this strategy can be shown up as what it is: bullying. As such it cannot be condoned. Any problems that result from a dispute are fundamentally caused by the Government push – and testing centres are currently located in Oxford, Bristol, Southampton, Tooting, Colindale, Brentwood, Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Newcastle, Cambridge, Sheffield and Leeds. National Blood Service.

Staff have been in industrial dispute with the NBS board of directors/management for about the past year, over unworl work reconfigur ation plans which will see local processing + testing sites condensed into just 3 supercentres, in Bristol, Manchester + Colindale. This would mean that blood collections will have to be driven hundreds of miles around the country to and from the supercentres”, putting even more reliance on an already overloaded + frequently clogged motorway network. It will also mean 600 job losses nationally, and those affected have highly specific skills and years of experience. This strategy is all about cost cutting, and nothing to do with what’s best for patients or hospitals. All this is in the National Blood Service that, unlike many NHS trusts, is not even in debt. The situation for emergency workers in dispute is always difficult and they often feel that their position is weakened because withdrawal of labour will cost lives. The Government have been taking advantage of this difficulty in pushing through their continued privatisation of the NHS. Without public support, this strategy can be shown up as what it is: bullying. As such it cannot be condoned. Any problems that result from a dispute are fundamentally caused by the Government push – and testing centres are currently located in Oxford, Bristol, Southampton, Tooting, Colindale, Brentwood, Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Newcastle, Cambridge, Sheffield and Leeds. National Blood Service.

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The National Blood Service performs a vital role in collecting blood from donors at hundreds of sites on a daily basis. The blood is then processed (filtering, separating components etc.) and safely tested (for Hepatitis, HIV, Malaria, Syphilis and soon CJD). Blood and plasma is then distributed to local hospitals. These processing and testing centres are currently located in Oxford, Bristol, Southampton, Tooting, Colindale, Brentwood, Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Newcastle, Cambridge, Sheffield and Leeds. National Blood Service.

We urge you all to: * Support the work the NBS staff are doing by continuing to give blood. Tie whole point of opposing these changes is to make sure that the blood gets through to those who need it. * Support their claims in this dispute by writing to the NBS Chief Executive: Martin Gorham Chief Executive National Blood Service Oak House Roads Crescent Watford Hertfordshire, WD24 4PH or email him at: martin.gorham@nbs.nhs.uk

Note: this article has been taken from the Industrial Workers of the World Website: www.iww.org.uk

The WWW, the union for all workers, has members at the National Blood Service, within the NHS and in many other industries. We think it’s time we stood up and reclaimed what is rightfully ours, what our people have fought and died for. No more getting stitched up and being made scapegoats by the media. The comparisons with the Chicago experience of the 1880s are disturbing: people are still being screwed by big business, attacked by their police, outlawed by their officials and demonised by their press.

In a desperate attempt to break up the movement, eight workers, all anarchists, were arrested and fitted up. Four of them were murdered by the U.S. state in the interests of big business. Subsequently May Day became an international workers’ holiday to commemorate those who died. They become known as the Haymarket Martyrs. Does this ring any bells? Since 1889 all across the world the 1st of May has been a holiday and a time for celebrating freedom, equality, unity, justice and peace: the best of our species. Governments in Britain and elsewhere, have neutered our day and tried to hide its true meaning. They want to give us the scraps of just another bank holiday. Could it get worse? Well, there has been a proposal to scrap it in favour of another bank holiday later in the year to mark Britain’s historical abuse, enslavement and exploitation of half the world. Empire day? No chance.

All across America people united in their campaign for a better life. They were skilled and unskilled; women and men; Black and White; native and immigrant all fighting our common enemy as one. Activists were centred round the 8 Hour Day Movement but they knew there was more to it. Their aim, and ours today, is a “free society based upon a co-operative system of production.” This is how we will get the life we need. And so we will cut waste and environmental de stuction.

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We think it’s time we stood up and reclaimed what is rightfully ours, what our people have fought and died for. No more getting ripped off by the insatiable parasite consumerism; corrupt councils selling off our public spaces and then employing private “security” to deny us access to them. No more getting stitched up and being made scapegoats by the media. The comparisons with the Chicago experience of the 1880s are disturbing: people are still being screwed by big business, attacked by their police, outlawed by their officials and demonised by their press.

On the 6th to 8th of June, on the sea front of Heligendamm in Germany, a group of the most evil and dangerous mass murderers in the world is gathering. The town of 280 inhabitants will be closed off from the rest of the world with a fence embedded in concrete 2.50 m high and 13 km long. This is not to keep the evil men in, but to keep everyone else out, incase some might be tempted to make the world a better place by disposing of them. This is the G8 summit where the leaders of the 8 most powerful nations will meet to have a nice cup of tea whilst picking over the bones of their victims. The members are the U.S.A, France, Russia, the U.K., Germany, Japan, Italy and Canada. They have a nice cup of tea whilst picking over the bones of their victims. The members are the U.S.A, France, Russia, the U.K., Germany, Japan, Italy and Canada. They
What's wrong with Academy Schools?

Councils across Greater Manchester want to close working class schools and re-open them as Academies. They already exist in Manchester and Salford, now Tameside and Oldham want to get in on the act.

Academies are bad news. They are bad for people who work in schools because they offer no guarantees on wages and conditions. The new schools can pay less and make staff work longer.

They are bad for students. They will be built on smaller plots of land than the existing schools. They means fewer sports facilities. At Grease Hill Primary, for example, that means losing an Astro Turf and swimming pool.

And that makes them bad for local communities too. These new schools will be watching the students all the time. They are designed so kids have nowhere to hide from prying adult eyes.

The government loves the “Oldham model” after that means that the running of the schools will be handed over to the Church of England and a bunch of Muslim businessmen. These so-called sponsors can dictate parts of the curriculum. Most of us choose not to send our children to religious schools. So now Blair and friends are using the backdoor to put our youngsters in the clutches of superstition peddlers.

Workers, parents and school students have begun to fight back. We need to get more people involved.

If you want to join the campaign against these academies, drop us an email and we’ll put you in touch with other local people. ●

City College Manchester Strike

Lecturers at City College Manchester have voted to strike over attacks on their workload and holidays. In an 85% yes vote for action, members of the University and College Union have shown their strong opposition to a contract with less holidays and more teaching hours for new lecturers starting at the college.

We asked a lecturer at the college what it is all about. He told us:

"Basically, the college authorities have im-posed a new contract on us for all future em-ployees. They will have more contact hours and less holidays and get ‘more’ money, ap-parently. Our point is twofold: firstly, all you people on Easy Street (ie ‘real’ schools) al-ready get more money than us and better working conditions. Secondly, pay is not the issue here: we are talking about working con-ditions which are detrimental to our health and our students’ learning; thirdly, by imposing the contracts, the college has effectively torn up any commitment to egalitarian working condi-tions and effectively castrated the union!

We are after solidarity (to wake up the slum-bering masses in our union membership) and polite rejection of the college’s approach to their workers. We are likely to be on strike on or around Thursday 27th (although Weds is my worst day)."

The lecturers feel they are in a strong position to win this. They say, “With your help we can minimise the cost to ourselves in the process. To help us, please send messages of protest, and indications of your support for us. For more info call David Swanston (UCU Branch Sec.) on 07931 640392*"

Picketing M&S - an interview

John has been picketing Marks and Spencer for over 2 years. We asked him a few questions why, and his views on the

Israel and Palestine conflict.

NR: Why do you think the media don’t tell us this?

How can it be, that 300 million pounds of tax payers money is wasted every year, that 200,000 children are denied an education, and all we hear about is terrorist attacks? Is it too much to ask for the government to be reminded of their duty to their citizens, and not just to maintain the status quo.

The Nine Ladies protest camp is a long running environmental campaign which started eight years ago. It began when Standcliffe Stone Ltd submitted a plan to reopen two quarries in the Peak District. These were close to Nine Ladies, a bronze statue Age peak in the Peak District.

The woodland and countryside around Nine Ladies have been eroded at a significant rate recently. Nine Ladies is a place of exceptional beauty. If it is eroded, ten times as much quarrying will be done than in the past 1500 years.

The one person who will benefit is the land- owner Lord Edward Manners. The local council will pay him £20,000 a year as a shared in the sand-stone being quarried. This is all in the inter-

Contact us: manchester@af-north.org www.af-north.org

nine ladies protest camp

This site has caravans, houses, trees houses both high and low, as well as some houses on the top of the cliff. They have already faced evic-tion in 2004. The protesters demand that any destructive plans are dropped com-pletely. This demand is getting more important to remain suspicious of the corporations involved as well as the Peak District National Authority who have done little if anything to protect this land.

This campaign has shown that solving problems by direct action is not a crazy anarchist idea. It is practically a much better method than if we just continue to plod on in the same way, trying hard to get the money to buy back the land. Through direct opposition the campaign has made sure this company and the landowner cannot do whatever they want to fill their own pockets with cash. This is not their land and never will be.●

property owning scum

United Property Management

United Property Management is a company recruited by NHS and the Home Office to provide housing and basic support to refugees from the middle east before the Zionist invasion. Can anyone be-lieve that millions of refugees get a postal vote to be made into a country even without the ‘cleansing’. Populations just don’t become refugees without a few of them on the way. So is killing swaths of political opposition a part of democracy? Or is this proven double think?

NR: Why do you picket a London company?

Any business that makes money from the suffering of others is a big part of the problem. We’re not the only ones. People in the North and others in Palestine are fighting for the same things. It is all inter-connected and we are fighting for the same reasons.

To help us, please send messages of protest, and indications of your support for us, For more info call David Swanson (UCU Branch Sec.) on 07931 640392*"