

Vol. 35 No. 4

26 January, 1974

It is to this end that the TUC has done its damndest to accommodate the government. The unions' decisions not to use any "special case" of the miners for their own claims goes just as far as possible without actually saying they accept Phase Three. In fact this is what has happened, for unions have rushed in to sign up agreements in line with Phase Three. These include building workers' unions with the local authorities

So far Mr. Heath seems unprepared to let anyone off the hook and the "moderates" like Mr. Gormley of the National Union of Mineworkers just cannot operate unless there is some common ground for negotiation. These same "moderates" want to cool the situation since they don't really want an election because with a

P.T.

General Election battle.



J. R.

COSMOPOLITAN MAN

THE GULAG ARCHIPELAGO by Aleks-
ander I. Solzhenitsyn
1973 English Translation
1973-1974 Harper & Row,
Publishers, Inc.

YOU MUST KNOW EVERYTHING by
Isaak Babel, edited by Nathalie
Babel (Jonathan Cape. £1.80)
THE WATERGATE FILE : Concise
Guide edited by Rod Nordland
(Flash Books, 33 West 60th St.
New York 10023, USA)
LISTEN TO THE MOCKING BIRD, by
Tuli Kupferberger (Times Change
Press, Penwell Road, Washington
N.J. 07882, USA. \$1.50)

HEAVEN HELP the Establishment lumbered with a martyr who is not only determined to die for his belief but who has a loyal body of supporters eager and willing to lift him onto the scaffold to prove their sincerity. The Establishment, like a dog with a bone, is by the very nature of its situation always on the defensive and it is pleasant to tease it and to hope that from the wordy confrontation of Solzhenitsyn and the Russian government some small relief or some slight easement may be shown to the creative artists within the Soviet Union. It is claimed, and rightly so, that the novel as an art form is dead for in two hundred years it has exhausted its potentialities and it is the passionate reporting of the immediate in relation to the human situation that has taken its place. Alexander Solzhenitsyn's book The Gulag Archipelago fails on many levels, in that its prose style echoes the high-minded moralising of the lesser Victorian writers in their unfortunate literary habit of slipping a metaphysical arm around the embarrassed reader's shoulder and the emotional gossip that Solzhenitsyn offers as proven documented fact. One accepts that within the Soviet Union there exist vast labour camps given over to slave labour and that the slaughtered innocence of the last half century can probably be measured by the millions yet I doubt if in our lifetime the true and uncontested figures, places or names will be revealed. At the time of the Stalin trials we, and I use the we in the imperial sense, raised our voices long and loudly not only to condemn the trials but to declare that all the evidence and all the Stalinist charges were false, and now with hindsight as our guide we must ask that if the claim that Stalin's revolutionary opponents did not plan individually and collectively to overthrow Stalin's dictatorship by force then why not? --for they were militant revolutionaries and if they did

not continue the struggle against a government, even though they were part of that government, that they held to be betraying the revolution, then all the sacrifices of their own dead would have been for nought.

Solzhenitsyn has had a good press and were it not for the ranks of human misery and courage on whose behalf Solzhenitsyn speaks the whole thing would read like Anthony Trollope's novel The Warden.

In 1905 Lenin in his article on "Party organisation and party literature" asked: "Your talk about absolute liberty, individualist gentlement of the bourgeoisie, is nothing but hypocrisy. Are you free of your bourgeois editor, Mr. Writer? Are you free of your bourgeois public?" And as always Lenin was right for if you join the rat race you cannot complain of the company. Solzhenitsyn the writer is and has been used as a propaganda weapon by the mouthy warriors on both sides of the Iron Curtain and it is well to bear in mind the matter of Solzhenitsyn's valid novel, One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich, for this work was first serialised in the 1962 November issue of Novy Mir on, it is claimed, the direct instructions of Khrushchev, for when Tvardovsky the editor of Novy Mir read Solzhenitsyn's manuscript he knew that he had an important statement of principle cast as fiction and that the climate of the hour was right for its publication, and Tvardovsky wasted no time on committees and sent the novel and his plea for publication straight to Khrushchev. Khrushchev was eager and willing to force through the novel's publication to help in his stand at the Twenty-Second Congress and for a brief while freedom breathed within the Soviet Union. For many it was a very brief moment of public glory but then the doors slammed again with Khrushchev kicked out of office, Solzhenitsyn dourly awaiting some form of State trial or persecution and Tvardovsky broken and now dead.

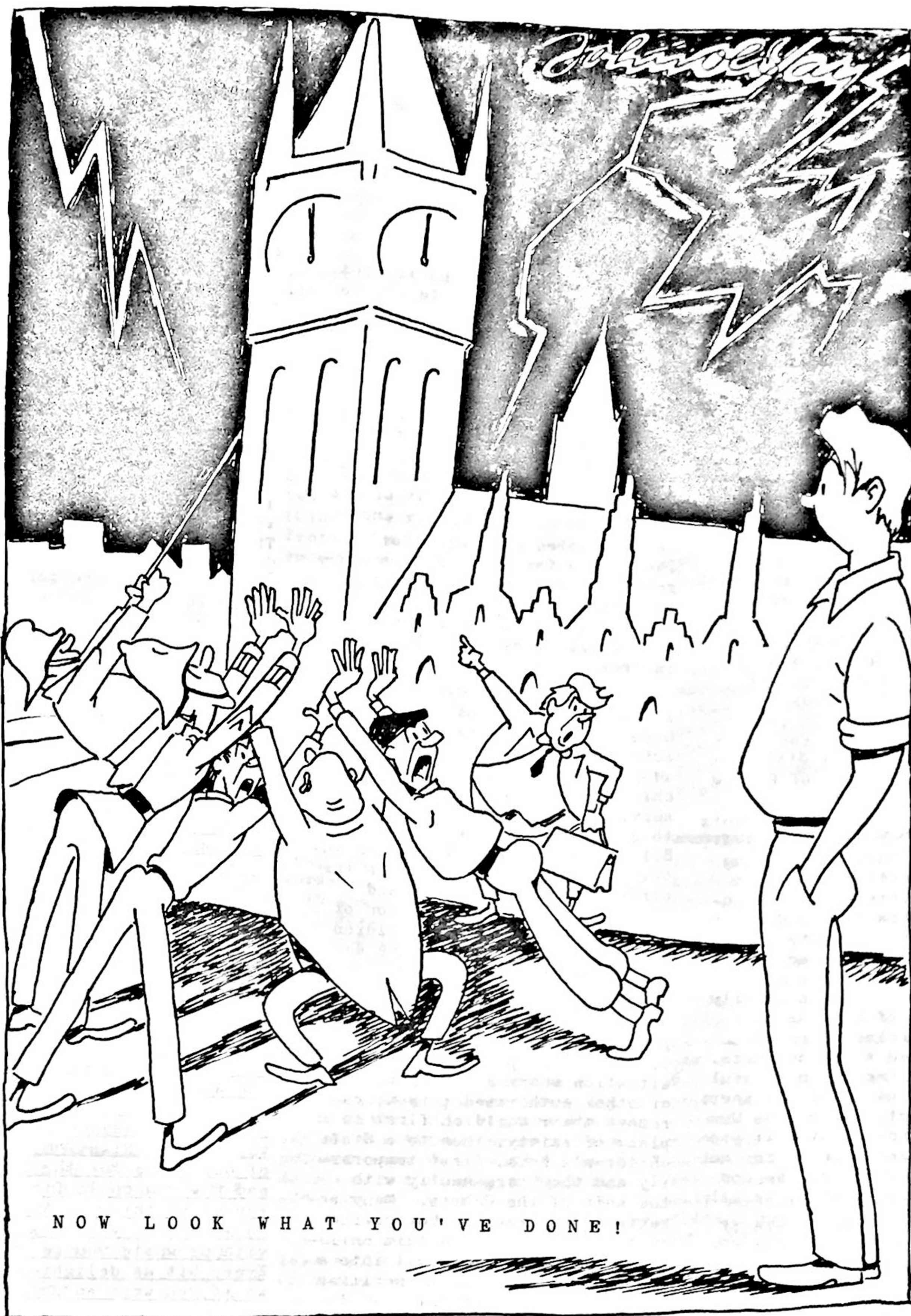
And now Solzhenitsyn's Gulag Archipelago offers the committed intelligentsia of the East and the West a new weapon on which to bone their foreheads. As a work of art I would hold that Gulag Archipelago is valueless and as an acceptable documentation of the world of bureaucratic and insane persecution operating in Russia its conclusions are valid but its facts are unprovable in this moment of time, but in spite of this it is a magnificent and

needed statement for by the sheer weight of its impact upon the committed world within and without the Soviet Union it has forced the Establishment onto the public defensive and to attempt to justify the human misery operating in their name. But there are still fresh victims of whom we shall know nothing for there will be no great public protests for the lesser figures, such as Lidia Chukovskaya the 66-year old novelist, sick and almost blind and who has been expelled from the Soviet Writers' Union for defending the physicist Andrei Sakharov.

As the meek and the many live off the droppings off the tables of the rich so the limits of our freedoms are too often the result of the stand made by those who form part of the international trade union of the higher intellect. It was Isaak Babel who at the 1934 Writers' Congress coined the phrase of the 'heroism of silence' and this was a phrase that was rightly condemned at the time for one must never elect to be silent, for denied the press then the duplicated leaflet, denied that, then the personal night time writing on the public walls, but always the fight to be heard.

Isaak Babel is known to us as the faceless author of Red Cavalry and he is one of those haunting figures who drift through the fact, the legend and the myths of contemporary literature, the Jew who rode with the Red Cavalry. In 1939 he vanished into Russia's prisons and his name and reputation was wiped off the State's vast slate until in 1957 Ilya Ehrenburg edited Babel's official 'rehabilitation' edition of his works but even that was not reprinted for almost ten years. You Must Know Everything is a collection of short stories by Babel edited by his daughter Nathalie and translated from the Russian by Max Hayward.

Like Solzhenitsyn, Babel will be remembered and accepted as a reporter on his age despite Phelps' attempting to place Babel next in line to Shakespeare. Babel is a writer of gentle prose given to lines ending in dying falls of emotion, adding as almost an afterthought a few ending lines of horror. In the cinema the camera would be used to pan across a vista of beautiful flowers only to halt upon the face of a dead man as Finish flows up and onto the screen, so too with the writings of Babel. We have the stories and the reportage yet we know so little about the man, and we can be grateful to the publishers of You must know everything for not only including writings by



NOW LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE!

Richard Chavez, brother of Cesar Chavez leader of striking American farm workers, met Jack Jones of the T.G.W.U. looking for support for the boycott of U.S. let-tuces and grapes. Dockers have been blacking Californian grapes for a long time but they have been re-routed here via Rotterdam. Mr. Chavez personally led picketting of Safeway shops notorious for anti-union activities. In the U.S.A. the teamsters' (lorry-drivers') union has inter-vened in the strike -- on the side of the employers and has employed violence against striking farm-workers.

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Spanish police shot and killed a 19-year old youth who, it was originally stated, was suspected of being one of the group of Basque separatists. He was shot the day after Carrero Blanco's assassination. His relatives de-nied he had anything to do with it. It was disclosed that the police fired 'in panic'.

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Daniel Cohn-Bendit was sentenced to five months' jail in Frankfurt for assaulting a policeman. He was charged with resisting the authority of the state during an anti-abortion law demonstration in April 1973.

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The Essex County Standard reporting from an Essex firm which make chastity belts reveals that Prince Charles has bought two. Lest one should think they are destined for Lady Jane while her soi-disant Prince is away at his manifold service careers, it is revealed "They are used as Royal toilet roll holders. For they are too small to wear. They are made from steel and mounted on pine wood."

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In America a first edition of Superman comic book (1939) was sold for \$1,800.00 and a first edition Donald Duck (1940) in fine condition was priced at \$750.

THE BIG CON

Adoption 1974 - Style

HUMAN BEINGS have a number of basic needs - sometimes called drives - and if these are not met we say in today's language that they are 'deprived'. These needs are usually described as physical, emotional, intellectual and social. These needs can be met either through group co-operation, or through competition, i.e. succeeding at the expense of somebody else's failure. In this last situation there are always 'deprived' people. When social workers refer to deprived children, they do not say who is doing the depriving although they will often blame the parents. What is never recognised is that parents are people, with needs, and if these are not met they cannot meet their children's basic needs. The whole family structure penalises children for their parents' failure. The State, in going through a series of hollow gestures to help children in need, frequently subjects parents to punishment for having failed, by humiliating them or invoking the law to take their children away and incarcerate them in institutions. This is all done in the guise of "child protection" but is in fact used as an example to others who expect too much from the State. It is a heavily disguised form of repression used on the working class or - those considered to be deviants. Those who have become successful applaud this treatment; it keeps dissidents quiet. It brands them as neurotics, inadequate. It provides a convenient excuse for not making the resources of the community available equally, to all.

This is clear in the field of adoption; when single women resisted giving up their children for adoption in the late 1960s, the media described this as a 'baby famine'. The establishment has been planning ways of remedying this situation ever since. It is not coincidence, therefore, that at a time when the report of the governmental enquiry into the circumstances of one-parent families is about to be published, a posse headed by Mia Kelmer Pringle, Director of the National Children's Bureau, and Jane Rowe, Director of the National Association of British Adoption Agencies, is riding into Parliament calling for blood, in the shape of an Adoption Bill, which the Government is reluctant to introduce, but which is to be introduced by private Members, now with the blessing of the Government. Over the centuries, over the years, countless excuses have

been offered for the punishment, the humiliation given to single women who tried to bring up their children without the double humiliation of marriage. The Church and the State have colluded in this. The latest excuse is 'children's rights'. There is however, no connection between the concept of the child's right to be freed from the tyranny of the family, and the right of the adopted child to a family where he is 'wanted and cared for'. The simple fact must not be forgotten - adoption is cheaper, that is why it has always been preferred. It also ensures that children are only brought up in 'respectable' families.

Meanwhile, David Owen, M.P. assisted by a group of MPs who all have a vested interest in the outcome, i.e. they either were adopted or they have adopted children, has commissioned the services of a number of lawyers to draft a 52-clause Adoption Bill, in which the 'long term interest of the child' will be the paramount consideration, and which calls for an extension of legal powers to remove children from their parents and make decisions about their future.

Which parents and children are at risk? There is a large and growing volume of parents whose circumstances place them in a situation where a social worker or other authorised person, can remove their children first to a place of safety, then to a State children's home, first temporarily and then permanently with the help of the Courts. Many parents do not realise how difficult it will be to reclaim children, and unwittingly fall into a trap by asking local authorities to look after their children during a particularly difficult period, e.g. homelessness, loss of a parent, sickness of parent, etc. Tony Calaman of Protection Prevention who gets children out of care, calls this 'Social Worker brutality'.

The middle-class reactionaries are pulling out all their ammunition in a desperate attempt to ensure that the solution to deprivation is not the allocation of resources to the deprived.

Shirley F.

(To be continued)

your queen and big business need you!

THIS PAPER has already noted the links between a number of large industrial concerns and the, McCarthyite, "red"-bashing outfit, "Aims of Industry", which recently spent large sums of money advertising their scurrilous nonsense in the Press.

Now, we draw readers' attention to a somewhat similar advertisement which appeared in The Observer (13.1.74) and the Guardian (15.1.74), signed by the chairman, directors and other Top People of a number of leading firms in this country.

This is even more insidious.

Its aim is to encourage young men to take a Short Service Commission in the British Army, as a form of preparation for management in their firms. Their advertisement says: "...in our experience as employers, we've found that a Short Service Commission in the Army equips a man to make the change to business management very easily. For both jobs are concerned with the handling of people and getting the best out of them, often in trying situations. (Anyone who's had to keep twenty soldiers calm when a crowd are hurling bricks at them will readily agree.) ...if you decide to spend the next three years in the Army we'll be very interested in seeing you as soon as you're commissioned. We'll show you our organisation, tell you of our plans for the future, and how you could fit into the scheme of things. And we'll be delighted if you keep in touch with us while you're an officer. Every bit as delighted, in fact, as if you were an undergraduate."

And the firms who are associated with the advertisement?

Well, there's Allied Breweries Ltd. (who have contributed to the Economic League and Aims of Industry), Beaverbrook Newspapers, Barclays Bank (who have contributed thousands of pounds to the Conservative Party), Rank Hovis McDougal (who have contributed vast sums to the Conservative Party, British United Industrialists, the Economic League and Aims of Industry), and Spillers Ltd. (who have given large sums to British United Industrialists).

Big Business-the Army-the Tory Party. An Un-Holy Trinity! By their deeds ye shall know them.

P.E.N.

NEW ANARCHIST PUBLICATIONS

In Brief

ARGENTINA

We have received from Argentina Accion Directa, a new monthly publication which, in the words of its editorial group, "is published to sustain the anarchist revolutionary line in the contemporary reality, within the developing revolutionary process."

This excellent publication, graphically well designed and pleasant to read (printed in two colours: red and black) includes in its first issue articles on Uruguay, Brazil, Chile, Argentina, South America in general, and also has critical articles on television, elections, police repression, the task of anarchists in South America, the revolutionary struggle in Chile, etc.

The 'responsible' for this publication is L. Akrato, the address ACCION DIRECTA c/o RUBBO S.A., Av. Juan de Garay, 4228 BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (temporary address.) We wish our Argentinian comrades and their publication the success that their initiative deserves and hope that this new publication will gather around it the best revolutionary elements to be found in Argentina.

PORTUGAL

We confess to not knowing a lot about Portuguese anarchism, its origins, its struggles in the past, and about its relevance in the present anti-factual and anti-colonialist struggles.

Fortunately enough, some Portuguese comrades have taken upon themselves to publish literature about this movement and consequently we welcome the publication by CIRA of L'Introduction a l'Histoire du Mouvement Libertaire Portugais by Carlos da Fonsca. (Any French language volunteer to review this on behalf of FREEDOM?) A limited number are now on sale at Freedom Bookshop 25p (post 4p).

We also acknowledge receipt of nos. 1, 2 and 3 of a new monthly paper PORTUGAL LIBERTARIO, published in Paris for Portuguese immigrant workers by the French ORA (Front Libertaire, 33 rue de Vignolles, 75020 Paris). After the appearance of O CLARAO in London, this is the second Portuguese publication to appear in 1973.

Since 1969 it seems that various libertarian groups have tried to surface in Lisbon and Oporto, but as we know well, a fascist regime is not the ideal set up for the proliferation of libertarian movements. Nevertheless, we would like to know more about the past and present history of the Portuguese Anarchist movement.

CANADA

News from Nowhere is a new Canadian anarchist journal published in Edmonton by the Edmonton Social Revolutionary Anarchist Federation. This monthly replaces "Anarchist Communications" which was published in Vancouver and "hopes to make Canada known for a new breath of anarchism". This very interesting publication is well produced (small format printed in black, red and blue) inserting in its first issue among other articles on German anarchism, Anarchist Black Cross, two central pages of cartoons (Class War Comix), Voline & Trotsky, R.D. Laing on "Obedience", Californian Grapes and Angola Coffee (boycotts). The address is P.O. Box 2827 STA. A, EDMONTON, Alberta, Canada. Priced at 25 cents, News from Nowhere is another valuable addition to the press of the North American anarchist movement.

Claude.

COSMOPOLITAN MAN...cont'd from P.2

Ehrenburg, Nikulin, Munblit and Pautovsky on Babel but a photograph that is worth a wealth of words. Balding, bespectacled and with the smile of the cynic one realises, with a certain shock, that Babel belonged to that charmed coterie led by men like Ehrenburg who seemed to flow so easily and so effortlessly between Moscow and Paris for they survive as long as they catch the right trains. Too many millions have been born, worked and died in the bondage of the State and their misery only becomes a matter of universal concern when a printed page is in danger, so if Solzhenitsyn's Gulag Archipelago adds one small mote of creature comfort. Lessens by one minute the senseless working day or lessens by one day the sentences on the silent innocent and the guilty, then let us read it aloud yea even in pulpits.

* * *

WE LIVE in an age of instant history and who can claim to know the platonic truth. On July 4th 1943 Wladyslaw Sikorski, the Polish Military Commander and Prime Minister of the Polish Government in Exile, died in an air crash off Gibraltar and years later it was claimed that he was deliberately murdered on the orders of the British government and there were roars of indignant denials and now it is whispered that maybe... In 1940 14,500 Polish officers and intellectuals disappeared from the Russian camps of Starobielsk, Kozielsk and Ostashkov and in 1945 the bodies of 4,253 were unearthed

The French government, notably the Prime Minister M. Pierre Messmer and Jean Charbonnel, Minister of Industrial Development are at loggerheads with regard to the future of the Lip watch factory. Meanwhile the workers are refusing to co-operate with any government plans for an armaments section.

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There are reports of disturbances at the University of Bilbao over the court martial and death sentence imposed on Salvador Puig. Two students have been expelled for taking part in these protests.

In Madrid bombs damaged two banks and another wrecked a section of a computer centre in Bilbao. Leaflets of an "illegal leftist" group were found in front of the banks.

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The trial of the Baader-Meinhof group has been delayed (from June-July to September) because it clashes with World Cup matches and not only will the police be otherwise engaged but the stringent precautions necessary will give visitors a mistaken impression of German political and social life.

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in the forest of Katyn and who murdered them? Do you know, little comrade? Hiss went to prison and served his time as an American traitor and the key evidence was his typewriter, and now the key evidence in the matter of the Nixon tapes is that of the typewriter of his female secretary and it is in dispute and do you know the answer, little comrade? Buschel, Robbins and Vitka have produced for Flash Books a magnificent, concise, illustrated guide to the people and events in the matter of the Watergate File and one cannot fault it for it is well documented in fact and illustration yet, and this is the fault of instant history, there is not one single reference to Nixon's secretary and her typewriter and the missing portion of the vital tapes, for instant history was being played out even as they went to press.

So in the matter of Solzhenitsyn I support and endorse every emotional and moral stand that he takes in the matter of the silent majority in the prisons and the working ghettos of the world, but regarding the debatable facts of instant history I leave it to the committed partisans; for the anarchist role is the defence of the freedom of the individual and for that we must strive for a just society, and to Tuli Kupferberger ten thousand thanks, for his Listen to the Mocking Bird for in a world at war his is the true voice of sanity.

Arthur Moyse.

CABARET OF THE MINORITIES

THE DOOR SQUEAKS, you feel dirty already. The stairs don't squeak but they look like they should. At the bottom is a concrete room without windows, big enough for lots of grand pianos and one person. Or - as it has reluctantly been rearranged - for lots of persons and one grand piano. This is the home of Us - the Cabaret of the Minorities: six eccentrics searching for ways to exhibit ourselves before an horrified public.

Every Saturday we assemble, as for an orgy, with the dim hope of making a profit from our madness. Not throw-your-pet-budgie-out-the-window madness, but nice, play-the-Minute-Waltz-in-thirty-seconds madness. We generally begin by insulting some person or group who is not in the room, at which the audience cheers. Then we insult the audience, at which they are silent. Then perhaps a song, a poem, hopefully another insult. Anarchist stuff intended to express the feelings of outsiders: prostitutes, children, prisoners, homosexuals, and other ilk.

The official classification of our enterprise is "Literary Cabaret" (ref.: Germany - 1930s), which lets you know straightaway that you probably won't enjoy it. Fair enough. Like fuck the average person - he'll never accept/appreciate it and that's that. It's not everyone who could grasp, for example, our artistic assessment of the toilet paper shortage. Not to mention our refusal to accept money. (We took a vote and bankruptcy won.)

Perhaps you have now come to the conclusion that we are a sorry lot of masochist wretches manipulated by the starving artist syndrome. Say no more. It is a known fact that most of us do decidedly covet the odd potato peel or baked bean, thus explaining the voluntary-contribution box in one of the darker recesses. That public response has so far been minimal is due solely to the mean, selfish, reprobate nature of humankind and not to any lack of appreciation. After all, we're the last outpost of true decadence within - Lord Lambton forgive me - commercially sleazy London.

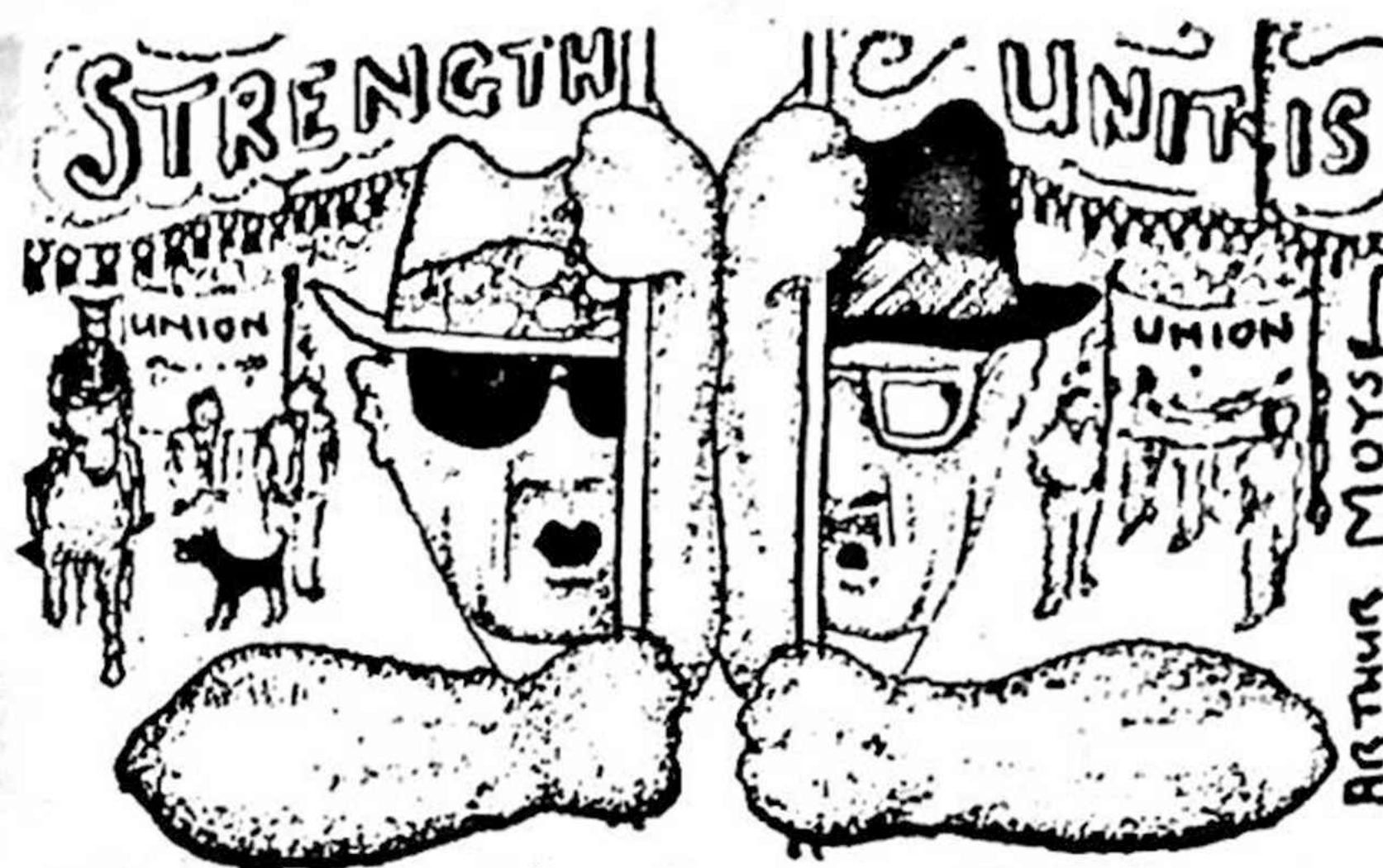
Cabaret of the Minorities, 83A Haverstock Hill, NW3. Sats. 8 pm

Anyone wishing to contribute contact John Olday, 29B Lymington Ave., London N.22 (tel.888-5541)

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

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

GIOVANNI MARINI DEFENCE COMMITTEE: Paolo Breschi, C.P. 4263,
20100 MILANO, Italy.



"C.I.A." "No. SPECIAL BRANCH."

The question is prompted by a report that between 30 and 40 extra men from the American Central Intelligence Agency have been drafted to Britain in recent weeks to study the work of "subversive elements" in the trade unions.

PRESS FUND

Contributions 10-16 January

WELLS: G.B. 60p; GUILDFORD: J.N. 37p; ST. HELIER C.I.: C.H. 75p; OXFORD: B.E.H. 75p; IPSWICH: A.C.T. 37p; LONDON NW3: N.I.B. £3.75; RADLETT: R.O. 30p; WIGAN: E.H. 37p; PLAINFIELD Vt.: P.R.J. 30p; GRAZ: G.A. 87p; LEEDS: A.K. 37p; BRISTOL: F.E. 75p; CARDIFF: C.P. £1.75; MYTCHETT: A.P. 75p; BLACKBURN: J.G. 20p; LONDON E.12 E.M. £1*; DERBY: I.S. £1*; HOVE: H.C. 75p; ORLEANS Mass.: T.F. 20p; WIMBORNE: D.M. £2.15; EDINBURGH: W.M.C. 25p; ABERYSTWYTH: M.J. 80p; NEWCASTLE: G.C. 75p; PHOENIX Ariz.: D.M. £4; CAMBRIDGE: A.G. £7.75; GLENAGEARY: J.R. 75p; WOLVERHAMPTON: J.L. 40p; J.K.W. 10p; LOS GATOS, Ca.: Da l'Iniziativa di un perugio £80; GATESHEAD: G.D. 37p; TUNBRIDGE WELLS: B.L. £6.75; BLAKENEY: J.G. 75p; WALSALL: G.C. 75p; ORMSKIRK: E.P. 75p.

TOTAL: £120.52

Prev. acknowledged: 94.96

TOTAL TO DATE: £215.48

*donations to Premises Fund

GIFTS OF BOOKS: Harrow: N.W.
London W2: S.E.P.

Israeli military spokesmen admitted that a Hawk missile launched by an Israeli anti-aircraft battery caused the fire that has burnt for many days at the Abu Rodels offshore oil-wells in the Gulf of Suez. The wells were captured from Egypt in the 1967 war. They produce between 55% and 60% of Israel's oil needs.

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Thirty-six copies of Kurt Vonnegut's novel Slaughterhouse Five (featuring the burning of Dresden) were burnt by order of the Drake (North Dakota, USA) school board. Works of Hemingway, Faulkner and Steinbeck assigned to his class by the teacher who brought in the Vonnegut were similarly treated and the teacher was not re-hired.

ANARCHY MAGAZINE

Dear subscriber/mad anarch/arm-chair revolutionary/comrade/sister/brother/agent provocateur/roy creamer/innocent bystander, (Please delete those not applicable)

Anarchy Magazine is published irregularly and a sub costs £2.25 or \$6 for 12 issues and £1.15 for 6 issues.

We are a collective who publish Anarchy, and individually we are involved in many other activities, we do the typesetting, layout, platemaking and printing ourselves ...during the last 12 months we have had a cartilage operation, jaundice, various viruses, 2 pregnancies and a couple of trials - to those who slam us for our infrequency we say 'Don't Moan - Organise' - we accept help gladly of any kind.

If you want to renew your sub or start a new one send us the money and we'll post the words.

THE ANARCHY COLLECTIVE.
29 Grosvenor Avenue
London N5 2NP

[NOTE from Freedom Press subscription department: Many of our subscribers to the former 'combined subscription' still have issues due from 1972 renewals, etc. If you received No. 11 from us without an expiry notice your subscription is not expired and we will send you the rest of the issues due, as published. No. 12 is announced for January 31st.]

The Chinese captured a group of Paracel Islands from the South Vietnamese. The Security Council of the United Nations decided to adopt Chinese as its fifth working language.

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Agreement was reached for the production of motor cycles at the Triumph factory at Meriden, near Coventry to be taken over by a workers' co-operative. It will be made up of workers who have been occupying the plant since last September. The agreement means that the completed motor-cycles locked up at the factory by the workers since the sit-in began will be freed in time to meet the 1974 American market.

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The sisters Dolours and Marion Price, imprisoned for their part in the London car-bombings, are on the 68th day of their hunger strike (to protest until returned to Northern Ireland to serve their sentences). Their sister Claire said they had refused medical examination until seen by an independent doctor. They are 'unrecognisable'. "Their faces have gone a waxy colour and they have sores round their mouths." They are both much thinner and they cannot sleep because of the noise of other (presumably) psychiatric case prisoners.

Sancho Panza



THE WRITING ON THE WALL

In the working class quarters of Barcelona, militant anarchist slogans such as "NO to the MIL Court Martial" "Stop the Repression" and "Anarchy--Freedom" are today a common sight

INDICTMENT No. 106-IV-73

ONE WAY THE Spanish fascist regime covers up the political nature of bank attacks, bombings and other struggles in Spain is by officially "informing" the Spanish people through "press communiques" that these incidents are the result of gangsterism. Of course these "communiques" are generously reproduced by the big dailies and weeklies (A B C, La Vanguardia Espanola, YA, etc.) and other provincial fascist papers. The Spanish regime also takes care not to differentiate in their fascist propaganda between anarchists, communists, socialists or Maoists; those who oppose the regime are commonly branded as Rojos (Reds), making it impossible to determine who is in the underground struggle.

In the case of the militants of M.I.L. (Movimiento Iberico de Liberacion) who have just been sentenced by T.O.P (Tribunal del Orden Publico) the Spanish State was forced, due to the seriousness of the charge, to recognise in the wording of the indictment against our comrades Salvador Puig Antioch (aged 23), Jose Luis Pons Llovet (aged 17) and Maria Angustias Mateos Fernandez (aged 16) (who were sentenced respectively to death, 30 years and 6 years in jail) that ...they were members of the so-called Movimiento Iberico de Liberacion (MIL) which had the aim to make an attempt against the institutional order of the State, being the MIL organised in two separate groups - a military one and a legal one. The first group, of anarchist inspiration and of direct action, was geared to execution of the aims of this organisation by violent means against property and persons, using any type of weapon... "Salvador Puig and Jose Pons and other members of the MIL who have not yet been arrested did attack on the 2 March 1973 the Banco Hispano Americano in order to obtain

funds to finance their activities ...On the 25 September 1973

Salvador Puig Antich and Javier Garriga Paituvi did resist arrest in Barcelona. Ruig shot the inspector Francisco Angues Barragari, who was hit three times. These shots cause the death of the inspector of police. The aggressor was also shot twice by the police...

Of course this indictment was never released to the public -- which still probably believes that our comrades were, as the fascist press presented them, dangerous gangsters who killed an innocent policeman.

It is now clear to us that the inspector of the political police, Francisco Angues Barragan, member of the now famous 'anti-anarchist squad' (set up by Franco to smash the activities of anarchist groups) was killed in self-defence by one of the MIL members resisting arrest by armed police.

Claude

SPANISH RESISTANCE

As we reported last week, the death sentence on Salvador Puig and long prison sentences on two other members of MIL evoked more protest in Europe than in this country. Letters to the Spanish Ambassador urging that the death sentence be commuted may help to save the life of Salvador Puig Antich. Further, some comrades in this country have set up a Resistance Fund. This money will be passed to Spanish comrades, but so far the amount received would not buy even a duplicator. Donations will be gratefully received by T.P. and P.T. (Spanish Resistance Fund) c/o Freedom, 84B Whitechapel High Street, London, E. 1.)

FREEDOM PRESS

84b WHITECHAPEL HIGH STREET
LONDON E1 Phone 01-247 9249

Aldgate East underground station
Whitechapel Art Gallery exit and
turn right - Angel Alley next to
Wimpy Bar.

Lessons of the Spanish Revolution
V. Richards cloth £1.50 \$4.00
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Altogether Now

ON JANUARY 15th, 1974 history was made. For the first time in most people's living memory the trade unions, or at least some of them who represent London Transport Executive Railwaymen, organized a joint meeting of members to decide what action is necessary to achieve a decent living wage. The sobriety of the attitude of the workers present seemed to hail a new understanding on the matter of co-operation between union members on the shop floor. The unions involved in this exercise are: Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (A.S.L.E.F.), Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (A.U.E.W.), The Unity Committee of Craft Unions Acton Works, and the National Union of Railwaymen (N.U.R.).

None of the workers present disagreed with the principle of the motion; however, there was the usual number of 'buts' -- the time is not right or it is the wrong action. The motion, which was carried at the morning meeting, called for strike action 'on and from the Tuesday 5th February' if the Pay Board has failed to give a satisfactory reply to the L.T.E. and the Trade Unions. The proposed agreement contains wage increases of up to 22.5 %, which is way above the Government's 'norm' of 11% under Phase Three of the Incomes Policy.

To complicate matters, the Transport Salaried Staffs Association (T.S.S.A.) have decided to opt out of negotiations on the issue of Supervisor differentials. So the anomalous situation of the proposed agreement not being signed by the parties, let alone in front of the Pay Board, by the strike call deadline.

The strike, it would appear, will be strongest amongst: train crews, signalmen, shopmen and maintenance engineers. However, the belief in a 100% support for this action looks a doubtful proposition. In summing up, the mover of the motion said that if carried a two-prong attack must be launched, the first upon fellow workers to join in and the second upon the National Executive Committees of the unions to declare the action official. With one of the trade unions, A.S.L.E.F., already involved in an official dispute elsewhere the pressure will probably be the most applied. Their British Rail members on the Southern Region may also show some interest in this decision to strike.

Another of the arguments to recur was that there may be a general election, but I was surprised to hear someone else say that 'the result of the election along with the election is irrelevant. Re-

Contact

HELP fold and despatch FREEDOM on Thursdays 2 - 8 pm at Freedom Press.

Social Action Projects (Drug Dependents Care Group) meeting on Thursday 31 Jan. at 7.30 p.m. at 6 Endsleigh St. London WC1. Speaker from "Friends" (counselling service of Committee for Homosexual Equality). All welcome.

New arrangements INT. LIBERTARIAN CENTRE/CENTRO IBERICO will meet in future only on Sundays (7 p.m.). Programme to be announced. All welcome. 83A Haverstock Hill, NW3 entrance Steele's Rd. second door. (tel. 586 2038).

In support of Political Prisoners ANARCHIST CABARET. Feb. 2 & 16; CABARET OF THE MINORITIES "Gay Chansons" Feb. 9 & 23. All perfs. at 83A Haverstock Hill start 8 pm sharp. Doors open 7.30 p.m.

LONDON SCH. of NONVIOLENCE at Crypt St. Martin in the Fields, Trafalgar Sq. 6.30 - 9 p.m. Mon 28 Jan. NORTHERN IRELAND. Wed. 30 Jan. GANDHI MEMORIAL DAY Lecture by E.F. Schumacher (to be read in his unavoidable absence) at Africa Centre, 38 King St. WC2 (L.S.N.-V. tel. 01 606 6123).

MENTAL PATIENTS UNION Sats. 2pm Robin Farquarson Hse, 37 Mayola Rd. Clatpon E.5 (tel. 986 5251) open to all mental patients & ex-patients, mtg. followed by coffee & work group. "MPU News" No.3 10p + post.

New York: LIBERTARIAN BOOK CLUB 1974 Lectures: Alternate Thursdays 7.30 p.m. at Workmen's Circle Center, 369 8th Ave (SW corner of 29 St.) admission free. Feb 28: Sam Dolgoff "The Spanish Collectives"; Mar. 14: Nuncio Pernicone "Errico Malatesta: The Formative Years".

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ardless who wins the struggle will definitely go on.' It makes a refreshing change to hear workers talking about the irrelevancy of the ballot box and that the real political struggle is on the shop floor. It is now time for the Joint Action Committee to take the challenge with which it has been presented, to investigate and to report back on different ways of organizing on the shop floor, and to propose action to achieve these aims.

Peter Goody.

Convivial Society

EVENTS AND FACTS level ideologies and should provide a challenge to all but the most obtuse dogmatists. It should put an end to the inhibiting influence of marxism on anarchist thought and teaching. The island concept of individual anarchism will also require rethinking in our shrinking world of interdependent human beings. Injustice becomes a threat to those who "have" as well as those who "have not".

Reviewing the columns of FREEDOM over the years one recalls the arguments of those who believed in advancing material progress and those who believed in a different, qualitative, progress. The great myth of economic growth has been exploded, based as it was on finite resources and a delicate ecological structure that is threatened by wasteful consumption. The galloping consumption has been brought to a sharp and salutary halt.

An obituary ought to be written to the industrial age before it writes our obituary. In fact most of the institutions of modern society have become a destructive force and ceased to be of any great service to man.

One of the few thinkers that is challenging the whole structure of modern society is Ivan Illich. In Deschooling Society he challenges bourgeois liberal and middle class assumptions. The training of many highly educated people for non-jobs and the growth of a managerial society that has created a society of consumers of irrelevant rubbish whether it flickers on the square box or comes over the counter of a supermarket.

It is to be hoped that the illusions will give way to some reality in the face of events. Industrial technology is not only consuming resources, polluting the environment; it uses people in a new type of treadmill. It is perhaps fortunate that the inevitable has been hastened by political events to be a warning that the unabated consumption of resources can only have dangerous and perhaps lethal consequences.

The application of such technology to agriculture is now becoming more apparent in the shape of dearer and scarce food.

The reversal of the process of enlarging units of management in all fields of human activity is absolutely essential if an institution is to become a tool for the development of a just and sane society.

A.A.

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