviction of those occupying the land.

And the revolutionary left is split and confused over this. The Organisation ODI, which has called for a national strike, is split and confused over this. The Organisation ODI, which has called for a national strike, is split and confused over this. The Organisation ODI, which has called for a national strike, is split and confused over this. The Organisation ODI, which has called for a national strike, is split and confused over this. The Organisation ODI, which has called for a national strike, is split and confused over this. The Organisation ODI, which has called for a national strike, is split and confused over this. The Organisation ODI, which has called for a national strike, is split and confused over this. The Organisation ODI, which has called for a national strike, is split and confused over this.
Skelmersdale
Is this the Jarrow of the Seventies?

The trade unionists are defeated by the mass redundancies at Courtaulds and Smiths Industries in Skelmersdale. They have fought against the closures, but the factory gates are closed. Now they are living in the Jarrow of the Seventies.

By PAUL FOOT

In Skelmersdale, one of the wonders of the world, the factory gates are closed. Thousands of workers have lost their jobs. The town is in ruins. The streets are empty. The workers are despairing.

But there is hope. The trade unionists are not giving up. They are fighting back. They are determined to win.

The trade unionists have fought against the closures. They have marched and示威. They have picketed and struck. They have won some victories. But they have also lost some battles.

The trade unionists are determined to win. They are not giving up. They are not going to be defeated. They are going to fight back. They are going to win.

The trade unionists are not alone. They have the support of the community. They have the support of the trade union movement. They have the support of the workers of the world.

The trade unionists are not going to be defeated. They are going to win. They are going to live in Skelmersdale. They are going to live in a world where the workers are in control.

All out 17 November!
On the march again... the bible-punchers who threaten every woman

By Dr GERRY DAWSON

THE SPUC RALLIES this weekend will all be very English. Land of Hope and Glory over the megaphones, massed bands of clergymen, kids with white flowers and posses of happily submissive girls guides from cathedral towns.

They will probably say a prayer for the lost souls of ne’er-do-wells. But underneath the self-righteousness and face powder is a hard political edge and a tough organisation anxious to regain the initiative in the abortion campaign.

SPUC is determined to put the right to choose over abortion and a lot of other things, safely in the hands of those who know Best: the doctors, the Church and the State.

SPUC is a well-financed, hard-line religious organisation which believes, as does the Good Book, that the value of women results from their capacity for submission and the frequency with which they achieve the blessed state of motherhood.

It doesn’t say so, but instead it uses words such as ‘fear’, ‘reduction in love and love’, ‘we can all agree on very seriously’.

And they point out, quite correctly that the Hebrons, or the Hebrons of abortion, or the Hebrons of not permitting abortion,

SPUC, founded in January 1970, is in the opposition to the liberalisation of abortion, the law that allowed 10,000 abortions in November 1972 and which equalizes access to the ‘Hebron’ of abortion on all but the strictest grounds. And, unfortunately, the support of a lot of working-class people.

It says that an end to the ‘Hebron’ would be possible only if only a fraction of a youth which took childbearing and kids’ welfare seriously.

Urges

To get working-class sympathies they have a programme that will only appeal to unmarried mothers.

It’s a very simple point. But if we are to appeal to a large section of the population, then we must appeal to the people who are the most vulnerable.

It points out, quite accurately, that without these groups of reforms, abortion and contraception are just weapons in a state-population policy which doesn’t care a damn for women’s and men’s feelings.

There is one problem. SPUC MPs, every single one, voted for the Hebron package. So they don’t think they have gone far enough.

Mrs Jill Knight and Mr Norman St John-Stevas, founder members of SPUC, are against private medicine if abortion is encouraged, but consider it a waste of money in the freedom of the individual.

SPUC says it fights for single parent benefits, but when they were scrapped in the 1970s, the government was doing the same thing.

So there must be another way. And if SPUC put that strong, it would be asking for a spiritual and moral revival, a spiritual transformation - which will restore to the people the morals of society.

That’s not Mary Whitehouse or the Bible-hating, it’s Frederick Buechner, winner of the German festival of light which paved the way to Hitler.

With the National Front, at least you know where you stand. But with the religious-backed campaigns of organisations like SPUC, you have a miasma of hard-line people with a lot of working-class followers who would change their minds if it was arguend.

That’s who’s so important that socialists show the flag at this Sunday’s rallies with local NUT and social movement support.

Make next year Law and Disorder Year!

The theme of the 1977 Big Red Diary is Law and Disorder - the legal repression of capitalist society.

There’s a whole line in its diary taking the 20,000 you ask for the 100,000 you need for a real socialist movement.

Tell your friends, tell your tradesmen. Spread the word. Make your Big Red Diary the only diary in your house.

"On this Day in 1976" on the left page is signed "The Socialist Worker."
BUILD THE SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE!

Socialist Worker public meetings

'YOU will have to talk to me with my rifle in my hand. I find if I talk with my rifle in my hand the white man pays more attention to what I say. Once I put my rifle down I am nothing. I am just a dog to be kicked.'

These are the words of one of the leaders of the great African uprising against the white rulers of Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) in 1986. But they could have been said by any one of the thousands of young black guerrillas fighting the Smith regime today.

The settlers crushed the early rebellion. Machine gun and artillery fire from the Rhodesian Army to take refuge in caves. The white soldiers then threw dynamite and hand-grenades in after them.

When the Africans—many of them women and children—tried to render, the settlers were there waiting at the mouth of the cave and opened fire.

This was how the whites brought to-be-hunted-in-Zimbabwe. Today their descendants are defending the privileges they won in much the same way.

The report CIVIL WAR IN RHODESIA was smuggled out of Zimbabwe a few months ago. It describes the brutality with which Ian Smith's forces are hemming down on the African population.

Many peasants have been forced to leave their homes and live in protected villages under armed guard. In case they make contact with the guerrillas, they have orders to cremate their crops and if caught out of the village after dark, they can be shot on sight.

The Africans have died in this way since the war began.

Many more have been killed while 'running away from the 'burguers' or 'sneaking with guerrillas' by official definition. The report explains: 'Mingling with terrorists is not mere curiosity, it is being found in the company of insurgents. There is a widespread belief in the Muzilane area that the Security Forces are liable to open fire on people found near the place where a landmine has just exploded. 'The phrase can also indicate people suspected of being present at meetings called by insurgents.'

But all the beatings, torture, shootings have not quenched the spirit of the Zimbabwean people. The settlers have been forced to retreat and even to accept the principle of majority rule.

But the struggle is by no means over. The sort of future that Kambuzia and Chihawu envisage in store for Zimbabwe can be gleaned from a sad Professor of "The Burden of Blackness" report which runs through the massive Western in- vestments.

A huge dump in January 1975 the 40 Committee, the top American intelligence body which is heading Kenneth Brow, leader of the FNLA, for Angola.

With the money, according to Tony Hodges, the FNLA bought up the country's major's men's magazine, transferred a TV station and the leading daily paper from the Provincia de Angola, monopolizing as its editor Rui Cortes de Frietas, who had previously been real after being accused of complicity with the 28 September FTC fight-drug selling in Portugal. No doubt today in Zim- babwe Americans and British money is flowing into the pockets of 'moderate black leaders' such as Joshua Nkomo. As Kambuzia said in the case of Jonas Savim- bi, leader of Unita, Nkomo has close links with Lonrho, a big exploiter of black workers throughout Africa.

The trouble with these books is that they have little to say about the future course of the struggle in Southern Africa. This is especially true of the book by David Davidson, for Stow and Anthony Wilkinson, which after all is subtitled THE NEW POLITICS OF REVOLUTION.

They don't have much that's new to say. For them the struggle in Zimbabwe and South Africa is one to be waged by guerrillas in the countryside. There are few options. You wouldn't know from reading their book that there is a massive black 'working class of over six million in South Africa, or that there are nearly a million African workers in Zim- babwe. It is they, fighting not just apartheid, but the capitalist system itself, who will liberate Southern Africa.


SOUTHERN AFRICA SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN

BULLETIN: First issue out now. Articles on Transkei, black trade unions under apartheid, Zimbabwe, Soweto, racism at Heathrow Airport. London. 10p a copy plus 10p postage.

POSTER: With space for details of local activities. Two colours. £1 for 50.

DEMONSTRATION: Saturday 27 November, 1.30pm. outside Brixton Town Hall.

PICKET: Against National Front celebration of Renthemrance Day, Sunday 14 November, 2.30pm. at the Cenotaph, Whitehall, London.

PICKET: Annual general meeting of Consolidated Goldfields, one of the biggest exploiters of South Africa. Monday 22 November, 11.30am. at the Dorchester, Park Lane, London, W1.

GRAND FUND-RAISING BENEFIT SOCIAL: Friday 3 December, 8pm, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), Malet Street, London, W1, with The Dereicts and real ale.

An open letter to the Queen

Carnival: Why I oppose the police

At a recent meeting of the Maidstone branch of the union, the print workers’ union, two of the members passed congratulatory resolutions to the police for the work they did at the Notting Hill Carnival.

The branch subsequently agreed that I would bring this matter to the union by raising it at the next general meeting. I hope you would agree that all officers concerned should be removed from such a post.

Unfortunately I wasn’t able to attend the branch meeting, but I felt it was important to make people that before the Notting Hill massacre occurred, we were on the Right to March Without Killers.

Then there was the huge police raid on black people at the Crib Club, where all the people charged with assaulting the police were acquitted. Then there was the Red Lion Square incident, where a young student was killed.

What I’d like to know is in the £100,000 bail for the print workers union. I’ve since learned that the Notting Hill massacre was not actually an incident between police and trade unionists who got injured by the police.

What’s more, why wasn’t there any such incident at the last Maidstone Carnival? I’ve been told that the Maidstone Carnival was led by the employing class to cause disturbance among the working class. Trade unions should condemn this and not do their job for them by supporting police repression.

In closing I want to make it clear that I have no intention of bringing my union branch into it. But such a decision was taken by the Maidstone branch can only cause division among the working class in the fight for a multi-racial society.

B. BEENEY, SQUAT, 80 Detlingen Road, London SE11.

A Vermont-born lawyer by the name of Ms. Cutting.

...but dare you tell him to turn the other cheek?

If they say no, appeal!

I have been in the Social Security Department for the last three months. If I am entitled to benefits, please let me know.

SW Reader, London.

How not to fight against racism

If you want to know how to fight racism you would be wise to re-read your copy of W. B. Sutcliffe, Southall’s Labour MP, and Vishwanath Sharma, from the immigrant community, when they spoke in Woking.

What a pity that neither one ever said how to defeat the racists, that the answer must lie in the fight for power and in actively opposing racism and fascists.

That’s why I put it up with every day. So they go out and manhã things for want of ammunition, but to get their luck of money do what is now called ‘mugging’.

Of course all socialists hate violence...

THE ruling classes of the Western world deplore violence. We know this is so because it says so in the Daily Mail.

So it was with some surprise that I read of the Kent Police supreme court ruling on a case involving a young white student on a demonstration for the rights of those who face deportation. In my view, everyone concerned should be removed from such a post.

However, I would hope that in any future cases the courts would take into account the idea of looking at the whole picture and the social and economic conditions of the individual involved.

The need for a peaceful and democratic society is absolute.

The one thing that is bound to happen is the world is divided into two parts:

1. The rich who have everything
2. The poor who have nothing

If we can’t change the system we will have to change the people.

That is why Socialists should stand up against attempts to resist the death penalty in the USA for that matter, speaker of the House of Representatives.

Wayne Archer, Leicester.

If you want to know how to fight racism you would be wise to read your copy of W. B. Sutcliffe, Southall’s Labour MP, and Vishwanath Sharma, from the immigrant community, when they spoke in Woking.

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This is the way the majority of the working class has to live and die—sometimes even earlier than they should from asthma caused by pollution and appalling factory conditions.

This is the violence the working class people are forced to put up with every day. Does [Name] government really believe that we have to turn the other cheek?

There will be time for pacification after the revolution. But we will need to use violence to stop the violence that is being done against us every day.

No Illusions

I WOULD like to reply to Susan Goodman’s letter on pacification. While I agree with the argument that the Anglican church and the Church of England should be a voice against racism, I believe that pacification is not the answer.

When faced with military action, that well-known aim of the state, the police answer with their own violence in the name of Law and Order. What they do is destroy, kick, and punch anyone who gets in their way.

So while being sympathetic with Stax, I must say that I have no illusions about using force. Violent if necessary, to help the emancipation of the working class.

D.T. Jones, Kirby, Merseyside.
WHY KEEP ON ABOUT RUSSIA?
by Austin Danks TGWU Chrysler, Coventry

Fifty-nine years ago this month the workers and peasants of Russia seized state power. Why do revolutionary socialists of all persuasions keep on about it? What's so special about something that happened so long ago and seems to have been so totally destroyed?

The answers are simple. In Russia, in 1917, for only the second time in history—the first was the Paris Commune—ordinary people, workers and peasants, seized the government that was impossible for them to plan, and run their own lives through organisations—the soviets—that they themselves had built.

In Britain today we are still being taught that the affairs of the state must be left to a tiny ruling minority, that the business of running society is beyond our comprehension.

It's a lie, and the Russian revolution exposed that lie. In just 20 years all the vision, hope, enthusiasm and democracy of that revolution had been smashed. Smashed by a dictatorship that was to prove itself more brutal and oppressive than the one the workers had overthrown.

One of the slogans that Lenin's Bolshevik Party had led the revolution with was 'Peace, Land and Bread'.

Once in power they inherited a country that was hungry and tired of its war with Germany. Peace was signed 'at all costs' but the white armies, the forces of counter-revolution inside Russia, were not to let it last.

Russia was soon to be plunged into a bloody civil war that would leave it starved, disease-ridden, weak and demoralised. The workers who had been at the head of the revolution were in the front-line again.

By the time the counter-revolutionary armies had been defeated those that had not given their lives to the revolution were demoralised and war weary.

Devastated by the civil war, revolutionary Russia groaned under the burden of having to tackle the problems it had inherited.

Trotsky and Lenin regarded Russia as a beacon of freedom. It would be possible to take the first steps towards socialist planning and organisation. It would be possible to take the first steps towards socialist planning inside Russia, but if we were to try to break the shackles of capitalism, we would have to learn the lesson that it was possible for us to plan, and run our own lives through organisations—soon the soviets—that they themselves had built

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Devastated by the civil war, revolutionary Russia groaned under the burden of having to tackle the problems it had inherited.

The Bolsheviks had no choice. If they had not defeated their enemies, they were faced with the prospect of having their revolution wiped out by the counter-revolutionaries. They knew that they had to act quickly, and they did.

The war was over and the revolution was won. The Bolsheviks had shown that it was possible to seize state power, and they had shown that it was possible to hold onto it. They had shown that it was possible to transform society, and they had shown that it was possible to build a better world.

Lenin Volume 1
‘Building the Party’ from political obscurity to leader of a mass working class party. £3.30 including postage.

Lenin Volume 2
‘All power to the Soviets’ through to the first victorious proletarian revolution. £3.30 including postage.

by Tony Cliff

From Pluto Press, Unit 10 Spencer Court, 7 Charlton Road, London W11, or direct from any 15 bookshop.
GRANGEMOUTH: 1,700 men are occupying the BP Chemical Plant to demand that management negotiate with their plant representatives over pension and not, as management insists, with the national union officials.

Negotiations with the officials have produced an agreement which does not recognize the agitated members of the workforce.

PROTESTS: It is a standoff although there is a 180 per cent turnout for each shift. Our basic maintenance work is being done.

It is the first time in 20 years of the history of the plant that all the unions have agreed to call a stop to work.

The strike includes Transport and General, the craft unions, and also the supervisory staff in ASTMs.

A mass meeting two weeks ago took a unanimous decision that unless management agreed to negotiate with the shop stewards, industrial action would be taken.

And yes, the small employer, we're feeling very high and we are determined to win.

Despite very strong legal threats from the management, the members of all the craft unions ignored Ministerial instructions to return to work "because we are all in this together."

It's not enough! Ford workers say no to pay offer

OVERWHELMING majority of the country's 52,000 Ford workers have rejected the company's package of offers. Union negotiators were not satisfied that the company was making the biggest profits this year.

In particular, workers at the Dagenham plant were offered a long-standing grievance about pay-off, the package doesn't satisfy their demands.

Because of the Social Contract, the situation is that any fringe benefits come into the formula. It's the reason for rejecting the deal is simple. They're not getting enough pay under the Social Contract.

The Social Contract is offering of £2.50 to £4...but this has been increased by the strike, and their living payments have already fallen by a little over £2.

We are told that the country can't afford to pay higher wages, when it is making big profits this year.

Action

If we accept a miserable £2, the money will go on the Government's savings or to finance schools.

We know the answer it just makes bigger profits for Ford.

And are the rich making sacrifices for the country? Selling their rafts and yachts are expensive restaurants closing down? We know the answer.

The union negotiators recommended that we reject the deal. But are they going to fight for a better one?

None of the production lines are going to support their strike. Nobody is going to do it for them.

SOUTHAMPTON: When local leaders of industry, trade union officials met to discuss unemployment with the local council they were greeted by a picket of the local unemployed Workers Action Committee. One protestor was removed from the hall by police before the talks were able to begin. The result of the discussions was nothing. They came up with no solution to the problem.

Bingo women win support

CONVENTION: In the second week of their strike for union recognition, the 70 women at Club One bingo in Coventry have been joined by the 20 staff at the Radio Bingo Hall. The Radio is owned by Enterprise, the same firm that makes Bingo World.

From Arlene, one of the strike committee: "Social Services Worker: The club was closed down last week because of the strike. Oor must be losing a fortune.

He's getting so bored and the drummers aren't even playing the big. His takings must be less than ten per cent of the usual.

Last Monday only 60 or so customers came to the hall and called the picket. You can't expect this.

An official complaint has been sent to the Bingo management. The women want to join NAfKE and see Monday night, the NAfKE official crossed the picket line, helped new customers into the hall and called the picket. You can't expect this.

SOUTHAMPTON: When local leaders of industry, trade union officials met to discuss unemployment with the local council they were greeted by a picket of the local unemployed Workers Action Committee. One protestor was removed from the hall by police before the talks were able to begin. The result of the discussions was nothing. They came up with no solution to the problem.
Defend Little Ilford Teachers!

by BETH LIGHT
NUT executive member, in a personal capacity.

EAST LONDON: 30 teachers at Little Blond School, Newham, have been suspended from their teaching duties after being advised by the National Union of Teachers (NUT). General secretary Fred Snowdon confirmed the Newham Education Authority that the teachers were being advised "not to teach" and "to give up" their teaching responsibilities.

The suspension of the teachers is one of the major problems facing schools in the area, where there are allegations of bullying and harassment.

The teachers have been advised not to teach until further notice. The suspension is said to be in connection with an alleged failure to comply with a request from the Education Authority.

The teachers have been advised to take their cases to the Employment Appeals Tribunal. The teachers have been advised to take their cases to the Employment Appeals Tribunal.

POLICE ATTACK FILM WORKERS FEARFUL OF PICKET LINE

NORTH WEST LONDON: The same police that attacked the pickets on Friday, March 6, attacked the pickets on Friday, March 14, at the Grunwick film processing factory. It was the first day of effective picketing by the film workers.

Management stood by as police tried to drag the picketers from the factory gates. Some of the picketers were arrested. Labour Councillor Cyril Shaw, who was taking down a picket line at the factory, was one of those arrested.

Two hundred and fifty workers at the factory went on strike for 12 weeks on union recognition.

On Monday the Post Office backed all Grunwick workers. As most of their work is now in the hands of the pickets, the strike has been declared a success.

The ban on picketing at the factory gates has been lifted.

Solidarity

Minding the job is now done by workers and not by company agents.

The union has won a battle and is now fighting for a war.

The picket line continues.

Picket Callaghan!

NORTH LONDON: Prime Minister James Callaghan has made it clear that his government is committed to education and is not going to meddle with the union movement.

The government has said that it is committed to the principles of the 1976 Education Act and is not going to change them.

The government has also said that it will not interfere with the rights of the union movement.

The union movement has said that it will not allow the government to interfere with the rights of the union movement.

NUPE members rally round black nurses

by IAN AUSTIN
NUPE chairman, Selly Oak Hospital.

BIRMINGHAM: Three black nurses who were recently in hospital, have been offered jobs at Selly Oak Hospital. But the Home Office is refusing them work.

Other nurses are finding their permits being delayed.

The Home Office is refusing to give permits to black nurses.

The Department of Employment has issued a statement that all black nurses must have a work permit to work.

Selly Oak Hospital branch of the public employees union NUPE has called a meeting this Thursday to decide action.

The union has scheduled a meeting for this Thursday.

The union is calling for a meeting on the same day.

The union has called for a meeting on the same day.

When the next round of contracts is due to be negotiated, the union will have lost its power to negotiate.

Hospital workers must fight, and that means fighting for the government.

The public employees union NUPE is trying to get round the work permit regulations.

The union is trying to get round the work permit regulations.

We want a nursery", says occupation.

EAST LONDON: the High Court has ordered the closure of the nursery in the city, of thousands of young children of low income families. Many of the children are employed and cannot get work because there is nowhere to take the kids during the day and no one to look after them.

The Right to Work Campaign is determined to do something. They are planning to try to run the occupation until the authorities promise to open the building as a nursery.

The campaign is appealing to all families for support. They are asking all mothers who need nurseries facilities to bring their kids along and show the authorities just how great that need is.

The campaign has already employed members of the campaign to be housed in the building and a public meeting was held on the occupation.

Masses of support and donations to Easterhouse Right to Work Campaign, c/o Willie Sloan, 7 Easterhouse Place, Easterhouse, Glasgow.
500 TONS OF DEATH DUMPED IN BLOXWICH

The toll so far: 1 dead, 6 maimed

By Laurie Flynn

Why is this deadly poisonous waste dumped in the open, where it can kill anyone?

Because the firms which were prepared to profit from it were not prepared to make it safe.

RIO TINTO ZINC, who supplied the material without knowing it was toxic, were bound to do so.

R.L. CUSICKS, a firm of metal specialists in Warrington, who bought the load of waste from R.J.C., is closely related to R.T.Z. Cusick's main responsibility for the Market Drayton deal whereby the waste was processed by Wheeler and Pearall was given by their main buyer, who had earlier taken over by R.J.C.

WHEELER AND PEARALL, the processors. Assured by the disaster happened. Wheeler and Pearall managers looked around for somewhere to dump the poisonous waste.

They tried to find a safe site, but it wouldn't work. They were hit by the full force of the poisonous waste, the various associated protective agencies, the Salop County Council, the Severn Trent Water Authority, the West Midlands Metropolitan County Council Pollution Control Unit, and the assistance of all the police forces between Market Drayton and Walsall. They loaded up a lorry and drove their deadly waste to Walsall.

Then they dumped it behind the EC Slough factory, an R.J.C. subsidiary. The local factory inspectors, who had apparently not been told, knew not what to do. It is safe.

Wheeler and Pearall are in no doubt that the waste is deadly dangerous and that if air samples were taken a huge hazard would show up.

Last week Socialist Worker asked the health and safety writer and campaigner Pat Kennerly in Walsall.

His report has been placed in the hands of various shop stewards' committees in the community.

Walsall needs a determined stand and the attempt to clean up the town and make it a safe place to work and live in.

Otherwise the profits of R.I.O Tinto Zinc will carry on their highly profitable activities. And they will kill again.

In the I.S.C. plant, workers complain of zinc chills, a flu-like illness caused by heavy exposure to toxic metal fumes. Behind the plant, 500 tons of arsenic-contaminated waste have been dumped in the open. When questioned earlier this year for having waste that gave off toxic smoke from tinfoil levels of arsenic gas, the company somehow managed to obtain a not guilty verdict from local health inspectors.

Picture John Stenwood

FIVE HUNDRED TONS of deadly poisonous, arsenic-contaminated industrial waste, which has already killed one man and disabled six others, is lying in open ground in Bloxwich, Walsall.

It is covered off by a few flimsy bits of rope. It is fully accessible to children who live nearby.

In the rain, deadly fumes can be released which can swiftly overcome human beings.

Then the arsenic takes its toll.

At first it causes headaches, sickness and weakness. Then the arsenic slowly dissolves the red blood cells, treasuring up for life or killing you.

The waste was dumped by Wheeler and Pearall, a firm in Market Drayton, Shropshire.

They had agreed to process the waste, which came from the huge Rio Tinto Zinc smelting plant at Aveston, near Bristol.

While they were processing it, last September, a major disaster took place.

Seven workers were overcome by the fumes, and were rushed to hospital. For two days, doctors fought for their lives. All seven had two complete charges of blood, Roger Huggill, 22, who had been married six weeks earlier, died.

His six sons survived, severely damaged nervous systems, without normal sensation in the arms and legs. Without normal control of movement. Some cannot even shake hands without feeling intense pain.

The trial of the firm will start on Tuesday at Walsall magistrates' court.

The defendants, who face a variety of charges from assault to obstruction, are Pat Kennerly, journalist, threatening behaviour.

Mick Halles, book seller, and Alan Jackson, 1458 branch of the National Union of Railwaymen.

Another six marchers in court

Rightman for waging his own war and aiming at making profits and then to have been dragged into the police trap.

Mick had no way of knowing who they were. He has been dragged into a police trap.

PC Mathieson of the Special Patrol Group claims to have arrested Mick.