

Bread & Roses

FEB/MAR 1980

no.6

PAPER OF THE ANARCHIST COMMUNIST ASSOCIATION

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TORY APPEAL FOR THE 80s: MAKE THE RICH RICHER GIVE US ALL YOUR MONEY!



The Conservative party have forced local councils to cut back on social services. The Labour party warned us that this would happen. However, Labour councils are not only making the full cuts, but, like the Tories are doing so in areas where they hope to meet the least resistance: attacking the unemployed, the old, the sick (see inside), and the young.

Unemployment figures are already rising, and the closures of schools and hospitals will certainly make sure that trend continues, and leave fewer vacancies for those already unemployed.

PENSIONERS

Old people in council run accommodation are to have their heating turned down - a measure which illustrates the control the council can exercise over people's lives, and a measure which could easily lead to tragedy. Paraffin heaters will be used again to make up for the drop in temperature after they have been phased out due to the accidents, particularly with old folk, paraffin and its fumes have caused.

CRUEL FOR KIDS

Other cuts seem not only cruel but petty; cutting back on services which mean a lot to a few people, but which cost very little. Tobacco and sweets allowances worth £1 a week will be cut from old people's homes. A playgroup in a polytechnic in London which would give single parents a chance to study, is to be axed when the cost to keep it going is a meagre £132 a year.

FIGHTING BACK

In Islington, North London, local parents and others with

day to day responsibilities for young children, have won a reprieve for cuts against the underfives. They did this by demonstrating outside the Town Hall and social service meetings; by petitioning the area where playgroups, schools, and mother and toddler groups were to be closed; by making phone calls,

writing to and visiting ward councillors telling them how their patch was going to be affected.

LOCAL REALITY

Hearing that millions of pounds are being cut from the health service, or from education, only implies that services already inadequate are going to be more so. You cannot feel the "cutting millions of pounds" causing hardship - that's why politicians use such phrases - but losing your job, having the local hos-

pital or nursery closing down brings this hardship directly to you. It was by localising the campaign in Islington that they got it across that cuts are real. **WORK NOW, PAY LATER**

Sir Keith Joseph, who is rich and privileged, clearly has not grasped the reality. The disabled, he admits, do not have sufficient care facilities. Why? Because we do not work hard enough to improve our balance of payments. So work hard and then the Tories will recommend

increased care. Labour give us a similar message when they hold the whip.

PROFIT KILLS

Who are they trying to kid? The millions of small children, sick or disabled people, and old age pensioners who need constant or near constant care, need that care now. Pain doesn't wait for profits. The government, with all its power, knowingly inflicts pain for the sake of that few who gain the profit. Indeed profits have increased so much (400% from 1973 to 1978) in a time that public spending has decreased so much (except on the military, and on the increasingly military police force), that it is clear that no government has any intention of easing suffering. They mention the misery caused by the lack of necessary facilities only to make us feel guilty about it.



EXCLUSIVE

POPE

TO VISIT

GLASGOW

PAGE 5

The Engineering Dispute:

SUCCESS OR FAILURE

TERRY DUFFY hailed last autumn's engineering strike as a great success - thanks of course to his "tough negotiating".

But was it such a great success? And who really was the driving force behind the strike?

What follows is the view of an A.C.A. member who was active in the strike.

To begin with the strike was called for one day a week, Monday, for three weeks. The response of the Engineering Employers Federation (EEF) was so vicious that it provoked the CSEU into expanding the action to two days a week.

Balls up

At first I opposed the action, pointing out that at no time had I, or anyone else, been consulted. If head office was so keen on the strike they were welcome to it. However you can't preach solidarity and not practice it. So I joined the ranks of the faithful. A committee had been set up for the area consisting of paid officials of the CSEU unions and some shop stewards. This dealt with exemptions from strike action, safety men and security people and so on. They even made

a balls-up of that.

Real direction

The real direction came from the group of militants I am active in. We took the name "The Liaison Committee for the Defence of the CSEU claim". We undertook a constant picket of the two or three scab places where help was needed. It was not without its risks: two people were knocked down, or hit by a coach driven at speed through the picket line. In one case a scab drove his car through the line at a fantastic speed, carrying one person about 20 feet on his bonnet. The driver stopped and then complained about damage to his car. The hitherto peaceful picket degenerated into something very near a riot and the management called the police. However they sent

the scabs home without pay.

Assaulting a bus

Though the police were informed about the two incidents they declined to take any action. One sergeant said quite openly that his job was to get the coach through, and if anyone got hurt trying to stop it that was their fault. If he caught them he would have them down the road. Another policeman complained about damage being done to a coach. When he heard that the blinker was busted because it had caught my shoulder when the driver broke through, he walked away. But the point was understood by all. The police had been bought. Maggie's 60% had been money well spent.

Fighting the state

Halfway through the strike it seemed like stalemate. The EEF wouldn't bend and the Union couldn't, or so we thought. The chief spokesman for the CSEU, Duffy of the AUEW, put us right. He went on record

as saying that he would concede points three and four, as well as dropping the £80 ceiling called for in point one. This is when the strike was solid! God knows what would have happened if there had been a collapse of morale.

The EEF tried to escalate the trouble by talking about a lock-out. That this was taken up by a firm owned by the National

STATISTICS

WHAT THEY ASKED FOR

The engineering claim consisted originally of 13 points, but the executive of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions (CSEU) cut this down to 4 points.

1. £80 minimum for skilled and pro rata for semi and unskilled.
2. Two extra days holiday a year.
3. A reduction in the working week to 35 hours by 1982.
4. A common implementation date.

WHAT THEY GOT

THE RESULT OF THE STRIKE WAS:

- ONE HOUR off the working week in 1982;
- ONE DAY's extra holiday for the next 5 years.

Enterprise Board was of great significance. To me at least it meant that we were clearly fighting the Government, not just the bosses. When Rolls Royce locked out its employees they asked workers at firms doing sub-contract work to black Rolls Royce jobs. Every firm asked did so. But there was a problem. About 20 firms, small ones, had conceded the unions' claim. Several of these were on sub-contract to Rolls Royce, whose shop stewards committee wanted them to black the work. But the District Committee of the AUEW, the biggest union in the Confed., said no. The unions having given their word must keep it; if these firms had conceded the claim they were entitled to work. They couldn't understand that the struggle had widened: Maggie Thatcher and her friends hadn't conceded.

Worth it?

Why was the strike called in the first place? Duffy being in the AUEW was up for election next year and had to try to prove himself. Also his pride was hurt by the cavalier way the EEF treated the original four point

claim.

Was it worth it? No. The Confed. negotiate on two levels, the important one being the local one. The national claim made the fight for the local wage deals so much harder. Indeed the executive of the AUEW told the EEF that if they accepted the national claim they would see that the local wage claims were kept to a minimum.

Lessons

What should we have done? We should have politicised the strike. Easier said than done but at least we should have tried.

It should have been pointed out that we were fighting the Government, not just the EEF, and that only widening the struggle to involve all sections of the class could bring them down.

Other sections of the working class are going to find themselves in struggle with the Thatcher regime. The best way for the engineering workers to break out of a straitjacket settlement is to side with them in their fight to defend living standards and shorten hours.

the visit



red alert on the 'enterprise'

When Maggie Thatcher "emerged" as Tory leader, and then went on to win the support of advertising agencies, media pundits, and one third of the electorate as prime minister, much was made of the fact that she is a woman. She herself would have none of it - she attached much greater significance to the fact that she was the first science graduate prime minister.

This was bad news for those of us who love science - it's people like Thatcher who get science associated with soulless automatons. Oh, she smiles more than Spock of Star Trek does, but her smile looks like a programmed reaction. And at least Spock is half human.

But the truth of the matter is that Thatcher's policies owe a lot more to the darkest kind of Tory tribal mumbo jumbo than to reason and scientific method.

And her typical reaction when things go wrong (which, given false initial assumptions, they are bound to) is to blame workers outside agitators, reds, communists, anarchists.

We can be sure of hearing plenty of this in the months ahead.

THE BOSSES UNITED

The Confederation of British Industry has drawn up plans for bosses' solidarity. The "free market" is to be cast aside, and strong firms are to help weaker ones to resist workers' demands.

This policy had a certain amount of success during the engineering dispute. The bosses successfully resisted demands for a shorter working week - they were very glad to get away with



The woman who believes public spending should be cut—so we can spend more on arms. This is known in politics as being 'moderate'.

one hour of the week in 1981.

Of course, if all sections of the working class stand together, demonstrate solidarity, and help each others' struggles, bosses may rediscover that they are competitors.

THE BOSSES DIVIDED

The dispute at Times Newspapers ended in defeat for the management's offensive. The workers went back to increases of 50 to 60 percent (thinly disguised as productivity deals in some cases) with little concession to the bosses' original list of demands.

The other Fleet Street bosses "welcomed" the return of Times Newspapers, but expressed horror at the implications for

themselves.

SHORTER WORKING WEEK

Most workers have claims pending for a shorter working week. But nobody has really made the breakthrough yet. It is vital that it should be made - apart from benefitting the workers directly concerned, it could cut unemployment "at a stroke".

The print union, NGA, is making a top-priority push for the 35-hour week.

And even traditionally more "backward" sections of workers are realising how far their conditions fall behind their counterparts in the Common Market and other countries - for instance, the farm workers have a claim

CONT. PG 4

would put them in a position of having their personal relationships and control of their own lives dictated by the state.

minimum incomes

The review team did consider treating all claimants individually but dismissed the idea as too expensive! However, if a basic minimum income was paid to those out of work - considerably higher than the current level of supplementary benefit - a vast proportion of today's claimants would no longer need to claim.

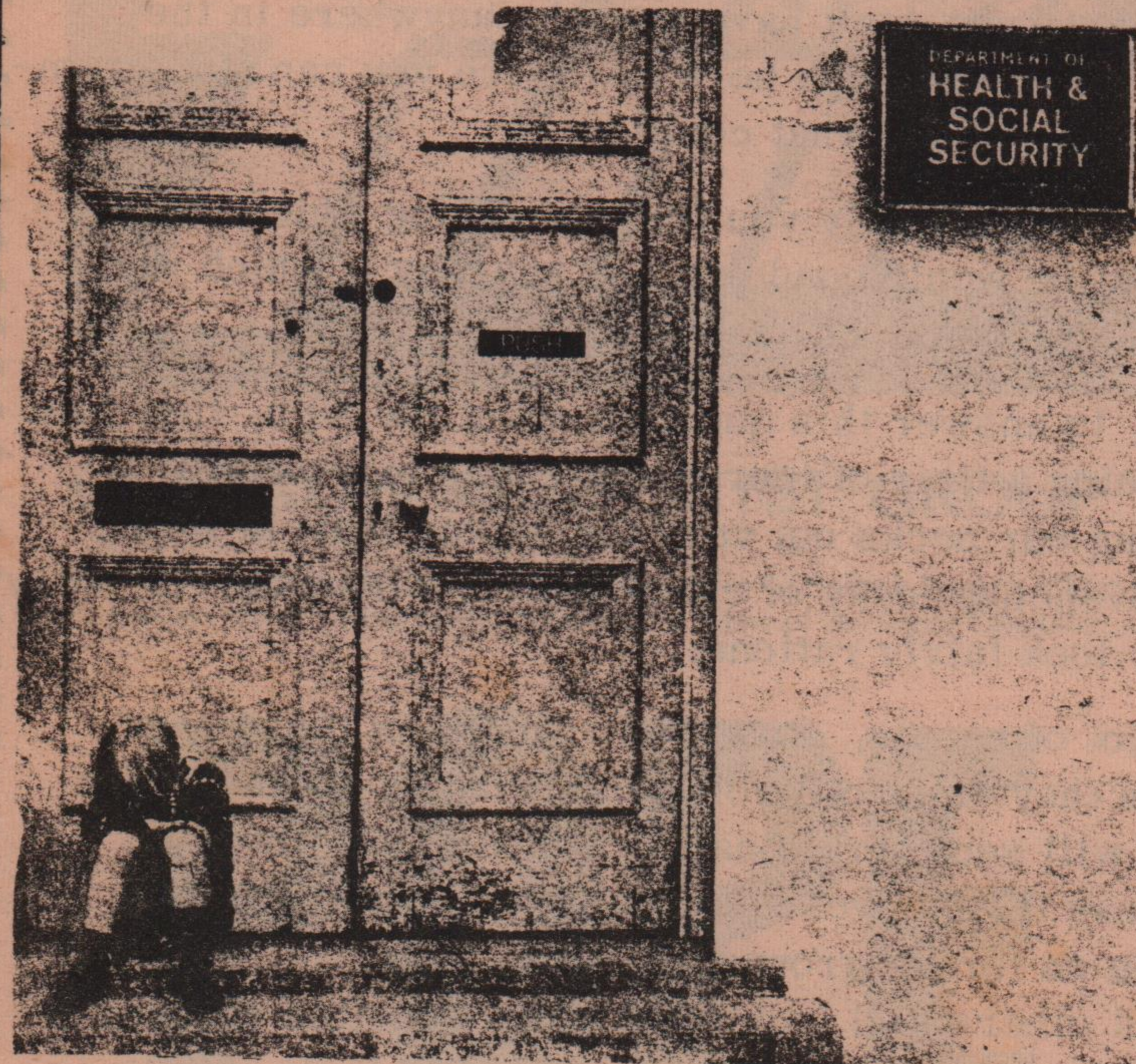
The biggest problem with supplementary benefits is that the money is simply not enough to live on. The review team admit that benefits are too low, but they do not recommend any

more money to the scheme. Their answer is to admit that some claimants will receive "rough justice" - as if they didn't already.

national campaign

By happily dishing out their rough justice for people already in poverty they do no less than gamble with lives, and make whole sections of the community even poorer.

If you would like more information about the review, or would like to join the "National Campaign against Social Security Cuts" you can contact them at:
Flat C,
20, Colville Square,
London W11
Tel. 01-221-6877.



WHO DOES SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFIT?



The supplementary benefit scheme works to ensure that no one is too poor to survive. The D.H.S.S. Department of Health and Social Security realise that it does not work too well, and have produced a document - "Social Assistance" - which shows how they want things changed.

new claims

For the first eight weeks of their claim, unemployed or disabled people, people caring for elderly or sick relatives at home, widows and single parents would be put on a standard payment regardless of rent - with no back payments to help with arrears. Those who resigned from, or were sacked from their last job, would still have 40% deducted from this basic rate for that period.

appeals

The scheme would be generally removed from judicial review. Lump sum payments needed for furniture, clothing etc., have in fact, often been increased when

an appeal has been made against an inadequate offer. This right of appeal is to be completely taken away.

exceptional needs

People with exceptional needs - diabetics, those particularly sensitive to the cold, those who need regular transport to and from hospital for example - will no longer get any "exceptional circumstances additions" but will have to rely upon a derisory 6 monthly payment of £6.50 per single person - top whack!

pensioners

Over 2 million pensioners need to claim supplementary benefits due to inadequate pensions. The Supplementary Benefits Review recommends that the rate of benefit for pensioners be reduced by 40p

sponsors & school leavers

Sponsors would be unlikely to offer sponsorship to immigrants in the future. If a sponsored settler needed to claim, the

sponsor would be expected to support them!

School leavers will no longer be able to receive any benefits at all until the next term begins. This leaves them dependent upon their parents and more likely to take the first job they can get.

breadwinners

When two people of the opposite sex live together, one would be identified as "the breadwinner" and the other as "the dependant". All women would be initially regarded as dependents, having to challenge the man's status with her own employment record. Three-quarters of all women would in this way never be treated as "breadwinners".

equal treatment

The "nominated breadwinner" scheme would not bring equal treatment for men and women claiming supplementary benefit. A system which defines certain claimants as dependent on other people and refuse to provide them with an independent income

SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN TAKES OFF

A GROWING number of groups and individuals on the libertarian left are becoming involved in the Campaign for Solidarity with the Soviet Working Class, following the initiative taken by members of the A.C.A. and Solidarity.

The Campaign is also spreading overseas — the Spanish Anarcho-Communist group La Cecilia are organising a similar campaign concentrating on the defence of the comrades who have been interned in the infamous Serbsky Institute, a psychiatric institution for the imprisonment of dissidents. The article announcing the formation of the campaign which was published in "Bread and Roses" has been republished in the Portuguese libertarian journal "A Batalha".

The British campaign held a meeting on December 9 to discuss the initiation of a continuing campaign of direct action (we have several potential targets in mind)



Inmates of Soviet labour camps loading and transporting timber.

aimed at winning further support (in particular from the organised working class movement), gaining publicity in the mass media, making more widely known the struggle of the Soviet working class against the parasitic bureaucracy and the terrible plight of those who have suffered imprisonment and victimization at the hands of the K.G.B. for their participation in the struggle.

Unless militants in the West speak out on their behalf many of them, their health undermined by the harsh conditions of their

imprisonment, face death behind the barbed wire of the Gulag.

Future activities include a meeting on the anniversary of the Kronstadt revolt and the repudiation of Petrochenko's (chairman of the Kronstadt Commune) pamphlet "The Truth About Kronstadt" A briefing document about the current struggles of the Soviet Working class, which will be circulated to the trade union movement, is being prepared.

All donations to T. Liddle, 83 Gregory Crescent, Eltham, London SE9 5RZ.

Cont. from page 3

in for £100 a week for a 35 hour week. This represents more than 100% on their present wage.

Of course farmers will say they can't afford it. As a country boy myself, with plenty of experience of gathering tatties and so on as a "casual", I know what farmers are like. They moan all the way to the bank.

NO FENCE TO SIT ON

The bosses have a crisis on their hands. They are trying to make the workers pay for it. In these circumstances there can be no standing still for the working class. We either go forward - or back.

We cannot afford to be defeated. It was the defeats of the Twenties which led directly to the terrible experience of the Thirties.

We mustn't fall for the bosses line about "one man's wage rise is another man's price rise". The bosses are rich. They can afford wage rises without putting prices up.

And if they won't bloody well do it, then it's high time we got rid of the boss class once and for all.

The workers - UNITED - really can't be defeated.
DTC.

will it be the Anarchic 80s?

At the start of a new year, indeed, in this case, a new decade, it is customary for newspapers to print some waffle about the significance of this. We have decided to follow the custom - though, of course, ours will be better waffle.

What are the prospects for anarchy in the eighties, then?

At the risk of sounding pedantic, it depends what you mean by "anarchy".

Politicians, television pundits, and hack journalists, use "anarchy" to mean "chaos", which includes just about anything they disapprove of.

Self-proclaimed anarchists, like us, use it differently. Use it properly.

"Anarchy" means a condition of society in which there is no government.

It does not mean a condition of society in which there are competing governments or would-be governments. It does not mean a condition of society in which a government is behaving even worse than usual.

So you don't have "anarchy" in Ulster. What you've got there is too many governments.

And you don't have "anarchy" in Iran. What you've got there is a fanatically Muslim government

In fact, you don't have anarchy anywhere in the world today — though here and there you can find promising glimpses of what could be.

Just occasionally you find something which the powers that be would condemn as "anarchy", which we anarchists would hail as such.

So, to answer this question about the 80's, they look like being a time of increasing chaos (not exactly sticking our necks out very far saying that) in which the advancing decay of class society will make the story so far look fairly rational.

A lot of people, disturbed at being in the grip of forces they can't control, frightened by a world gone mad, will seek irrational "solutions" in a form of madness themselves. Apocalyptic religious sects will be on fertile ground.

But others will look for a more sensible way out of the mess by seeking to take control of their own lives, the places where they work, their communities, their environment, in free and equal co-operation with their fellow human beings. So yes, we do expect the 80's to see an increase in anarchy.

We are of course going to do our little bit to try to undermine the power of every government and would-be government, and to try to ensure that libertarian communism prevails throughout the world. We are happy to work with other libertarians and anarchists in this — on a clearly thought out and agreed basis.

We think this paper has a role to play in making the world a better place. If you agree (or even if you're a bit sceptical) we'd like to hear from you.

Help us make it the anarchic eighties!

All letters, articles, cartoons, illustrations, photos, etc., for Bread & Roses, should be sent to Box 2, 136 Kingsland High Street, London E8 2NS. Same goes for all communications to the ACA. Cheques etc. should be made payable to the Anarchist Communist Association.



We have a pamphlet "Introduction to the Anarchist Communist Association" which is available from us for 20p inc. p&p.



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This newspaper is published with the authority of Patrick Hamill, Chief Constable. The contents of this newspaper do not necessarily represent the views of the Chief Constable, the Editor or Strathclyde Police.

we'd like you to meet:



CHERYL LADD
who says that life isn't always heavenly, even for an angel!
★★★

POPE TO VISIT GLASGOW

It's Official!

POPE JOHN Paul II will fly into Glasgow for the St. Cuthbert's Day celebrations. This was the shock news from Rome last night. The brief announcement came only hours after a major speech by his Holiness in which capitalism was described as "swinish and humanly degrading".

He called on all true Christians to embrace the philosophy of anarchism and take over the means of production and exchange from the bosses. "Our salvation lies in our own hands", he said in his emotional appeal.

Before the stunned crowd of 79,000 in Milan's largest football stadium, His Holiness made special reference to Scotland as "a nation in the utmost peril". He drew attention to the proliferation of nuclear bases and the dumping of atomic waste in Scotland as "a crime against the Scottish people".

ATTACK

This has caused experts to predict that when the Pope reaches Glasgow he will make a scathing attack on the political set-up in Britain where all the political parties endorse the capitalist system.

As one Vatican insider explained: "All his years in Poland under the Nazis and the Communist Party he was like a flower hidden in the dark. Now that he is Pope, whenever he hears of areas of multiple deprivation, environmental pollution, large scale unemployment and social and political squalor, he is moved to go to that place and flay the bosses and the politicians who are, in the eyes of His Holiness, the main cause of human misery in the world".

FRANTIC

Sources in Whitehall admit that cabinet ministers and MPs of all parties are "quaking in their shoes" at the thought of ill-judged and inflammatory statements which the Pope may make during his tour of Scotland. The Scottish Office is particularly concerned that the Pontiff may allude to the gruesome conditions in Scottish prisons, with

the recent riots at Peterhead still fresh in mind and the controversy over the "cages" at Porterfield still raging. The police too are worried that the Pope may mention the unexplained deaths of people whilst in police custody both North and South of the border.

PLEA

The word from the City is that shares have tumbled disastrously since the Pope's Scottish visit was announced. It was rumoured in London last night that a top civil servant was on his way to Rome in a last-ditch attempt to persuade His Holiness to call off the trip to North Britain in the interests of public safety. But it is generally conceded that there is little likelihood the Pope will alter his plans.



THE POPES TIMETABLE

THE BIG DAY

- 1.10pm Arrival of Vatican Jet at Glasgow Airport.
- 2.50 Estimated time of arrival at George Sq. of Pope leading a march of Socialists, Anarchists, Trade Unionists and Tenants Groups.
- 3.15 Estimated time of departure from George Sq. after circling and snubbing City Chambers and Inhabitants therein. On to the Horseshoe Bar for Pie & Beans, and small refreshment.
- 4.00 Tour of the Legendary Glasgow Underground Catacombs. Special Service for the Blessing of the Holy Relic - "St. Peter's Bum" - found during excavations.
- 5.00 Auntie Jeanies for dinner.
- 6.30 Mass singalong at Glasgow X.
- 7.00 Adjourn to "Sarry Heid" for Darts Championship needle match with Pastor Glass. (Proceeds to Glasgow Anarchist Group).
- 11.30 Tiffanys for a Knees Up.



"Wow! If the Vatican's really like this, I'll switch any day!"
Archbishop of Canterbury

"What a mind blower! *****! It doesn't take a pretentious spaced-out head like me to spot the clue in the title!..... POPE... Dig the rhyme? POPE - DOPE... Right? THAT'S where it's at... and how! Whooooooh! ***** Far out, too much... like *****... NICE... yeah... al RIGHT... hmmmmmm... zzzzzzzzzzz(SNORE)"
David Bowie

"SAINTS preserve us."
The Queen

"When one considers the basic subject matter, one can only lament an opportunity totally squandered. In vain I looked for spiritual dignity, historical veracity or a quick flash of pubic hair,"
Prince Charles

"Yes it's all here!
So, go on, go and get an eyeful (and an earful) of the prancing prelate and the rest of the gang; you won't regret it. I was converted - and you'll be too; and I wouldn't mind betting my relics on that!"
Cliff Richard

continued overleaf

Moderator explains his refusal to meet Pope

Undoubtedly the Pope has paid the Scots People the highest compliment in coming here. Characteristically the Scots people have thrown themselves into preparing their traditional hospitality, and as a result Brewery shares have trebled. Certainly the common man seems to have found a saviour in Pope John Paul II. In twelve months he has become the most popular man on earth. He is today, as his nick-name implies "John Paul Superstar", and his fans have gone into ecstasy just as much as the most fervent followers of Sinatra, Elvis or Linda Lovelace. However, the Pope's hopes that the Scots people will throw off their shackles may be groundless. Is he fully aware of the proud subserviance of the native Scot?

NO CHANCE!

Consider the millions of Scots who swaggered proudly to their death fighting in far flung corners of our once mighty Empire. Think of the generations of Clansmen and women who meekly left their homes and crofts to the cheiftains sheep. How passionately obsequious they were bobbing down and scraping to their Lords. The Scot may talk like a rebel (especially with a drink in him), but he will always act like a patriot. Like Mannie Shinwell and Jimmy Reid, the Scots are not rebels they are comedians. The Times wishes the Pope all the luck in the world with his anarchist crusade - he'll certainly need it!

The Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Scotland explained last night in detail why he will not meet the Pope during his forthcoming Scottish tour. The attitude of the Moderator and of the Clerk of the Glasgow Presbytery has led to bitter debate within the Scottish churches.

In a personal statement last night the Moderator said: "Let me put it like this. I knew old Red Socks when he was just plain Lolek the Pole. And let me tell you right away, he had some very peculiar habits, even in those days. Far be it from me to calumniate the Holy Hiker, but I could tell you a few things that happened in Krakow that would make your thing stand on end. I don't want to be the one to point the finger, of course, but do you know that he wears a reinforced corset under his cassock?"

DISTURBING

To be perfectly frank, and believe me I am loathe to say it, poor old Karol Wojtyla was never really right in the head after his bad accident. Haven't you noticed how from time to time he falls down slaving at the mouth and licking the ground? Well, I ask you..."

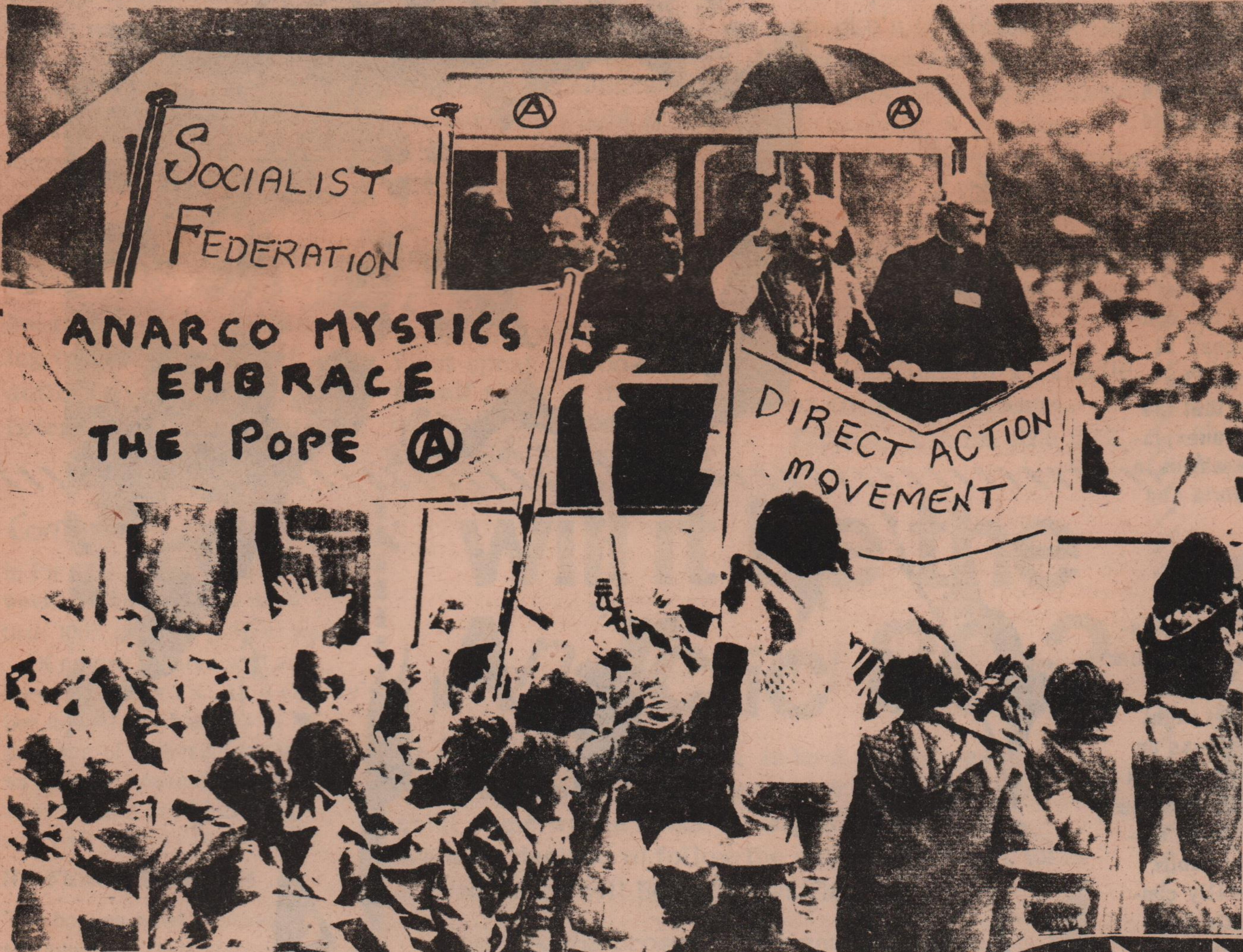
The Moderator went on to stress that his unreadiness to meet Pope John Paul II sprang not from any personal feelings or animosities, although it was common knowledge that

the Pope imbibed large quantities of Vodka and Beer daily, and had the unbecoming habit of singing in a loud voice and throwing his arms about, but from sound theological principles.

Concern

On thing is certain, however, The great debate within the Protestant churches is going to continue. Some of the main talking points are as follows: Is God an astronaut? Was Jesus on drugs? Was Mary a house robot? Should Rangers FC sign Papists? May sodomites enter the clergy?

Turn to Page 13



ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

CLEAN

Dogs are dirty, birds are filthy, fish are clean except for the intestines which are dirty.

People love to wash and that's why in the eyes of Jesus they are best. Dogs don't go to heaven, they turn into worms, but good Christian people stay just the same, younger and smelling good all the time. All the people get washed when they die and sit at the table of Holy Lightning with Jesus, eating all that clean food. Jesus smiles when he sees the people washing. He knows that people like cleanliness and that's why he likes them better than the animals who eat any crap dirty.

Clean people who don't smell like vinegar sit at His table, only younger, with new hair, teeth and skin, all naked but not fornicating, eating all that clean food. That's why it's important to get the old folks soaped and combed and into bed between those nice sheets boiled four times and ironed into nice even creases — twelve creases for Jesus — and their toenails pared. Our old people look good, just simple people the color of milk and veal roast. When it's time Jesus calls them, He says: "O have you pared your nails?" And they answer: "O yes, Sweet Lord, we have pared our nails and ironed our sheets twelve times." And Jesus says: "Are you clean?" Which is a joke because He knows that they are and the old folks laugh a lot at this. And Jesus says: "Do you smell good and are you the color of veal roast?" And the old folks answer: "O yes, Lord, we smell good and we are clean and our thoughts are like white sauce and our blood is like water and we are ready, O Sweet Jesus."

Then Jesus gathers them up in His arms and gives them clean teeth, the better to eat at His Holy Table, and clean ears, the better to hear His Holy Music, and clean eyes, the better to see and worship Him.

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EXCLUSIVE

LEARNING FROM LIFE

A LOOK INSIDE WHITELION FREE SCHOOL.

I always get a lot of pleasure from visiting White Lion Street School. It is not just the friendly informality of the place, there is something else - an atmosphere of excitement and vitality. There is always something interesting going on.

The last time I was there, half the school were vigorously debating blood sports. And a lively debate it was too, with the youngest (about 8), putting across her point just as strongly as the adults - and listening just as carefully. In fact I noticed it was the children rather than the adults who insisted on politeness if anyone interrupted.

The children were not obliged to attend the debate - indeed they are not obliged to attend any event. They were there because they were interested.

Some of the pupils who were not interested in the debate were helping to make the school dinners in the kitchen (stuffed baked potatoes and crinkly kale - delicious!). In theory there is a rota for who makes the

Many people would not think of these activities as "real" education, - but what is real education? Is it sweating over latin grammar? Or learning the dates of medieval battles? Or night the answer be found back in the White Lion Kitchen...?

"How many pounds of potatoes do we need"?

which educationalists persist in ignoring. Of course the children are taught arithmetic, Reading, and Writing, but unlike most kids, they have to use the skills in the kitchen; at the market; in the post-office and all the other places they go to as part of their school week.

To my mind this is what White Lion is all about. Education is part and parcel of everyday life. The world is full of exciting and interesting things - kids know this, and are keen to learn given a chance. Children are born with a curiosity and desire to do things, White Lion encourages these natural, healthy desires in an atmosphere of support and freedom.

What a contrast this is to the long dreary boredom of my own school days. Sitting chained to a desk while some old fart, droned on and on - he probably wanted to be out of there as much as we did.

It is true the occasional teacher managed to make metaphysical poetry or something seem interesting, but what a waste of time it all was. You learned virtually nothing that was any use.

Is it any wonder that so many people just want to leave as soon as they can? Why should they care for similes and latin grammar? They want to be welders or shop fitters, or housewives, or just free of school even if that means going on the dole.

After all the school has already decided these kids don't matter. The people they are interested in are the NEW MANAGERS the next generation of middle class. The whole school is geared towards preening them for exams.

And why not? The school has already decided these kids don't matter. The whole place is totally dedicated to the minority of kids who will be academically successful. In short middle-class teachers select middle-class kids and pin labels on them; THE NEW MANAGERS. If they do the job well, then everyone accepts that a privileged class is justified.

The fact that a few working class sons and daughters learn to ape their middle class 'betters' and move up the social ladder is irrelevant. So too is all the recent rubbish about new and 'fairer' exams.

The emphasis on competition will be even stronger and it will be easier for people to accept the con-trick that we need a privileged class.

Co-operation, not competition is the key to White Lion Free School. Each adult and every kid has responsibility for running the school. All decisions are made at the school council meetings and a child's voice can count for as much as an adults. There are no head teachers or leaders, because the people at White Lion believe that you cannot have true democracy unless you have true equality and that means no hierarchies.

Everyone takes a turn at doing the various jobs. They even carefully rotate public appearances so that on one person becomes a "star".

To my mind White Lion Free School is organised in the same way as an anarchist would like to see the whole of society run. So we asked one of the adult workers how the system worked:

"It works remarkably well. We have a rota system and everyone shares the cooking cleaning, teaching and administration".

Are all the staff qualified teachers?

"There are two parents who work here - one part-time and one full-time. They're not qualified and don't have degrees. One is a local mother. Because her children came here she became more and more involved.

We don't believe qualifications are necessary in White Lion School,



meal and who does the dishes, but again there is no rigid adherence to the rule.

Some of the children were there because it was their turn, others because like most children they are interested in new experiences and doing new things. Things like horse riding, skating, puppet-making, woodwork, musical plays, and a host of other things which are all part of White Lion.

"Read the recipe".

"But the recipe is for four people not 44!".

"Well multiply it!".

"Where did you buy these spuds anyway?".

And so on.

That is REAL maths, REAL reading, REAL domestic science and those who bought the spuds experienced REAL economics, REAL bussiness management and a dozen other REAL experiences



but we encourage people to stretch themselves and take courses in any area they feel inadequate".

Had they any trouble with the unions?

"We prefer to call ourselves 'workers' rather than 'teachers'. NUT members don't approve of what we are doing, because we emphasise deprofessionalising education. We are joining the T&GWU".

The media has tended to emphasise the success White Lion has had with so-called 'problem kids'. Are they happy with this image?

"We have a wide mixture of kids (from nursery age upwards) many of whom did not have any problems in the ordinary schools. It is quite wrong to portray us as a truancy centre. Our approach helps EVERY kind of child".

And what is special about this approach? It is the emphasis on the problems and interests of the individual child. The children learn all about everyday life and how to deal with it. The role of the adult is to help them organise their experience and make the most of it. The last time I was there one group was off skating and another had organised a long weekend in Wiltshire.

The Front door of White Lion School is always open and there is a constant coming and going. This is no prison where the inmates are tortured with boredom. The kids are free to go out and explore the riches of the world and they take full advantage of the opportunity. They love it.



Are you interested in FREE SCHOOLS, ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION and COMMUNITY BASED TEACHING?

The Glasgow Free School Association exists to further these ideas and help put them into practice. We believe that the State system of education does not serve the children's needs.

The curriculum is irrelevant and when the kids rebel against this they are literally beaten into conformity.

If you are interested, phone David 041 631 3570



Danger! Idiot at work

**THIS BLOODY IDIOT
McLENAN**

In Glasgow, a city with one of the worst housing records in Britain, strange things are happening. In yet another desperate attempt to get their own house in order, the district council have established new management structures in their various offices of their Housing Management Dept.

In Castlemilk, a post-war scheme of about 10,000 houses and 45,000 occupants, the new housing manager there, McLennan, is the latest in a long line of idiots.

Mind you we've had hundreds of them before, but this McLennan is the stupidest bloody idiot of them all - Why? Get tuned and listen.

This idiot was given the gift of deciding how a quarter of a million pounds of our money should be used to help the Castlemilk people to make life more pleasant. Such as play-areas for children; New

sinks and baths; help for the elderly with winter problems or any sensible idea that the money could be used for.

He has power to back any good idea needing cash, suggested to him by the people of Castlemilk.

He was instructed by our councillors to hold meetings and find out what we had to suggest.

SO YOU WANT AN ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND EH? I THINK WE CAN GUARANTEE YOU PLENTY OF ADVENTURE JUST CROSSING THE ROAD.



What happened? - this fly man is an ecologist - he likes flowers - he likes spending money - he knows the people of Castlemilk understand the beauty of having nice looking gardens. He also has friends who have businesses that sell bulbs and trees. And what do you think he decided?

He decided he would not hold any meetings with the people of Castlemilk until HE decided how to spend OUR money. And here's how he spent it:

Out of £250,000 he spent £20,000 on planting bulbs, £30,000 on planting trees, £15,000 on plants and shrubs, £40,000 on gardens and hedges, trip rails for walks and decoration £45,000, totaling £150,000 on bulbs, trees, plants, shrubs, greenery and hedges and trip-ways - yes £150,000.

How's that!! When we in Castlemilk claimants union got wind of this, we told him "No! Help the people.

He said, he will spend OUR money as he wants to. He would allocate only £85,000 for two games courts and £5,000 for a wall out of the total £250,000!

We have asked him to give £10,000 for a resource centre. He promised he would if we worked hard and came up with a plan, legal and helpful to the people of Castlemilk. We did, and guess what he said?

"Because I had already decided before we met you're not getting any of YOUR money I'm spending it in the way I want to"!



DO IT -YOURSELF

All the shadow boxing is over between the T.U. leaders of the engineering unions and the employers,

Most workers now know that the conventional means of strike; going on the cobble stones have had their day. Many more effective forms of strike action have been devised within recent decades. The rank and file are aware of them. Aren't the T.U. leaders?

Imagination is there but seriousness is not. The reason why these arch-deceptionists called a two day strike is because they don't have to pay strike benefit money. Furthermore, they may not be able to control a general strike and this is important to them.

Trade unions want to control their members. Officialdom has a stake in the system. Hence the reason why officials oppose the idea of unionism operating against the system for a radical change.

Much re-shaping of thought has to be performed. Many militants still think that the trade unions are still to be used merely as a defensive weapon against the employer and as a tool to discredit any particular government. They do not foresee any development of unionism replacing government as such.

Unionism, therefore, remains a house divided against itself. Unions are divided and subdivided. Instead of there being one union for each industry we have a host of different unions within any given industry. One union would make many officials redundant. It would also tend to develop class solidarity.

The T.U.C. not wanting a repetition of the engineers prolonged strike are now advocating action at local level. This would be more effective against the onslaught of government attacks on working class standards of living. However co-operation and co-ordination are essential.

Although each factory may adopt its own means of struggle it would be conducive to have links through the respective

works committees. In this way perhaps two or more factories could work in unison to mutual advantage. It is also essential for workers to start thinking in terms of ownership and control of industry by their own do-it-yourself-movement. This would tend to create an industrial organisation on a class basis rather than on the basis of craft as in the older unions or as a motley mass as in the younger unions such as the 'Transport and General Workers Union'.



The T.U.C. of course are advocating action at local level for obvious reasons to this writer. They do not want to call a national general strike in case workers remember the parody of the general strike in 1926. Then they left all the means of production in the hands of the employers.

In remembering this they may decide to vote with their feet and march into the factories. This would be giving birth to a new healthy society. It would be the prelude to the social revolution long overdue.

R. Lynn

MONEY MATTERS, (or does it?)

Two chaps boarded a train and sat in the same compartment! This was the patter.

"Going far?"
"No, just a couple of stops. I'm going down for the week-end to see my brother-in-law. He has a few weeks free. He's on strike."

"What does he work at?"
"He works in the mint, printing money."

"Your joking, of course."
"No, not in the least."

"What's he on strike for then? - No, don't tell me! More money! Right? I would have thought he was already making plenty of money."

"Not for himself, though."
"That's daft! If he goes on strike for a wage increase, it means the price of money will increase. Therefore, his increase will decrease in the value of notes needed to meet the increase because of their increased value. Once production increases, his increase will decrease in value, as the value of the pound decreases."

"You're only half right. As it happens, the mint have installed new printing presses which print twice as many notes in the same time as the old presses. So they double the output, which gives the mint workers a rise, as they are on bonus. But if they produce two

pounds in place of one, then the law of supply and demand means the value of the pound will have decreased by 50% and will be worth only 50p. The amount of money, say £30, they are paid in wages will then be worth only half its present value, and that would be £15. So they need £60 in notes to equal the present value of £30. That's the real reason they are on strike."

"Why don't they take it to arbitration?"

"Oh, they did."

"What happened?"

"Well, there were three chaps on the arbitration tribunal and they were to be paid £10 per day for six days, which would be £60 each. However, that was before they knew what the dispute was about. When they did find out they noticed the £60 would only be worth £30 when the strike was over, so they asked for a built-in settlement that would give them £120. The mint refused to put this into a written contract since no de-valuation of the pound has, as yet, taken place, so the arbitrators held a meeting and went on strike and the mint had to call in another arbitrator to arbitrate in the arbitrators strike."

"What if all the strikers lose their case?"

"Oh, Christ, I hate to think. As I pointed out, the pound will

be worth only 50p. which equals a 50% reduction in real wages. That will only buy half the goods we can but now, which will mean a 50% increase in prices. Naturally the Union will want a 50% increase in cost of living bonus, but the government will allow only a 10% wage increase which will be equal to approximately £6 which equals the value of £3. The Union will recommend £12 to be equal to the value of £6. Because of the 50% price increase nobody will be able to buy anything which will lead to cut backs in production. Workers will be paid off and we will have massive unemployment. As the mint workers become unemployed, the production of money will ease off, which will mean an increase in its value because of its scarcity. This rise will bring the pound back to its present value and everyone's dole money will have doubled. People will have so much money to throw around it will cause raging inflation and the country will go bankrupt."

"Doesn't seem possible, does it? Why are you going to see your brother-in-law anyway?"

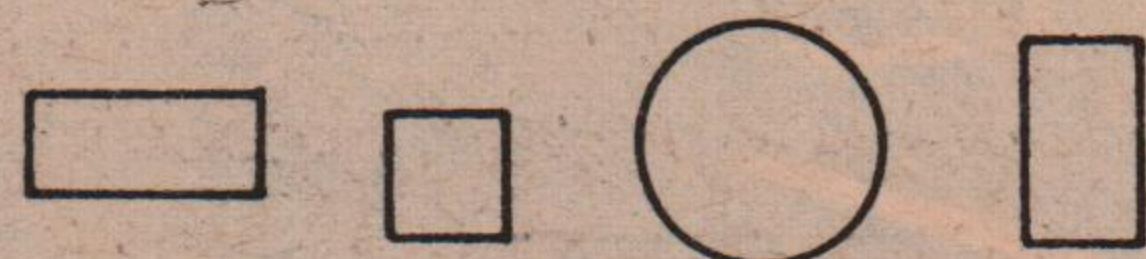
"Oh, I'm going to try and borrow a few quid. Things are a bit rough. For the past three weeks I've been on strike!"

STRATHCLYDE POLICE IQ TEST

1. What is the next number in this sequence?

1 2 3 4 5 6...

2. A = 1
B = 2
C = ?



3. Which is the odd man out?

4. "Hey diddle, the and the fiddle."
What is the missing word?

5. What have all these shapes in common?



DOWN WITH POPULATION CONTROL

No, I'm not against voluntary contraception. I've practised it myself. But all over the world pressures on people are overwhelmingly against the right to have children.

So far there's been no need for population controllers to force their policies on Western women and men; the conditions of industrial capitalism have done it for them, as any "liberated" woman trying to do two jobs could explain to you. According to the New Internationalist, a publication concerned with world development and in favour of family planning, "All over the world people are deciding to have fewer babies. ... It is in the industrialised world that family size has dwindled most. ... Economic pressure is the main brake. ... For unlike the children of the developing world, who cost little extra and can be economic assets by the age of ten, children in the affluent world remain expensive financial liabilities at least until their education is finished."

capitalism

Long, fixed hours of wage-labour a long journey from home mean that children must be excluded from economic life, and women or men looking after children at home become financially dependent (on their partner or the state) and looked down on. There's no halfway; you're a full-time employee or a non-person staying at home, perhaps with a low-paid dead-end part-time job. And the unions, with their rigid ideas, like it that way.

pressure

But the population-controllers are taking no chances.

The National Health is pushing birth-control on women at ante-natal clinics, with loaded questions and snide remarks about their contraceptive methods. An obstetrician to whom I protested about this said, "Obviously, small families are better from every point of view." Full stop.

will the pill be compulsory by 1984

In August the Scottish Sheriff ruled that an unmarried mother should

receive only £1 per week token maintenance from the father because she hadn't used the Pill. The Secretary of State for Scotland, George Younger, refused to intervene, giving constitutional reasons



why he should keep out of it. Labour MP Judith Hart had planned to ask the Lord Advocate to do something, since according to the Guardian "the decision would seem to introduce a new principle into the law".

How long before single mothers are denied supplementary benefit on the same principle?

anti-family policy

To look at the record of governments in recent years on matters affecting families is to have the impression leap out at you that the ruling class wants to keep the population down.

The tax position of families has steadily declined. Child tax allowances were completely abolished, to be replaced by Child Benefit, which the Tories have frozen because Thatcher thinks they are a disincentive to work.

Yet when Mr Jenkin is considering paying for day

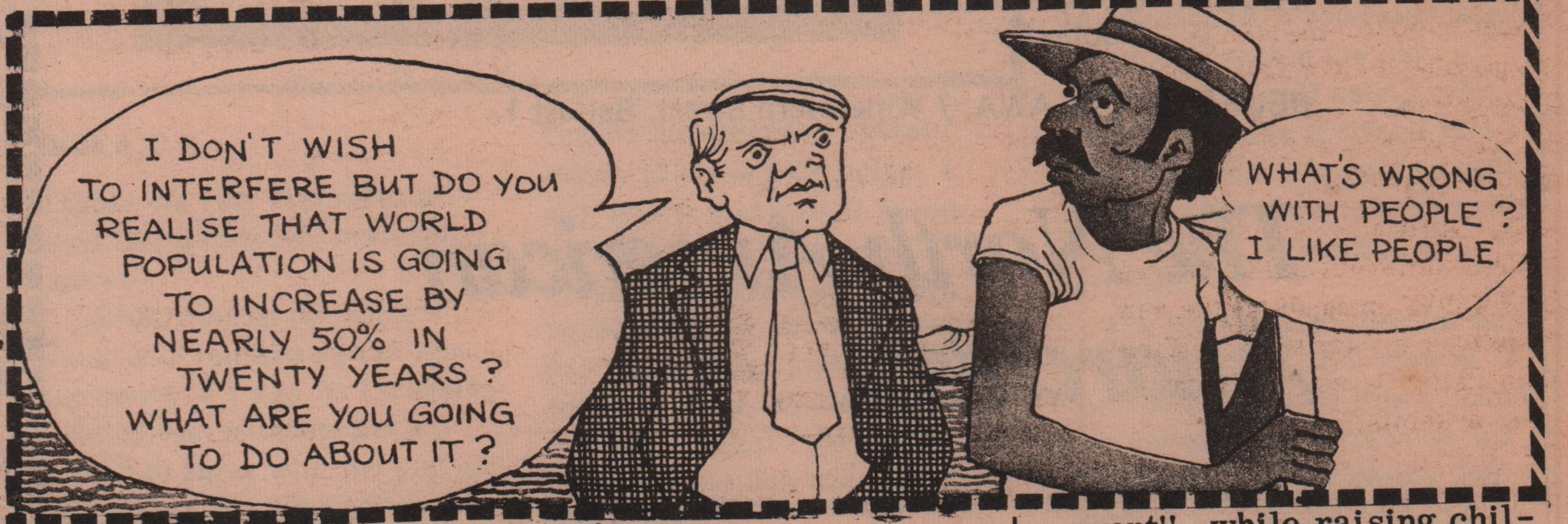
nurseries, he decides that he wants Mother to have a disincentive to work because the family needs her care.

Child Benefit has the disadvantage (compared with tax allowances) of

seeming like a handout. You have to queue up for it and it's not linked to (or called) earnings. And since it's deducted from dole or supplementary benefit, it doesn't even help those who aren't paying taxes.

It's all the more outrageous that the public service cuts, which are supposed to balance the loss to the state caused by Tory tax reductions, are so overwhelmingly aimed at the people whom the tax cuts benefit least - children, the old and sick.

On the level of individual families in the West, it's like the ruling class telling us we have a duty to support our own families and labelling as inadequate families who want tax benefits or public services -- when, as employees and housewives, we are already supporting the "self-reliant" upper classes who live on our backs.



plenty to go round - but who gets it?

The N.I. tells us, "...it is estimated that only half of the world's potential agricultural land is now being cultivated. ... it has been estimated by W.H. Pawney of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation that the earth's resources could feed ten times its present population."

A UN conference last spring reported that "Eight hundred million people are destitute ... Other reports show they are getting hungrier, although food production is growing faster than population in the Third World, because they are too poor to buy enough to eat." (Geoffrey Lean, Observer)

what do you want?

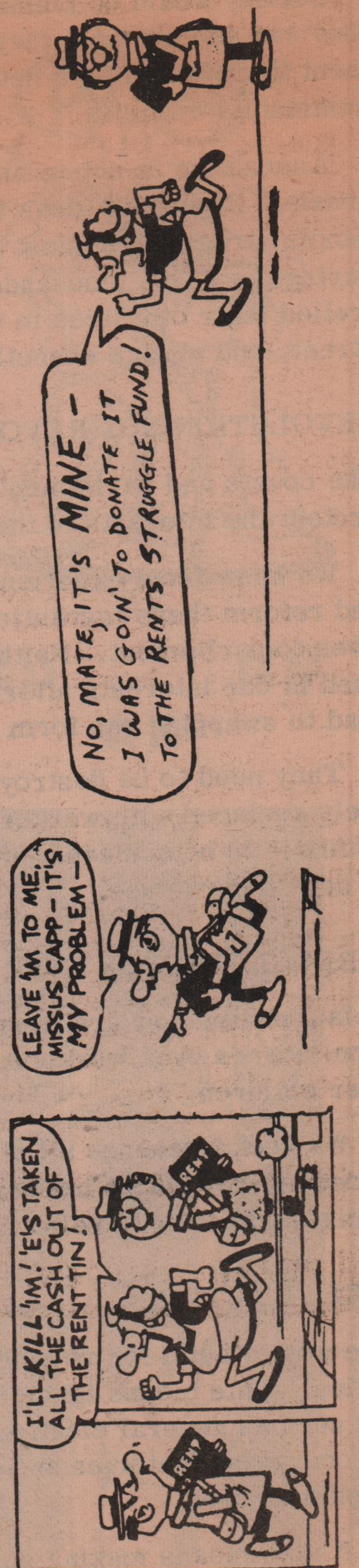
But what it boils down to is not one person's statistics or the other person's forecasts, but whether you think human life is a good thing. If you think birth should be welcomed and old age cherished, you'll see any problems of resources or of space as just that: not as problems of too many people.

The population-control enthusiasts have a capitalist outlook - all they care about is technology and money for the benefit of a superhuman elite. Ideally they'd like the proles to be born at 16 and die at 50, or better yet have all the work done by robots.

So they tell women that being well-groomed, child-free and steadily employed in some nice clean air-conditioned office is "liberation" and "fulfil-

ment", while raising children is dirty and plebeian. Women and men are taught to worship free-spending, loveless and of course childless fucking. That's "permissiveness".

Is that the kind of world that working-class people want?



Friends & neighbours....

ANARCHIST WORKER

paper of the Anarchist Workers Alliance of Ireland

*DUBLIN c/o Alan MacSimóin, 49a Leinster Road, Dublin 6.

BELFAST Box AWA, 7 Winetavern Street, Belfast 1.

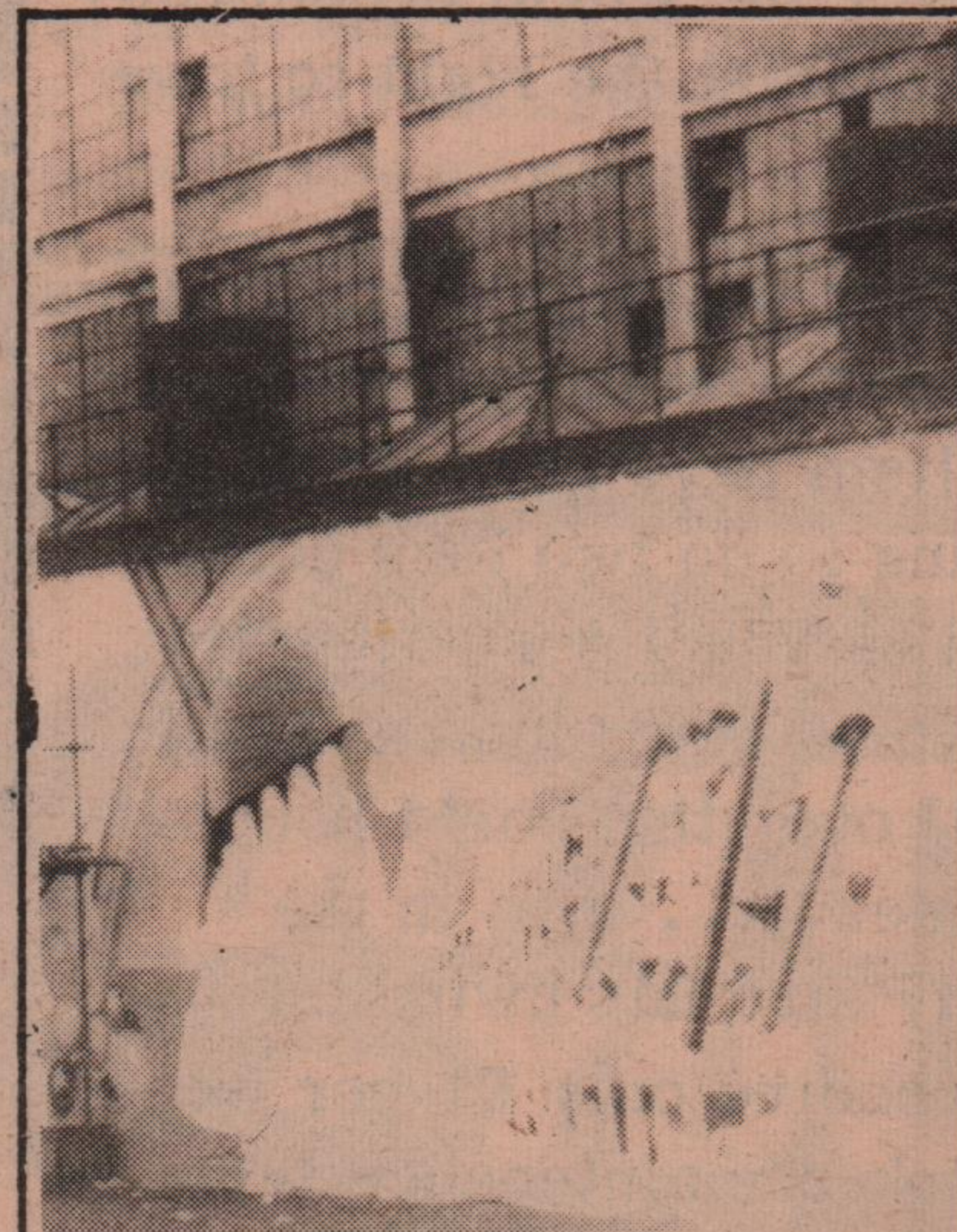
The North American Anarchist.

published by the Anarchist-Communist Federation of North America (ACF-NA). POB 2, Station O, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4B 2B0

AVAILABLE FROM "BREAD & ROSES" - 115p EACH PLUS POSTAGE

BATTERSEA MURAL CONT.

cloud set off down the river Thames and across to Chelsea. A fitting passing gesture from a factory that crippled a few generations with lung silicosis (carbon dust).



Morgans factory crumbling before the broom.

But Brian Barnes has since been in dock. After hearing the case, the fact that the local authority will not necessarily allow the office block by Battersea Bridge Road (making the demolition totally spiteful), and the time it took the painters to do the mural — 18 months, the magistrate gave Brian an absolute discharge.

And the fight continues. The luxury flats and offices will do nothing for



the people of Battersea. No-one disputes that the needs are low-cost housing, unskilled and semi-skilled industrial work, nurseries and public services. Morgans can't make money out of that, needless to say, so they will not give up without a fight.



Mickey Mouse's arse in flames — Battersea's answer to a scheme for a tourists' Disneyland in Battersea Park.

DURING the protest on the wall on June 6th, no end of supporters turned up and so did lots of police. Even the much loved SPG of Southall fame came with guns! Some folks had to be nicked; they were. The Muralists Defence Fund is being supported by the sale of sets of colour photos of the mural at 70p. Write to Bread & Roses for a set.

THE A.C.A. - WHAT WE STAND FOR

FREEDOM AND EQUALITY

The Anarchist Communist Association exists to fight for a free and equal society in which people control their own lives.

Society would be planned so that people give what they can and get what they need. In place of government there would be a network of workplace and community councils.

Anarchism is not an abstract theory or a utopian dream. It gets its ideas from the practice of working people struggling against their exploitation. In Spain during the 1930s thousands of ordinary people controlled their own lives in this way through factory, street, and village councils.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

The courts and parliament, police and army, exist to protect the interests of the rich and powerful.

We know from experience that it is useless to try and reform these institutions by electing representatives to parliament. Neither can they be captured and used in our interests after a revolution. Both simply lead to swapping one form of exploitation for another.

They need to be destroyed completely and immediately replaced with workers' and community councils. If this is to be achieved, we will need to take up arms to defend ourselves.

A REVOLUTION OF EVERYDAY LIFE

Relationships now are based on domination and submission: bosses over workers, men over women, adults over children.

We seek to change all of this. We seek not just an economic revolution but one that also frees us in our social and personal relationships.

DIRECT ACTION

The way to build for revolution is through direct action. This means ignoring official ways of protesting such as general elections. Instead, tactics such as occupying factories and squatting empty houses should be used.

It also means making sure that every struggle is

controlled by the people concerned and not, for example, by full time party or union officials.

INTERNATIONALISM

Exploitation not only happens in this country. Ordinary people are exploited throughout the world. In the "communist" world as much as in the "free" world.

The experience of every previous revolution shows that there can be no successful revolution in one country alone and that we need to unite with ordinary people everywhere if we are to be free.

ORGANISATION

If we want to achieve a free classless society, we must organise in the same way.

The A.C.A. rejects equally the idea of creating a party in which a central committee hands down orders to the members and also the dis-organisation of other anarchist groups. Our organisation aims to provide an alternative to both.

Organisation is necessary because it breaks down our individual isolation, helps us to share our experiences, and to co-ordinate our activities. In this way, each thread of resistance can be gradually woven into a tapestry of revolution and freedom.

INTERESTED ? There are ACA contact addresses in Birmingham, Burnley, East Anglia, Glasgow, and London. For more details write - or fill in the thing below - and send to ACA, Box 2, 136 Kingsland High Street, London E8 2NS.

I want to join the ACA

I'd like more information about ACA

(tick whichever is appropriate)

NAME

ADDRESS

from carl harp

Dear Friends,

I was very pleased to receive the little package with your paper, and the pamphlet introducing your association coupled with the note of solidarity. I too am an A.C., and was excited to receive your literature; what a fine little paper you have, and your pamphlet is great. I salute your efforts. I also thank you very much for your support of me in your paper.

Enclosed is a newspaper clipping updating my situation — as you can see I went through a rough go, nearly didn't make it, and am now in the California State Prison known as San Quentin. Robert Shane Green and Robert C. Washburn are still at the Washington State Penitentiary, and so far are well. I too now am well and doing o.k. They could use mail for the spirits (P.O. Box 520 Walla Walla, Wn. 99362). My new address for awhile is now P.O. Box C-7100 Tamal, Calif. 94964. Please keep me on your mailing list and I shall try to contribute articles now and then.

I wish to thank all of you who helped with my defense fund — it is important that I have that help to get any justice at all, every dollar helps even if that is all anyone can send. Letters of protest and support are also vital and appreciated; they keep me safe and give me strength. I have been struggling for six years in prison now, it gets harder and harder as I go along cause they hate me more and more, but I can take their hate and more if I know I have your love my friends and your support. I have no idea how long I will be in this prison, but wherever I go you will eventually know it — always know you are in my thoughts. I send my love to you all.

I trust you all know the importance and value of study? The best two books on A.C. are Malatesta's "Anarchy" and Alexander Berkman's "The ABC of Anarchist Communism". Study helps both theory and practise. Know what you're about! And remember unity is the main weapon of struggle...

Love and Rage,

Carl Harp

Please send money for Carl's legal needs to the defence fund:-

Hennie Mulder
Hapotoc International
P.O. Box 10638
Amsterdam, Holland

Dear Bread & Roses,

I welcome the articles you published in the last "Bread & Roses", and hope your readers will join or form anti-nuclear groups to work with an "organisation" to stop nuclear madness.

Right now they can help by reporting all movements of contaminated fuel in Britain — the atomic reactors produce no end of waste — three tons of radio isotopes frequently pass through our area. I enclose a diagram of one of the transport "flasks" with this letter.

The only safety tests have been done with scale models — what if an 80 mph passenger train hits one? Lethal!

My group fights the atomic madness with direct action and other means and welcomes new fighters. Will you publish our contact address?: 9 Combermere Rd, London SW2.

Thanks,

J. Turner
South London Anti-Nuclear
Affinity Group

LETTERS

Dear A.C.A.

Thanks for your statement of aims and principles, constitution etc.

Having read through this I would like to make one or two comments (if I may be so bold). I gather that members are expected to agree with the gist of what is stated, although party liners is not what you are looking for. To me the main gist seems to be the usual (not using the word derogatorily), workers control, direct action, participatory democracy etc. As I said in my letter (to the ACA) I do consider myself a communist and thus logically agree with these aspirations. However there is another aspect of your ideas which I find harder to swallow and I want to know a little more about this. This is the class struggle aspect.

Before I am accused of reac-

tionary middle-class elitism/ enemy of the working class I will repeat that I am in favour of workers control and the elimination of non-productive social classes etc. But I must say that generally when I am lectured about the class struggle /war etc., I feel I am stuck with someone in a 19th century time warp.

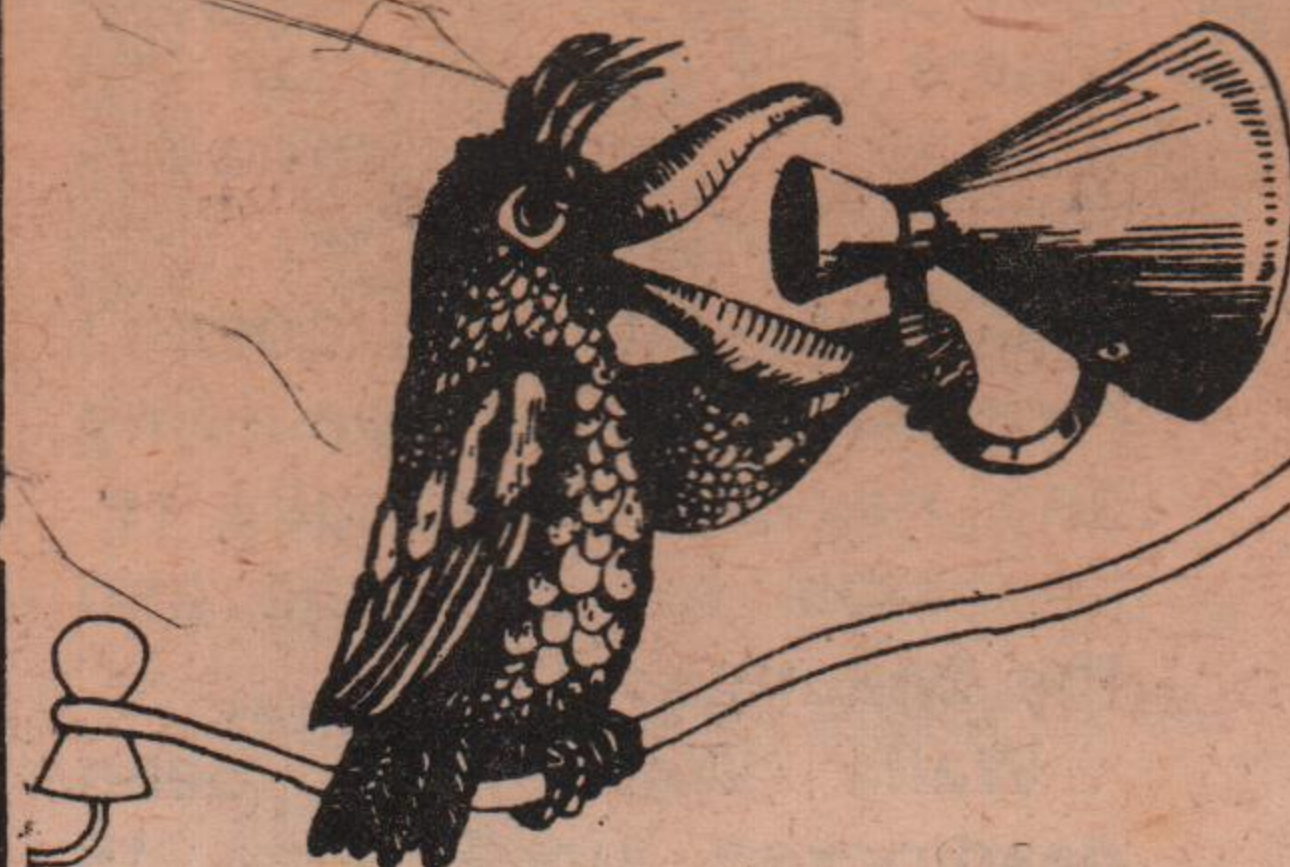
I, myself, find myself more inclined to agree with the Anarchist Communism of the Murray Bookchin's of this world as opposed to the Alex Berkman's although I recognise (I hope) the weaknesses and strengths of both. If you have read Bookchin I am sure you will understand me if you haven't I shall try to summarise him.

Bookchin in my way of thinking feels that the traditional view that the liberation of the working classes is the job sole-

ly of the working classes is not so sacred as many on the left would appear to believe. He argues that the dialectic (primarily Marxist) which explains the change from one class society to another, cannot be applied to the transformation of a class society into a non-class society. For a non-class society to be reached, a non-class must be wrought within the old structure who will act as catalysts for change (I myself feel that these ideas are not so new as they appear. Certain elements can be found in Bakunin's writings).

The big question then for me is what is the ACA's view of the class struggle? How 'sacred' are the older views to you? and to what extent may people join the ACA who do not hold traditional views but perhaps have sympathy with the type of theory I have outlined?

I look forward to hearing from you on this question. I hope I don't sound too theoretical and anarchologistic but I am still interested in joining the ACA but as I am sure you will agree the aim of the ACA is to bring people together with the same/ similar ideas; for this to be done people must air their ideas. All the best,
Neil.



Dear Bread & Roses,

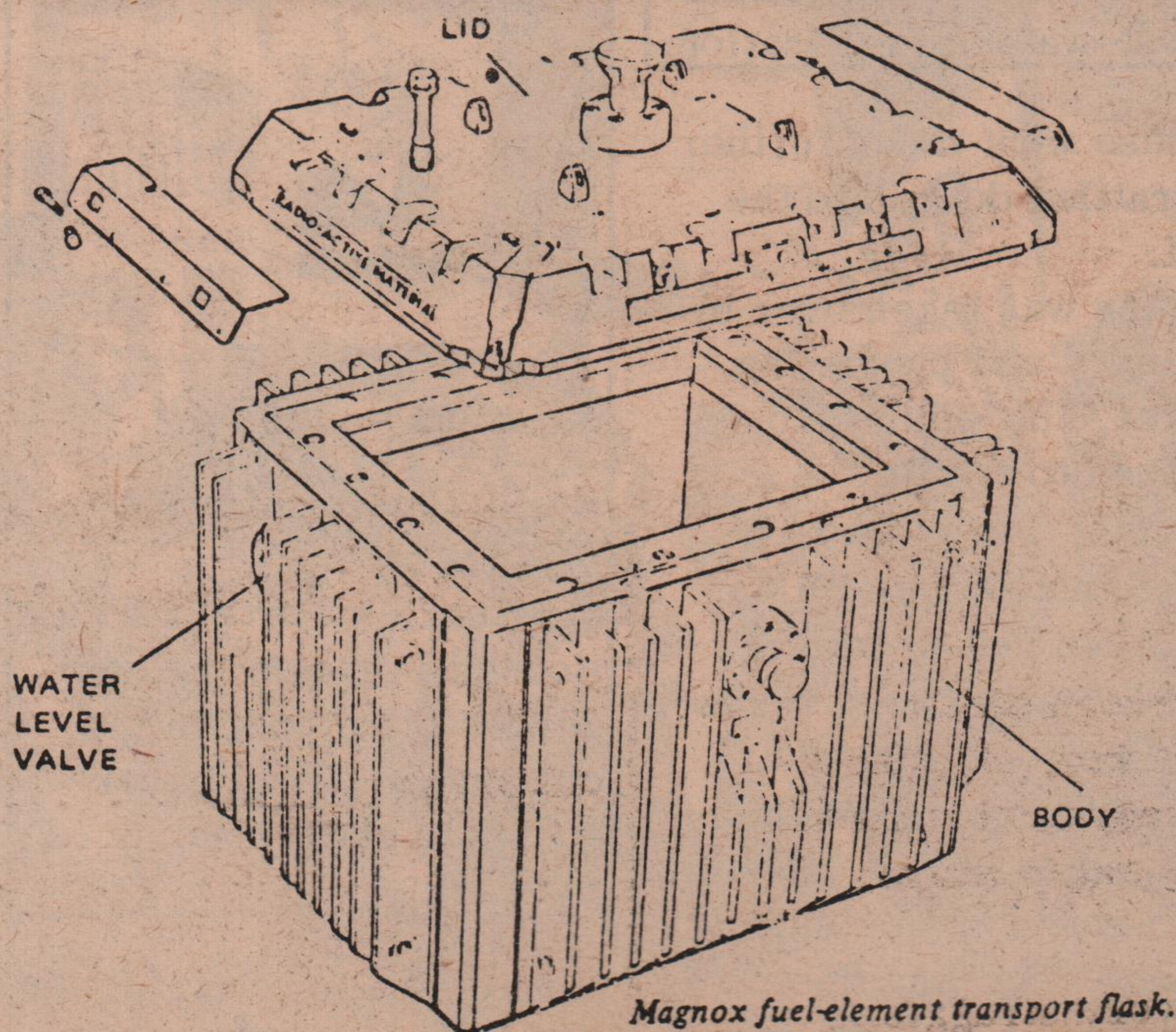
Your flat 'NO' to the question of whether the setting up of workers co-operatives is a contribution to the formation of an Anarchist society is perplexing. You rightly point out that all co-op's, communes, and collectives operate in the very society they are trying to change, and list their other widely recognised defects.

But I should have thought that the construction of an expanding network of such groups which could eventually support

and supply each other, and ultimately become independent enough to say "piss off" to the hush of the old regime, was vital. If Anarchism is ever going to be achieved, can it be brought about by a sudden vague, distant - future event labelled a "Revolution" - however uncomfortable?

The real revolution is going on now, and the contribution of people setting up devices for alternative living should not be ignored. They are also at the sharp end, doing the hard bits, in providing the rest of us with somewhere to go when the last copper has been gently but firmly relieved of his bit of lead pipe. It's down to us, who profess some belief in Anarchism to learn from their mistakes, and give them what support we can.

Bob Lann,
Nottingham Anarchist Group.



Bread & Roses

BATTERSEA: ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL?

THREE in the morning, floodlights put up, the ball and chain demolition man starts work. The target — a mural of over 200 feet in length and up to 18 feet high!

It took about five hours to knock down the most valuable section. McGee's demolition cowboys took just that long to smash thousands of hours of painting work by over 60 local people.

It was recognised by the busmen's garage as "about the only good thing in the area", and they should know — it was across the road from them. Generally, affection was not just from the painters themselves.

ROAD CLOSED

At 8 that same morning, artist Brian Barnes got a phone call from a friend. That was the first he knew about the demolition. He rushed down, scaled a remaining bit of wall, and then the trouble began.

The McGee firm employed "cowboys", workers not unlike Western cowboys, who would be offered good



McGee's ball shown crashing through a remaining bit of wall.

...y to sneak the work ...ht. This bearded ...st abod between them ...rtime pay, so they



Mr Cube — not always just Tate & Lyle's (they have a smelly factory in Battersea) — originally thought up as the ruling class symbol of opposition to post-war nationalisation.

of these went much further and rattled down into the road.

This was taken over by the angry and protesting painter, the police closed the road to traffic. ... June 6th, Derby Day, it stayed that way and HM the Queen had to take another route to the races at Epsom.

Eventually the police managed an arrest, then Brian suffered the fate of all those "helping the police with their enquiries", but not until evening.

Walla Walla Guards Riot, Rape Carl Harp

On the night of July 8, prison guards at the Washington State Penitentiary at Walla Walla went on the rampage. They began by severely beating five prisoners—Danny Atteberry, Manuel Rampola, Danny Clark, Lynn Brooks and Gary Isaacs. One brother, Carl Harp, who was in the same cellblock, began screaming at the pigs. They then started on Harp. They maced him and beat him. They stripped his clothes off and torture-raped him: a guards' nightstick was forced up his rectum. Then they left him, hoping that he would bleed to death, and took the other prisoners they'd beaten to the "third floor" (Walla Walla's Behavior Modification Unit).

But Harp didn't die. He spent a week in the hospital recovering from this sadistic assault.

In response to this latest murder attempt, prisoners are demanding the firing of Warden James "Get-tough" Spaulding. For their part, old "Get-tough" and Governor Dixy Lee Ray are trying to blame the assault on 13 guards. The guards certainly deserve anything they get, and more. But this doesn't hide the fact that Spaulding and Ray are personally responsible for the rape and the beatings.

Walla Walla has been deadlocked since June 15 when a guard was killed. This death is also the re-

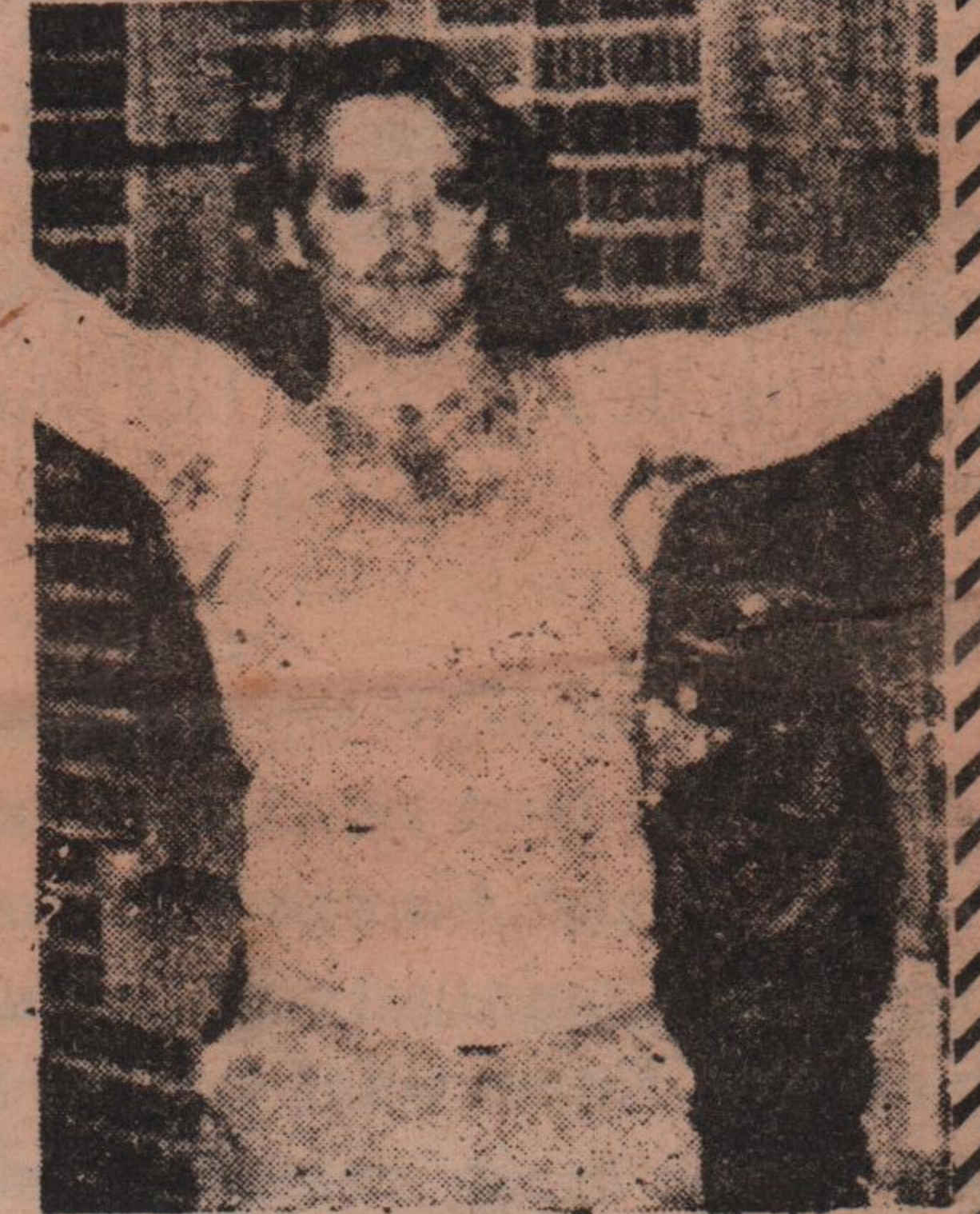
sponsibility of Spaulding, Ray, and the state of Washington. For years conditions at Walla Walla have had all the makings of a torture chamber. The Intensive Security Unit where prisoners are kept all day long in cells no bigger than the average bathroom; the Behavior Modification Unit where prisoners are beaten with straps, tied down to beds until they piss on themselves, and drugged until they are zombies; the "parole hearings" where the fact that you looked at a guard cross-eyed means continued imprisonment. This kind of treatment inevitably means that something is going to blow up.

Since the mid-June deadlock began, there has been a war going on in the prison. Prisoners weren't even allowed showers. On July 7, guards took several prisoners out to the yard and beat them. The prisoners responded to these attacks. On July 8, 200 prisoners smashed up a cellblock. That night, the guards went on their vicious attack.

Carl Harp was a special target; he was number one on their hit list. The state and the keepers have a good reason for wanting to kill Harp. He is a political prisoner and a consistent fighter for the rights and the lives of prisoners. He played an important role in the 1977 strike at Walla Walla, one of the longest prisoner strikes in U.S. history. He was a

founding member of Men Against Sexism, a multi-national prisoners' organization that fought for the rights of gay prisoners. Harp was one of three prisoners who took 10 hostages in May, demanding a federal investigation of the prison. Harp's life has been threatened before, but this time the guards felt they had the ability to carry it out. The politics of the attack were clear. Harp says: "I was shocked when they raped me—I couldn't believe it. The pain was beyond words and then they beat me until I was in a daze and could feel no pain, calling me a political prisoner and a jailhouse lawyer."

They will still be trying to kill Carl Harp. He has been transferred to San Quentin. This is where George Jackson was assassinated. Harp needs support.



Carl Harp

MORGAN GREED

So why did McGee's start demolishing the wall? Well, they do not work for free! Their paymasters were multinational firm Morgan Crucible. Morgans gave



Str Charles Forte of Trust Houses Forte on the dangerous old dipper in the old funfair. They never got their greasy palms on the park.

permission for the painting with no suggestion of it being so short lived.

They did not like what the mural showed. ... Its design was done after consultation with local people and as it got under way, the office blocks, concrete high rise flats and old factories were shown being swept away — including Morgan's factory!

What replaced them was houses with gardens, small industry, leisure playgrounds and a swimming pool — oh, and a routemaster bus.

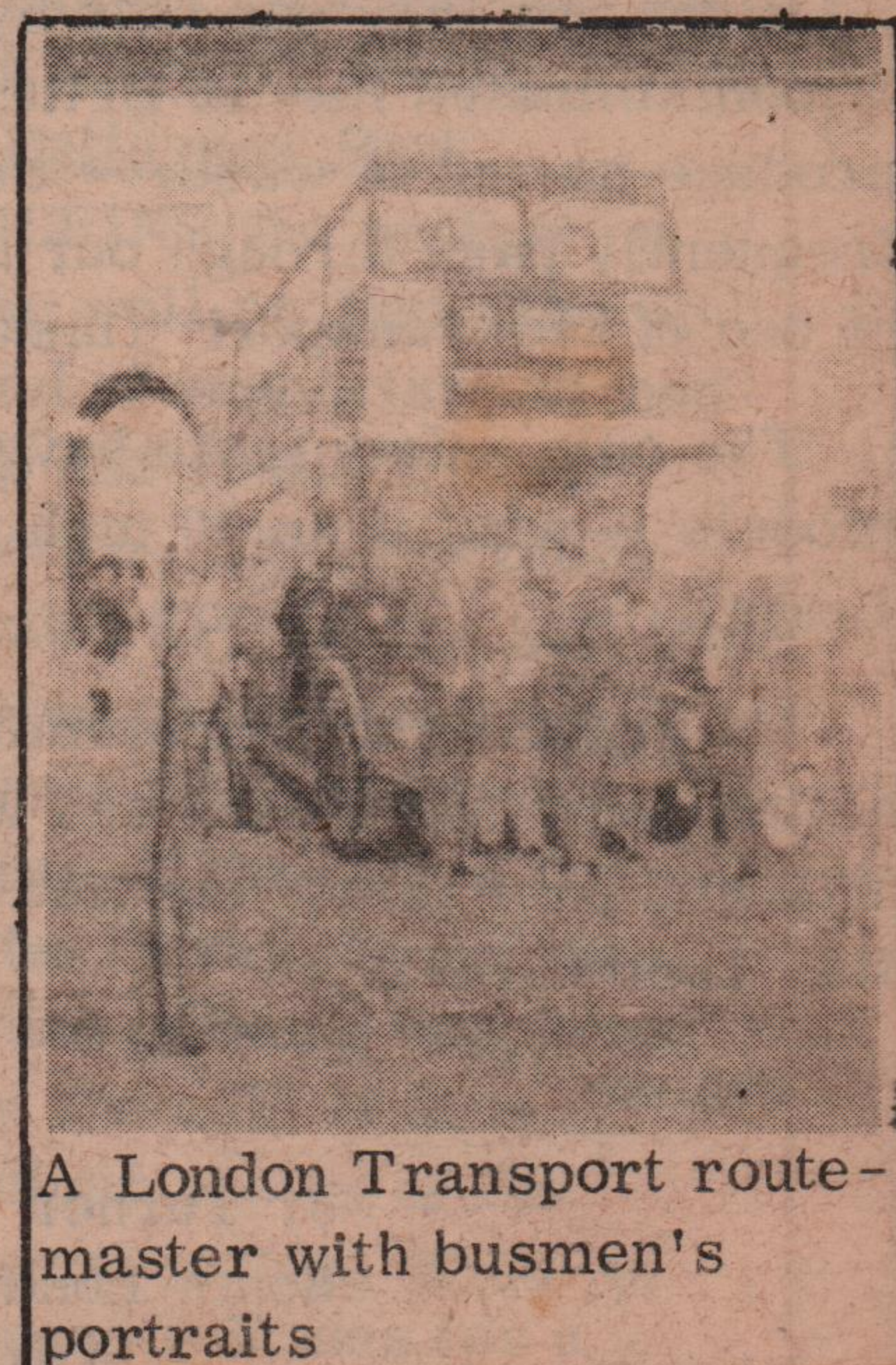
With plenty of locals ready to defend that message, Morgans had to sneak-attack at night.

Spite was, however, second to profit and the wall separated the company from a large GLC-owned site, which together with their factory site they intended to develop speculatively for offices and luxury flats — just what the broom was sweeping away.

HOPE YET

At present the demolition continues. The cowboys are setting up such a dust that downwind the houses and flower borders are thick with it. When dynamiting a chimney, which had asbestos lining, there was a

CONT. PG 10



A London Transport route-master with busmen's portraits