

From a Student to a Student

AS IN EVERY previous year of history, revolutionaries today can point to numerous factors and movements around them which make it quite obvious that the fall of authority is imminent. As in most previous years, they are undoubtedly wrong yet again, but in the universities and colleges at least they may be right.

The number of colleges which have been engaged in serious conflicts in this country is not large, and the prospects for this coming year are uncertain. In America, France, Italy, and Japan, the revolutionary students have dealt their governments serious blows, but can we ever hope to do the same here?

Whether we can achieve such importance or not, the revolt will go on in the colleges, but why should we as students participate? Has it any uses for those of us who would radically change society, or is it merely a tool of the next generation of politicians? Although the latter may be true, it is not the whole truth, and I believe it worth examining the different reasons revolutionaries give for waging war on college administrations.

The various Marxist factions (let us dismiss them first of all, to clear the air) seem to muscle in on the revolt for the same reason as the Army sends recruitment officers to schools. The success of a given campaign is measured by them by the number of new recruits to their particular organization. On a slightly more sophisticated level, such groups join or initiate revolts merely to 'prove' the correctness of their own analysis (e.g. the need for leadership). Since every struggle 'proves' every available analysis, depending on how you care to interpret the facts, all this leads to infantile and endless post mortems, and the reinforcement of those ideas already held. The more orientated a particular college faction is to a particular national organisation, the more likely it is to be playing games with you in order to 'prove' (to itself) how correct it has been all along.

Notice too how many factions which have always despised the student have suddenly arrived in the colleges, noting the cannon-fodder potentiality shown by students abroad.

REVOLUTION . . .

Now the rationales of the non-sectarian revolutionaries. Foremost in their minds I think is the example of France, and the possibility of stimulating the sleeping proletariat. But the rebellion only spreads if there is already sufficient contact between groups, and in the case of the workers there are strong material interests for them to consider before they express solidarity, or even before they make their own demands—students' grants don't stop when they are 'on strike'. The pre-conditions of another France must be created by the workers here themselves—an increased wish to take direct action against the wage freeze, etc., and an increased respect for the actions of youth, in colleges or out.

The spirit of the Provos lives on, and student revolutionaries frequently seem to be courting the direct and violent repression of the State. It is said to 'radicalise' students, and to force people to take sides. But again, contact is the crucial factor. State repression helped the students at Columbia a year ago, but did it help the Piccadilly squatters?

Student revolutionaries are primarily just plain revolutionaries, and they happen to engage in college struggles because that is where they are. They are attempting to fight the particular authority which most directly affects them, and the one which they are most likely to be able to affect. But there is another dimension to this. Universities, like military installations, are key bastions of the State. For their physical size, and the numbers employed in them, they are disproportionately vital to the continuance of authoritarian structures. Violence is crude, its use apparent. The State has evolved other methods of con-

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THE REPRESSION GROWS

The Pattern of Repression:

SQUATTERS/ILFORD—a number are charged with 'stealing Council property' (they took wood from a building already smashed up by the Council to repair the one they were squatting in), 'assault' (we all know what that means), and 'obstruction'.

Punfield and Barstow Strike—ten men on a picket line during a 13-week-old strike are arrested en masse for obstructing 'the public footway'. They were in fact sitting down on private property.

Irish Demo/August 17—among the 12 arrested at least two comrades are severely 'worked over' in West End Central Police Station before being charged.

London Street Commune—over 50 squatters are being held in prison until their trial because the police either objected to bail sureties or the magistrate deliberately fixed the sureties at an impossible price. They are being punished before trial. A number were 'badly handled' at the police station.

Black Militants:

Tony Sinaris Soares—hurriedly convicted and jailed in January for two years for 'incitement to riot'. The charges related to a leaflet distributed before the October 27 demo.

Pete Martin—called to the police station for questioning, then charged with 'insulting words' and granted bail. Later the police, with Special Branch co-operation, further charged him under the Race Relations Act. He is refused bail and awaits trial in Brixton.

Lester Springer—is taking photos of police trying to wrench a placard away from a peaceful demonstrator outside the Magistrates' Court where Pete Martin is appearing. Plainclothes cops arrest him for 'obstruction' and his camera is 'dropped' on the floor of the police station.

Folkestone Commune:

May, High Street Revolt—17 arrested, one youth (first offender) is jailed for three months. Harry Brunt, 42-year-old bystander, is arrested, waits three hours to be charged with insulting language and 'obstruction', and then a week later with 'incitement to riot'—he is fined £100 plus costs.

Sept. 27—arbitrary police action provokes spontaneous march to the police station. Geoffrey Daniels who, while celebrating his wedding, had been punched in the face by a Folkestone pottery trader, is arrested at the demand of his assailant. Of the 15 subsequently arrested only two are granted bail. One girl is hospitalised for cuts and facial bruises. She unwisely returns to file a complaint on two officers who had smashed her through a door. She is arrested for 'assault'.

Squatters/Fulham—on September 22 over 100 police barricade both ends of Rumbold Street to evict squatters who had occupied a house for two months. Only two squatters are inside, and having poured a bucket of water over the 40-odd police assailants, they come out with their hands up. Both are charged with 'obstruction' and 'assault' and are released on bail. But two days later, with four others, they are charged with 'conspiracy to cause grievous bodily harm'. They await their trial in prison.

Street Theatre—five comrades who are trying to put on a play for kids outside a school in Holborn. 'Obstruction' and 'insulting words' are the charges for all except one. His hair was a little longer than the others, so he receives special treatment and is charged with 'violence in a police station'.

With the gathering momentum of the revolutionary movement in Britain, we must expect a corresponding hardening of the position from the Establishment, and from its right wing in particular. The further we escalate the struggle in terms of direct action, so we must expect an escalation of the repressive forces of the State. The strategy of the enemy for the present—and for a while to come—is, and will be, to use all its powers of propaganda to isolate each particular struggle, and having done so, to move in and smash it with its forces of Law and Order. This is true of Northern Ireland where the issue is made out to be one of outdated religious conflict. It is true of the wildcat strikers who are made out every time to be a 'tiny wrecking minority'. It is true of the students and school kids who

are accused of 'threatening the interests of the majority'. It is true of the black workers in the struggle against a racist society. And it is true of the London Street Commune who are smeared by the Press as 'those irresponsible layabouts who have nothing to do with the legitimate (!) squatting movement'.

The potential energy of these movements is enormous, but so long as they remain isolated from one another, they cannot present a serious challenge to the existing order. Ways must be found to constantly fight this attempt at fragmentation. Efforts should be constantly directed to finding the links between one struggle and another. In the same way as Powell has provided a clear link between Black 'aliens', Irish 'aliens', and the 'alienated' youth, so the machine of 'legal' repression (courts, police and prisons) is making increasingly clear the fundamental unity of purpose of those who threaten the existing order. Whether they are 'demonstrators', 'blacks', 'hippies', 'agitators', all are equally experiencing police frame-ups and thuggery, magistrates 'justice' and political detention in Her Majesty's prisons.

Let us clear away the remaining illusions any of us may have about that renowned institution, the 'British Law'. British legality is a superb machine for the preservation of the British Ruling Class. It is a superb machine for the suppression and oppression of working people in general and for those who positively reject class society in particular.

The struggle is beginning to leave the lecture halls, sectarian polemics and empty rhetoric of armchair revolutionaries far behind. We must face the FACT not the THEORY of repression. It is this fact which has brought together a number of comrades—some of whom are currently facing charges—who feel that there is an urgent need for an organised reply to the highly organised machinery of Law and Order. Securing the release of comrades on remand, ensuring that they have the legal aid necessary to defend themselves, circulating relevant information of concern to all activists, have become daily tasks. However, this work is inseparably linked to a constant exposure of the real function of the legal system—the preservation of the ruling order—inside and outside the courts.

Action For Peoples' Justice,
45 Fairmount Road,
London, S.W.2.

'CONSPIRACY' TO HOUSE THE HOMELESS

ON SEPTEMBER 22 when Fulham and Hammersmith Squatters (aided by South-West London Squatters) were present at a token squat in Hammersmith, a large green removal van drew up in the middle of Rumbold Road, Fulham, outside No. 22, where the South-West London Squatters had been squatting a family, Mr. and Mrs. D. Keens and their eight-year-old daughter Susan. The Keens had moved out that morning to the notorious Battersea hostel.

There were only three people in the house, Dave Griffiths, Diarmuid Breatnach, and a girl. Suddenly the doors of the van swung open and about 30-40 policemen carrying pick-axes, crowbars and a large door poured out. Within minutes they battered down the door encountering very little resistance, except one bucket of water. Dave and Diarmuid were arrested and subsequently each charged with two counts of assault and two counts of obstructing a police officer. They were detained overnight and bailed with sureties of £100 and £100 on their own recognisance and were required to report at Fulham police-station daily.

The papers that evening and the following day carried stories from Alderman Smith of Hammersmith and Deputy Sheriff Black of the High Court of Justice describing 'An armoury of diabolical weapons'; 'Gas bombs in squatters' battle

HQ'; 'Gas-bombs and swords in squatters' arsenal'; 'The house was like a First World War dug-out', etc.

The 'Operation' of the eviction of the South-West London Squatters was led by Commander Henry Fowler of Scotland Yard.

On September 30, following extensive enquiries headed by Detective Chief Superintendent Howell of Fulham and Hammersmith CID, the police arrested six squatters, Michael Ali, Diarmuid Breatnach, David Griffiths, Raymond Tuckwell, Roger Davies and Kenneth Hams. All were charged with 'conspiracy with persons unknown to commit actual bodily harm on officers effecting lawful entry to 22 Rumbold Road', and three were charged with larceny under the 1968 Theft Act. All were detained overnight.

When they appeared next morning at West London Court, all, with the exception of Roger Davies, were refused bail on the intervention of the Police Superintendent who 'feared a repetition of the offence'. None of the defendants were legally represented at this time, they were not asked if they wished to be so, nor were they told they could get legal aid.

Protests were made from the dock that three of the defendants were in regular work and all of them had an address

which was acceptable for bail on previous charges and it was illogical not to accept the address for further charges. The Superintendent said that Breatnach had been involved in a squat at Ilford at which private detectives were assaulted (who could that have been?) and (horror of horrors) he had been present at a meeting in Trafalgar Square at which bodily harm had been occasioned, not that, the Super said magnanimously, the defendant had been concerned with it.

Bail was accordingly refused. It is no new thing for the police to influence the magistrates in a decision which should primarily be that of the magistrate. When a man is trying to defend himself against police charges he needs liberty and by English law he is (in theory) innocent until proved guilty. The fact that people of substance are needed to give bail is ironical in itself. One's wealthy friends are presumably those who could afford to have one skip bail. One should get a hard-up surety, he would be certain to see that one turned up at court!

As a protest against the refusal of bail Diarmuid Breatnach, Michael Ali and David Griffiths (also listed as Dylan Gainsborough) are on hunger-strike in Ashford Remand Centre, and intending to continue until court appearance on Wednesday, October 8. They know they may be forcibly fed before going to



'Thank God for the Dustmen's Strike, the rats have left our buildings'—Council Tenants

court. The position about penalties for hunger-striking are obscure. It is known that they are in the hospital and were separated. It is difficult to get library books or newspapers. Tobacco seems to be being withheld 'on health grounds'. No national paper has up to now reported the fast, possibly because of the

Official Secrets Act which covers all Her Majesty's institutions.

Meanwhile, back at 22 Rumbold Road, Hammersmith Council has installed a homeless family. Good. This is what our campaign was all about. And it is for advocating this aim that these young people have lost their liberty!

CALEB WILLIAMS.

CHICKEN WIRE & CANVAS

THE INSTITUTE of Contemporary Arts at Nash House, but a pious throw from Buckingham Palace, may run short of ideas but never of rubbish. Over the years the ICA has mounted more exhibitions based on society's rejects than the War Office and must have in those years collected more junk than the Lambeth street cleaning department.

I for my part have enjoyed them and at many a Private View I have threaded my way among the sandbags and the rusting wire. I am writing of the ICA, with a glass of wine in one hand and a catalogue in the other and stood with the critics of the *Statesman* and *The Times* as they dreamed up some new profundity regarding the bucket of sand that stood guarded and catalogued at our pilgrim feet.

I have gazed in mindless and happy contemplation at the square yards of the Shepherds Bush market road that has been literally taken up and hung onto the walls of the ICA and I have examined with the practised eye of the art connoisseur the broken boots reverently lifted from some abandoned rubbish dump and all in the cause of

the higher aesthetic and I have accepted all this as part of the comedy of our time.

And the ICA, bless its collective plastic heart, has struck again with this present exhibition, 'When Attitudes Become Form'. Sponsored by Philip Morris Europe, one of the, to me, unknown mighty commercial corporations, to an indifferent world and introduced by Thomas Goodale, the deputy managing director of Personna International U.K., this exhibition was surely summed up in Thomas Goodale's closing remarks when he stated that 'if business is to attract good people, keep them and motivate them, creativity must become an important part of the business environment. At Philip Morris, we subscribe to the view that what is sometimes good for art, can be good for business'.

Thus spake Babbit and despite the money that Philip Morris Inc. have spent on this exhibition they have achieved nothing beyond giving pleasure to a group of people without talent and a large room within which to demonstrate it.

Here once again are the buckets of sand and the chickenwire, the chair and the table, the graphs and the meaningless and wordy manifestoes, and all neatly numbered and catalogued for your pleasure, an adventure playground for a group of young adults who have now reached the time in life when they should be usefully employed leaning on the bar of some friendly pub.

If this exhibition excites, then it is for no other reason than that of a dog cocking its leg in a church, in that it breaks the monotony of an accepted ritual. We have grown too used to the ancient splendours of the stained glass, the carved wood and the chiselled stone and, like nodding sidemen, we seek relief in the passing buzzing fly.

When the sidemen and the buzzing fly have made their ultimate peace with God, man's manifest glory to God will still remain. With all their good intentions so apparent I feel that Philip Morris Inc. who sponsored this exhibition have won this year's rubber medal of the arts and my advice would be to write the whole thing off as a tax loss and call in the Lambeth cleaning

department to take the remains off their Corporate hands.

Yet they are not alone in their misery for the Institute of Directors in association with the RA and the Art Council have given over one of the large wings of Burlington House, Piccadilly, to sixteen artists to paint BIG PICTURES FOR PUBLIC PLACES. With an unlimited supply of paint from the stockroom of George Rowney & Co. the ladder-seeking sixteen have assaulted their huge canvases with energy if not with talent.

It is surely one of the saddest and most lifeless exhibitions that I have seen for many a long year, for the belief (that so many third-rate artists hold), that the bigger the work the greater its value, is surely disproved here within these echoing galleries. Huge sheets of canvas hang limp on its stretchers and give one the feeling of a sale of tatty theatrical backcloths.

Nothing is proved, and I believe that nothing was meant to be proved, beyond the fact that another business corporation is prepared to finance an exhibition to enhance its public image. If the Institute of Directors had been

in any sense serious in its intent they would have hired one or two of these artists and given them a permanent large area upon which to work on one of their own huge office walls. But this they have not done, and all we have are these acres of pretty geometrical abstracts that no one, least of all the Directors who commissioned them, would want to own, for their size and their triviality make them unacceptable.

Let us accept that the men and women responsible for the two exhibitions enjoyed creating this anti-climax and accept them as the joke they are.

Yet all is not lost, for the Tate Gallery has, despite its record, been permitted to exhibit the 32 paintings of Walter H. Annenberg, the United States Ambassador in London.

A display of civilized taste in this month of juvenile rubbish, it is worthy of your attendance, and Mr. Annenberg is to be praised for his choice of work, the magnificent catalogue (wherein every painting is reproduced in colour), and that the finest exhibition of paintings shown in London this month is not charging for admission.

ARTHUR MOYSE.

POWER IN ULSTER

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plantation that Protestants, having acquired a hatred of political reform, were obviously going to regard every effort by the Catholics as an insidious move towards the expulsion of Protestants. Their descendants had learned their lesson well. Exploitation and discrimination had become the outer skin of the festering disease-ridden sore that was the basis of Northern Irish society. The 'Dives' in control were quite content to throw their Orange 'Lazarus' a few crumbs off their plentiful harvest reaped at a tremendous cost of working class exploitation, social injustice and corruption of both Catholic and Protestant lower classes.

By a carefully calculated technique they brainwashed their Protestant subordinates into thinking that their miserable existence was on an entirely different plane to their Catholic counterparts.

The machine having been well oiled, it was given a guarantee of corruption, bribery and coercion, saecula saeculorum, but last October it ground to a halt. The extreme right wing Fascists ousted O'Neill, whom they regarded as a Pap-lover, and installed the hack squire of Castledawson, Chichester-Clarke. The Portadown parliament, backed up by the rantings and ravings of that meddlesome cleric Paisley, again saw their entrenched positions endangered by the fact that Clarke might actually recognise the minority as human beings.

The Orange Ku Klux Klan have again been resurrected, charges are made, repelled by counter-charges. Cliques are meeting in all parts and parts. The right wing backlash is doubtless imminent. On Tuesday Paisley's civilian army lobbied Stormont. Emotionally drunk mobs hailed Craig as their 'Fuehrer'. Billy 'Liar' is their Messiah, their deliverer from the demon God of Republican Popery, or so they are told by the prophet Paisley who speaks the WORD.

The backlash, which was unleashed on O'Neill, was the first crest of the sweeping wave which swamped Ulster last year. The next one will drown the so-called 'liberal Unionists' like Faulkner—regarded as the economic brain of the Unionist Party.

LET US AWAIT THE OUTCOME.
SEAMUS O'KANE.

FROM A STUDENT

Continued from page 1

trol, and it is in the universities that these methods are researched into and taught. As students therefore, we are in a strategic position. The sabotage of the university becomes a legitimate goal, regardless of the support it receives from the students in general. Universities repress the whole of society—abroad and at home—and their destruction, in their present form, does not necessarily have to wait on the support of the majority of students. Will we wait for a vote of approval from the Stock Exchange or the Police Force before we attack them?

Sabotage is possible at every college, but at a few students have been able to completely control, for short periods, the entire buildings. The holding of such buildings for a long period is extremely difficult in isolation. But when it happens, what should be done with the places? The view of the milder revolutionaries is that an alternative university should be set up, with endless lectures on Marxism. Some experiments of this kind have been more thoroughgoing than others—some merely change the content of education, others aim at different interpersonal relationships. Although not contradictory to this, the more recent view seems to be that the buildings should be used as a base for other activities. Such a base has limited uses unless it takes place in a revolutionary situation in society as a whole, but experiments in this direction provide a useful preliminary.

OR INSURRECTION?

The above reasons all form part of a scheme aimed at total victory. They are themselves intended only as part of something bigger. We all want a social revolution, but an obsession with it can do much to dampen down a revolt (for instance to secure favourable press coverage) and is undoubtedly used by some factions for this purpose. We must face the fact that we are living in an age and a society where revolution is very, very far away.

Are we to just sit and wait, or patiently work amongst the downtrodden masses? Both of these after all involve personal compromises with the system we detest meanwhile. Does rebellion have to be part of a great revolutionary scheme, and constantly at the latter's service? As anarchists, we believe that rebellion, a refusal to obey those orders with which we disagree, needs no justification outside of itself. Anarchism is not a future society, it is an attitude to life and a way of life, and it exists here and now. We

should not compromise in the present for the sake of the future unless we can clearly see that future and be certain that our compromise will help it come about. Even if eventual defeat is certain, open revolt is fun, it is exhilarating, it is a worthwhile experience, and it is an expression of disgust. To control your environment for just a week, to experience the communal friendship which this brings, is better than to go on accepting the control of others.

This may sound like a pessimistic and 'rebel-without-a-cause' type of argument, but everyone who has taken part in sit-ins knows that the cold-blooded approach of those who see it as a 'stage' kills the atmosphere of spontaneity and release which promise to make the revolt not a stage, but the real thing. You can't hold things back because 'public opinion' (i.e. the mass media) is against you. It is possible to achieve small tactical victories and to embarrass administrators by carefully controlled campaigns, called off at an appropriate moment. To go on might mean the loss of such tactical victories—but the gaining of an experience in interpersonal relationships which is of more lasting value to the participants.

Marxists seek power, by the ballot box or the gun, and once they are in power they have almost finished their battle. They can do what they like. But for anarchists the revolution is only the beginning—we cannot enforce our ideas onto people. The Marxist state can put its programme into practice by force, and so its aim is the conquest of power, through the appropriate stages. But after a libertarian revolution the mass of people will participate in decision-making, and they will need the experience of controlling their own lives. Marxists do not want the revolt to reach that stage, they just want power—we do want, in fact require, the revolt to go all the way, and in the universities and elsewhere we must make sure it does, as an experiment in new ways of living, as a rehearsal for the future, but needing no justification outside of the present.

ELITE

Students are of course an elite, most of them come from the middle class and even more will end up there; they have a vested interest in the status quo.

On the other hand, in view of the large number of students and of the fact that few of them will ever get near the top of any of the hierarchies they enter, they can be seen as little more than apprentices. If the class dichotomy is between those with power—political and economic—and those without, rather than between the 'working class' and the

'bourgeoisie', students are, potentially, aligned with industrial workers in the same struggle and are not excluded by the mere fact of being an elite. After all, it is the elites among the workers themselves—the skilled workers—who have often led the way.

The problem is not that students are, objectively, an elite. It is that they see themselves as having identical interests with the ruling classes. Despite the grand view most students have of themselves, most of them will be little more than 'skilled workers'. But they cling to their illusions, hope one day to join the chosen few, and so identify with those in power. But then, most workers so identify, and it is this identification which must be countered, rather than just writing off those groups which see themselves as benefiting from the system. I think it is possible to make revolutionaries of middle-class students, but then again, revolutionary action must not be held back to wait upon their conversion. Remember too that it is action not words which convert, so don't hold back for anyone else either.

YOUTH REVOLT

Only the industrial workers can make our revolution succeed, and you will get sick to death of the Marxists telling you. It remains a fact though that it is young people, of mixed class origins, who have led most of the fighting in most insurrections, and in the last few years these young people have frequently been students. In a society where the proletariat has capitulated for free specs and a fridge, it is more and more up to youth to show the way.

At the present time few students are seriously revolutionary. We cannot expect a great deal from them. In LSE and Essex perhaps 10% of the students are on the revolutionary left, and the other colleges have far smaller percentages. But perhaps this is cause for hope—look what can be done with just 10%!

R.B.

Anti-Vote Campaign

Dear Editors,

The general election will be coming up soon. It will be upon us before we have had time to organise an anti-vote campaign. So I am suggesting that FREEDOM run a column with people submitting possible forms of leaflets for use in an anti-vote campaign. Let us prepare and organise.

Leigh

CHARLIE.

LETTER FROM PRISON

I HAVE JUST finished reading the *Sunday Times* article on 'Skinheads' and I thought it was a load of crap. Although it is certainly true that they sprang from the poorer quarter of the East End, they themselves are far from being deprived, except in the sense that being brought up in factory areas is itself a deprivation.

They seem to combine a social nihilism with a self-engendered cult of male asceticism. I am not saying that that is good in itself, but surely it is good in that it stems from a rejection of severally: The Bourgeois approved working class mores; Rockers/Hell's Angels 'fuck 'em and fight 'em' attitudes; Mod; Hippies; Student Hedonistic slumming.

It is probably too much to hope that the 'Skinheads' themselves will find a political direction. But, to me, they appear to be a grouping which has appeared as a result, directly, of the greatly improved education at mass level; increased literacy without bookishness in the aesthetic sense.

There is a task that those with their own leisure could undertake. That is a latter day 'Boys Weekly' survey, à la Orwell. For myself, I don't think that the one he did was very good.

Today there is a fantastic output of 'Hobby Magazines', mainly mechanical, which cater for the myriad interests, which stem from workingclass ownership—or hire purchase anyway—of the internal combustion engine. A day passes and I see in the daily *Times* that some of the 'Skinheads' are fraternising with the Hippies but they do seem to be much better material than a lot of the Hippies, and certainly than a lot of the Hell's

Angels nuts.

Although 'London Commune' have 'pissed on the chips' so far as the reputation of squatting is concerned, they have brought into the limelight the fantastic amount of accommodation which is allowed to stand empty in London, so all is not lost.

I have just read of the Fulham defeat, I hope it hasn't depressed you all too much. I still see squatting not only as a vehicle of emancipation from the petticoats of legality, but as a valid political activity. Because of the fall off in building society loans, more and more houses will be standing empty, although there will be more need (as opposed to demand) for them.

I hear on the grapevine that there is quite a lot of opposition to the proposed increase for FREEDOM. Now obviously there is a need of it, there will have to be an increase, but I should think that it is obvious that casual sales at least will drop off. I myself have thought for a while that the only way in the long term to ensure viability of FREEDOM is for it to be subsidised by the 'AFB'. This, again obviously, does not mean the Federation in its present form, probably not FREEDOM either. But as a lasting change has to be effected organically anyway these problems would work themselves out.

I suppose that you yourself have seen the movement's base broaden considerably, as well as your own, since you first saw it, and perhaps the time has come to consciously change direction. This could be discussed. Meanwhile my best wishes to all the comrades.

WOBBLY.

Summer Camp Deficit How much does it cost to leave a man alone?

ALL OUTSTANDING BILLS have now been received and the total deficit worked out at £101.

Donations have reduced this sum to £72. (Thanks to L.W., J.M., L. & C.O., and C.R.)

We are anxious to honour our IOU to the camp site owner by the end of the month, therefore money is very urgently needed.

The French comrades have undertaken to raise some money towards the debt. So if all English comrades who came to the camp could send a mere 10/-, this would solve the problem. The deficit is not the responsibility of the few people who put time and effort into arranging the summer camp—it is a collective responsibility, and it seems unfair that the same people should spend their winter evenings devising fund-raising activities simply because everyone else in the anarchist movement sits back complacently and lets them get on with it!

So donations and all those outstanding camp charges now please to: Ann Lindsay, 39 Upper Tulse Hill, London, S.W.2.

Prison without Trial

Dear Comrades,

Since the end of April four anarchists have been in jail in Milan, accused of causing bomb explosions. The judges are unable to find proof and so they haven't opened the trial, fearing that the 'forces of order' may make a bad show of it, since no tribunal in the world could condemn our comrades. Our comrades are still in jail. If you need more information please let us know, or write directly to the group of Milan ('Gioventù Libertaria', Circolo Ponte

IT COST £54,000 to evict squatters from Piccadilly (900 policemen, £60 each).

IT COST £12,000 to evict squatters from Bloomsbury (200 policemen, £60 each).

IT COST £18,000 to evict squatters from Holborn (300 policemen, £60 each).

IT COST Mr. Lyon £1,000 to show his gratitude to the police for looking after his property rights.

IT COSTS ratepayers £85,884 17s. a year in unpaid rates to have Centre Point empty.

IT COSTS £100 to take a man to court.

IT COSTS £15 a week to keep a man in jail.

IT COSTS £33 billion to go to the moon.

IT COSTS £16 13s. a week to keep a man, wife and two kids on Social Security.

IT COSTS Kensington and Chelsea Council £3 million to build a luxurious new Town Hall, although they already have three with all the gold fittings.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST the GLC to evict 5,000 tenants, employing bailiffs, police and the following court charges?

IT WOULD COST VERY LITTLE to house all the homeless in Britain.

IT COSTS NOTHING TO LEAVE A MAN ALONE.

della Ghisolfia, piazzale Lugano 31, 20158 MILAN, ITALY).

THE ANARCHIST GROUP 'LINEE PER UNA RIVOLUZIONE LIBERTARIA' OF FORLÌ
Forlì, 1st Oct. 1969

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN ENGLAND

(Reference Books: *Race Relations in England*, P.E.P. Report, W. W. Daniel, *Race, Jobs and the Law in Britain*, Bob Hepple.)

THE QUESTION of race relations in England is a problem charged with emotion, prejudice and fear, highlighted in two major fields, employment and housing. Whilst The Race Relations Act of 1965 is an attempt at legislating against racial discrimination, its terms of reference do not include employment and housing. It is confined to discrimination in specified places of public resort, hotels, restaurants, public houses, theatres, cinemas, swimming pools, and public transport services.

Accepting the fact that one has to work to live, racial discrimination in the field of employment can be partially explained by 'fear'. Employers who discriminate justify their position by saying, 'We would accept coloured workers, but other people would not', fear that their white employees, clients or customers would not. Employees justify their position of discrimination by claiming that coloured workers accept lower wages and inferior conditions to white employees thereby encouraging employers to employ cheap labour to the possible detriment

of the white worker.

The facts do not support the justification of discrimination, such attitudes are a process of stereotyping, accepting a generalized image of the coloured person based on the characteristics of the less able and developed and projected on to all coloured people. No account is taken of individual differences. There have been instances of coloured workers taking industrial action not only to enforce their right to belong to a trade union, but also to improve their wages and conditions. The dispute at Woolfes at Southall was a classic example. As far as one can gather, coloured workers on public transport do not act to the detriment of their white workmates. Employers have found that after 'taking on' coloured workers the opposition from the white workers was not as great as expected. Canteen workers on a national daily newspaper expressed concern about the introduction of coloured workers. The employers did introduce coloured workers and they are now working harmoniously together. The building industry is a fair example of integration. In many cases the myth that coloured workers are less qualified than white workers despite equal qualifications has been exploded.

Housing is a subject that inflames the most liberal and tolerant of people. It is discrimination in this field that could lay the basis of bigger trouble for the future. Just recently a building firm refused to sell a house to a coloured engineer. In fact it was admitted that it was their policy not to sell to coloured people. The engineer having won a moral victory at court, the building firm's executive was then asked if their policy towards selling to coloured people would now be changed. The reply was 'Regretfully (my italics), we will have to sell to them. It was done purely for business reasons.'

Coloured house purchasers are forced to buy inferior property in the already overcrowded areas. Because of the general shortage of rented property and discrimination in 'letting', many houses are overcrowded. One is then faced with the problem of ghettos, which in their turn create pockets of dissatisfaction and frustration. It is argued that coloured families moving into a road lower the value of the other houses in that road. Thirty years ago it was said that the presence of Council houses devalued the surrounding property; in fact in some areas the claim is still made. Again this is a process of stereotyping, no account

DUNCAN HOUSE

THE DUNCAN HOUSE Tenants' Association was formed five weeks ago in order that the residents of Duncan House could improve their 'lot'. For the privilege of living in a rat-infested block that had absolutely no supervision, rubbish chutes were never cleaned (similarly the yard), external brickwork that was crumbling, etc., etc., and so it goes on... the tenants of Duncan House paid an average £3 5s. rent.

The formation of the Tenants' Association was brought about by the attempted eviction of one of the families by the Welfare Department. They instructed the tenant to get out of his flat, in 30 minutes, and into another flat, which was miles away from his employment, and was in such an appalling condition that fifteen other families had refused it. (It is worth pointing out that the officials of the Welfare Department on Hackney Borough Council operate a sort of backhanded racialism, i.e., they do not inform the coloured families of Duncan House of their rights.)

The tenant who was about to be evicted called on some of his neighbours and together they promptly disposed of the officials from the Welfare Department. Realising the value of united action, the tenants were soon in business. After a few meetings to iron out details and such like, the tenants drew up a charter of demands, which included the closure of Duncan House.

All was going well at this stage, until some 10 members of the 'National Front' arrived at Duncan House and proceeded to distribute leaflets about their anti-immigration fantasies. Roughly 40% of the tenants in Duncan House are coloured, not that that made any differ-

ence to the other residents. When people realised just who was handing out leaflets there followed an almighty 'punch-up' between the residents of Duncan House and the fascists. Exit 10 badly bruised fascists.

Two days later, the tenants descended on Hackney Town Hall, not long after the opening of the public Council meeting. The Council proceeded to debate a racialist motion (HBC seem hell-bent on creating some sort of racial hatred). The public gallery, which was full of tenants from the Hackney Federation of Tenants to which Duncan House is also affiliated, erupted in the classical manner. The Mayor and the semi-fascist Conservative Council were on the receiving end of all sorts of abuse, i.e. 'You old shit-bag'; 'Why don't you come to live in Duncan House, you old cunt'; 'We seen you pissed out of your mind a few days ago'.

One tenant stood on the edge of the balcony and said she would jump on the housing manager unless they closed down Duncan House. The Mayor, in return, adjourned the Council meeting until order was restored. After an interval of some twenty minutes, the meeting was reconvened, and exactly the same thing happened.

The Mayor instructed the police to clear the public galleries. The tenants regrouped outside with their children who had been outside the Town Hall during all this, singing, 'Bring on your Bailiffs, we shall not be moved', interspersed with 'Anarchista' and had a public meeting, which declared that if Duncan House wasn't closed down the tenants would move out into suitable empty properties.

Some time after the public meeting, the housing manager had a bottle smashed over his head. The local and national press, true to form, reported the incident of the poor weak housing manager getting his head busted open, but not a murmur about the inhuman conditions at Duncan House.

Within the next few days Duncan House was crawling with social workers, welfare workers, and all sorts of people doing all sorts of repairs. The Mayor then contacted the action committee and promised them that all 101 families in Duncan House would be rehoused and that the programme of rehousing would begin in three weeks' time, and he strongly intimated that the five families in the action committee should be the first to receive the full benefit of this wonderful offer.

Knowing full well that the Mayor would retract the offer after the 'trouble-makers' had been got rid of, the action committee returned home and told their fellow tenants what happened. So in point of fact the Mayor has developed a problem for himself, because he also told the press about the plans to rehouse all the families in Duncan House. (I'm sure all comrades would agree that the action committee displayed a magnificent sense of solidarity with their fellow tenants in refusing to be bought off by the Mayor's subtle bribe.)

Meanwhile the tenants of Duncan House are organizing themselves in preparation for moving out should the Mayor's offer prove to be negative. Much help is needed at Duncan House. Those comrades who can give active help please contact Duncan or Tony at 3 Osborn Street, Stepney, London, E.1 (01-247 8015).

DUNCAN.

P.S. They're all homeless families. Some of them have now moved into the Arbour House Squat.

The AFB Conference

THE FIRST SESSION of the AFB Conference held in London, and attended by about 100 people over the weekend of September 26-28 at Conway Hall and Freedom Press, started on Friday evening with reports of the squats taking place in Fulham, Brighton and East London. These reports have largely been postdated by more recent happenings and fully reported in FREEDOM, so I will not dwell on them here. There was also the inevitable wrangle over the press, who were eventually excluded.

The first item was group reports. NE Essex and Lewisham presented theirs to conference in the form of a duplicated sheet. NE Essex have produced their own leaflet, 'Anarchy! What do you think it really means?'. Lewisham's report was devoted mainly to its work with the Free Schools' Campaign.

Birmingham Group reported on their work with the local Arts Lab, the anti-Powell movement and the FSC. Bromley Group have been involved in the formation of a local tenants' association, and is active in local housing, rent and people's park campaigns.

Farnborough-Reading-Woking Group reported on their activities mainly concerned with squatting, but also including open-air teach-ins.

Lancaster and Leicester also reported,

as did North Somerset, on its local anarchist paper *Scrupp*. North Somerset has also produced leaflets, and held regular meetings, one in a local public school. Younger supporters have produced a schools' leaflet, and one on fuzz-youth local relations.

The Black Knight Group based on Hornsey reported its work with Hornsey Art College, an anti-votes at 18 campaign and one against the Banning Scheme, which discriminates against immigrant children in schools.

The East London Group reported on their squat, Harlow reported that many of its members had split the college, so—little activity. Bolton said that four different groups had been formed there, but were short-lived, the present group being a Libertarian Socialist and 'Solidarity' coalition.

Lancaster and Morecambe function together with the University and RSSF, and have produced a leaflet concerned with the local tenants' struggle. They helped in the formation of a tenants' association, but then split from it. There is an active group in the University. They reported on an occupation of the University Senate Chamber with the LSF.

Manchester spoke of their squatting activity. They have also been active in the improving of conditions in a local

mental hospital, and have organised Free Speech campaigns, and produced a magazine *Black and Red*. They also have a schools' anarchist group.

Surrey Federation commented on their FSC. Arts Labs have been formed in Guildford and Epsom. Anarchists have been involved in the Guildford Arts College scene.

Brighton reported on its squat and on its relations with the Sussex University anarchist group. A free soup kitchen was run at the Town Fair.

Hull is mostly active inside the University. They fucked up the University presidential election by ensuring that 45 candidates stood for that office—the successful candidate must have got all of half a dozen votes. Leeds University Direct Action Committee is planning a fortnightly magazine and a tenants' campaign. They made a plea for unity with IS and the Maoists in such activities as FSC—not favourably received!

Sheffield focussed its campaign on the local pubs. They staged a series of demos locally, a recent one of which was sold out to the fuzz by IS and commies. (Leeds, please note!) Sheffield appealed for funds to pay large fines incurred by comrades as a result of this. They are still needed!

As part of their pubs campaign Sheffield helped organise a quiz league. They won. A useful medium for communication. Yorks Federation publish a fine magazine, *Blackguard*. Their University groups organised a boycott of lectures

being taken of the individual differences.

Coloured immigrants make the point that the form of colour bar in Britain is more covert and insidious than that operated in some other societies with differential legal status for people of different colours. Which makes it none the less effective but perhaps even more distressing.

Any signs that the future will solve or even ease the colour problem are not very clear. Stereotypes continue to project the image on a new coloured generation who have grown up educated and qualified in the same way as other British children. As immigrants become more accustomed to English ways of life they will acquire higher expectations with higher qualifications. It must follow they will experience more personal direct discrimination. Whether one can legislate to defeat the stereotypes is a matter for conjecture, but it would appear that education and tolerance all round will play a major part in the future of race relations in England.

BILL CHRISTOPHER.

ANARCHIST FEDERATION OF BRITAIN

THE CONFERENCE (see report) recommended that as groups proliferate (over 100 at last count) their full list, to save space, should only appear once a month. Even then each group should only occupy 2 lines of type. The remaining weeks only names and addresses of regional secretaries will be printed. New inquirers should write direct to them or to the AFB information office in Birmingham. Groups should send latest addresses to Birmingham who must let us have the complete AFB list by October 31. Donations towards typesetting will be welcome.

The AFB information office will also produce an internal bulletin. Comrades interested in its production are to meet in Birmingham on the first weekend of each month, from November onwards. All groups will be informed in detail. Address all letters to:

Peter Le Mare, 22 Hallelwell Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 16. Material that cannot wait for the bulletin to be sent to R. Atkins, Vanbrugh College, Heslington, York.

The Contact Column in 'Freedom' is also available for urgent information.

AFB REGIONAL GROUPS

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

Cornwall: A. Jacobs, 13 Ledrah Road, St. Austell. (M, Ma, B.)
Essex & E. Herts.: P. Newell, 'Aegean', Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green, Colchester. (QM, FL.)
North-West: Phil, 7 Trinity Square, Preston. (M.)
Surrey: G. Wright, 47 College Road, Epsom.
Sussex: E. Poole, 5 Tilsbury, Findon Road, Whitehawk, Brighton.
Yorkshire: M. Watkins, 6 Eberston Terrace, Leeds, 6.
Scotland: B. Lynn, 12 Ross Street, Glasgow.
Wales: c/o P. L. Mare (address above).
N. Ireland: c/o Freedom Press.
S. Ireland: c/o P. L. Mare (address above).
University and Student Groups: c/o P. L. Mare. (Abbreviations: M—meeting; Ma—magazine; B—badges; Q—Quarterly; FL—free leaflets.)

at the time of May Day and the LSE sit-ins, and they organised demos in solidarity with Hornsey and Guildford. They reported on improved worker-student liaison, and close liaison with local Tenants Associations. Other student groups please note!

After lunch Black Cross reported on contacts made with known anarchist prisoners in Milan, Valencia, Barcelona and Madrid. There was also a possibility of contact being established with comrades in China. Black Cross Groups may soon be formed in France and Germany. There already is one in Italy, which circulates 500 copies of their *Bulletin*. Black Cross is engaged in a protracted correspondence with the Home Secretary over Alan Barlow (due for release in December!).

There was a report on the industrial scene in general and one on conditions in Ilford for women workers, who have lately been very militant. But there was surprisingly little discussion on the industrial struggle. As far as the student scene was concerned there was a proposal that the anarchist movement involve itself more closely with the RSSF, and there was a discussion of the need for an Anarchist Student Federation.

The Libertarian Teachers Association reported that 1,000 copies of its latest *Bulletin* (no. 5) had been printed, and it was to hold a conference probably in late November or early December. Help is still urgently required on the *Bulletin*, still largely a one-man band. Discussion is needed on relations with Teachers' Rank and File and pressure within the NUT.

The Schools' Action Committee reported on the formation of a Public Schools' Anarchists' Committee, with groups in seven public schools. There is a possibility of combined action between

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Cupid and Psyche and other Tales	Apuleius	3/6
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The League of Frightened Philistines	James T. Farrell	6/-
Characteristics	Stephen Graham	3/-
A Banned Broadcast and Other Essays	J. B. S. Haldane	4/6
On Living in a Revolution	Julian Huxley	3/-
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The Vagrant Mood	W. Somerset Maugham	6/-

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the FSC and SAC, and also the more libertarian elements of SAU, reported to be less dominated by Mao in the provinces. There followed a discussion of the feasibility of infiltrating the SAU, or creating a libertarian alternative—Freedom Press producing a regular schools' *Bulletin* was discussed.

This concluded group reports. The rest of the conference, including the most important items, those on Freedom Press, Ireland, and squatting will appear next week.

PADDY FIELDS.

An 'Agenda for' Capitalism

IN ALL PROBABILITY last week's Labour Party Conference at Brighton will be the last before the next general election. As such, it was extremely important to achieve a semblance of unity in order to give them a chance at the election.

To give Mr. Wilson his due, this attempt at shop window dressing of unity was successful and his final message, very warmly received, was to go back to their constituencies and trade unions and work for the re-election of a Labour Government. However, it was a unity made possible by clever stage managing. Mrs. Castle's speech on retaining the delaying powers for wage increases threatened to shatter the hard work by the bureaucrats of Transport House for unity. But Mr. Wilson placated the unions by drawing the distinction between a Minister as a member of the Cabinet and as a member of the executive of the Labour Party and stressed that Mrs. Castle was speaking, at this time, as a Cabinet Minister.

SELLING THE PRODUCT

Conferences of political parties or the unions and the TUC for that matter, are not the places where policies are determined and neither are they determined by the Cabinet of Ministers. These conferences are really so much window dressing, giving a false sense of involvement and a reward for a year's slog on the part of the hard-worked Party members, many of whom are idealistic and have found it particularly difficult to defend their Government. But nowadays, with vast television coverage, these conferences are staged to impress the electorate and are a huge advertisement for their product.

Even the 'rebels' of the left wing are willing to subscribe to this unity.

Contact Column

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

Centre International de Recherches sur l'Anarchisme, Beaumont 24, Lausanne, Switzerland. Will editors of new anarchist magazines please send copies regularly to the above. This is an anarchist library, run entirely by voluntary labour, and it is completely dependent on the generosity and co-operation of comrades who publish small magazines.

Flat in London for three people wanted urgently. Can anyone help, please? Telephone Anne, KNI 5020, ex. 270.

Musicians wanted to work with Agit Prop. Contact Pete Taunton 01-789 5604.

Bit inf. service 01-229 8219.

Schools Anarchist Group in Gloucestershire? Contact Kate & Joe, 3 Withy Lea, Leonard Stanly, nr. Stonehouse, GL10 3NS, Glos.

Demonstration on November 16 organised South African Solidarity Committee, 211 Ladbroke Grove, W.10.

Barlow-Carver Defence Fund. A full list of initials and money donated to the fund has been received by Freedom Press, but due to lack of space we are unable to print, anybody who wishes may write, and will receive a copy plus statement.

Paul/Nick. Phone BAT 4086 as soon as possible regarding article on Fulham Eviction. Urgent. Rogers.

Anarchist Theatre Group. Meeting at 7.30 p.m., Friday, October 10, at Freedom Press Meeting Hall. REHEARSAL of Shelley's 'Mask of Anarchy'. All musicians especially welcome.—Bring your own instruments.

Badges? Contact Pendarves Workshop, 42 Pendarves Street, Beacon, Camborne; tel. Camborne 3061.

If you wish to make contact let us know.

Their resolution on the Common Market, from the Transport and General Workers' Union and moved by the General Secretary, Mr. Jones, was even supported by that arch pro-marketeer, Mr. Brown, because it stated that before entering, safeguards adequate to ensure Britain's 'freedom and independence in economic planning and foreign policy which cannot be bargained away in negotiation' would be necessary.

The 'left wing' attacks were mainly centred on the inclusion of a few lines, later watered down, on the need for an incomes policy in a pre-election manifesto called 'Agenda for a Generation'. While these attacks are valued, there was no real criticism of the rest of this document and yet it sets out, in no uncertain terms, a programme to make capitalism work even better in the future.

The statement of the national executive of this party boasts that 'In 1968 a record amount of money was devoted to take-overs and mergers.' Incidentally, this money was taken, in the form of taxes, from the very people thrown out of work by such take-overs and mergers. It says this is the basic pattern of our economy, founded upon large corporations.

ENCOURAGED MERGERS

Labour, it goes on, is not against large corporations and had 'vast concentrations of economic power in the public industries—coal, steel and electricity in particular'. It adds: 'In the private sector, we have set up the Industrial Reorganisation Corporation and used Government funds to encourage mergers.' These 'heavy concentrations of industrial power are inevitable', but it admits that 'the modern industrial corporation is becoming less subject to the influence and pressure of the community at large, whether it be in the form of shareholders, employers, consumers or the government'.

While accepting this concentration in industry, they say that 'they must insist that the decisions which will guide our economic future are taken in an atmosphere where everyone—the workers and the wider public—is given opportunities to check the logic of industrial planning and balance the weight of corporation power'. This all sounds very nice, but these are only words, for already the Government has agreed with the corporations on what mergers are going to take place. Instituting a new democratic framework to protect the individual 'against the growing dominance of the industrial corporations' is like participating in your own slaughter.

MISTAKEN IDEALISTS

The concentration of industry into less hands and the creation of huge monopolies must lead to rationalisation within those industries, while the ensuing re-organisation inevitably leads to redundancies. What democratic framework was there for the GEC-EE redundancies on Merseyside? None!

The Labour Government's role as the midwife to a reorganisation of British capitalism was not attacked by the big guns of the 'left'. It was done by young idealists who completely oppose the capitalist organisation of society and spoke of workers' control of industry and of co-operation instead of competition between peoples. These idealists, mistakenly from an anarchist view, are trying to achieve something through an organisation which is assisting the survival of the very evil which they want to abolish.

Capitalism increasingly needs the assistance of Government intervention for its overall planning, its finance, tax inducement, curbs of trade union organisation and the general climate in which it can continue to expand its powers. The Hugh Scanlons and the Jack Joneses are no answer to this situation, for they know that their friends are the Labour Party. They are willing to play the game, within the limits of constitutional activity.

As anarchists, our opposition is total, not only to the Labour Government, but to all governments, not just to right-wing trade union leaders, but to the left-wing ones as well. They all think and act in terms of leadership, of the

leaders and the led, of the governors and the governed, of the decision-makers and the decision-takers.

We also have a job in the next year, before the general election, to point out the futility of voting, to show that society need not be based on capitalist values of greed and power and to point out that man can live by co-operation. We must show that man has the resources to create enough for everyone's needs, that the power blocks and nations that divide men are artificial and that we can live in harmony and peace together instead of the divisions that separate us in the world today. **PT**

LONDON STREET COMMUNE

INCREDIBLE press reports of the events in 144 Piccadilly and Endell Street led to the general hysteria on the part of the authorities: the result of this was the mass arrests during the re-possession of St. Giles School, Endell Street, on September 24.

This repression was continued in the courts—with parental co-operation making it impossible to leave jail unless to live at home—in effect exchanging one prison for another.

The magistrate had naturally prejudged the issue, several sureties were found but the police, intent on keeping us in custody made flimsy excuses, for example lack of time in checking out sureties, when in fact people had been at court for at least six hours.

Friday 26: Of the twelve sureties found, only two were accepted by the police—the other ten were refused on the grounds that they lived in a flat. Those two sureties were later rejected by the court after a considerable delay.

The obvious conclusion to draw from this is that the police are exploiting the existing conditions of bail as much as possible, and so we can see that they intend to fragment any group they consider as potentially 'dangerous'.

These events have taught us that to resist the police and their conspiracy with the courts and parents, we must find an umbrella organisation to protect the interests of those who oppose the present system.

Comrades in Ashford remand centre are now on hunger strike; demonstrating in a very positive way their opinion of the British legal system in general and the role of the police in particular.

The address of the London Street Commune is now c/o 84b Whitechapel High Street, E.1. Tel: 01-247 3614 (24 hour service). **DENISE HALLORAN.**

All Along the Watchtower

SPEAKERS at the AFB Conference mentioned the possibility of the next election being fought on the 'law and order' issue. Certainly Enoch Powell's speech on 'organised mob law' and Quintin Hogg's reference in the *Sunday Express* to 'an organised conspiracy to substitute anarchy for law' suggest this.

So far the accusations have been vague but they could easily herald a witch hunt against revolutionary groups. One sign in this direction is the way that, following the Cameron Report, the Tory press has been increasingly blaming the violence in Ulster on 'anarchists and Trotskyists'.

The most specific accusations in this field have come from the National Front. The people of Bogside and visitors to the anarchist Summer Camp will both be surprised to learn that according to *Spearhead*, the Front's paper, the fighting in Derry was actually planned at the Summer Camp! To quote from *Spearhead*:

'Recognised in Ulster were French students from Nanterre who had been in evidence at an anarchist camp in Cornwall. . . . Why did the government allow the gathering in Cornwall of large numbers of anarchists bent on crossing to Ulster to wage revolutionary warfare?'

While on the subject of law and order, the current issue of *Spearhead* also includes this letter which is reproduced without comment:

'This letter is anonymous because I am

Freedom For Workers' Control

October 11 1969 Vol 30 No 31

Pushing for Power in Ulster

B'ARRICADE OFFENDERS should be taken by the scruff of their necks' quote Herr Willie Craig, Public Blunderer No. 1. Belfast's Hitler was at his best in the Ulster Hall on Saturday night. 'Force if necessary; firearms should have been used by RUC during riots in Derry on August 12 after the mob had taken the high flats in the Bogside', quote Benito Craig again, addressing Newtownbreda Young Fascists.

By the sombre tone of Callaghan's address to the Labour Party Conference while dealing with the N. Ireland question, he would appear to be either under a gross misapprehension or cynically doubts the potency of Right Wing forces within the Unionist Parliamentary Party, backed up by hate-intoxicated B-Specials and para-military UVF groups.

Craig has ceaselessly campaigned for removal of British troops and the reinstatement of RUC and B-Special forces in the areas now regarded as Free Derry and Free Belfast. Is this not typical of the arrogant Orange Fascism, of the same Craigs who provoked the fear-stricken people of Bogside and Falls Road to defend their lives, homes and families when these fascist jackbooters openly and with provocation marched through Derry on August 12, flaunting their arrogant superiority. On September 27, in the Ulster Hall, Belfast, Craig addressing a motley collection of 'Loyalists' reiterated the philosophy of his predecessor Lord Craigavon—WE ARE THE MASTERS IN OUR OWN HOUSE—and Callaghan talks about amicable gestures.

Right from the inception of the

6-counties statelet the Unionists were obviously intent on asserting their dominant control in all matters. In accordance with the Treaty settlement of 1921, a Boundary Commission met in 1924 to fix the border 'considering the wishes of the inhabitants so far as may be compatible with economic and geographic conditions'. It soon became clear that there was contradiction between the 'wishes of the inhabitants and the economic and geographic conditions obtaining'. The statelet having been set up, Craigavon could at last declare a Protestant parliament for a Protestant people, thus using the age-old trick of identifying the glorious tradition of King Billy which was part and parcel of Protestant working class life and the economic interests of the Northern bourgeoisie while subtly disguising the class issues. It was quite obvious to hoodwinkers and political strategists like Craigavon that once the majority plebiscite viewpoint was on their side the exploiters could then begin exploiting.

Throughout the years the weak Catholic minority succumbed under the heel of oppression—mainly due to the machinations and backroom political double-dealing of their so-called representatives. Then October 5 happened!

1. On the morning of October 5.—The Liverpool branch of the Apprentice Boys of Derry (an offshoot of the Orange Order) marched through Derry. On the afternoon of October 5 a peaceful, non-violent Civil Rights march campaigning for jobs and houses was batoned into the ground.

2. In Armagh on November 30 Paisley's thugs took over the town in an attempt to stop a march organised by NICRA. They declared with certain relative justification, 'We are the people'.

James Connolly the Irish Labour leader once wrote with reference to the Ulster **Continued on page 2**

police, immediately after the capture of Endell Street stated that the building was clean. It was not until 24 hours later that a statement mentioning the 'filth' was issued.

However the existence or otherwise of this 'filth' is not really the point. Marx said that the bourgeoisie considered all weapons fair in their own hands and criminal when in the hands of their enemies. Similarly it seems that the bourgeoisie dismisses all its opponents as 'filthy' while continuing to pour refuse into rivers, befoul the air with petrol fumes and generally leave a trail of filth not in a few houses but across the entire planet.

It is hard to take the wave of moral indignation that we are hearing from both sides in the Keeler/*News of the World* affair very seriously. The Press Council, which has been so quick to defend the interests of the wealthy and influential persons who would be embarrassed by the raking up of this scandal, has for years failed to act when ordinary people were the victims of press smears.

On the other hand the attempts of the *News of the World* to pose as the defender of individual freedom are equally unconvincing. Many of the 'crusades' of the Sunday press are directed at limiting individual freedom rather than extending it. Thus a few weeks ago the *People* was calling on newsgatherers not to sell *Oz* magazine. Anybody who wishes to see how much the popular press cares for the individual and how much the Press Council protects their victims should read the *Solidarity* pamphlet 'Damned' and find out how the *People* smeared the King Hill hostel families and how it was whitewashed by the Press Council.