

EDITORIAL

A Soviet nuclear submarine sinks off Sweden. Our decommissioned British counterparts are to be dumped, reactor and all, on the sea bed. Continuing U.S. coercion and intimidation of the population of the tiny Pacific island of Belau tries to force them to accept a huge U.S. naval nuclear force. The ocean's vastness and inaccessibility may make the threat of the sea-based nuclear arsenals appear more remote than those on land, but this is not so. The recent Exxon oil disaster provides a further salutary reminder of how vulnerable this environment is to human abuse of all kinds. Hence CND's "Disarm the Seas" week, May 24th - June 6th to draw attention to the role of sea-based nuclear systems in the whole ludicrous atomic equation.

And, lest we forget... this month is the third anniversary of Chernobyl. As the legacy of this accident is likely to remain for a few thousand years, we should not perhaps be too swift to forget.

DIARY

MAY

- Tues. 2nd. **Bulletin editorial meeting**
20 Waldeck Road, Sherwood, 8.00 pm.
- Wed. 3rd. **NCND Executive meeting**
NCND Office, 33 Castlegate, 7.30 pm.
- Sat. 6th. **NCND Listergate Stall**
Help for an hour or two always welcome! 11.00 am. - 2.00 pm.
- Sat. 13th. **Peace Pentecost: "Flames of Hope, not flames of destruction."**
11.00 am. Assemble in Lincoln Cathedral.
1.30 pm. Procession leaves Cornhill
3.30 pm. Arrive at RAF Waddington.
Further details from Christian CND (Tel. 01 250 4010).
- Sat. 13th. **NCND Listergate Stall**
- Mon. 15th. **NCND Officers meeting**
NCND Office, 33 Castlegate, 7.00 pm.
- Tues. 16th. **Bulletin Editorial meeting**
20 Waldeck Road, Sherwood, 8.00 pm.
- Sat. 20th. **NCND Listergate Stall**
- Fri. 26th. **Disarm the Seas Week**
- Sun. June 4th.
- Sat. 27th. **NCND Listergate Stall**

JUNE

- 16/17/18 **Glastonbury Festival**
(See inside for details)

JULY

- Sun. 2nd. **Nottingham Bike Ride**
- Sun. 9th. **Nottingham's 9th. Peace Festival**
- Sat. 22nd. **Bruce Kent begins his sponsored walk**

OCT

- Sun. 22nd. **West Midlands CND Concert**
Birmingham Town Hall
B.S.O. playing Mozart
Contact: 021 643 4617.

LETTER

Dear John,

I received 25 "Dinosaurs" leaflets and duly delivered them.

I would just like to comment that, although I have never taken an active part in CND before, I think this was a very good idea and should you want any leaflets delivered in Kimberley in the future, I would be only too pleased to do so.

GWEN SHARPE.

(Editor's Note.) A positive response to John Mitchell's recent idea in the Spring Leaflet campaign to send out 25 leaflets to each member, not involved in a local group, to deliver.

NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUPS



Please can any other groups who meet regularly send in details to the Bulletin team.

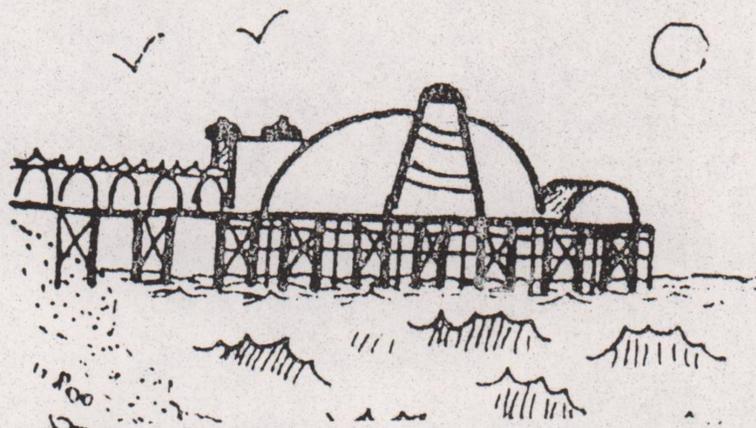
FOREST FIELDS: Every third Thursday, 7.30pm.
Forest Fields Neighbourhood Centre, Wiverton Rd.

RADCLIFFE-ON-TRENT: Every 2nd Monday, 7.45pm.
R-on-T Library, New Road, Radcliffe.

SHERWOOD & MAPPERLEY PARK: Tuesday 9th May, 8.00pm. 33 Church Drive, Sherwood.

WOLLATON: Every 3rd Monday, 8.00pm. Wollaton Library, Bramcote Lane, Wollaton.

WEST BRIDGFORD: "At Home" Last Saturday in the month. NCND office, 33 Castlegate, Nottm. 10.30-14.30. Bulletin collation & stall.



INTERNATIONAL PEACE BUREAU

Annual Conference 1989
BRIGHTON, U.K.
1st-2nd September

A VERY GOOD NATIONAL DEMO

The day began badly - it rained. It didn't get any better travelling south, but this didn't affect the rally. The Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park was the perfect place for a peace rally - beautiful surroundings, tall trees and next door to the Imperial War Museum. The park was packed with members from all over the country and there were also visitors from abroad. Banners were more eye-catching and their messages more inspired than ever before. Literature was plentiful, mostly black and white, except "Living Marxism" which was available every few yards, its sellers up to their usual technique of trapping innocent pedestrians into several minutes of tedious argument. It was like Listergate on a Saturday.

BEGONIAS.

The stage show kicked off with old and new peace songs from "Raised Voices" choir. Comedian Jeremy Hardy followed, with greetings to the various political groups present. Anybody from "Class War?", he asked - they were, he felt, a group which didn't need revolution to achieve violence. He compared the Irish situation, colonisation by a foreign army, with the position in his native Aldershot. It wasn't a complete parallel: the deaths of innocent civilians in Aldershot he put down to mere high spirits. Other guests spoke for War on Want (ending with an unaccompanied song) and Women for a Meaningful Summit. Scottish Nationalist MP, Jim Sillars, was next, expressing powerfully Scotland's frustration with unwelcome nuclear bases and his party's firm opposition to nuclear arms. Scotland was the only country to strike oil and get poorer. His attacks on Kinnock were understandable, if a little opportunist. The last speaker was Bruce Kent. He opened with a blistering attack on Christian CND for not praying hard enough for good weather. Then he owned up to asking for rain for his begonias. The size of the rally, he said, didn't fit with the common view that CND was in decline. The people present were those who had carried on past the 1982 peak. He regretted Labour's multilateral tendency, seeing it as shallow, cynical and misguided. Summing up, he pointed out that, whatever people say about Gorbachev's unilateralism, we were there first!



Hand Over the Money

The 3 mile march led from the park, the War Museum's giant field gun for once framed by peace banners, towards Westminster Bridge Road, over the



bridge and to the M.O.D. in Whitehall. The police had coned off suitable walkways and CND stewards with walkie-talkies marshalled the march efficiently, asking rear supporters to drop out along the route, forming a continuous chain one person deep. It was a very good way to use all the people present, giving everyone a part and making the best impression on drivers, passers-by and the media. The group I was in stopped on Westminster Bridge. We saw a tiny motorboat decked with CND symbols, its occupants waving eagerly to those on the bridge. Thousands of white dove cards from absent friends passed along the chain from right to left and fake money sacks from left to right - a symbolic re-allocation from the M.O.D. in Whitehall to Social Security Offices at the other end. A huge fake tank filled with helium balloons drove along towards Whitehall. The event ended at the M.O.D. when the tank unfolded into a tractor and a hospital bed. We didn't see this from our place on the bridge, but everybody saw the mass of balloons released and joined in the whistling and cheering.

Throughout the demonstration there were many friendly greetings from motorists hooting and passengers waving - especially those in coaches. It made the public response to events of a few years ago look half-baked. For me, this was the most encouraging part of the day. Our membership number may have passed its peak, but our public support carries on growing, our ideas passing outwards.

I'm writing this on April 3rd and I've just read an article by E. P. Thompson in today's Guardian, page 16. Towards the bottom of the 7th column, he warns the UK opposition parties thus: "If Mrs. Thatcher can go Green overnight and become the leading champion of Nelson Mandela, then she can go peace."

by Jeremy Jago.



DISARM THE SEAS

As a forerunner to the Disarm The Seas Week of Action, May 26th - June 4th, the Radcliffe-on-Trent Peace Group ran an Exhibition in the local library, based on a series of posters suitably embellished with a red and blue frieze with silhouettes of submarines and aircraft. It provided an impressive display along one wall of the library. I am not going to suggest that everyone read the closely argued factual reports, but no one could miss the impact of the message.

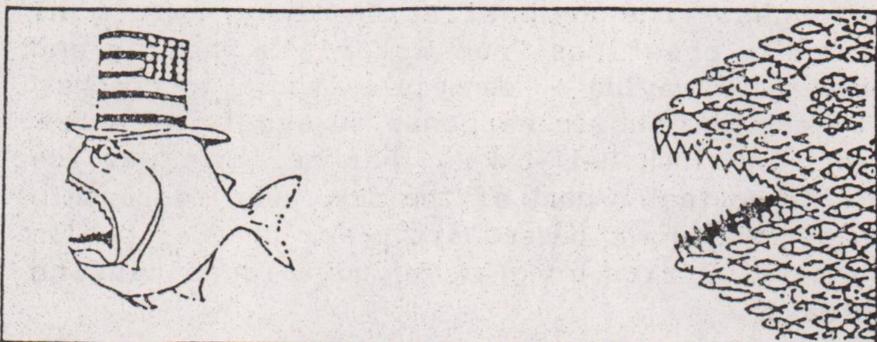
Its significance is highlighted by the recent spate of serious accidents at sea. The oil slick in Alaska, the sinking in the English Channel of the ship carrying Lindane, probably one of the most dangerous chemicals yet manufactured. The grave suspicion that nuclear submarines have fouled the nets of trawlers and dragged the ships under. **ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN** is the message on one poster.

As an island people, we have a special regard to take care of the seas, not to be used as a platform to mount nuclear attacks. To paraphrase Shakespeare, England could become "a Jewel set in a Polluted Sea".

This Exhibition could carry a message to a lot of people who, in the past, have tended to regard CND campaigns as other-worldly. **WE CAN MAKE THIS CAMPAIGN GO FOR US.**

The Radcliffe-on-Trent Peace Group are pleased to make this Exhibition available for any group who can make effective use of it.

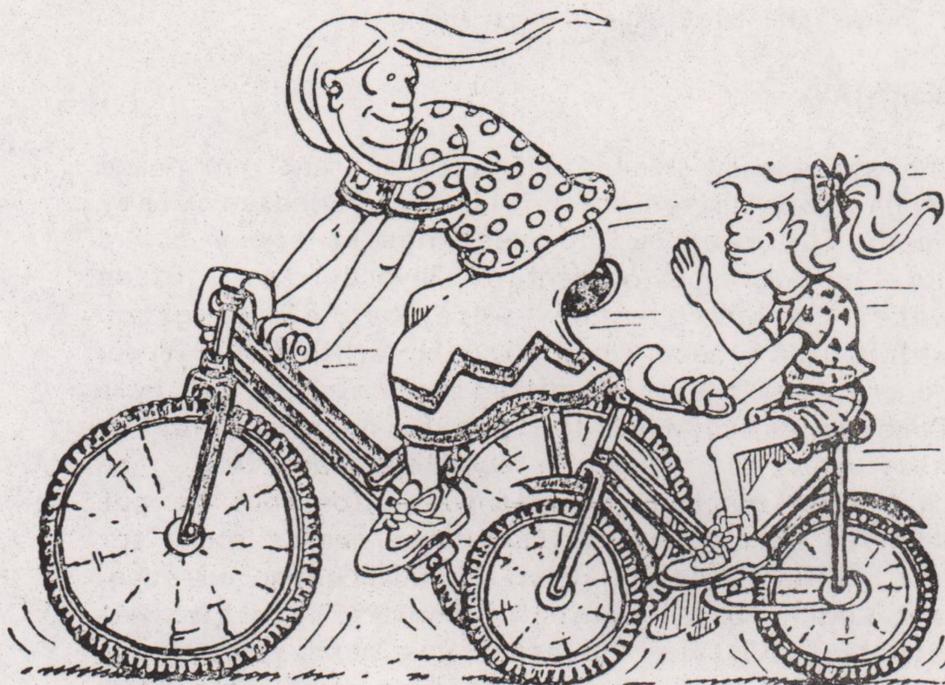
ERIC JESSOP.



The theme of this year's "DISARM THE SEAS" week is to highlight aggressive naval nuclear strategies. This gives us an opportunity to develop the campaign against Trident - an escalatory first-strike weapon.

The arms race at sea poses special dangers for initiating and escalating conflicts between the superpowers. Most naval nuclear arms and naval armaments in general are not included in any bilateral or multilateral negotiations. Meanwhile the US., with NATO support, continues to rehearse its aggressive maritime strategy with increasingly provocative naval exercises near Soviet waters in the North Atlantic and the Pacific. And, whilst the US perseveres with its ambitious naval expansion, we in Britain are faced with the prospect of Trident.

NCND is to spend some time at the executive meeting on May 3rd discussing what we can do to mark the week in Nottingham. Exploring ideas such as city-namesake ships, etc., far as we are from the sea. Any ideas welcome.



THE GREAT NOTTINGHAM BIKE RIDE

It's time to rake out your racers, tidy up your tandems, mend your mountain bikes, brush up your BMXs, spruce up your "sit up and begs", roll out your Raleigh Twenties and team up on your tricycles ... It's the great Nottingham Bike Ride!

Come on, all you CND-ers. find out where your pedalling muscles are, pump up those flat tyres and get on the road on **SUNDAY JULY 2ND**. Join in the bike ride and raise some money for Nottingham CND at the same time.

Those of you who are feeling definitely flabby can settle for the short ride of eighteen miles, those of you who are only just flabby can go for the **BIG** one, fifty miles to Newark and back. Find some friends, put in some packed lunch and pop and, not forgetting your sponsors, off you go!

Both rides set off from Holme Pierrepont bridge on Sunday July 2nd. The **LONG** ride starts at 0930 and the **SHORT** ride starts at 1100 hours. We're hoping to have sponsor forms with this Bulletin; otherwise they'll be available in the office or with June's Bulletin. If you want to team up with other CNDers, contact the office.

PHOTO CALL

Have you got any photographs, mementoes or other 'relics' of your local peace group?

Rod Langford, National Council Representative has been asked to take some with him to the next Council meeting in July for a collection being put together by a National CND member. You can contact Rod via the CND office, 33 Castlegate and leave a message on the new ansaphone.



NCND 200 CLUB

An everyday happening in the life of CND 200 club member Michael Southgate....

Late one evening, walking down Mansfield Road, with perhaps just enough money to buy a bag of chips but not much more, Michael wondered to himself if he should have paid that £1.00 into the CND 200 club this month. Just then two friends loomed out of the darkness and with disbelief Michael heard those magic words **"you've won first prize in the 200 club! The treasurer has got a fifty pound cheque for you!"** And it was true, Michael's money troubles were over for a while! Now he even had enough to renew his NCND membership too.

Why don't **you** become a CND 200 club member?

Don't delay, join the 200 Club today. Remember you are not limited to one share, but as many as you like. You can also join by paying £12 or two £6 payments a year.

A simple standing order from £1.00 a month meaning you will be helping CND and increase your chances of winning THREE, yes, THREE prizes EACH month!

1st Prize	£50
2nd Prize	£10
3rd Prize	£5

Please return this form to CND 200 Club, c/p Nottingham CND, 33 Castlegate, Nottingham. NG1 7AR

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

I would like.....share(s) in the CND 200 CLUB at £1 each. Total per month of £.....

To Bank.....Branch Address.....

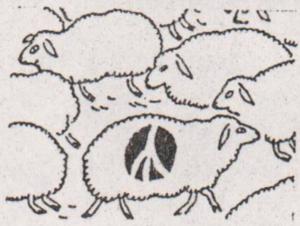
.....Account No.....

Please pay on receipt of this order, the sum of £.... and on the first day of every month thereafter to CO-OPERATIVE BANK, Nottingham Branch. To the credit of CND 200 CLUB A/c.50526877.

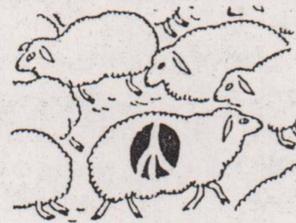
Signed.....

Date.....

NATIONAL CND COUNCIL



SPRING 1989



The Red Rose Club, on the Seven Sisters' Road, to all intents looks from the outside just like any other pub or bar in almost every town in the land. Set back a little way from the street accomodating each side or the central door, a pair of wooden tables and benches; the kind normally found in roadside picnic areas, etc. Ah, at least I'd get a drink at the end of the day, I mused. I'd travelled down to London on the 8.10 am train with Ann Kestenbaum and on arrival at King's Cross at just after 10.00 was introduced to James Hinton, some of you met him during his visit to Nottingham CND in February. He'd travelled down on the same train, having boarded at Leicester. We three made our way through the maze that's London Underground, led by James, to Finsbury Park tube station on Seven Sisters' Road, a journey of only two stops.

At a little before 10.30 am, just before registration was due to begin we joined the intrepid queue of people clutching papers to get into the hall at the back of the club. Once inside, after registering and collecting my pin-on conference label I was a little surprised to see a U-shaped arrangement of three rows of those really uncomfortable plastic and tubular steel chairs, with a table set at the mouth of the 'U' and three chairs placed behind it, facing in. I was shown a table in one corner of the hall with "late papers" and various leaflets and news sheets. I helped myself to some of all those I'd not seen before and took a seat on the third row from the front. A spot to observe well, but where I wouldn't feel too conspicuous for my first "Council".

Most of the seats gradually filled and business began promptly at 11.00 am. with congratulations to Syd Morgan for winning the seat for Pontypridd without compromising the Anti-Nuclear Lobby; followed by a political introduction by James. I was suprised to see Bruce Kent sitting in almost the corresponding place to myself on the other arm of the U-shaped seating arrangement and not, where I'd expected in the "Chair's" seat by the table. Meg Beresford was at the table, as expected, together with two so far unfamiliar campaigners. Bruce's position became apparent a little later; he had a report to make to council.

James' introduction was based around an article in "Sanizdat" (seriously) by Martin Chalmers, photo-copies of which were included in the great wad of Council papers that all the reps. had received from Underwood Street. The article argued that "Unconditional Nuclear disarmament by Britain is no longer needed to jolt the peace process into action, in fact it might even disrupt that

process. A broader, negotiated approach is now right." Apparently, though I've never before come across it, the journal "Sanizdat" 'fosters a "popular front of the mind" against Thatcherism'. James' opinion was that even though "the money for Trident is spent and deployment unstoppable" that we should situate the defence debate within a process of European Nuclear disarmament and dealignment. And we cannot do so by "selling the pass" over Trident. A lively series of points was then made by the delegates gathered around. Each made in order, straight to the point and entirely constructive. Among the contributions the reminder that should the U.K. opt for unilateral nuclear disarmament the Soviet Union had agreed to meet that in kind.

Bruce then addressed the assembly with his report back from the delegation to the Labour Party policy review to committee of 20th March. He told us how this had been a hurried meeting and had seemed merely a formality. No decision was yet reached for the review; Kaufman apologised and left for another engagement only 20 minutes into the meeting. The general feeling of Council was that should the Labour Party compromise itself with the Nuclear issue, then CND had no intention of following suit.

With my head buzzing with the exhilaration of such constructive discussion I wandered with the throng that left the hall for some lunch. There was a variety of good quality food to be had, some vegetarian (thankfully) With a sandwich and a pint I made my way to enjoy the break in the sunshine at one of the street tables. I arranged my overnight accomodation over the phone and then found myself sharing a table with Ann and Meg Beresford. When I mentioned I was from Forest Fields she surprised my when she remarked that her own son, whilst at college in Nottingham, some five years ago had also been a member of Forest Fields Peace Group. That was some time before "July 6th" when I joined.

The afternoon was, as usual, set aside for committee meetings. The choice of which committee to join was entirely free. I went to "fundraising and membership promotions" thinking that I could learn particularly from that. The other committees are 1)

International, 2) Press and Parliamentary, 3) Publications and 4) Campaigns. Much was discussed; among the items was Bruce Kent's sponsored 250 mile walk around London from Aldermaston to Burghfield, to take place the last week of July and to finish on Hiroshima day (6th August)

NATIONAL CND COUNCIL - SPRING 1989

At about 5.30 pm. the groups disbanded and made their way to various engagements all over London. Some to a picket of Downing Street, it being the same day three years ago the U.S. bombers left this country to attack the Libyans. Bruce had previously invited all delegates to wine and cheese at his home. I'd love to have gone, and told him so the next day, but I was a little worried about my accomodation arrangements and needed to get that settled. Perhaps at the July Council I'll be fortunate enough to be invited again.

Then thanks to British Rail having to do engineering work, and mis-information from the booking clerk at Willesden Junction tube I arrived twenty minutes late on Sunday, even though I'd allowed two hours for a three mile journey. I crept back into hall during the reports back from the previous day's committees.

Item 6 on the agenda, just before lunch, was an appeal for help for this year's Glastonbury festival. Seemingly from a necessary 1200 volunteers needed to cope with the workload on the site only 200 are so far arranged. Festival goers please note that an 8 hour shift entitles National CND members free access to the whole show! AND it's far cheaper to join CND and volunteer than it is to pay the gate price of £28 - £30.

After lunch came the contentious issue of London Region CND. Apparently its AGM had decided, albeit by a very narrow margin, to

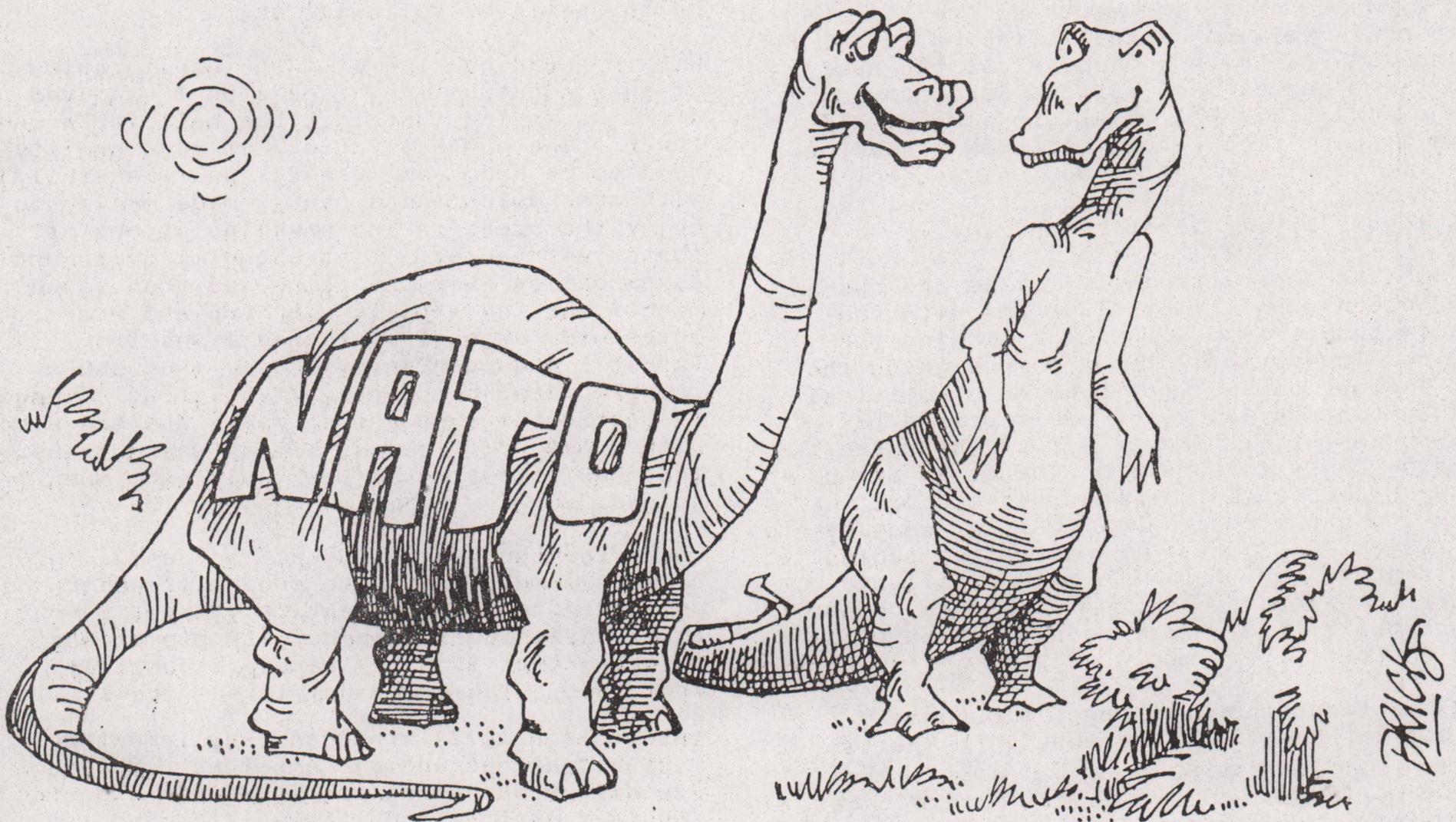
disband the network as it stood and to reform, in order to concentrate on campaigning rather than using so much effort within the bureaucracy that has emerged over the years. It was sad to see so many campaigners, Pat Arrowsmith amongst them, reduced to what seemed to me rather wasteful infighting. The Regional Group itself had been unable to sort out its own difficulties and had come to Council for arbitration. The decision, by a show of hands was to abide by the AGM decision; to spend some time, up to a year, cooling off under the auspices of Underwood Street, who will deal with both the Region's assets and its liabilities; until a new superior London Region CND emerges, as it will in time. I just hope someone has the presence of mind to inform the Guardian Diary of its resurrection.

Business finished a little earlier than time-tabled and by just after 5.30 pm. Ann and myself were on the train for home.

I fell asleep, with my head filled with ideas and my heart full and warm. I had met with people from as far away as Edinburgh, Wales, S. Cornwall, Tyneside and Liverpool, to mention a few. We're all facing the same struggle together, nationwide, worldwide it's inspiring!

P.S. There will be a full report available in the Nottingham CND office and copies to the Notts. Regional Groups as soon as I can get it done.

Rod Langford.



"LET US NEVER FORGET, ALFRED, THE SURVIVAL OF THE SPECIES DEPENDS ON HIGH-PROFILE DETERRENCE AND A STRATEGY OF FLEXIBLE RESPONSE!!"

Letters

Letter from an American...

The scientific method of political analysis requires facing harsh realities which one might wish were other than what they are. To avoid doing so results in losing touch with the actual social environment within which any real work toward achieving change must take place.

As an expatriate observer living in Britain for the last two years, it appears to my foreign eyes that this country is in the flailing final stages of a failed socialist "revolution" with each political party and interest group pointing a futile finger of blame at another. The British method of representative democracy has reverted to an argumentative affair of Punch-and-Judy-style debate with each side self-righteously clobbering the other over the head, saying, "I'm right and you are most definitely wrong!", followed by the often witty and well-thoughtout rejoinder, "No! I am right and you" This was quite sadly but humourously portrayed today (April 9) when the Tory party is holding some filthy orgy of self-congratulation to celebrate and commemorate ten years of glorious Thatcherism. But the big news is that the loyal and Labourious opposition is holding an equally large conference to launch a new campaign offensive initiated in a keynote speech by Neil Kinnock focussing on the major issue of (wait for it!..) ten years of terrible Thatcherism and all the campaign promises she never kept. (What a surprise!) Also there was released a catchy mew Labour campaign jingle that must surely rival Nestles in bringing the concerns of its product to the forefront of the consumers' limited attention.

After this blistering media blitz of glitz and fluff, will the face of British politics ever be the same?

Or has it always been this way?

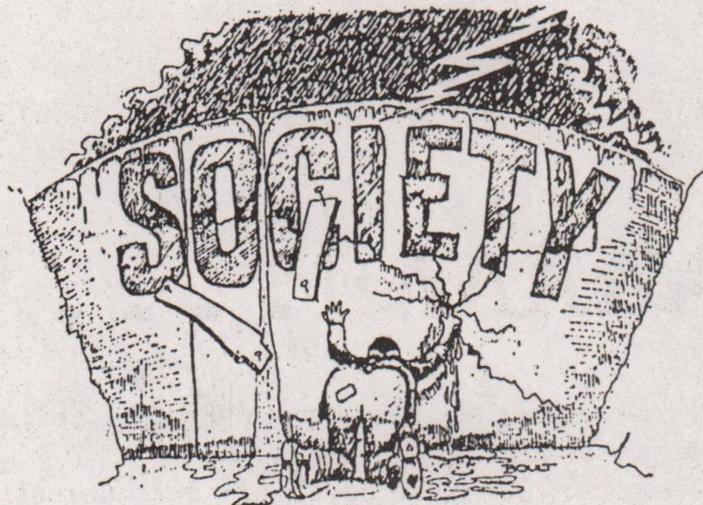
Political pantomimes.

As I understand it, the Labour Party was once at the forefront in effectively promoting and implementing political changes aiming toward the concerns and goals of socialism. From the United States I remember hearing (in the late 60s and 70s) about how this country was virtually paralyzed by one major strike after another. The promise of a government and economy determined by the unified working classes crumbled amidst the short and narrow vision of various self-interests. The socialist "revolution" in Britain failed because of interest groups who seemed only interested in their own interest to the exclusion of, and at the expense of, all other concerns. Lacking the social glue of political solidarity among those sharing a common viewpoint, it was inevitable that the quibbling among the minority concerns would prevent the application of an overall socialist vision. The concerns of the working class have since become a joke and a charade that the major political parties use merely as a theme in their political pantomimes.

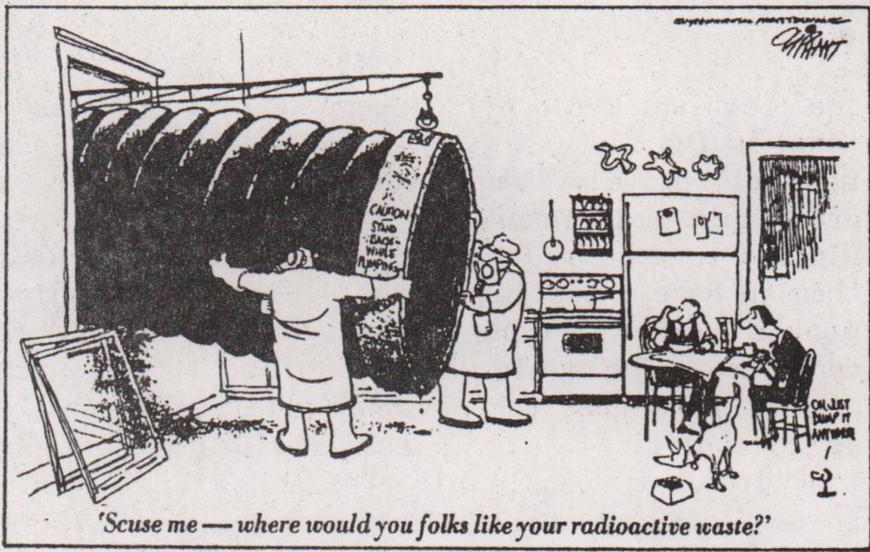
The prevalent residue from that "winter of discontent" is the rise, reward and empowering of those most effectively demonstrating a gluttonous and profitable self-interest. It is much easier to dictate to a group of greedy competitive interests than to have those interests decide on and implement a policy seeking the mutual benefit of all concerned. The dominant ethic of self-interested pursuit permeates the personal philosophy as well as the political. It is this pattern of thought that prohibits people all over the world (mainly in developed countries) from uniting with others around the important issues that determine our lives. It is these habits of thought which must be considered.

Alien observations

Why do I address these alien observations on your political process to the CND bulletin? This message is a reminder that the issue of nuclear disarmament is but one among a number of others on an agenda of effective humanitarian social change. This is not to say that nuclear disarmament deserves more or less attention than other issues, but that a more effective primary focus is on this overall agenda. In uniting with other groups that emphasizes similar social and humanitarian changes (i.e. anti-apartheid, anti-militarism, environmental concerns, etc.), it will be found that there is a common enemy to be fought and it will be fought more effectively by a united front of various interest. A unity of diverse elements is most effectively enhanced by focusing on the points held in common by the various members. This positive principle can obviously be over-used where one finds oneself on common ground with tactics and ideologies totally abhorrent to one's own, but the opposite principle of refusing to support anyone that doesn't totally agree with one's own agenda will leave a person (or a party) in total isolation, powerlessly divided from other interests and conquered by centralised authoritarian monied interests.



In my opinion, the Green Party banner seems the most effective to unite around; the most conducive to giving a positive popular direction towards which to aim. The Marxian attitude relies on the working classes to find the best direction for society by seeking means of most effectively satisfying their materialistic needs and wants. This attitude places too much undeserved faith in the short-sighted vision and appetites of human nature. Unless civilized human societies can engender a genuine active respect for non-human



species and the environment we all share, life as we know it will not be very pretty if it survives at all. Any institutional re-structuring or political measures will only be temporary relief for the sickness that runs so deeply and strongly through the developing human consciousness.

Ten years ago, scientific conferences were reporting the likelihood that as much, or more, carcinogenic and gene-mutational damage had already been done to the human gene pool by industrial poisoning of the environment than would be accomplished by a nuclear war. This is an indication of the subtlety and seriousness of the damage that has been done, but will be years before its full effect is felt. By the time that evidence of the damage and its sources are unquestionably apparent, it will be too late to do anything about it, if it is not already too late now.

The visible maniacs who stand poised over triggers of world-destroying weaponry and loudly lust after more are only a small portion of the sick mentalities that have been slowly and silently poisoning life in all forms for generations and justifying it in the name of profit.

The questions and concerns seeming most obvious and essential to be answered and immediately acted on are those that ask what changes must be brought about if the human animal is not to become extinct.

S. STEELE.

'AAAAAH.....'

Robin Day: What is the Labour Party's policy on nuclear weapons?

Neil Kinnock: We will scrap all our nuclear weapons in an agreement with the USSR to scrap an equivalent number of their nuclear weapons.

R.D.: How many nuclear weapons will the USSR have left after such a deal?

N.K.: About 20,000.

R.D.: How many will Britain have?

N.K.: None.

R.D.: So you would leave us defenceless against the Russians?

N.K.: No. Nuclear weapons are no defence.

R.D.: Then why negotiate them against Soviet weapons? Why not just get rid of them?

N.K.: The more nuclear weapons that are scrapped the better.

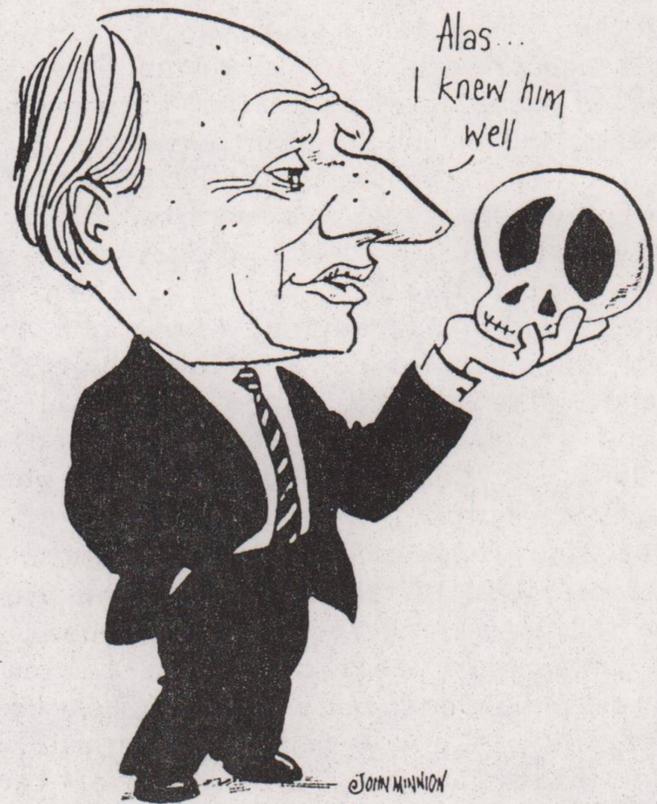
R.D.: And what will you do if some international crisis develops before the negotiations are completed?

N.K.: It won't.

R.D.: But what if it does? Will you press the button?

N.K.: No.

R.D.: What sort of negotiations are these, where the people across the table know that whatever is discussed and agreed, your side will never use its weapons anyway?



N.K.: Aaaaah....

R.D.: And what will you do if the negotiations fail?

N.K.: They won't.

R.D.: But what if you do? Will you scrap our weapons anyway?

N.K.: Yes.

R.D.: So the Soviets know that no matter what they say, you will scrap our weapons?

N.K.: Yes.

R.D.: I don't understand, Mr. Kinnock, why you don't just come out with it and say clearly to the voters that nuclear weapons are immoral, illegal, useless, expensive and a danger to world peace, that as a democratic socialist you won't have anything to do with them and will scrap the lot if you win the election, that you hope very much the Russians will follow suit and indeed, they have indicated that they will, but at the end of the day, the Labour Party stands for peace ... not for threatening global genocide.

N.K.: Aaaaah ...

R.D.: It seems to me, Mr. Kinnock, that for the sake of short-term electoral expediency, you have switched to this "something for something" disarmament policy, not on principle, but because you think you'll get more votes.

N.K.: Aaaaah

R.D.: Why should the voters support you, when they can vote for the Conservatives, the Liberals or the SDP, and get real negotiations with teeth?

N.K.: Aaaaah ...

R.D.: Why haven't the Labour Party, for once, taken the moral high-ground on this question and offered a clear, simple nuclear disarmament policy with no fudges, no doubts, no ifs or buts?

N.K.: Aaaaah ...

R.D.: Thank you, Mr. Kinnock.

PETE STRAUSS.

POLICY MAKING MEETING

We began the Policy-making meeting with a showing of the video, "Nightmare in Paradise", which is an introductory video made by Women Working for a Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific, around the nuclear issues in the Pacific.

The video was a sobering one, showing how the peoples of the Pacific are daily facing the reality of nuclear war, suffering nuclear testing, contamination by radiation and denial of their basic rights on their own land. The video also showed how they are confronting the issue and tackling it using protest and direct action. At this stage it would probably have been useful to have also had a speaker and to have spent some time discussing the issues raised; this is something we could do at another meeting. However, on this occasion, it was on to our business.

Business matters centred around three proposals (see March Bulletin). The first proposal concerned the idea that NCND should employ a part-time office worker. There was a clear, strong feeling from the meeting that the proposal should not be accepted and a vote was not required. Several reasons were aired; anxiety that it would lead to a two-tier system of workers, that it could endanger the present voluntary system, that the money required would very quickly use up any funds we have, that we would need to develop a management structure to supervise and make best use of the worker and that this itself could use up other members' valuable time and that any worker would have a pretty thankless task. Further, would we actually be able to attract the right person?

The second proposal concerning the issue of unilateral disarmament and how CND should be working with the Labour Party, led to an interesting discussion, but it was generally felt that it was not

a clear-cut issue that could be voted on. The debate centred around the unilateralist versus the multilateralist argument (and whether this distinction actually serves to confuse the issue) and several useful points were made, including the view that a good place for debate is the Bulletin. (So, let's have pens to paper!)

The third proposal was that officers' posts should be held every two years and half the officers be re-elected each year. The feeling of the meeting was that it did make sense for people to serve a longer term of office and to have some overlap to give continuity, but the reality is that people are probably unwilling to commit themselves for two years and that people come and go from the officers, regardless of how the organisation aims to work. An interesting amendment that was proposed by Peggy Westaway was that elections should be held every year, but that officers should stand for a fifteen-month term and so see the new officers in. The vote went 8 for and 8 against on the amendment and, following this, it was decided that the amendment was probably unconstitutional, anyway. The voting for the original proposal was 5 in favour and 8 against.

"Questions to the officers" focussed on the issue of affiliation fees. These had recently been changed as part of an affiliation drive and mistakenly increased without regard to the constitution, section 2c of which states that:

"Organisations supporting the aims of NCND may affiliate at rates determined by the AGM".

In addition, there was anxiety from members that Labour Party and trade union branches wouldn't now be able to afford to affiliate at the new rates.

It was felt that NCND must revert its rates back to the original fee unless it went through constitutional proceedings and that the officers should clear up the issue meanwhile.

CATH WAKEMAN.

NOTTINGHAM CND OFFICE REPORT.

Following the article on the office in the March Bulletin and due to hard work from the office volunteers, in particular Doreen Gower, the office update provides an encouraging picture.

The office at 33 Castlegate is now staffed Tuesday to Saturday inclusive, 1100 - 1400 (Thursday 1000 - 1430). Wednesday evening meetings are still in a trial period and timing of these may change with timing of the executive meeting. At a recent "new members" meeting held on this session, one person replied out of 32 invited, but did become a staff volunteer. So, a well worthwhile idea!

The office is used for: all officers and executive meetings; Bulletin collation; stall storage and stock; sales; Membership clerical work, etc. Bulletins and mailings are available in the outside cupboard at all times even when the office is closed. The Estate agents are to repair leakage in the rear room, to enable refurbishment to begin.

The office users report a good working atmosphere, pleasant location and an increasing number of visitors.



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 ARNOLD
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 BEESTON
 BINGHAM
 BULWELL/BESTWOOD

BURTON JOYCE
 CITY CENTRE
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 EAST LEAKE
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 MAPPERLEY
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 MEADOWS
 RADCLIFFE-on-TRENT
 RALEIGH STREET /
 ALL SAINTS
 RAVENSHEAD
 SHERWOOD/CARR' TON
 STAPLEFORD
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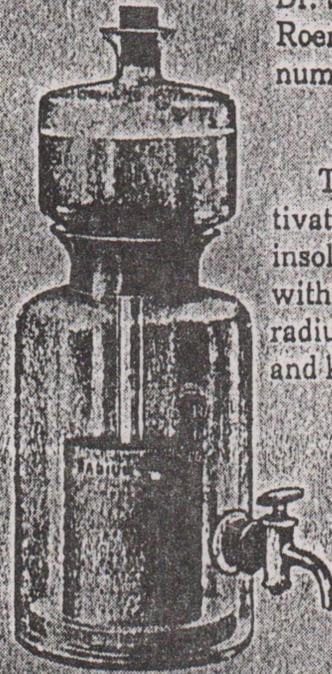
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