

15202 P
ONCE I WAS AN OPRESSED MINORITY GROUP,
BUT THEN I DISCOVERED . . .

POISON PEN

VOL.
4
NO. 2

INVENTED BY HASTINGS ANARCHIST GROUP LIMITED
DONATE
FREELY

FRI.
13th
JULY

ANIMALS AND OTHER PEOPLE

RAT HITS FRONT PAGE SHOCK HORROR. SPECIAL RODENT ISSUE...GASP...

Somehow the name Babraham seems to possess a similiar sinister ring to it as the name Belsen or Auschwitz. Babraham stands on the outskirts of Cambridge just off the main A130 from Chelmsford. It is here that the Babraham Animal Research Centre lies. Within the grounds of this top secret establishment animals are tortured, mutilated and killed in the name of science. The centre is financed and run by the Agricultural Research Council, a division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Mr Ralph Riley, secretary of the A.R.C., recently told newspapers that it would be 'inappropriate' that they should have access to the centre. The centre's charge d'affaires, Dr Barry Cross, told one newspaper that their readers were 'ignorant'. This is the same man that authorised and perhaps performed the grafting of a cow's udders onto its neck. He 'insists' that this and other equally horrifying experiments are aimed at making animals 'more efficient' and 'cutting down wastage on the farm'. Well, Dr Cross, I must point out that there are a hell of a lot of us who feel that your establishment is the product of a perverted science and a rampant technology, and that we would be 'cutting down wastage' of our taxes if it were closed. Also there are many of us who think you would be 'far more efficient' if your head was cut off.

Sir V.A.Lance

Whilst walking the streets of Ore last Friday in the hope of being raped by a gang of schoolgirls wearing gymslips and navy blue knickers, I had the misfortune to see a small ginger cat, hardly more than a kitten, run into the road and under the wheels of a car. I can't, in all honesty, blame the driver - he wasn't going at breakneck speed or anything, but his attitude towards this unfortunate creature / continued over

* EDITORIAL NOTE: The opinions expressed in Poison Pen are not necessarily the *
* opinions of the Hastings Anarchist Group or the Poison Pen Collective. We *
* do not censor or alter articles unless they do not make sense or we can't read *
* the writing. All articles printed verbatim. If you would like to contribute *
* please send your articles to Solstice, 127 Bohemia Road, St Leonards. *

was, to say the least, sickening. After throwing it over a nearby wall he went into a rage reminiscent of the Incredible Hulk with a wasp in his pants. He seemed to feel no remorse or sympathy towards the animal that he had just (albeit accidentally) killed, instead he ranted and raved about the blood on his clothes and on his car. If you are reading this Mr Driver, Sir, I think it only fair that you know that the creature you described as a 'f...ing nuisance' and a 'bloody inconvenience' was the pet of a seven year old girl.

Rat.

The third and final Ratty bit...

Public Opinion says: Regarding last week's report of the police ramming a foreign tourist in the Old Town: I wonder if he will receive just compensation for his injuries and the damage done to his chrome-horse. I suspect that police mechanics will examine the vehicle thoroughly, fine tooth combs and all that, and upon finding some obscure defect, claim that he was responsible, even though he was said to be stationary at the time. It is conceivable that the police had a good reason to be travelling at such reckless speed, they may have been on their way to prevent some dastardly crime, or perhaps they just wanted to get home in time for Crossroads, who knows?

*

Mrs Thatcher and her co-conspirators, have just voted themselves a pay rise which amounts to something like 70% over the next two years. I'm sure none of us doubts the integrity of these fine people. They are setting a fine example for the country to follow.

POISON PEN Investigates cuts in public expenditure and its possible consequences for Hastings...

County Council services are being cut to the tune of 2 million pounds this year and a projected 2½ million next year.

This will lead to the almost certain closure of Little Morton old people's home, cuts of £616,000 in education will lead to the loss of 159 jobs including twenty secondary school teachers.

The Tory government has slipped in its stainless steel razor sharp teeth like something out of a blockbusting spectacular movie - the cuts have begun. The people of Hastings (and the rest of the country) will have to put up with the loss of these amenities in order to finance

the ever-so-wonderful tax cuts whereby the Boss-class receives a weekly bonus on their already vast salaries which in many cases is more than the weekly wage of most workers. The workers on the other hand will get a few extra quid which will immediately be snapped up by increases on direct taxes. The beauty of the whole scheme is that those who are already rich at the expense of the general population will be able to side step the public spending cuts by using their money to pay for private health-care, education, etc.

"After the boom" of the post war years which led to the class structure becoming somewhat less rigid we now see the beginnings of a 'restratification' (sorry) of classes which will lead to a society in which a tiny minority consisting of politicians, bureaucrats, managers and technicians will have access to all the things which make life comfortable through a 'free enterprise' system; while those who produce the wealth, not being able to afford private education, transport, housing, etc, will have to rely on an ever diminishing and deteriorating public sector.

This marvelous way of life (the crowning glory of several thousand years of civilisation) will be maintained by increasing use of nuclear energy.

Increasing discontent with this state of affairs (both of the conscious 'political' kind and the unconscious aggression against life in general - vandalism, violence, etc) and the dangers inherent in nuclear technology will lead to an increase in state repression. As this worthy journal has pointed out more than once, public spending cuts don't extend to the army and police. Now we must get together and wreck this system, once and for all - otherwise we might as well join the cry of 'Nuclear Feudalism, here we come!'

Steve.

Due to the eventual failure of the genetic engineering experiments conducted on The Caveman in the Von Schrapnel School of Improved Surgery, the Caveman has been laid up with a rather debilitating complaint, and has been unable, hitherto, to place words on paper and make sense. However, thanks to the diligence of the Hastings Anarchist Group's chemical laboratories,

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The Caveman's energy and vigour is fully restored...

ANIMAL ACTIVITIES...

Locally a few saboteurs from Bexhill used bikes when they sabotaged the Romney Marsh East Sussex Hunt. With the bikes they successfully avoided the heavies. They also used camouflage and managed to get rid of half the pack without being seen.

In Ormskirk at the recent Aramada Cup Hare Coursing, 44 sabs turned up. To start with police marched them up and down a lane. The rest of the day was spent frightening hares from the field where the event was taking place. Those arrested, nine altogether, were forced to have their photo taken with the arresting officer. This is not unusual procedure at demos, but it could be a precedent at future demos.

WHALES...

Clark's Shoes have said they will not use leather softened with whale oil after their current stocks have run out. They will also publicise the fact in their shops. Burmah-Castrol said they won't be needing to purchase any more whale oil, having found an alternative.

Moby Dick, an active pro-whale lobby, have been spraying paint-stripper on Jap cars in garage forecourts. They have been at the game for two years. In recent attacks 84 new and used jap cars were sprayed, amounting £25,000 in repairs. They are protesting against mass-slaughter of whales by the Japanese. The police pointed out that there is a concerted effort to damage Jap cars on a national scale. Well done lads.

ALF (Animal Liberation Front) who continue raids on places and rescuing animals have recently rescued beagle pups who were bred for experiments. In May ALF liberated 100 battery units hens from cages in Wiltshire. The chickens are safe ... ALF are worth supporting and can be contacted at Box 190, Peace News, 8 Elm Avenue, Nottingham.

The Caveman.

CLASSIC CAPERS...

The Cinema Users' Association went through the farce of playing the Council's game of 'democracy'. The ritual proceeds as follows. I get to speak for up to five minutes and then I am questioned by any council member who is interested enough

to do so. All this is jolly civilised and reasonable...and pointless. After I have returned to my seat and not allowed to say anything else, a letter from Classic Cinemas supposedly answering the points I raised is read out. The fact that their reply was absolute cobblers is allowed to pass unnoticed and the Chairman did an amazing bit about how if the Council did not pass the new cinema proposals, we would be left without a cinema. Someone is going to be receiving a lifetime's free tickets to the Classic.

There were a couple of good points though. Three of the committee voted against the motion. There actually seems to be a few members who might be honest enough not to have joined the self-seeking types who have held Spray - sorry - sway over the Council for so long.

One last thing: we would like to thank whoever sent all those big butch policemen along. We assume they were there to protect poor defenceless Cinema Users' Association members from irate councillors.

The Vicar.

* PROTEST TIME... *
* The Tories are putting a bill *
* through parliament at the moment *
* which will make abortions harder to *
* obtain. The right to abortion on *
* demand must be left to the woman *
* concerned. If any of you care about *
* another basic freedom being eroded *
* come and make your voices heard. *
* The demo/protest is tomorrow (Sat- *
* urday) outside the local Tory HQ *
* (opposite the Observer office at *
* 2 o'clock. *

THATCHER -PARAFIN SNATCHER...The Vicar continues his voluble tirades against society...

The Thatcher announced today that all price restraint etc is to be lifted so that parafin prices will rise too between 65 - 70p this winter. Parafin is the fuel used by the poorest section of the community and if we have another winter like the last, then without a doubt even more old people will die of hyperthermia. Great to live in a caring society, isn't it? I don't suppose Thatcher will ever freeze to death but in the remote chance that Christians are right she will burn for a hell of a long time.

The Vicar.

Page the forth....

SO YOU THINK WE LIVE IN A FREE COUNTRY??

One of the things which is supposed to make Britain a democracy is the fact that you are "innocent until proven guilty", and that noone is imprisoned without a trial.

On May 24th 1978(well over a year ago) Ronan Bennet was arrested in Bayswater and taken to Brixton jail. And that is where he has been ever since - the date of his trial is now set tentatively for September this year by which time he will have served the equivalent of a two year prison sentence with

Together with 5 other defendants he was originally charged with "conspiracy to cause explosions". The only evidence of this was two small tins of weedkiller in his and Iris'(also arrested) flat. All this happened amid sensational rubbish reporting in the National Press: " Bomb factories", " International Conspiracy" " Terrorist Cells" etc. etc.

So dangerous were these people that they were all put on Category A status, and Iris Mills was held in Brixton (male) prison because Holloway couldn't hold her.

Last November the "conspiracy to cause explosions" charge was dropped for lack of evidence. This was replaced with "possession of explosive substances" (the weedkiller) and, the most damning piece of evidence, the fact that they were Anarchists. There is also a charge of " dishonestly handling fire-arms" (an air-pistol)

Since then four of the six have been released on bail - Ronan is still inside and so is Stewart Carr (who has dissociated himself from the others).

Did Thorpe spend over a year on remand for conspiracy to murder?

Why do the Anti(SIC)Terrorist Squad harass people who are obviously innocent while taking no notice whatsoever of the Fascist attacks on the Left and the immigrant community? The only conspiracy going on here is one by the police to destroy or drive underground a movement which is out to oppose State and Class rule. The police took the opportunity to go information hunting and visited the homes of many anarchists(including me) around the country, in many cases smashing up(searching) the place and the occupants.

"Person's Unknown", the Support group set up to aid the prisoners needs money, ideas and support. They can be contacted at: "Person's Unknown"

c/o Rising Free Book shop. 182 Upper Street. London N.1.Steve.

SAVE THE WHALES!!!!

The killing of whales by 'factory ships' has been outlawed by the International Whaling Commission in London. Factory ships are massive vessels which are usually accompanied by smaller crafts which actually kill the whale, and it is then hauled into the factory ship to be butchered.

At present only Sperm whales and Minke whales are caught in this way; Minke whales are however excluded from the ban.

The sperm whale is on the verge of extinction(some Marine biologists now think that it is not possible for to survive) and so this ban, although it will save an estimated 7,000 creatures is hopelessly inadequate. There must be a total stop to all the killing of whales now.

The ban was opposed only (surprise, surprise)by Russia and Japan, the two largest whaling Nations.

Unfortunately the British government failed to impose a ban on the import of Sperm whale oil products, but said it would work within the E.E.C. for a European ban.

Next years international whaling conference could be the last chance the whales have. Unless by then somehow the vested interests of businessmen and beaurocrats can be defeated, these beautiful creatures will become a sacrifice to man's greed and stupidity. Steve.

GREENPEACE ATTEMPT .

600 miles south west of Lands End, the crew of "Rainbow Warrior", the ship run by Greenpeace, made a valient attempt to stop the dumping of Atomic waste into the sea by the U.K. Atomic evergy comission.

At first the crew of the ship carrying the waste threatened to drop it on the dinghies which had placed themselves in the way of the dumping operation.

In the end, power hoses were used to blast the dinghies out of the way; a very dangerous thing to have done.

Alas the dumping then went ahead.

CANCER -THE NEW PLAGUE.

I was thumbing through a recent copy of Time Out, when an article caught my eye... CANCER:THE POLITICS OF THE NEW PLAGUE. Much of the following is derived or extracted straight from it. Statistically, one in four will contract cancer, and one in five will perish from it. It has reached ...

plague proportions and is a disease which, whilst more openly discussed now, is something we all dread.

Yet, according to one of the foremost American Environmental Health specialists, Professor Epstein, the disease is eminently preventable. His message; that instead of continuing the search for a magical cure, which has concentrated massive research efforts over 30 years and only barely improved treatment procedure, medical attention should centre around prevention. After all its cause(a handful of carcinogens or cancer inducing substances) is beyond dispute. His solution: isolate these carcinogens, screen each new chemical and drug and the material base for cancer will wither away.

Unfortunately, as Professor Epstein explains in a new book (The Politics of Cancer), there are obstacles in the way of defeating this disease, like the chemical and pharmaceutical industries. The obstacles blocking the prevention of Cancer are not medical but blatantly political and economic. Epstein accuses the chemical industry of not only cynical distortion but suppression and outright destruction of data concerning the cancer causing properties of their products.

Listed below are some of his main points:-

- 1) Female sex hormones are known to cause cancer making the use of the contraceptive pill the largest uncontrolled human experiment in carcinogenesis ever undertaken.
- 2) The cynical encouragement of 'estrogen replacement therapy' for menopausal women has brought about a virtual epidemic of uterine cancer.
- 3) The synthetic chemical DES is still being pumped into animals for faster fattening despite its widely recognized cancer inducing properties and given to women in the mistaken belief that it prevents complications in later pregnancy. RESULT a higher rate of breast cancer among DES users and vaginal cancer for their daughters. One myth that Epstein finally demolishes is that 'everything causes cancer in large enough doses'. In fact only a handful of the thousands of marketed chemicals are suspected, and yet as each new carcinogen is isolated, the chemical industry has bitterly fought against any form of regulation. Take asbestos for an example. The U.S government has admitted that 2 million American workers can expect to die of cancer as a result of asbestos exposure in the next thirty years. That asbestos-induced cancer was known as far back as 1930 and yet was deliberately suppressed and misdiagnosed by company doctors. Very recent-

ly asbestos cancer victims have been refused compensation if they were found to have smoked more than a packet of cigarettes a day.

It took two unions to invite Professor Epstein to a symposium on cancer in this country and the Ministry of Health turned the other way. His book 'The Politics of Cancer' has not even found a publisher in Britain. The Unions involved, GMWU and ASTMS have grown increasingly anxious and disillusioned about how little is done to seriously fight Cancer. But when capitalism and the short term profit goals run riot over the interests of the community, is that to be unexpected?

Apologies for the gloom and doom.

Mike M.

Well that ends the gloom for this week now we have FEEDBACK TIME.

Many thanks to Midsussex Anarchists for lots of useful info. and for the postal order. We hope to have our own planning application in soon.

THE BIG THANK YOU BIT.

This is to say thanks to Wendy who has cleared up the printing place and has dug thru years of anarchist fester. For these services she is to be awarded the Anarchist Gold Star 1st Class. There is no greater honour. Well done Wendy, Walk tall.

More about saying thanks-Most of the typing done by Big Dick and Jane T again. Please help us type the paper please please...grovel...whine. Anyone who could type just abit will be welcomed and if they are very lucky they will be rewarded with rude things.

ADVERTSATING

BY A HUMBLE ADVERTSATIZER

Come to Unnormality Records...Why?.....
Because they sell records you fool....
90b High Street, Old Town...Well
Worth the Risk....

Come to The Lord Nelson.....Where you can enjoy artistic surroundings with the girl you care for (and want to impress) and have a quiet evening in an informal atmosphere....if you don't want to feel out of place, you should wear a Burton's Safari Suit, complete with Solar Topee...

Run out of space now folks...more advertising next week.....

Come to Solstice Bookshop, where a pious, humble vicar will sell you
wait for it.....BOOKS! He looks most becoming in his straw flower-topped
panama.....so you can imagine what sort of books he sells.....
at 127 Bohemia Road, St. Leonards-On-Sea, E.Sussex.....

Feistering in the Storm

World spins inside out;
Standing astride a Horse on the run,
Broken enemies either side

Struck down with open heat,
Blood leaks into the ground.

Sea Yawns - riptide illusion
Cracked in the maelstrom
Lost ship breaks open like an egg on the rocks.
Golden spires spun out webs

Knotted together in infinite tangles,
Eventually loosened with tequila.

The bridge falls, with rider and home
From grace and disgrace,

Granite rocks -
Brokenhearted creates a rift

As big as the Grand Canyon.

Reaction

Envy, high as mountainous seas,
Impulses stirred into action
Heat of still winds that blow cold
Fires of flickering lights die.

Explosions, compressed into machines;
Speaking of past worlds,
Nostalgic visions of old fashions;
Cold tea pounding over heated minds.

Reaction, traction, reels,
Sideways, laughter,
Hell, lies in deep

Ravines where vultures
Burk a waiting Carrion
To feed the bloodiest of minds.

The dawn breaks open,
Shelllike in appearance,
It spills the red sun out on the ground,
The blood thickly flows
Subconscious fate.

The Caveman.

MY LOWEST HUMBLEST APOLOGIES FOR LYING ABOUT IN THE SUN AND NOT RE-
MEMBERING TO COME AND TYPE FOR POISON PEN UNTIL IT WAS NEARLY ALL
DONE BY JANET AND MICK EXEPT FOR THE LAST PAGE.....

Love Little Claire.....

STOP PRESS NICK TURNER ON THE PIER, NEXT SATURDAY. CLIVE THINKS IT
WILL COST A POUND A HEAD.....CHEAPO, CHEAPO!!!!

BYE BYE xxxx