

accumulated for many years and it will also take a long time to completely get rid of it. Not only Canada, but also other countries are in a similar situation, which means that people need to delve into this topic, thoroughly study it and experimentally find the best solutions through trial and error.

## **I. Bogdanovich**

### **SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE UK MINERS' STRIKES IN THE 1980s**

The miners' strikes in the 1980s marked the beginning of the end for Britain's coal industry. Once an important part of the economy, by the 1980s coal was no longer a force to be reckoned with. While more than 1,000 collieries were working in the UK during the first half of the 20th century, by 1984 only 173 were still operating and employment had dropped from its peak of 1 million in 1922 down to 231,000 in 1982.

In March 1984 more than 187,000 miners came out on strike when the National Coal Board announced that 20 pits in England would have to close with the loss of 20,000 jobs. The Government branded the striking miners as "the enemy within". The strike was widely portrayed as a personal duel between the conservative Prime Minister M. Thatcher and the NUM (National Union of miners) president, Arthur Scargill.

The miners' strike initially drew support from miners and their families across the country. Women, in a male-dominated society, not only formed a transformative and unpredicted network of support groups, raising funds to sustain the most financially pressed, but also asserted themselves politically, travelling across the country to make the miners' cases, appeal for support and join the picket lines.

For a while it looked as if the PM might have to back down, but her government came prepared. Although during the strike coal production dropped by more than a half, the government had stockpiled in preparation and, with supplies coming from the still-working pits in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, power stations were able to stay open. A mild winter that year kept the strike from turning into a national crisis. The government employed harsh and well-organized police tactics against mass picketers.

Scargill's leadership was both a source of energy for the strikers and a handicap. He had taken the miners into the strike without a strike vote and made it difficult to cooperate with other unions. Those who went on strike earned no money and were ineligible for benefits as their industrial action was deemed illegal; they had to rely on scrimping, savings and handouts. On 3 March 1985 the NUM executive, running low on funds and with striking families struggling to feed, heat and clothe themselves, narrowly voted to end the industrial action, without concessions from the government. Almost a year after it had started, the strike was over, with the total cost estimated at the total of £3 billion. Over 11,000

people had been arrested, around 5,000 miners stood trial for a variety of offences, 5 people lost their lives. Mining communities throughout the country were scarred, and many never fully recovered.

Throughout the second half of the 1980s M. Thatcher continued her policy of de-industrialisation in favour of imports from abroad, effectively destroying British industry at the cost of thousands of jobs, with unemployment reaching over 11 % in the UK and about 50 % in mining communities by the late 80s. The coal industry in Britain was finally privatised in 1994 and is now known as UK Coal. The country's last deep coal mine, Kellingley Colliery in North Yorkshire, shut in 2015. By 2017, only about 1,000 people were working in an industry which, at its height, employed more than a million people.

## **В. Брусницына**

### THE VEGAN COMMUNITY IN BRITAIN: RECENT TRENDS

The term '*vegan*' was coined by English animal rights advocate Donald Watson in 1944. *Veganism* is the practice of refusal of the animal products, particularly in diet, and an ideology that says animals are not an eatable commodity for people.

A representative of such ideology is known as a vegan. There are several categories of vegans: dietary vegans (also known as "strict vegetarians"), who doesn't consume meat, dairy products, eggs, and any other animal-derived products; an ethical vegan (also known as a "moral vegetarian"), besides following a vegan diet, also extends the ideology into other areas of their lives, and fight for animals' rights.

In 2018 the Vegan Society found that there were 600,000 vegans in Great Britain (1,16 %). According to the Web Search in Google Trends, the UK was the most popular country for veganism in 2019, followed by the Australia and New Zealand. According to shopping comparison website, finder.com, 12 million Brits (23 % of the population) say that they will be vegetarian, vegan or pescatarian by 2021.

The UK launched more vegan products than any nation as the number of vegans in Great Britain quadrupled between 2014 and 2018. Vegetarians (including vegans) are set to make up a quarter of the British population in 2025.

Many people indicated that they are vegan for health, animal protection, concern for the environment, feelings of disgust about meat/animal products, taste preferences and only 8 % of the statistics shows that people go vegan just because of a new food trend.

Vegan and vegetarian diets have been associated with lower risks of certain health problems, including high blood pressure, high cholesterol and obesity. They are also linked to lower rates of Type 2 diabetes and certain cancers. A huge air polluter is livestock. It consumes large amount of water and contribute more CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere than all forms of transportation or factories. Moreover, people