

UNEMPLOYMENT DEMONSTRATIONS

Time Now to Build Utopia

FEARED BY EVERYONE except the rich and the privileged, the scourge of unemployment is advancing upon us yet again. Already a million workers have no jobs. They and their families — about three million of our fellow human beings — are being reduced to a standard of life far below that of the majority. And to this material deprivation must be added the demoralisation that creeps up on a worker who feels that his strength and his skills are no longer needed by society. No amount of increased dole money (even if the State would concede it) can compensate for that.

The slogans being advanced to 'solve' unemployment today are the same slogans that completely failed to solve it in the thirties. 'Work or Full Maintenance' — 'Reduction in Hours With No Loss of Pay' — 'Nationalisation' — and 'Another Labour Government' — all are being paraded again in marches and demonstrations. All are 'demands' on either the State or the employers. They raise the hopes of the unemployed and ask nothing from the rest of the working population. They profit no one — except the politicians who hope to gain votes from their 'support' of the unemployed.

Yet action by the people themselves could really end unemployment at the same time as it under-

mined the system that gave rise to it. It requires only that we cease to be slaves and act like men.

SOLIDARITY URGENTLY NEEDED

When a factory closes down it is no use asking the State to re-open it. If the will is there, it can be occupied and turned into a workshop for the community making things that people need — not what profit dictates. It could have happened at UCS — and it may still happen at Plesseys. The rest of us must see to it that if such a step takes place it doesn't fail for lack of solidarity.

If a reduction in hours is seen as a means of helping the unemployed (and it surely is) then why not do it instead of 'demanding' it from the employers. There is nothing to stop any factory deciding to reduce the hours of work tomorrow, thereby leaving the employer with the choice of either losing production or taking on more labour. (Of course, adding the words 'with no loss of pay' rather spoils the idea of reducing hours as a gesture of much-needed solidarity since it implies that the employed will help the unemployed only if no sacrifice is required.)

Demanding another Labour Government is worse than useless. It was such a Government which

sponsored the productivity deals — and it was the Unions which sold the idea to the workers. Machines replaced labour and jobs were sold for more money. Many of today's unemployed are victims of that technological development. The employers made vast profits out of increased productivity — the workers paid in speed-up and eventual unemployment.

Nationalisation has no bearing on anything. The mines and the railways were nationalised and taken over by the State which then proceeded to cut the labour force as ruthlessly as any hard-faced private employer.

THE PRICE OF GROWTH

The solution most favoured by employers and unions alike is the one known as 'getting more growth into the economy'. This simply means that the State should direct industry to make bigger profits and then the owners of industry might perhaps dole out a few more jobs and a bit more money. What a hope! Those who support the idea of 'growth' as a solution reveal a selfishness and a callousness hard to beat. Only when 'we' are prosperous will the unemployed, the homeless, the old people, to say nothing of the starving millions in Asia and Africa, be thrown some aid.

'Growth' means making more and more of everything and anything that makes a profit — whether it be atom bombs, moon rockets, plastic cups or electric toothbrushes. It means producing all sorts of rubbish and then inducing the people to buy it whether they need it or not. It means the continuation of all those stupid and degrading jobs that we have today — like cutting the throats of factory-bred chickens on an assembly line, like attaching parts to cars on a moving belt so that more may be produced to choke and kill us, like producing chemicals to pour over the earth to pollute the water and poison the food. It means crowding people into inhuman cities where life is a stinking nightmare to be endured rather than lived. Overcrowding, traffic congestion, rotten housing, pollution, ill-health, tension and violence are the inevitable results of the 'growth' solution.

A REAL SOLUTION

Capitalism has been growing by spreading its greedy paws over all the earth for two hundred years and more. What we are living through today is the end of a process which began when the ancestors of today's 'captains of industry' wrested the land from the people, when they broke up the old communal system of production and set forth on their mad journey of production for production's sake. All efforts to make this wretched system work are doomed. It must be destroyed. It is an abortion. It was built on blood and toil and now it has turned millions of working men and women

into 'things' required only to produce for purposes which they have no right to question. It is the irresponsible society where greed is king and 'pleasure' becomes the only aim in life.

The joy of the craftsman in his craft, or the peasant in his land, are almost things of the past. Work has become a curse, something to be avoided if only a win on the football pools will bring in the promised land. It is a system which teaches that a road-sweeper whose job is essential to the community is to be pitied — while all honours and great wealth are poured on a useless, greedy bureaucrat like a Lord Robens or a Richard Marsh.

The machine has taken over and men are its servants. The villages are deserted or inhabited by stock-brokers — the towns are swollen to inhuman proportions and everywhere there grows a huge heap of waste which threatens to engulf us all. A motley collection of besotted capitalists, insane technocrats, wooden-headed bureaucrats, gibbering economists, and power-seeking politicians rule the world with the aid of maniacal generals and sadistic policemen... and God help us if they continue to rule for much longer.

Fortunately, there are some definite signs that they won't. More and more people are refusing to pay the dreadful price of keeping this system working. We don't want to control a prison house like Ford's factory — we want to abolish it. We don't want to be cogs in some great centralised machine — we want to be integral parts of a human com-

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THE CENSUS

We Demand a Recount!

SIX MONTHS after the Census was taken the press officer of the Registrar General states that between 200 and 300 prosecutions have taken place and the total number of prosecutions would amount to between 500 and 700, 'not much more than a couple of streets'.

'Peace News' points out that they know of ten or twelve people who haven't filled in a form but haven't heard from the Census. We would like to mention that of the four 'Freedom' editors none of them filled in a Census form but only one has been summoned for November 30. No Young Liberals appear to have been summoned. 'PN' believes that the Census officials are holding back information about how many absences they have. It is obvious from a casual poll of friends and acquaintances — if you have the right kind of friends — that the Census figures are hopelessly cooked. And what about the people who told lies?

It has been suggested by 'Peace News' that people who have abstained and not been prosecuted should send up their names so that 'PN' can assess how many absences there are. Perhaps readers of 'Freedom' would care to send in their lists. It is not necessary to use real names — but perhaps you could have 'real' information.

EDITORS.

We're all an Asian Horde!

MR. ENOCH POWELL, speaking at a meeting of the Southall Chamber of Commerce, has now revealed that the real threat to Merrie England is constituted by the Asians not the Black immigrants. 'It is more truly when he looks into the eyes of Asia that the Englishman come face to face with those who will dispute with him the possession of his native land.' It is his usual romantic-historical style, and reminds one rather of those history text-books one encountered in one's childhood, so ably satirised in 1966 and *All That*. One sees hordes of Asians landing from junkies or dhows at Thanet, and sweeping over the countryside with fire and sword. It would be nice if one could laugh at this silly man, but unfortunately, like Hitler he is both comic and dangerous.

What he puts forward here is a statement aimed at lulling the fears of the African and West Indian communities, so that they will not feel obliged to make common cause for mutual protection with the Asians. Powell, when he began his racist campaigns, was more hostile to the Black population, and, according to one eye-witness, who was present at one of his meetings, he was 'sincerely shocked' when somebody in the audience attacked the Asians. In those days he had the usual English attitude that the Indians come from 'an ancient civilisation', etc., so they are all right. It is the Negroes who are the savages, with tom-toms and voodoo and all that, who constitute the real menace. Now apparently he has changed his views, or perhaps his views have never changed, he is really concerned with the interests of 'Number One' and does not really believe the rubbish he

preaches. He is prepared to find menaces wherever he feels it is in his interest to find them. One day it's the Blacks, another the Asians, another perhaps the Jews. Probably not the latter people. They are too well organised by now. They have learnt their lesson and can defend themselves. If he attacks them he's finished.

It is always a problem as to what extent people like Hitler and Powell are sincere. Mussolini claimed to be a Stirnerite, and is said to have kept a copy of *The Ego and Its Own* by his bed. He was merely exploiting the Italian people because they were foolish enough for him to let them. However, I would guess that it is not a simple matter. These men live in a kind of mental fog. They are shrewd and can see clearly enough when it's a matter of immediate political advantage, but they have no real principles, just a vague feeling that authority is desirable, and the more the better, that foreigners are evil and war is a natural human occupation. They move through a cloudy mark of prejudice.

For us it is essential to see clearly, not only in our immediate surroundings, but in the long-term also. In no circumstances can we afford to allow ourselves to be split up. If the Asians are attacked, the Blacks must rush to their support, in their own interests, and the white Left and the anarchists must do the same. As far as Powell is concerned we are all 'foreign scum', we are all an Asian horde. The privilege of being Negro or white, while the Asians are being attacked, is merely the privilege of being eaten last.

JOHN BRENT.

The IRA & Northern Ireland

SINCE THE N. IRELAND state was founded fifty years ago and became a 'Protestant parliament for a Protestant people', the IRA have mounted various campaigns to 'free' and unite Ireland.

The last campaign lasted from 1956 to 1962. It took the form of raids across the border, blowing up bridges and attacking border police stations.

The raiding groups consisted mostly of men from the south, especially Dublin, Cork and the border counties. Government security was in the hands of the armed RUC, backed up by the notorious 'B' Specials, an organisation that was almost exclusively Protestant. They were dressed like the police except that they were to be seen usually with a rifle instead of a revolver when going on duty. These 'loyalists', i.e. Protestant and Orange, mounted road blocks and guarded installations. Their distrust was focused on those who were disloyal, i.e. Catholic and Green.

The IRA campaign failed basically because it failed to gain the support of the people, although through the mists of time heroes emerged in folk songs such as Sean South (Sean South of Garryowen to the tune of Roddy McCorley) and Fergal Og O'Hanlon (The Patriot Game) who were killed in an attack on Brookeborough Police Barracks on New Year's day, 1957.

After the failure of this campaign the IRA and their political wing, Sinn Féin, had a drastic re-think. They decided to take political, rather than military action. They joined with other left-wing and anti-government groups in a campaign of civil rights to alleviate the plight of Catholics politically and economically. During this period there was a general recall of arms to Dublin. Before this

there was a limited amount of training in the Falls and Ardoyne with trips across the border to weekend camps. Most of the arms were handed in, but a few wary militants held on to theirs.

Then came August 1969. Catholics in Belfast, Newry and other centres decided to put up barricades to draw off the police from the Bogside. The 'B' Specials were called out. What exactly happened in Belfast during August 14, 15 and 16? According to extreme Protestants the Catholics invaded Protestant areas but were beaten back into the Falls and Ardoyne. According to Catholic extremists the 'B' Specials, the RUC and Protestants launched a combined attack on the Falls and Ardoyne.

The Catholics claimed that Protestants rushed up towards Divis Flats then parted and let the armed 'B' Specials through. The Flats were raked by heavy machine-gun fire from an armoured RUC vehicle, killing nine-year-old Patrick Rooney, in his home.

'B' Specials and Protestants also attacked down Dover Street, emptied the Arkle Bar of its contents and burnt it to the ground. Only for an unknown gunman opening up from Derby Street it would appear that the Falls would have fallen. The burning of houses in Bombay Street, Crumlin and Falls Roads gave the Catholic bigots the upper hand in the IRA in Belfast.

A rift developed in the IRA. A break-away group, the Provisional Army Council (the provos) wanted military action and a rejection of the Marxist trends of the 'officials'. The 'officials' political policy was to set up a Socialist Workers' Republic. Their military policy was one

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ROLL UP, ladies and gents, roll up kiddies, for the Great French Revolution Show! Thrill and sway to the historical ballet! Are the aristos foppish, decadent, cruel? Are the bourgeois ready, garish and vulgar? Right. Nameless suffering proles, take your partners for the Marxist pas-de-deux or trots. But mind you know your steps right! Get back into line and wail, you there, you're not a real person, you're a nameless suffering prole.

1789 at the Round House is an enjoyable evening's entertainment. The acting is marvellous, sometimes very funny, rarely moving. It isn't revolutionary in any sense. Anyone who tells you it is, deserves to be a professional theatre critic. The play neither overturns

'1789'—A JOLLY GOOD SHOW

anyone's ideas about the Revolution nor surprises us with truth. Clever techniques well performed can't compensate for a simplistically and conventionally set of attitudes which the script enshrines. Are the techniques revolutionary? Don't get the idea from Michael Kustow's bandwagon publicity that audience participation is encouraged. Quite the contrary. The person in charge, Ariane Mnouchkine, has said that she prefers the English audience to the French because it doesn't get so involved that it joins in. So keep quiet, laddy, for Art's sake, only cheer and boo at the right moments, or you'll spoil the show. Don't worry, you'll know who the heroes are and who the villains are, they look the part and no mistake.

Ten selected symbolic events, real and imaginary, are presented in cartoon form, in mime mainly, by brilliantly expressive actors in period costume. The actors swiftly apply their own superb makeup and play many different parts. At least three actors double up as Louis XVI. The short ten sketches are linked in French sometimes by a narrator, sometimes by a bloodthirsty speech by Marat. The first half or so of the performance is orchestrated to loud sometimes thunderous baroque classical music, which gives way to a second half of selections of triumphant Beethoven (or was it Mahler?)—standard middlebrow Culture, anyway.

The audience stands motionless heads twisting round in a mass in the middle of the Round House, with the stage going right round. Like at the Proms, it's far too crowded to promenade. Actors race round us or bullock through our midst, and perform their sketches mainly on live wider strips of stage. One effective piece to illustrate the desperate poverty of 1789 has a peasant husband snatching his infant from his wife and strangling it—in triplicate, exactly the same scene and words repeated on three sides of us.

There's nothing spontaneous or unexpected about it. Every step, every dance, every grimace, every posture in this historical ballet has been painstakingly

choreographed and rehearsed. Too well rehearsed. It isn't unfair to suggest that the whole thing could be condensed into six quick scenes. Opening scene: Privilege dancing on bourgeois and people. Scene two: bourgeois and people hand in hand dancing on the prone figure of Privilege. Scene three: bourgeois and monarchy hand in hand dancing on the prone figure of the people. Scene four: bourgeois and people hand in hand dancing on the prone figure of monarchy. Scene five: bourgeois and people flirt with each other. Scene six: bourgeois dancing alone on the prone bodies of people and monarchy. Babeuf does a little jig all on his own but the bourgeois boot him offstage. Here endeth the Marxist lesson of the French Revolution.

That is the schema of 1789. Ironically, the actor-writers would probably deny Marxism or any political affinity. We are interested not in what a person says he is, but in what he does. The actors are marionettes held in place by dogma. It's curious that the most brilliant and enjoyable scene of all is when these puppet-actors themselves become puppet-masters. Somehow real puppets are more entertaining than human puppets.

The trouble with this approach in schoolroom, theatre and factory alike is its Madame Tussaud-like shallowness. Two-and-a-half hours of cartoon mime and caricature don't allow for any full, credible, and contradictory moving characters to be built up. The uncertainty, the anarchy of revolutionary situations, the importance of institutions, of habit, of militant groups, of individual wills, of people and their normal jobs, of emotions like vengeance, passion, xenophobia, confusion, can never get across. All this applies to the Cartoon Archetypal Slogan Theatre's piece on the Industrial Relations Bill: the worker and the capitalist were presented as such crude stereotypes that it was simply patronising to any audience

you can think of. Here, Louis XVI and his nobles are the stupid-superstitious-cruel-tops of tradition, the new rich bourgeoisie are as vulgar and repulsive as any revolutionary could wish to see, as outlandish clothes and makeup can make them. Nameless peasantry (no hint that their interests differed from those of the townspeople who took the Bastille) revolt from their misery but are easily misled. The word goes round that the Bastille has been taken. Spokesmen infiltrate the audience to tell us all about it, in a whisper. "50,000 people have stormed the Bastille!" Why, that's just about the number of film extras Eisenstein needed to stage his epic Marxist myth of the storming of St. Petersburg winter palace! How many was it in 1789? Between 800-900 people, carefully checked in 1790 by the Constituent Assembly. We don't have to invent new myths 200 years after the event—people had enough trouble coping with the original myths and rumours! of famine plots, Pitt's gold, bankers' plots, prison/corruption/assassination/escape plots, and so on. In time of revolution, myth and rumour can be as important as reality—they are reality, their importance depending on the time and place, on the vagaries of popular suspicion and desires for vengeance. Despite what the authors of 1789 would like to think, rumours and prejudices, in history as now, are not all fomented by cunning aristos and devious rightwingers. And at times our Marxist dancing partners are so preoccupied, they are hardly aware of each other's existence. They wander off, forgetting their steps. All semblance of choreography vanishes. Here Marxism ends, but life goes on. The revolutionary situation is never cut-and-dried. Those who think otherwise, join the SLL.

We see Marat baying for the blood of aristos and bourgeois, but he was on our side, right? He was a good bloke. Just liked blood, that's all. A bit like

our native Dracula, only Marat was A Man Of The People. That loathsome strongman Robespierre, historic hero of all French Communists, seems to be out of favour at the moment. His second string, Saint-Just, youthful idol of generations of French youth, is quoted on the programme: 'Revolution should have no end but perfect happiness.' Why is Saint-Just still going strong? What happiness does he mean, did he mean? Saint-Just preached and practised the Terror of the Young against the Old. Only the Young were entirely pure, and Virtue could only be ensured by the extermination of most of those over twenty-five. The grand finale of the show is Babeuf trumpeting 'Things can only be put right by a total overthrow.' Babeuf, that silly futile leftwing hero, whose claim to fame is that he was prepared to use the people as cannon fodder in order to win, in a bloody coup, a revolutionary dictatorship which would have kept the People informed of what was best for it. He had no following, just a list of a few thousand names obligingly left for the information of the police, who hastened to imprison and execute these people who had hardly even heard of him. A comparison: one of the Angry Brigade is cornered by the fuzz. In his pad is a subscribers' list to OZ and INK. The fuzz promptly round up every name on the list including your local hot dog man, the editor of Workers Press and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

There is one timeless scene where deputies at the Convention make speeches and strike poses. It reminds me of a French Communist Party mass meeting, the air stale with the turgid abstract rhetoric of Marxist yesterdays. Such a comparison didn't occur to the authors of 1789, but then this isn't a political play. After all, the Marseillaise is a Gaullist song now. This kind of French Revolution is almost an evening out for all the family. It isn't just caricature, it's bad history, it's hoary French leftwing myth tarted up especially for young people thirsting for a revolutionary situation, happy to respond with enthusiasm to the story they know so well. So roll up for the French Revolution! but leave your brains outside. JULIUS

BUILD UTOPIA

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munity where peace and quiet mean much more than the ownership of a car. And more and more the scientists are coming over to our side—the real scientists, not the money-making kind. Biologists, chemists, botanists and, of course, ecologists are now beginning to say what anarchists have been saying for a hundred years—that bigger is not better, that monotonous uniformity is death and diversity is life. That smaller communities can cut down the pace of life, can allow communal ownership to flourish without State or bureaucracy, can place work where it has always belonged at the centre of life, and can restore to man a sense of responsibility to his fellow creatures and to this planet on which we all must live.

The utopias dreamed of by men like William Morris and Kropotkin have become today's guides to action and can now be realised. Only politicians still believe in the State, in centralisation, and in mindless economic growth. They are dinosaurs—however 'revolutionary' they may sometimes sound.

JOHN LAWRENCE

The IRA

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of retaliation against British soldiers for acts of brutality and blowing up military targets.

The provos' aim is not so clear. They seem to want a national parliament and 'free' elections. They claim to be socialists but have no plans to overthrow the capitalist system. Their woolly political thinking is overshadowed by a very active military policy. Their policy of wholesale destruction is designed to cripple the Unionist Government economically. This policy, aimed mainly at Protestant businesses, seems to be very successful, judging by the contortions of Faulkner and Bradford.

The provos' campaign is more sectarian than that of the officials. The officials want the help of the Protestant working class while the provos want to provoke them. This provos' policy is also successful.

Overall in Ireland the officials have more support but in the North the provos are more numerous. The provos' strength in Belfast is 1,800 strong, consisting of three battalions. The officials have only one battalion in Belfast (600 men).

According to the British Army, the UVF does not exist. It may be that

there is no illegal Protestant army on the lines of the IRA but there are armed Protestant groups in existence. In the mid-1960s Crusty Spence was sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of a Catholic barman in Malvern Street, off the Protestant Shankill Road. He was alleged to be a member of the UVF.

The British Army were originally brought in to protect Catholics from Protestant gunmen in 1969. The blowing up of water pipes which helped in the campaign to oust O'Neill was blamed on the IRA but it later came to light that it was the work of extreme Protestants. Despite this evidence the Army did not and does not search Protestant areas.

The aim of the UVF would seem to be a completely sectarian one—to keep Ulster loyal and Protestant. If a Prime Minister is seen to be giving in to Catholic demands for reform, pressure is brought to bear on him and he is removed from office and a true-blue loyalist put in.

The Unionist Government and British Army appear frightened of a Protestant backlash, hence their reluctance to search Protestant areas and their tolerance of armed Protestant 'vigilantes'. Hence also the belief by Catholics that the Army is taking the side of the Protestants and the continued support of the provos by the Catholics.

H.M.



PRESS FUND

October 21-November 3 inc.
Wolverhampton: J.L. 40p, J.K.W. 10p,
Hartfield: D.M. £1.06, Ontario, Canada:
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VOLINE

The Unknown Revolution

(Kronstadt 1921: Ukraine 1918-21)

We have had a great many enquiries for this title since it went out of print. We recently made the find of some of the sheets which we have completed and bound (hardcover, rexline).

A few pages have damp-stained margins.

This makes a very limited edition, and with a view to helping our own finances and making sure that people who have been asking for it get first chance, we are offering it at the price of £2.00 plus postage (inland 10p, abroad 15p). ONLY TO READERS OF 'FREEDOM'

All profits from these sales will be put into the Press Fund.

Another 4-page leaflet.

Two articles from FREEDOM: *The relevance of Anarchism today* and *Anarchism and Nationalism*. Available from Freedom Bookshop for 30p a hundred including postage.

Exploding Irish Myths

LETTERS

To say 'End sectarianism!' may show incredible optimism but what other hope is there for Ireland?

Those anarchists who are in sympathy with the Provisional IRA seem to find justification in the facts that the Official IRA is influenced by the Communist Party and the Provisionals are strongly anti-CP. Their crazy logic ignores the authoritarian nature of the Provisionals themselves, not to mention their reactionary nationalist objectives. Their only 'virtue' is their violent advancement of the cause of a 'united' Ireland which, as I have argued above, has no relevance to the struggle for freedom anyway. Those who support one sectarian faction or another are retarding the development of a genuinely libertarian, working-class movement. To advocate de-escalation of the violence is not to resign ourselves to the status quo, but rather to create a climate where such a revolutionary movement can develop. Increased brutalisation plays into the hands of the power-hungry politicians.

The dual myths of religion and the Irish 'revolution' need exploding if the Irish working class is not to annihilate itself before it has truly discovered itself.

Yours fraternally,

TERRY PHILLIPS

The Provos are largely right-wing neo-fascists whose objective is an Irish capitalist state; and, as Comrade Nathan and many others have noted, the so-called officials are, and have been for many years, basically Stalinist. Ironically, the far-left political groups such as the Trotskyists seem to prefer the Provos—the neo-fascists!

Because we anarchists cannot support either wings of the IRA, this does not mean that we should merely advocate pacifist tactics. No mass revolutionary organisation, like the Durruti column in the Spanish revolution in 1936, or the Makhnovists in Southern Russia in 1918-21, is likely to take shape in the immediate future; but at least libertarians in England should advocate the formation of a similar Irish working-class organisation: they should also advocate the immediate overthrow of capitalism and the state in the North and the South, and the introduction of a society based on production and distribution for use instead of production for the profits of a few British—and Irish!—parasites.

Oppose capitalism—North and South! Oppose the IRA—Provo or official! Oppose nationalism and Unionism! Support and advocate social revolution—North and South! For internationalism!

'INTERNATIONALIST'

afib

Secretary:
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**ANARCHIST
FEDERATION
of BRITAIN**

APBIB—To all Groups.

Next issue of AFBIB will be run off in Brighton. Send material and contact: Nick Heath, Flat 3, 26 Clifton Road, Brighton, Sussex.

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 AFP information office in Birmingham.

APB REGIONAL GROUPS

There are now anarchist groups in almost every part of the country. To find your nearest group write to:

N.E. England: Mick Renwick, 34 Durham Road, Gateshead, Co. Durham.
East & E. England: P. Newell, 'Aegean', Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green, Colchester (QM, FL.)
Surrey: O. Wright, 47 College Road, Epsom.
Yorkshire: Martin Watkins, Flat D, 90 Clarendon Road, Leeds, LS2 9L.
Manchester: Anarchist Syndicalist Group, 5 Newton, 406 Lightbourne Road, Moston, Manchester, 10.
Scotland: Secretary, Mike Malet, 1 Lynwood Place, Maryfield, Dundee.
Wales: c/o P. L. Marc (address above).
N. Ireland: c/o Freedom Press.
The American Federation of Anarchists: P.O. Box 9885, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440, USA.
S. Ireland: 20 College Lane, Dublin, 2.
University and Student Groups: c/o P. L. Marc.

The Forgotten Bomb

TEN YEARS AGO massive demonstrations filled the streets of London, blocking the traffic, and causing the authorities so much anxiety that some even queried whether there were enough troops stationed in the city, and whether it would not be necessary to build more barracks to control the capital. There were songs, and a whole tradition of protest grew up, which produced its own doctrinaire sectarians, its own disputes and arguments and outstanding personalities—now all forgotten and vanished into the night of time.

All this energy was aimed at the H-Bomb, at least that was the principle target. Anarchists pointed out that the Bomb was a part of authoritarian society, and one could hardly expect to get rid of it without altering society as a whole, and the campaign did begin to broaden its approach to include other aspects of authoritarian society. However not even the anarchists expected this supreme horror to be pushed on one

side altogether and forgotten.

'But what is the H-Bomb?'

Oh, of course, you will not remember what the thing is. It is a nuclear device, which explodes with great force. Three average-size bombs would be sufficient to put Great Britain out of any conceivable kind of war, probably for good. All the cities would be laid flat, and the entire country poisoned with nuclear radiation, which causes people to die in agony, and if they survive by some fluke their children will be born either deformed or with inherent weaknesses which will ensure that they will not live long.

'Yes, but surely that was in the Middle Ages, the Black Death or something?'

You will be surprised to know that this bomb actually exists today! Yes, most people have forgotten all about it, have assumed that it will never be used. The French Government have been quietly exploding a whole series of

H-Bombs in the Pacific in the last few years, but no one has bothered about it, except the South Sea Islanders, who being simple savages in the eyes of the rest of the world have been ignored.

And now the Americans are preparing a nuclear test in the Aleutian Islands. The bomb is already in place, and will probably have been exploded by the time you read this. The Aleutian Islands lie in a zone where earthquakes are common. This area extends to Japan in one direction and all the way down the Western coast of North and South America in the other. This means that the probability is that for some years to come after the explosion there will be a series of catastrophes in Asia and the Americas. No one will of course be able to say for certain that they are due to the bomb exploded in the Aleutians, and the authorities will hide behind this, while San Francisco and Tokyo come crashing down around their ears.

Many civilisations have passed away before ours, and the sands of the desert, the turf of the downland, the trees of the jungle have covered them. One does not know whether it is the folly of the rulers, or the apathy of the ruled, which is the most to blame. The idea that the ruling classes of the world are clever

people who will never do anything that will spoil their own scene, however much the rest of the population suffer, is unfortunately a myth. The rulers are just as stupid, short-sighted or even apathetic as the unfortunates they rule over. Of course there have been protests from the Canadian, Japanese and other governments and authorities, but, despite the frantic wording of their protests, they are not prepared to do anything.

The Canadian Prime Minister told a group of French journalists that there was nothing more that he could do, short of declaring war on the United States. One would have thought that if the governments concerned were really serious there would be a great many things they could do, short of declaring war, starting with a boycott of American goods. But clearly they would never do anything of the kind, because profits are more important than anything else, and if civilisation collapses, well it probably won't happen in our lifetimes. In short nobody is going to do anything.

Yes, there have been demonstrations, of which all one can say is 'Too little and too late'. There should have been a world-wide protest as soon as the news got out that the Americans were preparing this test. There should have been a massive boycott of everything American, a halt to imports, a halt to tourism, embassies closed down, diplomatic relations suspended, a ban on flights to America, add your own suggestions, it won't be done anyway.

The good old H-Bomb has been forgotten. Its place has been taken by Ulster, Vietnam, Bangla-Desh, homelessness, ecology and so on and so on. However, if the thing is ever used all these problems will be solved, or at least we shan't have to bother with them. We shan't be here. Perhaps, with luck, a few mutated chimpanzees will be left behind to try to start all over again.

ARTHUR W. ULOTI.

'China exploded her first Atom Bomb in 1964, her first H-Bomb in 1967. By July 1970 she had conducted nine tests in the atmosphere and one underground. No one cared.'

Strikes in Spain

WORKERS IN SPAIN have once again shown that despite anti-strike laws they are not deterred from taking direct action. This has been centred in Barcelona and the coal-mining region of the Asturias in Northern Spain.

Car workers at the Seat factory in Barcelona came out on strike on October 18, demanding the reinstatement of 26 workers who had been sacked during a previous dispute in June. The strike started with a sit-in and the police were called in to remove the workers. During the ensuing skirmishes, one worker was shot and has since died.

Seats then locked out the car workers for a week and on returning they refused to work. They were locked out once again and finally returned to work last Tuesday. Thirty-two workers were arrested and will be tried for political offences. While time will go before the Public Order Court in Madrid, others accused of violence will be tried before a military tribunal.

Transport workers brought buses and trams to a standstill for three days in Barcelona in solidarity with the car workers. The Franco Government threatened them with call-up into the forces if they did not return to work, this being the same method as was used last year when Madrid Metro workers came out in support of striking building workers.

The coal miners' dispute involves demands for increased wages and fringe benefits. Although the Government allows strikes for 'social benefits', the

coal miners' strike is deemed to be political and unlawful because they refused to put their demands through the State-controlled trade union organisation, the Sindicatos. Therefore the Spanish State faced two political strikes involving over 35,000 workers.

COAL SHORTAGE

Mine owners also locked out the miners, but when the mines were reopened, the men refused to return. Many have been out now for over a month and this will mean that Spain will probably have to import coal from abroad in order to keep industry going throughout the winter. During a previous strike in the Asturias coalmines, Spain imported coal from Poland and this caused considerable outcry from Communists and other workers who were incensed by a State professing the principles of workers' solidarity and the brotherhood of man, stooping to a commercial transaction to help Fascist Spain.

If this happens again the irony would be complete since these strikes have been called by the Workers' Commission, an outlawed organisation in which the Communists play a large part. This organisation is very strong and has virtually undermined the Sindicatos, which has never been supported by Spanish workers, although it has formed an integral part of the Franco State since 1936. Slowly and surely its authority has been undermined by the desires and determination of the Spaniard to form his own independent organisations of

struggle.

The Asturias miners have always been in the vanguard of this struggle. Hardly a year has gone by without them defying the full force of the Spanish State. Each time they have slowly stored away extra food in anticipation of a long struggle. They have cultivated and tended their gardens and allotments with extra care to ensure good crops to tide them over a long strike. Such is the will and determination to fight for dignity and liberty.

Obviously such strikes are a threat to the Franco regime. They pose considerable problems for both the ministers who want to give concessions and those who want to take a hard line. The authoritarian regime must choose either to make concessions or to suppress the Workers' Commission.

The popular front of opposition groups in Spain, including Communists, Socialists, Liberals, Basque and Catalan Nationalists, is making only moderate demands for things which are taken for granted in 'western democracies'. Free and independent trade unions are their main aim.

This recent shortage and imprisonment of workers is yet another reminder of the repressive nature of the Franco regime in which men hold on to power by sheer force of arms and yet, after 32 years of totalitarian rule, workers still struggle for freedom. During the three years preceding Franco's victory, many workers from all over the world fought not only for reforms but also to defend a revolution and to create a new society free from the exploitation of employer, government and the State. All that was lost, but the same desire is still alive in the hearts of men and women in Spain today.

P.T.

Ban this Book!

MR. JUSTICE SPRATT summing up in what has become known as the Little Black Book case said, 'It has been laid down by Lord Chief Justice Widgery that obscenity cases can be judged on the obscenity of parts and not on the intent of the work as a whole. Such being the case we can analyse the work put before us on this basis and dismiss from our minds the arguments that the total intent of the work is to inspire and uplift the minds of those into whose hands it might fall. If only one portion of this work is seen to deprave and corrupt one of those millions into whose hands, it is the proud boast of the distributors, it may fall, it is insufficient to claim, as the witness Richard and many others have claimed that the words used when re-translated have an entirely different aspect. This book, in its most offensive version, unexpurgated and unabridged has been in circulation for many years and members of the jury may form their own opinion from the state of the world today (especially I may add in Ulster) of its contribution to depravity and corruption.'

'I am not going to weary you by going through the long catalogue of unnatural relationships, curious vices, coprophagic tendencies and perversions abundant in this work. I would draw your attention firstly that although the work names certain characters, presumably the authors, they are always referred to only by their first names. It has been said in defence that it is an extremely old book. This

has been urged regarding the works of the man Shakespeare, the man Chaucer, the *Kama Sutra*, the *Golden Lotus* and many other books which I could list but these cases are unfortunately not before me now in this court. Somewhere it is urged that the real truths are eternal, so, gentlemen and ladies of the jury, would I urge, are standards of morality and taste. It has been submitted that this book has always committed some offence.'

'It has been pointed out that in the circumstances related in the first chapter it is obvious that an act of incest has taken place. It is alleged by the defence that incest was common in Ancient Egypt. We are not ancient Egyptians.'

'The same author, with the unlikely name of "Genesis" relates the drunken exhibitionism of the character Noah. Skipping a great deal in the narrative of the sexual activities of the character Abraham (it is no defence to urge, as the defence has, that much of this book can be "skipped" if found offensive, it is our duty to judge the book by its worst parts as laid down by Widgery L.C.J.), later chapters of this book describe the sexual adventures of a character called Judah with vivid descriptions of child-birth of twins.'

'Much has been made of the defendants that descriptions (given with monotonous regularity) of various sexual offences, detailing the particular vices associated with the deserved destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, were to emphasize the

bestiality of such offences. It is well known that undue stress on aspects of law-breaking contributes in many cases to worship of the criminal.'

'The whole book is interlarded with various coprophagic incidents, polygamy is condoned and adultery is glossed over—for example the story of Ruth. In the books attributed to "Samuel" reference is made to a visitation of haemorrhoids, and later the presentation of a model of these "emerods" (as they are spelled) in gold. The same author, who is possessed of a vivid imagination, if nothing else, writes of a wedding dowry of one hundred foreskins! This is not the foreskin's only mention in the book, there is much harping in the work on circumcision and various unpleasant matters in the guise of anthropological observations.'

'I am weary, as no doubt you must be, by this recital of man's inhumanity to man. In this case we are only concerned with the definition of obscenity as pertaining to sexual matters. Were we to extend the definition of obscenity, as many would wish to, to the concept of violence, it is obvious from a casual reading—at least of the first part—that the main character (and some claim he is the sole author) is a man of violence and wrath.'

'Innumerable instances are related with great statistical detail of fratricide, genocide, patricide, infanticide. The book is distinctly morbid in tone and tendency but this is not the reason it is brought before you today.'

'It may be that it has some merit as a tract, as history, as poetry, but it is not for these we can acquit it. The law is clear and it is your duty as a jury to do your duty and bring in a verdict on the facts.'

SPRATT, J.

FREE WALES

THE RECENT TRIAL of members of the Welsh Language Society and the disruption of the trial by sympathisers have attracted considerable press coverage. However, what is the significance of the movement for anarchists?

The tactics of direct action employed by the young Welsh militants are methods which we would wholeheartedly support. However, it is the isolationism and severely limited objectives of the movement which deserve criticism. In the mining area in Carmarthenshire in which I spent the first few years of my life, Welsh was the everyday language and English was never used in the home or socially. (In fact, I spoke very little English until I started at school in the early 1950's.) The same is still true today in that area despite the invasion of the intrusive, transatlantic TV culture. The Welsh Language Society believes that the language is in danger of extinction and they have tried to remedy the situation by a wide selection of direct action tactics: the painting over of road signs in English and their replacement by Welsh place names, etc. However, the Welsh language is spread very unevenly across the country and the fact is that the majority of the population of Wales is neither Welsh-speaking nor greatly interested in the language, but that is no reason for those who wish to speak and read their own native language to be denied the right to do so.

The Welsh Language Society is in effect—though not officially—the militant, direct action wing of Plaid Cymru, the Welsh nationalist party. To understand the WLS it is necessary to understand Plaid Cymru. The Welsh-speaking, working-class areas of Wales have (unfortunately) been traditional strongholds of support for the Labour Party. The widespread disillusionment with the last Labour Government coupled with a dislike of the distant bureaucracy found expression in an upsurge of support for Plaid Cymru, but this proved to be short-lived. The party was and is blinded by its nationalism to any concept of class struggle or genuine struggle for individual freedom. In its heyday the party seemed to collect support from people who in another situation would have seemed incompatible: non-conformist youth to conservative businessmen. Everyone had a different reason for supporting Plaid Cymru. The common denominators were few indeed and the Welsh Language Society has developed on the same basic.

As anarchists we are delighted to see people rejecting the tyranny of the bureaucratic, centralized State: when people demand control of their own lives



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and their own communities we are on our way to a social revolution. However, the familiar nationalist notions of 'freedom' which merely invite us to re-

Continued on page 4

These Weeks in Ireland

UNARMED WOMEN are shot dead, youths who are stealing are shot dead, the British Army say they were machine-gunned by 13-year-old boys. (How do they know? They did not catch the boys and so did not ascertain their age and I know these ghetto-raised lads look five years younger than they really are. Generations of privations make families undersized and puny.) The thieves were outnumbered by the troops ten to one and could easily have been arrested. They were completely unarmed but the Army preferred to murder, and later I heard an officer say, 'We do not care who it is—man, woman or child—we will shoot to kill.' In revenge the Provos stooped as low as their enemy and burned the houses of policemen. Women and children fled from the fire, one woman breaking her ankle as she leapt to safety.

Paisley gloats in Stormont that the police are re-armed and are 'at last attacking and killing the thugs properly'. In the 26 counties we have had a man shot, almost certainly a political murder, and once more burnings at Arklow, futile stupid burnings. Outside the British Embassy here sit two families who were burned out in the six counties while the troops and RUC 'stood idly by' and who fled to the 26 counties where they were squatting in Dunlaoghaire.

Students protested about raised fees, and in the case of the College of Art at the instant dismissal of two of their teachers for political reasons. The College of Art is now closed and there

are threats to close UCD unless the raised fees are paid by Friday.

There hardly seems a bit of goodness or humanity anywhere, only hate and frustration, and if I were to tell you all that happens I'd need three editions of *Freedom* to myself. Faulkner has appointed Professor Newe, a well known Catholic Unionist to his Cabinet. He pretends this shows how liberal he is. Professor Newe is what we used to call a 'Castle CATHOLIC' (sic).

Lynch admits that British soldiers have crossed the border over 40 times and blown up roads and bridges on the Southern side. Does he do anything? He huddles about complaining. Had he any guts these soldiers and their ferrets and ammunition would have been impounded long ago, and kept till hostilities cease, but no, remember that sacred cow, the EEC. Mustn't offend dear old Ted.

Every morning I turn on the first news at 6.25. It is always the same. Two soldiers or policemen shot in the six counties, this or that blown up, civilians fired on and killed or wounded by the troops and down raids with 17 people taken and handed over to the police for internment. One grows sick to the stomach. I do not know which is the worse, the IRA or the troops. Both are mad and neither can win, they only destroy.

Meanwhile Faulkner goes on and on saying internment is a great success and law and order will win soon, etc. Even Paisley says Westminster is going to

take over though this is denied flatly by Faulkner. It might be the best thing to happen, especially if Westminster laid it down flatly that in—say 10 years—she was withdrawing altogether from Ireland, troops and finances, and after that time it would have to be a united Ireland come hell or high water.

I was talking with one of the top Belfast doctors this week, and he told me that before the troops are sent to raid Unity Flats or other Catholic quarters they are given huge doses of amphetamines to make them properly savage. When they come off duty they are then given tranquillisers to prevent them having nervous breakdowns. This seems to

me to be more than probable even leaving out the impeccable source from which I got it. They used to drug the SS men in the concentration camps in Germany in the war, and they had less sophisticated drugs then. The fact that the Army doctors are turning these lads into life-long drug addicts is less important to the politicians and brass hats than that they should have a military victory in the six counties. They cannot take heed from what happened to the soldiers who fought in Vietnam who are now, many of them, hopelessly hooked.

Jack Lynch has reverted to type. Just wags his finger at the troops who come over the border and dig up our roads and on one occasion actually fired at our people. 'Tut tut,' he says. 'I'll have to tell Big Brother Heath about you, you naughty boys, if you do it again.' WHY ON EARTH does he not arrest them and intern them and their arms and vehicles until hostilities cease? Because

he and Faulkner and Heath are buddies, working together for capitalism and to exploit the ordinary person.

The good ship *Kilera* has just docked at Gappa with a legal cargo of 550 tons of maize and it is suspected an illegal one of guns, etc. As everyone has known about this for the last four or five days, while the gardai and soldiers waited at her berth for her I should imagine that even if there had been a gun on board it is now well and truly at the bottom of Davey Jones' locker!

Your Queen's Speech at the State Opening of Parliament was quite the most revolting thing for years. I know she only reads what is written for her but any decent woman would have categorically refused to read that speech. Her remarks about Ireland were offensive to a degree and indeed the things she said that apply to you not us shocked me equally. It is more than time you got rid of the Royals. H.

THIS WORLD

Marching with Fascists

IN NUMBERS it was a fine turn-out. Even the anarchists managed a fair muster for the last anti-internment march. With the daily press conceding a total of 20,000 marchers the organisers must have been more than a little pleased.

A great number of police also marched and, in fairness to them, their behaviour was no worse than other innocent bystanders. Far more odious, in fact, were the unofficial police of the various communist and socialist groups. One leaflet distributed by the latter invited one to join with them providing one accepted the discipline of their marshals. Not content with this, these aspiring policemen soon sought to establish their authority over all and sundry. I, myself, was threatened with violence by one such thug when I pointed out to him that without consultation I was unprepared to accept directions from him or anyone else.

It is well to expose the close similarity in practice between communists and fascists. Their common authoritarianism and brutal suppression of opponents overrides any differences. Neither have any trust in people—or in the latter's ability to partake in the making of decisions. There is to obey. If this is the sort of future they have in mind for Northern Ireland we are confronted with an invidious choice indeed.

Oz and Us

The *Oz* editors have been saved from the immediate prospect of imprisonment (although the threat hangs over them for two years) and the deportation order to Australia has been cancelled. There is no other comfort to be drawn from the decision of the appeals court. The sentencing judge—Michael Argyle, QC—was found to have erred in his direction to the jury; a technical point. His superiors extended sympathy for him in the longest obscenity case in history and drew up more stringent conditions for future trials. In effect a magazine or newspaper can now be proceeded against for a single item.

Some readers of *'Freedom'* have written in complaining that too much significance has been attached to the case, that true revolutionaries should rather concern themselves with Northern Ireland or Bangla Desh. I think such critics are profoundly in error on three main grounds. Firstly, the issue of free speech, central to the *Oz* trial, is one which must be of paramount importance to

anarchists everywhere (and I am not suggesting that only anarchists are concerned). Secondly, whether some comrades like it or not, a counter-culture has developed of which *Oz* can fairly claim to be a spokesman. This counter-culture is hostile to the establishment and seeks to establish a civilisation which could, at least as far as the general theory and aspirations are concerned, herald a great advance in freedom in our everyday lives. Thirdly, while we may sympathise with the victims of government elsewhere, it is crass stupidity to ignore the problems at hand—the challenge of the society we happen to be living in—and claiming credentials as a revolutionary on the basis of one's involvement in struggles overseas—struggles in which such claimants play no part.

Another guru

When close friends claim they have found the truth and happiness it befits one to investigate. When a considerable section of a generation which has turned its back on established ideas and seeks a freer, more co-operative way of life becomes the disciples of one who claims he has the answer to life's mysteries you may appreciate why I attended at the Central Hall, Westminster, to listen to Guru Maharaj Ji, the new Saviour.

Society in a state of confusion and change will throw up some strange responses to the questions of the day. The youth movement today presents, as I have often asserted in this column, opportunities to anarchists because its aspirations often coincide with our own. But, naturally, there is much confusion, both for the individual who seeks new values to replace the discredited ones of the older generation and the new society which has yet to find itself and which inevitably comes in for harassment from the old.

The guru acknowledges that much is rotten in the civilisation of today—his aim is to create a new one and in this he has received considerable support. Like many other gurus of past fame he is vague about what is entailed. The need to ponder the problem of what life is all about, his personal charisma and a vague promise to give one 'knowledge' are his weapons. From a loving generation he demands love and gets a lot more—with my own eyes I beheld some hundreds of young people cast themselves on their knees and adore him. All metaphysical claims are unprovable; churches and gurus can only be evalu-

ated by impartial thorough empirical observation. Thus to see him being adored brought to my mind the potential for abuse on his part (or his successors) and the degrading abnegation of one's own autonomy on the part of the willing slaves. Already the marks of yet another church are visible with the usual acquisitiveness in material things balanced with a claim to supernatural superiority. Most distressing to me is the declaration of the disciples that they are no longer concerned with issues of social justice—the guru gives them all they need.

By their deeds

The governments of the world, according to a group of 14 experts employed by the United Nations, spent £792,000 millions on armaments in the 1960s. The '70s will see an increase of about £750,000 millions. This figure is two and a half times the expenditure on health and one and a half times that on education. The so-called developing countries are amongst the worst offenders but the bad six, accounting for four-fifths of the total are: the United States, the Soviet Union, China, France, Britain and West Germany.

Good spies

After the expulsion of the evil Russian spies it must be cheering to learn that Britain is currently playing host to two high-ranking members of the South African secret police. Not content with the rigorous persecution of opponents of a great variety of opinion (liberals to communists), these gentlemen are now here to pursue exiles from the racist paradise and find out to what extent they are assisting their less fortunate comrades in South Africa.

Communists banned

Opposed as we are to communists, we must take exception to the decision of the executive of the electricians' and plumbers' union to continue the ban on communists holding office in the union. This inexcusable discrimination is linked with an even more insidious and grasping ruling, namely, the exclusion of ordinary members of the union from choosing their representatives—the executive has decreed that it alone will select virtually all such. Unions have continued to become alienated from their members and the basic issue is quite bluntly—who will make the decisions? There has always been a rank and file movement which demands at least some share in the running of their affairs. The holders of power have always resisted such demands. Unions as presently constituted, apart from their role as securers of increased wages and better conditions, must be seen as miniature states.

BILL DWYER.

Contact

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Agitprop Bookshop, 248 Bethnal Green Road, London, E.2. Open Mon-Sat. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Mail order service for books, pamphlets, posters, papers and info. 'The Black Liberator', 20p; 'The Bust Book', 25p; 'The Politics of Housework', 5p; 'A Gay Manifesto', 5p; 'The Enemy—Notes on Imperialism', Felix Greene, £2.40; 'Alternative London', 30p. Add p. & p. Send s.a.e. for full list (quoting *FREEDOM*).

Family, now in Burrell House (eight children), formerly living in Falls Road, Belfast, desperately need cooker. Please contact George Foulser, c/o Freedom Press.

Centre International de Recherches sur l'Anarchisme. CIRA membership covers use of lending library in Lausanne and biannual bulletin (annual subscription £1). First CIRA publication in English: Michael Bakunin's 'The Paris Commune and the Idea of the State' (15p post free, £1 for 10 copies). British representative: Nicolas Walter, 134 Northumberland Road, North Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 7RG (telephone: 01-866 9777).

Will K. McFall again contact *FREEDOM*—if he ever sees this.

Bangla Desh — Operation Omega: On October 11 two members of Operation Omega, the non-violent action mission, were sentenced to two years' imprisonment for taking relief supplies to the people inside Bangla Desh. Eleven Omega workers have been arrested since August. Four other missions have been carried out in areas threatened by starvation, but not controlled by the Pakistan army. Food, medicines and clothing were successfully distributed to people from a hundred villages and hamlets. We need more volunteers and money to carry on. Operation Omega, 3 Caledonian Road, London, N.1. Phone 01-837 3860 or 01-837 9794.

Wanted: Help, equipment and ideas about making a film about Anarchism. Please write to: Stephen Bowers, 28 Nectarine Way, Lewisham, London.

Wols: 'Aphorisms and Pictures' of a profound natural anarchist. Copies 45p, post free (one-third discount on 5). ARC, 11 Byron Road, Gillingham, Kent.

Proposed Group in Oldham. Contact Bob Lees, 6 Coniston Avenue, Werneth, Oldham, Lancs.

Help! Stoke Newington 6 Fund. Comrades now on remand in Brixton and Holloway need financial aid urgently for meals, fruit, papers, books (which must be new) and cigarettes. Please send donations to the Stoke Newington 6 Fund, c/o Compendium Books, 240 Camden High Street, London, N.W.1, a.s.a.p.

'And this may just be heaven' (poems and collage) by Jeff Clives. 32 pp. Litho prints, card covers. 20p including postage from 5 Manor Road, St. Albans, Herts.

Dave Godin please get in touch with 'Freedom' and 'Anarchy'.

Anyone interested in forming an Anarchist group in Gateshead, Co. Durham, please contact: B. Stokoe, 1 Ely Street, Gateshead.

Eco-Action Group being formed in S.W. London. Contact R. Alexander, Flat 7, 202 Worple Road, London, SW20 8PN.

Nurses, Social Workers and Medical Students in London area wishing to form discussion and action group write: Thomas Layden, 37 Grand Avenue, Muswell Hill, London, N.10.

Proposed Group: Celia & Laurens Otter, 13 Albert Road, Wellington Telford, Salop.

Proposed Group—Exeter Area. John and Jill Driver, 21 Dukes Orchard, Bradninch, Exeter, EX5 4RA.

Anyone interested in forming a Cambridge Anarchist Group contact John Jenkins, 75 York Street, Cambridge. **Croydon Group** meets first Tuesday of each month, 7.30 p.m., at Jacquetta Benjamin's, Top Flat, 4 Warminster Road, South Norwood, S.E.25 (near Norwood Junction Station and 68 and 12 buses).

Wanted: second-hand pottery wheel and/or kiln. Please contact: Terri, 36 Latimer Road, Headington, Oxford, or ring Oxford 62955.

Politics of Psychology Conference, November 26-27, London School of Economics. Of interest to Mental Nurses and 'Patients', School Kids and Teachers, Student Psychologists, Social Workers and everyone in industry. Articles, ideas and help and SAE to 'Politics of Psychology', c/o Three Mills (Psychology), Abbey Lane, London, E.15.

Leaflets: The Tolpuddle Martyrs, Six Men of Dorset. 15p a 100, plus postage, from Freedom Press. Old Leaflet but still relevant.

National Secular Society Lectures. The Clarence, Whitehall, London, S.W.1 (Trafalgar Square end). Friday, November 5, 8 p.m., Avro Manhattan: Religious Treason and Plot. Past and Present. Friday, November 19, 8 p.m., Richard Handyside: The Little Red Schoolbook and Related Issues.

Stop the Bandwagon: we want to get on

THERE IS NO greater minor joy in life than to publicly refrain from saying 'I told you so'. Within these pages we have, and shall, argue and propagate the case for travel on the public transport service without payment. A week or so ago we argued the case against the use of one-man operated buses and never more quickly did any writer find his devil's advocate for, within a matter of days, the West Midlands Passenger Transport Authority rushed into print to state that the whole future of one-man bus operation is in doubt. Let the employers speak for themselves in the case against the one-man bus for they 'complain that as the expected savings had not materialised there seemed no point in going on with the process

of conversion. The Passenger Transport Authority has asked its Executive to prepare a full report on the cost differences of single- and two-manned buses. Ald. Sir Francis Griffin said the target figures for the undertaking to the end of this year showed that a large reduction in costs had been expected from one-man operation. But while the number of conductors had dropped by 259 there was now 176 more drivers. He added that retaining two men on a bus would give a better service to the public.' And make no mistake about it, we shall continue to fight the case for you, Francis. You and the community and the transport workers for crew-operated buses and a moneyless public transport service. LUMPENPROLETARIAT.

FREE WALES

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place one set of masters by another have nothing to do with the struggle for a free society. Welsh capitalists and politicians are no better than their kind anywhere in the world.

The only true culture develops on the basis of voluntary co-operation and mutual aid in a society where everyone is involved in the decision-making and is free to develop his or her creative potential to the full. The young activists of the WLS have by their tactics demonstrated that they have rejected the sham of parliamentary politics. We can but hope that they will develop beyond their present obsession with the language issue to a rejection of the authoritarian and exploitative social systems which are the deadly enemies of all culture, everywhere.

On to the free community of Wales!
TERRY PHILLIPS.