

South London

No. 8537

Tuesday, July 5, 1977

11 in court after demo at Queen's walkabout

TEN men and an 18-year-old girl who were arrested during a demonstration against the Queen's Silver Jubilee tour of Brixton last Thursday appeared at Camberwell on Friday on various charges.

The demonstrators had paraded with anti-monarchy banners at Brixton Oval, some of which were snatched and torn up by those who had come to greet the Queen during her walkabout.

Jacqueline Canavan, of 13 Battersby-rd., Catford; Derek Speirs (23), of 6 Stanley Buildings, St. Pancras-rd., North London; Colin Weedon (30), of 95 Cowley-rd., Brixton; Raymond Horne (23), of 5 Deronda-rd., Herne Hill; Brian Byrne (19), of 21 Faunce-st., Wandsworth; Derek Kassem (23), of 43 Trent-rd., Brixton; Peter Alexander (23), of 93 Cowley-rd., Brixton; Graham Vickers (26), of 47 Oak-grove, Crickwood; and Vijai Desai (26), of Gravesend, Kent, were charged with using insulting words and behaviour in Brixton-rd.

'Assault'

Evan Sparks (23), of 75 Kellett-rd., Brixton, was accused of assaulting a policeman and a policewoman and obstructing two other policemen.

Desai was accused of assaulting a policeman and Byrne of assaulting a detective and a policeman. Speirs was charged with wilfully obstructing two detectives and Miss Canavan with obstructing a policewoman. Weedon and P-blo Stern (22), of 365 Kennington-rd., Kennington were each accused of obstructing a policeman.

Byrne, Kassem and

National Front plans 'biggest-ever' rally through Deptford

AS THE first batch of more than 80 people arrested during Saturday's clash between the National Front and Left-wing demonstrators at New Cross appeared at Camberwell yesterday, the National Front announced it was to stage its "biggest ever" rally in Deptford next month.

Saturday's clash came before and during the protest march organised by the Socialist Worker Party-led "Lewisham 24 Defence Committee" in support of the black youths and Socialist Worker Party sympathisers charged, following the police swoop on more than a score of homes in Deptford and New Cross a month ago.

Some of Saturday's arrests were made as National Front members left a pub in New Cross, where about 200 Front members had met.

Fighting later broke out between the rival factions when National Front members were said to have hurled flour "bombs," rotting fruit and bags containing caustic soda at the marchers.

Thirty-one people, including three teachers, were accused at Camberwell yesterday on various charges, including assaulting the police, obstruction, having offensive weapons and using threatening words and behaviour.

Eight were remanded on bail until July 18 and the remaining 23 to July 28.

Two others, Patricia Aitken (19) and Claudette Aitken (19), both of 67 Hawke Tower, Nynhead-st., New Cross, failed to appear and their bail was extended until July 18.

Jane Lowe (22), of Robinson-rd., Tooting, and Michael Skelton (24), of 44 Breake-speare-rd., Brockley, both teachers, were charged with obstructing the police. Leslie Taylor (39), of Sandhurst-rd., Catford, was accused of having fireworks as an offensive weapon; Gary Savage (21), of 18 Broomhill-

rd., Wandsworth, was charged with using insulting words and Gary Acres (21), of 17 Alfreda Court, Battersea, with conduct likely to disturb the peace.

Among the others in court yesterday, none from South London, was John Deason, 30-year-old Campaigns Organiser for the Socialist Worker Party, who was accused of obstructing the police.

Kim Gordon, secretary of the Lewisham 24 Defence Committee said yesterday, "The National Front are making a determined attempt to smash our campaign. We are probably a target for them because the Socialist Worker Party is involved."

'VICIOUSNESS'

"The fact that they were throwing bags of poisonous caustic soda at us goes to show the depth of their hate and viciousness."

Lewisham National Front branch organiser, Richard Edmonds, said, "The police were grossly unfair. As our people left the pub they were asked if they were members of the National Front."

"When they said 'yes', they were immediately arrested."

Mr. Edmonds agreed that some of his members had been armed with eggs and bags of flour, but claimed that ordinary housewives were also pelting the marchers.

"One of the reasons we went to protest was that the police allowed this march through New Cross — the area where there have been so many street attacks."

"When we are in control of the police, things will be very different."

Mr. Edmonds said the National Front is now planning a march through Deptford and New Cross in late August.

"Everybody will know that the Front is marching. Where we had a couple of hundred people in New Cross on Saturday, we will be talking in terms of thousands for our march."

TWO DETECTIVES DISARM 'BERSERK STABBER'

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