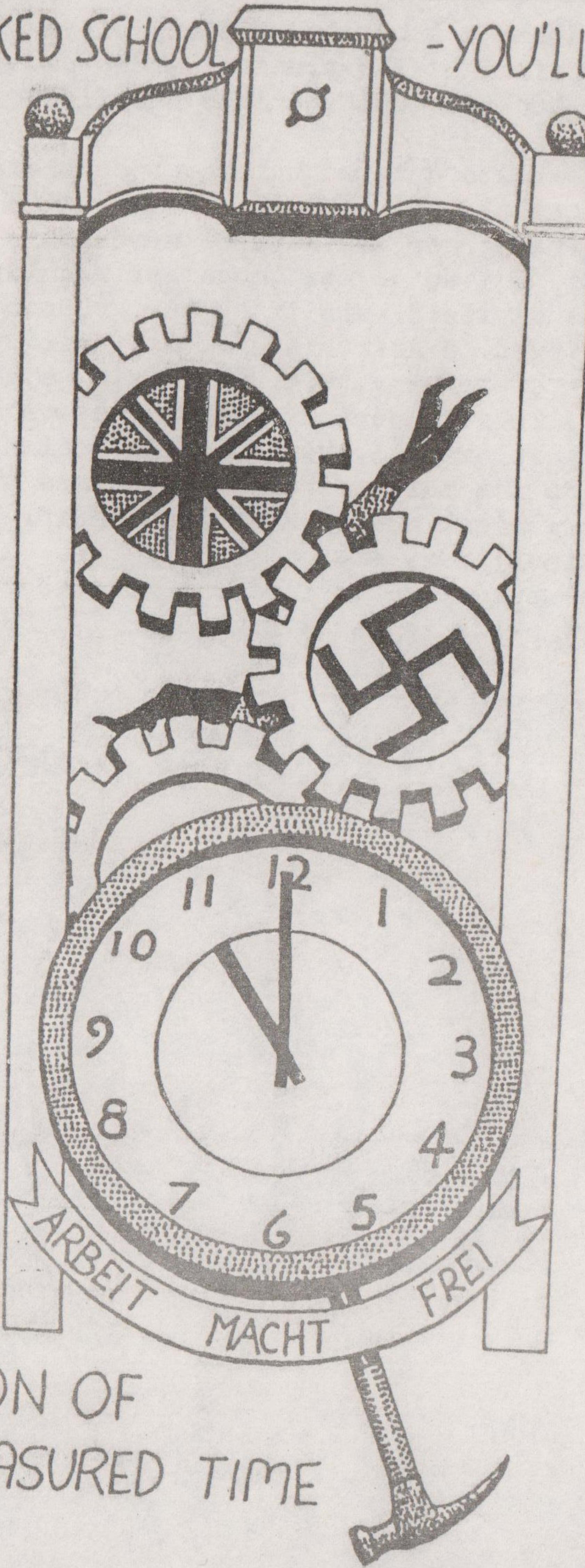


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IF YOU LIKED SCHOOL -YOU'LL LOVE WORK



WORK
-A PRISON OF
MEASURED TIME

THE SCHOOL STOPPERS Hand Book



PAY WHAT YOU LIKE

The School Stoppers Handbook, (or School Stoppers Textbook), was first published in America in 1968. Since then it has been translated into 17 languages, and literally millions of copies have been produced.

This new edition has been compiled by Sheffield Anarchists and is the second edition we have produced, the other being in 1978.

Although The School Stoppers Handbook is designed for school students (i.e. people who have to go to school) we feel that many of the ideas contained in it could be used in any institution (e.g. prison).

Because this handbook is intended for free distribution, (but the printing of it still has to be paid for), any financial contributions towards costs will be gratefully received and will enable us to produce more copies.

We intend to distribute School Stoppers as widely as possible within the Sheffield area, and further copies can be obtained from Sheffield Anarchists, P.O.Box 217, Sheffield, 1

Hope you enjoy it, and remember IF YOU DON'T HIT IT, IT WON'T FALL!

Sheffield Anarchists



POPULAR MISCONCEPTION
OF TYPICAL ANARCHIST



ACTUAL ANARCHISTS
IN REAL LIFE.

Anti-copyright SHEFFIELD ANARCHISTS 1984

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Smash your School

SCHOOL IS A SLOW SUBTLE KILLER...KILLING THE MIND...STIFLING OUR ABILITY TO THINK AND ACT...MAKING US INTO NON PERSONS... IF YOU ARE A VICTIM, ONE THING YOU CAN DO IS FIGHT BACK.

THIS TEXT IS NOT FOR THOSE WHO AREN'T SURE IF SCHOOL IS GOOD OR BAD...SCHOOL TEACHES OBEDIENCE AND SUBMISSION...THE SLY, THE DISHONEST, THE SNEAKS SUCCEED, THE ACTIVE AND CREATIVE FAIL. IT'S A GAME YOU BECOME PART OF, LIKE PRISONERS, ELEVEN YEARS OF OUR LIVES - TO LEARN DEAD FACTS BY HEART, TO BOW... TO OBEY...FOR WHAT? FOR THE DOLE, FOR THE SCRAP HEAP, FOR THE DEAD SUBURBS OF LIFE? IS LIFE JUST A DEAD FORMULA? ARE WE JUST COMMODITIES IN THE MARKET OF LIFE?

THIS TEXT IS FOR PEOPLE WHO KNOW...HOW THIS SYSTEM MAKES US FAIL...MAKES THE RICH AND POWERFUL SUCCEED. IT IS FOR PEOPLE WHO SEE THROUGH THE SICK SEXISM AND RACISM AND POWER GAMES BEING SHOVED DOWN OUR THROATS...FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE TRIED PEACEFUL PROTEST AND SEEN THE BRICK WALL...WHO KNOW THAT WE ARE TRAPPED IN SCHOOL TO STOP US LEARNING...OR BREAKING OUT ...OR MAKING A FREE WORLD.

WE WANT TO RE-MAKE THE WORLD, AND OUR SELVES, TOGETHER...FAILING THAT, WE MUST STEAL OUR LIVES AND RUN.

BEFORE TRYING THESE IDEAS, THINK HOW THEY WILL WORK (OR NOT) IN YOUR OWN SITUATION...ONE OF THE FEW ADVANTAGES OF SCHOOL IS THAT IT BRINGS LOTS OF PEOPLE TOGETHER, UNDER ONE POWER...LIKE PRISON, THE ENEMY IS AT LEAST VISIBLE, AND SOLIDARITY IS POSSIBLE.

NUKE YOUR SCHOOL!



91 ways to sabotage your school!

- 1) Break a stink-bomb, rotten-egg, or put something else really nasty into teacher's desk.
- 2) Steal the attendance register. Add in and rub out ticks, and replace it, or just burn it. Same goes for unguarded reports, papers, etc. Don't miss your chance.
- 3) Fill a syringe(minus needle)with mixed Araldite glue and a little alcohol - You now have half an hour to fill locks etc before the glue hardens. You can also use cement, Super glue, chewing gum, porridge, nails, bits of wood - the list is endless. A refined technique with Superglue is to stick a 2p coin over the keyhole.
- 4) Another use for the syringe is to pretend to shoot-up when the teacher is watching. Explain that you have to do it because school is so horrible. Also, try leaving them in the toilets or elsewhere where they're likely to be found. You could also leave small newspaper packets of glucose lying around too.
- 5) Phone the school at random times. Try flood, fire, or bomb warnings. Disguise your voice and hold a hankerchief over your mouth.
- 6) Pretend to have food poisoning. (After lunch breaks).Get lots of people to join in. Roll on the floor, or get sick by pushing your fingers down your throat.
- 7) Hand out notices to new pupils telling them which teachers are nasty and why.
- 8) Have a good old fashioned food riot if the food's no good.
- 9) Organise massive searches for lost contact lenses in gym class or in the corridors. Don't let anyone walk past as they might step on it.Pretending you've lost something is also a good cover for all kinds of subversive behaviour.

10) If you still have to wear uniforms, try wearing them back to front in protest. Or dare boy's and girls into wearing each others. If this doesn't work try a blanket protest.

11) Write down a list of all the stupid rubbish and rules you have to learn. Hand it out on Sports or Open Day.

12) Try political games. School is 11 years brainwashing without trial.Slowdowns work to rules, strikes and occupations are fun. But don't let leaders or egotrippers speak for you.

13)Draw or paint slogans on roll down maps or slide screens. Obscenities seem to have a good effect, but Anarchist slogans might be better.

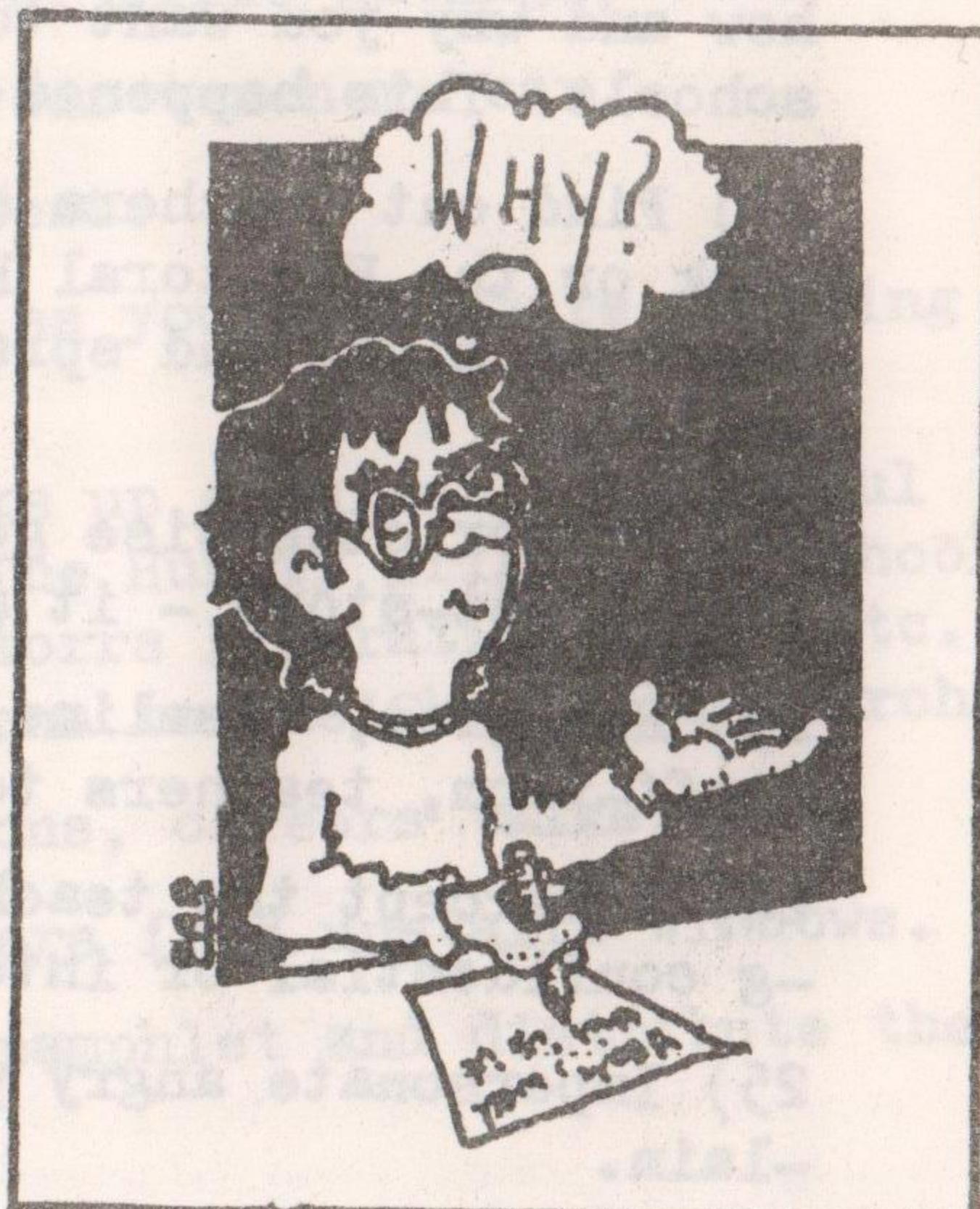
14) Now and then get loads of pupils to rush to the office to get some rumour denied or confirmed e.g. that a teacher has been sacked, that the school is closing down, or that World War 3 has started.

15) Make a citizen's arrest on your worst teacher. Drag him/her in front of the class and put them on trial for rotting the minds of youth.

16) Nick dishes and cutlery from the dining room, office equipment from the office, paint,etc from the art room, light bulbs from the sockets, toilet paper from the bogs - Anything you can lay your hands on. Donate them to yourselves or your local Anarchist group.

17) Have gigantic sneezing and coughing fits in class or in assembly.

18) Stretch cling-film under the seats of the teachers toilets



19) Get everyone to demand to see their school record files everyone else (police, social workers, etc) is allowed to see them. Turn it into a political campaign. If all else fails contemplate breaking in and nicking them, but don't get caught.

20) Throw out the teachers and decide for yourselves what, how and why you want to learn. Spread the action to other schools. This happened in Paris, way back in 1968.

21) Find out teachers and head's addresses from the phone-book or the Electoral Register in the central library. Go there at night and spray up anti-school slogans on their walls.

22) Buy or otherwise get hold of some dog-training liquid from a pet-store - it smells like concentrated piss.

23) Rub glue, vaseline, shit, etc on the door knobs of the staff-room, teachers toilets, or headmaster's office.

24) Intercept the teachers mail. Pass round or copy anything confidential or interesting.

25) Impersonate angry parents phoning up the school to complain.

26) Don't go to school. Sick notes are no problem to copy/forge. Think of better ways to spend your time.

27) Put stink bombs in the school's ventilation system. This has cleared schools for days.

28) If your school has suspended ceilings, (that is ceilings composed of rectangles or squares that can be pushed up), put something really smelly (or something you want to hide) above them. Or try putting something smelly in a disused locker and glue the lock up.

29) When you get the teachers totally paranoid, put out hints and notes that..."Tuesday's the day".

30) With a new teacher, exchange names at registration or invent some new ones. That way they can never figure out who everyone is.

31) Borrow the machine used for painting the lines on football pitches, etc, and use it to paint massive slogans on the school field.

32) Get your school library a subscription to 'The Sheffield Anarchist' and insist they make it available to pupils.

33) Get hold of some school notepaper and type out letters to teachers sacking or suspending them, soon they won't know what to believe.

34) Another idea with school notepaper is to send really cranky letters to the newspapers and sign them with your headmaster's name.

35) Do some revolutionary wall spraying. All you need is spray cans or paint and brush, lookouts, and a little guts. Write Anarchist or anti-school slogans on walls, blackboards, floors, and on windows (so they can be read from the inside). A stencil is nice, but it limits the size. Best wear gloves to avoid tell-tale paint on your hands.

36) Copy and hand out a sheet with the names and home phone numbers of teachers on it. Then people can ring them up any time; 3.00am for instance.

37) Get hold of a film to be shown at school, and splice in bits of your own, then return it unnoticed. Or more simply swap labels with a film of your own.

38) Clog up all the drains, toilets, and sinks with clay, paper, tampons, etc. Then turn on the taps and flush the toilets for an instant swimming pool.

39) Send manure, police, ready-mix concrete, coffins, etc to your favourite teachers houses.

40) Bug the teachers toilets or staff room. If you get anything really good send a copy of the tape to 'The Sheffield Anarchist'.

41) Stick posters up all around the school.

42) Always carry an awl (available in any hardware shop) or sharpened screwdriver. Puncture teachers tyres while pretending to tie your shoelace. Practice at night on the tyres of any

"THE GREAT ONLY
SEEM GREAT BECAUSE
WE ARE ON OUR KNEES
LET US RISE."



Rolls-Royce. Do at least two tyres so the spare doesn't help.

43) For real nasties, and cops, army, politicians, etc. Add sugar, sand or grinding paste to the petrol tank. The claw of a hammer will remove most locked caps. You could also pour brake fluid, paint, oven cleaner, etc over the paintwork.

44) If you're not allowed to wear jewellery, make yourself a giant crucifix and wear that.

45) Liberate the lab animals.

46) Turn your classroom into a giant web. Get a spool of thread for everyone, tie one end to something and then pass them all around. Choose a senile or trendy teacher and explain it's in the name of art.

47) Carry and pretend to roll up herbs or dry leaves or pass round vitamin pills.

48) Put Calcium Carbide (available from some hobby or joke shops or from climbers shops or the school lab) into a gelatin capsule and flush down the toilet. Calcium Carbide reacts violently with water, quickly producing large amounts of gas and bursting pipes, etc, as soon as the water dissolves the gelatin capsule.

49) Ride a bicycle round the corridors.

50) Save all your projects and essays, give them to someone else to use next year. Or use them again yourself with different teachers.

51) Play with the lighting, microphone or curtain control during important assemblies.

52) Pretend to faint every time you get bored.

53) Put up Anarchist signs everywhere as a mark of resistance

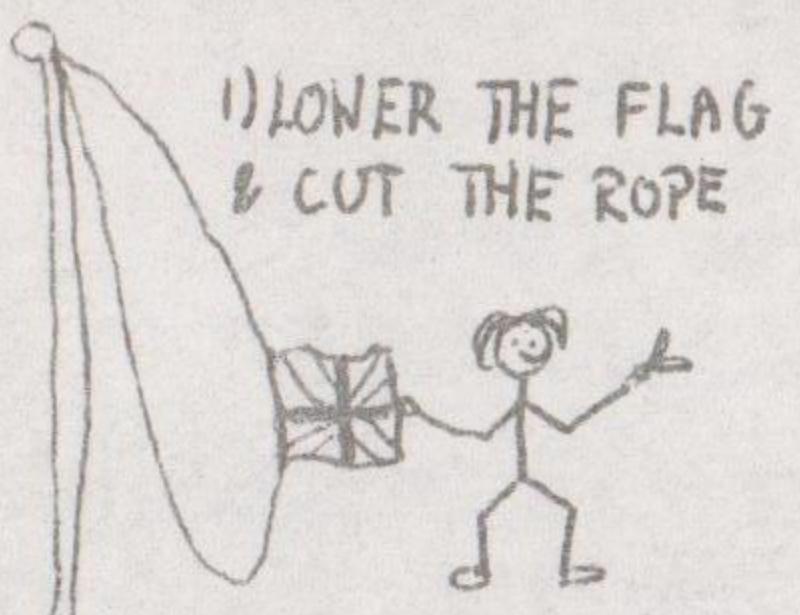
54) Fuse the whole school. Take a plug, cut the wire and join red & black or blue & brown, insulate well with tape, plug in and bang. Another method is to put a coin between the plug terminals, so that it is touching all three, and plug in. Rubber or leather gloves are a good precaution.

55) Make notepaper for a false school and try to hire away teachers...Or put up notices inviting everybody to a going away party for a teacher who isn't really leaving.

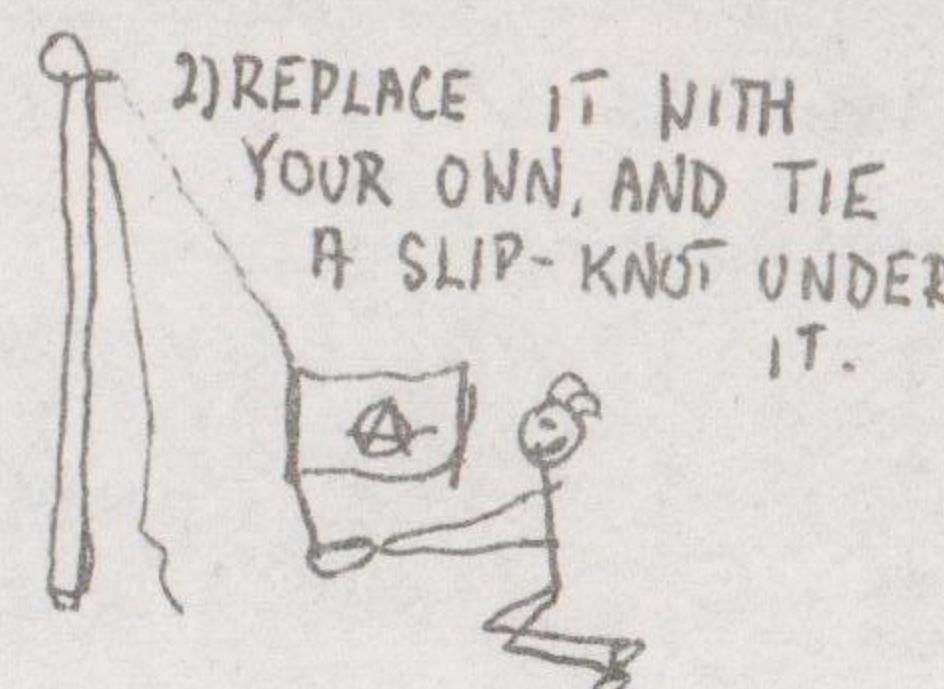
56) During some supposedly important exam or test get several brave people to stand up and start shouting out the correct answers for as long as possible.

57) Steal, copy and distribute copies of state exam papers, such as C.S.E. or 'O' Level papers, in advance. This can cause disruption throughout the country. You need to think carefully, maybe planning a year in advance. They have to distribute the papers to every exam centre in advance, so they must be locked up somewhere. Get hold of keys and lock picks or drill the lock out with an electric drill. Steal one copy of each of the papers and photocopy. Send copies to friends, school unions and Anarchist groups.

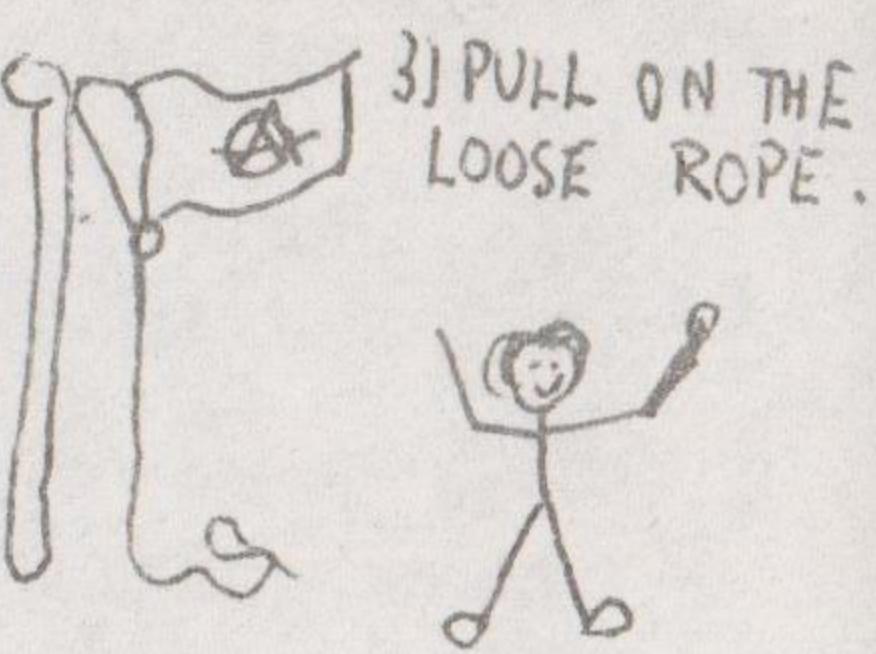
58) Erect the flag of your choice on the school flag-pole, (the Anarchist flag is traditionally black or red and black)



1) LOWER THE FLAG
& CUT THE ROPE



2) REPLACE IT WITH
YOUR OWN, AND TIE
A SLIP-KNOT UNDER
IT.



3) PULL ON THE
LOOSE ROPE

59) Put alarm clocks in various lockers. Set them to go off every 10 minutes or so. Close & lock the lockers.

60) Get a group to march around the school for hours singing 'God Save The Queen'. When they try to stop you ring your local radio & papers complaining your school is being run by Commies.

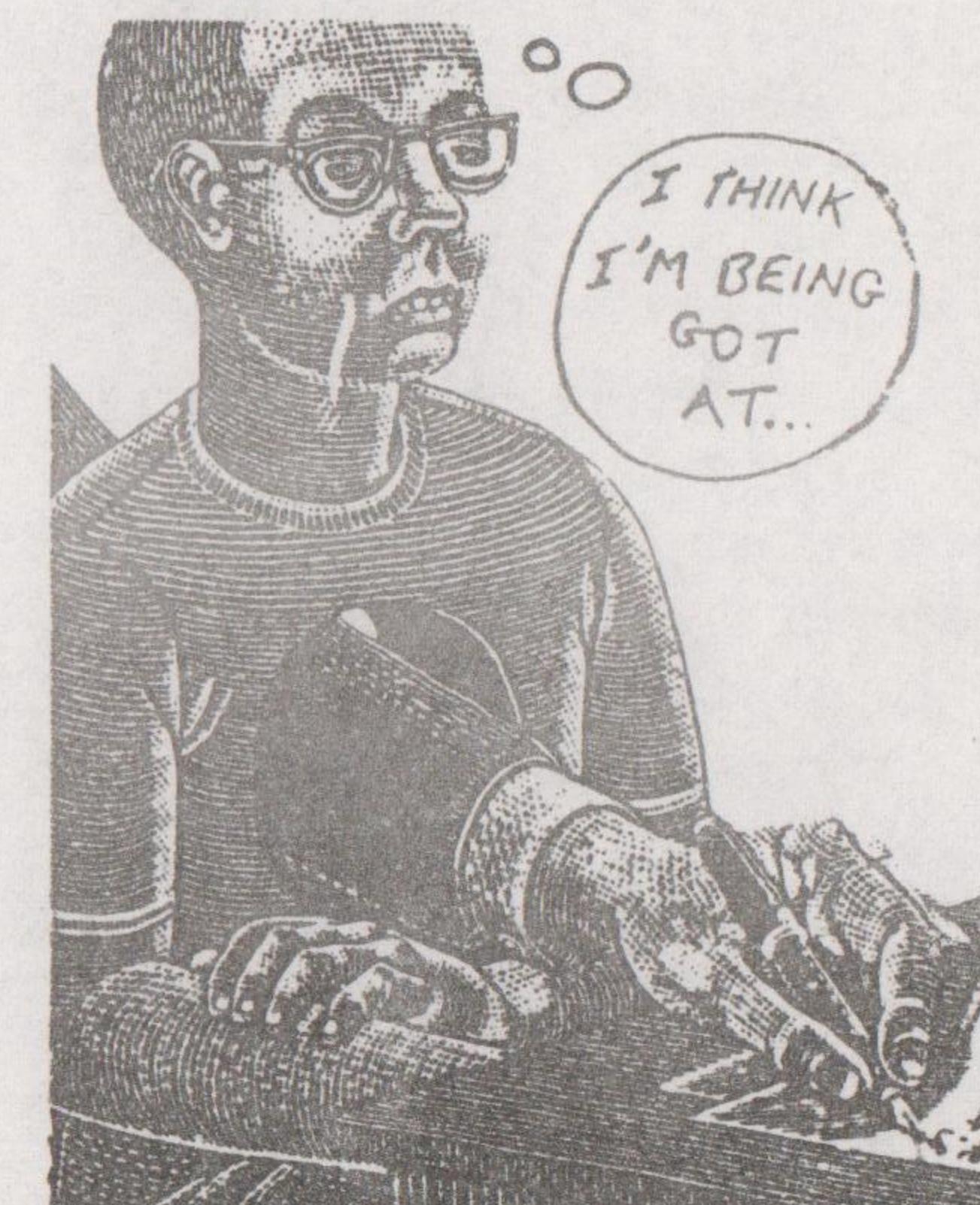
61) Start an Anarchist group and affiliate to Sheffield Anarchists.

62) If you get a free choice of book for English class choose 'ABC of Anarchism' by Alexander Berkman (published by Freedom Press and available from Sheffield Anarchists).

63) One person lies down in the yard. When a teacher comes SCREAM..."He/She jumped" and point to a 2nd floor window, mumble "It must have been the pressure of work" or "Maybe it

- 64) Start drumming on the desk whenever the teachers back is turned.
- 65) Pretend you've lost your voice and can only squeak when asked to recite some useless rubbish in class.
- 66) Shove prefects into the toilets and nail up or padlock the door.
- 67) Start using prison slang, e.g. teachers = screws, Headmaster = Governor or Head screw, classrooms = cells, etc.
- 68) Some schools have automatic sprinkler systems which go off when sensors in the ceiling feel too much heat. Find the sensors and hold up a match to them.
- 69) Toss handfuls of marbles on the floor at official ceremonies such as prize givings, speech days, etc.
- 70) Leave fake letters of resignation from teachers on the Headmasters desk.
- 71) Carry screwdrivers and slowly dismantle the school.
- 72) Photograph teachers constantly, even without film.
- 73) Take a cassette-recorder into class concealed in a bag. Tape the lesson. If it's good send it to us.
- 74) Hang your teacher! Hang a noose from a beam or tree, make a dummy and hang it. Stick notes on it e.g. Mr Moore in '84'..
- 75) Take the door of your classroom off the hinges, but leave it standing there, before the teacher arrives. Make sure nobody's in the way.
- 76) Place a piece of parcel tape, sticky side up on teacher's seat. Write your favourite slogan or teacher's nickname on the non-sticky side.
- 77) Balance a bag of paint, flour, water, etc on top of the classroom door.
- 78) A bit of playing about with a spanner can make water fountains spurt like geysers.
- 79) Get hold of a powerful catapult. Use heavy nuts & bolts to break windows from a distance at night.
- 80) Jam up school bells with paper or sellotape so that break doesn't end.

- 82) Organise a midnight party in your school. Make a collection for food, dope, contraceptives, etc.
- 83) Raid the school snack-bar or sweet shop if there is one and distribute the goodies to the starving masses.
- 84) Let off smoke cannisters(available at boat shops), stink bombs, etc at speech days, prize givings, etc.
- 85) Steal the wheel nuts off your teachers car.
- 86) Come to school in fancy dress.
- 87) If you've got the nerve piss yourself while reciting in class.
- 88) Form a guerilla group. Make up a suitably colourful name for yourselves such as 'The Hungry Brigade', 'School Resistance Movement', 'High Storrs Liberation Army', etc. Send communiques of your actions to the 'Sheffield Anarchi
- 89) Sabotage careers conventions, careers talks, etc.
- 90) Drop water-bombs on teachers from upstairs windows.
- 91) Make more copies of this pamphlet and distribute them



MY FIRST DEMO (a pathetic way to try and change things)

Thursday 15th March 1984

Today Charles and Di, the perfect model of good Christian living, visited Sheffield. Mr. R Sharrock, headmaster of King Edward V11 School, decided that as the glorious motor-cade would be passing by his college of knowledge he would allow his pupils time off to go and cheer the VIPs and wave DIY union jacks. The same union jacks that flew above the rotting corpses of many a battlefield.

Some friends and myself decided that we would take this opportunity to peacefully express our disgust at the whole charade of the happy masses cheering their media stars. To this end we prepared two posters which we were going to display at the roadside for other people and the leeches in the motorcade to see. Our actions were to be totally "respectable" (we thought this would lessen the chances of being moved on), and the exercise was undertaken as we thought it would stimulate thought and conversation amongst people so they might realise that while they stood cheering and waving their symbols of imperialist perversion, two thirds of the population of the world starve.

We used two slogans obtained from CRASS records as we felt that these represented our feelings in the most succinct manner possible. A member of the school Art Department (whom I will not name for their own protection) was willing (just) to let us use school materials to prepare our token gestures to the rich excreting on the poor. Having prepared our banners we sat on a wall on Clarkhouse Rd, outside one of the school annexes, displaying our words and awaiting the Royals' arrival.

After about ten minutes, and countless dirty looks, we were approached by a teacher of the school who told us to turn round our signs as they were disgracing the name of the school. We refused. She then told us to get off the wall as it was school property. So we got off the wall. Then she told us not to stand outside school property, so we crossed the road.

By now vans full of jackboot clad pigs had arrived to hold back the masses who were going to cream themselves when the VIPs arrived. The teacher who had told us to move and who was now hysterical because pupils from her perfect school should act in such a manner, approached an "officer of

the law" and asked him to do something about us. This he most certainly did. With help from another policeman he tore up our banners and said if we chanted anything we "would not be going home tonight".

To most people reading this article this will be no surprise. We had no idea this was what the police would do. The policeman said that we were "acting in a manner likely to cause a breach of the peace." Politicians daily act in a manner likely to, and which often actually does, "cause a breach of the peace".

This was our first such confrontation with a nice policeman and we didn't really know how to handle it. Next time we will prepare ourselves, or limit ourselves to direct acts of sabotage if that's the way they're going to play. What little confidence we had left in authority "for our good" was gone. We left the scene.

On the bus on the way home I saw a child holding a union jack. "Have you seen them?" an old man asked the young boy. "Yes!" said the child's mother. I looked at the smiling child and his mother, I saw the union jack and thought of all the soldiers who had murdered or been murdered for its wondrous cause, of all the people who had been enslaved under it through imperialism, I thought of the starving millions from whom we have stolen, and of the multinationals who daily bleed these countries dry.

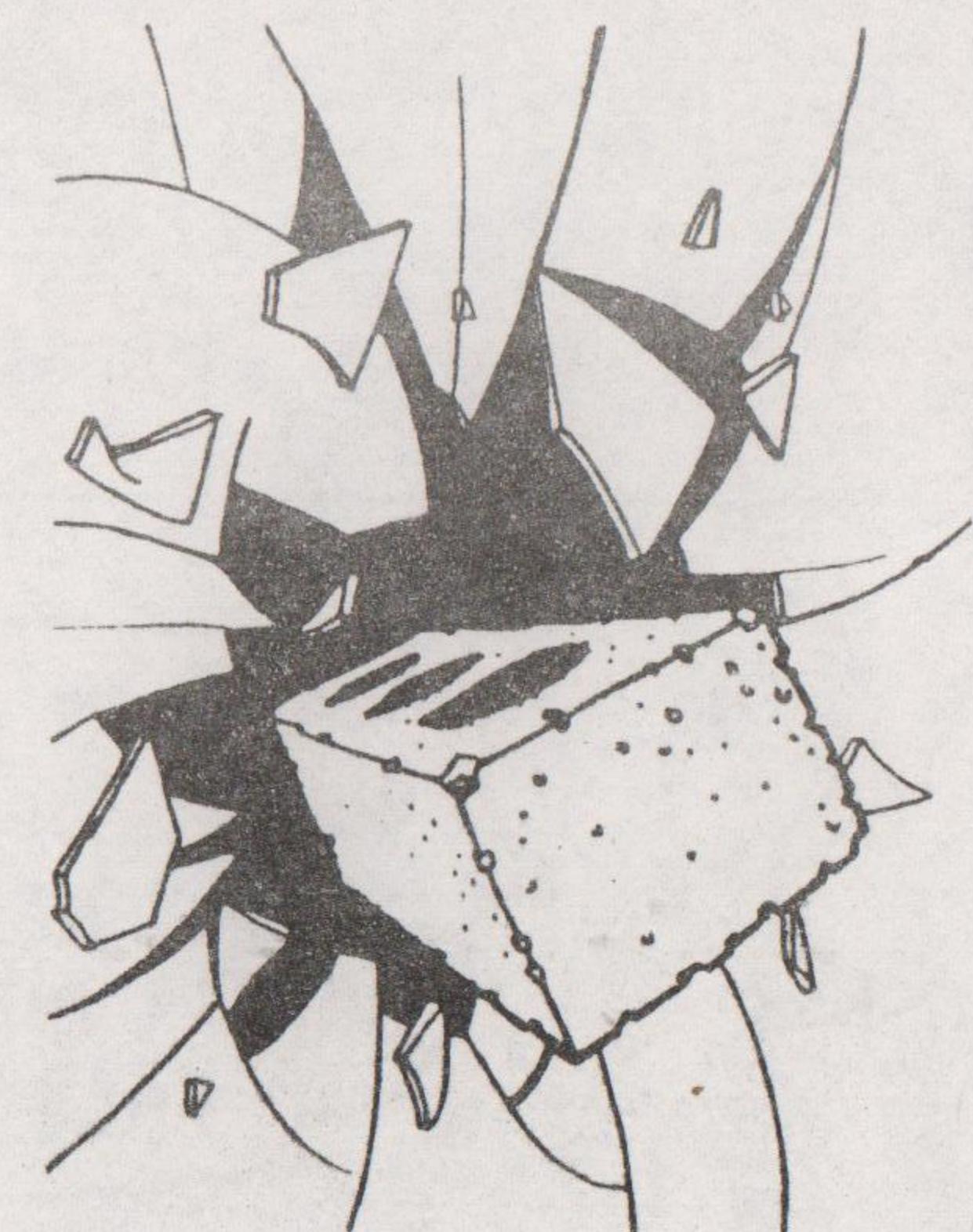
It is a case of "No time to be nice, it's time to fucking act" after all.

Any hypocrisies in this article are totally my fault; a person who claims to be an Anarchist when he's just passive to the System's fuck-you-up DEATH machine.

Bye, Bye.... G.G.

The above article is reprinted from 'The Sheffield Anarchist'

Volume 3 No. 4



I want to tell you about anarchism.

I want to tell you what anarchism is, because I think it is well you should know it. Also because so little is known about it, and what is known is generally hearsay and mostly false.

I want to tell you about it, because I believe that anarchism is the finest and biggest thing man has ever thought of; the only thing that can give joy and liberty and well-being, and bring joy and peace to the world. ... Therefore I must tell you, first of all, what anarchism is not.

It is NOT bombs, disorder and chaos.

It is NOT a war of each against all.

It is NOT robbery and murder.

It is NOT a return to barbarism or to the wild state of man.

ANARCHISM IS THE VERY OPPOSITE OF ALL THAT.

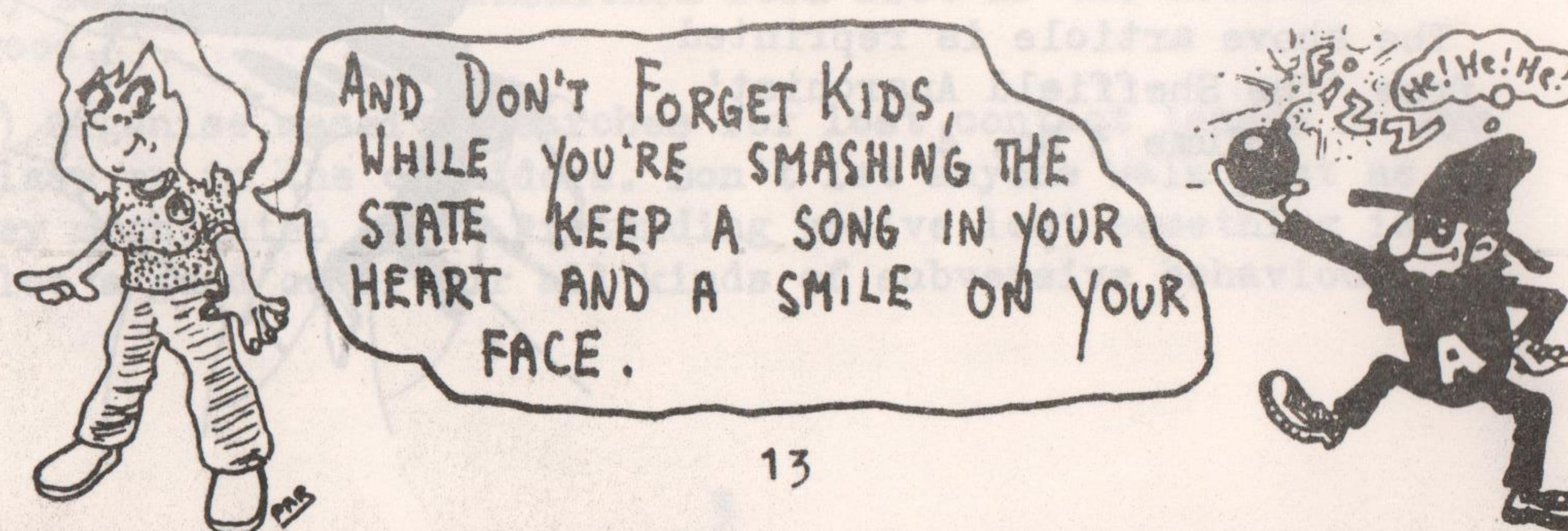
Anarchism means that you should be free; that no-one should enslave you, boss you, rob you, or impose upon you. It means that you should be free to do the things you want to do; and you should not be compelled to do what you don't want to do.

It means you should have a chance to choose the kind of life you want to live, and live it without anybody interfering.

It means the next fellow should have the same freedom as you, that everyone should have the same rights and liberties. ...

In short, anarchism means a condition of society where all men and women are free, and where all enjoy equally the benefits of an ordered and sensible life.

From "ABC OF ANARCHISM" by ALEXANDER BERKMAN



SHEFFIELD ANARCHISTS

Sheffield has a good long history of revolutionary Anarchist activity, in fact the present group can trace its history directly back to 1891 when 'The Sheffield Anarchist' was first published.

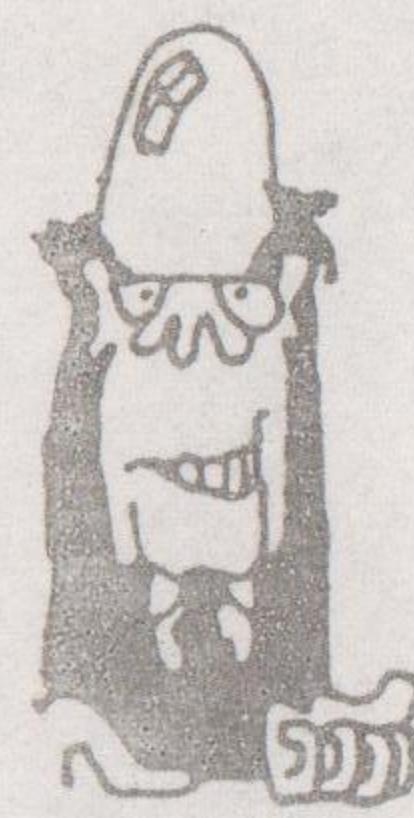
Today, we are a large but loose conglomeration of people of all ages (11 to 80) and from all walks of life. We are not a formal group and have no membership cards or anything like that, but we do meet together regularly and are active. We feel that the diversity of our grouping ensures that space is offered to Anarchists of differing persuasions, of which there are many, (e.g. pacifists, syndicalists, communists, etc). This looseness ensures that we do not become doctrinaire and explore all avenues of Anarchism. It also means that we do not suffer from the diseases that afflict more formal organisations such as leadership, bureaucracy, oppression of minorities, etc.

If you would like to find out more about Anarchism in Sheffield write to us at P.O. BOX 217, SHEFFIELD, 1.

TEACHERS ARE SOFT COPS



Ten forty-three. In exactly TWO MINUTES I'll ring the FIRST BELL and they'll all stand still! All that is, except your potential DEVIATE! Your FLEDGLING REBEL! Your incipient BOAT-ROCKER! THEY'LL try to move all right! THEY'LL have to learn the hard way not to move!



So I'll SCREAM at 'em and take their NAMES and give them FIVE DETENTIONS and EXTRA HOMEWORK! NEXT TIME they won't move after the first bell! Because when they've learned not to question the FIRST BELL, they'll learn not to question their TEXTS! Their TEACHERS! Their COURSES! EXAMINATIONS!



They'll grow up to accept TAXES! HOUSING! DEVELOPMENT! INSURANCE! WARI MEN ON THE MOON! BOOZE! LAWS! POLITICS! SPEECHES! PARKING METER TELEVISION! FUNERALS! Non-movement after the first bell is the backbone of Western Civilisation!