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# ANARCHISM & VIOLENCE

LAST WEEK's indiscriminate and useless bombing of Birmingham public houses attributed to the I.R.A. seem to resemble recent anarchist-attributed bombings in Spain. Such individual acts as assassinations, kidnappings, bank robberies are common in anarchist social history but comparisons with such mindless violence as perpetrated by both I.R.A. and U.D.A. groups is far from the truth.

While the expropriation of money by bank robberies and kidnappings is a highly controversial method of funding anarchist groups, the indiscriminate bombing of public places is downright criminal. Through these irresponsible acts these comrades alienate themselves not only from the whole mass of working people whom they want to liberate, but also from the vast majority of anarchists all over the world. Instead of furthering the anarchist cause they instead place themselves on the

## PROPAGANDA

Terry Phillips received over a hundred letters asking about anarchism, following his ten-minute BBC-TV spot. He has replied to all of them, with information and literature lists - and a copy of FREEDOM. People want to know about anarchism. Try selling anarchist papers, getting a discussion group going in your works, school, college, etc.

(We'll send you ten copies of FREEDOM for 40p)

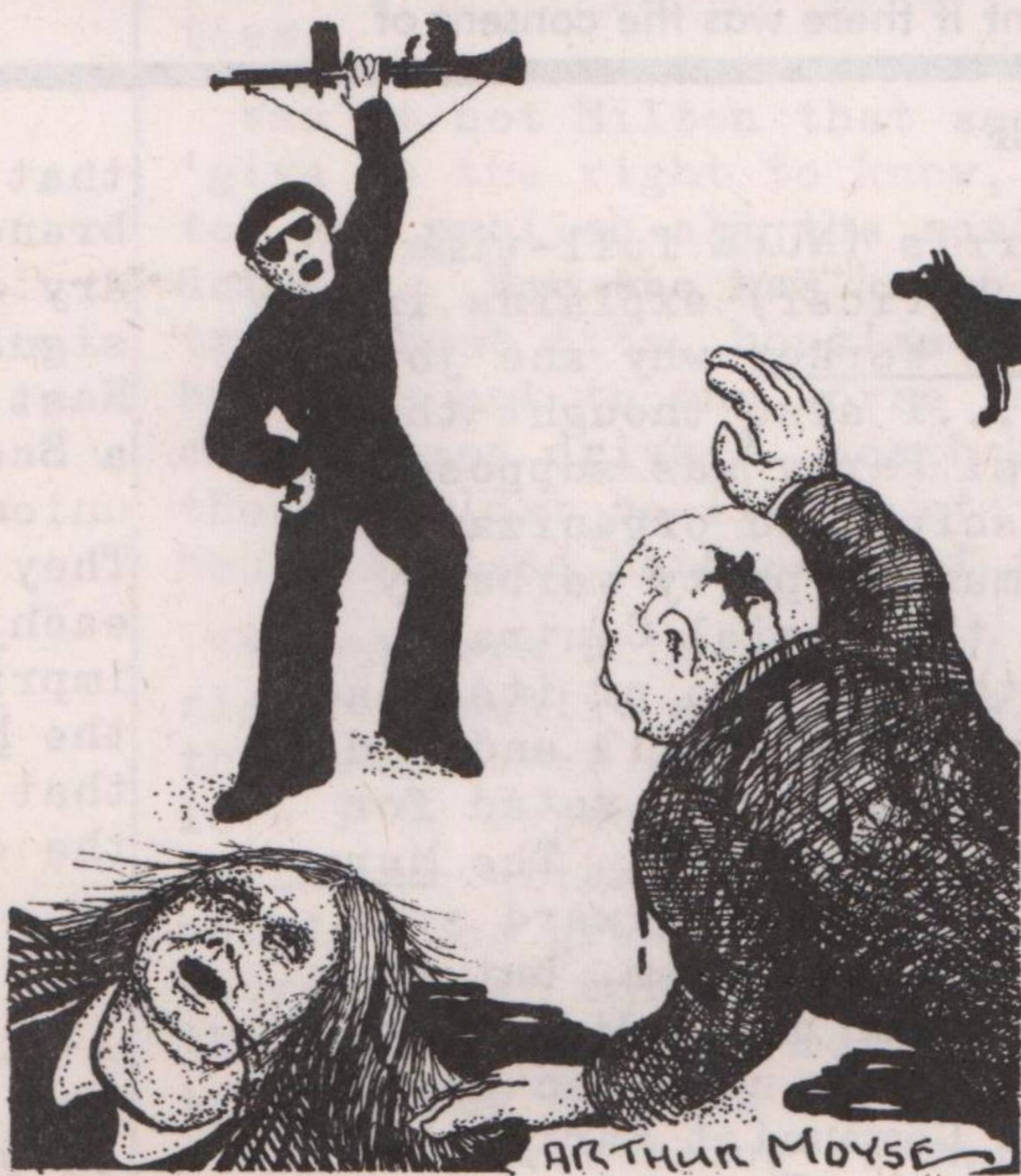
According to Rhodesian Commentary, a professor from Birmingham (Eng.) said that blacks respond well to modern drug therapy for sudden mental disturbance but for some types of neurosis and personality disorder the nganga (or witch-doctor) is able to effect a cure better than Western medicine can. He also said that West Indian patients in Britain often suffered from demoniacal possession and an excellent way of driving out the devils was electro-shock therapy, which also worked well in Harari Hospital in Salisbury (Rhodesia).

same level as the Italian fascists who have been responsible for the recent bomb outrages at Brescia and on the Rome/Milan train.

In the past anarchists have thrown bombs, expropriated banks and assassinated kings, princes and presidents. No doubt their actions were motivated by a great desire to help the oppressed; yet while individual assassination of a tyrant may be justified their indiscriminate killings were as unjustified then as they are now. But to say, as some anarchists do, that bombs are never thrown by anarchists shows, to say the least, a little ignorance on their part.

Anarchists are reluctant to use violence, but violence is the crutch of the state. As anarchists we want, once and for all, to remove violence from human relationships, and the removal of the state will go a long way towards this. But this does not mean to say that anarchists are completely non-violent (although some are). Violence is sometimes necessary to defend ourselves against the state and various political groups. But bank robberies, bombings and kidnappings are not self defence, and where self-defence ends criminality begins.

D. P.



"DIE IN THE NAME OF THE PEOPLE!"  
"YOU BLOODY FOOL--WE ARE THE PEOPLE."

# ONE LAW FOR THE I.R.A.

AFTER THE bombings in Birmingham the Home Secretary has deferred to the panic, fear and prejudice of those who have rightly been appalled by the holocaust but wrongly believe that they can sacrifice liberty in order to gain a little safety.

Whilst we have no sympathy with the Catholic-Nationalist aims of the Provisionals or the Officials or Sinn Fein we do not believe that such measures as have been taken will deter such fanatics, as there are always idealists (no matter how perverted the cause) who are prepared to die or be imprisoned for their ideals. To live for them is more difficult. All the measures will do politically is to fortify the Labour Party as a strong party ready to take decisive action, regardless of the nature of that action.

It has been admitted that this action will have very little effect but it adds immeasurably to the powers of the police who will welcome such extra power as it gives them, although it has already been pointed out that the police can take whatever powers they like practically, extending to raids without warrants (now officially sanctioned) to holding persons in custody beyond the limits of habeus corpus (also now officially sanctioned).

Finally it cannot too often be emphasized that in making such laws society is making a rod for its own back. These laws are not only made for the I.R.A. terrorists. They may not, indeed possibly will not, stop a single terrorist but will be held in reserve and undoubtedly used against individuals whose activities are far from terrorist and far from the I.R.A.

It is one more step toward a police state and the only thing we can thank the oh-so-liberal Mr. Jenkins for is his refusal to bring back hanging, and identity cards ("since they can be forged"). They will come later.

WITH THE release of Lieut. Calley, the sole man convicted regarding the My Lai massacre, the U.S. Army have now, six and a half years later, released details. 347 men, women and children were killed. The crime was covered up throughout the military command structure.



# NEWS FROM BELFAST

THE GREAT SILENCE between the political parties here continued as the UUUC (United Ulster Unionist Council) refuses to meet with the others to discuss ways and means of ending the current wave of sectarian assassinations. No matter how many bodies are found lying in the streets, the UUUC is more concerned with its own internal problems which are being held under the surface at present but likely to bob up in the future. One of its constituent parties, Vanguard, is headed by Bill Craig of "shoot to kill" fame who is an ardent admirer of Rhodesia's Ian Smith and a long time advocate of an independent Ulster. Paisley and his Democratic Unionist Party favour retention of the link with Britain and, as usual, there are signs of a power struggle within the UUUC; the sound of knives being sharpened can be detected though the moment for plunging them into backs will have to be delayed for some time. This is nothing new; even during its heyday the internal politics of the Unionist party were reminiscent of those of a banana republic with plots to overthrow the leader and grab ministerial power being the order of the day. One who ought to know all about these matters is the former premier, Lord O'Neill, who recently stated that "the real Protestant fear is that they will lose their privileged position within Northern society. I'm talking about power, the power over housing, jobs, the lot." The effort to retain political power and the dispensation of privilege that goes with it has forged unity of a kind between the loyalist factions but behind the facade the other power struggle continues.

Lack of movement on the political front is in contrast to increased activity on the industrial front, where there have been a number of strikes, unresolved at the time of writing, the most important ones being that involving lorry drivers and another the strike of manual workers employed in electricity supply stations, and a feature of the power workers' strike has been the introduction of what may be a novel method of strike-breaking. Engineers and salaried staff did not join the strike but remained in the stations and kept supplies flowing, but as a consequence of picketing outside they were marooned inside as relief staff were prevented from entering. The problem was solved by the use of helicopters which raised the five day siege by flying reliefs and food supplies into the stations; the powers that be seem to have learned a few lessons since the enforced stoppage of work last May.

It would appear that his part in the stoppage may be the reason for the resignation of Colonel Peter Brush as Lord Lieutenant of County Down. The colonel, formerly an officer in the Rifle Brigade, is now leader of the Down Orange Welfare Militia and is also a member of the central co-ordinating committee of the Ulster Workers' Council. Having dealt with

certain aspects of the May stoppage elsewhere (see *The Industrial Worker*, Nov. 1974) it is relevant to draw attention to the result of a case heard at Belfast City Commission on 12.11.74 when a member of a masked gang operating in support of the UWC was sentenced to four years in jail. The gang drove customers and staff of the Alexander Bar and North Star Bar off the premises and in the process caused damage estimated at £ 2,361 worth at one of the pubs. The point to note is that the customers, the staff, and the masked gang were all Protestants. Many similar methods of "persuasion" were used in factories and workplaces during the May stoppage and readers will no doubt be able to judge that the stoppage was neither spontaneous nor voluntary; in fact any resemblance between the events of May and a strike is purely coincidental.

§ § §

John Taylor, former Home Affairs minister, in the Stormont government, has been looking ahead and his forecast of the trend of future events indicates the nature of hardline Unionist views which are believed to be widely held though seldom articulated; granted that there is many a slip 'twixt cup and lip, let no one doubt the willingness of the UUUC to attempt such a "final solution" to the Ulster problem. Taylor foresees elected representatives of the minority being granted places in policy-making committees within ministries but not in a future N. Ireland cabinet, and even then only if they agree to a settlement which maintains the union with Britain and dismisses the idea of a Council of Ireland. Failing agreement on these issues he thinks it might be difficult to avoid civil war in the latter part of next year, following which the loyalists would seek a negotiated independence from Britain. Loyalists, he stresses, are aware that there could only be a democratic structure of government at Stormont if there was the consent of

the minority; but if such consent is not forthcoming then the Republican agitators will have to be removed from Ulster soil: "Loyalists have to face up to that stark reality, and it is also essential that the SDLP\* do not press party politics too far, as they could result in loyalists deciding upon the second alternative, with dreadful results for all Ulster people and in particular the Roman Catholic community which would be removed from major areas of Belfast." So there we have it; the Convention elections, followed by a take it or leave it offer to the SDLP, and then . . .

The end result of all this could be what amounts to a repartition of Ireland with loyalists hanging on to Belfast and the adjacent counties where most heavy industry is concentrated, and the UWC leader, Glenn Barr, has been enquiring into the prospects of financial aid from Libya being available for an independent Ulster. This was one of the topics raised during his talks with Libyan leaders during which he also informed them that not everybody in N. Ireland was fighting to get the British out of the country, and appealed for an end to the supply of arms from Libya for the IRA. The visit provoked one of his usual instant comments from Paisley: "The UDA leaders must be very naive if they think they can convert a terrorist chief like Gaddafi to Ulster's cause." It might seem to the casual observer that quite a few terrorists already support that cause, and if reports of rich deposits of offshore oil along the northern coastline are true, why then, Colonel Gaddafi might just be interested in helping to develop these resources.

Watch out for another UWC-led stoppage of work around the first week in December; despite objections from the loyalist politicians the UWC look all set to go ahead if their demands are not met. This time they want republican and loyalist prisoners at Long Kesh to be completely separated. "At the minute," they complain, "our men are still being punished for the actions of republicans and we don't believe they should have to be housed near them. If another fire was started our men would doubtless suffer again."

H. B.

## IN BRIEF

June Morris (NUPE full-time nursing officer) explains in the *Socialist Worker* why she joined I.S. "...I also thought the Communist Party was supposed to be a disciplined organization. The Communist party verbally opposes the Social Contract. Yet at the TUC two of its leading figures, Ken Gill and Eddie Marsden, eventually voted for the Social Contract. The *Morning Star* did put forward some measure of criticism, but they have not been disciplined - they certainly have not been expelled from the Communist Party. So I have left the Party to join the International Socialists."

The *Morning Star* (16 Nov,) reported that a court was told

that an engineering union branch chairman and secretary forged more than 200 signatures of members of the East Kilbride branch to elect a Scottish delegate for the union's court of final appeal. They were found guilty and each sentenced to three years' imprisonment. The readers of the *Morning Star* were not told that the votes were to secure the election of a communist.

A MICRONESIAN farm worker on the island of Yap died after a 35-gallon mixture of sodium arsenite and endrin (a herbicide-insecticide banned in the U.S.) accidentally spilled. Another worker was sent to hospital.



# NOSEY PARKERS AT WORK

LAST MONTH the S.E.I. management (part of the giant GEC-AEI combine) smashed the strike and sit-in of 400 women workers in Heywood (Lancs.). The management, having been rattled by the women's refusal to accept their 62p offer some weeks before, started using bullying tactics.

Foremen were soon visiting the homes of strikers, button-holing the women in pubs, and finally the manager, Brian White, issued an ultimatum, threatening to sack all the women who didn't return to work. Even so, when it came to it the return to work was a close vote, so close in fact that the union official didn't order an immediate return.

The underlying problem in a strike over equal pay as at S.E.I. was how to mobilize support at other factories, when historically at many firms women workers have come to be regarded as the least militant element in the labour force. Well, one doesn't have to go around claiming, as some women's liberationists do, that all the men are against equal pay and women must fight for it alone, and then when this fails go on to blame the men for "selling out" on the women. The lesson of S.E.I. seems to be that if the women are to get equal pay they are going to need wide support from the male labour force. Luckily this male support is often forthcoming, as in the current dispute at Hoover in West London.

## DISASTROUS MANAGEMENT

Fortunately management also has its inconsistencies; the threatening-letter technique "Get back to work or you're sacked" has been used successfully again at GEC-AEI, Trafford Park (Manchester) this month against a small group of craftsmen on strike. But this kind of thing is hardly conducive to good industrial relations and now a month after the S.E.I. strike, the firm at Heywood is still advertising for "lady machinists". At the same time it has always been a mystery to me how managements reconcile the employment

of personnel officers to make the workers feel important and cared for, with the use of Work Study men to "measure" the workers on the job. Orwell, I think, observed that the worst thing you can be called in England is a Nosey Parker. It is hard to imagine anything more repellent than having someone stood behind one while doing a job. Of course the exercise is only rescued from total indignity by the ability of workers and work-study men to turn it into either a battle of wits or a conspiracy to establish a rate for the job outside the direct control of management.

Sometimes, however, management tries to regain control and this is what appears to be happening at S.E.I. Now that the wandering revolutionaries have gone, a struggle no less important than the sit-in may be taking place at Heywood. Within days of the strike ending, rumours were circulating that the management was considering contracting a firm of work study experts instead of using their own company men. The reason for this is easily under-

stood if one forgets the scientific claims of work study and concentrates on the fact that work study men are bound to form relationships with workers on the shop floor, even if they didn't originate from there. In the management view this kind of fraternisation produces a proliferation of "easy" jobs with slack job times. In addition to this, the management at S.E.I. is reported to be tightening up on waiting times to cut costs.

Nothing, it would seem, could be better calculated to unite the workers against the management than the measures the management appear to be now pursuing. Many managers seem to be unable to resist tightening up on job control and carrying through a policy which though based on a managerial ideal, must ultimately lead to further conflict. The only way to avoid this conflict would be to undermine their own image of themselves as 'ideal' managers and possibly jeopardise their own chances of promotion. Let's hope the managers succeed in managing themselves out of a job.

North-West Workers.

# Defend the Right to Picket

SINCE MARCH of this year local residents have picketed an Estate Agents, Prebble and Co., every Saturday morning. This company is notorious for its "winkling" harassment of tenants and is the main company involved in the gentrification of Islington. Buying up vast numbers of houses, getting rid of the working-class tenants, redecorating them (the houses) and selling them for vast sums, like £70,000 and upwards. Of course it does not matter to Prebbles what happens to the original tenants: they merely join the swelling numbers of Islington's homeless. Unless we fight back, huge areas of Islington will be middle-class. People are fighting back, however: hence the pickets.

But as the Islington tenants'

campaign began to take effect, Prebbles also fought back: ten tenants and people involved in the campaign now face an injunction numbering many charges, including conspiracy. Another tenant, Joe Cohen, who had a one-man picket at Prebbles was given 28 days in Pentonville. A few weeks ago a judge ruled that any picket not involving an industrial dispute was illegal. This was a direct result of the picket at Prebbles. It means that in effect the pickets outside the Russian embassy or Downing Street, or even an old-age pensioner picketing against a shop selling food at fantastically high prices, is illegal.

For years we have allowed the state to wither away our liberties. For example, you never see soapbox meetings on street corners any more and now they even want to take away our right to picket.

The picket continued, however. Last week and the week before 70 people turned up at Prebbles. They picketed for well over an hour without any trouble whatever. Then suddenly two van-loads of police appeared and they leapt onto the pavement, pushing and shoving the peaceful picket away from Prebbles and arresting four people, including Joe Cohen, on a trumped up charge of obstruction. Un-

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VIEWPOINT ON PROFIT

Flourtown, Pennsylvania  
Oct. 25, 1974.

Nothing much of real importance has been happening over here, but I have managed to come up with a couple of items for a "Report from the States".

Each year at this time our major corporations in the States reveal quarterly and yearly profit figures. This year they are particularly interesting in the light of our inflation problems. Most of the reporting companies are declaring drops in profits. Even our beloved automobile companies are announcing declining profits (up to 90%). This is not really a shock, until one gets down to the oil company figures. These guardians of the public interest (at least that's what we're supposed to believe) are showing profit Increases ranging from 25% to a phenomenal 156% for Shell!

In itself there is nothing wrong in turning a profit, in fact it can at times be beneficial to employer, employee, and consumer alike if properly used. It is however quite scandalous, when it is accomplished with the assistance of questionable government subsidies, while less lucky companies are barely making through, and the unemployed workers aren't making it at all! And yet, even with these profits the companies involved innocently proclaim that they'll go bankrupt if any of their "protective" regulations are eliminated or reduced.

Meanwhile the vast majority of the populace is being periodically treated to a commercial on television exhorting us to save money to beat inflation. All well and true - except that most of the people I know have the nasty habits of eating, and requiring some tolerable, fairly permanent housing, which are devouring their meagre paychecks. Most of them will be quite happy to save some money if the prices will go down so that they can.

This form of perverted half-witted logic must cease. Our economic problems are real enough - all our workers know that, but nothing will be accomplished as long as the government persists in telling the people in economic distress to save and "tighten our belts" to WIN (Whip Inflation Now), while it somehow overlooks and continues to protect those corporations (not just the oil corporations - though they are the most graphic example) that have helped to put us in this spot. The government must remove these artificial supports and permit these companies to make it on their own, without further wasting our resources that can be more profitably used in

housing, public transportation, etc.

In addition to the above thoughts, these figures resulted in a bit of retrospective thought, regarding last year's "energy crisis". The cost of oil from the exporting countries surely has gone up phenomenally, but it is now becoming obvious that our oil companies have been taking on quite a few dollars for their own coffers. Throughout this whole affair, one must praise the social consciousness of the companies, and hope that in the future we can return the favour.

Yours in the struggle,  
W. C. Humphreys, Jr.

--We cannot agree with the author of Viewpoint when he writes that "there is nothing wrong in turning a profit". Profits, as we understand them, are the life blood of capitalism. Anarchism is both anti-state and anti-capitalist or it is nothing. Profit means exploitation of people in every aspect of their daily lives. People's basic needs of food, shelter and clothing are produced for a profit and not because they are needed.

While it is true that under

## LETTERS

VIEWPOINT ON BOMBING

We, the North-West London Anarchist group, completely condemn the Birmingham bombings of November 21, 1974. We believe that we represent the broad feelings of the anarchist movement in totally dissociating ourselves from the actions which took the lives of 19 people who had not the slightest connection with the Irish situation.

Irish political reality is very complex - not every Catholic supports the bombing campaign. The historic roots of the demand for autonomy lie in the original act of conquest of one nation by another: the Protestant population is a product of colonial implantation. The final resolution of the cause of violence must be the withdrawal of the British state and its military machine. However, even in terms of Ireland many intermediate steps are necessary; and a solution must be political and in accordance with the general will of the people of Ulster. Here all military solutions are bankrupt. No-one has the right to arbitrarily resort to force, allegedly on behalf of others, nor is any useful purpose served.

As anarchists our function is to persuade the British people to use political means to effect

the present system profits can be beneficial to employer, employee and consumer", the real beneficiary is the employer. The state will give every assistance in the way of subsidies to aid the continuation of the profit motive system. State subsidies both in this country and America primed the pump of capitalism. This is not 'scandalous' but a development in the capitalist system.

Capitalism is not suffering so much from an economic problem as a financial one. Governments, as a part of the system, will go on telling us to 'tighten our belts' because it will always be the ordinary people who will have to suffer when capitalism can no longer make a profit.

One could also apply the same argument about the waste of resources now spent on military budgets and say they could be used in 'housing, public transportation etc.' but these do not produce huge profits. In fact, the very shortage of housing keeps up the profits for building companies, building societies and speculators; and poor public transportation helps to sell motor cars.

A social revolution will not be achieved by only eliminating the state; the profit motive and the monetary system of exploitation must also be abolished.

--EDITORS.

a fundamental change in the way this society is organized. This means creating democratic institutions in every sphere of life so as to allow people full control of their work, living space, and the way in which they live. We believe that this change can be achieved by peaceful means. We reject utterly any policy of coercion or terrorism. Our policy is persuasion, not force. Violence arises when there are no adequate political means whereby people can change their lives for the better. Our function is to formulate political alternatives to violence. We resist all attempts to limit people's freedom.

We think it is important for the anarchist movement to state its position, especially in the light of recent information about attempts by fascist groups to capitalize on the bombings. We are also concerned about attempts to create bogus guerilla groups supposedly "revolutionary" in their politics.

/See in this issue "Defend the Right to Picket" from the same group as this statement, but perhaps we shall have a future letter explaining what they mean by "political means" - we'll certainly get some asking! --Typist, J



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# CIVIL WAR MALAGA

PERSONAL RECORD 1920-1972, by Gerald Brenan. 381pp (Cape) £6

"The scarlet cannas and the dahlias and roses gleamed in the early morning sunshine and red admirals and brimstone butterflies fluttered lazily round them. It seemed impossible to believe that an anarchist revolution had just begun."

Thus Gerald Brenan, author of The Spanish Labyrinth, one of the best background histories to the Spanish Civil War and Revolution, begins his description of the events in Malaga and environs in the days and months following the military uprising.

The three chapters of this autobiography (which completes the story started in A Life of One's Own) which are concerned with his involvement in the Spanish Civil War make up only about a tenth of the book, which is mainly about his efforts to turn himself into a professional writer whilst existing on a moderate allowance from his eccentric great-aunt (with great opposition from his father, who wanted him to earn a living); and with his sexual encounters and love-affairs, principally the one with Dora Carrington, the painter and companion of Lytton Strachey, and wife of his best friend, Ralph Partridge, and his consequent involvement with members of the Bloomsbury group.

Brenan's position was basically that of a rentier member of the social elite, of which he was well and ironically aware, but which he considered necessary if he were to develop into a writer capable of earning a living at writing:

"After calling on my lawyers [after the death of his great-aunt] I found that I now possessed an income of nearly £350 a year [in 1930], drawn from some thirty different industrial concerns...it amazed me to think that so many different spots on the earth's surface were preparing to support me in comfort. A feeling of gratitude towards these kindly organizations welled up in me, only to be succeeded by others of guilt which prevented me from ever thinking about them again."

So, although he was instinctively on the side of the workers in the Spanish Revolution, and very sympathetic to the Anarchists, he had little difficulty, on returning to England, in joining the right-wing Tory Duchess of Atholl's campaign of support for the Republican government.

His description of the killings in Malaga spares neither side, but he makes it obvious that the reprisals carried out by the Republican side (including the Anarchists) were in reaction to the air-raids and the systematic slaughter of workers in Seville carried out by the military insurgents under the orders of the sadistic General Queipo de Llano (whose horrific radio broadcasts he also describes). The F.A.I. Youth squads, unfortunately, do not come out of his story much better.

Brenan himself attempted to remain aloof from the struggle, even going so far as to hide a secret member of the Falange in his house, and to help him to escape; but he does give the lie to the stories of Republican atrocities spread by the terrified and hysterical upper-class British residents on their arrival in Gibraltar, describing them as fantasies of their anti-working class imaginations.

All in all he paints a very human picture of the struggle in Malaga in contrast to the greyly political descriptions we usually get. On the radio the other day he said that the civil war had revealed to him much greater depths of human passion than he had suspected existed, and this comes across in the book.

D. L. M.

A SPANISH POLITICAL REFUGEE entered the Mexican embassy in Paris and threatened to blow it up since he (as an alien in France) could not receive compensation for an injury at work. He claimed that the Mexicans should pay him from the Spanish Republican gold which had been transferred to Mexico during the Spanish Civil War. He had no weapons or dynamite and when he surrendered he was taken to a psychiatric clinic.

RIOT POLICE routed 2,000 students at Barcelona University as they attempted to demonstrate in support of workers on strike at the N.E.A.T. car plant. Several arrests were made.

\*Mr. Reginald Prentice, giving the annual Nye Bevan Memorial Lecture to the Bromsgrove Labour Party rebuked the left wing of the party. Before becoming a minister in the Labour Government (1945) Anuerin (Nye) Bevan was on the left wing of the Labour Party.



# BRENDA'S BUTLINS

THERE IS always a touch of fantasy, merging into farce, in the contents of the prison communications that the Home Office, most kindly, sends me concerning the institutions, the buildings and their involuntary inmates, of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II (or Brenda as we who feel that we are a member of the close Court circle of friends hanging around Buck House refer to her). Every time an old man or woman dies a miserable and unnatural death in a workhouse (name it how you will), a patient is beaten to death by a sub normal untrained ward orderly, a child dies by the hand of man in some awful State collective or a prisoner is found bruised and dead in a cell, there is a fluttering of liberal hearts and a demand for the need for reform. What never seems to be brought into question is the dereliction of duty of the self-appointed managerial boards that form small clumps of flowering weeds upon these dung heaps of human misery. I do not doubt for one single moment that when Oliver Twist was beaten for asking for more workhouse gruel, somewhere within a well-appointed board room a group of solid Victorian citizens were happily discussing what paint should be used to brighten the walls and the lives of the half starved brutalised children. When the innocent mark these human tragedies with their death some hireling is sacked or sent to prison and the black comedy continues, for those in self-elected authority believe not what their eyes show them but what their social background expects them to believe: that in their Voltairian world all is for the best . . .

Jimmy Skinner died on October 29, some 24 hours after being taken by detectives from his home to the local police station. Who is to blame for Skinner's death I know not, but as Des Wilson points out in the matter of ten women attacked in one rundown residential hotel, eight of them killed, it was only when a middle class woman in a middle class building a few doors away was murdered (by the same self-confessing murderer) that the New York police went into full action and in six hours made their arrest. And Wilson draws the obvious conclusion that there is "cynicism, neglect, bureaucratic failure of authorities to fulfil their obligations" . . . and because I have typed this and you have read it we are in the

AN INQUEST on Kenneth Lennon, the Irish informer and agent provocateur, brought in a verdict of murder by person or persons unknown. The NCCL said that Lennon's family felt the police had failed to protect Lennon 'in his hour of need'. The coroner said he did not believe the presence of Special Branch men (as witnesses) at the inquest would help.

clear comrade, but are we?

The Home Office write to me that a Wakefield prison group has been awarded top prize of £ 12.50 in an inter-prison musical competition under the Koestler Award Scheme and that a Thorp Arch prisoner won £ 10 for a Handel "Sonata for Flute" and that the BBC replayed the tapes on various local radio stations. All this is well and good and I have been a willing spectator at the Koestler Award Exhibition since 1962 and my only regret is that the £ 5 watercolour I reserved at the last exhibition was sold to another buyer because on the press day there were no receipts and therefore no money could be accepted, but with My Lord Longford prattling on who dared dispute. It is the latest Home Office Prison Press Notice entitle LIFE INSIDE PRISON that made me believe on a first casual reading that here, my masters, is fantasy, for it spoke of careers available in the

## let them eat shit!

OUR PERCIPIENT contributor Arthur Moyses (9.11.74) commented in a review of The Night Porter that it would not be long before shit-eating was a non-tabooed subject. It has now happened.

After years of metaphorically eating their own shit a scientist has done it (Guardian 22.11.74) in the interest of solving our nutritional problem. Mr. Jack Tolley of Liverpool University was the first hero. Manchester university scientists had been experimenting by feeding human excreta to chickens as their basic diet so Mr. Tolley decided that 'on scientific grounds' there was no reason to limit the experiment to animals.

In Manchester, of course, the shit was deodorised, sterilised and de-coloured (you can't get natural food anywhere!). It was found to be rich in protein, fats and fibre - the protein is assumed to come from excreted gut bacteria.

Mr. Tolley's diet was also sterilised, etc. and he pointed out that the direct recycling of protein increased the efficiency of the food cycle by several hundred per cent and there could be no nutritional or scientific objection to what he was attempting. Maybe we just eat too much . . . but don't go away!

Professor John Hudson, dir-

modern prison service "and indicates the types of activities going on 'inside'". One could justly be excused, on a first glance, for believing it referred to the prisoners, for without them and jumping the commas, there would be no prisons for prison reformers to reform. But the handout and the Alexandra Palace exhibition "Careers for '75" is for the young in heart and hard in head who feel that joining the ranks of the imprisoned is a worthy way of living depending on which side of the cell door one is standing. Psychologists, social workers, chaplains, physicians, education officers and office staff are all needed, and if one is claustrophobic or has a Guardian thing against the wearing of uniforms, then there is a need for Justices' Clerks and their Assistants in a communal hands-across-the-wall of law enforcement. The only recruits the Home Office and the Prison Service fail to advertise for in their exhibition are prisoners and, without being flippant, I must repeat that without men and women forcibly detained behind walls and bars, an international industry as historically old as the first man will go down the drain of expendability with the quill pen and gas operated radio.

Arthur Moyses.

ector of the Long Ashton horticultural research station speaking to (of all things!) the British Weed Control Conference at Brighton said that there were 300,000-odd species of plant in the world and only a handful are used as food or fodder. Most of the others are rejected because they are either toxic or indigestible. Now scientists at Rothamstead have learned to extract good digestible protein from the juice of plants. And, said Mr. Hudson, it is possible to extract anything noxious to man. So that many weeds previously considered unsuitable for consumption might provide greater yields of protein than our current crop. Weeds flourish very early in the year (don't we know it!) and could be cultivated to make a weed prairie for frequent mowing during a long growing season. Mr. Hudson says, "It's sheer profligacy to allow the energy from the sun to be wasted by allowing it to fall on bare ground."

Necessity is the mother of invention but she wouldn't recognise some of her children. But why didn't these clever scientists think of these things before? And will their paymasters (British Weed Controllers for example) let them do all these wonderful bizarre and ingenious things?

THE HOME SECRETARY has refused a representation for a public enquiry into the police riot at the Windsor Pop Festival. The Home Secretary said, "The primary aim must be to avoid a recurrence of a similar situation in future years." No police, or no pop festival?



# OUT OF U.S.A.

The Coalition Against Global Enterprises (Multinational Corporations), or CAGE is organising the first international protest demonstration to expose the multinational corporations and their global exploitation of human beings and resources. It will take place on Earth Day, March 21st 1975.

This date was set at a meeting of interested people on October 25th in New York City. During the course of the meeting an ad hoc committee was set up and plans made to mobilise interested groups both in the U.S. and abroad.

In New York, the demonstration will take place probably at ITT, the best-known and most notorious of the global enterprises.

The New York Committee will function merely to co-ordinate and exchange information, specifics for demonstrations being worked out in the localities where they will take place. If your group plans any demonstrations, street-theatre, publications or any other form of action directed at the multinationals, please contact CAGE at Freespace Alternate U., 339 Lafayette Street, New York, N.Y. 10012.

Groups participating, as of 4th November are Buffalo Ecology Action, Come/Unity Press of New York, Freespace Alternate U., Ecology Action East (NYC), and New York Anarcho-Feminists. Members of the Living Theater Collective (Vermont & Pittsburgh), the War Resisters League (U.S. National Office) and other groups are in the process of discussing participation with their collectives.

\* \* \* \*

## ANARCHIST WORKING COMMITTEE MEETS

The Cambridge (Massachusetts) meeting of the Anarchist Working Committee over the week-end of October 26th & 27th made Movement history. For the first time within the memory of any Movement person present, the agenda of a meeting was finished within the time allotted.

This efficient Working Committee was formed at Hunter College in New York City in April of this year at the Live and Let Live Festival, which was attended by over 1,000 people. The purpose of the Working Committee was to take practical steps towards some sort of an Anarchist Federation and Continental Anarchist Congress. Meetings of the committee were held in New York City on May 12th, June 23rd, and September 9th. At these meetings a draft statement of purposes was written and the decision made that future sessions of the Working Committee should as much as possible be in cities of the United States and Canada other than New York. Therefore a meeting was set up in Cambridge, Mass., with Black Rose, the anarchist magazine, as host.

During the first afternoon, there was sharp discussion of basic issues: how the Working Committee should be organised; whether "federation" was an appropriate name; and who should be considered participants in the work. A number of people suggested that "network" was a clearer name than "federation", but there was

consensus over the use of the latter term for the time being. It was also accepted that both autonomous anarchist groups and individuals should participate in the work of the committee and that groups and individuals should self-define themselves as "anarchist". A Committee of Correspondence subordinate to the Working Committee was established.

The evening discussion concerned SRAF, which is an anarchist federation especially strong in the West and in Canada. It issues a bulletin, in which any person or group may insert up to one typewritten page of comment without censorship. The committee agreed upon the following resolution: "1. That there be a voluntary committee to explore our future relationships with SRAF and to discuss the possibility of a Berkeley meeting of the Working Committee; and 2, that the Working Committee recommend that people associated with the Working Committee start using the SRAF Bulletin as a means of communication."

The Sunday session began with a discussion of finances. One person was designated to hold the money for the Working Committee. The question of participation in actions was raised and two specific actions proposed. It was the consensus that actions at this time should not be endorsed. Participants in the Working Committee however might publicise various actions they were interested in to other participants and through the SRAF Bulletin.

etin. The Working Committee finally adjourned to meet again between Christmas and the New Year in Philadelphia or Washington, if possible; if not, again in New York City. The meeting ended in a round of applause. The participants, it seems to the writer of this report, had a feeling that something good and useful had been accomplished.

\* \* \* \*

## PUBLICATIONS

Freedom receives a copy of the SRAF Bulletin, but we have no spare ones for distribution in this country. They seem to have no formal subscription procedure, but say that they "...share an average cost of \$3 a year to buy paper, ink and pay postal taxes." If you're really interested in the American scene, and have information to communicate, their address is:

SRAFprint Co-op  
P.O. Box 4091  
Mountain View  
California 94040, U.S.A.

We have also just received issue no 9/10 of Solidarity Newsletter from Philadelphia Solidarity. It's an eight-page publication with local and international news and book and magazine reviews, with a position obviously closest to British Solidarity, but fairly pluralist. It's irregular, so if you're interested in subscribing, write to GPO box 13011, Philadelphia, PA. 19101, USA.

The November issue of The Match! has reached us, available at 8p (3½p. post). Excellent as ever!

And the October issue of The Industrial Worker for 10p. + 3½p postage.

# Freedom of the Buttocks

IT IS INTOLERABLE that the freedom of the press should be interfered with, especially when it is concentrating upon the grave social and national problem of Colonel Brooks.

The industrial action and blackmail attempts of journalists make it difficult to publish all the details which the public has a right to know about the Colonel's spanking proclivities.

Was it not Milton that said 'give me the right to know, utter and publish all the sordid details. For who has known the truth about tits, boosies and buttocks put to the worse in a circulation drive.' Northcliffe thou shouldst be living at this hour, England hath need of thee.

We editors will fight for the right of public access to all the details of the Colonel's love life especially since it's such a peculiar one. We will not let the grasping demands of journalists' unions stand in the way of our more meritoriously grasping demands of circulation and advertising revenue.

A good scandal is the precious life blood of Fleet Street and such attempts as there have been to interfere with our circulation render us anaemic and

haemophilic; such bleeders are unfit to rank with such full-blooded heroes of the chase as Colonel Brooks.

We owe it to the masters of literature such as Restiff la Bretonne, Sacher Masoch, the divine Marquis to carry on the chronicles. It is flogging a dead horse to urge that we, the Fourth Estate of the realm become a closed shop.

We must be free to retail the details about Colonel Brooks (illustrated if possible) to our eagerly-waiting readers. We must not fail them in this crisis and their hour of need for quiet titillation. We must be free to weave our web of fantasy-living and confront them with the truth we need to make known.

Must the dead hand of union bureaucracy interfere with those private parts of all human life which we expose daily (or on Sundays)? Must the unholy union of journalists put asunder bride of sixteen and octogenarian? Must the fallen vicar and the slipping radio personality have no one to chronicle their slips?

This journalistic threat must end!

Jack Spratt.



# In Brief

Mr. Richard Burton, a film and T.V. actor, who previously played Tito in a yet-unshown film, wrote an article for the New York Times in which he said "...I hate Churchill and all his kind. . .They have stalked down the corridors of endless power all through history." Mr. Burton quoted Acton's observation on the corruption of power and said it applied to Churchill "as to all of history's other indirectly great killers." In 1939, said Burton, Churchill spoke of the Germans "They must bleed and burn, they must be crushed into a mass of smouldering ruins." He also, said Burton, advocated the wiping out of the Japanese. "Such simple-minded cravings for revenge leave me with a horrified but reluctant awe for such single-minded and merciless ferocity." This goes on for some time and is all good stuff but nevertheless Burton has made a filk for television in which he plays Churchill, so he will doubtless get his pay.

ONLY £50,000 has been given for the Churchill Centenary Trust's appeal for £1-million from one million people in aid of Churchill College. The Churchill Centenary Exhibition at Somerset House lost between £10,000 and £30,000.

FOURTEEN SUPPORTERS OF THE BWNI CAMPAIGN WERE REMANDED TO DEC. 13th AND ALLOWED LEGAL AID AND BAIL OF £100.

Sancho Panza

RIGHT TO PICKET. . .from Page 3

daunted, the people marched to the police station, demanding the release of the four, and when they were released, marched to Islington Green where there was a protest meeting.

The picket will still continue every Saturday morning. It has been decided to hold a mass picket on Saturday December 7th at 10.30 in the morning sharp. We ask you to come, to join us in the fight against the property speculator, to defend the right to picket, now that the working class of Islington are fighting back.

Join us! Raise the matter with people at your work, in your trade union branch, your tenants and residents' associations and in your street. Get them to support the picket. We must fight now while we have the chance.

North West London  
Anarchist Group.

# Contact

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

A THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY is very much in need of more people to live and help in the community. This is a very live and useful experience to everyone involved. Please phone 01-677-1811, or write: Gordon Phillips, c/o Moonfleet Bookshop, 39 Clapham Park Road, London S.W.4.

PRISONERS FOR PEACE Day, Sunday 1st December. Picket outside Holloway Prison from 2-4 p.m. in solidarity with Pat Arrow-smith (serving 18 months for "incitement to disaffect" soldiers from war in Ireland).

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY Tues. 10th Dec. Picket South Africa House in protest at S.A. Occupation of Namibia and floggings & political imprisonment in Namibia. 12.30-2.30 pm. Organised by Namibia Action Group (6 Endsleigh St. London WC1), UN Youth & Friends of Namibia. (Also 10 Dec. talk with slides - details from above address).

CORBYS anarchists. For activities write 7 Cresswell Walk, CORBY, Northants.

COVENTRY. Peter Corne c/o Union of Students, Warwick University Coventry CV4 7AL

MANCHESTER SWF weekly mtgs. enq Sec. c/o Grass Roots, 178 Oxford Road, Manchester 13.

PORTSMOUTH group write Rob Atkinson, 29 Havelock Road, Southsea, Portsmouth, Hants.

Some London anarchists meet socially at Duke of York pub, 47 Rathbone St., London W1.7.30 pm

## PRESS FUND

Contributions 14 - 20 November

LONDON E16: P.W. 30p; LONDON NW6: D.B. £1; KINGSBRIDGE: G.H. 50p; ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD: D.T. 25p; YORK: K.W. 50p; CARDIFF: L.E. 75p; WOLVERHAMPTON: J.L. 50p; J.K.W. 10p; GLASGOW: T.M. £1; KIRUP, W. Australia: C.K. £6.

TOTAL: £ 10.90

Previously acknowl'd: £1025.86

TOTAL TO DATE £1036.76

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ALTERNATE SUNDAYS Hyde Park Anarchist Forum, Speakers Corner 1 pm. Speakers, listeners and hecklers welcome.

INT. LIB. CENTRE/CENTRO IBERICO Sats. & Suns from 7.30 pm. Disco, refreshments &c. 83A Haverstock Hill, NW3 (entr. Steele's Rd, 2nd door) Tube Chalk Fm/Belsize

NEW YORK: Libertarian Book Club Lecture at Workmen's Circle Center, 369 8th Ave. (SW cnr. 29 St) 7.30 p.m. Thurs. Dec. 12: Dan Georgakas and Leonard Bernstein: Art and Anarchy.

DIRECT ACTION No. 4. Out now. Publication of the Syndicalist Workers Federation. 5p + 3½p post from c/o Grass Roots, 178 Oxford Rd. Manchester 13 or Freedom Bookshop.

HARDY PERENNIAL Walt Whitman Anarchist Calendar 1975. 13p inc. post from Kropotkin's Lighthouse Publs. c/o Freedom

POEMS wanted for Abolish War Encyclopaedia/Anthology: anarchist pacifist; anti-militarist; anti-racialist. Also Conscientious Objectors' Tribunal Statements. Any language. Mark Wm. Kramrisch 55 Camberwell Church st. London S.E.5.

PORTUGUESE Libertarian Movement. needs books, pamphlets, free copies anarchist publs., money & ideological support. Movimien-to Libertario Português, Rua Angelina Vidal, 17-2<sup>o</sup>-E, LISBOA 1, Portugal.

### PRISONERS:

Paul is being neglected. Old friends please write to him. PAUL PAWLOWSKI, 219089 H.M. Prison, Heathfield Road, London SW18 3HS (even a postcard now and again).

DUBLIN ANARCHISTS Bob Cullen (7 yrs) Des Keane (5 yrs) and Columba Longmore (4 yrs). Address for letters & papers: Military Detention Centre, Curragh Camp, Co. Kildare, Eire.

STOKE NEWINGTON FIVE Welfare Committee, 54 Harcombe Rd. London N15. Needs donations to provide study books for these long-term prisoners.

GIOVANNI MARINI Defence Committee, Paolo Braschi, C.P. 4263, 2100 MILANO, Italy.

THREE held re kidnapping of Spanish banker: postcards to Octavio Alberola Sunilach, Prison de Fresnes, 1 Av. de la Division Leclerc, 94261 FRESNES, France; and to Ariane Gransack-Sadori & Jane Helen Weir at Prison de Femmes, 9 Av. des Peupliers, 97100 ST. GENEVIEVE DES BOIS, France.

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