

Direct Action

WORLD LABOUR NEWS

Inside—Martell's new move :
The Kennedy myth :: 20th
Century feudalism :: Bolivia

MONTHLY PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKING MEN'S ASSOCIATION

Vol.5 No.1 (31)

January, 1964

Fourpence

Chandler and Moule jailed

VICTIMISED BY STATE

TERRY CHANDLER GETS NINE MONTHS. And we know why. As Henry Brooke said, while moving the second reading of the Public Order Bill on July 9, "I most strongly hold the view that the way to stop disorder in the streets . . . is for a court to be able to impose an exemplary sentence and then the deterrent does its work."

Of course this is no new idea in this country: from the beginning the British State has tried to smash the Committee of 100 by selecting certain members and giving them long jail sentences in an attempt to scare off the rest. Now, for organising and taking part in demonstrations organised by the Committee of 100, in which hundreds of people took part, Peter Moule (national secretary) has been sentenced to 4 months' jail and Terry Chandler (field secretary) to 9 months. George Clark has for the second time successfully appealed against a vicious sentence. Frank Adler and Mike Ridley (also found guilty of incitement) have been bound over for three years in the sum of £500.

The story of the demonstrations at the time of the Greek State visit is well known (see Direct Action, August, 1963, for details). The State failed to suppress the demonstrations: it is now engaged in suppressing two of those who shared responsibility for them. The "trial" (which in "democratic" countries precedes the jail sentence) showed clearly what was happening. Of course the prosecuting counsel had to say that this was "not a political trial": lawyers are paid to tell lies.

The trial should have started on November 27, but Terry Chandler threw a spanner in the works by pointing out that the committal proceedings had been irregular. The judge considered the matter over lunch and quashed the

indictment. Terry left the Old Bailey and disappeared. Then a Voluntary Bill of Indictment was obtained. Why persist with the farce of "committal proceedings" when they can be bypassed whenever the State finds them inconvenient? Next day the trial of Peter Moule began, since Terry did not reappear.

Outside the court there were poster parades and leaflets were distributed. Two men were later fined for "distributing an advertisement without the permission of the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police." A third, thought by the police to be distributing Committee literature, was also arrested. He was in fact distributing Church leaflets: this caused some

continued on page 2, column 1

SOLIDARITY WORKS

PATERNOSTER BUILDERS WALK OUT—AND WIN

ON the morning of December 5 at the Paternoster Site, St. Paul's, London, 17 steel-fixers were forced to take strike action when the management made a surprise attack on their pay packets. Like most other sections of the construction industry, steel-fixers' wages consist of a basic rate plus bonus payments. The bonus is negotiated on the site taking into account the nature of the job, site conditions, and so on.

When a bonus rate has been agreed by the management and men, it cannot be altered except by mutual agreement. But down on the multi-million re-development project of Church land to the north of St. Paul's the boss, or his hired yobs—or both—decided to cut the steel fixer's bonus without previous discussion. This was completely "illegal". Taking the only action possible under the circumstances, the steel-fixers walked off the site. All 17 of them.

The total labour force on the site is almost a thousand. Previously there had been strikes and overtime bans by various trades, but, without the strength which comes from unity, these had dragged on for days or even weeks and often did not result in any clear-cut victory. This time it was widely felt that the steel-fixers must not be left out alone on a long-drawn strike.

The Federation Steward, site spokesman of the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives, to which most of the building unions belong, called a mass meeting during the lunch hour. There was never any doubt of the outcome. Speaker after speaker called for sympathetic action and full support of the steel-fixers. A vote was taken and, by an overwhelming majority, the whole site struck.

A strike committee was formed consisting of all shop stewards. Pickets took up their positions at the gates and all lorries were intercepted. Almost every driver drove away as soon as he was

continued on page 2, column 2

Some dam direct action

The Italian Riviera is to have a big new water dam, so the planners have decided, but the people of the area above San Remo are not quite so sure. Warned by the disaster caused by the collapse of the Vaiont Dam in October, the villagers of Badalucco came out to demonstrate when the new dam was to be started. They have no faith in the planners and contractors.

On the day work was to begin, a great demonstration was held on the roads leading to the site. Picket lines were set across the roads. Any workman who crossed the lines were attacked. Cars and lorries belonging to the contractors were burned.

The disaster at Longarone warned the people of Badalucco. The more recent dam disaster in California would seem to justify them.

embarrassment to police and magistrates.

Peter Moule accepted that he had incited people to demonstrate: he denied that a demonstration constituted a "public nuisance". He was acquitted on two charges but found guilty of incitement to commit a public nuisance and himself committing a public nuisance on July 9. (He had asked demonstrators in Whitehall to sit down in order to prevent further violence between them and a police cordon.) How 60 people could create a public nuisance by sitting down rather than standing up, when Whitehall was already blocked by a police cordon, is a question only a trained lawyer could answer.

Terry Chandler's trial was due to begin on December 11 (he had re-appeared on December 5), but he had yet another spanner up his sleeve. Having obtained the jury list for the Old Bailey, Committee supporters had given those on it a questionnaire designed to find out their attitude towards the Committee of 100. Armed with their findings Terry proceeded to object to over 30 potential jurors, although only two of these had been covered by the questionnaire, and was prevented from objecting to many more only by the judge's ruling that a jury had to be made up from those members of the panel immediately available.

At last the trial began—it lasted 6 days. Before Terry was found guilty of committing a public nuisance (twice) and incitement to commit a public nuisance, several points emerged: police witnesses admitted that they had orders to prevent all processions and demonstrations, **whether or not they caused a nuisance or constituted an obstruction**; the only exception was the royal procession itself, which was allowed because the Queen had ordered it; police witnesses admitted that on three occasions on July 9 police cordons had created an obstruction where none existed before; police witnesses admitted that they had been in plain clothes among the demonstrators "for the purpose of detecting offences."

Our secret police, however, were not so forthcoming. Ben Dickenson of the Special Branch refused to confirm that in the course of his work he visited Leconfield House, Curzon Street, Mayfair (secret HQ of MI5); refused to accept responsibility for telephone tapping and opening mail; refused to name the men who followed Terry Chandler all through Greek Week, though he admitted that some of his men had been given that job.

Terry asked some questions which a lawyer could probably answer to his satisfaction (and after a judge's summing-up to a jury's satisfaction), but they seem pretty difficult questions:

WHY is it lawful for police officers to walk down Whitehall, but not for ordinary peaceful citizens to do so?

WHY is it lawful for police and royal processions to cause major obstructions all over London, but unlawful for demonstrations to cause minor ones?

WHY is it lawful for the Police Commissioner and his men to go against the specific assurances of Macmillan in Parliament that rights of peaceful demonstration would not be interfered with?

We could, of course, supply our own answers. We could point out that laws are devices by which the State maintains its powers, that police forces are the agents of the State against the people, that "civil rights" are a myth, that anybody who challenges the State is liable to be met—as the Committee of 100 has learned by experience—by the full force of its coercive and oppressive machinery.

Peter Moule is in Brixton Prison; Terry Chandler is in Wandsworth. Pat Arrowsmith, through no fault of her own, is not in jail. Pat was fined £2 in March, 1963 for "obstruction" and had £25 costs awarded **against** her on appeal (despite the fact that she had received legal aid with a nil

contribution certificate). She had addressed a meeting of dockers in April, 1962, in Nelson Street, Liverpool, a place which police and defence witnesses agreed was a popular meeting ground. Many larger meetings have been held there; speakers have included B. Braddock and H. Wilson: needless to say they were not arrested. A Liverpool JP was among witnesses who stated that the meeting caused no obstruction. The other speakers at the meeting were left alone: Pat was quite clearly victimised. Having refused to pay her fine, she was sentenced to a week's jail—however, an unknown saboteur has paid it for her.

Protests have followed the sentences on Peter Moule and Terry Chandler, as they did George Clark's sentence.

The victimisation of the so-called "leaders" of the Committee of 100 can only be answered in one way. If we do not need to be incited in order to act, then let us continue our protest and our propaganda; let us show that we are neither deterred nor seriously weakened by this latest attack on our movement.

WYNFORD HICKS

Acknowledgements to "Court Circular" and "Open Letter to an Old Bailey Court" (both 6d. from the London Committee of 100, 13, Goodwin Street, N.4). See "Free Speech?" (6d. from Dr. M. Ringsleben, 29, Hanover Square, Leeds, 3) for further details on the Arrowsmith case.

NE protests at Beeching axe

Dear Comrade,

Recently a very successful meeting was held at Whitley Bay in Northumberland, to begin a campaign to save the Tyneside electric rail services, now threatened with the Beeching axe. Plans are also going ahead for meetings in all towns on the North Tyne route. Another meeting is being planned at Blyth, where the Blyth and Tyne railway line is already scheduled for closure.

In order to get the widest possible support, people of all political parties, left, right and centre, are combining together with people of no party to try and make this campaign a success.

Northern newspapers recently published letters from me, asking for 10,000 Tynesiders to lobby Parliament. I realise this is asking rather a lot and I am not likely to get it. But a mass lobby of Parliament, if planned on a national basis, could be a success and could be very effective. I should be pleased to hear from people who are interested in this idea.

Yours fraternally,

DOUGLAS KEPPEL.

42, Simonside Terrace, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 6.

continued from page 1, column 2

told of the situation by the pickets. T & GWU please note: there was one scab driving a lorry from Willenhall, Staffs.

But on the whole the lorry drivers who arrived at the gates and met the pickets behaved as good trade unionists and their solidarity was a great encouragement to the strikers.

Unfortunately, the majority of ETU members crossed the picket lines. Their union does not expect any member to pass a picket, according to a full-time official of the London Area Office, who went further and admitted "it would go against the grain". It didn't go against the grain with the electricians of Rashleigh Phipps & Co., nor the lift erectors of J. & E. Hall. Some plasterers also scabbed. They were laid off the next day, anyway. It is interesting to wonder whether they would have been made redundant at that time, if they had been standing solid with the rest of the site. But they decided to go it alone—and they went.

On Friday morning, December 6, the strike affected at least 85% of the work force. The management refused to negotiate with the committee or the Federation steward. This was an attempt to save face. They knew they were wrong. They knew they would have to surrender, but they decided to do it through the full-time officials of the unions, rather than the rank-and-file organisation on the site. At lunch-time it became known that they had climbed down completely. A mass meeting on Saturday morning accepted their "unconditional surrender" and normal working was resumed.

It was a short, sharp and successful strike. The management tried to be smart and they were taught a lesson. The lesson for building workers everywhere is on the poster which is now fixed to the wall of the site canteen: **SOLIDARITY WORKS! — AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL.**

SEAN GANNON

LABOUR PROBLEMS, MR. MARTELL?

THE Freedom Group has been discussing with Felix McGlennon Ltd. the possible take-over by the former of the printing side of McGlennon's song publishing business, where 33 members of the printing industry are involved, covered by four print unions. If Martell does take over, the print unions will pull their members out. In theory Martell couldn't care less, in practice he is lumbered—shortage of skilled labour. Martell then tried to pull a "stroke", by sending the following letter to the print unions:

"Despite the impression assiduously fostered by those hostile to our aims and objectives, we do not oppose the true principles of unionism, and if you and other printing trade unions are ready to discuss co-operating with us in keeping the works of Messrs. Felix McGlennon open, we shall be very happy to begin talks at once.

"As a basis it could be taken that we would be willing to maintain present conditions regarding wages and hours, add an extra week's holiday with pay (after three years' service), and to take over all your members who wished to stay without exception. We could not, however, agree to the continuance of the closed shop or restrictive practices, unless you are able to convince us that they are in the economic interests of the workers and the management concerned, and the country as a whole.

"In the event of you agreeing to enter discussions in an attempt to keep the works of Messrs. Felix McGlennon open, we would suggest that the Minister of Labour and the TUC be invited to send representatives to any discussions between us.

"This letter is sent to you with the consent of the present Directors of Messrs. Felix McGlennon Ltd., who have also agreed the statement we shall issue on the matter. They wish us to inform you that any new arrangement will not in any way affect the terms of compensation they have already agreed with you for your members."

The purpose of the letter stands out like a sore thumb: Martell knows the print unions couldn't agree to his terms, i.e. "open house". It was a deliberate attempt to gain sympathy for Freedom Group's aims, by saying in effect "we are willing to co-operate with the unions to save 33 men their jobs, but it's the unions who will not co-operate". Come off it, Martell, you know perfectly well that if you thought there was the slightest chance of the printing unions talking the letter would never have been sent out. Or won't McGlennon sell if "open house" is the proposition? That stroke is a bit "crude" for your organisation.

One wonders how the plant is progressing at Waddingtons. It is rumoured that there is a labour shortage, even under the Freedom Group's staffing arrangements: 1 man - 55 jobs. Perhaps the lads are finding it difficult to feed a michle and "wash up" a wharfale at the same time.

Three interesting items appeared in the *New Daily* recently, all in line with the policy of anti-unions (sorry, Freedom Group isn't anti-union, just militantly opposed). In the issue of 18.12.63, "Facing Facts on Incomes", it talks about the proposed wage increase of busmen and railwaymen, in their struggle to keep on terms with private industry, and the Ministers who swear by "the guiding light", ignoring such uncomfortable propositions as the workers in nationalised industries being forced to chase comparable rates in private industry. The *New Daily* has the solution (you guessed it), "tackle the unions in private industry". Crocodile tears for the busmen and railwaymen, the wicked workers in private industry are responsible for the nationalised workers' miserable pittance. This "supposed goodwill to some men" kids no one, least of all the busmen.

In the 19.12.63 *New Daily*, under "Unions within Unions", the rank and file came in for a bashing. To better industrial relations, we are told, something must be done about unofficial pressures, as when London busmen convened a delegate conference before they would accept the TGWU agreement on an interim pay rise. Funny. I thought Freedom Group were very much concerned with individual opinion? Oh! Sorry, that's only in connection with anti-unionism and strikes.

In the same issue of the *New Daily*, splashed on the front page, is the following statement: "Activities of Trades Unions. Captain Henry Kerby, Conservative MP for Arundel and Shoreham, has placed the following Motion on the Parliamentary Order Paper: 32 Activities of Trades Unions: That this House, having regard to the original conception of the trades unions as bodies with the proper purpose of providing negotiating machinery between employers and employees, but recognising that their organisation is now used by irresponsible persons to paralyse any section of industry, however vital to the national economy, urges Her Majesty's Government to set up a Royal Commission forthwith to inquire into the law relating to the activities of trade unions, with a view to preventing these being abused by unofficial strikes, demarcation disputes, picketing and other customs leading to intimidation and victimisation of workers, and the holding of the community as a

whole to ransom".

Captain Henry Kerby, MP, is on the Advisory Committee of "The National Fellowship", the political ginger group. Some one mention something about "pressure groups"? Obviously the National Fellowship can only attempt to pressurise the Conservative Party.

The Motion put down by Captain Kerby is a cracker. If any trade unionist still has doubts about the policy of Martell's Freedom Group, he must be living in the world of "Noddy".

BILL CHRISTOPHER, printworker.

Franco's heir

THE SPANISH CONSPIRATORS—after Franco who? by Bob Edwards and Augustin Roa (Housmans, 5 Caledonian Road, London, N.1; or Chemical Workers' Union, 155 Kensington Park Road, S.E.11. 5s. 6d. by post).

* * *

"SPAIN is a country occupied by its own army." This comment by a British observer in 1959 is as applicable today as it would have been in 1939. And the most powerful man in the army now is General Don Augustin Muñoz Grandes, nicknamed "long-ears". In 1962 Franco created for him the special post of vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and he is acting Head of State if Franco is absent, falls ill or dies.

The authors of this book trace events which have made Muñoz Grandes Franco's heir. Their story is largely that of Franco Spain's relations with the outside world. This may seem strange if we see the country as an isolated pocket of reaction in a changing world. But, as the authors show, this is a very superficial picture. Franco and his gang are out for what they can get and, like all their kind, are not satisfied with what lies within their own frontiers. However, they are not imperialists or expansionists; their game is to sell themselves, or rather the Spanish people to the highest bidder.

Since 1940 Muñoz Grandes has played the dominant active role in this trade. Like Franco, who is three years his senior, he joined the army young and was apprenticed to tyranny in Morocco. A lucky chance saved his life in 1936 (he was caught in Madrid at the time of the uprising) and from then onwards his fortunes soared. When the Civil War ended he was for a few months secretary of the Falange, he then held consecutively the two most important field appointments in the army: commander of the Gibraltar area at the time when Hitler and Franco planned to capture the British base, and commander of the infamous Spanish Blue Division on the Eastern front.

In both posts he was able to ingratiate himself with the Nazis, and on visiting Berlin established himself in Hitler's favour. This favour consolidated his power on his return to Madrid. He was no simple time-server; this much is shown by his almost incredible confidence to the German ambassador in 1943, that he was willing to act against Franco, should he take a line injurious to German interests. Franco's reaction to the authors' disclosure of this incident is not yet known!

In 1951 the U.S. government, having supported the U.N.'s black-listing of the Franco regime in 1946, decided that Spain could help the Free World. The bases established by the Madrid Pact two years later allowed America to become a Mediterranean power for the first time; they also assured, at what was then an early stage, her ascendancy in NATO, the other members of which are not fortunate enough to share the bases with her. For the occasion of the negotiations, Muñoz Grandes was appointed Minister over all the armed forces. Though named at Nuremberg as a war criminal for his part in the siege of Leningrad, he visited Washington shortly after the Pact and was decorated with the Order of the Legion of Merit. Eleven years before Hitler had showered high German orders on him: The bases saved Franco's regime from economic disaster and further consolidated Muñoz Grandes's position.

These examples should illustrate the reality of Muñoz Grandes's importance, and the aptness of the authors' choice of title. The final section of the book exposes quite clearly the dirty dealings between Madrid and Bonn. Fascist Spain has played no small part in preserving continuity from Third Reich to Federal Republic.

The chief victims in this sordid tale are the Spanish people, who have suffered long and hard the whims of international capitalist conspiracy. Can we expect their lot to improve soon? The authors are not optimistic. We hope they are wrong, but whatever the future of Spain, we can only thank them for such a detailed and skilful documentation and interpretation of events that must affect us all. Whether we like it or not, Spain is our concern.

MARK HENDY.

Direct Action

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE SYNDICALIST
WORKERS' FEDERATION

Yearly subscription rate: 6s.0d
from: Bill Christopher, 34 Cumberland Road, London, E.17

IWMA CONGRESS

THE IWMA's XII Congress was held on November 30 and December 1 at Puteaux Town Hall just outside Paris. Delegates were present from the French CNT, the Spanish CNT (in exile), the Bulgarian CNT (in exile), and the British SWF (Malcolm Hawkes, Laurens Otter, Brian Hart, David Stringer, Wynford Hicks). Indirect delegates represented the FORU of Uruguay, the FORA of Argentina, the USI of Italy, and the NSF of Norway.

Fraternal greetings were received from sympathetic organisations and groups including the IWW and the War Resisters' International. Germain Esgleas, the outgoing secretary, reported on the IWMA and its paper, 'AIT', since the last Congress in 1961, and each section reported on its own activity. The British report was well received. During discussion anxiety was expressed about the situation in Argentina, particularly by the Bulgarian, British and Uruguayan sections.

There are at present in Argentina three organisations which bear the name FORA. Each produces a paper—these three papers bear the same name. Each accepts the principles and tactics of the IWMA; each claims descent from the FORA whose Fifth Congress, held in 1905, adopted anarchist communism, federal and anti-state principles, direct action tactics. One of these organisations is a recognised section of the IWMA: the other two also wish to be recognised. The IWMA has constantly appealed to anarcho-syndicalists in Argentina to resolve their differences; both the FORU of Uruguay and the Spanish CNT in exile in Argentina have attempted to help. In June, 1963, the two unrecognised organisations held a Congress of Unity—although unity was not achieved, fraternal relations are maintained.

The SWF called on the Argentinian section to do everything in its power to reach an understanding with the other two organisations, and deplored a situation where the majority of Argentinian comrades appeared to be excluded from the IWMA against their expressed wishes. The British suggestion to invite direct delegates from all three organisations to the next Congress was abandoned on two grounds: the expense was thought to be prohibitive; the recognised section would object to the invitation of rival organisations. A resolution was prepared urging the recognised section to reach an understanding with the other organisations. A British suggestion to include a request to the Spanish CNT in exile to assist in this work was opposed since the recognised section would resent outside interference. In its emaciated form the resolution was passed.

Although the IWMA statutes were ratified by all the sections present, the British delegation put the point that they considered the language and terms in which they were couched to be outdated.

Congress then turned to relations with the SAC of Sweden and the NSV of Holland. The British section stated that, as they considered the SAC and the NSV brother organisations, they were pressing for their re-affiliation to the IWMA. However, it was pointed out that the SAC and the NSV would not consider re-affiliation until the IWMA revised its statutes—which they considered inadequate in the light of the changes undergone by capitalism since the founding of the IWMA. The resolution passed at the last Congress (1961), which invited our Swedish and Dutch comrades to reconsider their position and re-affiliate to the IWMA and declared that in the meantime fraternal relations would be maintained, was ratified.

The next item was a "Thorough analysis of capitalism and the State in capitalist countries, in countries under 'State Socialism', and in the 'Tiers Monde'." Our task was to arrive at a "statement of the theoretical and tactical position of the IWMA in the light of this evolution." Both the Bulgarian CNT, which had originally suggested the discussion, and the Spanish CNT presented papers; these comrades undertook to discuss the matter further and produce a joint statement.

The second day began with discussion of the evolution of the trade union internationals and our attitude to them and the British section suggested a fusion of the IWMA and the IWW. Feeling of the Congress was that this issue was delicate since the IWW was, in theory, an International itself; it was pointed out that the IWW

and the IWMA already worked in the closest harmony.

Congress then discussed implications of the 'Syndical Alliance' (the Spanish CNT have formed a trade union alliance with the social democrat unions, the UGT, and the Basque Catholic unions, the STV). None of the sections objected to the CNT's course of action, but the French CNT were worried by the fact that the Spanish CNT now had connections, however tenuous, with the French social democrat unions, the FO. The SWF proposed that the IWMA be directly represented on the co-ordinating committee for action in Spain.

A suggestion by the British section that the IWMA should establish fraternal relations with the International Confederation for Disarmament and Peace was accepted.

The paper, 'AIT', which in theory appears monthly in three or four languages (i.e. in the same issue), has been in financial difficulties. Neither the British section's proposal that 'AIT' become an internal, duplicated monthly, nor that of the Bulgarian section, that the paper be edited and published in Britain, was taken up.

In conclusion it was decided that the IWMA Secretariat should reside in Paris. Congress noted the British offer that in exceptional circumstances (i.e. a drastic deterioration of the situation in France) the SWF, in association with the Spanish CNT in exile in Britain, would assume responsibility for the continuity of the Secretariat. The new Secretary, Anibal Ferré of the French CNT, and the new Secretariat were elected.

The British delegation was disappointed by the Congress, particularly because no progress was made towards resolving the difficulties in Argentina, Sweden and Holland.

On the morning of December 1 the IWMA organised a public meeting at the Salle de la Mutualité in Paris. A packed hall was addressed by comrades Soriano (French CNT), Wynford Hicks (SWF), Balkansky (Bulgarian CNT), Federica Montseny, Germain Esgleas (Spanish CNT). Wynford Hicks' speech, which made considerable reference to the Committee of 100 and their tactics, was particularly well received, especially by the youth.

GROUP NOTICES

S.W.F. (LONDON)

Open Meetings

Wednesdays, 8.30 p.m., at the White Swan, 23, Farringdon Road, London, E.C. (near Farringdon St. Station, in loop off main road on other side of railway line).

January 1	The Workers' International	Ken Hawkes
" 8	Spanish Tourist Boycott	Brian Hart
" 15	The Kibbutz system in Israel	Dave Wade
" 22	Non-violence and Syndicalism	Wynford Hicks
" 29	Civil Rights in the USA	Tom Brown

OXFORD ANARCHIST GROUP: Details from Laurens Otter, 5, New Yatt Road, North Leigh, near Witney, Oxon.

EDINBURGH. Would anyone interested in forming a group in Edinburgh, please contact Alasdair Macdonald, Torphin, Torphin Road, Colinton, Edinburgh 13.

BIRMINGHAM AND W. MIDLANDS. Contact Peter Neville, 12 South Grove, Erdington, Birmingham 23.

SOUTHERN FEDERATION. Contact Ken Parkin, Old Tea House, Brockenhurst, Hants.

GLASGOW FEDERATION OF ANARCHISTS meet every Thursday evening at 7.30 p.m., 4 Ross Street, Glasgow S.E. (off the Gallowgate).

LIVERPOOL—Those interested in forming a libertarian discussion group on Merseyside, please contact Vincent Johnson, 43 Millbank, Liverpool 13.

BRISTOL FEDERATION OF ANARCHISTS—For details please contact the convenor, Ian Vico, 3 Freeland Place, Hotwells, Bristol 8.

NOTTING HILL ANARCHIST GROUP meets on the last Friday of each month at Brian and Margaret Hart's, 57 Ladbroke Road (near Notting Hill Gate Station), London, W.11 at 8 p.m.

ROMFORD AND HORNCHURCH ANARCHIST GROUP—for details please contact Chris Rose, 34 Newbury Gardens, Upminster, Essex, or John Chamberlain, 74 Upper Rainham Road, Hornchurch, Essex.

MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT—Contact Jim Pinkerton, 12 Alt Road, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS ANARCHIST GROUP meet on 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month at 8 p.m. at 4, Mount Zion, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

CAMBRIDGE ANARCHIST GROUP. Meet Tuesdays (in terms), 95 Queens. Details, town and gown, Adrian Cunningham, 3, North Cottages, Trumpington Road, Cambridge.

KENNEDY—THE MAKING OF MYTHS

THE Newsflash of President Kennedy's murder filled me with horror, horror equalled only by the shock of another newsflash—the murder of the defenceless handcuffed accused in Dallas police headquarters. The person to person confrontation of murder dissolves political complexes in the catalyst of horror and compassion. Compassion, too, for the mother of the manacled dead and for his wife, bewildered in a hostile, strange environment, with her two baby girls.

But politics does not wait long on pity. Almost at once the tragedy was exploited. Warren, Chief Justice of the US, at once blamed Kennedy's right-wing opponents in his own Democratic Party. In England, George Brown used the occasion to put in a good word for the Labour Party and the next General Election. London was threatened with another statue, to add to the three presidents, most of the monarchs since the Conqueror and the countless population of bronze images which impede the traffic.

Then came the flood of bathos, sentiment and political legend. Kennedy gave no thought to himself, was the greatest man of all time, "like Christ he had given his life to save humanity," said one British paper, "like Lincoln he was shot because he had come to free the slaves."

The coloured people of Texas must have felt cynical. Like Lincoln, always great men have been freeing the slaves. As the French might have said, "The more they are freed, the more they are in chains." Lincoln's emancipation act is one myth; we are now witnessing the creation of the Kennedy myth.

THE REAL ISSUE

The American Civil War was fought not on the issue of slavery, but on the issue, as old as the Union, of federalism or strong central government, an issue not yet quite solved. The USA has always been a federation of distinct states, from 13 to 50, each with its own laws and government and for more than a century a struggle has been waged between power groups who wanted to preserve federalism and groups seeking to strengthen the central government to the virtual extinction of the states. In the 19th century man's loyalty was more often to his home state rather than Washington. When the South seceded, General Lee, who was opposed to secession, said that, nevertheless, he must fight for his country, Virginia.

Traditionally, the Democratic Party, strong in the "solid South" was for federalism, the Republican Party for strong central government, but when F. D. Roosevelt became president, he made the Democratic administration the driving force of a centralisation hitherto unthought of.

Along with the drive for a monolithic state, the USA was expansionist, driving outwards to build an empire, the Louisiana purchase from France, Florida from Spain, the Oregon settlement with Britain, whetted the appetite. War was made on Mexico, and Texas, California, New Mexico and Arizona—a vast area—were stolen from her. Constant war on the Indians was waged, their numbers more than decimated and vast regions of the West conquered.

While this went on, the North and South were developing different ways of life, though the South was just as ruthlessly imperialist as Washington. Slavery was not the greatest difference, for, though this vile institution was much stronger in the South, yet both in North and South there were those who were for slavery and those who were for abolition. The difference in economies, as well as the living question of federalism, was a more potent cause of strife. The North was seeking to expand its industries, steel, textiles, machinery, etc., behind a shield of tariffs. The South was a producer of raw materials, principally cotton, and favoured free trade.

JOHN BROWN'S BODY

By mid-century the Abolitionists of North and South had made a burning issue of their cause and in both regions lived in constant danger to property, life and limb.

In 1859, John Brown, his sons and a few friends struck a forlorn blow for freedom at Harper's Ferry, hoping to free the slaves by force of arms. Brown was hanged—by the North—and Lincoln said publicly that the sentence was fully justified. Presidential election year, 1880, came four weeks after Brown was hanged, and Lincoln won, but not as an Abolitionist.

At his inauguration, Lincoln made the usual address. Outlining the president's aims, he quoted with approval from one of his previous speeches:

"I do but quote from one of those speeches when I do declare that—

"I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so and I have no inclination to do so

"I now reiterate these sentiments". March 4, 1861.
Six weeks later the Civil War was raging and Lincoln's armies

were marching to the words and music of "John Brown's body lies a-mouldering in the grave, but his soul goes marching on."

Many times Lincoln stated his war aims, as, for example, his reply to Horace Greeley, of *Tribune*, "My paramount objective is to save the Union and not either to save or destroy slavery". But war determines ends that even the victors never intended. The war was not going well for the North, Washington was threatened, while the Southern front held fast. The British Government considered recognising the Confederacy and that might have ended the North's blockade. Some of Lincoln's generals urged him to recruit negro soldiers and come out for emancipation.

Events pushed Lincoln over the edge, his famous Emancipation Proclamation being effective from January 1, 1863, but the declaration did not apply to his own territory, only to the states in rebellion. It applied to "any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States." It did not apply to the North, or to those Southern pro-slavery states which had not joined the Confederacy. The document also excused parts of Louisiana, certain counties of Virginia and the state of Tennessee.

Useless to the slaves, the proclamation swung British working class feeling strongly to the North. In America it helped to turn the tide against the South. John Brown's body was paying dividends.

AWAKENING CONSCIOUSNESS

The war ended in 1865, but Lincoln, with his allies, had never believed in the equality of white and coloured races. Like Verwoerd, he wanted separateness, even negro exodus. Peace found the negro, North and South, still a kind of slave, less than a second-class citizen and a hungry one at that.

Since then the negro has had to struggle and endure bitter suffering for every little step he has been able to ascend. The apathy of despair has been the greatest obstacle the rebel minority

DIRECT ACTION---A STEP FORWARD

With this issue Direct Action becomes a monthly printed paper. This forward step, decided on by the SWF's recent National Conference, will involve greatly increased expenditure and, to be successful, our circulation must increase. Can YOU help by taking extra copies for distribution (sale or return), getting new subscribers, or making a regular donation to the Press Fund? Thanks in advance.

have had to overcome, but the war of 1939-45 produced fruits the racialists of Europe and America never expected. Coloured men of the USA taken into the army and sent to Europe opened their dark eyes in wonder at what they saw.

Many have said to me, in North and South, that they had believed the USA was the only place on earth where democracy and liberty existed. Their experiences among the working people of Europe (they spoke largely of France and Britain) sent them home with new ideas that could not be suppressed.

Now the Negro revolt is under way, but the coloured people of America have little faith in voting or Acts of Congress. Their circumstances have taught them to rely on Direct Action and that action is giving them victory upon victory.

KENNEDY WANTED VOTES

Their present method of Direct Action is quite their own—sit-ins, ride-ins, dive-ins, stand-ins and economic boycott. It is pacifist, but to a degree we have not witnessed yet in England. It is hard and needs training and self-control, but these have been developed. In the circumstances this is the only way the coloured people of USA can gain present victory and victory it is. I consider this calmly as a question of the efficacy of such a strategy and tactics and believe that, in their time and place, they are right to use such a method.

Of course, this has upset the politicians, especially the Democratic Party, who wanted to go on making Lincoln-type speeches and dodge the issues, but the coloured people have pushed the issue: "Are you for or against?". The two-sided Democratic Party is split in the once "solid South", Kennedy needed negro votes. The guns of Dallas drowned the sound of electioneering and made us forget that 1964 is election year. JFK did not lead his motorcade into Texas crying "Set my people free", but "Vote for me".

The coloured people, whose present wisdom has earned them the support of millions of whites, will free themselves. In their own way they are learning that "the slave's own arm his chains must sever".

TOM BROWN

BOLIVIA Behind the news story

WHEN President Paz Estenssoro formed a government on the day after the Revolution of April, 1952 was over, he spoke to the people from a balcony of Government House. Beside him were other politicians and non-politicians: miners. The President spoke of the reforms which would come about. It was not his intention to nationalise the mines, because with the vested interest of the United States, it would have been a tricky business.

But miners there kept prodding Juan Lechin's back with their rifles, saying: The mines. So, Juan Lechin, the miner's representative, suddenly shouted into the microphone: "And we shall nationalise the mines". Afterwards, Paz Estenssoro had an exchange of bitter words with Lechin over the matter, but both agreed nothing else could be done. The miners wanted to control the mines themselves and would stop at nothing.

So, the miners got their way and a big concern was under workers' control. But they made one big mistake: they relied on the government.

They took the government as the boss that could be bullied into complying with their demands. There were many reasons for it. First, immediately after the revolution, they found that the foreign technicians, white Europeans, mostly Englishmen, did not want to work for "dagos" and "niggers", no matter if they were paid double. Then they found their machinery was too old and most of the mines exhausted. They expected the government to supply new technicians and new machinery. But the Bolivian government is based on corruption, and money that came in Paz Estenssoro used to buy henchmen.

Gradually, the miners found themselves with bureaucrats acting as delegates and bosses. But they still kept control of the mines and, even if they didn't produce much tin, they instilled such fear in the government that the government paid them and supplied them with cheap stores. In the end that produced laziness in many miners.

The Americans didn't like the situation. They were giving money to the government and nothing happened. The Americans didn't press the government into exploiting vast tin deposits in the country, which are on the surface and only need to be scooped up, nor did they supply the miners with new machinery and technicians. The miners themselves had their own people sent away to foreign universities to study engineering, but to make an engineer takes years. Neither did the Americans stop corruption in the Bolivian government. All they did was give some money, enough to line the pockets of politicians and send a lot of bureaucrats from Washington, who don't know what they are talking about.

In La Paz alone there are 700 American families, as workers of the American Aid plan. They live in the best houses, they pay any rent (thus causing a general increase in rents) because of their high salaries and resort to legalised smuggling, as they can import unlimited cars and other machines tax free. The miners saw many of these Americans, retired schoolteachers trained in Washington to teach "dagos" the merits of "popular capitalism" and the "American Way of Life".

Of mining, education, health, they know nothing. The book "The Ugly American" is a very rosy-coloured picture of what

really happens with Americans in Bolivia, and their aid.

But the miners still control the mines. They have no machinery or money, but they won't give them up. They've got fed up with "foreign intervention", with Peace Corps members, Unesco, and so on. They want something practical. So, to get what they want, they have resorted to keeping 21 of those parasites as hostages. Now, President Johnson has offered his help to the Bolivian government to help free those hostages.

It isn't a question of seeing the true picture, simply one of sending Mustangs and jeeps with heavy machine-guns, as was done in Guatemala in 1951. The Bolivian Government has sent 700 troops to increase the size of the garrison in Oruro, the city nearest to the mines. The Sherman tanks with which the new Bolivian Army, American-trained, is being supplied, will now be put to use. Perhaps.

Every time the government was threatened with a blow from other parties, especially the fascists, the miners came to the rescue. Now, if with American aid they can destroy the miners, who will help them in the future? It is a sticky situation for Americans and the Bolivian government. As to the miners: if they fall, they always fall hitting hard.

JUAN NOVEDADES.

Two exhibitions

ANY time from now until March, if you walk into the Royal Academy, under an awning of Union Jacks and red and yellow flags of Franco's Spain, hand over your umbrella, and pay up 5s. (3s. 6d. if student), you can look at the paintings of Goya while members of Securicor look at you.

The exhibition, which includes contemporaries and later painters, is called "Goya and his times". Goya's times were full of contrast, times in which the richness and splendour of court life was answered by the barbarism and desolation of the Peninsular war. Goya included both in his paintings, but as the head of Madrid's museum points out in the catalogue (a rather useless document, since it was written while the paintings were still on a tomato train and therefore bears no relationship to the arrangement on the walls), "the majority of the paintings in the present exhibition show the more immediately attractive side of the artist's work". Certainly paintings of the aristocracy having picnics or going hunting and their portraits predominate. Some of the latter (La Maya Desnuda and La Maya Vestida, or the Countess of Chinchon) are among Goya's most splendid and sensitive works.

It is regrettable that the "Black Paintings" are omitted; these show the darker side of Goya's personality. Nevertheless this has not been entirely neglected and one becomes aware of Goya the Satirist, who derided the frivolities and hypocrisy of the circle in which he lived and the Goya who revolted from the horrors of war and brutality in general. The one is revealed in a series of etchings called "Los Capricios", the other in the series "Desastres de la Guerra" in which the "darker" side of the painter is given full reign. The tragedy of war and its futility, Goya's own nihilism and love of freedom all find expression in these extraordinary etchings. The same feelings are found in a couple of etchings of garroted men, one by Goya and the other, closely following Goya's, by Lucas y Padilla. Their inclusion in the exhibition does not seem to have embarrassed the Spanish Government.

In Goya's last years his former "joie de vivre" was replaced by an increasing discomfort with the despotic situation in Spain, following on the Napoleonic Wars, which led him to seek exile in France.

One undergoes a similar change of spirit on passing from the comfortable warmth and glitter of the Royal Academy and the rows of brilliantly coloured Spanish dignitaries, to a little gallery in Cork Street, where the paintings of another Spanish painter have been on show. His name is Augustin Ibarrola. His paintings were smuggled out of Burgos jail, where he is at present serving a nine-year sentence. They are truly black. Of them the painter says: "This is Spain of yesterday, today and tomorrow as I see it from behind my prison bars". The chains and locks, the sunlight chequered by prison bars, the hideously impersonal faces of the Guardia Civil, with their rigid, square bodies, the endless cell doors fading into infinity which he depicts in bold, thick, black lines produce an effect of claustrophobia and repression, which only one who has continually experienced these things could have expressed so vividly.

The exhibition of Ibarrola's work ended on December 15. It will probably be shown in the provinces—almost certainly in Oxford and Cambridge.

KATE SANDERS.

MURDER — DECEMBER 17

Despite our protests, the State exacted its vengeance. To punish murder it committed murder. The punishment fits the crime: it repeats it.

J. D. GILBERT-ROLFE.

HOUSING DIRECT ACTION

The Tunbridge Wells Working Group Committee of 100 have set up a sub-committee, known as the Tunbridge Wells Committee of 100 Tenants Association, which consists of the following: Jas D. Gilbert-Rolfe, Fred Herbert, Terry Burton, George Rush, Sandra Double, Rosemary Hale, Brian Rose.

We are at present handling the case of a woman named Mrs. Hilden, address, 124 Upper Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells, who is threatened with eviction, not because she wasn't paying her rent or keeping the house reasonably, but because she was employed as housekeeper to an old woman (who owned the house), who has since gone into hospital and sold the house over Mrs. Hilden's head!

Mrs. Hilden had no rent book, as she was employed for a small wage and food and keep for herself and her family. She has two children and a husband, at present unemployed. A court order is being taken out against her. We have approached the council on her behalf and told them she will not be put in a council rent centre, which would split up her family. They told us it was none of our business, and, anyhow, they had 13,000 on the waiting list and wouldn't consider doing anything until a court order is issued. We told them the family wasn't going to be split up. She has no electricity or coal, one of her children is aged 3. If necessary we shall undertake DIRECT ACTION.

MOROCCO

TWENTIETH-CENTURY FEUDALISM

ON November 20 the *Financial Times* carried an article by its Rabat (Morocco) correspondent entitled "The Moroccan scene. An experiment in true democracy", in which King Hassan II and the Minister of Agriculture, Reda Guedira, had praise "liberally" showered upon them. The general theme of the article was the new constitutional monarchy and dynamic agrarian reforms. Either this article is typical of the cynicism of our establishment press, or the correspondent is blind and deaf to recent events in Morocco.

Since the Moroccan state gained its independence from the French in 1956, any democratic or progressive trend has been interfered with, sabotaged or repressed by Hassan II and his courtiers. In 1957 he personally led an expedition, under false pretences, which resulted in the extermination of part of the inhabitants of the Riff mountains.

In 1958 the 'Palace' created, out of thin air, the Aiddi ou Bihi affair to justify repressive measures against the Independence (Istiqlal) Party.

To counter this the National Union of Popular Forces (UNFP) was formed, from which time the machinations of the Court took on subtler shapes, such as forming parties and trades unions that were little more than fictions, with the aim of confusing and dividing the workers. In 1959 a conspiracy to assassinate the Crown Prince (now Hassan II) was 'discovered', particularly to provide a reason for arresting the editors of the socialist paper 'At Tahrir'. Evidence was so totally lacking that the trial never took place.

AGRARIAN REFORM DROPPED

In May, 1960, the King sacked the government and replaced it with his own stooges. This was followed by the December, 1962 constitution, whose effect is that this absolutist monarch becomes head of the government and responsible for governmental policy.

The consequences were that the modest agrarian reforms previously planned were dropped before even begun and no group of associated industries was created; yet ostentatious public expenditure has increased enormously. All this is taking place in a country where 80% of the people are peasants, whose individual average earning is £15 per annum, and where there are about 1½ million unemployed. Graft and corruption are characteristic of the whole administrative hierarchy, in fact the present regime is a prisoner of them.

To quell doubts abroad about the sackings and to reinforce the new "liberal" image of the constitution, the King pretended to play the game the democratic way by organising general elections last year (1963).

Before them, Guedira, then Minister of the Interior and Director-General of the Royal Cabinet, spent months gerrymandering the constituency boundaries, as they do in the Northern Irish and South African police states and as is being done in London today, and setting up the royal party (FDIC), of which he became head, with all the state's financial resources, the army and police, radio and television at its disposal.

When all was ready, the elections were announced for one month ahead. Throughout the campaign, blackmail, bribery, violence, imprisonment and kidnapping were used against the people to force them to join the FDIC or to vote for it.

THE POLICE MOVE IN

On the eve of the election, the King made a televised speech in favour of the FDIC. On the day of the elections, army units and police forces sprang up all over the country and surrounded all polling booths. The opposition delegates, who under Moroccan law must witness the voting, were arrested and imprisoned; some are now free, others sentenced.

Nevertheless the FDIC only gained 69 seats, the same as the Independence party, and only 34% of the votes, against the opposition's 64% (this gives some idea of the extent of the gerrymandering). The scheme of the court and military had backfired, so they were thrown back on to the well-worn trick of discovering a "plot".

The UNFP decided to boycott the local elections of July 26, 1963 and held a meeting at Casablanca to discuss it on July 16. Suddenly several hundred police occupied neighbouring streets, the block was surrounded and all communications between Morocco and abroad were cut off. As they had no warrant, the police were refused entry, so they burst down the door and carted off about a hundred people.

Simultaneously, repressive operations took place all over the country: 800 were arrested in Agadir, including many members of the Union of Moroccan Workers (UMT), and in Marrakesh 1,000. The following day arrests continued with innumerable kidnappings in an atmosphere of increasing hatred and terror. One particularly nasty (or should one say nazi) case was that of Mohamed Salmi, a teacher, who was shot dead at 8 a.m. on July 17 at his front door; inquiries revealed that the commandos had made a mistake, they

were looking for a lawyer, Barrada, arrested two days before.

On the 18th the new Minister of the Interior, Mr. Hamiani, a docile puppet of the palace, deigned to inform the people what it was all about. A plot had been discovered aimed at overthrowing the government and an important stock of arms had been confiscated. Naturally he did not give details of the plot. "The police told me that they had seen machine guns and things of that sort." (I'll bet they had!); nor has he given details of which detainees have given confessions, what the confessions say, and why their "interrogation" resulted in their transfer from prison to hospital. Further, forgetting the doubtless obsolete principle of independence of the judiciary, he dictated in advance the conduct of the judges, by saying that "justice will say its word with rigour and firmness."

For three weeks after this there was a complete blackout. Families and lawyers were denied access to the arrested; arrests and kidnappings continued. Some prisoners were continually transferred from cop-shop to cop-shop and tortured to give "confessions" for their "dossier"; many became insane, some have "disappeared".

At the end of July the Moroccan students held their congress. Twenty-five were immediately arrested, but despite this the Congress went ahead and condemned the repression, whereupon a further twenty-six were arrested.

Finally, in August, French lawyers who came over under the terms of the Judicial Convention between Morocco and France were refused leave to defend the detainees. Obviously it follows that any Moroccan lawyers who have not already been arrested also run that risk if they attempt the defence.

This is as far as our information takes us at present, but we hope to print further articles on Morocco. **P.R.**

Alberta taxes medical care too high for workers

THE success of Saskatchewan's medical care insurance plan has forced the government of neighbouring Alberta to introduce a plan of its own. The Saskatchewan plan, introduced by the social democratic Co-operative Commonwealth Federation government, was bitterly opposed by most doctors, who even went on strike in an effort to stop it. Reason for their opposition? Saskatchewan doctors have incomes five or six times those of the average worker. After eighteen months' operation, the plan has proved so successful that annual premiums have been reduced from \$24 to \$12 for families and from \$12 to \$6 for single persons.

The government of Alberta is in the hands of the Social Credit party, a right-wing organisation vociferous in praise of "free enterprise" and opposition to "state control" and "socialism". Any plan it brought in had to meet with the approval of both doctors and the insurance companies who depend on medical care insurance (the free enterprise type, of course) for a big slice of their profits. It is interesting to compare the plan that satisfied them with Saskatchewan's.

First, the plan is in the hands of private insurance companies, providing they are willing to make the insurance available to any resident of Alberta and not to charge annual premiums of more than \$158 for families and \$63 for single persons. The Alberta government will subsidise the premiums of residents who pay no income tax at the rate of \$72 per annum for a family of three or more, \$42 for two people, and \$18 for a single person. People who have a taxable income of less than \$500 will be subsidised at the rate of \$36 for a family of three or more, \$21 for a family of two and \$9 for a single person.

A married man with a family in Saskatchewan gets medical insurance for \$1 a month. A married man with a family in Alberta must pay between \$7 and \$13 per month. In order not to pay any income tax, a married man with one child would have to earn less than \$2,300 per annum (or just under \$200 per month). To have a taxable income of less than \$500, it would be necessary to earn less than \$2,800 per annum (or just over \$230 per month). But anybody with such a low income needs every dollar to feed, house and clothe his family—and still lives in poverty. Little wonder, then, that of the 425,000 Albertans eligible for a government subsidy, only 131,000 have bought the medical insurance. Only just over one quarter of the poor people of the province can afford it.

ALARMING FALL-OUT

STILL in Alberta, Dr. L. J. leVann, Superintendent of the Provincial Training School in Red Deer, has been attacked by government-employed scientists for publishing "alarmist reports"

continued on page 8, column 2

INDUSTRIAL NOTEBOOK

London bus chaos

LONDON'S Busmen have received 10s. to 15s. on account and, judging by the length of the delegate conference (four hours) Sam Henderson, national bus secretary of T & GWU had a difficult job persuading the workers to accept. So now the busmen will return to "abnormal" working.

The Committee of Enquiry goes on, as the bus fares go up. As it is, workers have to take out a mortgage to pay their bus fares, but the "brains department" carry on blindly. The wage claim of 30s. is the minimum required to encourage crews to return to the buses; one hopes that the "brains department" will realise this point.

Raising fares to pay for the wage increase is criminal incompetence. Subsidies are thrown to agriculture, airways and Cunard, but public transport must scratch along, paying compensation and the crippling fuel tax. How long will busmen and passengers pay for this chaos?

INDUSTRIAL CINDERELLAS

RAILWAYMEN must be wondering what has gone wrong with the National Press, with both *Sunday Times* and *Sunday Telegraph* supporting their wage claims. An 11% wage increase is needed to draw level with the other 11 major industries. I bet the Government wished they had never heard of the Guillebaud Report of 1959, which called for parity between railway workers and workers in other industries.

Mr. Alex Dunbar, member for manpower on the British Railways Board, must have been joking when he put forward the 4.8% wage offer a few days ago; it's a wonder Sid Greene didn't wrap it round his neck. I should imagine Dunbar's wages are a little more than £14 per week.

Dr. Beeching's "final" offer of 6% has been accepted by the unions. It still leaves railway men trailing. It's about time **ALL RANK AND FILE WORKERS** got together and hammered out a policy for common ACTION.

40 HOUR WEEK NOW

ROAD haulage workers are to stake their claim for a 40-hour week, from both BRS and private hauliers. At present they are on 42 hours. Road haulage is a cut-throat game—if one firm cannot carry out a contract, another firm will do it cheaper, at the expense of driver's wages and conditions. Driving a lorry these days must be a nightmare, apart from chronic road conditions, their basic wage is scandalous.

MERRY XMAS

THE "17 men" sacked from Fords fifteen months ago are still unemployed. They have all chased job after job, but were rejected as soon as they stated their last employer. Ford management has done its job well; the 17 are well and truly "blackened".

Mr. F. Blake, district official of NUVB, is quoted as saying: "Are we entitled to negotiate wages, better conditions, redundancy policies, while blindly ignoring the facts that there are trade unionists being blacklisted throughout Britain?"

STRUGGLE AGAINST "OPEN HOUSE"

IN the 2.11.63 edition of the *Yorkshire Post* appeared an advert for 50 non-union operatives to work at William Denby & Sons Ltd., dyers of Bradford.

This advert is the result of a dispute of 250 workers, who were locked out because they had complained about a foreman doing the work of another man during the tea break. The mill owners have declared the dye works an "open house".

Relays of "pickets" still line the gates of William Denby and Sons Ltd. The mill owners refuse to take all the men back. Sixty scabs are smuggled in by closed van.

Headline in the *New Daily* (6.11.63) "Shipley Firm Beating the Closed Shop." This is right up Martell's street: you can guarantee the Freedom Group will help Denby & Sons all they can, with the added blessing of the *Yorkshire Post*.

SUPPORT NEEDED FOR THE "SUPPORTERS"

ELEVEN girls have been sacked from the Truline Bra factory in Sheffield for joining a union. Union officials are discussing the position with the management, the local Trades and Labour Council is organising financial assistance. While unionists are prepared to fight with this kind of spirit, Martell & Co. haven't a cat in hell's chance.

£50 TO "GET OUT"

TIME and motion fiends moved into Shell Chemical plant in Cheshire. Result: the management have been informed they can carry on as efficiently with 660 workers less. Hence the management's offer to workers: "£50 if you accept your cards now." The union are to have their first meeting with the management on December 31. Productivity—but with workers' control. Productivity without is "supping with the devil without even a long spoon!"

BILL CHRISTOPHER

continued from page 7, column 2

about the adverse effects of radio-active fall-out.

Dr. leVann's survey on congenital abnormalities in children born in Alberta in 1961 noted relationship between the number of abnormal births, the geographic area in which they occurred and the precipitation in those areas. Because of the higher rainfall in 1961 and its contamination by radio-active dust, more babies might have been subjected to man-made radio-active elements before birth. The incidence of malformation of children jumped from 7.6 per thousand in 1959 to 13.8 per thousand in 1961.

Dr. leVann put forward the hypothesis that the ratio of abnormalities per thousand births will be even higher for 1962, due to an increased concentration of radio-active dust in the stratosphere, the result of intensive above ground explosions in the Soviet Arctic throughout 1959-1962. Dr. leVann is now making a study of births in the province during 1962, to test his hypothesis.

We would agree with the government scientists that Dr. leVann's report is alarming, but far from attacking him for publishing it, commend him for doing so. Significantly, Dr. Peter Bird, head of the federal health department's radiation protection division, who labelled the report alarmist, added "the health department reports (on radiation levels across the country) are highly technical and difficult for the layman to understand without the help of the scientists who prepare them".

BILL GREENWOOD

Anti-Franco demo in Oxford

A demonstration was held in Oxford on November 29, when the Spanish Vice-Consul in Bristol came to speak to the Spanish Society about the Costa Brava. About seventy people turned up with banners and placards and an attempt was made to present a petition from the people of Oxford and a statement from the Oxford Federation of Anarchists to the Vice-Consul, as he slipped in through a side entrance. Looking rather scared, he refused to accept either, saying that he was here on a personal visit, could accept nothing, but knew what we were trying to do.

Anarchist students organise

A student conference was held in Oxford on December 8, to discuss the formation of a federation of anarchist students. A federation was formed; its secretary is Kate Sanders, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford. There will be a full report of the conference in *Anarchist Youth* 4, obtainable (8½d. post paid) from Bill Christopher, 34 Cumberland Road, London, E.17.

Literature

"Direct Action" pamphlets—

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE UNIONS?

by Tom Brown 5d.

NATIONALISATION AND THE NEW BOSS CLASS

by Tom Brown 6d.

WORKERS' CONTROL

6d.

HOW LABOUR GOVERNED, 1945-1951

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THE BRITISH GENERAL STRIKE by Tom Brown

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THE LABOUR PARTY ILLUSION by Sam Weiner

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ETHICS AND AMERICAN UNIONISM

by Sam Weiner 8d.

THE SOCIAL GENERAL STRIKE by Tom Brown

4d.

BULGARIA—A NEW SPAIN

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THE LONDON YEARS (autobiography)

by Rudolf Rocker 7s 6d

THE IWW'S LITTLE RED SONG BOOK

1s. 9d.

STRIKE STRATEGY (National Rank & File Movement)

4d.

INDUSTRIAL WORKER

(fortnightly organ of the IWW) 4d.

VIEWS AND COMMENTS

(organ of the Libertarian League, U.S.) 8d.

All prices include postage

From: Bill Christopher, 34, Cumberland Road, London, E.17.

Printed and published by the D. P. P., 34, Cumberland Road, London, E.17.