# Anarchist Weekly 65

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## BLACK REBELLION

DEOPLE who read the posh papers (daily and Sunday) may have noticed that they have been paying attention to the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination. You had headings like 'How Mr. James Played His Card' (Sunday Times), 'Battle For Power Among Colour Bar Campaigners' (Observer), 'Racial Group In Crisis Talks' (Times), and so on. I hope to deal with some of the stuff that did not make the headlines.

CARD was formed three years ago to combat racial discrimination in Britain. Prominent founders included Mr. David Pitt, Miss Julia Gaitskell, Mr. Anthony Lester. A friend of mine described the constitution they drew up as 'a Labour Party front' (he should know—he helped to draft it!). Personally I don't doubt the sincerity of those who go in for parliamentary lobbying—just their wisdom. Many people in CARD felt what was needed was more emphasis on the struggle in the community, in the ghetto. At this year's convention a take-over bid was made, amid charges and countercharges of cheating. The new (but disputed) leadership issued a statement:

'An alliance was built up of all militant coloured organisations and all militant native organisations of our blood brothers—a fusion of workers, students, and intellectuals on all sides.

'We decided (1) that CARD must become and remain a broad mass of grass roots organisations in which there will be all races; (2) that it must be militant and it must be officered by the coloured sufferers of racial discrimination who know the problems and know the way to struggle against it; (3) that without attacking the root cause, imperialist oppression, our struggle will not win support among coloured people and/or natives of Britain.'

ACTIVITY IN ISLINGTON

What all this will mean in practice remains to be seen-however, that's enough about ye convention. Let's look at a Local Branch, the Islington one because it is the only one I know anything about. It has a membership consisting of West Indians, Pakistanis and 'natives'. Some good work has been done on the housing issue. A demonstration was held supported by tenants of a slum landlord. Reaction of a local Councillor: 'These people live in overcrowded conditions because they want

### CONSULATE RAIDED

The Editors.

In response to the Guardian's call for further demonstrations against the Greek fascist regime, the Greek Consulate in Glasgow was broken into and the plaque taken; a swastika was applied and the result photographed (enclosed).

The plaque is now in London to be used for propaganda purposes.

SAVE GREECE NOW (Glasgow Group)



### to!' Of an Alderman: 'They're a lot of hooligans.'

Another issue with which Islington CARD is much concerned is police brutality. A march to Islington and Caledonian Road Police Stations was supported by over a hundred people.

At a Branch Meeting held shortly before the yearly convention, relations with Central CARD were discussed. It was decided (not unanimously) to have relations with Central CARD.

A lot of black (West Indian) teenagers have come into Islington CARD and want action. These kids, descended from slaves and 'Uncle Toms', are naturally attracted to Black Power. Some of their ideas are sensible, some are not. 'We must be disciplined,' said one. What for? That's slave talk. Only slaves need discipline. However, as regards militancy, these kids will be setting the pace

#### COULD IT HAPPEN HERE?

The October issue of Islington CARD's Newsletter contained, besides an excellent article on the police, a report on the Detroit insurrection. It's worth quoting part of it:

'They asked for no aid, they expected none. They, the most exploited, demonstrated, as Stokeley Carmichael insisted when in London, that no man can die for another. And when white youth and white Southern workers who are heavily exploited in Detroit created integrated looting when they joined in the destruction of the shops which exploited them, and joined in the sniping against the police who are also their enemies, no one said "Whitey go home". Black Power had expressed itself fully when white men joined in the struggle that black men started and which they led.'

Now this is not America. The proportion of 'coloured' people is smaller. Black Americans are many generations in the land, whereas black and brown people in this country do not necessarily even speak the same language. Indians do not always love Pakistanis and vice versa. The West Indian, more sure of himself, tends to be impatient with both. The shops in the Detroit ghetto were run by whites, in British ghettoes this is less common. But mass communications mean that events in America do influence events here. Insurrection is a serious business, but there is one reason why it could happen—in a deaf society, it may be the only way to make yourself heard. J. McLean.

### LOWERING OF LIVING STANDARDS

is No Solution

Devaluation

THE STUPIDITY of the British

belief. After having spent three

years bolstering up the external

value of the pound with every de-

vice in the book in order to avoid

devaluation, which should have

taken place years ago, it has allowed

itself to be forced into a devaluation

which not only takes place at the

worst possible time, when Britain

has made huge borrowings from the

International Monetary Fund and

from the Americans and Continen-

tals which must be paid back at the

old exchange rate, but also is too

So we can look forward to a

continuation of the speculation by

international bankers against the

pound, even while the authorities,

with Bank Rate at 8 per cent, do

their best to produce the highest level

valued, it went from \$4.03 to the

pound to \$2.80—about a third. Now

its dollar value has been cut by

only about 14 per cent, to \$2.40.

The reason for the smallness of the

cut this time is the pressure exerted

by the other major countries of the

world, particularly the United States.

who were afraid of the threat to

their own currencies which would

come from the creation of such a

large differential in favour of British

exports. If Britain had devalued

by a sufficient margin to obviate

the danger of a further devaluation,

other countries, including perhaps

forced to devalue also. The net

effect then would be a collapse of

the world monetary system like that

of 1931, the competitive advantage

deriving from devaluation would be

lost, and nations would resort to

restrictions on international trade

the result of the British action.

Despite the promise by the other

major countries of a \$3,000 million

loan to support sterling at the new

rate, there is going to be continued

doubt that the devaluation was suffi-

cient to produce the substantial

balance of trade surplus which

Britain needs to pay off its present

debts, as well as to bear the esti-

mated £500 million a year additional

burden which, it was officially esti-

mated last year, entry into the

Common Market would involve. In

other words, the sterling crisis is

A similar outcome may yet be

and resulting mass unemployment.

In 1949 when the pound was de-

of unemployment since the War.

small to be of any real use.

Government is almost beyond

What the practical outcome, as far as we here are concerned is going to be, is very briefly said. Within two years the British people are going to be on an average living standard lower than that of the French and the Germans, and perhaps even lower than most Italians. This is going to be brought about by sharp rises in the cost of living in the next year or so. Depending upon which of the Sterling Area countries follow Britain in devaluing their currencies in terms of the dollar and the major European currencies, the cost of living should rise by three or four per cent. Entry into the EEC, which is now almost certain, should add another three or four per cent to this. To translate this into practical terms, the food bill of an average family of four would, under the combined impact of the present devaluation and entry into the Common Market, increase by something like fifty shillings a week. And on top of this we are going to have an increase in unemployment and measures to prevent

any increase in wage rates. It would be a mistake to blame all this simply on the sub-Churchillian posturings of Harold Wilson. Although the economists have been advocating devaluation for years, they have done so with very little understanding of the real problems involved: devaluation has been a panacea which has enabled them to even America, could have been avoid any serious analysis of the large agricultural labour surplus. causes of Britain's payments difficulties. On the other hand, there have been the Bank of England and the financial interests of the City who, with the support of the Treasury, have been chiefly concerned with the defence of their own in-

terests. There is in fact no simple explanation of what has gone wrong with Britain's balance of payments. Certain elements can be immediately distinguished, like the huge one-way expenditure overseas by the Government for military and associated purposes, and the rise in the prices of British exports on overseas markets relative to other countries' products, but to tie all the elements together into a coherent and convincing explanation is something that no one has yet achieved. But it seems likely that at the root of Britain's troubles is the long-term structural adjustment that has been

taking place since the First World War, as Britain declines in relative importance. Her head start in industrialisation and economic development, and her acquisition and maintenance, even during the Second World War, of large overseas capital investments, and the income deriving from them, enabled Britain for many years to enjoy a national income much greater on a per capita basis than that of most other major countries.

#### HISTORICAL CHANGE

Now the process of historical change has reduced Britain to a relatively insignificant country. But she has nevertheless endeavoured with the help of, and perhaps for the preservation of, her income from overseas investments, to maintain an important role in the structure of international power-politics, while at the same time not possessing the domestic economic strength to justify such a role. The reason for the inadequate domestic economic strength in turn is partly simply one of size and natural resources, and partly explicable in terms of the 'maturity' of the economy relative to that of the other major industrial powers: Britain no longer has a numerically large but relatively declining agricultural sector from which to draw the supplies of labour which are necessary to rapid industrial expansion. Nor has she been able (partly because of stupid xenophobia) to draw upon the labour force of countries or areas with a

Thus a devaluation of some kind was inevitable. But the activities of the British authorities have had the effect of making a bad situation worse; and there is no important difference between the Labour Party and the Conservatives in this.

As a result, all we have to look forward to for the next few years is hardship and insecurity. Whether the electorate in 1970 votes for Wilson or Heath will of course make not a jot of difference to Britain's place in the world, and her necessary further decline.

BRON SHATOV.

### DOMINIO DOILDING

not yet finished.

THE STRUGGLE of the homeless people of Wandsworth against the Labour-controlled Council continues. As I wrote in Freedom two weeks ago, the demands are:-

- 1. Withdrawal of the nine-month eviction threat;
- 2. Assurance that no family will be evicted onto the streets:
- 3. Assurance that no children will be taken into care, and all families given a decent place to live.

A deputation of tenants has visited the home of Mr. Kenneth Robinson, Minister of Health, and handed in a letter pointing out that the Wandsworth Council eviction threat is contrary to Labour's election pledge of no evictions, and asking him to see that the Council withdraw it.

The march on November 12 to the home of the Chairman of the Welfare Committee, Alderman Jack Parker, went very well. About 120 people took part. A meeting was held outside Parker's house and a letter handed in, demanding that the assurances be given at the Council meeting the following Wednes-

day. The amount of outside support for the march certainly encouraged and impressed the homeless families.

There is no doubt that we have had a large degree of success. Ald. Parker has stated publicly on BBC TV that the Council do not intend to take any children into care. All tenants have been called to see Mr. North, the Welfare Officer, and told that they won't be put onto the streets. And perhaps best of all, we have received a letter from Kenneth Robinson saying that the Council have assured him that they do not intend to put any families onto the streets.

Obviously much ground has been made. The nine-month threat is now a paper tiger and the tenants no longer feel threatened by it. This, of course, is the most important thing of all.

However, this does not mean the campaign is over. Having gained some success we are now pushing for the following three points:

threat will not be carried out.

2. A reply to the question: 'What

1. A public, official, written assurance to the homeless families that the eviction

happens to those families who have been unable to find accommodation in nine months?' We know they will not be evicted but will they go to 'problem family units' as is rumoured, with 24hour supervision?

3. The reletting of empty Councilowned houses in Battersea, which were going to be left vacant for two-three years. Why should not the homeless be housed in them-with or without Council permission?

In furtherance of the first two points a letter was sent to every Councillor asking them to bring up the subject at the Council meeting on November 15. Not one Councillor saw fit to do so, but about 20 homeless people and supporters were in the public gallery, and we did. The Mayor and Alderman Parker went berserk and we were ejected. But we had made our point, and we all enjoyed it immensely.

We thank those who have supported

The campaign continues.

RON BAILEY.

### EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. FREEDOM will be published without a break until Christmas. We shall have an eight-page issue next week and also on December 23 and that will be the last issue of the year.

2. We need help in folding FREEDOM on November 28 and 30, at Express Printers, 84 Whitechapel High Street, E.1, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

### Social Evening

in aid of

### Anarchist Black X

Monday, December 11, 7.30 p.m.

at the Arts Laboratory

182 Drury Lane, W.C.1 JAZZ :: SPANISH DANCERS FLAMENCO MUSIC FOLKSINGERS :: FILMS FOOD AND WINE Tickets 7s. 6d. (10s. at the door) from Freedom Press Also from Anarchist Black Cross. Libra House, 256 Pentonville Road, N.1

ALL proceeds to anarchist prisoners throughout the world

# hooks

We can supply these books (and others) for Xmas gifts. Thus you can benefit your friends and our funds-two for the price of one!

Patrick Renshaw 42/-The Wobblies The Russian Anarchists Paul Avrich 60/-Selected Philosophical

Alexander Herzen 10/-Love and Orgasm Alexander Lowen 37/6 Herbert Read 21/-To Hell with Culture Herbert Read 21/-Anarchy and Order The Sexual Revolution

Wilhelm Reich 25/-Character Analysis Wilhelm Reich 63/-Authority and Deliquency in the

Equality and Power R. V. Sampson 35/-Talking of Summerhill A. S. Neill 25/-Homer Lane: a Biography W. David Wills 40/-

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N. G. Chernyshevsky (paperback) 10/-Plays, Prose Writings and Poems Oscar Wilde 12/6

The Peckham Experiment Innes H. Pearse & Lucy H. Crocker 12/6 The Sane Society

Erich Fromm (paperback) 12/6 Fear of Freedom

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### Freedom Bookshop

(Open 2 p.m.-5.30 p.m. daily; 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursdays; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays).

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### FREEDOM PRESS PUBLICATIONS

SELECTIONS FROM 'FREEDOM'

Vol 3 1953: Colonialism on Trial Vol 4 1954: Living on a Volcane Vol 5 1955: The Immoral Moralists Vel 6 1956: Oil and Troubled Waters Vol 7 1957: Year One-Sputnik Era Vol 8 1958: Socialism in a Wheelchair Vol 9 1959: Print, Press & Public Vol 10 1960: The Tragedy of Africa Vol 11 1961: The People in the Street Vol 12 1962: Pilkington v. Beeching Vol 13 1963: Forces of Law and Order Vol 14 1964: Election Years Bach volume: paper 7/6 cloth 10/6. The paper edition of the Selections is available to readers of FREEDOM

at 5/6 post free.

VERNON RICHARDS Malatesta: His Life and Ideas sloth 21/-; paper 10/6 E. MALATESTA Anarchy Paper 1/-ALEXANDER BERKMAN ABC of Anarchism paper 2/6 ALEX COMFORT Delinquency 6d. PAUL ELTZBACHER Anarchism (Seven Exponents of the Anarchist Philosophy) cloth 21/-RUDOLF ROCKER Nationalism and Culture cloth 21/-CHARLES MARTIN Towards a Free Society 2/6 JOHN HEWETSON III-Health, Poverty and the State cloth 2/6; paper 1/-VOLINE Nineteen-Seventeen (The Russian Revolution Betrayed) cloth 12/6 The Unknown Revolution (Kronstadt 1921, Ukraine 1918-21)

cloth 12/6 E. A. GUTKIND The Expanding Environment (iHustrated) boards 8/6 GEORGE BARRETT The First Person (Selections) 2/6 MICHAEL BAKUNIN Marxism, Freedom and the State (ed.) K. J. Kenafick (paper) 7/6 MARIE-LOUISE BERNERI Neither East nor West Selected Weitings) (paper) 6/-

## JOHN CALDER'S HONOURABLE DEFENCE

THE SOOT-GRIMED Dickensian walls of London's Old Bailey is Court 5 of the Central Criminal Court. It is a room of charm and panelled dignity, discreetly lit from concealed lighting, for the grey and shadowdappled daylight that filters through the frosted glass of the twin tall windows could never illuminate this high-ceilinged room.

Neat lawyers, and their sly clerks, in the pin-striped trousers, wigs and starched bibs of their trade, whisper the small in-jokes of the moment, and the ushers of the Court, in their role of Authority's lancejacks, bark out their orders to those who fail to conform to the dignity of the Court.

This is Court 5 where Sharkey and Metzger sweated out their ordeal of the DIAS trial and here before us, solitary on the three-chaired bench, lolls Judge Graham Rogers, plump and pink and courtly, learned in the law and gentle Modern State Alex Comfort 10/6 with his wit. Within the stone hulk of the Old Bailey stands this world of Georgian elegance where intelligent and sophisticated men engage in a team debate where the prize is freedom for the unfortunate in the dock or imprisonment and/or financial ruin.

> It is in this room before an all-male jury that John Calder and Marion Boyars sought to defend my right to read what they had published, for they were charged that, as publishers of the book Last Exit to Brooklyn, they 'tended to deprave and corrupt persons who were likely to read the book'.

These are not idle words, for time and time again John Mathew for the prosecution made the point that while he accepted that John Calder was a publisher of the highest repute, and though this book may contain within its pages all the compassion and social protest that the array of learned and highlyplaced literary figures claimed for it, it was still a work of literature that should only be circulated among an intelligent sophisticated readership who could understand all the technical nuances of its transatlantic prose style and would, by virtue of their intellectual background, take the realistic descriptions of homosexual activities and beatups as part of the clinical literature that men and women of that calibre can accept in its true sociological perspective.

But the book is not for me, if I understood the Prosecutor correctly. As a common labourer with but eight childhood years at a State primary school and not a degree or even an 'O' level to my credit, I sat in the public gallery from the first day on of this trial conscious that this was the Prosecutor's case and that John Calder was by the sheer pressure of events forced to challenge an Establishment that at this moment in time dare not burn a book for using the word fuck and has now retreated to the higher grounds of the social elite in their cry that they accept the artist's right to record and portray with greater realism the corrupt segments of a society, should he so wish to occupy his mind and pen,

but only for an audience of trained, intelligent and sophisticated readers.

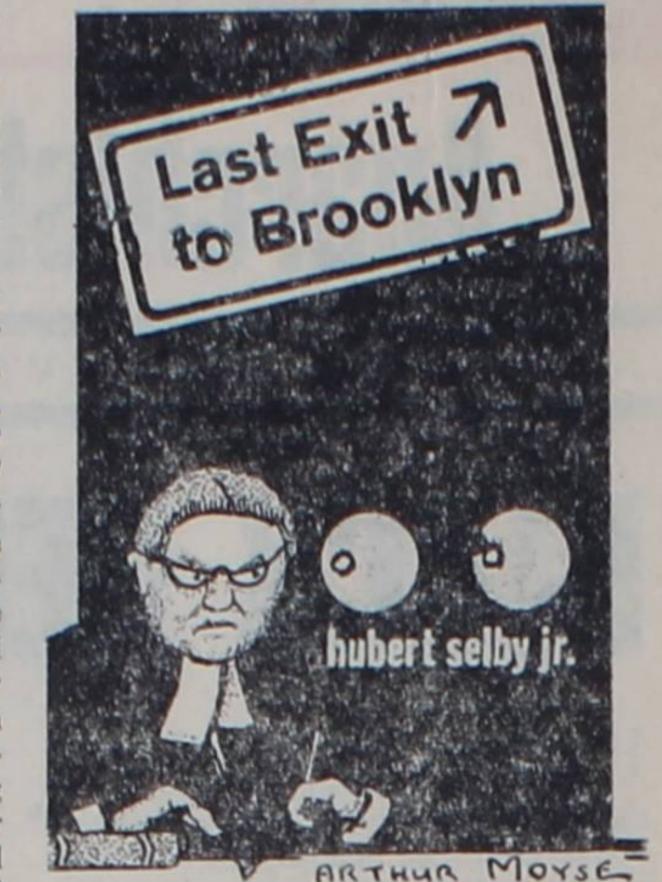
For the defence, Kermode and Eric Mottram, among others, made a civilised assessment of the book chapter by chapter, and from cultured English tongues the words fuck and shitkicker died in the passive drawl of carefully modulated voices. And all for my moral welfare.

It was when Professor Barbara Hardy, Professor of English Literature and what have you, tripped into the witness box, placed her handbag on the floor, smiled a cute and adorable smile at the all-male jury, and announced that among her credentials for speaking for my right to read this book was that of appearing on 'Woman's Hour' and giving advice about books said to be obscene to the Public Prosecutor that this whole dreary farce began to turn sour. Here was this worthy and self-possessed woman, standing with supreme confidence within the witness box, prattling on in a mixture of radiant smiles and senior girls' school rhetoric on the virtues of this book and why, in her opinion, this particular book should not be destroyed and one cried to oneself 'In the name of God and Dr. Johnson, woman, stop prattling on, for if you have the audacious egoism to advise the State Prosecutor what books should or should not be burned, then at least have the commonsense to destroy this book, for it offended a Member of Parliament, the Marlborough Street magistrate, and the Public Prosecutor, and if you take an active part in the deliberate and legal destruction of creative works, then destroy this book for it offended these goodly men of your own society'. It was left to a quietly-spoken woman

social worker from St. Anne's, Soho, to win back the respect that had seeped away, when she spoke of the boy prostitutes in Soho and the vicious gang beatings that took place, for here, she said, was our living equivalent of Last Exit to Brooklyn. Mrs. Peite gave her evidence and, without benefit of coy smiles, padded from the Court, middle-aged and garbed in sober brown, to pass out into the corrupt world beyond the comfortable Courtroom.

It was now left to Calder to make the only true and honourable defence, for this stocky, glum-faced man, with his unpressed blue suit and thinning hair, spoke not for this book but for the right of all men and women to have free and open access to whatever writings are offered them. He swept aside in one telling sentence the Prosecutor's oftrepeated assertion that the unfortunate people within the book were but a small and unrepresentative segment of a society by pointing out that the same claim could be made about the rich, but always Calder stood his ground, fighting not for his right to publish this particular book, but for his right to publish and for my right to purchase and read should I so desire.

It is so easy, and it is a besetting sin of the philosophical anarchists within our movement, to wave an airy hand towards some vague Good Society where there will be no authority to impose their dictums on what we shall or shall not read, and then to walk away, but within the Old Bailey John Calder was forced to stand on trial to defend our narrow chain of liberties despite the illaimed abuse that was thrown at him by



many absent friends.

We are all of us victims of our own fears or held in check by our own inborn lack of courage but never let us try to justify our own failings by claiming that the cause is unworthy of our attention. John Calder and Marion Boyars accepted a cry and a cause that none of us dare deny. Let us acknowledge that debt.

ARTHUR MOYSE.

### NEW PUBLISHING IN BERLIN

**OBERBAUMPRESSE** 

Briefing in Conduct-Tactics of Direct Action

COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY of direct action methods, covering demonstrations (marches, processions, picketing, vigils, 'fraternising' with those involved in the military and state machines for discussion purposes, 'trailing' officials constantly with signs of protest, posters, refusal of awards made by suspect institutions). Also, strikes, boycotts, tax refusals, and direct intervention in a situation. Good discipline and preparation are regarded as important, and some anarchists would disagree with the idea (taken for granted) of having 'leaders', and for good ideological and tactical reasons. There is also a section on police methods and one's reaction.

This book probably highlights the lack of organisation in terms of holding ranks and using human chains and the strength of solidarity, which tend to weaken demonstrations in Britain.

Che Guevara. Letter to the Executive Secretariat of the Organisation for Soli-

darity Among the Peoples of Africa, Asia, and Latin-America.

An essay in struggle against imperialism by the well-known Latin-American guerrilla leader. Shows the reasons for the development of hard-lines and hatred in political conflict and advocates the intensification of struggle 'we must create two, three, many Vietnams'.

#### LITERARY PUBLICATIONS Peter Handke: Literature is Romantic.

A well presented pamphlet containing a closely reasoned argument, broken into paragraphs dealing with each advance of the argument, in which the main premise is that, since art requires style and form, it can never be anything but an interpretation of reality, and not a presentation of reality. A genuine 'realist' school of art would require total formlessness and chance in construction of a work. A well-written broadside against the excesses of the 'Engagement' or

UNDERGROUND POEMS (bilingual) This little collection of modern verse

'Committed' schools.

by poets, from the 'little magazine' (United States) scene, contains some delightful pieces and some goddam awful rubbish. If a man writes a two-line, nay, indeed a two-word poem, it has to be good. But there are great moments when the words really sing, and when the economy of words really pays the divi., e.g. Robert Creeley, 'THE BIRD':

What did you say to me that I had not heard. She said she saw a small bird. Where was it. In a tree. Ah, he said, I thought you spoke to me.

There is also a good essay at the end of the poetry selection which deals with the development of the modern American lyric poem (in German only).

Relating poetry of the small magazines to the way-out social scene, to Pop media, to anti-art, and above all to the previous masters of the language such as Robert Frost, the essay is one of the few attempts made these days to relate good but less known work to the history and the big names of litera-

GEOFF CHARLTON.

### Anarchist Federation of Britain

General enquiries should be sent to the London Federation.

LONDON FEDERATION OF ANARCHISTS. c/o Libra House, 256 Pentonville Road, London,

DEC. 11: Anarchist Black Cross Social at the ARTS LAB, 182 Drury Lane, W.C.1. Senday evening meetings 8 p.m. Lamb & Flag, Rose Street, off Garrick Street, London, W.C.2 (Leicester Square tube). NOV. 26 Freedom editors

Readers, writers and sellers meeting DEC. 3 Courtney Tulloch Black Power

LEWISHAM. Contact Mike Malet, 61 Granville Park, Lewisham, London, S.E. 13 EALING ANARCHIST GROUP. Get into by Cupar, Fife. touch with Ken King, 54 Norwood Road, KING'S CROSS GROUP, c/o Libra House, 256 Pentonville Road, London, N.1.

#### 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. 2nd and 4th Friday of each mouth, 8 p.m., at

Brenda Mercer's and dj Austin's, 80 Crouch

Hill, N.8 (Finsbury Park Underground, 212 bus

#### to door). REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND GROUPS

ABERDEEN ANARCHISTS meet 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of month at M. Dey's, 142 Walker Road, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at Liz Smith's, 3 Sinclair Road. Correspondence to either address. ALTRINCHAM ANARCHIST YOUTH GROUP. Get in touch with Stephen Richards, 25 North Vale Road, Timperley, Cheshire.

BEXLEY ANARCHIST GROUP. Correspondence to Paul Wildish, 2 Cumbrian Avenue, Barnehurst. Kent. BELFAST: Contact Tony Adams, 11 Winetavern

Street, Smithfield Square, Belfast. BIRMINGHAM LIBERTARIAN GROUP. All anarchists, syndicalists, individualists, etc., please contact Geoff and Caroline Charlton, top flat, 8 Lightwoods Hill, Smethwick, Warley, Worcs. 25 mins. from Birmingham City centre. No. 9 bus. RESISTANCE GROUP. Clo Birmingham Peace Action Centre (formerly CND office), Factory Road. Birmingham, 19. BOLTON. Get in touch with Les Smith, 22 Grosvenor Street, Bolton, Lancs,

BOURNEMOUTH AND EAST DORSET ANARCHISTS. Please contact John McCair. 14 Milton Road, Bournemouth (B'm'th 22279) or Tim Deane, Juliet, West Moors, Wimborne, Dorset (Ferndown 3588).

BRIGHTON. Get in touch with 79 Coleman Street, Brighton, 7. Poetry readings every Tuesday in Archway 187 on the Seafront. Admission is free and all poets welcome. 8.30 p.m.

BRISTOL. Contact: Dave and Pat Thorne, 22 Hampton Road, Redland, Bristol, 6. FIFE LIBERTARIANS. Contact Bob and Una Turnbull, 39 Stratheden Park, Stratheden Hospital,

EXETER ANARCHIST GROUP. Get in touch with Anthony Webb, 39 Cowick Lane, St. Thomas, Exeter, Devon. GLASGOW ANARCHIST GROUP ONE. Correspondence to Robert Lynn, 2b Saracen Head

Lane, Glasgow, C.1. HERTS. Contact either Stuart Mitchell at South View, Potters Heath Lane, Potters Heath, Welwyn, Herts OR Jeff Cloves, 46 Hughendon Road Marshalswick, St. Albans, Herts. HULL ANARCHIST GROUP, c/o J. Tempest, 89 Fountain Road, Beverley Road, Hull. IPSWICH ANARCHISTS. Contact Neil Dean, 74

Cemetery Road, Ipswich, Suffolk. KILBURN, LONDON. Contact Andrew Dewar, 16 Kilburn House, Malvern Place, London, N.W.6. Meetings 8 p.m. every Tuesday. LEICESTER PROJECT. Peace/Libertarian action and debate. Every Wednesday at 8 p.m. at 1 The Crescent, King Street, Leicester. LSE ANARCHIST GROUP. c/o Student Union,

London School of Economics, Houghton Street, W.C.2. NORTH EAST ESSEX. Group meets the first Monday in each month 7.15 p.m. at 91 Brook Street, Tolleshurst Knights, Tiptree, Essex. For further information write P. Newell, 'Maybush', Maypole Road, Tiptree, Essex

NORTH SOMERSET ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Roy Emery, 3 Abbey Street, Bath, or Geoffrey Barfoot, 71 St. Thomas Street, Wells. NOTTING HILL, Please get in touch with John Bennett and Marilyn Paddy, Flat 4, 88 Clarendon Road, London, W.11. Tel.: 727 9745. Meetings every Monday at 7 p.m. 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 Simon Martin, Oriel College, Oxford. PLYMOUTH ANARCHIST FEDERATION. Contact J. Hill, 79 Underlane, Plymstock, Plymouth.

READING ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact

Alan Ross, 116 Belmont Road, Reading, Berks. SHEFFIELD RADICAL GROUP. Contact Robin Lovell c/o Students' Union, Sheffield SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY GROUP. Contact S.R.G., 31 Harcourt Road, Sheffield, 10. University.

SLOUGH ANARCHIST GROUP AND 'HIPPY' GROUP. Contact B. P. Norcott, 116 Lower Cippenham Lane, Slough, Bucks. Meetings every other Friday. SOUTH EAST ESSEX ANARCHIST GROUP

We would love to hear from fellow-sympathisers in area. All enquiries to M. Powell, 7 Lingcroft, Basildon, Essex. S.W. LONDON LIBERTARIANS. Meet every Thursday, 7.30 p.m. at 14 Clapham Court,

King's Avenue (Acre Lane end), S.W.4. SOUTH WEST MIDDLESEX ANARCHIST Group meets alternate Thursdays and Saturdays, on Eel Pie Island. Contact P. J. Goody, 36 Norman Avenue, Hanworth, Middlesex. TROWBRIDGE PEACE ACTION GROUP. Contact P. Weston, Chivele, Butts Lane, Keevil, Trowbridge, Wiltshire. Meetings every Tuesday 7.30 p.m. Friends' Meeting House (opp. Bus

WEST HAM ANARCHISTS. Contact Stephen Higgs, Westbury Road, Forest Gate, E.7.

### **WEST ESSEX & EAST HERTS** FEDERATION

To be serviced by a newsletter and three-monthly meetings. Groups and individuals are invited to associate: c/o Keith Nathan, 138 Pennymead, Harlow. Epping: contact John Barrick, 14 Centre Avenue.

Harlow: contact John Deards, 184 Carter's Mead and/or Geoff Hardy, 6 Redrick's Lane. Loughton: c/o Students' Union, Loughton College of Further Education, Loughton, Essex.

#### 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,

CHORLEY ANARCHIST GROUP. Secretary: Alistair T. Rattray, 35a Devonshire Road, Chorley. LIVERPOOL ANARCHIST PROPAGANDA

GROUP AND 'HIPPY' MOVEMENT. Gerry Bree, 16 Faulkner Square, Liverpool, 8. Meetings weekly. 'Freedom' Sales-Pier Head, Saturdays, Sundays, Evenings. MANCHESTER ANARCHIST GROUP. Secretary: Dave Poulson, 9 Boland Street, Fallowfield.

SOUTH WALES ANARCHIST FEDERATION CARDIFF ANARCHIST GROUP, SWANSEA

ANARCHIST GROUP. All correspondence to:-

Manchester, 14.

#### Julian Ross, 111 King Edwards Road, Brynmill, Swansea. ASSOCIATION

LIBERTARIAN TEACHERS' Meetings-discussions-activities. Contact Peter Ford, 36 Devonshire Road, Mill Hill, London,

PROPOSED GROUPS

MUCH HADHAM, HERTS. Get in touch with

Leslie Riordan, High Street, Much Hadham, TORONTO, CANADA. Any Torontonians in-

terested in Anarchism please contact Leonard Tarka, 108 Silverhill Drive, Islington, Ontario. Canada. CORNWALL ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact A. C. Jacob, 76 East Hill, St. Austell, Cornwall. WOLVERHAMPTON. Contact Martin Bash-

forth at 11 Lyndhurst Road, Wolverhampton. LSE ANARCHIST GROUP. London School of Economics, Houghton Street, W.C.2. FULHAM & CHELSEA ANARCHIST GROUP. Get in touch with Mary Canipa, 21 Rumbold Road, Fulham, S.W.6 and/or Richard Bolton, 48 Yeomans Row, Chelsea, S.W.3. Phone:

CRAWLEY. Get in touch with Ian Pett, 63 Winchester Road, Tilgate, Sussex. Viva Anarchista!

### ABROAD

AUSTRALIA. Federation of Australian Anarchists, P.O. 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. Gothersgade, 27, Viborg, Denmark. VANCOUVER, B.C., CANADA. Anyone interested in forming anarchist and/or direct action

peace group contact Derek A. James, 1844 Grand Boulevard, North Vancouver, B.C., Canada. Tel.: 987-2693. USA: VERMONT. New Hampshire Anarchist

Group. Meets weekly - discussion, individual action. 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, Sclessini-Liege, Belgium. EAST AFRICA. George Matthews would like to make contact. Secondary school teacher from UK. PO Box 90, Kakamega, Kenya.

USA. James W. Cain, secretary, Insurgency Anarchist Association, 323 Fourth Street, Cloquet, Minnesota 55720, USA.

GROUP-(T)REASON. Australian Anarchist, c/o Melbourne University Union or A.R. Giles Peters, c/o same.

An important example of this kind of thing is the National Council of Civil Liberties. The NCCL is an organisation which exists in order to defend whatever freedom from the encroachment of the State we already enjoy in this country, and to try to extend and consolidate the areas of freedom. But it is a body whose approach is basically reformist: it criticises the behaviour of the police force, but in doing so accepts the basic proposition that a police force is necessary and desirable; it defends the right of soldiers to leave the army at any time after enlistment, but does not attack the very existence of the army; it defends the right of political demonstration, but accepts the limitation of demonstration in the name of 'public order' . . . and so on-on every issue it denies basic anarchist principles.

But nevertheless, we anarchists should consider our attitude to the NCCL carefully.

The fundamental reason for the existence of the NCCL is to defend against authority the existence of minority movements, like anarchism, which dissent and oppose. Their position derives from the great tradition of Nineteenth Century Liberalism, which emphasised the value of the individual as opposed to the State and society; but at the same time admitted the State to have a justification for its existence, which was the reconciliation of conflicting interests in society in the interest of the Common Good. What all anarchists-individualist, communist, syndicalist, or any other brand—have in common is the rejection of any idea of the Common Good which requires a central authoritarian State to defend it or impose it. This is the revolutionary aspect of anarchism, which differentiates it from mere liberalism.

Once we, however, momentarily aban-

### Moving Fund

Target for moving and renovation of new place-£500.

Received to date-£175 5s.

The balance of the money is needed urgently and also offers of help for moving and general repair work.

### Premises Fund

Target is £1,000 per year. So far £178 p.a. has been pledged by comrades and wellwishers.

We must have all the pledges in by the end of the year.

The following is reprinted from

have decided to take a tough line

with the hippie cult in Ealing and root

out the 'canker' of drug handling and

with the 'hippie' movement have been

barred from public houses in Ealing. One

police raid exposed drug trafficking on

the premises, while another landlord

discovered a case of drug taking by

enforced the barring are 'The Feathers'

and 'The Royal Oak', both in Ealing

'We have been asked to liaise with the

police and report incidents involving

magistrates have dealt with more than

20 cases under the Dangerous Drugs

Act, an increase over any comparable

Police have been keeping observation

Det.-Supt. Kenneth McLachlan, Ealing

on certain houses, two of them derelict

buildings in Baker's Lane, Ealing.

period in the past year.

During the past six weeks, Ealing

Two local public houses which have

An Ealing landlord said this week:

Middlesex County Times (11.11.67).

misuse.

instrument.

Broadway.

drugs.'

### ANARCHISTS & THE NGCL

don the perspective of ultimate aims, and consider our practical day-to-day activities against the State and its manifestations-the Vietnam War, the Bomb, the military coup d'état in Greece, and so on-we cannot help but find ourselves in perfect harmony with the NCCL, which, while it has as a body no attitudes towards the issues in question, is vitally concerned with the rights of the people who do want to concern themselves with these issues.

To some people it might seem preferable to take an absolutist attitude with regard to the State, and treat all States alike, as being equally objectionable: in the abstract, there is no difference to a thirty-year sentence, or execution, for participating in revolutionary activity. and a two-month or twelve-month sentence, for demonstrating effectively in England. But there is a very real difference to the people concerned, and their families, and here the NCCL plays a role that the anarchist movement in Britain should be grateful for, whatever its general views as to the long-term development of society.

It is clearly in our interest to support and assist the work of a group who are concerned to establish and preserve in this society our very right to exist. In the past anarchists have tended to take the existence and work of the NCCL for granted; we have benefited from the legal assistance they have arranged after demonstrations, and in particular we have benefited from the more circumspect behaviour of the police which the activities of the NCCL have produced —a copper is always more careful what

### GEORGE WOODCOCK'S The Writer

& Politics

Freedom Press has re-issued as a paperback, George Woodcock's collection of essays The Writer and Politics (first published by the Porcupine Press in 1948), of which the author writes in his introduction:

'It recognises the paramount need for a change in social structure, in order to promote the freedom of individual development. . . . This book . . . embraces a social approach to literature and thought, which takes into account the society where writers work and live. Its attitude is, however, very different from that of the social literature of the 1930s which was dominated by the political ideology of Marxism.'

The volume includes essays on Alexander Herzen, Franz Kafka, Arthur Koestler, Peter Kropotkin, Pierre-Joseph Proudhon, Ignazio Silone and George Orwell. 7s. 6d.

he says and does if he knows that he can be criticised by people who his superiors must, whether they like it or not, treat as 'respectable'. Here the existence of a group of MPs who support the work of the NCCL helps

It was because of considerations like this that the AFB Conference decided, through the LFA, to affiliate with the NCCL, and to encourage anarchists to co-operate with it in an active way, both to repay some of the enormous debt we owe it, and to influence its

work and members in the direction of anarchist principle.

In future, FREEDOM intends to publish frequent reports on Civil Liberties, and the work of the NCCL. These will be intended to bring the work of the NCCL to the attention of anarchists, both for the information of members of the movement, and to encourage participation and critical comment. The NCCL in particular needs people who can undertake to report on demonstrations, strikes, pickets and so on, in an objective fashion so as to make sure that participants are not being maltreated and deprived of their rights by the authorities; and to support effective protests in the event of police misbehaviour.

SEBASTIAN SCRAGG.

### **LETTERS**

### Incest

Dear Comrades,

If incest is discouraged in most societies because it is the accumulated experience of these societies that the offspring of incestuous unions are frequently abnormal', as J. Timson maintains, why did the 'accumulated experience' of many societies, for hundreds of years, in different parts of the world (notably Egypt under the Pharaohs and the Ptolemies, and Peru under the Incas), also dictate that incestuous unions should be obligatory for royalty?

Mankind does not appear to accumulate much experience. Before the invention of printing, with resultant widespread literacy, the majority of mankind knew nothing that had happened more than about a century and a half before, at the outside. The intelligentsia, a tiny minority who could read, do not seem to have benefited much from their ability, and their modern descendants, who form an infinitely larger section of the population, do not seem to have done much better, nor do the masses of the population, although they now can read and write too. No one appears to learn anything from even recent history.

How then can one possibly expect that illiterate people, concerned mainly with the problem of getting their livelihood, should accumulate experience? Folk-tales and myths enshrine religious and magical rituals, and do not refer to historical events, except when these accidentally leave bits and pieces of themselves incorporated in the ritual, usually in the form of names of people and

It seems clear that at one time it was equivalent to a taboo on all sex. thought very important that kings should marry their sisters, and other close female relatives, including their mothers. Possibly this idea was based on magical notions concerning 'royal blood', and the need to keep it 'pure'. The practice was continued for centuries and in some places millennia. If the result was degeneracy we hear nothing of it. Most royal families, whether they breed incestuously or not, produce their quota of misfits, but then so do ordinary families.

The taboo on incest was probably the product of religious changes. The monarchical system in which the king was a god was done away with, or modified. Incest was part of the ritual of the old discarded royal religion, and so was forbidden. Another ancient practice, now almost universally outlawed, but once widespread, was cannibalism. Modern religions, except perhaps in Japan, do not recognise divine kings, although rulers still like to claim that they are God's representative, even if not gods themselves. The Pope is Christ's Vicar on Earth, Mao Tse-Tung is the agent of the Marxist Dialectic.

It must be emphasised that humanitarian considerations have nothing to do with the matter. Humanitarianism is of very recent origin. It hardly antedates marijuana with 'hard drugs', thereby the eighteenth century, and is a child of scientific rationalism. The idea that incest is 'unhealthy' is a modern rationalisation,\* like the idea that cannibalism is cruel. The taboo on incest is widely accepted, just as the idea of the nation

### NOTICE

HERE is in New York an organization bearing the name of the Greenwood Reprint Corporation, which has started the work of reprinting old avantgarde periodicals of which only rare copies now exist. There will be reprinted journals, periodicals, works, anarchist, socialist, syndicalist, feminist, pacifist,

Amongst the first to see the light will be the 'ALARM' whose publication was started by Albert Parsons, one of the Chicago Martyrs, in 1884. (New York the policy of the Government. Times, 15.10.1967.)

The address of the Greenwood Reprint Corporation will be: 211 East 43rd Street, New York, NY, USA.

From Laduana dei Rafrattari (New York). tr.: j.w.s.

state is, and, as is often the way with taboos, is commonly broken only by people at the very bottom of the social ladder, people who are often physically and mentally in poor shape.

This may explain the figures in the Journal of Pediatries and the Lancet. If the parents are physically and mentally unhealthy, and being brother and sister have the same things wrong with them, their defects will tend to reappear even more strongly in their offspring.

(Of course I have no idea what the Journal of Pediatrics and the Lancet mean by 'normal'. This word is difficult to define.)

If the brother and sister have a very low IQ, their offspring will probably have as low, or even a lower one. If, on the other hand, both brother and sister (or mother and son, father and daughter) are of good physique and intelligence, then their children will be too, and may even surpass them. There is a danger that some hidden flaw in both parents may be handed on, and increased, but this is not the same thing as saying that the offspring will probably be abnormal.

The question may seem academic, but it is possible that all taboos on sex spring from this particular taboo. Even if this is not the case, it is still true to say that small children are sexually aroused by their parents and siblings, and are then rebuffed in various ways, some subtle, some not, with the result that a feeling of guilt in relation to sex develops. It would not matter so much if there was more community life than there is, but children tend to be so much confined within their own families that this particular taboo may in some cases be the

Yours fraternally, ARTHUR W. ULOTH. \*The Victorians also believed that masturbation was unhealthy, although

### Turmoil in Tokyo

there is no evidence for it.

Dear Friends.

I think that you have already heard of the political and social turmoil here in Tokyo. Its provocator is without doubt the Government. Twice in Haneda airport, students of Zengakuren came into collision with the police. Several hundred students were injured and arrested. The cause of these affairs was the visiting of South Vietnam and the USA by Japanese Prime Minister Sato. His openly-declared intentions were to intercede in the Vietnam War from the standpoint of a neutral nation and to promote peaceful economic development in that country, and again to ask for the return of Okinawa and Ogasawara Islands in the South Pacific. But Japanese people are aware that such negotiations will induce a commitment in the Vietnam War and rearmament of Japan will be increased for the return of Okinawa. In this political situation it is curious that Japanese revolutionary parties such as Japan Social Party and on the students' behaviour at the demonstrations.

I must here add two lamentable cases; one is that you printed in FREEDOM the news of the trial of the anarchists who acted against the arms factory and one of the accused anarchists has recently committed suicide at the foot of Fuiji Mountain. His last words were reported as 'My act has sufficient reason, I'm innocent, funny, and I'm sorry to have been born'. His name was Fiokichi Salsal. The trial of the others will be continued till January of next year.

Esperantist. Mr. Yuhri killed himself, 2/9; Wolverhampton: J.K.W.\* 2/-; J.L.\* like a monk of Vietnam by means of 3/-; Manchester: D.W. £1/-/-; London, burning with gasoline, in front of the Prime Minister's public house at the time of departure of Mr. Sato to the USA. He did this to protest against

Yet the daily routine of Japanese people, even including myself, goes smoothly on the surface, but I think Previously Acknowledged: Japan is coming to a crossroad in her history. Will this lead to prosperity or militarism backed up by USA? Y. HASHIMOTO. Tokyo

### FIFTH COLUMN

### Literary Freedom?

THE BBC'S DRAMATIC reconstruction of the trial of Sinyavsky and Daniel was beautifully timed. If only the Russians would publish Last Exit to Brooklyn as 'anti-Western propaganda' the circle would be complete.

### Industrial Slavery?

According to a survey by National Opinion Polls reported in the Daily Mail recently, most people think that unofficial strikes should be made illegal.

72% in fact of 1,755 people questioned. And two-thirds of the 72% were trade unionists.

More than half said that 'contracts between management and unions should be legally enforceable' and that 'the Government should deal with the prolonged unofficial strike in the London docks by sending in troops'.

Somebody is bound to shout that the working-class is fascist-and somebody else that all polls are deliberately fixed to give newspaper proprietors the answers they want. Both reactions would be naive.

Polls such as Gallup and NOP can be used to predict election results with reasonable accuracy. They can also be a reliable guide to public opinion.

They are not fixed. Straight polls are worth far more to a newspaper than rigged ones. The organisations which carry them out need a good reputation to keep their other customers.

But this honestly-conducted NOP survey does not indicate that more than half London's population would come out on the streets waving Union Jacks to cheer troops marching into the docks. Sink back on your bed of nails, Ray Gunter.

The results of a survey depend on: the words used to ask the question; the attitude of the person interviewed to the interviewer; the extent to which the person interviewed has strong opinions on the subject of the survey; the state of public opinion-in other words what the newspapers, television commentators and politicians are saying.

A famous example of the way in which the phrasing of a question determines the reply: a poll, asking Americans whether they considered themselves upper, middle or lower class, established that the majority thought of themselves as middle class; a second poll, which substituted working for lower class, discovered that the majority now put themselves in the working class category.

Consider the two ways of asking the same question: Should unofficial strikes be made illegal? Do you think you should be fined or imprisoned for coming out on unofficial strike?

The other three points are linked. Media like newspapers affect superficial attitudes without directly influencing behaviour. Where you have no strong views you tend (unless you are a deviant on principle) to accept as yours the opinions of the 'opinion-formers'. You tend to tell the pollster what you think he expects.

Public opinion polls can be a reliable guide to public opinion. But then public opinion is often only a reflection of what the papers say.

My interpretation, therefore, of the NOP survey is not that people want legislation against strikes but that they would not oppose it. They are not authoritarian but apathetic.

The sad thing of course is that the State requires from its subjects not so much authoritarianism as-apathy.

### Rear Action

Finally a joke you may have missedfrom last Sunday's 'Eamonn Andrews Show': 'I'm from Houston, Tex. Why Communist Party are only disagreeing do we call it Tex? We sent the "as" to Washington.

WYNFORD HICKS.

WEEK 46, NOVEMBER 18, 1967: Expenses: 46 weeks at £90:

Income: Sales and Subs.:

£1148 DEFICIT:

The second case was that of an old Billingshurst: P.W. 3/-; Manchester: M.S. W.2: I.C. 4/-; Oxford: C.R. £1/-/-; Florida: A.C. £1/15/-; A.B. £1/15/-; Cheltenham: L.G.W.\* 10/-; Bradford: E.R. 4/-; Edmonton, Alberta: H.B. £16/5/-; Oxford: S.G. 3/-; London, N.2: J.M. £1/4/-; Belfast: W.G. 5/6; Nottingham: M.R. 2/-.

TOTAL: £24 18 3

1967 Total to Date:

\*Denotes Regular Contributor.

### Subscription Rates

FREEDOM only (per year): £1 10s. (\$4.50) surface mail £2 16s. (\$8.00) airmail ANARCHY only (per year): £1 6s. (\$3.50) surface mail £2 7s. (\$7.00) airmail COMBINED SUBSCRIPTION FREEDOM & ANARCHY (per year): £2 10s. (\$7.50) surface mail both

£4 15s. (\$12.50) airmail both

Boys in Blue Strike Again Division CID chief, said, 'We are determined to do everything in our power to combat this canker in the district.

CALING police and local publicans 'It is a grave problem which can seriously affect the morale of those involved, and it is the police who must give a lead in endeavouring to stamp it out as soon as possible." Recently, groups of youths associated

### POLICE PILOT SCHEME

A PART FROM THE seemingly total ignorance of the real problem involved, shown by the police in equating encouraging the progression from the former to the latter, the selection of Ealing as one of the areas for the introduction of a police pilot scheme for the enforcement of new restrictions arising from the alleged 'drugs menace', has dangerous implications for the maintenance of civil liberties in those areas.

Increases in the number of random street searches and public house and private house raids, on all sections of the community (especially the 'longhaired' fraternity), are planned by the cops. This is part of a wider plan for the curtailment of individual liberty, including the clamping down on open air meetings on Ealing Green. Meetings there have always, theoretically, been illegal, but in the past coppers have etc. shown the 'Nelson' touch. It is to be assumed that they now intend to enforce the law.

To test this, and public reaction to the drugs issue, a meeting is to be held on Ealing Green on Saturday, December 2, at 3 p.m., on 'Civil Liberties' generally, and drugs and police in particular. All are welcome, including speakers.

See you there!

PADDY FIELDS.

# But Without estate.

DISGUST with the Labour Government's treatment of the miners is finding immediate outlet in the stopping of the political levy to the Labour Party. Last week we reported that the miners' lodges in Silksworth (Durham) and Bankhall (Lancs) had stopped the levy and forecast that others would follow their example. They have. The press reports that the Central Area Workshop Branch and the Blidworth Colliery have also stopped the levy. According to the Sunday Telegraph, the Area Secretary of the Nottingham miners has said: 'Most of the 36 branches in my area will be calling meetings to discuss the White Paper and several have told me that they are considering stopping the political levy.' It is also reported that some lodges in Yorkshire are likely to ignore the advice of the Area Council to keep paying the levy.

Meanwhile the leadership of the Miners' Union is doing its best to stop the rot and urging its members to keep paying the levy so as to

### Contact Column

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

Greek Embassy, Prisoners Picket. Sunday, November 26. Meet Greek Embassy, 49 Upper Brook Street, 12 noon. March to Roy Jenkins' house. Picket and Meeting till 2 p.m.

Greek Tourist Boycott? 1968 Conference, Saturday, December 2, 1967, at Camden Assembly Rooms, Camden Town Hall, Euston Road, London, N.W.1, at 1.45 p.m.

National Committee of 100. Quarterly Meeting, Saturday and Sunday, December 9 and 10. Birmingham, The Old Crown, High Street (near Bull Ring). Saturday 2.30 p.m. Evening Party. Sunday 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Woman with Four Children needs accommodation in cottage/flat/caravan, ANYWHERE where a little toleration is shown towards children.

Anarchist Black Cross. To send money and food to anarchists in prison. Secretary: Stuart Christie (c/o Freedom Press).

Inadamnl-Ugo 2 Provos. To American soldiers in Europe. Leaflet 60/- a thousand. To be reprinted soon. Enquiries P.P.U., 6 Endsleigh Street, W.C.1.

Wanted. Folksingers for libertarian folk club. Please contact Iain Macdonald. 15 Cotton Street, Aberdeen, for details.

Information wanted. CID surveillance on politically activist students. University journal. Box 68.

Girl wants flat in Anarchist/Left household in Islington / North / N.W. London. Solvent. Box 69.

International Anarchist Camp 1969. Proposed to hold it in S.E. Englandoffers of assistance, suggestions for suitable sites to Jim Huggon, 173 Kingshill Avenue, Northolt, Middlesex.

'Save Greece Now' Defence Fund. Donations for Terry, Mike and Del) to Bretta Carthey, 8 Vincent Square Mansions, Walcott Street, London. S.W.1.

Books Hand-bound and Engraved to Order. De-luxe Leather Bindings-Mosaics - Full-leather Parchment -Half-leather Bindings. All books hand-sewn and repaired. Designs for Parchments, Mosaics, are original. For further information contact Mr. J. B. Wagner, c/o American Consulate, Calle Serrano 75, Madrid 6, Spain.

If you is make contact let us know.

The state of the s 'bring pressure to bear' on MPs to 'change Government policy'.

> Such futile advice reflects the bankruptcy of the miners' leadership. To ask Wilson, Brown and Callaghan to change their policies in the interests of working men and women is like preaching morals to bers-especially among the youth a brothel-keeper. These Labour —are becoming completely disil-'statesmen', besotted with their own importance, whose chief delight in life is to dress up in white ties and tail suits and address a gathering of financiers in the Guildhall, have nothing but contempt for the working men and women who elected them to office. Speaking to a delegation of miners who came to London to seek help from their MPs, Mr. George Brown, the Foreign Secretary, said: 'You miners have never had it so good. What do you mean by coming here and protesting about a Labour Government.'

And what Brown says openly and brutally, the others say in private. It is the ruler's mentality. How dare they, the common herd, the voting cattle, question the wisdom of the 'experts'.

### COMMUNISTS ENTER THE FIELD

Despite this experience, the Communist Party is doing its best to stop the mass exodus from the Labour Party. Their policy is to change the Labour Party policy (with the help of a few Communist MPs if they can get them) so they propose a campaign of resolutions calling on the Government to withdraw its fuel policy. But for those who are sick to death of the Labour Party they are willing to open their doors to membership of the Communist Party.

It is a policy compounded of futility and treachery. Futile because nothing short of insurrection will change Government policy, and treacherous because, of all the parties, the Communists more than any other stand for the all powerful State, owning everything, controlling everything, and denying even the slightest initiative on the part of the people themselves.

Yet what is required is not larger doses of State control, but ownership and control vested in the people themselves acting in free, voluntary associations. No government has ever handed over the resources of a country to the producers, to the workers. No government has ever admitted that people are capable of administering their own affairs. Not even the Bolshevik Government of 1917. They merely made legal what had already been accomplished by the people themselves—the seizure of the land and the occupation of

### Support Needed

CONTRARY to what appeared in last week's FREEDOM, Preben Meedom was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

Preben Meedom was arrested at a demonstration against the military dictatorship in Greece. He was beaten up by the police and suffered concussion.

The Danish comrades have requested that we demonstrate our solidarity. The new proposed group, Fulham and Chelsea, have taken up this request and are asking comrades for their support. They are also printing a leaflet for distribution. Help wanted.

> DANISH EMBASSY, 29 PONT STREET, S.W.1 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, at 10 a.m.

the factories. And having made it legal and established a government, they proceeded to take back the people's conquests, substituting for direct workers' control the management by State functionaries and Party officials.

And to do this they had perforce to resort to the use of that monstrous repressive machinery which is the common possession of all governments—the police, the army, the prisons, and the firing squads. The free Soviet of Kronstadt was crushed by Lenin and Trotsky who thereby laid the foundations for that vast prison camp which Russia was eventually to become under Stalin and which, with minor modifications, it has remained to this day.

That's not what the miners and the British workers want. They want just the opposite. Large numlusioned not only with the truly nauseating antics of the Labour Party but with the whole stinking business of entrusting their lives to self-seeking politicians. A considerable section of the people is beginning to see through the parliamentary farce. What is now required is a positive alternative.

#### THE FREE SOCIETY

We don't need campaigns to change government policies, nor campaigns to elect 'lefts' to Parliament (Wilson was once a 'left'). What we all need is a new society brought about by our own free endeavours.

The general shape of that society has been known for a hundred years at least. Communities which live without coercion, without government, without police, without armies; where the instruments of production are commonly owned and where no man lives off the work of another-a society in which there is real freedom for all to participate in the day to day running of industrial and cultural affairs. It was the dream of John Ball, of Gerard Winstanley, of William Morris and many others. And it is a dream which ordinary people still hold deep in their hearts. (Indeed most people who join the Communist Party, and many who join the Labour Party, do so to make that dream come true-not to pass resolutions to a Labour Government.)

But over the years the dream has become dimmed mainly because the authoritarians have convinced ordinary people that society is so 'complex', that people are so ignorant and selfish, that governments are necessary to avoid chaos. This is just not true.

### IT IS POSSIBLE

Modern technology has now made it entirely possible for relatively small communities to exist with an abundance of all the good things of life and with all the benefits of modern science-but small enough to allow direct, face to face democracy in the control and management of society's affairs.

Lewis Herber, a scientist and an anarchist, has written a pamphlet Liberatory Technology (published by Freedom Press in Anarchy 78) which makes this abundantly clear. I will quote only one passage:

do not profess to claim that all man's economic activity can be completely decentralised, but the majority can surely be scaled to human and communitarian dimensions. It overwhelming weight of the economy from national to communitarian bodies, from centralised bureaucratic forms to local, popular assemblies in order to secure the sovereignty of the free community on solid industrial foundations. This shift would comprise a historic change of qualitative proportions, a revolutionary social change of vast proportions, unprecedented in man's technological and social development.

### IT'S UP TO US

The miners (and the railwaymen) are the first to be forced to reconsider all their old ideas because they are the first to see that nationalisation (State ownership and bureaucratic control) has brought not socialism but the murder of their communities. They are being freed from the grinding toil of coalgetting only to face the demoralisation of the dole queue or, at best, a £12 a week job as a factory labourer.

Had the miners owned and controlled the mines, it is inconceivable that this could have happened. There would have been a planned reduction of hard work, a planned introduction of modern

# For Workers' Control

NOVEMBER 25 1967 Vol 28 No 36

# URNALISTS FACE REDUNDANCES

AN UNPRECEDENTED DEGREE of solidarity and militancy in deeds not words has been urged by Mr. Allen Hutt, President of the National Union of Journalists, to his members.

He had just heard a resolution at Sheffield branch demanding that the union should seek not less than a 20% wage increase when negotiating next year's agreement with the Newspaper Society. It pledged total support for any action needed to secure this.

President Hutt welcomed the militant spirit of the resolution but added that militancy did not end with rhetoric at a meeting or the passing of strike resolutions. What mattered was what members were prepared unitedly to do when it came to the crunch-hence his stress on solidarity as well as militancy.

Without firm will and chapel unity in action the National Executive Committee could negotiate so much-and no more. Negotiations were made even more complicated by the interference of the Ministry of Labour and the TUC, he

These circumstances called emphatically for solidarity and militancy in deeds not words down to the last chapel or the smallest weekly paper.

In Northern Ireland two branches have called for strike action unless the employers meet the NUJ forthwith to discuss parity of pay with Newspaper Society rates in Britain.

Nearly three years ago the employers promised to meet the union on this issue WITHIN A YEAR. There has been no meeting and no parity since. Mid-Ulster and Derry branches called for a strike if necessary.

Redundancy has resulted among journalists as a result of the merger between British Printing Corporation magazines

mining methods with the purpose of providing increased leisure and the means

to enjoy it. The authoritarians would have us believe that the free, anarchist society is a dream-but it is a dream that can come true if enough of us will it to come true. The alternative is a nightmare.

Let Wilson and his little men of Westminster argue about how to get out of their self-inflicted mess. Our job is to fight the effects of their rotten policies. to resist all their efforts to place the enough to say that we can shift the burdens on our backs and, above all. to give our struggle the vision of a new, libertarian society created, constructed, and managed by ourselves alone. The words of Malatesta, the Italian anarchist, written in 1920, are very much to the point today in Britain:

When the people meekly submit to the law, or their protests are feeble and confined to words, the government studies its own interests and ignores the interests of the people; when the protests are lively, insistent, threatening, the government, depending on whether it is more or less understanding, gives way or resorts to repression. But one always comes back to insurrection, for if the government does not give way, the people will end by rebelling: and if the government does give way, then the people gain confidence in themselves and make everincreasing demands, until such time as the incompatibility between freedom and authority becomes clear and the violent struggle is engaged. It is therefore necessary to be prepared, morally and materially, so that when this does happen the people will emerge victorious.

JOHN LAWRENCE.

and the Haymarket Press. Already six have been made redundant-including some of the chapel's leading lights and the PBC father of the chapel, Mrs. Sheila Gettings.

Two of them have not received redundancy money, while in the case of the other four it is not known whether the redundancy payment is in accordance with the NUJ scale. The need for a strong chapel to avoid further redundancy was pointed out at the last branch meeting.

The question of manning in the newspaper industry is discussed in this month's issue of the Journalist by General Secretary, Mr. H. J. Bradley. The International Publishing Corporation (which owns the Daily Mirror, the Sun, etc.) had just announced a drop of nearly £2,000,000 in pre-trading profits over six months. The industry was being told to reduce costs by cuts in manning, said Mr. Bradley, but this would offset only a fraction of £2,000,000.

The effect of cutting down manning would be negligible.

On the same day the Government's Prices and Incomes Board refused the Daily Mirror's application to increase its price by a penny. Writes Mr. Bradley: Presumably the Mirror thought of all the possibilities in advance. If the application succeeded it could offset the slump in revenue, if it failed it would be likely to provide yet another stick with which to beat the unions.'

A large part of the drop was due to the cut in advertising as a result of the Government's freeze.

On eruptions in other industries in recent weeks he writes: 'These are the aftermath of the freeze and the difficulties that arise in productivity bargaining or from changes in working.

If politicians pretend that the resulting ferment is merely due to political agitation or use it as a pretext to urge restrictive legislation against unions they are kidding the public. Of course they may succeed, but if they do there will be a price to be paid by industry—and by politicians whose credibility is now at a low ebb among trade unionists.

'One of the drawbacks of the freeze, and legislative control of earnings, has been to put many trade union leaders into such difficulties and compromises as to undermine their own members' confidence in them. This is the atmosphere in which explosions, including unofficial strikes, occur.

'To shout that the remedy is new laws against unions may go down well at party conferences but it ignores and diverts attention from the main causes of the trouble. Perhaps that is precisely the intention.'

M.P.

ON SALE NEXT WEEK DISCUSSES

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