JUNE 13 1970 Vol 31 No 18

# YOU DON'T HAVE TO VOTE!

EVERY ELECTION is an insult ment. No doubt in the dark ages, we say this not only because any by the game of vote-catching to the level of childish 'Yah boo, you're another', but that the real thing about an election is that WE are being asked to choose THEM.

WE are the people, THEY are the Government, and we have no interest in common. Our interest is to be free from government, to run our own affairs and enjoy the fruits of our labour, freely given and freely enjoyed. It is WE who create all wealth, THEY who exploit it. It is time we took back the right to the enjoyment of life.

The argument for the existence of government is that it is a necessary evil. This specious, lying, cheating phrase is used by all who wish to use something evil for their own preferment. Evil is never necessary; though we may have to tolerate it as long as we are not strong should never choose it!

The evil of government is one that should be regarded in the same light as the evils of typhoid or away like an insidious cancer into all parts of our freedom and dignity, so that our lives waste away in futile conflict and sick irresponsibility.

Being asked to choose in an election is like being asked to choose which sickness we would prefer: typhoid or smallpox?

#### WE DON'T HAVE TO CHOOSE EITHER!

typhoid and smallpox—it is time needs that? we licked the disease of govern-

to our intelligence. As anarchists disease was regarded as a necessary evil—one of nature's pruning forks, difference between parties is reduced God's Will and all that crap-but men arose who questioned what and distribution. We are therefore doing things we do want to do. is hatred and fear—the basic rewas and worked to eradicate the evils of disease. They were opposed by those with a vested interest in peddling God's Will—but all those with a firmer grasp of reality welcomed the attack on the evil of disease. The workers wanted to be healthy workers, and the bosses wanted healthy workers, too. But this is only the health of the body; a healthy mind is something else.

For a man with a healthy mind questions 'necessary' evils and attacks disease wherever he finds it. The disease of government seeks to protect itself against examination by attacking the mind—by education, by unceasing propaganda, and by fear, lies and the spread of false information. Government, in fact, is all in the mind.

What, after all, does government enough to be rid of it. But we contribute to society? Governments do not make anything (except a balls-up of everything they touch). The Minister of Housing (assuming we have one) does not build houses: smallpox. It is in fact a disease in building workers do that. The the body of society, undermining Minister of Health does not heal all healthy relationships, eating the sick nurses and doctors do that. The Minister of Transport transports no one (not even with delight): railwaymen and transport workers do that. The Minister of Works doesn't, and the function of the Minister of Employment and Productivity is to whip others into greater productivity in their employment.

In other words, governments do not make or do anything-they simply direct the exploitation of We are talking about 1970, not others and control the wealth that the dark ages. We have licked flows from that exploitation. Who

The anarchist argument is that

we who create the wealth are capable of directing it; we who produce and distribute are capable of controlling the processes of production

equality, freedom and dignity. ments of every known kind from we do not want to do and stop us or another. All that has flourished

Every government must, by its very fascist to social credit, expressing nature, set out to make us do things every known religion in some form

quirements of government. All that has changed has been the scale and the techniques of government; the subtlety and the cynicism in the use of mass media and the brutality when that fails.

Each school of political thought has fouled its own nest. The capitalists have destroyed freedom; the socialists and communists have betrayed socialism. Nationalism has defeated internationalism — except among the ruling classes—and racism plays its part in the grand order of 'Divide and Rule'.

### THERE IS NO HOPE THROUGH ANY FORM OF GOVERNMENT

In fact there is less than hope, there is only despair, the certainty of destruction. The result of the 'success' of statist forms of 'revolution' has been the emergence of the monster super-states which straddle the world today. America, Russia, Britain, France, China-all these states have at their disposal the means to destroy mankind. Their rulers profess differing shades of political creeds, but in their internal and international practices they are so similar that choosing between them is simply a matter of patriotism or faith, neither of which is good ground for revolution.

And it is revolution we are talking about. Everywhere the form of economy that exists is a kind of capitalism—'free enterprise' or state controlled makes no difference to the exploited. And everywhere the state apparatus exists to defend that form of economy. This is why right round the globe unrest is mounting, in 'democratic', communist or fascist mattered; that poverty could be countries dissatisfaction is growing into disgust, and young people takes away our right to make our ever from human society; freedom everywhere are finding the energy own decisions, run our own lives, and equality become reality. Today, and the courage and the ideas to give what we have to give and take 1970, there is no excuse for such attack the squalid systems which

and by whatever means of direct action are appropriate. The direct action bit is important because this is something we have to do for

#### ourselves. NOBODY CAN DO IT FOR US

Nobody is going to give us our freedom on a plate. Nobody is going to make the better world for us. This is why we have to set out NOW to make our own society, build our own communes, make our own works councils, prepare to take

We are already being called a 'sub-culture' by the squares who think they are the real culture. It is up to us to so reorganise our own lives that we can demonstrate the superiority in human terms of our ideas, of our way of living.

Work now to spread ideas! Build now the alternative culture of freedom and self-discipline and responsibility! Take over now in small ways, and prepare to take over all that we want to save of existing things. Make THEM the representatives of the sub-culture! Push their slavery and loranorder and social irresponsibility down and out!

The anarchist alternative to Mr. Wilson and Mr. Heath is-YOU! THE EDITORS.



not interested in deciding which individuals should be in charge of the process of directing and controlling; we do not choose between old-fashioned landowners, individualist capitalists, bureaucratic managers, party caucuses or leaders of unheard-of genius.

### WHY VOTE FOR THAT?

In the early days of democracy in this country effectively pre-1914 -there might have been some excuse for believing that men of goodwill in power could bring about changes in society that really Every leader, every government, eliminated, wars be abolished for what we need in a condition of idealism. We have seen govern- seek to suppress them.

# PILKINGTON: End of an Era

tude of the General and Municipal Workers Union and Pilkingtons towards the rank and file workers. The reasons for the original strike are still present although workers have returned to work. Pilkingtons and the G&MWU especially ing more and more popular, giving ailing still display their arrogant attitudes, for unions extra members and employers the union acts not as a representative of a watch-dog over their militants. members, but as an organisation intent on being a law unto itself. Of course, in the past, this approach has been a godsend for the company. They thought they were on to a good thing when they signed an agreement last October with the G&MWU giving a 100% union shop.

The outcome at Pilkingtons illustrates the pitfalls of such an agreement for the rank and file. The awards from an agree-

ITTLE HAS CHANGED in the atti- ment of this type are small compared with the control and power gained both by the employer and the union. The Pilkington agreement is an extreme example but one that should not be forgotten, since these bargains are becom-

As a union, the G&MWU is a farce. Members are mere subscription payers and have little or no say in the running of their own affairs. To a lesser degree, this is true of all trade unions, because those in power see themselves as leaders and not as delegates, doing a job of work for the members. They are too remote and cut off from the realities of Continued on page 6

Extra Parliamentary Alternative MEETING at CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER MONDAY, 15th JUNE at 6 pm

Many anti-Parliamentary Speakers Anarchist Speaker: Philip Sansom

### THE ANARCHIST ALTERNATIVE

THE ONLY CONSTRUCTIVE ALTERNATIVE

One of the great features of the world-wide revolt against the status quo has been the re-emergence of libertarian ideas. All the political alternatives having been tried and found wanting, Anarchism is the only constructive alternative, since it is the only social philosophy which rejects the state and the whole power structure.

Anarchism is the only social philosophy which starts with the individual and works up; which demands that personal freedom be related to social needs but never submerged by them. Anarchism is the only social philosophy which demands workers' control of industry and means just that. Not workers' participation in their own exploitation, like the Liberals, or workers' councils under the 'leadership' of the 'revolutionary workers' party' like the Trotskyists, but direct workers' control at the point of production through which the workers organise production and distribution in the interest of all-including themselves!

This clearly means the end of boss control and state control, and with that must go all the various means by which we are manipulated; the money and wages systems, minority control of mass media and propaganda machinery, repressive education systems geared to produce profit-fodder and technological yesmen, law and its repressive perversion of 'order', policemen and prisons, the army, navy and air force, the authoritarian family, religion and the anti-sex morality they depend upon, private property and the profit motive, diplomacy, secret or otherwise . . . all, all this and all the whole lot of stupid and cruel things which stem from them.

This crazy system cannot be reformed or patched up. It has to be abolished. It cannot be taken over and changed from within, as the communist regimes demonstrate only too well. The power structure has to be destroyed and nothing put in its place!

How do we do this? We create the alternative society by living to our own standards of behaviour and fighting the system wherever we can

Drawn and Quartered, the world of the British newspaper cartoon. National Portrait Gallery until July 31. Admission 4s. (children and students 2s.), all proceeds to the Society for Mentally Handicapped Children. Photography not allowed.

6 TITH SOCIAL EQUALITY the extremes of our society have ironed themselves out. Consensus politics tends to produce consensus cartoons."

So ends a notice displayed at the entrance, next to a trite anonymous broadsheet of 1720, 'The Bubbler's Mirrour or England's Folly', whose only interest is in its antiquity. An unnecessarily depressing and apologetic start to an exhibition of cartoons, past and present, which are strong, vigorous and sharp. Most of the famous classic political cartoons are here, alongside many others which deserve to be famous classics and will doubtless become so as a result of this exhibition.

Low's comment on the failure of the disarmament talks of 1937: a crocodile accompanied by wolves and tigers addresses a flock of sheep, 'My friends we have failed. We just couldn't control your warlike passions'. Low's men of Low's Colonel Blimp, 'Gad Sir, we can't is a conservative. Cartoons against the classic strips from Pip, Squeak and 1938, Bertrand Russell squatting 1961,

negotiate with that fellow, he's on the powerful have the charm of impudence, other side'.

Will Dyson drew his prophetic 'Peace and future cannon fodder' for the Daily Herald in 1919. Lloyd George, Woodrow Wilson, Clemenceau and Orlando are leaving the Palace of Versailles with the peace treaty. Behind one of the pillars

is a weeping child, labelled 'class of

Giles deals in the comedy of ordinary life rather than in pompous political allegories, but he nevertheless manages savage political comment now and then. During the Korean War he drew a small boy writing 'Peece' on the pavement, and a small girl shouting, 'Mum, Cyril's written a wicked word'.

David Illingworth is a cartoonist whose what unrepresentative collection of joke screens, accompanied by good photo-Jarrow, marching past the backs of capi- brilliance as a draughtsman and wit is drawings, the work of the sports car- graphs of the news items which inspired talists who are looking towards Europe. dimmed by the fact that politically he toonists, and examples from all the them (Chamberlain agreeing with Hitler

in addition to any merit; cartoons on behalf of the powerful have an offputting sycophantic quality. Illingworth outlived Dyson, Low and Vicky, but never outshone anybody. It was during the few days that he stopped arse-licking in 1939 that Illingworth made history. Neville Chamberlain said Hitler had 'Missed the bus'; Illingworth drew Chamberlain as the driver of a horse bus who had fallen asleep with the reins in his hands; and this drawing became the focal point of the discontent which brought down the government. So Illingworth's mates claim, anyhow.

The exhibition is not limited to poli-

Laughs' by Lee, is included although its longevity is not acknowledged. There is a good introductory section, with many nineteenth century Punch cartoons and eighteenth century engravings.

The collection is a considerable feat of scholarship and diplomacy. The exhibits have been chosen with care and knowledge, and brought together with the co-operation of national newspapers from the Daily Telegraph to the Morning Star, a couple of museums and several cartoonists.

It is also a masterpiece of the exhibitor's art. Newspaper cartoons, however strong and sharp, could easily be assembled into a feeble, boring exhibition. For they are not designed to be hung on walls; they are designed to be printed in a newspaper and looked at, surrounded by grey type, from ordinary reading distance. But this exhibition is as attractive and vigorous as its contents.

Only a few of the cartoons are shown as published. The rest are in the form of original drawings, and photographic blow-ups of various sizes. Some are tical cartoons. It also includes a some- back-projected onto mock-up television

Wilfred to Andy Capp. The world's etc.) in a pattern which varies from longest running daily cartoon, 'London minute to minute. There is an exhibition of 'this week's' cartoons, artwork in detachable frames which is varied weekly, or in some cases daily, by the publishers. Moving flat puppets of politicians bump and squeak over the entrance, and the Andy Capp strip is mounted on a roller and plainly meant to move continuously (it seems to have stuck, but the exhibition designer is not to blame for this accident).

> There are sounds too. Snatches of Vera Lynn and the Beatles in the circular gallery where historical cartoons are compared, and, from a ceiling above a wall full of cartoons of Harold Macmillan, the fluffy voice of Supermac himself. A delightfully conceived and presented back-projection sequence shows Giles getting up and having breakfast, driving to his studio in Witnesham, working on his cartoon, delivering it to the railway parcels office, and going off to the pub then to bed, while the cartoon is delivered, processed, printed and distributed all over the country in time for Giles to read it at breakfast the following day. This is accompanied by sound effects.

Exhibitions that you have to pay to visit are often crummy. This one is splendid; don't try to do it in less than an hour. There is no catalogue, but a pamphlet of potted biographies of cartoonists is on sale, price 1s.

DONALD ROOUM.

#### LETTER

### ART AND THE WORKING CLASS

Dear Comrades,

Whether or not anarchism has anything to do with poetry, song and dance or football is evidently open to debate. There are poets who are anarchists, anarchists who are poets, anarchists who are not poets and poets who are not anarchists-and, alas, poets who fancy themselves as anarchists and anarchists who imagine that they are poets.

Is it not reasonable to suggest that an appreciation of poetry, art and music is of value to all of us-and is it not also reasonable that anarchist journals should devote a proportion of the available space to such issues, provided that the material published is relevant to anarchism?

The comrades who feel that it is the business of our publications to use its columns for the propagation of anarchist ideas have, indeed, a powerful case, but I am convinced that they will willingly grant that the latest issue of Anarchy, Jump, my Brothers, Jump, illustrates that poetry and anarchism can be ex-

pressed simultaneously. Here, surely, lies the solution to what should never really have been in dispute. Publications such as Jump, my Brothers, Jump are important. Let us by all means publish poems with a libertarian and anarchist content, because poetry such as this is poetry with boots on—it marches right into one's mind and heart and stays there. But let the comrades who are interested in literary and poetic pursuits beyond this take advantage of the numerous other avenues open to them.

FREEDOM and Anarchy are journals for anarchists, be they poets or peasants. Let us keep it that way—and let us encourage in poet and peasant alike the anarchist ideas which are important to all of us. Let us with equal strength resist attempts to devote space to literary [or agricultural] obscurities if what they have to say is not relevant to the ideas which these columns were intended to propagate.

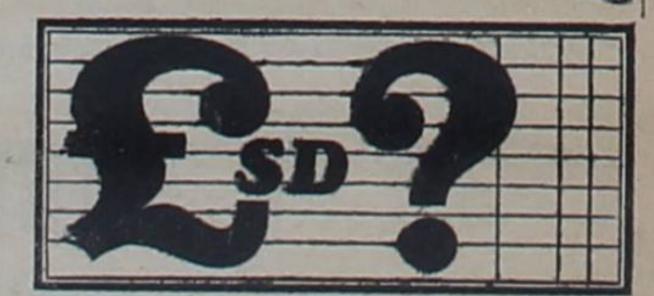
Fraternally, Chippenham, Wilts. H. C. JENSEN.

#### THE WEDNESDAY MEETING

Passion and Youth, Changers of the World

MARK WILLIAM KRAMRISCH speaks

FREEDOM HALL, Angel Alley JULY 1 at 8 p.m.



PRESS FUND June 1 to 8 inclusive Wolverhampton: J.K.W. 2/-; K.F. & C.F. 2/-; J.L. 11/-; Quebec: R.Y.-B. £1; Glasgow: B.W. 10/-; Oxford: W.S. 5/-; Corby: T.P. 10/-; Leicester: A.R. 4/-; Los Angeles: J.S.E. £18/16/8; Dublin: H.B. 10/-; Taunton: D. & P.P. 8/6; Chippenham: W.C.J. 5/-; London, W.11: P.McG.

Open Letter to Voters Everywhere

and village greens. For the adults, most PESTminster gasworks. of them, it's once again, KIDology time. entrance to CLOWNing Street-their colleague acrobats and somersaulters playing their historical roles, standing truth on its head; promising one thing, know-

CUMMER DAYS are here. For the ing full well they intend, if elected, to PARTY KETTLES calling each other huge reserves of bacteriological, biolokids, some of them, it's fun and perform the opposite. All these would-be BLACK. games galore, around the public parks, MPs clamouring for admittance to the

The circus has arrived, the most fabu- if it were not resultant in tragedy. An lous circus of the century, clowns and all-time high for the periodical orgy of comedians compete with their rivals, for high-flown rhetoric, spell-binding oratory, breathtaking pledges, unfulfillable assurances, inflicted upon our longsuffering public.

PINK PARTY POTS and BLUE

This spectacle would be really funny, in reality, they are, irrespective of their jury to one is an injury to all. differing ideological labels, all tarred with the same brush.

> At the hustings, MP = MY PARTY. Once elected MP becomes More Pay, Much POWER. Later on, in dealings with other governments, MP results in Mammon and Plunder. But MP is never my people, it is always leading to mammoth prevarication, certainly never moral principles.

Some people will say: they're not all lution! To hell with Leaders!' alike-Really? Think!

There are two greater CON parties exercising the age-old political confidence trick-and one lesser CON party. We have the CONservative Labour Party. the Labour CONservative Party, and the GLIBeral Party. All of them well organised CONspiracies against the people.

None of the parties trouble to interest themselves in the burning issues of today, the urgent and pressing demands of today, 1970 AD (Atomic Decade). These demands are, if homo sapiens (homo the sap?) is to survive—the abolition of poverty, the abolition of war, the abolition of preventable disease, the abolition of atmospherical and territorial pollution, the cessation of the draining away of nature's resources. No government anywhere has made a serious attempt to cope with the population explosion—all the major governments of the world are squandering the hard-earned monies of their citizens in ever-increasing nuclear armaments.

one baby born out of every two is disease. doomed to die in childhood, medical science being preoccupied in piling up

gical and other death-dealing ways of No matter how earnest some of the destruction, in preference to healing the candidates may appear to the unwary, sick and prolonging human life. An in-

> We who are Anarchists have no religious drums to bang, no ideological or national flags to wave, no political bugles to play. We are not a political party. You cannot 'JOIN' us-indeed all recorded history demonstrates that 'Joiners' often become CABINET MAKERS. We have no heroes, all the same we are sorry Guy Fawkes did not succeed—'Do-Your-Own-Thing, make your own Revo-

> Politics is the art of the plausible, deceiving the gullible, and history is a tragedy-packed catalogue of man's social blunders, economic plunders, and governmental thunders. We refuse to vote. There is no other way of disturbing the status quo of our slave-ridden, authoritarian war-harnessed social system.

We suggest you think this over. Refuse to vote! Ignore the slick and loquacious word-mongers peddling their pet panaceas, these political quack doctors and medicine men assembled at the many party market places.

Deny these professional cheats, deceivers, liars and tricksters the opportunity of taking you for a ride again. Only by striving for a genuine nonauthoritarian, frontierless, moneyless SOCIETY can we justify our life-span on planet Earth.

Your parents, your grandparents, your ancestors for centuries have trusted these con-men with their lives. Say no to voting, don't fall for the same bloody Three people out of four in this world swindle again!!! Mutual aid is the one have never eaten a proper meal, two and only solid foundation for a sane, people out of three on our planet cannot equitable and just SOCIETY-forever read or write—in vast areas of the globe purged of war, poverty and preventable

MARK WILLIAM KRAMRISCH.

## Squatting Still Goes On

CINCE OCTOBER 1969 there has been not wholly support each other on matters Square. There are now approx. 23 squatting in Arbour Square.

Two more families are expected to on the street by her majesty's pigs. join us in Arbour Square this weekend, one of whom is from Northern Ireland and is homeless, as a result of being burnt out by the B-Specials.

various reasons like not being able to class possess in the trade unions, tenants' cope with 'things' in welfare accommo- associations, and on the streets. Those dation, or being unable to afford the of us who face eviction must relate the extortionate rents demanded by the slum reality of our situation to our comrades landlords of East London.

always has been, Labour controlled, are myth of capitalism and really start orthe owners of the property in which we ganizing, to control our own environare squatting and are now throwing ment and consequently put an end to writs and possession orders around like such brutal and inhuman events. nobody's business. Hence we have the situation where 25 working-class families material, or monetary support, please may be facing eviction in the not too get in touch." distant future. We must combat that sort of situation, which is becoming more and more an issue on its own.

Housing, squatting, rent strikers, are separate struggles carried out by the various organizations involved, who do

a steady flow of families into Arbour of policy. However, the situation that now confronts us all is Evictions, and families including some 40-odd children how do we prevent ourselves and other working-class families from being thrown

We can get the materials together to physically oppose 'x' amount of pigs and/or bailiffs, but, in the final analysis, the real solution to the situation is the The other families are squatting for strength and solidarity which the working in the factories, offices, shops and homes, Tower Hamlets Council, which is, and so that together we can transcend the

If any comrade can help with physical,

Duncan Brown. 71 Arbour House, Arbour Square, London, E.1.

DUNCAN.

### All correspondence to Peter Le Mare, 5 Hannafore Road, Rotton Park, Birmingham 16

The AFB information office will produce an internal bulletin. Comrades interested in its production are to meet in Birmingham on the first Sunday in July. All groups will be informed in detail. Address all letters to:

> Peter Le Mare, 5 Hannafore Road, Rotton Park, Birmingham, 16. Tel. 021-454 6871. Material that cannot wait for the bulletin to be sent to R. Atkins, Vanbrugh College, Heslington, York. The Contact Column in 'Freedom' is also available for urgent information.

Groups should send latest addresses to Birmingham. New inquirers should

write direct to them or to the AFB information office in Birmingham. AFB REGIONAL GROUPS

There are now anarchist groups in almost every part of the country. To find your nearest group North West Federation: Secretary, Tom Howard, 163 Ryelands Road, Lancaster. Cornwall: A. Jacobs, 13 Ledrah Road, St. Austell.

(M. Ma. B.) Essex & E. Herts.: P. Newell, 'Aegean', Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green, Colchester. (QM, FL.) Surrey: G. Wright, 47 College Road, Epsom. Sussex: E. Poole, 5 Tilsbury, Findon Road, Whitehawk, Brighton. Yorkshire: Martin Watkins, 3 Marlborough Grove,

Scotland: Tony Hughes, Top Flat, 40 Anglepark Terrace, Edinburgh 11. Wales: c/o P. L. Mare (address above).
N. Ireland: c/o Freedom Press.

S. Ireland: Bill Dwyer, Island, Corner Merrion Road and Nutley Lane, Dublin 4. University and Student Groups: c/o P. L. Mare. (Abbreviations: M-meeting: Ma-magazine; B-badges; Q-Quarterly; FL-free leaflets

Dear Comrade,

We would like to bring to your attention the case of another Irish political prisoner who, so far, has not been included in the 'official' Republican Movement's list of political prisoners. He is Patrick Francis Keane, a member of the Saor Eire Action Group (Free Ireland) and a former O/C of the Dublin Brigade, Irish Republican Army. Saor Eire is composed mainly of ex-members of the IRA who became disillusioned with the pseudo-left turn and the gardenpath politics of the Republican Movement in recent years—a course which has divested it of any of the revolutionary potential it possessed. These revolutionaries saw the necessity for forming a genuine revolutionary guerrilla grouping to combat the forces of Imperialism north and south of the Irish border.

Since its inception it has carried out numerous bank raids and arms raids. It has come into conflict with the State forces in the North and in the South on several occasions and been actively involved in local social issues, e.g. the

blowing-up of the Ballymun wall, amongst others.

Frank Keane was arrested in London on May 13, on a provisional warrant charging him with the alleged murder of Garda Richard Fallon during a Dublin bank raid on April 3, and extradition proceedings are at present underway. The shooting of Garda Fallon has been used as a pretext by the Irish political police for the biggest witch-hunt against a political group ever seen in the Irish Free State. The Special Branch have stated that they will shoot members of this organisation in preference to arresting them for questioning. Frank Keane has a long history of political activity and has already suffered imprisonment for his beliefs.

We would therefore ask you to give some space to the case of this young revolutionary who may shortly be on trial for his life.

Yours fraternally,

M. PRICE,

Saor Eire Action Group.

TOTAL: £24 6 2

THE SHADOW of a summer-long sectarian battle was cast over the PD conference held in Belfast this May 25. Although much concerned with the internal problems of its own organisation, PD was very much concerned with the effect of sectarianism and its bloody aftermath. The election, too, was also in the minds of many members; although no concrete attitudes evolved as to PD putting up candidates, PD came out very strongly in condemnation of the so-called 'Unity' candidates who are nothing more than a green tory front. Since leaving the higher echelons of the CRA, PD has not wavered in its attacks on the green tory elements around Austin Currie and the Fianna Fail-supported Voice of the North (subsidised to the tune of £400 an issue). They unhesitatingly attacked Messrs. Blaney and Boland of gun-running illfame for their involvement in right-wing Catholic extremism and some of the more dubious elements of the 'provisional' IRA. As Free Citizen, the paper of the PD, said in issue 32, 'The North can gain nothing from these pseudorepublicans with their cant about "our people"-the Catholics-in the North and their total contempt for the welfare of "their people" in the 26 counties. . . . When those workers and farmers (of Ireland) demand what is theirs, Blaney's

Joe Quigley's report as outgoing secretary reflected the activity of PD in the past few months. After analysing the drop in activity earlier in the year, he went on to list the activities which are increasing in volume and number throughout the North. Activities primarily on a socio-economic front, attacking the housing conditions and the sectarianism that still goes on in housing

guns will be turned against them.'

allocation, participation in industrial struggles and of course the actions on Lough Neagh together with the fishermen, which is familiar to the readers of FREEDOM.

Despite this, the feeling of the conference was that not enough headway had been made in diverting the struggle away from sectarianism to attacking the Stormont Government as the tool of exploitation for British economic imperialism.

The attitude of some delegates was ambivalent to the processions of the Orange Order in the summer. The most dangerous of these is scheduled to march through Pomeroy, a small 100% republican hill town, on the Twelfth of July. The last time the Orange Order tried to march through here was in 1935 at the time of the Belfast riots. It was met with gunfire and there seems every likelihood that it could happen again. Despite the fact that this route was discussed between Chichester-Clark and Callaghan on his last visit to London, the mad major appears unwilling to ban this exercise in sectarian bloodymindedness this summer. A large section of the PD feel that it should be stopped or diverted, but how, nobody seems to know. Despite some divergence of opinion the greater majority of PDs seem to be determined to prevent sectarian bloodymindedness even if it appears in the process that they are siding with the Army. They state quite categorically that they will not support attacks on the Army if they occur because the Army is trying to keep apart two mobs trying to tear each other apart. However it has no doubt that it will support any demonstrations against the Army if they are against their presence to preserve the status quo

and the position of Stormont. As Kevin Boyle forcibly said, they cannot be seen to be ambivalent about sectarianism.

The failure of PD to make much impact outside certain centres was discussed at great length. Much blame was distributed to certain gentlemen in Derry and elsewhere. However it seemed to me that although PD was willing to criticise itself on the level of failure to go out and do the field work, what they were unwilling to do was look at the fact that they have become highly centralised in a negative way and they have no longer the appeal that they had as an open movement in the beginning. Certain delegates even welcomed this development. But this fails to look in the face what they are. They are not a party, they are a movement open to many diversionary opinions. Censuring members of the NILP for supporting Labour candidates seems to me a little odd as it places PD in the position of dictating to a section of its membership what it will or will not do. It is all very well attacking 'unity' candidates on the basis of sectarianism. However, if this logic is going to mean the expulsion of sectors of the membership, which it clearly is in the case of Fermanagh PD (backed up by the central committee), then the libertarian caucus within PD is walking on thin ice. PD is not against elections on principle, so it would seem to me that they are attempting step by step to evolve into a party structure unwittingly and that alongside that, their logic will lead to the exclusion of

THE PROPERTY PROPERTY OF THE P those disagreeing with the majority line, thus isolating the libertarians within the organisation and leading eventually to a split by the two dominant wings of

> So the summer will come. To be honest, as an observer it appears to me that PD is no better prepared to face the problem than it was last summer. It will valiantly attempt to diminish sectarianism. To this end it hopes to create a co-ordinating committee of shop stewards and all left groups to try and diminish the possibilities of sectarian conflict. This, however, should have been done months ago if it is to have any serious effect. I hope it does well -but I doubt if it will have the time before it is strangled in July and August. Sectarianism, political and religious, still has its happy hunting ground in the North and if PD is not careful it will be affected by it, and thus diminish its force in the North to yet another of the many political groups which abound throughout the six counties.

Still, after that expression of gloom, I hope that PD continue with their unremitting spade work at the grass roots and maintain their fine stand. The Free Citizen continues selling 5,000-6,000 an issue each week and the much belated bi-monthly magazine is coming out, the Northern Star, which will have John McGuffin as the next editor. With the amount of work that goes into PD I hope that they expand themselves and the struggle for social justice in the North.

JOHN DIGGERA.

## ANARCHY OR

N.Y. Guardian Grippled ON APRIL 12, the office of the New York Guardian was invaded by about 50 people. These 'assorted ultraleftists, anarchists and other self-styled considered as having resigned from the "revolutionaries" ' (so-called in the April 18 issue of the Guardian) took this

between the Guardian and a large portion of its staff. The Guardian, which calls itself an 'independent radical newsweekly' generally follows the RYM II (part of SDS which did not join Progressive Labour or participate in the 'Weatherman' statement) line. Their position is strictly Marxist-Leninist, with the emphasis on building a wide-based working class support. They regularly condemn 'left-adventurism', anarchism, 'individual terrorism' and other groups which deviate from their line. The paper is run by 'a co-operative' whose members consist of workers who have 'worked with the newspaper four months or more and (have) been elected by the staff. Temporary, part-time and candidate workers (less than four months) participate in Guardian discussions, but do

action as the final step in a long dispute

trolling body of the paper is selfsustaining, and new members must have the correct line before they can have a voice in editorial content. negotiable' demand that 'the Guardian must be reorganized in a collective manner with all work and decisions shared

collectively with each worker having one

equal vote'. There were also other

not vote'. In other words, the con-

negotiable issues involving working conditions and 'alienation'. The principal demand was unanimously rejected by

the editors. The temporary help walked out, caucused, and, after a brief strike, invaded the offices of the paper. After some scuffling, the editors left the building and the paper was 'liberated'. The staff printed its own paper, while the editors met secretly and managed to publish a 'regular' issue. Since they retained the mailing list, most of the subscribers

received only one side of the story. RAT, a far-left, anarchist, Weatherman, women's liberation paper-itself just liberated by a women's collectiveprinted their version of what happened at the Guardian offices, which was, as could be expected, generally sympathetic to the liberators.

The 'regular' Guardian account of the disorders refers to the staff as 'The Mob' and themselves as 'The Defenders'. 'The workers do control the Guardian,' they said, 'and they're not going to let it be taken over by a bunch of anarchists'. Before the invasion, the Guardian locked out the dissidents saying it was decided that all those who continued to identify with the blanket anti-Guardian statement and the attempts to destroy the paper's operation would be

The editors rejected all the demands saying that their structure was 'an extremely democratic form of democratic centralism with the emphasis on the democratic aspect'.

On the question of alienation (detailed accounts of systematic division of workers by the editorial staff through the use of malicious gossip and financial manoeuvres were given in RAT, April 15), the Guardian managers said, 'Much "alienation" stemmed from an opposition towards the Guardian political line. In other words the Guardian has been too "liberal" in its hiring practice. Over the years, though a number of workers have left the Guardian because of such "alienation", very few have been Marxists in any sense of the word. Those who were, exhibited strong remnants of bourgeois individualism, despite their theories.'

Other demands, e.g. charges of 'bossism', threats of violence against workers, male-supremacy, white-supremacy, etc., were simply brushed aside with the statement that they 'simply could not be taken seriously'.

FREEDOM has not received a copy of The dispute centered around a 'non- the Liberated Guardian, because, as was mentioned before, the mailing list remained in the hands of the 'managerial collective'. One fact is clear, however, the modern world? the struggle is not over. The old offices paper put together by the 'regulars' is now running a series of articles including for example, 'The Bourgeois Roots of Anarchism' (April 25) among others. They are also increasing their attacks on RAT, Weatherman, etc. Each issue also runs ads requesting money to 'Help the Guardian Survive'. They enclose a mimeographed sheet with a new address.

The old address, now the offices of the Liberated Guardian is 197 East 4th Street, New York, N.Y. 10009, USA. I have not seen a copy as yet, but if you write to them enclosing 30 cents (2s. 6d.), for the paper and 20 cents (1s. 8d.) for the air mail postage, they will probably send you one. Make sure you address the letter to 'The Liberated Guardian'.\*

At last, it seems, we have seen that even the 'movement leaders' are not blameless. Although the slogan of 'Power to the People' may ring hollow for them, there are some of us that take it seriously.

MIKE BOARD.

\*The May 2 issue of the regular Guardian says that all offices are vacant, as the landlord has closed the building.

to my beliefs through personal rebellion, bypassed Marxism on the way, and arrived at my present position of Libertarian Communism. Although personal rebellion was instrumental in turning me towards Anarchism, it is no longer the reason for that Anarchism.

emotionally, intellectually, and ethically, Anarchism stimulates me, and I believe that an Anarchist society will herald the beginning at least, of a more truly human (as opposed to subhuman) society.

Therefore despite the fact that in these wonderfully critical times, all professed dogma, all social panaceas, are open to uncertainty, I call myself an Anarchist. I believe in the establishment of Anarchy or Social Order without authority, without bosses, as the first step towards a world of, pardon the cliché, Liberty, Fraternity and Equality'.

I arrived at this credo by a process of elimination and (liberation?) starting as a believer in inspired leadership (The Enlightened Dictator Myth), through the quagmire of Social Democracy (Labour Party), turned by Marxism, and arrived at a system which I believe is the most plausible, most logical of all political ideas, in other words Communist-Anarchism.

Anarchists in general, even Anarchist writings, is that they are habitually on the defensive, as if it were almost necessary to apologise for their beliefs. Thus many call themselves Libertarians, etc., when what they really mean is Anarchist.

Time after time I have listened to who knows, but it's a start! are still occupied by the staff. The Marxist, Social Democrat, Capitalist

IKE SO MANY Anarchists I came apologists, all pouring scorn upon Anarchists' 'unreality', 'Utopianism', etc. My reply is simply, Lookahere friend, at least our system has not proved the catastrophes that your systems have turned out to be. In fact the times Anarchist ideas have been tried for any brief space of time, they have not only Today I am an Anarchist because worked, but they have worked better than your systems. It has been realistic, very realistic, until outside forces crushed it. In other words, our failure has not been an internal structural one, as yours have, but a case of outside force used against it.'

> I am also an Anarchist in this day and age because I believe that the world is fast coming to the time when all men will be put to the choice between a Brave-New-World-type of centralist, oligarchic state (Plato's mad 'Republic' come to life), or a free system without frontiers, boundaries, and bosses. Time is running out for us, comrades, the choice is soon. Consider the first steps; that the United States has considered the keeping of files on every citizen from birth to death, plus the abnormal amount of repression existing throughout the world today and you don't have to be a seer to read the future in store for us all.

Finally, I honestly believe that the word Anarchy is synonymous with sur-One thing that always strikes me about vival, and that the future existence of humanity depends on whether we can actually (and soon) smash the State, Government, etc., or be smashed or blown to pieces by them. I have found all political systems other than Anarchism, to be outdated, 'Utopian' and down-Is Anarchism plausible and workable in right dangerous. So as far as I'm concerned, it's Anarchy now!-and after,

PETE RIDLEY.

LETTER

### THE MYTH OF INTELLIGENCE

Dear Comrades,

I was rather surprised to see the apologists of Behaviourism occupying the columns of an anarchist newspaper. Anarchism and Behaviourism are not compatible philosophies. I would like to attempt an explanation as to why I think this.

tially seeks power over his human subjects. To achieve this, he attempts to reduce all the aspects of human behaviour to such highly simplistic formulas as exemplified by that of Stimulus-Response. Because he regards psychology as a science of behaviour he attempts to study it by the application of experimental scientific techniques: such 'experimental variables' which he cannot control are conveniently declared 'irrelevant' or 'meaningless'. Such are the scatological and mystical elements referred to in the dispute over intelligence (FREEDOM,

29.5.70). It would perhaps be interesting to examine the psychological implications of the Behaviourists' fierce denial of these essentially 'human elements' in their subjects anyway.

The Behaviourist is concerned with controlling the variables which affect human behaviour in order that he may The behaviouristic psychologist essen- make 'scientific' predictions about that behaviour. That is, he is seeking to perfect his control of human behaviour in order that he can manipulate it-experimentally or otherwise. Behaviourism seeks to control and manipulate human beings (ostensibly in the interests of scientific objectivity).

The manipulator holds power over the manipulated. A manipulated person is not free. Anarchy is freedom-Behaviourism as the pursuit of power over others is a negation of freedom.

Yours, etc., Nottingham JIM HEWSON.



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### The Festival of the People

REQUEST

IN ORDER to combat the 'Don't just do something, stand there' attitude of many of the don't vote campaigns, a group of Anarcho-Syndicalists have decided to help provide an alternative.

On June 18, in Itchy Park (opposite Aldgate East Tube Station) there will be a 'Festival of the People' where all those who rejoice in the freedom of not voting, will come to make their statements of

This exercise in the politics of ecstasy will begin at 12 noon. As the tension builds it just may expand into the streets. The organizers plan to bring a little happiness to the lives of the drab businessmen, and the people in the park will eventually march to the Stock Exchange in a merry procession.

This Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Roundhouse there will be a 'coming together of the Extra-Parliamentary Opposition'. All ideas, theatre, disruption, etc., is welcome. Even if you can't make it, try to be at Itchy Park on June 18. Bring your bodies, guitars, flowers, bricks, shaving creme, lemon pie or any other props you'd care to share.

M.B.

# Interview with Anarcho-Pacifist

The following article is a condensation of an interview with Joffre Stewart, Chicago pacifist, by a correspondent of the Roger Spark, on the subject of anarchism. (The Roger Spark is a community newspaper for the Rogers Park area on the north side of Chicago.)

from the educational angle, is that they from kratos meaning rule. haven't attacked the semantic problem. Anarchists would do well to form an Anarchist Anti-Defamation League. Straightening out the meaning and use of the word would be perhaps the most immediately valuable thing they could do. One reason why anarchism operation can be mixed up with the know of it in America, or perhaps only is such a misunderstood and maligned idea of democracy, they don't know in the big cities of America, and then lives that your version of anarchism term is that anarchism is really into the what freedom is all about. Because they generalize. They have no anthropo- would entail? freedom thing, and nothing threatens democracy, just as any other -cracy or logical information that would demonthe status quo like a genuine concept -archy, means cops. courts, jails, taxes, strate the varieties of ways people could natives to authority. This voluntary subof freedom. Now the Greek word archon armies, twisting people's arms, beating live without a State. A recent English translates as ruler and the prefix a- or them up, snatching their property, throw- work entitled 'Tribes Without Rulers' an- signifies the negative, so anarchy ing them in jail-in other words, the points to what anarchists are talking means no ruler, no rulership. The opposite of co-operation. general idea is that people can get along SPARK: But we have to have a people—who live without the phenommuch better without this phenomenon State, a government of some kind. His- enon of rule. These are people as human one can also criticize many of the current of rule, of authority, of command, than tory shows that. they can get along with it. Thus, it JOFFRE: Six to ten thousand years Americans are more afraid of each one called 'No More Hiroshimas'. A does not signify chaos, but signifies a of history is enough to show that the other than they are of the Russians or quote from the back pages: '. . . a triltrue harmony. The State is based on State is a means of the few manipulat- anybody else. That's the fear that's be- lion dollars and many lives later we are force and violence, and the function of ing the many. Of some people domi- hind such questions about 'human engaged in a bloody war in Vietnam.' force and violence is to get people to nating others. Where anarchists clash nature', and the suggestion that people Well, 'we' are not engaged in a bloody do things they don't want to do. And most strongly with the Marxists is that would go at each other's throats as soon war in Vietnam, if only because I am

this make more sense than trying to get of my argument gets stronger. rid of all controls whatsoever?

most people mean by the State. They JOFFRE: Nothing is more necessary the greatest failure of the anarchists, still contains the unnegated root -crat,

> phenomenon is not understood. The concept is completely lost on a lot of people. If people don't understand cooperation, they don't understand how to be free. Or if they think that co- that they think of human nature as they

these are usually wrong things, like Marxists believe you can get a non- as the brakes-cops, courts, jails, etc.- not engaged in such a war. I am a Statemaintaining the status quo with all its coercive system by coercing people. were taken off. I don't know what to less person, having renounced citizenwrongs, the military establishment, the Marxists want the State. They want to say about that directly except to expose ship. If you are in a war in Vietnam, property system, rent-paying, tax-paying, twist people's arms and thus introduce it. society into a period of freedom. It Another thing people don't realize is identify with the State. I quote again: SPARK: But isn't some kind of won't work. It can't work. This is what that there is a connection between the '... that all our troops be brought home socialism the answer-instituting social they mean by a period of transition. means you use to change society and the immediately.' They aren't 'our' troops controls for the benefit of all the people It's just a trap. Every year the Russian resulting society itself. No deus ex since as a pacifist I don't have any instead of a privileged minority? Doesn't revolution gets older, I think the weight machina is going to accomplish the troops and won't have any. Also the

JOFFRE: The idea of anarchism is nature? Even if anarchism is a positive engage in nonviolent actions which are someone over here in the White House to get people in control of their own goal in your mind, isn't it an unrealistic contradictory to the legal pulls them out. This statement implies lives. Now if this is going to happen it one? Wouldn't people tear each other means that we have to get rid of the apart or at least mercilessly exploit the mechanisms which are set up to con- weaker if it weren't for the restraint of you have in mind?

trol people. Such mechanisms are what government, laws, policemen, etc.?

are certainly what most Marxists mean than a nonviolent revolution against by the State. Most people who use the authority that would yield a Stateless, word socialism mean use of the State classless, non-racial society on a basis to control. When people have control of free love. My religion is not realism over themselves, what we have is volun- if realism means jail, being beaten up tarism and co-operation. Anarchism by police and stuff like that. It's nothing equals co-operation equals freedom. I want to live by. Now the bomb is a SPARK: Why do you want anarchy? This can only happen by getting rid of very real thing. The risk of ABC war Isn't that what we have today-chaos, the State. What I am advocating is not -not just nuclear but atomic-this risk confusion, everybody at cross-purposes? a democratic thing, it is an anti-cratic can only be obviated through anarchy. JOFFRE: This question shows that thing, a contra-cratic thing. Democracy That means through getting rid of the State, getting rid of that which organizes people for war. This is anarchist realism. Now co-operation as a macro-social If you want peace, if you want to stay alive, if you want to live in freedom, it means getting rid of the State, of all authoritarian arrangements.

Where most people get hung up is about. Here we have a whole group of as we are.

establishment.

taxes and allowing themselves to be to the troops—to break ranks and return drafted. They should stop walking when themselves home as free men against the arrested. They should stop saying the State. Pledge of Allegiance and singing the position also entails not pleading in and respectability. Neither comes under court. I consider it beneath my dignity attack nearly enough. After two world to 'plead' in court. It means not going wars with some eight million killed in

showing contempt of court. It is contempt of court simply to behave as the equal of the judge. There are some of the basic things which must be done. In these ways you are undoing the key institutions of the status quo. It is also very necessary to experiment with cooperative alternatives.

New social conditions also can give new possibilities for the development of character. Insofar as people have become more nonviolent in the process of disobediently retiring the political system they take pressures off each other, giving character a chance to form itself without being warped.

SPARK: But if people want this freedom you describe, if they are capable of it, why is it that they seem to submit themselves voluntarily to authority, seem to crave it over them, seem afraid to take on the responsibility for their own

JOFFRE: People don't know the alterjection is also partly because of language habits. The language takes it for granted, this submission to authority. These language habits are engrained in liberalism and the liberal attitude. But Movement leaflets. For instance, here is at this distance, it is because you change toward freedom. This means that passive voice 'be brought' implies that SPARK: But what about human people themselves are going to have to the troops should stay in Vietnam until that armies should be maintained. The SPARK: What kind of actions do person who wrote this obviously didn't have any fundamental criticism of keep-JOFFRE: People should renounce ing armies. An anarchist position would citizenship. They should stop paying be addressed not to the government, but

> There are two main concepts which 'Star Spangled Banner'. A consistent have to be destroyed as well: patriotism into court except for the purpose of one and up to ninety million in the other.

Patriotism is the cover story for the ninety-eight million deaths and all the war-related deaths since then. If concepts like patriotism are not attacked and exposed and put down, it means that people's minds are still in the authority bag without their even thinking about it.

I regard anarchism as the theory of pacifism, pacifism as the practice of anarchism. But it's not just a matter of ideas. The ideas of Jesus, Lao Tse, etc., have been around two thousand years and longer, and we're still stuck with cops, courts, jails, and wars. My point is not merely to get you to understand, but to get you to act.



Going to Canada to Avoid the Draft? You need the new March, 1970 edition of 'Immigration to Canada and its Relation to the Draft and the Military'. Single copies free from the Montreal Council to Aid War Resisters, Case Postale 5, Succarsale Westmount, Montreal 215, Quebec,

Canada. Industrial Democracy. Conference held in Toronto in March. The speeches delivered range from collective bargaining to workers' control and they have been collected into a book, 'Industrial Democracy and Canadian Labour', 14/- inc. postage (send international money order, from Post Office) Praxis, Research Institute for Social Change, 373 Huron Street, Toronto 181, Ontario, Canada.

Notting Hill Libertarian Society. Meetings every Monday at 7.30 p.m., upstairs room of 'The Ladbroke', Ladbroke Crescent, Ladbroke Grove, W.11. Nearest tube station Ladbroke Greve. Correspondence to Sebastian Scragg, 10 Bassett Road, W.10.

Spartacus Theatre Group meets Tuesday and Friday evenings at St. Philip's Church Hall in Whitewell Road (off Balaam Street, Plaistow). For further information phone 472 7 and ask for Alan.

Black Flag Bookshop opening soon. 1 Wilne Street, Leicester. Anarchist and secondhand books.

Comrades in Southern England needed to picket/leaflet Cornwall holiday routes (A.30 and A.38), main line stations, etc. First co-ordinated weekend, Saturday, July 4. More details from Close Nancekuke Now, 42 Pendarves Street, Beacon, Camborne, Cornwall.

Oxford Anarchists. New group being formed, contact Dave Archard, Corpus Christi College, or John Humphries, Balliol.

Chemical and Biological Warfare Action Group. Meeting on Monday, June 15, at 7.30 p.m., at 6 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1. All who are concerned welcome.

The Alternative Election' - Anarcho-Syndicalism; illustrated poster available, 4/- post free or 7 copies for a guinea. From Syndicalist Workers Federation, c/o 18 Scoresdale, 13 Beulah Hill, London, S.E.19.

American Anarchist will be in Amsterdam for a week starting about August 18. Needs lodging. Write Mike Board, c/o Freedom Press.

'Spanish Political Prisoners' and 'Looking Back After 20 Years in Jail' by Miguel Garcia Garcia. 2/6 the pair inc. post from Freedom Press.

Merseyside Anarchists: Meetings 8 p.m. on first Sunday of each month at 172A Lodge Lane, Liverpool 8. Contact J. B. Cowen at above address. Wednesday discussion meetings at Free-

dom Meeting Hall from 8 p.m. Manchester Anti-Election Campaign. Bill West, 16 Northern Grove, West Didsbury, Manchester 20. Meetings every Wednesday.

Tory Five Point Fascism Electioneering. We must start our work now-preparation for printed leaflets and posters for a nationwide factory gate campaign-money and ideas needed -Interested? Contact L.S.F., c/o Keith Nathan, Vanbrugh College, Heslington, York.

Urgent. Help fold and dispatch Freedom every Thursday from 4 p.m. onwards. Tea served.

Badges? Contact Pendarves Workshop, 42 Pendarves Street, Beacon, Camborne; tel. Camborne 3061. Red and Black or plain Black, 2/6 each or 10 for 10/-.

### PILKINGTON'S

the shop floor. 'BLOODY AWFUL UNION'

Cooper, amply symbolises this remote- Workers' Union who today have the ness, but his reply to criticism at the support of the men at Pilkingtons. It union's conference was 'get stuffed!' The was the strike committee alone which critic had called the G&MWU 'a bloody understood that men like to determine awful union' with a leadership of the course of events for themselves and 'comedians', who are afraid to offend the not be treated like kids. It could well establishment. Attention was also drawn be that the committee is not all that to the union's slow growth of member- clued up on top-level diplomacy, but ship in comparison with the Transport they are none the worse off for that. and General. It was probably this comcaused such an undignified outburst.

such a useless union should have any members, were it not well known that workers spend more time picking out horses than they ever do choosing a union. It would be wrong, however, to assume that the workers are happy as pigs in shit simply because stoppages are rare, as at Pilkingtons. The every- accordance with the union rules. day carryings on inside a factory are hard enough for a wideawake shop steward to keep tabs on, let alone an credit is by persuading the union to let outsider.

reports about what happened when the of this being agreed upon. Such an outworkers went back to work, with the firm claiming that the atmosphere was calm. From the top, it must have been how it looked, it was how they wanted it to look and it was how those lower down would have wanted to make it look. Other reports from the shop floor, however, suggest that there was fighting between scabs and those returning from the strike. Clock cards belonging to the scabs were ripped up and some of these men were sent to Coventry. We know this only because the newsgatherers were still in St. Helens, but on any other day we would have been none the wiser.

The everyday goings on in the factories are often known only to the immediate participants. Because of this, the press rarely penetrates more than skindeep into any strike situation. But even they managed to capture some of the anarchic qualities at work in the St. Helens' strike, when it became clear that the strike committee viewed itself more as the servant of the strikers than a godsent leadership. The Guardian, while recognising the sincerity of this committee, criticised them for not directing the workers and recommending a return to work 'when enough progress had been

Continued from page 1 made'. The paper put the committee's failure to do this down to 'inexperience', but it is this committee and not the The titled General Secretary, Lord experienced bosses of the Municipal

Mr. Feather, the General Secretary of parison which upset His Lordship and the Trades Union Congress, in his role as conciliator, has a difficult, if not im-It may come as a surprise to us that possible task. He cannot even get Lord Cooper to meet the strike committee, let alone produce a reconciliation. No doubt Lord Cooper thinks things will cool down and that he can ride out the storm with his procedure agreement with Pilkingtons which stipulates that contracting out of the union should be done in

The only way Mr. Feather seems to have of coming out of this situation with those members contract out if they so This is why there were conflicting desire. However, there seems little hope come would leave Mr. Feather defending the company-union agreement.

### CONTRACTING OUT

To my knowledge there has been no dividuals who shout and rave about the threat to individual liberty. Yet over promote the town's young people as 4,000 men have signed forms, not the union ones however, saying that they want to contract out of the G&MWU and have asked Pilkingtons not to deduct their 2/6d. contribution from their wages. With the Bridlington poaching agreement, other unions are unlikely to join up these members.

Those contracting out will form the Provisional Pilkington Trade Union, which, according to the strike committee, is open to a take-over by either the Transport and General Workers Union or the Chemical Workers Union. It is unlikely that either of these two unions will do this and risk breaking the poaching agreement.

Due to the lost orders, Pilkingtons announced some 240 redundancies, which include some members of the strike committee. Now Mr. Wells, G&MWU

number of complaints, mainly from young people in Folkestone, about the difficulties they were facing in their dealings with the rest of the community and climate of bitterness. An NCCL observer police. Many young people have certainly provoked the police but even taking this into account as well as pressure from local traders and councillors, I suspect that some officers have been more repressive than is necessary or outcry from those freedom-loving in- acceptable. . . . If local traders and the Council spent as much time, effort and tyranny of the 'closed shop' and its money in a positive attempt to help and

they do now in repressing them, I am

sure things would improve.'

I AST OCTOBER we received a

Young People Persecuted

the observer. In an editorial the Folkestone Herald remarked that it was doubtful that much, if any, notice would particularly the police. The situation be taken of the report of the 'self-styled' was confused by charges and counter- National Council for Civil Liberties. charges and certain court cases created a This tended to confirm our impression of the negative role in community relavisited the town and reported: 'There tions played by this paper. The MP, has been a curtailment of civil liberties Albert Costain, was more constructive in Folkestone by certain sections of the and read our report 'with much interest'. He felt that we had underplayed what had been done by the local Council to improve amenities for the young, including 'one of the most modern sports centres in the country', some of the cost of which had been met from donations by local residents.

The report was sent to the Mayor and

other community leaders interviewed by

There are always two sides to every question yet some of the allegations made by the young people of Folkestone must not be left unanswered indefinitely. NCCL MONTHLY BULLETIN.

acting Regional Officer, has said that not the union. only 90 men are threatened and that they had decided to reinstate the men.' He claimed, quite rightly, that the pressure had come from the rank and file and

Certainly Pilkingtons will never be the natural wastage over the next two the same again. Gone is the era of the months will prevent these men from employer-G&MWU reign. The rank and losing their jobs and that there are file have asserted themselves and have vacancies in existence at other plants. thrown up their own organisation of The company has said this was because struggle. Workers should belong to whatof pressure from the union. Hearing ever organisation they choose. The this. Gerry Caughey, member of the paternal attitude of the company on one strike committee, said: 'This firm is mak- side and the 'we know what's best' of ing history. It is the first time that I the union on the other will no longer have ever known a company to state serve many at Pilkingtons. In our that it was due to union pressure that opinion they are best rid of the G&MWU.

NORTH WEST WORKERS AND P.T.

Published ov Freedom Press.

Printed by Express Printers, London, E.I.