# Anarchist Weekly 65

MAY 20 1967 Vol 28 No 15

# NO PILL FOR SCOTS!

Commons, to make Family Planning part and parcel of the National Health Service, covers England and Wales but not Scotland.

The reason for this discrimination lies in the 'Catholic vote'. And this bogey is a real one. Areas of Scotland, particularly in the West and around Dundee are haunted by the presence of the 'Catholic vote'. In areas like Coatbridge the populace votes not Labour or Torybut Catholic and Protestant.

To give some examples of just how bad it is. In Glasgow, where the Labourcontrolled council is ridden with Irish-Catholics there is no official municipal Family Planning Centre at all. The sole source of help and information in the city is the offices of the Family Planning Association, a private body. Queues of women have been reported there. In Dundee (with an amazingly large Irish population) a similar situation exists. Edinburgh is little better and only in Aberdeen, where the humanitarian doctor Sir Dugald Baird has been working on the outer fringes of the law for years, is contraceptive information freely available. Freely available, that is, for those who seek it out.

Even in Aberdeen, claimed by some to be more liberal in these matters than Stockholm, the local clinic does not middle classes.

A suggestion that posters should be put in mother and baby clinics was briefly mooted by the city health committee and then quietly dropped. That not everyone in the city agrees with the enlightened

THE RECENT Bill, now in the attitude of the health authorities can be Committee stage in the House of seen when one Progressive (i.e. Tory) councillor said, What do we need it for anyway'.

> Scotland is bogged down in sex matters by 19th-century Victorian Presbyterianism on one hand and blatant Roman Catholicism on the other. In one cathedral in a major Scottish city worshippers were given printed forms containing a hysterical tirade against the abortion bill and were told, by the clergy, to send this drivel to their MP. Some weren't so soft and sent these little holy epistles to the press instead, whereupon the hierarchy denied responsibility.

Certain Scottish Tory MPs have pleaded in the Westminster Gasworks that Scotland should be excluded from the abortion bill. What similar underhand skullduggery has gone on in the case of the Family Planning Bill? Or is the failure to give Scotland the benefits therein the only way in which our politically bankrupt Labour rulers can halt the ever decreasing Scottish population? Scotland now has the biggest slum problem in Europe, the lowest wage rates in Britain and mounting unemployment. The Highland Board, just about the only piece of anything like Socialist planning this government has done is impotent against the attacks of the landed gentry. Wilson may well have an Aden problem on his hands, he may worry appear in the telephone directory and about the Common Market, he can sweat its services are largely restricted to the over the balance of payments. But the Scottish problem, provided North of the border comrades start stirring it up a bit, could give Harold the Good the biggest headache he's ever had!

DONALD SHU.

# 'SUNDAY CITIZEN' COMMITS SUIGIDE

TREEDOM regrets to announce the death of another newspaper. The Sunday Citizen has five issues to go before its burial. The cause of death, according to the patient, lack of 'advertising'. I beg to differ with the diagnosis, it was more like suicide whilst under strain of economic difficulties of its own

making. Since approximately 1954, when it was the Reynold's News, the Sunday Citizen has become a 'lousy rag', good feature articles have been the exception rather than the rule. In the majority of cases it has trimmed its sails to accommodate the right-wing Lib-Lab of the Labour Party and consequently found itself in competition with the traditional independent Tory Press. Obviously it was no race—the Citizen couldn't even present that point of view attractively. The Sunday Citizen was viewed as a tragic giggle, which was bought and read out of loyalty, and even that has grown thin over the past eighteen months or so. Some printing chapels, who made bulk sales of the paper, were unable to give copies away let alone sell them.

The Sunday Citizen, if it had had 'spunk', could have captured the imagination of the Joe Soaps. Maybe due to

# ANARCHY

ON SALE NOW DISCUSSES

## IMPROVISED DRAMA

ANARCHY is Published by FREEDOM PRESS at 2s, on first Saturday of every month

the boycott of advertisers it would not have made a fortune but it would have held its own.

One thing that can be said without fear of contradiction, the printing workers bent over backwards in their attempts to save the Citizen, but all they succeeded in doing was providing a slightly healthier corpse for a later burial.

Will the Sunday Citizen be the last newspaper to die? Unfortunately I have my doubts. Some circulations are beginning to drop. The immediate cause put forward is lack of advertising, and up to a point this is correct, but do the British public want newspapers as such? Taking a look at the national press, both daily and Sunday, the four with the highest circulations are the two Mirrors, News of the World and the People, with the emphasis on crumpet before news, although to be fair, the last does specialize in anti-working-class muck-raking.

So what is the solution? Are National daily papers a thing of the past? Do we have time to read the papers? Going to work in the mornings, either the journey is too quick or too crowded to read the paper, the same in the evening and by the time you have had your evening meal the one-eyed monster imposes its hypnotic powers.

The papers which do not need reading have the highest circulation, and this, whether we like it or not, is the unpalatable truth. Newspapers as such have either to rekindle social conscientiousness on the injustices of the day, expose the nakedness of the dream world we live in, or become puppets of the brassy advertisers, with news as incidental.

The Sunday Citizen was in an ideal position to make the exposures; it was financed by the Co-operative and Trade Union Movements. It didn't need the brassy advertisers it chose to court. As with any suicide, we regret the death of wasted potential.

BILL CHRISTOPHER.

KING CONSTANTINE of Greece recently visited this country in a 'private' capacity and the independent, free press of this country obeyed instructions to keep this fact secret from the public.

King Faisal of Saudi Arabia recently visited this country in a 'public' capacity and the independent, free press of this country obeyed instructions to whip up some interest.

Nevertheless a courageous journalist, Mr. Micheal Davie, the Deputy Editor of the Observer, shed an interesting sidelight on King Faisal's visit, which is of importance to us

It is a pity that nobody will tell us about King Constantine's visit. We would have liked to know whom the Greek King talked to. Did he visit his relations? In what way did his visit connect up with the recent coup? But on this subject we have to wait until a respectable amount of time has elapsed. Should a courageous journalist wait so long?

But we are grateful to Mr. Davie for having written a very interesting article on at least one aspect of the sponsored welcome given to King Faisal. This 'sponsored welcome' was very noticeable in the pages of The Times newspaper, on whose presses the Observer is printed. It must have taken quite a bit of courage on the part of Mr. Davie to have publicly criticised his own landlord. But that he has cause for complaint is evident. This briefly has to be explained as dog does not bite landlord very often.

Lord Thomson is the owner of the Sunday Times (rival of the Observer) and he also owns The Times which shares the building and presses with the Observer. Therefore the Sunday Times knows every move that the Observer intends to make. By the time the Observer staff worked out a new lay-out or decided on a new series, Lord Thomson's Sunday Times has a similar article ready. This battle is not so much for news, but for advertisers.

And where one paper goes the other must follow. Special features which bore the tits off readers are now commonplace. And, as Mr. Davie pointed out, there is a danger of further encroachment. He has decided to make a stand on this issue.

The new twist is this. On Tuesday, May 9, The Times made publishing history by becoming the official organ of the Saudi Arabian Government. This is how it happened. They published a special supplement on King Faisal's visit. He was welcomed in an editorial

# Sheir 18 & Shekels

and there were 19 separate articles about or related to Saudi Arabia.

Says Davie: 'At the foot of page two there was a note saying: "Publication of this number has been made possible by the payment of a charge by the Government of Saudi Arabia equivalent in amount to the cost of advertising that a special number of this size would normally

'The novelty of the supplement lay in the total absence of visible advertisements. What had happened was that The Times had printed 12 pages, liable to create a favourable impression of Saudi Arabia in the minds of its readers, and the Saudis had paid the bill."

'Responsible' newspapers have been careful in the past to maintain a reputation for complete independence. These kind of special reports that are signed by respected and unbiased political commentators are making a mockery of

'independence'. This is a kind of liberal wish that

has no reality. But it has driven Mr. Davie to the point of resistance. One can sympathise with him wanting to hang on to a code by which a semblance of plain dealing can satisfy his conscience.

But for this problem there is going to be no solution. The encroachments of advertisers will continue. The borderline between advertising and editorial copy cannot be maintained under the present publishing arrangements for newspapers. Mr. Davie accepts the fact that adver- this country. We exist solely on tisements are the main source of revenue for newspapers. But he must know how difficult it is to avoid the printing of concealed advertisements. Most of the travel stories are sponsored by Cook's Tours. One can concede that advertisers do not always want editorial control. This is when they only have goods to sell. But when they wish to create a market, or change governmental policy, they also buy editorial space. The threat of withdrawing advertisements is only put to advertising men, who pass it on to the management. By the time a

request arrives on the editor's desk it has been tactfully worded. But advertising, whether it is concealed or only too blatant, is the mainstay of most newspapers and the more one paper like the Sunday Times gobbles up the ads, the less there is for other papers. This is not to say that a successful paper is a healthy

The Sunday Citizen was killed for lack of advertising. And yet it had an enormous circulation. They sold 250,000 copies a week. There is something wrong when such a figure is too small for a healthy circulation.

Last year the Sunday Citizen is supposed to have made a loss of £160,000. In the same year the Co-operative Wholesale Society made a profit of £800,000. Now it would have been within the CWS's reach to keep the Sunday Citizen alive. But this would have been no different from the CIA's subsidy to Encounter (and I believe to the magazine Censorship). The CIA got what it asked for. A softening of intellectual attitudes with regard to American policy, whether at the time of the Rosenberg executions or now with Vietnam (Alex Comfort's letter, the Guardian . . .) was worth the subsidy. Similarly the magazine Censorship paid its way by creating a kind of universal guilt of censorship.

We believe that the answer can be found within our own approach and that of a few other papers in sales, subscriptions and a communal subsidy which makes up our deficit. Paradoxically, having no advertising in our paper is a great saving for our readers each week. Every man who pays 'only' 4d. for his Mirror is facing financial ruin sooner or later. All advertising whether concealed or blatant exists to tempt you into impulse buying fridges, washing machines or patent medicines. Therefore Mr. Davie's lastditch defence is a battle on the wrong front. He is a brave man to have made a stand anyway.

JOHN RETY.

# EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY!

IF THE RIGHT wing of the Conservative Party has a function in contemporary British politics, it is to show by supporting them which causes are doomed.

It is ironic that a political grouping, consisting of so many retired majors, should have to endure so many Dunkirks. Having struggled unsuccessfully to preserve such institutions as hanging and the British Empire, the Old Right is now fighting to keep the grammar school.

But the grammar school as we know it will not survive. It offends against the current educational principle, 'equality of opportunity'.

This principle will increasingly dominate the educational theory of any modern class society. An educational system based on it will be the most efficient method of ensuring that the maximum number of able children emerge as potential leaders.

By introducing comprehensive education a government tries to achieve two purposes: to increase the number of well-qualified school leavers and to strike a blow for social justice.

There is no reason to doubt the sincerity of those in the government and elsewhere who favour comprehensive schools. They genuinely want their 'equality of opportunity'. And they want

'A comprehensive school aims to establish a community in which pupils from the whole ability range and with differing interests and backgrounds can be encouraged to mix with each other, gaining stimulus from the contacts and men. learning tolerance and understanding in

the process.' (Ministry of Education circular 10/65, July 12, 1965.)

This paragraph is quoted in an article by a freelance journalist Rosemary Wittman published by the Sunday Times on May 7. The article stands out from the load of rubbish recently thrown at us by the bourgeois press on comprehensive schools.

The writer visited one 'outstanding' comprehensive school, Wandsworth in bottom ones. Or any of the boys from South London, to find out how successful it was in implementing the ideals of

the theorists. She certainly found that more boys were passing examinations:

Between 1955, the last year of the grammar school, and 1965, after ten years of comprehensive organisation, the number of GCE "O" levels passed went up 700 per cent, and "A" levels went up 300 per cent.'

The figures for university entrance have also gone up-if not so spectacularly. But judged by the standards of the Ministry circular the school appears a total failure.

'Nobody's friends with Tau boys, the over Fulham or Battersea,' said an Continued on page 3

### HUGO BLANCO IN DANGER!

LIUGO BLANCO, imprisoned Peruvian peasant leader, has been severely beaten up by prison warders in his Lima

Blanco was summoned to see the Prison Director. On his way to the Director's office, he crossed a piece of ground which had been declared 'military territory', a designation which the prisoners usually ignored.

There was no sign to indicate that the crossing of this area was forbidden. When a warder called Blanco's attention to the prohibition he said he was ignorant of the ruling and started to discuss the matter. A captain of the Guardian Republicana then ordered the warder to beat up Blanco.

A fellow prisoner, Kreus, tried to help him but other warders came along and, on the captain's orders, set about both

Blanco is now in the prison hospital

with 'pulmonary disease' according to the authorities. No one is being allowed to see him and, from all accounts, he is without medical care.

Protests should be sent without delay to: The Peruvian Ambassador, 52 Sloane Street, S.W.1, telephone BELgravia 2545 and to: President Belaunde Terry, Lima,

Hugo Blanco's appeal against the savage sentence of 25 years is due for a hearing before a Military Court soon. It would be very convenient for the military authorities if he died before the Court met. This is what happened to Maxime Velando, another Peruvian Labour leader. The official version was that he took poison, but in fact he was beaten to death by the police.

Issued by the British Committee for Solidarity with Victims of Repression in Peru, c/o 100 Henderson Road, London,

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**VBRNON RICHARDS** 

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Dear Editors,

The intellectual and moral arrogance of Malcolm Caldwell's letter on Vietnam (Freedom, 13.5.67) provides a classic example of what I and many others have found disturbing about the statements on Vietnam of Lord Russell and those associated with him.

Caldwell writes: 'Vietminh "terror" after the French ratted on their undertakings (made in the period while they were still trying to build up their forces in early 1946) was a matter of selfpreservation against French tactics which pioneered later US genocide.' There is something to this, but Caldwell's bombastic sentence does not meet one of the principal points Featherstone was making in his article in FREEDOM on March 25, that the Vietminh assassinated not only Frenchmen but also Vietnamese socialists, Trotskyists, 'liberal' nationalists, etc. Was this, too, a matter of self-preservation?

Caldwell writes: 'It is very clever to point out piddling factual errors in Russell's articles, and to ignore the most overwhelming fact of our time of which Mark M. Krug 10/- he has tried to warn us—the slide of the US government towards Fascism. Like accusing the Jews of exaggerating their concentration camp victims to contrive support against Hitler!' Caldwell's apparent assumption that exaggeration and deceit is a useful means of whipping up support is questionable on practical as well as moral grounds. To take Russell's case, his repeated distortions and inaccuracies in his statements about Vietnam have meant that his views have been easily dismissed in the country where he must want them to spread most—the USA.

> Caldwell accuses me of 'disguised racism' because I object when Russell quotes the New York Times as saying that 100,000 were 'killed or maimed by chemical poisons', whereas the original report (which derived, as Russell failed to make clear, from a Vietcong broadcast), said that 100,000 had been 'killed or affected'. It seems to me that the racism is Russell's, if he really can't tell the difference between when a Vietnamese is 'affected' and when he is 'maimed'.

Caldwell writes: 'Would Roberts and Featherstone go along with the journalist who interviewed me on my return and suggested that all the flattened cities and limbless women and children had been "laid on" cynically by the Vietnamese themselves to dupe Western liberals?' Then, prejudging our answer to this question, he goes on: 'Don't parade your callousness so blatantly.' This prejudging of our answer is not only unpleasant in itself, indicating that Caldwell sees everyone who is not wholly for him as wholly stupid and evil, it is also based on fantastic blindness. Caldwell knows perfectly well that I oppose the US bombing in North Vietnam and have said so publicly, particularly in an article in New Society on January 12, 1967. but also in many other places. Caldwell knows that I believe civilian targets in North Vietnam have been persistently hit by US bombs. Yet, because I disagree with some of his and Russell's statements, and have argued in some detail with them, I am 'callous' and a 'racist'.

In this letter I have not attempted to answer all the points in Malcolm Caldwell's letter. I trust that Malcolm Caldwell will excuse me this discourtesy, but I feel that I have achieved what I wanted in this correspondence-to get Caldwell to state in detail his objections to Featherstone's article—and it is up to Featherstone, should he wish to do so, to make a more complete riposte.

Yours.

ADAM ROBERTS.

# THE VIETNAM CONTROVERSY

Dear Comrades,

About the article 'Lies about Vietnam' (FREEDOM, 25.3.67). I agree with all the criticisms which are made of the socalled 'Liberation Front' of Vietnam. The main question, as far as Anarchists are concerned, is 'Is the Vietcong a Libertarian Movement?'-for, if it is not, it cannot lead to 'liberation'.

Anarcho-syndicalist readers may remember that, at the last SWF Conference, an attempt was made to exclude from membership any supporter of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign. authoritarian move was, I'm glad to say, defeated. The SWF has a clear statement of aims and principles, and is open to all who agree with these. It's ridiculous to fall out over events on the other side of the world, which we are, in any case, powerless to influence.

The broad amorphous mass which I call the Anarchist Movement does not have a formal membership. It includes all those who are not just opposed to this government or that government but to government as such. There are as many different viewpoints as there are Anarchists. A few, however, try to define those they disagree with out of existence. This is the 'Anarchist' equivalent of 'exclusion', 'expulsion', 'excommunication' or whatever you want to call it.

On March 25, I went to Speakers' Corner to sell Anarchist propaganda. CND was holding a meeting there, and a few people with red and black flags were standing beside the platform, shouting interruptions, some of which were relevant, but most of them frivolous.

I met an Anarchist from Aberdeen who was taking no part in this curious ritual. He carried a red and black flag and that of the NLF, which looked very strange to me, and I said so. He replied, 'I carry it to show my solidarity with the people of Vietnam. It doesn't mean l support the communists.'

Now, in my opinion, the NLF has all the marks of a state. It imposes taxes on an already impoverished population, it conscripts young men, it wages war, etc. The gesture of the Aberdeen comrade seemed well meant but mistaken. However, when he added that he had just been told by the people interrupting CND's meeting that he 'could not be an anarchist' I felt distinctly sick. That these Londoners, instead of welcoming a fellow Anarchist from a distant city, indeed from another country, should attempt to 'excommunicate' him, seemed crazy to me.

Anarchism has taken firm roots in Aberdeen. Taking into account the difference in size, it compares very favourably with London. My explanation of this is that there are Anarchists in London who don't want the movement to grow. Now, whether we like it or not, there will continue to be very different viewpoints within the Anarchist movement. There are many who can't stand my views but, if I live for three score and ten, they will have to put up with me for another forty-five years (and vice versa).

To me, there are two main groups of Anarchists; the revolutionaries and the non-revolutionaries. Like the Aberdeen comrade, I am in the first category. We may disagree over many things, but what we hold in common is more important. But all of us, revolutionary or otherwise, have to 'live and let live'. There is no other alternative for Anarchists.

Yours fraternally,

London, N.1 DAVE COULL. Dear Editors,

As I have written more about Vietnam in Freedom than probably anyone else I should like to comment on Malcolm Caldwell's statement, 'It is incomprehensible that FREEDOM, an anarchist paper, should lean backwards to apologise for US fascism, rather than put all its support behind the great and unbeatable Asian revolution against ages-long poverty and humiliation.'

I have read every word written about Vietnam in FREEDOM. Five-sixths has been protests against US brutality, callousness and deceit in Vietnam including much of my own stuff. Many articles, including some of my own, have been wholly concerned with American aggression and murder. If anything, FREEDOM could be accused of a pro-communist bias regarding Vietnam.

Yet when Godfrey Featherstone, in FREEDOM, calls attention to errors, exaggerations and bias in Lord Russell's recent book on Vietnam, FREEDOM is at the gates of the Foulness prohibited accused of 'leaning backwards to apologise for US fascism'. ('Fascism' is a stupid word in the context-if Caldwell would take the trouble to find out what fascism really involves-leader principle, corporate state, etc.—then he will realise that the US is not fascist nor anything near it.)

FREEDOM takes the line, held by most anarchists, that war is a struggle between evils, and that the magnitude of the greater evil in no way condones the lesser. Caldwell doubtless thinks this line is pedantic and purist and all the rest but perhaps even he, in the specific case of Vietnam, will admit that plenty of journalists and commentators have reported that the majority of the South Vietnamese people do not support either Hanoi or Saigon and yearn only for peace - such as Martha Gellhorn clearly showed in her Guardian articles a few months ago.

Some people (such as myself) want to see a compromise reached in Vietnam (I agree the chances are slim but that is what I want). Others want to see American military victory or communist military victory even if it means years more suffering for the Vietnamese although no proponent of the Vietnam communists can state how the Vietnam communists can defeat the military and economic might of the US.

Caldwell is obviously a passionate supporter of the Vietnam communists. Would he, I wonder, use the columns of FREEDOM to make a public declaration of his willingness to join an International Column in Vietnam should Hanoi call for

JEFF ROBINSON.

### Foulness DEMO

Dear Comrades,

The East London Committee of 100 is planning a demonstration at the military complex at Foulness and Shoeburyness on May 27, 28 and 29. This complex houses the Foulness Atomic Weapons Research Establishment, two artillery ranges and Shoebury Garrison. In addition it is proposed to install a missile base at Shoebury.

Several hundred civilians live in a prohibited area, virtually under martial law. They require permits to enter and leave the area, as do all persons visiting the area. We have been informed that this area is to be extended. In view of this, we call upon all groups and individuals to join us in a demonstration

against the warfare state, against the extension of Shoebury Garrison, against the Foulness AWRE, and against the proposed Shoeburyness missile base. The details are as follows:-

Saturday, May 27. Assemble 2.30 p.m. at Victoria Station Car Park, Southend. March to Shoebury. 5.30 p.m. Tea break, followed by leafletting and vigil. Sunday, May 28. 11 a.m. Public

Meeting at Ramparts Terrace, Shoebury. 1 p.m. Lunch. 2 p.m. March to Great Wakering. 3.30 p.m. Vigil and sit-down at the gates of the Foulness prohibited area, followed by all-night vigil.

Monday, May 29. 10 a.m. Assemble area. March to Southend, 1 p.m. Lunch. 2 p.m. Southend Sea Front (opposite the Kursaal). Public Meeting.

Yours Fraternally,

ROGER SUTTON. (Convener, East London Committee of 100, Shoeburyness Working Group.)

### Still Alive and Kicking

Dear Editor,

There is no reason to doubt the good intentions of Jim Pinkerton's critical examination of the functioning of an anarchist group ('Manchester Profile'-FREEDOM, 29.4.67). However the article irritated members of Manchester Anarchist Group (i) because it misleadingly describes an out-of-date situation—the group is very much alive, and (ii) the author complains of inactivity and lack of organisation/contact/co-ordination when in fact no one has seen him for months!

For Jim's information MAG holds weekly meetings and has taken part in two moderately significant demos in the last fortnight. It has produced three new introductory leaflets which have been widely read in the university and colleges, etc., and it is currently engaged in establishing a rapport with other nonpolitical organisations such as Amnesty, YCND, AA, and CARD. There is also frequent social contact between members.

We may not have a corps of full-time organisers but we do have an efficient secretary, who (if he had been asked) could probably have given a more accurate account of the state of affairs here than someone who, in the last year or so, has not had anything to do with MAG.

True, we do need to know who can be relied on to do what, and when; and there is a lot of support running to waste in Manchester, but Jim, please don't waste your time writing to FREEDOM about it, come along and help! We'd be glad to see you.

Fraternally,

GRAHAM LEIGH. RON & JANICE MARSDEN. DAVE & JOHN POULSON, ALAN BARLOW, DAVID STRINGER.

Manchester

# Anarchist Federation of Britain

(As there is no national secretariat for enquiries, speakers, etc., please contact local groups.)

\*Except in London-see below. LONDON FEDERATION OF ANARCHISTS. Temporary address c/o Wooden Shoe, 42 New Compton Street, London, W.C.2. Sunday evening meetings 8 p.m. Lamb & Flag, Rose Street, off Garrick Street, London, W.C.2 (Leicester Square tube).

MAY 21 Jack Robinson Anarchists and the Russian Revolution ANARCHIST MEETINGS AT HYDE PARK EVERY SUNDAY AT 2 P.M.

HARLOW ANARCHIST GROUP. Enquiries to Keith Nathan, 138 Pennymead, Harlow or John Barrick, 14 Centre Avenue, Epping. LEWISHAM, LONDON, S.E.13. 2nd and 4th Thursdays. Meetings at Mike Malet's, 61 Granville Park, Lewisham, S.E.13. SOUTHWARK ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Dave Burden, 45b Barry Road, East Dulwich, S.E.22. Proposed meetings to be held on first and third Thursday of each month.

Huggon, 173 Kingshill Avenue, Northolt, Middle-EALING ANARCHIST GROUP. Get into touch with Ken King, 54 Norwood Road, Southall.

NORTHOLT ANARCHISTS. Contact: Jim

#### OFF-CENTRE LONDON DISCUSSION MEETINGS

3rd Wednesday of each month at Jack Robinson and Mary Canipa's, 21 Rumbold Road, S.W.6 (off King's Road), 8 p.m.

3rd Friday of each month at 8 p.m. at Donald and Irene Rooum's, now at 13 Savernake Road, London, N.W.3.

### REGIONAL FEDERATIONS **AND GROUPS**

ALTRINCHAM ANARCHIST YOUTH GROUP.

Get in touch with Stephen Richards, 25 North Vale Road, Timperley, Cheshire. ABERDEEN GROUP. Correspondence to Michael Day, 86 Rosemount Place, Aberdeen. BEXLEY ANARCHIST GROUP. Correspondence to Paul Wildish, 2 Cumbrian Avenue, Barnehurst.

BELFAST: Contact Tony Adams, 11 Winetavern Street, Smithfield Square, Belfast. BIRMINGHAM ANARCHIST GROUP. Secretary: Geoff Charlton, 8 Lightwoods Hill, Bearwood, Smethwick, 41. Regular meetings at Geoff and Caroline's above address, top flat. First Wednesday of month. RESISTANCE GROUP. C/o Birmingham Peace

Action Centre (formerly CND office), Factory Road, Birmingham, 19. UNIVERSITY OF ASTON GROUP. Contact: Dave Kipling, 87 Kingsbury Road, Erdington, Birmingham 24

BRIGHTON. All those interested in activities and action should contact Richard Miller, 1/2 Percival Terrace, Brighton, 7. BRISTOL. Contact: Dave Thorne, 49 Cotham Brow, Bristol, 6. CARDIFF ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Mike Czowley, 36 Whitaker Road, Tremorfa, Oardiff.

DUNDEE GROUP. Contact Bob and Una

Turnbull, 39 Stratheden Park, Stratheden Hospital.

by Cupar, Fife. GLASGOW ANARCHIST GROUP ONE. Correspondence to Rebert Lynn, 2b Saracen Head Lane, Glasgow, C.1. HERTS. GROUP. Contact Stuart Mitchel at 46 Hughendon Road, Marshalswick, St. Albans,

89 Fountain Road, Hull. Tel. 212526. Meetings 8 p.m. 1st and 3rd Fridays of month at above IPSWICH ANARCHISTS. Contact Noil Dean, 74 Cometery Road, Ipswich, Suffelk. NEW HAM LIBERTARIANS. Contact Mick Shenker, 122 Hampton Road, Ferest Gate,

HULL ANARCHIST GROUP. J. Tempest,

ORPINGTON ANARCHIST GROUP, Knockholt, Nr. Sevenoaks, Kent. Every six weeks at Greenways, Knockholt. Phone: Knockholt 23" Brian and Maureen Richardson. PLYMOUTH ANARCHIST FEDERATION. Contact J. Hill, 79 Underlane, Plymstock, Plymouth,

Devon. READING ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Alan Ross, 116 Belmont Road, Reading, Berks. ROCHESTER ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Eryl Davies, 22 St. Margaret's Street, Rochester. Fortnightly meetings.

SHEFFIELD. Contact Robin Lovell, c/e Students' Union, University, Sheffield. Tel. 24076. SOUTH WEST MIDDLESEX ANARCHIST GROUP. Meetings every Saturday, Feltham High Street. Contact P. J. Goody, 36 Norman Avenue, Hanworth, Middlesex. SWANSEA. Please get in touch with Julian Ross. 11 Wellfield Close, Bishopston, Swansea.

#### **NORTH-WEST FEDERATION** Regional Secretary: Alistair Rattray, 35a

Devonshire Road, Chorley. NORTH WEST ANARCHIST FEDERATION. BUXTON ANARCHIST GROUP. Secretary: F. A. Gresty, Punchbowl, Manchester Road, Buxton. CHORLEY ANARCHIST GROUP. Secretary: Anne Marie Fearon, 16 Devonshire Road, Chorley. LIVERPOOL ANARCHIST PROPAGANDA GROUP. Gerry Bree, 16 Faulkner Square, Liverpool, 8. Meetings weekly. 'Freedom' Sales-Pier Head, Saturdays, Sundays, Evenings. MANCHESTER ANARCHIST GROUP. Secretary: Dave Poulson, Flat 9, 619 Wilbraham Road,

### EAST LONDON FEDERATION

Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester, 21.

WEST HAM ANARCHISTS. Contact Stephen Higgs. 8 Westbury Road, Forest Gate, E.7. LIBERTARIAN TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION. Meetings-discussions-activities. Contact Peter Ford, 82 North Road, Highgate, N.6. (Tel. MOU 5702.)

### PROPOSED GROUPS

LEE, LONDON, S.E.12. Anarchist-Radical Minn. 55720, USA

Group. Contact Rodney Hodges, 2 Cambridge Drive, Lee, S.E.12. NORTH WALES: Bangor. Contact Geoff Brown, 39 Caellepa, Bangor, Caerns. SOMERSET. John and Jill Driver wish to contact local libertarians, 4 Obridge Road, Taunton, Somerset. ROCHDALE. Please contact Richard Crawford, 4 Hargreaves Street, Sudden, Rochdale. SLOUGH. Contact Sid Rawle, 4 Hillperton Road, Slough, Bucks. NORTH EAST ESSEX. Would readers interested in proposed group write to P. Newell, "May-bush", Maypole Road, Tiptree, Essex.

ELTHAM. 'Sons of Durrutty' Group. Get in

touch with T. Liddle, 83 Gregory Crescent,

U.S.A. NEW YORK CITY. N.Y. Federation of

Anarchists, c/o Torch Bookshop, 641 East 9th

London, S.E.9.

Street, N.Y., 10009. Meets every Thursday evening. AUSTRALIA. Anarchist Group, PO Box A 389. Sydney South. Public meetings every Sunday in the Domain, 2 p.m. and Mondays, 72 Oxford Street, Paddington, Sydney, 8 p.m. DANISH ANARCHIST FEDERATION. 52 Mindevej, Soborg-Copenhagen, Denmark. VANCOUVER, B.C., CANADA. Anyone interested in forming anarchist and/or direct action Grand Boulevard, North Vancouver, B.C., Canada. Tel.: 987-2693. U.S.A. VERMONT/NEW HAMPSHIRE. Discussion group meets weekly. Contact Ed Strauss at RFD 2, Woodstock, Vermont 05091, USA. SWEDEN. Stockholm Anarchist Federation. Contact Nadir, Box 19104, Stockholm 19, Sweden. CANADA: Winnipeg. Anybody interested in Direct action/anarchy contact G. J. Nasir, 606 Matheson Avenue, Winnipeg, 17, Manitoba. BELGIUM: LIEGE. Provos, c/o Jacques Charlier. 11 Avenue de la Laiterie, Sclessint-Liege, Belgium. EAST AFRICA. George Matthews would like to make contact. Secondary school teacher from UK. PO Box 90, Kakamega, Kenya. USA: NORTH-EASTERN MINNESOTA. Contact

James W. Cain, 323 Fourth Street, Cloquet.

# Wash Out

IN 1940, 1,600 acres of rich Lancashire farmland were politely confiscated by the wartime government, given a fresh coat of concrete, and handed over to the US Air Force. Thus, Burtonwood Air Base was born, and neighbouring Warrington found that, to the ever-present stench of soap and chemicals, was added the stink of cheap perfume as prostitutes converged on the town like a flock of homing pigeons, from as far away as Newcastle and Middlesbrough, attracted by the lure of lonely, but well-paid

After the war was over, the number of personnel dwindled very gradually down to zero and, in 1958, Mr. Fred Lee, an up-and-coming right-wing MP from Newton, began a popular, vote-catching campaign to get Burtonwood re-opened as a civilian airport. Nor was he deterred by the information volunteered by Mr. C. Orr-Ewing (then the Parliamentary Secretary to the Air Ministry), to the effect that '. . . the main runway is liable to subsidence from 1960 onwards as a result of coal-mining at Bold Colliery'. In fact, not until he found himself in the lofty position of Minister of Power did he find it convenient to forget about Burtonwood, but as he discreetly dropped the issue, it was neatly caught by another up-and-coming rightwing MP — one Robert Howarth of Bolton East — who again asked, on July 2, 1965, why it was not possible to re-open the airport. He was informed by Roy Jenkins, Minister of Aviation, that the reason was that 'there are particularly valuable reserves of coal underlying the airfield, though it is not likely the Coal Board's workings will seriously affect the use of the runway until 1968. Any interference with the Board's programme would be physically difficult and extremely costly.'

However, subsequent to this remark, De Gaulle gave the Americans in France their marching orders, and with the old indomitable spirit, and true British generosity, the physical difficulties were overcome, the 'extremely costly' expense was met, and the Americans were welcomed back to Burtonwood with open arms. (Pack your bags, girls, and let's France!)

In an attempt to show the USAF that not everybody was glad to see them back, NW YCND organized a march of protest

to the base from Warrington on Saturday, April 22, and at 12.30 p.m. it set off on the four-mile round trip. Although the NW Federation of Anarchists mustered about 90 people, the other supposedly supporting organizations (CND - Campaign Nearly Defunct??—YCL, the CP, SLL, Young Liberals, etc., etc.) could not manage to whistle up this number between them, and it was only about 175 people who trudged through the deserted back streets of Warrington in persistent rain which was to last all day, and cause the proposed meeting, arranged for that evening, to be cancelled. The number of demonstrators had increased fractionally by the time the base was reached, thanks to the late arrival of small anarchist contingents from Manchester and Lancaster.

On arrival at Burtonwood (nothing in sight but a dozen happy looking bobbies), Geoff Nettleton was escorted to the base commander where he delivered a letter asking that gentleman to go home, and petitions requesting that the bombing of Vietnam be stopped. (No harm in asking!)

Meanwhile, it was suggested that, while waiting, some kind of dialogue be attempted between the various organizations represented on the march, and a certain gentleman from Liverpool responded by burning the petrol off a couple of flags and casting rather doubtful aspersions on the legitimacy of all people born in America. He then yelped continuously through a speech made by an ex-service man (and proud of it!) from Accrington CND, and must surely have confirmed the general opinion that anarchists are loud-mouthed louts without a constructive idea or iota of selfdiscipline or respect for other people among them.

After a short stay, the march, wet, disillusioned and thoroughly fed up, made its way back to Warrington, breaking formation at the first pub en route. Such contact as was made with the locals, then and during subsequent leafletting of the town, indicated that Warringtonians were very glad indeed to have the Americans there, and would much prefer to be a primary target themselves than Manchester or Liverpool.

It looks like this time the USAF is here to stay.

DAVE POULSON.

# 'Rulers of US Found Guilty of War Crimes'

IRELAND, DENMARK AND BRITAIN formally capitalism in general which does not applied to join the Common Market. Britain's application was signed before a Parliamentary majority of 426 made it official. Seven Parliamentary Private Secretaries to Ministers were dismissed from office by the Prime Minister for their abstention from voting in the Commons on the Market issue. Mrs. Joyce Butler, who would have abstained but was away with a cold, volunteered her resignation. . . .

MRS. PEGGY DUFF (late of CND) resigned from the Labour Party on its failure to condemn the bombing in North Vietnam and its failure to condemn the new fascist government in Greece. Mr. Stephen Spender and Professor Frank Kermode belatedly resigned their editorship of Encounter when they found it was partly financed by the US Central Intelligence Agency for ten years. Dr. Alex Comfort commented that the unsubsidised utterances of Encounter were no better. In the words of Humbert Wolfe, 'You cannot hope to bribe or twist-thank God-the English journalist / but seeing what he'll unbribed do There's really no occasion to.' . . .

THE FORTHCOMING DEMISE, owing to insufficient subsidies from advertisers, of the Sunday Citizen was announced. The News of the World's Michael Brennan (ex-Sunday Citizen) wrote: 'It was a cocky, fighting paper. Poor in pocket, rich in heart. It took bumbledom by the throat and shook it. It jumped on the arrogant, shouted for the equality of man. . . . The Citizen's board said last night: "Progressive causes will be weaker in the future". That is why the News of the World, the highest-selling newspaper, daily or Sunday, in the world, mourns the passing of the Sunday Citizen. Its voice, though small, was impressive.' Meanwhile Jayne Mansfield bares her soul in the News of the World and this week's headlines include 'His Wife-Swapping Parties Are Over'; 'The Wild Playboy's Last Fling'; 'What Went on in School Gymnasium' and 'You're a Girl: Shock for Aubrey'. . . .

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL complained that the English version of Pope Paul's hope they didn't catch anything nasty in merely part of the fall-out zone of recent encyclical shows 'a hostility to might find comfort by praying at St.

appear in the Latin'. The Journal referred to the text as 'warmed-over Marxism'. For example the passage 'a type of capitalism has been a source of excessive suffering' but that industrialization should not be blamed for 'evils that belong to the woeful system' accompanying it. The literal Latin, it is claimed, translates more closely as 'some kinds of capitalism' were seen as the origin of 'so many hardships' but that industrial advance should not be 'blamed on the disastrous opinions about economy' that arose concurrently. . . .

THE POPE VISITED the Basilica of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal where three shepherd children declared they had seen the Virgin Mary on several successive thirteenth days of the month in 1917. The Pope made his usual statements about 'peace', and said the Vatican council had revitalized the Church's heart but 'what terrible damage could be provoked by arbitrary and unauthorized interpretations, intent on stripping the norms of faith of that which modern thought does not understand and does not like'. The cult of Our Lady of Fatima has previously been dedicated to the conversion of Russia from atheism. In Naples congealed blood of the patron saint, St. Januarius, kept in the Basilica of Sant Chiara failed to liquefy, as is its usual practice on the first Saturday in May (it also does this on September 19). It failed to do this in 1527 and the city was ravaged by the plague. It failed in 1835 and cholera followed and in 1941 and Allied planes bombed Naples. Fortunately for all concerned it liquefied a day later. Priests said that the event took place on Sunday night. 'The miracle had often,' says the Guardian, 'occurred on a Sunday in earlier times and there was no significance in the apparent delay.' . . .

According to a gossip columnist, President Johnson at the time of the bombing of Haiphong told Luci, his daughter, who had recently become a Catholic, 'You may not wake up tomorrow' and 'Your Daddy may go down in history as having started World War III'. Luci suggested, says the columnist, that he

# -Morning Star

Dominic's, a church nearby. As they knelt in prayer, they were joined by a few 'little monks' the President recounts. When the Haiphong raids did not lead to World War III Luci told Mr. Johnson, 'I knew my little monks would come through.' . . .

U THANT, United Nations Secretary-General, said, 'If the present trend continues I am afraid that a direct confrontation between Washington and Peking is inevitable', and added that he feared that 'we are in the initial stages of World War Three'. In an interview with an American journalist, Chou Enlai, Chinese foreign secretary, said that China would intervene if America invaded Haiphong. A returning American soldier brought bubonic plague to the United States from Vietnam. Robert Welsh of the John Birch Society accused the Johnson administration of giving 'massive aid and comfort' to America's enemies and hampering US military leaders. . . .

THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR to the United States has tendered his resignation because he believes that Italy should support the US in Vietnam. The civilian development programme in Vietnam (also known as 'pacification' and 'revolutionary development') has been placed under General William C. Westmoreland, in the interests of 'unified management'. Grave concern has been expressed by civilian field advisers, according to the Los Angeles Times. According to the New York Herald Tribune International French sources say that NATO agreements on extradition do not apply in the case of a US Army deserter arrested for vagrancy in Paris since he was not stationed or on duty in France. He was absent from his unit in Mannheim, Germany, since he did not wish to fight in Vietnam. . . .

THE BOOKSELLER reported that the Countess of Dartmouth's condemnation of James Joyce's Utysses as 'horrible' had boosted the sale of the book to 1,000 copies per day. In 45 years it has sold 148,000 copies.

JON QUIXOTE.

# LIBERATION LEFT

AM rather worried about the article by '114' on the Greek Embassy case. (13.5.67). I obviously can't give all my reasons, because some of them would endanger people who are still out of danger and further endanger people who are already in danger, but I shall give a couple:

1. The inaccuracy of the article. The attitudes in the old Committee of 100, the distinction between 'the two sections of the movement', the Marham case, the present legal position, the surety terms, the reaction of the press—these were all quite unnecessarily wrong. No one expects infallibility, but there's no need to ignore easily verifiable facts. To take just one example, it isn't true that 'the press suddenly shut up like clams'. As in all such cases, including the Brighton church case, when charges had been brought and the demonstrators had appeared in court, the papers didn't say much because they are scared of contempt of court charges. But I still saw comments in Tribune, the New Statesman, the Daily Telegraph, and The Times.

Incidentally, non-violent direct action against Embassies is not a new departure for either Committee of 100 people or anarchists. The Committee of 100 got into the Russian Embassy back in 1961, and the anarchists got into the Cuban Embassy in 1963; people have often got into the American Embassy. The difference this time was the number who got in and the behaviour of the police.

2. The hysteria of the article. To describe the Greek Embassy demonstration as 'a conscious revolutionary action undertaken with great daring and superb planning' and the demonstrators as 'a large group of people who have suddenly begun to take themselves seriously as a revolutionary force', to call the members of the Direct Action Committee and the Committee of 100 'the most experienced and courageous and steel-hearted group of non-violent resisters outside America'

and to say that 'from the consciously revolutionary fringe groups of the far anarchist left have come the cool-headed and brilliant organisational minds which the Gandhian non-violent movement lacked', and to suggest that the authorities take the demonstration as seriously as '114' does and held 'a very big-wig, very top-level conference' between the court appearance on April 29 and the March of Shame on April 30-all this is going beyond excusable rhetoric into inexcusable fantasy, the kind of thing which crippled the anarchist movement eighty years ago.

I agree that there's still life in the libertarian left-or the 'liberation left' of the Guardian's brilliant misprint—and that the Greek Embassy demonstration was encouraging evidence for this, but I do hope that the demonstrators aren't as excited about it all as '114' seems to be. Let's remember what a revolution really is, what courage really is, what experience really is, and get ourselves into some sort of proportion. The demonstration was neither large nor revolutionary; South Africa, Rhodesia, Japan, and Vietnam are all outside America; there are no cool-headed and brilliant organisational minds in the consciously revolutionary fringe groups of the far anarchist left; the authorities can smash us whenever they want. I doubt whether the Greek Embassy demonstration will be as important as either Wethersfield or the Spies for Peace, to say nothing of September 17, 1961, in Trafalgar Square, and it will be comparable with Marham only if the rest of the movement manages to rescue the comrades who got caught. I think that the Greek Embassy demonstration, like the Brighton church demonstration, shows just how weak and isolated we are. We can muster 20 or 40 or 60 for an illegal demonstration now; we are counting in dozens and scores. We used to count in hundreds and thousands. Face facts, '114'. N.W. Harrow

SUPPORT PRISONERS IN BRIXTON

MARCH ASSEMBLES STOCKWELL STATION 7 pm SUNDAY MAY 21

### **EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY**

Continued from page 1

'average' boy to Rosemary Wittman. 'The top forms? They're all snobs, never talk to nobody,' said a 'bottom'

A sixth-former: 'Wandsworth is really a highly stratified meritocracy. But I like it that way. I think it's the best system going."

In the public schools where the prefect system originated there is an element of play-acting: those who are not prefects and won't be-know that the boys who tyrannise or patronise them will be their social equals after school.

But Wandsworth, where the prefects are drawn from the sixth form, is in a real sense a preparation for life: the boys in the bottom stream will stay at the bottom.

Perhaps the most revealing quotation in the article is from a 15-year-old in the school workshop:

'If you do well in exams they ask you what you want to do. If not, you have only three choices instead of ten. You end up doing things you don't need much intelligence for. Like I'm doing carpentry.

The 'equality of opportunity' slogan begins to sound a trifle hollow.

Remember that Wandsworth is one of London's star comprehensives. In its attempts to create the ideal social balance the school imports working-class pupils from Fulham and Battersea.

In Stepney Green comprehensive school - opened by Harold Wilson in 1964 — where I taught for one term in 1965, there are few middle-class boys. The buldings are spacious and well-lit, the lifts work, there is a good supply of textbooks and there are all kinds of facilities such as a tailoring shop. But I would bet that the teaching qualifications of the staff compare unfavourably with Wandsworth. Certainly the turnover of staff is high as in many East London

schools. If you want an illustration of the inequalities in London education ring up the various Divisional Offices of Education and ask for a job as a supply teacher. In North, South and West London you will probably be told that there is a waiting list; in East London that you can start as soon as you've had your chest X-rayed.

As is obvious teachers are middle-class and live in middle-class areas. Naturally they prefer to teach near their homes: the best qualified do.

East London is not so short of teachers

as Birmingham and certain other urban areas in Britain. Schools in these areas are often housed in totally inadequate buildings and poorly supplied with books. Some of them contain a high proportion of immigrants from either the West Indies or India and Pakistan-the latter usually unable to speak English.

In the USA, which of course has comprehensive education, the urban poor -black and white-could probably tell Mr. Crosland something about 'equality of opportunity'.

As the comprehensives gradually replace other forms of state secondary education inequalities will remain. Short of transferring millions of children to schools outside the areas where their social class predominates, nothing can stop inequalities between schools.

And, as the Wandsworth example demonstrates, even an 'outstanding' comprehensive cannot eliminate inequalityas it cannot eliminate social tensioninside a school.

Under the 'equality of opportunity' slogan the government can succeed in increasing the number of well-qualified school leavers-it could increase them still further by improving teaching in working-class schools — but it cannot introduce social justice.

A socially just system would be one where the needs of children dictated the form of education, where the potentialities of each child were allowed to develop. This is not possible so long as class society exists with its demand for

LETTER

### Oh! for a Latter Day Bakunin

Comrade Editor.

What has SS-style organised shouting down of a speaker at a public meeting to do with the aims of anarchism? Why should anarchists' claim for a speaker at the CND rally be any more important than Pacifists, Communists or Christians?

Where are the disorganised anarchists going, apart from up a political cul-de-

The public antics of self-styled anarchists will not gain popular sympathy let alone support for the ideas of anarchism. Or is anarchism to be a crank, lunatic-fringe phenomenon acting in a vacuum with neither aim nor intent?

Oh for a latter day Bakunin, Goldman or Malatesta! B. J. CLIFTON. London, S.E.4

well-trained leaders, experts, planners, managers—and a vast mass of people taught to do a job and to accept direction from above.

But it is possible that the new comprehensives will come to arouse feelings of revolt among the 'less able' majority of children who occupy them. Revolt against the subjection of their interests to the needs of the existing economic

If young people are constantly told that they are being given equality—and if they see that they do not have it-they may begin to demand it.

WYNFORD HICKS.

# MORE PLEASE!

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# Union Expels Miliants

THIS week the Executive of the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers carried out its threat to discipline members if they continued the union. The two men did not to picket the Myton building site on deny picketing, but said that they the Barbican. The Executive have expelled both Lou Lewis, the Federation steward and Rolph Langden, a shop steward.

These two carpenters were called before the five-man full-time Executive on May 3 for their 'trial'. Mr. Smith, the General Secretary of the

## Contact Column

This column exists for mutual aid. Donations towards cost of typesetting will be welcome.

Unfurnished Accommodation Wanted. Responsible gentleman, thirties, exemplary tenant, requires spacious self-contained flat/house, minimum three bedrooms, central London, quiet surroundings. Maximum seven guineas inclusive. No premium. Could decorate. Reciprocal references. Box 52.

Former Junkie. Wants job and accommodation in London. Box 54.

Meeting: Free Hugo Blanco; Protest Against Peruvian Repression. Friday, May 26. Caxton Hall, London, S.W.1. 8 p.m. Speakers: Bill Molloy, MP, Robin Blackburn, Faris Glubb. Chairman: Roger Protz. British Committee for Solidarity with Victims of Repression in Peru.

Leaflet. Lewisham Group. Basic Anarchist Leaflet now available. 2/6 per 100 (postage extra 2/6 per 100). Orders to Lewisham Group address.

Work Wanted. Fairly intelligent and responsible anarchist (18) needs congenial job. Anywhere, anything considered. Box 55.

Needed. Literary (philosophical or practical) and financial contributions for 'STONEBREAKER'S YARD'. Journal of the Anarchist Movement in Northeastern Minnesota. James W. Cain, editor, Stonebreaker's Yard, P.O. Box 26, Duluth, Minnesota, USA.

Chorley Meeting. To discuss proposed Vietnam demonstration. May 24, 8 p.m., at 16 Devonshire Road,

Chorley. Accommodation Wanted-London. Two secretaries. Peace-loving, thoughtful, require bright flatlet; good cooking facilities essential. No petty restrictions. Wanted end of May. With easy access to town. Approx. £5 to £5 5s. p.w. Box 56.

'Resistance': for Peace Action. Published by West Midland Committee of 100: 1/- plus postage. Subscription 6/for six issues. From Birmingham Peace Action Centre (formerly CND office), Factory Road, Birmingham,

Anyone interested in reconstituting a group of people, 'The Diggers', who could be called the first practising English Anarchists, please contact P.D., c/o Lewisham Anarchist Group address.

Floor space/Accommodation - London. Wanted July 15-30, for participant in Dialectics of Liberation Congress. Write Gordon Causer, Childs Hall, Upper Redlands Road, Reading.

Accommodation Wanted. Camden Town or Kentish Town area. Young couple, expecting first baby, urgently need 2-roomed flat. C/o J. Thurston, 103a Camden Road, London, N.W.1.

Accommodation Wanted-London. Accommodation wanted in London area for Finnish student for three weeks, end May-mid-June. Can afford £3 a week. C/o Lewisham Group address.

Accommodation Wanted. Anarcho-Syndicalist seeks flat in Hackney/ Islington area. Box 58. Spain! Travelling-companion (either sex)

folk-singer under 21 preferred, for travel in Spain. Aug./Sept. Box 57. USA - Seminar. Practical Paths to Peace'. Heathcote Centre, Rte. 1, Freeland, Maryland, USA. May 26-28. Herber, Krimerman, Roseman etc. \$12. Registration to Heathcote School of Living Centre

by May 15. I you wish to make contact let us know.

ASW, personally charged them, in that by continuing to picket, they were acting against the interests of were upholding and defending the principles of the union by their actions. About 30 carpenters were willing to act as witnesses to this effect, but the Executive said that they only had room for 12 of these. However, when the two men admitted to picketing, the Executive said it would be 'irrelevant to call witnesses'.

While this 'trial' was taking place, about 200 building workers demonstrated outside. If the police had kept strictly to the letter of the law, many men would have been arrested and the local magistrates' court would have been packed next morning with cases of libel, insulting behaviour and abusive language.

However, the ASW's purge of militants does not end here. In FREEDOM (29.4.67), I wrote that the union had severely reprimanded Jack Rusca, the London District Secretary, for paying out hardship grants at Christmas to members involved in the Myton and Sunley disputes. While both of these disputes were supported at district level, the Executive only gave official support for a few weeks at Sunley's, but never on Myton's. The Executive, under Rule 24, Clause 11, of the Union's constitution, decided to sack Jack Rusca from his elected position. Clause 11, which gives them employers fear good site organisacouncil shall have power to terminate forthwith the employment of a district full time official, as an employee of the Society, if, in the opinion of the EC, the official has displayed incompetence or misconduct harmful to the interests of the Society.'

### SACKED

When Jack Rusca appeared before the EC, the General Secretary, Mr. Smith, told him that he was dismissed. Asked for the reason, the Chairman replied, 'You know all about that - you were up here recently', meaning the Myton and Sunley issues. The sacked man was told to leave his office keys and car at the union headquarters. The whole business was over in less than a minute.

Jim Hiles, another member of the ASW, has also been expelled. His name appeared on a leaflet issued by the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions and this was considered to be against the interests of the union. When this charge was first brought before the London Management Committee, it was rejected by four votes to three. Subsequently, one of the minority Boulter, voters, Brother (sic) appealed to the EC, who reversed the decision of the Management Committee.

Attacks of this nature were to be expected. It was also a dead certainty that the ASW would be the first union to act in this way and it is likely that a second union will do the same. All members are appealing to the union's Executive Committee of lay members, and support is also forthcoming from members of other unions as well as those of the ASW.

There is a lot of support for these militants and it is expected that not only the constitutional channels, such as sending in resolutions from branches, will be used to ensure that Jack Rusca gets his job back and the others are reinstated. Other means will have to be used, for the Executive Council have shown, by their action, that they have no regard for

any form of 'democracy'. It is laid down in the rules of the ASW that a London delegate meeting can be convened if, within one month, 28 branches send in resolutions requesting one. However, I have no doubts that if this rule is used, the Executive will find some way of avoiding the calling of such a meeting.

#### COURT OF INQUIRY

Attacks can also be expected from another direction very soon. Mr. Gunter has now named the members Engineering Employers' Federation and Mr. McGarvey of the Boilermakers' Union. Will this inquiry be a means of attacking militants? am certain it will, but at the same time it still has to reckon with the fact that two unions, the Amalgamated Union of Building Trades Workers and the Transport and General Workers' Union, are both giving official support to the Sunley dispute.

There is sure to be some mention of the Joint Sites Committee, for both Sunley's and Myton's are certain to blame it for the disputes. The ASW Executive will certainly do their utmost to discredit the Joint Sites when they give their evidence. This union, of which I am a member, will do everything in its power to smash the Joint Sites and the union members who support it.

ASW members have a tremendous job of work to do if we are to get our sacked and expelled militants back. This situation has arisen because of the struggle against the attacks of the employers on site union organisation. This is the same struggle, for not only do this power, reads 'The executive tion, but also the union executives. The latter are blatantly doing the job the employers failed to do. This is no new thing and is yet another illustration of the gulf which exists between the rank and file and their executives.

> Because of these expulsions, even heavier demands will be made on the meagre dispute fund. Donations should be sent to: M. Houlihan, 94 Gayton House, Knapp Road, Bow,

P.T.

# For Workers' Control

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### Northern Letter

# of the Court of Inquiry into the two disputes. Lord Cameron heads the inquiry, with Mr. Lowry of the Engineering Employers' Federation

TEARLY A HUNDRED maintenance fitters and toolroom workers at the Bradbury Steelworks of James Mills Ltd., came out on strike last Friday in protest against the management's refusal to open negotiations over a £3 pay rise for all AEU members at the firm. When I spoke to one of the AEU stewards he said, that in spite of the fact that the management could and did call meetings with the men at a quarter of an hour's notice, the stewards had been trying, without success, to get a meeting on this issue since before the freeze.

So at a dinner time meeting on Friday it was decided, on the basis of a 46-23 vote, to come out on strike. Later in the afternoon, maintenance fitters at the Ashton Road Branch who had voted to stay in at their own meeting, were informed of the 'top shop' vote and came out in support. There is a great deal of sympathy for the maintenance men amongst the process workers, and if the strike continues it is to be hoped that this sympathy will be enlisted, rather than just waiting for us to be laid off However the other maintenance sections, electricians and carpenters, show no signs of wanting to support the strikers, though in the event of talks being started they'll immediately bang in their own pay claims. Yet, sectional selfishness has never served workers' interests, we can only win whilst we are united.

### DIRECT ACTION GETS RESULTS

MIJOMEN WORKERS at the Stockport factory of M. Beale, shirt and pyjama manufacturers, staged a lightning walk-out on Tuesday because they claimed the factory was 'like an icebox'. About 50 women left their sewing machines at 11 a.m., marched through the town and up to the office of the Factory Inspector. A deputation of five put their case to him. The Inspector listened to their complaints and advised

them to go back to work. He said he would visit the factory the next day. One of the women said, 'We told the manageress to do something. She phoned Mr. Beale, the owner, but he told her that we should either carry on working or go home if we didn't like it, so we walked out.'

The owner has now promised to see that the heating is improved and the question of lighting is also being looked into. It just shows you what a bit of direct action can do.

#### STILL OUT AT ROBERTS ARUNDEL

THE ROBERTS ARUNDEL strike, now in its 23rd week, was in the news this week when Mark Carlisle, Tory MP for Runcorn, on the instigation of Clive Howson, the prospective Tory candidate. for Stockport South, called for an inquiry to be set up into the dispute. He also asked the Home Secretary if he would call for a report from the Chief Constable on how many of the people involved in the serious disturbance outside the Roberts Arundel Factory on February 22 did not live in the Stockport area and had no direct connection with the firm; and, in asking the Minister of Labour if he would set up a court of inquiry, Mr. Carlisle wanted to know what were the causes of the dispute and who were the people involved.

Mr. Howson is quoted in the local papers as saying, 'This is grand news. Following on the recent rebuke of Mr. Ray Gunter to the Stockport AEU for the bitter opposition to modern industrial training, these Parliamentary questions could well blow the lid off this extreme left wing organisation.

'In my view Roberts Arundel may not be a true industrial dispute at all. The firm may well have been a pawn in the Socialist and Communist power-game under a trade-union cover.'

Ever since Wilson made the 'red' smear technique respectable again last year, everyone's getting in on the act. However there are even left-wingers who have stooped to this level and to those people who have suggested that Mr. Howson has shares in Roberts Arundel, I can only say shame on you for harbouring such thoughts.

Last week the firm's American chairman, Mr. E. Pomeranz, had talks with Ray Gunter about the dispute and the thought of these two getting together makes me weep in sympathy with the Arundel's lads. All I can say is, 'God help you'.

NORTHERN WORKER.

### LETTER

### Explain Please

Dear Comrades.

With all due respect to my fellow comrades who went on the March of Shame, many of us cannot see how the jeering and shouting breakaway group which left the march opposite Downing Street hoped to contribute to ending the war in Vietnam. Perhaps one of them would like to explain?

Incidentally, and for the record, this group and the distraction which they caused, made the march around the queen wagon into a shambles and prevented a number of us, whose main purpose was to prevent, non-violently of course, any fascist attack on the float, from seeing the attacker when he tried to wreck the wagon. If the march had kept in line this incident could have been prevented.

One of the more constructive things was the persistent activity of Gerry Bree who constantly boarded buses and explained to passengers just what the march was about, so acting as a narrator to the March of Shame's theatre.

Birmingham

PETER NEVILLE.

TULY 3 sees the implementation of Part 2 of the Prices and Incomes Act and all that it entails, an extension of the wage freeze for another 12 months.

Rumblings can be heard from sections of organised workers as they visualise their standard of living gradually on the decrease. At a meeting at Memorial Hall on May 1 it was agreed by workers present that a One-Day Token Stoppage should be called to celebrate the implementation of Part 2.

The motion passed on May 1 has captured the imagination of the national press and one or two periodicals. Whilst such an action will not ferment revolution it will, if widely supported, give a clear indication of how we feel about the Labour Government's industrial policy. Abstention from the polls is a negative protest, like saying, 'If I don't bat first, you can't use my ball'.

Industrial action is the only action Wilson and his henchmen understand. At long last the Labour Party's most ardent supporters are getting a wee bit niggardly, enough we hope to support the July token stoppage.

'Strikes are not outdated things, but modern, necessary, wholesome. I realised this at an Agricultural Workers' meeting last week. These skilled men of many trades, doing the nation's most important job, get the lowest pay. And why? Simply because, being scattered and isolated, they can't strike.' (Hugh Delargy, Sunday Citizen, 14.5.67.)

There is no need to be isolated, particularly on July 3. Thousands of lower-

paid workers have been 'stitched up', railwaymen, clothing trade, agricultural workers, with more in the pipeline.

Draughtsmen have proved that direct action pays. To quote the Financial Times, 10.5.67, 'The formula agreed yesterday for ending the dispute will almost certainly be hailed by DATA leaders as victory for the unions on the grounds that the lock-out has been called off before the strikers return to work.'

Car delivery drivers have taken direct action in protest against the freezing of a wage increase. They are refusing to bring imported cars back to the Birmingham area on return trips. The employers have been contemplating paying the increase because in their view the drivers are getting away with law-breaking while the companies are being penalised for observing the law. I suggest the LGDA pays up; holding the baby too long makes one's arms tired, particularly if you have held it before (13 weeks stoppage beginning of wage freeze).

Fairfield's workers had to bring their management or the Government, or both. into line by direct action. The Ministry of Labour accepted Fairfield's award of 6d. an hour as being consistent with the Government's prices and incomes policy (FREEDOM, 5.5.67).

The groups of workers mentioned above are well organised, others not so fortunate cannot be allowed to go to the wall, this is what July 3 is all about. Resolutions and ballot abstentions will not beat the wage freeze, 'Direct Action'

BILL CHRISTOPHER.

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