

# Spain and the World

to renounce their collaboration with the Falangist syndicates. But, once arrived at the meeting place, he perceived that there was present a greater number of persons than had been agreed, and that they were strategically deployed. In consequence, Edo considered these attempts at contact to be terminated, especially since he intended to stay in Spain and have interviews with militants in the underground movement.

Now that the Franco regime is on its way out, it is important that the moment of change will not find the Spanish anarchist movement in disarray. Anarchists must co-operate now as never before!

All commentators admit that anarchism is still a living force in Spain.

Fascists, communists and socialists are now competing to filch away by bribes, by threats, by pacts, the great mass of Spanish workers and peasants who would still favour anarchism.

Our opponents know what they want. We must ourselves make sure that we know which organisation is an anarchist one, which a collaborationist, which is defunct and which is alive.

We feel that our comrades in the FIJL could render us further service by informing us:

1. What is the future of the FAI (Anarchist Federation)?

2. How effective is the CNT (National Confederation of Labour) inside Spain? Should it be supported by anarchists?

3. What is the truth of A. Roa's statement (*Tribune*) that in 1962 the CNT signed a pact with the UCT (Socialist Union) leading to the formation of the ASO (Alliance of Trade Unions)?

4. Should the ASO be supported by anarchists?

The coming struggle will call for the solidarity of the International Anarchist Movement. But the movement must be informed.

Secrecy is of no use at all when it only confounds those who want to help.

EDITORS.

## Towards the Fingerprint State

AN INTERESTING GLIMPSE of the 'liberal' mentality has been provided by the recent proposal to fingerprint everybody in Britain.

Writing in support of the proposal in the *Sun* for May 12, C. H. Rolph, ex-policeman turned 'progressive' says that:

'The idea of fingerprinting us all would stir up less fuss now than it would have done 20 years ago, when we were still hating our identity cards. But there would still be quite a rumpus.

'Look what happened in the case of compulsory schooling, vaccination for smallpox, conscription for military service, dog licences, even jury service.'

He then goes on to argue that national fingerprinting would be beneficial, not only because it would help the police, but also one citizen to distinguish himself from another, the tracing of missing persons, the genuineness of pensioners, etc. In other words, 'identification' for official purposes would be more efficient.

Rolph's case really amounts to the justification of another invasion of individual life by the State on the grounds of previous invasions. Because we are,

or can be, conscripted, compulsorily schooled, vaccinated and dog-licensed, then there is no reason why we should not be fingerprinted. Given his premise, his case is logical. But anarchism is a direct challenge to his premise—anarchists deny the 'right' of the State to compel the individual to do anything.

Whatever side-benefits for the more benevolent forms of bureaucracy fingerprinting might produce, however it might increase the efficiency of distinguishing one unit of an ever-increasing population from another, I, for one, opt for the old 'inefficiency' and the lesser danger of social usurpation it represents.

In the *Daily Mail* of the same date, that doughty champion of 'dissent', Bernard Levin, adds his support to the proposal. His argument, however, is a bit more qualified. After all, he has his reputation as an 'enfant terrible' to consider.

He lightly dismisses the objection that fingerprinting would be an 'encroachment on our civil liberties', tut-tuts the danger of it being a step towards a more regimented society, and clinches his argument in favour of the principle of fingerprinting by listing the other compulsory registrations that we have to undergo.

However, being a 'radical' he expresses some doubts about the practical application of the scheme. He wants to know who is going to administer it, whether it is not another 'bent-copper's vademecum', if the computers needed will be accurate, etc. If these doubts can be settled he is willing to be fingerprinted if he is asked 'politely'! (Dear Mr. Levin, would you please put your head in this noose? . . .)

Both these 'progressive' writers typify the reformatory attitude of liberalism. They have not real objection to the submergence of the individual under the State machine. The criticisms they may or do express are only designed to improve the working of the machine, to smooth the road to the all-devouring Collective.

Were Mussolini and Hitler still alive they would surely get great and sardonic satisfaction from witnessing how yet another 'bastion of freedom' is proposing to follow even further in their footsteps.

S. E. PARKER.

## RESIST THIS!

### IN GREAT BRITAIN FINGER-PRINTING MAY BECOME COMPULSORY?

Although the news was not entirely a surprise I am appalled at the announcement that fingerprinting may become compulsory in Great Britain. Here is the item from the *Guardian*.

'Compulsory fingerprinting of everybody in Britain is being considered by the Home Office as a possible weapon against crime. A Home Office spokesman said last night it was just one of many ideas being examined as part of the present fundamental review of crime-fighting methods.'

It is not necessary for me to say that this is nothing but a step which could lead towards making Britain a Police State. Without going into its implications I want to appeal to all peace movements and those interested in the liberty of the individual in this country to react against this without any delay. The Authorities must know how opposed the British public is to such a step.

DEVIPRASAD,  
Secretary,

War Resisters' International.  
Enfield, Middx.

THE NEWS that our Spanish comrades kidnapped Mgr. Ussia, the Spanish Embassy's ecclesiastical counsellor to the 'Holy See' in order to attract international publicity for Spanish political prisoners is welcomed by us on many accounts.

Firstly, it achieved what it set out to do by gaining world-wide attention to the plight of political prisoners.

Secondly, it has shown that anarchists respect personal freedom and human life by releasing the man safe and sound.

Thirdly, it gave the lie to the accusation that anarchists have become inactive in their opposition to Franco's regime.

We congratulate our comrades of the FIJL (Iberian Youth) on this achievement.

At the same time our Spanish comrades in exile based on Paris published a communiqué which at last, in simple language, explains the 'mystery' of who co-operated with the vertical unions, and when. Here is the account translated from *La Monde Libertaire*, the French anarchist monthly:

'The Spanish Libertarian Movement has energetically condemned the negotiations conducted by certain of the former leading elements in the anarcho-syndicalist movement with the officials of the governmental syndicates.

'Luis A. Edo, secretary of the Paris branch of the CNT, who secretly entered

Spain, held a press conference during which he read a declaration of the Libertarian Movement.

'This rejected any kind of collaboration with the institutions of the present regime and with "those who aim to prolong its agony". The *Movement Libertaire* "does not recognise, and disapproves of, the plans that a group of ex-militants of the syndicalist organisation CNT have worked out with the leaders of official syndicates with a view to possible incorporation within the latter so as to give them a democratic backing".

'It will be remembered that several important CNT leaders held lengthy secret conversations last year in Madrid with the leaders of the Governmental syndicate organisation, at the end of which they signed an agreement to "reinforce the efficacy of the governmental syndicate organisation and avoid the earlier struggles".

'Luis A. Edo declared during his press conference and in the name of the *Mouvement Libertaire* that "the oligarchies are beginning to recognise that the regime is incapable of surviving the death of Franco". He underlined the fact that the regime aimed at stifling popular discontent by creating organisations which present a false appearance of democratisation, and that "various groups who previously were militant in the opposition are lending their weight to this work of enslavement and serving as justification to the regime for the development of its phase of so-called "liberation".

'Finally, Edo added that he had tried to have a meeting with former anarcho-syndicalist leaders so as to oblige them

## Behind Their Backs

rule can be forgotten for the moment (a moment can be of any length) and plans can be laid for an African majority in 1999. Of course this cannot be done immediately but the feelers that are being put out by both sides may be leading up to this.

Now, Wilson has never said the Africans should have majority rule now. Indeed he went to great pains on his many television speeches during the crisis. He says that there should be one man one vote 'one day' and who is to say what that day is?

Of course the tune has changed. At first he would only speak to the Governor, Smith was a renegade, a man in the hands of the 'right wing' of his party. Now, however, the tune has changed

enough to worry Kenneth Kaunda, who at last has seen through Wilson's hypocrisy, but alas, what can he do? Bring it up at the UN? It's a waste of time.

The UN cannot free the African people in Rhodesia. Only they can do that and apart from the odd one or two they are silent. Are they apathetic? Is African Nationalism just a load of bunk? My guess is that it is and that all this talk of Uniting African Might against Smith and Verwoerd is just a load of hogwash, and the most dangerous thing about it is that those suffering under these racialist régimes are going to wait for others to help them out of their predicament. They are going to wait in vain I think.

J.S.

## NUCLEAR EARTHQUAKE

IN THE RECENT furore over the Chinese and projected French tests another example of nuclear madness has passed unnoticed by the majority of the world's press. The *Economist* has drawn attention to the increase of underground testing (which is not covered by the test ban treaty). Both Russia and America have done a large number of tests in recent months. The American underground tests are known to have numbered 30 since the beginning of the year which is an incredible number even for the Americans with their customary wasteful attitude on military spending. Although only large tests have been detected with any certainty in the Soviet Union it seems likely that a number of smaller ones have passed undetected. The most disconcerting aspect of these tests was breezily revealed by *Time International* recently. A seismologist working in Denver, Colorado, noticed a correlation between earth tremors and tests in nearby Nevada. He then worked out that there was in fact a time lapse before the effect of the underground explosions was received in Denver. After strenuously denying the story for some time the American authorities now admit that the story is true and underground testing has definitely been responsible for earth

tremors. Then someone else in the *San Francisco Chronicle* noticed that the recent earth movements along the San Fernando Fault have also been related to the tests.

Although the Americans have admitted the effects of these underground explosions, they have said that these are so minimal that they do not intend to stop testing. It seems that nothing short of a major earthquake will make them

Continued on page 4

## ANARCHY 62

### IS ABOUT VOLUNTARY SERVITUDE

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## MURDER Inc.

THE BRITISH LABOUR Government has entered the murder racket, but, of course, there is no moral issue involved because the selling is nationalised.

One never ceases to wonder how low this Labour Government can go on the question of principles, this latest act means they are scraping the barrel in order to support the system.

Mr. Dennis Healey was pleased to announce that Mr. Raymond Brown had been appointed head of defence sales with a salary of £8,000 a year. Seamen, please note, obviously the selling of murder is more important than your job.

When Mr. Healey was questioned on the sale of arms to America for the possible use in Vietnam he replied, 'About Vietnam, we regard the United States as a country to whom we are perfectly free and anxious to sell arms and we would not seek to impose any limitation on the use of the arms we sell'. At the risk of a cliché, 'One doesn't bite the hand that feeds one!'

One MP, Mr. John Rankin, likened this appointment to the former appointment of Basil Zaharoff. Healey's classic reply, 'There is an immense difference between the activities of a private manufacturer of arms and the activities of a Government servant in seeking to promote sales of British defence equipment in line with the policy of the Government.'

Even the *Sunday Telegraph* (15.5.66), posed the question, 'In the master's steps?'

There is only one basic formula for selling arms—playing one country's buyer against another. Which is an excellent stimulant to the Cold War. Every country has a vested interest in maintaining this policy, otherwise their national economies would begin to look a bit sick.

The frightening thing about the whole affair is the apparent lack of interest by the majority of the members of the Labour and Trade Union movements. Or is the sale of arms permissible provided it is carried out under a Labour Government?

I suggest that Mr. Raymond Brown and Lord Chalfont (Minister of Disarmament) get together to discuss tactics, if peace should break out they might both be on National Assistance (we hope).

BILL CHRISTOPHER.

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SOCIALIST and 'progressive' organi-  
sations proliferated. There were  
meetings galore, protests and petitions  
galore. I was in the Schoolboys' United  
Front, voting for resolutions about un-  
employment and handing out leaflets  
which said 'Boycott Japanese Goods'.  
Some of my fellows, however, found  
other sorts of political ideals and joined  
the British Union of Fascists. Until it  
was banned, they came to school in  
black shirts and wore belts with fasces  
embossed on the buckle. In the changing-  
rooms they used to crowd together sing-  
ing their version of *A Tavern in the  
Town*:

'A Jew, a Jew a Jew a Jew a Jew,  
A dirty, stinking, thieving Jew. . .'  
The Fascist marches through East  
London were high tides of political rage,  
and the nearest equivalent in pre-war  
days to seaside battles between Mods  
and Rockers. Somebody took me to the  
Young Communists' headquarters in the  
town, where they had an under-the-stairs  
armoury—doorknobs on sticks, knuckle-  
dusters and breadknives, all for the  
march-wars. Getting arrested was a  
prestige symbol; one boy at school was  
chivved down his face and became a  
scarred hero.

It is hard to judge how much it meant.  
Certainly there was not much genuine  
indignation. The Fascists were strutting,  
insufferable larrikins who wanted frankly  
to bully; to the Communists it was a  
charade of St. George and some dragon.  
The people with a real right to anger  
were the Jews and those who knew what  
freedom ought to be, and they were  
probably more alarmed by the British

# MY NINETEEN-THIRTIES - 2

ruling class than by the delinquent  
flailings of the BUF and the Communists.  
One ought to say, too, that the police  
cracked heads equally; but they didn't.  
Many commentators remarked that their  
function seemed to be to protect the  
Fascists from opposition. Fascist marches  
were, but anti-Fascist demonstrations  
were not, heavily guarded by the police,  
and baton charges cleared the way for  
Mosley processions.

Probably the least remembered of the  
organizations thrown up by the depres-  
sion is the National Unemployed  
Workers' Movement. It was promoted at  
least to some extent by the Communist  
Party. Many of its organizers, but not  
all, were Communists. The purpose of  
the NUWM was to act as an out-of-  
works' trade union. It demonstrated  
wherever possible for more pay and  
'take'. They invaded the Ritz, and took  
a coffin to Downing Street; in my town,  
a hundred men convinced the PAC of  
their desperate mood by barricading  
themselves in the Baths. These demon-  
strations, again, were often broken up  
with gratuitous brutality by the police.  
Nor were there protests and enquiries.  
It was what the poor expected if they  
showed militancy.

But these, for all their heat and smoke,  
were only factions. The great majority  
of the unemployed and poor accepted

their fate because they could see no  
way out of it—or, if they could, were  
not prepared to go out and get slugged  
for it. The awful demoralizing effects  
of chronic unemployment need to be  
seen to be believed. Men sat on pave-  
ments playing cards listlessly all day  
(usually they were not allowed in the  
public library reading rooms). You  
could walk along streets at night, look  
in curtainless windows and see the  
obscene nakedness of poverty.

Into this destitute world, too, were  
injected meagre hopes of hope. Some-  
times unspecified: half the popular songs  
of the time—though none, I think, was  
ever as popular as *Brother, Can You  
Spare a Dime?*—were about Blue Skies,  
or Round the Bend of the Road. The  
radio had meticulously trivial serials  
about 'ordinary' families where the best  
was made of hard times. But, specifi-  
cally, every newspaper and magazine had  
prize competitions which dangled  
thoughts of escape by lottery. The *News  
of the World* Fashion Contest; 'Bullets';  
the *Sunday Dispatch* £2,000 crossword;  
innumerable others, which in turn bred  
weekly papers quixotically devoted to  
nothing else but helping with the solu-  
tions. If you couldn't climb the tree,  
there might be a windfall.

Not much has been said yet about  
national and international politics. The

figures, strutting and posturing, in retro-  
spect seem a small multitude; and hardly  
one who was not patently a buffoon, a  
dolt, or a power-struck twister. Yet the  
interest in them was keen everywhere.  
It had dual aspects. On one hand, they  
provided the same kind of perennial  
spectacle and argument as television  
characters do today. On the other, they  
were associated with the sharply lengthen-  
ing shadow of war.

Before the end of the depression  
everyone knew there was going to be  
another world war. A few years earlier,  
nobody would have believed it. I sup-  
pose it was about 1928 I overheard my  
father saying: 'There'll never be another  
war in our time. Or in his.' But about  
1934 we watched aeroplanes overhead,  
and my mother said bitterly: 'They're  
practising to kill.' People talked about  
war, chiefly in dreadful reminiscence of  
the boys, the friends and cousins and  
my father's two brothers who had been  
killed in France not so many years  
before. Political sophisticates blamed the  
Versailles Treaty, and in 1934 Canon  
Sheppard started the Peace Pledge move-  
ment.

Pacifism spread, but there were other  
considerations. What was the answer to  
Fascism in Europe? Aldous Huxley  
presented the pacifist case in a pamphlet  
*What Are You Going To Do About It?*  
; Day Lewis replied in another *We Are  
Not Going To Do Nothing*, arguing that  
ends justified means. In the event, the  
question was answered by the Spanish  
Civil War, which established anti-Nazism  
and anti-Fascism as positive political  
faiths for the coming world war. R.B.

ON WEDNESDAY, April 27, a book  
entitled 'Nigger Hunting in England'  
was published. The book was com-  
missioned by the London West Indies  
Standing Conference and was written  
by their PRO Mr. Joseph A. Hunte.  
The book deals with the victimisation  
of coloured immigrants by police officers,  
particularly in the Brixton area, where  
Mr. Hunte lives. The author claims  
that sergeants and constables go out  
in small groups, without the permission  
of their superior officers(?), with the in-  
tention of 'baiting' immigrants. This  
they often do in plain clothes and private  
cars in order to confuse the victims and  
make identification difficult.

On the evening after the book's pub-  
lication Mr. Hunte appeared on BBC  
TV's 'Twenty-four Hours' along with  
Police Inspector Halliday of Brixton.  
The latter was a smarmy individual who  
lounged in his chair and whose dislike  
for, and contempt of, Mr. Hunte was  
poorly concealed from the TV audience.  
The Inspector said of the accusations of  
victimisation, 'I have never heard any-  
thing more foolish in all my life.' In-  
deed the Inspector appeared to treat the  
whole thing as a malignant joke not  
worthy of serious treatment.

The *Times* the following morning con-  
tained a report on the book and a  
statement by Mr. Arthur Evans, the  
General Secretary of the Police Federa-  
tion. Mr. Evans denied the allegations  
of 'nigger hunting' and was quoted as  
saying 'I do not believe it—either in  
London or anywhere else.' If he was  
telling the truth the secretary has been  
viewing the police in his federation  
through rose-coloured spectacles. He  
should have read the first issue of a news-  
paper called *The British Independent*,  
issued by the Racial Preservation Society  
('dedicated to the Christian solution of  
the race problem'). This newspaper  
supports such great Christians as Dr.  
Verwoerd and Ian Smith, and sees  
apartheid as the 'Christian solution', very  
similar views in fact to Hitler's 'final  
solution'. The first issue (is it too much  
to hope that it'll be the last?) contains  
a letter, in the opinions column from a  
Sgt. N.S., Liverpool, Lancs., which reads

# Good Hunting?

as follows: 'As a police officer I am  
unable to join your society but I can  
assure you that all members of the force  
in this area are fully sympathetic with  
your views.' This confirms in print  
what the immigrants and other anti-  
racist groups have been aware of for  
a long time. The *Times* report printed  
a further statement by Mr. Evans to the  
effect that complaints against the police  
were investigated in a most thorough,  
scrupulous and unbiased manner. Did  
Inspector Halliday do this before he  
dismissed allegations of 'nigger hunting'  
as 'foolish'? The few hours between  
the publication of the book and the  
Inspector's TV performance was hardly  
long enough to read the book in, let  
alone investigate the complaints in it.  
In view of Sgt. N.S.'s letter it would  
seem inadvisable to lightly dismiss claims  
by immigrants of maltreatment by the  
police, even by persons with a vested  
interest in vindicating the police, such  
as Messrs. Evans and Halliday.

The police are far from being the  
only people with 'responsible positions  
in society' who support the Racial  
Preservation Society. Two of its London  
Committee are clergymen. Their afore-  
mentioned pernicious rag contains letters  
of support from two reverend gentlemen  
(one of whom signs himself Rev. J.  
Domestic, chaplain to the Lord Bishop),  
a major, a Lt. colonel, two colonels,  
a squadron leader, a captain, a commander,  
and the Hon. Mrs. C. of Eastbourne, not  
to mention the Liverpool police sergeant.  
People like these are admittedly only  
small fry as far as the great bureaucra-  
tic machine is concerned. Undoubtedly,  
however, there are many more who  
tread the real corridors of power and  
who share similar views, but who prefer  
not to be openly associated with such  
abortive associations as the RPS. Never-  
theless anti-racists of various political

and ethnic loyalties persist in asking the  
establishment to provide a solution to  
immigration problems.

Anarchists have always been aware of  
the futility of appealing to governments.  
The Labour left and the CPGB are rid-  
ing on the anti-apartheid bandwagon,  
presumably for vote-catching purposes.  
Unfortunately for the people they mis-  
guide history suggests that however  
sincerely individual politicians may feel  
about a subject, they will be unlikely to

## Rhodesia & Us

Dear Sirs,

Jack Stevenson is quite correct in his  
analysis of Rhodesia in the April 16  
edition.

I quote 'In Rhodesia itself the two  
main African parties, led by Joshua  
Nkomo and Sitole are more in opposi-  
tion to each other than they are to  
Smith'.

Very true, and it would be best to  
draw comparisons with our own class  
war.

Divide and rule is a fair maxim. But  
who is dividing and ruling the working  
class today?

We have the Labour Party, Commu-  
nist Party, ILP, SPGB, Co-op Party,  
CND, Committee of 100, the Anarchists,  
etc.

We have this paper and that paper, and  
hundreds of magazines and they are  
ALL in competition with one another  
for money, ideas and individual members.

No wonder the Establishment goes on  
ruling.

When will we learn?  
Best wishes,

London, N.19 MICHAEL SILVER.

## Anarchist Federation of Britain

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Project: Paul James, 50 Windermere Road,  
Handsworth, Birmingham, 21. University of  
Aston Group: Dave Massey, 5 Gladstone Road,  
Erdington, Birmingham, 23.

BRISTOL FEDERATION. Enquiries to Ian  
Vine, 3 Freeland Place, Hotwells, Bristol, 8.  
CARDIFF ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Mike  
Gowley, 36 Whitaker Road, Tremorfa, Cardiff.

DUNDEE GROUP. Contact Bob and Una  
Turnbull, c/o Doctors' Residence, Stracathro  
Hospital, by Brechin, Angus.

GLASGOW ANARCHIST GROUP ONE. Cor-  
respondence to Robert Lynn, 2b Saracen Head  
Lane, Glasgow, C.1.

GLASGOW ANARCHIST GROUP TWO. Meets  
11 Balfour Street every two weeks. Contact Joe  
Embleton.

HARLOW ANARCHIST GROUP. Enquiries to  
Keith Nathan, 12 Shawbridge, Harlow or John  
Barrick, 14 Centre Avenue, Epping.

ILFORD LIBERTARIANS. Regular meetings  
and direct action contact 212 Vicarage Road,  
Leyton, E.10.

LEICESTER ANARCHISTS. Correspondence,  
Peter Gibbon, 22 Fosse Road Central, West End,  
Leicester.

LEWISHAM, LONDON, S.E.13. 61b Granville  
Park. Next meeting, Thursday, May 26.

NORTH-WEST ESSEX. Meetings on the first  
Saturday of each month at 7.30 p.m. at Robert  
Barthrop's, The Old Vicarage, Radwinter, near  
Saffron Walden.

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

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

PLYMOUTH ANARCHIST FEDERATION. Con-  
tact J. Hill, 79 Underlane, Plymstock, Plymouth,  
Devon.

READING ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact  
Alan Ross, 116 Belmont Road, Reading, Berks.

### NORTH-WEST FEDERATION

NORTH WEST ANARCHIST FEDERATION.  
Regional Secretary: J. Bromley, 44 Doncaster  
Avenue, Manchester, 20. Buxton: Chris Berrisford,  
10 Byron Street, Buxton. Chorley: Alistair  
Ratray, 35a Devonshire Road, Chorley. Man-  
chester: Mike Mitchell, 3 Bakewell Road,  
Droylesden, Manchester. Meetings every Tues-  
day 8 p.m. Lord Nelson, Chapel Street, Salford.  
Merseyside: Barbara Renshaw, 4 Clarence Road,  
Devonshire Park, Birkenhead, Rochdale: Ian  
Heywood, 16 Mansfield Road, Bamford, Roch-  
dale. Stoke-on-Trent: Bob Blakeman, 52 Weldon  
Avenue, Weston Coyney, Stoke-on-Trent.

### EAST LONDON FEDERATION

WALTHAM FOREST ANARCHISTS. Contact  
Lionel Donnelly, 322a Hoe Street, Walthamstow,  
E.17. Meetings every Thursday at above address.  
WEST HAM ANARCHISTS. Contact Stephen  
Higgs, 8 Westbury Road, Forest Gate, E.7.

rock the party's boat by persistent forc-  
ing issues to public attention, in face of  
strong opposition. The establishment's  
opposition to any measures which would  
give all people equal status will be strong  
enough to defeat the spineless careerists  
in Westminster.

Before the situation degenerates any  
further anarchists should attempt to  
wean the anti-racist groups away from  
hypocritical politicians and infuse these  
groups with libertarian ideas. Any solu-  
tion to the 'colour problem' must come  
spontaneously from the people. If the  
public can be made to see that the  
colour problem was created by small  
minded bigots who stand to profit by  
racial strife, the problem could be solved,  
despite politicians and race haters.

LIONEL DONNELLY.

## LETTERS

### Whitsun Camp

Dear Comrades,

One of the results of the Manchester  
conference was the agreement to hold  
an informal camping weekend at Whit-  
sun. This will be at Llangollen from the  
Whit Saturday until whenever people  
have to leave.

There is a choice of camping sites,  
most people will be at the Abbey Farm  
which is at the rear of the ruined 13th  
century Norman Abbey half way up the  
Horseshoe Pass, but some comrades will  
wish to camp in more secluded areas, of  
which there are ample in the area.

Llangollen itself, of course, is a very  
pleasantly situated holiday town, and  
there are more than enough cafes, etc.,  
for people who do not wish to bother  
cooking.

Comrades interested, please bring own  
tents and sleeping bags. Last year our  
overspill had to sleep at the Merseyside  
Evangelical Mission who attempted to  
pervert our comrades by singing 'Bread  
of Heaven'!

If you would publish these details for  
the benefit of out-of-town comrades I  
would be most grateful.

Yours fraternally,  
Salford 7, Lancs. ALAN BARLOW.

## WEST LONDON FEDERATION

NORTHOLT ANARCHISTS. Contact: Jim  
Huggon, 173 Kingshill Avenue, Northolt, Middle-  
sex. Meetings first and third Wednesday of the  
month at Jeannie's, 6 Epsom Close, Northolt  
Park, Middlesex, at 7.30 p.m.

SOUTHALL ANARCHIST GROUP. Get in  
touch with Roger Sandell, 58 Burns Avenue,  
Southall, Middlesex.

### PROPOSED GROUPS

NOTTING HILL GATE. Anyone interested in  
reviving the libertarian group get in touch with  
Brian McGrath, 27 Arundel Gardens, London,  
W.11.

BELFAST, IRELAND. Contact Peter Stringer,  
7 Duffy Street, Belfast, 13.

LONDON, CRYSTAL PALACE/NORWOOD.  
Please contact Bill and Kate Beveridge, 50 Cam-  
den Hill (3 rings), London, S.E.19.

MARLOW AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE. Get in  
touch with Stella A. Fauser, 33a Spittal Street,  
Marlow, Bucks.

ALTRINCHAM YOUTH GROUP. Contact:  
Stephen Richards, 25 North Vale Road, Timper-  
ley, Altrincham, Cheshire.

SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE. Get in touch with  
Eric Harrison, 2 Cottage Aylesmore Farm,  
Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire.

### ABROAD

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

USA, ALBANY, NEW YORK. Contact E.  
Strauss, 230 Washington Avenue, Albany. Discus-  
sion group meets about twice a month.

AUSTRALIA. Sydney Anarchist Group. Public  
meetings every Sunday in the Domain at 3 p.m.

# ANOTHER VIEW OF TROGS

JOHN RETY'S ARTICLE on the Trogs demonstrates one of the dangers of taking articles from the popular Press and writing them up in FREEDOM, suitably adapted by overlaying the appropriate anarchist 'slant'.

In his commendable desire to defend the Trogs from any incursions on their liberty, Comrade Rety has actually pinned the blame on the wrong party, no doubt from an inherent distrust of clerics.

Some supporters of Birmingham Anarchist Group who went down to visit the Trogs a couple of weeks ago came back with a rather different impression from that obtained from 'reading between the lines' of the newspaper reports.

For a start, there can be little doubt that the sole culprit in the whole affair is the Press itself. Not only were the original 'orgy/drug' stories manufactured by the papers, but they also greatly exaggerated the attitude of the local people to the Trogs, which was by no means universally hostile. The Trogs tell us that they have little or no difficulty with the local shopkeepers, though admit that they are banned from certain pubs. (Incidentally, we also met a company director who was about to be ejected himself because he was wearing climbing gear, until the landlord saw his Rolls.)

Similarly, relations between the Trogs and the two police constables in charge of Matlock Bath were quite incredibly good, this despite a healthy disrespect for authority on the part of the Trogs. Inspector Fraser in Matlock itself had given orders that they should not be allowed to sit by the roadside, but other-

wise there is little resentment among the Trogs against the police.

The Trogs' attitude to the staff of the evangelistic project is also far from hostile. While their reactions to the activities of the religionists range from amused cynicism to a serious consideration of their 'message', the Trogs were more than willing to go along to the project HQ for a free cup of coffee, biscuits, or even a night's kip. The staff of the project emphasised to us that their interest in the Trogs was simply that they were one section of a whole society in need of 'saving'; at no time was their approach the sensationalist one envisaged by John Rety. (It could, no doubt, still be argued that their kind of mission represents 'an intolerable incursion on people's freedom'; this was indeed the substance of a letter we noticed in the local rag from one of Matlock's more 'respectable' citizens.)

On one issue the Trogs, the police, and the townspeople are agreed: they are all concerned at the amount of adverse publicity they have received at the hands of the Press. Ever since the Trogs became 'news' the town has been infested with hordes of motor-cycling 'Ravers', and there is strong evidence that, much as happened in the Mod/Rocker outbursts along the South Coast, the Press have actually created a problem by telling lies until they became true.

With regard to Councillor Tinti's plans to blow up or fill in the caves, it would appear that he has been as much misled by the Press as anyone else about the Trogs' activities. The 'caves' he was referring to, apparently, were the crevices in the rocks down by the river, where the Ravers, having all read their *Daily Mirrors*, now congregate in search of orgies; every weekend the local people are disturbed by their shouts, screams and the sound of motor-bikes.

We gather from Mrs. Tinti that the Trogs have sent a deputation to put their views to the Councillor and that the position is now clear, and that there is no danger of the council taking action against their caves. Perhaps Councillor Tinti is just a 'good' politician who wants to stay popular; unfortunately he took more notice of the Press version of public opinion than the real one.

Meanwhile the Trogs themselves are planning to 'go commercial'. They are trying to scrape together enough money to buy one of 'their' caves, the Cumberland Cavern. They would then 'do it up' and charge half-a-crown admission to the public. This may sound like a capitalist venture (c.f. anarchist badge-selling!), but may well be an ideal way of combining business with pleasure; financial security with 'security of tenure'.

MARTIN BRAGG.

## Operation Hat-Trick

THE FIRST BRITISH Polaris base opens at Faslane on Thursday, June 30. During its period of construction members of the Scottish Committee of 100 and SYCND have held two large demos at the base, it cost us a few quid in fines, it cost the state hundreds in security precautions, and still we got in.

This will be our third demo at the base. On Saturday, June 25 a two-day march will leave Glasgow, sleeping overnight in Dumbarton. Let's make this a demo the state won't forget. Come along, preferably in bus loads (we are all optimists up here). Register your protest against British Polaris.

Contact Alan Sinclair, Flat 3a, 39 Mallaig Road, Glasgow, S.W.1.

P.S. Don't forget to bring your cameras.

# 'President Johnson Proposes Treaty to Keep Moon Free'—US Information Service Bulletin

MUHAMMAD ALI (formerly Cassius Clay) is to fight in public with his fists, for money, an Englishman, Henry Cooper, who is also receiving money; but it is reported that Muhammad Ali is unwilling to fight the people of Vietnam with whatever weapons are handed to him (currently tear gas has been used). He is reported as stating to the draft board that he 'had no quarrel with the Vietcong'.

MARSHAL CAO KY, on the other hand, is reported to have said regarding the promised elections in South Vietnam, 'If a neutralist or Communist Government is elected we will stand up and fight against them. I don't care if they are an elected Government.' He followed this up by personally supervising the 'pacification' of Da-Nang which has been demonstrating against Marshal Ky's administration. US troops stood by.

FIVE VIETNAMESE civilians, three of them women and one child were killed, and 29 other people, including eight Americans, wounded when US and South Vietnamese guards panicked after a Vietcong bomb explosion in Saigon. Passers-by were caught in the crossfire, which lasted nearly forty minutes.

ACCORDING TO US Information Service more than 2,700 Vietnamese local government officials have been killed or kidnapped by NLF since 1964. According to *National Guardian* figures (compiled from official Pentagon sources), US casualties in Vietnam from January 1 to April 16 are 3,407 killed, 640 'non combat' deaths, 15,866 wounded, missing and captured 242. According to US

Information Service Bulletin, there are at least 33 American service personnel held as prisoners but it has no prisoners of its own since it hands them over to the custody of South Vietnamese officials. The *New Statesman* correspondent reports from Vietnam that the official determination (from the South Vietnam side) as to whether a hamlet is under government control 'is whether a headman sleeps in his hamlet at night. It is grotesquely unreliable. Many of the headmen do so because they have bought off the Vietcong with arms, rice or money, others because they belong to communities that do resist the Vietcong but are often prepared to resist the government as well.'

THE SAME issue of the *New Statesman* quotes a *New York Times* report that US soldiers in Vietnam are now using their own money to hire Nung tribesmen at five dollars a day, to do the dirty work, such as torturing suspects. One *Times* photo shows Nungs (who worked with the French and Chiang Kai-shek) hanging a prisoner upside down—after fifteen minutes in this position he admitted he was a sniper. Two other pictures of Nungs at work are shown, reports the *New Statesman*. Three British Hovercraft are reported to be at work in Vietnam. The new arms salesman for the British government has been appointed. Mr. Healey, Secretary for Defence, in announcing the appointment said when questioned, 'About Vietnam, we regard the United States as a country to whom we are perfectly free and indeed anxious to sell arms and we would not seek to impose any limitation on the use of the arms we sell.' Hampstead Labour Party has undertaken to

're-examine its relationship with the national Labour Party' if the British government makes any military commitment in the Vietnam war. It will invite other Labour Parties to do the same. This resolution, says Mr. Keohame, is 'not just an empty threat'. The *News-Letter* quoting Trotsky (who else?) on the spirit of the Vietnamese revolutionist, 'It is not in their capacity to kill, but in their readiness to die that distinguishes a revolutionary people.'

ATMOSPHERIC fall-out was substantially increased by the explosion of a Chinese bomb. Twenty CND members demonstrated at the Chinese Embassy. The Americans conducted another underground test. Prior to these tests the level of strontium in the British Isles was reported to have fallen.

A MATCH at Stamford Bridge between Chelsea and Barcelona was described in the *Telegraph*. 'For much of the game the stands and terraces roared their approval of every Chelsea move and screamed their dislike of the Spaniards. At times they seemed almost to be baying for blood. Football was not meant to arouse such passion.' However this is only a game, for two anarchists holding a banner demanding the release of political prisoners were escorted from the ground an hour before the game began. Meanwhile, back in Barcelona a procession of 150 priests was broken up by police truncheon charges. The priests were protesting at ill-treatment of a university student. It has been hinted that the police may be excommunicated as a punishment.

JON QUIXOTE.

## For Political Freedom

ABOUT 100 people turned up on Sunday on a pleasant sunny day to march from Marble Arch to the Polish Embassy in Portland Place. A large variety of organisations were present, mainly from the dissident left. A large number of anarchists turned up and were the leading lights amongst the chanters. Somehow one wonders the appropriateness of slogans such as 'Disarm the Polish Police and Arm the Polish Proletariat', on a quiet Sunday afternoon in London. The demonstration was the first organised by the new ad hoc 'United Libertarian and Socialist Defence Committee' and they are to be praised for securing such a good turnout. As was quoted in last week's FREEDOM the demonstration was organised to protest against the imprisonment of members of the Polish Communist Party who produced a pamphlet attacking the State subsidy of the Roman Catholic Church in Poland. The leader of the group, Ludwig Hass, was also responsible for a pamphlet attacking the bureaucracy for 'having usurped the workers property'. Hass served many years in Soviet camps during the Stalinist period and has always made no bones about the fact he considered himself a Trotskyite.

At their trial they were brought in handcuffs, the first time that political prisoners have been treated in this fashion since 1956. It is to be hoped that the demonstration has the effect of shaming the Polish government into releasing the prisoner as Gomulka, the Polish Party leader, was himself subjected to political imprisonment for raising his voice against the communist bureaucracy and should realise that interference with political liberty is the start of the long dark slide into Stalinism.

M. J. WALSH.

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## Back to your Grave, Bakunin!

Dear Comrades,

'Michael Bakunin' does not like Catholics and their Church. Nor do I. But his attitude seems to be that any Catholic activity is to be avoided and attacked by anarchists. Near where I live is a large Catholic orphanage, full of what are usually called 'underprivileged' kids. This institution is almost always short of money, and the nuns spend their time going round the doors in all weathers asking for cash. Does Bakunin suggest that I turn them from my door?

Rightly, he obviously does not believe in charity. The very idea of charity is a product of the capitalist system. But what, until the social revolution comes, can the anarchist do to help other human beings who are the victims of the profit system? There can be only two courses open to him. He can devote all his time to propagating socialist and revolutionary ideas or he can aid various projects that alleviate the misery caused by the system.

The first is the theoretically correct one and would doubtless be endorsed by 'Bakunin'. But how soon would one retain one's sanity if one immersed oneself in struggle, day in, day out. To say nothing of the fact that the people are not going to take any notice anyway. The second course at least gives the revolutionary the chance to meet people who are at least committed to doing something. People who do something may some day be persuaded to do everything.

Five anarchists spend three days in the cold of a Scottish winter fasting to collect money for War on Want. We got a hell of a sight more support from the people for this than we would have got if we'd been carrying out a political demo. People knew who we were, but they gave nevertheless. We collected £173. This has been sent to a destitute fund in Hong Kong. Would Bakunin suggest that we should not have done this, since it was not revolutionary action? Would he suggest that people be left to starve, until the millenium?

Too often comrades, the revolutionary pose is an excuse for doing nothing. Anarchists ought to be founding community projects but most of the ones I know spend their time in the pubs. When someone else does what we should have done, we use their beliefs to attack them. That is hypocrisy.

As soon as I have some spare cash I intend to pass some of it on to the American girl for her Puerto Rican slum project. Incidentally, if 'Bakunin' disagrees with charity, would he refuse to help the people of Kinghill? After all they are not anarchists. In fact some of them may be Catholics.

Bakunin should go back to the grave. Yours fraternally,

PETER THE PAINTER.

# LETTERS & Controversy

## Liberal Studies

The mind boggles! When I read a report in the *Guardian* of a recent TV programme in which US officers were shown being taught torture techniques I felt so sick I dashed off a vitriolic letter to Peter Simple (the first person I thought of) enclosing a wad of toilet paper and asking him to distribute a piece to all journalists, politicians, clergy, TU bosses, etc., none of whom have protested, to my knowledge, so they could wipe their mouths after receiving their pay-packets.

To my amazement back came a mild little letter from Simple stating he had not seen the programme but expressing concern if the *Guardian* report was correct. Is Simple, then, sincere after all, and not just a propagandist? Or is his answer just a dodge, to hook me by pretending he's really concerned about torture?

It now seems from the *Guardian*, that the officers may have been taught torture so as to learn how to resist it. However, whether official or unofficial, torture is widely used in Vietnam by all the warring parties. Also (this is the amazing bit) the officers in the programme were shown actually trying out the techniques on each other. The mind boggles!

Best wishes,

London JEFF ROBINSON.

## Is Work a Curse!

Dear Comrades,

Laurence Cuniffe's comment on 'workers' control' in last week's FREEDOM seems to me naive, and more likely to put off workers than endear them to anarchistic automation. I work for the Mersey River Board. Our foreman takes creative pride in concreting, levelling and grass-seeding the river bank—you can't do that with machines—and likewise with other jobs!

Such comments can result from: (1) being fed up with work as under the capitalist system (a motive common to beatniks, but extremes never did lead to a new society); (2) technical ignorance of the many jobs (simple formulae look foolish in a complex many-sided culture); or (3) unconscious artistic snobbery (as a poet I say I get satisfaction because I do it freely, not only because it is 'art').

Man's dignity came about originally, because by working he subdued the forces of nature. To leave the work in this way to machines is to lay oneself open to a maternal dependence on a mental worship of machines (man is still, in some ways, a child and fetish-monger, including myself and Mr. Cuniffe).

Also, what is 'creative' and what 'non-creative'? Isn't it authoritarian to lay down the law on this? Surely men will decide this pragmatically, when the time comes and we have more freedom of choice! A world full of one sort or another of 'creative' people ('creative' defined according to the norms of a bourgeois culture based on exploitation of labour?) is likely to resemble the top-of-the-pops with n-number of imitation Dylans, Ginsbergs, Moores, Brunels, Gauguins, Russells, and Einsteins, etc. What a bore and a drag! (unless we all take up Buddhism, Taoism or what have you—even if our temperaments don't suit).

The incidence of physical and mentally destructive drug-taking will soar, especially in a free society, where self-discipline will require patient labour to facilitate its development as well as pearls of wisdom from FREEDOM—written creatively, Chinese-style in verse to keep the poets employed, of course.

The dream of ease and automation is a reaction to excessive toil—its cruder counterpart among workers is the 'easy-money' 'get-rich-quick' aspect of gambling, and skiving (I know). Just let's not be deceived by clichés, then we'll get somewhere.

Manchester

DAVID STRINGER.

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# Seamen vs. the State

UNLESS THE SHIPPING Federation increase their offer, the seamen's strike will drag on. As the odds are a million to one against this happening, the seamen are preparing for a tough struggle. The clear cut issue is seamen versus the employers plus the government, and the seamen will be part of the 'showdown' that had to come with some section of industry sooner or later.

The *Financial Times* in its editorial on May 14 reflects the employer-government attitude. 'The very inconvenience caused by a shipping strike, in fact, may help to bring about a change in the public

attitude towards wage claims and cause everyone to tread more carefully in future. If that were to happen, we should have a considerable and lasting gain to balance against the immediate loss.' In other words the seamen have got to be beaten at all costs as a warning to others.

The national press have taken this point up in various ways in all the editorials. One of the most vicious was the *Sunday Telegraph* of May 15. 'If greed and selfishness are outstanding characteristics of the British today they are fully exemplified in the National Union of Seamen and its decision to strike.' It goes on to say, 'They have refused to abate by one iota their demand for what amounts to a 17 per cent increase in earnings whilst already some average £20 a week and all found.'

The gentleman who had the gall to write that editorial probably gets that amount for just writing that diatribe alone, he must be really 'burnt out' after that effort.

Getting back to the truth for a moment, the NUS have issued a leaflet entitled 'The Target is 40 Hours'. In it they quote the wonderful 1965 agreement which meant that an AB received a monthly sum of £8 2s. 8d. in the consolidated basic rate for adult ratings to compensate for up to eight hours work each on Saturdays and Sundays when a ship is at sea. This meant, of course, that seamen had to be prepared to work a seven day week of eight hours each day at sea to get it.

The *SPIRIT* of the agreement was that the existing pattern of work should continue. In fact seamen would only be called upon to do the Saturday and Sunday hours when absolutely necessary. Running true to form, some of the shipping employers watered down the 'spirit' and *purposely* found jobs for the seamen on Saturday and Sunday like the very vital task of *cleaning hand rails*. Obviously this sort of mercenary action by some of the employers all helped to stir up the seamen. In consequence seamen are saying, 'To hell with agreements that employers can drive a coach and horses through, we want a straight 40-hour week at sea as well as in port'.

The employers' offer, and final offer, was a 40 hour week over

three years with a standstill on further wage increase for three years, unless there is a steep rise in living costs. Who determines a 'steep rise'? Most certainly the employers would never admit to a steep rise, and the government couldn't because to them it would mean admitting defeat of their Prices and Incomes Policy. On that basis the seamen could be right back where they are now, amongst the lowest paid seamen in the world.

The rank and file seamen quite rightly rejected the offer flat, *despite the fact that Mr. Hogarth and the negotiating committee were ready to accept.*

After the war seamen were promised wonderful conditions, in recognition of their valiant war service, they received buggar all. They were promised a revision of the penal clauses of the Merchant Shipping Acts, needless to say there has been no revision. It's no good Harold Wilson, Gunter or the employers now saying this could be reviewed under a general enquiry. Twenty-one years is long enough to amend any Act even by the windbags at Westminster.

Perusing the *Sunday press* I expected to find some bright spark wanting to make some strikes illegal. I wasn't disappointed. Quintin Hogg in the *Sunday Express* (15.5.66) was screaming for that very action. He states how daddy's Trade Dispute Act of 1927 prohibited political strikes, and how it was repealed by the Attlee Government in 1945. Quintin then winds up with a wonderful last paragraph. 'No one doubts that free and independent trades unions have a vital and responsible part to play in modern industrial society. But no one should be above the law, or set themselves up to dictate to Parliament the terms on which Britain should be permitted to live. If the nation does not assert itself to end this lawlessness and chaos, we do not deserve to continue to flourish as a free people in the modern world.'

How the hell can a trade union be free and independent when it is forbidden by law to strike? It would have been far better if he had written what he really meant. Trade unions are a necessary evil providing they do not respond to the wishes of their members but conform to the wishes of the employers and the establishment. In other words a training ground in the interest of the present system.

From 12 o'clock tonight it appears that the Royal Navy is going to be pretty busy on a 'towing operation' but the dockers are prepared to counteract this move, 'black ships' will not be unloaded. This example of solidarity is excellent. Let's hope that this liaison doesn't break down when the dispute is over. Dockers and seamen have a lot in common, in co-operation they could win their just demands.

BILL CHRISTOPHER.

Continued from page 1

change their minds. They would do well to learn from what has occurred in Russia. Although Soviet authorities vehemently deny it, there seems to be no doubt that before the Tashkent earthquake, in which several people had been killed, there had been underground tests at Karaganda, 500 miles to the north of Tashkent. There seems to be little doubt that these tests had, in fact, induced the earthquake at Tashkent. It also seems very odd that the Soviet Union did everything in their power to kill the story and even forbade foreign correspondents to visit the area. The only news has come through Tass, the official news agency, it has kept saying that damage was minimal. The Swedish seismological observatory at Uppsala is quite definite that there had been a large-scale underground explosion in the Karaganda area just prior to the Tashkent earthquake. It seems quite likely, therefore, that the Soviet authorities who exerted censorship at Tashkent were only too well aware on whose shoulders the responsibilities rest.

## THE COST OF THE WORKERS' BOMB

Reports coming through from the radiology detection centres in Japan indicate that the Chinese exploded a high yield atomic device in order to deceive western intelligence experts into believing that the Chinese had exploded a thermonuclear weapon. It seems extremely

## Nuclear Earthquake

improbable that the Chinese communist régime could have developed such a device so quickly and, in order to bluff 'the paper tiger', they resorted to a trick. The consequences of their action are, however, very serious for the people of Northern China. It seems very likely that, for its size, it was one of the 'dirtiest' bombs ever exploded. The Japanese are worried about possible fall-out risk to themselves, and are certain that the North Chinese provinces will be contaminated. Certainly enough to affect milk and other forms of food.

## TECHNICAL DRAIN

The Chinese government appear to have siphoned off a great number of technicians and scientists towards the nuclear bomb projects. In a country where trained technologists are at a premium it seems that this definitely indicates that the Chinese communists have chosen guns rather than butter. It seems very sad that a poor nation which was trying to improve the lot of the largest group of people in the world should prefer revenge to the conquest of bread.

## NEED FOR DISARMAMENT

It seems quite obvious to any anarchist that the most urgent thing needed today is disarmament. It seems equally obvious

# FREEDOM

## For Workers' Control

MAY 21 1966 Vol 27 No 16

## A 'BASIC GULF'

THE STATE is increasingly opposing the workers' struggle to maintain and improve wages and conditions. Its present economic role in society is a far cry from that of the 'laissez-faire' period of capitalism and this is partly due to the increased power of organised labour. It is not only the largest employer but actively assists private employers in resisting the demands of their employees.

The State is strengthening capitalism and assisting in its monopolistic trends. Monopoly capitalism fits snugly in with the State's centralised planning and control. Workers are beginning to feel the effects. The Incomes Policy showed how the Government was thinking and the proposed early warning legislation shows that they have every intention of carrying out this policy.

With regard to the seamen, any showdown with the Government has been avoided up until now. Wilson's last minute intervention in the rail dispute prevented what some managements would like to have seen for although they talk about 'lost production' and how the 'country's prosperity is bound to suffer', they are nevertheless willing to do battle with their employees. They saw the rail strike as one where organised labour could have been taught a lesson. It would, they say, have enforced the Government's Incomes Policy and shown 'our' foreign creditors that 'we' meant business.

## TAKING ON THE SEAMEN

With regard to the seamen's strike, the *Financial Times* says: 'Uncertain as the outlook may be at present, it is important to remember that a strike would not be pure loss to the economy. Some time, if it is ever to get wage inflation under control, the Government has to face the inconvenience of a major strike. It might have chosen better ground (railwaymen) on which to stand perhaps, but no ground is perfect, and the Budget left so much to the incomes policy that another surrender immediately after it would have shaken overseas confidence both in the Government's policies and in sterling.' From this it appears that far from being 'disastrous', in the long term a strike could be a good thing, providing of course that the strikers give in.

If the Government stands by its incomes policy, then further industrial disputes are likely to occur. If the management-State line up wins in these disputes, there could be considerable structural changes, a general rationalisation of manpower and the introduction of new methods of production which are being resisted at the moment.

Although 'our' lack of ability to compete in the international markets is nearly always attributed to strikes, a look at the International Labour Office's figures show a different story. In the United Kingdom, the number of working days lost per thousand of working people for the five years ended 1964 was only 242, compared with 1,220 in Italy and 722 in the United States. In fact the number of days lost as the result of accidents is far higher.

## 'THEM' AND 'US'

William Davis, financial editor of the *Guardian*, says: 'There is still a basic gulf between employer and employee in this country—a "them" and "us" approach which does immense damage.' Judging by the ILO strike tables, it appears that the 'them' and 'us' attitude prevails in other countries as well and that this does show a 'basic gulf'. It will always be there while we have an employer-employee set up and while a minority controls the means of production. While competition for markets goes on, each capitalist power will try to solve its problems at the expense of the workers. This may have taken a harsher form in the past, but nevertheless it remains essentially the same today.

This 'basic gulf' comes up again in a Stationery Office pamphlet called 'Attitudes to Efficiency'. This says that the profit motive is less accepted in this country than in other Western industrial countries. It puts up ideas to be introduced to dispel the employee's distrust of managements. With regard to manpower inefficiency, it says that imaginative management is needed 'coupled with a recognition that negotiation is essential to secure the abandonment of many wasteful practices'.

Security and status would influence workers' attitudes. Staff status, sick pay schemes, procedure for appeal against dismissal and joint consultation are some of the reforms suggested in the pamphlet, but these will bring benefits at a price for these things are not given away, only won. All sorts of schemes might be thought out and introduced and every effort will no doubt be made to try to show that the interests of workers and management are really one and that they are a partnership, with common ground existing between them.

Managements need workers, but workers do not need managements. They could take over, run and control industry for the benefit of the community instead of for the profit of a few.

P.T.

## 'Anarchy' held up by Censorship

SUBSCRIBERS to *Anarchy*, our sister-paper, will experience some delay in receiving it this month. Complicated as its production schedule is, due to block-makers, artists, typesetters, proof readers, printers, machine-minders, there is a further complication (not known to FREEDOM) of 'the binders'. This month's issue was in their hands and awaiting completed delivery when a phone call was received that one of the higher-ups in the bookbinders had called attention to the back cover illustration and had given it as his opinion that there might be some objection on the part of the women workers to handling it. The forewoman was consulted and it was reported as her opinion 'That she couldn't put it through the women

workers'. The Freudian significance of this reported remark was not lost upon its recipient when it was recalled that the back cover of *Anarchy* contains a picture of a nude man by David whose penis has been lashed into some complex torture-device. In the face of this refusal the only thing to do was to transfer the binding to a less prudish firm.

However, the incident is illustrative of the care people take not to offend other people's assumed susceptibilities. Not one of the persons drawn into this account was saying that he (or she) objected to this personally, and if he or she did one could understand, without, of course, forgiving.

J.R.

## Contact Column

**Room and Work.** Woman reader (mid-forties) will need room and work when leaves psychiatric hospital. Offers of either or both to Box 30.

**Research.** Wanted for Research purposes—Committee of 100. Old copies Resistance vol. 1, 2 (1-5); 3 (1, 3-7). London Committee Bulletin, Action for Peace, Pamphlets, Leaflets, Circulars, National, London, Regional. Original Price or offers, plus postage to Peter Neville, 12 South Grove, Erdington, Birmingham, 23.

**Accommodation Wanted.** Wanted, large flat, W.2, W.11 for Notting Hill Gate anarchists. Any information regarding a reasonably priced flat will be gratefully received. Please contact M. Fitton, Flat 35, 37 Clanricarde Gardens, W.2 (Nr. Notting Hill Gate underground station) evenings.

**Comrades wanted** to take part in anti-war pageant. May 28. Details from: Myrtle Solomon, EUS 5501.

**Accommodation Vacant.** Half flat vacant. Phone Bucknell CUN 4576.

**Aberdeen Vietnam Week.** June 5-11. Pickets, leafleting, teach-in, meetings, vigil, etc. Details, support to Bob Comrie, 288 Hardgate, Aberdeen, Scotland.

**Rebel Worker.** First English number of America's wildest, experimental libertarian socialist journal. 1/- post free from Charles Radcliffe, 13 Redcliffe Road, London, S.W.10 or Freedom Press.

**All-Hail!** Glasgow Fed. of Anarchists Group 2 recently formed need cash for a loud-hailer which is urgently required for a forthcoming Faslane demo. Donations please to Joe Embleton, 11 Baliol Street, Glasgow.

**Hospitality wanted.** Sixteen-year-old comrade (male) from Paris would like to stay with family during summer vacation. Write Box 29.

**King Hill Hostel.** Demonstration outside Minister of Health's house. Meet 3 p.m. Kentish Town tube station, Sunday, May 22.

**Job/Girl/Country.** 16-year-old comrade (working-girl, not student) with problem parent (widow) seeks permanent job in country. Preferably near some Peace/Political Activity evenings and weekends. Anything considered. Contact through Peter Neville, 12 South Grove, Erdington, Birmingham, 23, urgently.

**Accommodation Offered.** To responsible person in return for taking child to school some days and a (very) little housework. Write 15 Pennine Mansions, Pennine Drive, Golders Green, N.W.11 or phone MEA 1872.

**Accommodation.** Young couple seeking accommodation in West or NW London with view to communal flat. Not too expensive. Grateful for any type of reply. Box 27.

**Accommodation.** Flat or rooms required in London area (preferably unfurnished) by teacher and wife. For one-year period from September. P. and M. Ford, 102 Stotfold Road, Arlesey, Beds.

**Accommodation Vacant.** One bunk empty—happy, tolerant girl wanted in s/c flat, in lowest Lambeth, details REL 5224.

**Accommodation wanted.** Accommodation needed by couple (small income) with boy of 2½ and baby. London. Preferred unfurnished. Reliable and considerate. Box 23.

If you wish to make contact let us know.