

PLUGS PAGE

(for full addresses see list)

- ALARM - 1d weekly, local town broadsheet, Swansea Group
- ANARCHY - 3/- monthly, general interest, Freedom Press.
- ANARQUISTA - 6d weekly, University centred news & Views. York Group
- BLACK & RED - 1/- general interest. Manchester or Lancaster groups
- BLACK PUDDING - 6d Hornsey's paper, Black Knight Group.
- FLEABITE - monthly 6d. Brighton group.
- FREEDOM - weekly. Freedom press.
- GLOBAL TAPESTRY - Blackburn.
- GRUNT - Swansea Schools libertarian paper.
- LOGOS - Christian Anarchist monthly from Laurens Otter, Croydon.
- LIBERTARIAN TEACHER - Occasional broadsheet. New issue out now from
Libertarian Teachers Association. (1/- York.)
- LISTEN MARXIST - Libertarian Student reprint from New York ANARCHOSAP'LET
- MALATESTA - DESIGN FOR FREEDOM - an anarchist programme, 6d, York.
- ONE AND ALL - 6d-local monthly, from Cornwall.
- RED NOTES - Info. sheet from Agitprop, 16- Nth Gower St. London N.W.1.
- PEOPLE'S PAPER - Cardiff Group.
- BLACK MASS - Newham Group.
- BLACK CROSS - Irregular Bulletin of Black Cross aid association.
- PENNY BLACK - 1d. Lancaster local agitational sheet.
- CLOSE NANCEKUKU NOW - sub. 15/- newsletters from One and All address.
- LAST BUT NOT LEAST AFBIB 15/- PER ANNUM (7/6 for the rest of this year)
from PETER LE MA RE, 5 HANNAFORE ROAD? BIRMINGHAM 16.
- STOP PRESS: Now available from Simian Son of Coptic Press: Surrealism
and Revolution (anthology 7/6d) sold pro Black Cross; also "The Origins
of the Anarchist Movement in China" and "The Origins of the Revolutionary
Movement in Spain".

A	F	B	I	B	
N	E	R	N	U	
A	D	I	F	L	
R	E	T	O	L	
C	R	A	R	E	
H	A	I	M	T	
I	T	N	A	I	
S	I		T	N	
T	O		I		
	N		O		
	O		N		
	F				

N°10

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance brought forward from AFBIB 9	7	1	8	
Subscriptions received etc.				
Farnborough		5	0	
Manchester		10	0	
Duplicating	1	10	0	
		<hr/>		
		9	6	8
<u>Less</u> Payments				
Stamps	1	0	0	
Stationery	2	16	8	
		<hr/>		
		3	16	8
Balance carried forward to AFBIB 11		5	10	0

AFBIB GROUP REPORT

We have had several mentions of Conference but no definite offers to organise and accomodate. We must be quick or else winter will be upon us. AFBIB has now been centred on Birmingham for a year. Isn't time for a change? A new base may help to maintain the countrywide involvement and communication which is its purpose. Organising AFBIB is not an arduous task, nor very time consuming, it involves writing a few letters each month, keeping a record of addresses, and getting 8 - 12 stencils typed, duplicated and eighty odd copies sent out each month to forty addresses. Accomodation needs to be provided for 0 to four people from different parts of the country and fraternal feelings and quality of production are all improved if a meal is provided on the Sunday.

Some London based groups are wary of offering to organise anything in case there are cries of "leadership" "only one area of the country" etc. Comments please. Course we could always rely on Peter Neville to take over AFBIB if we asked him to....!!!

We feel that Peter Newell has some very valid comments in his letter in this months AFBIB however he is withholding the very items he is complaining we haven't got enough of from other groups. If other groups had the same philosophy AFBIB would contain only personal diatribes and correspondence although reports, we feel, are the most essential part of the bulletin. Peter, we care about your activities and even if no one else does - aren't we important enough to hear them (important as people - not AFBIB).

Those helping today were from B'ham and one from South London.

GROUP REPORTS

Black Knight Group

The Black Knight Group still exists, but it is fragmented for the summer. Another issue of Black Pudding (not to be confused with the bookshop of the same name) has finally evolved, sells well in the local. Wrote a sympathetic letter to the failed local labour candidate, in the nick for a driving offence he insists he didn't commit (see the times editorial 25 or 26 August).

DJ

Subsidiary report from John Mann - I am a merry group.

P.S. Duplicator facilities available (Gest.) at Group address.

Aberdeen Group

Things have been fairly quiet in the aftermath of the election and subsequent holidays have kept it that way. We have concentrated on producing our broadsheet, the "Fighting Mouse". No. 3 came out at election time, mainly and deliberately about things other than the quinquennial farce, No. 4 at the end of last month, and No. 5, which is stencilled, is due out at the beginning of next month. We give it out at three specific factories, the same each time, as we feel that a print of 500 would get completely lost in "high street" distribution in a run of 185,000. We have found a friendly reception and in one case considerable information by doing this; and we would welcome the views of other groups on this.

Finance? We are still drawing on the money we made in a jumble sale at the beginning of March. Group strength around half a dozen activists; the few hangers-on seemed to have dropped off!

P.S. Of course we don't agree with everything in the bulletin, but general opinion is that you, the editors and duplicators, are doing the job well and efficiently.

M. Malet

East London Anarchists

11.7.70

I'm trying to start an Anarcho-Communist Group in Newham, which I hope will extend to extend to include all the East End, and if we're successful also to form a Schools' Anarchist Group.

So far I know two people who are interested, and I'm also receiving tremendous help and encouragement from Laurens Otter. Laurens has given me the addresses of several promising people who I'm writing to today.

I know that there are already two groups in Newham, but they no longer appear to be active, and I'm not really even sure if they still exist. Consequently I'm trying to start an active group and I'm wondering if AFBIB could help at all, it would be very much appreciated especially now.

The three of us hop to write a couple of leaflets (one about the Election) over the weekend, and get stencils cut early next week, and Laurens has very kindly offered to do the duplicating.

Here is a very brief outline of the ideas formulated so far:--

1. Painting, postering, leafletting.
2. Informing Bit, Freedom, Agit Prop, etc. of the group's existence.

3. Monthly discussions of Current News, and possible acts resultin from discussions.
4. Possible formation of a Schools Anarchist Group.
5. Working with other groups on their projects, and possibly attending their meetings.
6. Possibly working with groups like "Socialist Current" on their projects, which while not anarchist, do not attempt to use workers for their own ends.

20.8.1970

East London Anarchists have produced a second leaflet. The group will in future meet regularly at Freedom Hall. At the last meeting we agreed to take action against a local school with an extremely tyrannical headmistress, Deanery High School for Girls, Stratford; however she has since been sacked.

International Commission

I was instructed by the previous conferences to keep the International Commission of the AFB going, but the 1969 London Conference left this, like so much else, in abeyance. However the Black Cross has been acting as an International Commission in its own right.

CRIFA: The various Bulletins are no doubt received by Federations so there is no point in repeating all this. (The last Bulletin received described me as still the International Secretary of the AFB but this was their own embellishment; I am not sure what the position now is).

THE BLACK CROSS has been in constant touch with the Spanish activists, sepecially since Miguel Garcia Garcia has joined us on the Com ittee. We are in communication with the movement inside Spain which is re-grouping its forces. Unfortunately there is in the exile movement a tendency to sit back and reflect on past glories. The activist movement is not receiving support from the NT in Toulouse. As we see it, it becomes all the more imperative for us to be able to offer that support.

So far as Spanish prisoners are concerned, we have now got a steady flow of pe ople sending parcels. This is more important than is realised for there is no doubt whatever that prisoners who receive parcels become marked by the authorities as being "of international note" or "causing international concern" and these are those who get the benefit of "amnesty" and "clemency" at the end of their sentences (most CNT prisoners are serving beyond their sentences) or even before. We do not want to give too much publicity to this fact in case some journalist sensationalises it. However the receipt of parcels means - apart from the occasional feast - that some working-class CNT prisoners are receiving the benefits of liberty really intended for middle-class prisoners or priests.

Miguel Garcia Garcia is available to speak at meetings and ha already had several very useful ones. He has now got permission to work and is only available weekends.

CHINA: We are maintaining correspondence with the comrades in Com unist China. Many comrades are asking about how we can help prisoners there but it must be repeated that the Chinese Anarchists insist there is no value in demonstrations of any nature for prisoners. When Anarchists are arrested they claim to be ordinary criminals whose treatment is far far more reasonable than that of "politicals" (and may only be downgrading of jobs); hence they insist "there are no Anarchist prisoners". This is an anomalous situation but there it is.

International commission report continued:

If it can be organised, it may be possible for a delegate from the Chinese movement to speak, either in the North of England or in Scotland, where it is not possible for the Chinese Embassy officials to go. Perhaps some group will write to me?

We are getting an enormous number of individual letters from Sweden, Denmark, Germany etc. Most of these are from people coming to anarchism, speaking English, but unattached to any movement. A lot of these letters come as a result of "Floodgates of Anarchy". - A. Moltzer, Anarchist Black Cross.

Reading Group

We haven't contributed since No. 3, since when the Reading Anarchists have had some publicity, a lot of fun, & notice to quit (successfully resisted, but we're going soon anyway). First there was the schools' leaflets - about 3,000 distributed - result: delighted kids (interpreted by one head as laughing at the leaflet instead of with it) an Education Dept. that "hadn't been officially informed", the Evening Post giving us 72 column inches on Wednesday, publishing an editorial entitled "Silly" which decided that the best thing to do was ignore us (Thursday) and proceeding to give us a further 9 column inches on Friday. The following Sunday, the News of the World, informed by the only irate parent we came across, who also took legal advice, went to the Meanies, and complained to Bernard Braden, published an article with the headline "these Anarchists are getting at your kids". In both cases, the press did a lovely job for us, being sufficiently stupid to reprint chunks of the leaflet without attempting to refute its arguments. Apparently the only thing that worried the Post was that one of us (me) was planning to go to teachers' training college. They might be even more upset if they know that come September there'll be at least seven of us there.

Then there was a General Election (asn't there?) with several thousand leaflets advising people to do all sorts of things with their ballot-papers, which got a good response, especially at the two rallies we anarchized; the first was Callaghan's who couldn't be heard for the first 15 minutes, and didn't say much afterwards either; the second was with all three candidates, who soon had all of 500 people laughing at them. (At one point Lee & Vaughan actually went into the classic political did-didn't-did-didn't routine and even the Meanies laughed.) And two old ladies came up to us afterwards and said "You were wonderful!" Lots of fly-posting, including some for the Better Weather Party - sample policies: immediate repatriation of all monsoons and hurricanes, 10 mph speed limit on all winds, centrally-heated snow in every back garden, rain only in agricultural areas, execution of all unauthorised weather-forecasters, and the slogan "Our Promises are as good as theirs!".

Incidentally, have we yet realised the implications of the fact that in spite of recommendations from all the lefties (except the Maoists and a splinter of the IMG) to vote Labour (We know it makes sense!) around 30% of the electorate didn't vote anything - except perhaps No Confidence?

A minor outbreak of Chairnism, with fearless denunciations of everybody's Fascist crimes, & quantities of Red Bibles for sale, went the same way as an attempt by the Students Union bureaucrats to enforce a policy of excluding non-intellectuals from student dances, by demanding that all visitors should be signed in by one of the top 2%. But by a strange coincidence, there was an Anarchist bookstall in the Union every dance-night, and windows and fire-doors kept coming open.

Reading Group Report continued

There's an Adventure Playground on a council estate nearby, which has been "run" by Anarchists for two years, and we've now started to infiltrate the committee; the Vice Chairman (would you believe) and three others, out of seven, are Anarchs., & there's about £500 to play with.

One comrade is going to Spain (don't ask why); most of the rest of us are intending to stand as Better Weather Party candidates for the next local elections.

A lot of the local kids have taken over Reading Abbey ruins for concerts and things on Asturday afternoons; the first time the meanies pinched the generator. The next time, they tried, the third time, they didn't. That's all. G.E.

P.S. Our sympathy (we're broke) to Ian Ross, former Reading comrade, on his £75 rap in Leicester.

CORRESPONDENCE

LETTER What is the purpose of the AFBIB? What is the function of the AFB? The AFBIB publishes a list of about 50 active, not-so-active and completely inactive anarchist groups in Britain, a list of libertarian publications and a considerable amount of acrimonious and very un-comradely controversy. And organisationally, the AFB does nothing at all. Moreover, a comrade from Oxford writes to tell us about left-wing reformist groups and parties who apparently have asked his group if he would like to discuss a united front with him against the Tories. What exactly has that got to do with anarchists? Why should we support them? Why should we talk with them about action against the Tories? Why, indeed, single out the Tories? Are we not equally opposed to the Labourites, and all the Maoist, Trotskyist and Stalinist reformist power-seekers? But, more important, why always join or support other people's demonstrations and activities? Why not initiate something of our own? Why should 1,000 to 2,000 anarchists merely tag along behind - or in the middle of, or in front of - Tariq Ali's 50,000? Why doesn't the AFB spotlight an aspect of our capitalist society, organise (Yes !!!) something properly, and then decide whether we will allow or invite anyone else to come along with us? This should not be beyond us, considering the amount of time, energy and apparently money (for enclosed statements in the AFBIB) that some comrades seem to have for abusing each other.

The editors of AFBIB complain that they do not receive enough reports of group activities. Perhaps there is a good reason for this. I may add that I am aware of the fact that there are groups in Britain (in E. Anglia, in fact) who neither subscribe to the AFBIB nor report nor report their activities to it. I am not surprised really. I have a feeling that the Poulsons, Nevilles, Meltzers and Marsdens with their rather inflated egos, who tend to dominate the correspondence columns of AFBIB, would not be particularly interested anyway. And most of the anarchists whom I know in E. Anglia are not overly partial to a publication which spends more time on acrimonious abuse between "comrades" instead of thrashing out plans for an onslaught and attack on capitalism and its reformist political supporters.

For those reasons, I am not bothering to report the rather considerable anarchist and Colchester Action Group activity during the last general election campaign. I doubt if anyone much cares anyway.

PETER NEWELL Essex F.A.

Comrade, (I see that this refers to a conference which is probably past) I am in favour of anarchists taking every possible opportunity to go to left conferences to express an anarchist case and try to get a wider left to understand the necessity for direct action, internal libertarianism, opposition to all states...and so on. I yield to no one in my distrust of the SLL. But I cannot for the life of me understand how we could consider going to a conference which would admit reformists, Maoists, Castrati,

Surrey-Line Communists (apologists for the invasion of Czechoslovakia) but exclude the SLL.

We dislike the SLL because its internal relationships resemble those of the pre-war Communists. Are we to join in condemning the SLL with those who still whitewash Stalin, and the party organization over which he presided. We oppose the SLL because it has frequently been opportunist, and prepared to resort to the courts, are we to join with Tribuneites and orthodox Communists to the exclusion of the SLL on this.

The only possible basis of unity between these organizations which would exclude the SLL, and would not recognise that the SLL is authoritarian because it has sold out to Stalinism and that the Stalinists are therefore to blame, would be concentration on "anti-imperial issues" to the exclusion of social issues here in Britain; that is a diversion of activity from serious revolutionary work to punch-ups in empty squares.

If the conference has yet to take place, I suggest that we send someone, mandated (a) to put the whole anarchist case, & (b) to say that for all its faults the SLL ought not to be excluded from discussions; and that we advise the organisers in advance that this would be our position, and that our delegate could only attend on this basis.

I can conceive of quite a few campaigns which might arise in the coming period in which anarchists could happily work with non-anarchists, even reformists and Stalinists, provided that we maintain our own independent right to put an anarchist case, and provided that the campaigning is done in an extra-parliamentary fashion which we can attempt to turn into an anti-parliamentary fashion; but I can conceive of none which would of necessity include the CP and exclude the SLL. Indeed I have strong doubts as to whether the CP as a body constitutes any part of the left - defined as leftwards from Tribune, or even as leftwards from the present government! or its predecessor!

Laurens Otter.

Geoff Charlton's got me wrong (AFBIB 9 page 4). I am not an individualist at all, and I am just approaching the problem as an outsider to the movement. Nor do I for a moment identify anarchism and behaviourism.

At first sight the statements I made about anarchism (which I left unqualified to save space) do read like a travesty of the philosophy. But it is an impression I have gained from reading the anarchist press and meeting a few anarchists. And to compare, say, Kropotkin with Stirner, not to mention more contemporary examples, would suggest Larry is right and I'm plain wrong. I think the truth of the matter is that there is a deep contradiction in anarchism and in most anarchists. I do not see, for instance, how class hatred or violent revolution is compatible with concern for the individual regardless of his social role or membership of a social group

Marshall Colman

PS to AFBIB: Albert Meltzer's supplement, letting us in on some of the recent history of the British movement was very interesting, and, I feel, valuable. Perhaps the bulletin, being a specifically internal paper, could afford to let us have more?

AFBIB

AFBIB

AFBIB

AFBIB

AFBIB

AFBIB will, as usual, be produced on the first Sunday of next month---Sunday 4th. October.

We need helpers from other parts of the country. We have room to put up a few people for the night.

Please remember to send your group reports to 5 Hannafore Rd, B/ham 16 by the end of this month.

GROUP LIST

The following are the addresses we have at 13.9.1970. Federation lists are published in Freedom.

- £ ABERDEEN: Neil Munro, 203 Comhill Drive, Aberdeen.
 - ABERYSTWYTH: Jonathan Smith, Nanteos Mansions, Aberystwyth, Cards.
Robus Marshland, c/o Students Union, Laura Place, Aberystwyth.
 - BASILDON & BRENTWOOD: Mick Powell, 24 Cameron Close, Brentwood, Essex.
 - £ BIRMINGHAM (& AFBIB) Peter Le Mare, 5 Hannafore Rd. Birmingham 16.
 - BELFAST: c/o Freedom Press. (Herts.)
 - BISHOPS STORTFORD: Vic Mount, Eastview, Castle Street, Bishops Stortford.
 - BLACKBURN: Global Tapestry, BB Books, 11 Clematis St., Blackburn.
 - £ BLACK CROSS, BLACK FLAG, COPTIC PRESS: 10 Gilbert Place, London, WC1.)
 - £ BLACK KNIGHT: 5 Nelson Rd., London, N.8. / (for mail only)
 - BLACKPOOL: Christine & Graham, 2 Fenner Ave, South Shore, Blackpool.
 - £ BRIGHTON & HOVE: Nick Heath, Flat 3, 26 Clifton Rd, Brighton, Sussex.
 - £ CARDIFF: Pete Raymond, 18 Marion Street, Splott, Cardiff.
 - CHELMSFORD & MALDEN: (Mrs) Eva Archer, Mill House, Purleigh, Chelmsford.
 - £ CORNWALL: Arthur Jacobs, 13 Ledrah St., St Austell, Cornwall.
 - £ "One & All": Hazel McGee, 42 Pendarves St., Beacon, Cambourne, Cornwall.
 - CRAWLEY: Richard Ashwell, 87 Bucks Wood, Glossops Green, Crawley, Sussex.
 - £ CROYDON: Laurens Otter, 35 Natal Rd., Thornton Heath, CR4 8QH.
 - DORKING: Mungo Park, 16 Overdale, Dorking, Surrey.
 - £ EDINBURGH: Tony Hughes, 40 Angle Park Terrace, Edinburgh.
 - EPPING: John Barrick, 14 Centre Avenue, Epping, Essex.
 - EPSOM: G. Wright, 47 College Rd., Epsom, Surrey.
 - £ FARNBOROUGH: 81 Mytchett Rd, Mytchett, Camberley, Surrey.
 - £ FIFE: Bob & Una Turnbull, Raith Home Farm, Raith Estate, Kirkcaldy, Fife.
 - £ FREEDOM PRESS & BOOKSHOP & ANARCHY: 84b Whitechapel High St. London, E1.
 - GUILDFORD: Contact Epsom Group.
 - HARLOW: Stephen Murrell, 34 Sharpecroft, Harlow, Essex.
 - £ HARROGATE: Roger Willis, 22 Princess Ave, Knaresborough, Yorks.
 - HULL: Jim Young, 3 Fredericks Cres, Hawthorne Avenue, Hull, Yorks.
 - £ LANCASTER & MORECAMBE: Tom Howard, 163 Ryelands Rd., Lancaster.
 - LAVENDER HILL MOB: c/o Vhris Broad, 116 Tynham Rd, London, SW 11.
 - £ LOUGHBOROUGH: Peter Davies, 67 Friffin Close, Shepsted, Leics.
 - £ LEEDS: Martin Watkins, 3 Marlborough Close, Leeds 2.
 - £ LIBERTARIAN TEACHERS ASSOC: Peter Ford, 36 Devonshire Rd, London, NW 7.
 - £ MANCHESTER: Rachel Golditch, 34 Waterpark Rd, Salford 7, Lancs.
 - £ MONTROSE: Please let us know new address.
 - £ NEWHAM: Pat Zeen, 26 Farringford Road, London, E.15.
 - £ NORTHANTS: Terry Phillips, 70 Blenheim Walk, Corby, Northants.
 - £ NORTH EAST ESSEX: Peter Newell, Agean, Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green, Colchester, Essex.
 - NOTTING HILL: Sebastian Scragg, 10 Bassett Rd. London W 10.
 - £ READING: 26 Bulmershe Rd., Reading, Berks.
 - £ SHEFFIELD: Dave Jeffries, c/o Students Union, Sheffield, 10.
 - £ L.C. Wood, Sheffield.
 - STUDENT GROUPS:
 - £ KEELE: Pete Hannah, c/o Students Union, U of Keele, Staffs.
 - ESSEX: Andrew Chalk, William Morris Tower, U of Essex, Colchester.
 - NORWICH: c/o John Sullivan, 32 Jerningham Rd. New Costessey, Norwich
 - £ L.S.E.: St Clemets Buildings, Houghton St. London, WC2
 - £ OXFORD: John Nygate, New College Oxford.
Steve Watts, Trinity College.
 - LOUGHTON: c/o Students Union, Loughton, Essex.
 - LIVERPOOL: c/o Students Union, Liverpool, 8.
 - £ SWANSEA: Ian Bone, 18 Windsor St. Uplands, Swansea.
 - £ TAUNTON: Dave Poulson, 47b Bramley Rd. Taunton, Somerset
 - £ YORK: (& Students Fed) Ro Atkins, Nanbrugh College, Heslington, York
- £ denotes full sub paid.