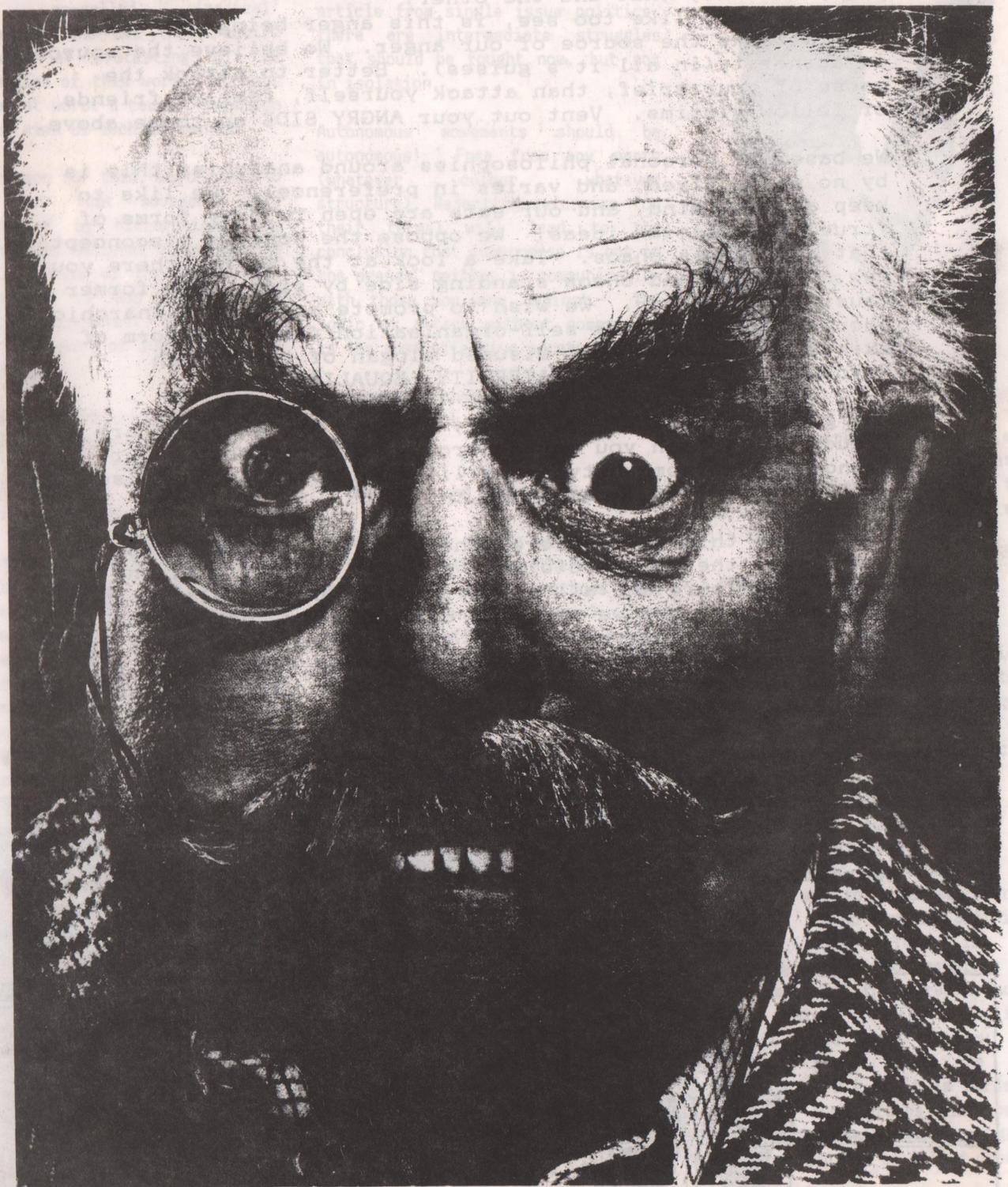


# SWANSEAS' ANGRY SIDE



THEY'VE CUT MY DOLE AGAIN!

welcome to:  
THE BRIGHTON RALLIES



The productive apparatus & the goods & services which it produces "sell" or impose the social system as a whole. The means of mass transportation & communication, the commodities of lodging, food, & clothing, the irrefutable output of the entertainment & information industry carry with them prescribed attitudes & habits, certain intellectual & emotional reactions which bind the consumers... to the producers... The products indoctrinate & manipulate; they promote a false consciousness which is immune against its falsehood...  
i t b e c o m e s a w a y o f l i f e.

Herbert Marcuse.

# ANGRY

We are angry. You are (probably) angry. Everybody, everywhere is angry. Angry at work, angry at home, angry with the police, government, dole office, etc., etc., etc. Angry at this, that and the other. What we would like to see, is this anger being the dynamite that attacks the source of our anger. We believe the source is authority (in all its guises). Better to attack the cause of your grief, than attack yourself, family, friends or fellow victims. Vent out your ANGRY SIDE on those above.

We base our personal philosophies around anarchism (this is by no means fixed, and varies in preference). We like to keep an open mind, and our ears are open to many forms of (true) libertarian ideas. We oppose the popular misconception that anarchy is chaos. Take a look at the world, there you see authority and chaos standing side by side. The former causing the latter. We wish to promote anarchy or anarchic thought as autonomous self-organisation for a new form of existence based on that misused slogan of the French Revolution - LIBERTY, FRATERNITY, EQUALITY.

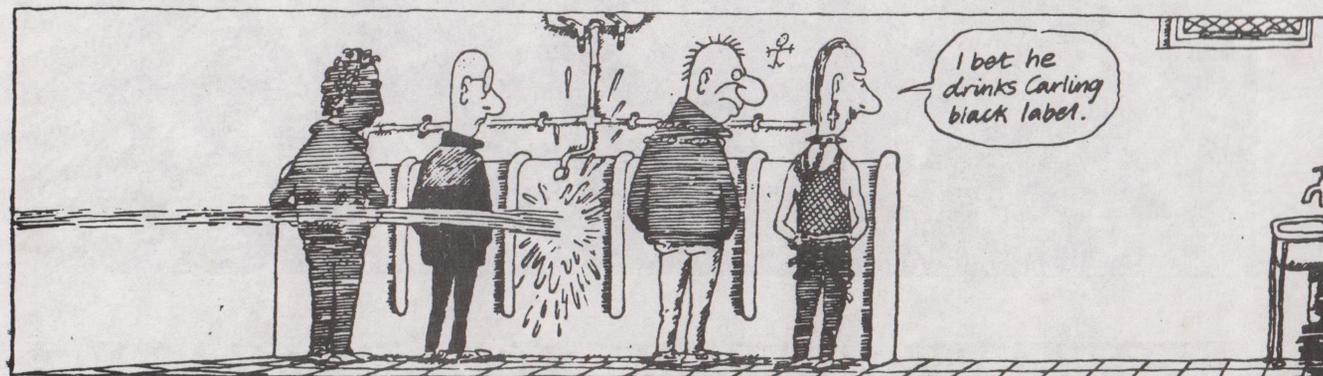
The grand notions of democracy, freedom and equality are a fraud. Only when you can control your environment, your economy, your community, your life (and not somebody else's) can we achieve true democracy.

To achieve this, we believe, there must be a subversion of the state, the economic (class) system, the national and consumer culture and all authoritarian social relationships.

No easy task, but we need to, collectively, create and develop viable alternatives to this society. The task is to destroy this society while developing the new society to take its place. You can't do one without the other and hope to succeed.

As a small group we are trying to look for answers to these problems, we can do little on our own, so hope to encourage people to do their own thing, their own publications, their own actions etc., etc. We would like some feedback on articles, any articles you'd like us to print (we cannot guarantee we'll print it), artwork and news and information.

BOX SAS, 19 BRYNYMOR ROAD, SWANSEA, SAI 4JH.



# Get Autonomous

This article is addressed to those those who are generally pissed off with so-called 'radical' movements, and see their futile attempts at protesting to the insanities of this world, at best naive, at worst a counter-reaction to the aims of such movements.

The reason for this, maybe down to the fact that movements are controlled by hierarchical and centralised national organisations (CND, Friends of the Earth etc) which seek to lead movements of popular discontent and enforce their own sort of logic into the movement.

The logic of reformism, democratic dissent and symbolic protest, all lead to compromise and recuperation ie. 'sell-outs'; this is not to say that the rank and file are not sincere in wanting change, but methods used are not really effective. As mentioned above this article is addressed to those dissatisfied with this scene; I wish to propose an alternative, that of autonomous movements, which would be a more effective way of carrying out real struggles; below are some suggestions on such movements.

I would like to disassociate this article from single issue politics, there are intermediate struggles that should be fought now, but not in isolation.

Autonomous movements should be autonomous! Free from any party (whatever colour, whatever structure). Rejecting reformism (on their terms) will lead to the conclusion that compromise is not on the agenda, neither is communication with those you are against. The logic of attack without compromise is the most effective strategy.

Autonomous movements have three areas in which to carry out their struggles:-

## 1. Education and Propaganda

Informing both public and activists of certain facts about the struggle; analysis of aims, methods and targets (when necessary) and communications (1) Any autonomous movements would find their own way of fulfilling this function.

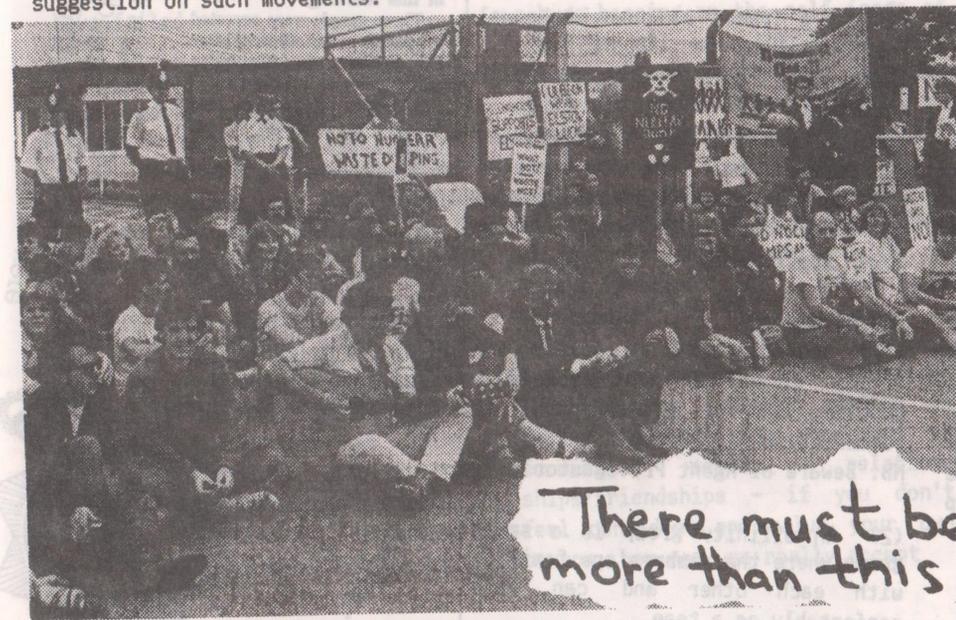
## 2. AGITATION

Making demonstrations a lot more rowdy/active and instigating campaigns that are more radical than the state/capital feels comfortable with eg 'Stop the City'.

## 3. DIRECT ACTION (D/A)

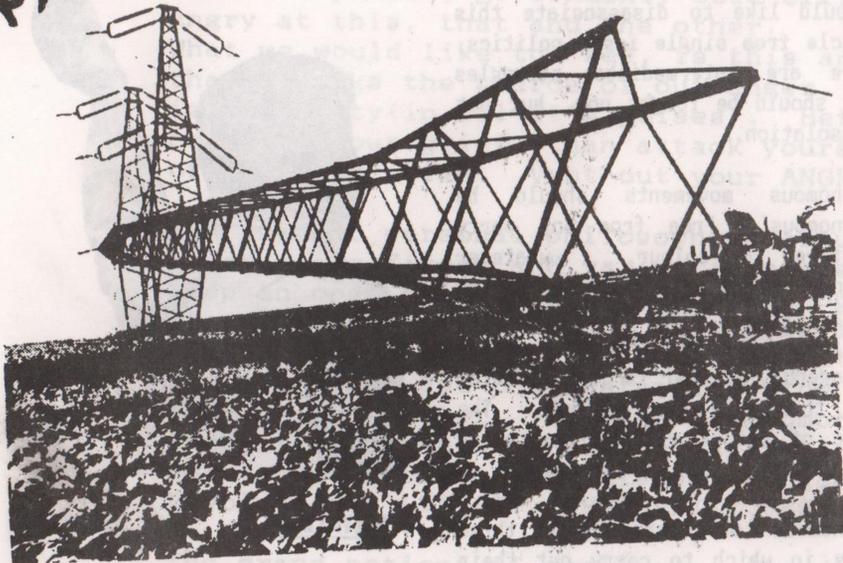
This could be connected with the above it is semi-legal open actions, or more covert actions of 'sabotage' economic or otherwise. D/A is quite open to interpretation eg from squatting to occupation, etc etc.

The three areas should be interconnected ie analysis of the situation produces the most effective forms of actions. The best way to organise yourself would be in autonomous affinity groups (2). This is more advantageous when you consider that for a movement to be really active and to achieve its aims it is likely that it would break the law. An affinity group would be more effective at D/A as it is harder to penetrate such groups with police spy etc., and members of such groups are close and can be relied upon.



# PYLON GROUNDED

STRATEGY AGAINST THE  
NUCLEAR MENACE



The object of autonomous mass movements is not to have large cumbersome groups but small flexible and agile groups being reproduced all over the place. D/A should follow a similar logic, not massive spectacular actions, but small scale actions which are both, effective and reproducible over a large area on a large scale.

No doubt these will be actions that will require co-ordination and co-operation between affinity groups and single mass actions. There would not be that much difficulty in groups co-operating to attain certain objectives; some level of communication is needed to plan such actions.

There is a mushrooming of such autonomous in this country and on the continent. This article hopes to inspire more movements, no action is too small. No single group is insignificant (NB. the ALP started off as single group look at it now!)

militants need to go beyond the law and public debates to achieve, there are many areas of oppression exploitation which require autonomous action/movements.

YOU HAVE YOUR GOALS, NOW SEEK YOUR TARGETS.

### SUGGESTED READING

Without a Trace: A Forensic Manual For You and Me  
Interviews with Animal Front Activists  
Insurrection No. 4 - interesting supplement on the autonomous anti-nuclear movement in Italy (shows how to cut down pylons near nuclear power stations)

### FOOTNOTES

(1) contradictions in policy and actions of any movement will be a problem, but not insurmountable if communication is good.  
NB. Beware of Agent Provocateurs.

(2) An affinity group is a small group where the members are familiar with each other and can work comfortably as a team.

## Post opinion

# Frightening

LIFE for the policeman gets more difficult as each year goes by. There was a time, not so many years ago, when there was a body of opinion which said that our police were overpaid. We don't hear much about that any more.

The Dixon of Dock Green image has long been dead and buried and anybody who doubts it need only read the South Wales Police annual report on our centre pages today. The statistics are frightening.

No longer does a serious assault on a police officer merit a mention on the national news, because such incidents are now so commonplace. Their job is stressful and dangerous.

That is not going to change overnight and it explains why, year after year, chief constables all over Britain say they need more men (and women) to maintain law and order.

Alcohol, we know, is at the root of much of the trouble and since drink is so easily obtainable (and would be even if the old licensing hours were restored) there is little that can be done in that respect.

The support of the general public can help, however, as the success of the Crimestoppers scheme has proved. Our police need every scrap of assistance they can get if they are to keep the escalating crime figures under control.

Evening Post, Monday, June 5, 1989

## Five hurt in city attack

FIVE policemen were injured in a disturbance outside Swansea's central police station during the early hours of this morning.

Three people were arrested for public order offences after the incident in Alexandra Road at about 2.30 a.m.

A police spokesman said today: "As a result of the disturbance five police officers received various injuries."

A police spokesman said today one officer suffered a possible fracture to his right hand, bruised ribs, a cut lip and swollen left eye.

Another was kicked in the groin, another was bitten on the hand and one received bruised ribs and shoulder. Another officer's elbow was injured.

DURING 1988 1,245 working days were lost through police officers being attacked on the streets of South Wales.



SEAME..

# BODIES

After just having finished reading a booklet called 'Hunger Strike', I got to thinking, not for the first time, about bodies. The booklet is really quite simple, it's about the whole business of dieting and being 'fat' (I strongly recommend you reading it). It's an important issue, one that is joked about as a way of skimming over what is a big business, a multi-million pound industry. O.K., so apart from the vast amount of money involved, why bother writing about it? (if that isn't cause enough) - Because of the psychological damage the slimming/advertising/modelling industry does to women, often without them even realising it. Each time we turn on the T.V., open a magazine, glance at advertisements, there she is, radiating out as a goddess like image - She's slim, dressed 'fashionably', her hair shines, and the chances are she's smiling or laughing; of course she's happy, she is the ideal woman. Men desire her, friends envy her. There's not an ounce of extra fat on her, and she's going places. Slim = Attractive; Attractive = Happy. A simple equation, and I have failed.

I've worked in several offices, been around and about college, around friends etc., and one of the re-occurring topics of conversation has been dieting, and I'm past wondering why because I reckon I've sussed what's going on (and not before time). The Goddess image (the slim body) is the ideal towards which we are all meant to strive to, because that is what we are told is attractive - beauty, it seems, is not in the eye of the beholder, it's on the advertising hoardings (billboards), centered somewhere between the face and the hips (or

could it be what the hips might offer?). So why are slim women encouraged by our society? Is thin desirable and healthy, or just weak and frail, an outward manifestation of the subservience of women which dominates our society.

While we are constantly pre-occupied with changing our bodies (which presupposes a deep, manufactured, dissatisfaction with them) we can't enjoy them, because somehow they have become an albatross, something to be embarrassed about, to make fun at or be ashamed about. Could it be that I have exaggerated all of this, blown it out of all proportions because of my own hangups? My personal experiences must have coloured my feelings, yet the evidence of the problem is all around us - the growing number of private plastic surgeons, the vast number of slimming aids, the diet books and surveys revealing that 87% of the women asked wanted to change their bodies, 80% thinking they were 'overweight', over whose weight? And why does it matter? It matters because of the effects of hating, or at least not liking your own body leaves psychological scars, and has a huge bearing on the self image of women in all areas of life. The number of women who have been or still are anorexic or bulimic is horrific - in every town and city there are self help groups solely for the purpose of allowing women to undo the ravages of years of dieting which in many cases have resulted in hospitalisation or psychiatric 'treatment'.

Being 'overweight', and therefore 'unattractive', 'ugly' renders us facing insurmountable barriers in forming sexual relationships/friendships - if you don't feel confident and value your own person, how can you really accept



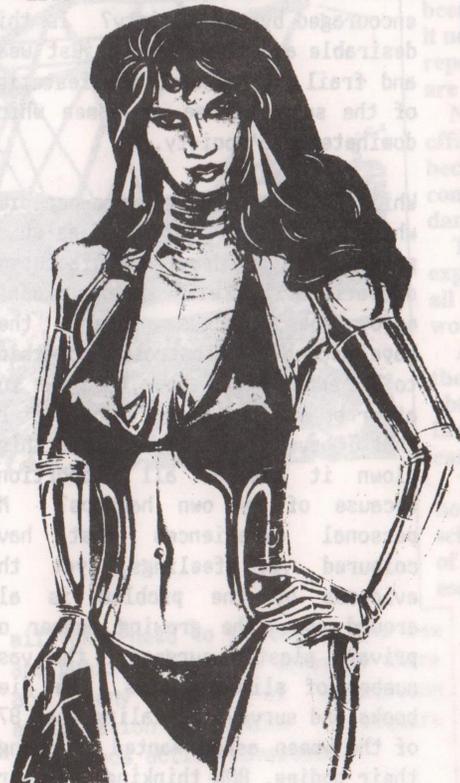
the fact that someone else does? It is worth noting that eating problems, either excessive dieting or excessive binging occurs most frequently in rape/sexual abuse victims. It becomes one of the only things women can have absolute control over - Starvation diets are a punishment for not being what we are told we ought to be. The pleasure of eating as a part of enjoying our bodies is denied, the pleasure of sharing your body with someone else is lessened or impossible.

So why the interest? Well, it affects us all, men and women - it affects what men expect of women, how they ought to look and by implication how they ought to behave - you can't do anything practical in a tight skirt (except stand up).

I'm now about 5'10" tall, 12 stone - when I was 18 I weighed just the same, convinced I was fat and ugly. I decided to diet, I was utterly unhappy. I cycled 14 miles a day, did a full time job and ate nothing for 5 days - I lost 4 pounds and nearly died. I had an idea, even then, that it wasn't the size of my body that was the problem. It was the way I'd come to feel about it, and other people's comment that didn't seem to matter, but they did - each derogatory remark I'd laugh about, but I believed them all. I'd like to think that people will see me as the person I am, and not the body I happen to cart around - it would be good to be allowed to feel O.K. about the body reflected in the mirror.

The adverts of women I used to gaze at, I now realise aren't portraying satisfaction, they're selling dissatisfaction. The group of 'lovely' young Americans style kids in the M & M's chocolate ad, aren't fat, they're squeaky clean and most importantly they are happy. The women in that 'All-American' institution the 'Coke Cola' ad, aren't fat they're

happy, hugging men and lying on beaches - the paradox is with selling happiness and dissatisfaction. Coke is full of sugar, addictive (caffeine), and is a multi-billion pound exploitative multi-national. Somehow doesn't have the same ring as 'Coke adds Life'.



While we are force-fed these images, they continue to affect our lives - women's confidence is wittled away under the barrage of advertising that takes genuine happiness and satisfaction, packages it, and attempts to sell it back to us.

We can only be contented when we accept our own bodies and other people's bodies, tall, thin, fat or short - people are beautiful because of the affection you towards them, not the other way round.



VIZ  
"IS THAT ALL THEY DO?"



"COULD YOU TURN THIS ONE INTO LAGER?"



THESE AND MORE FUNNIES  
AVAILABLE FROM: CITY LAUGHS,  
c/o IAN HERING, LIVERPOOL  
7080423...50p plus p&p.

THE COMMERCIAL SELL OUT PAGE, OR ANARCHY BECOMING JUST ANOTHER COMMODITY.

FIREBRAND DISTRIBUTION, BOX F, 19  
BRYNYMOR Rd, SWANSEA, SAI 4JH.

To distribute books, mags, papers & anything else we can lay our hands on (SAE for catalogue). FIREBRAND is a portable stall, amongst many other things. Any event in the S.Wales region & we'll contemplate doing some distribution. GET IN TOUCH.....

#### A SMALL SELECTION OF OUR WARES

"Everything you ever wanted to know about anarchism, but were afraid to ask" - A good general introduction - 90p inc. p & p.

"Organisational platform of the libertarian communists" - looks at the lessons learnt from the Russian revolution & sets out a rough guide as to how anarchists should organise. £1.50 inc. p & p

A selection of A3 posters £1 inc. p&p.

Cheap

Bulk orders of above available, enquire.

Cheap

#### ADDRESSES: SAE FOR INFORMATION

Anarchist Communist Federation,  
P.O.Box 125, Coventry, CV3 5QT.  
Anarchist Federation for a more organised approach to a new society.

D.A.M., 2nd Floor, 27 Priory Rd,  
Sheffield, S7 1LW. Revolutionary  
Anarchist Unionism.

Agit-Press, Box 4, 52 Call Lane,  
Leeds. Printers & distributors of  
pamphlets, mags, T-shirts, records.

Class War, PO Box 467, London,  
E8 3QX. Interesting ideas in  
this paper/group of people.

Black Flag/Black Cross, BM Hurri-  
cane, London, WCIN 3XX. A good  
paper & prisoners aid organisation.

Green Anarchist, Box H, 34 Cowley  
rd, Oxford, OX4 1HZ. An ecological  
dimension/economic theory.

Attack International, BM 6577,  
London, WCIN 3XX. Printers &  
distributors of posters, papers,  
pamphlets & a book...

Lib Ed Collective/Magazine, The  
Cottage, The Green, Leire, Leicester.  
Freedom-seeking education.

Counter Information, Pigeonhole CI,  
11 Forth St, Edinburgh. A really  
good free news-sheet.

Hassle, St Ann's Cottage, St Ann's  
Lane, Norwich. Free News-Sheet for  
& written by the unemployed.

Sunshine, C/O Raven Press, 75  
Piccadilly, Manchester. Distributors  
of mags, newsheets & books.

Vegan Action Group, Room 16, 136  
Ingram St, Glasgow, GI 1EJ. Active  
group, stalls, displays & leaflets.



"Manifesto of libertarian communism"  
Follow up to 'the platform', develop-  
ing class struggle anarchism...  
80p inc p & p.

"The battle for Orgreave" - Speaks  
for itself.. £2.50 inc. p & p.

"Breaking Free" Tintin at his best..  
£2 inc. p & p.

"Malcontent" issue 4 is definately  
the best thing since sliced granary  
bread...? 50p inc. p & p

FELLOW REVOLUTIONARIES...

We have sat quietly & suffered the violence of the system for too long. We are being attacked daily. Violence does not only exist in the army, the police & the prisons. It exists in the ugly sterility of urban life exists in the shoddy alienating culture pushed out by TV films & magazines, it exists in the ugly sterility of urban life. It exists in the daily exploitation of our labour, which gives big bosses the power to control our lives & run the system for their own ends

Where 2 or 3 revolutionaries use organised violence to attack the class system... there is the Angry Brigade. Revolutionaries all over England are already using the name to publicise their attacks on the system.  
No revolution was ever won without violence.

Communique 6 - The Angry Brigade

Look around you brother & sister...look at the barriers...don't breath...don't love, don't don't strike, don't make trouble...DON'T.

The politicians, the leaders, the rich, the big bosses, are in command...THEY control. WE, THE PEOPLE, SUFFER...THEY have tried to make us mere mere functions of a production process. THEY have polluted the world with chemical waste from their factories. THEY shoved garbage from their media down our throats. THEY made us absurd sexual caricatures, all of us, men & women. THEY killed, napalmed, burned us into soap, mutilated us, raped us.

It's gone on for centuries....  
WE BELIEVE IN THE AUTONOMOUS WORKING CLASS. WE ARE PART OF IT. AND WE ARE READY TO GIVE OUR LIVES FOR OUR LIBERATION.

Communique 7 - The Angry Brigade

Life is so boring there is nothing to do except spend all our wages on the latest skirt or shirt.

Brothers & sisters, what are your real desires?

Sit in the drugstore, look distant, empty, bored, drinking some tasteless coffee? Or perhaps BLOW IT UP OR BURN IT DOWN. The only thing you can do with modern slave-houses - called boutiques - IS WRECK THEM. You can't reform profit capitalism & inhumanity. Just kick it till it breaks.

Revolution.

Communique 8 - The Angry Brigade

The Angry Brigade is the man or woman sitting next to you. They have guns in their pockets & anger in their minds. We are getting closer. Off the system & its property. Power to the people.

Communique 9 - The Angry Brigade

*'Placid and carefree sleeps the bourgeoisie, but the day of shuddering and fear, of ferocious tempests, of bloody revenge is approaching. The savage, blinding light of explosions begins to light up its dreams, property trembles and cracks under the deafening blows of dynamite, the palaces of stone crack open providing a breach through which will pour the wave of the poor and the starving.*

*Here is the hour of revenge, the bombs have sounded the charge - by Dynamite to Anarchy!*



No, Stupid - I said smash the SYSTEM.

Susan finished school at 16  
Wants to be a secretary  
2 yrs later she's got nowhere  
Ends up in a factory  
Making matches is so boring  
She gets sad & so depressed  
Here's a doctor smugly tells her  
Take these pills & get some rest



But she takes it one stage further  
Parents rescue her in time  
Smile & tell her when you're married  
Everything will be just fine  
She recovers & gets married  
Further shuts a closing door  
Mummy says I really love you  
She feels worse off than before...

9 months later she's a mother  
To a bouncing baby boy  
OH how super say her parents  
But for her there is no joy  
Words like mummy don't mean nothing  
is all she hears from 9 till 5  
Bored alone at number 19  
Every single day she dies...



19 yrs of hollow cliches  
Now she wants to end it all  
Bored to death from doing nothing  
Family drives her up the wall  
Swinging Susan hanged herself  
She couldn't live a pointless life  
He comes home to see through tears  
The rigid corpse that was his wife

The life & times of Susan strange  
Ended in that tragic way  
With the money from insurance  
The family went on holiday  
Nothing left but rotting flowers  
On an unattended grave  
The epitaph has faded badly  
No-one reads it anyway



It is we who built those palaces & cities here in Spain & America & everywhere. We, the workers, can build others to take their place. And better ones. We are not in the least afraid of ruins. We are going to inherit the earth. There is not the slightest doubt about that. The bourgeoisie might blast & ruin its own world before it leaves the stage of history. We carry a new world, here in our hearts. That world is growing this minute.

Buenaventura Durutti during the Spanish civil war

It is better to die on your feet than to live on your knees. (Emiliano Zapata)

LET US PUT OUR TRUST IN THE ETERNAL SPIRIT WHICH DESTROYS & ANNIHILATES ONLY BECAUSE IT IS THE UNSEARCHABLE & CREATIVE SOURCE OF ALL LIFE. THE URGE TO DESTROY IS ALSO A CREATIVE URGE. (BAKUNIN)

# LOCAL HEROES

Every nice girl loves a collier  
 In the Rhondda valley war  
 Every nice girl loves a striker  
 And you know what strikers are  
 In Tonypandy they're very handy  
 With their sticks and their stones and boot  
 Walking down the street with Jane  
 Breaking every window pane  
 That's loot! Pom pom. That's loot!

Taken from a children's verse during the riots and strikes.



The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles"

Historians and 'teachers' being the empty vassals of the bourgeoisie have consistently since their inception lied to us. They tell us tales about a history of class consent but in fact we know the reality of this: class war. Beneath the superficiality of kings and queens there lies a hidden history of ordinary people struggling to create a better society. I want to look at just one tiny part of that vast history: industrial disputes in South Wales 1910-12 and see how docile Welsh workers really were

The dispute arose in the Cambrian Combine, September 1910, when miners returned up to work a new impure seam. Being paid for productivity they knew the impure seam would mean more work and less pay. They walked

out, and so did miners at other pits in solidarity. The South Wales Miners Federation (SWMF) and its reformist leadership appealed for 'conciliation' and a return to work. But this didn't hold with the rank and file and as many as 30,000 stayed out. Addressed by men like Big Bill Haywood, from the U.S Wobblies (IWW) and Tom Mann from the Industrial Syndicalist Education League, ideas of direct action and workers control of industry spread.

## IDEAS INTO ACTION

In November ideas turned into action; collieries and their pump houses were sabotaged, trains going to the mines were stopped, scabs attacked, their homes daubed and windows smashed. But anger was not just limited to scabs, mine managers and owners were beaten up and even dynamite used against their houses

## MASS PICKETS

Mass picketing however was the most frequent form of direct action. Scuffles and fights often broke out on the picket line. Many Policemen and scabs were taken out by a well aimed brick thrown in anger. It was after one such encounter at Llanypia mine, that the infamous Tonypandy riots took place. One striker was killed by the Police as pickets looted shops, in particular those belonging to anti-strike shopkeepers.

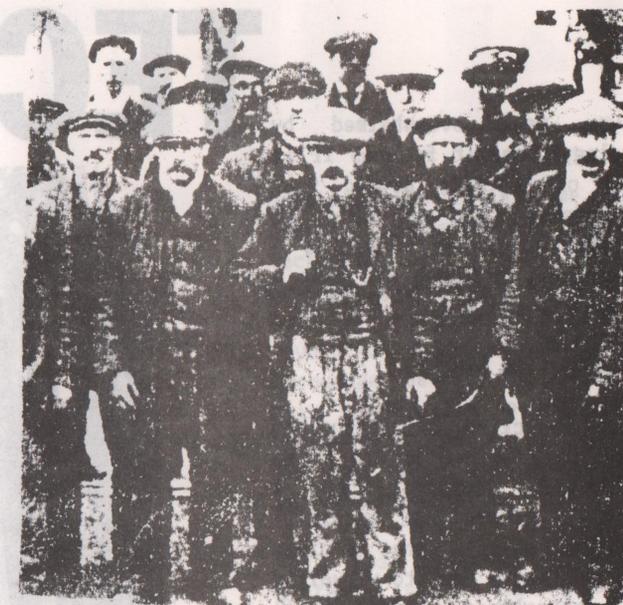
Though the strike in the end was lost the spirit it engendered was not. Noah Ablett and others, before the end of the strike, had formed the militant syndicalist 'Unofficial Reform Committee'; to attack the reformist nature of the SWMF. In March 1911 they issued the Miners Next Step - probably the most important manifesto to emerge from South Wales.

## CLASS WAR

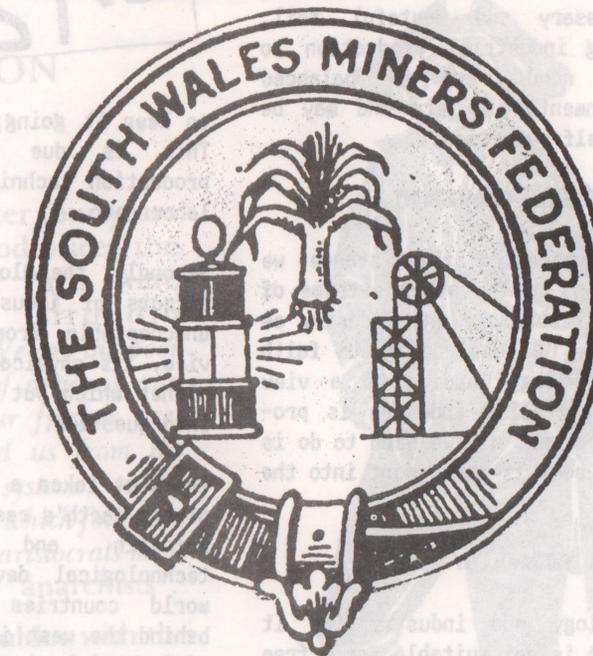
It 'called for the class war between labour and capital to be escalated. This was to be organised by union lodges, by the rank and file, not by Politicians and Bureaucrats on 'behalf' of the workers. The pamphlet also foresaw that nationalisation would be no solution to miners. Instead it called for "Industrial Democracy" ie. workers control to meet the needs of people, not just in the mines, but throughout the whole economy.

## MILTANCY SPREAD

These ideas of direct action and sympathetic industrial action was advanced enough that South Wales workers came out to help Irish workers during the Dublin lock out : Two train drivers who refused to handle traffic for Dublin were sacked, but 1,000's of both other drivers and porters supported them with strike action: "At Briton Ferry docks, the steelworkers on their home ground, surrounded a Great Western Railway engine, and compelled the driver and fireman to leave.... "However Union Officials (in their role as 'soft cops') were able to secure a return to work. But the atmosphere was such that in 1912, on Swansea Railway Station platform, Guy Bowman and George Hicks, when addressing a group of strikers, called for revolutionary change, by industrial unionism to destroy both state and the employing class: "Hicks ended by calling for the abolition of capitalism and thereby 'banishing forever from our eyes such things as feeding the necessitous school child, insurance acts, workhouses, goals and all things that are bad' He looked instead to a system at once 'more just, more sane and much brighter, where all would share wealth collectively, and no one would be forced into degrading occupations like prostitution. 'These views brought' three cheers for the industrial revolution among those present"



Most of the information for this article came from British Syndicalism 1900-1914 by Bob Holton (Pluto Press) now out of print but available at Libraries etc. The best place for original material is from the South Wales Miners Library in Swansea, up at Hendrefoilan.



Noah Ablett:

... the future does not lie in the direction of bureaucracy. The roadway to emancipation lies in a different direction than the offices of a Minister of Mines (operating state nationalisation). It lies in the democratic organisation, and eventually control of the industries by the workers themselves in their organised capacity as trustees for a working-class world. No Minister of Mines will lead us to our emancipation. That must be the work of the workers themselves from the bottom upward, and not from the top downward, which latter means the servile state.

# TECHNOLOGY

? ? ?

Do you feel overwhelmed by Technology? Does it feel as if it is out of control, beyond your comprehension. You are right, it is! Technology has presented a few problems, to those who want a self-managed society.

## ANTI-INDUSTRIAL STANCE

Blanket rejection of technology and industry (with a return to an agricultural society), is I believe, a theoretical simplification of what a free society should be (it is easy to visualise a decentralized agricultural society, because at various periods within history, such agricultural communities have existed). This idea denies the reality of how hard and unpleasant this society would be (a fact that many third world countries endure). Some technology (if used correctly) can be beneficial, if not essential(1) in removing unnecessary and wasteful toil, gearing industrial production to human needs and a balanced environmental society and may be more self-sufficiency.

## MYTH OF SELF-MANAGEMENT

While rejecting this stance we cannot go to the other extreme of seeing technology and industry as neutral. A quasi-religious faith in technology leading to a view that capitalist industry is progressive, and all we need to do is introduce self-management into the economy.

## AGAINST TECHNOLOGY

Technology and industry (as it stands) is not suitable for a free and self-managed society. Why? I believe there are two main reasons for this;

Firstly the actual layout of industrial society is incapable of being self-managed or libertarian. The system is geared to highly centralized and hierarchial structures which are so complex they have needed a special elite



to keep it going; the technocracy. This is due to modern mass production techniques, division of labour etc.

Secondly, the global and ecological effects of industry, not only is unacceptable from human point of view, its physical assault on this planet which put our own existence into question.

The West takes a greater proportion of the earth's resources in order to maintain and advance its technological development. Third world countries continually lag behind the west in development, the differentials in development are no coincidence but a consequence of Western Progress and they are slaves to/of Trade. Industry burns so much energy that it is outstripping the earth's resources at an alarming rate. The industrial process produces waste at a rate which the earth cannot absorb it back into the eco-system. This is becoming common knowledge, these days (we are in the 'Post Green Crisis').

## WHICH WAY FORWARD? (Backwards or sideways.)

When coming to terms with technology we must come to terms with what we really want. A lot of technology, as with a lot of jobs and production, is useless, consumer trash/fashions, here today gone tomorrow etc etc.

Eradicating such waste will reduce industry, it will be less complex, easier to self-mannage and releases resources for better social production.

The basis of industry and technology is science, scientific knowledge(2) would have to be more widespread than it is today so as to avoid technocratic control.

This science would have to have humanitarian, communal and ecological goals in mind for it to be beneficial. Appropriate technology would have to encompass these goals, in this way science could be libertarian and not repressive.

In this article, I am trying to establish that we cannot take-over a system which is geared to be authoritarian and destructive, we must destroy or deconstruct it. Replacing it with an industrial system which serves and is controlled by local communities and is integrated into local and global eco-system. If we are to



## THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

*'We know who our friends are ...'*

In the spring of 1793, after four years of civil war, social upheaval and rocketing food prices, the **Sans-culottes**, the very poorest people of Paris, were finally driven to rise up. and the Girondin government was toppled. *'We are the poor an association of artisans and peasants. We know who our friends are: those clergy, the nobility, the feudal systems, tithes, monarchy and all the ills which follow in its train, those whom the aristocrats have called the "anarchists".'*



Shoulder to shoulder with the **Sans-culottes**, and leading people in direct action to seize food from shops, were the **Enragés**. One of them, soon to die in prison, was the ex-priest **Jacques Roux**:

*'Freedom is but an empty phantom if one class can starve another with impunity. Freedom is but an empty phantom when the rich can exercise the right of life and death over their fellows.'*

create a new society we must be prepared to destroy the industry and technology of this society. Self-analysis of the problem is, I believe, a vital point of social revolution. This article hopes to encourage debate and analysis on this subject, we need to have our own ideas on technology not theirs. Analysis must be accompanied by appropriate actions.

(1) Most medical technology for instance is life saving before it was invented people would have simply just died in certain cases.

(2) As in basic scientific processes ie physical realities which are neutral; it is its applications that are by no means neutral or unbiased.



Tom Paine

# W H A T C U L T U R E

When we talk of real culture we should not refer to Art, classical music, opera, etc., etc., (Though they are part and parcel of the whole phenomena of culture). What I'm referring to is the way we act, interpretate and make general sense of our everyday lives. Our values are a part of culture and so are our actions, which are motivated and justified by our common culture. Culture can make alot of people who have no contact with eachother act in the same way. Those who wish to subvert and overthrow society should take into account that culture is a vital point in social revolution.



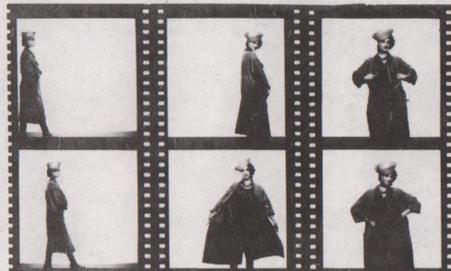
## WORKING CLASS BASIS

In an article in Class War theoretical mag 'Heavy Stuff 2', the writer wrote about the need to develop 'progressive' working class culture into a revolutionary culture and destroying what is harmful to this development ie. counter-revolutionary eg. sexism, racism, hetrosexism, patriotism (God save the Queen) and mass consumer values (with the intolerance shown towards those who do not conform). In this way certain aspects of working class culture (eg. traditional hostility

towards authority and the rich, a sense of comradeship and community, rebellious spirit etc.) can be used as a basis of spreading revolutionary ideas, rather than writing of working class culture wholesale. In this way revolutionary ideas will not be abstract from most people, but a natural progression of what is in their interests as working class people.

## MASS CONSUMER CULTURE

The negative aspects (within working class culture) appear to dominate over progressive elements due to the loudness and ugliness



of them, which is created and magnified by the media for ruling class interests. The roots of these ideas come mainly through the media and it's so-called 'common-sense' values, which can be seen as mass culture rather than working class culture (the Sun is as about working class as Thatcher). It is in the interest of the ruling class to divide it's ruled class. By maintaining a culture of indifference, distorted views and passive consumption they keep their power. The mass cultures of this world are so powerfull, not due to our ignorance, but due to the fact that it main weapon, the mass media, is all powerfull and persuasive (we nearly beleive the TV news); it has a near monopoly on information and 'truth'.



## ATTACKING IT

The Class War article mentioned above went onto ways to combat the negative aspects which are generated from within working class communities (eg. NF graffiti, marches etc.) by using counter-graffiti and pro-working class image propaganda etc. While this is vital, I think we need to go further and try to tackle mass culture, the cause of much working class bigotry. The mass media bombards us from all points on a

daily basis, we need to discredit it, take the piss out of it and attack it in all it's guises (eg. graffitying billboards, making anti-adverts, creative vandalism etc.). While destroying the negative aspects and influences on working class culture we must



extend the most progressive elements and create new cultural experiences; autonomy, self help and education, mutual aid, self-analysis so as to have indepedent and autonomous ideas which come from and influence concrete struggles.

## AUTONOMOUS MEDIA

A vehicle for such developments would be an autonomous working class media that is not centralised but autonomous and widespread. In every working class area there should be initiatives to create such an autonomuos media, serving the needs and extending class struggle into every arena of life. We need to replace our dependence on mass media by fuffilling it's functions but with libertarian goals; information: - community newspapers/magazines/broadsheets, counter-information networks etc.; entertainment: - pirate



radio/TV/video and music tapes, poetry, comics, posters etc., etc.; education: - books, pamphlets, skill learning and sharing, too name but a few. It is no use just a handful of radicals participating in this form of media it must involve a wider base, we can tell

when radical ideas/actions take root in a culture by the fact that these ideas do not seem that radical to large sections of the population. That is how revolution should begin and end - AUTONOMOUSLY.

OUR OPPRESSION IS WITHIN OUR CULTURE, BUT SO IS OUR LIBERATION.



\* Dada was an anti-art movement around the period of First World War, which sought to scandalise bourgeois society and bury the whole bourgeois concept of Art.

## SUGGESTED READING

Class War 2 - 'Culture, Class and Politics'  
'The Alternative Printing Handbook' published by Penguin by the Islington Bus Company  
'Radio is My Bomb: a DIY manual for Pirates'

