

# The Troubles

10 people were killed and hundreds wounded in Belfast last week. This followed the mobilisation of the Ulster Special Constabulary armed with sub-machine guns. The U.S.C. and armed civilians attacked the Falls Road on Thursday night. The results can be seen in the pathetic stream of refugees to Andersonstown and across the Border. In isolated areas this terrorism is still going on.

The responsibility for these tragic events must lie heavily with those who originally decided that no Roman Catholic could join the U.S.C. and who issued this force with sub-machine guns to be kept in their homes. It must lie too with those politicians who have preached hatred and discrimination under the guise of loyalty and who have winked at burning out and intimidation.

The people who suffer in these troubled times on both sides - though the last week's events have been very one-sided - are the people who live in the squalid backstreets off the Falls, Shankill and Crumlin Roads. They are working people earning low wages and many of them have lost all their possessions.

The burning and wrecking never reach the Malone Road, the rattle of the machine gun fire never disturbs the tranquility of the residents there. But that's where most of the Unionist bosses live: the people who have been preaching hatred and violence but who are never around to see the effects of their oratory. It is always the working-class who suffer.

All this is no accident. Tory politicians, green as well as Orange, have always wanted to divide the people on the basis of religion so that they will put up with high unemployment, low wages, and disgraceful housing. They have succeeded only too well in the past. Today we see the shameful results of their handiwork. This time they have gone too far.

The only way to secure immediate peace in Belfast is to scrap the B-Specials and suspend Stormont for at least 6 months. This will at least enable people to live without fear. In the long term the only real solution must be for the working people in N. Ireland to throw off the old sectarian hatreds, crush sectarian organisations like the A.O.H. and Orange Order and unite to fight the Green and Orange Tories.

Workers of Falls and Shankill, Unite and Fight the real enemy - TORYISM.