

## THIS IS WHERE WE CAME IN

IT IS RARELY that a country has the good fortune to lose a war and two prominent politicians in the same month. Of the departure of Lyndon Baines Johnson we may truly say "Nothing in his life became him like the leaving of it". Unlike Shakespearean protagonists, L.B.J. did not expire on the battlefield of Vietnam on a heap of corpses of his own making -- leaders rarely die with their led -- but it seems possible and poetic that he could have dropped dead on learning the peace terms in Vietnam in a war, if not actually of his making, definitely of his sponsoring and advancing.

There is a saying, about deceased public men in particular, *de mortuis nil nisi bunkum* and the career of LBJ with all his coarseness and callousness has in recent days been painted in a glowing light with the simple aid of death. All that is lacking seems to be a halo. Now that Richard Nixon has made the used-car sale of his life (Peace 1973 model. No brakes. No guarantee. Fragile. Previous owner ran it into the ground. A bargain at about 2,000,000 lives) we can see what contribution LBJ made to this.

At the time of writing the 'fragile' peace has been bro-

ken by numerous violations from both sides -- since both sides, as is militarily inevitable, are liars we do not know who started shooting first, but since the South Vietnamese stated they would fire back in self-defence what kind of peace can one expect? It is a all painfully familiar like a film show one is sitting through again. The guaranteed democratic elections -- some time; the peace-keeping forces, etcetera, etcetera.

L. B. Johnson was vice-president to J. F. Kennedy (principally to get in the Southern vote - he was JFK's rival candidate for Presidential nomination). As such he was sent on a mission to South-East Asia in early 1961 to assess the U.S.'s position vis-a-vis communism which was then the number one enemy. Parts of his reports read:

"The battle against communism must be joined in South-East Asia with strength and determination to achieve success there. . . There is no alternative to United States leadership in South-East Asia. In Vietnam, Diem (Then President, later deposed) is a complex figure beset by many problems. He has admirable qualities, but he is remote

from the people, is surrounded by persons less admirable and capable than he. the country can be saved - if we move quickly and wisely."

The assassination of John Kennedy in Dallas in November, 1963 thrust L. B. Johnson into the presidential seat.

Before Dallas, Diem had been deposed and killed - in October. Johnson did not follow up the prospects for peace offered by the change of regime and pursued a war policy which rarely varied. The key point of change from quantity of American involvement to quality -- the war was made almost legal -- was the Tonkin Gulf incident in July 1964. On the pretext that American ships had been attacked in the Gulf of Tonkin, Johnson obtained a vote from Congress to take all necessary action in Vietnam. He used this to send out bombers for the first time to North Vietnam on August 5th 1964. On subsequent occasions he referred to the Tonkin resolution when he was rebuked for extending the war.

The one man to emerge from this war with extra prestige is Henry Kissinger, Nixon's *eminence grise*. We learn that he was at one time adviser to

John F. Kennedy but fell into disfavour. He is an admirer of Metternich, who believed in the balance of forces and would, as a writer in *Partisan* (December 1971) says, echo him in saying that the Vietnam policy was 'worse than a crime it was a fault'. Henry Kissinger wrote for his Ph.D thesis in 1954, "A World Restored: the policy of Conservatism in a Revolutionary Age". Just so. If the peace in Vietnam is intended to preserve the *status quo* it's going to be a difficult job.

Some wit once wrote commenting, after a war, on the balance of power

"All Europe's balanced now  
Neither side prevails  
There's nothing in either  
of the scales"

Surveying the estimates of Vietnamese and American dead and injured, the views of the landscapes and the estimates of the social cost one feels that nothing is left but the debris of the American way of death and, to paraphrase Metternich and Kissinger, it was worse than a fault, it was a crime.

Jack Robinson

## WARHOL, THE McWHIRTER & LIBERTY

\*1593, as every scholar with access to an informed schoolboy knows, was a year of great social unrest. The price of food continued to rise and the influx of Flemish refugees brought the London mob out onto the street. There were those in high office who held that the poets and the playwrights pondered to and excited the mobs and that there was an urgent social need to curb, if not their wit, then at least their pen and on May 11, 1593 the Council of the Star Chamber met to consider what action should be taken. Their first act was to publish a letter stating that There have bin of late divers lewd and mutinous libells set up within the citie of London, among the which there is some set uppon the wal of the Dutch Churchyard that doth exceed the rest in lewdness, and for the discoverie of the author and publisher therof hir Maiesties pleasure is... etc.

The result of the Star Chamber's actions was the torture and death of Thomas Kyd and the tragic end of Kit Marlowe. The action of Ross McWhirter in going to law to gain the banning of David Bailey's documentary of the high life and the low living of Andy Warhol will not, we hope, result in the public torture and death of any member of the production unit concerned, but if we accept the ITV as the Dutch Churchyard of 1973 and the Law Court

as our more sophisticated Star Chamber, the situation and the evil end results remain the same. Throughout this shabby and miserable farce the McWhirter has been accepted, and abused, by liberal and libertarian opinion as the villainous clown using his pig bladder of legal knowledge to curtail and to destroy our liberties. If we join in these attacks we are indeed in danger of harming ourselves and others for there has been and will be in the future a need for an understanding of those same types' pratfalls to protect and defend those persons or matters with whom we are in sympathy.

What we must question is not the means but the motives of those who seek the aid of the Law Lords. The creatures of the Right and of the Establishment have always fed off the law like maggots feeding off rotten meat and if the McWhirter's action was no more than a public joke we could be amused. But the McWhirter's actions must now be seen as an attack on the liberty and the freedom of each and every one of us, for no matter what the result of the McWhirter's essay into law it will encourage those who seek to curtail our need to create and to communicate our beliefs and our opinions. The defence of liberty cannot be fought on our terms, and we must be prepared to defend it no matter how reluctant the victim to be salvaged, no mat-

ter how much we may despise the subject material, no matter how much we may privately regard it as intellectual garbage or secretly envy the profit from its major distributions. If "Miss Whiplash and her naughty girls", with its crude reproduced drawings and its stencilled duplicated pages are not worthy of our defence then we are unfit to raise our voices in defence of any imprisoned or persecuted artist, poet or writer for liberty. Freedom is indivi-

## LOCKED-OUT BY THE G.L.C.

THE GREATER LONDON Council have a wonderful knack for fouling things up, but now they are surpassing all their past endeavours by dumping millions of gallons of raw sewage into the Thames. The men who usually take this waste in sludge vessels and dump it 50 miles out at sea have been locked out because they have refused to sign ship's articles brought in under the 1970 Merchant Shipping Act, which came into effect this year. This new Act, say the locked-out men, "allows fines of up to £50 to be made on the mere allegation of a misdemeanour or breach of contract." The men were quite content with the existing

sible and in the defence of that freedom and that liberty there are no aesthetic degrees or social compromises. Therefore in the defence of liberty and freedom we must not only defend the aesthetics of Miss Whiplash and Andy Warhol's work but the right of the McWhirter to hold the State and the Establishment to their bad bargain, while at the same time refusing to be bound by the dictates of this trinity of evil.

Arthur Moyse

agreement but will not accept this new Act.

The G.L.C. refuses to follow the Procedural Agreement for settling disputes. They are deliberately polluting the Thames after so much improvement has been achieved. They are also considering dumping thousands of tons of raw sewage onto the riverside land adjacent to the new housing estate at Thamesmead.

Why does it need a stupid Act like this anyway, for these sludge boats were doing the same job without it for years. This bureaucracy running riot.

P.T.



# BERKMAN REVISITED

WHAT IS COMMUNIST ANARCHISM? by Alexander Berkman. Edited by Paul Avrich. Dover: Constable. £1.50.

ALEXANDER BERKMAN, who was one of the most persistent and consistent of all anarchist militants, is neglected for the same reason as Malatesta - because militant activity leaves few written records, and the records of anarchist activity are particularly difficult to find without a lot of hard work. Nevertheless, like Malatesta, he is an important figure in our history who should not be forgotten, and fortunately at least some of his work is being brought back into wider circulation by the efforts of American scholars and reprint publishers.

Berkman was born into a middle-class Jewish family in Russian Lithuania in 1870 (his father being rich enough to be allowed to move to St Petersburg), well educated at an excellent school (its windows being broken by the bombs that killed the Tsar in 1881), related to some important leaders of the populist movement (one of his uncles was Mark Natanson), and orphaned (like so many libertarian figures). In 1888 he emigrated to the United States (just after the execution of the Chicago Martyrs) and immediately joined the anarchist movement, soon meeting another recent Jewish immigrant from Russia, Emma Goldman (with whom he formed a life-long, many-sided relationship).

In 1892 Berkman tried to assassinate Henry Frick, the employers' representative in the bitter Homestead steel strike, and this was the deed that brought him instant fame. Although he failed to kill Frick, he was sentenced to 22 years' imprisonment, of which he served 14. On his release in 1906 he joined Emma Goldman at the head of the American anarchist movement, editing papers, teaching at free schools, organising demonstrations and campaigns for workers and then against the First World War and military conscription. In 1917 he and Emma Goldman were imprisoned and in 1919 they were deported to revolutionary Russia. But they soon turned against the growing dictatorship of the Bolshevik regime, and in 1921 they left Russia again. Berkman remained active in Germany and then in France until, becoming seriously ill and not wishing to become a burden on others, he shot himself in 1936 (less than a month before the beginning of the Spanish Civil War).

Berkman's best work was his life, and the most useful tribute to him would be a proper biography. He plays an important part in Richard Drinnon's biography of Emma Goldman, *Rebel in Paradise* (1961), but he deserves one to himself. Meanwhile, he wrote some important books himself: one of the finest libertarian accounts of prison life - *Prison Memoirs of an Anarchist* (1912) - and one of the first libertarian attacks on Russian Communism - *The Bolshevik Myth* (1925); the former has been

reprinted recently, and the latter should be soon. He also wrote one of the best-known primers of anarchist theory, which has been available for more than 40 years under a variety of titles and in a variety of editions.

This book was originally published in the United States in 1929 as *Now and After: The ABC of Communist Anarchism*, a cheap edition appearing simultaneously as *What Is Communist Anarchism?*, a new edition with a preface by Emma Goldman appearing posthumously in 1937, and an abridged edition appearing in 1942 as *ABC of Anarchism*. (The latter was a pamphlet published in this country by the Freedom Press, which has frequently been reprinted, the most recent edition appearing in 1971 with an introduction by Peter Newell.) The whole book now reappears as an American paperback reprint under the title *What Is Communist Anarchism?*, with the old preface by Emma Goldman and a new introduction by Paul Avrich, the well-known historian of Russian anarchism and the Kronstadt rising.

The book is twice as long as the pamphlet, the extra material consisting of Part One, entitled 'Now', which discusses present society - such topics as class system, wage system, law and government, unemployment, war, church and school, justice, reformers and politicians, trade unions, socialism, and above all the Russian Revolution (which gets five chapters). There is also a brief passage omitted from the pamphlet and included in the book which raises a minor editorial query. At the end of the chapter on 'Non-Communist Anarchists' (page 213 - page 30 of the pamphlet), Berkman points out that despite his own commitment to Communist Anarchism he thought it right to indicate 'the existence of other, non-Communist Anarchist theories'; in the book he concludes: 'For a closer acquaintance with them I refer you to the appended list of books on Anarchism in general.' But there is no such list, and Avrich's bibliographical note covers only Berkman.

Berkman's intention in this work was to rescue anarchism once and for all from the distortions of ignorance and prejudice, and also to take account of the lessons of the Russian Revolution which he had seen for himself. His approach was to write directly and simply for the workers of Anglo-Saxon countries, as distinct either from intellectuals or from workers of other countries who saw themselves as part of a revolutionary tradition. The intention is still valid enough, but it is not certain that the approach makes sense any more.

Avrich points out that 'Berkman was not an original thinker' and that he took his ideas from Kropotkin and other previous writers, but he claims that Berkman produced 'a classic, ranking with Kropotkin's *Conquest of Bread* as the clearest exposition of communist anarchism in English or any other language'. Unfortunately

Berkman adopted a tone which is so simple that it tends to alternate between being rhetorical and becoming merely banal, and his trick of arguing points with an imaginary reader now seems irritating rather than illuminating. Another problem is that Berkman doesn't really grapple with some of the crucial problems of anarchism, even those in which he had particular experience or interest - such as the use of violence (both he and Emma Goldman eventually abandoned their belief in the use of individual violence), the danger of revolution provoking counter-revolution (neither he nor Emma Goldman, nor indeed most communist anarchists, ever fully recognised this issue), or the organisation of the anarchist movement (both he and Emma Goldman, and indeed almost all anarchists, rejected the Platform of Arshinov and Makhno during the late 1920s, but again never fully confronted the problem). A final problem is that after more than 40 years the book is inevitably out of date in many ways - most of the examples come from America or Russia half a century ago - but this, of course, is true of nearly all the anarchist classics.

In conclusion, this is a book which every anarchist should have, for its virtual completeness and Avrich's useful introduction alone, but it will have less appeal for non-anarchists. As so often, the lesson is that we must get on with producing a new set of classic texts for a new age.

N.W.

Dear Editors,

I wish to call the attention of FREEDOM to the main article which appeared in *The New Scientist* of January 11th, "Technology for an alternative society", written by Robin Clarke, formerly a consultant to UNESCO in Paris, and before that editor of *Science Journal*. It deals with suggestions "for a compassionate science, a subjective science, a morphic science, radical science, democratic science, critical science, adversary science, science for the people," and the ideals inspiring such suggestions are part of a general trend which puts "men before machines, people before governments, practice before theory, student before teacher, the country before the city, smallness before bigness, wholeness before reductionism, organic materials before synthetic ones, plants before animals, craftsmanship before expertise, and quality before quantity."

It is both significant and comforting to find such an anarchist inspired article in a weekly like *The New Scientist*. Its author is well aware, too, of the debt which this general trend owes to anarchist men and thought. He writes, in fact "going no further back than the 19th century, one can cite first the Russian prince Kropotkin and the American writer Thoreau as examples of people who were already searching for new meanings to the Victorian ideal of progress in the form of constructive anarchy".

G. Baldelli



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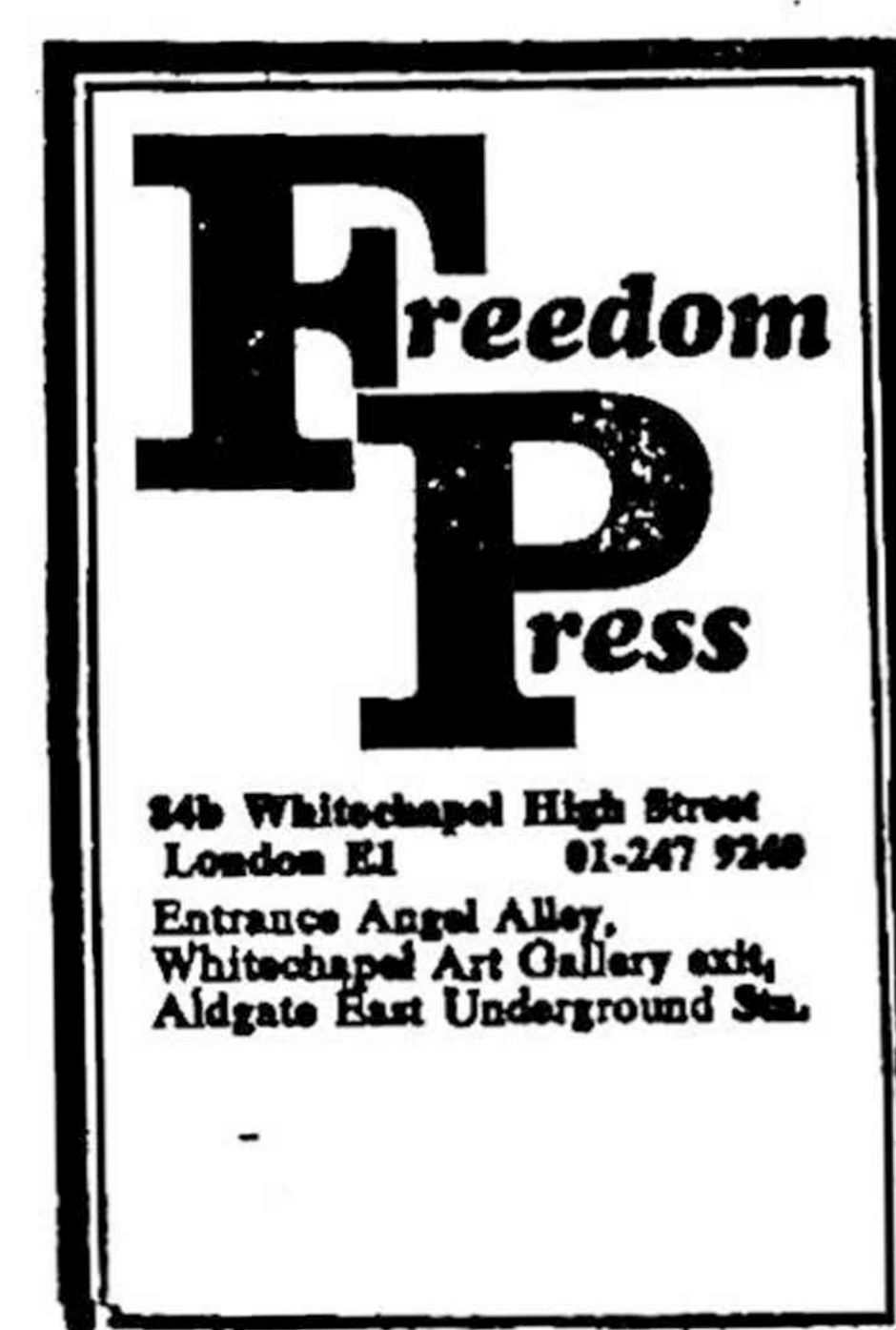
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# UP AGAINST THE FREEZE

A NUMBER of important pay claims are building up against the government's freeze on wages. They cover both the poorly paid hospital ancillary workers and the relatively well paid Ford workers. Certainly those carrying out this vital work in the hospitals deserve the £4 increase they are claiming. They are especially angry as their claim follows on that of the council manual workers, who just beat the freeze. Now the anger has shown itself by a substantial vote in favour of industrial action by the National Union of Public Employees.

Ford management have told the unions that they will heed the present laws restricting wage increases, which will mean a £3 offer in reply to a claim for longer holidays, shorter working week and a substantial wage increase. Fords made a profit of £60 million last year following their £30 million loss during 1971. The unions point out: "We want a proper human dimension to leisure time for all wor-

kers, instead of the over-extended work of many and enforced idleness security of others." The claim is mainly about conditions and because these are "onerous and depressingly repetitive" they want a shorter working week.

Miners are claiming a £7 increase and despite the Coal Board's willingness to approach this figure, government policies prevent it. They too look as though they will clash head on with the government's freeze. The union has already said the government's norm is "totally unacceptable" and will be consulting the members on what form of industrial action to take if the offer is not improved.

Coal stocks, both at the power stations and at the pit-heads, are higher than they were at the beginning of the strike last year. Stocks of lighting up oil and hydrogen have also been built up.

The government could find itself in difficulty if these

groups of workers took action. It is important that if these workers consider it necessary then they should take action.

We see every week how unjust the government's pay policies are with the price of food-stuffs continuing to rise, while wages are pegged. Soon it will be the rents of private tenants and, later, council tenants will be expected to pay another increase towards their so-called "fair rents". In April both will be asked to pay higher rates.

The injustice is plain to see. We are robbed both at the point of production where our labour is exploited for the profit of others and our bargaining power is restricted by laws. It's time we ended this injustice and started to take over and run things for ourselves.

## STEEL WORKS TO CLOSE?

THE LAW that forbids demonstrations within a mile of Parliament while it is sitting

was once again broken last week when steelworkers from Shotton, Flintshire broke through the police cordons and continued their march to the House of Commons. Fighting broke out between the steelworkers and the police, but there were no arrests.

The demonstration and lobby of M.P.s was in protest against the Steel Corporation's plans to close down their plan plant. If it goes ahead, 6,500 jobs will be lost. However, redundancies will affect other industries and services connected with steel making, throwing an estimated 30,000 people out of work. Such a total in a small area is a major social disaster, destroying the whole community. It isn't surprising that men refuse to obey a law enacted at the time of the Chartists. In fact, it's surprising that feelings did not run higher and they start to pull down the Parliament buildings where nothing is produced but hot air.

P.T.

# WELL DONE, SMITHY!

ACCORDING TO THE "TIMES" (26 January) Mr. Ian Smith told a South African journalist that the closure of the border between Rhodesia and Zambia was part of a carefully thought-out plan. "It was assumed right from the start," says Smith, "that the border closure would not be effective overnight." He hoped that it would not take too long to take effect.

This may seem an unlikely story and indeed it will, by all accounts, be reasonably easy for the Zambians to send copper from their country to Dar-es-Salaam in Tanzania. Our earlier doubts as regards the road link between Zambia and the railway to Dar were cleared on reports that the road is tarmac and quite feasible for heavy use. Thus,

if Smith is accurate in describing his action as part of a "well thought-out plan" it can only be that his ideas on such plans differ greatly from those of other interested persons.

South Africa and the Portuguese are decidedly unhappy about the Smith plan to combat guerrilla incursions from Zambia and our views link in more or less exactly with those reported from the Rhodesia Party. This small white opposition group to Smith, in a statement from their leader Mr. Alan Savory, criticized "two panic-stricken steps" by Smith which "have played right into the hands of Southern Africa's enemies and created the conditions for a Southern African Vietnam". The closure of the border with

Zambia had escalated the situation to the detriment of Rhodesia, and Zambian aid to the guerrillas would now be expected to increase".

The second blunder of Smith was to pass regulations permitting collective fines to be imposed on communities whose individuals were suspected of aiding subversion. "These regulations permit communal punishment of the innocent for an event that may be totally beyond their control or knowledge, and deny them the protection of the law. Nothing could be better guaranteed to turn people against the Government and over to the guerrilla cause."

One only needs to add that it is the friends, not the enemies of Southern Africa,

who can benefit from the Smith "plan" and that not only Zambia but the whole of Africa is likely to give added support to the guerrillas, and the picture is complete.

National liberation of Southern Africa and the revolutionary direct action of the nationalist groupings, coupled with the use - particularly in Mozambique - of social policies to win and retain African local support, lead us to a guarded optimism about the future. Those who have lived through a decade of seemingly impregnable oppression in Southern Africa begin to feel a lightening of the load, it is poetic justice that Ian Smith should play an unwitting role in the drama of the freedom struggle.

J.W.

## OUR FINANCES

We thank all those comrades who have sent donations to the Press Fund. Reduced space has prevented printing weekly acknowledgement of individual donations as we did in the past. The total amount received 1-26 Janu is £262.50

We have subscriptions paid in advance (£778) to cover 12 issues of FREEDOM in its present form (cost £64 per issue made up of

Printing & Letterset	£26
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However, these subscriptions are paid to cover the whole or part of the year; therefore we must continue to receive additional subscriptions and prompt renewals to survive. The Press Fund donations improve the situation but these are in the main once-a-year contributions and unless by especial generosity will not be repeated, but our needs will continue since we hope to include extra pages.

## THE BASTILLE OF TODAY

PSYCHOLOGICAL SURVIVAL, The Experience of Long-Term Imprisonment. By Stanley Cohen and Laurie Taylor, A Pelican Original, 45p.

STANLEY COHEN and Laurie Taylor are two sociologists, who went to teach sociology to prisoners in Durham Prison's "maximum security block". This book is the product of their experience there. Since the abolition of the death penalty a tendency has developed, not only in the case of murderers, of giving enormously long sentences to criminals who are felt to pose a special threat to "society", whatever that abstract expression may mean.

This policy involves shutting its victims up in specially secure prisons, because they have nothing to lose if they should escape, which is not the case of the short-term, or even medium-term prisoner. The result is that men held in "maximum security" are under surveillance at all times,

overlooked by television cameras and all the rest of it, and herded together in a very confined space.

Cohen and Taylor compare their situation to men on Arctic expeditions, or sailing the seas in small boats, but they point out that for the prisoner there is no feeling of heroic endeavour, he is merely "paying his debt to society". The only thing the prisoner can do is to live from day to day, ignore the outside world or the possibility one day of returning to it, unless he is one of these people who are escape experts, and develop some kind of interest that will keep him going and prevent his sense of identity being eroded.

Although the authors hope that their book will serve as a sort of survivors' handbook, in an increasingly totalitarian world where nobody, whether he is a "criminal" or not, can be sure that he may not one day be facing a sentence of ten, twenty, thirty years or the term of his natural life, to me it seems there is little that the individual can do, apart from what I have listed above. It

is up to us, who are still free, to resist this increasingly cruel and repressive culture of ours, in the hopes that somehow we may be able to prevent things getting worse, and maybe eventually do away with the whole concept of retribution and prisons altogether.

Cohen and Laurie seem to have had a fairly free hand in what they could say to their class. They introduced them to the prison writings of Victor Serge, which the prisoners found much more relevant than the more recent, but academic, books on prisons which they also read. In fact at the end of this book there is an interesting discussion on the various types of criminal who end up serving immensely long sentences. The "illegalists", the Bonnot Gang, Bonnie and Clyde are considered at length. I think that the writers are sympathetic to anarchist ideas, and certainly this is one of the most interesting parts of the book. Everyone interested in the way "society" tries to crush "the criminal" should read it.

John Brent



# WHO CRACKS THE WHIP

A COUPLE of weeks ago I did a few days typing in the London offices of British Leyland - one of Britain's biggest motor manufacturers - and I got an interesting insight into the mentality of the "leaders" of industry.

What I'd been taken on to type was a 40-page analysis of the job done by a "parts picker" in a depot handling motor spares. This included the outline of a training scheme for new workers at the plant.

The job analysis was the usual kind of schematised mumbo-jumbo that all time study men go in for - it involves following a worker round all day noting down every single movement he makes:

1. Picks up invoice.
2. Picks up pencil.
3. Writes down order.
- You half expect it to go on:
4. Goes for piss.
5. Pulls chain.

But more important was the training programme. In the course of it, the man whose report I was typing was suggesting ways of getting the necessity of tight stock control into people's heads - making sure that whenever something is taken out a note is made so that they never go to the cupboard to find it is bare.

This seems simple enough to explain - everyone is capable of realising that when you take things out the amount tends to diminish until finally nothing is left. Every day workers take fags out of packets and don't have too much trouble remembering when they need to buy a new packet.

But when we are dealing with time study whiz-kids we are confronting a facet of the boss mentality - like an Army training manual, it assumes that every worker is some kind of moron who can't even visit the lavatory without a docket and an instruction.

So this particular bloke, after pointing out the "well-known fact" - well-known to him and the book he read anyway - that workers have "great difficulty in visualising theoretically", had worked out what he thought was a simple analogy.

## CORRECTION

The PLEA FOR HELP we published last week (for money towards the construction of air raid shelters for refugee camps close to the Israel borders) came not from the Israeli Palestine Social Action group as we wrote. The correct name is ISRAEL PALESTINE SOCIALIST ACTION GROUP.

Our correspondent adds that "we are not Israelis but we have close links with the Israel New Left (SLACH) - a broad front of socialists in Israel.../which/ has a decentralised, somewhat libertarian structure...IPSAG is comprised largely of young British Jews who have left or been thrown out of the Zionist Movement."

The address for donation is unchanged: Roy Rosenberg, 17 Edith Road, Oxford.

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The thing was - as you will have guessed - that his "simple analogy", which involved casks of water, taps and water-levels, was at least ten times more complicated than the thing he was attempting to explain.

I never had a chance to ask him where he got his odd ideas from - but you can bet your life that he never got round to asking the blokes who were actually doing the job what they thought about it.

If he had he might have discovered that if anyone knows how a job should be done, the difficulties involved and the short-cuts that can be made, it is the bloke who does the job all day long and not some outside "expert" who spends a few hours there with his stopwatch and sliderule.

It wasn't that this particular man was incompetent - but by basing it all on the assumption that manual workers are idiots by virtue of the fact that they are manual workers, he succeeded only in making a mystery out of a commonplace.

The operation of this society demands that a worker not only be thought stupid by the bosses but that he should be encouraged to believe it himself because this is the only way the boss can hope to retain power.

Tied up with this is something that is happening in the London Borough of Lambeth where, since 1969, the authorities have been trying to foist a productivity scheme onto the park workers - with, of course, a mythical 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % bonus as the carrot.

It seems that one of the time study men was following a gardener doing some hoeing and he decided it would be illuminating if he took a turn at hoeing himself to see what it was really like. When he did he discovered that theory was different from practice and so he made his calculations accordingly.

All credit to this particular man. But when he got back to his office and showed the figures (now reflecting some sort of reality) to the study organiser the organiser scanned the sheets and then tore them up, saying that the figures were "ridiculous" - meaning they didn't fit in with the pre-arranged racket.

Both of these things are simply further evidence of the obvious conclusion about all work study procedures - they must be questioned all along the line because of the kind of society they are operated in.

In a truly free society finding ways of making jobs easier and more efficient for workers and consumers alike would be welcomed - but in this society it is a racket with the reward for those who co-operate being a higher level of exploitation and the sacking of their mates as "surplus to requirements".

What counts in the end is that the man who holds the stopwatch is an agent for the man who cracks the whip.

Bureaucrat

## MERGER BRINGS SACKINGS

LAY-OFFS, redundancies and plant closures seems to be all the Dunlop/Pirelli group have to offer.

In Italy, 2,000 Pirelli workers are on short-time and 1,000 have been made redundant in recent months. For their part the workers have replied with token strikes and "symbolic occupations" of their factories.

In England, Dunlop made half-yearly profits of £17,270,000, but there is a rundown of jobs at Rochdale, the labour force at the Waterford Footwear factory has been cut by a third, and St Mary's Mills has been closed at Leicester. In all Dunlop has made 8,000 redundant in the last 2 years.

### How to Resist

The rundown at the Rochdale tyre store was halted temporarily at least this month. The shop steward there realising that the company was only removing tyres from the store and that none were coming in, rejected the recent £2 mobility deal and put in for £5 instead. This had the effect of preventing the management from moving workers around onto other jobs, which would have been alright, if it hadn't been for the fact that one of the checkers hadn't been on the sick, and the other hadn't broken his glasses. So in one swift move all movement of tyres was stopped, and the management couldn't do a thing. Even closing the Dunlop tyre store at Rochdale is proving a dear do for the company.

The resistance to the closure of the Dunlop tyre store is bound to continue and may reach a climax when the tyre men ask the drivers (all members of the union) to refuse to move tyres from the store. The workers at Rochdale held a one day strike in protest against the threatened closure last month.

It should be remembered that libertarians have been active at the Rochdale plant and that Freedom has for years been welcomed by the tyre men there, who have pin-ups of our accounts of their past struggles.

### Financial Fiddling

The cause of the trouble is supposed to be Industrie Pirelli's losses in profits, which is being blamed on their workers' appetite for pay rises, and the expansion of Michelin sales at Pirelli's expense.

This has been helped by FIAT, the Italian motor giant, who started using more Michelin tyres on their cars (40%) than Pirelli tyres (20%). Now Pirelli is a major shareholder in FIAT (Leopoldo Pirelli sits on the FIAT Board). FIAT also has a block of shares in Michelin, as well as being a major shareholder in the French car company CITROEN.

It could well be that the Pirelli profit losses are self-inflicted in an attempt to cut their labour down to size and undermine the militant Italian unions. Since 1968, the Italian workers have had the initiative and the bosses are now struggling to get the upper hand.

For their part the Dunlop workers in this country are demanding a 36-hour week, so as to create more jobs. So great is the anxiety about job security in the Dunlop/Pirelli Group.

North West Workers



THURSDAYS at Freedom Press from 2 p.m. Help fold and despatch FREEDOM

### Proposed Groups:

BARNESLEY, new Dwarf group, Charlie, Mick and Dei, 12 Regent Street South, BARNESLEY, Yorks.

EXETER Dwarf group forming. Contact John Forward, 22 Feltrim Avenue, Exeter

HARLECH (ASA): G & B Briggs c/o Coleg Harlech, Merioneth

HASTINGS area: Kevin McFaul Tel. Hastings 7905

LEWISHAM anarchists can make contact via Vera Krishek, Tel. 852 8879

NOTTINGHAM: Trent Polytechnic new anarchist group forming. Contact Shirley Moreno & John Hinsley through Fine Art Dept. Dryden Street, Nottingham.

### Meetings:

MONDAY 5th FEBRUARY Noon-1.00 Vigil at French Tourist office "STOP THE FRENCH TESTS" organized by "GREENPEACE" (tel. CHA 3872)

Anarchist Syndicalist Alliance 3 p.m. every Sunday at 3 Grange House, Highbury Grange, N.5.

Harlech Libertarian Group Thurs. Feb. 8 at 8 p.m. The 'Courtyard Hut', Coleg Harlech, Keith Nathan: ORA and Libertarian Action

New York: Libertarian Book Club Lectures, fortnightly on Thursdays 7 p.m. at Workmen's Circle Center, 369 8th Ave., corner 29 Street. Admission free. Feb 22 Judith Malina and Julian Beck: Anarchism and Strategy for Change. Mar 8 Ralph Fucetola: Individualist Anarchism

ANARCHO-COMMUNISTS interested in starting up a new anarchist movement in the U.S.A. write Willard Petrie, Box 221 Pierpont, S.W. Res. College, U. of Mass., AMHERST, Mass. or David Waters, Tower E., Box 1005, HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. 11551

Stoke-on-Trent Dwarfs, an alternative information service at 66 Beresford Street, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 2EX. Open meetings Thursdays 8 p.m.

Calling Individualist Anarchists of the N.W. Planned INDIVIDUALIST POSTAL FORUM for Individualists in the North-West Area. Contact Keith Sowerby, 150 Shorrocks Lane, Blackburn, Lancs. BB2 4TT

MICHAEL TOBIN DEFENCE COMMITTEE, 265 Dale Street Chatham, Kent

Now in its 10th year! MINUS ONE - an irregular review for individualists, anarchists and egoists. No. 30 now out. 8½p (inc. post) from Freedom Bookshop or S. E. Parker, 2 Ordett Terrace, London, W. 2.

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