

anarchist weekly Freedom

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THE PEOPLE of Northern Ireland have just come through another winter of their discontent. The pale spring sunshine does no more than illuminate the squalor of the Belfast slums and highlight the inadequacy of the barrack-like tenements which the Government offers as an alternative. For the weary mothers of over-large families the longer, lighter evenings spell, not pleasure and leisure, but more anxiety as their ragged children dice with death under the wheels of passing traffic in the only playgrounds they know—the streets. For fathers, ill-fed and demoralised, the east wind is still too cold to leave off their threadbare overcoats on their vain daily walk to the labour exchange.

Belfast is an occupied city, cut in two like Berlin and like Berlin patrolled by armed soldiers. Unlike Berlin, however, nobody is concerned to make Belfast a shop window, competing to demonstrate a better way of life on one side or the other. On both sides of the Belfast barbed wire the citizens are demoralised, bewildered, humiliated by religion and plagued by politics. Over all broods the presence of the British Army.

The confrontations of last year culminated in little enough—the election of Bernadette Devlin to Westminster and a change of Prime Ministers. Instead of effete and useless Captain O'Neill, Stormont switched to effete, useless Chichester-Clark, a new broom out of the same old broom cupboard, hoping only to sweep enough dirt under the carpet to keep the party clean. Alas for C-C—he can't even keep the party together; the pathetic reforms he professes are too much for his own right wingers who, sensing his

In Belfast, like Everywhere— All Law is Gun Law

weakness, move in for the kill behind 'tough' ex-security Minister William Craig.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE?

While they have been playing politics, the people have been patiently waiting, hoping that since things could hardly get worse, perhaps they might get better. They haven't. The half of the population—the Catholic half—who welcomed the British Army's occupation last year as a shield against the threat of Protestant bully-boys have gradually come to realise that when a lid is put on a boiling pot pressure builds up. Nothing was done to relieve the pressures in Northern Ireland; the immediate result of Big Jim Callaghan's visit was not a crash programme for housing, not even the announcement of one—nor any government pump-priming of the run-down economy nor any constructive proposals for the people. But what was done was the introduction of British troops complete with riot control equipment and tear gas. In other words—repression. In other words—Law and Order.

A great sigh of relief went up from the lib-labs. A period of stability, they all agreed, was what

was wanted. A cooling-off period. Have you ever noted how all constitutionalists think that a 'cooling-off period' is the answer to everything? It's a variation on thinking that if you pretend something isn't there, perhaps it will go away.

But nothing has gone away in Northern Ireland. Not the religious animosities, upon which the ruling clique play with such skill; not the fear of change in the balance of power and certainly not the grinding poverty.

What has changed is the attitude of the young. The young people—in Belfast particularly—are not as sold on religion as their elders, and have begun to embrace the besetting sin for all religious bigots: disobedience. They can see for themselves that there is no future for them in an Ulster torn and divided upon itself in the service of either religious or political loyalties. And they can see that when the British Army came in last year, it used the excuse of keeping them apart for their own good, but its real work was simply—keeping them apart.

THE ARMY'S REAL TASK

This is 1970, not 1917, and however much the ministers and the priests, the oldies of church and state, may wish to hold back the clock and keep Northern Ireland the cultural and economic backwater it is, the youngsters can see and hear and some of them can even read what is going on in the rest of the world. They must be asking themselves why they are left out, and they must be coming up with the answers. Although the animosities and fears between the communities were real enough in terms of what is—the authorities (who, damn them, are always one jump ahead!) knew that the real danger to Ulster's rulers (and this is what concerns the authorities) lies in the breaking down of communal barriers and a joining of hands in the face of the real, common foe: the capitalist state.

What has changed in Northern Ireland is the emergence of groups cutting across these old communal barriers. Groups which, as the struggles continued last year, were beginning to make more and more sense to the young people. Who knows but that, if the British Army had not gone in, to keep them apart, the young Protestants and Catholics

would have tumbled the racket and joined together against Stormont? This is the last thing the British Government wants. Hence the rubbish about Law and Order.

Now the break has come, and the Catholics, who 'welcomed' the Army last year are stoning it and throwing molotov cocktails. This is regarded with some bitterness by General Freeland (and whose satirical genius was expressed by sending in a soldier with that name?) who complained that the current riots by Catholic youths is a 'kick in the back'.

What every reporter and commentator has stressed, however, in these riots, is the youth of the demonstrators, many of whom are still schoolchildren. Well, is it so surprising? Their parents are demoralised, defeated. A lifetime of savage exploitation, religious irresponsibility, poverty, unemployment, appalling housing conditions—the lot. They've had it. But there's still some fight in the youngsters. And after all, what have they got to lose?

WHY SHOULD IT STOP?

If the old Marxist bit about 'nothing to lose but your chains' applies anywhere in Britain today, it's in Northern Ireland. The schoolchildren of Belfast have nothing to lose and nothing to look forward to if they don't make something for themselves out of the shambles their parents have bequeathed them. And

because either they see clearly that nothing can be done the constitutional way, or they can't make themselves heard any other way, they are turning to direct action.

Unfortunately it is purely destructive direct action. And until they get the support of older, working people who are prepared to occupy factories and shipyards; who will back squatting on a large scale; who will establish communal councils with an aim to make a permanent framework for a new form of society—until, in a word, all the people of Northern Ireland are prepared to make a social revolution, then continued harassment, confrontation, guerilla tactics of all kinds, will continue. Why should it stop?

General Freeland thinks he has the answer to why it should stop. He announced his readiness to fire on rioters using 'offensive weapons' on Friday, April 3. And in doing so, showed us once again the face of the state behind the mask of Law and Order.

Behind every law stands the policeman; behind every policeman stands the soldier. In every soldier's hand is the gun. Behind the respectable concept of 'Law and Order' is the bullet.

Ultimately, every state says to every citizen: 'You obey or you will be shot'. 'Democratic' states take a longer time getting round to it than totalitarian states, that's all. When the system is challenged toughly enough, when the pot is boiling too furiously, the lid is clamped down good and hard.

When the bourgeois right to exploit, to lie and deceive, to hold us down for ever, is challenged openly and they have to make a stand or go under—then we see the real, the organised, the institutionalised violence in which they believe.

Deep down, where it really matters—all law is gun law.

JUSTIN.

Clyde Shipbuilders Pay-off Threat

THE EMPLOYERS of the Upper Clyde Shipbuilders (UCS) told the workers that they will pay off all 13,900 men if 3,500 workers are not made redundant immediately. Over a week ago 4,000 boilermakers in the UCS voted for strike action if one of their members gets made redundant.

As far as the employers of the UCS are concerned, men and jobs must take second place in the drive for profits. It wasn't all that long ago that the President of the Boilermakers Society, Dan (the union man) McGarvey, came out with a three-point plan (see FREEDOM, 28.3.70) to try and ease the situation in the industry but all it did was open the door for bigger demands from the employers of UCS. If these sackings take place, many workers will be out of jobs before the summer holidays.

Some trade union officials have put forward the offer of work-sharing and shift work. It's well seen that these proposals are being put forward by the union officials who sit in their ivory towers twiddling their thumbs, and not by the workers.

A meeting was held in the Lyceum picture house in Govan on 17.3.70 by the boilermakers of UCS to discuss the whole affair. Our worthy brother Dan McGarvey did not attend this meeting and neither did any of the Executive Committee. Only district delegates Dougan and Ramsay along with the district committee attended the meeting.

Bro. Ramsay stated that he was with Swallow of the Shipbuilding Industry Board (SIB) two weeks before and he

(Swallow) never mentioned anything about redundancies. In fact Ramsay thought Swallow would be looking for more boilermakers owing to the new orders that were flowing to the Upper Clyde. £140 million worth of orders to be exact, plus the fact that the government has now pumped in a total of £20 million into the UCS.

I don't see how Ramsay could have thought that the SIB would be looking for more boilermakers as it clearly states in the Geddes Report that half of the labour force must go. Who is Ramsay trying to bluff?

At this meeting some of the workers were calling for nationalisation under workers' control. How can you possibly have nationalisation and workers' control at the same time? If the shipyards are nationalised, the workers will still get paid off as it is the Government's Geddes committee that is putting the workers out of work at the moment.

Workers' control yes, nationalisation no. We have seen what nationalisation has done to the mines and the railways—closures and pay-offs. The same would happen to the shipbuilding industry. The boilermakers must unite with the rest of the workers in the shipyards to fight against the employer. If the employers sack all the workers and close the yards let the workers reopen them and take production into their own hands.

A warning to the boilermakers—beware of the Executive Committee, as you may be in for a sell-out, just as happened on the Grangemouth site. A. MCGOWAN.

Freedom Pamphlet No. 1

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Building our Prisons Digging our Graves

YOU MIGHT THINK it's some kind of joke first of all, the news that British prisoners are being paid less than thirty bob a week to help build their own prisons.

The Director-General of Prisons is reported to have said that over the next twenty years the authorities hope to con five thousand prisoners into rebuilding the nation's jails—with union co-operation.

The *Guardian* said ominously: 'The country is in for two decades of the most intensive prison-building and repairing since the 1840s and 1850s.' With increased police activity to keep the cells nicely overflowing, no doubt.

Obviously the prison authorities hope to kill three birds with one stone. Give the boys—mostly middle- and long-term prisoners—something to do so they don't revolt out of boredom. Please the liberal reformists with an inexpensive gesture towards rehabilitation. And, most of all, get a job on the cheap.

With the masterly cynicism that only the State is capable of, prisoners are being thrown a few crumbs in return for their near-slave labour.

At Lewes Jail for example—where prison workers saved the authorities £35,000—they now have windows that actually open to the air, improved

washing facilities, and the opportunity to turn their own lights out in the evening!

It's no joke. It fits neatly with the whole beautiful logic of a system that condemns us all to spend our entire lives building our own prisons and digging our own graves.

We work week-in week-out for bosses who steal everything we produce and then 'give' us wages so we can eat and sleep to be fit to clock in again next morning, same time, same place.

We watch the taxman take a rake-off for the faceless Authority that moulds our lives, cutting most of us off from any knowledge of what we really want to be and do.

We pay the politicians to dominate us, the media to lie to us, the army to subjugate, and the police to keep the streets tidy of any signs of revolt.

And ultimately—with the perfect logic that only the insane can muster—we put on uniforms and take up guns to defend our masters' right to control us and own our democratic right to be slaves.

All of us have built the prisons we live in, and for the moment most of us imagine they are really holiday-camps. But one day we shall tear down the walls.

HARRY HARMER.

SHELLEY THE SOD!

THE MASK OF ANARCHY by Percy Bysshe Shelley. Kropotkin Lighthouse Publication, 1/6 inc. post.

WHEN the Manchester Yeomanry and 15th Hussars rode, sabres drawn, into the thousands of men, women and children packed into St. Peter's Fields on August 16, 1819, they could have created an English Revolution. The Massacre of Peterloo was just a more extreme example of government governing—a little too obviously—cruelly and mercilessly. In this case the local troops—for there was no police force, and thus no police violence—were only too eager to get at the radicals, as the Manchester Yeomanry was made up of townsmen—bakers and butchers; merchants and publicans; shopkeepers—who feared the arrogance and organization of these 'common' people gathered peacefully together in their local unions and town or village communities. (The *Lees and Saddleworth Union* carried a pitch-black flag with 'Love' lettered in white over two hands and heart.)

However, instead of a revolution, there was an even stronger reaction from the authorities, and although revolutionary groups existed both before Peterloo and, many more, after, they were fragmented with lack of political leadership sufficient to create a nationwide insurrection.

As E. P. Thompson writes in his tribute to 'the poor stocking, the Ludite Cropper, the "obsolete" handloom weaver, the utopian artisan'—*The Making Of The English Working Class*—(Penguin):

'From 1815 until the Chartist years, the movement always appeared most vigorous, consistent and healthy at the base, and especially in such provincial centres as Barnsley and Halifax, Loughborough and Rochdale.

Its true heroes were the local book-sellers and news-vendors, trade union organizers, secretaries and local speakers for the Hampden Clubs and Political Unions—men who did not expect to become honoured life-pensioners of the movement as a reward for imprisonment, and who, in many cases, were too obscure to do more than leave a few records of their activity in the local press or the Home Office papers.'

Because of Peterloo, Percy Bysshe Shelley wrote *The Mask Of Anarchy*, a poem which for so long has been almost ignored or left out of collections of his work. His intention was that it might act as any manifesto or declaration does—to strengthen the already knowledgeable people to act together, to overcome the difficulties—by reaching the public through one of the many radical newspapers of that time, only

four years after Waterloo. In this case he sent it to Leigh Hunt, editor of the *Examiner*, who, because of fines and imprisonment from articles already published, held back and not until Shelley was dead and the issue that less burning did he print it, in 1832!

This was an understandable thing to have done, but much more than just a pity, because Shelley's writings had already reached a radical public through Richard Carlile's pirated editions of the *Notes to Queen Mab*. These notes include direct statements on politics; sex; religion; vegetarianism and consumer society. For example essays like *Even Love Is Sold; There Is No God; No Longer Now He Slays The Lamb That Looks Him In The Face; And Statesmen Boast Of Wealth!* (All of which need a publisher today?)

To have had this powerful, simple and direct poem, *The Mask Of Anarchy*, circulating in such editions and such newspapers as the *Examiner*, *Black Dwarf* (the original *Black Dwarf* which could say of the various societies, unions and political clubs: 'Those who condemn clubs either do not understand what they can accomplish, or they wish nothing to be done... Let us look at and emulate the patient resolution of the Quakers. They have conquered without arms—without violence—without threats. They conquered by union'), *Political Register*, *Gorgon* (whose editor John Wade was author of the *Black Book* revealing corruption, nepotism and waste), *Medusa*, *Manchester Observer*, and *Republican*, to have had *The Mask Of Anarchy* in any of these in 1819 would have been an inspiration to the

movement for radical reform if not towards an English revolution. If only Shelley had sent it to Richard Carlile, the most fearless of the editors, who not only was responsible for the *Republican*; for reprinting Paine's writings and for reprinting parodies and satires like those of the Litany, Creed and Catechism; but was instrumental in gaining the right to publish any radical press! (Carlile continued to edit the *Republican* from jail and after his arrest his wife and sister printed and hawked it, followed by an army of some 150 volunteers who served a total of 200 years' imprisonment for their right to sell their newspaper!)

The Mask Of Anarchy is a ballad of nonviolent revolution which is now in printed form through Kropotkin Lighthouse Publications. If you don't and won't read poetry read this after reading E. P. Thompson's book and after reading about Shelley's life and work. It is a poem of its time which is just as relevant in attitude and action as when it was written, and thanks to Jim Huggon is in print again, with a truly splendid cover drawn by Arthur Moysa—a regular FREEDOM writer. Just

a fragment:
And Anarchy the Skeleton
Bowed and grinned to everyone
As well as if his education
Had cost ten millions to the nation
For he knew the palace
Of our kings were rightly his
His the sceptre, crown and globe,
And the gold inwoven robe
So he sent his slaves before
To seize the Bank and Tower
And was proceeding with intent
To meet his pensioned Parliament
When one fled post, a murmur madd
And her name was Hope, the told
But she looked more like Despair
And she cried out in the air
My father Time is weak and gray
With waiting for a better day
See how idiot-like he stands
Punishing with his palmed hands!
PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY.

The Mask Of Anarchy is obtainable from Kropotkin Lighthouse Publications, c/o Housmans, 5 Caledonian Road, London, N.1, and Freedom Press, 44 Whitechapel High Street, E.1, 1/6d. including post.

DENNIS GOULD.

WHAT THEN, ARE WE TO DO?

AS IS USUAL, the big news of the week has been an incident involving direct action. A group of Japanese students calling themselves 'The Red Army' commandeered an airliner with 103 passengers and forced the pilot with the threat of a sword to fly to North Korea—the pilot initially landed in South Korea but eventually with the exchange of passengers for a minor Cabinet Minister the plane flew to North Korea where the students embarked.

The newspaper reactions have been typical. The *Guardian* on April 1 (the date has no significance) ran an editorial entitled 'When innocents suffer'. This leader took off from the Japanese hijack and 'examined' several situations—strikes in New York, Embassy kidnappings in South America, demonstrations at Heathrow Airport are listed but obviously strikes in general and demonstrations at South African football and cricket matches are included by implication. This makes the well-known point that where a demonstration, a strike or an action makes the 'innocent' public suffer, such an action is by that very act undemocratic.

The *Guardian* itself does not generalize upon specific issues. On the Japanese political situation, the British Press can be quite objective. The *Guardian* even concurs 'that the release of 15 political prisoners in Brazil last year was worth some temporary discomfort to the American Ambassador'. The *Guardian* reserves its criticism for the puny demonstration of Heathrow when a group protesting at the airport noise attempted to block the airport traffic. The *Guardian* regrets, as it does regarding South African demonstrations the trouble to the 'innocent' public.

The Press of this country maintains the illusion, of which they are part, that there are democratic channels regularly available on all issues by which grievances can be remedied and therefore direct action methods are unnecessary and therefore 'undemocratic' since they cause inconvenience and hardship to sections of the population. It will freely admit, when pressed, that there are extreme situations (usually in other countries) when direct action is the only way; the Press will even admit that given certain circumstances (which would naturally never occur in Britain today) a judicious policy of assassination has its merits. It will not recognise the fact that 'the democratic process' to which it nominally subscribes is a myth; even as a theory it was only put forward in a Greek city-state founded on slavery. With the growth of political parties and a sadly misinformed electorate, the practice has degenerated to such an extent that with the power that law and money can exercise, with the merging of Labour and Conservative (and Democratic and Republican) political viewpoints it has become a mockery. The democratic channels, if indeed they ever existed, have become truly blocked not only by the co-opted politics but by the natural delays inherent in a bureaucratic structure.

In such circumstances all situations whether it be the Vietnam war, Biafra, housing, pollution, airport noise, industrial relations, university conditions, racial discrimination, civil liberties, censorship, South African apartheid, can be considered as extreme and urgent and the only response is direct action. We cannot wait for that which we know is unlikely to be done. All that can be done is

to call attention dramatically and publicly to the situation, in the way that the extreme reaction to pain is the only way the body can signal that something is wrong.

The second fallacy of the *Guardian* argument is that of the 'innocent' public. If indeed we live in a democracy where decisions are arrived at with the consent of the majority of the population, there is less possibility of any 'innocence', for decisions which involve injustice, social hardship, unjust and brutal wars, approval of undemocratic regimes, have all been approved; or, which is the same, not objected to by the 'innocent' public. If, on the other hand, such decisions have not been democratically arrived at, there is ample justification for objection. After all, Hitler was elected 'democratically' and all his acts were 'legally' sanctified.

But the guilt or innocence of the 'public' has further implications. One of the anarchists executed for bomb attempts in Paris in the last century said, 'There are no innocent bourgeois'. This is true, and it is indeed even true of the proletariat if such can be said to exist in this country at this time. The convenience of quick flights on holiday, the cheap fruit from Spain and South Africa, the smooth flow of Shell Oil from Nigeria, the steady employment on foreign defence contracts, all carry with them the guilt of responsibility for injustice, social hardship, unjust and brutal wars and totalitarian regimes.

The real crime of the 'innocent' is ignorance and this is just what demonstrations are aimed at. Not only are 'democratic' channels blocked, the communication channels are also blocked to peaceful, democratic and dull protest but a lively demonstration (violence is preferred by the media) is sure to make the headlines or invade the goggle-box.

Finally, it was left to the reactionary right-wing *Spectator*, giving the viewpoint of the less-than-progressive George Gale, to give the story of Clyde W. McKay, Junior, and Alvin J. Glatowski. The fact that these names are unknown is adequate testimony to the power of the Press in stifling public opinion unorthodoxly expressed.

These two young men, described by the Press as 'pot-happy hippies' were the two who, at gunpoint, held up and diverted a shipload of bombs destined for Vietnam. Clyde McKay said, 'President Nixon tells the world he wants to de-escalate the war, so we thought we'd help him a bit... I thought it better to threaten by force a few people in the ship and so prevent the threat to many people in Asia represented by the thousands of napalm bombs which the ship was carrying for US planes based in Thailand.'

This would seem to be the finest example of direct action to end the Vietnam war that has yet emerged. Was it undemocratic? Certainly, Congress voted for the war and there has been no anti-Vietnam war vote. Was it violent? Yes, there was the threat of shooting the captain and the two mates. Did it inconvenience anyone? Yes, the ship's crew had to take to the boats and the ship's consignment will take a long time (if over) to get to the US bombers. Was it justified? If the *Spectator* writer can say 'yes', surely the *Guardian* can.

JACK ROBINSON.

Recent Pamphlets and Small Mags

THE FIELD of small local publishing grows in strength; all over the country, it seems, people are getting out their own publications. Revolutionary presses—or, more usually, old second-hand duplicators, have never been rolling so fast. While doing everything possible to build up the national libertarian revolutionary press, anarchists—as the epitome of the de-centralist concept—ought to encourage and support these local efforts. Below, I review some of the small publications that have come my way.

Red and Black. Produced by the North West Federation of Anarchists, *Red and Black* is everything a revolutionary propagandist magazine ought to be. The standard of production is excellent, scarcely a typing error to be found. Articles are directed right at the man in the street, including 'Risley—Her Majesty's Death Centre' (an inside story of suicide and brutality in an everyday British nick) and excellent advice on screwing your rights out of the Social Security. Lots more too; from Ron Marsden, 9 Boland Street, Manchester 14. No price displayed; 1/- should be enough.

The Catonsville Road Runner. Revolutionary Christian mag—first-class production. Don't groan—all you anarchist atheists—try thinking. Gets right back to the inherently ANTI-STATE basis of true Christianity. 1/6 a time (£1 for 10 issues inc. post). Love, brothers. We may never believe in your God, but your truly anarchist attitude to the state, war, racism, etc., makes you the best advert

JC could wish for. Available from 3 Caledonian Road, London, N.1.

Betty the Unready. An anarchist answer to a recent pamphlet published by the Communist Party entitled 'Ultra-Leftism in Britain'. In the process of tearing to shreds the lying attacks and distortions hurled by the CP against those who oppose Stalinism from the Left, Laurens Otter carries out a brilliant demolition job on all varieties of the Marxist Spastic. The 'Betty' of the title is Mrs. Betty Reid, an aged Stalinist hack (who has defended every Soviet atrocity from the Stalin trials to the repression of Hungary). The political skill with which Laurens Otter exposes the CP should teach her to stay quietly in her wheelchair in future. Again, no marked price; try sending 1/- to Laurens Otter, 35 Natal Road, Thornton Heath, Croydon, CR4 8QH.

Two Men Sharing One Wife. Already advertised in the Contact Column of FREEDOM, this must surely rate for the most idiotic pamphlet of the year prize. Ostensibly produced by the Polyandry Study Group, for which read Mr. Paul Pawlowski, the pamphlet advocates—as a cure for everything from over-population to chilblains—the keeping of one woman by several men. The exploits of Mr. Pawlowski, accompanied by various unsuccessful social misfits, in combing the streets of London for a suitable wench, read like the worst kind of pornography—with racistist overtones. Mr. Pawlowski admits himself that half-castes have no place in the

brave new world of polyandry. Mr. Pawlowski's thinly veiled racism and his fear and hatred of people of Asian or African type—and his apparent desire to impregnate every woman in sight (so long as they're white) should arouse the disgust of every liberation internationalist and FREEDOM should cease to advertise this filth forthwith.

The Fighting Mouse. Due to be shortly produced by Aberdeen Anarchists and Syndicalists, *The Fighting Mouse* is a single duplicated sheet, designed as a give-away propaganda leaflet. A successor to the now defunct 'Aberdeen Militant', the *Mouse* will have an initial print of 500. After a few free issues, the *Mouse* will give birth, it is hoped, to a 3d. magazine. 1d. to outsiders (plus sac) from Peter Dickie, 136 Rosemount Place, Aberdeen.

Form—Stands for Pupils' Own Revolutionary Newspaper. Produced by Aberdeen Free Schools Group, in which local anarchists participate, previous issues have contained everything from revolutionary socialist manifestos to long, boring liberal diatribes. No. 3 now out—costs 2d. (plus sac) from Dave Kenworthy, 1 Abbotford Place, Aberdeen. PETER THE PAINTER.

LETTER

Racial Discrimination

Dear Sir,

We believe in standing up for ourselves. Our people are in constant oppression from the local people. They beat our people, rob and also kill. The policemen, in the name of law and order, suppress us. The local MP, Mr. Peter Shore, just says, 'Sorry, I don't think I can do anything about it. I wish I could', and only desires to keep and make us feel inferior to the local people. He talks of law for equality between the Continentals and the natives. This means nothing and is his way of fooling the British people in order to get their votes in the coming election.

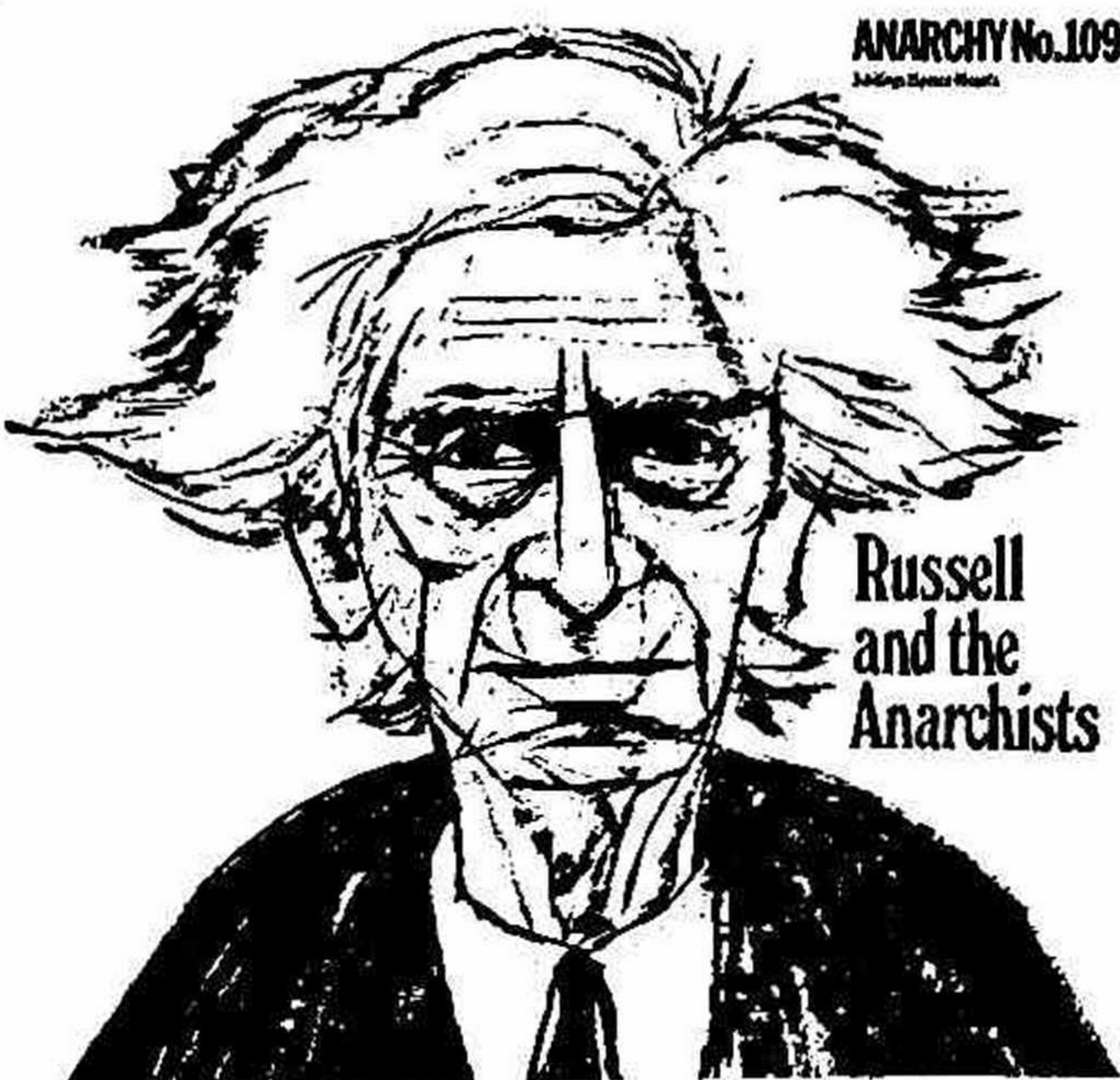
The film made by Granada Television about our joint meeting at Toynbee Hall with African organisations on February 21 was shown on 'World in Action' of March 9. It was shown in a distorted way and did not present our problems in a fair manner. Consequently the attacks on our people have increased since then. So far we have recorded seventeen cases and many more have not been recorded. It is quite clear that this Granada film has incited the natives. The attitude of Mr. Peter Shore has also been much worse.

Thank you,

Yours faithfully,

THE SECRETARY,
Pakistani Progressive Party.

46 Hanbury Street, E.1



Russian Trade Unions Protest

A PLENARY MEETING of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions was held in Moscow recently, reports *Soviet News* (10.2.70). The Central Council discussed a report by Alexander Shelepin, a member of the political bureau of the Soviet Communist Party, the appointed chairman of the AUCCTU and a former head of the KGB. The meeting also heard a report by Vasily Prokhorov on 'the tasks of the Trade Union organisations in intensifying the work for more efficient and economical use of raw materials, fuel, power, etc., in the national economy'.

The AUCCTU also passed a resolution on Vasily Prokhorov's report in which it urged all factory and office workers and the entire people to develop further the country-wide movement for a thrifty attitude in all sectors of communist (read 'state-capitalist') construction and called upon them to

make their personal labour contribution to the common cause of reaching the targets of the Five-Year Plan ahead of schedule and to ensure that the centenary of Lenin's birth was celebrated in a worthy manner.

After calling on the Soviet workers to work harder and increase their productivity (and exploitation), the leadership then announced that new sanatoria and rest homes would be built this year—in order that the Russian workers might recover from their increased activities and endeavours. Indeed, it was reported that 20 million factory and other workers would receive treatment in the coming year. Obviously, 'welfare' pays off for the Russian rulers!

The AUCCTU then issued a protest against the persecution of 'patriots' by the reactionary regime in Greece and demanded 'the immediate release of Trade Union leaders and all Greek patriots fighting for the legitimate rights of

their people to freedom and democracy'. *Soviet News* does not, however, mention whether the AUCCTU passed any resolutions condemning the imprisonment and persecution of Soviet patriots and 'intellectuals' who had been imprisoned in the Soviet Union for 'fighting for the legitimate rights of their people to

freedom and democracy'. Perhaps, in their enthusiasm for harder work and more efficiency, they forgot. Nor is it reported that they passed any resolutions supporting or advocating strikes, or 'work stoppages' as the Yugoslav Communists put it, by Russian workers against their State employers' exhortations to work harder. Perhaps they forgot them as well. But, then, the AUCCTU has a long history of protesting against injustices in most countries of the world—except its own.

PETER NEWELL

Appeal to British Trade Unionists

A FEW WEEKS AGO, the Canadian division of Dunlops Ltd., a British-owned plant, announced that it would close on May 1. The Company has claimed that it is losing money. In response, the workers first offered to buy the factory and keep it running, using their pension fund for this purpose. The Company rejected the offer. The workers' next step was to request the provincial government of Ontario to do a feasibility study of the plant, to establish whether the Company's statement of losses was true. The government announced its willingness to undertake such a study, provided the Company agreed. The Company refused permission for the study. A rally and march were held by the workers and their union (the United Rubber Workers of America) in Toronto on April 1. If the plant is closed as planned on May 1, most of the workers face the prospect of permanent unemployment, no alternative work having been provided in the locality.

of the workers' campaign and their situation are awaited. In the meantime however, international solidarity with this struggle is urgently needed; telegrams of support for the Canadians can be addressed to:

Philip Japp, United Rubber Workers of America, local 132, and Judy T. Huchbinder, Praxis Workers' Control Task Force, 1 Grant Street, Toronto, Canada.



PRESS FUND	
March Total:	£115 7 0
Monthly Income:	
Income Sales and Subs.:	£34 13 8
Jan. and Feb. b/f.:	£120 11 0
	£155 4 8
Expenditure:	
3 Freedoms and	
1 Anarchy at £150:	£600 0 0
March deficit:	£444 15 4
Jan. and Feb. deficit b/f.:	£999 4 7
	£1,443 19 11
Less March Press Fund:	£115 7 0
DEFICIT TO DATE:	£1,328 12 11

MERSEYSIDE NOTES

VAUXHALLS

EASTER WEEK brought a five million pound rise to Vauxhall car workers. This increase (already in the pipeline as a consequence of the Ford pay settlement) was hurried through in an effort to settle the Ellesmere Port stoppage, where a strike by 110 members of the inspection department over wage differentials was gradually bringing all production to a halt.

The fact that this quite considerable wage increase did not satisfy the strikers is one more indication that the spate of strikes within the car industry, although ostensibly geared to wage increases, in fact draw their strength from the men's resentment at the ever-increasing pressure on their work performance. This particular strike has been ended by the personal appeal of Hugh Scanlon, President of the AEU. However both the Union and Vauxhalls are now committed to a deeper study of the pay structure within the car industry. Direct action has brought to the workers both a larger slice of the cake and, to a small degree, some say in their future work conditions.

MERSEY FERRIES

The rising of the moon on Easter Monday was a signal for the stoppage of the crews operating the ferry between Liverpool and Birkenhead over long hours and short wages. The following night the Liverpool-Seacombe ferrymen struck for similar reasons. A small monetary palliative restarted work in both cases. But once again, both Ferry Authorities are committed to looking into both work and pay schedules.

OVERTIME

The day after the ferry strike, a Merseyside coroner criticised a firm for allowing one of its drivers to work a 102-hour week, as a result of which he

had stumbled and been fatally hurt. Even after adjusting this number for maintenance and overtime allowance, this man must have worked a 70-hour week!

LIVERPOOL DOCKS

Following the Easter holiday, Liverpool Docks were undermanned to the extent of five ships being unattended. The employers admitted that this was due to chronic labour shortage and not to absenteeism. However there is no sign of them backing down in their demand to have the final say in labour recruitment, which is the cause of the shortage and is contrary to all dock labour tradition.

The 'Blue Union' stewards, for their part, have presented demands culminating in a 20-hour £45 week. With what is known of port profits both present and potential, this is not an unrealistic demand.

SHIPPING

The Employers' Federation upped their wage offer again this week, only to have it rejected.

Seamen's leader, Gordon Norrin, drew attention to the penal clauses which—though not as severe as the old ones—are retained in the new 'Merchant Shipping Act' now before the Lords. Norrin spoke rather ambiguously about 'May Day'. So perhaps there is some more 'direct action' in the offing.

TRANSPORT

Reduced services and increased fares have brought forth rumblings from both passengers and crews on both sides of the water. The shorter hours worked by crews bring them no relief, as they have to be worked over the same period. The only result to the busmen is a reduction in an already low wage.

WOBBLY.

'Free' Radio is Back Again

WHEN, JUST BEFORE Easter, the pop radio ship Mebo II anchored 6½ miles off the Essex coast and started transmitting as Radio Nordsee International, all those connected with the venture seemed likely to be transformed into popular folk heroes. There they were risking life and liberty (and over £400,000 capital) in order to defy the dictates of the British Government to give the British public what it wants: 'free' radio.

Unfortunately, RNI chose to transmit on a frequency in the medium wave band stupidly close to that used by coastguards, lightships, etc., for radio contact. Consequently, the pirates' 105 kilowatts of pop power is alleged to have blocked the communication channels of these coastal services. Their first reaction was to deny that this was so. Presumably, they supposed that if they denied the allegations for long enough the adverse press publicity would, eventually, fade away (as it did with the previous pirates).

When RNI finds another frequency on the medium wave band it seems likely

that it will become a permanent feature of the pop scene—at least until the Swiss Government is forced by international pressure to adhere to the 1965 International agreement against offshore broadcasting. (RNI is run by a Swiss company.)

Of course, the 'freedom' advocated by the pop pirates has nothing to do with the freedom advocated by us Anarchists. Their 'freedom' is the right-wing freedom for the shrewd capitalist to make a fast pound without government interference.

All they want is a mindless mass audience which they can sell to the advertisers. The whole thing must be developed to this end. The world is full of happy jingle-singing consumers who have their tastes created and satisfied—at a price—by the benevolent advertisers. There are no social problems so what is there to discuss? We are perfectly free and happy so what is there to agitate about? Sex comes respectably sublimated in the adverts so why waste precious listening-time fucking?

Just lie down and we'll 'sock-it-to-yah'...

TERRY PHILLIPS.

LETTER

Who Needs a Trip P

Dear All,

Like it was on a trip a while ago: a brother from Derry and myself were discussing Anarchist solidarity so-called. We got hung up about Niall (six months in) and Ian (nine months). That Derry man is now back in Ireland. He could not take the petty factionalism of the English Left—Palmer, Lawless and Davoren all behaving like little children over a new toy; the Anarchists uplight and slightly paranoid or schizo after too much action and too many recriminations. He could not take it. He's now living in the stratosphere permanently. Good luck, man, hope to see you back with us soon.

Meanwhile the cats back in Belfast work on. In the factories, on the streets, talking, writing, action... and more action! And what support have they had? Apart from the help of five brothers and sisters: £9 8s. Of the five, all have been committed and active in other fields. Like the chick who went over and helped to set up the poster workshops. Like the one who went over with a tape-recorder and wrote a long article in *IT*.

In particular, of course, I'm speaking of London. Most of the money received came from the North (£8), and the work some groups are doing in their own areas is fantastic (as is shown from their publications). But, comrades, don't forget Ireland. Let them know what's going on. Of course, they have no bread to spare—who has? They have just obtained a duplicator, though, so wait for results. My opinion is they (the results) will be good and outrageous.

Another opinion: an attempted Right-wing coup in May, guns and all.

If you turn out any literature, please send Belfast a copy. They don't expect help or even sustained interest—they know we are incapable of giving it.

I have done my best for over a year, with others who are carrying on. But for me it has become work, not a joy. So I'm packing it in for a while. I hope all those who know understand. Must take an ego trip. 'The real meaning of revolution is not a change in management, but a change in man. This change we must make in our own lifetime and not for our children's sake, for the revolution must be born of joy and not sacrifice.'—Cohn-Bendit, *Obsolete Communism*.

London

REG. B.



Any book not in stock, but in print can be promptly supplied. Book Tokens accepted. Please add postage & rush with order help.

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LETTER

Property is Robbery

Dear Comrades,

Could you print the following letter in *FREEDOM*—it may well save comrades money.

'We would warn all British anarchists about the activities of a German youth, calling himself "Henry Roy" or "Jan Schmidt" or "Herman Schmidt", who may approach revolutionary groups claiming to be a member of the left wing German movement, SDS, and says he is in fact a deserter from the Federal German Army.

He has been given shelter by anarchists—but we now have good reason to believe he is NOT what he claims to be. He has stolen books, clothes and has attempted to cash cheques stolen from sympathetic people who gave him a bed. Be warned; if he appears on your doorstep, throw him out.

Fraternally,
IAN S. SUTHERLAND.'



All correspondence to
Peter Le Mare, 5 Hannaford Road,
Rotton Park, Birmingham 16

ANARCHIST FEDERATION of BRITAIN

The AFB information office will produce an internal bulletin. Comrades interested in its production are to meet in Birmingham on the first Sunday of each month. All groups will be informed in detail. Address all letters to:

Peter Le Mare, 5 Hannaford Road,
Rotton Park, Birmingham, 16. Tel.
021-454 6871. Material that cannot
wait for the bulletin to be sent to
R. Atkins, Vanbrugh College, Hes-
lington, York. The Contact Column
in *'Freedom'* is also available for
urgent information.

Groups should send latest addresses
to Birmingham. New inquirers should

write direct to them or to the AFB
information office in Birmingham.

AFB REGIONAL GROUPS
There are now anarchist groups in almost every
part of the country. To find your nearest group
write to:
Manchester Anarchists and Syndicalists Rachel
Golditch, 34 Waterpark Road, Salford, 7.
Cornwall A. Jacobs, 13 Ledrah Road, St. Austell.
(M. M. B.)
Keele & E. Burton P. Newell, 'Aesop', Spring
Lane, Eight Ash Green, Colchester. (QM, FL.)
Surrey: O. Wright, 47 College Road, Epsom.
Sussex: E. Poole, 5 Tisbury, Findon Road, White-
hawk, Brighton.
Yorkshire Martin Watkins, 3 Marlborough Grove,
Leeds, 2.
Scotland: B. Lynn, 12 Ross Street, Glasgow.
Wales: c/o P. L. Mare (address above).
N. Ireland: c/o P. L. Mare (address above).
University and Student Groups: c/o P. L. Mare.
(Abbreviations: M—meeting; Ma—magazine;
B—badges; Q—Quarterly; FL—free leaflet.)

The April issue of the AFBIB will be produced not at the Le Mares', who will be on holiday, but at the Arts Lab, 318 Summer Lane, Birmingham 19. No. 5 bus from town going down Snow Hill to Summer Lane. Get off at Tower Street stop. 1 p.m. onwards, April 5 (Sunday). Arts Lab at side entrance to the Birmingham Settlement, up the fire escape stairs (Tower Street).

'The Bombs Bursting in Air'

FOR PROBABLY the first time in the memory of living man, violence in America is once again being charged (or credited, as the solipsist case may be) to the anarchy/anarchist syndrome, that tired holey receipt guaranteed to supply a full-blown bogey at the drop of a Molotov cocktail. All of which can only mean a continuing, indeed a widening, breach between fact and doctored doxies that will not wither away.

The latest recrudescence of establishment offices sabotaged, coming so soon after the rubbing of a Greenwich Village town-house which allegedly had been pressed into service as a bomb factory by hyper-militant new-leftist factions, has shattered nerves as well as windows, commonsense no less than lavatories. Psychiatrists who would be politicians, politicians who would be psychiatrists—all soothsayers manqué, dutifully sifting the plaster entrails in the hoary tradition of the instant expert so revered these days—they all, predictably, have let fly solemn broadsides into the nearest television microphone and/or newspaper column with the purpose of probing, dissecting and otherwise belaboring the obvious.

But I don't mean to address myself to the problems daily confronting harassed editors and preachy politicians. What, we as anarchists must ask, is to be made of this situation—and that in both senses.

Except for the bombing of the car in the Rap Brown case (two of Brown's colleagues were demolished therein the day before Brown was to appear for trial on the charges of arson and of inciting to riot)—that bombing aside, I think it is clear that all the bombings must have been the work of segments of the new, or newer, left. That being so, it is in order to evaluate (1) their aims, and (2) their methods in the light of their aims.

Their aims are listable:

1. to expose the vulnerability of the establishment—the enemy, or at least of isolated facades of that faceless enemy
2. to rally support round their program by dramatic, spectacular acts
3. to keep their private apparatus functional, and functioning, while the revolutionary day-of-reckoning is lured ever closer
4. to bedeck their leadership, both overt and covert, with a mantle of desperado activism—the Che mystique
5. by means of such elitist activism to supersede fuddy-duddy notions about having to establish and hold a broad base of support through the tedious, unspectacular and certainly undramatic

channels of education, etc. (such super-secture, by reinforcing elitism, in the normal course of things would further denigrate the old methods)

6. to call down upon their heads—and ours—the wrath, scourge and retaliatory oppressiveness of the establishment, all of which in time would (hopefully) goad the sleepy and the timid among us into active opposition to the oppressors

This list, so far from exhausting the possibilities, may be added to, subtracted from, juggled, combined and shuffled, but at the end of it the net results would, I suggest, be but variations on a theme.

I would grant, without cavil, that aims 1, 3, 4 and 5 have been achieved. Except as regards several well-defined groups (i.e., college rebels), aim 2 cannot but fall short of realization, although the inevitable public opinion poll on it cannot be expected for another week or so.

Which leaves aim 6—unhappy gel of Samson, Pompadour and Dostoevsky—

Sooner or later, and sooner if the bombings persist, a new and bitter Draconian period of repression is inevitable here, but I suggest that the sleepy and the timid, so far from being dragged, charmed or impressed into the ranks of the new left, will actually vault free of their lethargy to take their sure places among those who will, in ever more loud and imperious tones than before, be demanding protection and vengeance against these latter-day Vandals. For it is in the establishment, for which they are the staffers and the soldiers, that they see a benefice without bourn—so long as the Vandals are estopped, one way or the other, from razing it. And should the timid and the sleepy finally rise to be counted—on the 'wrong' side of the aisle—boom-day would instantly convert to boomerang-day.

If the points above, however admixed and turned about, do indeed demarcate the strategy of the new left, it would appear to be a revolutionary strategy enmeshed in demagogic bankruptcy—and it would appear to be doomed to failure. For a strategy, of professed revolution, that does not open, expand and periodically reinvigorate contacts with the people, is not a strategy at all, but is rather a dilettante self-indulgence of the most dangerous sort. Having gone through the Gloria Patri of 'Burn, Baby, Burn', we now come to the Gloria in Excelsis of 'Bomb, Baby, Bomb'. I know not the stuff of which some revolutions are made, but this, I am certain, is not some of it. Perhaps this revolution, for one, is having its counter-revolution even before it is fairly out of the starting blocks?

The bitter truth of the matter is that the new left, after all this time vague catchall as it is of admirable and not-quite-admirable causes, is not dialoguing with the people it must reach if ever it is to become more than a disputatious club-house plotting weekend sorties to lay waste a bank here, a college there, a computer factory elsewhere—sorties interleaved, to be sure, with periodic constructive demonstrations. Communication by terror, threat or gore is macabre monologue, and 'All power to the people' is, after all, but a slogan, however great-hearted, but the egg-lobbing, chair-busting high school students throat-cutting even so noble a slogan as they goose-step over people and things—are these students the precious life-blood of the revolutionary wave of the future? Are these the principled vanguard comrades to bowl over the capitalist-imperialist-bourgeois-racist forces of prejudice, emotionalism, hatred and irrationality? Or are these callow plungers in a floating crap game shooting with loaded dice—and never making their point?

And in the midst of all this blur and turmoil, how difficult it sometimes is to sidestep the vortex long enough to recall that many of these same youngsters have also participated in anti-war demonstrations, in marches on City Hall and Washington and what-have-you, in moratoria and protests against the draft; in petitioning, picketing and fund-raising on behalf of the incredibly exploited grape-workers of California. The list is long, the list is noble, but the next indiscriminate bombing of IBM's executive toilet will demolish, equally with the plumbing, the already fragile recollection of these noble performances. For these bombings, in the final analysis, smear all the new, newer and newest left with the same black brush, and such wholesale staining cannot but cruelly disserve their cause as well as mutilate history. As I write this, incidentally (it may be different tomorrow), there has been no bloodshed directly attributable to the bombings of the establishment's showplaces. Such exquisite good fortune, however, may not continue indefinitely: when the run of luck changes, so too will the national climate, with another McCarthy ice-age, and worse, certainly not beyond possibility. Even history's dustbin is a polluter these days!

The trouble is simply that the enemy of the new left, notwithstanding the latter's persistent protest to the contrary, is not the establishment as it knows and defines it, but the vast gelatinoid middle class that supports this 'establishment' and completely identifies with it. And these are the worthies, when events at last catapult them off their asses and

into the arena, who will, I repeat, demand to be counted among the friends of IBM, not of the Chicago 7. The Chicago 7 could have struck a resounding blow for their cause—and against judicial barratry—had they 'kept their cool'. To have done so not only would not have jeopardized their case, it would have won quick rapport with—and uncovered the broad support of—many Americans who have long been disenchanted with a vindictive, venal judiciary, and have longer been disabused of the legend of the American court system's even-handed justice available to all at every corner tribunal. Instead, the Chicago 7 made a circus of the courtroom and a shambles of the proceedings. To be sure, they also rubbed the presiding judge's nose in it; for them he was almost too easy a mark—I would only add that those who chortled with the Chicago 7, were firmly in the defendants' corner long before the festivities began; there were—and still are—all the others—

What, then, of the new and newer left in America now? Viewed through red-colored glasses, it is alive and well in New York and elsewhere, and booming and bombing; viewed through black-tinted glasses, it appears an overly-tolerated cabal of not-quite-Americans. I suppose the revolution is just around the corner if you want it to be—and if not, it isn't. What is patent, however, is the accelerating balkanization of America; if such is the precursor to revolution, there it is. A few fissures here and there notwithstanding, the system is far from cracking, and I should be surprised indeed to learn that even one plantation overseer has taken to the hills. America, after all, has always operated within a loosely defined arena of allowable differences, and should such differences heat up sufficiently to explode into random violence and destructiveness,

that too is allowable—good violence, like the good fellow, knows its place. Slowly, however, as crises pile on crises and patience ebbs, the elbow-room programmed into allowable differences contracts, and tomorrow some talk and much behavior—today tolerated, if not exactly admired—will be *verboten*, and so it will go until one day, finally, the new left's epithets could well become its epitaphs.

And for us anarchists, pace the credits gratuitously heaped upon us by cops and bookish social psychologists alike, and notwithstanding their affirmation of the existence of a huge anarchist network in hot nightly operation in every precinct of the United States—despite such effluvia of a dredging machine out of doltishness or desperation now pressed into service after decades of disuse—despite all these, I venture to suggest that there are some things still left undone that need doing—and quite warrant our addressing ourselves to. For after all, this is still a country where reputable and sober historical and political analysts still dare ask aloud how it is that we came to be trapped in the Vietnam quagmire in the first place, and where nit-picking resident White House sophists still dare pontificate about American neutrality in Laos—this is still a country where to assert, in rebuttal, that it would be more to the point to wonder, loud and long, that America has thus far avoided a proliferation of Vietnams and Laoses, would be *prima facie* surety of having gone daft—

But this is also a country where a popular cartoonist, in one of his more inspired strips, has one alert character say, 'We have met the enemy—and they is us!'

Yes, there are indeed some things still left undone that need doing—

SEYMOUR GREENBERG.

BASQUES IN ENGLAND

I CALL TO the attention of all Anarchists and others the case of Juan Echebarria, incarcerated in Brixton in December 1969 and still inside, awaiting trial for throwing a petrol bomb at the Spanish Embassy. I reproduce a statement from the Spanish Workers' Defence Committee, which has not lost very much in the translation, because it was pretty weak anyway. (The Spanish Workers' Defence Committee is an organisation in England, and they are one of the organisations really interested in this case.)

'According to the allegations of the British police, on the night of December 27, 1969, two Basque youths threw two bottles of inflammable liquid at the Spanish Embassy in London (situated in Belgrave Square) which did not explode and for that reason caused no harm to person or property.

The two Basque youths are accused of intent to set on fire to an inhabited dwelling, and also with assault on police. These seem to be the facts, according to the police. The courts have refused on six successive occasions to grant the accused bail pending trial.

Let us give our attention to some facts which may be relevant to the events of the night of the 27th.

The Francoist Spanish Government has, of recent times, escalated the ferocious oppression which it has directed against the Basque people for years now, and particularly the militants of the patriotic and progressive Basque movement.

The year of '69 has been one especially characterized by the successive cruelties. Let us not detail the hundreds of jailings and deportations directed indiscriminately

against the general Basque people, not just against the men that Francoism considers more radical.

We want, as a matter of priority, to call attention to the multiple murders committed, "murders" because in no other manner can one describe the sentences passed by those tragic farces that are the Military Tribunals in Spain. One of these crimes has been the sentence of death passed on Tomin Arrizabalga. One supposes that Arrizabalga is only a drop in the sea of blood into which Francoist obstinacy seems prepared to turn the Basque country.

We hope that these lines will show the background in Spain against which there have been numerous protests.

We cannot avoid mentioning the fascist terror in Spain which is intimately related to the events of December 27, and any attempt to separate the two would be grievously mistaken.

One of the accused, Juan Echebarria (20 years old), who is in a Remand Centre in Ashford for those below 21 years of age, is in a very delicate situation. He has previously been charged with his political activities in Spain, which the Francoist Government regards as criminal offences (as opposed to political) and for which a sentence of death is possible.

He escaped secretly from Spain last summer, and came to England where he asked for political asylum, which was denied. The Spanish authorities have asked for his extradition, and there are strong fears that they will bring strong pressures to bear on the British Government so that he will be delivered into their hands.

Both his actions in Spain and his

protest at the Spanish Embassy have been because of the plight of his people under an undemocratic militarist Government.

We have to ensure that the extradition order be refused and that he be allowed to go to the country of his choice when his legal involvement here is over.

All the pressures and channels that can be employed to help this young Basque are needed, and will be not merely a show of solidarity with one person, but also with a people who struggle on under some of the most difficult conditions existing in Europe.'

Some of you may not know that in Spain more 'crimes' are punishable by death than have been here even some time before the death penalty was abolished (with exceptions). Foremost among these 'crimes' are, of course, the political ones.

The statement does not mention that at the young man's committal proceedings, an officer of the Spanish Embassy told the court that Echebarria had escaped from his trial in Spain, and that he was wanted there.

They may of course not even consider granting permission for his extradition, but we should be prepared to make things as awkward as possible for the authorities if they show any signs of yielding to such a request. This is not something out of which to make political capital, it is no exaggeration to say that a man's life may well be at stake. Even if no death sentence is passed on him in Spain, a savage term of imprisonment is practically a certainty—just look at some fairly recent examples of Spanish justice!

I ask you to do what you can through conventional channels for the moment, but if they decide to hand him over, then when the word goes out, be prepared to register your feelings on the streets.

Buzz.

Contact

Contact Column is for making contact! Use is free, but donations towards typesetting costs are welcome

Scottish Anarchists Meeting on Anti-Election Tactics at Mike Male's, 138 Gt. Northern Road, Aberdeen. May 2 and 3. Write for details.

'The Fighting Mouse'. Projected Scottish anarchist magazine. Writers, sellers, and finance wanted. Contact Ian S. Sutherland, 8 Eslemont Avenue, Aberdeen, AB2 4SL.

Libertas Christi. West London Christians interested in discussing the theory and practical implications of Christian Freedom write: Francis Simons, Flat 1, 86 Hereford Road, London, W.2.

York: We just heard of an offset litho printing machine going for £80. We have managed to contact a few of our group (it being the middle of Easter vacation) and have pledged of £40 as soon as next term's grants come through (mid-April). Therefore we are asking people to loan us anything over £5 for a period of 6 months on a personal surety from one of us. If we can get the machine it will greatly facilitate the cheap production of good, well-printed leaflets, with illustrations. We know of no groups which actually own a litho press, which is the kind which is used on the 'Dwarf', 'Socialist Worker', etc. Please help.

Ethical Society Meetings, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, W.C.1 (admission free):

'Inside Franco's Jails', Miguel Garcia Garcia and Stuart Christie. Sunday, April 12 at 3 p.m.

'New Frontiers in the Mind of Lewis Mumford', Peter Cadogan, B.A. Sunday, April 26 at 11 a.m.

'Peaceniks or Freedom Fighters', Roger Moody and others. Sunday, April 26 at 3 p.m.

A Reply to R. S. Peters.—A libertarian slam on this guru of the training colleges will soon be ready. Possible title: 'Clay, Plants, Rats or Persons?' Any trainee teachers please contact Keith Paton, 21 Victoria Street, Basford, Stoke on Trent, if you want a copy or think you may be willing to

push it in your situation, please. Visitors to Ireland welcome to the Island, Corner Merriem Road and Nutley Lane, Dublin 4 (5 acre Anarchist Kibbutz).

Former Fulham Anarchist Group Members and others will be welcome at Freedom Hall on Wednesdays, 8 p.m. onwards—coffee and discussion—from April 8.

Makhno & Durruti Pamphlet, 9d. Order copies, sale or return, from Freedom Press.

Kettering. Demonstrate against Enoch Powell's racialist sickness and local capitalist collaboration at Wicksteed Park on April 10 at 6.30 p.m. (He is speaking at Institute of Directors Dinner.)

South Africa Commission. Sponsored Walk on Sunday, April 12. Funds raised will go to the Medical Aid Fund for medical supplies for Liberation Movements in Southern Africa. Route starts northern end Tower Bridge, finishing southern side New Bridge. Further information: 'Walk', 372 West Barnes Lane, New Malden, Surrey. Tel. 01-398 1354.

Polyandry Study Group Report. 'Two Men Sharing One Wife'. 60 pages, price 6/6 including postage, from P. Pawlowski, 26 Elmbourne Road, London, S.W.17.

Anarchist answer to the CP's 'Ultra Leftism in Britain' and other pseudo-leftists (pamphlet). Laurens Otter, 35 Natal Road, CR4 8QH.

Manchester Anti-Election Campaign. Bill West, 16 Northern Grove, West Didsbury, Manchester 20. Meetings every Wednesday.

Tory Five Point Fascism Electioneering. We must start our work now—preparation for printed leaflets and posters for a nationwide factory gate campaign—money and ideas needed—Interested? Contact L.S.F., c/o Keith Nathan, Vanbrugh College, Heslington, York.

York Group Need Speakers. Expenses and accommodation arranged. Write R. Atkins, Vanbrugh College, Heslington, York.

Every Tuesday Evening at Freedom Hall. Informal discussion/entertainment/chess evenings. Small musical instruments and pocket chess sets welcomed. Refreshments. From 7 p.m. admission 2/-. Proceeds to Press Fund. All Welcome.

Urgent. Help fold and dispatch FREEDOM every Thursday from 4 p.m. onwards. Tea served.

Malatesta Poster Screen Printed. 7/6 (inc. post) from Freedom Bookshop.

Schools Anarchist Group in Gloucestershire? Contact Kate & Joe, 3 Withy Lea, Leonard Stanley, nr. Stonehouse, GL10 3NS, Glos.