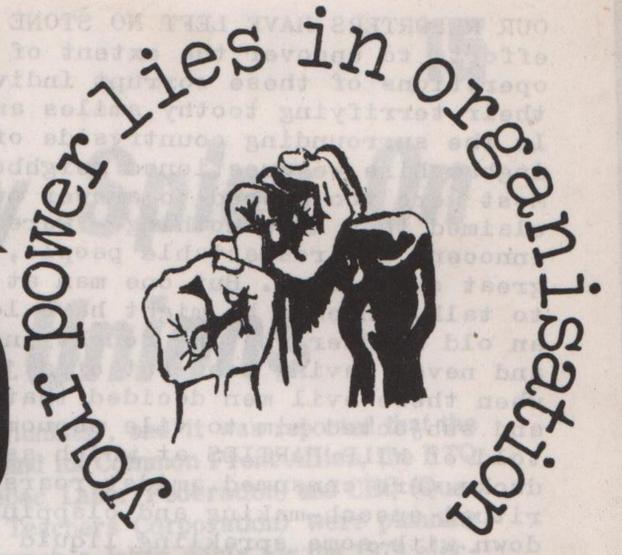


BLACK + RED OUTLOOK



MONTHLY PAPER OF THE ANARCHIST SYNDICALIST ALLIANCE 5p 16 JANUARY TO 16 FEBRUARY '73

WORK-IN 1973

LAST YEAR THOUSANDS OF BRITISH Workers occupied their factories for the first in recent years. This came about as a result of the sudden acceptance of the syndicalist sit-in strike

This wave of sit-ins and work-ins, which most syndicalists and anarchists have been advocating for donkeys' years, has now been established in our working-class tradition, as a normal and useful form of industrial action. It's been adopted by workers on the Clyde and up the Old Kent Road, and from Fisher-Bendix, Kirkby to the River Don Works, Sheffield, it has been embraced as the best way to beat the boss. WHERE DID IT START?

In France, the workers have often used the sit-in to get better conditions etc, and it may be that the events of 1968, when factories were freely occupied by the French workers may have drawn the attention of some English workers to the sit-in tactic, as might the student occupations of the universities. The first indications, in this country, that the workers may be turning to the occupation of the factories, and union offices as a new kind of strike action occurred early in 1970, during a strike of building workers in London when they occupied the offices of their union.

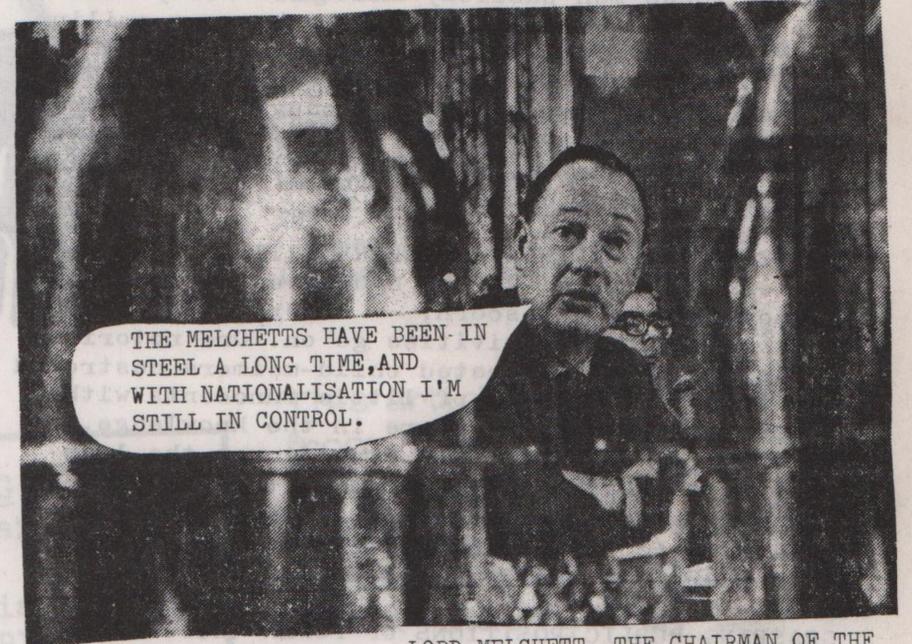
A few weeks later, the strikers at Pilkingtons' at St Helens, sick of their union's failure to support their strike, moved into the branch office of the Nat, Union of General & Municipal Workers. The office was wrecked and put out of action for some weeks.

At Arrow Mill, at Rochdale, in May 1971, where a short sit-in took place, was broken up by the police who arrested by the police who arrested an 'alleged anarchist' involved in the occupation. No doubt, there were others at the time occurring in a small way which were not reported in the press. However, the first big takeover happened soon after this, when the shipyard workers of the Upper Clyde occupied U.C.S. with a work-in.

INDUSTRIAL OCCUPATION CATCHES ON

The Upper Clyde work-in dragged on well into 1972, Some considered it to be a sell-out, but undoubtedly, the occupation of U.C.S. by the shipyard workers made possible the more militant sit-in that were to follow. Indeed U.C.S. set the trend, and since we are still caught up in the sit-in movement, which there no telling where it might lead us.

CONT'D ON PAGE 13



THE MELCHETTS HAVE BEEN IN STEEL A LONG TIME, AND WITH NATIONALISATION I'M STILL IN CONTROL.

LORD MELCHETT, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BRITISH STEEL CORPORATION AT A RECENT MEETING TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THE STEELWORKS AT SHOTTON

CONSPIRACY

RUMOURS WERE FLYING AROUND LONDON AND MANY CITIES today about a gigantic conspiracy of international proportions designed to destroy the very fabric of society as we know it and love it. Could it be that many of the ills with which our homeland is beset are the result of the evil machinations of politically motivated maniacs, some of whom come from good, EVEN WEALTHY, homes and who have shown themselves brilliant academically and even in public life?

ONE UGLY RUMOUR SUGGESTS THAT CERTAIN VICIOUS-minded and callous men in America have been selling vast quantities of arms to their counterparts in England, including millions of pounds worth of nuclear armaments. For what purpose?

THAT WAS THE QUESTION WE PUT TO SOME OF THESE MEN in their luxurious residences. Their answer was 'No comment'. Each in turn would only say, 'No comment'. Then they would turn once more to their vile activities - carving ducks that had first been stripped of all their feathers and then subjected to intense heat in special machines with controls like an aircraft dashboard. We asked them whether the ducks were dead before these vile deeds were committed. They just laughed - the laughs of men for whom blood and killing have become the common place events of their lives.

CONT. PAGE TWO

TAKE OVER THE FACTORIES !

OUR REPORTERS HAVE LEFT NO STONE UNTURNED IN THEIR efforts to uncover the extent of the ghastly operations of these corrupt individuals, with their terrifying toothy smiles and bald heads. In the surrounding countryside of sleepy Buckinghamshire we questioned neighbouring people. Most were too scared to answer our questions, and claimed they knew nothing - were these, apparently innocent and respectable people, a part of this great conspiracy. But one man at least was willing to talk. Unkempt he might have looked, but he was an old soldier, having fought in two world wars, and never having been out of a job until recently when these evil men decided that he knew too much and subjected him to vile economic blackmail. He told of WILD PARTIES at which as many as fifty ducks were consumed amidst roars of laughter, ritual speech-making and clapping, and washed down with some sprakling liquid from large bottles bearing foreign labels. Late into the night the lights burned at this lonely old building, as the revellers played cards, and smoked evil-smelling drugs. So bad was their debauchery that many had to be taken home by poorly paid but faithful servants - one can but marvel at the strength of character of these simple Britons.

MANY WELL-MEANING BUT MISGUIDED PEOPLE HAVE TRIED to suggest that these people are carrying out tasks necessary to the defence of these Islands from the Russians, Chinese, immigrants and other politically motivated minorities. But we have in our possession photographs which, though we dare not print them, would prove that at least one of these men publicly and unashamedly went to Red China and allowed himself to be seen smiling, laughing and joking with no other than CHOU EN LAI. But the joke is on you, Alec "Douglas" Home. Our reporters were there, and caught you as you attempted to do a deal with the swat of British workers in exchange, for your fellow conspirators' private zoo, for a GIANT PANDA.

THESE STOP-AT-NOTHING WRECKERS will show no mercy. Callous and brutal to the end, even in the face of possible public scorn, anger and exposure, their juggerhaut activities go on. One notorious organisation of dedicated child-maimers destroyed the lives of hundreds of little innocents with their vile potions - secure in the knowledge, that the WORST they could expect, was the loss of some of their profits, (which they could well afford), and a little bad publicity, carefully managed into respectable tracks by their friends in higher places of the journalistic world.

GRASPING PUBLIC POSITIONS OF POWER these maniacs have committed thousands of robberies, often accompanied with vicious violence for which they

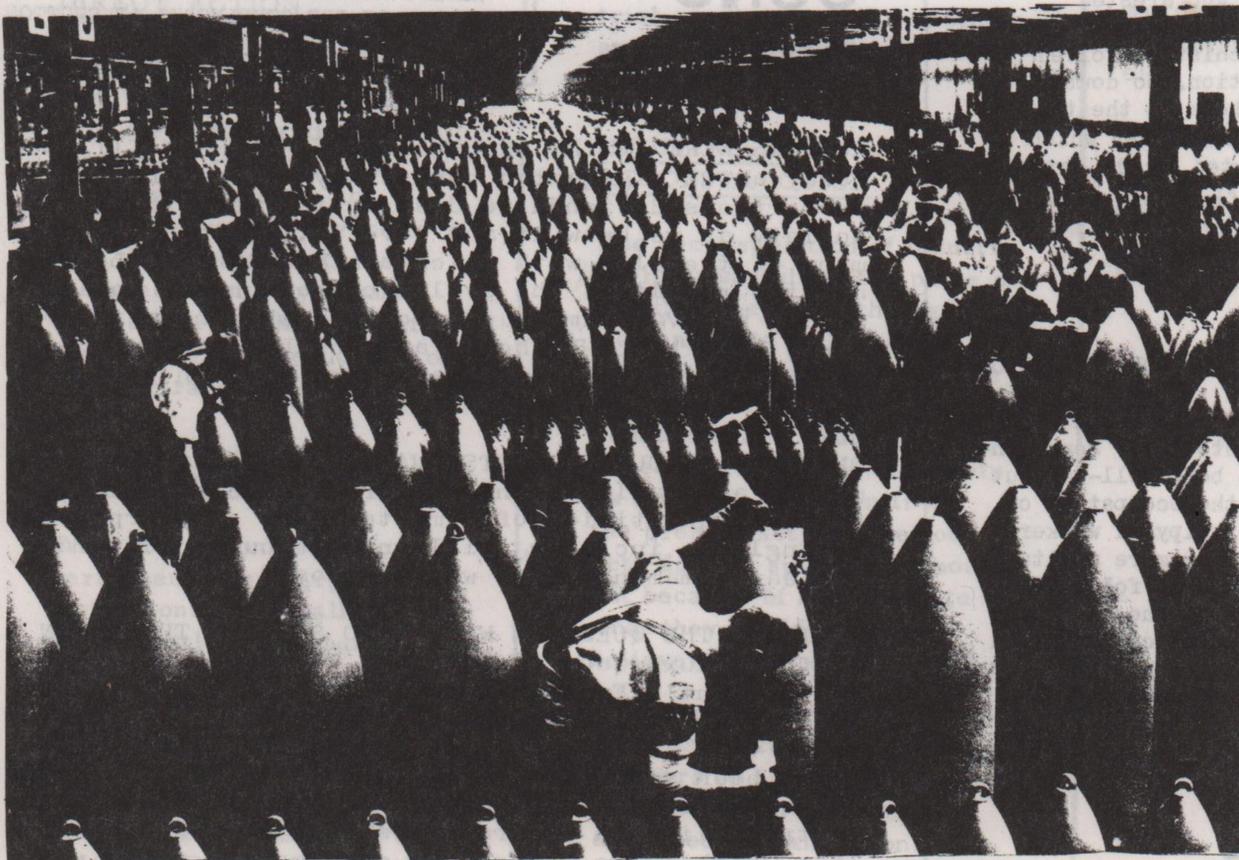
have never been called to account in the courts of the land. Look at the list of their evil deeds:

- CHILDREN - robbed of their milk even as they suffered at the hands of brain-washers in special institutions to which they were forced to go, torn from their homes, their mothers' sides.
- WORKERS - millions robbed even pf the chance to feed their own families. Others thrown on the scrap heap because they were "too old".
- TENANTS - Rents forced up to sky-high limits then, when they cannot pay, driven from their homes by faceless bureaucrats employing a blue-uniformed para-military organisation, club-wielding, fanatical in their dedication to 'Law and Order'. Are these men brainwashed, or drugged? We know only that they have been seen, red necked, seething, nostrils flared, pupils dilated, swearing and cursing and blindly slashing all in their way,
- MILLIONS - of ordinary people, poisoned by vile drugs, crippled in 'accidents', killed as they worked.

secrets

FREQUENT SECRET MEETINGS HAVE BEEN WITNESSED IN many luxurious residences in London and the Home Counties. Here these latter-day Mafiosi have sat in day-long sessions hammering out their plans on precisely how to continue their evil activities in the best way. Some, led by one Victor Feather, claiming to represent "ten million trade unionists" have even had the cheek to suggest that their should be voluntary cooperation in this robbery by the victims - voluntary, but of course under the suprvision of Feather's own gigantic and uncontrollable force of paid agents, the so-called TUC. Naming it after cheese biscuits does not fool us, BIGHEAD!!!

BUT THESE ARE NOT THE ONLY BRAINY PEOPLE IN BRITAIN They will be brought to justice, and we the people, will be at the head of those demanding redress for all the wrongs.



EVERY PACKET CARRIES A GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING

AND NOW

.....SIDWAYS ON

If you think that article was funny, a good laugh, even quietly amusing, then go visit the jails where at present reside Jake Prescott, James Greenfield, John Parker, Anna Mendelson, Hilary Creek, and in which might yet reside (if Bond and Habershon have their way) Stuart Christie, Christopher Bott, and many, many more. It is no laughing matter, and that article was written not from joy, but out of sheer and bloody anger. There will be a time to laugh - when our comrades are FREE.

FREE

STOKE

NEWING

WE ARE

ALL

guilty

O.K. all you cosy little people in your semi-detached houses, with your rose gardens and high hedges. You can rest easy a while. You've got the sacrifices you called for - four gone down for a ten stretch, & in time no doubt the rest will follow.

But take warning from certain facts. Firstly, it is clear to those who have had the opportunity to read an account of the defence that the so-called Angry Brigade has not been caught. Secondly, Bond & Habershon as good as admit that when they say that the activities are likely to increase rather than diminish. Secondly, get it straight, that we are ALL angry now.

The night they announced the verdict and sentences, I did not know what to think. There was the obvious relief for those who were not sent down. But there was the confusion over the Four - were they lucky to get a short stay in stir (ten is short compared with the possible thirty)? Or were they framed?

For some the idea of having confusion might seem odd, but stuck out in the provinces we have been starved of the real meat - the evidence. The papers would not print outside of London, dealing only with the trivia, and then only intermittently. Accounts of the evidence have been hard to come by, but a Sunday Times article by Tony Geraghty December 10 leaves me no longer in any doubt.

The Four are innocent, all eight have been so all along. They were the victims of a POLICE AND SPECIAL BRANCH CONSPIRACY conducted with vigour by Commander Bond and Det-Supt Habershon, acting on the orders of the British Government, but acting not like automatons, but men obsessed with a burning hatred for any people whose opinions are remotely left wing, or anti-authority. As such, though the Prime Minister is personally responsible, these two men have acted with ill-concealed joy at the pleasure of putting behind bars some of those they have hated.

We say these things, not out of any particular animosity to the men in question, or even to the people they represent, but simply on the weakness of the evidence which the judge in his summing-up declared to be crucial.

In reference to the question of the arms allegedly found in the

Amherst Road flat by the police, he said:

"that is the way it has been proved... once the suggestions of planting the evidence had been got rid of on overwhelming evidence."

What I would like to know is, precisely HOW do you set about proving that you did NOT possess two sub-machine guns, a Browning pistol and 81 rounds of ammunition, plus other items for use in causing explosions??

It can only be done by pitting your brains against police forensic experts. In some respects the defence did manage to discredit some of the forensic evidence, in particular that of Mr. Lidstone of the Home Office. But in the face of QUANTITY one has little hope. Perhaps that is why the possession charges relating to detonators directed at Stuart Christie were not pushed forward - they hadn't a chance. The judge's word was 'overwhelming'. Mark it well. As Josef Goebbels would have said - 'The bigger the lie, the more it is likely to be believed.'

I don't know to what extent it helps to go through the evidence like this. I am torn between a desire to scream out what I believe to be the correct interpretation of the evidence I have seen, or to give up in frustration, knowing that in the end, "Justice" will triumph - "Justice" of course, being simply "The Will of the State".

It doesn't help me get straight when each day I face the inevitable and interminable rows at work. Whatever I say, whatever way I say it, at the end it comes a week or so of sheer burnin' conducted from I had thought girls' wages a little bit to them in mind -ed, i.e. pr they've finished, i.e. pr they've finished. This no time for it, to stop themse. All they can do is making themse. their logicaves. re down is, 'the union, the Nat have given file & Garment them life at and has colph." And in 'the savoury aspect included the policy. not guilty. glen is putt

Let this into sub-stanyou dear readers for which tople were not sa exorbitant r because these 18 girls a better, bec use and paying had been led up ent between in path. They en from theily on the grounds that all eight defendants admitted to being revolutionaries - "Especially Christie, he's done it before".

Learn this simple fact from the conspiracy charge ---- WE ARE ALL GUILTY. Do we not want to see bourgeois values smashed, the State forever destroyed, private property abolished, the 'family' broken up, the world turned upside down?

It is not a question of reforming the law in conspiracy, as liberals like Peter Hain and Larry Grant would have it. By all means let us do something to change this law, if it makes things harder for the forces of Law and Order. But do not imagine you will become miraculously immune from prosecution. When the chips are down, the boys in blue can always do as their friends of the Monday Club have done, and take a leaf from the book of their Italian counterparts. All they need to do is throw us out of a window, or tie us to a pylon and blow us up. Who needs to prove anything? Especially if you are ill and likely to die in the 3 years it takes to get you on trial.

There is only one way to protect ourselves, & that is by way of our own efforts at mutual aid, coupled with the continuation of our struggle.

GUTTER PRESS

Finally several words concerning press coverage of the Trial. Throughout the months we have been kept in ignorance, but on the day after the verdict we get the full gutter press treatment, making it plainly obvious that the newspapers are interested only in titillating copy, not the facts. None of the popular dailies dealt with the evidence even then, when they were free to do so. Rather than admit that the evidence is as weak as can be, they resort to slander and innuendo to make the charges stick and to imply that even the ones that got away are still guilty.

They had a field day of excessive language, in which 'The Sun' in particular excelled itself in its role as the most horrifying example of yellow press yet devised. A full centre-page spread deals with peripheral commentary on the defendants derived from sources only too willing to make themselves appear important

even if only for a day. Like the landlord in Essex muck-spreading about orgies and ritual bicken-killings. Only Charlie Manson has had a worse treatment.

One paper even referred to the fact that the jury foreman delivered his verdict without his jacket and wearing a 'brightly patterned shirt'. That was the beginning of a witch-hunt against the composition of the jury, which was thoroughly working-class, several on the dole. The various Express papers have shown a particular interest in this respect. Come back Joe McCarthy, all is forgiven, at least you weren't soft on Commies.

Lest it be thought that such vile activities are confined to the popular dailies, copy this from The Times of December 7, under the heading 'Angrier Brigade is Feared':-

"The lull after the shooting it is now believed, was, in fact, a time of intense secret activity among an ever increasing group of dissidents who began to flock to communes in north London.

"Night and day they discussed revolution. (*) But the hard core, which later became the Angry Brigade did more than talk."

(*Eds. our emphasis)

That was by Clive Borrell, but it might have been from a Micky Spillane thriller, had their been a bit of sleazy arse-wagging to liven it up.

The BBC News, covering the background on Dec. 6, showed us a communique signed 'Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid' - from a period prior to the Angry Brigade, and dismissed by the judge as irrelevant in his summing-up (but not for the benefit of the jury before they considered their verdict).

Nasty, too, have been the attempts by various writers to shovel shit on the head of Jake Prescott, who is serving 15 years for addressing 3 envelopes. He is variously described as the 'weak link' - though nobody explains why, except snide references to what are considered to be his lack of academic qualifications for membership of the 'Bighead Brigade' (to quote the Sun yet again).

CONT'D FROM PAGE THREE

In the end, what are we left with?

An uneasy situation, full of rumours and half-expressed fears. Threats of a continued, if not PERMANENT, polic campaign directed against all dissident left groups who might remotely be described as 'anarchist'

In such an atmosphere there is only one answer. We must fight back with everything we can muster to clear the air. We must also look to our own defences - not in a state of panic, but carefully. The movement has its weaknesses, and a panic could only serve to break us apart.

The core of our attack must be to continue to demand the release of all the defendants from the popularly called 'Angry Brigade' trial, along with the release of other prisoners, such as Michael Tobin in Champsford Jail, and the forgotten Maoist comrades in Scotland, convicted of robberies. On this attempt to defend our comrades a lot will depend, for it will be the mass of rank and file trade unionists who will be next - and we should lose no opportunity of reminding them of that fact.

FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS AND ALL TRADE UNIONISTS JAILED IN THE FUTURE!

SWUPER - JUDGE



INTERNATIONAL

The Unions in the Durlop/Perelli group are determined to fight the wave of redundancies which are threatening the jobs of the workers.

In Italy, 2,000 have been put on short-time and 1,000 laid-off on the dole. The workers there have staged strikes and "symbolic occupations" at Pirelli factories for 24 hours at a stretch.

IN England, Durlops' half yearly profits stood at £17.27 million, but the position is not much better for the workers with a run-down of jobs at Rochdale, the reduction of a third of the labour force at the Waterford Footware factory, and the closure of the St Mary's Mills in Leicester. In the last two years Dunlop has made 8,000 redundant.

At the Dunlop tyre store in Rochdale, the workers came out a one day strike last month, against the threat of closure of the plant, and now the workers are only prepared to negotiate on the question of keeping the store open.

The workers at the Rochdale tyre store have through their militancy in the past few years, raised their pay to on one of the highest in Rochdale for labourers, IN 1968-69 there was a campaign at this tyre store to get the right to belong to a union of their own choice. This was backed at the time by the Anarcho-Syndicalist in the Manchester area.

The Dunlop workers throughout Britain are demanding a 36 hour working week, in an effort to create more jobs all round.

North West Workers.

ROLE OVER PLEASE!

With the recent STOKE NEWINGTON EIGHT trial verdict, we have all had to stand a lot of shit from our unaware and 'not so unaware' friends and workmates. You know the sort of crap --- "Serves 'em right", "fuckin' hippies", "taxpayers money", etc.

Many people who give you the idea that they are right with you all the way, on such matters as pay and general analyses of society, suddenly turn straight, and have a tendency to describe any form of violence as unacceptable (British Army in Northern Ireland). It's easy to see why --- education --- gutter press, etc. Many people still tend to regard anyone with any form of criminal record as some sort of a cunt.

The truth is now that anyone in conflict with the State, even merely on a propaganda and ideological basis, is likely to find that in the near future (with the shits up in the government, which they must be) that prison will become an "occupational Hazard!"

The Government and the Press (synonymously) look to conjuring up a lot of crap about "Turkey-killing rituals", sexual perversions, and rug orgies, of these "highly intelligent" students and hippies in the Stoke Newington 8; all with the idea of alienating them from the average working-class Joe.

The State seems rigid in its aim to make people live the roles that the State has created for them, in order to exploit them to the full. Everyone seems to fit these roles so well; the factory worker after peeling off his grimy overalls, cleans himself up, takes a boring bus-ride home, gets in, has his beans on toast, a quick half-hour of Coronation Street and then down the boozier, where he cruises through four pints of mild before he gets slung out of the pub with the two packets of crisps he bought to save a row with his missis.

On the other hand, take the students, who are supposed to be the 'free' minds of our society: they all play their roles alarmingly well, latching on to the college hip-scene. Even drop-outs and people who are said to belong to the 'counter-culture' have a rail to run along --- they wear way-out gear, smoke dope; so easily exploited by the trendy hip-capitalist boutique freaks and dope-pushers. Just another image, bought and sold like a new suit.

We could all manage quite nicely without these roles we have to play, and all the hang-ups and alienation that comes from being conscious of them -- just as we could all manage very nicely without a governmental system, with its laws, political authority, and concentrations of power.

Valpreda

Valpreda and two other comrades were granted provisional liberty by the appeal court Catanazaro.

They had been in jail since 1969 accused with being responsible for explosions in Milan and Rome.

The evidence against them is extremely weak and courts are not certain to convict.

It is now admitted that that the valises in which the bombs were contained were bought a Fascist lawyer, who is in prison charged with the bombings

These bombings were organised by the Extreme Right to try to discredit the Left generally and the Anarchist in particular



CONT'D FROM PAGE FOURTEEN

BOX CLEVER

The majority of caseworkers now realise that we are going to get nothing pussyfooting around, and only industrial action throughout the export packing trade will solve our immediate problems.

Any export workers interested in a united fight to get the poor relations of the export trade the same recognition and wages as our brother dockers write to:-

RANK AND FILE EXPORT WORKERS
39 Norton Street,
Old Trafford,
Manchester 16

workers and on 26 on a plate would agree... ity, which th... ving no direc... nion, accepte

two biggest antine Lloyds ollitzers, de... en them to 'st... d and give th... of the big st

the day the w... receive the... wards were... fices at Con... , Becks, and... ere told tha... ment were ke... ith the Tory... eeze, and we... negotiated... previously.

SIT DOWN! by Maurice Sugar (U.A.W.)

1. WHEN THEY TIE A CAN TO A UN-100MAN SIT DOWN! SIT DOWN!
 WHEN THEY GIVE 'IM THE SACK, THEY'LL TAKE 'IM BACK, SIT DOWN! SIT DOWN!
CHORUS:
 SIT DOWN, JUST TAKE A SEAT, SIT DOWN & REST YOUR FEET.
 SIT DOWN YOU'VE GOT 'EM BEAT, SIT DOWN! SIT DOWN!

2. WHEN THEY SMILE AND SAY, "NO RAISE IN PAY,"
 SIT DOWN! SIT DOWN!
 WHEN YOU WANT THE BOSS TO COME ACROSS
 SIT DOWN! SIT DOWN! (CHORUS)

3. WHEN THE SPEED-UP COMES, JUST TWIDDLE
 YOUR THUMBS,
 SIT DOWN! SIT DOWN!
 WHEN YOU WANT 'EM TO KNOW, THEY'D BETTER
 GO SLOW,
 SIT DOWN! SIT DOWN! (CHORUS)

4. WHEN THE BOSS WON'T TALK, DON'T TAKE
 A WALK.
 SIT DOWN! SIT DOWN!
 WHEN THE BOSS SEES THAT, HE'LL WANT
 A LITTLE CHAT
 SIT DOWN! SIT DOWN!

OUT OF YOUR POCKET, by Bryant French 1947

1. WHEN I GO BUY SOME GROCERIES, I SNEAK OUT LOTS OF DOUGH
 OH WON'T SOMEBODY TELL ME PLEASE, WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?
 I NEVER GET A TASTE OF MEAT 'Y BOY I'M GETTING BORED
 'COS EV'RY SINGLE CHOP & STEAK THE ONE I CAN'T AFFORD
(CHORUS):
 OUT OF YOUR POCKET! OUT OF YOUR POCKET!
 OUT OF YOUR POCKET! O WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?
 IT GOES INTO THE POCKET, INTO THE POCKET,
 IN TO THE POCKET OF THE GUYS WHO'VE GOT THE DOUGH.

2. MY RENT IS HIGH, MY CASH IS LOW
 AND I'M CAUGHT IN BETWEEN.
 MY LANDLORD DRIVES THE LONGEST, FASTEST CAR
 YOU EVER SEEN.
 MY WALLS ARE THIN, MY CARPETS TOO,
 MY CEILINGS ARE LIKE SIEVES,
 BUT YOU SHOULD SEE THE LOVELY MANSION
 WHERE MY LANDLORD LIVES.
 (Chorus)

3. IT DOESN'T SEEM QUITE FAIR TO ME
 THAT I SHOULD DIG SO DEEP
 TO PAY A GUY WHO MAKES A HALF A MILLION
 IN HIS SLEEP.
 I EVEN CAN'T AFFORD A PINT
 FOR ME IT'S PRETTY THIN,
 BECAUSE I'M PAYING OFF MY BOSS'S
 FANCY SCOTCH AND GIN.
 (Chorus)

4. THEY TELL ME IT'S MONOPOLIES
 OWN EVERYTHING I SEE,
 SO I'LL BE ON THE MARKET SOON, 'COS THEY
 OWN MOST OF ME.
 AND AFTER THEY HAVE PROCESSED ME
 AND WRAPPED ME UP SO NICE,
 THEY'LL SELL ME RIGHT BACK TO MYSELF
 AT SOME GOD AWFUL PRICE
 (Chorus)

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ABORTION

A national anti-abortion rally, under the auspices of the Society for the protection of Unborn Children, is to be held in Platt Fields, Manchester on Sunday, 25th of March 1973. It will be followed by a silent march to Albert Sq, Manchester.

According to the organisers, an attendance of 100,000 is being aimed for, following the alleged success of a similar rally held in Liverpool last year.

Anyone interested in a counter demo/meeting (plans undecided as yet) Contact:
 M/cr Womens Abortion & Contraception Campaign
 218 Upper Brook St
 Manchester 13
 Tel 061-273-2287
 More details in next issue.

INSIDE STORY
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 Private Eye".
 6 ISSUES FOR £1.50

WANTED

ORIGINAL, SINGABLE,
 SYNDICALIST SONGS.
 NO PRIZES, JUST PRINTING



Industrial Front

guest-worker

It is not usual in Germany for visitors to have to work to live. Since we are in Germany to work we are workers not guests. To be a worker means:

- to work without determining how and what is made for whom.
 - to sell one's labour in order to buy food.
 - to have to obey the foreman, boss or ganger.
- We are as much workers as our German comrades. We have the same destiny. It can be shown constantly how our German comrades exploit and abuse us. We are called 'Nichnutz, Faulpelz, Maccaroni and Zitronen-schüttler'. Why? The newspapers and the influence of the bosses say to our comrades thus:
- Foreigners speed up work and keep down wages.
 - Foreigners put jobs in jeopardy and take away work.
 - Foreigners are vagrants; they often take time off for illness and then live off the social security.

Do our German comrades believe all this? What have we done to inform them properly? Do we not often call these comrades 'racists'? Do we not often feel ourselves badly misunderstood and offended? Then we react exactly as they do. We must ask ourselves why we are so often misunderstood. Either we abandon ourselves to the interpretations of the bosses, or we unite with the comrades who speak our own language. To us it is difficult to learn German but we assume our German comrades must be able to understand Spanish and all foreign comrades: Greek, Italian, Turkish, Serbo-Croat, etc. We are working in Germany. If we want to tell our comrades more about ourselves, and the situation in our country, we must learn their language. Only then can we fight the false information given by the employers and the Press and join together to destroy the rivalry between ourselves and our German comrades. We must finally, begin to speak to each other, whatever the nationality may be, and listen to each other so that we shall be able to help each other.

Working conditions and hours of work do not distinguish between Germans and foreigners. If we want to do anything to change them, we can make no impact alone. If mech-

anisation and rationalisation worsen working conditions we shall see ourselves forced to do the worst jobs. And we shall have no choice, since our permit to stay is tied up to the right to work. If we lose our jobs, we shall have to return to our country. We all know this and more - but do our German comrades know it? What value can anything we say have if our German comrades do not understand us? Let us join together and make our problems clear to each other. We must first talk to our German comrades, since we shall neither be able to understand all the problems, nor be able to solve them. Only when we can talk together can we act together.

What we must say to our German comrades is this: A speed up of work for us immigrant labourers gives rise to a general raising of speeds. But do we know why? The greater part of the time we are only slave labour. New methods of timing & new machines are tried on us. If we fight against it and refuse to work faster, the bosses, intent on dividing us from our German comrades will say: 'Look at these vagrant foreigners! They want to collect without working!' Our German comrades are a part of the real problem. If they swallow the bosses' words they insult us, instead of walking beside us against speed-up and productivity systems.

If we strike and leave work without having said anything to our German comrades, they will be angry, because if we do not work, they do not receive materials, they cannot make more manufactured articles, and they cannot keep up their speed or the number of articles they produce. For them this will mean a drop in pay. If we do not talk to them, our German comrades will take the side of the bosses & be angry with us because we are holding up production. We shall be isolated if we do not talk to our German comrades. If speed-ups then come, because we alone were too weak, then our German comrades will blame us. They will not know that this is false, since we shall not be able to tell them.

Nor is it true that we endanger wages. It is much more true that 75% of foreigners share the lowest income brackets with 25% of German workers. We are already put in a wage-bracket that is unacceptable to Germans. If we fight against these wages, it is as if we wanted to earn the same money for our dirty jobs as the skilled men get. We are told we are ignorant. In so far as this is true, we are uneducated, not because we are unsettled vagrants, but because in Spain we do not get the chance to learn anything. So, of course, we have the dirty jobs.

It is true we work long hours and odd shifts but it is not true that we therefore take work away from our comrades. On the contrary, if we the foreigners do not move the filth and provide the materials, our skilled comrades will lose out. Only by means of our additional work can we give more work to our comrades. We must tell our German comrades this; we must also explain to them why we must work all hours sent. Why must we work long hours? Because we have digs here as well as in Spain, and in Germany we have to pay more for a bed in a barracks than a house at home. A double budget is expensive. We want to return to our families, many of us want to earn a lot with a lot of work in a short time, so that we can return home. If this does not change we shall never be able to go home and see our families.

- "J.N."

(Translated from the Spanish language paper 'Dialogo' printed for Spanish workers in Germany at Frankfurt, No.1, pp.5-7. Its relevance to immigrant labour in Britain should be clear. It should be clear also that English workers tuned in to these problems have a duty to help immigrant workers leap the language barrier and begin to forge meaningful links with British workers - there is no such thing as the immigration problem, simply the problem of workers divided against themselves.)

INDUSTRIAL NETWORK

The Industrial Network is a list of contacts in various industries. If there is no contact in your industry get in touch with the coordinator and your name can be added to the network.

BUILDING WORKERS

D. Coull
3 Grange House,
Hightury Grange,
London N5,

ENGINEERS

T. Jones
29 Eskrigge St,
Salford 7

RAILWAY WORKERS

P. J. Goody,
5 Grafton Close,
Hurslow
Middlesex,

ROAD TRANSPORT

T. Webb
c/o 3, East Medway,
Shoreham-by-sea,
Sussex,

POSTAL ENGINEERS

P. Guest,
101, Rock St,
Pitsmoor,
Sheffield,

PRINTERS

K. Nathan,
29 CARDIGAN ST,
Leeds 6,

SHIPBUILDING

R. LYNN
487 Cumberland St,
Glasgow C 5

EDUCATION NETWORK

is now separate from the industrial network, and includes both teachers and students.

M. Bashforth
23 Needwood Close,
Wolverhampton.

A COMMUNITY NETWORK is being organised all enquiries to the secretary of the A.S.A.



LETTERS

LETTERS FROM READERS.

Dear Sir/Comrade,

I read, for the first time, a copy of 'Outlook' at the march in aid of the Spanish workers, yesterday. I am nominally a Marxist but I always consider carefully the views of any other organisation (except the Right!).

Being particularly interested in the struggle of the Spanish comrades, I would be the first to admit that the anarchists (CNT-FAI) did more to help the fight against the fascists than any other group. But, to quote a well known anarchist: "We must put off many reforms until tomorrow; first we must have victory." All progressive movements must stick together -- always.

Gareth Thomas (CP)
Surrey.

(Ed. After much reluctance and heart-searching in a highly complicated situation, our Spanish comrades did agree to work together with the Spanish CP during the Civil War. We lost. The CP and Republicans jailed and murdered hundreds of anarchists and syndicalists; they systematically smashed CNT-FAI military organisations; they set about the reversal of the revolutionary policies carried out by the peasants and workers of northern Spain along with both anarchists and left socialists of the UGT. The war was lost. The revolution was destroyed. Still Franco rules Spain with an iron fist. And now recent events suggest something of a rapprochement between the Kremlin and Madrid.

What are we to conclude, comrade? We accept the sincerity of your views; but we suggest that you study everything you can get your hands on concerning the Spanish revolution. The criminal policies of the CP were not an isolated aberration, but a continuation of a systematic policy of destruction directed at the creative aspirations of the working class in revolt, whether or not expressed through the medium of the anarchist-syndicalist movements. Study Kronstadt. Find out about Makhno. Study Spain. Then demand of the Party that they publish the truth, that they accept responsibility for & now condemn the murders of the past. Even then, excuse us for being suspicious.

Sorry to write a reply longer than your original letter. But I too used to think like you when I was a member of the CP. But no more.)

JOIN

Unemployed? Join Your Union. Manchester and Salford unemployed Workers Union has been formed to fight for a better deal for the people that the system has thrown on the dole. Write to the secretary;

Ken Keating,
40 Broad St,
Salford,
Lancs,

Dear Friends,

In "Where we stand" you criticise individual workers who "Talk about 'my factory' when they don't even own the grime beneath the benches".

This is a statement we can take on two levels, one of which I think is possibly dangerously misguided.

I agree it would be ludicrous for one solitary worker to think of a factory as "his", since as an individual he would be as incapable of operating the factory alone as the boss is. Perhaps "OUR factory" would be nearer the truth. But what follows from the statement on another level is where a basic error of thought comes in. Anarcho-syndicalists should be doing all they can to help workers realise that industry does belong to those who operate it every day -- in every way except nominally.

I don't want to bore everyone by re-stating the obvious - but I will anyway. The factory is nothing but an empty ~~shell~~ and silent shell without the workers. If the workers walk out then the boss is the paper owner of a pile of bricks and machinery.

But if the workers occupy and start production in the interests of the community then their ownership -- in evidence every working day -- becomes a conscious fact.

Best wishes,
Harry Harmer,
London S.E.11

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

alienation

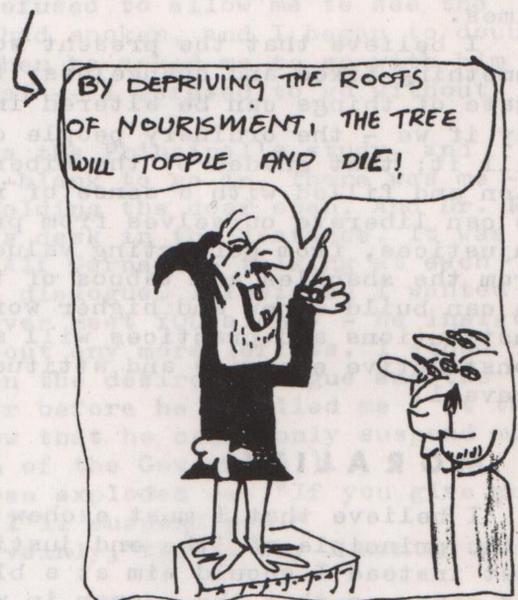
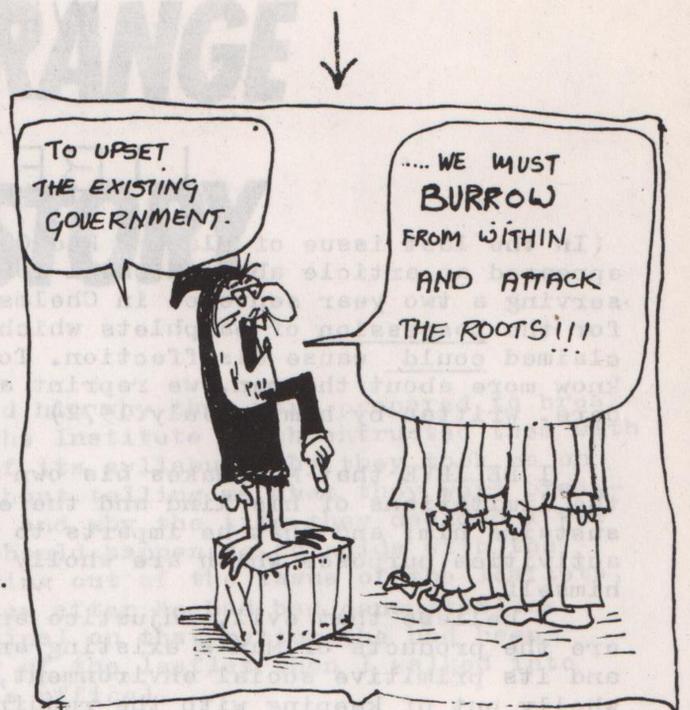
All weight
waits
in the guts
Every breath a s i g h.

Arms, skin, limbs,
fall;
Brain screams ??
-----faintmindedly.

Everything is WHY?
WHAT FOR?
WHO CARES?
FUCK IT*!*

Anger struggles to the surface
Shouts bubble from the brain
Stones fly from the hands
The dank grey wet world

E X P L O D E S
L O S E S
as that which is
takes control of the body
and hhhhhhuuuuuurrrrrrrlllllllssssss
it into
war.



WHAT I BELIEVE AS A LIBERTARIAN-HUMANIST

(In the last issue of Black + Red Outlook there appeared an article about Michael Tobin, now serving a two year sentence in Chelmsford Prison for the possession of pamphlets which the prosecution claimed could cause disaffection. To help readers know more about the man, we reprint a short leaflet here, written by him in July 1972)

I BELIEVE that Man makes his own destiny within the limitations of his kind and the environment which sustains him; and that he imparts to his existence & activities purposes which are wholly determined by himself.

I believe that evil, injustice and oppression are the products of Man's existing anthill society and its primitive social environment, which is wholly out of keeping with the requirements of the times.

I believe that the present social order is not something fixed and changeless; that the existing state of things can be altered in a most fundamental way if we - the ordinary people of this World - so will it; that guided by the Libertarian-Humanist vision and filled with a sense of revolutionary purpose we can liberate ourselves from present oppressions & injustices, from perverting values and practices, and from the shackles and taboos of the past; and that we can build a new and higher world whose values, institutions and practices will allow the more constructive energies and attitudes of Man to fully prevail.

MORALITY

I believe that I must eschew the morally nihilistic principle of 'the end justifies the means'; that instead I should aim at a blending of both ends and means so that the manner in which I struggle to build an alternative culture embodies the higher ethical principles of the world I strive to create, and in doing so will cause me to become ennobled and uplifted rather than degraded and brutalised.

I believe that while I love my fellow comrades I must not contrariwise, hate those who, because of their social position or lack of vision or both, prevent the opening of the floodgates of human liberation; rather one should learn to pity them and try and understand their limitations - even when they are so misguided as to try and crush our attempts at building a new culture.

I believe that each human being including myself is unique and that each such individual has the inalienable right to express his individuality in a full and meaningful way as determined by himself in the context of humanist values; and that it is my duty as a Libertarian-Humanist revolutionary to assert this right, on behalf of both myself and my fellow men and women at all times and places, and

to speak out and struggle against anyone or any thing that impedes the free exercise of this right. Equally, I believe that the animals and plants and the soil, air and seas of our Earth and all other things in the Solar System which are within the widening scope of Man's growing influence also have a right to proper care and treatment so that they may continue to play their full part in maintaining a balanced and stable system of relations between themselves and between them and Mankind.

MAN OR APE?

I believe that I am a person and not a naked ape; that though I may have the body of an animal, that fact that as a member of the species Homo Sapiens I have inherited the unique possession of frontal lobes - through which my basic (individual) animal inclinations and behaviour are transformed into qualitatively higher (public) human desires and moral conduct - makes me a person and, therefore puts me in a wholly different plane from that of a mere animal.

I believe that while acknowledging its limitations I must use the scientific method in examining the world around me and, accordingly, must never become dogmatic or intolerant of others opinions; but must proceed, instead, on a basis of using hypotheses which need to be discarded when rendered inadequate by the discovery of new facts. In the context of the wider Universe I believe that the Cosmos - which is filled with even more mystery for, and evokes an even greater sense of wonder from, Humanist Man than was in the case of his predecessors - is best seen as a vast ecosystem of diverse interacting forces forever trying to stabilize themselves in relation to each other; and that Mankind and perhaps other hypothetical civilisations in interstellar space constitute the conscious and purposeful element amongst these formative forces - which on the terrestrial level are gradually coming within the orbit of the scientists' control.

BY WHAT WE DO

I believe that though the circumstances of my time demand that I live within the framework of the nation-state, I must, nevertheless, do my best to dissociate myself as far as possible from the mass culture of industrial capitalist society and its competitive values, repressive institutions, and destructive practices which enslave and pervert the energies of Mankind; and that at all times I must seek to overcome the limitations inherent in the prevailing social order and to try and view the world and act, in the light of the principle:

"The Solar System is my Country and all Mankind is my People".

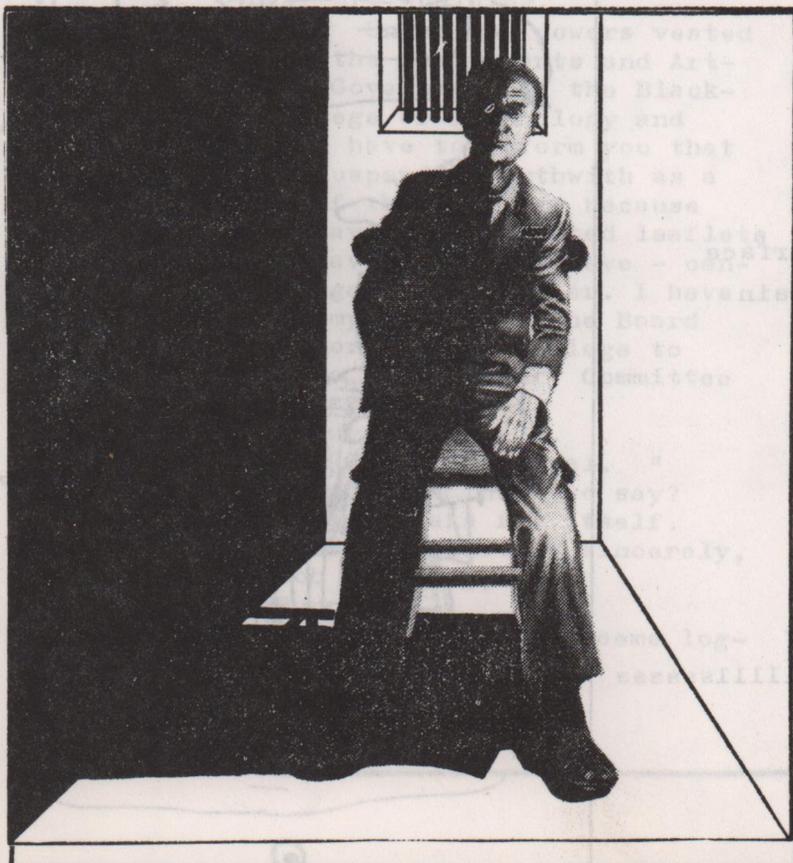
I believe that the making of a new and higher world starts with the Libertarian-Humanist consciousness and finds concrete expression in the immediate relations one establishes with one's fellows through seeking to live by the higher values of cooperation and emulation; and that in time this higher consciousness and system of relations will be embodied in a social order whose socio-economic foundation stone will be:

"To all (Mankind) according to their needs, from all (Mankind) according to their abilities".

I believe I must be judged by what I do; that there must be complete harmony between my beliefs and actions; and that there must be no contradictions between my inner and my outer self.

Finally, I believe that full and lasting happiness can be found only in serving my fellow men in a needful and constructive way, which includes the struggle to build a new world - in which people will be their own masters living in an advanced social environment whose values, institutions and social practices will tend to bring out the best in Man.

2222222222MICHAEL TOBIN July 197222222222222222



MICHAEL TOBIN DEFENCE COMMITTEE
c/o 265 DALE STREET
CHATHAM, KENT

Background.

I am an unemployed anarchist. I left Lancaster University in 1971 where I managed to "fail" my degree in Economics. I was then employed as a labourer at a Courtaulds weaving shed until I left, after contracting glandular fever. Unemployed ever since, I decided to enrol on a Chemistry Technicians' course (City and Guilds T2) at Blackburn Tech., since I might get a job in the chemical industry. The course is supposed to be day-release, but being on the dole, I have nothing to be released from.

For the past three weeks (prior to Nov 27) I have been distributing free anarchist leaflets at the college. The second of these contained naughty words like 'shit', 'piss', 'cunt', and 'fuck'. The third leaflet explained why these words had been used - to try and break through the guilt induced by the nuclear family. (See: 'The Irrational in Politics', Solidarity pamphlet)



HOLDING, ITS A
QUESTION OF
"THE PRINCIPAL"

Events of November 23.

Arriving at the college just after mid-day I began distribution of the third leaflet, entitled "Love is a Four-letter Word". 48 copies were distributed in the refectory and student union lounge.

A member of the Students Representative Council (which is largely dominated by business studies students) informed me that the Principal's Secretary had said that Dr. Rose, the principal, wanted to see me about a leaflet I had handed out the previous week, entitled "English Lesson: Dictionary of Freedom" - a metaphorical tract followed by an attack on bourgeois welfare economics.

So I went to the secretary and gave her a copy of 'Love is a 4-letter word', and said I would return when the Principal had had time to read it, since it explained the leaflet over which I assumed he had taken objection.

When I returned, the secretary had gone to lunch, so I knocked on the Principal's door, and, thinking I had heard an invitation to enter, I did so. I found Dr. Rose and Dr. Jackson (Head of Science), discussing 'Love is.' I apologised for interrupting without an appointment, and went on to say I would return when they had finished discussing the pamphlet and I had got somebody to act as my witness.

"Never mind", said Dr. Jackson, "I would like to see you in my room about your course."

We walked towards the lift. Again, fearing the worst, I asked to have an independent witness there. But, accepting his assurances that everything was 'alright', I went on. At that moment, Mr Bevan, a Liberal Studies lecturer, appeared, and I asked him if he would act as a witness for me, and tried to explain briefly what it was about. I handed him a 'Love is.' leaflet to try and make things clear.

"Give me that," cried Dr. Jackson, snatching the evil document from the hand of his bewildered colleague, "I don't want to talk about the leaflet, I just want to say a few words about his course."

Poor Mr. Bevan was bewildered, and walked off scratching his head and wondering what was going on.

In his room Dr. Jackson explained that since I was unemployed I was not eligible for a City and Guilds Course (*-Ed. Not true. At my own college, students are sent from the Youth Employment Office to attend such courses, and periodic redundancies in recent months have meant that unemployed students are by no means uncommon.). "It's not that I want to make you leave", he explained benevolently, "it's just that those are the rules of the C&G Institute, and there's nothing I can do about it".

I then pointed out that he personally had originally admitted me to the course, knowing that I was unemployed. And I asked for a copy of the relevant regulations. He replied that he had been bending the rules in the first place, and said he would not show me the rule book.

STRANGE STORY

I then asked him why they were prepared to break the rules of the Institute which entrusted them with the teaching of its syllabus; why they took me on the course without telling me that they were breaking the rules; and why the time they decided I was not eligible should happen to coincide with the situation arising out of the issue of the leaflets, not five minutes after he had had consultations with the Principal on that matter (he had been holding a copy of the leaflet when I walked into the Principal's office).

He repeatedly refused to allow me to see the rules of which he had spoken, and I began to doubt their existence. Then he asked me to go with him to see the Principal -- I refused to go without a witness.

I went as far as the Principal's study, and then refused point-blank to go in. There was me - outside. Jackson holding the door open. And Dr. Rose standing behind his desk in the distance. It was like a scene from Alf Garnett - talking at each other with no real dialogue. I insisted I wanted a witness (THEY never meet YOU alone) - He insisted that I didn't put out any more leaflets. I stood there, torn between the desire to argue and the desire to disappear before he expelled me (at that time I did not know that he could only suspend me pending a decision of the Governors.).

Finally, Dr. Rose exploded --- "If you give put any more leaflets I'll suspend you."

"Aha", I said, vainly, "that's why I wanted a witness."

He calmed down and we agreed to meet next day. Meanwhile I got myself a witness from SRC, and set about finding a copy of the relevant C&G rules. General Office said they had none; nor did the 'let-me-solve-all-your-problems' course tutor (whose excuse was that he didn't want to give me the rules behind the Principal's back!) For the latter it cut no ice to say that the document was supposed to be public information to which I had a right. In the end the Library managed to borrow me a copy ---from the General Office.

Most of the night, naively thinking they would listen to reason, I stayed up preparing my case.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

CONT'D PAGE 10

Find out

ASK

ASA

The Bulletin of Anarcho-Syndicalist Theory. This intended as an internal study document and is not for general sale. In the 1st instance, it will be a duplicated, quarterly.

Black and Red would like to hear from its readers. Do you have any news or information of struggles to pass on. What do you think of the paper?

Write for Black and Red Outlook! Send all articles to the co-ordinator of the paper :-
R. Marsden,
13 Russell Rd,
Manchester 16,

A If you agree with what you
S have read in this paper
A why not become a supporter
S of the A.S.A. Financially
A we expect our members to
S give at least 1% of their
A income, after deductions.
S Cheques and postal orders
A should be made out to
S either Black and Red Outlook
A or the A.S.A. and sent to
S the Treasurer:-
A A. Roberts,
S 118 Albert Ave.
A PRESTWICH,
S Lancs,

A The secretary of the Anarchist
S Syndicalist Alliance is;
A K. Perlo,
S 3 Grange House
A Highbury Grange,
S London N5,
A

Next day.....

Those present at the meeting were myself, Dr. Rose, Dr. Jackson and Gary Taylor from SRC, and Mr. MacLaren the Vice-Principal.

Dr. Rose opened by asking me about my background, and why I enrolled on the course. I obliged his curiosity (missing out the political bits), after expressing the hope that this did not take too long and would leave ample time for discussion of the matter in hand. He kindly assured me that we had all afternoon if necessary.

Then I began ~~to~~ to put my case, asking the Principal if there was a college rule about the distribution of leaflets. He lost his temper.

"Mr. Houlding," he said, "I am the Principal and I represent the college regulations" He then went on to outline several points:

- a) I am doing damage to the college and the Students Union by distributing the leaflets, since people might think that the SU was producing them.
- b) I have been asked not to distribute leaflets on the college premises.
- c) Please get a job and stop distributing leaflets.

I tried again to put my case, reading from a prepared statement.

"Mr. Houlding," he interrupted, "I don't want to hear about the pamphlets, we're not here to discuss that."

I asked permission to speak.

"You've got 3 minutes", he said, "and then you must get out." (see above, all afternoon)

I spoke on until suddenly he butted in, told me the time was up, and I had to go. Gary Taylor persuaded me to leave.

I found out that the previous day the SRC had passed a resolution stating that any literature to be given out in student union rooms would first have to pass their scrutiny, as a matter of both courtesy and policy.

I have not met any other revolutionary socialists in the college, and the freedom to leaflet was my one way of making contact so as to form a socialist society. There were after all some 7000 students. With the aid of Burnley Anarchists and Blackburn I.S. we decided to do a leaflet demo, outside the building on 30 November.

LATEST FROM BOB HOULDING:

Dear Martih,

You will probably have received my letter from Ron. Here's the latest news. I received today (Wed) the following letter from Dr. Rose, the principal of the college:-

"Dear Mr. Houlding,

Under the powers vested in me by the Instruments and Articles of Government of the Blackburn College of Technology and Design, I have to inform you that you are suspended forthwith as a student of this college because of your having distributed leaflets which behaviour - I believe - cannot be regarded as proper. I have referred my action to the Board of Governors of the College to enable the Disciplinary Committee to consider your case.

Yours sincerely,

J.ROSE, Principal. "

- What more is there to say?

This letter speaks for itself.

Yours, definitely sincerely,
Bob Houlding,
Burnley.

(P.S. I'm pissed, which seems logical at this moment!)



PAMPHLET REVIEW "ANTI-STUDENT"

The day I read this pamphlet, BBC TV made a fine job of providing reinforcement of what I learned from it. It was the day of the 25th anniversary of the Royal Bedding, during the course of which excuse for a good binge Lizzie commented that after 25 years of Family Life she was 'for it'. Well, she was either that or a masochist, I would have thought.

Meanwhile 24 students at Stirling were on the eve of an academic show-trial for their alleged role in the disruption of a visit by this prime advert for the Christian Marriage. The commentator, reporting, made a meal of the "idyllic, peaceful surroundings" as the camera shuttled back and forth between film of grass and trees and shots of disrespectful students..The whole show confirmed that what was at stake was the exclusiveness, the elite status, of the University.... not just Stirling, but all places of higher education. As one of the students commented, Stirling is a showpiece to screw money out of people with money, and awe&respect from they who have nothing else to give.

Anyhow, this pamphlet is a thorough analysis of the conditioning role of the University, both in relation to those who attend (especially) and those who do not (incidentally), and of its role in the structure of British capitalism. The fact that it deals with both the psychological and the insitutional aspects at once, tying them into the ecpnomic forces operating in British society is enough to recommend it as good reading. In addition, the pamphlet is directed straight at the students (one suspects specifically first years), and while this might be considered a weakness one way, it stresses that a pamphlet can also be action.

Perhaps this concern to convince the student is in a sense self-defeating in view of the aims of the pamphlet to attack roles, in that it might tend to confirm the role of student as someone fashionably self-critical of his position of privilege (breast-beating guilt still runs deep among some students - why I'll never know). However this is a dilemma from which it is hard to escape. First one must get people to make the transitional step of realising they are manipulated into positions before they will break from it. A man who does not know he is a prisoner will not try to escape.

There is a brilliant exposure of how the University, by its very nature an elite establishment, preaches elitism to its members and subservience to the masses. Working class students are detached from their social roots and their old values are persistently denigrated - women get a double dose in this respect, at the hands of tutors who are not only middle class pigs, but all too often sexist pigs and randy. The education, as the buildings, is detached from society (in one respect). There is a hierarchical internal structure with the awesome, idolised professors at the top of the pile. Academicism is a cult, conducted according to the rules of Academic Freedom - i.e. the freedom to be academic, and no more. The roots of the University in the Church are shown to be highly relevant.

One thing I could add is the special function of the Hall of Residence, as a place in which workingclass jobs (until fees became prohibitive) learn middle class table manners. I remember being introduced to wine at meals, separate knives for butter, dressing for dinner, side plates, cheese and biscuits. Worst of all I can remember enjoying the sensation of "civilised behaviour" these things conferred upon the participants.

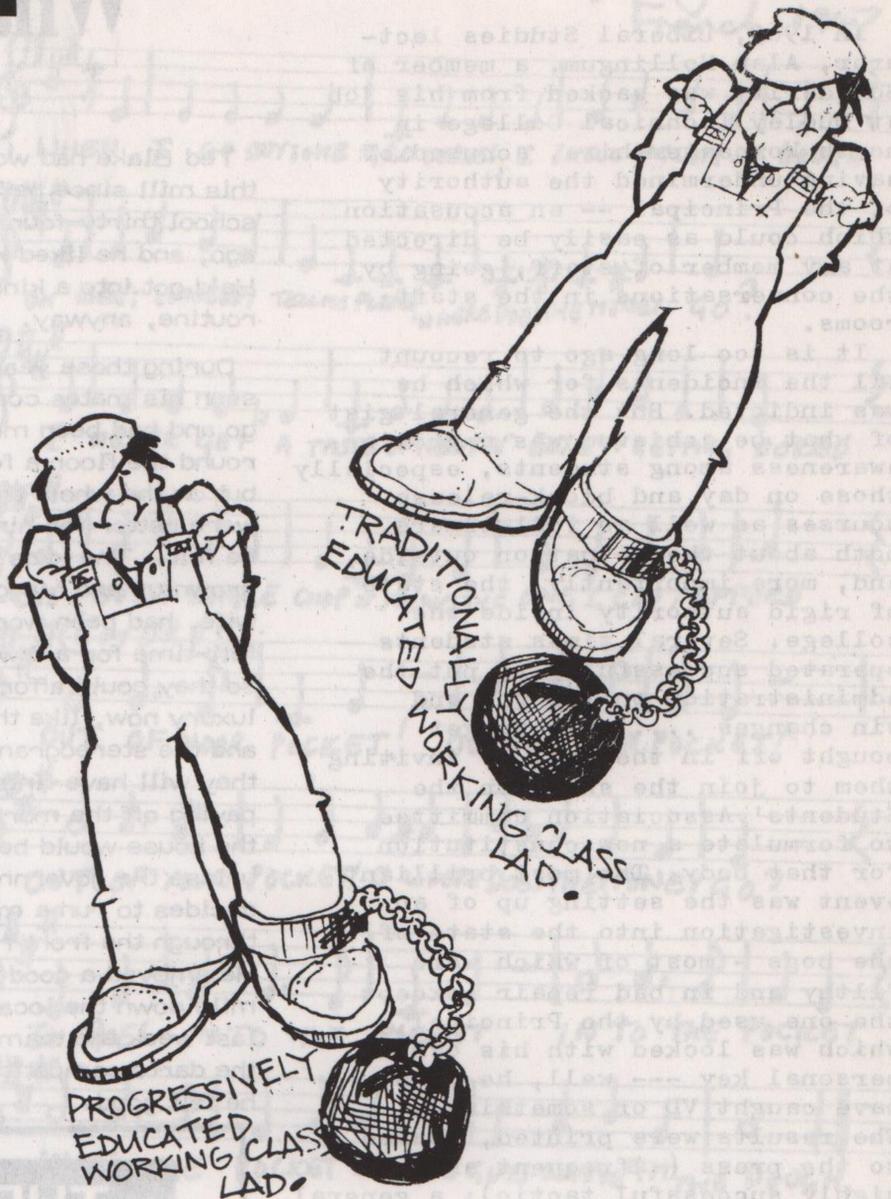
Equally good in the pamphlet, although not as thoroughly explored (perhaps because it has been done before), are the passages exposing the relationship of the University to the class structure and the activities of capitalist society (the respect in which the University is not detached from society). The University almost IS the ideology of capitalism, but it is also a part of capitalism at work, ready to do research and justify the policies of the master class to the nth degree of sophistication, and to explain away and contain rebellion. Here is the point at which critical thought is colonised by the bosses.

A whole generation of my friends got smashed up at University. In this pamphlet I read a good account of how and why.

Perhaps, however, the greatest thing about this pamphlet is the way in which it was created. Half a dozen or so isolated people responded to a call to talk over the proposed contents. They then produced the pamphlet themselves from beginning to end, right through conception, writing, collective criticism, layout, finance, printing and arrangement of its distribution. It is de-schooling in practice, and an example of how best to organise to get over the ideas of a free society - far better than a regular and rather bitty hotch-potch of contributions to make up a 'magazine' or 'Journal'.

Read it. Then when you have read it: Get others to read it. Then discuss it with them. Then produce your own pamphlet developing your ideas collectively. Then pass it on to the writers of Anti-Student and see if out of that there might not come a bigger and better one, pulling in even more people. AND ON THE EIGHTH DAY THERE WAS NO MORE SKOOL.

"ANTI-STUDENT" is available, price 15p +2½p postage, from Agitprop, 248 Bethnal Green Road, London E.2.



WORKING CLASS LAD EDUCATED FOR LIBERATION



THE PROFESSIONAL THUGS NEED YOU

WAR IS THE HEALTH OF THE STATE



In 1969, Liberal Studies lecturer, Alan Hollingum, a member of Solidarity was sacked from his job at Dudley Technical College in north Worcestershire, accused of having undermined the authority of the Principal -- an accusation which could as easily be directed at any member of staff, going by the conversations in the staff rooms.

It is too long ago to recount all the incidents for which he was indicted. But the general gist of what he achieved was a growing awareness among students, especially those on day and block-release courses as well as full-timers, both about the situation outside, and, more importantly, the state of rigid authority inside the college. Several times students operated successfully to put the administration on the run and win changes only to get bought off in the end, by inviting them to join the shits on the Students' Association committee to formulate a new constitution for that body. The most brilliant event was the setting up of an investigation into the state of the bogs - most of which were filthy and in bad repair (except the one used by the Principal, which was locked with his own personal key --- well, he might have caught VD or something!). The results were printed, leaked to the press (afrequent and highly successful tactic); a general meeting was called and all the demands met -- 'but we don't approve the way you did it' ('cos it worked, I suppose?)

More personally to Alan's case, was when students were forbidden to buy refreshments from the students' refectory on the afternoon before prize-giving, so that the canteen could be free for the staff. So Alan took his class in and bought them drinks --- some shithouse brought in the boss and there was a stand-up row over it.

The real point of this, however, was the sacking. Myself and another member of staff eavesdropped the Governors' meeting; he never had a chance. Not one of the august gentry bothered to discuss the facts of the case, or the arguments, and carried on their deliberations according to the lines laid down by the chairman at the very beginning of the discussion --- 'shall we sack him, suspend him, or give him a warning'. He then went on to advocate a sacking, since 'he had had experience of this sort of person before - give them an inch and they will take a mile'. Only three members of the group who turned up tried to say

anything for Alan; their case was that there was no serious case against him, merely a lot of minor incidents, and that he should therefore simply be warned.

But he was sacked, and stayed unemployed for about 2 years, apart from a job here and there, until getting a post in Manchester. By all accounts he was a bloody good teacher, well liked by the students (but hated by most of the staff - it was mutual) - perhaps that was the trouble.

M.B.

What will you do when ...

Ted Blake had worked in this mill since he'd left school thirty-four years ago, and he liked his work. He'd got into a kind of routine, anyway.

During those years he'd seen his mates come and go and had been moved round the floor a few times, but on the whole things were better for him now he felt. The kids were grown up and Maggie, his wife, had been working full-time for a few years, so they could afford the odd luxury now, like the fridge and the stereogram. Soon they will have finished paying off the mortgage and the house would be their's unless the government decides to run a motorway through the front room. He enjoyed a good pint of mild down the local and last week the team had won the darts competition; so he felt good.

The Gillham family still owned the mill, as they had done when Ted was a 15 year old apprentice. George Gillham was a friendly old geezer: he always used to ask after Maggie, and the kids, Pete and Maureen. But they weren't kids any more. Every time they saw each other, Gillham would laugh and apologise for almost knocking Ted off his bicycle that time a few years ago. Ted would say: "Oh, that's nothing, Mr. Gillham. I'd quite enjoy getting run over by a Rolls!" And they always laughed at this. Together.

Then came the day when all those crates arrived. Men he'd never seen before in brown dungarees with 'Associated Transport' on were running around whilst some of the lads were set to to unpack the crates.

"It must be those machines I heard the shop steward talk to Gillham about last week," he thought. "So, productivity is going to be increased by 8% with those bits of metal lying there. That's progress. And the country could do with it. Not doing so well any more letting those foreigners get the better of us."

Two days later, the foreman came up to Ted's machine. "Mr Gillham would like to see you in his office," he said. Ted was redundant. All his life he'd worked so that the bosses could buy a new machine and put him out of work.

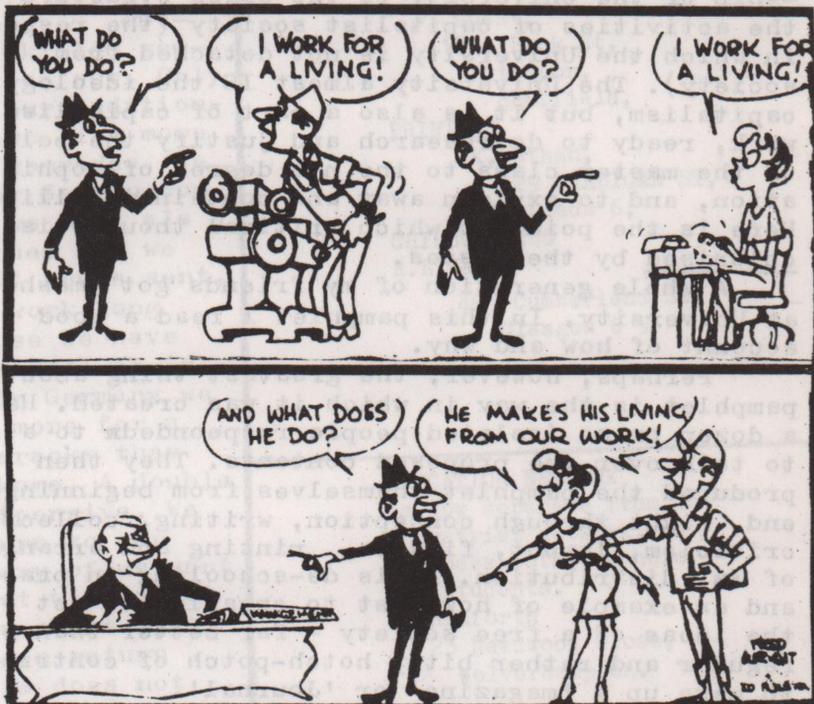
Ted worked for his living. Gillham got his living from Ted's work. Now Ted's out of a job. Put the bosses out of work- it makes more sense.

THE REASON WHY

only

50,000

POUNDS



The Anarchist Syndicalist Alliance is short of money, like all anarchists, and would like to get its own printing equipment, electric typewriter etc.. All donations to the treasurer please. They will be acknowledged in 'Black and Red Outlook'.

We'd like to launch an appeal for £50,000, as the International Socialism group have done, but we're not that ambitious, yet.

M

However, IS, like all true Leninist parties where the emphasis is on centralisation and orders from above like the rest of bourgeois society, intend to locate their £50,000 worth of equipment in one place, in London!

Should there be a clamp-down on left-wing activities at any time, all that is necessary to paralyse the whole of IS is a handful of soldiers or police to take over their headquarters.

Then what do the loyal

cadres do with no-one to plan the strategy for them?

As anarchists and syndicalists, we would advocate a decentralisation of the printing facilities. £50,000 would equip ten groups very nicely with an excellent print-shop and be less vulnerable to the ruling class whims. Then again, IS' central committee are possibly worried that if they do that, groups would start to act "autonomously". Heaven Forbid!

WORK - IN 1973

Yet, even if the sit-in, hasn't come up to the hopes of some, there are indications that the sit-in pays off in most cases. It is this mood of success that helped the action to move South from U.C.S. and Plesseys at Alexandria, to the River Don Works at Sheffield, Fisher-Bendix at Kirkby, and Allis Chalmers at Mold, N Wales. All started as protests against redundancies or closures. It was these victories, however partial, which triggered off the rash of sit-ins, which hit the North-West engineering plants, last spring.

Altogether, 30 factories in the Manchester area were occupied at the time of the dispute, which was over pay, holidays, and hours. The action had only a limited success, but served to extend the use of the tactic of the sit-in. Also, as John Gretton, observed in New Society, "Occupation, if only symbolically, challenges the right of management to dispose (in both senses) of his property as he thinks fit".

FROM SYMBOLIC TO REAL WORKERS' CONTROL.

In the present situation when practical syndicalist methods are being developed in the factories, and when many of the criticisms that the anarchists make about Bureaucrats and the Politicians, are accepted by many workers. Still we find the Anarcho-Syndicalists, who have advocated workers' control, and denounced Nationalisation for years are thin on the ground.

It may be of course that Anarchism doesn't depend on the Anarchists, and that British society may lurch in a libertarian direction without any help from those who are committed to Anarchism. What is sad, is that so many libertarians seem happy to wait for capitalist society to crack up, without doing much useful work to make a real impact on the present society.

Quite apart from the fact that it is rash to view the revolution with any more enthusiasm than a sick man looks forward to an operation, we must face the problems of our society here and now. To fail to throw ourselves into the struggle in industry, tenants associations, squatters and the unemployed, irresponsible, if only because revolutions always happen when least expected.

The Arrow Mill Sit-in a case for Shop Stewards in Textiles.

is again available at 5p a copy post paid. It has reprinted and is slightly revised.

R. Lees,
6 Coniston Ave,
Oldham,
Lancs,

As Anarcho-Syndicalists we don't advocate Nationalisation, which is only the latest stage of the concentration of capital into fewer and fewer hands. Nationalisation will only result in the further bureaucratisation of management. Capital must be taken over by society, not the State, or the workers' alienation in the factories will deepen.

And in every conflict which develops, we as anarchists should know that for us, progress is to be found only in what promotes the freedom and responsibility of man, and in complex relationships with his fellow human beings. As such the current sit-ins, however limited, represent a welcome trend.

Filipino girl workers

At last, after a year's struggle to uncover the truth about the Alderglen Company's treatment of the young Filipino girls it is employing, the secret is out.

Both the Rochdale Alternative Paper (RAP) and the local Womens' lib group have worked hard to draw the attention of the public to the firm's treatment of these girls. Last RAP reported a story published in Manila Capital of the Phillipines, claimed that top workers at Alderglen get £43 to £45. The 40 young Filipinos who came over last year get between £12 and £16 a week. But another 60 were lured over last month by the tempting tales the company keeps spreading.

At least one girl has claimed she'd be better off at home in Manila for money than she is in Rochdale.

Four girls have already left and gone to Canada. But a £1 a week is now being deducted from the girls' wages to be returned to them in a lump sum once they've finished their contract. This is an attempt to stop them leaving, and making them into bond-slaves.

The union, the National Union of Textile & Garment Workers, is weak and has collaborated in some unsavoury aspects of the company policy.

Alderglen is putting the girls into sub-standard accommodation for which they have to pay exorbitant rent. In one case 18 girls are living in house and paying £18 a week rent between them, which is taken from their wages.

'overcrowded'

Conditions at the firm are also bad according to some English workers who have worked there. This explains why the firm is unable to get local labour, in spite of the high unemployment rate in the town

Berketex, a firm in Plymouth, is keen to get on the same game as Alderglen and hopes that they will be allowed to recruit girls from the Phillipines to work in their mills. We don't want a repeat performance of what is happening in Rochdale.

Trade Unionist.

Since this article was written, the firm has agreed to pay the £1 that they were withholding, and all girls who wish to leave may do so.

The Threat from the Right

If you listen to some of your workmates speak about Powell, you could be forgiven if you thought that he were a great humanitarian. Let us look at some of his other prejudices.

"Shortage and squalor in housing" are due to the "two Great Evils: rent control and subsidy." (Times 29-11-68)

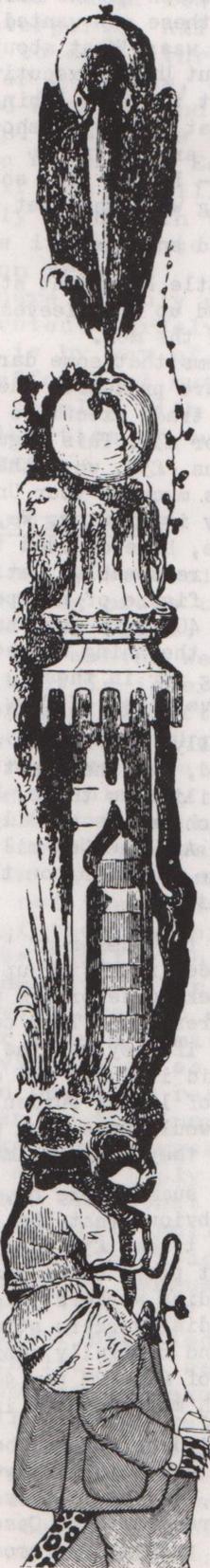
"The Council House system

The Council House system is "immoral and socially damaging." (Daily Telegraph 23-11-59)

When the government of the day banned the sale of certain tins of corned beef because they were infected with typhoid, he described this as "A particularly atrocious example of lawless action by the Government." (Observer 2-1-66)

And finally, a poetic gem from the classical scholar himself:-

I hate the ugly, hate the old,
I hate the lame and weak.
But most of all I hate the dead,
Who lie so still in their earthen bed,
And never dare to rise.



BOX

clever

From what people read in the press, the backbone of the British export industries are the engineers and the dockers but lying in between these two large groups are the smaller groups of export packing and casemaking workers. These workers are mostly dominant in seaport areas (London Liverpool, Manchester, and several cities in the North-East and the Midlands.)

Most of these workers are organised. Nationally, they are either in the Casemakers' section of the T&GWU, or the National Union of Casemakers and Packers. However, most of the Manchester workers belong to the small Lancashire Box, Packing Case, and General Woodworkers Society.

The exploiters on the other hand in Manchester have banded together in an organisation parading under the grand title of the Masters Federation, and it is two groups The L.B.P.C. & G.W.S., and the bosses that wheel and deal, and decide the working conditions and wages of the workers in the Manchester area.

In the fifties, and the early sixties, the Casemakers were going great guns. There was plenty of work, and individual Employers had to offer extra money in the form of production bonuses, early to work bonus, and even a turning up bonus, to coax men away from their competitors.

The Union, for its part, were content to follow the workers in the building trades as regards wages. Union General Meetings were held half-yearly, where a lot of hand-shaking took place, and the members were told what a grand job the committee were doing, and the meeting ended with the President telling the members to vote Labour and trust in God.

In the late sixties, when capitalism started to drift into another of those slumps that the economists describe as just one of those facts of life that everybody puts up with, individual firms in the masters' federation were swallowed up by a couple of groups of monopoly capitalists, who knew that the only way to get themselves through the slump was to keep wages stagnant, whilst on the other hand increase individual productivity, with the overall effect of increasing the gap between wages and profits.

But as the parasites knew only too well, workers are human, and when they see the standard of living that they have built up over the years taken away from them in one foul swoop, they begin to get at the best, Angry, and at the worst, downright naughty.

Over the past few years at Union meetings, a few individuals have stood up and asked, "What about the wages?", to which the reply has always been, "We must keep in line with the building trade brothers".

But all of a sudden came one of those surprises that makes life worth living. After all, the building workers forced the Union into demanding that their basic wage be put up from £20 per 40 hour week to £30 per 35 hour week.

Well, that really put the cat among the casemakers' pigeons. At the next General Meeting a group of younger workers, many with young families who were beginning to feel the pinch over the stagnated wages, turned up.

All handshaking and niceties were forgotten as the main question these men wanted answering was: "What about the wages?" But Union Executives being what they are (things aren't that bad - you should have been around in the thirties - Labour will solve everything when they get in).

They had an answer.

The little President stood up, rolled up his sleeves, and addressed the men.

"It seems that some dark forces have pressured the building trade executive into asking for £30. This figure is ridiculous. £30, why, that's almost as much as your Union Secretary is drawing. We, the Committee, have decided that the more reasonable, yet still naughty, figure of £23 per week for 40 hours good hard graft is the thing we should be aiming for in these repressive times of Tory rule.

Naturally, the little man was booed, but there not being enough militants there, his little scheme was readily adopted. And the New militants went home pondering on the three quid.

During the summer of '72, with prices rocketing up every week, caseworkers were getting restless. They could see that if they got the three quid it would not ease the cost of living burden. In fact it would make them worse off than they were at Xmas '71.

As the summer wore on, it became obvious that the building trades £30 wasn't an anarchist plot, but a reality. The building workers' victory block, and naturally achieved the sum of £26-£28 per 40 hour week with more to come in '73.

The building workers' victory provided a new initiative. Rank and File committees were built throughout the Case trade with the purpose of forcing

the Union executive to demand (not ask) for at least £26 per 35 hour week.

The largest, and most militant, of these rank and file groups was probably the men at Constantine Lloyds, Newton Heath, Manchester.

Shop stewards and rank and file members turned out in force at the next general meeting in September, where we were told that the management had agreed to our demand for £3 - £2 immediately, and £1 at Xmas. At this, Angry members stood up roaring: "Not enough" "Resign".

When the pandemonium had died down, the senior steward from Constantine Lloyds read out the rank and file notice demanding £26 and no strings.

The little President again rolled up his sleeves and roared "Out of Order". But this time, he was met with unanimous cries of "Resign, resign". Which to his credit he did, and left the hall mumbling all the old anarchist plot crap.

The Secretary, who was retiring that night due to old age, ruled the little President's resignation out of order, but his shouting was lost amongst the cheers.

When rews of the explosive Union meeting reached the ears of the Manchester casemakers, who had long since dismissed the Union committee as gaffers' men, a new wave of militancy was born. Petitions demanding the £26 no strings were thrust at the committee at the October executive meeting, that they could not evade.

Meanwhile, back at the Masters' Federation, the bottle began to go on a few of the smaller Masters, when the rumblings of £26 got through to them. They went back to the workers and offered them the £26 on a plate, providing they would agree to manoeuvrability, which the workers receiving no directive from the Union, accepted.

The two biggest firms, Constantine Lloyds, and Beck and Pollitzers, decided between them to stand their ground and give the workers a dose of the big stick,

On the day the workers were due to receive the outstanding £1, stewards were called into the offices at Constantine Lloyds, Becks, and Southern. They were told that the management were keeping in line with the Tory government pay freeze, and were foregoing the £1 negotiated several months previously.

The stewards were immediately on to the new Union Secretary, who told them that they had a lawyer on the job, and legally we couldn't do a thing about it.

CONT'D ON PAGE FOUR

Social
strike

S O C I A L
G E N E R A L
S T R I K E

At present, it is fashionable to think of revolution in terms of insurrection, or guerilla warfare.

However, this view can be criticised on a number of different levels. Firstly, workers are untrained in the use of weapons, but the State has at its disposal a whole armoury of death and specialised bodies of trained men.

While we cannot say that the revolution will be non-violent, we can ensure by the proper use of syndicalist tactics that the violence is kept a minimum. We do not want the working-class decimated as happen in the Russian Revolution.

We want to live to enjoy it.

A war is destructive of life and property. But the capitalists care only for their profits and not for the producers, who they'd butcher when it suits their purpose to do so.

However, by using direct action in the sphere of industry we can use their own property against them. Our method would be to occupy the factories, offices, railways, transport depots and run them. Anarcho-syndicalism does not mean romantic nihilism, but constructive work.

We believe that the Social General Strike is the method by which the boss class can best be unseated and power wrested from their hands.

This General Strike would be a general lockout of the bosses. already we have seen workers occupy shipyards and factories, to gain limited demands.

Why not go a stage further, and take over the means of production and run it to satisfy human needs, instead of letting them have it back when they've agreed to exploit us again.

The key to the power of the capitalists is their domination of production we must break this hold and we have means to do it in our hands.

"In our hands is placed a power greater than their hoarded gold: Greater than the might of armies, magnified a thousand-fold.

We can bring to birth a new world from the ashes of the old,

For the Union makes us strong"

BL CO-MANAGEMENT

Canadian Army Spies On Quebec Labor Unions

Early next year, the British government will have to decide whether it will adopt something like the European system whereby workers' representatives are elected to the boards of all public companies with more than 500 employes.

German industry has had a long experience of these boards, of which one third are 'workers' representatives'. German revolutionaries, however, are quick to point out that representatives have no real power.

Some Union leaders make the point that one advantage is to get advance information concerning plans, layout changes etc., and are consequently better able to present their objections.

As anarcho-syndicalists, we must strongly combat these bastardised forms of workers control and expose the attempts of capitalism and the state to integrate the labour movement even further into the system.;

We must stand full-square for complete workers control of industry and do not see token representatives on the boards as a step forward, but as an attempt to absorb the workers organisations.

The separatist Parti Quebecois has revealed two top-secret government dossiers detailing reports by the Canadian Armed Forces on various Quebec unions. Most important was the document regarding the radical CSN (the Confederation of National Trade Unions), the largest in the province and already split by a government-instigated Right-wing breakaway union, the CSD. The reports were drafted by the Mobile Command units of the Canadian Army which occupied Quebec during the October Crisis of 1970. The CSN was described as a radical union harboring "separatists and

communists", and it was reported that the CSN and its Common Front Allies, the FTQ (Quebec Labor Federation) and CEQ (Quebec Teachers Corporation) were planning to launch a labor party for the 1974 election.

Marcel Pepin, president of the CSN, said the report was designed to "discredit the CSN in the eyes of the English Canadians, to elect Liberal Party candidates in the federal election, and to prevent the central committee of the CSN from organizing the civil service". The report "obviously is intended to depict us as a secret and subversive organization. As in October 1970, the Federal Government is trying to spread fear....Here is another example of the association between the three Ds (Right-wing breakaway leaders), the Liberal Party, and the Canadian Army."

Parti Quebecois leader Levesque denounced the Army action in these words: "Such activities are usually carried out by military regimes in occupied territories, but are surprising in peacetime and in a country supposedly under the rule of law."

Levesque described the Army Mobile Command units as "mini-Gestapos".

Jewell

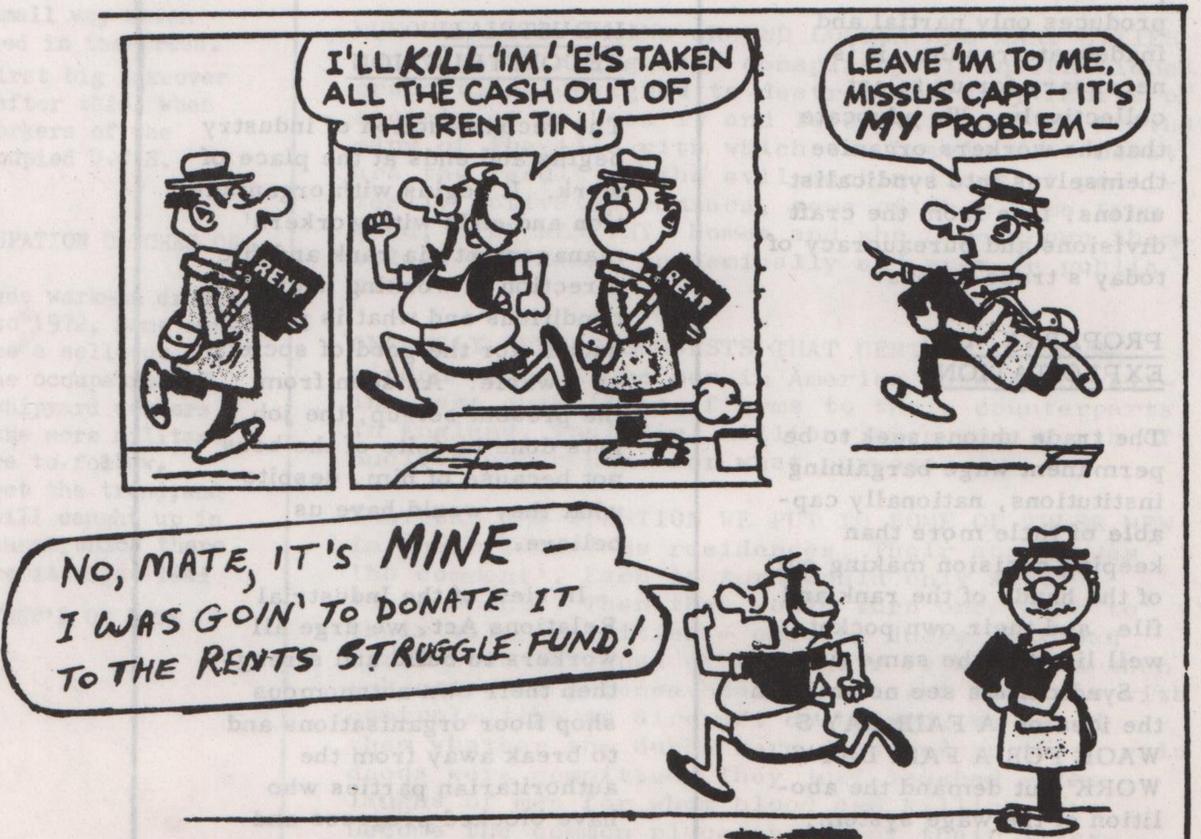


ANARCHIST BLACK FLAG

Organ of Revolutionary Anarchism:

Subscription for 12 issues 75p.
10, Gilbert Place,
London W.C.1

This article is re-printed from 'Industrial Worker'. It would appear that the Canadian Army have taken a leaf out of Brigadier Frank Kitson's book 'Low Intensity Operations'.



WHERE WE STAND

Our aim is to aid in the creation of a free society by any means consistent with this end.

By free society we mean that society in which there is no coercive authority; no civil service or bureaucratic machine, no political or other vested interest group, which by wealth or physical strength, can ever be in a position to tell anyone else what to do, and then by any kind of force make obedience mandatory. Therefore, each person will decide what course their life and activity takes in conjunction with others.

THE CLASSLESS SOCIETY

In order to achieve this free classless society we organise for social revolution in groups based on friendship and solidarity. These groups are free from any central control, and are built around a geographic location, organising both at the place of work and in the community.

We reject all parliamentary activity, as this perpetuates the repressive machinery of capitalism and the state, and advocate direct action of the people themselves as the only way to achieve lasting gains, leading ultimately to the society of free people capable of using their own initiative.

DIRECT ACTION

Since direct action on the part of the individual often produces only partial and inadequate results, it is necessary for us to act collectively. We advocate that the workers organise themselves into syndicalist unions, free from the craft divisions and bureaucracy of today's trade unions.

PROPERTY AND EXPLOITATION

The trade unions seek to be permanent wage bargaining institutions, nationally capable of little more than keeping decision making out of the hands of the rank and file, and their own pockets well lined at the same time.

Syndicalists see no value in the idea of 'A FAIR DAY'S WAGE FOR A FAIR DAY'S WORK' but demand the abolition of the wage system, which widens rather than reduces the gaps between workers.

We demand the destruction of the property relations of existing society, property relations which lead individual workers to talk about 'my factory' when they don't even own the grime beneath the benches. Property relations which enable big corporations to throw thousands of workers out into the street at the whim of an economic system that promotes the existence of wealth and poverty side by side, dependent on a 'pool of unemployment'.

SOCIAL RECONSTRUCTION

With geographical groups confederated, and workshop committees growing from these, the committees will be confederated also, into industrial syndicates. Such syndicates will not be wasting time in lobbying M.P.s nor asking for affiliation to the Labour Party or the T.U.C., nor will they be agitating for national negotiating rights. Our aim is to destroy the crippling power structure of the present society, not to compromise with that which binds us in chains. The aim of the syndicates is to have the ability, through the knowledge and experience of the workers who form them, and through their own strength and solidarity, to lock out the bosses and administer production and distribution on behalf of the community which they are part of. All industrial syndicates will combine and co-operate as a confederation of labour.

INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION

The reconstruction of industry begins and ends at the place of work. It begins with organisation and ends with workers' management via rank and file direction of working hours, conditions and what is produced, for the good of society as a whole. As seen from the present set-up, the job gets done in spite of the boss not because of him, despite what they would have us believe.

In view of the Industrial Relations Act, we urge all workers to build and strengthen their own autonomous shop floor organisations and to break away from the authoritarian parties who have blocked progress and freedom for decades.

As the geographical groups confederate to this

end, so will the industrial syndicates controlling and co-ordinating the whole economy of society. With production thus freed from the greed of those who now control our lives with their power and might, born of accumulated wealth, the energies of labour will be directed towards the satisfaction of human needs. With advances in technology providing the ability to control machinery better, and with no fear of economic privation, not only will the four-hour day be possible but we will be closer in time to the abolition of mundane and dull work itself. We don't want a world where the probability of dying from hunger has been exchanged for the certainty of dying of boredom. With no capitalism and no state, mankind will be freed from the necessity of authoritarian attitudes; fraternity and solidarity being the guidelines towards the free society.

Today we must combat the authoritarian encroachments of the state and capitalism. We must combat those who seek to mystify us, and fight those who would have us chained to the benches of their ideologies. Not with idle threats and empty minds,

but with the strength of a working-class united in full understanding of the aims of the free society, building now through our words and actions the new society in the shell of the old.

STOP PRESS

ANARCHIST SYNDICALIST ALLIANCE

