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# Freedom

THE ANARCHIST WEEKLY

"Governments have a way of obstructing the feelings of people. They sometimes create problems and then say they are trying to solve them."  
 —DWIGHT EISENHOWER

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Threepence



## Public Protests against South African Racialism

QUITE wide publicity has been given recently to individuals and groups who have made public protests against South African racial policies, among them the Labour Party.

We do not take these party political protests very seriously, because we remember how Labour behaved in office over such 'incidents' as Seretse Khama's banishment, and although it has to be conceded that Labour politicians in general are less racially conscious than the average Conservative, we have to remember that political expediency usually motivates any politician in or out of power.

Was publicity-seeking behind Mr. Chris Chataway's decision to intro-

duce racialism into his maiden speech in the Commons last week? Whatever the reason he must have antagonised quite a number of his Tory colleagues with his appeal to the M.C.C. to refuse to play cricket with the South Africans "while they applied apartheid to their cricket team".

The fact that Mr. Chataway is a Tory will carry more weight than if he had been a member of the Labour Party, but even so it will hardly influence the Prime Minister's decision to visit South Africa, or the Government's policy towards that country.

The Government, called on by the opposition to declare itself strongly against racial intolerance, fell back on the Commons' "escape clause" used in situations when the Government does not want to commit itself. The Foreign Minister of State said that the Government believed that apartheid "was a domestic South African issue".

For the same reasons the Government refused to intervene in the affairs of the Royal Ballet Company which has dropped the Malayan dancer, Johaar Mosaval, while the company tours South Africa.

We feel that this company, which is subsidised by the Government should be the one to protest, by refusing to tour South Africa; we do not think that the principle of Government interference should be encouraged.

All that should be demanded from the Government is that it openly declares itself against any discrimination whatsoever. This would not mean that they "were interfering in the internal affairs of another country", but it might help to convince a number of people that the Government's "non-racial" policies were genuine.

As it is the Government seems more concerned not to upset the South African Government than to declare itself in favour of racial equality.

## APARTHEID

CAPETOWN, FRIDAY.

Eight Africans were killed last night in clashes with police in the African location at Windhoek, capital of South-West Africa.

Thirty other Africans are in hospital with bullet wounds. Eight policemen were injured by stones.

One of the dead is a half-brother of Mburumba Getzen, a student who gave evidence at the United Nations recently and asked for U.N. protection for the territory, now administered by South Africa.

The unrest is due to Windhoek municipality's decision to move all Africans in the location to a new site where they will have to pay about £2 a month for their homes instead of 3s. 6d. at present.

The rioters last night set fire to buildings and besieged police for two hours in the municipal buildings until the arrival of troops and armoured cars.

The South African Minister of Education has ordered the Pietermaritzburg Philharmonic Society to ban non-whites from this year's Christmas performance of Handel's "Messiah".

The society is going to disobey the Minister and so may lose its £250 Government subsidy.

News Chronicle 11/12/59.

## BATISTA BUILDS UP AN ARMY

NOW that Fidel Castro has lost his initial popularity with Britain and the United States (because it seems he is not willing to become a complete stooge) there is likely to be secret rejoicing at that news that Batista is recruiting ex-German soldiers to train a new army for the overthrow of Castro.

A German business man, according to the West German paper *Die Zeit*, is arranging for 500 former Wehrmacht men with front-line experience "and medals for bravery, highest rank Captain; no Communists", to fly to the Dominican Republic where free housing and clothing awaits them.

Batista has already recruited 500 Italians, Japanese and members of the Spanish Blue Division to man the new army which is being trained in the Dominican capital Ciudad Trujillo.

If the Western powers consider that Batista stands any chance of success we can be sure that no attempts will be made to stop him. America has too many financial interests in Cuba to want to defend the unreliable Castro, if he can be replaced.

Fear of an uprising may bring Castro to heel, failing this, it is not unlikely that Batista's costly venture may be aided from sources outside the Dominican.

## 2 Weeks to go & WE NEED £175

PROGRESS OF A DEFICIT!  
 WEEK 50

Deficit on Freedom £1,000  
 Contributions received £867  
 DEFICIT £133

December 4 to December 10

Maidstone: S.P. 6/-; Bristol, Pa.: A.L. £1/15/0; Birmingham: N.J.B. 10/-; Coleman's Hatch: O.M. £2/0/0; Swansea: R.R. £8/0/0; Kingston, Ont.: L.I. £1/0/0; London: S.H. 5/-; London: P.T. 3/-; Ilford: J. & M.S.\* 3/6; London: J.S.\* 3/-; Northwood: E.H. £1/4/0; Lakewood: S.M. £5/5/0; Didcot: T.W.B. 6/-; London: Anon. 5/-; Wolverhampton: J.G.L.\* 5/-; Hull: H.N. 2/-; Hong Kong: M.S. 5/6; La Hestre: J.P. 17/6; Glasgow: M.W.K.\* 5/-; Woldingham: F.B.\* 5/-.

Total ... 23 5 6  
 Previously acknowledged ... 844 10 4

1959 TOTAL TO DATE ... £867 15 10

GIFTS OF BOOKS: London: Anon. Hailsham: A.U.

\*Indicates regular contributor.

## Industrial Output and Unemployment Increasing WASTED MANPOWER

AT the beginning of this month the Government's Central Statistical Office announced that industrial production in October was 9 per cent. higher than a year ago. On the same day the Ministry of Labour published figures for unemployment which at 431,000 showed an increase of 12,000 between October 12 and November 16. Some other government department has issued a bulletin on the state of this country's surplus coal: the dumps of unwanted coal continue to grow and now total some 35 million tons, which if our memory serves us well means that the eye-sore has grown 10 million tons in the past year. Lloyds Register of Shipping statistical tables show that in spite of the crisis in shipping—millions of tons are tied up—the world's merchant fleet grew by 7 million tons and 1,000 ships during the past year. The British fleet alone has increased by nearly half a million tons. With a little patience and research one could go on adding indefinitely to such a list and anyone who upheld that the present social and economic system was either equitable, or efficient, would, we think, have difficulty in finding convincing arguments to support his contention.

WE will be told that the alternative to "free enterprise" capitalism is the totalitarian form of society, in which everything is planned by a centralised authority. Surely inefficiency plus freedom is preferable to efficiency through slavery! These, to our mind are worthless arguments simply because they do not reflect the true situation. That a man can, under the capitalist system, start up his own business has very little to do in fact with free enterprise. Today the one-man business is only possible for people whose ambition for material success is stronger than any feeling about such philosophical niceties as freedom. Indeed those who, without the backing of finance to launch them on a scale whereby they can employ the labour of others, engage in business on their own account as the alternative to being themselves employed, choose the greater slavery as the alternative for the lesser! (We naturally exclude the few remaining craftsmen because apart from the

fact that they enjoy their work, and therefore don't mind how many hours they spend at their job, they have no illusions about earning more money this way than if they were employed in some streamlined factory with all the amenities from canteens to paid holidays, "won" for them by their Trades Union leaders).

In the "free enterprise" society the budding one-man business-man has to contend with landlords, suppliers and competitors before he can start. Competition is the life-blood of "free enterprise" capitalism, or so we are led to believe, but it depends whether you are David or Goliath

as to how much rope you will be given to compete . . . or to hang yourself. Capitalism as we have been repeatedly demonstrating, with facts, is essentially monopolistic. No business man wants competitors. Ideally he would like to be alone in his particular field. In practice he has to compete (when it is not in the interest of the "competitors" to form themselves into a "ring" to control prices) but for him competition is neither a stimulus nor a safeguard for the consumer but simply an inconvenience which he seeks to use, however, to force his competitors out of business or, before that situation arises, to swallow them up.

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## Direct Actionists Jailed

SEVEN members of the Committee for Direct Action against Nuclear War have been imprisoned for two months for refusing to be bound over to keep the peace (!)

Last Thursday summonses were issued for all members of the committee of nine, but Michael Scott and Michael Randell are at present in the party attempting to reach the Sahara in protest against the French Bomb-test.

The remaining seven—Pat Arrow-smith, Hugh Brock, April Carter, Frances Edwards, Inez Randell, Allen Skinner and Will Warren, appeared at Marylebone Magistrates' Court on Friday and were charged 'To give good reason why they should not be bound over to keep the peace'.

They all refused and Sir Laurence Dunne sentenced them to two months imprisonment.

Defending, Mr. Janner, who defended all those charged following the demonstrations at Swaffham last year, stressed the non-violent character of the defendants' actions and read the court a message from Bertrand Russell supporting the aims and methods of the committee, asking for leniency.

An observer told us that Sir Laurence appeared to be impressed by this, and by Mr. Janner's exposition of non-violent protest, but nevertheless he put the seven behind bars.

The prosecution was not entirely unexpected, since the Committee has been organising a protest at the Harrington rocket-base near Kettering, Northants. This base is completed, ready for action with Thor missiles, and is now totally enclosed and guarded—unlike the base at North Pickering, Swaffham.

The Committee was planning a demonstration at Harrington, to take the form of scaling the fences and making an attempt to put the land to peaceful use.

It seems, however, that the police are on the committee's mailing list, for some of the leaflets sent out by the committee outlining their plans were produced in court.

This arrest and imprisonment of the whole of the Direct Action Committee indicates the concern with which the authorities regard their activities. These activities can be seriously hampered with seven most active members in jail unless there is a continuous flow of persons ready to step into their places and keep the work going on.

All offers of assistance and support and all enquiries should be addressed to:

Direct Action Committee Against Nuclear War,  
 344, Seven Sisters Road,  
 London, N.4.  
 STAmford Hill 7062.





