

THE CORRUPTION OF POWER

LOOKING THROUGH a magazine the other day one read of a Minister saying "...that Ministers should scrupulously avoid speculative investments in securities as to which from their position and their special means of early or confidential information they have or may have an advantage over other

people in anticipating market changes," The magazine comments, "These rules for the guidance of Ministers, burned into the public conscience by the scorching glare of the ----- inquiry, may be expected to exercise a salutary influence on much wider circles. They will work down through

grade after grade until the gambling of the Stock Exchange is as sternly reprobated as it has now been condemned by the Prime Minister." Brave words, and to be expected after the long chain of 'scandals' which follow in the wake of the Poulson bankruptcy. But the missing word is 'Marconi'; the magazine the respected Review of Reviews founded by W. T. Stead, and the date is July, 1913.

PAT ARROWSMITH



ON TRIAL

The Liberal Prime Minister of the day, Lloyd George, and his Chancellor of the Exchequer acquired knowledge that the Marconi company was to get contracts from the Post Office and thereupon bought shares which

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'New Earth' Anarchists Interned

THE CASE against Pat Arrowsmith opened at the Old Bailey on a charge on two counts: that she "did maliciously and advisedly endeavour to seduce a member of Her Majesty's armed forces from his allegiance or duty" (Section 1 of the Incitement to Disaffection Act, 1934) or, on the second count of having in her possession a leaflet which was calculated to aid, abet, counsel or procure members of Her Majesty's armed forces..." as above.

The first day, Monday, was taken up with selecting the jury. The case opened in the smallest court with a minute gallery and application was made by the defence for transfer to a larger court. Only one "member of the public" was allowed in when the case started.

Pickets outside were threatened for displaying "FREE PAT ARROWSMITH" posters and attention was called to the matter in court. Gwyneth May Williams was arrested under a bye-law forbidding leaflet distribution in the City of London, but the

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"FIVE COMRADES awaiting trial for alleged revolutionary activity have been remanded in custody in the Curragh Military Camp, under heavy Military Police guard. They are BOBBY CULLEN, EDDIE JONES, DESMOND KEANE, COLUMBA LONGMORE and NOEL MURRY who, together with Marie McPhillips, who is currently on bail, are charged with having carried out various armed robberies and explosions and with the possession of firearms and explosives.

" Following the major court hearing last month, the police have consistently objected to bail for the male defendants, which was raised to two independent sureties of £2,000 each in cash, which few people have, or the actual deeds of houses, which again is not possible. Our defence solicitor has remarked that they are discriminating against our comrades, as Provos get lower bail, and the bail of two self-confessed murderers was only half.

" Following an escape attempt recently, the comrades were transferred to the Curragh Military Camp. The order came from

the State Solicitor, and the Judge, on making the order, remarked that it was the first time in legal history that he had known of remand prisoners to be put into military custody.

" The escape attempt was only an excuse, as the recaptured Littlejohn brother is still in Mountjoy Prison. The defendants are now in a military detention compound, under heavy military guard, with four machine gun posts trained on the compound.

" Security is so tight that when one comrade was going to the Army dentist, he was escorted by twenty soldiers who took up positions around the dentists's chair. And, of course, the defendants continue to appear in court surrounded by military police and handcuffed to soldiers.

" Their need is great - international solidarity is needed. Reprint this communique, write letters of solidarity to the defendants at:

Detention Centre,
Curragh Military Camp,
Ireland. "

--New Earth group

IN HER FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS

THE SOCIALIST leader of the world's largest democracy, Mrs. Gandhi of India, has embarked on an all out attack on railwaymen to crush their strike. In her attempt to smash the strike 3000 trade unionists have been arrested. The government says that under the Defence of India act, introduced during the war with Pakistan in 1971, the strike is illegal.

This vast country because of its very size is dependent on its network of railways. Economically such a strike threatens the very existence of the government, but what is more important it could mean starvation to millions who even normally hardly get enough to eat. The union, the National Federation of India Railwaymen, called their strike for May 8 after months of negotiation over equal parity wage with nationalised industries and a yearly bonus of a month's pay. But the only answer has been that the cost would put the railways out of business.

It is in fact a "fight to the finish" and the government is using this dispute in order to shift the blame onto the railwaymen for their own failures of economic policies. India suffers a 37% rate of inflation. There has been considerable unrest from other sections of workers and yet the government never arrested anyone involved until the current strike was threatened. With the vast majority of the 1.7 million railwaymen responding to the strike call, the government is using the armed forces and what scabs they can get to work.

The main union, the National Federation of India Railwaymen, in the past has not been renowned for its militancy. Because of this, breakaway unions have been formed to push demands. In fact the change of heart on the part of the biggest union seems to be because they are more worried about losing members to the breakaways than in pressing the demands of their members.

Fourteen years ago the Prime Minister, Pandit Nehru, arrested 18,000 striking railwaymen and smashed their strike. Perhaps his daughter had this in mind and has used the same method. It is a typical answer of the State, whether socialist, communist or fascist, when their

SPANISH RESISTANCE

Press communique regarding the kidnapping of Angelo Baltazar Suarez, director of the Banco de Bilbao in Paris:

"THE GROUPS of International Revolutionary Action that claims responsibility for the kidnapping of Angel Baltazar Suarez on 3 May from his home in Neuilly (Haute Seine), France, have addressed to the French daily Le Monde the following communique:-

'The kidnapping of Mr. Suarez, director of the Banco de Bilbao in Paris, is our response to the present repression against the Revolutionary Movement in Spain. Following the assassination of Salvador Puig Antich, we will not allow in any way any other execution.

'Having sent a communique direct to the Spanish Embassy in Paris stating our demands, we have not yet had any answer to it.

'Instead, the Spanish Embassy has given the false impression that we have chosen to stay silent.

'In order to clarify the situation, we address ourselves instead, uniquely through the press, to the Spanish Government. We demand, after publication of this communique:

Dynamite!

Two experts on explosives claimed that pressure had been put upon them by Government officials to end lectures they give to schools, universities and scientific institutions. These include practical demonstrations of how to cause explosions. They claim that this pressure dates from when they gave evidence for the defence in the "Angry Brigade" trial. Colonel Shaw, one of the lecturers, cast doubt in the trial on prosecution evidence by experts from the Home Office explosives laboratory at Woolwich Arsenal.

rule is threatened by the organised strength of the working class. No doubt the government will cry out about those who are starving and about the lack of fuel to run industry, but such things have been commonplace even when the railwaymen were working a 14-hour day. In a situation where the State's authority is being eroded and threatened even a democracy will use the methods of the communist and fascist states.

P.T.

- '1) THE LIBERATION of our comrades*
-ORIOLE SOLE-SUGRANYES
-JOSE LUIS PONS-LLOBETT
-SANTIAGO SOLER-AMIGO (who is seriously ill)
-FRANCISCO-XAVIER GARRIGA-FERNANDEZ

and for them to be taken to a frontier of their own choosing, their statements being given to the press of the country chosen, as sufficient proof to us of their liberty.

- 2) THE APPLICATION of conditional freedom for all the prisoners entering the period of "parole".

'Tearful appeals for pity and grotesque traps on the part of the friends of the Spanish police are useless. We recall that the Spanish government, insensitive to appeals, has assassinated our comrade Salvador Puig Antich."

--Groups of International Revolutionary Action.

*NOTES: The five militant members of the since disbanded M.I.L. of which ORIOLE SOLE-SUGRANYES, aged 25, is in danger of being sentenced to death by garroting. FRANCISCO-XAVIER GARRIGA PAITUVI aged 24, was arrested with Salvador Puig Antich on 23 September 1973. It was during these arrests that an inspector of the political police was shot dead in circumstances never made clear by the state prosecutor before, during or after the trial of Salvador Puig Antich.

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LET OFF THE HOOK

WHATEVER GROUP of interested parties paid out £65,000 to the National Industrial Relations Court, it certainly saved the engineering employers a lot of money and the government's TUC social compact. Really what it has shown is that as far as the present economic state of the country is concerned the Industrial Relations Act has no part to play in so-called industrial relations. Most employers get on quite well, thank you very much, without the interference of the law.

It was a strike that no one wanted but the necessary stand was made. The response might not have been a wholehearted one since it has been an issue that the union leadership has kept under tight control. Many saw it as only money being taken from the over-full coffers. It was an issue far removed from the emotionally-charged imprisonment of the Pentonville Five. But as with that issue, the government and the employers were let off the hook. They found a way out which safeguarded their profits and avoided a confrontation between labour and capital.

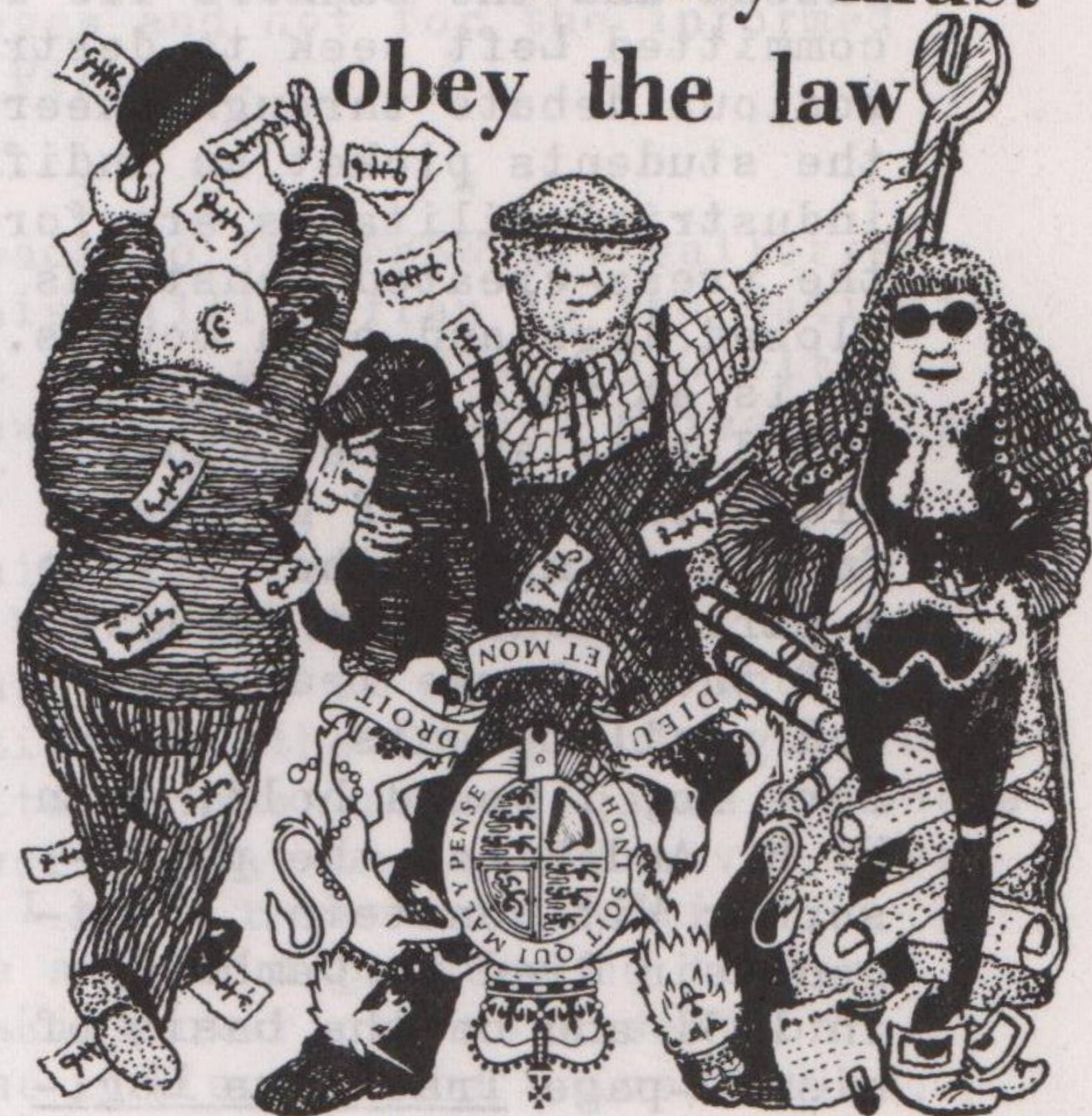
When this final confrontation does take place we can expect not only the courts and fines but jails and the intervention of the armed forces.

P.T.

Ulster

The European Commission for Human Rights is hearing evidence from British soldiers, officers, army doctors and members of the Special Branch on allegations by the Irish government of breaches of the European convention by Britain in its treatment of Ulster internees. The British delegation is led by Mr. Paul Fifoot, alleges the Guardian. Allegations are that internees were hooded and physically weakened by special equipment and treatment. Proceedings are being held at a remote Norwegian airfield near Stavanger because of fears for the safety of the army witnesses if they were heard in Strasbourg. Later hearings are to be held at The Maze prison (Long Kesh).

Strikers told they must obey the law



ARTHUR MOYLE

LETTER

Comrades, I am in complete agreement with Kathy Perlo's COME THE REVOLUTION WE'LL ALL BE HOUSEWIVES, but there's a minor point which needs clarification - "...the workers' councils and worker-controlled factories which represent anarchy to the industrially oriented groups seem like feeble reforms indeed." The Anarchist Syndicalist Alliance is one small group which could be described as "industrially oriented", but Kathy knows (because she is one of us) that ASA members don't think of anarchy in terms of "feeble reforms", though these might be a step in the right direction. I am speaking for Kathy as well as myself when I say that we would like more people who share this broader perspective to join the ASA.

Dave Coull.

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A TRINITY OF SMALL TALENTS

EVERY GENERATION should be committed to a cause for only in the will to sacrifice, yea even unto death, can our own existence have any meaning. Live out our lives in a plenitude of greasy comfort or the isolation of institutionalised poverty and we are less than the animal. All morality is false and I know, comrade, that we make our personal sacrifices merely to pander to our own self interest, be it Christ on the cross or the Dowager Duchess rattling the collection box along Jermyn Street in aid of the RSPCA and in doing so enjoying all the pleasure of street prostitution without the physical discomforts; for Christ phrased it better than Stirner when he said that it is better to give than to receive. But let our crimes be small ones and our charity large and may we be worthy of the cause and the sacrifice. There comes that moment in time when there are no great causes and the banners lie furled, when we of the committed Left seek to destroy each other in acrimonious debate through sheer bored frustration and the students picket an indifferent campus and the industrial militants are forced to retreat before the press-created monstrous regiment of women all closed legs and open mouths. It is at this time that the third rate and the academic plays the mask of godhead for in doing so they invite a parasitical host to live off their large learnings and small talents. None more so, I would hold, than W. H. Auden and the philosopher Wittgenstein. Wittgenstein died in Cambridge in 1951 and on the basis of his 80-page Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus (1921-1922) he is held as the man who gave 20th century philosophy its greatest new direction.

Professor Fann in his 1969 Wittgenstein's Conception of Philosophy states that "according to Wittgenstein himself, it was misunderstood by Russell, Moore and Frege -- the three foremost philosophers of his time" and if you include me that makes four of us. Wittgenstein's intention, in Tractatus, was to put an end to philosophizing and he hoped to achieve this by setting a limit to thought, or rather to the expression of thoughts, i.e. language. It is claimed, and rightly, that the Tractatus resemble's the Old Master's Tao Teh Ching in its use of short oracular remarks and paradoxes to convey what their disciples hold are important insights but I would hold that when the pedants squabble over the true meanings then it is little more than tea readings at Guardian level. One is aware of the Liar Paradox when the habitual liar says, 'I am a liar' and in saying that he is speaking the truth therefore he is a liar therefore he is speaking the truth and on and on and through logical analysis show that wherever the required grammatical and logical precautions are not being taken one's system was in danger of producing statements or formulae which were not well formed, therefore meaningless. It was all good mind fodder for the dons at high table but in the end of no value despite 60 pages of bibliography that Fann's 1969 work carried for it was a pleasant clerk's game with language, for language lives and flowers and despite Wittgenstein we know what we say and hear, for the very faults carried on the native tongue within a score of years become part of the true language.

All this would be unimportant except that Bartley III's latest badly written book on Wittgenstein has been attacked by the establishment for revealing that Wittgenstein was a homosexual who found his pleasures among the male heavy mob of the Prater. In 1926 he was standing trial in Gloggnitz for over-hitting the children at the elementary school wherein he taught, and was acquitted and from then on he ceased to teach and became the guru for the Higher Learning. Wittgenstein's writings are so obscure and so contradictory that they were welcomed by the intellectual scavengers, for without having to read the holy writ who could deny them. The name appeared in the fashionable Bond Street galleries tagged on to various minor works and the man to make most use of it was the sculptor Eduardo Paolozzi. His man-sized brightly painted works were no more than the castings of an assembly of any industrial junk, well cast and brightly painted and carrying the Wittgenstein brandname, homage to, and they sold and a few groups on the extreme of the Left and the Right tried to use his writings as the French Left used Sartre but

found that though Wittgenstein was good for the quotation and the banner slogan he was short on political content. So we are left with a sad eyed neurotic who played the mystic for the university mob. The philosopher offers us what he holds as an eternal verity but we should always remember that we on our part have a choice of the eternal verities. Defeated in war and you choose Sartre and cafe existentialism, seek national glory and it is Nietzsche. For not marching on the demonstration you can quote Stirner, sitting

in the sun quote your unread Zen writings and for a share owning society and a distaste for the proletariat mug up on Plato. It is no idle exercise on the part of the Chinese revolutionaries that they should condemn the teachings of Confucius for they rightly see his teachings as a mystical weapon in the propaganda armoury of the revisionists to justify a return to a class divided society. For if philosophy cannot relate to the mass of the people it is no more than rain within the wind so the only true course for us as anarchists is to read them and reject them all, taking only what we deem right.

SPOKESMEN OF A DIVIDED SOCIETY

AND SO we move on to Auden and Moore at the British Museum. From my press hand-out this exhibition is indeed a major event for it is given over to a volume of poems by W. H. Auden and is illustrated by Henry Moore. Moore and Epstein are the two great master sculptors of this age and each man in his fashion has created works of a monumental splendour. Moore for many years was the butt of the thinking philistine with his exploration of inner depths within the surface of his sculpture but no one mocked his Shelter drawings for they related too much to the mass agony of the day; therefore his lithographs for the poems of Auden though tending toward cliché are accepted, with thanks, as part of the work of a great artist. It is unfortunate, and it should be recorded, that Henry Moore has chosen to add

WITTGENSTEIN, by William Bartley III
Quartet Books, 27 Goodge St. W.1 (£ 2.75)

PRANCING NOVELIST, by Brigid Brophy,
Macmillan (£ 8.)

AUDEN POEMS/MOORE LITHOGRAPHS,
British Museum. Luxury Edition (£ 1,000.)

SIR BENJAMIN STONE, M.P., Exhibition of
Photographs at The National Portrait Gallery
(Free)

his public name to a campaign to keep a proposed gypsy camp site out of the Hertfordshire village where he has lived since 1940 (remember the Shelter drawings) because it would put people off his "shelter park". The gypsy camp was to be a mere 300 yards from the entrance to the "park" in Much Hadham. Moore understands the gypsies' problems but suggests that they should move on. Moore is one of our greatest living sculptors yet I state that the gypsies are more important than his carved stone. The stone will survive but Moore's reputation will be that bit less if he helps those who hound these people.

I have always held Auden to be a most minor versifier. His rhymes are too obvious, contents popular but banal and in the end he will only be remembered for his commentary for the film Night Mail: "This is the Night Mail crossing the Border/Bringing the cheque and the postal order". I have read again his collected poems and the "Letters from Iceland" and I can find no merit in them for Auden was fortunate in that the time needed a spokesman for the culture conscious middle class and his facile pen breached the dam. One remembers every line of T. S. Eliot's magnificent poem of despair "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" but never a line of Auden's. Mediocrity is no crime but do not fall into the trap of honouring the second rate because it is enshrined in a secular chathedral, always question. Some 20 years ago I sat with a goodly company in a large shop in Irving Street off Leicester Square to watch a performance of Ronald Firbank's play The Princess Zoubaroff. What drew the cultural and the dirty mac trade to that shop was to see the work of Firbank finally staged and the public knowledge that the lead was to be played by the unfortunate Brenda Dean Paul. Brenda Paul was a confirmed drug addict, continually hounded by the Law for this stupid habit had yet to become an acceptable giggle. Springs and autumns die upon the memory yet I still feel the excitement within that crowded room for Firbank's prose was a cult prose then and now. He died in 1926, the rearguard of the Green Carnation camp. An extrovert homosexual, he was the public acceptance of the swaying gay strictly Cafe Royal yet he was always remembered with affection. Time has made many new judgements with Oscar Wilde now accepted as a witty, portly Queen loving his naughtyness and weeping his own self-sought misfortune, Beardsley a pompous prig, Ross a good and worthy friend and Lord Alfred Douglas a miserable creature born to betray. Of all that artistic in-group only Leonard Smithers demands respect. A publisher of Victorian hard core porn and A Level minor classics, he paid the bills, guarded these infantile creatures dancing to their doom, was reviled in

his own life and death by all men of good taste and moral mind, and ended his life in mean poverty while the world and his wife wept for Oscar and his camp followers and applauded their written wit and brilliant penmanship.

Firbank escaped their tragedy by reaching manhood in 1907 and in 20 years he wrote the most mannered, artificial but exquisite prose of his time. Like the writings of Wilde it reflected the man but it was all form without content, purple phrase upon purple phrase to be opened and read where and when you so desired. Brigid Brophy has produced 600 pages on the life and writings of Firbank and it is too much for such small talent. All the facts and myths are heaped onto the pages. Everything is there with hundreds of footnotes so that in the end the whole exercise becomes a bog of undigestible and unusable formless information. Brigid has worked too hard so that in the end the fragile figure of gay Ronald vanishes beneath the weight of learning. If only Brigid had written a straightforward Life we could have read it with pleasure but when I spent twenty frustrating minutes vainly searching the 14 pages of index for a major event in the works of Firbank I felt that this book is for the English Literary class of the Teachers' colleges and not for the informed admirers of Ronald Firbank.

* * * *

And so it is back to the FREE art galleries with the Town and his willing frau to the National Portrait Gallery at their new pad at 15 Carlton House Terrace, a few doors from Queen Elizabeth's place at the end of the Mall.

The N.P.G. exhibition is given over to the photographs of the Victorian, Sir Benjamin Stone, M.P. He pointed his camera at everyone who was willing to stand still and the 200 prints give one a feeling of infinite sadness as one gazes at these dead faces from a world that one would never have wished to share. I am a romantic royalist strictly dream time and it depresses me to see the middle class taking over one more section of the society. The colleges, the universities, Oxfan, the major administrations within the Unions, the Labour Party, the C.P. and the Health Service have fallen to them and now they are moving into the Royal Mall building by building. First of all it was the Institute of Contemporary Art and now it is the National Portrait Gallery. It is claimed, and rightly, that the Royal Family is a middle class front organisation but I believe that Brenda and the rest of the Royal Family have a right to object to them moving into the same street.

Arthur Moyse.

IL RUOLO DELLA ORGANIZZAZIONE ANARCHICA, by Gino Cerrito. Catania, "RL", 1973, 492 pp.

Throughout its hundred-year history the Anarchist movement has been plagued by the problem of organization. How much organization is needed to propagate Anarchist doctrines, to build up a popular following, to make a social revolution? What organizational forms will insure the preservation of group autonomy and individual freedom and initiative? Or does every organization, as some believe, however loose-knit and democratic, contain the seeds of bureaucracy and authoritarianism?

Such were the questions with which Peter Arshinov and his circle (Nestor Makhno and Ida Mett were among its members) grappled during the 1920s. Having escaped the Bolshevik dragnet to a life of Parisian exile, they vowed to profit from the mistakes of the Anarchists during the Russian Revolution and to create an effective organization without sacrificing their libertarian principles.

In 1926 they published their controversial

Organizational Platform, which called for a General Union of Anarchists with a central executive committee to coordinate policy and action. The Organizational Platform was issued in French as well as in Russian, and in 1972 a new French edition appeared, which was translated into English by the Organization of Revolutionary Anarchists and published in London the same year. The first full Italian version (translated from the French rather than from the Russian original) is included in this useful volume by Gino Cerrito, a professor at the University of Florence and the author of several previous works of Anarchist bibliography and history.

Cerrito opens with a book-length essay which places the problem of organization within the context of Anarchist history. Beginning with the debates within the First International, he proceeds to the Amsterdam Congress of 1907, then to the aftermath of the Russian Revolution and the drafting of the Organizational Platform, which he regards as an authoritarian document. The same judgment had been pronounced upon it at the

time of its publication by a whole galaxy of well-known Anarchists, including Errico Malatesta, Luigi Fabbri, Camillo Berneri, Jean Grave, Sébastien Faure, Voline, Maria Goldsmith, and Max Nettlau, as well as a few whom Cerrito neglects to mention, such as Alexander Berkman, Emma Goldman, Gregory Maximoff, and Mollie Steiner.

Cerrito follows his analysis with more than 200 pages of documents, beginning with the Organizational Platform itself and the heated debates which it provoked. Further documents centre on its revival in Italy after the Second World War by the Gruppi Anarchici d'Azione Proletaria, and again in recent years by the Situationist International and other contemporary groups, though the ORA in France and Britain are for the most part disregarded. Apart from this shortcoming and from a number of minor errors, Cerrito has carefully analysed and documented a critical dilemma with which the Anarchist movement will probably be wrestling for a long time to come.

Paul Avrich.

Norwegian Federation Founded

DURING Xmas 1973 the second national congress of anarchist groups was held in Trondheim, central Norway. The first national congress (Easter 73) decided that all groups should work towards a Norwegian federation. As a result a lot of material concerning the building of a federation had been gathered when the second congress started. There was much discussion about the name of the federation, but after a vote in all the Norwegian groups the name became The Federation of Libertarian Socialists and Anarchists. One group (in Kristiansund - look at your map) did not agree with the programme, class-analysis and organisational pattern of the federation and they left.

The building of this federation was a big step forward for the anarchists. In recent years only 20-30 persons had been working actively. The anarchist paper came out only twice a year, and the groups did not work out. New people took over the paper and a new fighting spirit got into people.

Today there are three anarchist papers in Norway. One is in Trondheim, monthly, and sells about 1000 copies. The Oslo paper is the official organ of the federation and is called People's Paper. It comes out every 1½ months and sells 2500. It has a surplus, runs well economically and can soon start to pay the people who produce it. A good thing is that it is not salt in the dinner of the intellectuals (like The Match)*, but has articles concerning day to day problems with increasing prices, oil, and problems in the Workers Union. But has also marxist analysis and theoretical critique of the marxist-leninists, trots and populists. The third paper is in Fredrikstad (south of Norway) and comes twice a year or so.

Besides the papers, the federation also has two bookshops, one in Oslo and one in Trondheim. Both have good sales. Send all kinds of newspapers and literature to these bookshops!

The anarchists are today the biggest socialist non-parliamentarian group in Norway.

FIRST OF MAY

The federation had lots of stands in Oslo and Trondheim and in other towns people were selling the paper and giving out a pamphlet called "Socialism means Freedom". In Oslo there was an anarchist orchestra playing old anarchist marches in the streets.

IN BRIEF

American followers of Krishna are forming a political organization to be known as the "In God We Trust Party for Purified Leaders". They plan to "put God in the centre of political affairs and promote God consciousness".

In the current issue of The Ecologist (from Freedom Bookshop, 25p plus 4p post) there is an article by George Woodcock on Anarchism and Ecology which establishes the key connection between anarchism and ecology. In his final paragraphs George Woodcock discloses that in his new edition of Anarchism (Penguin, 1974 - not yet published) he records a postscript that anarchism has "appeared in a new form". When he wrote the book (1962) he thought that the anarchist movement seemed at its nadir.

The G.L.C. did not, as voted for, fly a red flag on May Day. Instead they flew a Union Jack.

P.H.S. (will he change his name to G.I.R.?) of the Times diary recalls that in the municipal elections he acted as a polling-station enumerant and was disappointed by the turnout. He accosted (if that is the word) a policeman who said he was not there to vote, he was, he ironically said, there to control the crowds. He was, so he confided to P.H.S., "something of an anarchist himself".

The federation had made two posters, "Workers power through Workers' Councils", one very big and one from a recent day strike. These were hanging all over the town. In the afternoon films were shown, speeches made and artists performed at Hjelmsgt. 3 the house of the Oslo federation (if you come to Oslo, visit us there). Most likely there will be a summercamp, like last year.

Some days after the death of Salvador Puig Antich all the windows in the Spanish Embassy in Oslo were broken, and in Trondheim the Spanish flag was burned (the flag had a big swastika on it) in the centre of the town.

Send all letters, information atc. to:
Landsutvalget
Hjelmsgt. 3
OSLO, 3.

*FREEDOM readers who prefer their dinner with salt can send a couple of international reply coupons for a tasting sample to The Match, P.O. Box 3488, Tucson, Arizona, USA - or enquire from Freedom Bookshop about subscription. We get air-mail copies for regular orders.

George Lennox, who jumped parole at Chelmsford in order to draw attention to his wrongful arrest and conviction, surrendered to the prison authorities, thereby losing much, if not all, of his remission. Mr. Michael Tobin who has been publicising his case claims that George Lennox was framed because of his revelations in The Sunday Times and Seven Days that he witnessed atrocities committed by British soldiers in Aden. He was actually arrested when delivering copies of Seven Days.

Mr. Jenkins, the Home Secretary, announced (as expected) that no further investigation would be made into the conduct of Special Branch officers involved in the Lennon case. Furthermore, Mr. Jenkins will not yet publish the report of the enquiry - conducted by a police chief - since it might affect appeals to be brought by associates of the dead man. Presumably he was referring to the appeals by O'Brien and others, who on Lennon's admission were framed by Lennon on instructions from Special Branch.

The target-date set by former workers on Beaverbrook's Scottish Daily Express for production of their own paper is June 3rd, and a spokesman said, "We don't see anything to prevent us".

The Moroccan Ministry of Public Works is running a competition (advertised in the Guardian) for 'a study of Urban Traffic Control in Casablanca and Rabat'.

Sancho Panza.

Crime War on Children

ACCORDING TO the Daily Telegraph's Education Correspondent, Mr. John Izbicki, the Police and the Education Authorities in Essex are, in an attempt to reduce juvenile crime, implementing a POLICE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECT, in which plain-clothed police officers "are patrolling playgrounds and sitting in on lessons at six big comprehensive schools in the Basildon area of Essex".

The police presence in Basildon schools is defended by Mr. Izbicki, fascist attitude that prompts us to appeal to our readers and subscribers in the area of Basildon to sent to the Editors of Freedom any information they can gather about this project (ie: parents, teachers, pupils resistance to this project, letters to the local press, articles, N.U.T. branch meetings, first hand information about this project or any other material which could help us to write in Freedom a denunciation of the police interference in educational matters, under the cover of "war on child crime into classroom".

judge found contempt of court and fined her £25 with one month to pay. He said that if the leaflet had come into the hands of a juror it could influence him.

The prosecution's case was completed on Tuesday morning (14 May) with the calling of witnesses, soldiers and policemen, whose evidence simply amounted to the fact that Pat and others were seen distributing leaflets, the others desisted when requested to, Pat did not and therefore was arrested. 95 leaflets were taken from her.

The rest of the day was taken up with defence submission that there was no case to answer, hingeing particularly on the words "maliciously and advisedly". Defence, counsel Mr. Neville Kesselman during his submission differentiated this case from that of Michael Tobin (who was imprisoned for two years on an incitement charge) in that Pat's leaflet propagated a purely pacifist line and could not be construed as inciting soldiers to join any other force -e.g. the IRA, and it seemed to our observer that the Judge accepted this differentiation.

The prosecution's answer to the defence submission of "no case to answer" and the judge's ruling on it will take place after we have gone to press.

The British Withdrawal from N. Ireland Campaign can supply new leaflets for distribution. (c/o 3 Caledonian Road, London N1 phone 01-267 2229.)

N.M.

THE WORKING PARTY SET UP TO REVIEW PROBLEMS OF BAIL FOUND THAT ALL DEFENDANTS ARE ENTITLED TO BAIL, UNLESS THERE ARE GOOD REASONS WHY THEY SHOULD BE KEPT IN CUSTODY. THE THREE CATEGORIES OF REASONS FOR REFUSING BAIL WILL REMAIN THE SAME. HOWEVER, NOW THE COURT IS OBLIGED BY LAW TO GIVE REASONS FOR OPPOSING BAIL.

Every Mon. & Wed. LONDON SCHOOL OF NONVIOLENCE 7 - 9 p.m. at No. 3 Crypt, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square (but May programme religious & mystical).

The NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES says "If we do not get a healthier bank balance your civil liberties, as well as everyone else's will be in even greater jeopardy." Send donation and/or ask for details of membership NCCL 186 Kings Cross Rd. London WC1X 9DE (tel. 01-278 4575).

WILDCAT - Anarchist Internal Bulletin, monthly. Send details of pickets, demos, meetings, group publications, printing facilities etc. to Wildcat, 7 Cresswell Walk, Corby, Northants. Tel. 05366) 66781

PORTUGAL

THE DATE of the 25th of April marked an historic moment, not only for Portugal but also for all the world.

A light has been lighted over the dark prisons of this unhappy country, opening new perspectives for similar countries in the world.

The most primitive forms of the fascist theories have been smashed in less than 24 hours. All the other dictatorships should take note that almost half a century was not long enough to establish a dictatorial regime which has melted like snow.

Was this the work of the army? Yes and no: Armies have never in any country been liberators of people because their function is to oppress the people and support the privileged and protect the interests of the dominant classes and castes. In the case of Port-

ugal, however, it appears that the soldiers and petty officers have revolted to preserve their existence. It was not the generals and superior officers but the junior officers and soldiers who, united with the people, made this anti-fascist coup possible, opening the possibility to further revolution.

Today the window is open over freedom, and through which we can envisage a more bearable life and retrospectively observe a half-century's suffering, misery, blood of an oppressed people of slaves that during centuries have been kept in ignorance by their rulers.

We greet with joy the Portuguese people and our anarchist friends who never gave up their struggle and who again are at their posts.

--from Notre Route, paper of the Bulgarian Anarchists in Exile.

ANY OTHER CONCEALED WEAPONS?



A member of the PIDE/DGS (Portuguese secret police) being searched by a soldier. In his private car the army found a loaded machine gun.

From Page 1

...& THE POWER OF CORRUPTION

rose in value. Subsequently Lloyd George extricated himself from a public enquiry with 'a slightly bruised reputation'. Hence the hopes of the Review of Reviews. But it still goes on. As Zaharoff the cynical arms dealer said; "The dogs bark but the caravan marches on."

It has always been thus. Wherever there is power there is also corruption. Rome knew it well; Clive of India, accused of corruption, said "when I consider my opportunities, I wonder at my own restraint"; Lord Bacon, Lord Chancellor in Elizabeth's reign, was deposed for taking bribes; the Panama Canal almost silted up in the quicksands of corruption; the Americans institutionalized it in New York in the nineties (and beyond) and added a new synonym to the language of bribery and corruption -- Tammany Hall; previously President Andrew Jackson had inaugurated 'the spoils system' obtaining in political life, viz. 'rewarding our friends and punishing our enemies'. We have lost Cabinet Ministers through corruption and indiscretion (for corruption, like treason, is not punishable when successful and secrecy is necessary to its success).

* * *

The present spate of denunciation and counter-denunciation is bi-partisan since the Smith-Poulson axis obviously spread its favours between both parties -- according to who was in power. Such is the Parliamentary deadlock that skirmishing on marginal issues seems to be preferable to the parties to conflicts on major issues - on which the parties have really very few differences. A good juicy provable scandal might just possibly bring down the Wilson government - however, the scandals are bi-partisan up to now.

The current spate stems from revelations culled from the bankruptcy of John Poulson, the architect, much of the details of which were revealed in Private Eye which succeeded in its campaign of revealing the financial ineptitude (if no more) of Reginald Maudling, Tory Home Secretary. Had it not been for the virtual accident of these bankruptcy proceedings little would have leaked out.

One of the key figures of the Poulson set-up was T. Dan Smith, a public relations man from Newcastle. Politically, he would seem to be a typical case of an idealist corrupted by political and social power. He shares with several of his generation a membership of the Peace Pledge Union and a posi-

tion as a conscientious objector (not in itself a corrupt practice); he then became a Trotskyite and eventually a public relations man, supporter of the Labour Party, and now a prisoner. It has been advocated in his defence that he, by his advocacy of building development in the North East and Newcastle 'did a lot for the region' - which was nominally a depressed area at one time.

The pattern of Smith's life (and that of many like him) is such that we are almost forced to conclude with Gibbon in his Decline and Fall... that corruption is 'the most infallible symptom of constitutional liberty' and that where one has a parliamentary democracy and electoral machinery the possibilities of corruption are infinite and the buying of votes, if not by the old crudity of cash payments, by the new, slicker, streamlined methods of granting favours, directorships, permits etc., is endemic. The lobbyist and the public relations man have made corruption respectable and pressure the natural form of political life.

Mr. Wilson has made great oratorical play with the promise of a Royal Commission to lift up the stones to see what is crawling underneath. Just what stone did he crawl out from?

We of the 'developed' world have taken great pleasure from observing the 'developing ex-colonial countries' and their more exposed infant democratic system and its corruptions. But need we be so cocky? Conor Cruise O'Brien reviewing a book on the subject said, "personal bribe taking, although obviously a serious vice in an official, can be less grave than a form of corruption which consists in being an unquestioning agent of collective rapacity. Thus Sir Charles Trevelyan was, according to the conventional view, an upright civil servant. It would have been far better for the Irish people who were unfortunate enough, during the famine of the 1840s, to have their fate decided and sealed by Sir George, if he had been a drunkard and bribe-taker with some compassion in his heart and less complacency about 'iron laws' which enriched those whom he served".

It was said by some, during the War, that the Italians were less fanatical fascists and anti-Semites because they were pleasure-loving and corruptible. Whether such generalizations can ever be completely true is doubtful, but there is some truth in it. Add to it the not-irrelevant fact that Jimmy Hoffa, the American Teamsters' Union boss (sent to



HELP fold and despatch FREEDOM on Thursdays from 2 p.m. at Freedom Press, followed by get-together with refreshments.

London ANARCHIST WOMEN'S GROUP meets Mondays. Tel. 883 2457.

Alternate Sundays HYDE PARK ANARCHIST FORUM, Speakers' Corner 1 p.m. Speakers, listeners & hecklers welcome

SOCIAL ACTION PROJECTS (Drug Dependents Care Group). Open meeting Thurs. 30 May. 7.30 p.m. at 6 Endsleigh Street London WC1. Tony La Rocque, an ex-addict, will speak about his experiences.

PRISONERS WIVES UNION Wed. June 12 Demonstration / March Trafalgar Sq. 12 noon Buckingham Pal. and Home Office ending at Downing St. More details from PWU 216 Hornsey Road N7 7LG tel. 01-607 3514 or 01-883 2001

Biographer of Alexander Berkman, in Europe this summer, wd. like help to guide him to people who knew Berkman. Write Bill Nowlin, Social Science Dept., Lowell Technological Institute, Lowell, Mas. 01854 USA

BRECHT's St. Joan of the Stockyards at Half Moon Theatre, 27 Alie St. (off Commercial Rd/Leman St) E.1. Aldgate East. Tues-Sun. until June 8. 7.30 p.m.

GIOVANNI MARINI DEFENCE COMMITTEE Paolo Braschi, C.P. 4263, 2100 Milano, Letters or postcards to Giovanni Marini, Carcere di Potenza, 85100 POTENZA, Italy.

CENTRO IBERICO meets socially each Saturday/Sunday 7.00 p.m. at 83A Haverstock Hill, London NW3 (side entrance in Steele's Road) Buses 31 & 68; Tube Chalk Fr/Belsize Pk. All welcome.

SPANISH RESISTANCE FUND, T.P. & P.T. c/o Freedom, 84b Whitechapel High St., London, E.1.

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jail for corruption) was beloved of his union members because he got for them what they wanted.

True, he, like President Nkrumah, like the improvers of Newcastle, the builders of Maltese hospitals and of the Panama Canal, gave the public what they wanted. True, they took their rake-off. But is there any other way in this capitalist system of not being host to hundreds of parasites?

Among the corruptions of the power-system, bribery can hardly be noticed.

Jack Robinson