

Freedom

Anarchist Weekly 6d

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MORE REPRESSION IN SPAIN

EVEN BEFORE GENERAL Franco's decision to declare a State of Emergency in Spain, the authorities still had extensive powers to suppress any opposition. These powers were also supplemented last year by the reintroduction of the law against banditry and terrorism. The new powers give police the authority to search without warrants and to exile people to different and remote parts of the country. Police can detain anybody indefinitely and full censorship of the press has been resumed.

Already these powers have been used and it is reported that in Barcelona alone 300 people have been arrested. Lawyers and professors have also been exiled.

Although there has been considerable agitation on the part of the students at both Madrid and Barcelona Universities, it has not been so extensive as at the same period last year. The same applies to industry and yet General Franco has thought it necessary to assume further powers.

But the unrest does not end with students and workers, but extends also to the institutions who have supported and shored up Franco's rule. In fact, he has kept himself in power for so long by very skilfully playing off these various parties which supported him during the Civil War. With Franco facing increasing opposition from a generation that did not experience the Civil War, these pillars of the Spanish State, the army, the church and the Falange, are now divided not only between themselves, but, more important, amongst their own members.

They are all fearful for their power

and influence once Franco has gone and are all jockeying for positions. This is the consequence of the rule of Franco and the extra powers now in operation point to a weakening of the government's rule and the power of the State.

Rumour has it that Franco plans Cabinet changes and that the emergency powers will enable him to choose a Prime Minister and to name a successor to him, as Head of State. Don Juan Carlos is now the favourite, but here also rivalries exist. The other contenders, his father and the Carlist candidate might cause further trouble for Franco.

The government's reasons for the State of Emergency are, according to the Minister of Information and Tourism, Fraga Iribane, because there was a plot afoot to bring Spain 'into a process of world subversion'. The Youth of Spain were being pushed 'into an orgy of nihilism and anarchy'.

If Franco is about to hand over power then no doubt he feels, together with the army, that extra powers will be needed to try to ensure a peaceful change. It is unlikely that such a change will pass without some explosion of resentment and hatred of a regime which still keeps men in prison from 1939 and that still opposes independent trade unions and imprisons strikers. With the heavy oppressive hand of Franco removed, the now divided State will be still further weakened. In this atmosphere, the Spanish people will have a far greater chance of making a bid for freedom than they have had since 1939.

SPIKES.

LSE—ACADEMIC THUGS UNITE!



'You've made your complaint. And now, what is your defence?'

WHEN 300 STUDENTS rejected the delaying tactics of negotiations in favour of immediate direct action, it was inevitable that their master would call in the whole apparatus of the State to crush them.

The Press, TV, Education Minister, NUS Executive, the Academic Board, and 'moderate' leaders have all jumped in with condemnations of the 'mass violence' used against seven iron gates, and urged the 'average, hard-working moderate student' to tell the 'extremists' where to get off.

The meeting of 2,000 LSE students on Monday, despite the distortions of the Press, proved beyond doubt that there are considerably more than 30 militants (more like 1,500), and that there is no such animal as the 'moderate'.

CONFRONTATION

At the last RSSF conference it was decided to use several universities—including LSE—as testing grounds. There has undoubtedly been a build up of agitation in LSE in the last two terms, and this fact

has promoted the belief that the students wanted the school closed as proof of their strength.

But the administrators also have a militant organization. At the last Vice-Chancellor's Conference, held about the same time as that of the RSSF, it was decided that a firm hand must be taken with militants.

Adams told staff in a confidential report after the October 26-27 occupation that he had been in constant touch with other V-Cs, the Education Minister, and Scotland Yard.

It seems highly likely that this tightly-knit group of conspirators had decided on a show-down at LSE before the students had. They could show they weren't to be trifled with, weed out the militants, and use the whole exercise for anti-revolutionary propaganda.

The erection of the gates was a deliberate provocation. They are clumsily inefficient for the job they were said to be for (i.e. protection of valuable [NOT beautiful!] paintings, computers, etc.), and were certain to cause a reaction from students.

ROSS BLUNDERS AGAIN

baker, the candlestick maker. Anybody in fact but proper teachers!

Thanks to Ross, such extreme right-wingers as Ian McKay, the Tory convenor of Aberdeen's MRA-run Education Committee, can gain themselves cheap publicity (aided by a vicious local press) by labelling those teachers who have refused to sign 'Reds'. We now have the wonderful spectacle of a Socialist minister handing the Tories votes. The fact is, that many of the gallant teachers who refuse to sign are left-wingers. They also happen to be among the best in their field. It is the mediocre who cravenly signed the government's little bit of paper. Right up there with Ross and the St. Andrews House civil servants are the EIS, an alleged teachers' 'union', which is in fact dominated by Tory headmasters from top to bottom. EIS heads, especially in primary schools (which in Scotland tend to be staffed by country lasses who would sign anything), have an easy job coercing teachers to sign.

Once the head has made his or her rounds saying, 'Sign or be sacked', it is easy for the EIS to trumpet that 'a majority of teachers support the GTC'. A majority obtained by threat is as phoney as the EIS claim to be anything like a union. Such a 'majority' is about as valid as a Franco referendum or one of Stalin's rigged 'elections'. One notes, with one's suspicious little mind, that the EIS doesn't want a secret ballot. Why ever not? They've got a majority . . . haven't they?

At first, it looked as if the SNP would fizzle out and dissolve after Hamilton, especially since they have no policy and are as Tory as the Tories (whose success in Scotland has never been what one might call outstanding). Such action as this by Ross gives the Poujadists of the SNP something to cling on to. It would indeed be ironic if the home of Keir Hardie was delivered unto people he would have puked on by a Labour government.

IAN S. SUTHERLAND.

Adams was given one week to take the gates down. He did nothing but promise to MOVE one gate two yards, and was only prepared to negotiate the issue on committees with no student representatives.

And if THEY weren't looking for confrontations why bring police into the Union bar when, if they merely wanted to identify people who took down the gates, they could have gone through the files, and when it was obvious that most of the 'culprits' would have gone home by then?

Perhaps the most telling fact though is that on the Monday AFTER the lock-out, gates were erected at the other RSSF stronghold, Essex.

ISOLATION

The chief trick—by and large a successful one—of the establishment at the moment is to use the media to isolate the trouble-makers.

Until Monday most of us were convinced they had succeeded in reducing us to the 'hard core'.

We had had messages of support, but there had been so many statements, articles, and editorials against us. When we took ULU it seemed we had alienated the rest of the London colleges, and several hundred fellow-students had forced us from occupying the third night. A meeting to explain our position to Fleet Street printers was a flop, and none of the 'Free LSE' marches have attracted more than 2,000.

They isolated us by smears—Express reporters finding hypodermic needles which they had so deftly dropped. These we can do nothing much about, except try to keep the Press out of all sit-ins, etc. Bad as the publicity was, it was better than during the October occupation when we co-operated with the Press and gave Press conferences.

They isolated us by direct suggestion—telling us we were only 100, and the other 3,000 were hard workers who were on the point of building a mass movement to smash us.

And they isolated us by saying we were different from normal people in ways other than politics—we were all foreign, lived in sin, we were the sons of the well-to-do.

That is why Monday's support from the mass of students was such a boost—they had failed to isolate us from students, although their success with the rest of the population goes without saying.

SOLIDARITY

Many universities passed motions of solidarity with LSE, some even occupied.

But that is not the kind of action that really helps us.

Students who sympathise with us must make their own demands. Take action for themselves. We don't need crutches.

In the present situation the solidarity we received seemed defensive, instead of using the whole occasion to widen the struggle and take it onto a higher level.

FACTIONS

Every group thinks it has all the answers, and that every other group is invariably wrong.

In the case of LSE, the IS, who have been strong there for some time, tried from the start to steer the whole battle (although their members were conspicuously absent from the actual destruction of the gates). When they thought a bad move had been made (the occupation of ULU) they did their utmost to sabotage the whole thing.

The Maoists also flooded us with their speakers and literature, and behaved despicably one night when the Situationists tried to revitalise and debureaucratise (!) the occupation of ULU.

AND NOW?

I believe the State will survive the troubles at LSE. So will Adams.

But it is worthwhile to continue, not for the odd point gained here and there (no doubt he will remove some gates eventually) but because during this whole process more and more people come to see the value of acting for oneself, and see through the pretensions of the Press, the Government, and, we hope, the whole concept of authority.

W.A.

LONDON SQUATTERS

announce

A PUBLIC MEETING

to install Homeless Families
in Empty Properties

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2 p.m.

at

MANOR PARK (British Rail Stn.)

Station Road, E.12

How to get there:

BY TRAIN Manor Park Station is on the Liverpool Street-Gidea Park Line.

Woodgrange Park Station, on the Kentish Town-Barking Line is nearby.

BY UNDERGROUND Central Line to Stratford, change to BR and get train to Manor Park.

BY BUS 101, 25, 86, 721 (Green Line).

WE NEED

1. Money.
2. Offers of food, water containers, and barricade materials.
3. Car on the day.
4. Meeting leaflets available 32/6d. per 1,000, 4/- per 100.

Offers and further information from
128 Hainault Road, E.11.
01-539 8059.

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So Many Hungers!	Bhabani Bhattacharya	4/-
The Unknown World of the Child	Andre Arthus	4/-

Freedom Bookshop

Write or Come!

Editorial office open Friday, February 7, 6-8 p.m. and Monday, February 10, 2-8 p.m.
Telephone: BISHOPSGATE 3015.

New temporary address:
84a WHITECHAPEL HIGH STREET,
c/o Express Printers,
(entrance Angel Alley),
WHITECHAPEL, E.1.
(Underground: Aldgate East. Exit:
Whitechapel Art Gallery. Turn right
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Temporary opening times:
Tuesday-Friday, 2-6 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

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- Berner's NEITHER EAST or WEST 6/- (+9d.)
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LEEDS SQUATTERS ...

ON SATURDAY, February 1, a group of people occupied an office block in the centre of Leeds for two hours. This block has been empty for over a year while education and housing are starved of money. The point of the demonstration was to show local people the nature of their society—a society which accepts empty office blocks and the homeless as facts of life. The

point was to show the connection between spectacular waste on one hand, and human misery on the other.

The block was scaled using grappling irons and rope to get up on to a balcony. It took a good five minutes to hold, while local citizens walked past looking puzzled. Nine people finally got up on to the balcony. Once up, a banner was raised over the balcony,

leaflets were handed out in the town and the press were notified. (Actually, publicity-wise the exercise was a bit of a flop; the squatters will know better next time.) The police came and acted like God, then pleaded with us and then settled in for a long siege—they don't issue them with grappling irons! When the squatters felt they had made their point they disappeared over the back fence. No arrests.

LEEDS DIRECT ACTION.

WHEN THE EPPING UDC decided that two tracts of land could be developed for housing, the Tory Council, still living in 'olde worlde market town' cloud-cuckoo land made a momentous decision.

The Council estate, to be rented by 'medium income' groups who shopped in Epping and whose children attended State schools, could be herded into nearby Coopersale, a charming boggy locality whose contact with urbanity is a bus four times daily, or a mile-and-a-half walk.

The buyers of the £10,000-plus 'Town Houses' which would appear to the awestruck gaze of motorists using the A.11 to Newmarket, were placed near the main shopping and school centre; making the use of two or three cars

... and in EPPING

only essential to cart the kids to private schools.

Admittedly, even at £10,000 these houses sell, but twice the number of houses at £3,000-£4,000 could have been put up at Theydon Grove (what an upper class sound!). Even possibly these cheaper houses could have been built to rent! But that would have shortened the Housing List and several Council Officials could have been redundant.

So the Essex Squatters' Committee are assisting the Epping UDC in their endeavour to find out the real needs of people requiring houses. It might

even be that more people in the £3,000 class need homes than in the £10,000 class.

Patrick Luker of 83 Parklands, Coopersale, Epping, would be interested to find out. Would anyone else? Please contact him (or London Squatters) BEFORE February 15. You'll enjoy the demonstration, but will the EUDC?

ESSEX SQUATTERS.

IRISH COMRADES MEET

THE FIRST REGIONAL meeting of anarchists, Free Communists, Libertarians and Revolutionists within the Irish state was held recently, at which was formed an anarchists national federation—the Alliance of Libertarian and Anarchist Groups in Ireland. Attached to the Alliance is the Irish Black Cross Committee. There is also an Irish Free Schools Campaign being initiated, and an Industrial Committee. A Free Library with no membership, no fines, is also going well. *The Outlaw* (organ of the Irish Working Class, radical students and intellectuals) is published by the Alliance as a contribution to the development of libertarian thought. It is hoped that it will be possible to publish a 'spontaneous newspaper' eventually, and to sell FREEDOM of course.

It was our policy not to mention our organization amongst the groups mentioned in FREEDOM, but many anarchists came over to Dublin around Christmas, completely unaware of our existence. We would have been glad to have met them. So we are mentioned henceforth in FREEDOM, and any comrades coming over will be welcome. The idea of national government

versus foreign (British) government has prevented the growth of no-government. Thus nationalism has gained a position since 1867 (The Fenian Movement Rising), and the Irish peasant eagerly awaited the 'Irish Republic' which would wipe away all ills, which it did not. Because the ordinary peasant was persecuted for his religion he clung eagerly to his faith, even when the persecution ceased, and slavishly obeyed the dictates of his priests, who naturally were intolerant of libertarian ideas.

Because of emigration, the rebel and non-conformist was forced to 'take the boat' to England or America, and the conformist got his father's farm.

The effects of these factors, plus the Irish security and establishment forces, are what we have to fight against. Most people, when told that one is an anarchist, reply, 'What's that?' or 'You want lawlessness and chaos!'

Would any FREEDOM readers living within the Irish state please contact us. They will be under no obligation by doing so.

ALLIANCE OF LIBERTARIAN AND ANARCHIST GROUPS IN IRELAND, c/o Freedom Press.

Anarchist Federation of Britain

LONDON FEDERATION OF ANARCHISTS. Sunday evening meetings at the 'Metropolitan' (corner of Clerkenwell Road and Farringdon Road), 7.30 p.m. Next meeting Sunday, February 9, Dave Pickett: 'Changing Ireland', February 16, M. J. Walsh: 'Disunity is Strength'.

EALING ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Lindsay Withers, 19 Aymer Road, Shepherd's Bush, W.12.

HARINGEY. 'Siege of Sidney Street Appreciation Society', Main, Wednesdays, 8 p.m., at A. Barlow's, 2a Fairfield Gardens, Crouch End, N.8.

LEWISHAM. Contact Mike Malet, 61B Granville Park, Lewisham, London, S.E.13. Phone: 01-852 8879.

PORTOBELLO ROAD ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Andrew Dewar, 16 Kilburn House, Malvern Place, N.W.6. Meetings 8 p.m. every Tuesday.

WEST HAM ANARCHISTS. Regular meetings and activities contact Mr. T. Plant(1), 10 Thackeray Road, East Ham, E.6. Tel.: 552 4162. Forward with Finch's Anarchists. Regular meetings: Contact P.P., 246 Portobello Road, W.11.

OFF-CENTRE LONDON DISCUSSION MEETINGS
Every Wednesday at Jack Robinson's and Mary Canipa's, 21 Rumbold Road, S.W.6 (off King's Road), 8 p.m.
Every Monday at A. Barlow's, 2a Fairfield Gardens, Haringey, N.8. (Siege of Sidney Street Appreciation Society).

- REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND GROUPS**
- BEXLEY ANARCHIST MOVEMENT.** Steve Lemay, 28 New Road, Abbey Wood, S.E.2. Tel.: ET 35377. Meetings every Friday, 8 p.m., Lord Bexley, Bexleyheath Broadway.
- BIRMINGHAM ANARCHIST GROUP.** Secretary, c/o Birmingham Peace Action Centre, Factory Road, Birmingham 19. Libertarian discussion groups held 8 p.m. on each Tuesday at 'The Crown', Corporation Street (Opp. Law Courts), Birmingham City, S.a.s. to Secretary for details.
- BOLTON.** Get in touch with John Hayes, 51 Rydal Road, Bolton.
- BOURNEMOUTH AREA.** Local anarchists can be contacted through Nigel Holt, Rosmore, Harvey Road, Canford, Wimborne, Dorset. (Wimborne 2291.)
- CORNWALL ANARCHISTS.** Contact Arthur Jacobs, 13 Ledrah Road, St. Austell, Cornwall. Discussion meetings on the second Friday of each month at Brian and Hazel McGee's, 42 Pendarves Street, Beacon, Camborne, 7.30 p.m. Visiting comrades very welcome.
- CROYDON LIBERTARIANS.** Meetings every 2nd Friday of each month. Laurens and Celia Otter, 35 Natal Road, Thornton Heath (LIV 7546).
- EDGWARE PEACE ACTION GROUP.** Contact Melvyn Estrin, 84 Edgwarebury Lane, Edgware, Middx.
- HERTS.** Contact Val and John Funnell, 10 Fry Road, Chells, Stevenage.
- IPSWICH ANARCHISTS.** Contact Neil Dean, 74 Cemetery Road, Ipswich, Suffolk.
- LICESTER PROJECT.** Peace/Libertarian action and debate. Every Wednesday at 8 p.m. at 1 The Crescent, King Street, Leicester.
- NORTH SOMERSET ANARCHIST GROUP.** Contact Roy Emery, 3 Abbey Street, Bath, or Geoffrey Barfoot, 71 St. Thomas Street, Wells.

NOTTING HILL. Meetings at John Bennett's, Flat 4, 88 Clarendon Road, W.11. Every Monday evening, 8 p.m.

ORPINGTON ANARCHIST GROUP. Knockholt, Nr. Sevenoaks, Kent. Every six weeks at Greenways, Knockholt. Phone: Knockholt 2316. Brian and Maureen Richardson.

REDDITCH ANARCHISTS AND LIBERTARIANS. Contact Dave Lloyd, 37 Feckenham Road, Headless Cross, Redditch, Worcs.

ESSEX & EAST HERTS FEDERATION
Three-monthly meetings. Groups and individuals invited to associate: c/o Peter Newell (see N.E. Essex Group).

Group Addresses:—
NORTH EAST ESSEX. Peter Newell, 91 Brook Road, Tolleshunt Knights, Tiptree, Essex. Regular meetings.

BISHOPS STORTFORD. Vic Mount, 'Eastview', Castle Street, Bishops Stortford, Herts.

CHELMSFORD. (Mrs.) Eva Archer, Mill House, Purleigh, Chelmsford, Essex.

EPPING. John Barrick, 14 Centre Avenue, Epping, Essex.

HARLOW. Ian Dallas, 18 Brookline Field, Harlow and Annette Gunning, 37 Longbanks, Harlow.

LOUGHTON. Group c/o Students' Union, Loughton College of Further Education, Borders Lane, Loughton, Essex.

NORTH-WEST FEDERATION
LIVERPOOL ANARCHIST PROPAGANDA GROUP AND 'HIPPI' MOVEMENT. Gerry Bree, 16 Faulkner Square, Liverpool, 8. Meetings weekly. 'Freedom' Sales—Pier Head, Saturdays, Sundays, Evenings.

MANCHESTER ANARCHIST GROUP. 'The Secretary', 9 Boland Street, Fallowfield, Manchester, 14. Regular weekly meetings. Contact Secretary for venue.

(see details under Student Groups).

YORKSHIRE FEDERATION
Meetings every 8 weeks. Next meeting February 2. Secretary: Colin Beadle, c/o Oakwood Farm, Cliffe-cum-Lund, Selby, Yorkshire. Look out for 'Liberty'!

HALIFAX. David Stringer, c/o Paul Simon, 91 Essex Street, Parkinson Lane, Halifax.

HULL. Jim Young, 3 Fredericks Crescent, Hawthorn Avenue, Hull.

LEEDS. Direct Action Society. Contact John Boutwood, 142 Brudenell Road, Leeds, 6.

SHREFFIELD. Dave Jeffries, c/o Students Union, Western Bank, Sheffield, 10.

YORK. Nigel Wilson, Derwent College, University of York, Heslington, York.

WELSH FEDERATION
CARDIFF ANARCHIST GROUP. All correspondence to:—Pete Raymond, 18 Marion Street, Splott, Cardiff.

SWANSEA ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Ian Bone, 3 Bay View Crescent, Brynmill, Swansea. Weekly meetings, 'Freedom' sales and action projects.

LLANELLI. Contact Dai Walker, 6 Llwynnendy Road, Llanelli, Carm. Tel: Llanelli 2548.

EAST LONDON LIBERTARIAN FEDERATION
Support wanted for numerous activities in area. Secretary: Anthony Matthews, 35 Mayville Road, London, E.11. Meetings fortnightly on Sundays at Ron Bailey's, 128 Hainault Road, E.11 (LEY 8059). Ten minutes from Leytonstone Underground.

Active groups in: LEYTONSTONE, STEPNEY, NEWHAM, ILFORD, DAGENHAM, WOODFORD and LIMEHOUSE.

STUDENT GROUPS
ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY GROUP. C/o Ian and Peggy Sutherland, 8 Esslemont Avenue, Aberdeen, AB2 4SL.

BRIDGEND UNIVERSITY ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Matthew Robertson, Trinity College, or John Fullerton, Jesus College.

SUSSEX UNIVERSITY ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Francis Jarman, Red Brick Lodge, 49 Upper Rock Gardens, Brighton. Meetings every second Thursday jointly with Brighton Group; bookstall every Monday outside J.C.R., 12-2.30 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER CAMP

'So far the appeal ('Freedom', 11.1.69) for funds has brought in £3, £300 is needed. We shall also need a large pair of scales for the camp shop, and a first aid box. Can anyone help with these?

HANDBILL MEN IMPRISONED

Athens, January 29
SIX GREEKS were imprisoned today for distributing anarchistic handbills against the Government. They were accused of plotting to overthrow the regime.

Leonidas Sideris (41) received 17 years, Spiros Efstathiadis (36) seven, Emanuil Yakoumatos (22), Ioannis Kamarikos (26), and Ioannis Poupetis (27), six each, and Ioannis Hondropoulos (40), three.—UPI and Reuter.

THE AGITATOR

LETTER

To The Editor,
FREEDOM.

Comrade!

I am the hunger striking squatter mentioned in your very interesting article on housing in Ireland (FREEDOM, January 25). Your readers will be glad to hear that I was temporarily released from Mountjoy Prison on January 24, the twelfth day of my hunger strike, and that I am once more squatting with my wife and family in some of the idle property of Landlord Underwood, who is cruising near Las Palmas. My landlord has been described by his council as 'a most humane man' in the Dublin High Court. This remark brought so much laughter from the public gallery that the judge had to order the court to be cleared!

The 'midnight marauders' who blew up Mr. Underwood's car and 'painted' his Dalky villa have never been apprehended! These days, in Dublin, life can indeed be a trying experience for both squatter and landlord. But Mr. Underwood, being a wealthy man, has taken himself abroad to sunnier and more peaceful climes. The process of law hasn't yet been exhausted and I must appear once more before the High Court on February 7, when his counsel, Mr. Mackey, will no doubt demand my committal once more.

I do hope your mysterious contributor, Gerard Grimley, will keep your readers informed of my fortunes during my absence!

Fraternaly,

DENNIS DENNELLY.

Squatting at
20 Mountjoy Square,
Dublin.

P.S.

You attribute Editorship of the Agitator, Voice of the Unemployed and Exploited to Gerald Grimley. This is not correct. For the record, I must state that I have been acting as Editor. We did have a 'Libel Claims Manager', but we are not sure where he lives. Perhaps it's a wise arrangement. If Mr. Grimley would care to contact me, I'd be pleased to meet him.

—D.

(We apologise to both gentlemen for the misnomer in the last issue of FREEDOM.—Editor.)

'Beaver'. KINGSTON COLLEGE of Technology, Penhryn Road, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey. Contact G. Wright.

SCOTTISH FEDERATION

All correspondence to Dave Coull, secretary, 3 Eskview Terrace, Ferryden, Montrose, Angus.

ABERDEEN ANARCHIST GROUP. Bob Comrie, 288 Hargate or Ian Mitchell, 3 Sinclair Road, GLASGOW ANARCHIST GROUP, Robert Lynn, 12 Ross Street, S.E. or Joe Embleton, 26 Kirkland Road, N.W.

EDINBURGH. Tony Hughes, Top Flat, 40 Angle Park Terrace, Edinburgh 11.

HAMILTON AND DISTRICT ANARCHIST GROUP. Robert Linton, 7a Station Road, New Stevenston, Motherwell.

FIFE. Bob and Una Turnbull, 39 Stratheden Park, Stratheden Hospital, By Cupar.

NORTHERN IRELAND
BELFAST ANARCHIST GROUP. Meetings every Saturday, 2 p.m., 44a Upper Arthur Street (top floor). 'Freedom' sales.

LIBERTARIAN TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION
Meetings—discussions—activities. Contact Peter Ford, 36 Devonshire Road, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

ABROAD
AUSTRALIA. Federation of Australian Anarchists, P.O. Box A 389, Sydney South, NSW 2000. Phone No. 69-8095. Open discussion and literature sale in the Domain—Sunday, 2 p.m. Call at 59 Eveleigh Street, Redfern, NSW 2015 for personal discourse, tea and overnight accommodation.

BELGIUM. Groupe du journal Le Libertaire, 220 rue Vivegnis, Liège.

USA. James W. Cain, secretary, the Anarchist Committee of Correspondence, 323 Fourth Street, Cloquet, Minnesota 55720, USA.

VANCOUVER, B.C., CANADA. Anyone interested in forming anarchist and/or direct action peace group contact Derek A. James, c/o 24-160 East 20th, N. Vancouver, B.C., Canada. Tel.: 985 7599 or 987 2693.

USA: VERMONT. New Hampshire Anarchist Group. Discussion meetings. Actions. Contact Ed. Strauss, RFD 2, Woodstock, Vermont 05091, USA.

TORONTO LIBERTARIAN ANARCHIST GROUP. 217 Torvork Drive, Weston, Ontario, Canada. Weekly meetings. Read the 'Libertarian'.

PROPOSED GROUPS

THE MALATESTA GROUP meeting Thursday, February 20, 7.30 p.m. C/o Reg Beard, 5 Welbeck Court, Addison Bridge Place, W.14 603 0550.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE. Interested friends contact Chris Sagar, 8 Moorland Way, Mansfield.

READING. Libertarian and Anarchist group would like to contact fellow anarchists in the district and in the university. C/o 57 Kiln Ride, Wokingham, Berkshire.

ROCHDALE, BURY & OLDHAM areas. Those interested in libertarian activity contact David Purdy, c/o 35 Balmoral Drive, Darn Hill Estate, Heywood, Lancs.

WATFORD. Anyone interested please contact Ronnie Anderson, 31 Marlborough Road, Watford, Herts.

ONLY IN A POLITICAL system where decisions are made centrally can one be held responsible for mismanagement of one kind or another. Decentralisation means that the individual is responsible for his own actions and his own actions alone.

The paradox of advocating the ideas of anarchism in a centralised society is that one willy-nilly gets involved in the problems and mistakes of the centralised society. This is no wish on the writer's part to opt out, he couldn't even if he tried. What this means however is that whenever anarchism or anarchist ideas are mentioned in whatever context or whatever place, his heart quickens its beat, but being one among a million he feels unable to make contact in the unexpected situation.

A writer in the last issue of FREEDOM berated not just the individual anarchist but the anarchist movement as a whole in this country for not being able to do anything about developments in Biafra,

THIN ON THE GROUND

Czechoslovakia, Spain, Germany, Japan, Northern Ireland, to show our solidarity or our indignation or at least our concern. Last week he could have added two other important happenings to his list: the struggle at LSE, and the trial and heavy sentencing of Greek anarchists in Athens. In order to protest, in order to show our solidarity, we have no choice but to organise, and that organisation will involve us in the paradox previously mentioned. Anarchists of the past have not been able to solve this problem any better than we can, and we have to content ourselves with being supporters except in that particular instance when the struggle is our very own.

This is why we can support the London Squatters, not being homeless ourselves, but recognising the right way to behave

in a given situation. This is why we can join in the activities of the Workers Mutual Aid group, because it bypasses the present-day squabbles and concentrates on the desired Utopia. This is why we can only support LSE students, not ever having studied in a university. If we wanted to join in wholeheartedly, we would have to decide what kind of university and what kind of education is acceptable to us. But this is taking the struggle in the universities at its most prosaic.

The authorities and some of the students would like to evolve some workable rules of privileges and concessions which do not change the structure. What frightens them is the 'irresponsible' talk of anarchy, and on this level we are not just supporters but we can join in the

fight as well.

It is still surprising that LSE, designed and tailored for the managerial jobs of the establishment, without anarchist lecturers, and without a course on anarchism, should even consider anarchist ideas.

Yet another paradox, that apprentices on a day release course designed to make them better workers in the capitalist system should take it into their heads to ask their teacher to take them to LSE to find out about anarchism. There is no justice.

When it comes to attacks on anarchism it is still impossible for us to take on all the opposition. All we can hope for is that an answer will be given by somebody, sometime. And if anarchists cannot find an answer the establishment will have to answer itself. This is where well-known bootlickers such as Trevor Fiske and Des Wilson come in handy.

R.

FIFTH COLUMN

We're all adolescents

LAST SUNDAY'S editorial in the *Observer* on the LSE was a pleasant surprise. For once the heading 'What The Observer Thinks' seemed justified. After explaining in a remarkably calm, though sometimes misleading, way why he thought the militants and the authorities were in conflict the writer made and explored an interesting distinction:

One of the plainest differences between the militants and those they oppose is in their attitude to the institution of marriage; the militants do not believe in its value... it is an inescapable part of human nature that small children require their two parents to be in a positive relationship to them and to each other... the capacity to act as satisfactory parents is what marks the distinction between those who have managed to attain adulthood and those who... have retained the characteristics of adolescence... such people... do not have the mature adulthood required... to produce a society that behaves with adult restraint.

To simplify the argument: a militant equals a person who criticises marriage and the family and who therefore isn't very good at bringing up children inside the family; this makes him or her an adolescent who by definition is incapable of producing a society which has the traditional virtues of adulthood.

There are two weak links in this argument. First militants—whatever their views on marriage and the upbringing of children—do not live in communes. They live in families like everyone else. And the *Observer* offers no evidence that militants are incompetent at bringing up children in a family setting. In fact, of course, the majority of student militants—like the majority of student moderates—don't have children yet; it would be very difficult indeed to demonstrate that they were unable to function as 'satisfactory parents'. The assertion that militants can't bring up children inside a family because they criticise the institution is as absurd as the sneer that militant students are all academic failures.

The second weak link is in the phrase 'produce a society that behaves with adult restraint'. In fact the word 'produce' destroys the whole argument: the implication is that the militants plan to create the society they want themselves. But the distinctive feature of anarchism and revolutionary socialism—the dominant political ideas among the LSE militants—is their insistence on the involvement of the mass. The militants act to bring about change but they are only successful when they succeed in persuading the majority to act with them. This majority which presumably lacks the 'adolescent' characteristics identified by the *Observer* is thus not disqualified from creating a society that behaves with adult restraint.

I have two more objections to the *Observer's* argument. The first is that the two-parent family living in a little box is neither 'an inescapable part of human nature' nor the best possible environment for a child—particularly an only child. I am opposed to marriage and the conventional family; thus I do not regard support for them as a necessary feature of adulthood. I would also question 'adulthood' itself if being adult means accepting or imposing authority.

It is appropriate that revolutionaries should question all social institutions. They cannot do this without considering the assumptions on which these institutions are based. The existing institutions of family, school and college are intended to produce trained, obedient adults, programmed to work efficiently, live in single family units and reproduce themselves.

Those of us who refuse this 'adult' destiny are still adolescents in a sense: we are forced to continue to rebel, struggle and grow. The society in which we can be calm and restrained and adult has not yet been made.

SHORT AND SQUALID

I suppose Mr. Edward Short as the symbol of adult authority deserves a footnote. Mr. Short, once a headmaster, later Chief Whip, now famous for his references to 'the thugs of the academic world' and 'a new brand of anarchists' is an excellent Minister of Education. In his celebrated speech he appealed to parents and local authorities as well as university administrators to help 'stop this squalid nonsense'. Mr. Short probably made more anarchists in one speech than most agitators do all their propagandist lives.

ARTHUR MOYSE.

WYNFORD HICKS.

NEWS FROM FASCIST ULSTER

Adolf Craig, December 9, 1968: 'The Special Powers Act has been put in cold storage.'

Mr. Long, new Minister of Home Affairs, December 28, 1968: 'I banned the newspaper "United Irishman" under the Special Powers Act.'

O'Neill, January 27, 1969: 'The Cabinet will amend the Public Order Acts.'

THE NEW LEGISLATION which will be law within two weeks is the most reactionary piece of fascist law yet devised. It furthers the powers already held under the Special Powers Act, it will be envied by Franco and Vorster. Now one must give four days' notice for a march. Acts of civil disobedience, such as sit-downs, make those taking part liable to one month's imprisonment. Token occupations make one liable to six months. This is aimed at the People's Democracy in particular, and the Civil Rights movement in general. Counter-demonstrations are banned, as are paramilitary organisations. We will have to wait and see if the police enforce these regulations against those who oppose CR marchers, or if they demonstrate their usual partiality.

Now more than ever we need united opposition to the Police State and its fascist laws. According to the Unionists, N. Ireland has had a State of Emergency for fifty years. So much for stable government—Up Off Your Knees, Citizens.

O'NEILL'S PANIC

O'Neill: 'The Cabinet is fully united behind me.'

Two days later, Brian Faulkner, Minister of Commerce and Deputy PM, resigned, accusing O'Neill of cowardice. Recriminations followed and then the Party split. Morgan, Minister of Health, also resigned. Now the Cabinet is completely united, Terence proclaims, 'Our tails are up.' Not surprisingly, given such a posture, his arse is thoroughly kicked. He then stated, 'The rumours about a resignation of a junior Cabinet minister are completely unfounded.' Two days later, Deputy Whip Burns resigns, and thirteen back benches openly tell O'Neill to quit. Next day one of them retracts. The whole Party is in complete disarray, with O'Neill, Faulkner and Craig wheeling and dealing, trying to knife each other in the back.

At present, O'Neill has a small majority but he seems sure to be ousted before the year is out, in favour of a comparative nonentity, Chichester Clark, guesses our man in the pigsty.

The election on February 24 indicates O'Neill's present panic. In a desperate attempt to prevent the O'Neill Unionists and the Paisley Unionists slitting each others' throats O'Neill is trying to pull a de Gaulle. He won't be successful. Paisley is out for his blood. None of this will matter to the people. They only have power when they take action in the streets or by squatting, no matter which political hack ends up in power. The

Unionists' ends are the same anyway, the dominance of Sectarianism and Capitalism. The means of achievement is their only difference. All reasonable people can only gaze with derision at the politicians destroying each other, and with contempt at the sight of people such as Cooper and Hume using the cheap smear tactics of the Stormont politicians and the Paisleyites to blame 'trouble' on CR marches on 'Derry anarchists'. After their sell-out at the barricades in Derry they have to try and justify their bourgeois ambitions.

We can be sure that the middle-class sellers of civil rights away from the people of Newry and Derry will attempt the same role as the French Communist Party did. Everything will be sold down the river in the chase for the illusions of power. Stormont politics will never give the people of N. Ireland anything. They have to get better conditions by direct action. The charade of voting is rendered even more farcical by the dominance of sectarian issues and one-party control. It takes more than election slogans to change the face of social injustice in Ulster.

M.H.

COMRADES HAVE BEEN FINED UP TO £300 IN ULSTER RECENTLY, MONEY IS URGENTLY NEEDED FOR THESE FINES. PLEASE SEND MONEY, P.O.'S AND CHEQUES—
c/o FREEDOM PRESS

Morality

Dear Editors,

FREEDOM'S 'Fifth Columnist' is usually inoffensive if nothing else, but I found his ill-argued rejection of morality most objectionable and quite disgraceful from someone who is given space in a revolutionary paper. I suspect Wynford Hicks was only doing a bit of semantic legerdemain for want of anything else to write about: or perhaps he has been reading Nietzsche's *Beyond Good and Evil* and has become infected with what Victor Serge calls the 'individualist-anarchist poison'. In either case I have no wish to enter into a long polemic—Kropotkin's *Ethics* has already stressed the vital importance of morality to a revolutionary credo, and, in fact to human life, happiness and progress. However, I would like to know whether Wynford Hicks discards the concept of solidarity as glibly as he does that of morality. —Although as he has more or less implied that he only tells the truth when it suits him to do so, it doesn't make very much difference what he says, does it?

DAVE POULSON.

Somerset.
23.1.69.

POLICE RAID PEACE CENTRE

IN THE LAST WEEKS of October 1968 Danny Rogan arranged a collage of poetry and pictures as a visual token of his support for the October 27 Demonstration. Its theme was 'Anti-War' and its subject matter was culled from various papers and magazines that ranged from FREEDOM, *Peace News*, *Private Eye*, *Rebel* and *Black Dwarf* to *The Pacifist* and *OZ*. It was deemed by those who saw it to be a good display and for this reason it was left on public view just that little longer than usual.

On December 17 the local police, acting under instruction, raided the Doncaster Peace Centre at the corner of Green Dyke Lane and Cemetery Road and removed the Anti-War display. They then informed Danny Rogan, the PPU contact member for the Doncaster area, that they had removed the Anti-War display in his absence and that they were charging him under the 1824 Vagrancy Act with the offence of publicly displaying an indecent exhibition.

Danny Rogan asked that the matter should go to a trial by jury but he has been informed that by the nature of the charge he must be dealt with in a Magistrate's Court.

The local PPU were quick to offer their service and they were and are prepared to fight this charge. At Danny Rogan's request the case has been adjourned until February 5 to enable him to seek help and advice. Danny Rogan will be attending the PPU Conference at Spode House on January 25 and 26 when the matter will be raised and discussed.

Should any readers of FREEDOM attending the PPU Conference be able to offer constructive help then they must let their voices be heard for on the evidence available this police raid and subsequent prosecution for displaying cut-outs from papers and magazines on public sale should never have been set in motion yet the authorities can win by default unless we are prepared to act now.

certainly want something to do with us.

Being anarchists, the chances are that we run foul of the law more often than most, and a little knowledge of the law can hardly be a dangerous thing—after all—'know your enemy'...

I would be the first to admit—having experienced it at first hand—that, next to anarchists, the police, magistracy and courts, etc., seem to have the least respect for the law of any elements within society, flouting it at the least provocation or more. They do not, of course, fight according even to their own rules.

It is certain, however, that the NCCL issued this handy volume in the full knowledge that the forces of law and chaos often have little intention of permitting the citizen to exert any of his lawful rights. The NCCL has been active itself in many cases where the law has acted with blatant illegality. However, given all these limitations, it is still, obviously, of considerable value to be aware of your full legal entitlements when dealing with the law. This little book is a vital, economic introduction and guide to these rights; or as Lord Shawcross, one-time attorney-general, said of an earlier edition of this work, 'A useful guide for the inexperienced criminal'.

PADDY FIELDS.

STOP PRESS

Danny Rogan held for medical report and sentencing Can Doncaster comrades help?

A USEFUL GUIDE

HANDBOOK OF CITIZEN'S RIGHTS (3rd Edition, revised 1968). Published by NCCL, 4 Camden High Street, N.W.1. Price 5/-.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL for Civil Liberties has now published the third enlarged edition of its *Handbook of Citizen's Rights*.

The book covers in outline many aspects of the law concerning the rights of the individual, including demonstrations, and charges that may arise from them, public meetings, processions, methods of propaganda, aspects of security—including mail-tampering and telephone tapping, censorship, law and the trade unions (although this may find itself out of date very shortly), arrest, bail, police questioning and all associated matters, rights of search and seizure of property, limitations of police powers, sureties, binding overs, incitement, conspiracy, racial discrimination (although if you are pink, e.g. Enoch Powell—and not brown, e.g. Michael Abdul Malik—you seem exempt from this), the position of aliens and Commonwealth citizens before the law, and lastly legal aid.

It covers all this in outline in only 80 pages, which makes the volume a concise pocket guide—handy and available for all occasions, but on the other hand it cannot cover (and does not set out to) the aspects of the law cited above in great detail—references to other more detailed books of law on those topics such as those published for the police force itself by Butterworths, have been omitted. This would not have taken up much space and could prove quite valuable.

When discussing this handy volume with other anarchists, one or two of them expressed the opinion that—being anarchists—we ought not to concern ourselves with a knowledge of the law—or such 'reformist' bodies as the NCCL—after all, 'we don't believe in the law, do we!' (Believe it or not it was actually said.) We may want nothing to do with them, but *THEY*

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DIG DEEP!

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Incomes Policy Smashed!

AS IS THEIR wont, governments and politicians have always to find someone 'to carry the can' when they run into trouble. On this occasion it's poor old John Stonehouse, the Postmaster-General. The Government, having decided to take the Post Office overseas telegraphists 'on', found to their surprise that the 3,500 telegraphists were prepared to accommodate them.

The Union of Post Office Workers (UPW) was founded in 1871 and to date this is their second strike. Two strikes in 98 years does not suggest that post office workers will strike over the smallest pretext. Obviously

the overseas telegraphists had had enough of shilly-shallying around. The Post Office, in keeping with the fashion of 1969, is on the 'productivity kick'; also in keeping with the fashion is the idea that productivity deals should go one way, into the pockets of the employer. The businessmen know to their increasing detriment who reaps the major benefit from One-Man Buses.

When the telegraphists struck on January 21, the Government believed that a couple of days at the most would see them back at work. How wrong can one be? Ask John Stonehouse. Their strike headquarters was in a pub just off Fleet Street, and judging by the attitude of the lads, they were prepared to stay out for ever. These were not hardened industrial militants, 'trouble' being their second name.

Just blokes who had a justified grievance battling against not a tin-pot employer but the bloody Government and they do not come any bigger than that.

On the first day the Press proudly announced that the effect on industry was 'irritating rather than disastrous'. These 'industrial correspondents' really are a shower; they do enjoy getting in the first 'dig' against strikers. Printworkers are in an excellent position to assist workers on strike by merely refusing to print the lies the Press push out.

By the third day it was obvious that the telegraphists were going to need assistance. Commercial cable companies found their business had increased by 50%. It is reported they endeavoured not to antagonise their own staff by accepting too much 'black' work. It is nice to

Freedom For Workers' Control

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think how considerate some people can be.

On January 25 the UPW decided that playing pat-a-cake with a Government does not win demands, so they slapped an overtime ban on all their 195,000 members with a one-day stoppage for good measure. The effect of the two-pronged attack had the Government by the 'short hairs'. A formula had to be found which would appear as a victory for them. No matter how they juggle words around, the agreement is a win for the UPW.

The major concession gained was that overseas tape relay unit was a productivity issue not under PIB

policy and should be paid for accordingly. The operation of the 'unit' means a loss of 167 jobs and loss of earnings. This semi-automatic system was last used in 1967. The Post Office have a new £800,000 relay centre which was to be manned by 123 workers but because of its inadequacy 158 people are needed, therefore the centre is not to be expanded, hence the fall-back on the 1967 equipment. Payment is to be made when the effectiveness of the unit has been calculated. The operators have the solution in their own hands. A square ring is not the only place for 'boxing'.

B.C.

Contact Column

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

'A non-violent society is basically an anarchist society'—Satish Kumar. London School of Non-Violence meets every Tuesday, 7.30 p.m., in The Crypt, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London, W.C.2

Mystery. What does January 17 mean to you? Ideas to Christine, 111 Harcourt Road, Blackpool.

Matrix Live! Saturday nights at Northgate Youth Centre. Crawley 27275 for information.

Information wanted.

Anarchist Outing. Saturday, February 8, one-day trip to Southend in hired coach. Ten shillings return. Last minute information from Pamela Pearce, 246 Portobello Road, W.11.

Liberty No. 2 out now. Articles include 'Is Anarchism Violence?'; 'Justice and Law'; 'Czechoslovakia', etc. 6d. + 4d. post from C. Beadle, c/o Oakwood Farm, Lund, Selby, Yorks.

Chelmsford Meeting. 'Anarchism Is Humanism'. Speaker: Philip Sansom. Tuesday, March 4, Civic Centre Lecture Room at 7.15 p.m.

Basildon. Will readers and members of Basildon Group please contact (write to) Essex Federation Secretary, Peter Newell, 91 Brook Road, Tiptree, Essex, as Basildon Group Secretary, Mick Powell, has gone to Australia without sending the Fed. Sec. Contact and Group addresses.

Spare rooms in flat, Ladbroke Grove. Phone 969 8053, now, Marshall Colman, Cathy Edwards, Ros Kane.

Help Increase 'Freedom's' Circulation. Are you willing to take 'Freedom' and 'Anarchy' regularly to local newspapers and collect returns and cash? If so we'd like to hear from you. — CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT.

Scottish Anarchist Conference in Aberdeen March 1 and 2. Details from Dave Coull, 3 Eskview Terrace, Ferryden.

Help wanted. (girl, couple, anything considered) in isolated rural household, Colchester/Ipswich area. Working anarchist parents offer board, lodging, and pocket money for sharing care of children and chores. Time-responsibilities flexible. Children 4 and 1½. Driver preferred. Box No. 30.

Poster Workshop, 61 Camden Road, N.W.1. Free silk screen facilities at the service of the class struggle.

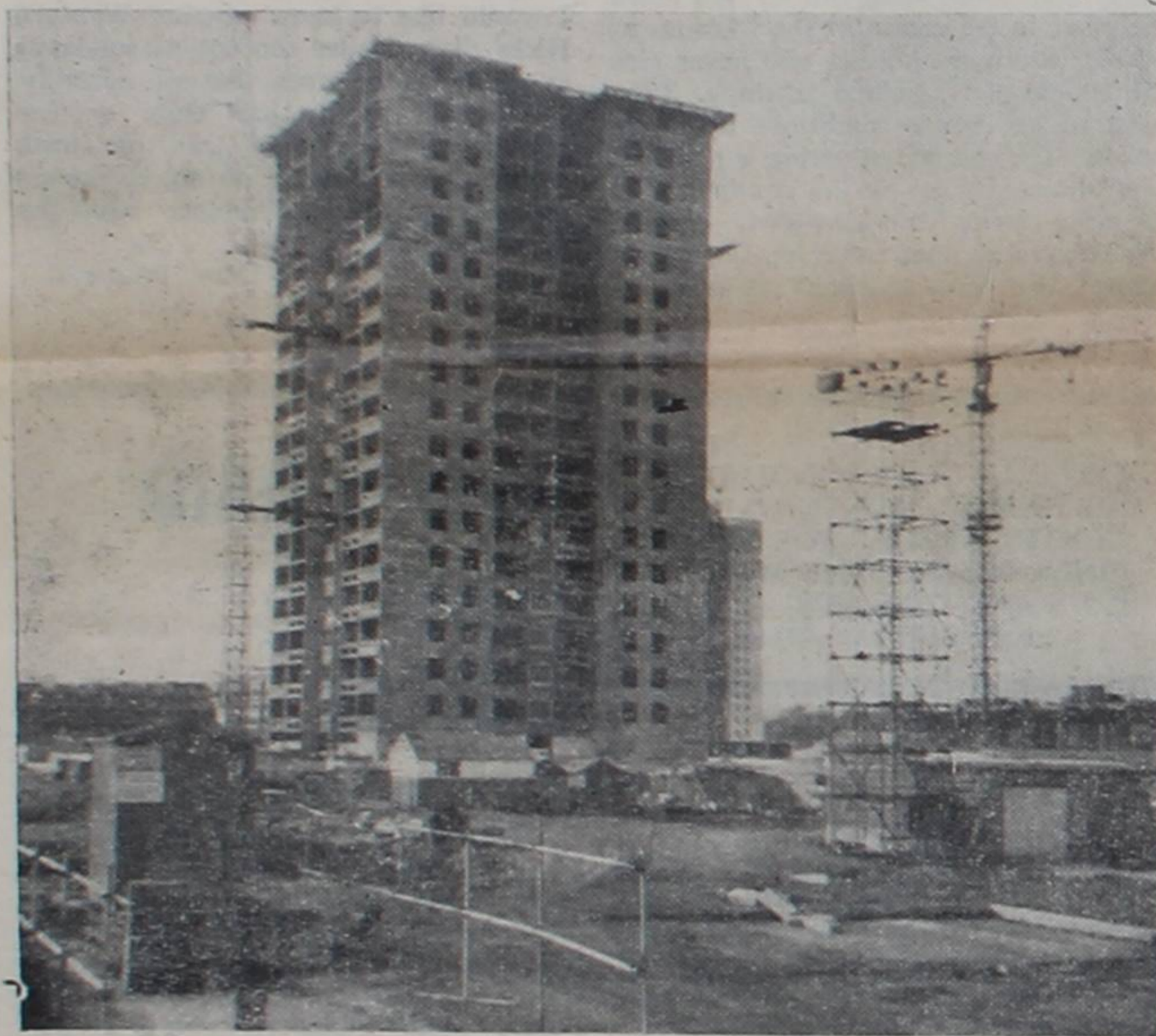
The Crypt, 242 Lancaster Road, W.11. Music, Poetry, Theatre every Wed. 2/6. Audience participation.

Birmingham Discussion Meetings. Tuesdays at 8 p.m. At The Crown, Corporation Street. Feb. 11: Alvin Stinton on 'Revolution Now'. Feb. 18: Review and criticism of L. Tower Sargeant's 'The American Right'. Speaker: Peter Neville. Feb. 25: Godfrey Webster on 'Organisation, Anarchy and Anarchism'.

Badges and Banners. Rectangular metal black/red badges 2/6 each post free or bulk rate (10 or more) 1/- each—resell at 2/- or 2/6. Also flags and banners to order, from 7/6. McGee, 42 Pendarves Street, Beacon, Camborne, Cornwall.

If you wish to make contact let us know.

MOVING IN ON IVY BRIDGE



One of the deserted and uncompleted blocks of Council flats.

WORKERS on the site at Ivy Bridge, Isleworth, have now been locked out by Turriffs for 16 weeks. The contract, when completed, will provide 1,100 council homes. Originally the completion date was 1972, but the actions of the Turriff management will obviously mean that families on the Borough's housing list will have to wait even longer before they are given decent accommodation.

Let us be quite clear on this issue. In September, the Works Committee agreed to a management suggestion to work more overtime so that 100 flats could be finished by Christmas. However, a month later, Turriffs had changed their tune and insisted on a new bonus scheme which would cut earnings, in some cases, by as much as 50%. The company complained that production was too high, that wages were in excess and that bonus earnings exceeded the Prices and Incomes Board policy. The management, in fact, had worked out a bonus scheme with Barbara Castle which would give the men only a few coppers an hour.

After the men rejected the new bonus scheme and reverted to normal working, but with overtime, the management started sacking men and disbanded the Works Committee. More operatives were sacked, most of whom were entitled to at least a week's notice. The unions have declared an official lock-out, but the management have refused to comply with the recommendations of both regional and national commissions, which found in the men's favour. Being an official

dispute, hardly anything has appeared in the national newspapers, with the exception of the *Morning Star*. Reporters turn up and fill their pads, but nothing appears next day.

PUBLIC MEETING

Last week the Lock-out Committee, together with the Hounslow Trades Council, organised a public meeting on the dispute and the housing problem affecting the Borough. Two Labour MPs, Russell Kerr and Michael Barnes, spoke. Kerr had made some effort to understand the dispute and has helped the Lock-out Committee, but Barnes and a prospective candidate, J. Samuel, only attacked Tory Councils and their policies. Later on during discussion from the floor, a worker said they were organising in his borough to fight rent increases made by a Labour Council.

The Chairman of the Lock-out Committee, Sonny McGowan, revealed that Turriffs were after another £½m. from the Council to complete the contract otherwise they were thinking of withdrawing. He said that Turriffs could not run a 'kindergarten' and that they were not making enough profit from the contract. He listed items of incompetence, where drains were put in wrongly by the sub-contractors and had to be ripped out, flats being built too high and being demolished, of walls being blown over, of front doors being obstructed by toilet doors and of some toilet doors hitting the lavatory pans. This is why Turriffs

locked out the men so that they could either re-negotiate the contract for an extra £½m. or give it up altogether.

FLATS NEARLY FINISHED

I have already reported that the Tory Council cut back on housing (see *FREEDOM*, 21.12.68) but it seems that the Council will be only too willing to let Turriffs get away with it.

Meanwhile there are a number of flats very near completion, while there are about 6,000 families on the waiting list. Of course Turriffs are not in business to build homes, but to make a profit.

If the former conflicts with the latter, then it is too bad. That is the basis of the system we live under, where, in fact, the State and the employers cannot supply the three necessities of life, food, clothing and shelter. Workers on the Ivy Bridge site are only too willing to build homes, but Turriffs' profit margins do not allow this.

Official support from the unions has not meant a great deal. The obvious move of bringing out other Turriffs' sites has not been done, although stewards

from these and other sites have pressed for this. One union leader even wanted the pickets removed. Trade dispute pay has helped, of course, but even here the unions had an eye to their bank balances and so dispersed the labour force, leaving only representatives from each union involved.

Although the dispute is official, it has not stopped Mr. Duxbury, the Labour official, making unofficial approaches to Bro. McGowan to sort out a deal.

HOMELESS FAMILIES

Sixteen weeks is a long time to be out on the stones. Now they feel that they will have to take action to open up the job. If there is no date fixed for an early re-opening of the site on the original agreement and with no victimisation, they are planning to move in homeless families and keep them there. Any work needed to make the flats habitable, they are willing to do themselves.

Action of this direct nature is needed, otherwise the dispute will drag on. This action will also link up two struggles, which up until now have been fought separately. It will also pose the question of workers' control. Turriffs have already made a mess of this contract and those now locked-out certainly have the knowledge and skills to carry on the job.

P.T.

Yorks Federation Conference

THE SECOND CONFERENCE of the Yorkshire Federation was held at York last Saturday.

Delegates from Hull, Halifax, Selby, Leeds, York and Sheffield attended.

The assembled delegates decided to back the Vietnam demonstration which is to be held on March 1 in Sheffield. The demonstration, which has been called by shop stewards of Shardlow's Engineering, has already the backing of two Trades Councils, eight trade union branches, three shop stewards' committees, the VSC, IS, IMG (International Marxist Group), the YCL, the CP, the Liberal Party, CND, RSA (Radical Students' Alliance), YCND, Sheffield anarchists, and many other

organizations in the North.

The Yorkshire Federation, which is producing a special leaflet for the march, would like support from anarchist groups and individuals throughout the country. Please contact: C. Beadle, c/o Oakwood Farm, Lund, Selby, Yorkshire, as soon as possible for up-to-the-minute details and arrangements.

The conference also decided on initiating a concerted squatters' campaign (see 'Leeds Squatters', this issue) and the producing of an internal bulletin.

The next conference will take place in Sheffield on March 9. If you would like further details please contact Sheffield Anarchists.

MASS MEETING of Building Workers at DENNISON HOUSE

Vauxhall Bridge Road, Victoria, S.W.1

TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 7.30

Make sure your Branch and Job are represented

Issued by West London Branches of Building Trades' Workers