With Christmas and New Year approaching (as we go to press) many miners will be torn between their support for the strike and their loyalty to the union. With the desire to provide their families and themselves with a 'traditional' festive period. Despite this added pressure the N.C.B.'s attempt to bribe miners back to work with their already-earned holiday pay and tax returns has failed to create a significant return.

Although great emphasis has, is and will be put on the numbers working and returning this is, in reality, just the propaganda war. The N.C.B. needs to create the impression that the strike is crumbling and they have used every method of distortion, misinformation and downright lying to achieve this end. Despite the Board and the government stating that 60,000 miners were working as early as July, the Board's more recent figures have only just reached 60,000.

In July the NCB was including all members of NACODS and APEX, all the management and those miners doing NUM-approved safety work, as working NUM members.

PROlassenPAWAR

Behind the propaganda war of numbers returning or not, is the figures of the real war and what the strike is all about, the amount of coal being produced. Despite the NCB's jumping for glee at every half-empty minibus entering a pit, in the production war they have nothing to smile about as this is definitely being won by the miners.

Even using the Coal Board's figures, in late November of a pre-strike weekly production of 2,239,000 tons only 581,000 is being produced, this is just over 25% and despite an increase of those working, this figure is unlikely to change.

In the Nottingham, Leicester, South Derby fields, the pride of the NCB, production figures are down by 30%, due not only to those heroic strikers, but also to the still continuing overtime ban. This is going to remain so until the end of the strike, as even the Board admits that the drift back to work stopped three months ago in these areas and the overtime ban will remain.

In the other coalfields, despite the increasing number of working miners, the Board is going to find it extremely difficult to start serious production, other than the symbolic bringing to the surface of pre-strike dug coal. Along with the problem of getting the right mix of skills and the right numbers, the Board is faced with the militancy of many of the pit deputies. Where there are enough miners working to start some production the Board has been hampered by the refusal of many deputies to cross picket lines. This has led the NCB to send out intimidating letters threatening to stop the deputies' wages if they refuse to cross picket lines at certain pits, such as Ellington in Northumberland. This testing of the water by the NCB has so far gone against them as they have been forced to withdraw their threats on the reminder of the deputies' 83% strike vote over this issue.

WORKING CLASS

The most important thing for the mining communities at Christmas and New Year is the effect it will have on their overall morale, and whether they enter 1985 rested, revitalised and united or depressed and divided. This, of course, depends on the amount of support the mining communities get from the rest of the working class to provide the toys, food and booze that make up Christmas, and although the miners have been let down by the T.U.C., certain unions and the Labour Party during this strike, let's hope that over the holiday period they are given enough support by the rest of the working class to carry out their fight against pit closures.

M. (S. Yorkshire DAM)

Miners' appeal to the public

SANTA NICKED! ON NOV. 15, SANTA WAS ARRESTED OUTSIDE HAMLEY'S TOY SHOP IN LONDON, WITH 4 OTHER MEMBERS OF THE WESTMINSTER MINERS SUPPORT GROUP.
MINERS: SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

After 7 months of the miners' struggle, information in France is poor concerning the evolution of the strike, and it is feared that the British miners are being isolated. In the whole of Europe today, the Governments are inventing a crisis and restructuring society, giving preference to nuclear power, freezing all other programs (social, wind and geo-thermal).

In CNT-IWA we think that there has to be a restructuring of society. But machines, robots, and all technology must be applied in the interests of the working class.

Under those conditions, the miners' struggle is also the struggle of the international working class. Under those conditions, one is an injury to all.

In Solidarity.

CONFEDERATION NATIONALE DU TRAVAIL (FRANCE) IAW
Long live Direct Action
Long live Anarcho-syndicalism.

THE OVERLAPPING THOUSANDS OF GUILDER TO THE NUM
(DVB, DUTCH SYNDICATES)

When Kinnock rejoined his companions in the bar, told them what he had done. One went back in to check, but the youth had gone. "I was told to throw some food and vomit all over the floor," says Kinnock. A few hours later he boarded a train out of Brighton.

THEM AND US

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

The CNT-IWA condemns this attitude, a national ballot is voting for the sacking of comrades.

Like all sections of the IWA, CNTF is giving out a radio in Paris, and a paper all over the country — about the actual situation of miners and their fight to break the wall of silence.

SPOT THE HYPOCRITE!

Kinlock the man who condones violence seems to have changed his position since he became leader. The following quotation is a quote from his biography which appeared in the Guardian newspaper.

"The ugliest week of his political career was rounded off on a Friday lunchtime, when he was pulled into the Grand Hotel. He was alone, washing his hands, when a young man walked in. Kinlock paid him no attention. Suddenly the youth swung around, pulled him in close. "Then I beat the shit out of him," he said.

"It's a fact," said the youth. "I was just doing my job."

The other comment is the absence of a national ballot on the strike.

Every time the speakers are free of work, comments are made that "the yard workers from Birkenhead have been sold out". "The bosses over conditions, the yard voted against the occupation, they got no support but for a few hundred pickets outside Camell Lairds roughly once a week, the GMBATU did nothing, the GMBATU locally did nothing, they had a token one day strike on Wed, 17th Oct, the socialist, 80% of our members didn't want to know. A demonstration was called by Kinlock before the holiday, 14 October, but they hardly told anyone about it, no posters, no leaflets, they actually had a situation where they had their demo with about 1,000 people turn.

Why wait until they were sent to prison in order to hand back power to them? Strike Action should have been called the moment the whole dispute over redundancy took place, but this is reformist trade unionism for you. There should have been mass pickets outside Walton prison stopping things going in that has nothing to do with the prisoners, instead there was only a few people standing around each day.

SOURCE: RISING FREE.

THEM AND US

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

Worldwide society is a class society based on division of labor. The most obvious division is between the ruling class and the class oppressed and exploited — the working class.

While the workers produce all the wealth, the ruling class controls the means of production and distribution using the workers labour in order to preserve profits, for profit as opposed to need. This keeps us deprived, isolated, working for a state of servitude, forced to sell ourselves in order to survive, in workplaces where we are bossed about and exploited. In return workers get a worthless handful of paper called a wage.

These legal robbers need an organization to protect their power, which is found in the institutions of the state that is the state, legislature, police courts, prison, civil service, armed forces, school, religion, and the media. The state is founded on compulsion, fear and violence, to repress the working class as acting as thinking for ourselves, from controlling our own lives and environment, and thinking profitable property that is capitalism. The only way the ruling class can exist and do what it needs to divide us. That is where the state moves in to control the minds, keep education system and the family unit. They breed neo-consociationalists and assess us, and all other derogatory attitudes to keep us at each others throats. The state has moved in to development as human beings, squashing the growth of our individuality, individualism, to smash the growth of solidarity. With their values and lifestyles we are allowed to compete and dominate each other and to conform to a set uniformed life style. Obedience to those in authority is essential to the state in order for them to exploit us, make profits out of us, and to go to war to murder and be murdered by setting one group of workers against another.

The bosses have other means also, when they have a weakness and isolation when the yard voted against the occupation they sold out? Revolutionary anarchists are opposed to all institutions, to all political fights. To tackle the bosses over conditions you must tackle the whole system. That's about all. Big business simply wouldn't allow a bunch of politicians to fundamentally change class society even if they wanted to, (remember Chile?) It is the system runs by State rises who run society, along with top civil servants, people like Kinnock the man who con—

CAMELL LAIRDS

Kinnock the man who con—

THEM AND US

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

CAMEL LAIRDS

The 37 Camel Laird shipyard workers from Birkenhead head in merside who were jailed for a month for content. 37 court after refusing to end their occupation in defence of joblosses were taken from their sentencing. They are continuing their struggle.

On October 22nd the scabs at the Camel Lairds 37 by a member of the Liverpool Direct Action Group.

The struggle for the city council run by MILITANT has amounted to nothing, apart from proving what the bosses mean when they offer a title or honour of Freedom of the City (sic). What did they do to free the 37?

The 37 are GMBATU members, they got no support but for the people really have got viol—

THEM AND US

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

SOLIDARITY FROM FRANCE

We say fight for your class not for your country.

G. (L.D.A.G.)
"Labour, obligatory for the whole country, compulsory for every worker, is the essence of socialism." - TROTSKY.

"A general prohibition of choice is for modern workers (with the existence of large scale industry and hence an empty, plious wish.)" - MARK.

"The most unremorseful agitators with production - minded trade unionists." - TROTSKY.

Common to most Marxists in the criticism of Lenin and the Bolsheviks Today, as before the Bolshevik coup, the Marxists stress that there is a struggle for workers' control of society, yet once in power, the tendency to workers' self-management, freedom of expression... in short, classless, class-free socialism... are dropped, and we are left with merely another dictatorship. From Lenin to the present, this inevitable process has been repeated, as it always was the case, the dictatorship behind them is Marxism... a philosophy of authoritarianism.

The early period of the Russian Revolution was a time of intense construction, and the workers administered the economy through factory committees, trade-unions, syndicates and cooperatives. This syndicalist practice was opposite to that of the Bolsheviks (a small party, 40% of them from the bourgeoisie class) who were based on state organisations and centralisation as opposed to federalism, and nationalisation as opposed to workers control and centralisation. Never the less Lenin realised the mood of the workers and in the name of workers control and "all power to the soviet" Trotsky became his heir. This organisational shock many Bolsheviks, and they did not have to worry.

NO CONVICTION

Lenin's "anarchist" programme had no conviction but to show. "Labour, obligatory for the whole country, compulsory for every worker, is the essence of socialism." - TROTSKY.

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In contrast

In contrast, while militant workers and political dissidents (Social Revolutionaries, Anarchists and others) filled the jails, ex-businessmen and Imperial civil servants joined both the Party and the burgeoning State machine. It was to defend and increase the power of the bureaucracy (which Trotsky absurdly called "an efficient, classless society"), that the Bolsheviks, in the period 1917-21 attacked the trade-unions, councils, and unions which had sprung up during the revolution. They developed a remorseless policy not only to be expected, given the Bolsheviks' ideas and the State's belief in taking power on behalf of workers and peasants... who, they claimed, are incapable of controlling their own lives. Under the Bolshevists, they were not permitted to try.
THE FUTURE IS OURS?

MAYBE

INTRODUCTION -
The text which follows is a policy analysis by the Policy Committee of DAM, and was given as a lecture at the North West Regional Day School in Bolton in December. It is expected that some readers will have missed this, so we have drawn this analysis at both a Regional and National level, so that people may acquaint themselves with the arguments so that its implications may be fully digested. Any suggestions from non-members would also be welcome.

THE FUTURE IS OURS - MAYBE

IS IT going to be a 1985 victory for Direct Actionists? Has the shopfloor shit it? If the miners lose, what then? Will their commitment to collectivism, their militancy? Is Thatcher's vision about to triumph in Britain? Are the Yanks in money? Maybe the Japanese in suicides? Will we come to surpass the West? Did the miners win? Did the Yanks win? Did the Japanese win?

On the surface, crudely presented, the struggle is between the 'top' and the 'bottom'. It is because the left and the right both believe that the struggle will depend on them doing something about the inequality of society's underdogs - the poor, the disabled, the unorganised, the part-timers and the part-timers' leaders, in this way, Mrs Thatcher has done us all a good turn, unwittingly she may also have provided shopfloor militants, direct actionists and non-members anarchistic weapons on the shopfloor to use against the union bosses, and the machinery of the TUC? Industrial actionists think that the miners' leaders seem to have escaped the Government's Festival of Funnichism. "I'm no fieldmarshall" says Norman Willis, and it's as if everyone had just realised: the King has no clothes.

In exposing the union bosses and the Labour Party leaders, in this way, Mrs Thatcher has done us all a good turn. Unwittingly, she may also have provided shopfloor militants, direct actionists and non-members anarchistic weapons on the shopfloor to use against the union bosses, and the machinery of the TUC? Industrial actionists think that the miners' leaders seem to have escaped the Government's Festival of Funnichism. "I'm no fieldmarshall" says Norman Willis, and it's as if everyone had just realised: the King has no clothes.

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This requires a note to be placed on the implications of the miners' strike and its impact on the wider social and economic context.

The miners' strike is not a simple expression of industrial conflict, but rather a reflection of underlying social and political tensions.

The direct actionists must start the job of organising underdogs - the unemployed, the low paid, the young and the unorganised. Remembering that the system corrupts us all and poor alike - they should also prepare to resist power-seeking cliques in these classes.

We call on all the organs of the libertarian movement, Direct Action, Black Flag, Freedom, etc, to stop their family quarrels, and prepare for the challenge which will face us in the 1980s, as large numbers of workers, the poor and the unemployed look for a radical alternative to state socialism.

Brian Bamford (Rochdale DAM) and Jim Petty (Burnley DAM) on behalf of the Policy Committee.

APPENDICES:

Accepting that the Government is engaged in a scheme to restructure the economy - one consequence of the undermining of the unions - the Policy Committee feel the Government must support the Miners' strike.

In the event of the Miners losing their strike:

(a) A post-1926 General Strike situation.
(b) A TUC split - with right wing companies forming a new trade union federation.
(c) A new situation with the British labour movement more fragmented as in France, Italy and Spain.

It is early days, but the T & G has been split from NUM to form a new miners federation.

A speaker from Yorkshire N.U.M.

CONGRESS for Industrial Action
To be held at Burnley Labour club On Sat. Jan. 19th, At 10 am.

Speakers: Peter Heathfield, General Sec. of NUM. Tony Crowther, Nat. Sec. of NUM (NUR). A speaker from Yorkshire N.U.M.
AIMS, PRINCIPLES & STATUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ASSOCIATION — Rebel

The basic ideas of revolutionary syndicalism agreed upon and implemented by the Workers Federation of the International Workers' Association (I.W.A.) since the 1922 Berlin Congress of the I.W.A., with revisions up to 1979.

ANARCHO-SYNDICALISM, RACISM AND STRUGGLE — South London DAM (15p):

The case for working class solidarity and against racism (which only benefits the ruling class by dividing workers), including a brief history of British racism, as well as suggestions for combating it.

DAM (25p) =

unions in recent years, with an outline of the syndicalist alternative to reformist unionism.

DIRECT ACTION IN INDUSTRY — DAM (25p):

Outlines, with the aid of concrete examples from syndicalist experience, of some alternatives to the 'open mouth' strike, like the 'good work' strike, sabotage, the 'open mouth' strike etc.

HUNGARIAN WORKERS' REVOLUTION — Kulak Press (45p):

A reprint of a syndicalist Workers Federation pamphlet written at the time. It is a brief account of one of the most important struggles in recent European working-class history.

STRIKE ACTION — South London DAM (20p):

Some suggestions on how to run and win strikes.

(All the above are available from the Publications Commission, c/o 3 London DAM, 122 Ratcliffe Rd, London SE2. Please add postage.)

ANARCHISM AND FEMINISM — Medway DAM (30p):

Why feminists should be anarchists and why anarchists must be feminists.

LENIN AND WORKERS' CONTROL — Medway DAM (10p):

This pamphlet shows how the simple, Leninist slogan 'All Power to the Soviets' actually was, as the Bolsheviks, and Lenin in particular, proved to be implacable enemies of workers' control. Required reading for Trotskyists.

WOMEN WORKERS AND THE TRADE UNIONS — Hull DAM (10p):

Women's negative experience of the British trade unions and syndicalist strategies for increasing the power of women workers.

(3 pamphlets above are available from Medway DAM, Action King St, DLL, Kent. Again, please add postage.)

Other recommended publications (Not DAM):

'ANARCHY' (Quarterly, 75p): Box A, 8th Whitechapel High St, London E1.

'BLACK FLAG' (Fortnightly, 25/30p): Q1, 75p/subs, or £10.50 for 6 months): BM 121 Railton Rd, London SE2.

'HURRICANE', LONDON, WC1N 6XX.

'WORKERS SOLIDARITY!' — paper of the Workers Solidarity Movement (20p/issue, £5 or £2.50 for 6 months): WSM, P.O. Box 1528, Dublin 8, Ireland.

Subscription rates per 6 issues (1)

UK & IRELAND £2.00

OVERSEAS £2.50

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Cut out and send to: DIRECT ACTION MOVEMENT, c/o DAM, 90 Cockridge Street, Leeds 2.

LS2 JAW: on behalf of Hull DAM, until we get a postal address from them.

Cheques/PO's payable to DIRECT ACTION. Make sure to state articles do not apply to any one else apart from the DAM.

Cut out and send to: DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED. DIRECT ACTION MOVEMENT (British Section of the International Workers Association) is a federation of groups and individuals who believe in the principles of anarchism-syndicalism. In order, the workers must take over the means of production and distribution. We are the sworn enemies of those who would take over the means of production for need not profit.

A3 size

I would like to know more about the DAM/IWA. Please send me more information. I enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

NAME

ADDRESS

Occupation

TRADE UNION

Cut out and send to: DAM/IWA, c/o 223 Greenwood Road, Benchill, MANCHESTER M22 7HB.
SYNDICALIST UNIONS

Anarcho-syndicalism is a theory of workers organisation which differs from Trade Unionism in several important ways. The first and most important difference from Syndicalism is the consciously revolutionary one of placing control of industry— all industry—into the hands of the workers in each industry. The Trade Unions have never pretended to be more than defensive organisations maintained by the support (compulsory support in some cases) of the workers, for the defence of standards of living and working conditions within capitalist society.

Syndicalism on the other hand, is not content with fighting for better conditions within capitalist society, although it does offer the most effective means of so doing. But syndicalism realises that as long as capitalist society exists, so long will the worker be exploited for the sake of profit. As long as the worker is content to be a wage earner, so long will he be robbed of the greater part of the value of his/his product. As long as industry—controlled from above, either by private owners or by the State, so long will the worker be a pawn in a game played by others.

Anarcho-syndicalism, therefore, aims at the abolition of capitalist society, all that supports it and all that it implies. It aims at the abolition of the State. It aims at the creation in its place of a society of a decentralised character based only upon the two fields of activity—economic and industrial. Combining with local communities organisations for the administration of local amenities and affairs—syndicalism lays down the structure for the organisation of production and distribution, not for the profit of employer of State, but to satisfy freely all the needs of the community.

INDUSTRIAL UNITY

As opposed to the craft basis of the Trade Union, Syndicalism demands Industrial Organisation. The many anomalies of craft organisation, whereby workers in the same factory do not necessarily belong to the same union, and do not necessarily support each other in strikes, for example, are only equalled by the "mixed bag" aspect of the huge general unions like the Transport and General Workers Union.

The principle adhered to by the syndicates would be "organisation at the point of production" which concentrates the workers' strength where it is most effective. After all, if the aim of the workers is to be the seizure of the means of production, it is absolutely fruitless to organise according to where one may live! The effective organisation will be one created on the job, finding its expression through shop committees and federated syndicates.

OFFICIALS

There is no need for the full-time paid official in a syndicate. One of the evils of Trade Unionism is the creation of a class of bureaucrats ostensibly working for the benefit of the rank and file but in actual fact, because of inflated salaries, out of touch and out of the class of the rank and file. Such people have a vested interest in the present society. The unions to whom they are attached have their funds invested in Government stock. Their salaries depend on the security of that stock—how can they be expected to desire a change in a society in which they have such interests? And since the unions to-day are recognised as part of the State, the union officials are no more than a civil servant than a representative of the workers.

For the waging of the class struggle through syndicates, no bureaucracy is needed. The efficient organisation of action calls for a temporary delegate who can be chosen either to represent the workers case, make contact with other workers or to perform necessary functions, but remuneration for such activity should not be expected.

This unalterable principle would discourage job-seekers or climbers. Electors here would almost inevitably ensure the most capable person for any job, chosen not by function, but remuneration for such activity should not be expected. This unalterable principle would discourage job-seekers or climbers.

An alternative proof is that these delegates should have no voice to make decisions on behalf of others. They are delegates, not representatives, and must have complete freedom to accept any offers or moves so that a decision can be taken by all the workers involved.

ANTI-MILITARISM

Syndicates recognise the reactionary nature of nationalism. They do not recognise the validity of political and national boundaries. Syndicalism is international in design and aspirations. It aims to organise the working class so that the movement of labour is not being directed by any political thought, but free to express themselves. Syndicate of one country, colour or creed and by uniting them under the banner of Freedom, unite them for common action against their common enemy— the international ruling class.

It follows logically that Anti-Militarism is a principle of Anarcho-Syndicalist theory and practice, since it is in the military caste that nationalism and patriotism find their expression. Not only that, but the armed forces do not exist for the purposes of local attack or defence, but are most important counter-revolutionary weapons in the hands of the State. If anti-militarist propaganda can have full effect before the revolutionaries, that task is greatly simplified.

Syndicalists oppose war as being the clash of ruling classes, never fought in the interests of the workers. The class who only fight and die for the preservation of capitalism under one form or another.

METHODS

What are the methods of Anarcho-Syndicalism? They can be summed up briefly under the words "Direct Action".

Since syndicates do not exist for political purposes or any part of the political machine, it would be illogical to take part in political strife. Since the society at which they aim is a society without class, who only fight and die for the preservation of capitalism under one form or another.

Direct Action means making the social use of such weapons as the strike with all its variations (lightning, work-to-rule, stay-in), boycott and sabotage, finding their full expression in the Social General Strike wherein the workers lock out the bosses and commence to work the means of production for the benefit of all. The most important act now, however, is the task of education and enlightenment to make the workers realise their strength and responsibility and to inspire them to prepare now for the final struggle.

PHILIP SANSOM.

N.B. This article was written many years ago when Philip Sansom was still an anarchist-syndicalist. The original contained some sexist use of language which we have taken it to be liberty of changing.
At the C.B.I. Conference in November, Mr. Eric Hammond the EEPTU's general secretary suggested that the Union should be allowed to join the Confederation of British Industry; openly stating his position of class collaboration. This is the same union which has been making no-strike deals with the bosses, and who so spinelessly backed down in the face of the court order against the strikers at Austin-Rover recently, ordering a return to work. The EEPTU seems to be moving towards total surrender to the bosses and Tory robbing of the workers as the model for the future. We as Direct Actionists totally reject such moves as it would take away what few freedoms of action we have in the workplace; leading to an intensification of discipline and arbitrary management authority, with the unions purely as a conveyer belt to control us from above. Oppose all state shackles, Bosses Unions, the marks of the slave society.

With the collapse of the Austin Rover strike the management at Cowley assembly plant openly told the Financial Times that they hoped the workers demoralisation would allow them to re-impose discipline on the workers. To help in this process the management wrote to all its Cowley workers threatening that in future wildcat strikers at Austin Rover will be sacked. The letter said, "All employees should be in no doubt that the people responsible for the present, union disruption will find their own employment terminated." Already a woman steward at Longbridge has been hit with the allegedly hitting three scabs during the strike.

Militancy

Direct Actionism is desperate to crush the signs of militancy from some newly involved activists. The Financial Times of November 26th said, "The likley to restore to this troubled plant reflects the failure of the Austin Rover management to institute reforms and discipline in a man union-management team of inquiry set up in the wake of the damaging washing up strike."

The response seems to be a passive resistance to the anti-union laws that is it will not panic the line but probably won't take active steps like the NUM to hide its leaders. The T&G will also not mount any serious opposition to the spate of legal attacks on the unions in Ireland. If the orders of courts of law in this country are not obeyed then the only result is a step towards anarchy," Mr Justice Hodgson on fining the T&G. Sounds like a good thing!

The outcome of action by the TUC to back its formal opposition to government affairs is likely to lead to right wing union leaders pushing for the destruction of the formal opposition, and push for making deals with the bosses.

CLASS STRUGGLE

The response of the TUC to overtures remains to be seen but its negative attitude has always been one of almost total contempt for even the most 'moderate' of union leaders. It is clear that Thatcher and the present Government understand the reality of class struggle and are not ashamed of fighting for the class - the ruling class.

We as Direct Actionists see that the class must fight these people in defence of our class through the unions we belong to. We believe militancy through the rank and file, and must argue effectively; to transform the unions to fight back militantly through the rank and file, and must argue that the most 'moderate' of union leaders.

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Since the summer thirteen young workers have been picketing Dunnes in Dublin's Henry Street. They are not looking for more pay or improved conditions even though they could well do with them. They are on a strike in solidarity with workers three thousand miles away in South Africa.

South African regime.

SHABLABOUR

Mary Manning was suspended when she refused to sell South African food. Twelve workers walked out with her and started picketing. Dunnes responded by putting non-union part-timers on the checkout stands and arranging deliveries from the scab firm MFM in Tallaght. Strikers have been assaulted by these scabs and managers.

The picket is having an effect; on a Saturday the shop is almost empty. Managers have been pretending to be/customers to you and me that one when you see the same guy pushing a half empty trolley around for four hours in a row.

ESCALATE

Dunnes have shops all over Ireland, which will allow Ben Dunne to prolong the strike. The union officials have been trying to get the other shops to explain their case, and they haven't called for a strike through out the Dunnes chain.

This would be the way to win. If the strike is brought about to Dunne's will have to settle quickly. It simply proves yet again that union bureaucrats cannot be relied on to escalate action. A defeat here will spread demoralisation among shop workers. On the other hand a victory over Dunnes will give workers all over Ireland a solid victory over the boycott. It will also give them the confidence to demand higher pay and an end to the petty harassment suffered by shop workers. A victory here is a victory for both black workers in South Africa and for shop workers in Ireland.

SOURCE: WORKERS SOLIDARITY (ALAN MACSIMOIN)

DUNNES IN SOLIDARITY