

1st SEPTEMBER  
1985  
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# POISON PEN

## SABS ATTACKED

On Saturday 31st August a group of Hastings Animal Rightists travelled to Chilham, Kent, to demonstrate against a British Field Sports Society "Country Sports Fair" exhibition of the "skills" of foxhounds.

When we got to the village it was obvious that the fair wasn't very popular with the locals as there was no sign of its advertisement. We stood outside with a group of about twenty other people from various places in the south-east and offered leaflets to those going in. Most drove straight past. Many seemed to have terriers or hounds with them and BFSS stickers on the windows of their cars.

We went around to the other entrance at which more people were taking an interest in the demonstration. We were told that from Ipm people were gradually going to infiltrate the fair, so at 3pm we could do the "run-on" at the foxhound exhibition. As we were some of the least conspicuous people there, we decided to go straight in.

When we got in, the first thing that hit us was the overwhelming number of dogs-- most people had two or three. Many were on cruel "double leads" and we saw many terriers being restrained from tearing other terriers to pieces. Most of the stalls were endorsing some form of animal exploitation. These included a gun stall and a BFSS stall which carried leaflets trying to justify blood sports. There was a whole pig carcass roasting on a spit, the smoke smelling like a cremation. There was also a stall which had trophies of foxes, the heads seemingly screaming. Falcons were exhibited in a roped-off area with short restraining chains which were obviously uncomfortable. Various dog competitions were held throughout the day which degraded already mutated dogs.

At about 3:20 the animal rightists charged up the Kill from the woods near the main arena, beating a drum and shouting slogans. This turned out to be a bit premature, as the hounds were coming on at 3:30, but it had the effect of delaying the programme and deviating attention from the display. They carried banners and walked around inside the arena chanting slogans. The commentator made a request for us to get off the display area and there was a lot of jeering and shouting from the crowd. Suddenly people started to run on from the crowd and as more and more came on it was impossible to fight them off.

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We are indebted to a comrade from Leeds who has sent the following article anonymously.....

## SOCIETY, THE STATE AND EVERYTHING.....

A SOCIETY BASED ON mutual aid, co-operation and sharing is natural to humanity. Societies based on power, competition and property are unnatural, always needing to be enforced by a mixture of force and fraud. This is the reason for the existence of governments.

All governments are criminal protection rackets, like the mafia on a larger scale. Democracy is a choice of dictators, a system where votes are the theoretical source of power, and money is the real source. Wealthy corporations and individuals can finance political parties (Cons., SDP), bribe elected politicians and control opinion-forming media by direct ownership and advertising revenue. No politician ever received a back-hander for cancelling an arms contract or supporting a strike. This society is run by and for the rich.

State "communism" pretends to give equality but denies freedom. State-supported capitalism pretends to give freedom but denies equality. Equality and freedom are not opposites. Each is necessary to the other.

### --Crimes--

All the crimes ever committed by individuals are less than 1% of those perpetrated by governments and capitalist corporations. The state will destroy society unless humanity destroys the state. The law protects the privileges of the ruling minority. It does not protect the people from each other but legalises the crimes of the rich and powerful against the majority. The law stifles the initiative to put down crime. "Vigilante" groups can drastically reduce crimes against ordinary people because they operate by prevention while the police try to catch and punish criminals after the event. The police usually only effectively guard the upper classes.

"Legal" and "illegal" are not the same as right and wrong. The worst crimes in history have been committed in obedience to "legal" orders. People who will do nothing against the law will do anything it requires. If no-one ever defied the law we would all be slaves.

Authority produces the evils it is supposed to prevent. The frustration caused by submission to it leads to re-directed aggression. Deprived by fear, helplessness or false belief of the ability to rebel against the source of their frustrations, people turn to weaker targets. This is the root cause of wife/child battering, rape and most crimes of violence. Evidence for this is provided by the fact that members of highly authoritarian groups such as the armed forces, police and Catholic Church have a higher than average rate of wife/child battering and such acts are often more common in dictatorships.

Re-directed aggression explains much of the appeal of nationalism and racism, religion and class snobbery as means of suppressing the natural and rational urge to rebel against authority with irrational and unnatural superstitions. Rulers of all kinds have always tried to encourage such attitudes in their victims.

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None of this proves that "human nature" is evil or cowardly. The usual reaction to the pressures of authority is to turn aggression against the self. The suicide rate is ten times higher than the murder rate and the vast amount of smoking, alcoholism and drug addiction seen today (including millions on legally prescribed, medically harmful but commercially profitable "tranquillisers") is partly caused by feelings of inadequacy in the competitive rat race for status and possessions, itself a form of re-directed aggression.

#### --Obedience--

Free animals do not kill themselves or others of the same species or mutilate their offspring. In captivity they develop these symptoms which are common in the caged human populations of authoritarian "civilisations" but absent in so-called primitive tribes organised in a free, classless, leaderless pattern. Only a free, classless anarchist-communist society can eliminate these problems. More laws, police and prisons never will, neither will greater discipline in the home or school. Hitler, Stalin, the Yorkshire Ripper and countless others of their type all had the "benefits" of an authoritarian upbringing.

The mass media serve the rulers by reducing daily life to a series of passively observed spectacles and commodity consumptions, trying to turn the majority into easily-controlled units of production/consumption. The system which abolishes adventure makes its own abolition the only possible adventure.

In "Communist" and other dictatorships, people's political understanding is limited by the suppression of nearly all relevant information and opinion. In "democracies" suppression is only partial but the same result is achieved by bombarding the population with politically irrelevant information (advertising encourages the belief that living means consumption, escapist "entertainment" etc.).

Sexual repression is the foundation of obedience. The family chains the individual to the state. The anxiety felt at all rebellious thoughts and actions stems from the early experience of the parents' hostility to infantile sex-play. This is why sex as a spectacle is now an important means of social control. An impotent fantasy a day keeps those explosive frustrations at bay.

#### --Property--

Property is theft, although the robbery often goes back in time and is now legalised by the state (42% of Britain's land is owned by the "aristocracy" whose ancestors acquired it by force. In all, 3.2% of the population own 84% of listed shares, 90% of private companies and 88% of land). So much for the "property-owning democracy".

Locks are the passive defences of property, privilege and power. When a lock is glued up its owners are deprived of whatever they sought to deny the community. The art of subversion consists of turning the enemy's own weapons against them.

Any workers who cannot set the price of their own labour are slaves. To compete with slave labour you must accept slave conditions. The world market means that slavery in any country threatens the jobs of workers in "free" countries through cheap imports and the employers' ability to transfer their....

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...capital to where labour is cheap (e.g. from W.Europe to S.E.Asia, S.America, S.Africa etc.; average craftsman's wage in S.Korean shipyards £30 per 60 hour week). Unemployment caused by the resulting destruction of whole industries undermines the bargaining power of those still employed so that their real wages fall towards subsistence level. Labour is the only commodity where the buyer sets the price and the seller is forced to accept it.

Money is the main religion of the modern world. There are more good buildings wasted on the worship of paper (banks, building societies, insurance offices etc.) than on non-existent gods. "Business" is the accumulation of abstract wealth by squandering real resources: soil fertility, fuel, raw materials, clean air and water. This increases prices, adding to the erosion of real wages already described.

Scientific and technical brain-power is squandered by the state to maintain the authoritarian system. Nearly 50% of British scientists are employed on war preparations, a similar proposition in USA, USSR, France and others.

The power, property and money system is completely useless. Two-fifths of British workers are engaged in it, from police to bank clerks, from armed forces to supermarket cashiers. Not all the other 60% are working usefully. Too many people waste their lives doing pointless, boring or harmful jobs in order to waste money on things they don't really need.

#### --War--

War is the health of the state. If war is due to "human nature", why do all states find conscription essential in a major war?

The return to '30s-style mass unemployment is inevitable due to the processes already described and the spread of automation and the micro-chip. This is causing mass discontent which governments everywhere try to deflect from themselves by using some minority as a scapegoat or by using the real or invented threat of an external enemy to unify the population behind them. As before, war will be the

"final solution". Nuclear deterrent? The rulers have deep shelters for their own protection. They will happily sacrifice us when we are economically useless to them. Besides, nuclear strategy is changing with the introduction of highly accurate "first strike" weapons such as Cruise, SS-20, MX and Trident, advanced anti-submarine systems and the rise of leaders such as Reagan who are "born again" religious cranks, believing literally in biblical prophecies of the end of the world in the final conflict between "good" and "evil". For 30 years neither side has dared use nuclear weapons for fear of retaliation. In a few years neither side will dare wait to use them second for fear that its weapons will be destroyed before they can retaliate. When this point is reached, war will be inevitable.

Religion has caused more suffering, deprivation and death through holy wars, witch-hunts, persecution of minorities and superstitious taboos than anything apart from government. It preaches humility, obedience and self-denial for its addicts, while promising eternal life and personal contact with the supposed creator of the universe. Since astronomy shows that the universe consists of about 10 million, million, million stars, earth being a satellite planet of one, such ideas can only seem arrogant or ignorant to a reasonable mind. So-called religious "revivals" only prove that when reality is depressing, people try to console themselves with myths.

#### --Power--

All power corrupts and attracts the corruptible. Absolute power corrupts absolutely and attracts the absolutely corruptible. Rulers organise society for their own benefit, not for the good of the majority. At a time of full employment and an expanding economy they need a healthy, educated workforce. Today, when fewer workers are needed to maintain their wealth and power they need not bother.

The "Welfare State" began in Britain after the ruling class found that not enough recruits were suitable as cannon fodder during the Boer War due to malnutrition among the working class.

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To this day, pensioners are allowed to live and die in poverty like the unemployed, sick and disabled. They are on the scrap heap for all the bosses care. The cuts in health, housing and education show that the rulers realise the well-being of the people will be of no interest to them in the future.

Patriotism and nationalism are promoted by leaders for their victims' consumption. Those who identify with a strong powerful nation can indulge in feelings of arrogance and superiority even (or especially) when personally they have nothing at all to feel arrogant or superior about.

--Profits--

Such notions are never allowed to interfere with the rulers' power or profits. British firms sold weapons to Argentina up to the Falklands war with state approval. Indirectly they still do. Warships built in W.Germany contain British-made components and equipment. The British government was eager to condemn the suppression of the Polish workers by the "Communist" military regime (though it was strangely silent when the Turkish state-- a NATO ally-- took similar action), but that did not stop them importing Polish coal to strengthen their hand in the struggle with the NUM. No doubt if British miners accepted Polish wages and conditions, fewer pits would be closed as "uneconomic". Anti-"communist" newspapers regularly advertise Soviet-bloc products. They are not prepared to defend "democracy" to the point where it costs them money.

Politicians encouraged immigration during the "boom" years of the '50s and '60s in order to keep down the price of "unskilled" labour. Today immigrants serve as scapegoats for the failures of the system. The Common Market was not set up to benefit the people of Europe but to appease the greed, vanity and megalomania of politicians tired of being in the second division of power compared with the USA and USSR. There are really only two nations on this planet: the rulers and the ruled. Eventually one will destroy the other. The rulers realise this and are becoming more united.

--A Free Society--

Everything that was ever devised or invented was thought impossible beforehand. The same goes for a free society without rulers and an economy controlled by workers without bosses or managers, though both have existed at various times and places (e.g. Spain '36/7).

The only course leading to human survival, not to mention happiness, is the abolition of government, central and local, the disbanding of police and armed forces and their replacement by networks of community and workplace assemblies with all decisions taken by those affected by them and any delegates for routine matters subject to instant recall. The abandoning of commodity production and wage labour with production for social need as determined by the producers.

Modern communications and computer technology makes such a system both feasible and efficient, even on a worldwide scale. It would be far simpler to organise production on the basis of anticipated need and actual constantly revised consumption figures than is the job of present-day market researchers trying to anticipate future demand based on people's ability to pay which depends on the vagaries of the market.

This will require the liberation of science and technology from the restrictions imposed by military and commercial secrecy and the suppression of useful technologies to safeguard state power and company profits (e.g. efficient electrical vehicles, hydroponic farming which requires little land, prefabricated metal-alloy housing) and their full use for the benefit of humanity instead of their present use for the purposes of exploitation, oppression and mass murder.

An end to the threat of nuclear holocaust, replacing armed forces which only defend gangs of rulers from the people and each other. By the people armed and organised in a citizens militia based on voluntary enlistment, elected and revocable

pto for last bit.....



To occupy their time during the day there is a large variety of work for them to do, some of which appears to be quite pleasant. There are courses in brick laying, photography, computer studies, foreign languages above the normal day's work. All in all Penninghame appears to be an almost perfect home from home. The only thing absent is FREEDOM.....

Angus is due for release on the 20th of November 1985 and he is allowed a three hour visit once a month and a 24-hour leave once every three months. He sends his thanks to everyone for all their support.

Vegan Action Group.

P.S. Hiya,

It is the damned antis here. Just a few words to let you know that 3 of us are up in court for breach of the peace and bail. It happened on a hunt where 3 of us got ambushed by 50-odd members of the hunt.

One of us got smacked in the face with a large hand, then we charged the scum bastard who did it with assault and they got us for breach. He is getting sued for £700, the 3 of us are getting a maximum of £400 fines or 3 months.

Clydeside @'s have a new paper out soon and will send you a copy. That's all for now.

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The Clydeside paper mentioned above is available from the same address as the V.A.G. Send SAE.

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The following story was nicked from the latest copy of "Black Flag".....

A lad nicked in Stanley for "Stop Business as Usual" activity was let off, even though he was caught in the act of glueing up Barclay's Bank locks-- but as Barclays didn't want the bad publicity they persuaded the cops to drop the charges against him...they even gave him back his half-used tube of superglue and his stickers!

M. Newcastle.

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CONFERENCE AGAINST POLICE REPRESSION: SEPT 14th: 12-6pm: HARINGEY COMMUNITY CENTRE: BRABANT ROAD: LONDON N22: WOOD GREEN TUBE:::::

We are all well aware of the violent and repressive way the police behave, but in the last year or so, with police occupations of mining towns, the smashing up of pickets and peace convoys alike, it seems their aggression is on the upsurge. We have seen "Stop the City" demonstrations massacred, with people arrested for simply handing out a leaflet; we have seen continued harassment of black people on their own streets, and we have seen the police lie, beat people up, steal our possessions and break into our homes.

And now, THE REVIEW OF PUBLIC ORDER LAW, proposed by the Government, will give the police power to ban marches, restrict pickets and charge innocent people with riot (carrying a ten-year sentence), violent disorder (5 years) and affray (3 years). Organisers of "illegal" marches or meetings will face a 3-month prison sentence and a £1,000 fine.

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One of our readers has sent us this cautionary tale, for which many thanks. Now read on .....

NO IMMEDIATE DANGER IN HASTINGS.

This morning, as is my wont, doffed the old hat, straightened the tie and, with that hard jungle look, strode from the ministry. The destination: Hastings. The mission: 15 Hundred hours at Marks and Spencers. The purchase: a new pair of sock-suspenders.

It seemed a perfectly normal day: grey sky, noisy traffic, some palatable fumes. Only trouble with a trip to Hastings from London is that one has to pass through so much damn countryside. Civilian stuff - like trees and hedgerows.

I entered the station. As usual the ticket collector's tie was askew. Things have never been the same since Victoria died.

"Single for Hastings, man!"

"Er...terribly sorry, sir..."

The man looked embarrassed. I gave him a stern look. Absent minded removing a piece of fluff from the old pin-stripe. He looked at me apologetically. Damn squib of a man!

"Hastings station is closed, sir!"

"Closed!" I bellowed, "Do you know who I am!"

The man shrank visibly in stature.

"Erm. Well I'm afraid there's been a Limited Nuclear Exchange at the end of Havelock Road, sir. Loads of broken windows, sir, damage was limited. Unfortunate, sir, but there are no trains running today. The police have sealed off the memorial and seem to be arresting anyone with coloured hair, sir. I think it's because they can't find any Russians in town....."

"Mmm." His news was interesting. I smiled - "Limited Nuclear Exchange, eh?"

It might have cleared the squatters out, anyway. Things were looking up.

I rubbed my hands.

"Casualties?"

"You what?"

"Casualties, you fool.....how many deaths?"

"Er, 27, sir. It was only a one megaton bomb."

"Yes, obviously, But were the dead.....erm.....aah.....unemployed?"

"Yeah....."

"AH, how refreshing." (Another handy reduction in the total, I thought.) "But the rest.....the SOLICITORS - are they all right???"



"No problem, sir. They're safe because they all followed Government Guidelines, sir. When they saw the warhead whistle past the window, they wrapped themselves in reflective paper and flushed themselves down the bog. Straight into the sewage. They're fishing them out of the sea now, sir....."

"But are they healthy?"

"Same as ever, sir, soaking wet and full of shit....."

"I bet some got stuck though, haw, haw, haw." I interjected, impressed with my sharp wit.

"Well, I'll have to go to Eastbourne to get my new sock-suspenders then! Rather a wheeze. But thanks for the news!"

"Any time, sir!"

"One more thing my man, dont leak this to the Guardian. The government might get to know about it!"

"Rightyo, sir, goodbye."

"Goodbye, ticket collector."

"Goodbye, Mr Heseltine."

A strange story indeed. But there is a moral: if, in future, you need to go to Hastings, it's probably best to arrange a quick Pre-emptive Strike on Leningrad before you go!

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Cheers Paz.  
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Continued from page seven.....

RESIST THE NEW POLICE LAWS! September's conference is the beginning of a powerful fightback against these legalised thugs and their new laws.

The conference is planned to have discussions on repression and resistance, with people invited from Rainbow Village, mining communities, animal rights activists, anti-apartheid campaigners, Stop the City people and others-- in fact anyone who would like to speak who has been involved in struggles which have encountered police repression.

IT IS INTENDED TO PLAN FUTURE OPPOSITION, including a proposed major march/protest through the streets of London, past several police stations and law courts.

If you or your group would like more details, write to:-  
Conference Organising Group,  
Box C.A.P.R.,  
83 Blackstock Road,  
London N4

Or phone Pete 01-341 5340

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MONDAY 30th SEPTEMBER: "SMASH SOUTH AFRICAN BUSINESS DAY"--more info soon.....

Continued from front page....

As soon as one hunt supporter was hit, a load more jumped on top and kicked hell out of the animal rightists. Most of them were heavy bastards, used to farm work and the outdoor life of hunting, and they carried on kicking people when they were on the ground. One animal rightist who had been kicked in the chest was lying almost unconscious when he was kicked in the head with a steel-toecapped DM. Even when we were running off, some of us got attacked. Everyone had been knocked over and four people were quite badly injured.

As usual, the cops turned up in time to tell us to move on, although comrades were lying around bleeding and obviously needed help. The feeling against us was so bad that we got a police escort back to the railway station, the direction many BFSS types had been seen driving.

In a way this demo was perhaps directed at the wrong people as it didn't give the general public a chance to see how bad the animal exploitation by the rich can get, but at least we made a statement of our continuing active opposition to the rich bastards' sport.

Sphincter.

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Fed up with bad news? Then let's have some GOOD NEWS FOR A CHANGE.....

Oh yes indeedy. These days of austerity and belt-tightening are not just hitting the poor, it seems. Sussex Police Force is well up the spout with its budget for the current financial year, having shelled out £860,000 on investigating the bombing of the Grand Hotel, £1.76 million on the miners' strike and...wait for it... £60,000 on "Stop Brighton", where 900 cops supervised less than a hundred anarchos having a jolly picnic on the Level.

The result of this could well be that cops who leave won't be replaced, and there may well be a hundred less cops around by the end of the financial year. In view of the tremendous success in financial terms of "Stop Brighton", it seems likely that more actions of a similar type will take place soon. Watch this space..... (and a big "HI!" to Eastbourne Special Branch!)

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ADVERTS, FORTHCOMING EVENTS etc.....

As Eastbourne Special Branch will no doubt confirm, Hastings Anarchists meet every Monday evening in the Palace Bars, White Rock, about 9:15. We've got P.P.s, "Black Flag"s, books, papers, soiled undies etc. Why not come along for a chat...?

This Wednesday (4th September), HEATHEN CREED (plug plug) play at the Richmond, Brighton, with Thrashing Doves and the Songbirds. Admission is £1.50/£1 with UB40 or £200 for members of the special branch.

Also on Wednesday is a meeting of Hastings Animal Rights Group, 7:30pm at the Citizens Advice Bureau basement (49a Cambridge Gardens).

A bit further in the future but I'm sure it'll soon be here is the next step in the "Bash the Rich" offensive, which will take place at Hampstead. More details nearer the date.

Thanks to all the contributors to this issue of P.P. and to Nipple & myself for typing so beautifully. Please write to us c/o Hastings Free Press, 92 London Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex. P.P. is printed & pubbed by HFP.