

# Freedom

Anarchist Weekly 4c

OCTOBER 30 1965 Vol. 26 No. 34

## DEMONSTRATIONS:

# Grosvenor Square Aftermath

AFTER THE DEMONSTRATIONS at the American Embassy on October 17, those of us who had been arrested were taken to West End Central Police Station and charged with wilfully breaking the Commissioner's Regulations.

Monday morning, after a wait of about 2½ hours, we appeared before the magistrate, Mr. Leo Gradwell, who immediately commenced his dirty work. A number of people were convicted immediately and were all fined £2 with 3 gns. costs. Some were also bound over for sums of £25 and £50, for which a surety was needed. They were all refused time to pay with the result that most of them went to prison, namely Brixton, Wormwood Scrubs and Holloway.

The rest of us made a brief appearance in front of Gradwell, and we were asked how we wished to plead. We were then taken to the room adjoining the courtroom where an extremely loud sing-song ensued, which must have been music to the ears of Mr. Gradwell, as he left for his lunch.

After a lunch of some kind and a truly marvellous sing-song, we found

ourselves in the cells. Apparently the police did not like our kind of music!

Those of us that were left again appeared in front of Gradwell at about 4.30 p.m., and were remanded for a week. We were told that if we wanted bail we would have to find a surety for the sum of £25 and that the surety had to be a family man or woman, with no previous convictions.

Those of us who could not find a surety by the time the mobile chicken-coop arrived were taken to Ashford Remand Centre, which is of course a convenient distance from London, as the sureties first had to go to West End Central, then they had to appear in front of the magistrate for scrutiny and finally they had to make the long journey to Ashford to complete the legal rigmarole. (The women were taken to Holloway.)

Nevertheless, I am glad to say that everyone had been released by last Wednesday evening, including those who had been convicted.

Those remanded will be appearing at Marlborough Street at various times during this week. M.S.

## Aberdeen:

# No Room in the Cells

ABERDEEN YOUTH CND, supported by Aberdeen Anarchist Federation and the Young Socialists (yes, folks, the Trots!) held a march down the main street on Saturday, October 16, in support of the call by the Vietnam Day Committee at Berkeley University in California, USA. Over 60 young people came to the march and while the march itself was a fairly normal event, the happenings towards the end showed us the power of united direct action.

## Galashiels: WHOLE MARCH ARRESTED

ON SATURDAY, October 16, the above Committee staged a poster parade in the centre of Galashiels. A loudspeaker van announced the purpose of the parade, and a large poster 'Condemn the Slaughter in Vietnam' dominated one of the main streets during the busy part of the morning.

The Committee decided to move to Edinburgh in the afternoon to stage a similar demonstration. Having progressed a mile through the shopping centre, they were halted at the National Gallery by police who, when told there were no leaders or actual organisers of the march, promptly arrested the whole march; 27 mostly young people.

OUR REPORTER.

## SUPPORT ANARCHIST ACTION AGAINST WAR IN VIETNAM

As the march neared the intersection of George Street and Union Street, near a clear space in front of Marks and Spencer's new store, someone suggested that instead of being shoved down to the usual isolated car park which is the only place where you can hold a meeting (with permission of course) in this town, we should use the space in front of the store and put our case on Vietnam to the people.

It was fabulous! The entire march just swung onto the pavement and members of YCND and the YS got 'tore in' (with a nicked Labour Party Candidate)! The public in this part of the world had never seen anything like it and they stopped and, more important—they listened. The meeting was perfectly orderly and no obstruction was caused—until the arrival of a force of police. Just as the last speaker was finishing, they started to try and move them on. The young people began to mill about, completely confusing the cops.

Then, as spontaneously as they had started their meeting, the whole issue marched the 400 yards to the local cop shop to hold a 'lobby on free speech'.

Speech-less is the only word to describe the reaction of the coppers! Never before has the entrance hall to Lodge Walk Police HQ been graced by 60 teenagers and an anarchist banner. The police finally persuaded them to move (what else could they do with 10 little cells and 20 policemen—arrest them?) and they then each wrote out an individual protest against the suppression of free speech. The chief constable refused to accept these. YCND now intends to hold a public campaign to get the area near M & S declared a free speech zone.

One amusing point about this demo was that the local YCL stood on the other side of the road and watched. One wonders whether they were more scared of the police or the local Party Secretary! Adult CND however were much more militant — one of them actually marched!

IAN S. SUTHERLAND, JNR.

IN 1959 THE African nationalist leaders of Nyasaland sent for a London doctor to pull their country out of the hated Central African Federation, a Federation which everyone wanted except the Africans.

Dr. Banda returned to Nyasaland, took over, agitated, and, true to form, was put in jail and a 'state of emergency' declared. Again true to form, the British Government was forced to release him. After his release there were successive constitutions, the break up of the Federation and finally Independence on July 6, 1964.

Whilst in prison, the nationalist movement was reorganised by Orton Chirwa, the Minister of Justice.

From the day Banda returned to Malawi he has created himself a God figure, the chosen leader, controlling all the strings. Within two months of Independence six members of Banda's nine-man Cabinet resigned or were dismissed. At no stage has Banda pursued a non-aligned position, but flirted with Britain, USA, West Germany, Portugal and Israel. This, in the eyes of some of his Ministers, was betrayal.

Whilst pandering to Portugal be-

# MASS MURDERER AT LARGE!

OVER MANY YEARS a series of murders have been committed all over the world. The victims have been of all sexes, of all ages. The crimes have been motivated by greed, vanity and the desire to dominate. The weapons used have varied from case to case, from the crude rope to the latest refinement of an explosive device.

What marks these murders from the usual run of Scotland Yard cases is that the victims in many cases have been willing accomplices in their own murder, helping, in some cases, with the disposal of others before they, too, fell victims. The majority of the murders have been committed in full public view, with full approval from some sections of the public.

In all, since the last permanent crime-wave (1939-45) there have been 40 individual outbreaks of mass-murder. The authorities are unanimous in deprecating these outbreaks but it is conceded that great technical improvements have taken place in the art of murder and the crude blunt instrument has been relegated to the Imperial War Museum. Indeed, such is the technological progress that weapons have been known to become obsolete before the crimes they are designed for are perpetrated.

Such are the technical 'know-how' and capital resources tied up in the industry of murder that 'dummy-runs' with real victims (alive at the time) have been programmed to estimate the capability and death-producing ratio of the instruments. The complex infra-structure of the production of death is such a vital factor in the economy that its amortization by means of peace pacts is to be deprecated.

On the other hand the authorities wish that some other (non-lethal) method could be devised to stimulate the weapon potential of their precariously balanced economies. Meanwhile they must go on participating, and inducing their citizens to participate in what is generally conceded to be, although perfectly legal, homicide, which could assume the proportions of world-suicide.

At the same time it is to be deplored that, despite the superior facilities and marked preponderance of the State in mass-murder, the rightful publicity that should be theirs is stolen every few years by some incompetent, bungling, retail, illegal outsider like Haigh, Crippen or Christie. The general public are apt on these occasions to lose interest in our competent, efficient, wholesale, legal, establishment institutionalized murder which has stood them in good stead all these years and lavish attention upon these transient, ephemeral, fly-by-night killings who are unworthy of the name of twentieth-century civilization.

This is a matter for which a Public Relations Officer is urgently needed.

JACK SPRATT.

# Fascism in Malawi

cause of economic reasons (the port of Beira in Mosambique being Malawi's only outlet to the sea), Banda has consistently refused to allow Malawi to be used to fight apartheid in the white-dominated South. His relations with S. Rhodesia's reactionary white overlords has been more than friendly.

From the beginning Banda has been scared of losing control. The only white member of his Cabinet resigned because of his intention to bring in the Preventive Detention Act. Personal freedom has gradually been curtailed. As there was and still is no opposition party, the 'Detention Act' could only be used to crush opposition within the Malawi Party.

In October 1964, three Malawi rebel Ministers crossed the border into Tanganyika to avoid detention without trial; Banda in his usual dictatorial manner stated, 'Watch everybody from Tanganyika', and learn how to use a gun. When former Minister Chipembere held meetings opposing Banda's policies, the Banda-controlled Malawi Youth League were sent to smash it up.

Chipembere was put under restriction, he escaped and organised armed rebellion. Banda's orders were to catch him alive if possible — 'If not, any other way'.

He believes in a strong Government, a dictatorship by Banda; he has armed the Malawi Youth Movement, which can be for only one reason—the smashing of internal opposition. When a German painter

carried out a similar sort of policy about 25 years ago, they called it 'Fascism', there is no reason why it shouldn't be called the same thing today. All the symptoms are there — adoration, fanaticism, rabble-rousing speeches, the 'I am the Saviour' complex.

What of the rebels in opposition, do they just seek power? Politics is a dirty game and the British coloured administration have been good tutors, therefore nothing should come as a surprise, white or black overlords—what's the difference? To the ordinary people, very bloody little.

BILL CHRISTOPHER.

## The Doctor Prescribes Hanging

MEMBERS of the London Committee of 100 clubbed together last Wednesday to send the following telegram to Dr. Hastings Banda: 'Deeply shocked at your uncivilised outburst against Mr. Silombela. Hanging is murder and is always wrong.' On the Tuesday Dr. Banda, Prime Minister of Malawi, was credited with the following statesman-like sentiments: 'I'm sorry Medson Silombela (a political opponent of his) had been caught as I would have preferred him to be shot . . . I know that you will want to see him swing . . . his swinging must be in public . . . dangle until he breathes his last.'

## Mass Production Comes to the Farm Good Food is for the Few!

THE LAST STRONGHOLD of individualism, the farm, has finally succumbed to the mass-production expert. J. B. Eastwood of Nottingham, 'with his grandiose plans for a 12,000,000 bird poultry enterprise . . . regarded with approval in the City, as a genius' is an excellent example of the 'pioneer of mass production agriculture' (*New Society*, 18.3.65).

What do factory-farming methods involve and how do they affect human and animal health? The facts are not easy to obtain.

An RSPCA leaflet on intensive farming declares that broiler chickens are subjected to repeated druggings with antibiotics, sleep or over-eat in artificial light, are given food specially prepared for fattening and are so close to each other that risks of disease are greatly enhanced. Intensively reared calves are kept on liquid food after the time when they would normally pass to solid food. This liquid is iron-destitute. To make up deficiency in iron enough to maintain life, reliance is placed on their using the innate iron in their livers. 'While the treatment may not produce pathological anaemia, anaemia is favoured to produce the white meat in demand'. Battery hens are kept in artificial light, unable to move freely, stretch their wings, scratch for food or take dustbaths. Their legs become as brittle as matchsticks. Such hens cannot scratch for protein-rich green shoots from which they gain carotene which imparts colour to the egg-yolk.

What research has been done suggests that factory-farming is bad for the health of the animals and birds involved. Unfortunately, 'Very little work has been done to test the nutritional differences of food produced under different systems of management' (Ruth Harrison, summer congress 1964, Universities' Federation for Animal Welfare). She continues, 'Money has not been forthcoming for this type of research, only for that on marketing qualities. . . . Such research-bias ought not to surprise anarchists. In her book, *Animal Machines* she gives the results of some Ministry of Agriculture tests: the average content in battery eggs of vitamin B<sub>12</sub> and vitamin A was only half that of

free-range eggs, allowing for seasonal differences. Tests on the meat of broiler and free-range chickens showed that free-range chickens contained more than twice as much vitamin B, as the broiler chickens.

Much greater losses of vitamin A were observed in intensively-reared cattle at the Rowett Research Institute. Although their rations were fortified with vitamin A to a level several times as high as was judged necessary to meet their requirements, they developed vitamin A deficiency and their livers contained only about a twentieth of the vitamin A contained in the livers of traditionally-reared cattle. On the same subject, the RSPCA leaflet states that: 'of 300 barley-beef carcasses examined at the Rowett Institute one-third had abscessed livers and over half had symptoms of kidney diseases.'

A correspondent, Joan Wonnacott, wrote in the *Evening Star* (23.4.64): Suffolk farmers admitted to me quite frankly that battery calves had to go to slaughter before 15 weeks because their flesh would go bad if they were kept any longer and that pneumonia, coughs and

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# ANARCHY 57

ON SALE NEXT WEEK, ASKS

## WHAT IS THE LAW?

ANARCHY is Published by  
Freedom Press at 2s.  
on the first Saturday of every month





# Challenge for the T & GWU

FOR EIGHT YEARS there has been an agreement between the T & GWU and the Ministry which gives the airport workers at London Airport, Gatwick, Prestwick and Stansted wage parity with workers at State-owned BEA and BOAC. BEA negotiated a three-year package deal giving their workers a rise of £2 10s. in the first 12 months; therefore, according to agreement, Ministry workers want parity. The workers affected are firemen, aircraft mashallers, porters and drivers.

On the 21st of this month, airport workers at Prestwick were due to stop work, but were temporarily fobbed off by an offer from the Ministry of Aviation. The offer, which is known only to the unions and stewards, was slung out at a subsequent meeting of the T & GWU shop stewards.

The parity increase, which the airport workers are after, exceeds Brown's 3% norm, so was rejected. In the mood the airport workers are in, anything could happen. They are in favour of an immediate 'shut down' and are seeking official backing from the T & GWU Executive Committee.

John Cousins, the T & G officer responsible, has informed the EC. Obviously the T & G will support their members, after all they are on record as rejecting wage restraint and Government interference.

T & GWU bluff has been called, the claim is straightforward, an eight year precedent has been set, now is the time to back words with action—any bets?

## NUAW MISS THE TARGET

THE NATIONAL UNION OF Agricultural Workers' target is a 40-hour week and £12 minimum for their members. One would have thought that this is a very modest demand for 1965.

Farmworkers have just received a rise starting from January 1966

which gives them £10 10s. for a 44-hour week. The increase, in effect, is eight bob a week and an hour off their week.

Lord Collinson, General Secretary of NUAW said this was the best they could get at this time. The employers have already 'steamed' in they expect recompense from the Government to pay for the increase.

Unless farmworkers do something themselves they will reach their target of £12 per week in 1976. The remedy is in their own hands.

## ROUND ONE TO THE RANK AND FILE?

AFTER FOUR WEEKS OF struggle, Bristol dockers return to work on Monday (25.10.65). Gunter has appointed a committee of enquiry to enquire into the causes and circumstances of the dispute.

Cyril Foley, spokesman of the strike committee, stated that tempers had been aggravated by the way official meetings called by the union had been conducted. At one

meeting called by the T & GWU, several hundred dockers walked out.

As has been stated in past issues of FREEDOM, the job price which caused the dispute was well underpriced. The union officials couldn't or wouldn't admit this fact and, consequently, the tone of the meeting was 'Get back to work, we know what is best for you'.

The pattern of the circumstances of the Bristol dispute underlines the dangers inherent in the Devlin Report, power taken away from the rank and file.

The Devlin Report has no solution for dockworkers, only for dock employers and the State. 'Nationalisation with Workers Control' is the biggest phoney ever dug up, it's the pet hobby horse of the CP, and now the 'Voice', if dockers stand for that they will stand for anything. Fortunately, dockers tradition means 'gang control' which in turn means rank and file 'direct action', the only answer to the Devlin Report. BILL CHRISTOPHER.

## A Public Service

IT HAS FREQUENTLY been held that various journals of dissent deliberately and knowingly suppress or distort information that they receive. As an act of

public service we publish the following statement issued by representatives of the TGWU to its members.

ARTHUR MOYSE.

## To All Central Bus Members

# LIBELLOUS LIARS & DESPERATE DECEIVERS

WHILE ALWAYS defending the freedom to fair comment, the right to criticise and the just opposition to declared policies, to remain silent in the face of libel, slander, misleading statements and scurrilous attacks, would be to show cowardice and to demonstrate weakness. Such is the position of the present London bus leadership.

The article appearing on the front page of the October issue of the *Platform* contains statements and assertions that cannot be allowed to go unchallenged. Like some other organs of the modern anti-worker national press, the *Platform* appears to rely on lies, distortion, half-truths, innuendo and insidious personal jibes to support a policy of inciting the bus membership to oppose and destroy their own elected leaders and undermine the authority of Union officers.

An interesting factor emerging from this ill-conceived and slanderous article is that it is unsigned. This demonstrates the fact that he who dons the mantle of chief spoiler and critic of the bus leadership is not and never has been a busman. Strange too that such a person should talk about what 'we' have won and what 'we' suffer. It is perhaps worth noting too that not being a busman he must receive all his information second or third hand. Is it any wonder that so much of it is inaccurate? However, an Editor or Reporter would be expected to check before printing such material, or can it be accepted that this is indicative of irresponsibility in these matters.

Knocking the policy of the Section is one thing. Opposing the opinions of those responsible for interpreting the policy is perhaps understandable, but to attack the integrity of the people whose job it is to pursue that policy on behalf of the London bus membership is tantamount to character assassination that cannot and will not be tolerated.

It is an intriguing thought to know that apparently 'phone calls to the 'men of Woodberry' are listened into by the 'wreckers of Wanstead'. How else are we to interpret the paragraph 'any garage representative complaining to Woodberry on any local grievance is assured—it's all in order'. 'Any delegate seeking a ruling or interpretation from a Union official will get exactly the same advice he would

get from 'phoning the Operating Manager of London Transport'. This is, of course, arrant rubbish and deliberate lying! There are many delegates who know this is libellous slander.

The following paragraph says 'Lord Devlin, in his famous report, accused T & GWU officials of "favouring the port employers" rather than the dockers—he could with every truth, have included the London bus section in his comments and strictures'. This is verbal filth calculated to vilify and undermine the bus Union officials. The motive—anarchy and a perpetual state of sacrifice to achieve—nothing.

A quite blatant distortion also appears in the paragraph that says 'in both summer and winter programmes services were slashed'... 'bus services were torn to tatters'. Further on the article reads 'we face, what we repeat, will be the worst winter in living memory... a winter of savage cuts'. Good heady stuff this. The facts are that the Monday to Friday duties are reduced by six from a total of over 11,000, on Saturday the reduction is 28 duties and on Sunday from just over 6,000 there has been a reduction of 10 duties. Some slashing, some tatters, some cut.

Perhaps the most stupid statement in this whole ridiculous article is the one that starts 'the ten hour rest clause we won by years of effort was torn up and we settled for 9½ hours'. There never was a ten hour clause governing mutual changes. What is certain now is that a binding agreement exists for 9½ hours and is nearer to the wishes of the majority of members, in spite of all the nonsense that has been peddled on this particular subject.

In conclusion, the Central Bus Committee unanimously supports the stand I have taken on this issue and mass meetings will be held on a Divisional basis to ask questions of and receive answers from the team dedicated to improving the status, raising wages and obtaining better conditions for and on behalf of London busmen, with officers and members of the Central Bus Committee in attendance.

L. SMITH.

London District Secretary, Central Buses.

# FREEDOM

## For Workers' Control

OCTOBER 30 1965 Vol. 26 No. 34

# Rank and File Achievement

WITH THE AGREEMENT between the Engineering Employers' Federation and the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions on four-night shift work finally settled, negotiations can now go ahead at factory level. The British Motor Corporation has just signed such an agreement at its Fisher and Ludlow factory at Castle Bromwich, Birmingham. Now it is up to workers at other plants to get similar agreements. What is now happening is that after a campaign of absenteeism

on Friday nights, union and employers have had to recognise the wishes of the rank and file.

At the BMC Longbridge plant, the management gave in to assembly line workers as far back as 1957 over this question. The management was forced to accept the 38-hour, four-night shift on an unofficial basis, for in actual fact they were breaking their agreement with the unions.

Before this new agreement, managements tended to give in to assembly line workers, while other departments just stayed at home on Friday nights. This of course meant a loss of wages, but the men no doubt thought that it was well worth it. BMC have blamed the differences in night shift working for the shortage of components for overseas markets, but this was their own fault for they should have conceded the four-night shift all round. Now, because of the pressure from the shop floor, they are being forced to do it.

This is an example of what can be achieved by concentrated rank and file action. It took some time to get the new shift working, but by the very nature of their tactics, they brought enough pressure to bear on the managements and the unions without hurting themselves financially.

An agreement of this nature gives workers more job control. They have decided in what framework their hours should be worked. No doubt the lessons of this campaign are applicable to other workers and can be used by them.

P.T.

## 'Platform' fills the Vacuum

WE THINK it is worthwhile printing the circular issued by the Transport and General Workers Union to busmen, not only for the reasons Arthur Moyses mentions, but also because it is the first time that the union has replied in this manner to criticism in *Platform*. This is an unofficial paper which is circulated round the bus garages and read by a considerable number of busmen.

For some, the T & GWU has become the 'militant union', an impression one gets from reading the national press and a number of left-wing Labour Party publications, but this myth, which has been created, is in respect of the opposition of the union to certain policies of the Labour Government. While the T & GWU goes against the Government's Incomes Policy, it is all for increased productivity. For what, one might ask? If any further agreements on productivity are going to be like that negotiated at Courtauld's at Preston recently where the work norm went up 50% for a 3d. per hour increase, then they can keep them. The T & GWU is a union which will organise practically anyone and as they have members in many industries, the London busmen, in fact, form only a small section of this vast union.

## 'RECORD' SATISFIES NO-ONE

The union attacks *Platform* in general and its front page article in particular, but if one reads the official union journal, *Record*, there usually is not a thing in it that directly concerns busmen. While other union journals have articles of some direct interest to their members, the T & GWU, by virtue of its vast coverage, cannot serve the different sections as it should. *Platform* fills this vacuum for busmen and this is what the union is really grousing about, and whether they do it well or not is beside the point. The Union criticizes this paper, but with all its money and resources, it cannot provide the busmen with their own journal. Instead we get *Record*, which satisfies no-one. If the Union does not like *Platform*, why don't they get out their own sectional journal for the busmen.

There are a number of points made by an article, 'Reluctant Warriors' in *Platform*. It is now almost a year (December 1964) since a joint delegate conference, by an all-time record vote of 97-1, called for a fleet ban on overtime as a protest against continuous cuts in bus services. It is now ancient history and painful history that, within six days, that conference was recalled, and, on the advice of that same leadership, reversed its decision. . . . When conference takes a decision for action—stall. Call another—and another—until you get the sort of decision you want. From that moment on—every branch must be whipped into line and made "loyal" to conference decisions.'

P.T.

## Contact Column

**London Opinion.** Monthly forum on current problems, etc., for members and supporters of peace groups in the London area. First Monday in each month, commencing November 1, 1965, at 7.30 p.m. at 6 Endsleigh Street, W.C.1. Consultative Committee of Peace Organisations.

**Co-op.** Support an anarchist group indirectly. Anyone, anywhere in Britain, using the Co-operative, can support Birmingham Anarchist Group by quoting our number, B86723.

**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'.

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

**New Poster**  
War Want  
Waste Why?  
Politics!

34d. each plus postage. Orders to Bill Sticker, c/o 17a Maxwell Road, London, S.W.6.

**Vietnam Posters.** 'Who Loses in Vietnam—Always the People'. 4d. each. 30/- per 100. Orders to Freedom Press.

**Japanese Pen-Friend.** Ex-teacher. Dismissed for political ideas would welcome English correspondent on peace and anti-bomb ideas. Masaky O. Fukuda, Isar Bara, Nakamura-Shi, Kochi-Ken, Japan.

**New Zealand Federation of Anarchists.** First Annual Congress, December 26 to January 6. Enquiries Box 5455, Auckland C1, NZ.

If you wish to make contact let us know.