

VERBAL APRIL/MAY
ASSAULT TO ~~FREE~~
SOUTH-HANTS ANARCHIST PAPER

No. 8

NEW
SCOTLAND
YARD

SOON TO BE
PICTURESQUE
RUINS!

VERBAL ASSAULT

This issue is slightly late, owing to a combination of circumstances which would be too tedious and hair-splittingly boring to relate. If you notice a slight decrease in quality (of production) we hope it will be more than made up for by the quality of the articles. But who cares about quality, anyway? This isn't supposed to be the perfect radical product for trendy leftists to show how broad-minded they are, as they avidly consume interesting ideas that they can toss about like philosophical confetti - just so that they can have more ammunition to use in political discussions that they know will lead no where. We simply want to see this system of economic exploitation dismantled and the bosses that rule on our streets, where we work and in our heads kicked out once and for all - we hope that at least some of the material herein is useful... End of rant.

OOPS! Nearly forgot - our contact

SOME LOCAL NEWS.

Vosper's Pay-off.

Workers at Vosper Thorneycroft's repair yards were locked out for a week and a half by the management because they were on an overtime ban in support of

their current wage demand. They went back after a verbal promise by the owners of a ship awaiting repair of a £500 bonus per worker. The management has denied all knowledge of this offer, which was concocted between the convenor and the ship-owners. There are two main lessons of this battle. First, next time management locks somebody out why not lock the management out of their homes/or indeed picket their homes - the class struggle doesn't just stop

Eastleigh Airport strike.

The firemen at Eastleigh Airport came out on strike and thanks to the solidarity action of their fellow workers at Jersey and Guernsey airports they forced the airport owner, Summers, to agree to their demands for the right to belong to a union. Summers smashed such a strike 15 years ago, but this time got walked over.

FAWLEY PICKETS.

Miners from South Wales are picketing the Fawley Power Station which has quadrupled its power output in the last four weeks for some reason. Go out there and support them - they'll be glad of it.

'STOP THE CITY' (very brief report, lack of

Most of the details should be fairly well-known to a lot of people, but a brief resumé - about 1,500 took part. The cops were thin on the ground to start with (picket duty, GLC, Cruise, etc.) A lot of people milling round quietly by Bank tube until nineish when things got heated - mounted police waded into us, smoke-bombs thrown, people arrested for taking photographs. Many got hemmed in on the Royal Exchange steps, but 500 break out about 11ish and surge up Cornhill and break bank windows and smash up Rolls-Royces, traffic blocked - cops caught on the hop. 392 arrests at the end of the day - police very brutal in a number of cases (see 'Black Flag'). One protester (an asthmatic) had several injuries - he was dragged to the van by his throat and his breathing device was taken from him. At the station he collapsed and had to be seen by a doctor. The cops let him out without charging him and told him to 'die 40 yards away, not here'.

Some thoughts - good and bad aspects good - a larger proportion of the participants felt that symbolic protest (appealing to the consciences of politicians and stockbrokers) was

address for those who wish to communicate with us is:-

BOX A,
4 ONSLOW ROAD,
SOUTHAMPTON,
HANTS.

at the factory gates. Secondly, make sure the money's paid before they get the boat back or else send it on a trip to Davy Jones' Locker.

ANIMAL LIBERATION = TERRORISM?

We've been told that someone has been held in the custody of Bournemouth police for at least four days (and may still be held - fifth day as I type) without being allowed to see anyone. Unfortunately, details are scant at the moment, though we understand it's related to the breaking of butcher's shop windows. In connection with this a Bournemouth policeman has been quoted as saying that some forms of animal rights activism will be treated as urban terrorism. Who are the real terrorists? More details next issue.

inappropriate. Unfortunately, the police seemed to have had things sussed (the wrecking spree aside) - shepherding people hither and thither. Suggestion - how about getting large groups of people, say 50-300, and hopping on the tube - to emerge, unannounced in Oxford St., New Scotland Yard... Whitehall?

Finally (and certainly not enough space to do this question justice), what was/is/will be the point of 'Stop the City' - just another ritualised annual bash for the direct action wing of the 'peace'/animal lib movements or something else? If this year's STC has advanced from the first in that it is no longer a protest against 'war' in isolation, but also against profit and exploitation - why was so much publicity directed towards the same radical milieu and minority groups and not people who feel the immediate pinch of exploitation every day - ordinary people? Peace is not an issue that can be related to what people have to put up with day-by-day. There are no 'issues'. DAMN...

AN EVERYDAY STORY OF SECRETIVE FOLK.....

Here I don't wish to show myself as being totally paranoid, I just want to point out a few of the ways in which the powers that be can keep tabs on people.

The obvious example is telephone-tapping. Unfortunately, many telephone calls can be monitored simultaneously by computer. With huge technological advances voice recognition computers are now a reality - the computer switches on a recorder when it recognises certain keywords. Tapping is now no problem for the MOD. Thanks to British Telecom many calls are relayed by microwave transmitters, all of which have 'lines' used solely by government departments and the MOD. (Note - A new BT transmitter is to be mounted on Southampton's highest tower-block, 'Canberra Towers', in spite of the cancer risk to local residents.)

Next comes radio bugs. These can be mass-produced the size of medicine capsules and can relay signals to a more powerful transmitter in the vicinity. No British company admits to producing these, but the likely companies are Plessey and Racal Electronics. If you suspect that you are being 'bugged' they are fairly easy to detect. Get a VHF radio, turn up the volume and tune through the waveband. If a transmitter is working nearby a howl will be heard, the volume and note will rise as you get nearer the bug.

"True spontaneity is your desires in search of freedom: it will dissolve the age-old nightmare of economics and trading civilisation, with its banks, prisons, barracks, factories and deadly boredom. Soon we will construct our houses, bring back street life, and set winding paths through a nature reconciled to man. We will have foetal areas, adventure zones, houses which are inspired, others that move, other times where age has no meaning and reality no limits. We will invent micro-climates to vary according to mood, and forget the era when scientific bureaucracy was refining its weapons of meteorological destruction and ridiculing us as utopians."

ANYBODY INTERESTED IN HELPING TO FORM A
MENTAL PATIENTS' UNION IN THE SOUTH HAMPSHIRE
AREA PLEASE CONTACT BOX A, 4 ONSLOW ROAD,
SOUTHAMPTON, HANTS.

Imagine all the fantastic dreams and projects of the surrealists and other revolutionaries becoming possible through the liberation of all our time, space and activity.

lives that they either break under the pressure or masochistically accept their misery as a moral burden ('We've been living beyond our means', 'Lower our horizons', etc.) and vote Tory. According to these people, those who go on strike are 'cutting their own throats', as if people who quietly accept their exploitation aren't having their own throats cut. Such people, speaking the voice of 'reason', postpone their lives until they die.

To them politics is a separate realm above their heads and they are below it, mere mortals to be used - made redundant, injured in industrial accidents, bored, serving the boss. Just 'facts of life'. The same religious fatalism reigns while God oversees 'Holy' wars, disease, social inequalities, the postponement of life until we all go to Heaven. THE MEEK SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH THEY ARE BURIED UNDER!

May God go with the system we intend to destroy...

A couple of months ago major European car manufacturers held a meeting to discuss the latest electronic addition to their cars. The device is a small electronic transmitter implanted in the bodywork. This is supposedly to enable the operators to follow the car along the production line and while it is in transit. However, the transmitter will send out its own unique code for up to seven years. No prizes for guessing the alternative uses for this.

Your movements can also be traced through use of your cheque book or credit card by tapping into the computer.

Mail-opening is even more widespread. We know for a fact that the mail of the local Communist Party is opened as a matter of routine - for an organisation to the right of the Labour Party we think it rather strange. As for us, we don't know - we get so little mail as it is (hint, hint...)

A FEW OBSERVATIONS ON THE ECONOMICS OF MORALITY AND THE MORALITY OF ECONOMICS.

Morality is very much a religious phenomenon. In spite of the fact that not many people describe themselves as 'religious' many are still moved by a moralism which is merely the fag-butt of religion. On the one hand we have the protestant work ethic, first developed by the entrepreneurial class of factory owners in the late 18th century who tended to be non-conformist in their religious outlook and wanted the highest return from their workforce in their mills, mines and foundries. On the other hand we have the old Christian virtue of self-sacrifice - we are encouraged to be like Christ - passively let ourselves be nailed on the cross of duty and suffering - for God, the Nation.... the Economy. These relics of religious morality are of the greatest assistance to the bosses, encouraging submission to their divinely sanctioned exploitation.

These days the economy has become the new god - many people are resigned to its permanence; a kind of fatalism - 'May the market force be with you'.

Some people, who traditionally vote Labour (because of its false identification with the interests of the working-class), vote Tory because they see it as the party of 'business'. In times when economic imperatives terrorise people's lives (the so-called recession) 'business' becomes such a determinant of their

lives that they either break under the pressure or masochistically accept their misery as a moral burden ('We've been living beyond our means', 'Lower our horizons', etc.) and vote Tory.

According to these people, those who go on strike are 'cutting their own throats', as if people who quietly accept their exploitation aren't having their own throats cut. Such people, speaking the voice of 'reason', postpone their lives until they die.

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A bit narked...

All politicians, of whatever party, are united in their desire for a strong police force. Despite some feeble criticisms they always end up congratulating them for a 'good job done'. But when the police are portrayed as kindly and supportive, we know the reality is far different. Arrogant, brutal, repressive: we have every reason to see the law as an occupying force on our streets.

Ever since they were set up in the middle of the last century, the police have been at the forefront in the efforts to control the working class. By protecting the wealthy from attack they have forced crime back into our own ranks. The true meaning of law and order is for us to vent our anger on each other instead of letting the rich and privileged take the brunt of our class hatred. Racism and petty crime amongst people who should be fighting side by side, together with the shadowy control wielded by organised criminals over their own communities all add up to the old game of divide and rule. Whether knowingly supported or not, this policy is backed by every one of our so-called representatives.

Peel's Police, RAW LOBSTERS, *Blue Devils,*

Or by whatever other appropriate Name
they may be known.

Notice is hereby given,

That a Subscription has been entered into, to supply the **PEOPLE** with **STAVES** of a superior Effect, either for Defence or Punishment, which will be in readiness to be gratuitously distributed whenever a singular unprovoked, and therefore unmanly and blood-thirsty Attack, be again made upon Englishmen, by a Force unknown to the British Constitution, and called into existence by a Parliament illegally constituted, legislating for their individual interests, consequently in opposition to the Public good.

Anti-Police broadsheet handed out in 1830

With the collapse of the welfare state the leftist fantasy of 'policing by consent' becomes more absurd every day. The attacks on our already pitiful

WELL, AT LEAST WE
DON'T HAVE TO WORRY
ABOUT
DAVID MARTIN
ANYMORE...



living standards can only be made when backed by the strong arm of the law. It may be smashing up picket lines and occupations, the onslaught against unauthorised gatherings of the young and unemployed, or raids into our housing estates and homes. How can we 'consent' to this? Only the cossetted middle class can pretend that this doesn't happen - and that it won't happen on an ever wider scale.

The Police Bill merely legalises what is already common practice on the streets and it is a blatant threat to the working class. 'Our' rulers are telling us that should we step out of line in any way, they will set the full fury of the police onto us. And these are early days yet. What other repressive laws are they going to come up with as the crisis bites deeper? These new provisions are preparations that they are making for a stormy future. If we are serious we must make ours without delay and get ready to meet them on our own terrain, the streets.

By looking at the Police Bill in a wider social context, we can see that it is designed to meet a more violent class response to the deepening crisis in the cities. By making legal provisions for area saturation policing, this shows that their concern is not only the control of individuals but also the quelling of the first signs of urban revolt. They want to drive us off the streets and back into an isolated existence locked up in our own homes, pursuing a sterile privatised life style, never questioning the system as it crumbles around us. They will not tolerate any life outside those activities and spheres of influence they organise and control.

But there is an answer: 1981 destroyed the myth of police invincibility. For a week the whole establishment was rocked to its foundations as town after town exploded with our reply to class society. Despite their shortcomings, these events marked the change from mere defensive reflexes to an offensive against the system. They set the tone for the future. The ruling class knows that. So do we. Let's get down to business.

'TIL THE DEATH (Cont'd).

-have to re-examine their tactics at power stations which will become of crucial importance. The state has been pumping out black information saying how high the 'coal stocks' are, but there are signs that all is not well. Rumours of lay-offs at BSC Scunthorpe are rampant, whilst the oil-fired power stations are being switched to full power in order to conserve coal stocks elsewhere. The miners are already picketing power stations - but it will have to go further this time. If the power stations continue to work then only one alternative remains - taking them over and shutting them down. The reasons are quite clear because the state will not fail to send in the army if necessary.

The state is determined to halt the slight rise in working class resistance and it is obvious that to defeat the miners is a primary task. The state realises that workers elsewhere will note the success or failure of the miners' dispute and for the state success is out. I'd hope that readers of this will at least go out to Fawley power station and join their picket. Hopefully, you will do more...

LETTERS

FROM A FRENCH PRISON.

Dear Comrades,

As you know*, I was sentenced to five years in prison on 5/1/84, of which I will definitely have to do four. I've already done one of the four years.

I found this sentence very heavy, compared to what they are reproaching me for.

But it would seem that the police are not of the same opinion! In fact, yesterday I was taken out of the prison to be heard as a 'witness' by the police and two other brigades (the OCB and the 6th section) with regard to 'armed robbery' which they want to blame on me and which they wrongly accuse me of having participated in. I spent the whole day on 25/1/84 telling the police of my innocence!

I have never committed such acts, neither these nor any others, and it's obvious that they are trying to sentence me more heavily than I already have been simply because I'm an anarchist.

I am innocent of what the police are now accusing me of! And 'justice' can reproach me of nothing other than what I have already been sentenced for.

I'm therefore sending out an SOS to international anarchist solidarity!! Thank you for your support.

Recevez mes fraternelles

salutations,

Michel. @.

*Note - Michel Noury has been active in the anarchist movement for the last 15 years. In the mid-'70s he helped to found a group with the specific intention of combatting state terrorism. This group became active in prison struggles, assisting immigrant workers and anti-militarism. It was not long before the authorities decided that Michel should lose his freedom. Now the police are attempting to implicate him in other activities - should they succeed Michel will face an even longer term in prison. He can be contacted direct: Michel Noury, 213 699 C305, 42, Rue de la Sante, 75674 PARIS, Cedex 14, France.

Dear VA,

Don't despair about your lack of response from readers, 'Verbal Assault' is appreciated, well at least by me. I usually pass on the articles that interest other individuals such as the 'End of Music' article in the last issue. Anyhow, I have some thoughts about the nature of employment/wage slavery which I came up with after reading the last issue:

EMPLOYMENT

Employment wants our strength to drain to occupy our minds and take our brains to destroy our restless spirits leaving them passive and tame to make us feel that without it is despair and shame

thus it keeps us tied to ball and chains
Employment may meet us before the grave
But it comes just after receiving the cane.

Anyway I think you should carry on with VA as a monthly to monthly basis. The more anarchist literature put out the better and if readers pass them on to their friends and associates the more response will be received. Anyway, hope you get your typewriter soon...

love, peace and Anarchy,

D.R.

Friends,

A friend of mine in Southampton sent me a copy of VA 6. I enjoyed it very much, and pleased that you have carried on producing VA even though you say you don't get much response. Up here there's fuck-all. The nearest anarchist group is in Glasgow 180 miles away. I have yet to meet one other person in my small town of Inverness with the same interests and determination to do something in the anarchistic line. I have attempted a 'zine but I found it too much work for myself. I have also arranged a couple of gigs up here but there wasn't much response and we lost a lot of money. Please tell me how 'Stop the City' II went and of any important events I might like to know about.

Love,

Danny @

'TIL THE DEATH

As the miners' strike enters its sixth week over 80% of miners are still out despite the press forever telling us how many are still at work. The strike has revealed splits within the NUM whereas the state has remained monolithic - at least for the moment. The only real fissure that opened was Mac Gregor's court action which was left unpursued. Own goals are not the order of the day so far. As the miners battle the state's forces and certain other scabbing miners two facets are particularly interesting: first, the state's strategy of widespread police intervention in picketing and secondly, the miners' attempts to make their strike effective.

It must be increasingly obvious that the state has learnt from the defeats of the '70s. The miners' success in destroying Heath's government has taught the state several lessons. First, the miners' industrial tactics - i.e. flying pickets and solidarity from other workers - were noted by the emergent Thatcherites at the time. Secondly, leading from the successful miners' tactics the state adopted three main methods of attack:

- 1) the tactic of divide and rule in the shape of the productivity deal
- 2) the legalistic approach by changing the law so as to attempt to emasculate effective picketing and effective workers' solidarity
- 3) the widespread use of police in industrial battles - a use that indicates the limits of the legal approach.

The most novel of these three has been the third method, which is a development of tactics learnt from Northern Ireland and the NGA affair. The NGA strike at Warrington saw the use of force on a larger scale than for some while in its attacks on pickets, but the most interesting aspect was the control of incoming traffic in the area. These tactics have been widened considerably in the last six weeks.

The strike has seen the overt creation of a national police force under the control of the Chief Constable of Humberside Mr. David Hall who is president of the Association of Chief Police Officers. Its main function has been to co-ordinate the police action and counter the main initiatives of the pickets. This police control centre is based on the 13th floor of New Scotland Yard and was last used in the 1981 riots. The police have taken deliberate steps to prevent pickets achieving access to both the coalfields and the coalmines. They have turned back coaches (threatening to arrest the coach drivers), set up roadblocks at the Dartford tunnel where they threatened drivers with arrest if they crossed the county boundary. In Nottinghamshire they have created roadblocks at every main intersection to prevent pickets reaching the coalfield and have virtually turned Notts. into a police-run county. At times, the police's tactics have backfired - for instance, at Thoresby a shift walked out in protest at police tactics. Miners were being stopped four or five

times and asked to prove their identity. The decision by the courts to refuse Kent NUM's moves against the police has made once more very overt the police's ability to control movement on the pretext of conduct likely to cause a disturbance - if that doesn't work, no doubt the old conspiracy bogeyman will reappear. The cost of running the police operation has been over £1½ million a week but that would be seen as a cheap price to pay by the state if it could effectively smash the miners.

During the police action there have been links between the Army and the police - once more a spin-off of Northern Ireland. The police have been billeted in army camps at Grantham, Ollerton and Newark whilst there have been reports of RAF police being involved in the operation. These were reputedly at Dawmill colliery in Warwickshire, though a picket has told us that they were in fact paratroopers. The whole operation has been used by them as a way of trying out police riot control techniques. The paraphernalia - shields, visors, batons, etc. - has been widely shown, and most police forces, including some of Duke John's blue brethren, have been involved. The aim of the police has been to institute 'mob rule', but not that of the scum press. The police seem to be quite content helping scabbing miners to their 'right to work', but strangely they didn't seem too keen on helping the workers at Vospers, who were locked out by the management for 10 days, to their 'right to work'. Surprise, surprise,.....

Whilst the police force have their problems - notably the clamour from liberals about their methods - the miners certainly have theirs. Two coalfields are still working - Notts. and Lancashire - and the miners are receiving mealy-mouthed support from certain unions, whose leaders have a desire to see Scargill's face rubbed in the mire. The 'right-wing' sections of the NUM are looking increasingly confident, whilst the 'left wingers' are looking more and more desperate. The miners must unite - the longer they take to close down all the coalfields the more likely their defeat. Indeed, Scargill has already started to talk about 'talks' - the first such sign after four weeks. Whilst there are very serious problems, the miners have gained support from other workers - the seamen, dockers, railway workers and lorry drivers. Notably, they have only received very bitty support from the steelworkers who have already seen the state's reconstruction of their industry. The miners must make their own contacts with other workers and not leave it to the union bureaucrats, who are superb at passing resolutions but little else. The pickets have learnt from the example of the French lorry drivers in their attempts to block roads in response to police tactics. However, the battle going on in Lorraine over the French government's demolition of the steel industry makes the miners' battle look like a tea-party. In particular, the miners will

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The First May Days

In 1889, at an International Socialist Congress in Paris, it was decided to call an international one day strike for May 1st the following year, in pursuit of the 8 hour day and in memory of the five Chicago anarchists who were murdered by the state (see the 'Chicago Anarchists' article elsewhere in this issue). As still occurs today the 'respectable' trade unions met on the first Sunday, whilst the anarchists (and some others - notably members of the SDF and the Socialist League) held their demonstration on Thursday, May 1st. Over 20,000 assembled in Hyde Park, whilst on the following Sunday over half a million gathered there. Times don't change much, either. On May 1st the police attacked East End socialists in Aldgate, attacked a French procession in St. Martin's Lane and a group of women workers from an envelope factory were attacked at Clerkenwell Green. However, the police were most cordial on the Sunday - shades of 'Stop the City' and 'Democracy Day'...

By 1891 only the anarchists were demonstrating on May Day and about 700 people attended a meeting in Hyde Park. Here Louise Michel uttered these immortal words: "Let us salute every act of revolt, salute everyone who smashes windows in shops, salute robbers because they too are in revolt against society; salute revolt in every form..." Later that night at a meeting in Mile End a large crowd was attracted, consisting mainly of dockers. Evidently, such comments as this were enunciated - "don't let all the corpses be on one side. 'Intimidation' is the name of the game and let us have plenty of it". The forerunners of Class War, perhaps.

The following year large crowds were addressed by anarchists in the aftermath of the Walsall anarchists. However, by 1893 a slump had occurred and once again only 1300 anarchists

and trade unionists assembled in Hyde Park. By now, the police were growing more interested and on May Day 1894 the police attacked the anarchist meeting in Hyde Park. Numbers were dwindling slowly and although meetings were held in 1895, and 1896 in 1897 it was all over.

To end with, a quote from a writer to 'Liberty' magazine about the 1895 demonstration:

"We anarchists are always saying that the exploiters and profit-mongers are not a bit afraid of plenty of empty show and brass bands on a legitimate law and ordered holiday because it don't mean nothing significant done that way. No we are not going to 'dwindle into insignificance', as you put it. No fear! Significance don't lie in numbers or show but in spirit and proof of a determination to do things independent... Look here, in '93 only us held a meeting in the Park and preached the meaning of it. In '94 the SDF didn't like to be left behind because the people are taking to the idea of 'no politics' too fast for them, so they turned out too. In 1895 there's us and SDF and ILP and Unions; that's 'dwindling' ain't it? And what puts you out most of all is the obstinate fact that the rain washed away all the parliamentary demonstrators and left us and our attentive crowd with the field to ourselves... .. And as the people walked away they were heard saying, 'it was plainer every year which lot was in earnest and which was only playing at it'..."

A mite optimistic but mostly right. For further details see John Quail's book - 'The Slow Burning Fuse' - Paladin £1.95.



THE CHICAGO MARTYRS

For the past few years the state has given us an extra day free from wage slavery - the first Monday in May. In the so-called 'Communist countries' May Day is usually marked by massive displays of militarism and the glorification of the state. Yet, the original cause of all this was the state's murder of five anarchists - no doubt, they would have been disgusted by the present celebrations in both East and West. So, for the record let's point out why this day - May 1st should be remembered by us (many also remember November 11th, the date of their murder).

In 1884 the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions met in Chicago and set May 1st, 1886 as the date for general strikes to win the 8 hour day. In Chicago 80,000 people gathered for a parade as the city was closed down while the local bosses wondered how to save the city from 'communism'. The parade went off without incident. Three days later a meeting was held to protest against police brutality against strikers, when at least one worker was killed. The meeting was held in Haymarket Square where about 2-3,000 had gathered to hear August Spies, Albert Parsons and Samuel Fielden speak. Just as Fielden was finishing his speech a bomb was thrown into the ranks of the police - who went berserk. They

killed seven people. The following days saw hundreds of arrests of anarchists and their supporters. Amongst those arrested were August Spies, Michael Schwab, Adolph Fischer and Oscar Neebe, though the police failed to arrest Albert Parsons. Then, on May 14th police arrested Louis Lingg, who was not known to his fellow prisoners at the time. Eventually, on May 27th the Grand Jury indicted ten men as accessories before the fact in the murder of policeman Mathias Degan - they were Fischer, Spies, Lingg, Neebe, Schwab, Parsons, George Engel, Samuel Fielden, Rudolph Schnaubelt and William Seliger. Seliger turned state's evidence, whilst Schnaubelt was mistakenly released and never

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THE CHICAGO MARTYRS (Cont'd...)

--found again by the authorities. The police continued in their search for Parsons but they were unsuccessful. However, he felt he should not remain free while his innocent comrades were on trial, and consequently, on the first day of the trial, June 21st, he gave himself up - stating his innocence. The trial lasted until 20th August when the jury delivered its verdict: Spies, Schwab, Fielden, Lingg, Fischer, Engel and Parsons were sentenced to death whilst Neebe received a 15 year sentence. The trial through was a farce and was just a judicial frame- to get the eight anarchists. They were eventually sentenced to hang on December 3rd 1886, and a vigorous campaign was waged to save them. An initial success was gained when a stay of execution was granted, but this was only illusory as the state reaffirmed its decision in September 1887. The date of the execution was set as November 11th 1887. The campaign continued apace, though it was split by the decision of Schwab, Fielden and Spies to appeal for mercy. The other four refused to do so saying that they would ask for nothing from capitalists - especially not mercy.

Two events on November 10th changed the situation; Lingg was killed as a result of an explosion in his cell that morning. Two views exist of this - first, he was murdered, and second

he committed suicide. Either way, the state remains his murderer. Later, that evening Fielden and Schwab's sentences were commuted to life imprisonment. Spies, Parsons, Fischer and Engel were to hang. At noon, November 11th 1887, four anarchists died at the hands of the state. Spies cried out these words which will haunt the state until its death:

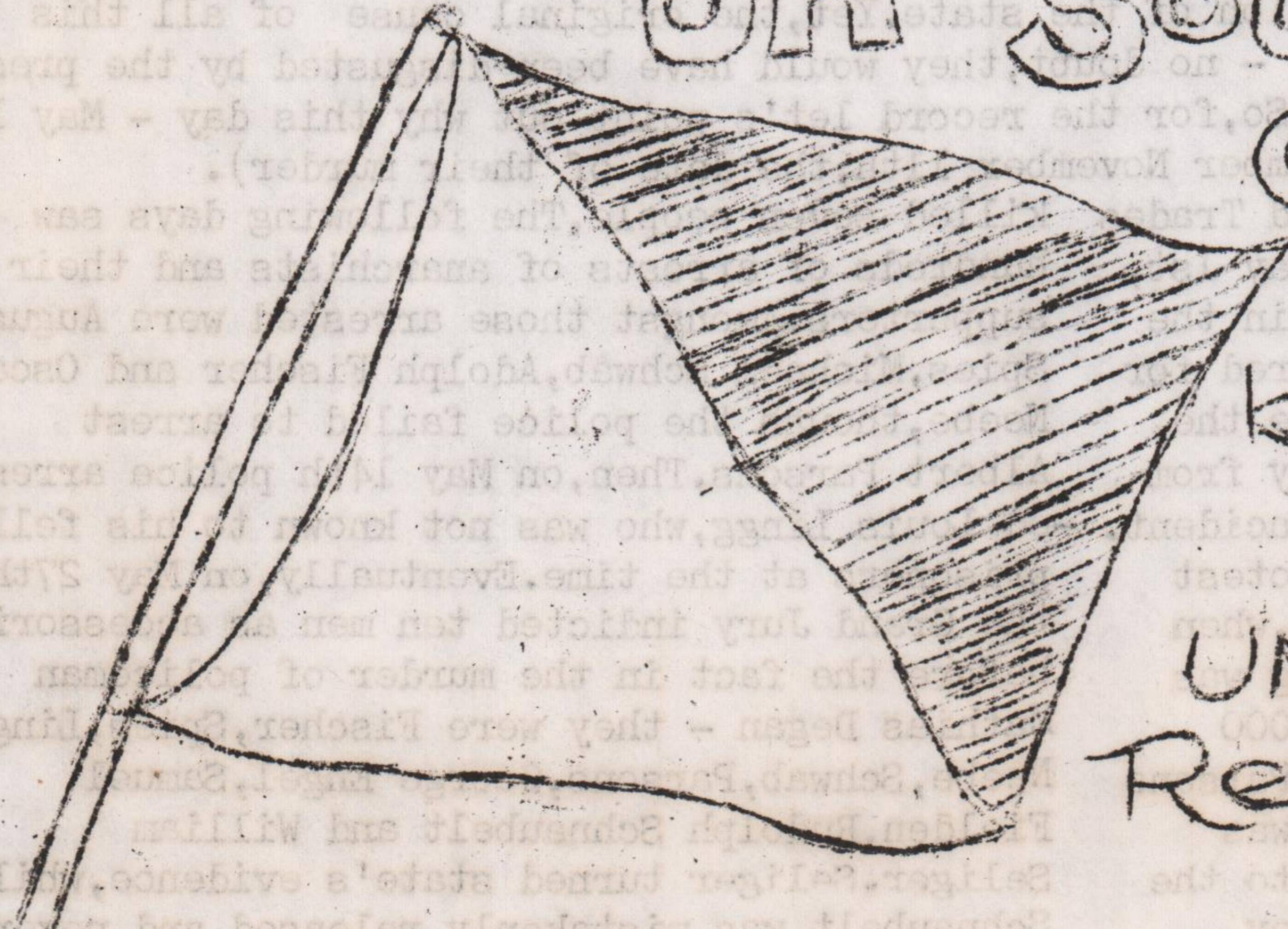
"There will come a time when our silence will be more powerful than the voices you are strangling today."

Two years later in Paris it was suggested at an International Labour Congress that May 1st be adopted as a workers' holiday and that in 1890 it should be the date of a one-day strike in pursuit of the 8 hour day and in memory of the Chicago anarchists. In 1893 Fielden, Neebe and Schwab were pardoned.

Nowadays, much will be heard on May Day - usually on the nearest weekend rather than on the actual date - of the working-class, etc, etc, but little of the anarchists murdered by the state. It remains our task to implement Spies' words by abolishing the state - and the sooner the better...

DON'T FORGET THE MAY DAY ANARCHIST
PICNIC ON SOUTHAMPTON COMMON - BRING BOOZE,
FOOD AND OTHER GOODIES...

COME TO THE
VERBAL ASSAULT
MAY DAY PICNIC
(MAY 1st)
ON SOUTHAMPTON
COMMON
MEET 2 P.M.
by the
Cowherds
UNDER THE
Red and Black
Flag!



The ROYALS

Grovelling worship of the State and its organs of power seems to be replacing traditional subjects of religious adoration. The brainless kowtowing to royalty and any spoilt brat with 'aristocratic' connections is reaching an absurd and revolting height. At the slightest sign of an imminent royal sprog the sound of royal boot leather being licked clean becomes veritably deafening. This is of course extremely well orchestrated by the rabid salivations of the Fleet Street lie-sheets. They act on the well-founded principle that articles on the latest feats of bedroom athletics by Randy Andy are more welcome than articles on unemployment, nuclear arms, etc.

With the joyous news that we are about to be lumbered with yet another blue-blooded scrounger there are bound to be ironic instances of 'well-meaning folk' (poor but loyal) sending gifts of all conceivable kinds. Undoubtedly, this child will never want for anything and will certainly be one of the most pampered, and yet people will send it gifts that'll probably end up in the Royal Dustbin or, at best, toys for the corgis. Forget about Third World children on the brink of death, why not send Prince Billy, or whatever, a fluffy toy? Pavlov would have been proud and the bells are ringing all over Fleet Street.

At best, the Royals are an absurd joke (a symptom of mindless Soaraway Sun Argie-bashing Britain). The very fact that these people are set above and considered superior implies the obvious - that we are inferior to them. Whenever someone oggles the wondrous brat or waves their little plastic

MORE ROYAL STUFF.

Did you know that Princess Di was unable to get to 'Stop the City' because of her visit to the Bluebottle Brethren's breeding ground at Hendon, where she watched police cadets pretending to riot. No doubt she'll be rooting for them when the riot season begins. Remember folks, the shopping bonanzas coming!

COMPLETE YOUR D-I-Y EASTER KIT - YOU'VE GOT THE BODY, NOW GET THE CROSS AND NAILS - FREE! From 'Mission Solent' 82a Bedford Place, Southampton, HANTS. COLLECT YOUR GIFTS AND ON TO CALVARY...

GOD IS DEAD! - Rally on Southampton Common - 16th June, 7 30. ALL WELCOME!

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flag at a passing royal presence that person is stating his/her inferiority. In this way, people are volunteering to be serfs. Forelock-tugging means degradation and humiliation. Get down on your knees and they'll make sure you never get up again. The Odious Di, Prince Bill, Randy Andy et al play an important part in keeping us in our place. As long as we put up with this there'll always be the Rich Man in his Castle and the Poor Man at his gate. The time of real gate-smashing and castle burning is long overdue. By simply acknowledging their superiority we are being given the mental state of the peasant. It is high time the uniqueness and quality of every individual is realised - obviously impossible in this present society.

Royal apologists make much of the work and sacrifices of this crew, but this is to distract the people whose real work and sacrifices keep these Royal free-loaders in their palaces. The 'peasant' then identifies with the illusory 'sacrifice' of the Overlord and wallows in his/her own back-breaking labour. As it is no longer possible for 'our' royals to be hermetically sealed from the undeserving proles they now make much of their 'walk-about' and "let's talk to peasant" expeditions - this is their 'work'. Meanwhile, some poor sod who attempts to supplement his or her dole money is crucified, whilst some well-paid scroungers attract public adoration.....

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BLACK FLAG - fortnightly bulletin and quarterly journal. Bulletin - 20p per copy; quarterly - 75p. Annual sub. £9. from Box ABC, 121 Railton Road, London SE 24.

FREEDOM - fortnightly paper. Sub. £9 from 84b, Whitechapel High St. London E1.

ANARCHY - magazine. Sub. £2 50 from Box A, 84b, Whitechapel High St., LDN E1.

WORKERS PLAYTIME - "Popular yarns of class war." Bimonthly produced by some members of the London Workers Group. Sub £2 from Box LWG, c/o Little A, C1 Metropolitan Wharf, Wapping Wall, London E1.

DIRECT ACTION - paper of the Direct Action Movement - anarcho-syndicalist organisation. £2 from DAM-IWA, 164/*66 Corn Exchange Bldgs., Manchester M4 3BN.

CLASS WAR - Broadsheet from Box CW, c/o Little A, C1 Metropolitan Wharf, Wapping Wall, London E1.

C.N.D. ☺

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