openly-avowed Republican.

Since Victoria's time, however, there of the people", as a model of simple and modest English life. It is considered a regrettable lapse of taste, "shockingly bad form" to criticize these gentry in any way, or to express one's disgust at the fawning journalists, sycophantic politicians and platitudinous prelates who act as publicity agents for the monarchy which they describe as "our most cherished and

Is it to take our mind off the desperate future that the press is regaling us with details of the forthcoming royal wedding? Serious discussion is going on as to whether the princess should or should not promise to obey her husband in the marriage service, since he will be her subject. We clothing coupons with which she and her attendants will be issued and of the innumerable and lavish presents the lucky girl will have. The Evening Standard

LONDON ANARCHIST GROUP Every Sunday at 7.30 p.m.

at 8, Endsleigh Gardens, W.C.I Wilfred Harriso The Free People's Theatre Tom Carlile The Nationalisation of Railways

N.E. LONDON ANARCHIST GROUP

NEXT MEETING. at Flat 3, 43, New Wanstead (Nr. Green Man, E.II) TUES., NOV. 4th Anarchism & Syndicalism The Sexology of Wilhelm Reich

The Colonial Question

MERSEYSIDE ANARCHIST GROUP PUBLIC MEETING

at 7 p.m. Speaker: Preston Clements, of Glasgow. "The People, Labour Direction, and the Politicians"

Sunday, 19th November

Coopers Hall, Shaw Street, Liverpoo

GLASGOW ANARCHIST

Public Meetings at CENTRAL HALLS, BATH ST., will be held every Sunday evening. Speakers: Preston Clements, John Gaffney, Frank Leech, Eddie Shaw. Doors open 6.30 p.m.

the Addlestone area should write to: Constance Stork, 55, Byron Road,

Addlestone, Surrey.

responsible for any of them.

and has brought us the "secret picture" were no bombs in the plane, but only of the wedding dress, or rather, of the leaflets which the occupants hoped to lengths of material from which it will be scatter over London. -Bernard Shaw. made, which, so important is it to this It was then said that bombs had been benighted nation, occupies a large part found in a house in La Villette. But

minister, Joseph Chamberlain, was an Manchester Guardian reports:

"Had he not finished his speech when he did he would plainly have been shouted down. Mr. McGovern, old himself, rose without premeditation to denounce Mr. Gallagher's 'disgraceful' speech and added, amid a tremendous cheer from all parts of th House, that the more he looked at the Red royal family in Moscow the more he thought the British Royal Family had a place in the hearts of the people.

"Mr. Churchill was palpably and deeply moved by these words of Mr. McGovern and, leaving the Chamber a moment later, he signalled his approfor Shettleston-an unusual sight." An unusual sight—but a symbolic one!

Byrnes exposes Inter-Allied Machinations

former U.S. Secretary of State, who has

Russia should have a largely pre- expression. ponderant voice in Rumania and

"Stalin adhered very strictly to this understanding during the 30 days' fighting against the Communists and Elas in the city of Athens in spite of the fact that all this was most disagreeable to him and those around him." This statement shows most clearly the cynicism with which the politicians Britain and Russia were prepared t further their own power politics in dividing up spheres of influence in the Balkans, so much so that, while the British were prepared to sacrifice their friends in Rumania and Bulgaria, Stalin was quite prepared to stand aside and see his own Communist followers suppressed

by British troops in Greece. "Put not your trust in princes," one of the Hebrew poets; it is just foolish to have any faith in politicians, who are always prepared to throw overboard their most faithful adherents for some strategic advantage and to maintain their own power more securely.

The Terrorist Scares

have little substance. There has recently been a great deal of newspaper publicity given to a plot to assassinate Bevin. No details of the plot have, however, been made public, and no evidence has been presented to substantiate the story. It is instructive, however, to compare it with the much-publicised story of the attempt to bomb London, which turned out to be the work of an agent-provocateur.

The key figure in this affair was an American pilot, named Gilbert, who wormed himself into the confidence of number of Jews in Paris, and at the same time placed himself in the confidence of the Special Branch representatives at the British Embassy in Paris, the TO THOSE COMRADES WHO interested in the French police and the New York Heraldformation of a discussion group in Tribune. The French authorities provided the plane, Gilbert lured his Jewish and the Herald-Tribune reporters appeared plane were arrested, but Gilbert was re- meeting of the Committee to appeal to Having received a number of protests | the R.A.F. to London, where he broadfollowing the publication of a notice cast to America on how he "prevented no funds from which it can be met.

wish to point out that the lectures are assigned to carry." organized by groups belonging to the The whole story was splashed in the suggestion please send their contributions U. of A.G. and that Freedom is not newspapers as a plot to bomb London, to PIP WALKER, c/o FREEDOM PRESS,

"A limited monarchy is a device for has excelled itself in a journalistic scoop Jews by this means. In fact there

when the examining magistrate began to Opinion places restrictions on free ex- In Parliament Attlee and Churchill vied consider the case, the police had to admit

> Thus the story of the bomb plot completely fell to pieces. But the newspaper showed their dishonesty by complete failing to give the same publicity to this fact as they did to the bomb scare. Only the News Review carried a full story. With the history of this case in view, every terrorist scare of this kind should be taken with a pinch of salt. The chances are ten to one that it is a story fabricated by police agents or newspaper men to increase anti-Semitic feeling and justify the British government's own terrorist policy in Palestine.

Lesson in Democracy

THREE German prisoners of war stopof the Revolutionary Communist Party. One of the Trotkyists, William Ainsworth, spoke to them in German and gave one a copy of a pamphlet entitled Solidarity of German people who suffer under the voke of occupation".

He was arrested and fined £5. The prosecutor stated that it was illegal to convey printed matter to prisoners-of-war death has been the subject of the state, and laid down the general plans eulogistic obituaries from all sides. It is of authoritarian socialism which the

This is an interesting and sinister case. | therefore all the more necessary to point Labour government follows to-day. made between Churchill and Stalin to Why was the Trotskyist charged? If it out that few men have done more harm It was the main tragedy of the English divide up the Balkans into their spheres was for the purely technical offence of in their lives or contributed more to the labour movement that Webb and his f influence. In particular, he quoted a not sending the pamphlet by post, then perversion of the Labour movement in fellow Fabians were able to gain the message from Churchill to Roosevelt on why did the prosecutor, Mr. M. P. Pugh, England than this erudite bureaucrat, who ascendant and turn its development away the 8th March, 1945, relating to Russian read out extracts from it in court? hid beneath an unassuming exterior one from the libertarian socialism of Morrisctions in Rumania, which ran as follows: Evidently his real crime was in daring of the most dangerous minds of his age. and Owen, and the revolutionary unionism "We have been hampered in our to express sympathy with the sufferings protests against these developments by of the German people. This is how we It was Webb, more than any other, who Webb also founded the London School the fact that in order to have the free- are showing the German prisoners in this dom to save Greece, Eden and I at country the virtues of democracy, the revolutionary Socialism in England, and cratic socialism, and, in collaboration Moscow in October recognised that British way of life, and freedom of who stamped on the English Labour with his wife, wrote an appreciation of

HOUSING BETRAYAL

(Continued from page 1)

"I am quite certain that it is useless render good service to the State forced to live under conditions which the Ministry of Agriculture would not tolerate in the case of a dairy herd of cattle." The militant direct action of the

"Vigilantes" and the "Squatters" in the last two years have shown how closely the housing shortage affects the majority of the people. Are they now going to put up with the present destruction of their hopes for better living conditions? The homeless must force the authorities to adopt an attitude very different from the present inhuman proposals. France the text of the rehousing laws situation might cause a public disturb- ners desire. They will therefore have to made to function efficiently. programme is not undertaken out of in the background.

the grandiose statue of his father in old confidence trick?

work were revealed.

"The people ask for houses and they have been given—a stone."

year, and it was decided at a recent the comrades who attended the School to share the burden of this loss as there are advertising a lecture by Tom Brown, we the transport of bombs he had been suggestion is a levy of 3/- per person. Will those comrades who wish to support this and feeling was worked up against the 27, Red Lion Street, London, W.C.I.

movement the faith in bureaucratic of Soviet Russia, Soviet Communism: a

WEBB

of the English syndicalists.

FREEDOM

administration which has led it into the New Civilization, in which he showed his present authoritarian channels. Webb essentially dictatorial attitude by praising worshipped the state as an efficient fulsomely the bureaucratic organisation of machine, and foresaw a society governed the Communists, and completely neglectby an élite of state officials who would ing any discussion of the destruction of know what was good for the people and personal liberty and the vast persecution do it for them. This was natural enough; of opposition movements in Russia. This to expect that men and women will his own profession was that of a civil was natural enough, for in Webb's own servant, and he had a vested interest in scheme of things freedom played only a furthering civil service dictatorship. He nominal part; the perfect bureaucratic saw the trade unions and co-operatives dictatorship was his ideal.

Sacrifices-For What

RECONSTRUCTION?

CIDNEY WEBB has just died and his as eventual agents and collaborators of

directed the Fabian counter-attack against of Economics, a stronghold of bureau-

SIDNEY

(Continued from page 1)

that the path upon which we are being collapse like a deflated balloon. led, is the road to economic conflicts between rival producers, and thus the road to war? We must refuse to accept hardship to-day as the price of a bright future that never comes. We will be called 'Quislings' and selfish and irresponsible agitators. (The sane man in an asylum finds it hard to get a hearing.) But our message must be put before the workers productive capacity of this country's and every country's industry and agriculture people of the world only if the people have direct control of, and reponsibility

In other words, we call for the workers to take control of industry and to exercise that control directly without the intervention of bureaucrats and politicians. To those who claim, like Cripps, that the

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workers are not capable of directing their Lisbon than the American products, or own work we would answer with the ecause the wealthy of Capetown prefer question: "Is anyone else?" The ex-British refrigerators, or because our wool- perience of the various forms of wagelen goods are much appreciated in Buenos slavery offered by independent capitalism In Avres. The exhortations and the brass and by the State-capitalism that masquerbands do not, and will not, have the ades as 'socialism', show very clearly that calls for the provision of accommo- effect upon our productive population, not only are they directed to anti-social dation for "all persons whose homeless | which the distant bureaucrats and plan- ends, but also that they cannot even be

ance". It is clear, and it applies take still further dictatorial steps which To those who say that the State with equally to this country, that the housing are already foreshadowed as the big stick its highly-developed coercive system is too strong to be defeated in the fight for conconsideration for desperate human Jam tomorrow is the mirage held out trol of the means of production, we would needs, but from motives of maintaining before us in the melancholy succession answer with the question: "Who produces order. We must learn the significance of wars and crises. "Pie in the sky" has the goods?" Not the officials of of this and by our militant action give been the traditional promise of the innumerable Ministries, not the Cona much-needed lesson to the "planners" | Christian church in averting revolution trollers of this or the Directors of that, who can only plan for us the road to and the new religion of the Socialist not the Planning Board, or the Economic economic disaster and catastrophic war. State holds out tomorrow's carrot before Dictators, but the workers themselves who In Parliament last week the hungry and dispirited people. It worked thus already control the industrial potenenormous sums spent on luxury building in Nazi Germany, it worked in Soviet tial, if they would only exercise that Russia; are the British working class go- control. Even the strongest of dictator-In the same week the King unveiled ing to be donkeys and fall for the same ships relies on the co-operation of the majority of people—if that co-operation Or will we learn before it is too late is withdrawn, the whole State edifice must

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The Russian Zone of Germany p. 5 Film Review - - - p. 6

dies in a day, but the denial slays the life of the people and entombs the hope of the race."

SACRIFICES-

FORWHAT?

The Oueen said: "The rule is equipment and failed to "plough back"

Charles BRADLAUGH.

"Better a thousandfold abuse

of free speech than a denial

of free speech. The abuse

Vol. 8 No. 22

1st November, 1947

economic world power. Both side

THE REAL MOTIVES

It is the good they say about them-

selves that is false. The Russians have

only their nationalist interests

heart; their claim to stand for the

workers of the world is the purest

hypocrisy, as is shown by their own

internal tyranny and their systematic

slaughter of working-class militants in

TOWADAYS we are living in a renewed atmosphere of war. Politicians, generals, journalists, and the common people everywhere are talking of it once again. And behind all this talk there is the concrete reality that, as Clement Davies, leader of the Liberal Party, pointed out in the House of Commons on the 24th October, there are still 19,000,000 men under arms in the world, and 40 nations, most of them suffering from a chronic shortage of food and other things necessary for their peoples to live a decent life, are nevertheless spending £7,000,000,000 a year on preparations for

There is no doubt whatever that the politicians and generals of the great powers, and particularly of America and Russia, are preparing feverishly for the next war, and the smaller countries are following their example. A country like France, for instance, caught in a food crisis unparalleled in her history, is deliberately building a large army, and minor imperialisms, like Holland, are joining in

cheer-leaders of the various countries for the main towns, the province are doing their best to place the blame virtually in the hands of the Comon their rivals, and none are more munists, who are clearly equipped and zealous than the Russian leaders. supported by the Russian Government. Vishinsky's outbursts at the United Reports from American observers Nations have become notorious, but China even suggest that the Russian they are no worse than what is being themselves will take over Manchuria said every day in the Russian press, six months; what is much more likely while Zhdanov, one of the members of is the foundation of a puppet republic the Russian Politburo, addressing the like the Outer Mongolian People's newly-formed Comintern in Warsaw, Republic, which would be completel accused the U.S.A. of military prepara- under Russian influence, and would tions in all parts of the world, and govern a strategically important frontier

wards the strengthening of its mono- are making their preparations for the polistic position and envisages placing next war, the Americans are steadily its capitalist partners in a subordinate, consolidating their economic power in

striving for world domination stands the Economic relief to Western Europe is imperialist and anti-Fascist policy, with Russian influence, not in terms of reits growing international influence-and the workers of all countries."

TRUTH AND HYPOCRISY

The first part of this statement is true enough, just as there is a nucleus of truth in the American propaganda which accuses Russian of expansionist intentions. But it is just as hypocritical on the part of the Russians to pose as the enemies of imperialism and Fascism as it is for the American ruling class to pretend to be champions of democratic freedom.

Russia at present dominates the whole of Eastern and half of Central Europe. Communists attempt to portray such countries as Jugoslavia, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Rumania as free agents, but it is a significant fact that the foreign policy of these countries is dominated by Russian interests, and the war whose principal result has been never renowned for the high-quality of WITH THE MAXIMUM PRACTICAL who oppose a pro-Russian policy are anonymous and irresponsible financiers of have given a most unconvincing per- IN THIS ISLAND HAS A GOOD immediately liquidated. The Russians | Wall St. are making sure that, when they withdraw their own troops, these subject countries will remain within the fold. glint of hoarded gold, the glitter of high-In Eastern Germany, of which they are pressure advertising and the hollow gleam not so certain, the numbers of oc- of the arc-lights of Hollywood. cupying troops are actually being

strengthened once again. Something of the Russian plans for the next war were revealed when General Chaparidze of the Soviet Army fled from Austria, and made certain statements about Russian policy which on the face of it seemed somewhat startling. Chaparidze, whose statement is reported in Time, asserted that the Resistance (September) describes the Russians intended to try and occupy Western Europe, with the aid of Czech, Bulgar and Jugoslav troops, and afterwards to attempt to seal off the Mediterranean, but that their main theatre of war would be in the Far East, where their aim would be to seize the whole of China, and then reach a compromise agreement to share out the world with the United States.

RUSSIA AND THE FAR

Such reports should naturally be received with the greatest reserve. Nevertheless, the fact remains that recent events have actually tended to bear out the theory that the Russians are preparing for war in the Far East. For some weeks now fighting has been growing severe in Manchuria between the Chinese Communists and the tions", their hatred of Russia and their in a few years time?

Meanwhile, these same political Chinese Government troops, and, except on the north of China.

the strategic areas of the world. The "But, athwart the path of the U.S. infiltration of South America continues. considered in terms of combatting lieving human suffering. Plans for the establishment of American and English where Anglo-American influence is now in the ascendant, the Manchester Guardian correspondent reports the hanging or imprisonment of hundreds of Communist or alleged Communist supoccupation of Azerbaidjan.

The unfortunate fact which the unending succession of wars

But America is bright only with the

American life was the annual convention

didates for the next presidential election,

"crowded the streets of the city wearing

"Ageing men with cold vacant faces

wandered aimlessly through the streets

squirting passers-by with water-pistols

Others jolted women with electrically-

charged canes or handcuffed some un-

fortunate man to a lamp post. The

legionaries fired miniature cannons and

cause snarls, they took over Broadway

Washington. Before members of Con-

'locomotives'."

firecrackers, they misdirected traffic to

to drive crazily around in their

countries under their control. The pretence of supporting democratic ideals on the part of the American leaders is shown to be false, not only by the radical discrimination within their own Russian revenge, and for whom the sole resources now left seem to be less than a million pounds' worth of gold fillings from the incinerators of the Nazi death

women. When we see the bleak prospect that either peace or war offers the majority of people in the world to-day, we can only condemn the men whose power manias have brought us to this We must refuse to accept the war

propaganda of either the Russian or American rulers or of their journalistic stooges throughout the world. The alternative is not, as these apologists centres of petroleum exploitation in the would have us believe, between support-Middle East continue, while in Persia, ing Russia or America. The real alternative is between acquiescing in war of resisting it with all our strength, be tween playing the politician's game of warmongering or striving to bring about that mass refusal to accer porters who assisted the Russian militarism and government which is the workers' only hope of liberation from an workers have to accept is that all the economic crises by which the governing evil which Russian and American poli- classes of the world hope to preserve

played by Adolphe Menjou, who made a

vicious attack on Charlie Chaplin to

they are called "Communists".

way". To-day, the hysterical voice of

Committee on Un-American Activities in "They're Reds, they ought to burn any-

gress and the House of Representatives, Washington says of the mildest of pro-

swooning film-fans, and excited women, gressive elements "They're Reds, they can

well-known film actors have been protest- love America or leave it". What will be

ing their loyalty to "American institu- the call of these champions of democracy

Food rations are to be lower than ever before. Sugar will be reduced to 8 oz. again. Bacon will continue to be 1 oz. a week (the lowest ration during the war was 4 oz, and was at one time 8 oz.), the

will be completed but there is no indication of any housing work not already under contract, being started. Less spectacular, but probably even

ticians say about each other is true. their domination.

the politician's phrase "steadily deterior-

THE GREATEST AND ONE OF THE MENT'S REAL DETERMINATION LABOUR'S PLEDGE IS FIRM AND bright!" quoted Churchill during from American life. Hollywood was WITH A HOUSING PROGRAMME the enslavement of this country to the its acting and these great screen lovers | SPEED UNTIL EVERY FAMILY

every other day: to-day isn't any

-LEWIS CARROLL.

other day, you know.'

formance reading their lines like second- | STANDARD OF ACCOMMO-THESE were words from the Electoral Programme which jockeyed our whom the calumnies of envious rivals and Government into power in 1945. Now agents of American industrialists are although, as Baldwin (and who should nothing new. Years ago it was Chaplin know better than he?) admitted in who made Menjou a success. He is re- 1936, electoral promises have no repaid by slanders and ill-concealed hatred. | lation either to a government's inten-With its tremendous publicity, its tions or its capabilities, Labour's

dren chanting their multiplication tables. Government in 1945 declared its in- programme in terms of human misery the purge of Hollywood resembles nothing tention to build "3 to 4 million houses and ill-health. For the acute overmore than the Moscow trials and the in 10 to 12 years". Mr. Silkin, the crowding is causing slum conditions far periodic elimination of "anti-Soviet" present Minister of Town and Country outside the pre-war slum areas. A corelements in Russsian life. It is not acci- Planning estimated the need in the first respondent of the Manchester Guardian dental that the rival totalitarian systems | ten post-war years to be from 7 to 8 describes the situation well from the which seek to dominate the world to-day million, and Mr. Greenwood considered point of view of young married couples manifest themselves in similar ways. In | that the figure should "on any reason- (the guardians of the future, as an Russia, those who manage to retain a able standard" be 5½ million. Because eloquent member of the government sense of human values, of artistic integrity, of deterioration, and the increase in the described them): of genuinely progressive ideas, are stigma- number of families, the requirements grow by about 350,000 each year. tised as "Trotsky-fascists"; in America

How do these requirements compare Fifty years ago when the American with the numbers of houses actually nation murdered the Chicago anarchists | built? In the two years since the war the cry was "They're Reds, they ought about 227,000 new houses were com-The latest example is the Hollywood to swing anyway". Twenty-five years ago. pleted, half of them permanent, half neresy-hunt now being conducted by the at the trial of Sacco and Vanzetti it was temporary.

Thus it can be seen that, not only are we failing to make a real attack on the basic housing shortage, but we are not even keeping pace with the annual increases in the number of houses required. The housing situation is in

production and amenities. In doing this, they hope to "free" more labour (in other words create unemployment so as to put more workers in the hands of the Labour Exchange) for the export industries. But the ruthless cuts in home production and

Now these pundits of the Fabian

Society and the London School of

Economics are following a similar and

self-destructive panic policy. Here,

indeed, is a vicious circle! They want to

export more, and in order to do so, in

successful competition with overseas rivals

they must produce more cheaply; in order

to produce more cheaply they must con-

centrate new capital expenditure on ex-

port industries and therefore must

eliminate capital expenditure on home

services and the consequent lowering of living standards and purchasing power will take away any zest and enthusiasm for increasing output that is left in our war-weary, crisis-weary people. Only fectioners will have their supplies resfools will make luxuries for every quarter ricted. The purchase of tobacco from of the globe while necessities are lacking America has stopped altogether, and calf at home. He is a stupid cobbler who leather shoes are to be reserved entirely allows himself to remain the worst shod. for export. Houses under construction

> Cripps, the Archbishop of Austerity, cries: "I wish that to-day our country could refresh its heart and mind with a deep draught of that Christian faith which has come down to us over the centuries and inspired the peoples of Europe to fresh efforts and new hopes." Who is going to be inspired to fresh efforts because British cosmetics are selling cheaper

> > (Continued on page 8)

The Housing Betrayal

ating", and so are the houses we have EARLIEST TESTS OF A GOVERN- got! In the face of this desperate situation comes the report to Sir Stafford Cripps of the Planning Board, which, as re-

ported in the Observer: "would more than halve the number of houses completed each month and bring down the theoretical programme to a fifth-from 300,000 a year to

> "Mr. Bevan's original proposal was to finish 25,000 houses a month, but by midsummer the number was down to 12,500. The Planning Board now suggests, I understand, that Mr. Bevan should budget for 5,000 a month until the arrears are under

Of course, Cripps—a wealthy landcameramen and flash-lights, its succession housing programme was extremely owner-cannot be expected to see of witnesses repeating their story like chil- modest-not to say inadequate. The the indefinite deferment of the housing

> "Married during the war, the wife, if she is not serving herself, continues to live with her parents, buys furniture on the instalment system for her future home, and gives birth to two or three children, which in itself overcrowds a two-bedroomed house. An unmarried son or two are demobilised and come back to their home to sleep on a sofa or on the floor; the husband returns to share one room with his wife and two or

> > (Continued on page 8)

three children.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 28 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60

2 1 2 3 4 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

The are getting used to the creation of myths. At one time we only had a Russian myth, now we have a Polish myth, an Eastern Zone of Germany myth, a Hungarian myth. The most popular, however, seems to the Czech myth. According to fellow-travellers of Tom Driberg's type, we have a lot to learn from this model democracy which is wrongly being accused of hiding behind an iron curtain.

That the country is dominated by the Communists seemed to me obvious during my short stay in Czechoslovakia. Nobody seems to have any doubts about it in the country itself and they would no doubt be surprised to read the accounts of British journalists who claim that Czechoslovakia is free from any party's domination and foreign interference. No doubt these journalists have not met, as I have, people who have been imprisoned for months without any reason being given, people who have been interrogated by the secret police for alleged criticisms of the Communist Party. Some of these journalists were in Czechoslovakia at the time, or soon after, the arrest of session, in spite of the opposition of some with the Czechs. They have a shadow jokingly. brutal treatment of Illustrated's correspondents, yet none of them mentions members, the Czech Government the incident and they talk gaily about the freedom of the Press. None of them seems to have seen German prisoners employed as slave labour on the land. None of these brilliant and inquiring-minded journalists has apparently bothered to find out who were the women prisoners working in the fields, dressed in patched trousers made of camouflage material and torn shirts? None of them has asked why they were there, what they had done, if they received any pay, when they will be sent back to their families.

We hear, however, plenty of generalisations as to Czechoslovakia's democratic régime and complete independence. How do these stand up to the facts?

Prague or Moscow?

Francis Lint, writing in World Review, Oct. 1947, asserts; "There has, till now, been no evident interference with Czechoslovakia's external and internal

This was written two months after we had seen the most glaring example of Russia's interference in Czechoslovakia's foreign policy regarding the Marshall plan. On July 9th, the Czechosloval Government announced that it would go to Paris to discuss the Marshall Plan, a few hours later this decision was suddenly reversed. How could a decision, reached unanimously by the four parties in the Government: Communist, National Socialist, Social Democratic and People's Catholic Party, be changed so rapidly?

It points out that the first decision was mainly dictated by economic reasons, the need for trade with the West, while the second was political and dictated by Stalin's foreign policy.

The Economic Reasons

Czechoslovakia's economy depends on the West and can only with difficulty be February, 1947," Worldover Press points out, "when Czech exports to Russia orders was delivered to Russia: 10,000,00 Czech crowns (£50,000) worth of lathes. But such an order is exceptional. On the whole Czechoslovak industry cannot meet Soviet needs.

ANARCHISM

-Interpretations

"No human laws are of any

validity if contrary to the law of nature; and such of them as are valid derive all their force and all their authority mediately or immediately from this orginal." Thus writes Blackstone, to whom let all honour be given for having so far outseen the ideas of his time-and, indeed, we may say of our time. A good antidote, this, for those political superstitions which so widely prevail. A good check upon that sentiment of power-worship which still misleads us by magnifying the prerogatives of constitutional governments as it did those of monarchs. Let men learn that a legislative is NOT "our God upon earth," though, by the authority they ascribe to it and the things they expect of it, they would seem to think it is an institution serving purely temporary purpose whose power, when not stolen, is, at the best, borrowed.

-HERBERT SPENCER The Right to Ignore the State. 'Russia Meets Her Obligation'." Political Reasons

that Czechoslovakia would take part in the Democrats obtained 43. But even in Paris conference, Stalin received Gottwald, the Communist Prime Minister and other Czech delegates to discuss the political iplications of a treaty of alliance with France. This question was, however, left aside and Stalin instead asked the Czech his colleagues in Prague and at a secret greater autonomy, having little in common curtain, come and tell us," they were told versed their previous decision.

This policy was justified on the grounds that Czechoslovakia could not afford to cut herself off from the East as, in case of a new German aggression, no country but Russia was certain to come to her pattern.

Communists in Power

demand for such things in Russia. On Communists polled 38% of all votes, which belonging to the Slovak Democratic of the British Consul. the other hand, they are more and more made them the largest party in the coun- Party, accused of being involved in the This could be dismissed as the irresin demand in all Western countries. try. The Communist success was due in plot. News Review dryly comments: "It ponsible action of stupid and brutal "Or take the shoe industry. All of it, in- great part to the role played by Russia it a neat move. The Slovak Democrats policemen if apologies or explanations had cluding the now nationalized Bata works, in the liberation of the country (although have 43 members in the Czechoslovak been offered them after their release. produces high-quality goods so expensive it is generally believed that if the Parliament, 43 minus two is 41. This Instead they found an hostile attitude that few Czechs can afford to buy Americans stopped before Prague and sort of arithmetic did wonders in in the ministers who had warmly welthem. Most of these shoes are destined waited for five days for the Red Army Hungary. It brings Gottwald a little comed them on their arrival and the for foreign markets and are an important to liberate the capital it was because of nearer his majority." item in paying for the raw materials the an understanding between the Allied Stalin can withdraw his Red Army the negatives used threatening language country needs most. Very few of these High Commands).

ber of the Soviet trade delegation put it, Lint, is that many "voted Communist be- left most of the opposition will be in jail, completely distorted the incident. I was 'We do not need such playthings'. What cause, having become members of the shot or hanged. the Russians need are heavy duty, country boots, and their feet, moreover, are generally assumed they would grab power under the The "Freedom" of the Press impressions that the two British corresally larger than those of the Czechs. The shadow of Russian bayonets, they were Tourists are given a booklet to guide pondents had assaulted frontier guards! has been returned for that reason, and secure their positions."

"The newspapers gloss over the fact that which the Communists hold the key has been reorganised and no newspaper of Interior (Communist) the Minister of even to-day Czechoslovakia has a greater ministries: the Prime Minister is a Com- may be privately owned. All papers and Information (Communist)—in other words, trade with occupied Germany than with munist and the Ministry of Interior periodicals have to be published, under the people who laugh loudest when the Russia. But they play up every ship- which controls the police, the Ministry licence of the Czechoslovak Ministry of words "iron curtain" are mentioned. ment of goods to Russsia, and whenever of Information which controls the State- Information, by Political Parties or ap-

the Soviet Union sends something to owned radio, the film industry and paper proved cultural or professional assciations. Czechoslovakia, the Czech papers an- supplies, the Ministries of Agriculture and Beyond this there is no censorship of the nounce it loudly with such headlines as Social Welfare, are all in the hands of Press." the Communist Party.

majority of votes among the Czechs; formation is a Communist. The article quoted above explains that in Slovakia they are in a minority, having the very day on which Prague announced obtained 21 seats while the Slovak Slovakia the Communists are holding the Ministry of Interior with the police.

Towards C.P. Control of Slovakia

Slovakia has proved refractory to cabinet in Bratislava but the Ministries of As it happened they did run into it, War, Finance and Foreign Affairs are but when they tried to tell the ministers centralised in Prague. Unable to get the about it they only got insults and threats. support of the Slovak population the While they visited Slovakia they were Communist Party has begun a conversion arrested, manhandled and assaulted by the by force, according to the well-known State Security Police, their camera and

and the Communist Minister of Interior, for the fine which they were given under Vaclav Nosek, has asked Parliament to a Fascist law which is still in force. They At the elections in May, 1946, the suspend the immunity of two M.P.s, were only realesed after the intervention

Further censorship is understandably The Communists only obtained the enough unnecessary; the Minister of In-

How free journalists are in Czechoslovakia has been discovered the hard way of cameramen Erich Auerbach and Jack Winocour, of the British weekly Illustrated, who went to Czechoslovakia last month, at the invitation of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs. They received assurances from various ministers that they would have complete freedom Gottwald reported this talk by phone to Communist propaganda. 'Slovaks' aim at for their work. "If you run into any iron

> films confiscated. They do not know to A plot has been discovered in Slovakia this day the reason for this treatment and

-Ministry of the Interior when returning from Central Europe with a light heart. and warned them that they were liable shoes find their way to Russia. As a mem- Another reason, according to Francis By the time the last Russian soldier has to five years' imprisonment. The Press in Czechoslovakia at the time and from

first consignment of shoes to the U.S.S.R. interested in a Communist victory to them during their Czechoslovak holiday. The Ministers responsible for this in-It explains concisely what "freedom of the cident are: the Slovak Minister of The Government is a coalition in Press' means in that country: "The Press Interior (Communist), the Czech Minister

(Continued on page 4)

THE PROBLEM OF WORK

We are printing below the second of a series of articles which comprise an abridged translation of a pamphlet by Camillo Berneri Il Lavoro Attraente (Attractive Work). The first article, published in the find it clearly expressed in The Works and Days of Hesiod, Maffeo Pantaleoni, the economist, says, "Ten hours at last issue of Freedom, stressed the importance of the Greek poet who lived eight or nine centuries before my desk do not tire me at all," and adds that work is discussing the problem of work from an anarchist Christ. The formula "Do what you will" as applied to to him joy or pain according to the results of his labours, viewpoint and showed that work has always been work, is one of the characteristics of the life of the but that "the ardour does not diminish, for it is feverish slavery since the beginning of civilization, that Christian Thelemites expressed by Rabelais in the sixteenth century determination and perseverance. I never feel weary." ethics considered it a punishment imposed by God. (Gargantua Chap. 57). Fenelon in the third book of the The Danish philosopher Herald Hoffding says: "I have Medern systems of rationalisation have transformed Telemachus (1699) also applies this formula to work. rarely been able to work for long on a single subject. workers into robots with dangerous results for their Morelly, in Basiliade wrote: - "In admitting that man's I have to handle various subjects by turns. I can work physical and mental health.

not much has been done since.

A YOUNG professor of an industrial school in become practically worthless, for every necessary function him "perhaps the greatest moments of happiness that life Northern France gave the following thought by corresponds in the individual to a natural taste, a well- has to offer." "For example, the most important in- Jean-Richard Bloch to his pupils as a subject for an defined vocation. The leaders' opinions will be accepted Roberto Ardigo declares: "Work is my irresistible need. essay:—"If the factory aspires to be not only a place with pleasure; no one will think himself dispensed from I work until tired out, but the weariness is accompanied that of fine, specialized glass: cut glass, of physical work but also a place of dignity, pride and work which an unanimous and collective effort will render by a sense of satisfaction in the work done." The happiness, it is clear that it must lose all resemblance varied and attractive. Nothing would be easier to regulate astronomer Schiapparelli replies that he has nearly always

> of these essays, has picked out some significant passages the factories. One of them writes: - "The directors brevity of duration-"Pleasant and effortless" work is one but that he finds it very wearisome to have to write even should understand that they will not get men to do good of the socialist achievements foretold in Cabet's Voyage a short article by request and on a given subject. work by behaving brutally towards them." Another en Icarie (1840). says:-"That which wounds the worker most is the Victor Considérant, who was champion and elaborator

THE IDEAL FACTORY

morning and talks to them as equals. They are not pleasure." Zola gives us a fundamental principle, an heard yelling and swearing at the workers, as is usual act of faith and a sure prophecy that work shall become at present. The manager, for his part, is careful not "the law of life itself". to offend the works-foremen with order."

situated in the country. They all visualise light-coloured walls, they all speak of sun, light, health. The workshops Certain nineteenth-century physiologists have also mainthis kind as if he were entering his own home. There an important factor in physical and moral health." will be washing facilities, that he may leave the factory family life." Nearly all furnish this imaginary place with practical means of communication, and nearly all dream of libraries, recreation-rooms, etc.

aspiration on the threshold of a new era.

The idea of attractive work is a very ancient one. We thinkers, and the artists.

By Camillo Berneri

free activity pours into the common pool more than his five hours in the morning and another five in the evening needs take out of it, it is clear that laws and regulations when I am in good form." The hours of work are to developed etched glass. But there is no to that which we call 'factory' in our own countries.' that a fraternal concourse of this kind, since from the worked ten hours a day, between the ages of twenty-J. R. Bloch, to whom the professor sent a collection most enlightened freedom would result the most perfect five and sixty, and has even worked sixteen hours con-

(Europe, Paris, June, 1934). Nearly all these sons of It was Fourier who amply and systematically developed to remain idle has always been a torture to him. workers, living in an over-industrialised region, stress the principle of attractive work, the first condition of The writer Arturo Graf, says that he works with great the brutality of bosses and foremen, and the ugliness of which is-according to him-variety; and the second, willingness, for to him work is "a source of living joy",

contempt with which he is treated." Nearly all the of the idea of attractive work, was right when he told The artists' replies all agree in asserting that their work Georges Renard, Jean Jaurès, and other French socialists or other physical defects. were clearly influenced by Fourier's conception of the organisation of work. Emile Zola in his novel Travail shows us a factory where varied work, carried out i "In the ideal workshop,"writes one of these children, clean and well-lighted surroundings and aided by "the foreman distributes the work to the operatives in the machines, has become a "recreation, a joy and a real

will be cooled in summer, warmed in winter, for "human tained the possibility of attractive work. One of thesenature has need of a minimum of well-being to remain Rossi-Doria, wrote in one of his reports that "Work must good." Another says: - "A worker will enter a factory of no longer be a torment and a source of ills, but a joy and

in keeping alive the idea of attractive work. Peter tired of this work; it is now become a veritable penance Kropotkin makes this categorical affirmation: - "In to me." When in 1858 he was writing Salammbo one collective work, carried out with gay spirit to reach the chapter of which took him three months of intense work, desired goal-be it book, work of art or luxury article- he wrote to a friend: "Each evening I tumble into bed each one will find the stimulus, the uplift necessary to as worn out as a labourer who has been breaking stones make life pleasant." When, in our writings and speeches, on the highway." we predict that the day-will come when all, or nearly all, These are the fancies of children who have read neither will work spontaneously and with pleasure, frequently Kropotkin's Conquest of Bread, nor Zola's Travail, nor comes the reply, "It is a Utopian dream!" Nevertheless yet the forecasts of William Morris and Bellamy; and there are men in our society to-day who work longer yet the bright dream still flourishes, for it is the workers' hours without weariness; with, on the contrary, a deep sense of satisfaction. These are the scientists, the

I have in front of me some very interesting replies to an enquiry made by the Philosophical and Allied Sciences Review of 1907. Here are a few of them:

secutively at the same occupation. He further states that

WORK WITHOUT FATIGUE

pupils expressed disgust for the "foul smell", the "work- M. Lausac (Plus Loin, Paris, July, 1933) that among brings them such joy as to keep them from feeling weary. shops filthy with grease", the "factory walls black with Fourier's conceptions, the notion of "attractive work" The very few answers which speak of incapacity to work soot". They contrast the factory they see with the for groups or individuals would be one of those receiving for any length of time, or the hardship occasioned by 'ideal' factory, which will be the 'real' factory in the greatest attention from future generations—Benoit Malon, work, are accompanied by statements regarding ill-health

> It might be argued that the above-mentioned cases refer to exceptional personalities. The objection would not be valid, however, for we have seen that even these persons are ill-disposed towards occupations which do not absorb or interest them.

The case of Gustav Flaubert is typical from this point of view. He often worked eighteen hours at his desk without pause, but at certain times his work lay heavily All the pupils, too, portray the ideal factory as being THE IDEA OF PLEASANT WORK touches of style, or when engaged in making preparatory

While he was writing Madame Bovary he said in a letter (September 17th, 1835), "I hope that in a month's time the Boyary will have the arsenic in her belly"which remark is explained by a passage in another letter of the same month (September 20th): "I am working The Anarchist writers in particular have contributed badly, without pleasure, rather with distaste. I am really

That which is observable in the great personalities is also apparent in the average man. Good results from ntellectual work of lengthy duration can be achieved by everyone provided that it is stimulated by "interest", in the spiritual sense of the word. To say "I work without

(Continued on page 3)

1st November, 1947.

HOW SHALL WE CATCH Land 910 tes THE SPIVS?

W/E have never taken the propaganda something about directing the spivs. So we are faced with a typical result about the Spiv very seriously— Twice he has had to adjourn the ex- of coercion and stupidity. The closed appears to be causing a resurgence Likewise the growing of more food looking at them as potential workers, planation of the plan which he was shop principle of the T.U.C. is now of those little books and pamphlets at home is advocated, not on grounds that is. The vast campaign against them going to give to the National Joint going to react against the government's and all their menagerie (the cels, butter- Advisory Council, but enough has schemes for getting labour, and 10,000 flies and drones) was so obviously a leaked out already to make the whole 'red herring' that one could only be business seem ridiculous—as it really is. not pull their weight will be joined by amused at the importance given it in certain quarters, although the causes behind the growth of such a body of Closed Shop Helps The Spivs people are certainly serious.

are sometimes know as "our betters"? Without making class distinction ob vious, how could the definition b framed to include only the workers?

worked into a position of having to do required!

The strike, the most determined and

embarrassing the Coal Board has vet had

to face was fully reported and discussed

in Freedom (6th Sept. and 20th Sept.)

and it is only necessary here to remember

made generally public, but apparently t

Grimethorpe miners are satisfied that

backs up the justice of their claims. Th

committee consisted of two face-workers

from neighbouring collieries and the

INCENTIVE!

IN the last issue of Freedom we dis-

- cussed the division within the ranks

of the Conservatives, as betrayed by the

older, outspoken diehards and the younger

"progressive" faction with their Industria

One of the leaders of the old guard

is Lord Woolton, chairman of the party,

who, at a recent Chamber of Commerce

meeting at Stoke-on-Trent, came out with

unemployed to solve the present alleged

An accountant and an astronomer who both work at

ABOLITION OF BOREDOM

intellectual work, for any physical activity implies

necessity a measure of intellectual effort.

a demand for the creation of a pool

shortage of manpower.

direction of labour".

the alternatives?

masking weariness.

the men were not having it.

IN response to an inquiry from Spivs, however, have now assumed Raymond Blackburn in the House of national importance, but are still pre- Commons, the Minister of Labour ad- resentful slackers. senting many thorny problems for our mitted that any person who expresses masters. The problem of defining the objections to joining a trade union will spiv has not yet been settled, to begin not be directed to any job in which with. Can it be that there is no way union membership is a condition of of describing those who live without employment. Nor will he be sent to a working or resorting to crime, without job where his failure to join a union i likely to cause an "industrial disputel".

So all the eels have to do is develope a conscience against joining a union!

perts do not expect to round up more atives, and how many honest workers sand, the same foundations in fact on agreement. However, that is not our problem. than 10,000 in the spiv category (when may not be corrupted by contact with What is amusing us just now is how the they get down to it) and in order to do these hangers-on of the underworld? Ministry of Labour has found himself even that, 3,000 civil servants will be

only one coal-face the sub-committee

coal-faces," a way of assessing which

forgets the elementary fact that no two

coal-faces have exactly the sam

assessed what should be done by four

GRIMETHORFE

Fact Finders Back Strikers

THE fact-finding committee appointed N.U.M. Yorkshire area secretary,

to look into the grievances and Ernest Jones, who must have played l

causes of the Grimethorpe (Sth. York- part in the original decision to increase

shire) stint strike has made its report, and the stint, but is now forced to adm

it has been read to the Grimethorpe through the report that "on evidence from

that the apparent cause of the strike was All Mr. Jones says now is that "the

The fact-finders' report has not yet been Will Lawther" were painted

the arbitrary decision of the Coal Board report will now go to the Divisional

and the N.U.M. to increase the stint Conciliation Board," but we may be sure

(length of coal face worked) in the that neither Mr. Jones nor the Con- 1

unwilling workers who will definitely 3,000 more unproductive pen-pushers. of the war years. At a time when the dollar-saver". The implication being sumably, industrious and patriotic would probably, if they were themselves directed into essential work, produce efficiency, to the task of annihilating so daft as increasing home-production more than three times their number of

The Wide Boys

Has anyone in the Government thought, by the way, of the disturbing influence on morale that the introduction from an intolerable reality. But un- any other government would be very of the "Wide Boys" into the factory fortunately, most of the plans bore different under existing circummay have? Workers keep going at dull unmistakable signs of their, psycho- stances". On this point, if not on they can see no alternative. The Spivs logically, escapist origin and were many others in this pamphlet, and monotonous work mainly because Furthermore, Ministry of Labour ex- are the boys who know all the altern-

Anarchists have been kept out of the mines, and others have been discharged from the army for no other reason than that their militant presence was a threat | -God help me-will, I suppose, to the authority in control. Workers have to continue to read them, most are not so slow to learn-put spivs among the workers and who knows what new methods of ca-canny and goslow might be evolved!

Frankly, though, we do not think the spivs are in much danger from direction. Although checks will be made upon amusement arcades, pin-table saloons, race-tracks, football pools, and direction will raise more problems than it can solve. Like any other governmental activity, in fact.

But don't think from these words of encouragement to him that we wholeheartedly in favour of the He is a product of capitalist society and is as unproductive and useless as a politician or bank clerk. But not more so.

Melton Field seam at Grimethorpe-and ciliation Board have forgotten that the Grimethorpe miners were tearing up their WANTED: 2,000 New Readers! Are you helping to introduce new readers to FREEDOM? Have colliery wall. As so often happens, the workers have made plain what they were you asked your newsagent to prepared to do and not do, and now

stock the paper?

the officials are running round trying Can you sell a few copies among make it constitutional. So far there has been no date fixed for the Conciliation your friends? We can supply you Board to meet to discuss the report. We with copies of the current issue (6 copies 1/-, 12 copies 2/- post BACK TO TRADITIONAL miners are concerned it will not make lightest difference if it never meets.

UNREST AMONG LANARK MINERS

SIX weeks ago miners in Blantyre, and of the N.U.M. deploring unofficial stopon strike against unequal wage awards behave. in the industry. They were the on-cost Although supporting the strikers wholeworkers (mainly on haulage, roads and heartedly, we cannot regard these (almost roofs, who struck because other grades routine) wage-strikes as of any great had been granted a pay increase which fundamental importance—except made the on-cost workers by far the wage-earners concerned, of course

all public works and long-term capital poorest paid mine workers.

There could hardly be a more blatart | On the first day, 4,500 men in 17 pits for your bread-and-butter now were idle, and by the second day the means, but don't be satisfied Stirlingshire to the Lothians and Fife. the delegate meeting of the Scottish area less than Workers' Control!"

other parts of Lanarkshire were out pages and calling on all mineworkers to

we do get a certain amount of satisfaction projects, throwing the workers therein out The strikers went back on the under- out of seeing the same struggles going standing that their claims would be con- in a nationalised industry as in any other other employment, producing for export sidered by October 17th. Came October for we have always asserted that the State This, he said, is "infinitely more accept- 20th and still they had heard nothing as a boss is no more benevolent than any

So we say to strikers anywhere: "Fight on the workers under "Free Enterprise", strike had spread from Lanarkshire and the crumbs you will gain. Make the phrases as "Particular care will have browned-off with the Labour government At the time of writing over 20,000 miners trol of your own industry—your own life should seriously ask themselves what are are on strike, in spite of a resolution at -your goal. Be satisfied with nothing

which the present house of capitalism

was tumbling and still is. Neverthe-

less, the planners, with an ostrich-like

of those that concern themselves

with farming at any rate. It's a grim

These thoughts are occasioned by

having just thrown down on the table

a copy of Policy for British Horti-

culture, published by the Conservative

Political Centre. It consists mainly

interest except to those people con-

nected with horticulture. Indeed, but

for one significant fact about the

whole pamphlet, I would not use up

space referring to the damn thing at

all. This fact is that, although it is

"A Survey and Statement by a Group

as well have been compiled by a

group of Labour M.P.s, Liberal M.P.s

or what have you. While reading i

I was reminded of the leading article

in the last issue of Freedom which,

servative Party's "Industrial Charter".

pointed out that there was really

between Labour and Tory policies,

that either provided "a traditionally

Labour and Tory Policies

the laissez-faire capitalism of the

actual fact capitalism is by no means

a planned society, as has been shown,

The Development of Capitalism.

most Conservative thought of the

the necessity for planned production

and advocates it in a manner almost

identical to that of Labour spokes-

imports of . . . ", "Future policy must

be governed by public need" (an old

antagonistic to, or incompatible with.

Capitalism is too often taken to

perfidious cover for the advancing

of Conservative M.P.s," it might just

of statistics and is not really of much

detachment, continue to plan and I

Tweedledum & Tweedledee!

THE revival of interest in the land one, that), "To secure of proper and its potentialities, to which I regulation of . . . ", and more of the referred in the last Land Notes, same. putting forward a "Plan" or a of commonsense, but on the grounds "Policy" for British Agriculture which that, in the words of the Chancellor were a feature of the planning mania of the Exchequer, it is "the great civilized world was harnessing all its that, if we had plenty of dollars to productive powers, with ever-greater spare, no one would propose anything itself, the impulse to indulge in of food. phantasies of a world where some Referring to the policy of the semblance of sanity prevailed was present government, these Conserunderstandable enough. Planning be- vative M.P.s give it as their opinion came a popular mechanism of escape that " it is doubtful if the policy of essentially houses to be re-built on anarchists will find themselves in

D.P.'s Again

Re: my reference in the last issue to the dangers of the employment of Displaced Persons on the land, from the British worker's point of view, here in passing is a cutting from The Daily Herald (22/10/47) in support

Protest against the alleged "pampering" of foreign labour by farmers was made at Hereford vesterday.

Mr. W. Thomas, district organiser, told the Executive Committee of the Herefordshire branch of the Union of Agricultural Workers that while most farmers were playing the game, some had sacked British labour in favour of

Regular farm workers, he said, were becoming unemployed because farmers would not keep them on permanently while there were reserves of foreign

Foreign workers were given extra rations, full wages whether they worked or not, extra clothing coupons every three months and transport to take them to and from work, and for

Oh-Dear-What-Can-The-Matter-be Dept.

while commenting on the Con-One is given to understand that both rural housing and the farming industry are now important priorities. little, if any, fundamental difference To judge, however, from these two items of news, culled from The Farmer's Weekly (3/10/47), things don't seem to have got properly under

Despite the fact that water mains have passed their door for over six months. the 100 inhabitants of Normanby-lemean what has come to be known as Wold, near Market Raisen, still have to depend on Caister which is five miles

nineteenth-century. Whereas, in away for drinking water, sent by council

A Monmouthshire farmer, Mr. Roger Chapman, Llwynhaid Farm, Bettws, is a little cynical of Mr. Herbert Morrison's promise of "aggressive support" for Policy for British Horticulture, like

With the intention of producing more T.T. milk, he placed plans for a new cowshed before the local council in Six weeks later, after the plans had

been approved, he sent the plans and an application for a building licence to the The Ministry of Works sent them to Monmouthshire A.E.C. The A.E.C. sent them to the

Ministry of Agriculture. The Ministry of Agriculture sent them back to the Ministry of Works. Then Mr. Chapman was granted a building licence and special priorities for

But there was no priority for cement. "You can't have cement," he was told, because agriculture is not on the Prime Minister's priority list for cement, and nothing can be done about it until all priority orders have been fulfilled."

In the "Land Notes" of our last issue. three printing errors occurred which radically altered the sense of G.V.'s argument. Five lines above the subheading "The Futility of Planning", the line should read "of producers, if it is more profitable"; three lines above "Farm Workers and D.P.s" the line should read "forbidden to seek empleyment outside the"; and seventeen lines should read "long as there is any actual unemployment."

8 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 28 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60

plicated-both become tired; but while the former, not the weight of boredom, nothing but boredom, I learned being animated by any passion for knowledge, feels the the meaning of long hours." full weight of drudgery, the latter finds vital inspiration How is it possible to keep boredom away from work? in the dry mechanism of his formulae, a light which bids That is the problem arising out of these consideration

The negative element in work is boredom. Boredom same time a factor of that tiredness. The relation between boredom and fatigue is just as valid for manual as for

the condition of spirit in which it is carried out. Boredom 1. The duration of work must be proportional to the a joy for many. work. The person who works with a bored mind is 2. Everyone must be free to follow that productive The Hotel of the Poor who says: "When work is pleasant, reduced to a state of drowsiness. In manual work bore- capacity to which they feel most attracted. With regard life is beautiful. dom lengthens the time. Michelet, in his memoirs, tells to the duration of working time, the type of occupation I will work."

(Continued from page 2) calculations—the former simple and the latter very com- printing-press—"Immobile in the cashier's desk, under

him remain vigilant, keeping him alert and wakeful and Work is always fatigue. We must endeavour to find out how it may become pleasant fatigue for all.

is continuous consciousness of tiredness and also at the follows a spontaneous impulse is pleasant. When, on the choice. other hand, an individual is obliged by external con- This is not posssible without the economic emancipation

is a depressive element. It shows as torpor in intellectual effort involved. of his experiences, as a boy while working at his father's must be taken into account; there are certain essentially

spiring occupations which thus appear lengthy; it i getting tired" means "I work without being conscious of THE PROBLEM OF WORK subjective point of view, that is, taking into account the

psychical reflex which the work induces in the person who does it. There are certain jobs which, although 'light' because they do not require a large expenditure of muscular energy are nevertheless extremely tiring beenormous waste of nervous energies.

The second point (2) is connected with the first: since Every manifestation of energy is accompanied by a feel- any occupation is the more fatiguing the less interesting ing of pleasure when it is proportioned to the strength it is, it follows that everyone will become less tired, of the organism. A walk is pleasant, but a forced march and will therefore work longer and more efficiently, when s a penance. In the same way, any activity which he is allowed to develop his activity in the field of his own

ditions to act in opposition to his natural tendencies, he and technical development of the worker. When, as exhausts himself in his effort of will on himself, with Carlyle predicted, every individual will be able to choose consequent suffering and lessened productive capacity, as his sphere of work that to which he is naturally Physical fatigue is more or less intense according to These considerations lead to the following conclusions: clined, work will no longer be labour, and will become

(To be continued.)

selves merely with the affairs of local ascendancy of the Gaullists. between Russian and American in- Communist International Bureau to disorder.

crats and to a much lesser extent of These tactics have already been the Socialist.

election results show an increase in Party used all its powers of attack the Communist vote (Daily Worker, against the Social Democrats and 21/10/47) but figures for the 344 favoured Hitler's rise to power, thinklargest communes in France, in- ing of dealing with him later. It cluding Paris, show that the Com- seems that, once again, the Communist vote has declined from 32.4 munists have under-estimated the per cent. at last year's elections to strength of nationalism and that they 29.3 per cent. The final figures show have not only succeeded in giving the a more considerable loss.

the fact that 30% of the electorate own.

THE Municipal Elections which The policy of the Communist Party to Germany, have certainly dis-

which stressed the need for a co-

used before in Germany in 1931 and The Communists claim that the 1932 when the German Communist neo-fascist General some of the Little attention has been drawn to Socialist votes but also some of their

did not vote, a very high proportion The Communist-inspired transport considering the intensity with which strike, the unrest artificially created electoral propaganda had been carried during the past few weeks, as for

According to Forward (18/10/47) the

official figures of political enemies shot by

Franco's regime during 1947 were 13 in

January, 9 in February, 79 in March, 32

in April, 23 in May, 11 in June, 18 in

RACE HATRED IN U.S.A.

On the sun-baked afternoon of July 11

spector was coming. Twenty-seven refused

to work until they could air their

grievances. Warden W. G. Worthy tried

followed by a burst of gunfire. The next

injured. The following day two more had

died and an inquest was held. Prisoners

testified that they were fired upon with

July, 29 in August—Total 214.

Foreign Commentary

Does Freedom Matter?

people are so concerned with what they to proceed. When the turn came for the consider the realities of life that all else prosecution to speak, he rose to ask that is abandoned or ignored. And human the man should be acquitted. He had walues seem to have been among the first come, he said, to demand the death victims of this new trend which has been penalty, but in view of the way the trial hastened by the six war years. Wherever had proceeded and in view of the obthere are signs of mass feeling on govern- scurities of the case, he could not but discover in them some material interest, to follow him in his scruples. The or some political interest. Rarely does defending counsel whose task had been one find a disinterested attitude, in the made easier by the prosecution, neversense of attacking an injustice for its own theless presented his case, making points sake. Thus, in this country the only on the contradiction of the witnesses, the large-scale agitation occurs when, for gaps in the prosecution's case and demoninstance, the Minister of Power and Fuel strating the psychological falseness of the announces that basic petrol is to be charge. abolished, or against the Food Minister one takes the trouble to examine what this off of old scores should influence justice. injustice amount to, one comes to the conclusion that the real defenders of the a very small minority of the population It is the writer's opinion that in this country at any rate, this small minority is even smaller than it was during the years before the war. And one cannot underattempt to show by examples from the Continent, where in many cases the

THE SITUATION IN FRANCE

development has been even more rapid

France has a "tradition of freedom and in the last 20 years one has only to recall the monster demonstrations on bethe inmates of a prison camp near half of "Sacco and Vanzetti" and on Thalma, Ga., heard that the state inbehalf of the Spanish people in their struggle against Franco to really appreciate the extent to which these values have suffered during the war and postto get them out. There were angry words, war years.

minute five prisoners were dead, eight We will limit ourselves to one example though others have already been given in this column and more evidence still can no more excuse than the warden's com-Libertaire (obtainable from Freedom Press mand, "Let 'em-have it!" Warden 3d.). In a recent issue of Combat (which Worthy said they were trying to escape, can be described as the French equivalent As Life commented at the time: "If so, of our Manchester Guardian) the case was most of them chose a strange routereported of a man who appeared in court charged with having denounced to the Germans fellow detainees in Buchenwald A Glynn County grand jury decided Concentration Camp. Witnesses contra- that Warden Worthy and four camp dicted one another or withdrew their guards were justified in firing on the evidence. In fact, the prosecution case prisoners. But Time (Oct. 13th) reports was so incomplete that the defending that "At nearby Savannah, a federal counsel demanded and obtained the agree- grand jury thought differently. It inment of the prosecuting counsel, that dicted the warden and his guards for more information should be forthcoming depriving Negroes of their lives without to justify the case proceeding. Neverthe- due process of law."

have taken place in France during on the eve of the elections has greatly credited and embarrassed the Governthe past fortnight have been rep- contributed to de Gaulle's victory. ment but they have also lost the Comresented as a plebiscite between They have done all in their power to munist Party a number of supporters Washington and Moscow. The two weaken Ramadier's Government and who have realised that they were main parties, Communist and Gaullist this inevitably led to a loss of con- merely used in the vote-catching have in fact used these elections, fidence in the Socialist and Christian game. They have, on the other hand, which should have concerned them- Democratic parties but also to a rapid strengthened the reactionaries in their desire to have at the head of France a "strong man" who will put an end government, as a test of strength The policy decided upon by the

example, over the transport of sugar

the United States."

elections which take place in villages to fill those seats in municipal councils vote for Communists and vice versa. right-wing parties as being the lesser Gaullist mayors in power shows how

General's responsibility for the

withdrawal of the charge of deser-

tion that hung over the head of

the Communist leader; their com-

mon insistence on the Soviet

The high percentage of abstentions The Court withdrew to deliberate and is a sign of the disgust and disillusionlater returned its verdict: guilty. The sentence passed on this man was 20 years | ment created by the recent intrigues, case. "It is not possible that the payingapathy the parallel with Germany or some other property. It is not possible to associate oneself with will be carried a step further. Whether de Gaulle or Thorez will

the results will be the same.

In the New Statesman and Nation with the estimates for an additional courage the fear of Germany and, at the It would be interesting to complete this official picture of Franco's Spain with the 4/10/47, H. N. Brailsford draws official figures of the prison sentences attention to one of the most revolting awarded during the corresponding period. aspects of the military occupation of

> I cannot refrain from reporting the bitterness which the extravagent claims of the military command for accommodation are causing. The army is much too numerous and it occupies more buildings than it needs. Like Mr. Gollancz, I was shocked by the sight of "Victory House", a colossal modern building, which has been turned into a recreation centre for the troops. Its vast rooms were almost empty when I visited it. A quarter of being made ready under its roof. Then there is the famous hotel, Vier Jahreszeiten, which has been taken over as officers' quarters. It has three officers. As their "country club" the officers of the garrison have taken over in the outskirts of Hamburg one of has its covered swimming pool, its golf course and its tennis courts. But I

building of two storeys, containing Powers. To this end they must hide these four squash courts, a kitchen and much else. This by a peremptory military order must be built at once. I tried to reckon out how many home- | contrary to every principle of socialismless workers' families might be re- a distinction must be made between the housed by Hamburg's standards of Nazi and the ordinary German people. austerity with the concrete which these squash courts will require. "All that | Czechs can neither forget nor forgive has happened," as a Socialist Senator | was followed by Molotov's Munich which

Hamburg is not an exception, everywhere in Germany one hears against fascism did Czechoslovakia, which bitter complaints about labour and possessed one of the finest airforces of materials being used to satisfy the wives and children of Allied person- with their national independence, it is Germany and yet to trust Russia's

WITHIN POLAND

Europe, under Russian domination, and restaurants if you have the money starvation in order to induce people Naturally, as the Picture Post Post, by a journalist who had been the poorer classes" and "is detested investigating conditions in Poland.

Apparently, there is no actual open direction of labour. Instead, the government resort to "manipulation of payments", by which they induce people to enter heavy industries. The rationing system is discriminatory in They have also succeeded in the extreme. Ration cards are issued The Rally of French People, ordinated programme of action antagonising completely the Socialists, only to heavy workers, mothers with General de Gaulle's newly-formed against the "treacherous policy of whom they deluged with invectives young babies, and significantly, civil party, has come out on top though Right-wing Socialists of the type of up to the day of the elections and to servants and some intellectuals-predefend France against Bolshevism. It "anti-imperialist democratic camp" solidate the unity of the working- These entitle the privileged indigained the majority of the votes at (Communist, for short) to evolve its class" the moment election results viduals to sugar, bread, fats, meat and the expense of the Christian Demo- own tactics, has borne its first fruits. were known. Not surprisingly, there soap. All other foods are sold on the have been sneers among those open market, and people with no the press and radio censorship and the "socialist traitors" who were now ration cards, who form the majority, asked to bar the road to the personal have to buy everything in this way, at "there are denunciations by informers dictatorship of de Gaulle. The prices about three times those paid by and intimidation of critics by the Socialist Party has put up a poster | holders of ration cards. At the official Government." rate of exchange, "1lb of butter costs This is the kind of freedom that

THE way in which so-called dark bread is. 3d. for a pound loaf. Socialist countries in Eastern There is plenty of food in the shops

to work hard is illustrated in a recent journalist remarks, this system has article which appeared in Picture "the grave disadvantage of penalising

Prices of clothes and other consumer goods, of which there is a vast shortage, have risen out of all proportion—"a cheap dress costs £30, a suit £90, a pair of shoes £50." The consequence of this is that only the rich can afford new clothes, and the cost-of-living has become so high that most people have to take on part-time jobs in the evening to make ends it has no programme, except to Blum in France" and advised the whom they extended a hand to "con- sumably those who toe the line! meet. Work and want is the order of

The Picture Post article completes political police, and points out that

"The co-operation between Gen- about 12s. 6d. on the free market, Communism brings to Eastern eral de Gaulle and M. Thorez; the sugar 2s. 6d. a lb, potatoes 7d. a lb, Europe.

taken over, and left before they were

citizens who really wanted to make a new

start, became disgusted when the Govern-

properties over to private ownership.

This state of affairs led for a short time

to re-emigration into the interior, but the

Government has realised its error and all

properties are shortly to be handed over

If the occupation disorganised State

finances, it left, on the other hand,

example, the refineries for synthetic oil in

North-Western Bohemia which produce

enough synthetic oils to cover the whole

country's petrol consumption. This

Mammoth works, says Lint, "has been

named 'Stalin's Works', as a token of

gratitude to the Russians who did not

confiscate it as war booty but handed

Government" (French people never

thought of renaming the Renault works

As far as Slovakia was concerned she

seemed to have prospered economically

during the war, being for a long time

All this cannot and should not be put

against the executions, arrests, deporta-

tions carried out by the Nazis, but one is

obliged to remember these facts when

Czechoslovakia is represented as Ger-

many's victim par excellence. They also

Germany has been, to a considerable ex-

influence the Communist Party must en-

To keep Czechoslovakia under Russia's

(a) To hate Germans as a nation is

(b) Chamberlain's Munich which the

(c) When Spain was fighting alone

(d) Russia has clearly demonstrated

Fear of Germany, distrust of Britain

M.L.B.

years to come.

tent, fostered to serve political ends.

after Churchill or Roosevelt!).

it over as a gift to the Czechoslovak

to their present holders."

THE CZECH MYTH

(Continued from page 2)

alliance; their common suspicion (in 1944 and 1945) of England; | We are told that Czechoslovakia's flocked in their thousands into the border their common refusal to carry politics are governed by fear and dis- regions. When it became known, howthrough the Belgian policy of trust of Germany. Inside the country it ever, that nobody could be certain of 3 million Germans (one-fifth of the popu- had taken over, when it became clear that venting inflation and, finally, their lation) and the confiscation of their the Government considered them only as separation on parallel lines, the property. The justification for this in- some sort of 'national caretakers' the General to denounce the Eastern | human policy is to be found, apparently, situation became difficult. A lot of adblock and M. Thorez to denounce | in the sufferings undergone by the Czechs venturers just sucked dry what they had under the German-occupation. This explanation seems particularly found out. Others, qualified and honest

Manchester Guardian, 20/10/47. startling when one hears it on arriving in Czechoslovakia after having crossed This call of unity was not mere | Germany. After seeing a devastated routine. It was calculated to draw the half-starved country, Czechoslovakia, votes of the Socialists in the second where there is hardly any trace of bombluxury goods, seems almost unreal. They for which no candidate received an have suffered through Hitler but the bsolute majority. In past elections | German people are paying more dearly for

One does not wish to underestimate the many new factories, such as, for sufferings of the Czechs under German occupation but if sufferings inevitably breed hatred many other European counwould have far greater reasons to hate the Germans. Yet nowhere in Europe violent, base, petty manner. It would certanly never have assumed such a character had it not been exacerbated for political and economic reasons.

The expulsion of three million Germans deprived Czechoslovakia of valuable manmannerisms, mud-slinging in which power but the property of these people If was transferred to Czechs. To expel sibility of acquiring freely a shop, a farm,

According to Francis Lint, who tries to justify this policy: "Driving out these Czech districts and repopulating them was a hard task. In the beginning people

put it, "is that militarism has changed | might have prevented their liberation for

it would suffice for this proper and whims of Allied officers and of Gernecessary purpose, yet further space is man families being thrown out of ence of small states (Baltic States, Poland, their houses to make room for the etc.). If the Czechs are so concerned nel. Two hours notice is given for ridiculous for them to fear a defeated hundred bedrooms, with a hundred ser- the people to leave their homes, they power. vants, and it houses twenty-five British are not allowed to take away their furniture, house linen, etc., nor is any and America, hopes of Russian protection alternative accommodation found for | will only lead the Czech people to new the most famous modern buildings in them. The situation is particularly and probably greater sufferings. Their Germany, a palace set in a park, which tragic in the big towns where already whether in Germany, Britain or Russia. tens of thousands of people spend Together they can struggle for a common their nights in dirty and overcrowded aim of freedom and peace. found the city's architects grappling bunkers.

Middle East

1st November, 1947.

up by the British Government's switched to Transjordan when they licence from the Soviet military declaration that it intends to evacuate leave Palestine. It is reasonable to British troops from Palestine. It need infer that Abdullah is after 'Greater THE elections in Russian-occupied hardly be said that this declaration Syria'-Transjordan, Syria and a Berlin, in Saxony and Thuringia, is one which the majority of people partitioned Arab Palestine—under have shown to a surprising degree the at home will support, because very British influence and his rule. This In spite of immense propaganda efforts of few people are still taken in by the would be a major stroke of 'diplo- the Socialist Unity Party (under complete delusion that our forces are needed macy' on the part of the Foreign Stalinist domination), in spite of obvious everywhere in the world in order to Office, since it would give a parti- threats and bribery and the "keep the peace". When imperial tioned Jewish Palestine favourable to they are withdrawn; in spite of the Syria' under permanent British in- misused and invalidated their votes. myth for the benefit of schoolbooks fluence as is Abdullah's Transjordan that Britain rules her Empire only in (Glubb Pasha being the British Russians increased the rations. The news- Socialisation soon proved to have about as passive resistance is being driven into order to keep peace among her sub- officer commanding Abdullah's forces mistic regarding its future when the From this point of view it may well British troops are withdrawn, will be the case that recent events have papers announced that tobacco, vegetables much resemblance to the Communism channels of direct action. The S.E.P. up by the British forces.

The Arab League has already declared its intention to fight for Arab Palestine; and has even given out statements as to the numbers of troops it is prepared to put into the field. Many Palestine Arabs are, however, It is often assumed that the extremely pessimistic as to the amount Foreign Office had just let matters of support they can in reality expect drift in the Middle East, and that it like the Irgun or the Sternists could is concerned—a few soldiers killed vice conditions, a much larger force Office to deal with that—the situation than has been promised would could not have developed more be necessary to defeat a body like the favourably for the plans of the Haganah which has the support of the Foreign Office; and unless the other majority (and in time of crisis could Powers upset the applecart, they have Palestine Jewry.

In these circumstances there is a call to the Arab League to muster up greater support for the illegal army of 1036 that is now waiting its chance on the borders of Palestine, led by Fawzi Kawoukji, which is certain too to receive support from the paramilitary Arab bodies inside Palestine. But, as has been noted in these columns before, the Arabs are even RUMANIAN PEASANTS more divided among themselves than the Jews (due largely to monarchical STRIKE TO DEFEND rinciples); and it is certain that King Ibn Saud who is loudest for demanding aid for the Palestine Arabs, will mot co-operate with Kawoukji who is Arabia. Moreover, King Abdullah is now known to be a peasants' strike. playing a game of his own while marching in pretended step with the

chance to extend his boundaries. By Government. co-operation with British Imperialism the gained a kingdom; it is likely that for "Greater Syria"-Transjordan to to be allowed to send observers to the swallow up Syria—have roused the treason. anger of the Arab League, which however must depend on Abdullah for Direct action of this kind shows that of the Germans. After having been bom-

THE THREE MUSKETEERS-16

THE undercurrents of talk of civil "unsatisfactory reply" to demands these by using information from German any action taken against Palestine parties could not compete with this! power was soon realised. prior to British evacuation stating dom for propaganda under truly demothat such "would be considered an cratic conditions was permitted. But in act of agression against His Majesty's | fact the S.E.P. were allowed 800 tons of

> made a tactical move in proposing the evacuation of Palestine which may in point of fact make imperialist influence even stronger by proxy Labour Party Imperialism is a bit shoddy and "utility" owing to the

Rumanian Peasant Party leader-it was due to open in Bucarest last Friday-is Reports from Bucarest indicate that dis Peasant Party and the putting on of the increased prices offered by

As a result the black market is flourish he will use the present turmoil to | The British and U.S. Governments extend that kingdom. His proposals have received no answer to their request trial of Dr. Maniu, who is accused

war in Palestine have been stirred that British troops should not be papers and magazines printed under the Nazis!"

domination becomes a bit unprofitable Britain in any emergency; a 'Greater and, of this half, a considerable number

Workers Disillusioned

the attempts of the S.E.P. press to raise black market.

for themselves for being completely de-

The Silent Front opportunists who were only seeking ad- so far eleven thousand youths. At the Shortly before the elections the vantage for themselves. The expected same time there are indications that mere

jects. It can, however, be added that the majority of people in Palestine, even those who are the most pessitive recording its future when the most pessitiv

paper while all the other parties received

Nowhere does the catchword "demo to-receive from elsewhere: and point has been "inefficient" owing to the cracy" appear so consistently, in speech to the fact that if a small minority trouble there. But so far as "trouble" and in print, as in the Eastern Zone. But in fact hold up and even to a certain here and there is not the responsibility | contrary, it seems to grow with each new extent defeat picked divisions of the of the Foreign Office; there is a utterance. The following extract from the British Army working on active ser- statistical department of the War letter of one disillusioned party member

passed is the subsequent betrayal of our from German food stocks. principles. Social justice, comradeship and all we believed in has lost its meaning. Socialism lost its meaning of liberation the moment it allied itself, for tactical purposes and in order to gain power, with chauvinism and, disregarding reason and conscience, not only excused but strengthened violent injustice. Russia has gained a position in world politics, but the great line of socialist development towards freedom for all as visualised by Luxemburg and Silone has been broken.'

Many left-wing comrades who accepted the excuses made by the Communi Party and were willing to co-operate with them, soon found this to be impossible in practice without becoming servile yes-men or getting themselves into serious trouble. We know of Communists who fought in the International Brigade in Spain and rein expressing some critical remarks. In of security and an alibi. The intellihad protested against the removal of time-servers, and the discontented middle Moscow's practice of enforcing its policy without the least regard for the views of politics and events than it was ever under the German Communist Party. After the Nazis. The Russians, well-versed in some time these people were informed that traditional underground methods, have so they would not be prosecuted, but given far combatted successfully all propaganda the opportunity of proving their loyalty against their interests.

"Just like the Nazis" has become common phrase in the Eastern zone. The The Observer, 19/10/47. Russian propagandists have failed to diagnose correctly the psychological state any action they take on Palestine; and Moscow may crush the leaders but it barded night and day for over a decade rup to the present he has given an | will not be able to enslave the people. | by Goebbels's propaganda, they are in a

welcome this withdrawal instead of been staged for the purpose of and building materials were on their way envisaged by the sincere Communist press is now launching the first attacks

The workers cannot forget the acts of brutality, looting and wilful destruction, committed by the first Russian troops. These troops were replaced by others, and open looting stopped, but instead the Russians appeared on the black market with big cases and bought, for a loaf o bread, a few potatoes, a piece of bacon, the treasures of hungry people, things which in Russia only the privileged could afford, such as gramophones, watches, rings, clothing, cameras, bicycles, and so on. The Germans in all their poverty were still richer than the average inhabitant of the "worker's paradise".

The Germans realise and resent bitterly is typical of what is felt by thousands of the fact that they are being paid for these goods with coal, butter, bread and meat "What is most unbearable is not so of which they have been robbed. much the material misery as the dis- Russian 'comrades', 'champions' of the than all the terror through which we Russian currency, but with their rations

Reparations Condemned

The workers condemn the dismantling and removal of machinery and technical quipment—they call it plain destruction and robbery. They condemn reparations outright. They remember how Trotsky, under the pressure of the Russian Soviets ledge the debts incurred under the Tsarist Party of the Western Zone is trying to reparations, but makes no mention of the fact that Russia persists with stubborn

The number of wholehearted supporters of the Communist Party is relatively merely been denounced as 'politically un- number of S.E.P. supporters are people prison they found S.P.D. workers who gentsia, with the exception of corrupt machinery, as well as German Communist class remain in silent but growing

The press of the Eastern Zone devotes much space to describing the starvation and corruption in the West. The purpose becomes clear when one reads:

"Listen to the Berliners and one would think they were hungry. Though they have received every week their full rations, Berlin shoppers talk unceasingly

By JOHN OLDAY

a continued period of uncertainty persuading Syria to take precipi- from Russia and that 120,000 German workers as has the nationalisation in on the saboteurs, obstructionists and neoa continued period of uncertainty persuading Syria to take precipi-about the future and a hopeless con- tate action. The British Charge meetings of the S.E.P., newly-joined mem- formed in industry to proceed with re- those who will not accept unquestioningly dition of impermanence only bolstered d'Affaires in Damascus did in fact bers were given extra ration cards for construction, production and distribution the superiority of Soviet culture, all those warn the Syrian authorities against butter and cheese; naturally the other on syndicalist lines, but their lack of who lack spontaneous outbursts of enthusiasm, are being defamed and discredited. This is not addressed so much to the enemies of the Communist Party abroad as to the 'silent front' in the Eastern Admittedly there is full employment in the Eastern Zone, but since this seems to

have no uplifting effect on morale the old Roman policy, so well remembered by the Nazis, of bread and circuses, is now being applied. The shortage of transport has been accentuated by the Russian removal of large strips of railway line and quantities of rolling stock, while at the same time certain tracks remain for purposes of propaganda, for the needs of the Russians themselves and for the transportation of 50,000 people at a time to witness boxing matches and other organised entertainments. Bicycle racing in Neuköln, Chemnitz, Dresden and Zwikau draws tremendous audiences. Elsewhere other sports, especially for youth, receive the greatest encouragement. The many sports organisations favoured by the authorities serve not only for amusement and the raising of health standards, but are also purposely designed instruments to capture the youth, to divert the vitality which might otherwise lead to political resistance into easily controlled channels. The militarist purpose of this organised sport is evident from the followconsisting in the early stages of a non- ing case. American soldiers in Berlin used to play baseball and attract numbers of German youths. This led to fraternisregime. Ironically enough, the Communist ation and the boys, being instructed in the game, began to play enthusiastically with their instructors. The Russian authorities, forgetting all old time principles of solidarity, protested to the American authorities against this 'prelude to a military education' of the German

Stalinised Education

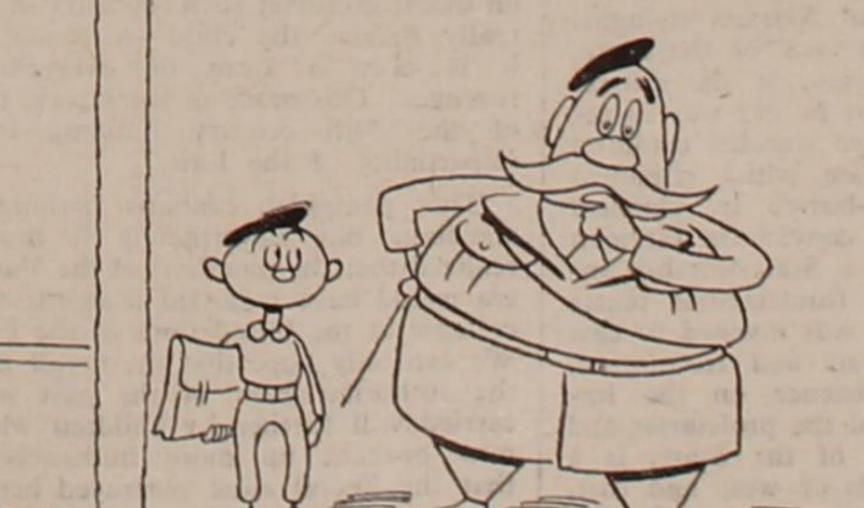
The Ministry of Education in Thuringia has issued an order whereby in all elementary schools the eldest pupil must recite, before classes begin, an extract from either Lenin or Stalin. The Soviet Military Administration has issued another order by which every schoolroom must be decorated with a picture of Mark or a leading Russian statesman. History lessons on the Russian Revolution were to be introduced, but this was not prac-The population is less informed on world ticable, since apparently the teachers were not sufficiently acquainted with the subject. A modern Arts and Crafts School, organised on the pattern of the Moscow Institute, has been founded in Berlin: the children are selected after a special examination: in addition to art, lessons are given in literature, languages and history. If these subjects are taught on the same Schadanov lines as in Moscow, it will amount to the following:

> "Russia has produced the greatest poets, artists, technicians and army in the world. It was not Bessemer, Siemens or Martens who invented new methods of steel production, but Dmitri Schernov. It was not Eddison who invented the electric bulb, but Vladimir Ladigin Jabloshkov. It was not Marconi who invented wireless telegraphy, but Topoff. The principle of the electric dynamo was discovered not by Siemens but by Faradin. Russian literature has not only stood at all times above that of the West, but has influenced it fundamentally. The originators of scientific socialism, Marx and Engels, were not Western thinkers."

Life has become so grey and joyless, and the people are so desperate that they pin their hopes on a new war which might at least liberate them from their Russian masters. Torn between a desire to be rid of the Russians and the fear of a new and terrible war, many Germans are driven to accept forlornly the desire for a horrible end rather than an endless JOHN OLDAY.

WELTWOCHE.

(To be continued.)



POOR THINGS THEY DO LOOK THIN ... NOW THAT REMINDS ME ...



5 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 28 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60

1st November, 1947.

DEAR EDITORS,

FOR AN IMMEDIATE

AMNESTY

indeterminate state, and it seems that it

will remain so unless the responsible mem-

bers of the Government find a new source

of moral courage, or are co-erced into

action by a widespread public demand.

we must have recourse to the latter.

The former being a doubtful possibility,

It is my belief that circumstances and

conditions of men continue largely owing

who have the power to bring about a

ness of the people as a whole the extent

is entailed in the phrase "17,000 men on

the run", then I am convinced that a

spontaneous demand for a immediate am-

nesty would result. An open-hearted

the situation is still in the same deplorably to this office.

to lack of imagination on the part of those DEAR COMRADES,

Lettess to the Shitoss

fore unnecessary to go into the question in Please assist in any way you can,

generosity towards these scapegoats of indicated by Herbert Read in his artic

afraid to give anything away—we might real weapon of the workers is strike,

need it when the dollars dry up! But that in most cases is passive resistant

in this case we should only be giving away and precludes the necessity of adopting

the right to coerce 17,000 men to live violence as a principle. Moreover if and

caged up by the righteous authorities. in anarchism, the structure of State will

other ways in which support for the turers employed by the State.)

But I fear I am preaching to the collapse for there will be nobody to Inverness.

to publicize the Amnesty Campaign-by tremity of their reaction away from his letter, writes:

great detail. It is sufficient to say that forward any news of local publicity, etc.,

campaign may be obtained.

Finally, please send a donation towards

the Campaign Fund—and if your friends

tribution. We like sympathy, but un-

Yours sincerely,

A CRITICISM

On my recent return from overseas,

found a large heap of copies of Freedon

which had accumulated during my ab-

some comments. (I have been a silent

reader of your paper for too long no

on "Anarchism-Past and Future". With

chism to develop is along the

furtively, with the perpetual fear of being when the masses are educated to believe ethical desire of being truthful.

sence, and having spent some time lo

ing through these am moved to m

LAURIE HISLAM,

FREEDOM DEFENCE COMMITTEE,

John Middleton Murry ADAM & EVE C. G. Jung ESSAYS ON CONTEMPORARY EVENTS

Julius Braunthal THE PARADOX OF NATIONALISM George Orwell ANIMAL FARM Henry Reed

THE NOVEL SINCE 1939

Arthur Levett A MARTIAN EXAMINES CHRISTIANITY WE ALSO DISTRIBUTE : "The Indian Sociologist" 6d .; "Le Libertaire" 3d.; "Resistance" 3d. "Industrial Worker" 3d.; "L'Adunata 3d.; "Volonta" 1/-; "Politics" 2/6; "Senstatano" (Esperantist) Specimen copies of papers sent or

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political "line" is being as rigidly enforced Dr. Doris Odlum. always in Russia, this means disgrace—if not worse-for prominent leaders in the

at the final suppression of any conceivable or artistic intercourse between the Soviet and the Western world. The decree began by indicting "a certain part of the intelligentsia" who are accused of "an unworthy adulation and servility toward things foreign and towards the putrefying reactionary culture of the bourgeois West. The malady is widespread among the least stable representatives of the Soviet intelligentsia . . ." The decree further states that such intellectual and capitalism in the minds of the least stable The Times Literary Supplement liberalism but with anarchism. The first and cold-bloodedly play the role of

Soviet citizens and thereby weaken the 11/10/47. Soviet State." This decree was accompanied by a press Russian nineteenth-century thought re- passed in his later years for a fervent upcampaign indicting historians, writers and volves unceasingly round the central holder of the autocracy. Yet the "Legend scientists who had offended against idea of revolution. It was Nikolas I of the Grand Inquisitor", though osten-"Soviet patriotism". Some scientists and -so far as responsibility can be assigned sibly directed against the secular arm of inventors, it was stated, "thirsting for to any one person-who, by virtually Catholicism, is in fact valid against any praise from foreign scientists and pseudo- proscribing all forms of political, social attempt to set up a "kingdom of this scientists and moved by considerations of and philosophical speculation, threw the world". Tolstoy in theory rejected not petty personal glory, are hastening to | whole intellectual movement of three only the State, but every exercise of publish abroad articles on their work, generations into a revolutionary mould. power. which is really the property of the Soviet | The first overt act was the trivial The struggle between Marx and

"December" insurrection of 1825-a sort Bakunin thus acquires fresh significance The latest and one of the best-known of officers' mutiny; its promoters were the as a struggle between western and eastern victims of this campaign is Eugen Varga, first representatives of the so-called "cons- conceptions of revolution, between the Soviet Russia's foremost economist. The cience-striken gentry", who illustrated the Jacobin conception of revolution through occasion was the publication of Varga's perennial truth that the seeds of revolu- the State by seizing and using State book on the "Changes in the Economics of | tion are sown when the ruling class loses power and the anarchist conception of * Capitalism Resulting from the Second its belief in its right to rule. This stage revolution through the people by destroy-World War". This book, and its "devia- of the movement developed under the pre- ing the power of the State. Marx, it tions" were considered sufficiently im- dominant influence of Hegel. It culmin- true, paid tribute to socialist freedom by portant to be made the subject of a special ated in the forties in the brilliant figures postulating the eventual dying away three days' conference of the Institute of of Bakunin and Herzen, the first Russian the State. But his immediate concern Economics, which is part of the Academy revolutionary émigrés, who not only was with the dictatorship of the prole of Science of the U.S.S.R. All the most | mediated western ideas to Russia but also, tariat. The essence of Bakunin's case prominent economists of the Soviet Union | though somewhat later, broke fresh against Marx was that Marx was a bewere assembled, and, according to a ground by introducing Russian ideas to liever in State power-which the Russian report in the last number of the Bolshevik, the revolutionary movements of Western anarchist regarded as a characteristically unanimously condemned Varga for a Europe. number of unpardonable aberrations.

It remains to consider Russian nine- Russian as well as in Marxist thought, Marxist and as being influenced by teenth-century thought in its relation to came to expound his view of the State, bourgeois propaganda. Instances quoted the State. Professor Berdyaev is hardly in State and Revolution, at the critical are his assertions that war-time rationing | correct in claiming anarchism as "the moment of 1917, what he did was to rein Britain has contributed to a distribution | creation of Russians". The genealogy of furbish the old western socialist tradition system in favour of the working people, anarchism goes back to William Godwin, of hostility to the State, which remained and that there was something like genuine | if no further: it was firmly embedded in embedded and half-buried in classical national unity in Britain during the war. the incipient socialist movements of Marxism, in order to convict the German startling, but nevertheless it must be Even more serious apparently are his | western Europe before it established itself Social-Democrats of a State-worship in- | realized that the moralists of the Victorian errors about the role of the Eastern in Russia. But the significant point is compatible with the fundamental tenets era would have regarded it as the virtual

as "state-capitalistic"; and whose methods | complexion.

Tribune, 17/10/47. Nicholas I. The first westerners, such as doctrines in congenial Russian soil.

What We Don't Like In Films

thinking stupor in its audience and leading cerned to being, with it, 'on the side of

of a carefully and systematically planned concerned-anti-patriotism and so on), scheme the various film companies are irreverance and political controversy, in told what they must produce, but do such a way that any expression of thought 5/- assert that, because of the nature of film in opposition to the prevailing system of production and conditions imposed upon social organisation and mode of thought 6/2 it by censorship laws, themes and treat- through the film medium is almost ments are guided into very restricted impossible.

troversial matter might be prejudicial to public approval and thus to takings, so controversy is out. Art (with a capital 'A') and other such doubtful matters are, burely as an experiment, given an occasional trial-if there is no box-office response the Board will be no longer

or no voice in the story, the editing or data to be correct; if, as an art form,

Book Reviews

temporary citizen. With its usual output and can produce only quite chaotic results gain enjoyment and satisfaction from it nor is it intended that we should provide

The biggest bug-bear of all, however, is actual dictating from official quarters of not! These prohibitions cover the whole panorama of contemporary social taboo (sex, illegality, swearing-this particularly We are not pretending that as a result so far as the Hays Office of America is

> It is true that occasionally something an for the idea for which he stand we are made to feel little or no resentmen against the forces which cause man's suffering but merely sorrow and charitable ntent towards the man himself.

We will agree that the film is, or should be, an art form and not something concerned solely with propaganda as "For a time Luce (an American such, but as an art form it must be recogpublisher and promoter of March of nised that it is an expression of life and, Time) was on the Board of Directors of in this sense, an expression, whether Paramount Pictures. Hoped to learn realistic or surrealistic, of fact. If a film something of cinema, heard nothing concerns a morality which is prejudiced discussed but banking, resigned sadly." and based on false values, we must object; New Yorker, No. 28th, 1936. if it should deal with history, economics That the promoter-producer system so or psychology, we must expect its restricts the director that he can have little historical, economical and psychological

are right to feel and to express resent- a comprehensive film review-there will

It is in this spirit that we hope from afford to publish daily—but we do hope that of the censor. There may be no time to time in future issues to criticise to be able to counteract in some small current film productions. We are not way the mentally distorting and distorted attempting to compete with the out- elements in certain productions. pourings of the National Press on this

"When a man takes a farm from which another has been evicted, you you meet him, you must show him the streets of the town, you must show him in the fair and in the market place, and even in the house of worship, by leaving him severely alone, by isolating him from his kind as if he were a leper of old-you must show him your de mitted, and you may depend upon that there will be no man so full avarice, so lost to shame, as to dare the

prevent anti-social behaviour should it of a point from our opposition. occur in an anarchist society". They boycott' derived its name.

Erne, who refused to consider a plea for

RILM REVIEW

Erne estate. The tenants refused to pay and when ejectment notices were sent out both the servers and the police were forced to retire and take refuge. Boycott's servants left him en masse. Shopkeepers would not supply him with his needs, letters and telegrams were not delivered Orangemen, heavily protected by the were gathered in. When this was done he moved to Dublin but even here the landlord of the Herman Hotel refused him accommodation and he was forced to go to London and then to the U.S. public opinion of all right-thinking men and to transgress your unwritten code

There is surprisingly little to criticise in the veracity of this story as given in the film. If we give it so much promin-These words were not spoken in answer ence here it is because of the lesson which to the question "but what can be done to it would seem to offer and the concession Captain Boycott could, perhaps, have

were delivered on September 19th, 1880, been portrayed a little less of a fool and at Ennis, by Charles Stewart Parnell, more of the rogue he was. The fact that leader of the Irish Land League. It was this same business of evictions, after from the immediate application of what demands for exorbitant rents were unfulne advocated that the policy of the filled, was taking place throughout Ireland, seemed to be given no importance. This, Captain Boycott was the agent to Lord in the film, was a small incident, an unfortunate and isolated event due mainly to a rather too Blimpish and not at all presentative English landlord.

Ignored, too, is the fact that the people did resist successfully the actual attempts at eviction. The film makes a great show of bonfires being lit from hilltop to hilltop, of horses in a race for life against lookers-on observing the struggle of a battering ram against a door with a table

ficance. All social forms, and the nature Victorian ideal, have left their mark on that "the Government have got plenty of of the people who operate them, are family life. Indeed, the pamphlet pays | time and most of our money" seemed

ANOTHER ON BRINGING UP CHILDREN

YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN by which is common to the more enlightened the time they can lisp, have died down as on the Communist parties outside. As | Published for the Ministry of Health by fore a work of considerable social signi- ing revolt against the godhead of the | Cracks like that of the Irish postman

ANARCHIST INFLUENCE

H.M. Stationery Office. This is a pamphlet compiled from B.B.C. broadcast talks by a medical psychologist. is now attractively produced by the too strongly stressed by revolutionaries. that what young children principally need Stationery Office, and one may assume What does this pamphlet show? To is sheer animal love from parents and

sections of the community. It is there- somewhat. Three generations of increas- and a few chairs behind it. strongly influenced by the way the young some tribute to the simple idea (long re- | much appreciated by the audiences. R.L. have been brought up. This cannot be cognized by amoral and simple people)

that it will be read and kept for reference an extent it is encouraging. The old ideas by a substantial proportion of the public. of rule by fear, of exacting an unnatural All this represents the development of The pamphlet really represents the pattern of behaviour from children, of the ideas of the more sensible sections of outlook on the bringing up of children ceaselessly "improving their minds" from the community; but it is a very pre-

-any State-as an evil. Dostoevsky

When Lenin, steeped as he was

carious advance. Pessimists may say that is a transient phenomenon. We have, at best, learnt that children should be positively happy, that they have some sorts of rights as individuals, that adults | ANARCHISM AND MORALITY are neither justified nor wise in lying to | WHAT IS ANARCHISM? ON RUSSIAN THOUGHT them. But still the average well-meaning | THE BASIS OF COMMUNAL man and woman is not free to enjoy a natural human relationship with Peter Kropotkin. We reprint below extracts from a Herzen, were at best grudging advocates | children. A taboo significant of our | THE STATE: ITS HISTORIC ROLE 1/time enters into the child-parent relation- THE WAGE SYSTEM review of Nicholas Berdyaev's book of the western democratic State; from the ship, and the adult feels compelled to | REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT 3d. The Russian Idea, published in idea of freedom was bound up not with draw back from his natural behaviour,

> Slavophils unreservedly treated the State | magistrate. This passage deserves | Errico Malatesta: "The great thing in punishing a child is to make it feel that there's no reward are merited if it's good, so we want to help it to feel that punishment is fair and reasonable when it behaves badly. Make it a rule not to punish a child when you are in a temper; if A. Ciliga: you do it's apt to become a trial of THE KRONDSTADT REVOLT wits and strength between you and the child-and when this happens, the

child only too often wins." Oh pernicious nonsense! You cannot | KROPOTKIN-HIS FEDERALIST give the punishment you devised, because it was given calmly and in cold blood. Clip his ear and shout at him if you are really angered beyond all endurance, and he will understand and forgive you for it later. And why should not the child come out of a row with an adult feeling morally superior? It is a mean trick to swallow one's anger at the time and then, when the incident has passed over, to bring forward a calm punishment based on moral grounds; such sophistry does not really deceive the child-he knows that it is only a form of delayed-action revenge. This mode of thinking is typical. of the 20th century humbug of the

impartiality of the Law. This pamphlet contains nothing very European countries whose significance that a doctrine which in western Europe of Marx. Beelzebub was invoked to cast | collapse of the foundations of the Family. and weight in terms of world economy was specifically socialist and revolutionary out Beelzebub. State and Revolution, We can only hope that the revolt against he estimates to be "comparatively small"; | coloured in Russia the thinking of the with its double insistence on the im- | the authoritarianism of the past will be whose nationalised industries he describes | whole intelligentsia of whatever political mediate dictatorship of the proletariat and | carried still further by children who are ultimate dying away of the State, is a now brought up more humanely, and of carrying out agrarian reform he holds | Political thought in nineteenth-century characteristic synthesis of west and east, that the liberal ethic portrayed here will responsible "as one of the main factors Russia, whether of westerners or Slavo- of Jacobinism and anarchism. It is a be no great obstacle to be overcome in (apart from the drought) in the decrease phils, began, as has been said, in striking example of Lenin's superlative our drive towards a real emancipation of opposition to the bureaucratic state of skill in rooting western revolutionary the young.

I George Woodcock:

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COLLECTIVES IN SPAIN

John Hewetson:

EVOLUTION

VOTE WHAT FOR?

ANARCHY OR CHAOS 2/6, Cloth 4/6 RAILWAYS AND SOCIETY and me," remains as a rock in the national life, and a rock-like element in the national conscience. About birth and old age and death outside the party fence, inquiries are LIVING 1/we are not consulted. They happen, and there it is. But being married and entering a monastery are voluntary acts. Their irrevocable character is part of the charm and the secret of much of their strength. There is much wisdom and much

WISE WEDLOCK

divine wisdom in the Mind from which -Dean of Exeter in Daily Telegraph, 18/10/47.

Christian Marriage Law. And there was

It asserted that "disloyalty, unfaithful- offered by the club good value. ness and disregard of social responsiparalleled in our history.

has reached even more serious proportions. dicted, "Within eighteen years one out of every two American marriages will end for inexpensive meals. Sunday Pictorial, 7/9/47.

THE BUREAUCRATIC

At Stratford Court yesterday, in the said that if a person wished to paint or repair his own house it was incumbent upon him to apply for a building licence, as the council took into consideration the into the work in addition to the value of materials to be used. For example, if paint, &c., was costing about £5 it might well be that the man's own labour would increase the cost to over the £10 limit so LET THEM FREE! that a licence was necessary.

PRIESTS' SHORTAGE The Bishop of Whitby is distressed. It seems there is only one priest to 53,000 people. That is probably bad-for the priest, but it may be a stroke of luck for people that are complaining. The Freethinker, 19/10/47.

CLUB FOR THE UPPER

anarchists, the intention expressed in the as set out in the rules, it 'to provide a which was played in Bavaria. words, "'Till death us do part," which central and convenient rendezvous in recall the Biblical words of Ruth to London for ladies who are willing to do Naomi, "If aught but death part thee all in their power to promote the interest STAYING PUT of the Conservative and Unionist Party." A defendant at Walsall told the County Nobody can sail under false colours in Court judge he had received more than this matter at the Ladies' Carlton. If a 1,000 notices to quit his house but he member is misguided enough to marry was still there.

Composer of the notorious Nazi war

To-day the Ladies' Carlton has well Norbert Schultze, has now written the arguments of a few conscientious over two thousand members. Its object, "March for the U.S.A. Police Battalion"

Question

garding the British zone, but the fact

that these units have little of the forme

Prussian military discipline about then

they are continuing in the same work.

Reynolds News, 19/10/47.

The entrance fee is fifteen guineas and The most surprising prison in the

For example, we pacifists would rather course of a case, Mr. F. G. Southgate, men refused to be conscripted on conborough accountant for Walthamstow, scientious grounds than enlisted in the armed services; but some of us would also rather they enlisted than refused on grounds of self-interest or deserted. Our advice to the young conscript would be value of the labour which a man put Penn's "Wear the sword as long as thou Editorial in Peace News, 17/10/47

I have been making inquiries about the IRA prisoners still serving sentences imposed here eight years ago for bomb terrorism. Last February there were 36 prisoners. Now there are 30.

article entitled "The Commune as a sociologists in America, are beginning Factor in a Free Society" (June 17th to draw anti-state conclusions. when you advocated rebuilding society W.L.A., Madison, U.S.A. on an "organically regional basis". I

Regionalism v. Nationalism

believe that if this concept is enlarged it may well lay the groundwork for

R EGIONALISM has always been a fundamental concept of anarchist thought. As early as Godwin we find zones of Germany, the re-introduction of the advocacy of breaking down society into 'parishes', and by the time of Kropotkin the idea of integrated regional foci had been strongly developed. In our own day it ha been advocated strongly by the anarchists and also by such libertarian sociologists as Lewis Mumford. they are not camouflaged, not "spon-Regionalism is linked intimately

sored", there is no saluting—with possible exceptions-nor medal wearing; the unit with the anarchist idea of decentralis are composed of undischarged PoW, exation. History shows that when I believe that the only way for Anar- Wehrmacht personnel, employed mostly society is organised in small units as ordinary workmen and even now in the process of being discharged-although where all the activities of life are balanced and organically related, a much richer personal and cultural life merely pointing out how misleading o is the result. The centralised state Let me add that certain of your con- John Olday, whose article is referred to your readers to do everything possible tributors prejudice your case in the ex- to by Rationalist in the last paragraph writing to your local newspapers and existing institutions; for instance the "I can't agree with Rationalist that my periodicals, to your M.P., asking if he is tramp fantasy of a few weeks ago: ap- statements are incorrect, they are backed by productive relationship within their preliminary to it. prepared to support the demand for an parently the normal hobo is a wandering numerous letters I have received from society as a whole is difficult; their amnesty when the question is next raised philosopher, much maligned, something Germany and by official Army regulations. in the House of Commons (already a after the type portrayed in old Hollywood I maintain that the Allied-sponsored new life becomes atomised into small group of M.P.s have promised to support) epics. (My heart bleeds to think of the German Army constitute a camouflaged groups and families, until the places [Note.-In future issues of Freedom we by distributing leastets and pamphlets poor tramps brutally forced into the bath- threat to the freedom of the German where most people live are those in (now being printed), raising the matter rooms of institutions and immersed in people and may become the weapon of which many people feel most lonely at Trades Union meetings, and in any soapy water-ugh!-by the fascist tor- totalitarian party as it did_after the last and uprooted.

a study of Regionalism in my own in modern industrial societies which libertarian concept, and there are hints concentration of industry in a few that other individuals, particularly areas, where the people are condemned to an unhealthy and aesthetically disgusting life in a devastated countryside. The need for this has now passed, with the supersession of coal by electricity as a source of power, and the appearance of motor transport to end the necessity of valley transport imposed by the low gradients of railways. Now it has

become possible for clean and healthy

factories to be built almost anywhere,

without harming the countryside but

bringing a much more healthy and

future Anarchist thought. I know that A further element of centralisation

restful element into the worker's life. The anarchist idea of regionalism looks forward to the gradual breaking up of the metropolises, and their substitution by small towns, each of which would be a regional centre of industrial, cultural and agricultural life, re-uniting rural and urban pursuits and bringing them close together as they were in the fruitful ages of human culture in the past.

On the "political" plane this would destroys this balanced life by the accompany the ending of centralised creation of large cities which drain authority and would produce a society everything towards them and not in which it would be impossible for a merely destroy the balance between great state organisation to arise. Thus urban and rural life, but also deprive regionalism of this type, as distinct the provincial districts of any foci of from nationalism, is perfectly comcultural life. The large cities them- patible with an unlimited extension of selves become so unwieldy that any freedom, and is, indeed, a necessary

will give further consideration to the idea of regionalism by a study of the part it plays in the writings of Kropotkin and the modern sociologist, Lewis Mumford.]

PROGRESS

Directors Association met in Boston for Retirement allowances for 11 families their 66th annual convention. Some ex- of the Imperial household, it is estimated, hibits of new equipment for the trade: will cost the Japanese Government the "Jewel Box ("a gem of a casket") with £735,000. a semi-circular peephole and well-padded The highest amount, £142,000, goes to velvet and satin interior; the "Blickens the Kuni family of 11 members; the 4 in 1 Positioner", an elaborate arrange- lowest, £5,625, to the sole member of ment of clamps and bars for forcing a the Higashi-Fushimi household.

Through the Press

quickly made. Only if the committee is WARDERS WITH A

satisfied that the bride intends to stay true blue in spite of a faintly pink husband CONSCIENCE can she remain a member.

the annual subscription is ten. There is world was run at Shizuoka, Japan, where With 50,000 divorces granted or to be a flourishing junior section for young the convicts did the ordering about and heard in British courts this year, an women between seventeen and twenty- the warders obeyed them. alarming report was issued by the seven. They pay five guineas a year: National Marriage Guidance Council last Many of the junior members work in London and find the luxurious amenities escorts for the first 50 miles, gave them picture as far as I could. Some places, WAVE

ibilities" in present-day marriages are unincluding the swimming pool and the explanation was that a guard must first think in a good many places they are are cancelling each other out. On "meatsquash courts, was damaged by bombs, build up his own character before short of food." In America the break-up of marriages there is still a huge, well-staffed dining influencing others. room, endless lounges and drawing rooms Yesterday a Chicago divorce Judge pre- furnished with elegance, rooms for reading, writing and bridge, and a snack bar

Picture Post, 11/10/47.

MILITANT PACIFISM!

attention." We note that it is not the receive travel papers from the Eire High stances the victim died and the body had All window-seat holders must bring Chicago's finest have been taking lessons

Evening Standard, 14/10/47.

Eleven of them decided to escape and - 100 pounds of rice cakes-and failed to they didn't look so well fed. How near The meatless and poultryless days, Although a large part of one house, report the escape for three hours. His they are to starving I wouldn't know. I aimed at saving grain to export to Europe,

depended upon two pieces of circumstantial evidence. One was the contents of a note book in which he wrote on May 19th, the day he escaped from Allenbury Barracks. This the court ruled to be privileged. The other was a conversation, alleged to have taken place the versation, alleged to have taken place the MORE FOOLS THEM! day after the alleged kidnapping, between Captain Farran and Colonel Bernard Fergusson, an Army officer who had held processions are selling at prices well in Remember the janitor who confessed the post of Assistant Inspector-General excess of the Coronation scale. of the Palestine police. This evidence was To-day at the lower end of Whitehall After 48 hours grilling by the Chicago withheld with the consent of the Court, a private firm offered to rent a friend of police, he could stand the treatment no since the Colonel was not prepared to say mine a small room overlooking the route. longer and confessed as "the line of least anything which might incriminate himself. It has two windows 4ft wide. Annual resistance". He has not been able to In judging the effect of this case in rent for the room is £100. They asked work since. Palestine, we must recall the background £900 for its use on November 20th. of the struggle between the Palestine Twenty-two people will be crowded \$100,000. The cops deny beating him. police and the Jewish terrorists. It is into that room, 11 at each window, pay- Following his confession it was found widely believed that flying squads have ing £40 each. been given a free hand to counter-attack Some window seats at the far end from the crime and it was pinned on Heirens. The six men freed had either finished the Irgun by the use of its own methods; the Abbey have been sold for £75. For Shortly after that there was a flurry the people. The Bishop says "It is our sentences or were released for good con- these include kidnapping and interrogation the Coronation £50 was ample to secure of too many confessions to several other duty to see that the matter has necessary duct. As these men leave prison they by methods so rough that in certain in- a whole large room.

New Statesman, 11/10/47.

MASTERPIECE OF UNDERSTATEMENT

Congressman John Taber sailed from Southampton in the Queen Mary for home to-day, declaring that Britain "must will still have to supply them with work harder". He has spent a month cash.

"Starving Europe?" he said to-day, "I RESULTS OF BRAIN

Taber, have you tried to live on a similar amount. German rations? But if you don't know why not keep your mouth shut?

INITIATIVE FROM The case against Captain Farran

volunteer labour, are building their own Village Centre. Reynolds News, 19/10/47.

Seats for views of the Royal wedding

passport or identity card.

from Moscow? Evening Standard, 16/10/47.

LOSE EVERYTHING BUT Members of the National Funeral MONEY

rigid body into a suitable position of All will lose their princely titles in

about three months. The Emperor has Time (U.S.A.), 13/10/47. given them permission to earn their livings at trades which "will not disgrace

they lawfully hold, if they can pay the MacArthur. Before the war they paid no taxes. Now, even the Emperor has

News Chronicle, 16/10/47. It will be small consolation for the Japanese people to hear that their

less Tuesday" last week purchases of Evening Standard, 18/10/47. poultry and eggs jumped by over 15 per How could you possibly know, Mr. cent. On eggless and poultryless Thursday" meat consumption increased by

Manchester Guardian, 13/10/47. Responsible for the idea is newly appointed head of the "save food to save Europe" campaign, Charles Luckman, president of Lever Bros. Residents of King's Langley, by (Pepsodent, Lifebuoy, Rinso, Spry, Lux); he had less difficulties in making people spend.

AMERICAN POLICE

the Degnan kidnapping and murder?

He has now sued 17 police for later that he could not have committed

crimes in the Chicago area. Could

Industrial Worker, 13/9/47.

to be disposed of.