

T037

The miners' strike: failing to prosecute Scargill

You ask (leader, 27 July 1984) how long the nation must wait for the Director of Public Prosecutions to prosecute the organisers of the criminal conspiracy that sustains the miners' strike. The answer, judged by similar events in the past, is most probably for ever. The organisers of the infamous intimidatory picketing at the Saltley coke plant in 1972 were not indicted for their criminal conspiracy. Nor have been the organisers of any other such unlawful acts from that day to this. They rejoice in their *de facto* immunity and go on to plot further mischief. You say that if the forces of law and order continue to allow mob rule to operate day after day with impunity 'it will be the Government which will suffer'. This is too narrow. It is the whole community of people which constitutes the nation that will suffer, *including the striking miners themselves*. The law is for the benefit of us all. Those who are charged with its enforcement but neglect their duty betray us all.¹

¹ *The Times*, 31 July 1984.