Fragam

Anarchist Weekly 43

OCTOBER 16 1965 Vol. 26 No. 32

Tories & Treuson

THE SPECTACLE of police-loving, law abiding Tories like Lord Salisbury declaring their support for Ian Smith's illegal moves towards Rhodesian independence makes a false picture. These same people would have acts of rebellion and illegality severely punished if they were not committed by the white minority in Rhodesia. When the 'Spies for Peace' published the truth about the pathetic and secret plans for a postnuclear war Britain, these same Tory voices cried 'Treason' in unison; when someone was heard booing the Queen at the time of the Greek royal visit a Tory minister nearly broke a blood vessel in anger. Yet, when the Rhodesian racists defy the Queen, they are called brave and honourable men.

We anarchists have no worry about words like treason, rebellion, illegality —the bourgoisie use these words to defend their vested interests. When these interests are threatened then they -the bourgoisie-will do anything to defend them. This is the case with Rhodesia—Smith and his henchmen wish to uphold white privilege and minority rule in Rhodesia (he calls it 'white civilization'). To do this he has now to act illegally but with 'a clear conscience' he assures one and all. The ship as an every-day affair. fact is that for him, and most white

Rhodesians, the moral law is that the white man shall be boss and the black man shall be his servant. This is how it should be. To defend this particular set-up, by whatever means, in the event of its being threatened, leaves a 'clear conscience', but it leaves inequality, racial discrimination and injustice as

The Africans of Rhodesia are already exploited, imprisoned and suppressed in order to maintain the status quo in that country. Smith and the white Rhodesians consider that only with independence can the Africans be kept in their place. Yet warnings-heeded it seems more by white South Africans and Portuguese than by white Rhodesians—of the likely results of UDI on the Africans in Southern and Central Africa, make no impression on the arrogant will of Smith and Co. to seek the imposition of white rule and privilege for all time.

Smith is forced by the greedy, smallminded white population of Rhodesia to risk a UDI in order to keep their privileges. One wonders whether at the crunch white Rhodesians will stick it. They are not used to hardship and those who will really oppose them know hard-

FORM

FAMILIAR SCENE. A British Colony providing a military base, nationalism starting to ferment for independence encouraged by rag, tag and bobtail climbing on the bandwagon. A policy imposed by Britain which no one wanted, more talks, more trouble. Suspended Constitution, troops to restore law and order, situation rapidly deteriorating, nothing important really damaged, only people partially and permanently, and petrol continues to flow. This is Aden 1965.

In January, 1963, Aden was merged with the Federation of South Arabia. The merger was opposed by the activists in the colony, they had no desire to come under the thumb of the autocratic tribal Sultans of the interior. The Federal Government is made up of 17 small Sheikhdoms where freedom of any kind is unlawful. Sultans who opposed Federation are in exile. The idea of Federation was an abortion forced by Britain, under a Conservative Government. Along comes a Labour Govern-

ment with a 'do-it-yourself kit' and as was to be expected the situation has grown worse. If the Tories can't get their own policy to work, I'm sure Tony Greenwood, Labour's Secretary of State for the Colonies can't, he couldn't even get the parties to talks in London to work out the procedure for the transfer of power.

One fact that has emerged from the Aden situation is the strength of the Aden TUC. A 24-hour protest strike called by the Aden TUC brought all work to a standstill. As Clare Hollingworth reported in the Guardian (4.10.65), 'The efficiency of the strikers and demonstrators without a known local leader is disconcerting to the British authorities'. In other words, it's difficult to find 'heads

One thing is certain, the days for Aden as a British military base are numbered. Mr. Wilson has said you can't have a base where there is local opposition but what he forgot to add was 'but you can have a bloody good try'. Aden's salvation can only be worked out by the Adenis themselves. When the base goes the economic gap for Aden will be considerable but not impossible, port facilities could be developed if the people themselves take charge, if they leave it to leaders they will wind up with the same masters in different uniforms.

Regina vs. Golden Convolvulus

T 10.15 Friday morning, October 8, in the oppressive, sunless, airless atmosphere of Blackburn Magistrates' Court, Mr. Keith Lawrence, representing the Director of Public Prosecutions, opened up the preliminary hearing of the Golden Convolvulus case. His initial point was that 'young persons at school studying English literature, including what was currently being written, might be as likely as anybody to send for this magazine at its price of only two shillings'. He went on to read a brief extract from the editorial introduction of the book, and inferred that this extract proved a deliberate intention, on the part of editor and publisher, to flout the 1959 Obscene Publications Act. This particular quote reads, 'The mind, the pen and the paper must never accept any form of restraint or coercion for and went on to say that he had ordered therein lies the evil, for who will educate

the educators and advise the censors'.

At this time, apart from a few boredlooking newshawks and faceless authorities, the courtroom was empty was it not for the presence of Tina and an unidentified witness perched stoically on the hard wooden seats. Before the first witness appeared the unidentified witness had disappeared from the room.

The first witness was a hesitant and nervous type from the GPO sorting office, who mumbled to order at the counsel's prompting that he had stumbled on a copy of the Golden Convolvulus in the course of his routine opening of printed paper mail, and as any good citizen would, had promptly informed his superior. His superior turned out to be an older version who verified the accuracy of the first witness's evidence

Continued on page 3

WHAT man who was at all humane would not be moved by the sight of a tiny child in its father's arms, covered with burns that had been caused by a bomb, in fact, by war? What man would put petty interests and prestige before the lives of children? Well Lyndon Johnson would and so would Mao Tse Tung! Such humanity would not be in the interests of either of these men or of those who stand behind them. In fact it would be downright embarrassing if The National Liberation Front (Vietcong) decided that they had had enough and threw in the sponge by sueing for peace (not that this is at all likely with the communists in control, ready to fight to the last peasant) after all the to the last peasant), after all the money that America has pumped in, and after the fiascos of Laos and Formosa!

Lyndon Johnson can't possibly seeing children suffer. He has the American electorate to think of. No going soft with the 'commies', because he must appear as a tough father figure who brooks no nonsense, or he'll be out. Mao on the other hand has no electorate to consider. He is so sure that his people are 100% for him that he can dispense with such formalities, but he is attempting to appear as the only strong man in Asia who stands up to the Americans, so 'face' is something he can't afford to lose.

AND THE VIETNAMESE?

The poor long suffering Vietnamese people, what do they think? No one knows, no one cares, after all they are merely grist to the mill of power politics. They are only there to be bombed, machinegunned and burned so that democracy or anti-revisionism might live. The people of Vietnam are utterly helpless.

Those who are anti-American fight for Vietcong, those who are Catholic, or forced, or just hungry, fight for America. Yes, America, make no mistake about that. There is not going to be any selfdetermination after this war, the winners will be either American or Chinese puppets, so if anybody is foolish enough to hope for a Vietcong victory because they believe in

the right of people to choose their drop the bomb, start wars, stop own government, forget it. An wars, or whatever, they will, without American TV correspondent once afford to have his heart softened by said that left to their own devices We can protest, we must protest, the people of Vietnam would probably choose 'no government' for governments have come and gone and through all of them—Japanese, French and now Saigon - runs poverty, slavery and war. Their crops have been ruined (Americans get their food out of tins), they have been rendered homeless, limbless, lifeless and libertyless, and for what? So that the world can be made safe for two lies: (1) that America is

> peoples' republic. In both countries to support the adversary is a crime, so liberty is non-existent. Membership of the communist party in America has been punished by imprisonment. And capitalism in China? Well they call it communism, but certainly criticism of the regime would be very unhealthy, perhaps

democratic and freedomloving, (2)

that China is communist and is a

fatal.

OUR DILEMMA

We here in Britain, what can we do? I'm afraid that the answer to that must be very little. From the time of 'The Cuban Crisis' it has been obvious to anyone who stopped to think for a moment, that 'Her Majesty's Government' has as much control over her allies across the water as she does over the movement of the planets. If they want to

so much as a 'by your leave'.

at this government's connivance in this dreadful affair and we must bring to bear what pressure we can, but we must not kid ourselves (as we have so many times in the past) that we can really change the American government by putting pressure on our own.

That must be the job of the American people (and they don't seem very interested at the moment do they?). However, in the opinion of this writer, there is no possible chance of the war escalating into something that would engulf us all. The contestants are not going to let this happen. They are very much in control of the situation, it's made to measure for them, for they can strike belligerent poses and someone else gets the punch on the nose.

NO Room for

Humanity

To be constructive the best thing that we could do would be to send aid (lots of it) to the long suffering people of Vietnam; food, medical supplies, etc. It's not as romantic as trying to change the hearts of the power-drunk bastards in the Pentagon and Peking, but it's a bloody sight more realistic. To talk of sending delegations to Vietnam or influencing the Labour Party is sheer nonsense. Who are the delegations going to see? It's no good their seeing the politicians; they are not interested. It's no good seeing the people; they are many but they have no power. Perhaps China would pack up if she were offered a seat in UNO. Perhaps America would if she won. Either way things look very black for the people of Vietnam.

JACK STEVENSON.

As a postscript we quote the last paragraph of an article written when the French were still in Power. (FREEDOM, 24.4.54):

The Indo-Chinese war like the Korean war cannot be stopped just by wishing for it. Nor is the problem solved when the theatre of war changes from Korea to Indo-China or wherever it moves to after that. The problem is the world-wide one, that the present organization of production and distribution cannot be maintained without the economic stimulus that war provides. Opposition to this war, as to any other, can only be securely founded on opposition to the system of market economy itself.

CHINESE PUZZLE

IN THE NEW STATESMAN of September 17 there appeared three articles on the Kashmir crisis. One of these was written by a Mr. Victor Anant who discussed the dispute from both the Pakistan and Indian angles. One comment stands out like a red nose: . . . neither in Pakistan nor in India have I ever sensed such a compulsive urge to destroy each other.' This is no doubt very true and, of course, the feeling is automatically strengthened by the governments of both sides. One of the repulsive by-products of war. As a war progresses so the origins disappear and myths rise up which push the truth in the background. But the story which Daily Telegraph readers saw headlining the previous Monday's edition really let the cat out of the bag. It seemed that that slightly ridiculous organisation, that haven for would-be James Bonds, the CIA, had done it again.

For some time, apparently, the CIA had been stirring up trouble in Pakistan as Pakistan had refused to be beastly to China. However, this is not all. On Wednesday, a correspondent in the Daily Telegraph letter columns, a Mr. Gerald Sparrow who had recently returned from West and East Pakistan, said that: 'American involvement in the Pakistan-India dispute goes back over a year and stemmed from President Johnson's determination to get rid of President Ayub Khan.' Mr. Sparrow goes on: 'As has happened before, Central Intelligence Agency were misleading and President Johnson believed he could topple President Ayub Khan by encouraging India to extend the limited Kashmir war.'

Startling revelations indeed, certainly for those who believe that government means law and order and integrity; who believe in the rights of others to rule themselves without interference. But no surprise to anyone who believes that all government is evil. Anyway, the New Statesman (September 17) in its shocked leader ended up with a note from their Washington correspondent that the

American government was bewildered as it could not place the Kashmir dispute in a cold war perspective. How naive can a leader writer get! Or perhaps he doesn't read the Daily Telegraph or feels the American government really is ignorant of the CIA's blunderings. 'Washington is bewildered.' Tell that to the marines (sic!).

It need hardly be added that no hint of all this has been given by any of the dailies or Sundays or indeed by the New Statesman or Spectator. Victor Anant's article in the New Statesman makes no mention of the CIA which is very strange when it was Victor Anant who spilt the beans in Monday's Daily Telegraph!

So, what does it all boil down to? Asians are merely the latest victims of a continuous struggle for power, a struggle of ideologies in which people are not humans but pawns. In theory, if there is one body which cares for the rights of man, it is the Church. But what churchman has raised his voice in horror? The Pope, it is true, has pleaded for peace but it was a Roman stated that in a defensive war the use Catholic Archbishop who recently of nuclear weapons is justified. The cry is now 'Fight the Good Fight'. 'Love Thy Neighbour' is out.

Who then cares for people? Who cares that the poorest, dirtiest, skinny peasant is suffering because he is pushed around by Mr. Big? What in the name of humanity is the future of Oxfam when we, the West, are helping to increase the number of helpless refugees? The truth is that nations should leave other nations alone and this will only be when men grow up and realize they can be responsible for their own destinies and when they start having love and reverence for human life. The US is just as bad as the Russians and Chinese in feeling they have a mission to 'civilise' the world. The US is a little different—her mission is 'divine'.

G.H.

DORA RUSSELL HARRIET UNWIN EMMA GOLDMAN

IN A MAN'S WORLD

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THE body of the march stopped, turned back, and started to walk towards the police van that was parked in the middle of the road in front of the Spanish embassy. I then noticed two policemen walking beside me and the one with some stripes on his sleeve gave an order to the other one: 'Watch that one and get him'. He was pointing at a boy who was walking near the kerb.

So I turned my head to the policeman and said: 'Why do you want to arrest him? Why don't you arrest me instead? hate the police state even more than he does'.

He then violently got hold of me and I went limp.

Two policemen dragged me to the van, Barbara Kirke and a boy were inside already. Moments later they carried Douglas Kepper inside, and the van moved off. At this moment John Clarke and Chris Broad threw themselves in the path of the moving van. The driver braked. The van stopped. Douglas asked:

Two policemen jumped out and dragged John and Chris inside. The policeman started to hit and punch Chris with his fist. His (the policeman's) face was red, his mouth was foaming, his helmet lay on the floor. I said: 'Chris, you better check your pockets for half-bricks.

Are they hurt?'

He looks that way'. The six of us sat on a wooden bench in the police station and a policeman, holding a piece of paper in one hand and a

Regina vs. The Golden Convolvulus

Continued from page 1

all further copies of the book to be detained.

Next forward, in the box, was a Detective-Constable to deliver the police version of the initial police enquiries. This character maintained that I had stated that Arthur Moyse 'does not exist' whereas the actual phrase used was 'elusive character'. He also mentioned that I had stated there was no mailing list and went on to explain that, in fact, mailing lists had been discovered during the subsequent police raid. The truth is that no mailing list for the Golden Convolvulus exists; all such lists in police possession relate to our other publications. Police evidence was concluded by Detective-Superintendent Alfred Southern who mainly concerned himself with routine factual matters and whose evidence was reasonably accurate.

The star turn of the morning was a consultant psychiatrist whose presence had me worried for a moment, until I realised that the psychiatric plainclothes branch wouldn't be likely to be running a case-book on us. From his drab pulpit platform he stated that, in his opinion, this book was certain to have a corrupting influence on children and young people because it was erotic and in parts concerned in describing sexual perversions and abnormal sexual practices. He went on to specify particular poems and articles which he considered sexually stimulating (and how randy can you get), sexually deviant and/or blasphemous.

I reserved my defence and elected to go for trial by jury at the next quarter-sessions.

DAVE CUNLIFFE.

This is an abridged report by Paul Pawlowski of what happened to him after his arrest at the Spanish Embassy, September 19, 1965. He prefaces it with the words: 'This is a story of a conflict in which everybody was the loser. The police lost some of their image, the magistrate lost some of his authority, and I lost some of my freedom.'

pencil in the other, started to take our names and addresses. When he turned to me I said: 'I shall be happy to give you my name and address if you will give me your name and address'.

He said: 'I am not allowed to tell you my name'.

'Oh, well,' I said, 'if you won't tell me your name then I won't tell you

They had then locked me in a cell. Some time later a policeman came and said: 'My name is Johnson and I live at 19 King's Road. What's yours?'

'My name is Paul Pawlowski and I live at 9 Tavistock Road in Croydon.'

He had a broad smile on his face when he was putting it down in his book, and I never felt better before.

The following day we appeared at Bow Street Magistrates' Court. Barbara pleaded guilty and she was fined 50 shillings, the others pleaded not guilty and their case was adjourned, and I refused to co-operate with the court's proceedings.

The basis of justice, as I understand it, is that the judge should be impartial. But the magistrate is not impartial. He sides with the police. So I have shown my contempt for him and for his court by refusing to appear. I had co-operated with the police right up to the door of the courtroom, then I said: 'Sir, I fear the magistrate is a violent man who will inflict injuries upon me and therefore I do not wish to go before

They called my name. I did not move. They put their hands on me-and I went limp. They lifted me by my arms and legs and carried me inside, and as they were carrying me I kept singing freedom songs. The magistrate ordered that I should be remanded till the 29th for a mental report.

I was taken to Brixton Prison. In Brixton they asked me to undress and take a bath. I did that. When I got out of the bath they asked me to put on prison uniform. I told them that I am a pacifist, that I am pledged never to wear a uniform, and asked for my clothes because I was shivering. They locked me up in a cell naked.

A moment later someone pushed a note into my cell. It said:

Dear Friend,

I gather you are a nuclear disarmergood luck in your stand. I am a CND supporter myself.

I gather that you are refusing to wear

TONY SMYTHE FUND

Tony Smythe is now home, but he has still to pay hospital fees of over £300. A fund has been set up to help and donations should be made out to Tony Smythe Fund and sent to:

Howard Cheney, Aylemore Farm, Shipton-on-Stour,

Warwicks.

bear in mind that it is in no way a military uniform, and partly for the convenience of prisoners themselves, many of whom come into prison in rags, with vermin, etc., etc. Personally I feel that it is no shame to wear prison uniform in the way it is to wear a military uniform. Anyway good luck whatever your decision.

symbol.

I was kept in the cell naked for ten days, from the 20th till the 29th of September.

A doctor came into my cell and said: 'Why don't you put your clothes on?'

shivering, and I want to put my clothes on. Please give me my clothes'.

lying on the table.

I told him I will not wear a uniform. He said: 'Why not?'

answered, and left the cell.

I remained naked.

On Wednesday, September 29, they gave me back my clothes. I immediately put them on, and was warm and comfortable again. They took me to Bow Street Magistrates' Court, and I was locked in the cell there.

social worker. She said to me: 'Mr. Pawlowski, you know that two doctors have seen you while you were in Brixton?' I said: 'Yes'.

little stay in a mental hospital.'

Shortly after she left the cell a up and walked out of court.

Outside the door I was greeted by a man with a happy smile on his face and another man in uniform with AMBU-LANCE written on his sleeve. He also smiled. They always do these people. So I smiled too!

The man, still smiling, showed me the way, so I followed him.

'No, no. You move to the other side,' said the man with the broad smile. that the door on my side had its handle removed. It was a taxi with a difference!

a uniform—I respect your decision, but

It was signed with the ban-the-bomb

I said: 'Doctor. I am very cold, I am

He pointed to the uniform that was

'Well, why don't you put it on?' I replied. 'Because I am not a criminal,' he

Then a lady came in, said she is a

She continued: 'And they came to the conclusion that what you need is a

policeman came and asked me to follow him. I did-right up to the door of the courtroom. Then I told the policeman that I do not wish to go into court before the magistrate because I fear he will inflict injuries upon me. They called my name. I did not move. They laid their hands on me and I went limp. They lifted me up by my arms and legs and carried me into court (legs first) and I was singing 'We shall overcome'. I did not hear what the magistrate said because I was singing, but when he said what he wanted to say and the policemen touched my legs and arms, I quickly got

We got into a taxi.

I did move to the other side. I noticed

The taxi stopped at Horton Mental Hospital.

Day after admission I was asked to attend a conference at which three doctors were present, one of them the eminent Dr. Rowlings (I was told by Staff that he is a famous psychiatrist), and two beautiful girls. They were students — occupational therapists from Liverpool.

Dr. Rowlings opened up. He said: 'Mr. Pawlowski, could you please tell us why are you in this hospital?'

It took me about one hour and a half to explain myself. He asked few questions, but not many. The conference lasted from about 10.30 a.m. till noon. I was then asked to leave the room.

At about 4 p.m. that day Dr. Holbeer called me in and said that I hold opinions which are not the opinions of the majority of the people, but people are not put to mental hospitals for their opinions. He added: 'They do those sort of things in Russia—but I don't want to have anything to do with it'. And he asked me how would I feel if he discharged me.

told him I would be very happy about it. And he did discharge me 48 hours after admission I was discharged and returned home as a free man, without any worries, or regrets, or fears.

PAUL PAWLOWSKI.

But some were fined

Dear Comrade Editors,

As your readers may be aware, five people have been fined a total of £22 10s., following their arrest, in London, two weeks ago, at the demonstration calling for the release of Spanish and Portuguese political prisoners.

May I through your columns appeal for money to pay their fines. All monies will be acknowledged, and any money left over will be sent to the relief of the families of political prisoners. Please send donations to me, Vincent Johnson, at the address below. 106 Vassall Road, VINCENT JOHNSON.

Brixton, S.W.9

Concerted Action

October 14, 7.30 p.m. Mahatma Gandhi Hall.

Speakers: Bertrand Russell, William Warbey, Olive Gibbs.

October 15, 7.30 p.m. Camden Town Hall.

Speakers: Fenner Brockway, Joseph Needham, Iris Murdoch, Verdun Perl, Malcolm Caldwell.

October 16, 4.30 p.m.

Trafalgar Square Rally followed by procession to Vigil at US Embassy.

October 17, 6 p.m.

Public Assembly in Grosvenor Square.

Anarchist Federation of Britain

Co-ordinating Secretary: Frank Hirsh field, 4 Albert St., London, N.W.1.

London Anarchist Group 1&2

'Lamb and Flag', Rose Street, off Garrick REGIONAL FEDERATIONS Street, London, W.C.2. (Leicester Square tube) 7.45 p.m. All welcome. Sundays.

OCT 17 Jack Stevenson Anarchism-Communism

OCT 24 LAG/2

Just Talking

Business Meeting OCT 31 Social (in aid of Spanish and Portuguese Political Prisoners' Fund)

NOV 7 George Melly Censorship NOV 14 Philip Sansom

Public Meetings every Sunday Hyde Park 3 p.m. Correspondence to: D. Bell, 10 Gilbert Place, W.C.1.

AND GROUPS

BIRMINGHAM ANARCHIST GROUP. Details of meetings from Peter Neville, 12 South Grove, Erdington, B'ham, 23. BORDER FEDERATION OF ANAR-CHISTS. Correspondence: John Stark,

Ian Vine, 3 Freeland Place, Hotwells, Bristol, 8. CARDIFF ANARCHIST GROUP. Con-

tact Mike Crowley, 36 Whitaker Road, Tremorfa, Cardiff.

Whittaker, 64 Polepark Road, Dundee.

OFF-CENTRE LONDON DISCUSSION MEETINGS

3rd Wednesday of each month at Jack Robinson and Mary Canipa's, 21 Rumbold Rd., S.W.6 (off King's Rd.), 8 p.m. Last Thursday in month: At George Hayes', 174 McLeod Road, S.E.2. 2nd Friday at Brian Leslie's, 242 Ames-

39 Scott Street, Galashiels.

BRISTOL FEDERATION. Enquiries to

DUNDEE GROUP contacts: (1) Bob and Una Turnbull, 44 Peddie Street, Dundee. Saturday meetings to continue at Peddie Street, 2.30 p.m. (2) Sheila

bury Avenue, S.W.2 (Streatham Hill, Nr. Station).

3rd Friday of each month at 8 p.m. at Donald & Irene Rooum's, 148a Fellows Road, Swiss Cottage, N.W.3.

First and third Tuesday of every month at 8 p.m. Arthur Uloth's, 30 Arundel Gardens, W.11. (Top bell.)

ANARCHIST GROUP. GLASGOW Correspondence to Robert Lynn, 2b Saracen Head Lane, Glasgow, C.1. Freedom and Anarchy Distributor, Joe Embleton, 11 Balliol Street, Glasgow, C.3. MANCHESTER ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact: Graham Leigh (tel.: PYR 2433), 5 Mere Close, Sale. Meetings: alternate

Tuesdays, 8 p.m. at the Lord Nelson,

Chapel Street, Manchester and socially:

week-ends at the Rising Sun, Albert

Square, Manchester. ILFORD LIBERTARIANS. Regular meetings and direct action contact W. E. Rodgers, 4 Sheldon Road, Dagenham,

Essex. FEDERATION. MERSEYSIDE Enquiries: Barbara Renshaw, 4 Clarence Road, Devonshire Park, Birkenhead, Cheshire.

ORPINGTON ANARCHIST GROUP. Knockholt, Nr. Sevenoaks, Kent. Every six weeks at Greenways, Knockholt. Phone: Knockholt 2316. Brian and Maureen Richardson.

OXFORD ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact H. G. Mellor, Merton College, Oxford.

SURREY ANARCHISTS are invited to meetings on the first Thursday of every month at Chris Torrance's (63 North Street, Carshalton, Surrey-please ring three times) and on the 3rd Thursday of every month at M. Dykes, 8 Court Drive. Sutton, Surrey. Both meetings 7.30 p.m. SOUTHALL ANARCHIST GROUP. Get in touch with Roger Sandell, 58 Burns Avenue, Southall, Middlesex.

PROPOSED GROUPS

CORNWALL ANARCHIST GROUP. Interested? Please write Derek Toman, 46 Weeth Lane, Camborne, Cornwall.

WEST KENT LIBERTARIAN ALLI-ANCE. Anybody interested contact Peter J. Clarke, The George, Frant, Sussex.

formation of group contact Jim Huggon, 173 Kingshill Avenue, Northolt, Middlesex or Miss Jean McLean, 6 Epsom Close, Northolt Park, Middlesex. SUNDERLAND (Co. Durham). Pro-

NORTHOLT ANARCHISTS. Projected

posed Anarchist Discussion Group. (Syndicalists welcome) at Geoff. Edwards, 'Side House', St. George's Terrace, Roker, Sunderland, Co. Durham. LEEDS LIBERTARIAN ALLIANCE.

Anybody interested please contact Roy

and Frankie Todd at 15 Clarendon Place,

Leeds, 2. Telephone 24282.

ABROAD

NEW ZEALAND. Auckland Anarchist Group. Public Meetings every Sunday in Myers Park at 2 p.m.

UNCLASSIFIED

LONDON INDIVIDUALIST ANARCHIST GROUP meets the second Sunday of each month at 10 Churton Street, Victoria, S.W.1 (off Vauxhall Bridge Road) at 8 p.m.

AVOID, MAYBE, THE DELUGE

MENTION 'SIMPLE-LIVING' and people visualise one of two things. They either think you mean living like a greasy savage with matted hair, peering from a dung-smeared, bone-littered cave, or else they envisage a group of spindly, earnest vegetarians, with bottoms swaying as they self-consciously do Morris dances at some very expensive nudist colony near Welwyn Garden City.

While simple-living can mean either of the above, in this article it means deliberately standing aside from the great avalanche of goods and services that modern technology can produce and, after due deliberation, either selecting those goods and services which fit in with one's conception of the good life or else ignoring the flood altogether. It will be objected that this is all that people are going to do anyway. Such, unfortunately, is not the case. Many, indeed most, people are mere uncontrolled appetites and when the powers that be tell them to wade neck deep in a torrent of plastic tablecloths, pop records, bubble cars and tranquillisers, then they will do so, in the same way as they tightened their belts when told to do so in the past.

It is certainly not my purpose to set up ideals and recommend exact standards of simple-living for people to adopt. What people do in practice depends, apart from the effects of advertising, on taste and temperament and, for the time being, means. It may be that an individual, although fully aware that his 'wanting' things is the result of clever advertising, will still choose to wallow. Every man to his own taste. But let it be his own taste and not just the unconscious effects of advertising. And let it be remembered that freedom (which is, presumably, what anarchists want) is best served when free choice (which means liberty) is coupled with forethought and that the quality of life does not automatically rise in line with the increases in the quantity of goods consumed and that the opposite is often the case.

The quality of life, that is what matters. A wise man knows that the good life is centred round heart and mind and not just the physical appetites. Any mode of living which promotes the good life is best pursued and any that is to the detriment of the good life abandoned. Let every man find his good life. Thoreau, poet, writer, conscientious objector to slavery and archindividualist, surveyed his woebegone, materially-minded neighbours and wrote, 'The cost of a thing is the amount of what I will call life that requires to be exchanged for it.'

POSSIBILITIES

It is easy to visualise a society in which technology is used for human good and not the greater glory of capitalism. Can't you hear the voices from the past saying the same thing? 'Now that the railway has been invented, the resulting better communications make Utopia imminent', says some optimist of 1840. 'Now that the telegraph', 'Now that the aeroplane', 'The car', 'Television', 'Space-travel'. And while the dreamers were imagining their just and free societies based on the latest inventions, other scientists were complicating things by making further discoveries and inventions and the politicians, generals and business men were busily abusing those already in existence. Since when has a just and free society depended on technological change and not change in the hearts of men? And why, as Arthur Uloth has asked, did not free societies arise in those societies of antiquity where abundance was possible, such as Ancient Egypt?' The Nile Valley, then, had one of the most fertile soils in the world, was rich in game, was protected by the desert from outside invasions and sheltered a people who had inherited a generally tolerant and energetic disposition. Yet, in its 2,500 years of history, Ancient Egypt did not become a free society but remained one of the strictest theocracies in history. While its long, secure history permitted a society to evolve where slaves were treated humanely, where art flourished and life was in many ways pleasant, the value of Ancient Egypt in libertarian terms

AN OBJECTION

One objection to simple-living is that it means becoming docile, abandoning the struggle for yet higher standards of consumption and leaving all the wealth in the hands of the bosses. The assumption behind this objection is that the bosses want to see everyone poor while they hog all the wealth. While this was certainly the case up to the 1930's, since then, due to the higher productive capacity of modern industry coupled with the thought of economists like Lord Keynes, the bosses have realised that to keep the economy booming the working class must be drawn into the consumption scramble. After all, if British industry is capable of turning out, say, 2,000,000 cars each year, the bosses can hardly use them all themselves. So, rather than let the production facilities stand idle, they raise wages so that the workers can afford cars and through advertising and the mass media they make them want cars -and plastic tablecloths, pop records and all the rest of it. Anyone with even an elementary knowledge of modern economics knows that this is the case. Wage freezes are only temporary adjustments to this trend. Britain is ruled not with the machine gun but with the washing machine, but it is still very much ruled and still bloody awful in many other ways. And in such a state of affairs, whose job is it to see to the needs of those who are far from prosperous-workers in decaying industries, pensioners, unemployed, the hungry millions throughout the world whose whimpers of need are drowned by the shrieks of greed from the over-prosperous sections of the over-prosperous nations? Whose responsibility is it, the State's?!!

Thus it will be seen that simple-living, far from playing into the bosses hands, means, in fact, doing the exact opposite of what the bosses want you to do. They want to see everyone frantically scrambling for more. Refuse. They want to see everyone obsessed with status. Show you don't care. They want you to be a moronic pig. Beat them by being an intelligent human being.

THE OUTLOOK

In Britain and other developed countries (and the undeveloped countries are rushing to get in on the act), economic growth has become an end in itself. It is futile to believe that one day the clouds will clear of their own accord and something worthwhile will emerge from the present mess. If roaring 'progress' and economic growth have produced the modern malaise, obviously further 'progress' and growth will make things worse, not better. And any chance of minorities toppling or directing into other channels the industrial colossus seem slim indeed.

Caught in the chains of its own pride, greed, ignorance and short-sightedness, the human race, led by bustling teams of physicists, engineers, economists, sociologists, planners, psychologists, etc., and deafened by the roar of a million journalists, television men, pop singers and political parasites, is rushing towards-what? Physical destruction?possibly. But, more likely, 'only' the destruction of all taste, quietness, natural beauty, privacy, individuality, culture, personality and simplicity before vast waves of mass produced trash and even vaster waves of clamouring conforming 'humanity'.

Stand aside if you can! R.J.

'Girls lured to Britain by White Slavers'

CASTRO ANNOUNCED THAT 'Che' Guevara need for change. his former associate had left Cuba for 'a new field of battle in the struggle against imperialism'. He had renounced his Cuban citizenship and all posts he held in the country and 'freed Cuba of all responsibility'. A letter was read which had been given to Castro on April 1, it said, 'I feel I have completed the duty which the Cuban revolution gave me. My only fault has been that I did not understand more fully your great qualities'. . . .

FOUR ENGLISH STUDENTS wrote to the Kremlin that an interpreter, Zhenya Belov, they met on a student holiday had been committed to a lunatic asylum. They had discussed by correspondence the theory and practice of communism. He eventually told them he had realised that the party had become a bureaucratic organisation representing only the interests of the ruling group. The party was supposed to be based on the principle of democratic centralism, but it was far too centralistic and not democratic enough. The party's policies, he believed, should come from below, instead of being imposed from above. He told them that the system of proletarian dictatorship had been officially declared dead, and replaced by 'The State of the whole people'. However, in his view, these were empty words, for the people as a whole did not exercise power any more than in the past. Moreover the machinery of the dictatorship was still being maintained and used to keep down those with dissenting views. He believed that the party should be organized in such a way as to give expression to the true feelings and views of the people. He now thought that the press and radio were the creatures of a power clique instead of being the free instruments of popular opinion. He wanted the trade unions to have real power to act on behalf of the workers. But he wanted all these changes to be accomplished constitutionally and legally by the Communist Party itself and believed that it was the duty of every true Communist to open the eyes of his comrades to the

Belov put these ideas forward at a meeting of his party organization to be placed before the 23rd Congress. However the party organization suspended him from membership and ordered him to go before the Moscow City party committee for disciplining. He refused to go and wrote letters to Breshney, Kosygin. Next thing that Belov's friends heard of him was that under the pretext of a medical examination for a job transfer he was certified insane and committed to an asylum. . . .

ON MONDAY the Daily Worker published two letters attacking Dutt's review of Trotsky's History of the Russian Revolution. On Wednesday the Worker published by its Moscow correspondent an account of the 'new look' in Soviet industry headed 'Profits for the people in this Soviet "New Look". Mr. Peter the wages fund will be stipulated [by Government bodies]. This is a necessary safeguard to ensure on a national scale a proper balance between the people's purchasing power and the production of consumer goods. Factories will now only be told what goods they must produce, and what targets they must reach in sales and profits. Their contribution to and allocations from the State Budget, will also be stipulated.' The American Economic Report issued by the US Information Service (which is no place to go for a laugh), carries an article headed 'Profit—an instrument of social progress'. Having achieved this the editors announce 'that because of budget reductions this will be the last issue'. . .

THE US MAGAZINE US News and World Report estimates that there are about 90,000 millionaires in the US, seven times the number there were in 1948. About one family in every 625 in the US is a millionaire family. Princess Margaret addressing the tenth congress of the International Union of Building Societies and Savings Associations said, 'Everyone wants a safe place for his or her savings. Everyone wants somewhere

- News of the World

to live. Home ownership is not possible for every person everywhere-but it is surely right that those who want to and can afford it should be given every possible help to buy their own homes. Home takes on an added value when it belongs to the family and not to someone else; it contributes greatly to family contentment and on a larger scale brings stability to a nation.' A High Court ordered husbands who have been staying with their wives at a Council home for homeless at West Malling, Kent, to leave before next Friday. In Latin America every second death is that of a child under five, victim of starvation, malnutrition or lack of sanitation. According to the Daily Express Prince William of Gloucester, Margaret's nephew, is bidding for a £51,500 house in Kensington. It has four floors, three to four Tempest says, 'in future only the size of reception rooms (says William Hickey vaguely), two bathrooms, and an indoor heated swimming pool. This comes on the eve of the Prince's departure to take up a two-year posting as third secretary at the British Embassy in Lagos. . . .

> THE POPE MET PRESIDENT JOHNSON and. according to the US Information (without whom this column would be incomplete), 'the two leaders exchanged gifts during their meeting. The President presented the Pope with a small gold globe encased in leather. Engraved inside were the seals of the Presidency and the Papacy. The base of the globe was enscribed [sic] with this message "To his Holiness, Pope Paul VI. From Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States. October 4, 1965." Mr. Johnson also presented the Pope with an autographed photograph in a sterling silver frame. The Pope's gift to the President was a large painting The Resurrection of Christ by Filocamo, a contemporary Italian artist.' . . .

PRESIDENT JOHNSON underwent an operation for gallstones later in the week. On the first day he rose at 6 a.m.

JON QUIXOTE.

The Case Against Bums

TATHER one agrees or disagrees with Jack Robinson's In Defence of Bums (FREEDOM, Sept. 18) depends entirely on which of two ways one looks

at the anarchist movement. If you see it as a select group of exhibitionists using 'rebellion against injustice' as an excuse for existence as a group, an organisation to be deliberately restricted to minority status so that _ the object in hand. Not so the wierdies bored and frustrated people can find cheap notoriety in belonging to it, a snug social clique just pretending to itself that it is going to change the course of human history, then it is just the place for those who of their own choosing go about looking like extras for a film about a concentration camp, and arousing only the contempt of the average person.

If on the other hand your idea of an anarchist movement is my idea -that of a WORKER'S organisation which aims to win the respect and membership of millions of ordinary down-to-earth people, and actually succeed in ridding the world of that archscourge, the authoritarian State and all that goes with it—then obviously the movement is not the right milieu for these types and J.R.'s moralistic arguments' immediately become irrelevant. at the expense of our cause. They never Let them shove off and call themselves something else.

A workers' organisation is for workers. Most of the anarchist international accepts this. Why not the British contingent? I use the word worker in the broadest sense to mean anyone who is usefully occupied, productively or distributively. So these bums do not work because they feel they don't want to be exploited? Can't they see that they are being exploited all the more: not only by not getting properly fed or housed, but by providing the powers that be with anti-protest, anti-individualist propaganda with which to bombard right-thinking suburbanites.

In most cases too they become exploiters themselves. The State contributions snatched without my consent from my hard-earned weekly wage are helping to keep a lot of them on the NAB! The others who live by 'conning' money off people naturally rely on their victims having money to part with, and the victim, in order to have enough money to be worth touching, has to earn it. Therefore these beatniks and general layabouts still rely on the capitalist system in the end-and without even bearing their share of the burden. So I must 'prepare to be used' by them, be ruled by his sensation-craving nerves;

must I? Why the hell should I! I get used enough as it is by the capitalists, but at least they feed me in return.

The analogy the writer uses, the fable of the Greek bowman with the gangrenous wound, falls flat in this case. The hero of the story, though personally objectionable, had at least a talent to offer, which could be of use in achieving and slags. Far from helping to achieve whatever the given goal may be, their presence is a positive hindrance. The very public we wish to communicate with take one look at them and say: 'So these are the anarchists. Puke!' whereupon I have to laboriously explain to onlookers that I am not to be associated with 'that bloody mob', but, for all my explaining leave behind me a trail of unconvinced workmates. I'm by no means the only one.

A case in point: When we in Bristol held a demo, outside the Spanish Vice-Consulate at the time of Stuart Christie's arrest, a whole swarm of them arrived to join us. They made hundreds of eyes pop out, and of course the local press had their cameras poised for the one photograph which would have given our dear friends the publicity they craved, got it. I and another comrade took the initiative and sent them packing. The result - no photograph, but a report which showed us up in a favourable light to the average Labour-voting Bristolian, since the report stated that we, the demonstrators, had shooed the beatniks out of it. Our public meeting about Stuart was well attended the next day and the crowd were sympathetic, financially as well as emotionally.

Comrade Robinson himself gives an accurate analysis of these types in his last paragraph but three, the one beginning: 'The fact is, bums are rarely politically conscious', etc. He's saved me the trouble of saying it all. Would the CNT/FAI have tolerated this sort of thing?

I'm glad J.R. doesn't try to minimise the drug-taking, alcoholic and sexual excesses of this class. It is an unmeasurably worse image of the anarchist movement than the old bomb thrower tag, and it must go. But to state that one merely envies such versatility and prowess' (!)—what does he mean and who is he speaking for? This 'one' does not envy them. Quite the reverse. How can a man call himself an anarchist, or even a man, if he allows himself to

polluting his bloodstream with noxious chemicals and doing untold harm to his brain?

At best he ends up by doing himself in. At second best he graduates to dear old Golders Green. At worst, as frequently happens, he flips his lid and they send the van round for him, in which case somebody has to work to keep him -namely Muggins here! The only 'kick' on J.R.'s sample list that this anarchist indulges in is jazz. The others either followed God and government out through the window or never gained admission in the first place.

It grieves me to observe that many of the working anarchists in whose company I am not ashamed to be seen, are willing to tolerate the 'bums'. It would seem, then, that of the two views of the anarchist movement I itemised at the beginning most 'comrades' adopt the first, and would be utterly lost if an anarchist society actually came about! The Bristol Federation, for example, had existed for two years when I came on the scene 18 months ago. In all that time it had not moved outside the Clifton-Redland area of the city, where, to be precise, it was confined to three or four houses - one public, the others private—and this is still the case in spite of the efforts of myself and a couple of other individuals who want to achieve something. The federation was part of the social scene and one's face had to fit. At my place of work, I actually managed to generate an understanding of anarchism in a few people, who were interested enough to come along to meetings. These young workers came, took one look, and didn't come back a second time. And the 'comrades' who keep on and on about the workers, recoiled almost visibly on being confronted with some real live ones. The reality was evidently too much for their cosy illusions, apart from threatening to break up the happy circle.

If this is the case with most of the regional groups, and I hear from pretty reliable sources that it is, no wonder the organisation has been eaten through by this ragged, hairy cancer. The movement is to be congratulated on the impeccable efficiency with which it is carrying out its policy of maintaining minority status!

Which of the two attitudes does Jack Robinson himself take? He'll have to make up his mind as I found I had to do. Nor did I waste much time deciding what sort of an anarchist movement I wanted to be in. My decision has now led me to break away altogether from the 'anarchist' scene in Britain. I regard it as more of a bugbear than a help to the true libertarian cause. Bristol 24.9.65 J.C.

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puted cargo.

The dispute started over the rate to be paid to unload a cargo of timber. Evidently at the local joint council meeting, the unions and the employers agreed on an interim increase in the rate.

The employers and the T & GWU are making great play of this 'freely agreed by both sides, with a promise of further negotiations' type settlement. And the T & GWU attitude is the same as the employers, 'No further action can be taken until bers. the men resume work'.

The employers claim that dockers can earn £4 a day on this cargo and have spent £270 on a full page advertisement in the Bristol Evening Post to publicly state their claim. The dockers deny that £4 a day is possible on these cargoes, but in any case unloading timber is bloody hard graft so even at £4 a day the port employers would be giving nothing away.

Obviously the men on the job know what it is worth, and union officials or no union officials, they are not prepared to work for less. It's all very fine making agreements in an office somewhere, but totally different if you are the poor bastard who has to do the humping.

On August 19 about 500 Tilbury dockers heard the liaison committee' attack Devlin's proposals on decasualisation. At the same meeting leaflets were distributed in support of the rebel National Union of Portworkers which has 3,500 members in Tilbury, London, Liverpool, Manchester and Hull.

The National Union of Portworkers was founded in November, 1962 and was registered in February, 1963 (Reg. No. 2270).

The founders have been amazed at the tremendous response that has been forthcoming from portworkers in all ports in Great Britain to the idea of a union which has as its objectives:

One big industrial union for all portworkers.

Contact Column

Speaking. Effective speaking and selfexpression Study Group starting regular meetings as from November. No fees. If interested please send s.a.e. Box 15.

Meetings. 13 Prince of Wales Terrace, Kensington, W.8, 7-9 p.m. Thursday, October 14: 'Sexual Freedom for the Young'. Thursday, October 21: 'Community Living in London'. Friday, October 29: 'Forming "intentional" families'.

Harlow Demo. For Peace and Disarmament. YCND Assemble 10.30 a.m. Epping Church. 11 a.m. March to Harlow. Re-assemble 2 p.m. Town Hall Square for Public Meeting. Date: Saturday, October 23.

FML Spanish Lessons commence Wednesday, October 13 at 6.30 p.m. till 8 p.m. at 159 Ledbury Road, W.11

Chris Holmes, London. Birmingham Group would like to hear from you. Write Geoff Charlton, 9 Pembroke Road, Birmingham, 12.

To Aid Dave Cunliffe. Poetry Reading Saturday, October 16. Live poets. Free admission. Collection. 7 till 10.30 p.m. Basement of 75A Ladbroke Grove, W.11.

Cuddon's Cosmopolitan Review. September issue now out, 9d. The least-read literary review - stories, satire, poetry, etc. (Writers and artists might like to look at it and possibly contribute to making it less read).

New Poster

War Want Waste Why? Politics!

31d. each plus postage. Orders to Bill Sticker, c/o 17a Maxwell Road. London, S.W.6.

Youth Against War in Vietnam. Glasgow YCND March, Saturday, October 16. Contact Alan Sinclair, Flat 3a, 39 Mallaig Road, Glasgow, S.W.1. GOV 3995.

New Zealand Federation of Anarchists. First Annual Congress, December 26 to January 6. Enquiries Box 5455, Auckland CI, NZ.

BRISTOL DOCKERS have been out for 11 days and are as strong out for 11 days and are as strong as ever in their demand for the

An industrial union which is thoroughly democratic in its constitution and day to day working.

A union whose officials are democratically elected and subject to recall by the membership if they fail to carry out the wishes of the mem-

The industrial union is not to be affiliated to any political party.

The unity of all portworkers in Authority. all struggles.

growing membership.

The union is now no longer just an idea. It is in being, is registered as a bona fide union, with a rapidly

They invite all portworkers, no matter what section of the industry they may work in, to unite in one big powerful industrial union which will, by its militancy and unity, fight for and protect the interests of all portworkers. A union whose policy on all major questions facing portworkers will be decided by the full membership and not by a coterie of full-time or lay officials.

Sid Senior, General Secretary, National Union of Portworkers, 10 Chelmer House, Chadwell St. Mary, Grays, Essex.

On October 7, the Australian in the offing. Senate passed the Stevedoring In-

dustry Bill after applying the guillotine to prevent filibusting by the Opposition Labour Party.

Under the Bill the Australian dockers union, the Waterside Workers' Federation, will lose the right to recruit men for work on the waterfront and power to recruit dockers will be vested instead wholly in the Australian Stevedoring

McMahon (Labour William Minister), explained that the Bill provided for the deregistration of the Federation if it is found guilty of offences under the Arbitration Act or interference with overseas or interstate trade. It will be remembered that the Aussie dockers forced stoppages on the issues of S. African goods, and arms to the Dutch in Indonesia, and were heavily fined for their trouble.

On the question of deregistration, the Government under the slightest pretext could deregister and encourage the formation of a new hand-picked union which to all intents and purposes would be as good as a 'company union'. Such a situation would not be impossible in Britain with the proposals of 'legalised trade union membership'

BILL CHRISTOPHER.

RRIFF'S: 'A VICTORY

EXPECT THAT by the time this article appears in print, the Turriff lock-out on the Barbican scheme will have been settled. At the present time, the management are right down on their knees and there seems nothing to bar the way to a complete victory for these 380 men. Let us hope this is how it works out, for it has been a hard struggle, but they are not home and dry yet, for the dispute is still on. Nothing is a foregone conclusion.

During the past week, this dispute has at long last been made official. I do not say this with any pleasure or satisfaction, because considering the nature of the thing, the unions did not really have any other choice. The Transport and General Workers Union, which has the most members involved, was the first to give its sanction, followed by the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives, who then turned down the National Commission arranged for Tuesday. Soon after the blessing of the Federation, came the support of the other two unions involved, the Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers and the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers. JOB AT STANDSTILL

wanted official backing from the start. It has now been given, but is acting mainly as a rubber stamp on what has been achieved by unofficial means. I say mainly, because Turriffs had managed to get some work done on their site. Lorries bringing in materials were certainly turned away by the unofficial pickets, but the scabs still did something. Following recognition, union officials went onto the site and after two attempts brought out the scabs, so that Turriffs came to a complete standstill. When the scabs walked out, the police rushed in reinforcements to clear the picket. Perhaps the police thought this action might provoke an incident, but they were unlucky, for the locked-out men only cheered and were glad to see the scabs off the job without seeking any revenge.

Turriffs had managed to recruit other labour to make up their work force. Men came down from Scotland, being told that carpenters would get £6 per day and bricklayers 14/6 per hour with free dinners, but on finding a picket line, they told Turriffs where to put their job and refused to cross it. With no scabs, the management decided to seek a meeting with the unions and this news If you wish to make contact let us know, greeted the workers from the main

London sites when they packed the Conway Hall for the Joint Sites Committee meeting last Friday. In fact the atmosphere was one of a noisy celebra-

Union officials had been invited but only Jack Orwell came along. He took the full brunt of the criticism of the unions and their failure to act earlier. He took great pains to point out that these things have to go through the procedure machinery which all takes time, but this sort of answer did not cut much ice and there were a number of catcalls and jeers. One speaker from the floor pointed out that the unions had no other choice but to make it official, for they were forced to by the fact that 1,500 men had come out on strike for one day in support of their locked-out brothers.

AN ATTACK ON THE RIGHT TO STRIKE

The Contract of Employment Act was also criticised very strongly. It was agreed that every effort should be made to repeal that section which make strikes a breach of contract for it is an outright attack on the workers' right to strike. The 'Labour-only' sub-contractors also The vast majority of those in dispute came in for some criticism for they were one of the reasons for the dispute. These



Coach to take out scabs turned away by pickets.

For Workers' Control

OCTOBER 16 1965 Vol. 26 No. 32

Printworkers

THE NATIONAL UNION of Printing Bookbinders and Paperworkers have handed in a formal strike notice to take effect from October 24. The National Society of Operatives, Printers and Assistants fully supports the paperworkers in their claim for '25% night over day' and has instructed its members to terminate their engagements on October 29.

'Twenty five per cent night over day' is a hardy annual and has been listed in printworkers demands for many years. The mere mention of this demand to the employers, the Newspaper Proprietors' Association (NPA) was, and still is, like holding a red rag to a bull.

The NPA claim that newspaper production is basically a night-work industry and therefore special compensation for night-work would be out of order. Their main argument in opposing the demand is that night-workers already earn between 18% and 20% more than day-shift printworkers because night-workers are on a 35 hour basic week as opposed to 40 hour basic for day workers.

This argument is completely false, and apart from anything else is used in the hope of dividing night and day workers. The times for printing at night suit the employers, they don't want to start printing too early in the evening, because the news has been covered by the Evening News and the Evening Standard and on the other hand they don't want to finish printing too late in the morning otherwise they miss the public travelling to work in the morning.

From a social point of view nightwork is not natural, life is geared so that the majority of people sleep at night and therefore night-workers social life is completely disrupted. One is forced to accept the fact that night-work is a necessary evil in which case nightworkers should be amply compensated.

Printworkers should ignore the '35 hour as opposed to 40 hour' dividing tactic and support 100% the '25% night over day' claim.

sub-contractors sign an agreement with the main contractor to provide and pay men. They do not supply plant or equipment and are not parties to trade union agreements. In fact some of them do not even pay holiday credits or buy insurance stamps. They often offer big bonuses while the main contractors pay their workers less bonus for doing the same work. This brings about a lot of bad feeling from which only the employers benefit. Many speakers felt that firms like this, such as Peter Craven, shuttering sub-contractors, and Ivor Dowty, civil engineering and demolition sub-contractors, should be closed up.

The meeting ended with a very good collection for the men, which added more to the £300 that had already been received from the sites that day, for although these locked out men will get money from their unions, it will not be very much. The ASW pays £3 per week and that will be difficult to live on unless supplemented.

On last Friday, a curious article appeared in the Financial Times on this dispute, which started, 'It is difficult to discuss the strike of building workers at London's £31m. Barbican project without being accused of national and racial prejudice. The majority of the workers involved are either Irish or West Indian. . . . For the most part, the Irish listening. It seemed quite in character when two men began their speeches to an afternoon strike meeting by apologising for having drunk too much at lunchtime.'

The reporter tells how he was talking to the coppers who have been on duty at the site, 'with two white horses and two Black Marias-a poetic touch'. These coppers said 'four of the seven arrested and fined after last Friday's Battle of the Barbican between strikers and non-strikers (meaning scabs) had Irish names.' Well here is a bit more information for this reporter to add to his story, two of the other three arrested were Scotsmen.

Perhaps if the dispute had been going well for Turriff this rubbish would not have appeared in the Financial Times, but it seems that this paper has gone down to the level of the Daily Mirror. As for the bit about the copper being 'indignant' about hearing from one of the men on the picket line 'that a building worker can earn as much in one week as a policeman earns in three', it just is not true and if the copper thinks he will be better off in the building industry, the answer is, have a go, it's a far more useful job. As for there being any 'national and racial prejudice' during the dispute, I for one didn't see or hear of any. It would be a nice weapon to use against these workers but it won't work. All colours and nationalities have stood together united against the Turriff management. A NFBTO PURGE?

Even if the dispute is won, it seems as if a further struggle will have to take place, this time against our own officials of the NFBTO. Although Mr. Weaver, the General Secretary, has said, 'There is no question of the unions agreeing to wrap up the dispute by leaving the stewards outside', Turriffs are expected to try to get some disciplining of them and it is also on the cards that Weaver will try to do this anyway. He didn't like the sympathy action taken by other sites in London. What has got to be recognised is that work would have still been going on at the Turriff site if it had not been for the stewards on other sites and the rank and file support. A speaker at Conway Hall summed it up when he said, 'This will be a victory for trade unionists and not for the trade unions'.

Any attempts by the NFBTO or the union executives to discipline or remove stewards, Federation or otherwise, from their elected positions must be resisted and defeated by the rank and file who do the talking and the West Indians the elected them. We owe this to ourselves P.T. and our steward

WEEK 40, OCTOBER 16, 1965: Expenses: 26 weeks at £70:

14 weeks at £80: Income: Sales and Subs.:

£2191 DEFICIT £749

£2940

Walton on Thames: D.F. 1/6; Hastings: C.P. 4/-; Donaghdee: J.T. £3; London, S.E.17: D.S. 4/-; Oxford: Anon* 5/-; Ilford: J.W. 4/-; Sheffield: P.L. 10/-; Lower Hutt, N.Z.: C.R. 5/-; Swansea: R.R. £18; Wolverhampton: J.K.W.* 2/-; J.L.* 3/-; Cheltenham: L.G.W.* 10/-; Potters Heath: S.M. 3/-; Leeds: R.C. 8/-; Cardiff: C.L. 1/6; Bristol: R.C. 4/-;

Melton Mowbray: M.S. £1 4s.; Hayes:

Previously Acknowledged:

J.M. 3/6.

TOTAL £25 12 6 £680 8 9

1965 Total to Date £706 1 3

*Denotes Regular Contributors. Gift of Books: Dereham: T.B.