

## CHILE ON THE BRINK

On November 11th last the present writer wrote in FREEDOM of the prospects of Allende's Marxist programme in Chile being carried out democratically. It was pointed out that Allende had only made half a revolution and was thereby digging his own grave. Events since then have confirmed this thesis, but Allende has succeeded in winning an election, staying in power by virtue of easing the military in and out of his cabinet. Nothing very revolutionary seems to have happened. In fact, Allende, and whoever seems to be his ally at the moment, are united in suppressing anything really revolutionary.

Allende won his election but got in on a minority vote with the aid of an uneasy electoral alliance with the Christian Democrats. It has been claimed (by professors from the law faculty of the Catholic University of Santiago) that there were irregularities in the congressional election (which returned Allende to power) last March. The professors claim that possibly 200,000 votes were duplicated in the election but it is not known for whom they were cast.

Allende has survived the election, an abortive military coup, a naval mutiny and the assassination of his naval aide-de-camp. He is weathering inflation, a lorry-drivers' strike, a copper-miners' strike, workers' occupation of factories and a series of cabinet crises with military personnel flitting in and out.

One can resist anything except temptation (as Oscar Wilde said) and there is the temptation for a student of modern political history to discern sinister parallel events recurring. The current history of Chile's so-called 'Democratic Marxist revolution' discloses sinister parallels with the so-called Russian Bolshevik Revolution. The lorry drivers' strike has some affinity with the peasants' resistance to forcible collectivization. The most substantial left-wing mutiny (so far) occurred in the navy and 300 sailors are reported under arrest (some it is alleged have been tortured), providing a parallel with Kronstadt. The assassination of Captain Arturo Araya, Allende's naval aide-de-camp was accredited to the right-wing 'Fatherland and Liberty' move-

ment; it is too soon to know whether he can be identified with Calvo Soletó whose murder precipitated the Spanish Civil War or with Kirov, who gave Stalin the excuse (if any were needed) for his terror.

The grievance of the lorry owner-drivers (6,500 drivers with 5,000 vehicles, according to *The Times*) is that the State monopoly, Mopare, which is only 5% of the lorries in Chile, has a monopoly of spare parts and new vehicles imported into the country. The lorry drivers (who seem by no means to be large firms but simply one-lorry owners, that is to say small capitalists) want renewal of equipment, a reasonable supply of tyres, batteries and spare parts. They are also requesting a realistic tariff structure and social security.

Such is the geography and railway deficiency in Chile that this comparatively small strike seems to be paralysing Allende's system. If one believes that the worker is entitled to the use-ownership of the tools of his

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## LIP TICKS ON

NEW GOVERNMENT plans for restructuring the Lip watch-making factory at Besancon in France have been rejected by the trade unions following the police dawn raid and eviction of workers from the factory. M. Jean Charbonnel, the Minister for Industrial Development has plans to split Lip into four loosely-linked companies. These include the different divisions, such as watch-making, machine tools, armaments and mechanical engineering. Yet another company will be set up to absorb any redundant workers but so far no clearly worked out plans have been put forward and negotiations are still in progress between the Government, the French Industrial Development Institute and Ebauches, S.A., the Swiss company which has the controlling interest in Lip.

However, despite all the solutions being put forward those in authority are worried because, before the workers were evicted,

they moved out essential machinery and computer parts. These have been hidden away along with several tons of documents and plans, with 60,000 watches which workers are continuing to sell at reduced prices. In fact they even managed to sell them in the restaurant of the Ministry of Industrial Development in Paris just six hours after the police raid.

The French authorities obviously thought that a massive show of strength against the work-in was the best means of ending what was fast becoming a very large thorn in their flesh. From the first reaction to the raid there has been considerable display of solidarity and support from other sections of workers and the population. This, unfortunately, might only be for brief periods and not long enough to force the government to change its plans. One-hour sympathy strikes by railwaymen and stoppages of Social Security services have taken place, but the Communist-led



HAVE YOU NOTICED HOW YOUNG THE DEMONSTRATORS ARE GETTING?

C.G.T. and the Socialist C.F.D.T. trade unions, with both the Communist and Socialist parties, have been careful not to incite too much action and especially condemned any violence on the part of trade unionists. But violent clashes have taken place outside Lip, although from reports it seems none of them involved workers from the factory. Several thousands gathered outside the factory when they heard the news of the eviction. They came from Besancon and the surrounding area and the police

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# CLAUSE 17

A HUNDRED TIMES or more in the course of the year an industrial dispute will make the front page of the national press if for no other reason than the implied stupidity of the striking workers. A window would not open, canteen pies were lukewarm or the charge hand swore at a worker and the national press states that because of trivial incidents such as I have dreamed up thousands of workers walk out onto the stones. Yet those trivial incidents are always the culmination of a whole pattern of managerial bullying.

As the pattern of our society changes fresh generations move into an industrial world of full employment and by the very nature of things they can have little understanding of the meaning and feeling of the working class between the wars when with two million or more unemployed, men and women were robbed of all human dignity by the employer and the State as the price for allowing the working class, in all countries, to survive on artificial poverty. To have to see a skilled man forced to stand outside a foundry gate for a whole week before being employed, to see grown men in a crowded factory breaking down into unrestrainable tears when given their 'cards', to stand like cattle outside Joe Lyons at four in the morning for the chance of a single day's work, to watch an unemployed man dragged screaming out of a Labour Exchange by the duty police, at the orders of a gutless clerk, for no other offence than to be observed smoking a 'dog end' while standing in the mile-long queue waiting simply to sign the unemployed register, or to see one's school friend taken from the crowded class room because his unemployed father had slashed his throat with a razor and to bear witness to that same obscene ending of a human life by other men and women of the working class as their final and ultimate rejection of a society they can no longer tolerate is to lay the foundation, within the human heart, of a kingly rage that will illuminate and reject whatever the State and the employer offers without asking.

There are those and they are many who will declaim that we cannot continue to judge society by the past evils but they talk from a full belly and a guarantee of a full wage packet each week but those in authority merely change their pattern of operation and they will surrender large or small concession asking only for one hand on our

throat and the other in our pocket, and there is but one answer and that is to spit in their face and to take as much as we can force them to surrender. This is an hour of 'full employment' when labour is finding its true values and the job of bank clerk and super-market manager is no longer the ultimate reward for years of study but merely another job to be pasted up in a window, for in the frantic search for labour that artificial working class hierarchy has gone for a burton and one can now call the foreman 'mate' and walk out of one 'secure' job into another 'secure' job for the slaves have learned to rattle their chains, but remember little comrade they are still chains.

The overpaid Executive of London Transport have, by common consensus, made a glorious fuck-up of London's public transport and the situation is so bad that they are frightened men. Whole bus routes are without buses, ten-minute services have two-hour gaps and frustrated travellers are daily walking into garages to scream their abuse at the official staff. After years of official indifference bus services are now being taken off, on certain routes, by official order because of mob violence and the Executive are frantic to find a solution to save their own skins. Their latest dream plan, that won national press coverage, is their Nine Point Plan and all in all is so much bureaucratic anal wind, for in return for the union's agreeing to 17-year old bus conductors, 18-year old drivers, and women bus drivers Sir Richard Way offers his dream pie of more money, pensions on a civil service clerk's level, staff status after five years &c. The TGWU have already told Richard that they will not accept women drivers, and Women's Lib take note, unless women are accepted for employment in any and every job within London Transport.

The Executive's escape clause lies in 30 words tucked away in Sir Richard's columns of verbiage when he breathes that "To what extent, and when, any agreements can be implemented depends on two things - Government legislation affecting prices and incomes, and the amount of money available in the Executive's budget". And one can hear Edward Heath laughing like a drain as these words are pointed out to him on

Morning Cloud as he spins a halibut or splices a marline-spike or whatever they do on Christmas present yachts.

For what it means little comrade is that the transport workers have gained nothing and London Transport has won a magnificent recruiting press. Nothing did I say little comrade. Nay, we have finally had Clause 17 removed from our throats and Clause 17 stated that if one indulged in a one-day strike then one was only paid the actual hours worked in that week. In the long ago past there were six-hour duties such as night work, and for a one-day strike one was only paid six hours for each of the days worked in that week, and on a twelve-hour daily duty a one-day strike could cost a worker as much as 20 hours' pay plus the loss of the one day's strike money. But over the years the schedules department have forced almost all duties to and over the full day's working so Clause 17 is now a broken weapon in the hands of the London Transport Executive - so out of all the shouting and the flag waving of a new deal for the London bus workers, and note Women's Lib I say workers, we have gained nothing.

Over the long years one becomes a little tired of spelling out the answers on how to run a public transport system and how to retain staff. Much of the first is now acceptable transport policy but rejected on political grounds, but until public ownership in the true meaning of the act becomes a workable thing then the worker problem will continue to foul up what should be and must be a social service, and the answers do not lie in 'winning' gifts from the employers of their discarded weapons such as Clause 17

Arthur Moyse

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WE NEED MORE THAN THIS EACH WEEK  
PLEASE HELP.

## Reviews

AID & LIBERATION by Judith Hart  
(Gollancz) £3.80  
THE GRIEF REPORT by Ron Bailey  
& Joan Ruddock (Shelter) 25p  
NEILL! NEILL! ORANGE PEEL!  
by A. S. Neill (Weidenfeld &  
Nicolson) £3.75

JUDITH HART, former Minister of Overseas Development and left wing supporter of the well publicised "25-company take over" of the Labour Party executive, has produced a useful contribution to the debate on overseas aid. She calls her book "a socialist study of aid politics" and it covers a fair amount of territory concerning the aid relationship between the rich world and the Third World which adopts a fairly consistent line of support for official aid, depreciation of private investment incorrectly labelled "aid" and generally knowledgeable insistence on the need for overseas aid without strings.

However, there is nothing of the wider Third World debate on guerrilla warfare, Fanon and the endeavours of Frelimo and the Tupamaros. This excludes an area of interest to anarchists who advocate critical support for what Eysenck calls "the Fanon myth" and adopt liberation struggles as examples of "self-help" to be assisted. Another anarchist alternative settles for the less controversial Oxfam/War on Want development aid which is generally outside State control. Mrs. Hart at her most venturesome examines the growing interest on the radical fringe, as exemplified in the Haslemere group, for aid that excludes assistance for private enterprise and considers the arguments of Theresa Hayter and others that aid is a new form of imperialism. She finds much space for Tanzania, Cuba, Chile - but not Algeria - which is the sort of genuflection the politician trying to be radical makes.

It is what Judith Hart does not study that is most significant because it shows us where she draws the line. None the less, Aid and Liberation is worth dipping into; taken as a whole it manages to make the unbelievably dull discussion of aid more invigorating.

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SHELTER has produced enough publicity of late to satisfy all whose aim in life is to associate themselves with those in distress with a view to making this association widely known.

It's a pity, because when hands are turned to tasks like producing The Grief Report far more is achieved, even if fewer people notice. Ron Bailey and Joan Ruddock have got together a telling indictment of the way people in Temporary Accommodation are treated, it makes a change from reading some observations of the Rev. Father Fuck D.D. because it indicates the needs of those who are in no position to lie in bed all day and congratulate themselves on being clever.

Homelessness is about poverty and grief, persecution and terror. Authority is very good at making people feel ashamed and utterly incapable of feeling sympathy for people in difficulties who are frightened, desperate and without a roof over their heads. This report is a withering condemnation of those who are responsible for the lack of adequate and humane conditions in the provision of temporary shelter.

A. S. Neill

Neill is an extraordinary man. At ninety-one we have his autobiography which is an engaging and readable addition to his already voluminous library. I like Neill most when he writes about Homer Lane and Wilhelm Reich, an honesty of approach to his best friends is his winning characteristic. There is no glamourising just good, straight, fraternal truth.

On Reich he is unforgettable. If Neill was a sucker, as H. G. Wells called him about Reich, and if Reich was "dealing with dynamite" as he aimed to Neill, then it seems to me that many good people to-day are influenced by "a sucker" and a man who dealt incredibly well "with dynamite".

For myself Henry Miller who wrote: "I know of no educator in the Western World who can compare with A. S. Neill. It seems to me he stands alone... Summerhill is a tiny ray of light in a world of darkness" says enough to justify the growing influence of Neill and Reich to-day.

J.W.

"RADICAL" No. 1, a bi-monthly leaflet issued by Radical Group in Tokyo, promoting anarchism by means of books, pamphlets and meetings in Japan. Available (a donation as you please) from The IDEA Publishing House, c/o Matsuki Building, Higashiookubo, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo (or Freedom Press).



# SPHERICAL OBJECTS

IT IS NOW fifty-nine years from the outbreak of the first World War and thirty-four years since the outbreak of the second World War. It has become obvious, partly with the passing of time, the publication of memoirs and the 'leaking' of secrets by the Bolsheviks that World War one was a fraud, a cheat and a racket; its real aims were disguised, its causes obscured, and its results diverged from its promises and aims. No one thinks such a standpoint revolutionary or such findings pacifist or 'bolshie', let alone anarchistic.

The second World War is taking its time to give up its dirty secrets. More care has been taken to cover up the traces. More nations were involved, and technology added new facilities to bury the bodies (literally and figuratively), many bodies disappeared and were, as it were, atomized. In a popular Sunday supplement 'Observer' history of the twentieth century, "The New British", Colin Cross puts forward the oft-given reason for the second World War that Germany was persecuting its Jewish citizens. This is repudiated by an Observer reader who puts forward the reason that after the invasion of Poland "we were certain we would be next on the list". Colin Cross rebuts this by stating, "There is no evidence that we were 'next on the list' or that the Government of the

times thought so". The discussion goes on.

With an exactness of chronological morality that is breathtaking the British Public Records Office releases batches of official memoranda (with some halts and gaps) from time to time. According to the Daily Telegraph (Aug. 1st) the latest files released include those of Sir Winston Churchill's wartime conferences.

It is denied (of course) that these files have been 'pruned' but the files of a Moscow conference with Stalin (October 1944) and the agenda of the Casablanca conference of 1943 (with Roosevelt) which decided the policy of 'unconditional surrender' are missing. The Public Records Office says "that the delay in bringing out the missing file is due to the disorder in which the papers were found, and not because of late pruning". The Telegraph reports: "Sensitive documents of importance are usually withheld 50-100 years by order of the Lord Chamberlain."

These conferences were held in order to decide, not how to win the war, but how to win the peace. Churchill, says the Telegraph, arrived in Moscow in October 1944, after failing at Dumbarton Oaks to get agreement with President Roosevelt on the future of the British Empire in

the Far East. He feared that Nationalist China, with American support, might claim Hong Kong and that Poland was any way sic lost to the West.

Churchill's memoirs simply suggest an invitation to the Poles to visit Moscow but the official record of the conference notes that Churchill pointed out to Stalin that with regard to Poland they each had a gamecock in his hand (the London government and the pro-Russian Lublin government). Stalin said it was difficult to do without cocks; they gave the morning signal. It was agreed that the London Poles - should be flown to Moscow - ostensibly for talks - but Ian Colvin of the Telegraph fails to mention they were arrested and put on trial - for treason.

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The prize exhibit of the files is the memorandum reproduced herewith where Churchill and Stalin worked out their respective 'spheres of influence'. (The tick is Stalin's.)

The Telegraph concludes, "Stalin appeared to agree, making a large tick on the paper and when Churchill suggested burning it to avoid an appearance of cynicism, Stalin replied, 'No, you keep it'."

When the Greek people rose in revolt Stalin stood by and did nothing.

Talking about cynicism, Churchill's code-word for the collection of papers was 'Tolstoy'.

J.R.

## SEVEN RADICALS

**RADICALS, REFORMERS AND SOCIALISTS.** Edited by Michael Katanka. Charles Knight, £3.80.

The Fabian Biographical Series consisted of fifteen pamphlets published by the Fabian Society between 1912 and 1955. Radicals, Reformers and Socialists reprints seven of them, with an introduction by Margaret Cole, bibliographical appendixes, and an index. Another seven will be reprinted in a further volume. The subjects were all British figures who lived during the past two centuries. Those included here are Thomas Paine, Francis Place, Robert Owen, William Lovett, Keir Hardie, John Burns, and Beatrice and Sidney Webb; those to come are Jeremy Bentham, William Cobbett, Richard Carlile, John Stuart Mill, Charles Kingsley, John Ruskin, and William Morris.

All the essays are useful, though they are too short to make much use of primary material or to go very deep in-

to their subjects. Kingsley Martin said little about Paine's youth or old age. St John Ervine did not touch the Place manuscripts in the British Museum. Beatrice Hutchins said little about Owen's later career. Barbara Hammond said most that needed to be said about Lovett. G. D. H. Cole was too sympathetic to Keir Hardie and too antipathetic to Burns to analyse their roles in the labour movement. And Margaret Cole quite failed to show how truly awful the Webbs were.

Mrs Cole rightly points out that several important figures were never covered -- Robert Blatchford, Feargus O'Connor, H. G. Wells, George Lansbury, Arthur Henderson, Ernest Bevin, Tom Mann, Bernard Shaw, Ramsay MacDonald; and what about John Wilkes, William Godwin, Thomas Hardy, Ernest Jones, Bronterre O'Brien, H. M. Hyndman, John Maclean, James Maxton, Aneurin Bevan?

Continued on Page 5

My attached is Indro's translation. (Red with added bits)

Rumania	90%
Russia	90%
The Balkans	100%
Greece, G. P. (Greece)	90%
the Balkans	100%
Yugoslavia	50/50
Hungary	50/50
Bulgaria	Russia 75%
	Russia 25%

Churchill's idea for spheres of influence



# NO SHORTAGE OF IDEAS

A Directory of Alternative Projects is a vast array of ideas for spending or helping to spend some £1,250 as a project put forward by people like Germaine Greer, Richard Neville, BIT Information Service and others. Perhaps the most important contribution is that by Peter Lumsden illustrating how he spent/gave away £15,000; because as he writes it is often a psychological problem rather than a financial one... often not. However we are now within pages of ideas flowing from off the top of people's heads - or from out of their various experiences. The latter being a better guide to possibly practical projects rather than wished-for communities. It is my experience that there is no shortage of ideas at all. Rather there is an unwillingness on the part of individuals to risk things and to actually implement just one of those ideas. For example - I felt at the time of the Committee of 100 that it needed its own newspaper (this was in 1961 when the support was colossal) because for all the real support given by papers like the Socialist Leader, Peace News, Freedom and others; they were not centrally concerned with the issues of organization and projects centring on Direct Action at military bases, on civil disobedience and resistance to the institutions backing up these bases. A newspaper of the Committee of 100 would have been centrally concerned with developing strategy and commitment, building a movement at a local community level, and informing outsiders of the aims and means of the Committee. However nobody started one so it faded away as an idea until a bulletin cum news-sheet was produced far too little far too late. For if you look throughout history you find a newspaper or magazine is often central to a movement's growth.

So, I am inclined to believe that if you have good ideas like some certainly are within this directory, it is up to the individuals suggesting the ideas to put them into practice....with or without the money. For it is probable that the money can be a cushion for 'centres' and 'information services' which we have so many of already. When what we want are small community ventures which rely on people and their time and perhaps their money at a local level. Grandiose projects often are only imaginative ideas put forward by people without much

commitment to any one projected idea. For example for the past three years I've been concerned with a community bookshop which has existed on a shoestring and been an informal meeting place plus advisory centre for the many isolated, alienated, poor peoples of many communities (like gypsies and freaks, unemployed and homeless); in that time I've seen a lot of ideas put forward for communes and newspapers locally. But because of the long term action needed; the daily grind of working harder for such projects than say for most normal jobs, the many floated ideas have resulted in little change in the overall Cornish scene.

Also here we have a special problem of an artificial community made up of many elderly folk; many rich and smug people; many self-sufficient creative people who have little or no time for community action, for squatting, for opposition to Nancekuke where CS gas and nerve gases are made, where the rich summer season brings in the middle classes with their big fat arses! Where each town is a village and where to be seen to be active politically is considered mad or tedious; and where Mebyon Kernow is so engrossed in determining who are the Cornish that those of us who are Cornish-by-immigration are simply ignored - so illformed is their political programme that they believe that the only alternative to the ballot is the bullet. They have no historic awareness of Direct Action; of civil disobedience; of non-violent resistance; of non-cooperation. Professor Thomas of the Institute for Cornish Studies for example has written:

'Last Saturday's Manchester Guardian carried an article about the Isle of Man, a Celtic area much smaller than Cornwall but in many ways very similar, and under almost identical threats. They have a Mec Vannin, Sons of Man, just like our Mebyon Kernow; but they have now another body called Fo Halloo, Under-the-Ground, which is attacking what it calls alien profiteers and local government corruption, and is allegedly moving into arson and sabotage. The Come-Overs, or non-Manx settlers, have pushed up land prices to the point where it is impossible for a young Manxman and his wife to buy a home. To house the settlers more of the island's beauty spots and agri-

cultural land must be covered by bungalows. This could have been written about Cornwall.'

- The Importance of Being Cornish in Cornwall

He then goes on to write that voting should be compulsory like it is in Australia since turn-outs are so poor in local elections and that this refusal to vote for a pack of businessmen and powerseekers is dangerous since it might result in violent action. But the alternatives are not simply violence, but nonviolence and direct action where and when possible and I am quite sure that soon we shall see a Cornish movement much closer to Plaid Cymru than Fo Halloo! If only they were as educated about the nature of power; and of the importance of libertarian ideas then we might see a strong Cornish Movement with a healthy anarchist disregard for authority based on permanent officials and volunteer businessmen; with a concern for encouraging people to take direct action and nonviolent resistance. Though it must be said that the large property owners and corporations deserve to lose some of their property which is kept empty when there is an urgent need for homes for the people living permanently in Cornwall. If the Directory of Alternative Projects results in a few new civil rights groups and claimants unions and community open houses it will have more than done its job. But it leaves you and I looking for homes for our children and jobs for our souls as well as our bodies. The weekly grind goes on for most people left with no savings but a lot of debts.

Dennis Gould

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## SEVEN RADICALS...cont'd from P 4

And what about all the foreign figures who are so important and so little known in this country? This kind of brief biography is a good beginning -- but it must be cheap. The Fabian pamphlets were cheap, but this book is expensive even by current standards -- at more than 50p each the essays are pretty poor value, so a cheap paperback edition would be welcome.

N. W.

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Rhodesian Commentary, a government propaganda sheet, apologized to its readers for saying that "during the Pearce Commission exercise there were many incidents of violence and intimidation to African National Congress officials and members". What it meant to say was "by A.N.C. officials etc." Is there a Freudian in the house? (Thirty-three A.N.C. officials have been detained in Rhodesia this month.)



# IN BRIEF

## Squatters

IT'S THE SAME THE WHOLE WORLD OVER...only more so.

A VOLUNTARY organisation has been set up by a Baptist minister so that young persons who have left home can leave a message for their parents (by Robophone). Confidentiality is reportedly respected and safeguarded. The Guardian's Mary Stott writes, "The Hadeyans /originators of the service/ had to plan carefully. Youngsters under 18 know very well that if they are found and reported to the police they will be returned home or brought before a juvenile court as in need of 'care and protection'. Voluntary agencies, like the Salvation Army which has a magnificent record in tracing missing persons, know that it is a legal obligation to report the whereabouts of a missing minor, and will not handle such cases." The telephone number of 'Alive and Well' is a London one: 01-567 5339.

Sayings of the month: "Government cannot be pure and just. It can only appear so, which requires on society's part a willing suspension of disbelief." -Peregrine Worsthorne (Sunday Telegraph 12.8.73)

Chisso Chemical Company of Minimata, Japan suspended production because a blockade by 5,000 fishermen has stopped supplies of raw materials. The blockade was in support of demands for the company to pay about £2.2 millions in compensation for polluting fishing grounds with chemical effluent which poisoned tuna-fish leading to deaths from 'Minimata' disease -- mercury poisoning.

Squatters in Colchester, Essex are occupying a terrace of houses owned by the police and to be cleared to make room for a new police station in Butt Road. The quatters have set up a free shop and an advice centre on housing, squatting etc. Twenty-two squatters in Colchester at the Turrets, Lexden Road are under notice to quit.

The telephone at Freedom Press (01-247 9249) has been out of order for fourteen days (so far) and the Telephone manager tells us there is a waiting list for repairs.

Slogans on Peking walls have been painted out by officials in readiness for new slogans which will probably emerge from current congresses.

HAMBURG is in the eye of the re-developers. There is a pleasant residential area in the centre of the town, where there is already a recreational lake and a swimming pool. The municipal authorities plan to redevelop the area around, with hotels, shops and offices. Residents of the older houses which are being demolished are unwilling to be moved out to more expensive homes in the suburbs. Just like any other city redevelopment -- but what is somewhat special about this one is that these houses are owned by the housing trust Neue Heimat - the largest housing trust in Europe, owned by the "Deutsche Gewerkschaftsbund, the German 'TUC'. A friend visiting from Hamburg last week told us that the houses are being emptied and demolished piecemeal; as tenants are persuaded to leave, encouraged by no repairs now being done, the house is either left empty and demolished or is let for very short periods to immigrant workers or students. The university's student body has co-operated in this scheme by making contracts with the trust and allocating houses to students.

Six weeks ago about 100 students occupied one such building, in protest at this scheme. During the time they were there the residents of remaining streets showed their appreciation in friendliness and gifts of food, but not to the extent of committing themselves to the campaign.

A week ago a plain van drew up at about 4 a.m., when the occupants were sleeping but had a guard. The driver of the van said he had brought food but came in the middle of the night so as not to be seen, and the door was opened. The back of the van flew open and ejected a squad of special riot police, an armoured vehicle also packed with police sped to the door and the house was rushed by, our friend says, about 600 police, the vanguard of whom ran up the stairs firing a few rounds from machine guns. No one was shot, but three students were hurt. About 70 were arrested and four were still detained at the time of writing.

The demolition workers arrived next day. They were met with verbal abuse from residents, some of whom sat in the doors and window spaces of the house, but were removed by police, under whose protection the demolition was carried out.

Our friend thinks it unlikely that the people of the area will make a fight to keep their homes, solidarity having been prevented from developing by the one-at-a-time tactics, and the massive show of brute force in this eviction being successful in intimidation. Nor would any campaigning publicity be expected from the local press, which is Springer owned.

M.C.

17.8.73

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# LETTERS

## 'ANGRY BRIGADE' ECHOES (1)

Dear Editors,

I felt sure some journalist would be unable to resist comment on the 'coincidence' - which it obviously was - between the Jack the Ripper TV and the Angry Brigade one - did it have to be in 'Freedom'?

M. Canipa says that the SN8 'did not claim to be propagating Anarchism' - not even Stuart Christie? - and denied 'being' the Angry Brigade - but not their sympathy with it. He obviously has not read the case at all but to say 'Freedom accepted their word' is an outrageous lie.

It didn't support them then and unfortunately that's why no one supports you NOW. As to 'accepting their word', you published letters denying even knowing them - even Purdie - bar Christie, as if to cast suspicion on them, and few will forgive the articles by N.W.

Yours sincerely,  
Roger Cowsland  
Edinburgh

(2)

Dear Editors,

Hilary Creek is now in Halliwick Hospital. The question of her possible return to prison has not yet been raised so far as is known. No reliable reports of her present physical condition and her response to 'treatment' are available.

Jim Greenfield is in a special security jail.

Those such as Nicolas Walter who conclude that people standing trial are likely to describe their political beliefs in a way that could be detrimental to the outcome of their trial are naive.

J. W.  
London

Nicolas Walter writes:

J.W. says that 'those such as Nicolas Walter who conclude that people standing trial are likely to describe their political beliefs in a way that could be detrimental to the outcome of their trial are naive'. They are indeed; but I have never suggested any such thing. What is J.W. talking about?

Roger Cowsland says that 'few will forgive the articles by N.W.' Why? Because I dared to criticise the Angry Brigade and the various Defence Groups - without, let me emphasise, ever criticising any of those who were arrested or tried? What is Roger Cowsland talking about?

## CHILE...continued from Page 1

trade, there is no reason why a lorry owner-driver should not have the use of his lorry for his service to society and be entitled to draw on stores for the maintenance thereof. Like many developing nations, Chile has no motor or lorry manufacturing resources and the blockage of spare parts, etcetera, is part of import controls.

The strike of the lorry driver has been used by right-wing elements to beat the government - but it is well organized and Allende has been forced to change his Minister of Public Works and Transport (a military man) and his under-secretary, a civilian, under pressure from the strikers.

The Communists, like the right-wing groups and Allende, are opposed to such movements of workers' control and factory occupations as have taken place. A lorry driver striker, seeing a Christian Democrat politician visiting the strikers' camp said, "There you have the politicians, they always want to take advantage of a strike for their own ends. We are neither politicized, or Fascists, as the government

SOCIAL ACTION PROJECTS (Drug Dependents' Care Group) meeting Thursday 30th August, 7.30 p.m. 6 Endsleigh Street, London WC1. Speaker from Addicts' Rehabilitation Employment Agency.

## L I P...continued from Page 1

tried to stop delegations from Paris, Lyons, Tours and Dijon from getting to the town to join them. As in Paris in 1968, Communist Party stewards kept the following demonstration under control and avoided going near the Lip factory. Officials of the C.F.D.T. interposed between police and young demonstrators to beseech them to avoid incidents. The demonstration dispersed quietly and it was only in the evening when a lorry broke through a barrier near the factory that the exchange of stones and tear gas began, to continue all night. Three journalists who were arrested later claimed that they had been manhandled during the several hours they were kept in the police station. In all about 50 people were arrested and about 20 injured, including some police.

A Financial Times report blames "young leftist agitators from Paris" for provoking the violence. It is always easy to blame people from outside, but the raid illustrated the State's use of brute force to secure the property of the owners. Work-ins, like Lip's, could be a start in the reorganisation process necessary for the social revolution. As such it couldn't be tolerated. As usual,

say, we are a union fighting for our class and our interests. It is the politicians who have ruined this country and it's time they disappeared for good and all." Unhappily this kind of talk is shared with the military who speak about acting "once the politicians have run out of ideas".

On June 29, the day of the abortive military coup, the workers on the appeal of President Allende occupied the factories. The government have since issued a Court order to force trade unions to abandon the occupation.

As is usual in such circumstances, an association for British Chilean Friendship has been set up (61 Victoria Mansions, South Lambeth Road, London, SW8). Their bulletin is, of course, full of the usual excuses for such regimes as that of Allende (which, at best, is honestly confused and mistaken in its course). One such plea is "if the government really wants to advance in its Chilean road to socialism it will have to extend the social control of workers and peasants over production and distribution". Is this confusion of syntax or honesty of thought?

We are told in an Observer profile of Allende that "By the mid-twenties under the influence of some anarchist friends he was launched on his political career". Some of his best friends may have been anarchists but he didn't marry their ideas and doesn't seem likely to.

Jack Robinson

the French State has over-reacted and those with social ideals are right to give every assistance and protest against the police raid.

Lip workers have had the foresight to ensure continuing production elsewhere or at least prevent the new owners from re-starting production. Their struggle can carry on to safeguard their jobs, but as Peace News rightly pointed out last week, action such as they took "must have a radicalising effect on the people involved". People were taking control of their own lives, that is the example they have given. That example has to be put into practice, not just to safeguard jobs within the system, but as a direct challenge to those who at present control our lives through their ownership of the work places and the machinery of the State. By applying ideas of workers' control, workers can start production and the organisation of society for the benefit of all. The forces of the State cannot defeat such a movement if it is widespread enough and can inspire the support to make it worthwhile defending and fighting for.

P.T.



Nicolas Walter has let us see his reply (to The Listener) to Stuart's letter opposite:

The Listener 16 August 1973

## Letters

### The Angry Brigade

SIR: I should like the opportunity of replying to your correspondent Nicolas Walter, whose letter of 2 August presumes to speak on behalf of the Anarchist movement in much the same way as did Peter Kropotkin in his public support of the First World War—without belonging to any Anarchist movement or organisation, thereby causing irreparable harm to the Anarchist movement throughout the world.

Gordon Carr did not err factually in his analysis of the Angry Brigade when referring to the International Federation of Libertarian Youth (not the FIJL) and the International Anarchist Black Cross. Following the formation of the *Défense d'Intérieur* in the early spring of 1962 an international youth movement was formed to co-ordinate actions against the Franco regime—in particular, actions outside Spanish territory. The first of these was the kidnapping of the Spanish Vice-Consul in Milan, Sr Isu Elias, at the end of September 1962, in an attempt to prevent the execution of a member of the Spanish Libertarian Youth Movement in Barcelona. Subsequently, the same organisation worked in close conjunction with the Iberian Liberation Council (CIL) until early 1968 in organising active resistance to the Governments of General Franco and Salazar. The Anarchist Black Cross became known as the International ABC following the Anarchist Congress in Carrara in August 1968, when Giuseppe Pinelli and other Italian comrades decided to organise the ABC in their own country, and subsequently in many others. In effect, because of its multi-national basis within the activist movement, and its common acceptance of the principles of solidarity and the class struggle, it has become the Anarchist International in spirit, if not in name.

The 'Anarchist' revival which Nicolas Walter refers to as taking place in the late Fifties was not an Anarchist revival as such. He has confused a rise in political consciousness which later developed into a revolutionary consciousness in the mid-Sixties, having fumbled its way through liberalism, pacifism and the non-violent direct action organisations which came to the fore during those years and passed away unremembered—except by those to whom those organisations had become ends in themselves. They were, because of their very nature, incapable of presenting any revolutionary political alternative to either capitalism or state capitalism and the growing threat these systems presented to the interests of society, i.e. the producers, the organised working class.

It was implicit in the actions and propaganda of these movements and organisations that they would have been quite prepared to accept the status quo of consensus capitalism, providing that the state made no attempt to increase its armed strength to defend the class interests of its ruling class. Although highly moral and commendable, this was in no way part of a direct and continuing line with an earlier revolutionary Anarchist tradition.

Violence and non-violence have nothing whatsoever to do with Anarchism. These are merely tactics to be employed in given situations. What we, as Anarchists, are concerned with is building a revolutionary consciousness through participation within the class struggle on its many different levels and manifestations.

The death of Francisco Sabaté in January 1960 marked a distinct turning-point within the revolutionary Anarchist movement. Following his death, the Spanish activist movement became more involved in the struggle against international capitalism and moved further away from the narrow limits of the anti-Fascist struggle which had restricted it in the years following the Second World War. This, in turn, influenced other sections of the international Anarchist movement, and may or may not have manifested itself in Great Britain by the group known as the Angry Brigade, but I do not presume to answer that question. The only people who can answer it are those people who were involved in the activities of the Angry Brigade.

However, what I find difficult to understand is Nicolas Walter's definition of what he calls 'true Anarchism'. I can only say that we (within the Anarchist movement) have no method of patenting the name, but we certainly have nothing in common with those such as Nicolas Walter who presume to define to the world at large what is and what is not Anarchism, without belonging (or even answerable) to any Anarchist movement. Nicolas Walter should confine his criticism and comments to subjects on which he has information rather than make feeble apologies in an attempt to justify his own self-appointed position as arbitrator and PRO for the International Anarchist Movement and, in the process, portraying us as more Christian than Christ!

STUART CHRISTIE

Paris

SIR: Stuart Christie's reply (16 August) to my criticism (2 August) of Gordon Carr's Listener article and television programme on the Angry Brigade concerns revolutionary syndicalism, based on the class struggle and the organisation of the proletariat, rather than true anarchism, based on opposition to authority and the liberation of the people. I do not wish to reply to insults, but I do wish to repeat my insistence that there was a revival of anarchism before the 1960s and that there is no evidence that the Angry Brigade was anarchist in any sense. Christie's prejudiced remarks about the nature of the anarchist revival and evasive remarks about violence in general and the Angry Brigade in particular do not answer either point.

Factual errors: an international libertarian youth movement may have been formed in 1962, but FIJL – the initials used by Carr in connection with Alberola's activities during the 1950s – represents the older Federación Iberica de Juventudes Libertarias (Iberian Federation of Libertarian Youth). Carr referred not to the International Anarchist Black Cross but to the International Black Cross; again, this organisation may have been re-formed and re-named in 1968, but the paper edited by Christie himself which Carr wrongly called Black Cross has been described since 1967 and is still described today as the bulletin of the Anarchist Black Cross, and according to this paper the Italian and German branches have the same style. Terminological inexactitude seems to be rather prevalent in this area.

Personal positions: I do not accept that anarchist credentials are established by belonging to any particular organisation, and I do not attempt to lay down any particular line. I prefer to rely on the record of belief and behaviour and to stand on the essential meaning of anarchism. The analogy with Kropotkin is apter than Christie realises. On the basis of his courageous deeds when young and his clever books when older, and his membership of both national and international organisations for many years, Kropotkin gained a remarkable ascendancy over the anarchist movement which he eventually used to advocate policies which had little to do with anarchism and to attack people who dared to disagree with him; fortunately there were always enough self-appointed spokesmen for the movement to call him to account and to preserve the principles of anarchism. But this issue can be settled only by argument, not by abuse.

18.8.73

Nicolas Walter



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