

* Economist Backs Brown

** Many More Millionaires

*** Armed Peruvian Peasants Seize Land

THE

BULLETIN

An Information Service
for
Socialists

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Letter to Readers.

We bring to the notice of readers the fact that the new T.U./Labour party paper Union Voice has just issued its first edition. We commend this paper to readers and urge them to sell the paper in the workers' organisations. We also request readers to support the 'unemployment lobby' at the House of Commons and the demonstration (full details in our next issue) on Wednesday 13th. February, in solidarity with the unemployed and to sell 'Union Voice.'

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The British ruling class and its minions, the Tory Government, have suffered a serious defeat with the ending of the Brussels negotiations. As has been said the defeat is not a mortal blow (only the working class can inflict this) but it is one which will cause major problems in all aspects of its activities. The ruling class was banking upon entry into the Common Market to lay the basis for a thorough rationalisation of British industry and to get into the largest and fastest growing market in the world. This dream is ended (at least for the time being) and they now have the task of formulating an alternative policy. Their problems are manifold and have a logic of their own, for instance, if they go too far along certain paths (e.g. devaluation or export subsidy) the door to the Market may close for a long time. On the other hand if they don't act decisively and quickly they will face another round of balance of payment crises, alternating with inflation, and a continuation of stagnation. For a whole period there will be a 'crisis of policy' whilst the various factions in the ruling class struggle to get their particular solution adopted.

Socialists should not, of course, be worrying about how the ruling class will solve its problems but, instead, how we can use this situation to get rid of the ruling class. If we consider what solution the capitalist decides upon it is only to see how this will affect the working class and the relationship of class forces. Many of the factors which will influence their final decision are not yet clear, e.g., what effect de Gaulle's behavior will have on the structure of the Common Market. Whatever solution they decide upon it is bound to be at the expense of the working class. They will attack the working class directly, by another attempt to impose a wages pause or even cutting certain wage rates (there have been 2 examples this week), and/or indirectly, by speeding up rationalisation of industry, etc. As we noted last week, a likely way of this being done would be to apply 'the blunt test of competitive imports, in order to weed out the weak from the strong' (Economist 2/2/63). This would close down hundreds, maybe thousands, of small and medium-sized business, and force tens, maybe hundreds of thousands of workers to change their jobs (or join the dole-queues). The final outcome of this would be to make workers accept jobs with lower wages, and make the winning of wage increases much more difficult.

Another likely by-product of a decisive anti-working class policy is that the Tories will work less and less with the T.U. bureaucrats, and that the latter will no longer be junior partners in the process of policy making. We had an example of this last year when the Government, attempting to impose the wages pause, by-passed the T.U. bureaucrats. The Government ignored the recognised negotiating machinery built up over decades. Differentiation within the T.U. bureaucracy will take place as certain sections will be compelled to fight for their social position; for unless the unions can get wage increases, unless the unions can influence Government policy, and unless the unions can use the whole elaborate structure of negotiation, Whitley Councils, Wages Councils, etc., the T.U. bureaucrats will have no social function. They will lose members and be very vulnerable to left-wing critics. The 'left-wing' bureaucrats supported by officers at all levels will be forced to use their strength to challenge the Government, as was Cousins and others last year when they challenged the wages pause. They will not, of course, launch decisive struggles but their actions will act as a powerful impulse to big struggles involving powerful sections of the working class. The Left by participating in these struggles, by initiating them, by achieving leadership of them (by winning respect by putting the correct tactics forward at the correct time) and always putting the socialist alternative, can help to create a mass socialist consciousness. Thus we would be helping to create the prerequisites for a struggle first to kick out the Tories, and secondly to go on to achieve a Labour Government pledged to socialist policies. This is the alternative: a Britain applying socialist policies and in alliance with all the working class and anti-capitalist forces all over the world.

1429
The People's Daily of Jan. 27th. carried an important editorial under the title: "Let us unite on the basis of the Moscow declaration and the Moscow statement."

A serious danger has emerged in the International Communist movement as an attempt is being made to reverse the verdict on the Tito clique with a view to making a breach in the Moscow declaration and the Moscow statement on the Yugoslav issue and then to tearing them up completely, the editorial said.

The editorial begins by commenting on the events which took place this month at the sixth congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany. The recent adverse current which disrupts unity of the International Communist Movement reached a new climax at this congress, it points out. "The outstanding features of the congress were that while much was said about stopping attacks and strengthening unity among the fraternal parties, extremely crude attacks were continued against the Chinese Communist Party and other fraternal parties, attacks which further widen differences and damage unity, and that, while much was said about supporting the Moscow declaration and the Moscow statement, brazen attempts, which were in open violation of the Moscow declaration, were made to reverse the verdict passed on the Tito clique of renegades to Marxism-Leninism."

At the congress, the editorial continues, a strange and almost incredible phenomenon occurred in the International Communist Movement. When in the course of his speech the head of the Chinese Communist Party delegation, which attended the congress by invitation, criticised Yugoslav revisionism in accordance with the Moscow statement, the executive chairman of the congress went so far as to stop him repeatedly and there was even an uproar of booing, whistling and foot-stamping in the congress hall. "This outrageous practice was all the more serious because it was carefully planned," the editorial says. "This congress of the SED has posed the following vitally important questions to the Communists of the whole world: are the ranks of the International Communist Movement to be united or not? Is there to be genuine unity or sham unity? On what basis is there to be unity - is there to be unity on the basis of the Moscow declaration and the Moscow statement, or 'unity' on the basis of the Yugoslav revisionist programme or some other basis? In other words, are differences to be ironed out and unity strengthened, or are differences to be widened and a split created?"

It then went on to quote Khrushchov's criticism of Tito at the seventh congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party and at the last congress of the SED.

The editorial then asks "why some comrades, who formerly took the correct stand of criticizing Yugoslav revisionism, should have now made an about-turn of 180 degrees?" It has been claimed that this was because "the Yugoslav leaders have removed very much of what was considered erroneous". In fact the Tito clique themselves have never admitted having made any mistakes, let alone removed them, it says. The editorial continues with a reminder that in December 1962, when Tito returned to Yugoslavia from the Soviet Union, he declared, "discussions . . . about how Yugoslavia will now change her policy are simply superfluous and ridiculous." Some people have lately been talking a lot about how their views on many problems are coming closer to or agree with those of the Tito clique, the editorial asks: "Since there has not been any change in the revisionist line and policies of the Tito clique, does it not follow that the makers of these statements are themselves moving closer to the revisionist line and policies of the Tito clique". It goes on to ask: "What is the object of describing the Moscow statement, which was unanimously agreed upon by eighty-one fraternal parties, as a 'stereotyped formula' for 'the jungle laws of capitalism'? If it is 'Jungle morality', the editorial declares, to condemn Yugoslav revisionism in accordance with the Moscow statement, what kind of morality is the violation of the Moscow declaration and the Moscow statement?"

1430

The Daily Worker, of 26th. January, reported a statement by an Indian Foreign Ministry official as follows: "Soviet technicians will be going to India to help in the construction of a MIG jet-fighter factory " in the very near future." the Secretary-General of the Indian Foreign Ministry, Mr. R.K. Nehru, said in Moscow yesterday (Jan. 25th.). " Mr. Nehru, who had talks with President Brezhnev and Mr. Gromyko, Soviet Foreign Minister, said that his discussion had shown a "sympathetic understanding" of India's position in its border dispute with China.

LYSENKO BACK IN FAVOUR.

Lysenko, who was Stalin's prize piece during the worst period of repression of the intelligentsia and who actively participated in the purge of 'Mendel-Morganists', i.e., biologists who believe the gene theory of inheritance, is back in favour. He is reported to have given a report to a scientific conference in December entitled, " Theoretical Foundations of Controlled changes in the Heredity of Crops". Moreover Pravda devoted two pages of its January 29th. edition to this report. Lysenko, who is regarded by most Western biologists as a charlatan (J.B.S. Haldane almost certainly resigned from the British C.P. because of the latter's attempt to get him to support Lysenko) was shelved for a whole period after the death of Stalin.

GOLLAN AND MATTHEWS GO TO CHINA.

The Daily Worker of January 31st. reported that John Gollan, general secretary of the Communist Party, and George Matthews, Editor of the Daily Worker, left London for Peking, where they are to have talks with representatives of the Communist Party of China.

JAPANESE C.P. SUPPORTS CHINESE ARGUMENT - EXPELS "MODERN REVISIONISTS."

Two recent editorials in the Japanese C.P. paper - Akahata - have echoed the Chinese arguments condemning the public polemics of recent weeks, the first of these, appearing in the Jan. 11/12 issues said: "One-sided, public criticism by a party of another fraternal party is not the correct method for settling disagreements," it then called "for the settlement of differences of opinion between fraternal parties in accordance with the principles guiding relations among fraternal parties set forth in the Moscow statement and by adopting the method laid down in that document for eliminating differences."

The second, appearing the Jan. 24th. issue, said: "Unfortunately the differences in the International Communist Movement have become manifest to the public. At this juncture, we express our earnest hope that the fraternal parties immediately stop their public polemics, exercise restraint, and patiently adopt necessary measures for the strengthening of unity of that after having made adequate preparations, an international meeting may be held to settle the controversial issues. This viewpoint of our party has been made clear in our Central Committee's message of greeting to the sixth congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany." Both editorial spent a lot of space denouncing the "Shojiro Kasuga" and "Nishikawa-Naito" groups which have been expelled from the Party. It is difficult to assess what arguments these people were putting forward but there are constant references to the revisionism of which they are guilty. The accusation against the two groups would seem to be one of 'modern revisionism', such statements as; "On the whole, they have joined hands with the . . . Social Democrats and, in fact, have supported the theory of 'positive neutrality!', indicate that is the only possible conclusion we can draw.

1431

The East Midlands Region of the Labour Party has appointed an "investigation commission" which will meet in Leicester on February 15th to go into the affairs of the Leicester Federation of Young Socialists. (See previous report in Bulletin). The Chairman of the Commission will be Bill Whitlock M.P., other members are to include two from the East Midlands Regional Council and three from the Leicester City Labour Party E.C. The people who organised the campaign around unemployment in the YS have decided to form an independent committee of unemployed and YS members but so far as can be ascertained have not made a serious attempt to get the backing of the C.L.P.s and of the Trades Unions. This seems to be an ill-advised plan and may facilitate the witch-hunt of these members. The correct tactics, for a number of reasons, would seem to be that of working through their C.L.P.s., thus both giving the campaign a shield and identity and for that matter helping to ensure that any campaign would have the greatest possible support. Meanwhile, at the same meeting where the "investigation" was decided upon, the Leicester B.L.P. considered having an official campaign against unemployment. Whilst the motives of the people organising the YS campaign are probably more sincere and enthusiastic, it would be wise for the YS to participate in the C.L.P. campaign.

CENTRAL NOTTINGHAM Y.S. CALL FOR UNEMPLOYMENT CAMPAIGN.

The Central Nottingham Y.S. passed a resolution for National Conference calling upon the National Committee of the Y.S. to organise an unemployment campaign. Despite attempts by the right wing officers to substitute a resolution on old age pensions coming from a "safe" ward Y.S. Branch, the Central Nottingham Y.S. resolution was eventually approved by the C.L.P. Management Committee and will therefore go to National Conference.

SEELY OAK (BIRMINGHAM) Y.S. CALL FOR ELECTED EDITORIAL BOARD FOR NEW ADVANCE.

At its meeting on January 27th, the Selly Oak Young Socialists passed a resolution for the Y.S. Annual Conference "demanding" that the Editorial Board of "New Advance" should be elected by the Young Socialists at their own Annual Conference, and that New Advance should reflect the conference decisions of the Young Socialists.

HACKNEY YOUNG SOCIALISTS OPPOSE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. by a Hackney Correspondent.

The Hackney Y.S. resolution passed for Annual Conference with only one vote against reads: "This conference of Young Socialists believes that nuclear weapons are a product of capitalist society and can only protect the interests of the rulers of the world. It therefore declares its complete opposition to the use or threatened use of these weapons believing that such a policy can never be in the interests of the workers. Conference further believes that 15 years of cold war, culminating in the recent Cuba crisis, have shown beyond doubt the futility of relying upon the rulers of the world to achieve or maintain peace and thus resolves to put its faith in the power of the international working class. To this end, conference calls upon the Labour Movement to unite around a policy based upon:-

i) Opposition to the manufacture and testing of nuclear weapons by any country. ii) Opposition to NATO, the Warsaw Pact and all other military alliances iii) The withdrawal of Polaris and all bases from foreign countries. iv) Support for CND and all genuine anti-bomb movements both in Britain and abroad. The resolution goes on to call on the YS NC to organise a campaign to oppose Tory warmongering policies and launch a massive campaign to bring thousands of young people into political action.

1432

The "Economist", semi-official organ of big business in this country, most of whose readers consist mainly of directors, etc, is backing George Brown for the leadership of Parliamentary Labour Party. In its January 26th. issue it had this to say: "..... the Labour Party has to choose a new leader for itself and prospectively also for Britain within two weeks. It would be absurd to be neutral about so crucial a choice. The candidate whom the "The Economist" would most like to see chosen is Mr. George Brown. Mr. Brown has sometimes incurred the reputation of being a very rude man, a man who does not suffer opposition particularly tactfully, a man untutored in some of the most complex economic and other technical problems of the day. There is even one respect in which Mr. Brown might push forward Labour's image into the new age more rapidly than Mr. Gaitskell did after 1955. Mr. Gaitskell's socialism sprang from a middle-class sympathiser's compassion for the Notts. miners to whom he lectured on economics in the 1930's, and he did not always find it easy to grasp that old and insular down-trodden England under which they had suffered was now out of date. Mr. Brown's socialism is that of an errand boy who has risen to the brink of the horizon of the highest executive office in the land; he is the child of an age when the intelligent thrusters have learned to look forward in opportunity."

But the Economist does not appear to trust Harold Wilson: "no one can say for certain what effect the sobering powers of high office would have on Mr. Wilson's over-agility of mind; perhaps for some of us old memories of where Mr. Wilson stood at Scarborough in 1960, and in other recent crises of the Labour party, die too hard."

LOBBIES CAMPAIGN GATHERING MOMENTUM.

As the date draws near for the first lobby of Parliament in connection with the campaign against unemployment more and more workers' organisations are participating. For the February 13th. lobby (organised by the South Wales miners and railwaymen to protest against closures etc.) one train load (500) from South Wales has already been booked more than a week ago and the second was well underway; among the organisations sending delegates are; Aberdare Trades Council (the entire executive), Cwmbran Urban Council, S. Wales C.S.E.U., West Wales, Glamorgan and Monmouthshire Federations of Trades Councils, various trade union branches in Merthyr, the London D.C. of the Woodworkers' Union, the London North D.C. of the A.E.U., Gladstone Park and Stoke Newington branches of the A.E.U., and various T.U. branches from Cardiff, Swansea, Neath, Ystrad, Pontypridd, etc. Meetings to organise local organising committees for the lobby have been held in Cardiff, Carmarthen, Llanelli, Neath, Newport, Pontypridd, Swansea and Ystrad Mynach.

For the March 26th. lobby, called by 6 federations of trades councils in northern England, is rapidly gaining support at all levels. The Amalgamated Weavers' Association has circularised all branches calling upon them to get maximum support for the lobby. The Leeds Trades Council is planning to take 6 busloads. The secretary of the Sheffield Trades and Labour Council expects to get at least lobbies in a special train. The Newcastle Trades Council has booked a special train to take lobbies. An unemployment committee has been set up in Hull sponsored by the Trades Council. A lobby co-ordinating committee has been set up on the Merseyside. Among the bodies supporting this committee are the C.S.E.U., the Trades and Labour Council, the Hoyle and District T.C. and the N.F.B.T.O.. Organisations declaring their support include: the Scottish N.U.M. the Glasgow District Trades Council, Bristol No. 4 A.S.W., Stockport Trades Council and D.C. of the A.E.U., and Fulham and Chelsea Trades Council.

1433

The number of people officially described as millionaires (those with an income of at least £100,000) has jumped from 18 to 81. Figures given in the report of the Inland Revenue Commissioners for 1962 show that the millionaires total income for 1962 amounted to £14,100,000 an average of over £170,000. The near millionaires (income £75,000 to £100,000) also increased in numbers from 58 to 82. at the other end of the scale there were 6,884,000 people whose income was less than £10 per week. These extremes of wealth will be even more marked as the number of unemployed increase (these figures do not cover the period of the big increase in unemployment) and when the Tory measure cutting Surtax to the extend of £83 millions comes into force.

FACTS AND FIGURES FOR 1962.

Fight for Reduction in hours less succesful in 1962 - Figures given in the Ministry of Labour gazette, January issue, show that the fight for reduction of the number of hours worked per week had the least success since 1959 (when the fight for the 42 hour week started in earnest) the figures are :

Percentage decrease in) in normal weekly hours)	Year.	All Industry.	Manufacturing.
	1959	0.1	0.2
	1960	2.4	3.1
	1961	1.8	1.3
	1962	0.3	0.2

The following industries recorded no reduction in normal weekly hours of work at all: Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Mining and Quarrying, Chemicals, Metal Manufacture, Engineering and Shipbuilding, Leather, Timber, Furniture, Gas, Electricity, Water and Public Administration.

Working Days Lost Nearly Doubled, Number of Strikers Quadrupled.- The number of working days lost nearly doubled the 1961 figure - 5,794,000 as against 3,046,000. The main increases were in Engineering (nearly nine times as many), Shipbuilding (up 80,000), Motor Vehicles (320,000 up), Aircraft (¼ million up), Other Vehicles (100,000 up), Other Metal Goods (200,000 up), Various Transport (over 200,000 up). Some industries were well down: Mining (437,000 down) Construction (66,000 down) and Agriculture (78,000 down).

The number of workers involved in strikes rose from 778,500 to 4,421,200. But both these figures count certain workers twice. When this correction is made the figure quadrupled to approx. 2,400,000.

Numbers employed in Manufacturing down, in Financial and Administration up - A decline in the number of productive workers took place. The number employed in manufacturing industries fell from 9,008,000 (end Nov. 1961) to 8,882,000 (mid Nov. 1962) a decline of 126,000. Chief changes were: Agriculture (17,000 down), Mining (23,000 down), Metal Manufacture (26,000 down), Engineering (23,000 down), Shipbuilding and Vehicles (both 17,000 down), Textiles (26,000 down) and Transport and Misc. services were 67,000 up. Other administrative sectors were up too; National Government Service (4,000 up) and Local Government Service (14,000 up).

Changes in the Cost of Living during 1962.- The official index shows an increase of 2.3% by 11th. Dec. (January 16th. - 100) But closer examination of the figures show that the poorer sections of the community will have a bigger increase (especially old age pensioners.) The biggest jump of all was sugar, preserves and confectionery (13%) which forms an important item in working class budgets. Butter, Margarine and cooking fats went up 6%, whilst milk, cheese and eggs went up 9%. Coal and coke went up 9% as opposed to other heating which went up 4%. Housing went up 5%, but motoring and cycling went down 3% fares showed a rise of 5%.

OBSERVER SAYS INDIANS PLAN BIG OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE NAGAS.

1434

The Observer of Jan. 27th. carried a report by one of its staff reporter that the Indians planned to intensify their attacks against the Naga rebels. This struggle has been going on several years. No doubt the Indian Government will use some of the arms given to them by the West. The report reads: "An all-out Indian offensive against the Nagas is being mounted, according to reports reaching Mr. A.Z. Phizo, president of the Naga National Council in London. Some time in the next two months, it is alleged, 506,000 Indian troops will be launched in a series of rapid raids against individual units of the Naga resistance army. . . . The news comes from a Naga leader connected with the Indian-created Naga People's Convention. Although personally a moderate, he was so shocked by what he heard at a meeting of the N.P.C. that he reported it to the Naga Home Guard the armed movement fighting for Naga independence. . . . In recent weeks, there have been reports of various Naga successes against the Indians, including the ambush of a train."

CABRAL SAYS ARMED STRUGGLE WILL FINISH PORTUGUESE IMPERIALISM.

The Algerian Press Service reports that speaking on January 25th., Amilcar Cabral, General Secretary of the African Independence Party of Portuguese Guinea and Cape Verde Islands, said that relying on their own forces people of various countries could certainly free themselves from the colonial yoke. In the interview Amilcar Cabral added, "We hope that after a brief delay the people of other colonies, like the people in Angola and (Portuguese) Guinea, would be able to resort to the only effective means to finish with Portuguese colonialism - armed struggle." He said, "February 4, 1961, date of the popular uprising in Angola, will remain a historic date."

"The courageous action of the Angolan Nationalists have proved that as was the case in Algeria, the peoples of 'Black Africa' are also capable of taking up arms to fight classical colonialism."

PERUVIAN PEASANTS SEIZE ESTATE. (From New China News Agency)

Seven hundred Peruvian peasants, armed with hoes and sticks, have occupied "Maria" estate in the province of Piura, Peru, and have held the landlord as hostage, according to a report from Lima. The peasants declared that the land of the estate had belonged to them from long ago. They denounced the cruel exploitation by the landlord and demanded higher wages and better living conditions. They said that they would release the landlord only after their demands had been met. Armed police have been sent to the scene against the peasants.

ALL-AFRICAN T.U. FEDERATION URGES UNITY.

Meeting in Algiers Jan. 20th. the secretariat of the All-African Trade Union Federation declared in a communique that it had taken steps to ensure that the next congress of the union would be successful in its efforts to strengthen unity of the African Trade Union movement. The communique was issued after a meeting of the secretariat attended by trade union representatives from Morocco, the UAR, Guinea, Algeria, Mali, and Ghana. The secretariat had decided to accept applications to join the union by several African Trade Union Organisations. The secretariat saluted the Algerian working class and wished the Algerian people new success in building their country. The secretariat also expressed support for the Angolan and other African peoples fighting for national independence. It strongly denounced the criminal activities of the neo-colonialism in Ghana.

1435 The European Community Information Service has just issued No. 8 of its "Community Topics" entitled "1952 - 1962 Ten Years of E.C.S.C." (The European Coal and Steel Community). It has this to say about the Coal Industry in the Common Market under the: "Coal Crisis".

"The crisis has brought a general reorganisation of the coal industry which has so far resulted in (1) A reduction of over 25 per cent in the labour force (both underground and surface workers) since 1957, a trend which was particularly marked in 1959, when 63,000 men left industry, and in 1960, when 55,000 left. (2) A sharp increase in productivity with the result that the fall in production has been much smaller than the reduction in labour force; output per man-shift underground in the Community as a whole rose from 1.4 tons in 1953 to over 2.1 tons in the opening months of 1962. (our emphasis). (3) The closure of a number of pits and the reallocation of labour to the more productive mines. (Since 1958 a total of 15 mines have been closed in Germany, 57 in Belgium, and nine in France). Earlier under the caption "Social Welfare: readaption and re-training" it said: "From 1953 to mid-1962 the High Authority approved readaption schemes involving 130,000 workers - roughly 110,000 of them in the coal industry, and expenditure of 47 million dollars. Since the High Authority provides only 50 per cent of the total cost of readaption schemes, with the Government concerned providing an equal amount, the total allotment for readaption has been 94 million dollars. Important as readaption schemes are to individual workers, they do not provide the answer to the basic problems of reviving areas which have been mainly dependent on mining for their livelihood and for which pit closures could mean economic and social dislocation. In these areas miners have considerable difficulty in finding alternative employment."

This means that whilst there was a 25 per cent reduction of labour force there has been a 50 per cent increase in productivity. The much vaunted readaption payments amount to less than four or five months basic wages for each worker, and by no means all those displaced have received payment. We note that less miners have received benefits in the ten years of the E.C.S.C. than left the industry in the two years 1959 and 1960. Thus, the true nature of the Community is clearly demonstrated, that of expediting rationalisation at the expense of the working class of Europe.

NUMBER OF STRIKERS INCREASES

from a Greek correspondent.

More than 460,000 workers took part in 183 strikes in Greece last year, according to statistics released by the democratic trade union movement. Including the figures in the May Day strike, the number of striking workers in Greece last year would amount to 800,000, an increase of 258,000 over 1961. At present the Greek teachers are engaged in a long strike against the government for better salaries.

SPANISH MINERS STRIKE.

The Spanish miners of Saint Barbara pit at Turgon (Asturias) went on strike recently in protest against the tragic accident in the pits which caused the death of seven miners, according to Press Reports. The miners decided to attend the funeral of the victims. At Turon, cinemas were closed and the merchants also went on strike. Despite the opposition of the owners of the enterprise, the workers of the neighbouring Figaredo pits voiced their support for the miners of the Saint Barbara pits. The miners paid their last homage to the victims and protested against the inhuman method of exploitation imposed by the mine owners.