

ANARCHY OR CHAOS?

WE ARE TOLD that petrol is short, due to the fault of the Arabs in cutting off supplies. Yet we are re-exporting petrol to other countries. We of the car-owning fraternity have been issues with ration books. Yet, we are told petrol is unlikely to be rationed if we go carefully, under fifty miles an hour and hardly ever on Sundays. We are told that electric power is in danger because of the electricians and coal is short because of the miners, and everyone knows about oil. Yet, difficulties with electricity because of the miners can be overcome -- we are told, by switching over to oil! We are told we are short of oil. Yet no one has reliable statistics how much we are short; one of the things we know is that, in conformity with our policy of growth, we must have MORE.

We were told, by Sir Alec Douglas Home (in so many words) that our policy was pro-Arab -- if anything. We were told by the Arabs that we were 'friendly' and the oil-cut would not hurt us -- much. Yet, we appear to have been crawling up the wrong backside -

or is it that the Arabs are not the kind of people you'd buy a used flying carpet from?

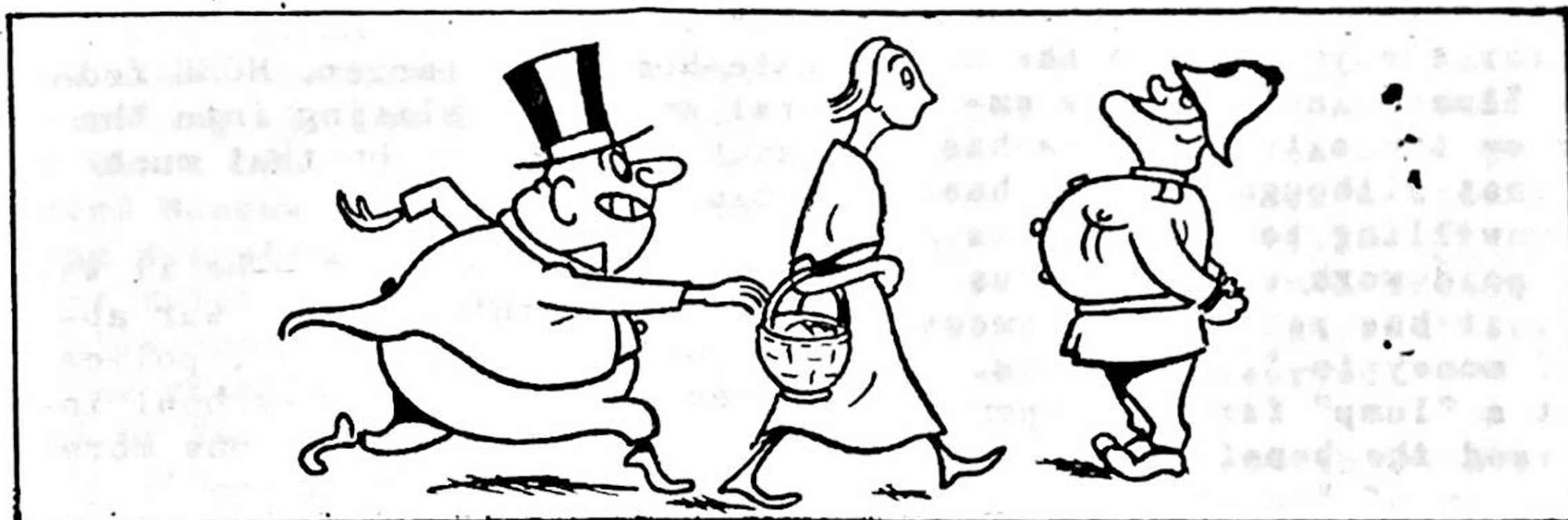
We take it that rationing is the only fair, democratic way to apportion scarce commodities in times of crisis. Yet, this shadowy ration scheme is based upon the cubic capacity and number of cars one has. And furthermore we are told on highest authority that it doesn't matter if ration books are sold (of course it's illegal but...) since it won't affect the total amount of petrol issued.

In fact, we have been lectured that perhaps the operation of market forces might eliminate the need for rationing (translate:

'It'll be so expensive that nobody except the very rich will be able to buy it. And you know how few of them there are!') Yet, a good lady (or stupid) from the Prices and Incomes Board has said (I quote from memory), 'If the price of petrol goes up (as everyone knows it will) the Board can't do anything about it. Because it's an increase in the retail price and the Board can't do anything about retail prices.'

A bold right-winger suggested, and he has had some support, that Arab funds deposited in British Banks should be stolen, nicked, nationalised or sequestered to

Continued on Back Page...



From Rent Strike to Contempt

LAST THURSDAY MORNING nine bailiffs arrived at Tower Hill Estate (Kirkby, near Liverpool) to take away two tenants, Brian Owen and Larry Doyle, held to be in contempt of court for failure to appear (at court) for a means test. Others, for whom warrants were issued, were apparently not to be found.

The two men were taken to Walton Jail but their wives were not notified. Being detained for contempt they were subject to the 'judge's pleasure' and were in solitary confinement for two days, without being allowed a telephone call, books or cigarettes. Neither were they allowed exercise or 'association' meals. It is no wonder that under such conditions Larry Doyle, as the legal expression goes, 'purged his contempt' and apologised to the judge.

Brian Owen is still sticking it out. On Friday night there was a demonstration outside the jail. Prisoners from inside responded. As a result of representations

backed by the demo, a fifteen-minute visit was allowed Owen. Further demos with support from further afield followed on Saturday and Sunday. The local Press built it all up into an 'attempt to storm the prison gates'.

The prison staff have been alerted for 'riots' and men have been kept in their cells. The police also have reacted with some violent showing. During one demo they beat on the ground with their truncheons and requested that the children be taken away.

A violent incident did happen, with a loudspeaker van in which the police were implicated, but this was hushed up.

Since the demonstrations things have been made easier for Bryan Owen. He is no longer in solitary and is thought well of by his fellow-prisoners who have given him cigarettes, etc.

MEANWHILE, the struggle goes on. Attempts are being made to get factories on the Industrial estate to show solidarity with the

tenants.

The rent strikers are persisting in their campaign of non-payment and encouragement of non-payment by embarrassing the agent and accompanying him on his round.

Theoretically, if Bryan Owen does not apologise he could be in prison forever--such is the contemptible nature of the law of contempt, which all depends upon the whim of the judge. However the bailiffs have ten more warrants to execute.

After all the bombast of the Labour Party and of many a Labour council very few are left defying the 'Fair' Rents Act. Among them we can honour Bryan Owen. As the I.W.W. used to say, 'He is in there for us.' What are we doing for him?

J.R. (from details
by M.S.)

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GLC. ANTI-LUMP CAMPAIGN

LAST WEEK saw the start of a campaign to eliminate the use of "lump" labour firms on the Construction branch of the Greater London Council. Six sites took strike action for one day and over 50 building workers mounted a picket on the Phase 2 Priory Lane site at Roehampton, where the GLC are employing "lump" firms. This action followed the transfer of a Convenor steward, Terry Fogarty, from the nearby Bessborough Road site along with five other workers, who were told that there was no more work for them on site. This was blatantly untrue as "lump" labour was moved onto site to replace them.

Negotiations had taken place between the Union of Construction Allied Trades & Technicians and Ewan Carr, vice-chairman of the Housing Committee, to resolve the dispute but the GLC had failed to comply with an agreement whereby Terry Fogarty returned to the site. Striking and picketting the Priory Lane site highlighted the use of "lump" labour and the way Construction branch treats elected stewards on sites. The action demonstrated the growing feeling of resentment felt by men employed direct by the GLC, who have over the years seen the use of the "lump" increasingly employed on the sites. This has meant that although the GLC has been unwilling to improve its poorly paid work-studied bonus scheme, it has paid out enormous sums of money to "lump" firms. In fact a "lump" firm has openly advertised the benefits to Site Supervision of "no strikes, no overtime, wet-time, administration costs" etc. and that they are being employed by the GLC on "various sites".

One such firm, O'Hara's, who do brick-work, has already been run off two sites by the action taken by the men employed direct. And yet the same firm is working on the Priory Lane site despite agreements to the contrary made between UCATT and the GLC.

Last week's action has secured Terry Fogarty's return to Bessborough Road. No "lumpers" will be working on that site but they are still employed on Phase 2 Priory Lane. Because of the time of year a daily picket is not possible but shop stewards have made contact with one another and intend to get a campaign going to rid the GLC of "lump" firms. As part of this campaign they met Gladys Dimson, chairman of the Housing Committee, and Ewan Carr at County Hall and told them about the use of the "lump" and anti-trade-union practices (like transferring stewards) which the officers of Construction branch operate. These Labour leaders were told that if the "lumpers" weren't removed the stewards

would and are starting to organise a campaign of action for their removal.

Now that difficulties of contact have been removed, stewards on the GLC can get something off the ground to combat the "lousy wages paid to us direct labour workers in order to frustrate demoralise and reduce the labour force to be replaced by lump labour operators for whom the sky is the limit in daily lump sum payments, in order to ignore and ultimately end all the conditions we Trade Unionists have established over the years".* P.T.

*from a leaflet issued by the pickets.

THE STAIN OF STATISM

started on Page 7

While to expand it --MORE agencies, MORE civil servants, MORE licensing of things, activities, small businesses, MORE regulation, MORE social-work snooping, MORE urban-renewal and ripoff of old neighborhoods, MORE policing the planet, MORE Texas-come-to-Asia, MORE Late-Roman militarism, MORE federal and local slicing into the paycheck -- is to be that much diminished.

To expand the state --be it warfare or Liberal welfare, war abroad or "war on poverty", police increase or compulsory-school increase --is to chip off one more piece of an early American soul.

But to EMBRACE the state -- to go on equating patriotism with statism, Americanism with Officialism, humanism with institutionalism, society with Authority, security with bureaucracy, liberality with super-plan economy (Nixonomics!), the pursuit of happiness with state-apparatus, public-weal with state-seal --is to chip off, rip off, the WHOLE soul.

NATION AND STATE. Notwithstanding their past-hundred-year wedlock, THE TWO ARE NOT REALLY THE SAME. The former has to do with people, the latter with Royal Routine. The former with spontaneity, the latter with frigidaire rigidity. The former with collective flowering, the latter with Freeze (wages or otherwise). The former the child with developing brain, the latter the old man with child-brain. The former as living arteries, the latter their hardening.

The former as 1776, the latter as 1984.

Sam Cohen
Detroit

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Review **MOSCOW STOOGES**

HARRY BRIDGES: Rise and Fall of Radical Labor in the United States.

THERE IS A saying, "Spit a harlot in to her face. She will wipe it off and say it is raining." Charles P. Larrow, author of Harry Bridges' biography, performs a great mental masturbation by trying to portray Harry Bridges as a great radical labor leader. The author, in ecstasy from blowing smoke up Bridges' behind, reaches such great enthusiasm by comparing Harry with the real outstanding labor rebels such as Eugene V. Debs and Big Bill Hayward of the I.W.W. The dead cannot defend themselves. Leave it to the Commie stooge in its arts of desecration and deception.

July 5 was thirty-nine years since two sailors lost their lives on Bloody Thursday, 1934. Out of the bloody strike came the Independent Maritime Federation of the Pacific. The IWW tradition was quite potent among the West Coast wage earners. How well the writer of these lines remembers how Harry Bridges helped to destroy the independence of the Maritime Federation. The treacherous Commie stooges at that time found a new hero, the old labor faker, John L. Lewis and the C.I.O.

The treachery of the Moscow stooges, under their new unholy trinity, John L. Lewis, Harry Bridges, and their third novice stooge, Joe Curran, initiated, a few years after the 1934 strike, the destruction of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, which Harry Bridges did not like.

Harry Bridges hated the independence of the sailors in the Sailors Union of the Pacific. Its secretary, Harry Lundeberg, an ex-I.W.W. member, he did not like. He did not like Ralph Chaplin, the Wobbly poet who wrote the greatest union song, Solidarity Forever, because Ralph Chaplin was the editor of the Voice of the Federation, and because of this he refused to take orders from the Moscow stooges.

The Moscow stooges, with their known rule on Russian policy, finally destroyed the Maritime Federation. Harry Bridges and Joe Curran also tried to destroy the Independent and Militant Sailors Union of the Pacific. Their last effort was by initiating a jurisdictional dispute. Joe Curran and Harry Bridges tried to steal the jobs of the West Coast sailors who manned the ships of the Sheppard Steamship Line. The Moscow stooges lost.

It was the Kronstadt Sailors who mutinied against the new Czars, Lenin and Trotsky. Unfortunately,

the Kronstadt Sailors were massacred. It was the Sailors Union who alone stood up in the Thirties against the Bolshevik Myth and succeeded.

It was in the mid-Thirties, when there was an unholy alliance between the Roosevelt administration, John L. Lewis, and the Moscow stooges. It was in the Thirties when Bolshevik treachery reached its putrid heights. While in Germany, the slaves changed their Marxist Socialism to Hitler's National Socialism.

While the totalitarian forces of darkness were overwhelming Europe, it was in Spain where the militant working man stood in battle for a few years.

The Sailors Union of the Pacific manned the two freighters, the SS Oregon and the SS Wisconsin. The vessels' holds were loaded with very much-needed supplies for Republican Spain. Charles P. Larrow, in his book, does not mention a word about the fact that Joe Curran, a staunch comrade of Harry Bridges, was manning ships such as the Exminster and Exeter of the American Export Line, carrying supplies to Franco by way of Portugal. At the same time, the Moscow agents were recruiting victims in the N.M.U. for their Lincoln Brigade which served Moscow's interests. After being despatched to Spain, many never returned, because if one recalls the Thirties were a decade of the great Moscow purges in the land of Socialism? Oh, well, "some people refer to a whorehouse as a nest of love".

What made Harry Bridges? In the early Thirties, the maritime workers were hungry, hungry for jobs and pork chops. The Commies and fellow travellers were hungry for power, when Harry Bridges and Joe Curran, through the aid of Moscow stooges, seized power, they tolerated no opposition. This result resulted in the 99 Years Club. If one greatly opposed the Moscow Stooges in both of the above mentioned unions, one was expelled for 99 years, in other words, die of hunger. Under these circumstances, rebel seamen, under the leadership of the Independent Sailors Union of the Pacific, reorganized into Seafarers International, headed at that time by Harry Lundeberg and he affiliated with the A. F. of L.

The writer of these lines remembers, when as a deck officer during the Second World War, his convoy got stuck in Murmansk and Molotovsk for eight months. This was known as the forgotten convoy. There I heard a Russian folk tale that reflects Russian humour: "If you think, don't speak. If you speak, don't

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LIST OF OTHER TITLES & BACK ISSUES ANARCHY on request.

Barbara Smoker reports in a letter to the Sunday Times that her 'Heretic' series of un-Christmas cards has almost sold out (and no reprint) mainly due to a S.T. report.

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Edinburgh city assessor appealed against the decision of the local rates valuation committee to reduce the valuation of a property neighbouring on a brothel owing to 'disamenity'. The Guardian reports the said brothel as 'a house of international repute' Judgement was reserved.

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A local government in Derbyshire noticed a Government mistake in a rating formula which has the effect of increasing rates for three-quarters of domestic rate-payers in England and Wales. From April the error will be corrected.

write. If you write, don't publish, and if you publish, recant it right away."

Against the Soviet ruling class, Bridges never uttered a bad word.

Larrow starts out with short-lived belonging of Harry Bridges in the I.W.W. in his very early life, but he found the aims and purposes of the I.W.W. and he stated to Theodore Dreiser (also a fellow traveller), "I got out fast."

But Harry Bridges never got away from pie-carding for the rest of his life, never joined the C.P., so he says, but never could find fault with the Kremlin policies, and after all it paid off because Krushchev came to shake his hand when he visited the United States, and they say so did Brezhnev, and why not? They never had a better stooge.

Franz Fleigler
ex-S.U.P. member

CHINESE PUZZLES

!!! "In the excellent situation now prevailing at home and abroad, it is most important for us to run China's affairs well. Therefore, on the international front, our Party must uphold proletarian internationalism, uphold the Party's consistent policies, strengthen our unity with the proletariat and the oppressed people and nations of the whole world and with all countries subjected to imperialist aggression, subversion, interference, control or bullying and form the broadest united front against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, and in particular, against the hegemonism of the two super-powers -- the US and the USSR."

Cou En-Lai (24.8.73)

!!! "At the invitation of the Government of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Nikolaos Macarezos, Deputy Prime Minister of Greece, paid an official visit to the People's Republic of China from May 20 to May 27, 1973... The two sides had a friendly conversation... In the talks, the two sides reviewed with satisfaction the development of the relations between the two countries. They examined the possibility of strengthening contacts and co-operation between the two countries in other fields and agreed to further study various ways for expanding their co-operation. The talks proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere."

(Peking Review no. 22)

***** Banking

"In old China all activities by the banks were done for profit, with the banks competing among themselves. Several self-styled 'national banks' were actually large banks manipulated by the reactionary Kuomintang chieftains the four big families of Chiang, Soong, Kung and Chen. They used the banks to fleece the people on a huge scale. In those years of wild inflation and soaring prices the commercial capitalists and bureaucrat-compradors hoarded and speculated with the banks serving as centres for these nefarious practices."

Plus ça change...

"The banks were nationalized after the victory of the Chinese people's revolution and things are very different today. Closely co-ordinated with industrial and agricultural production and commercial activities, the bank determines who get loans and how much, according to the requirements of the national economic development plan. For example, funds are allocated each year to the bank at Fangshan by the people's bank of Peking municipi-

ality. All industrial, commercial, agricultural and other units (these units are state or collectively owned) within the county must apply to the bank or its agencies and sub-agencies if they need loans. The bank will, according to their state-set production plan, work out and decide the amount each applicant needs for production. All loans must be repaid within a set time, plus a small amount of interest."

(Peking Review No. 22
June 1973)

D-I-Y Banking

"One day the secretary of the Peasants' Federation of Levante said to me: --I want your advice, Gaston. We've been thinking of starting a bank. . .

'A bank of your own?' --Yes. You see, we need money to keep things moving between our collectivized villages, and for trade with other towns. With the export of oranges stopped, it's hard to get. Instead of helping, the government cuts the ground from under us. We've just about decided to have a bank of our own. The problem is whether we ought to start one with our own resources, or take over one that already exists. 'How would you take it over?' --By operations to make it lose money and accept our intervention.

I didn't have time to look into the plan closely. Some months later, I saw this peasant again--this peasant with the common-man look and the beret. He'd got his bank."

(From Gaston Leval's study of the Spanish collectives: Né Franco né Stalin (Milan, 1952).. The above is taken from an extract translated in Anarchy 5 (Freedom Press July 1961).)

The Party

"Marxism-Leninism holds that inner-Party struggle is the reflection within the Party of class struggle in society."

(Chou En-Lai 24.8.73)

* * *

"The whole Party must observe unified discipline: The individual is subordinate to the organization, the minority is subordinate to the majority; the lower level is subordinate to the higher level, and the entire Party is subordinate to the Central Committee. 1"

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ARTICLE 1 Any Chinese worker, poor peasant, lower-middle peasant, revolutionary armyman or any other revolutionary element who has reached the age of eighteen and who accepts the Constitution of the Party, joins a Party organization and works actively in it, carries out the Party's decisions, observes Party discipline and pays membership dues may become a member of the Communist Party of China.

ARTICLE 2 Applicants for Party membership must go through the procedure for admission individually. An applicant must be recommended by two Party members, fill out an application form for Party membership and be examined by a Party branch, which must seek the opinions of the broad masses inside and outside the Party. Application is subject to acceptance by the general membership meeting of the Party branch and approval by the next higher Party committee." 2

Notes: 1) Part of Article 5 of Organizational Principle of the Chinese C.P., Chapter III
2) ibid Chapter V, Membership.

THE SELECTION and underlining of the above texts are the result of my rejection of the Maoist hypocrisy in the field of international State relationships and dictatorial ways of organizing the working class, at home and outside China. Unfortunately these ways have considerable influence among students, intellectuals and some workers struggling in non-"communist" countries. If one accepts the estimate that the Chinese Communist Party has a membership of about 30 millions out of a population of about 800 millions (less than 5% of the population) the "dictatorship of the proletariat - via the Party - becomes in practical terms the rule of an elite above the heads of the majority of the people. The Cultural Revolution could have for us, non Marxist-Leninists, in the light of such conclusions, a different meaning if only we had more detailed non-partisan information about this mass movement of protest by students, workers and peasants against Party bureaucracy, opportunists and local Party bosses.

Little has so far been written about the so-called Shanghai Communes where the People's Army had to intervene and stop attempts by skilled and unskilled workers to set up 'soviets' amid the denunciations in the Party and Army press of petty-bourgeois "leftist" and "anarchist" tendencies among the masses.

Now that the Communist Party law and order has been restored

under the charisma of Chairman Mao, we have just to sit and wait for the promised (at the Tenth Congress) next Cultural Revolution, one which, we are sure, will be less spontaneous and probably will be stage-managed by those in the Party who need to get rid of their 'Lin Piao's. Claude.

CORRECTION

Don't Rock the Boat, p. 5 last week's issue.

7½ inches of two columns were transposed.

Col. 3 from top down to line 58: "of so-called working-class party" follows line 18 col. 2

"bosses; a move which would

We sincerely apologize to Claude and to our readers.

We welcome news, articles, letters. Latest date for receipt of MSS, Notices &c is the Monday of week of publication. Earlier receipt is helpful.

The best-selling doll of the Christmas season in America is (according to Polly Toynbee of The Guardian) one which shits - although it is not advertised as doing so.

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Two British plane spotters were sentenced in Yugo-Slavia to four years' imprisonment, mainly because the paranoid Yugo-Slavs could not believe adults did such things without ulterior motives.

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SQUATTERS in Holland Park, West London are, according to the Evening Standard, squatting on Saudi Arabian territory since the house belongs to the Saudi Arabian Embassy.

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Report from Evening Standard (exactly as printed, in full):

"Newspaper publishers in Italy have postponed increasing prices by 10 per cent - due to come into effect tomorrow /Dec. 8/ - followed a request by Prime Minister Rumor and a strike threat by"

In fact it was the printers,

**

Students at Harvard claim a world record for the longest game of Monopoly played in a lift, mark you - for fifty-seven hours. Harvard's additional claim to scholastic fame is the School of Business studies. Was this part of the curriculum?

Sancho Panza

A Lost Letter

DEAR EDITOR,

Enclosed find a letter of possible interest to you. It sat in my letterbox addressed to Mrs. J. O. H. Nolday. I figured some overworked computer added the 's' onto Mr. and disfigured my name. With compliments

John Olday.

Society for the Prevention of Corruption of the Innocent, affiliated to the Antilib Lodge.

Dear Sister,

If one wants to impress people one comes up with some big name. Well -- as things stand (beg your pardon) as things are, we have made a big name for ourselves, or rather, our brave sister Theresa has. She writes as follows:

'I am now not just a member of the public but the very one in a million whose word carries more weight than that of the Prime Minister or our gracious Queen. They might - if questioned as to their views on porno pictures displayed in shop windows of the West End and crowded shopping centres elsewhere - express no shock or disgust, simply because of the speed at which their cars are being driven from and to Buckingham Palace, Westminster or Parliament, so they don't get a chance to have a good, close look.

'But even if they were to get that opportunity and in their lenient spirit of tolerance (bless them) take no offence or even (God forbid!) be amused, my complaint would set the machinery of justice in motion.

'The entire population may remain indifferent or even favour the abolition of censorship altogether, but the moment I take offence and (having nothing better to do) do it vigorously, enthusiastically and proudly, the Public Prosecutor has to go into action. Alas, - for shame - he finds himself at present handicapped.

'And what do we get from our efforts to have decency restored to protect innocent youth and save our country from utter, vile corruption? We are being cynically mocked at by the libertarians who, for the sake of lust and gain, conspired and brought about their so-called sexual revolution and managed to pervert every respectable institution of our society.

'But - thank heavens - we, the last courageous upholders of morals are beginning to find sympathetic response in high places.

'The head of the London police has expressed his hope to be in the near future at last in the position to act drastically, no matter how many experts rally around the pornographs, defending them by claiming artistic, ethical or scientific value.

'Be it said in all modesty, this has come about due to the tireless effort of the few of us who spend their days inspecting sex shop displays, watching sex films and shows, and suffer sleepless nights studying pornoliterature on our bended knees begging the saints and Holy Virgin to restore their exhausted strength for a new round of porno hunting.

'Thanks to the ever-increasing number of our sacrificial sisters continuously taking offence and belabouring their M.P.s, it looks as if the battle is half won.

'May the merciful Lord give our friends in high quarters the strength to command a halt to the flood of obscenities polluting the world and may He lift up the frustrated spirit of our brave vice squad having suffered lately shamefully under enforced inactivity.

'Keep up your efforts, dear Sisters, for now is our opportunity as the people - weary of debauchery unlimited - have become weak and will be too spineless to put up a fight for the continuation of licentious freedom.

'In justified indignation I declare by my untouched virginity, that our campaign has not (as slanderous rumour has spread) been financed by porno publishers who anticipate higher profits from reintroduction of under-cover sales.

'I also refute emphatically that we have had any part in the silent mobilization of a certain industry manufacturing under high pressure plastic figleaves.

Theresa Mayshugge

Lambeth (London) Borough Council's senior administrative officer circulated a memo inventing a mythical officer to handle enquiries from handicapped people. "Please note that this mythical officer can be Mr., Mrs. or Miss according to the reader's mental reaction...Any officer of this directorate may claim close acquaintance with the said Mr., Mrs., Miss Hilary Green and take action appropriate to the enquiry."

It is reported from Egypt by General Mustafa-el-Sheikh that there has been a decline in crime during the war. The decline covers everything from theft in all forms to murder and traffic offences. Between October 6 and 21 there were 75 major crimes compared with 95 during the same period last year. Major thefts were down from eleven to seven incidents, smaller thefts by 35% and pick-pocketing offences by 45%.

LETTERS

letter from Israel

ON THE "Day of Atonement", the so-called Yom-Kippurum" and the Arab or Muslem holiday Rhamadan, which takes a whole month of fasting (during the days) this horrible war broke out; at the start, as everybody knows, the Egyptians and Syrians had been successful in their attacks on both fronts; the first day as well as the second, but then the Israelis started fighting back seriously.

The Arabs have their advice-donors, so they were advised to start their war on Yom-Kippur, when the Jews are praying instead of being on guard. The Russians as imperialists have no competitors with their tricks and "Migs" -- yet, when the Arab attacks started suffering from the Israeli counter-attacks, the Russians as well as their U S A colleagues hurriedly demanded an armistice immediately. (And it came into being.) The Arabs lost about 20,000 soldiers and the Israelis 2,000 and another 2,000 wounded and missing.

The six-day war (1967) was forced [upon Israel] by Egypt's Nasser; the big leader lost his war and Israel won some territory and so Tel-Aviv could be saved from destruction and holocaust.

Nobody except the Arabs is going to utter that the aim is "evacuating the territories occupied by Israel since 1967"; the Arabs want also ISRAEL, which is not only the hope and aim of the leader of the terrorists, but their common aim is: putting an end to Israel's existence as an independent state or country. The Kibbutzim at the Lebanon or other frontiers are being attacked savagely; they are the greatest victims of the Palestinian terrorists. And yet, if you ask Israeli Arabs what they think about Israeli rule and life in this country, they all consider life in Israel fortunate. We need not ask their opinion; we see the Arabs, their life under the rule of the ruling bosses in the Arab countries; poor and down and out. We are far from saying that our Socialists are the expression of socialism, but we enjoy a kind of democracy. Even the nasty C.P. enjoys freedom out here. The Israeli leaders are not ashamed to represent the Kremlin ideology in Israel's parliament.

Some two months ago a gang of Palestinian and Israeli terrorists was intercepted; among those arrested and sentenced were found several Jewish youths from Kibbutzim who were armed and united with the Palestinian terrorists. In their horrible

fight against the Kibbutzim and Jews these people seem to have learnt from the Hitler-Nazis a lot of "socialism". All this can happen because they suppose that Russia means Kommunism and not Petrol -- imperialist "Soviet Russia" is shamelessly praising the Pan-Arab petrol boycott against Western Capitalism.

We must admit that the U S A has saved Israel very clearly from its holocaust. Russia is proud of its aims "up to date" in its savage imperialism. Yet, the personal courage of the Israeli youths on the fronts reminds us of Spain 1936-39 when Stalin's arms only helped - indirectly - the Franco-Hitler-Mussolini gangsters.

All we need is humanitarianism. Prisoners of War should not be murdered as does happen in Syria. All we need is real Socialism, and this we translate into Anarcho-Syndicalism.

HAIFA 24.XI.73 Ch. H. Armony

Editors reply: We are publishing this letter as a viewpoint of anarchists (from their own description publishing Problems in Yiddish, in Haifa.) Editorially we cannot share their views. 'A plague on both their houses' is an attitude we have maintained throughout all statist and nationalist conflicts. We question the too-ready assumption that any degree of 'socialist' state translates more readily into anarcho-syndicalism.

Methane blessing

Dear Comrades,

Jack Robinson is quite correct when he notes that Colchester Sewage Works is conveniently lit by methane gas. Indeed, it has more to offer!

Thickened raw sludge is pumped through three Sludge Digesters for further processing and disposal. Bacteriological action takes place in the Digesters, resulting in the breakdown of the complex substance into simpler substances and in the evolution of sludge gas. Much of this gas is methane. All the electric power required to operate the Sewage Treatment Works (including all the lighting) is generated in the Power House. The capacity of the four generators is over 2000 kilowatts. These are powered by the methane gas produced from the sludge digestion process. The waste heat from the engines is then used for heating the Sludge Digesters! The Power House is fully automatic, and independent of electricity supplies from the Eastern Electricity Board.

Sludge withdrawn from the heated digesters is passed through secondary Sludge Digest-

ion Tanks, and is ultimately processed into sludge "cake", which is stored. Such sludge cake makes admirable fertilizer! Unfortunately, however, such fertilizer is not as popular with the farming community as are chemical fertilizers, presumably because chemicals work into the soil more quickly - and more dangerously!

Nevertheless, readers might well ponder the fact that there is more in shit than merely pulling a chain or turning a handle. It's a pity more people are not interested in the end results. Moreover, the treated final effluent which flows into the River Colne is pretty good drinking water. The Colne is one of the least polluted rivers in Britain.

Peter E. Newell
(Main Drainage Section,
Dept. of Engineering,
Colchester.)

*Our Sewage Works is only too pleased to sell large quantities of the "cake" to anyone who wishes to buy it. --P.E.N.

PRESS FUND

Contributions 27 Nov.- 5 Dec.

LAIRG: B.L. 20p; WOLVERHAMPTON: K.F. 60p; LEEDS: G.H.L. 10p; DUBLIN: P.S. 37p; WOLVERHAMPTON: J.L. 40p; J.K.W. 10p; In 'shop: Anon 5p; P.R. 12p; C.M. 5p; GALESBURG, US: J.B. £1.

TOTAL £2.99
Prev. acknowledged : £1135.13
TOTAL TO DATE £1138.12

TORTURE

A REPORT from Amnesty International states that military 'elite' units are displacing civil police in matters of political security in many countries of the world and are responsible for much State torture. Much of this may take place in spite of legislation and perhaps without the knowledge of the highest political authorities. "There are," says the report, "few states in Africa where torture has not been used over the past decade against internal political dissidents or suppressed racial or religious groups; and few [states] if any, which are willing to investigate such practices." Costa Rica was the only country in Latin America from which Amnesty had received no torture allegation of any kind within the past year. UNESCO refused to allow Amnesty accommodation for a Paris conference on this report since some UNESCO members were mentioned in it. Including Great Britain in Northern Ireland.

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THE STAIN OF STATISM

It is the Enlightenment that tears from the gut of Western Civilization the idea of state-uber-alles (state-MONARCHICAL at this time). The state, thereafter, for advanced Western thought - state power - is at best seen as necessary evil. Though not excised entirely, it is to be bottled up in some remote corner of the social body where it can do no more mischief. With John Locke, for example, the state ought to be no more than "night watchman".

It is across the seas, however, that this particular orientation best unfolds -- Colonial America and American Revolution. And into the next century, notwithstanding the reactionary state-oriented Hamiltonians. Early 19th-century America sees the harvest of that sown in Age-of-Reason years, a bent decentrist, less-state (young Jefferson, etc.)-the-better. The route DE-STATIST, the route-signs a splash of bypass-the-state experiments -- Brook Farm, the free-love Oneida (lasting thirty years!), Thoreau's Walden Pond, etcetera.

Thus whatever the ills or shortcomings of those days, one ill, one ill NOTION, is kept low man on the national totem pole - the big-state bit, big-state HUG, Leviathan. It and the young republic just did not make good brew, least not with the experience with Old Statist Europe and King George still fresh!

Since then Leviathan creeps and claws its way upward on the pole and today sits comfortably atop it. Today...anything not straight and call in the state! Today state intervention, federal or local, is virtually everywhere in the nation taken for granted.

What happened! Why in the span of little over a century does the American less-state-the-better do a flip to MORE-state-the-better! Or is flip implicit in the national psyche! Early 19th-century writer Alexis de Tocqueville would doubtless find today's big-state psychology as anything but astonishing, noting as he did an American bent toward mass conformity and tyranny of the majority. Mix this kind of democracy with a state structure and the result WOULD be Leviathan. Or dig the Randolph Bourne thesis that big-state is implicit in the constitution itself! We should have stuck, he says in his famous essay The State, to the de-centrist Articles of Confederation.

Both Tocqueville and Bourne, I don't doubt, have a point, par-

ticularly the latter. The fact, however, remains that autonomy, self-reliance, self-possession, a feeling one can get on in life without state guidance--though these were not as deep in early America as would appear, THEY WERE NONETHELESS THERE, REAL, if only from revolutionary and Enlightenment memory. Plus an open frontier, a condition and psychology in which the state is far away.

Yet even before the frontier's close are the rise of urban sprawl (megalopolis), the rise and escalation of big capital, of hence imperialism (from mid-19th Texas-come-to-Mexico to mid 20th Johnsonian-Texas-come-to-Vietnam), the rise of labor union bureaucracies to get a hunk of the imperialist pie. Society, thus, massized, technicized, industrialized, super-specialized, all bespeaking, this Yankee colossus, a more potent, ironclad, ever-centralized STATE. Hellbent for Leviathan.

* * *

But its underlying psychology? As old as when the first man took the first slave. No, WHEN THE FIRST MAN SOUGHT THE FIRST MASTER. To wit, dependence on authority, on "papa", "mama", or just plain big brother.

Emerging with 6000-year-old civilization itself, it is this psychology of DEPENDENCE which, before the 19th century closes, springs to the fore again. Tied up with monopoly capitalism, it makes the wheels of less-state-the-better grind to a screeching halt and then roll the other way. A loss, in other words, of nerve, of will -- will at holding onto and building the 1776 maturity and self-responsibility. We embrace, as the 19th goes on, the 6000-year more comfortable, more familiar, papa-state, resting our weary revolutionary bones on its (what appears) soft pillow.

We today think no more of running to "papa" than a child would, our consolation being that it is, after all, not some foreign one but our own. The bureaucratic language, the authoritarian tongue, the power-smile...all our own!

The moment we're in trouble - or just feel so - there is "papa" ready to "help". We're in trouble toward the mid-19th on slavery and near-breakup of the Union. We preserve the Union by way of state power, emancipating the Blacks not as, for example, John

Brown would do it but as a state military measure. Or rather Brown's way statized, legitimized, OFFICIALIZED. And a million Civil War casualties.

Power! Militarism! (The nation's first conscription is in the Civil War. Plus suspension of Habeas Corpus.) And centralism! We achieve what history books call of this period of Western Civilization "The Triumph of the Nation-State". Or well on our way...to 20th Leviathan.

When later in the 19th and early 20th we again are in trouble, this time the rise of a robber-baron capitalism, we again resort to power-machine-state. And another twist of the bureaucratic-authoritarian wrench! (That we might try by-passing the robber-baron with, as in the early 19th, self-sufficient communities - rural or urban - this by this time is evidently beyond the general ken. The back-to-the-land of the depression 1930s, though creditable, is but a trickle.) Big capital, by New Deal time, is chased back to Wall Street (only later to seep back to Washington) and the state, in the muscular exercise of pursuit, grows and grows!

emerging. To confront him we haul out that only item we by now know or care to know, to which we by now see ourselves in no other relation save an identical one...STATE. The Civil War all over again! Or World War I. EXCEPT THAT "SLAVER" AND "KAISER" ARE NOW "FUHRER". The rejection of non-statist paths to cope with these fellows, inconsideration of such paths, this inconsideration - as of Civil War times - IS THE ONGOING THREAD.

And so the fuhrer is vanquished. But the real victor is Leviathan. Or what it comes down to at high noon of a 20th century -

- a bureaucratic bonanza
- totalitarian extravaganza
- an alien, an empire, a Caesarism
- a Late-Roman thing
- a Moloch, scientific Neanderthal
- Dr. Cyclops, Strangelove
- Spenglerian Winter, Orwellian Nightmare
- big brainwash, brainPICK, brainWATCH!

To solicit its aid at a mid-20th era, ITS era, is to be solicited. To use it is to be used. (The state, said James Madison, never gives without receiving more in return.) To have it is to be had. To tap its massive power, unprecedented energy, is to be tapped.

concluded on Page 2

punish the naughty Arabs. Yet, when it is hinted that the Arabs might withdraw their gold from British banks the Stock Exchange goes into a nose-dive and is only saved by Mr. Jim Slater buying some cheap shares next morning.

We could go on with these insanities, for quite a while, but we are told there is a paper shortage.....Yet.....

* * *

'The whole world picture - and not just Britain alone - is totally chaotic, formless, illogical and meaningless. We are told that anarchism means chaos, disorganization and idiocy. Looking at the contributions of governments, nationalism and international capitalism to the energy crisis we are still more convinced that the accusation is ill-founded and the epithets wrongly distributed. The fake law and order of government, the palpable idiocy of nationalism, and the absolute pre-ordained chaos of international capitalism stand fully revealed.

In Britain for example this chaos is veiled over with a mass of unenforceable law. Theoretically the mounting inflation is held in check by a clampdown on wages. This, obviously, is more likely to work than a loose rein on prices of foodstuffs, rents, and now - petrol!

The government hesitates upon the brink of rationing, not only because it would be politically unpopular but because they may feel it would not work. Indeed, during the war, it was only the black market and some people's willing co-operation in what they felt meant their own survival that made rationing possible.

Even now, it has been reported that some old people have been suffering unnecessarily from the cold because they thought that some saving of power was necessary. When one sees, as one saw during the war, the waste which was only possible because of individual sacrifices, one doubts the usefulness of patriotism. Come to that, the whole war was waste.

But, despite all the letter-writers to the Press we cannot summon up the Dunkirk spirit, we cannot get people hating the Arabs, the miners, the electricians, in the same way as they hated the Nazis, the Eyeties and the Japs. Perhaps this chaos might abate, if the profit motive were taken out of petrol, if it were communalized, if all private transport were abolished and only communal buses and taxis were allowed the needful petrol. Country school-children, not possessing cars, are all taken off to school by a free bus and many a factory and orchard collects its workers by a free bus. If it's good enough for the country why not for the town?

IN BRIEF

General Franco spent the weekend before his 81st birthday shooting partridges with the Portuguese Head of State, Admiral Americo Thomas.

**

THREE MEN arrested at a demonstration outside National Front meeting at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London were fined £40 each at Clerkenwell Court for 'using threatening words and behaviour'.

**

TWO SOLDIERS stationed in Colchester beat two men unconscious in an alley 'after a remark about the soldiers' short hair'. They were conditionally discharged after pleading guilty to making an affray, wounding with intent to cause bodily harm and assaulting. Their officer said the two soldiers were stationed in the Lower Falls district of Belfast earlier this year. The unit had been under considerable strain, abused, shouted at and spat upon by civilians and involved in 42 shooting incidents. "All the soldiers," said the officer, "including these two men, stood up to the tension quite unbelievably. I still don't understand how these boys could stand up to this sort of thing so long." The judge, at the Old Bailey, said, "These were grave misdeeds, but they were misdeeds of two soldiers long under strain in circumstances of extreme danger and difficulty. Each of these men has given loyal service to the Crown...These offences would never have occurred but for the strain which their service has imposed on these two excellent soldiers."

**

A U.N. convention on the 'crime of apartheid' was adopted by resolution. The U.S., Britain, South Africa and Portugal voted against the resolution.

**

Workers at the Norton Villiers Triumph factory at Meriden agreed to a meeting with the Minister for Industrial Development to form a co-operative company to resume production. A mass meeting accepted the agreement to resume production which would continue to at least next July. They have occupied the factory for the past three months.

**

We are told that anarchism will not work because men are not good enough (whatever that means). If men have been stupid, wicked or messy enough to get into this chaos the added chaos of government, of law and order will not help. Only the cultivation of responsibility, mutual respect and assistance in initiatives will help in this crisis.

Jack Robinson

C

ontact

THURSDAYS 2 - 8 p.m.
help fold & despatch
FREEDOM at Freedom
Press.

VLADIMIR BUKOVSKI will pass another Xmas and another birthday in prison this year. Picket at Soviet Embassy to remember him & family. Hope you can stop by during the day of Sunday, December 30. (David Markham)

MENTAL PATIENTS UNION (1) new group being formed London NW1 ring George Robinson 387 3143

(2) MPU no longer in Prince of Wales Road. Co-ordinating Committee MPU c/o 37 Mayola Road, Clapton E.5 or (if necessary) phone 01-986 5251

CORBY WITHDRAW THE TROOPS CAMPAIGN. For details of activities phone Terry Phillips at Corby 66781

ANARCHIST WOMEN'S GROUP meets Mondays. Tel. 883 2457 for details.

CORBY ANARCHISTS. Discussion meeting first Friday every month at 7 Cresswell Walk, 7.30 p.m.

LIVERPOOL ASA contact May Stone C.32 Summerfield, Tower Hill, Kirkby, near Liverpool.

LONDON ASA for details phone 226 0817

INDUSTRIAL NETWORK - W. Allin c/o 9 Wood Rd, Manchester 16

INT. LIBERTARIAN CENTRE/CENTRO IBERICO 83A Haverstock Hill, NW1 Sats & Suns 7.30 pm. tel.586 2038

IRISH LIBERTARIAN SOCIALIST FED. write New Earth, 112 Thomas St. Dublin 8

SOME LONDON ANARCHISTS meet socially Sundays 7.30 pm at Finch's The One Tun, Goodge St. W. 1 (don't ask at bar).

New York: LIBERTARIAN BOOK CLUB 1974 Lectures: Thurs. 7.30 p.m. Workmen's Circle Center, 369 8th Ave. (SW corner of 29 St.) admission free. Jan 24: Julian Beck & Judith Malina "The Living Theatre" Feb. 14: IWW N.Y. Branch "LIP and Workers' Control"

STOKE NEWINGTON FIVE SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE is at 54 Harcombe Rd. London N. 15

BELFAST TEN DEFENCE COMMITTEE 88 Roslyn Road, London N.15

RELEASE MARTIN SOSTRE COMMITTEE new group to co-ordinate activities in Britain. Enquiries, letters etc. to above at 83a Haverstock Hill, London NW3

GIOVANNI MARINI Defence Committee write Antonio Centurini, Casella Postale 163, Salerno, Italy.

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