

ON SEPTEMBER 11 last year "bastards" is used by each side to Kent State, Sharpeville, Amritsar, definitions of 'pacifism' and the need '... Soldiers can question orders. FREEDOM's editorial said: 'We describe its "enemies".' After what Peterloo, Lidice, Guernica — delete for an army in Ireland to act as a Of course they can refuse to kill

have heard an officer of the British Army say on television that the IRA are "animals". We have heard a young British soldier say that he had had six months "being processed to kill" and that he was ready to do so whenever he is ordered. . . . We have read a statement by a Protestant Works Convener saying that there is to be a mass demonstration in Belfast of workers who will demand

have to withdraw a word of what lies that comfort when naked power we have said. Indeed what happened scared or bullying wreaks vengeance strengthens our convictions and en- upon unarmed civilians. forces our conclusions.

ations. The usual snipers fired at Algeria when he realized that the cerned exhibit a particularly nasty of the people-both Irish and and people on the ground were hit employment of torture was not the racist bias at the same time so we British-are drowned in hatred and that the Army use lead bullets "not and killed, four of the thirteen dead exclusive privilege of the Gestapo cannot wholeheartedly support Mr. bitterness." rubber ones" to disperse Catholic were 'wanted' men - for capital but was used by General Massu in Tobin's stand). We cannot expect crowds. We have read all these offences? The troops were attacked Algeria-we have seen from the them to echo the notorious Soldiers solution other than people acting things and it makes us sick in the by hooligans-about one hundred in evasions of the Compton Report Don't Shoot' leaflet which got Tom like human beings and refusing to stomach. On all sides there is killing a 12,000-strong march. The march that it can happen here too. and death and maiming and terror. was illegal - but peaceful. Nail Both sides are becoming brutalized bombs were found on a dead man. wing press (notably Tribune and



THE BRITISH ARMY have again distinguished themselves in Northern Ireland. Firing with automatic rifles into soldiers did not just lose their heads. an unarmed crowd, massed in a city street, they scored thirteen dead, and many more wounded. The British people are proud of their brave parachutists. They will be even prouder no doubt when the self-loading rifles are turned on them. Death is a complete answer to the problem of unemployment.

There seems no doubt that this was a deliberately planned massacre. The They posted themselves on the corners of the street so as to have as wide a field of fire as possible, and then blazed away, laughing and joking as they did so. There is no doubt that they enjoyed what they were doing.

One of the most comforting We shall be treated for some days utterances is 'it can't happen here'

by the killings and the word We have heard it all before about Peace News) of the leafleting of printing it. soldiers in Ireland by members of the War Resisters' International (see FREEDOM, January 15). The viewthey are exploited too and we Maudling. should not blame them. Further

THE MINERS' STRIKE

The IRA has threatened vengeance

*

correspondence has included re- editorially on September 11:

happened last Sunday we do not the name not applicable — all the police-force to keep order as be- their fellow human beings at the tween Catholics and Protestants. The order of some brutalised officer. If WRI leaflet was rather cautious in they don't refuse then the killings its approach, and understandably so will go on-and on both sides. The because sedition is still an offence. violence of the British Army streng-Indeed Michael Tobin is going on thens the IRA and the Irish State. to justifications and recriminations. or 'that happens in other countries'. trial at Maidstone for inciting dis- The violence of the IRA strengthens The official spokesman for the Army Jean-Paul Sartre wrote an introduc- affection among the troops in the British Army and the British has already given several explan- tion to the revelation of torture in Northern Ireland (the leaflets con- State. The essential human feelings

'We don't believe there is any Mann six months in 1912 for in- kill each other at the orders of some Much has been said in the left- citement to mutiny. Later Guy authority or other. All the rest is Bowman was sentenced for re- politics-and the people cannot act like human beings when the politicians move in."

'To the British soldiers we say: Throw away your guns and come point has been put forward that the for these killings, and Bernadette home! To the oppressed people of Army is only doing its work and Devlin has physically attacked Mr. Northern Ireland we say: Refuse to obey the IRA! Extend the campaign We can only repeat what we said of non-violent civil disobedience! J.R.

Anti-Internment League

THE OPENING of the new internment camp at Magilligan, Co. Derry, shows that Stormont and Westminster are intent on continuing their present policies of repression in the North of Ireland. Such military oppression can only serve to whip up further resistance on all levels to the Stormont regime. This is clearly illustrated by the situation in Newry, Co. Down, where the government have had to take over the local authority with its £500,000 debt accumulated as a result of the civil disobedience campaign. It is crucial that the Irish in Britain and those members of the British public alarmed by the situation in the North of Ireland express more forcibly in the coming months their opposition to Tory and Unionist policy. The Anti-Internment League, a United Front of 40 Irish and English groups and organisations will act as a focus for protest activity. The AIL is campaigning on the two demands-release the internees and withdraw British troops. Fifteen major public meetings have been organised in London and the Home Counties during the next two months. On March 5 a Conference for Trade Unionists is being held and on March 26 a mass demonstration will take place in London. This will involve five separate marches converging on Westminster. On October 31 last year the AIL mobilised over 20,000 people in its first mass demonstration.

The parachute regiments in all countries are legalised outlaws. They correspond to the Nazi SS. No doubt the danger involved in dropping from the air by parachute tends to ensure that only reckless and brutal, near-psychopaths are enrolled into these units. They are dedicated killers and torturers, who have no other function.

The French 'paras' showed what they could do in Algeria, and the American Green Berets have shown what they can do in Vietnam. One would have to go back to the Nazis, or the Turkish Janissaries to find some equivalent. They are not part of society, and have no loyalties except to each other, and to their masters. This being so, any kind of appeal to their better nature is probably a waste of time. One might almost say they are on the verge of being outside the human race altogether.

For those who believe in non-violence they pose a considerable problem. How do you appeal to people whose moral sense has been almost completely eroded? Equally to those who believe in armed resistance they pose a problem. How do you fight against people who will literally stop at nothing, without becoming as disgusting as they are? To me it is quite evident that this massacre in Northern Ireland represents something more than just another chapter in the story of England's cruel oppression of her neighbouring island. It is the first major step towards a fascist-military regime in this country. It is the beginning of the end of liberal, democratic, consensus, middle-of-the-road, sensiblecompromise England.

DETERMINATION TO

creases above those set by the Government. This dispute is yet another example of the State in its role as a strong employer, determined to keep wage costs down in order to supply the basic needs and services to private in- it.' dustry at the lowest possible cost.

Following the war, the miners were one of the highest paid sections of workers in industry, but now they are the worst paid and doing the most dangerous of jobs. Despite modern equipment, or rather because of it, 595 miners died of pneumoconiosis last year. The modern cutting machinery has made the miners' job perilous because of the high increase in the amount of dust that they now inhale.

conscience about the pits. It is small

wonder that out of 289 pits, only 34

have full safety cover, while in 148 there

is no safety work being done at all. Both

the union and the Coal Board have

pleaded for safety cover but the miners

THE GOVERNMENT is still deter- are mostly adamant in their refusal. The mined to use the miners' strike as a fact is that not only are the coal faces platform on which to fight its wages threatened, but millions of pounds worth policy. It is putting forward the public * of equipment is also likely to be lost. sector of the economy as an example to Already it is estimated that between £3m the private. But while the Government and £4m worth has been destroyed. The is standing firm against the miners, following probably sums up the miners' private industry are conceding wage in- attitude best: 'We are prepared to let the mining industry slowly decline. If the Government thinks they can manage without adequate wages in the industry then they do not deserve a mining industry and we shall not help to preserve

The miners have kept up a vigorous campaign of picketing, so much so that the British Steel Corporation is expected to lay off workers soon, and three power stations have closed. Miners have travelled to picket power stations in order to prevent more coal being delivered. Lorries carrying oil and sulphuric acid, used for generating purposes, have also been turned away. A picket from Betteshanger Colliery said: 'The only supplies we do not object to are lorries with hydrogen, which is needed Yet miners are supposed to heed the for safety precautions.' Another Kent warnings of the Coal Board that many miner said: 'We have had a lot of help coal faces will be unworkable soon befrom London sympathisers. We need it cause the men have refused to carry out because most of these power stations are safety work. The Coal Board cared very remote, even though they are inside little about the closures of pits and the London.' disintegration of whole communities and now the miners are supposed to have a

Mr. Ezra, Chairman of the Coal Board, and Government Ministers, one wonders if something is being hatched up. Past experience shows that union leaders are always quick to seek compromise, especially when the rank and file militancy is showing a determination to win. We know little of the behind-the-scenes manoeuvring, but it is taking place. In fact Mr. Feather has cancelled a planned trip to Switzerland in order to be on hand just in case.

One suggestion for such a compromise involves a guarantee on the size of the industry and the number to be employed in it. Such a settlement would mean little to coalminers, but there are signs that the NUM leaders are worried about the effect of a lengthy strike.

They have already resurrected that old red herring of extremist groups infiltrating into pickets lines and fomenting trouble. Mr. Gormley has sent warnings to all branch secretaries about the activities of these groups of 'troublemakers'.

There is nothing surprising in the fact that the manoeuvrings and attempts to

For further information, ring John Gray, 603 3085 or Press Officer AIL, Wynford Hicks, Tel. 622 8961.

A.W.U.



STUDENT SUPPORT

Good support has come from students at Essex University. Not only have they assisted Yorkshire miners with picketing. but they have also given them accommodation at the university. An eviction order was applied for in the High Court, but the miners had already decided to leave before they knew of this. The National Union of Mineworkers and the National Union of Students were putting pressure on their members, one to make them leave and the other to make their members end their occupation.

In a statement, the General Council of the TUC said that the Government was taking a 'negative attitude' and that they have 'to recognise that the mineworkers have a strong case which must be examined on its own merits, not by reference to doctrinaire considerations'. With so many meetings between Mr. Feather, General Secretary of the TUC, Mr. Gormley, President of the NUM,

discredit 'extremist groups' are taking place. These trade union leaders are really unwilling to make a fight of it against the Government. So far it is the rank and file who have made all the running and who are showing the determination to win. It is important that the initiative remains with the members and that any compromise moves by the leaders are rejected.

P.T.

Those wishing to help the strike financially or by any other means, send donations or write to National Union of Mineworkers, 222 Euston Road, N.W.1;

The 'Angry **Brigade' Case**

The eight defendants in this case have been committed for trial. Three of the defendants were given bail. There were no major developments but we hope to have a fuller account next week.

J.R.

DECONTROPENS BOR CONTROPENS BEAR HORE CONTRACTOR HORE CONTRACTOR The Even Holier Barbarians

THE GREENING OF AMERICA, by Charles Reich (Penguins, 40p).

DON'T KNOW if this is something that happens in the end to all people who review books for long enough, or whether it is just something that is the matter with me, but I seem to keep meeting books I read years and years ago, only written anew by someone else.

About a dozen years ago I reviewed in FREEDOM a book called The Holy Barbarians. It was about the American beatniks. The author compared them to the barbarians at the gates of the Roman Empire, only these were non-violent barbarians who were going to undermine

buccaneering, work - ethic, individualist consciousness. Beginning perhaps as an appropriate response to a vast wilderness, it ended by creating a hideous dog-eatdog society. This called into being Consciousness II. This was a managerial consciousness. It attempted to control capitalism and eliminate its worst evils by instituting a form of social control. Its heyday was the era of the New Deal.

Consciousness II did not wholly succeed in controlling the evil consequences of Consciousness I, and in addition brought in some new evils of its own. It helped to create an American version of the Corporate State, where business and bureaucracy have come to form a single the American Empire rather than over- vast organism, in which the individual is crushed.

'In the summer of 1967, when Consciousness III was just beginning and the forces of repression had not yet moved in to create an atmosphere of tension and hatred, one could see the new community in the streets and shops of Berkeley, near the University of California. For just a few months at the very beginning of Consciousness III there was a flowering of music, hippie clothes, hand-painted vehicles, and sheer joy to match nature itself. It seemed to be everywhere, but perhaps one could see it best of all in a vast, modern co-op supermarket in Berkeley, open late at night, almost a community centre with a self-service laundry, a snack bar with sweet fresh doughnuts, a highly intellectual selection of books, and a community bulletin board. It possessed an amazing variety of goods . . . and genuine, old fashioned, unhomogenised peanut butter, the very symbol of the world that has enjoyed technology and transcended it. If the foods gave the supermarket its sense of gleaming opulence and richness, Since the economic system can only the people gave it the sense of community. There were hippies looking like Indians, with headbands and proud, striking features; ordinary middle-class families doing their shopping late at night; Hell's Angels of California, in their black leather jackets; frat men with block letters; very young couples in some

Reviews

in the general scene. For the atmosphere was one of mutual respect and affection -visible and, even more, felt in the vibrations that a casual visitor received. Somehow, all these people were together. The checkout lines, with beards, old ladies, mothers with perambulators, and hippies whose purchase was a single carrot or turnip, resembled nothing so much as a peace mark where all kinds of people are joined by a common cause. The scene as a whole, though, was not a march but a kingdom-the peaceable kingdom of those old American paintings that show all manner of beasts lying down together in harmony and love.' Similar scenes are described in The

Holy Barbarians, which deals with a period before Consciousness III had even begun, according to Charles Reich. He

stage of transitory housekeeping; three- dismisses the beats in a cavalier way, somes, foursomes, fivesomes, all possible saying that they found themselves in a varieties of housekeeping, in fact; people dead end. Well perhaps they did, but going on camping trips and returning their attitude to life was the same as from trips; and the checkout clerks, very that of the Consciousness III people he much a part of it all, joining with smiles so much admires. He is obliged to dismiss the immediate past because he wants to believe he stands at the very beginning of a totally new epoch. I would like to believe so too, but, although I do not doubt that the American Empire will go the way of all previous empires, and that the hippies will help it on its way, I cannot see anything new in this book, and I cannot work up in 1972 the same feeling of enthusiasm as I could in 1960. I'm all for Consciousness III, make no mistake. I like this book. I believe that truths often have to be repeated and repeated. But . . . well, suppose somebody rushes into your house to pour into your ear, in excited tones, some piece of information that you had known

for days already. The most you could

probably manage would be a kindly

throw it by force.

More than a decade has passed since, and to all intents and purposes here comes the same book again. This time it is the hippies and the freaks who are going to undermine the American Empire by rejecting its ethos, rather than by fighting it.

The approach taken by Charles Reich is somewhat more sociological than that taken by the author of The Holy Barbarians. The message is the same.

Charles Reich distinguishes between three forms of consciousness. Consciousness I is the old American, pioneering,

Consciousness III is that of the modern youth who reject both Consciousness and Consciousness II. They drop out of the rat race, let their hair grow, wear jeans or bell-bottoms, smoke pot and live from hand to mouth.

function if everyone is working hard, and buying consumer goods, this movement strikes a deadly blow at it. And the movement is growing fast. It is not only the young. Children are radicalising their parents. For Charles Reich 1967 was the turning point.

COBERCE COBERCE hiritan **Beatnik**

smile.

LIFE WITHOUT PRINCIPLE, by Henry David Thoreau, with foreword by Dennis Gould. (Books and Things Pamphlet No. 1, 6 Penryn Street, Redruth, Cornwall. No price given.)

ONE OF THE THINGS which struck me most when reading this pamphlet was how little things have changed, except to get worse, or at least more extreme, in the hundred years or more since Thoreau wrote it. Although the language is nineteenth century, what he writes does not date at all. This may well be due to Thoreau's extreme detachment from ordinary life. He was not affected by fashion to the same degree as most people, and his teachings have a timeless quality.

There is no uncertainty in him. He knew audience will assent to; and I resolve,

vote their energies to thought and study and the observation of nature. Horrors like slavery would no longer exist.

He did not preach syndicalism, or libertarian communism or social revolution. Even in the anti-slavery campaign he spoke for himself alone.

'A man once came a considerable distance to ask me to lecture on Slavery: but on conversing with him, I found that he and his clique expected seven eighths of the lecture to be theirs, and only one eighth mine; so I declined. I take it for granted, when I am invited to lecture anywhere-for I have had a little experience in that business-that there is a desire to hear what I think on some subject, though I may be the greatest fool in the country, and not that I should His writing is a series of epigrams. say pleasant things merely, or such as the what was what, and had complete self- accordingly, that I will give them a strong dose of myself. They have sent for me, and engaged to pay for me, and I am determined that they shall have me, though I bore them beyond all precedent.' This detachment from 'the collective' was both a strength and a weakness. Thoreau did not struggle to construct a new social order, or a theory of society or of history. He was no Proudhon or Marx. In consequence his writings are easy reading and do not go out of date. On the other hand people usually do things in groups. The thought of a world of Thoreauan drop-outs is a pleasant one, but it is hard to imagine such a situation ever developing. Most people lack Thoreau's self-assurance. Even living alone in the woods (even though in fact Thoreau was not far from other people and had frequent visitors), would be too much for most people. They would be frightened by the loneliness. So it looks as if Thoreau's kind of anarchism-of course he never used the word-is a kind to appeal only to a special kind of person, the solitary. The beatniks, and even some behaviourists (see Walden Two, which is supposed to apply Thoreauan ideas to a group, Thoreau would have detested it), claim to be disciples of Thoreau, and perhaps a few are. But it is like Zen. The thought of a hippy as a samurai or a Buddhist monk foresee circumstances in which both these is incongruous, and the thought of a

Music and Revolution

Dear Comrades,

is, or could be, or should be, such a

classical music. But if this article was of these communities (most of which surintended to convince me that I ought to vive under pressures) is now under direct renounce the latter, it had the opposite effect. It was the only good argument for authority that I have ever come across.

Sibelius's music has been associated Some people seem to believe that there with Finnish nationalism-understandably, since he specifically intended to thing as anarchist music. One 'folk song' give expression to national sentiment. enthusiast I know told me I OUGHT to Yet in my opinion (which incidentally like 'folk song', 'because it is anarchist'. the BBC and Patrick Moore appear to Another acquaintance of mine made a share) he produced something universal similar claim for 'progressive pop'. And rather than nationalistic. Sibelius came there are always people ready to say that from (and remained in) the upper class, jazz is anarchist, though I doubt if whereas even my syndicalist friends

threat of closure. This comes under the heading of 'rationalization'.

They are a very special bunch of people and their needs are going to be crushed unless they can win a very unequal struggle. They are asking for help. . . . The Paddington Day Hospital, Harrow Road.

> Peace, JOHN TIBBITTS.



Kosygin or the King of Thailand would agree.



A few years ago Solidarity published a very serious article which argued that jazz, or at least improvisation, was libertarian. Classical music, on the other hand, required the musician to obey the conductor. Even he had little scope for interpretation, since he could only follow the composer's instructions.

As it happens, I like both jazz and

PRESS F

Gontributions

January 19-26 inc.

Wolverhampton: J.L. 40p; J.K.W. 10p; N.W.3: K.L. 30p; Wolverhampton: J.L. aid are at work. One of the most free 40p; J.K.W. 10p; Coleman's Hatch: O.M. £10; Co. Meath: M.O'F. 15p; Sundbyberg, Sweden: A.P. 50p; Folkestone: D.H. £4.50; Liverpool: H.H.J. £2; Abingdon: M.B. £2; Sheffield: D.S. 75p; Ilford: A.G. £1.60; Oxford: Anon £1; San Francisco: A.C. £8.

sometimes object to my 'prole-ier than thou' attitude. Still, his music has great meaning for me. Whether others consider my taste highbrow, middle-brow, or lowbrow, doesn't matter.

It seems reasonable to assume that, even in a free society, some musicians would want to go on performing classical works, and that they would get an audience. And if the only way to ensure that what is played is what Sibelius, Beethoven, or Wagner actually wrote is to have an authoritarian figure waving a stick, then we'll just have to put up with it.

Fraternally,

D.C.

Paddington Day Hospital

Dear Friends,

The State Mental Health Services others would, for the moment, carry on mostly provides shock treatments, drugs the struggle, he said, 'I thought we'd and conditioning therapy. There are a made it with Kissing.' few places where really personal, humane and freedom-centred help is offered in because he hoped to get elected as genuine therapeutic communities - all dog-catcher. However if he did not members having a full part in the work succeed in this he'd set up in business Milan: R.P. £1; Hull: A.T. 50p; London, of the community. Self-help and mutual as a second-hand car salesman.

NIJ Vall Winkle's War

A GEING WAR VETERAN Ryk Aad A Nyx Ong staggered from the jungle last week to tell correspondents that he had found out that the war was over and his country had lost it. Fingering his dark stubble he said, 'I felt there was something wrong when I didn't come across any American combatant soldiers. I've been told that we lost the war years ago but nobody ever told me nothing.

'I kept firing at the enemy but somehow it didn't seem real. My old dead and gone buddies Eik, Jai Eff, and El Bei Jai all kept up the War Game with me, but I guess it's played out now.'

When told that undoubtedly his country had not won the war, but peace was not yet possible owing to technicalities, and

He said he had come out of the jungle

UP Corres. JACK SPRATT.

confidence. He was a difficult man to get on with. He lived simply and so was able to live on very little money and did not have to work much, and thus avoided the rat-race. He described in Walden how he did this. He believed that such a way of living was within the reach of all, if they would only make the effort. His interests in life were philosophy,

poetry, the observance of nature and writing. For these interests a great deal of equipment is unnecessary. It is perfectly possible to live in a hut, as he did for some time in the woods by Walden Pond. (The place is now over-run by tourists.)

His only intervention in the politics of his day was over the question of slavery. He would not pay taxes which went to support a government which upheld slavery. He addressed meetings and came out in support of John Brown; although he had preached the doctrine of Civil Disobedience he believed that in some cases violence was inevitable.

John Brown had attempted to start an armed uprising of the slaves. Thoreau said:

'I speak for the slave when I say that prefer the philanthropy of Captain Brown to that philanthropy which neither shoots me nor liberates me. I do not wish to kill nor to be killed, but I can things would be by me unavoidable. We preserve the so-called peace of our community by deeds of petty violence every day. Look at the policeman's billyclub and handcuffs! Look at the gaol! Look at the gallows! Look at the chaplain of the regiment! We are hoping only to live safely on the outskirts of this provisional army. So we defend ourselves and our hen-roosts and maintain slavery.' Life Without Principle is an exhortation to people to take a look at their lives, at the futility of them. They are passed in a scramble for money. 'If a man walk in the woods for love of them half of each day, he is in danger of being regarded as a loafer; but if he shearing off those woods and making earth bald before her time, he is esteemed an industrious and enterprising citizen. As if a town had no interest in its forests but to cut them down!' "The ways in which you may get money almost without exception lead downward. To have done anything by which you earned money merely is to have been truly idle or worse.'

Total: £33.30 Sales (Voline): £4.00

£37.30

(1) INCOME FROM POSTAL SUB-SCRIPTIONS AND SALES (Target for 1972 £4,500)

Amount received to Jan. 26 £831.44 (2) PRESS FUND CONTRIBUTIONS (Target for 1972 £1,500)

Contributions received Jan. 19-26 -£37.30

Previously acknowledged £220.63

TOTAL TO DATE £257.93



AFBIB-To all Groups.

The next AFBIB will be produced in Sheffield at 4 Havelock Square, Sheffield, 10. Send material to Secretary, Peter Le Mare. Also needs offers of help from Groups to bring out further issues. 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.

There are now anarchist groups in almost every part of the country. To find your nearest group write to:

AFB REGIONAL GROUPS

N.E. England: Mick Renwick, 34 Durham Road, Gateshead, Co. Durham. Essex & E. Herts.: P. Newell, 'Aegean', Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green, Colohester. (OM, FL.) Surrey: G. Wright, 47 College Road, Epsom. Yorkshire: Martin Watkins, Flat D, 90 Clarendon Road, Leeds, LS2 9L. Manchester: Mat Cunningham, 9 Briar Hill Avenue, Little Hulton, Worsely, Lancs. Scotland: Secretary, Mike Malet, 1 Lynnewood Place, Maryfield, Dundee. Wales: c/o P. L. Mare (address above). N. Ireland: c/o Freedom Press.

The American Federation of Anarchists: P.O. Box 9885, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440, USA. S. Ireland: 20 College Lane, Dublin, 2 University and Student Groups: c/o P. L. Mare.

What Thoreau wanted was for people to eat and dress and house themselves simply. Then they would be able to de-

hippy Thoreau is also a trifle quaint.

Thoreau was terribly austere, and the drop-out of today is hedonistic and prefers to be in a group. He is none the worse for that I hasten to add. I think for most of us Thoreau is someone by whom it is possible to be influenced to some extent, but few among us can claim to be living according to his teachings. And this probably is as it should be. Thoreau urged people not to imitate him slavishly but to find themselves.

So many things he said still apply today, even in quite small details. Instead of Fidel Castro, or Che Guevara, the popular hero was the Hungarian national leader Kossuth. He travelled spends his whole day as a speculator, across America, and was fêted by his admirers. Speeches were made, but the people did nothing practical for the cause of liberty, and all that was left behind was 'the Kossuth hat', as we have the Castro beard and the Guevara badge or poster.

> He was scathing about the goldrushes in California and Australia, which we are today inclined to regard as romantic. Will our own age be regarded as a brawling, lusty epoch by future generations (if there be any)? Very probably. ARTHUR W. ULOTH.

THE FOLLOWING article may surprise some comrades, but feeling has been mounting in Ipswich against the student support of the Miners.

From an Anarcho-Syndicalist viewpoint we can clearly see the aims of the Trotskyite students. They view the Miners struggle as a chance to recruit more morons into the 'holy' Party.

We know the truth behind the myth of the Party. It seems that the Miners will soon learn the hard way about Trotskyism.

The following article comes from the **Ipswich and District Trades Council** newsletter Voice, and is typical of local feeling.

This was to be an article in support of the NUM strike and their pickets in this area, but due to the actions of their self-appointed allies this can no longer



HOBERTER BELERE

be possible.

I went to some pains to contact the Miners pickets in Ipswich, as no attempt was made to contact us. Eventually had to go to Essex University where I received a very cool reception.

The Miners themselves are not to blame, they are Workers, the same as

ourselves. The difficulties are being caused by a group calling themselves the United Front for the Defence of the Miners Strike. These people have neglected to make any contact with Ipswich Trades Council, or any Trade Union here. Hence some of the Miners have got the impression from their 'friends' that Ipswich is totally devoid of Trade Union activity.

As soon as I approached the Miners, I was intercepted by a party of students who denounced me as a 'Police spy' and an agent of the Daily Express (despite the fact that I had come straight from work and was still in my overalls!). A brief talk with these students identified them as agents of the OGPU or Trotsky's 57 varieties (all unfit for human consumption).

political action both local and national, on the basis of complete independence of and hostility to all political parties....

The Working Class has the strength to fight its own battles (if we only knew it). We only need the solidarity. We can do without the diversion of budding politicians who only want to use our struggles for their political ends. Finally, just so that no one gets the wrong impression, I suggest that we pledge our full support for our Miner brothers, and that we do all we can to help them. If they can defeat the Tories incomes policy, all sections of the Working Class movement will benefit.

THEIR FIGHT IS ALSO **OUR FIGHT**

After the writers attempt to speak to the Miners on Wednesday, an approach was made to the Eastern Region of the Labour Party by the students. They asked for help in providing accommodation for the pickets in Ipswich. No, repeat No, official request has been received by the Trades Council, although the Secretary has tried at the request of the Labour Party, to assist. It is unfortunate that there is no hall in Ipswich that is owned by the Labour movement that could be made available for the pickets. Do you know of one? It is a pity that the correct procedures were not carried out in the first instance, as by now we could have probably have made some arrangements to help. We must not let the Miners stand alone like the Postal Workers did last year. The Government is quite content to pick the Unions off one by one if we let them. One further comment: I do not want to discourage non-Trotskyite students from taking an interest in industrial affairs, as I recognise that they may be Workers themselves one day. I would just ask that they do the necessary enquiry into the situation and find out how best they can help, before rushing in and pouring polemic onto the shop-floor. I would be more than willing to help in the wording of a leaflet to be put out at the factory gate. Their help can be invaluable in putting over points which I am unable to put over myself, either due to lack of academic training or because of hounding by the boss. Students and Workers should work together, but please, not for the Party. F.R.



Any book not in stock, but in print can be promptly supplied. Please add postage & cash with order helps.

The General Strike, Facsimile reprod. of 'The British Worker' (TUC) and 'The British Gazette' (HMSO) £2.50 (20p) Memoirs of a Revolutionist

Peter Kropotkin £2.00 (20p) Mutual Aid Peter Kropotkin £0.90 (10p) Anarchism Paul Eltzbacher £3.50 (20p) Autobiography of a Sexually **Emancipated Woman**

Alexandra Kollontai £1.30 (71p) **Enquiry Concerning Political** Justice Wm, Godwin (ed. K. Codell Carter) £1.60 (20p) The Italian State Massacre



Manoeuvres'

IT USED TO BE one of the stock responses of the British raj when faced with a colonial crisis or 'unrest among the natives' to send a gunboat. Last week, an aircraft carrier group including the Ark Royal was despatched to the Caribbean. Furthermore a battalion group of the Grenadier Guards was being flown to British Honduras for 'exercises'.

The Ministry of Defence claims that they handed out a press release a week ago notifying that the Ark Royal, a guided missile destroyer, two frigates and other craft were going to the western end of the Caribbean and the coast of British Honduras. This was ignored, they claim, by the Press.

About that date (January 21) the Guardian carried an article by Edward de Benito reporting that the recent council elections in Belize, the capital of British Honduras, whilst confirming the Prime Minister's party (the PUP) in council power, saw the rise of the United Black Association for Development-a Black Power movement --- who gained Liberal Progressive President. In 1969 30% of the votes in its first election. British Honduras, soon to be 'independent' is claimed by Guatemala, its match to decide which country should products are in American or Canadian qualify for the Mexico World Cup! hands with the sugar controlled by Messrs. Tate and Lyle. British Honduras is a less-developed-country member of Crifta (the Caribbean free trade area). UBAD (the Black Power association under Evan 'X' Hyde) has other plans. The Sunday Telegraph (30.1.72) says these 'manoeuvres' 'without prior warning' have heightened political tension in Central America. It has infuriated Guatemala and dismayed the Prime Minister of British Honduras, Mr. Price. 'Mr. Price wants independence,' says the Telegraph. 'But he believes this can only be achieved with safety by coming to an understanding with Guatemala Devonport; May-June, USA'. The adabout the latter's long-standing claims in the colony.' Of course Evan 'X' Hyde has different ideas. US Counter-Intelligence Agency carried a different advert for the same firm out a coup supplanting President Cuz- is headlined, 'What in the World Are man, who had just expropriated land belonging to the United Fruit Company. He was replaced (aided by US planes) by Colonel Armas who was later assassinated, it is said, with US connivance. In exchange for his successor, Fuentes, giving US training grounds and bases used to sneer from Hamburg during the for attacks on Cuba, US promised to War, 'Where is the Ark Royal?' back Guatemala's claims to British

Guerilla warfare, of course, developed. In January 1968 two American military attaches were shot dead in Guatemala, in August of that year, the American ambassador was assassinated and in 1970 the German ambassador met a similar fate. Last June as many as eighteen political assassinations took place on the streets of Guatemala City. Secret rightwing execution squads have been formed which have killed people considered to be left-wing intellectuals. Obviously Guatemala is ripe either for left-wing revolution or a right-wing adventure against British Honduras.

Honduras is a notoriously backward country. It is virtually a colony of the United Fruit Company and the Standard Fruit Company. Its railways are 90% banana company lines, it has only 250 miles of paved roads in 43,000 square miles, 70% of the population do not possess shoes and the water itself is undrinkable. It was governed by a military junta which overthrew the 2,000 people died in a war Honduras fought with San Salvador over a football In such a climate it is obvious why Britain should send a gunboat-or rather an aircraft carrier. But this pretext of long-arranged usual manoeuvres is a smoke-screen which is easily pierced when one looks at the advertising colour supplements of our two posh Sunday papers for January 30, 1972 (produced in advance of this date). Among the utterly resistible advertisements is one for joining the Navy, headlined in the Sunday Times-'It's Not Every Job that Offers You the Earth'. Billed for the Ark Royal's tour is 'Jan. - Feb., Devonport; March - April, vert finishes up '. . . the chance to travel. All pretty tempting reasons for filling in the coupon. And seeing where As is now well known, in 1954 the it gets you'. But wait! In the Observer Naval Officers Doing these Days?' A map of the world is arrowed for 'HMS Ark Royal "On flying exercises between Malta and Gibraltar".' Which advertisement do you read? The late unlamented Lord Haw-Haw

As far as I can see, this United Front is just using the Miners struggle to further some obscure political cause. They do not want to help the Miners they only want to use them. If they really want to help the Miners, they would have asked for all available assistance. Surely, if we wanted to plan the picketing of a factory in Colchester, the first thing we would do would be to contact Colchester Trades Council and the Unions concerned so that (a) we would get maximum support (b) we would not tread on anyone's toes. We would not barge in without telling anyone and expect the locals to contact us as this United Front have done.

No, they want all the credit for themselves at the expense of the success of the struggle. In an effort to score a political point they have neglected any sympathy we may have in Ipswich.

The Miners would do well to look into their own history before gathering such allies. In particular I would recommend reading The Miners Next Step published in 1912. On political parties: That the organisation shall engage in

Libertaria Books £0.20 (21p) Character Analysis

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Fascism Wilhelm Reich £2.00 (20p) Making Communes—a survey

Clem Gorman £0.75 (10p) manual Men Against the State

James J. Martin £1.05 (10p) The Revolution in Everyday

Life Raoul Vaneigen £0.30 (21p) What is Property?

P.-J. Proudhon £2.10 (20p) The Little Red School Book (revised edition)

Hansen & Jensen £0.30 (21p) The Floodgates of Anarchy

Stuart Christie & Albert Meltzer £1.05 (10p) Please send foolscap (9" x 4") S.A.E. if you would like to receive regular booklists.



Only the 'usual manoeuvres' is the J.R.



NO. 100 1

T BEGAN WHEN a patrol of soldiers passed under the neon lights in front of the chapel shortly before midnight. A crowd of youths lurking in the shadows of the Catholic ghetto opposite began to stone them and the patrol retreated, those at the rear pointing their guns towards the ghetto mouth-and the signaller chattering frantically into the mike of his radio set. They move out of range of the missiles down the road towards their billet. They will be back shortly with reinforcements; the rioters wait.

Meanwhile someone is using a pickaxe to lift up flagstones. A couple of blows from the pickaxe shatter the flagstone into about six pieces. Other hands raise these and they are crashed repeatedly against the sharp edge of the kerbstone until they are reduced to chunks of the right size. Another group can be seen in the darkness their arms moving like those of a barman mixing cocktails-Molotov cocktails. The familiar sounds of a riot in preparation are heard; a saw cutting through the base of a wooden telegraph-pole; scurrying feet; whispered voices. The pole crashes across the roadway and a lookout signals that the Army are on the way back. Here they come! First the armoured personnel carriers followed by a mixed assortment of lorries and land rovers. broadside across the mouths of the streets leading into the ghetto. The THE THROWING of ink over the spiritual descendants, whether they know soldiers jump out wearing steel helmets with plastic visors and armed with rifles, At any rate no ruler can enjoy com- batons and riot-shields. The metallic heads of state against possible attack. In plete security. The only way for this to ring of the missiles against the sides of fact it is impossible to protect a head of be brought about would be to imprison vehicles mingles with the taunts and jeers state against an assassin if the assassin is him in a fortress, heavily guarded by of the rioters. The Army snatch squads prepared to be caught or killed. This fact utterly reliable guards, and even this crouch behind the Saracens until suddenly was understood in the Middle Ages by might not work. But what would cer- a rubber bullet is fired. It strikes the the Hashishin, the fanatical Moslem sect tainly happen in this case would be that ground and the friction of its passage who set up a government-by-assassination. he would be so cut off from actual events along the street sends out a shower of The very word 'assassin' derives from that the real power would pass into the sparks and fills the throat and nostrils them. Usually the threat of assassination hands of his agents. He would become with the stench of burning rubber. The was enough to secure compliance from like some Oriental rulers, merely a youths skip nimbly evading it. After four petrol bombs. This breaks up their security forces in their enquiries. . . attack and they crouch in doorways or

hug the wall until the bursts of flame die down and there remains only a thin red glow carpeting the roadway and the smell of petrol hangs heavily in the air. The rioters retreat now. They know that the Army has orders to shoot petrol bombers and they fly along the street seeking refuge in the shadows and alleyways. The snatch squad does not pound around corners after them but advances cautiously. By the time they have peered around the corner the street is deserted. In less than half an hour the rioters

will have regrouped in this street but further down the road there is other activity. There are a couple of muffled explosions and the eyes, nose and throat begin to sting. CS gas. Unmistakably English voices are heard a couple of streets away. The snatch squad have caught someone who could not run fast enough or who was temporarily paralysed by the effects of the gas. Retreat once more; and so the game of blindman's-buff continues in the darkened streets. It is about 2.30 a.m. and suddenly a group of rioters stand frozen, their heads inclined towards the direction of a sound they have been waiting for. It is an automatic weapon firing and it is joined by the voice of another one; then a rifle; and a gelignite bomb. It is time now for the petrol bombers Under a barrage of stones they form up and the stone throwers to leave the scene. Time for them to wend their way through the shadows of the lonely streets. Grimy hands that have been hurling bricks or that reek of petrol have to be washed. Then a cup of tea, a filter-tip and into bed. But there will be no immediate sleep. The firing outside continues and the blast of a gelignite bomb rattles the window panes and sends a tremor-through the bedroom. The gunfire and the bombs will continue until daylight and soon it is 7.55 a.m. Time for the Northern Ireland news and the voice of the announcer fills the room: 'there was heavy rioting in the Ardoyne it has spent itself someone will collect area of Belfast throughout the night. Four soldiers were wounded in shooting The snatch squad emerges from behind incidents and the Army claim that they fact nothing can. A ruler must be the Saracens, batons rattling against their shot at least one gunman who was seen has written an excellent brief history of mobile. He must be seen. He must be riot shields and obscene oaths and yells to be dragged away by his companions. able to be on the spot in some situations coming from their throats. They are Several arrests were made and a number greeted with more missiles and three or of men and youths are assisting the HENRY BELL,



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Honduras.

answer.

SECURITY

Prime Minister in Brussels has raised it or not. again the question of the protection of a ruler. They could penetrate any castle figurehead. or palace, however well-guarded, indeed they often were among the guards. F. A. nothing much will happen, because in Ridley, the well-known socialist historian. the Assassins.

methods were copied by the Jesuits. Certainly the American CIA are their

Probably, in spite of all the fuss, it as a souvenir. . It is thought by some that their at least. Otherwise he loses all influence.

A.W.U.

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Out of nothing

DAUL PAWLOWSKI is out of prison again. But not out of the clutches of the NEWS OF THE WORLD. Last Sunday they had a major article on page 5 titled 'Meet the high priest of nastiness'. All about Paul and his Church of Aphrodite. As a gesture of friendship (and relief at his release from prison) I had gone around to visit him on the previous Saturday week. Nobody was there but the two of us when a reporter and photographer arrived from the SCREWS OF THE WORLD.

Ron Mount, the reporter, asked me what I was doing there and I replied that I was outraged at the term of imprisonment that Paul had just served on a most trivial charge. Ron wisely bowed in his head and affirmed that he too was a friend of Paul.

'Outrageous behaviour'

'A well-known participant at demonstrations, he has been behind bars for outrageous behaviour at Speakers' Corner in Hyde Park where tolerance is stretched to the limit,' were the kindly words written by Ron about Paul. Paul's offence was that he refused to be bound over on good behaviour for one year for which he was inside prison for three months (no remission for civil prisoners). He had committed the dastardly deed of describing himself as the Reverend Father Fuck who had founded a church where adoration of the 'prick and a lovely pair of balls' was one of the central rituals. Ron further described him as 'A regular associate of drop-outs and other weirdies, he makes no secret of his attachments to other revolutionary anarchist groups'. After Ron had been listening to Paul on the subject of the Hellenic religions for some time he interrupted and asked when the orgies might develop. With only Paul and myself present this did not appear an immediate likelihood particularly as I had clearly intimated that I was not there as a supporter of any religion-even Paul's rather happy onebut only as a friend.



doubt that Ron had any reason to doubt time it must occur to any thinking man my sex and, to his annoyance, I had dis- that the fact of such a filthy rag as the avowed any follower status. However, I NEWS OF THE WORLD having a declined to disclose my identity or, in- circulation of several millions must be deed, have any further conversation with an indication of the very sick society we him. He, no doubt, assumed that I would are living in. Not just a pious obsermake no fuss but he shall now be in- vation-if all of us pulled our fingers formed that I have raised the matter out we could get through to the masses with the Press Council. The change of who are individually valuable and sex he wrought in me no doubt was in- wonderful beings. No anti-authoritarian so-called newspaper flourishes. (A few to any other conclusion. pages later a fair damsel whose claim to fame is her impending return to Sweden is portrayed with her tits dangling under your nose accompanied by a caption which is a thinly-disguised encouragement to have a good wank.)

follower'. There was not the slightest Press Council has to say. In the meanstigated by the prurience on which this of any hope and generosity could come

COMMUNES

Since the bust in our Commune which I referred to a couple of weeks ago some two hundred people have come forward expressing their intention to stand firm on a matter of principle in which a clear issue of individual conscience is involved. Notwithstanding the risks of police victimisation which are very real. The inspiration for this courage undoubtedly stems from a firm belief in justice and a new civilisation founded on the free commune. Too many of us are aware of

the terrible loneliness and degradation of the bedsitting room, the emotional gas chamber nature of the family, to want to be part of the civilisation which embraces them and which claims the family as its sacred cornerstone.

The Commune, then, is our hope and reality. Already it has brought incredible happiness to me personally to witness the honest endeavours of people whom I have known for some time. The particular circle of which I am part has created the Brotherhood Commune which is certainly anarchic (free, co-operative living) in its fundamentals. The idea of leadership was described by one of the group as 'a load of bollox' and I find this is an opinion almost universally shared by those involved in the commune movements. Apart from the layabout and parasite the great problem is the power-grabber. But these are only problems to be solved and which are certainly not insuperable. Already our members-at the moment, actively about ten men and ten women and a fairly large periphery of about fifty more-have committed themselves to freely put half of their earnings in a trust account which has already been opened. It all seems so reasonable and practicable that one wonders at the pessimism and inactivity of many otherwise well-intentioned persons, anarchists included.



Thursdays from 2 p.m.

- Will the nearest anarchists to Stocktonon-Tees, please get in touch with Ian S. Sutherland, 8 Esslemont Avenue, Aberdeen. Very important. Comrades in or near Worcester contact:
- V. and M. Duffy Cross, 150 Bransford Road, St. John's, Worcester.

The photograph that lied

Meanwhile the photographer was busy. A photograph of Paul appears in the NEWS OF THE SCREWS article in which there is a rear picture of myself. I am described in the caption as 'a girl

The half-truth

Of course, the article has some facts. Paul's occupation and the bottle opener dangling from his neck like a medallion are accurately represented. Even the rental of his bedsitting room (elevated to the status of a church). Paul had erected from about twenty pence worth of cardboard a Greek god with a smile. Woolworths had supplied a toy pistol which Paul tied to the god (this is photographed). He patiently explained to Ron that the gun was the symbol of contemporary civilisation so he replaced it with a penis and testicles. The photographer said this would be too obscene for the readership. (Page 3 has a pseudo-orgy scene, however, for general titillation.)

Paul, trusting to the integrity of the press, had posters on the wall (also representing contemporary morality) such as 'Killing is power'. On the reverse of this one were the words 'To love is peace'. The latter was too obscene for this newspaper, the former was published and represented as Paul's true sentiments. Even a child would have understood the pretty obvious symbolism about which, in any case, Paul left no doubt. In due course I shall advise what the

BILL DWYER.



THE THREAT to our environment and, indeed, our survival has at last percolated through to the popular press. The crop of 'Doomwatch' headlines was occasioned by the recent publication in the Ecologist of its 'Blueprint for Survival', fanfared by a well-publicised press conference.

'Pollution' has been a fashionable topic in the popular press for some time with

endorsed by the ecologists. The 'Blueprint' points out that the energy outlay for cement and steel required to build a motorway is four times greater than that required to build a railway. So motorways are indicted on economic grounds as well as the more obvious grounds of the untold misery caused to people unfortunate enough to live in the path of

'Peace News'-the other anarchist weekly

-every Friday 7p from your newsagent or by subscription. FREE with trial sub. of 7 issues for 50p two sample copies which include Illich on Deschooling and Communes Special. 'Peace News' for the theory and practice of nonviolent anarchism, 5 Caledonian Road, London, N.1.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of 'Ulysses' by James A. A. Joyce. Lecture: Saturday, February 19, 2.45 p.m., 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1. WEA Branch. 15p admission.

- Oxford Anarchists. Nicolas Walter: 'Anarchism, Marxism, Violence'. Nuffield College Large Lecture Theatre, Friday evening, February 18, 8 p.m.
- Free Valpreda Campaign needs help, not just by way of support, but also involvement in planning and organising. Please contact c/o N. & E. London Group ORA.
- Support the Miners: Stickers and Flyposters with short slogans, from ORA, 68 Chingford Road, E.17.
- Would any comrade like to contact Georgie and Russell Fell, slowly sinking into despair, at 2 Pilgrims Close, Monks Risborough, Aylesbury, Bucks.
- Who needs Leaders? Anyone who can criticise the prevailing standpoint in psychology theory (and practice) on leadership, please contact: Keith

This Week in Ireland

the escape of the seven men from the 'escape-proof' Maidstone, and their safe arrival in Dublin. It was a marvellous effort even if I find their story of feeding and thus taming a seal to find out if there were alarms in the water a decidedly fishy tale. I cannot see from where the prisoners got large pails full of herrings (or plaice or turbot) with which to feed the seal, an animal which eats NOTHING but raw fish! Never mind, it was a great deed.

It led to the face-saving sack of Long law was not being broken. It is only Kesh by the Army with the men there left from 6 a.m. till after 2 o'clock in the afternoon naked and shivering in one of the dining huts. One man was taken ill and at 11 the medical officer wished to remove him to hospital. This was refused and he had to wait until after 2. None of the reporters were allowed to see the 'tunnels' (and all the prisoners agree it would be impossible to tunnel out of Long Kesh as one cannot tunnel through the concrete runways). The things found were all things the Governor people. They might have broken the knew that they had and were using with law, they were hostile." the exception of wire cutters and pliers planted by the Army. Even as I write this, Newry is smouldering after the fires and explosions of yesterday, and between it and Belfast there have been 26 explosions and/or arson fires in the last 24 hours. 'We are on the top of the IRA,' say the Army. 'We have them beaten,' says Faulkner. Incidentally, judging by the Army's accounts daily rounded up and detained. At least eightsix-four or whatever of these were high- down. ranking officers of the IRA', one must presume the IRA consists entirely of rank and file. says the sound of the Lambeg drum 'puts which is more than possible. the fear of God into the rebels'. To me

WE ARE OF COURSE all thrilled by it puts the fear of naked evil unleashed. I am, as I write, looking at a photograph in today's daily of a little boy who went just to buy milk. There was no riot going on. Suddenly a British Whippet drew up beside him and a torchlight was shone on his face and a rubber bullet fired into it from a range of three or four yards. The inside of his mouth is smashed and he has 20 stitches.

The television showed a soldier kicking one of the marchers to Magilligan on Sunday as he lay on the ground. The forbidden to march on the open highway and the marchers were on the beach. I heard an officer 'explaining' on the wireless that the man had tried to drag the soldier down by his legs and the soldier was only freeing himself!!! That protest was treated with such brutality by the parachute regiment that it has been leaked that other regiments have asked not to serve with them. Again their officer spoke. 'We are tough,' he said, 'but never brutal. We had to stop these Faulkner is flying to see Inky-Heath Embassies in Dublin in the morning and Our unemployed grow hourly and days ago and heard the speaker say that

today. Unregenerately I laughed at that incident. We picketed all the EEC handed in letters and in the afternoon there was a protest march and meeting of 2,000 objectors to Lynch signing away our freedom before he has a mandate from the people. The referendum is to be in early May. All the other big cities and which run '32-47-18 or whatever men were some of the smaller ones had anti-EEC meetings too. The papers played this Lynch denies that there is any crisis. I field-marshals and generals and has no accidentally tuned into Germany a few Stormont had a free-for-all on Tues- they had a huge unemployment problem day, which, with no opposition, seems a there, and when the new countries came trifle odd, but the 'Liar' and other non- into the EEC it would be worse. The parliamentary vituperative flew freely fight to save our historic buildings from and what emerged was the bitter desire the foreign office-builder and superfor more and more repression from all market kings goes on. Canadian Galen members of the Unionists. Craig is Weston says that before the next five storming against the ban on marches years are out he will own every superwhich he calls yielding to the IRA and market in Ireland. He will too if our letting them think they have won. Yet Government continues to think only of it was he who threw the original match its own private pockets. Always provided into the powder keg by banning the Civil we have not destroyed the whole world Rights March on October 5, 1968. Paisley with our poisons and pollutions first

horror tales of beaches fouled with oil, cyanide dumping, drums of deadly poisons washed up on beaches, etc., but the 'Blueprint' coverage was a significant development. Previous comment had pointed out the stupidity or anti-social nature of individual industrial plants churning out deadly waste, or the need for stricter laws to control the problem, but the suggestion that our modern technology itself was inherently destructive came as a novel 'Utopian' view (though not to regular readers of the anarchist press). Technological advance has become the God of our time: the accumulation of material wealth is seen as the motive force and sole objective of man's creative genius, the panacea for all social ills. The individual's real needs are ignored as the 'scientists' race blindly like crazed lemmings along the route of 'technological advance'. To try and argue with the high priest 'scientists' of our time that advancing technology is not necessarily beneficial is as difficult as trying to convince an economist that there are infinitely more important considerations than 'profitability', 'market forces' and all the other dogmas of his

Perhaps the most important point of the 'Blueprint' is that the natural resources of our planet are finite and that the hope that Science will find a way out of any and every problem is opti-

trade.

H.

the advancing monster.

Where the 'Blueprint' falls down is in its muddled political approach. There seems little clear understanding of the role of capitalists, politicians, schools and the media in the process of conditioning and regimenting us for the kind of society we are forced to live in. The alibi of the politicians is always that they only give the people what they want and, of course, they don't want freedom, responsibility, a pleasant environment, the kind of work which demands involvement and gives satisfaction to their creative spirit, do they? But just wait until workers try and take control of their lives-the alibi is exposed as a fraud. Admittedly the 'Blueprint' does talk of the need for 'decentralisation of power' but apparently within the framework of a continuing capitalist and statist society: the mirage of capitalism with a human face. The 'Blueprint' urges lobbying of MPs and political parties and at the press conference a spokesman threatened-wait for it-the formation of a political party to fight on the ecology issue if the politicians turned a deaf ear. Will they never learn?

The ecologists may be lousy anarchists but they have broken through the barriers of narrow, conservative and ostrich-like thought within the scientific fraternity, and have provided us with more ammunition for support of our common sense arguments. For that we are very grateful. However, the chances of survival for the human race at all-or at least with its best human qualities intactwill depend not on scientists and politicians but our own realization that in order to build a free, healthy, harmonious and satisfying world we will have to tear down the authority and economic exploitation which by their nature stand in the way of social progress. The good life will have to be our own making. TERRY PHILLIPS.

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- Croydon Group meets first Tuesday every month at Jacquetta Benjamin's, Top Flat, 4 Warminster Road, S. Norwood, S.E.25. Phone Pete Roberts 01-684 5723 or write or phone Bernard R. Miles, 38 Farm Fields, Sanderstead, S. Croydon, Surrey (01-657 4860) or contact Jerry Peck,

mism of an insane variety. There seems wide agreement in scientific circles that on current rates of population increase and economic growth, most of the important raw materials (oil, silver, tin, zinc, gold, lead, copper, mercury and platinum, etc.) will be exhausted within the next 100 years. Synthetic replacements will obviously bring their own problems. The 'Blueprint' advocates a reduction of the Gross National Product, to use the jargon of the economist. In other words it means that we in the prosperous countries have to give up the idea nurtured so long by the capitalist ethic that progress is to be measured by the extent to which we can litter the face of the Earth with useless junk whilst twothirds of the world's population is near starvation. The homeless and deprived families in Britain know only too well that 'economic growth' and technology do not bring a solution to their problems. What can you expect from a system which takes its priorities from the greed of capitalists and the power lust of politicians, rather than the needs of all? The argument advocated by anarchists for a long time that defunct railway lines and canals should be restored instead of destroying vast stretches of good land is

45 Sylvan Road, Upper Norwood. Commune, Ramsgate, welcomes visits from potential members (especially with children). Crafts and education bias. Write to P. Ford, 22 Royal Road, Ramsgate, Kent. Liverpool Anarchist discussions normally held first Sunday in month. Write to 39 Lilley Road, Liverpool, 7, for venue, or ring 263 4890. John Cowan. Can any comrades help us out with copies of the following issues of the First Series 'Anarchy' for binding sets: Nos. 2 (Workers' Control); 5 (Spain); 28 (Future of Anarchism); 32 (Crime);

and 37 (Why I won't vote). We will pay 25p each if in good condition. Contact Freedom Press **Revolutionary Workers Forum meets at** 170a Deptford High Street, S.E.8, 7.30 p.m. every Monday. Help! Stoke Newington 8 Fund. Comrades now on remand in Brixton and Holloway need financial aid urgently for meals, fruit, papers, books (which must be new) and cigarettes. Please send donations to the Stoke Newington 6 Fund, c/o Compendium Books, 240 Camden High Street, London, N.W.1, a.s.a.p.

Published by Freedom Press, London, E.1 Printed by Express Printers, London, E.1