

# black & red **OUTLOOK**



## no 7

## **anarchists exposed**

When, early in the century, the Webbs wrote the 'History of Trade Unionism', they criticised Lancashire's Cotton Unions for their conservatism, pointing out that one of their union officials stood on a Tory ticket in the 1906 general election and suggesting that catholic influence was strong inside these unions. When Albert Hilton, Rochdale President of the National Union of Textile and Allied Workers, made his now regular attack on anarchists in the union at the union meeting in July, he accused them, amongst other things, of believing in neither religion nor government.

These tiny textile unions are certainly in a class of their own, their leaders are not brilliant and before the recent bout of militancy they were more involved in personal conflicts with each other than in the conditions of their members. Nowadays, as the number of workers employed in textiles declines, they are running about trying to get the Government to put a quota on the importation of textile yarns and humbly begging for the kind of 'hand-outs' Dockers are getting, for redundant millworkers.

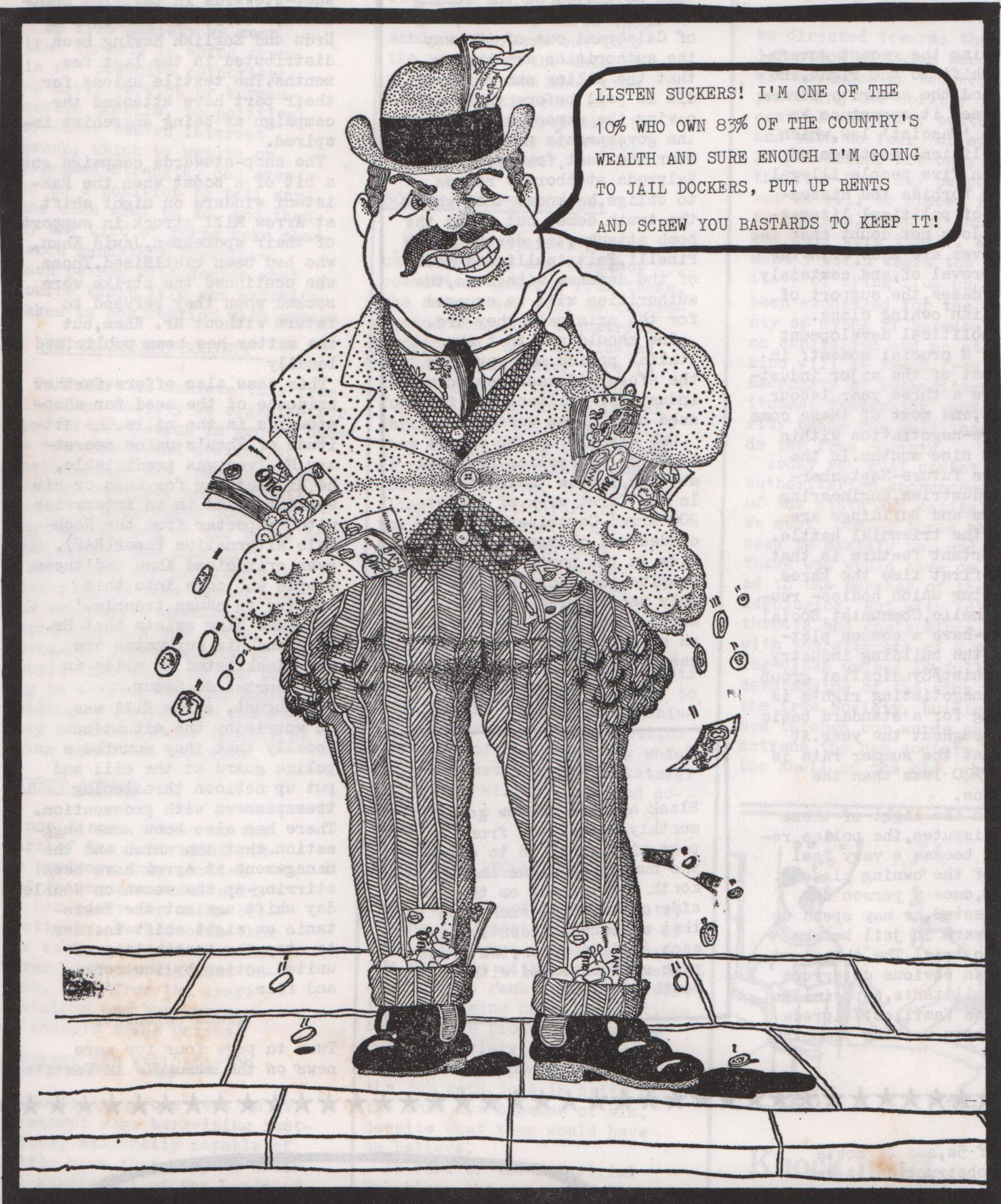
### No Stewards in the Mills.

The bosses of NUTAW are still shelving the demand for stewards in the mills. At the last half-yearly general meeting they again refused to commit themselves to making a definite decision on the introduction of shop-stewards into the mills.

The President of the Rochdale and district NUTAW, Albert Hilton, did however threaten a libel action against two members, Lafer Khan and Brian Bamford for their part in producing the pamphlet, 'The Arrow Mill Sit-in - a Case for Shop stewards in Textiles'.

The union committee has now abandoned its attempt to expel Bamford for his part in the Arrow Mill sit-in. This follows an active campaign by the Manchester Anarchist Syndicalist Alliance group to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



# **jail the bosses before they jail you!**





# ITALY: OPEN CLASS WAR

**anarchists exposed  
cont.**

## ABUSING THE LAW

This story appeared in the local Sheffield paper and is dated 1898. This selection was taken from the Sheffield Anarchist Commune scrapbook. Don't miss our next installment of all our yesterday's in our forthcoming issues

At the City Summons Court, Sheffield, on

At the City Summons Court, London, on Saturday Edward Leggat, a carman, was summoned for causing an obstruction with his horse and van, in Cheapside and further for using abusive language to Constable 566.

The defendant wore a red handkerchief round his neck, and his left breast was emblazoned with a red rosette. He pleaded guilty to the first charge, but not the second

The constable handed up to the Alderman Renals a paper on which was written the bad language complained of. Alderman Renals asked the defendant if he wished to ask the policeman any questions

Defendant: 'No, but I wish to give my version of the affair. I was going down Cheapside to Milk St., and was blocked by an omnibus. The constable came up and said to me, 'Pull out of the way'. I asked him whom he was speaking to, and he replied, 'You'. I then said, 'You are my servant; I pay for your clothes; I feed you and house you'. The policeman said, 'I shall take your name and address and summon you.' I said, 'I care nothing for you or your corrupt corporation, who rob the poor, steal the charities for turtle soup, and sweat the poor. You are a public servant, and I being one of the public, I say you are my servant.' The abusive language consists of me calling him 'my servant'. I do not believe in oaths, or I would swear it. He made no threat to summon me until his mate and himself had been in a public house. Then he came to me in Russia Court, Milk St., and said, 'You are causing an obstruction now'. I replied, 'I can't help it, if your corporation is not intelligent enough to make the streets sufficiently wide'. Alderman Renals told the defendant that he must pay

The political shake-ups and the snuffing-outs which have followed the recent exposures of both the Valpreda and Feltrinelli cases have tended to obscure the very real oppression which has fell upon the whole of the Italian working class.

Following the recent governmental shift to the right, the police and the security forces have deemed it opportune to invoke a 'Fascist' law, which makes political meetings of more than five people illegal and also forbids the dissemination of political literature. One does not doubt that these moves are made with the full approval of, and certainly in some cases, the support of the Italian owning class.

This political development comes at a crucial moment: in Italy most of the major industries have a three year labour contract, and most of these come up for re-negotiation within the next nine months. In the immediate future—September—three industries, Engineering, Textiles and Buildings are due for the triennial battle. One important feature is that for the first time the three negotiating union bodies—roughly Catholic, Communist, Social Democrat—have a common platform. In the building industry an anarchist/Syndicalist group with no negotiating rights is agitating for a standard basic wage throughout the year. At the moment the summer rate is roughly 20% less than the winter one.

Seen in the light of these labour disputes, the police repression became a very real weapon of the owning classes. In Italy, once a person has been arrested, he may spend up to two years in jail before coming to trial. The threat of this is an obvious deterrent to many militants, especially those with families. Valpreda has now been waiting 33 months

to come to trial, while recently two fascists have been charged with the Milan bomb outrages in December 1969. The earliest Valpreda can expect to come to trial has been estimated at the Spring of '74. With the embarrassment of Calabresi out of the way the authorities are hoping that the ailing anarchist will die in jail before the trial saving the exposure of the government's machinations over the past four years. But Valpreda stubbornly refuses to oblige, he knows that when the truth comes out about the bomb attacks, the deaths of Pinelli, Feltrinelli and most of the defense witnesses, the authorities will be exposed for the criminals they are.

One should add that the Italian police are applying the aforesaid measures to all industrial militants—it is indeed open class warfare!

One example of the extent to which the police now feel able to impose their will—In the first week of August 200 armed Carabinieri surrounded and charged a campsite in the north of Italy. Despite the fact that the only people present were seven young pacifists (German and Italian), the camp was broken up.

### SEPTEMBER

Black and Red is now going monthly. As yet the front page will continue to carry the number of issue and the month will appear on the inside cover, until such time that we can confidently make each deadline. Then, the front page will be dated with the month of issue.

keep Bamford in the union on this the second attempt to expel him.

Police Guard Arrow Mill.

Meanwhile the campaign for shop-stewards in textiles continues; a series of leaflets in Urdu and English having been distributed in the last few months. The textile unions for their part have attacked the campaign as being anarchist inspired.

The shop-stewards campaign got a bit of a boost when the Pakistani winders on night shift at Arrow Mill struck in support of their spokesman, Jawid Khan, who had been victimised. Those who continued the strike were sacked when they refused to return without Mr. Khan, but the matter has been publicised locally

This case also offers further evidence of the need for shop-stewards in the mills. The attitude of Khan's union secretary, Mr. Ivey, was predictable, he did nothing for Khan or his workmates and in an interview with a reporter from the Rochdale Alternative Paper (RAP), even criticised Khan and 'these people who come into this country to cause trouble.' Evidence also exists that Mr. Khan and his workmates are now blacklisted at mills in the Courtaulds Group.

In August, Arrow Mill was so worried by the situation locally that they mounted a police guard at the mill and put up notices threatening trespassers with prosecution. There has also been some suggestion that the union and the management at Arrow have been stirring-up the women on double day shift against the Pakistanis on night shift in order to stop the possibility of united action by the rank and file.

Trade Unionist.

Turn to page four for more news on the struggle in Textiles



a fine of 5s, and 2s costs for the obstruction. It was clear from what the defendant had said in court that he was abusive, but having fined him for the obstruction, he hoped he would not be abusive again, and he would be let off on the payment of 2s costs for the bad language. Defendant: I am an Anarchist, and have had no voice in making the law. You (turning to the Alderman and other officials) are my servants. Alderman Renals: You come here and use abusive language wholesale. Unless you go out quickly I shall have you charged with contempt of court. Defendant then paid the money, 9s, and left the court.





# SYMBOLS OF OPPRESSION



You don't have to read a stack of books to understand the world, just look around you and read the symbols of life. The Irk valley, as it cuts its way into the centre of Manchester, is alive with history, alive with the symbols of a society and how it works. Taking a trip down the valley you can learn more about what the history books call the "industrial revolution" and the kind of system it created than you could ever hope to learn from a whole library of literature. The symbols are a kind of frozen reality that cannot really be expressed in terms of abstract ideas.

On the sandstone ridge that overlooks the confluence of the Irk and Irwell, the settlement of Manchester was first developed, and along the lower reaches of the Irk the town's first mills for dying and bleaching were set up. The Bishop of Manchester still holds the fishing rights on the muck and slime of the river. Coming out of Victoria station the Lancashire and Yorkshire railway carves up the valley with great loops and switchbacks of track and amongst this nether region of arches and bridges, and railway sidings is Angel Meadow, once notorious for its murders. Not far away a young girl was raped and beaten to death only last year. The police are still looking for the murderer.

Two miles out of town the tracks divide, one line branches off to Bury and the other goes across to Leeds and York. The Irk is quieter and there are some houses, and it is here that you can find one of the most potent symbols of the valley. On a hill overlooking the valley there is a Paupers' cemetery - it's fenced off from the main Manchester Central cemetery, overgrown with weeds and abandoned, forgotten and excluded. It has no place in a society that boasts its affluence and welfare; it's a dismal reminder of the past and an all too pertinent symbol of the present.

The cemetery is the resting place of those who could not afford a "decent" burial. These were the people who had failed in life, forced to suffer what was in the eyes of the "respectable" the indignity of a communal grave. They were the paupers, stigmatised even in death. A wooden canopy covered the graves 'til

they were full, usually 8 bodies - as many names as the mason could get on the headstone. Babies lie with old women and young men - tens of thousands of stories of infant mortality and malnutrition, of suicide and despair, a lonely death in the workhouse or a fatal drunken adventure.

In the main "respectable" cemetery is the grave of Ben Briarley, the Lancashire dialect poet - a fine marble stone marks the spot. In the park, by the side of the cemetery, there is a statue of the poet, erected by public subscription in 1898. The words on one side of the monument read:

"In prose and verse and in dialect spoken by themselves he set forth with great faithfulness and power the life of the working folk of Lancashire"

A statue commemorates the poet while 200 yards away the reality of the working folk he wrote about has been shoved aside and forgotten. Briarley is somehow acceptable, he appears to enforce the ruling values of industrial capitalist society; the paupers are unacceptable, they question the whole fabric and hypocrisy of the system. The words on the other side of the monument perhaps explain why Briarley was rewarded with such civic honour:

"In my early days there were few schools to help us climb  
"In my early days there were few schools to help us in the pursuit of learning. If we wanted to climb we had first to make our ladders."

Briarley endorses that system of social mobility that stresses the need for "learning", "climbing", and "ladders" and endeared himself to the ruling elites. He sets the example, personifies the possibility of escaping the oppression and making the "good life" by hard work and determination. Those that failed to acquire the pittance to live a "respectable" life were stigmatized by the Paupers' cemetery. It served as a crude deterrent like the workhouses and the homeless hostels of today. Poverty was the disease of the lazy and intemperant, it was not implicit in the nature of capitalism. Thrift, hard work and self-help was the only cure. But poverty like cholera

is a disease that can spread and threaten the whole of society; if it could not be cured by the capitalist system, it could be contained. The militant demands of the oppressed, the agitation for amelioration by the social reformers, and the changing needs of the system were translated into the politics of welfare; the exploitation and oppression would remain but the cooling out of dissent would be that much more subtle.

The toiling masses may no longer have to suffer paupers' cemeteries or the more brutal effects of exploitation, but they do still have to suffer the frustration and insecurity and devastating waste of potential of capitalist society. It is in this way that the paupers' cemetery is an all too pertinent symbol of what is really going on; it cuts through the mystification of the politics of welfare and the boasts of affluence and equality.

Recently the local newspaper reported the desecration of a soldier's grave by vandals in the usual pompous and self-righteous language of hypocrisy. The sacrilege is insignificant compared with the official desecration of a whole cemetery by the Parks Department, but that is really not the point. The point is the historical link between the paupers and the vandals. They are the failures of the system, behaving in ways that society itself has produced, and to a certain extent sanctions. It's certainly a whole lot better for the poor to drink their troubles away, and for the vandals to smash up a grave, than to turn on the real source of their aggravation and undermine the whole capitalist system. The vandals and workers who work in the factories of the Irk Valley will be told, cooled out to believe that they have failed because they are not bright enough or clever enough. They will internalize their failure when really their oppressed and exploited condition is essential to the workings of the system. Symbols of oppression like the Paupers' cemetery seem to tell us more about just how things work than history written in terms of great men or broad abstract social forces, or even in the subjective impressions of poets like Ben Briarley. It is perhaps because they reveal so much of the irrationality of life that they are either obliterated or perhaps to most people they are just invisible.

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## poem

Mornings are cold  
Bodies are warm  
fresh from their mates  
snuggling hot flesh  
from loving warmth.  
Now the hearth is stark  
except for the dying coals  
that dreamed through their  
cremation  
of morning crackle, evening  
roar,  
midnight's sanguine glow:  
"Don't go, don't go;"  
left to fall from the bars  
to dusty piles. It chokes my  
throat  
as, banging and rattling the  
grate,  
I stirred the dead, and  
sprinkled their remains  
on the roots of the lilac bush.  
It smelled of young, spring  
scents,  
heaved its branches up,  
towards the illumined crack  
in the clouds,  
pushed out a tiny green bud  
wet with sap and blinking  
at the day.  
I am dying,  
and the morning becomes colder,  
takes my breath away  
as I shuffle across the cold  
linoleum  
The bed is hardly better  
for there's her shrivelled body  
between the blue, itching  
blankets;  
her brittle skin  
stretched tightly across her  
cheek bones  
leaden lids  
and her knees cleft to her  
chin  
in embryonic remembrance;  
all rotting away  
like the rancid remains of  
the market's riot  
sterile, spent,  
no pleasure from her  
all life extinguished,  
just death:  
and when it comes in name,  
the skeleton frame falls  
away to particles of ashes  
to ashes that nourish and  
recreate.

★★★★★★★★★★★★



On May 9th 1971 workers at Courtaulds' Arrow Mill, Rochdale, held a sit-in strike in protest against the sacking of four doffers. In an attempt to increase production the management had put the doffers on piece work and increased their work load. When they protested, they were

sacked. The sit in lasted two hours, the police being brought in to evict the strikers, and Bamford, the works convenor, was subsequently charged and found guilty of assault. The doffers were re-instated but without any help from the union officials who are now trying to expel Bamford from the union for

being a 'troublemaker' and an anarchist. Since the sit-in similar protests have been dealt with in the same manner by the management while the Campaign for Shop Stewards in Textiles has been rejuvenated in its fight against repressive management and antiquated trade union officials.



Current Shareholders	11.2	13.5	2.3	1.9	91,990	664	Macpherson (D.)	221	18.2	1.3	2.3	9,253	551	British Oxygen	215	14.6	9.3	8,075	624	1.1	541	10.6
Collins W. Hdg. Ord	17.3	13.5	2.3	1.9	9,491	664	Madame Tussauds	221	18.2	1.3	2.3	9,253	551	British Oxygen	215	14.6	9.3	8,075	624	1.1	541	10.6
Do-A	15.7	13.5	2.3	1.9	9,491	664	Magnet Joinery	85	16.1	1.5	4.5	10,657	444	Brit. Rollmakers	48	13.6	12.0	2,254	612	1.1	91	11.8
Comb. Eng. Stores	70	13.0	1.5	5.0	7,701	264	Mallinson & Denny	85	16.1	1.5	4.5	10,657	444	Brit. Rollmakers	48	13.6	12.0	2,254	612	1.1	91	11.8
Concorc	31	20.1	16.0	1.6	20,815	58	Manbre & Garton	140	6.1	2.0	7.8	8,860	301	British Ropes	118	15.6	18.0	2,381	671	1.1	295	32.5
Concrete	1.1	9.5	62.0	0.2	15,940	563	Manch Ship Canal	255	9.8	15.0	1.7	9,584	411	British Sugar	442	11.3	9.0	23,043	41	1.1	84	25.0
Cope Allman Intl	60	9.5	62.0	0.2	15,940	563	Manders	71	12.3	11.5	2.0	8,355	781	British Tar From	42	14.4	13.0	10,778	73	1.1	84	25.0
Copth (M.)	101	11.2	85.0	2.2	22,810	181	Mann Eserton	112	19.2	19.0	1.2	8,355	781	British Tar From	42	14.4	13.0	10,778	73	1.1	84	25.0
Corv (Wm)	377	14.1	15.0	1.7	33,082	310	Maple	148	37.2	15.0	1.0	10,657	423	Brooks (J.)	310	11.3	15.0	11,473	951	1.1	60	10.0
Coslin (Richard)	240	11.0	22.0	3.9	26,188	154	Marchwell	315	17.1	22.5	2.0	25,200	231	Brooks Hill Pros	155	20.2	40.0	10,175	1083	1.1	145	24.8
Court Bros (Furn)	27	19.5	20.0	2.4	39,886	852	Marks & Spencer	283	29.6	29.2	1.5	920,989	599	Brook St Bureau	1471	16.2	45.0	6,700	612	1.1	495	29.0
Courtaulds	1471	11.3	11.0	4.7	9,086	532	Marley	179	17.8	22.0	1.8	67,618	581	Brooke Bond L.Ds	80	13.6	10.7	19,212	532	1.1	70	15.1
Crestall	333	9.6	20.0	3.1	9,352	13	Martin	440	17.0	44.0	2.3	7,405	992	Brook & Jackson	65	8.7	25.9	19,212	532	1.1	70	15.1
Crestall Fruehauf	42	11.4	20.0	1.9	10,869	204	Martin Metals	94	12.9	33.5	1.6	11,274	17	Brook & Jackson	65	8.7	25.9	19,212	532	1.1	70	15.1
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# mad bombers

## The War Goes On

A summary and assessment of the work of the Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam)

Most people do not know that in Paris the religious majority of Vietnam, the Buddhist Church, is excluded from the peace talks, as much through the demands of Hanoi and the NLF, as through the demands of Saigon. In their July News Bulletin the Buddhist peace delegation explain their viewpoint.

The world wide peace movement in the mid-sixties changed its call from 'Peace in Vietnam', to 'Victory to the Vietcong', a change which the Buddhists did not follow. They explain this change of line as deriving from frustration. In fact that is only half the truth.

One of the characteristic effects of the Vietnam peace movement, as of CND and the American civil rights movement, was to awaken basically humanitarian people to politics, and above all to the total sham of democracy. Peaceniks quickly became attracted to revolutionary movements and sought to challenge the whole political, social and economic system of US imperialism. In Britain at least, just as the government fought the NLF by proxy, so the wet-behind-the-ears revolutionaries (of whom I was one) fought the US imperialists by proxy—either by chanting 'Victory to the Vietcong' or in aimless confrontations with the police outside the US embassy. In neither case did we directly face our own oppressors or the US imperialists—that is why we were numerous then, but are no longer. Many have now, however, got down in various ways to the problem of how you really challenge the political system of this country, and have begun to fight their own battles.

While the Unified Buddhist Church stands on a position of non-violence, they adopt this view not as a principle but through experience of too much violence for far too long. The Vietnamese people have been burned, bombed, maimed, killed, driven from their homes; and it no longer seems to matter which side does it. A major aim of the Buddhists is to recover hope, to pick up the shattered pieces that were the Vietnamese people.

That is being done in two ways. Firstly by practical aid to war refugees, social work etc. Secondly, by putting pressure on both the NLF and Saigon, and world public opinion, towards peace, in ways which make the Vietnamese people realize that they matter, that they have rights, and that they must be heard. They encourage conscientious objection. They maintain a position of strict separation from both Saigon and Hanoi. They maintain their un-

heard peace delegation in Paris, and press for their three point peace programme;

1 The US should declare unilaterally a ceasefire, stopping all aerial bombing and ground missions and the use of chemical defoliants, and withdraw to positions of defence.

2 The US should pledge the complete withdrawal of all their military forces from Vietnam and announce a time-table for such a withdrawal.

3 The US should stop supporting the present Saigon government in its attempt to impose itself on the Vietnamese people. In its place there should be a peace government, probably in the form of a coalition. (1)

As a result of these activities, tens of thousands of Buddhists are in South Vietnamese prisons, and the NLF prevents their representation at the Paris peace talks—ironical that, for Buddhist 'ambassadors' such as Thich Nhat Hanh have probably done much to bring about the climate in which the peace talks could be started. But the Buddhists choose to ignore the irony.

'The rapist is the one we must fight against. He is the one who really creates war and injustice. Yes, war is injustice. But the most unjust thing is that we do not have the right to be alive. We are not even allowed to call for a ceasefire, because a ceasefire might benefit this side or that side. We do not have the right to think of our own benefit. What is the use of freedom, independence, justice, etc., if we do not have life.'

'A Vietnamese peasant, if asked, would support any peace proposal, whether it had nine points, eight points or seven points, providing that the bombs cease falling on him. He does not care much what regime is in power or which Vietnamese party will have more power—he only wants the war to stop so that he can live.

'We should know that in a war, only the poor, the powerless and the oppressed are killed. The war-makers are safe. The continuation of the war is the continuation of injustice. A ceasefire is not all that we want, but it is already the most demanded form of justice (2)

There is much, such as the quotation above, which an anarchist, or any person of sensitivity, must respond to—above all the belief that individual people and their right to life, to peace, to security, matter more than any philosophy (non-violence but not as a doctrine), any organisation, party or government ('we have toppled four governments, and still there is war'), more than any social or economic system ('the rapist is safe in his system of production and consumption').

The Buddhists are clearly sensitive to the roots of their problem in Vietnam—the social and economic system based on the exploitation of man by man, the big power confrontation in world politics. But they offer no alternative to the former, and place their hopes in a reconciliation between the big powers.

They are aware this might be an illusion, but they see no practical alternative, they despair, and they retain faith in their illusion, for illusion it is.

It is also a dangerous illusion; for a reconciliation among the big powers may stop the bombing in Vietnam, for now. But it can only signal danger to the oppressed people of the world when their oppressors are united, however temporary the unity.

The Buddhists say that it is not for us to criticize their actions and tell them what to do. But their fate is also ours, and it is our right to criticize. But let us first list their positive achievements

1 The Vietnam war has opened the eyes of millions of people to the murderous quality of imperialism and the insensitivity of so-called Communist bloc. Political leaders of all beliefs and parties have been exposed for the swine they are

2 By turning to the people the Buddhists have demonstrated that the answer to oppression and war lies in the hands of the people. Only workers and peasants have a vested interest in peace.

3 They have above all shown that peasants and workers, independent of all governments, both existing and potential, alone can provide hope for themselves and all of us.

We ask the Buddhists as of right to cease their despairing pleas to the very people who oppress the Vietnamese people until they cease to beg for mercy and all of us, to continue to

revive the life of the Vietnamese people until they cease to beg for mercy and begin to insist on peace. That can only come when the Vietnamese cease to be a rabble in the face of tyranny and become organised around their daily lives to say 'No government can solve our problems; no party wants to solve our problems; therefore we will have no government and no party; we will solve our problems with our own heads and hands'.

To be truthful I am not convinced that the Buddhists are capable of carrying out this job....at least not the Buddhist leaders. For they have their left wing and their right wing' (3), they have their unified Buddhist Church to maintain and expand; they are thus ill-prepared for the kind of total identification with the oppressed that alone can provide the answer. They may have to sacrifice their unity if they cannot sink their internal differences by realising that they are irrelevant to the fate of the Vietnamese people as a whole.

For the moment anarchists in Britain can only reserve judgement on the Unified Buddhist Church, confident in one thing alone—that they have provided a basis for growth into life in Vietnam. One wishes that Ulster could be half so fortunate.

In Vietnam and in Ulster, the alternative to war is not simply peace. Peace is an illusion unless there are also alternatives to the causes of war.

(1) News Bulletin of the Vietnamese Buddhist Peace Delegation to Paris, 1 July 1972. p.11.

(2) ditto p.4 and p.10.

(3) ditto p.7. 'The Buddhist community has both its right and its left wing, like any other community, and it accepts both, provided that these wings really belong to the community.'

Bulletins are available from,  
The Vietnamese Buddhist PEACE  
Delegation to Paris,  
11 Rue de la Goutte d'Or,  
Paris 18 eme, France.



YES, KIDS, HERE'S OLD UNCLE HO BACK FROM THE GRAVE! AND YOU CAN BE SURE I'D SUPPORT THE POLISH REGIME'S ACTIONS JUST LIKE I DID THE RUSSIAN INTERVENTIONS IN HUNGARY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA. I'M NOT EXACTLY A STRANGER TO CRUSHING AUTONOMOUS POPULAR REVOLTS MYSELF, YOU KNOW. (Cf. THE 1945 SAIGON INSURRECTION AND THE PEASANT UPRISING IN 1956.) BUT YOU'VE GOT TO SUPPORT ME ANYWAY, SUCKER! I'M THIRD WORLD, REMEMBER?



# ...in a green peace.

One could have hardly failed to notice that over the past couple of years one of the most pressing problems of modern industrial society is that of pollution. The problem has received such a vast amount of publicity in the press and on the television there is little point in adding to it. However, the reason for doing so, is that in spite of this widespread concern with pollution, little attention has been given to the underlying causes of this attack on the life-systems of this planet.

Often pollution is presented as an unfortunate and nasty by-product of modern technology, the answer to which is increased governmental action together with extensive 'clean-up' campaigns. Yet the real facts are at a much deeper level, for pollution, and the wider problems of which it is part, are endemic to the mode of production. Not only is capitalism the direct cause of pollution but in some cases is heavily dependent on it. In an article it is only possible to take a cursory glance at pollution whose very extent makes it a subject great complexity. The amount of information available on the subject however, probably makes such a task unnecessary. Yet it would be useful to give a brief explanation of the ecological nature of pollution. Within the sciences of Ecology and Biogeography the basic unit of study is that of the Ecosystem. These are classified into particular ecosystem types according to certain habitational factors, either climatic or vegetational. Thus one finds a woodland ecosystem, a pond ecosystem and so on. Within each of these units there has evolved, over periods of time, a complex interdependence and interaction of all the constituent elements within it. These elements are both biotic and inorganic, and include factors such as climate, soil type, geology, plant and animal life. This interrelationship is demonstrated by the example of a woodland eco-system; within this the type of soil present exercises an influence on vegetational types which in turn influences soil development and encourages certain forms of animal life which themselves perpetuate or discourage forms of plant life. Each of these factors is influenced to a greater or lesser degree by climatic factors which which can either be intensified or ameliorated by factors such



as slope or even density of vegetation cover. Though for purposes of analysis, each ecosystem is studied separately; all are interdependent on each other and form parts of a wider system. For example, the pond ecosystem also forms a part of the marsh or woodland ecosystem in which it is located. Most ecosystems have reached a state of delicate equilibrium as a result of these interacting factors. Any disturbance of this balance, however slight, may trigger off a chain reaction leading to the eventual destruction of an ecosystem. It is with the introduction of artificial elements into these systems that problems begin. Agricultural and industrial techniques are artificial elements in this sense. It is obvious that such introductions and interferences should be done on the basis of sound ecological principles, which to be effective, must be directly related to the needs of the local community and not those of investors many hundreds of miles distant. Capitalism obviously militates against the possibility of such local decision making in that its role in the local community is one of an exploitive rather than a co-operative nature. In other ways too, capitalism has adverse effects on the ecosystem. The need for large profits and production for international, rather than local, markets, discourages investment in

expensive methods of waste disposal and waste control. The need for an ever expanding market leads to the alienation of consumer consumption by methods such as built in obsolescence. This can be either actual as in the case of motor vehicles where existing methods of prolonging the life of car bodies are deliberately not employed. It can also be a psychological obsolescence by the creation of fashion trends in objects such as furniture or the production of useless crazes in toys which soon lose their novelty value. Often obsolescence is a combination of both methods. Such techniques simply add to the mountain of waste that has to be disposed of. Much of this waste is in the form of irreducible materials such as glass or plastic and thus cannot be recycled. Since the 1939-45 war one of the mainstays in preventing the economic slumps of pre-war years has been that of the military industrial complex. This opened avenues for investment and employment without creating an overproduction of consumer goods. The chemical pesticide industry has been a major offshoot of this development and it is here that the most serious threats have occurred to the life support systems of this planet. With the wholesale and indiscriminate use of pesticides serious damage has been done to several eco-systems. Together with the target

population, useful insects and animal species have been poisoned, leading to the increase of insects whose previous numbers did not constitute a nuisance but whose pesticide resistant numbers have now reached epidemic proportions. Certain forms of plant life have been destroyed thus resulting in soil erosion. The introduction of poisons in the lower links of the food chain has also resulted in a sustained and continuous poisoning of the human species. Chemicals such as D.D.T. have a habit of being stored and concentrated in fatty tissues therefore the higher up the food chain, the greater amount of concentration. In spite of these facts, the vast amount of profits to be made from such pollutants ensure their continued use and promotion.

Another offshoot of the military/industrial complex is that of the aero-space industry. Here developments such as Concorde continue, despite fears that the vast heat exchanges rates, set up by the giant turbine engines may have adverse effects on ozone levels in the upper atmosphere. These ozone levels serve to shield the planet surface from too great an amount of the ultra-violet rays emanated from the sun. Interference with these levels could set up chain reactions of unforeseen consequences.

The answer to the problem of pollution lie not in a tidying up of capitalist production methods, but in its complete removal and its replacement with a socio-economic system based on rational and social lines. This is an obvious solution to readers of this magazine, unfortunately is not a view widely shared by many who suffer directly from the problem of pollution. However, it is a problem which affects us all, and whose effects are a familiar sight.

Here then lies the potential for forms of direct action by those whose lives are threatened by pollution, be they housewives who are indignant about soot on their washing, workers in unhealthy conditions or whole communities such as Aberfan. Although such direct action is concerned with local issues and often short term solutions, it is action which can be linked with the wider problems and with only one possible long term solution.



# LETTER

## remploy revisited

### LADIES FIRST

The Arrow Mill Sit-in Pamphlet, distributed in the mills around Rochdale and Oldham, provoked an indignant response amongst women mill workers. Their anger was raised by the explanation given in the pamphlet for the lack of female militancy: 'Women do mill work to escape the boredom of the home and to get a bit of pocket money.' The statement also annoyed the Manchester group of the Womens Liberation, who took the opportunity to leaflet the women mill workers. The refutation of the naivety and perhaps male chauvinism of the statement provided an entree into the fight for equal pay and the union representation of female workers. The leaflet concluded with an invitation to a womens meeting at a Rochdale pub. The meeting was attended by 28 women many of whom were mill workers. Thanks to the straw man provided by the pamphlet, the lib-ladies were able to use the opportunity to establish a liberation group in Rochdale. This short but effective leaflet campaign is a fine example of how, when the right opportunity comes along, a few militants can use a real live issue, instead of the more usual impassioned pleadings from the sidelines, to make contact with the workerrrs.

If you like what you have read in Black and Red Outlook and would like to know more about the ASA, and its activities, drop us a line. You can write to one of our Industrial Network contacts, to the coordinator of the paper, or to the secretary.

If you would like to support us financially, then we like our members to try to give at least 1% of their income, after tax and insurance. Cheques and postal orders should be made out to, 'Black and Red Outlook' or 'ASA' and sent to the treasurer:

J. Marsden  
c/o 13 Russell Rd.,  
Whalley Range,  
Manchester 16.

'Black and Red' needs some bread and help. We are setting up a press fund to purchase materials and equipment for printing purposes, e.g. a sticker machine, electric typewriter, and ultimately our own offset litho. Ideas and donations to the Treasurer please.

We also need volunteers to help with the typing as you can see. You really need access to an electric typewriter or carbon ribbon typing. Get in touch with the coordinator or if you can help in anyway.

I have recently read a pamphlet on the employment or should I say the exploitation of disabled persons at Remploy Ltd. I agree with the majority of sentiments voiced, but feel the record needs to be put straight in some respects.

Firstly, the rates of pay quoted are those which were for Remploy factories in London, the rate in the provinces being lower, and they do not take into account the recent 'very generous' wage increases of 4½p for both men and women. As you will recall from the pamphlet, Remploy are not known as big spenders, therefore in their eyes 4½p is a lot of money. Negotiations for this 'rise' started way back in October '71, during which time Remploy offered 3p per hour (£1.20 a week); this like all Remploy offers has to go to the Dept. of Employment and Productivity for approval. This vast amount was turned down by the unions, a thing which has never happened before in wage negotiations. A further offer of 3½p was made by the company which was again turned down; and finally the colossal sum of 4½p was agreed on. So to have ended up with a 50% increase on their first offer can be looked on as being a victory, though for whom I couldn't say. The rise being effective from April 3rd has back pay payable on June 9th. An increase on the percentage rates for juniors was also agreed on, so to an installment towards equal pay for women next January of 68p.

The 'Worthwhile Service' mentioned on page one tempts me to ask, "Who is it worthwhile for?" I would suggest big business, firms like G.E.C., Dunlop, I.T.T., -HB and a few more, place contracts with Remploy for first-class, top quality products done on the cheap. The grant towards capital expenditure goes largely to finance new factories. One such new factory, (the latest showpiece) to take foreign visitors etc to, to show off what is done for the disabled) is at Brixton. This factory combines the old Bermondsey and Croydon (Waddon) factories, and so cuts the total number of factories to 86. Would this explain where some of the tax payers money goes? Also it should be noted here, that 90% of Remploy's advertising is aimed at private enterprise.

In the excerpt from the official leaflet on page 3 a true picture is meant to be put forward. What it fails to show is that for propaganda reasons Remploy includes all who hold green cards regardless of what they do in the firm. The managing

director himself is disabled, although whether or not he holds a green card I don't know. If a worker is promoted he still holds his green card, yet is regarded as a fit person by the firm, and is therefore liable to redundancy. However, when it comes to shouting about how many disabled persons are employed by the firm, they are then included as disabled; then in the next breath they are referred to as fit persons.

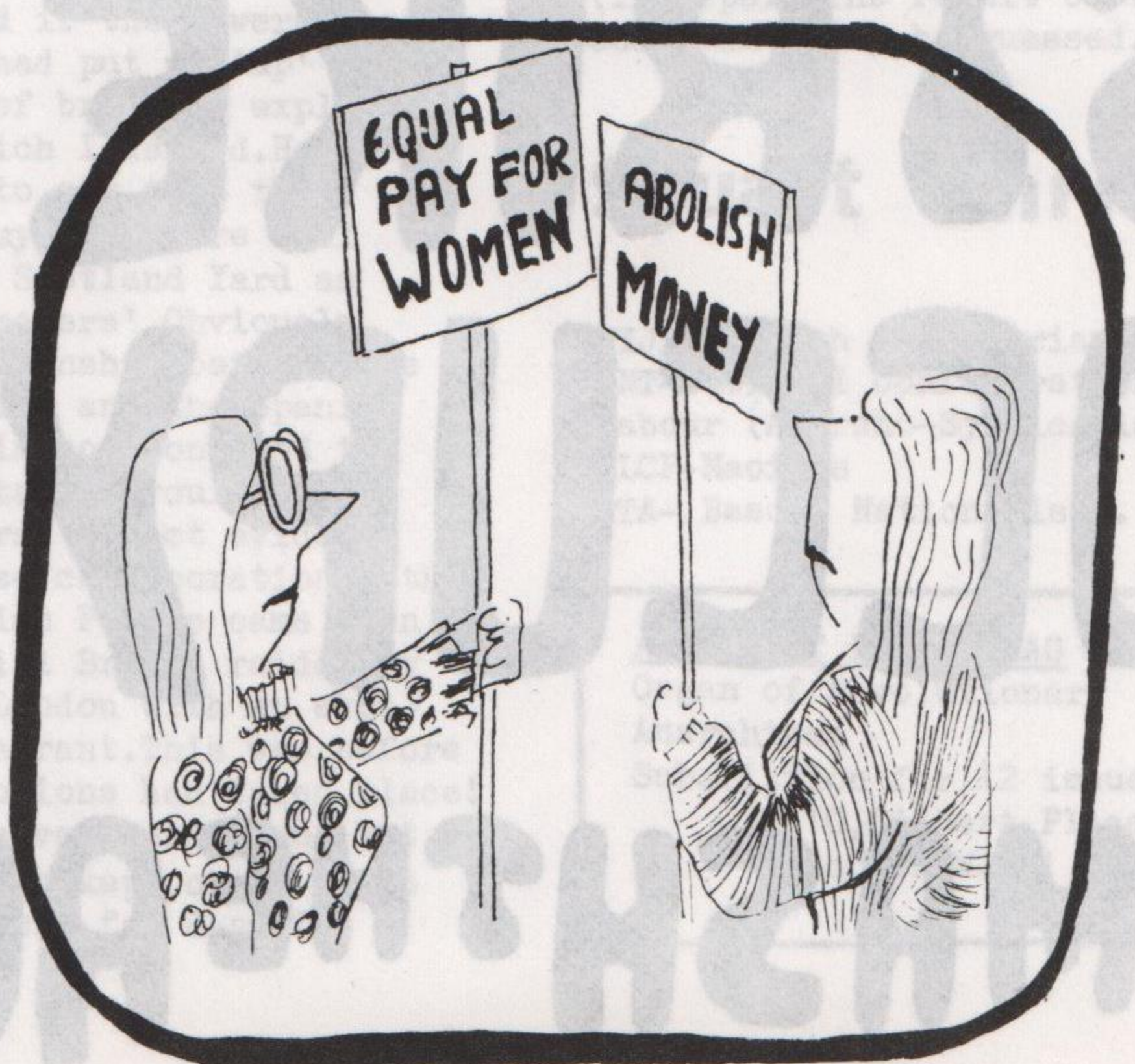
On page 4, in the line beginning "i.e." the vast sum should read 0.1p for men and 0.2p for women. Further down the page, when referring to the proficiency rate, at the line beginning "rate ranges from" should read 0.1p at a 22 minute hour. One doesn't earn 1p an hour until a 40 minute hour is reached averaged over the 6 monthly review period.

Let me try and explain what is meant by a "minute hour". When an employee is on measured work, i.e. work on which a time either per piece or per 100 has been put by the work study engineer, the output of the employee is multiplied by the time and the result divided by the hours set on the job. eg. A packing job is timed at 60 minutes a 100. If, over the course of a week the employee packs 4500 objects, then 4500 is multiplied by 60 and then the result is divided by 40, to make a 67.5 minute hour. I must add that it is seldom that such a high performance is reached by the vast majority of the workers. In fact the average works out at between a 40 and a 45 minute hour.

Another interesting point about Remploy wasn't, unfortunately, included in the pamphlet. That is, it is estimated that it costs over £30 to employ a man at Remploy, and that out of that £15 is classed as "loss per man". Now, Head Office, perhaps the biggest white elephant of all, never makes a loss, on paper anyway. It is clever figure work that makes this to be the case, what is done is that the Head Office is merely off loaded thus creating the "loss per man".

When the new factory at Brixton became operational last August (it wasn't officially opened by Robert Carr, the then Secretary of State for Unemployment until March 27th; yet another reason to shout about all that's done for the workers) there were several items that had been overlooked by the builders - or "we ran out of money". Such shortcomings included: no soap or towel dispensers in the toilets, inadequate lighting in the drive - which is still not concreted over, despite complaints by the M.D. - unsatisfactory heating and ventilating systems, unsealed floors leading to a dusty atmosphere. So well planned is the factory that when the wind is strong, it is enough to blow open two sets of double doors; needless to say the place is very draughty. The list is endless, it should be kept in mind that the Brixton factory was to be 'the ideal factory', purpose built and all that. Even the offices, converted house, haven't been properly thought out, because the windows can't be opened wide as they'll get knocked off at the hinges by high lorries passing. What the worst and oldest factories are like, well I'll leave that to your imagination.

Remploy Worker  
3.6.72.





# CLASS WAR Resurge & Defeat



REPRINTED FROM INDUSTRIAL WORKER.

McCarthyism stands like a bogymen in our past. Its devastating effects are still a poison in American life; but the cause of it most have forgotten. Bourgeois historians would have us believe it a mere overzealous response to the towering menace of Soviet subversion. But could a mere handful of Moscow agents have caused such a far-reaching reaction? Historical fact scatters this sandcastle. The instigator of Joe McCarthy & Co. was the Great American Class Struggle of 1945-50.

The U.S. working class, in the interests of defeating Fascism, had held itself in check during World War Two. V-J Day opened the floodgates. On Sept. 17, the 1945 strike wave began with the walkout of 43,000 refinery workers in 20 states. President Truman ordered Navy troops to man the oil refineries, but this heavy hand was straw before the wind. A 12-month worker-boss conflict ensued outmatching in size anything in U.S. labor history. Between Aug. 15, 1945 and Aug. 14, 1946, 4,630 work stoppages occurred, involving 4.9 million workers, with 119.8 million man-hours lost. All vital industries were involved — automobile, agricultural implements, coal, electricity, manufacturing, meat-packing, oil refining, longshore, R.R., and steel.

In 1946 two general strikes erupted. The city government in the "Open Shop Bastion" of Rochester N.Y. vetoed a planer employees union and abolished 489 jobs. Police arrested 250 pickets and labor leaders in the resulting strike. The local labor unions struck back with a one-day citywide shutdown, dubbed the "Day of Death". Panicked, the state government stepped in and "mediated". In Oakland California employees at the Kahn and Hastings stores walked out when their projected union was refused recognition. The Central Labor and Building Trades Councils of Alameda County, reacting

to the use of police escorts for scabs, called a "general labor holiday". For two days Alameda was paralyzed, including Bay Area transportation. Police escorts ended, but only bitter 5 and 7 month strikes achieved union shops.

The Industrial Workers of the World also showed a solid resurge. Throughout the war Wobblies had been active in the Western mining camps and along the docks. By January 1945, the capitalist rag Business Week was warning: "In the metal shops of Cleveland, the vanadium mines of California, the copper diggings of Butte, on the waterfront of San Diego, New Orleans and New York.... men are carrying red cards." Membership in 1946 stood at more than 20,000.

The Master Class retaliated.

On January 6, 1947, President Truman, in his State of the Union address to Congress, demanded that jurisdictional strikes and secondary boycotts be prohibited and that a complete overhaul of labor-owner relations be made. In a reactionary mood exceeding even Truman, the House responded with the Hartley Bill. The measure outlawed not only secondary boycotts, but all-industry bargaining as well. Regulations were defined for government supervision of internal union affairs, closed shops abolished, and a list of permissible strike issues detailed.

The Senate Taft amendment watered the Hartley Bill down some. A few rights were granted back, including all-industry bargaining and closed shops. Two anti-labor provisions were retained however: (1) the power of Presidential 90-day injunctions, and (2) an anti-Red clause requiring all union officials to swear they were not members of the Communist Party or any affiliates.

Many unions, such as the United Mine Workers and the International Typographers Union, refused to comply with the red clause. But as the screw tightened, the maj-

ority began to buckle. The UMW was large enough to stand by its refusal and survive. Not so the Industrial Workers of the World.

Opposition to the misleadership and exploitation of the Communist Party had long been an I.W.W. tenet. It was reiterated in the 1946 Convention resolution: "...we look upon the Communist Party and its fledglings as a major menace to the working class." This enmity dated back to the 1921 Red Trade Union International in Moscow, where I.W.W. delegates drew early lessons from the Bolshevik mass-slaughter of the Kronstadt rebel workers and sailors.

But on principle the I.W.W. refused to sign. The government began to zero in, placing the Wobblies on the Attorney General's subversive list and ruling it must pay a corporate income tax.

A massive witch-hunt developed within the labor unions in 1948. The labor fake bureaucrats fell over each other in the rush to curry favor with the Capitalists. Not only Stalinist hacks, but also sincere union militants who had built the CIO and other unions up from the very dirt on the shop floor, were expelled en masse. Only three major unions managed to resist the purge: the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, the International Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, and the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers. The UE and IMMS were greatly reduced, the AFL and CIO "cleansed" by forming competing unions. Harry Bridges alone kept the ILWU rank-and-file intact. Bridges, a member of the IWW Marine Transport Union in the 20's, was not a man to go down easy. But the cost of survival was heavy: capitulation of militancy.

The I.W.W. was smashed, its Cleveland metal shops lost. The assault continued: by 1950 the OBU was nowhere engaged in collective bargaining.

To most it looked like the end.

A dark decade and more of seemingly absolute Master Class rule. But the "end of ideology" was not to last. U.S. Capitalism found its nemesis in a very small hell: Vietnam. By the summer of 1971 the Nixon Regime was forced to turn from the Vietnamese peasants and once again attack the U.S. working class in a frantic effort to bail out the sinking ship of state. Wage freeze followed forced unemployment. Mandatory arbitration is succeeded by anti-strike laws.

The response must be: Total Resistance. A new working class militancy is in the making. As always, the ever-resurgent IWW is called upon.

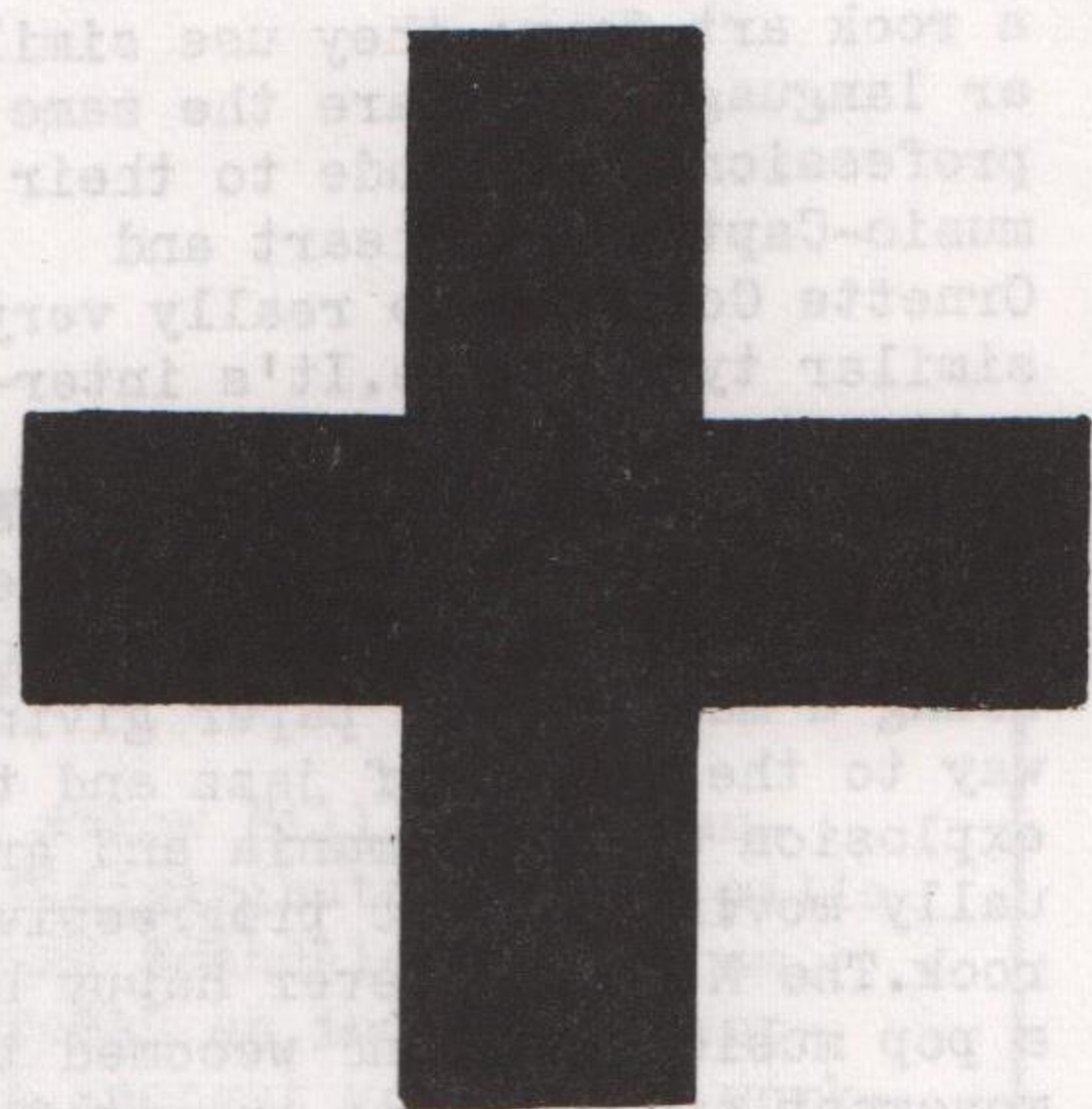
By Jewell



# STRIKE! OCCUPY! SMASH THE ACT!

These stickers are available from the Anarchist Syndicalist Alliance





# THE BLACK CROSS

## Persecuted by Special Branch

During my  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years imprisonment in Carabanchel and Alcala I was shocked to discover that the only political prisoners who received any support either moral or financial were the members of the Spanish Communist Party and the Jehovah's Witnesses. Amnesty International would not concern itself with men who had taken a positive position against fascism such as the FIJL, ETA, the MLCP of Spain (and some trot groups), and the CNT.

To live in prison we had to depend on our own friends and solidarity from our own groups both in the interior and in exile, such as the the committee pro-presos in Toulouse. The knowledge of the existence of such aid groups was more or less confined to the Spanish groups in exile, and own attitude was that we had to broaden the spectrum of support for political prisoners (as opposed to liberals) which as far as we could see was confined to Spaniards in exile and in the interior, to include libertarians from all over the world. It was not solely to be confined to the Spanish victims of the class struggle, but at that point in time, 1967, the repression that was quickly to spread throughout Western Europe was still the monopoly of the Franco regime.

On my return to London I had long discussions with comrades about this idea—especially Albert Meltzer who had been one of the militants who had remained in the forefront of activity since 1935. Albert had been involved in liaison with comrades for some time—especially with comrades on the Chinese mainland—and as a result of discussions we decided to form an organisation which could act as a clearing house for information and counter-information on the number, condition, and whereabouts of political prisoners also the nature and details so far as we were able, of the people and agencies responsible for the growing repression throughout the world. The International Anarchist Black Cross was formed in late '67.

Firstly, we put out an appeal for funds to which people responded very well but after a number of food parcels

were returned by the Spanish Prison authorities, it was decided that the answer was to print the names of prisoners and their location in the Black Cross bulletins and have people contact prisoners on a more personal level. On a different level we used information and letters smuggled out of prison to maintain pressure, through the national press, on the Spanish authorities who were, and still are, particularly sensitive to any reference in the foreign press to their political prisoners and the brutality of the Spanish Special Branch. This aspect was particularly successful, not so much in the coverage such stories got in the British and international press but in the reaction of the Prison authorities to these stories, and consequently in the rise in morale of the prisoners who discovered the existence of these stories after being interrogated by Franco's officials as to how the letters were being smuggled out of the prisons. On a number of occasions articles were found inside the prisons which related to escape attempts and the Black Cross became more of a bugbear to the Prison authorities as the existence of them, when found, was blamed on us. Not that this worried us—anything to be of service—but the effect that this had on us was direct and hard. For a number of years the Spanish Secret Police had been working in close contact not only with the French Police but also, as I discovered, with the British Secret Police, the Special Branch!

Shortly after my arrest while I was being held in the Direccion General de Seguridad by the Brigada Político-Social, I was shown a number of photographs of young militants in exile (none of whom I recognised, obviously)—then two days after my arrest a new interrogator was brought in. This policeman spoke perfect English without any trace of an accent whatsoever. He was extremely polite and introduced himself (the name slipped my mind almost immediately afterwards). He then went on to say that he had been flown over from London especially to conduct the interrogation and had been based in London for the previous 12 years.



He spoke for some time on the usual 'barrier breaking' chat on the English way of life and, as a passing comment on the qualities of the English Police with whom he collaborated closely! Shortly after he produced a photograph of myself Hyde Park (Speakers Corner) with two young Spanish comrades. I was asked if these were the men who had put me 'up' to the job of bringing explosives which I denied. He then went on to say that these two men (and myself) were well known to Scotland Yard as 'troublemakers'. Obviously the relationship between the Home Office and the Spanish Embassy is not confined to the cocktail circuit.

The first direct evidence of a close collaboration with the Spanish Police came when the Special Branch raided my home in London with an explosives warrant. This was before any explosions had taken place! No explosives were found but a watch was kept on my house for the next few days. The

following Saturday night two explosions took place, one at the Spanish Embassy and the other at the American Officers Club. This was claimed by the Revolutionary Solidarity Movement—1st May. The Spanish police had received information that the attacks

Solidarity Movement—1st May.

The Spanish police had received information that attacks would be made on their Embassies shortly in European Capitals and had passed the information on to the Scotland Yard to do the dirty work for them. From that date onwards it became apparent that the British Political Police would, when the first opportunity presented itself, attempt to frame me. I came to the decision that I could not become actively involved in domestic political activity apart from, of course, general propaganda work. They were itching to get their hands on me and made it only too obvious. The cascade of a disinterested British Police was cracking.

I later discovered a possible reason for the growing interest in Albert and myself when comrade Miguel Garcia was released from after spending 20 years in Spanish prison. Miguel informed me of the aforementioned interviews with prison authorities over escape attempts and smuggled letters of complaint appearing in the international press—which were conveniently blamed on the A.B.C. From what I can gather from journalists and other sources the Spanish Government made strong complaints about the activity of the A.B.C.—certainly through the Police Force (Interpol). The result of these complaints may be guessed.

## Stuart Christie

FIJL—Spanish Libertarian Youth.  
CNT—National Confederation of Labour (Anarcho-Syndicalist Union)  
MLCP—Maoists  
ETA—Basque Nationalists.

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# REVIEWS

## ROCK 'N' ROLL

'Sounds of the City-the history of rock and roll'  
by Charlie Gillett.

The growth of cultural movements may be seen in terms of a process, from a spontaneous explosion of localized, grass roots expression to popularization, emasculation and absorption into the prevailing popular culture. For the movement to persist, to become an art form in itself, will depend on not only the strength and potential of the movement, but on the development of a consciousness of its own existence, the articulation of its roots and the definition of its boundaries.

The history of jazz illustrates this process, from its roots in blues and New Orleans to its popularization in the 'thirties, the emasculation of its frenetic rhythms into the trite orchestrations of white musicians like Paul Whiteman and Glenn Miller and the muzak of cocktail jazz, and the absorption of figures like Fats Waller and Louis Armstrong into the popular culture. The strength of the movement and the potential of the music carried it through to bee-bop, cool and free form and the establishment of jazz as an art form in itself. The MJQ wore dinner jackets and played in concert halls, the music became respectable and threw up its own historians and discographers and learned review journals. It articulated its roots and categorised its forms into trad, mainstream, modern, avant garde etc. and defined its contents in relation to other kinds of music.

Charlie Gillett uses a similar approach in his historical analysis of rock and roll, tracing its roots in rhythm and blues, gospel, and country and western and its diffused regional growth-the New Orleans dance band style of Fats Domino, the fusion of blues and country and western in Memphis, Bill Haley's northern white dance rock, and the Chicago rhythm and blues of Chuck Berry and Bo Diddley. The music was wild, uncomplicated and vital, the sounds

of the ever increasing tensions of the city, a celebration of the new found economic power and security of post-war youth, and the frustrations and impatience of youth with their extended dependence on the family and school. Presley's early sounds as well as the images of Dean and Brando in films, Gillett writes, 'suggested a young white man celebrating freedom, ready to do anything, go anywhere, pausing long enough for apologies and even regrets and recriminations but then hustling on towards the new.' The music was deliberately fierce and strident, cutting of the misunderstood world of youth from that of their parents and the smooth, effete Italian crooners of popular music. Chuck Berry evoked the nascent sexual excitement of 'Sweet Little Sixteen.' the Coasters held out against the continual 'Yakety Yak,' of nagging parents, Eddie Cochran bemoaned the constraints of working the vacation in 'Summertime Blues,' and Little Richard celebrated his weekend release from work, raging contempt at the idea of saving his money, determined to 'Rip It Up.'

The emasculation of the music had been a continual ploy of the big companies for some time. The small independent companies scattered throughout the country had played an important part in the innovation of the music, and had maintained control of the market. By the late fifties, however the big companies started to take over, covering the original black material, cleaning up the sexual permissiveness and rebellion of the lyrics, for example Haley's cover of the original Joe Turner recording of 'Shake, Rattle and Roll.' The songs were often interpreted by singers, firmly in the old crooning tradition, but turned rock and roller as a way into the popular market- Pat Boone covered 'Tutti Frutti', and then went on to the cloying ballad, 'Friendly Persuasion.' The music was absorbed into the idea of popular music dictated by the big companies. Presley shaved off his sideboards, let out his jeans and became the all american boy doing his military service in Germany. Cliff Richard made the strange progression from 'Move It Baby' to 'Goodbye Sam Hello Samantha'. Rock and roll was embedded in the popular entertainment business and countless plastic, one hit rock

and rollers were marketed by the big companies. Those with talent who survived became family entertainers like Tommy Steele, Bobby Darin etc- 'I just wanna be an all round entertainer'.

Gillett traces the development of rock in the sixties through soul and Tamla Motown, heavily influenced by gospel music. But the link here is perhaps overstated, rather the emergence of rhythm and blues and beat music in England would seem a more influential progression. Gillett sees the Beatles as synthesizers and transmitters of existing musical styles rather than innovators in their own right, though this is not to devalue their phenomenal influence in suggesting the potential of the music. Dylan is given a lot of space and perhaps it is possible to see Dylan, the Beatles and the Tamla Motown writers (Smokey Robinson, Holland, Dozier, Holland) as being major influences on song content and structure. The musical development of rock seems to have drawn more from english r&b than american soul. The tight sound of the Animals led into the musical explorations of the Cream. Strangely Gillett dismisses Clapton as too intellectualised a guitarist which is surely a prejudiced judgement of someone who set the pace for every rock guitarist that followed him.

With the emergence of bands like the Grateful Dead, Hendrix, Jefferson Airplane and the Who rock and roll has reached that stage of self consciousness which is manifested in terms of revivalism and nostalgia- Sha Na Na play something of a similar role to that played by Ken Colyer in the fifties jazz scene. Secondly there is a consciousness of belonging to a movement and 'paying ones dues' to Chuck and Fats, and the consciousness of working in an art form-the Who's rock opera 'Tommy'. Mags devoted solely to the music have appeared, amazingly learned and erudite like Rolling Stone, whose record reviews should be contrasted with a record review in New Musical Express 10 years ago and with those of Jazz Monthly or the classical music journals. The musicians have become aware of themselves as individuals and musicians rather than as groups or entertainers. In this respect the similarity between rock musicians and jazz musicians is illuminating of the whole process towards

a rock art form; they use similar language and share the same professional attitude to their music-Captain Beefheart and Ornette Coleman are really very similar type people. It's interesting to look at the development of the Melody Maker over the last 15 years. Up to the early sixties the paper stuck to its policy of being a mainly jazz paper giving way to the demise of jazz and the explosion of Beatlemania and gradually moving over to progressive rock. The M.M. was never happy being a pop music paper and welcomed the movement of rock into an art form like jazz. The interesting thing is that the rock Melody Maker of today, in terms of form, is remarkably similar to the jazz Melody Maker of 15 years ago.

The music in many ways has become respectable-Soft Machine at the Proms-and accepted as a valid form of expression, it has become an art form. And now rock has got its first historian, Charlie Gillett, and admirable as his book is, its appearance raises somewhat mixed feelings. Gillett is really a purist, something that will become more apparent in a few years and as such his analysis will tend to routinize the various forms of the music. The institutionalization of rock will harden and rigidify perceptions, and freedom to some extent is about the breaking down of cognitive barriers. Rock music has been a force for liberation, its categorisation and study may place an inflated power in the hands of the professional critic and deter the musician from exploring paths that may lead him away from the accepted definition of the music. Rock needs an anarchy of perception if it is to avoid the purism that has bedogged the growth of jazz. See Nik Cohn's 'Pop From The Beginning' for a non-purist history of the music.

It has been fashionable to see rock as a force for revolution when the link is tenuous, rather rock has provided a far more honest expression of working class life than the structured, self conscious statements of a Jimmy Porter or even an Arthur Seton. The Beatles were not embittered class warriors but impatient of the constraints of society, vital and cynical of convention, and eager to accept the luxuries that success can provide.





# ONE BIG UNION? RAPE

Aware of the I.W.W. suggestion that a General Recruiting Branch be set up in Britain, I entered into correspondence with Patrick Murfin their General Secretary-Treasurer, to find out more about them.

The IWW has a great name, and its easy to fall foul of romanticism when they confront us with an idea like that. However, nowadays they have a total U.S. membership of about 1,000, and bargaining control in less than a handful of firms. Their membership consists of two types- the remnants of the old IWW, the old-timers, and the present effective IWW which consists of young ngsters largely under thirty, i.e. much like our own group.

Their method of organisation is to form geographical groups e.g. Tacoma, Oakland, Yellow Springs, whose main purpose is to seek the creation of workplace organisations, (e.g. Industrial Union 510, Chemical workers Industrial Union 430). In practice most but not all, the geographical groups are college and university campus based.

Activities carried out are usually in the form of solidarity, e.g. Tacoma issued an anti-sabbing leaflet during a strike of retail workers which might have been badly hit by student part-timers. They organise unions where there are none, and replace conservative unions where necessary and demanded by the workers.

In practice, when we get down to the differences between the ASA and the IWW there is nothing significant. The Wobs are slightly more numerous proportionate to population, but still small and dispersed. They have got on better with the question of industrial organisation, but they have name and past to draw upon. We are new, raw, and inexperienced, with little draw upon but our own talents and intelligence.

There is a further difference, which I believe to be more important. While on the face of their style of organisation of resembles closely what we outline in our aims and principles, in practice our approach is different. Our geographical groups seem to be developing activities in addition to the idea of forming union-style branches- we have shown an interest in food co-operatives, communes, free schools, etc which reflects a desire for some communal organisation in addition to the industrial branches we are trying to form via the Industrial Network.

Going by reports in 'Industrial Worker', the Wobbly paper, this does not seem to be a concern.

True, the Chicago branch has set up a scheme to find work for the unemployed, but that is seen as a back entrance for advances in industrial organisation, now these differences are important. The strongest influence in European syndicalist ideas has always been the memory of the C.N.T. in Spain during the thirties, whose mixture of communal and industrial organisation remains our model, at least sub-consciously. In our own aims and principles, the phrase we give for concept of industrial organisation is 'confederation of labour'- add national and you have translated the Spanish.

But America has evolved its own tradition of syndicalism, which rather less of the anarchist consciousness about it, and is perhaps closer to that of pre-stalinist, French C.G.T.

A major pre-occupation has always been avoid 'involvement in politics', by which has been meant avoidance of party politics. Unlike the Spanish, and unlike ourselves, they do not seem to have taken the next logical step, and that is to redefine politics into the 'the politics of everyday life', under the impact of specifically ideas.

The question we must therefore ask ourselves is this, in carrying out that part of the ASA aims towards the construction of a Confederation of Labour, can anything be gained by doing it as the British section of the IWW? It seems to me that the answer is little or nothing. But I would suggest that we build our own that we build our own organisation to take our place with IWW and syndicalist unions in other countries.

A reading of IWW publications suggests that close liaison between the Wobblies and ourselves would be very valuable, since the similarity of their problems and those of the British working-class is very apparent. In addition the concern to build international links is so strong that it cannot be ignored (see Fred Thompson, 'World Labor Needs a Union').

I would only say that the IWW born as it out of a specifically US situation, is not that World Union.

But the IWW suggestion has much validity- it makes us sit back and realise that we have a lot to do, and that the building up of our industrial network into something approaching a fighting organisation is very urgent. To that end we need, as soon as possible; a central printing press; local duplicating and typing facilities and work of contacts who are capable of providing aid and assistance in the event of victimisation, etc; more members and, dare I say it, funds.

These questions should be given top priority at the next ASA get-together.

## You Will Obey

"Unquestioning submission to a single will is absolutely necessary for the success of labour processes that are based on large scale machine industry .... The revolution demands in the interests of Socialism that the masses unquestioningly obey the single will of the labour processes."

Lenin: The Immediate Tasks of the Soviet Government. Selected works Vol 11 p324 Spring 1918.

## EARLY RETIREMENT PROGRAMME

Dear Employee,

As a result of automation as well as a declining workload, Management must of necessity, take steps to reduce our work force. A reduction in staff has been developed which appears most equitable under the circumstances.

Under the plan, older employees will be placed on early retirement, thus permitting the rotation of employees who represent the future of the Company.

Therefore, a programme to phase out older Personnel by the end of the current fiscal year via early retirement will be put into effect immediately. The programme will be known as R.A.P.E. (Retire Aged Personnel Early).

Employees who are RAPED will be given the opportunity to seek other jobs within the Company, provided that while they are being RAPED they request a review of their employment status before actual retirement takes place. This employment status review is called S.C.R.E.W. (Survey of Capabilities of Retired Early Workers).

All employees who have been properly RAPED and SCREWED may also apply for a final review. This will be called S.H.A.F.T. (Survey of Capabilities of Retired Early Workers will be called S.H.A.F.T. (Study by Higher Authority Following Termination)).

Our programme policy dictates that all employees may be RAPED once, SCREWED twice but may be SHAFED as many times as the Company thinks appropriate.

Zerox Honeywell 240/45L  
(Personnel Manager)



RAPED, SCREWED AND SHAFED.



# RAPPING IN SHEFFIELD

# listen

Third ASA Conference at Sheffield, July.

Many thanks to the Sheffield comrades and the inhabitants of the Anarchist commune in the steel City for their assistance in organising the conference, the provision of food and dossing space.

The idea of an Anarchist conference rears different things to different people. The unfortunates who live in the area it is held have visions of bombs, while most Anarchists have visions of long aimless discussions ending in deadlock and disillusionment. In fact the third ASA conference produced neither of the expected results. We may have amused the regulars of the Raven and the Domino, but we certainly didn't chuck bombs at them, and while we were in conference, which was most of the time, we managed to reach about thirty to thirty five decisions great and small.

The first most important set of decisions concerns the paper you are now reading, which from now on is intended to be published monthly. We will be tendering for articles not only from the enlarged industrial network, but also from fraternal organisations abroad to get a libertarian's eye view of events outside our island. Controversy is likely to increase as we get round to inviting articles from groups in this country whose ideas are similar to our own.

While the paper is one of the most important of our activities, we would not like you to run away with idea that it is all we do. Around the needs of the paper and its production we managed to make significant changes in the organisation of the ASA in generally so that every local group can take on the editorship month by month. How many papers can boast that they change the editorial committee every issue! How many local groups can claim to be competent to produce well, since anarchism is partly about letting everybody develop their own talents to the full. It seems a good idea to start with ourselves.

There's more than a bit of trouble at more than one mill it appears from the conference, as the campaign for effective shop-stewards in textiles (in

which ASA members are active) begins really to bite back. Not surprisingly there were textile workers at the conference, who were able to explain to other comrades the appallingly weak situation of the textile worker in the face of incompetent management and unrepresentative trade union officials, and something of the economic conditions of the industry that have helped bring this situation about. Textile workers can do well to remember that the building trade was in the same mess until recently, when militant unionists decided to organise the union officials. The Building Firms have never had it so bad!

Tentative approaches were made recently to set up in Britain a general recruiting branch of the IWW. The conference decided against the idea. In their fight against the bosses and the trade union office boys who lick their boots, British workers are turning automatically to their own strength as the main weapon. Rather than ditch our existing unions for the formation of revolutionary unions, militant workers in this country are determined that they the workers ARE the unions and are damn well going to run them, and so long as that fight has any future ASA will support it. That is not enough, tough. In the first place, our unions need re-organising so that all the workers in each industry belong to the same union, to face the bosses with single, united organisations. In the second place, we need to develop new methods of struggle, alternatives to the simple walk out, which let the worker belt his boss, keep his cash, and hurt the consumer as little as possible—above all the OCCUPATION OF FACTORIES and putting them into production under full WORKERS CONTROL. In the third place, syndicalists will push the idea of the SOLIDARITY OF THE WHOLE WORKING CLASS, so that no trade unionist or worker is ever jailed for any reason, and so that workers don't end up fighting each other for the crumbs that fall from the bosses' tables. In the fourth place we are strengthening our relations with groups abroad, so that the big corporations can't simply shift their factories on to the Continent when our lads make it rough for them here..... ..when a worker is made redundant at Dagenham, Ford

workers will strike in Germany, that is one of our aims.

Some people run away with the idea that all workers are male. But at the conference we received of work being done by our comrades in women's liberation to WIN MORE PIE FOR WOMEN WORKERS—NOW! And what about the housewife? One man's wage doesn't go far to keep a family these days—it seems only right that the woman who gives birth to, brings up, feeds and clothes the next generation of fodder for the factories should get paid for her pains, OUT OF THE BOSSES' POCKETS. It's hard to see how it can be arranged with our present system without simply increasing the burden of taxes or putting it in the hands of more mean-minded civil servants or giving the bosses an excuse to discriminate against married male workers. But it's a demand that makes a hell of a lot of sense, and if the present system has to go before the working class housewife gets a fair crack of the whip, then so be it.

No conference can go by these days without discussion of Northern Ireland. We don't feel inclined one little bit to support either wing of the IRA, and we are not convinced that there are no alternatives for the workers of Ulster. It is quite clear to us that the main aim of the IRA (Officials and Provos) is to simply put themselves where the Unionists are now, no doubt with their own equivalents of the Ulster Defence Regiments and the Special Powers ACT, and a great string of excuses as to why the Ulster workers should remain stay poor powerless, and pushed down for a good while longer yet. Alternatives may not be easy to see in the midst of the bitter hatreds that have welled to the surface of life in Northern Ireland, but they must be there. Catholic, Protestant, and all species of worker, must settle their own differences—most of which are imagined. That they will never do by smashing each other's homes, heads and hopes. So we stand in the face of all odds for the unity of all Irish workers and aim to seek out those libertarians in Northern Ireland who are helping in ways towards the realisation of this aim.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.

## A CONVERSATION BETWEEN TWO WORKERS

Why do you bother?

Because there is a great deal wrong with the world we all live in, and I want to do something about it. In time, I hope a lot more people, especially work-people will see this too.

Like what?

Like poor wages for us, and holidays in the Bahamas for the bosses, like 'big business taking companies over and laying people off, and shutting down good factories, the situations like Vietnam and Northern Ireland, 'fair rents, inflation, apartheid the H-bomb. Need go on?

No, stop, but what can I do about it, one person against all that?

On your own very little, but do you think that by voting Labour once every five years will make them do what you want them to do I suppose not, but what else can I do?

You can join together with other workers who've got the ideas, get organised and work together. So where do I go?

If you're on Social Security, find your local Claimants' Union who'll help you get what you are entitled to. Join the local tenants' association and fight the 'fair rents' bill by organising a rent strike. It's worked before, no reason why it should not work again, if enough people join in.

What about political groups?

But those are political groups—they're fighting the government. I suppose you mean should you join a political party? Do you think you can have a say in what Harold Wilson does, or the Communist Party, or I.S. for that matter? No. 'Authoritarian' parties like those will have you as long as you obey the 'authority' of the party. They're in business to stay in business. Anyway, no man is good enough to be another man's master! Right! So what do I do then?

Join a libertarian group like the anarchist-syndicalist alliance, Solidarity, or Big Flame. In these, there's no leader, chairman or prime minister to boss you around. You join in because you want to and it's helping each other that gets things done rather than having someone breathing down your neck. You're in the A.S.A.—why should I join?

Read the aims in Black and Red Outlook. What do you think?

If you agree with what we're trying to do, contact the man or woman in your industry in the Network inside the paper or write to the Secretary of the A.S.A. who'll tell where the nearest group is. Then, again, you could pass the paper round your work-mates and talk about it amongst yourselves—you can form a group right there and then if you want, get your activities tied in with other groups of and in with other groups of workers and individuals through the Alliance.



## RAPPING CONTINUED

# 1982

## S.F.?

Black and Red Outlook  
Friday 15th October 1982

Last night the Peoples Assembly voted to introduce regional peoples councils to organize for the needs and resources of each locality and direct labour into those industries where production is lagging. The motion was given a thin veneer of libertarianism by allowing a 25% representation on the councils from the industrial communes, while the remaining membership would be nominated by the CAIR-the Central Authority for Industrial Reconstruction.

This latest decision comes after a week of continual activity by the Workers Coalition to centralize the decision making process and break the power of the rank and file movement. On Tuesday the Coalition accused the FDC-food distribution commune-of dishonesty and black marketeering, and the Peoples State Militia entered the FDC's central distribution point in London, only to be confronted by a complete show of solidarity by comrades and residents of all Finsbury Park communes. Comrades believe that provocateurs had been at work attempting to provide the excuse the militia could have used to centralize the FDC. On Thursday the Peoples Assembly gave full powers to the Workers Coalition to evict squatters from newly completed housing in Leeds (the 15,000 squatters had been installed by the builders and planning communes). The Coalition had previously been working through the National Squatters Association in an attempt to control the spontaneous mass movement of self-housing. But again the Militia were powerless against the solidarity of the communards.

The pleas for revolutionary discipline and support for the mandated Workers Assembly have so far found little response. Most workers have adamantly refused to enter into the farce of elections and power has re-

mained in the commune. The centralist socialists are finding themselves increasingly removed from the workers they stubbornly pretend to represent, desperately trying to give some credibility to their vanguardist delusions. As a young communard put it, 'These names Marxist, Trotskyist, Maoist, Leninist they are foreign names that mean nothing to me. I have read their ideas and those that I have found useful I have used, but this is England in 1982 not Russia in '17 or China or Germany. What use are such names? The revolution has put an end to all the 'isms', yet these people still want to tell people what to do. Well it's been like that for thousands of years. We had a revolution to put an end to that and they want to become the new masters like the capitalists before them. They can all stay in the People's Assembly and baffle 'til they are blue in the face as far as I am concerned. The power is in the communes, the rank and file and that's where it is going to stay'.

Those workers and communards who are using the Peoples Assembly as a means of giving some vocal opposition to the incessant bombastic speeches of the Workers Coalition that are continually broadcast on the state radio and television services, have been baiting the coalition this week. The Coalition was described as the last remnant of repression. The rapid spread of community T.V. and radio has completely drained the state services of their audience. Last week the audience ratings showed that the overwhelming majority of workers and communards preferred a networked rock show to the ravings of the chairman of the Peoples assembly's address to the nation. This is the revolution; the people are no longer ready to be bamboozled by politicians of whatever ideology, they are using their own initiative to come together to organise their lives. This is the anarchist revolution.

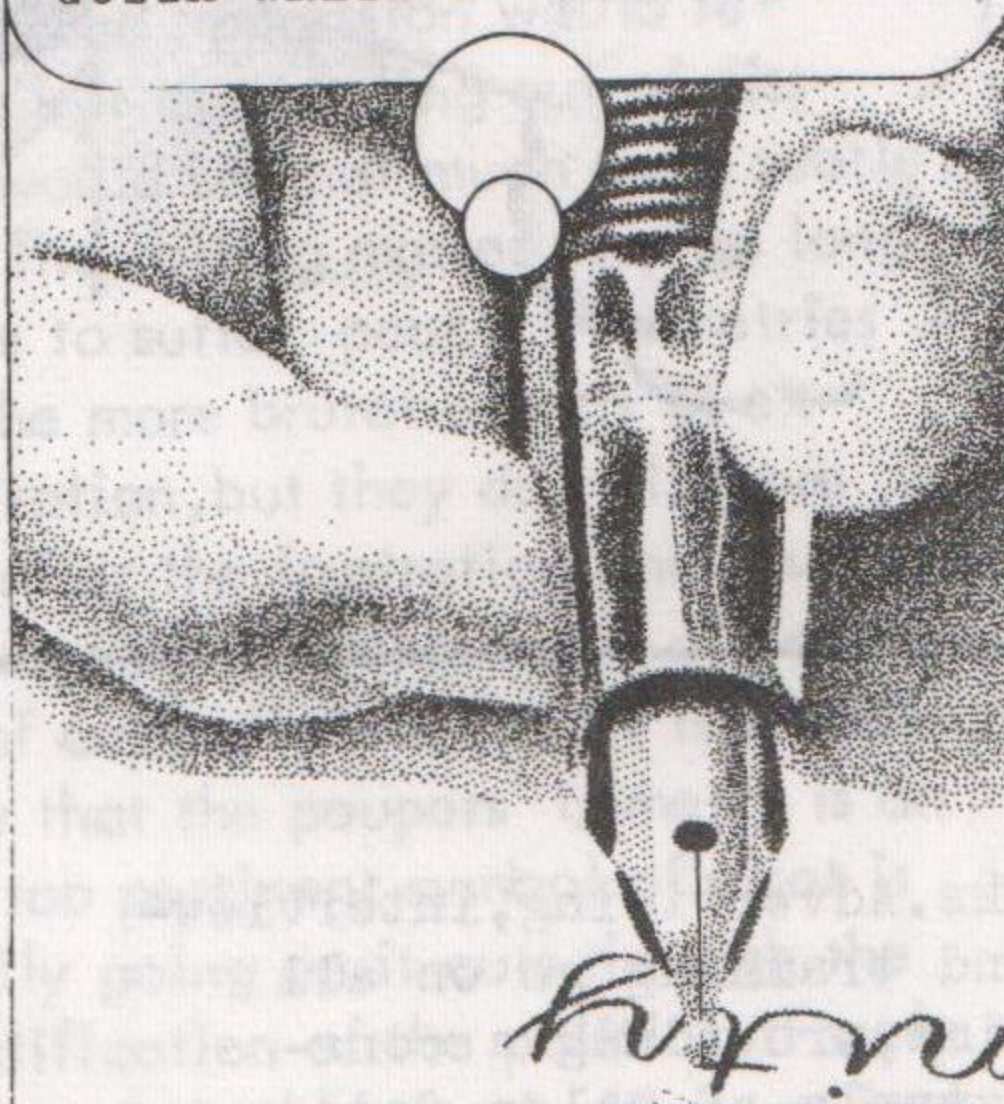
In addition to the problems of Northern Ireland we discussed the affairs of Vietnam and the national liberation struggle in Namibia (SW Africa) deciding in the end to seek out more information on the problems of these countries to help towards a coherent anarchist analysis.

Altogether it was a satisfying conference for an organisation at an early stage of development, showing signs of the organisation moving forward and looking ahead to growth in size and influence. Perhaps the most satisfying feature was that the

conference was proof positive that the maximum efficiency of organisation comes from the least intellectual sweat about the problems of organised activity. When we do organise it is for a specific task and no organisation ever becomes the object of religious awe. Following my election as secretary after the regrettable resignation of the previous incumbent, I hope that between now and the next we see an enormous growth in our potential as a group, so that we can begin to look ahead in practical ways to the establishment of our long term aim-the confederation of all workers for the building of a free communist society. Then someone else can be secretary! But one thing addressed to those who contribute items for the agenda of conferences - please prepare something to say, a discussion paper, a proposal, anything to prevent some of the still existent aimlessness of some discussion.

(Members of the ASA who would like a complete list of the decisions taken at the conference should apply to the secretary, who would also appreciate a full list of group addresses to assist with his work.)

GOTTA WRITE TO BLACK AND RED



Black and Red would like to hear from its readers

-What do you think of the paper?

-Do you disagree with any of the ideas contained in the articles?

-Do you have any news of struggles or information to pass on?

Write us a letter, or an article, and if you can draw how about a cartoon or design. And if you are an anarchist or anarchist-syndicalist, would you like to edit the paper? The editorship is rotating, individuals and groups taking it in turns to produce each monthly issue. If you don't know how to produce a newspaper the Coordinator will tell you all you need to know. Let us hear from you now!

### THE SECRETARY OF THE ASA

Martin Bashforth  
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Wolverhampton.

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the Manchester Group of the ASA.

MAN CAN BE WHAT EVER  
HE WANTS TO BE. BE FREE,  
BE HAPPY, BE JUST AND BE  
KIND BUT MOST OF ALL BE  
A MILITANT FIGHTER AGAINST  
THOSE WHO WOULD HAVE  
MAN THEIR OBEDIENT  
SERVANT.

LET'S WORK FOR THE  
ANARCHIST REVOLUTION  
NOW AND THEN WE CAN  
CHOOSE TO BE FREE!





# little fact, mostly fiction

I.L.S.-the International Learning Systems Corporation Limited is a company owned by the British Printing Corporation and is its Promotion and Advertising Division. Despite its respectable sounding ownership, it is a small company with a small permanent staff which systematically misleads and misinforms both the public and the staff it takes on.

The Company recruits its staff by placing small ads in local papers promising big money for easy work. No address, only a phone number which reveals merely the hours of work, not what the work is. The ads. are aimed at bored and unemployed young people and students looking for temporary work.

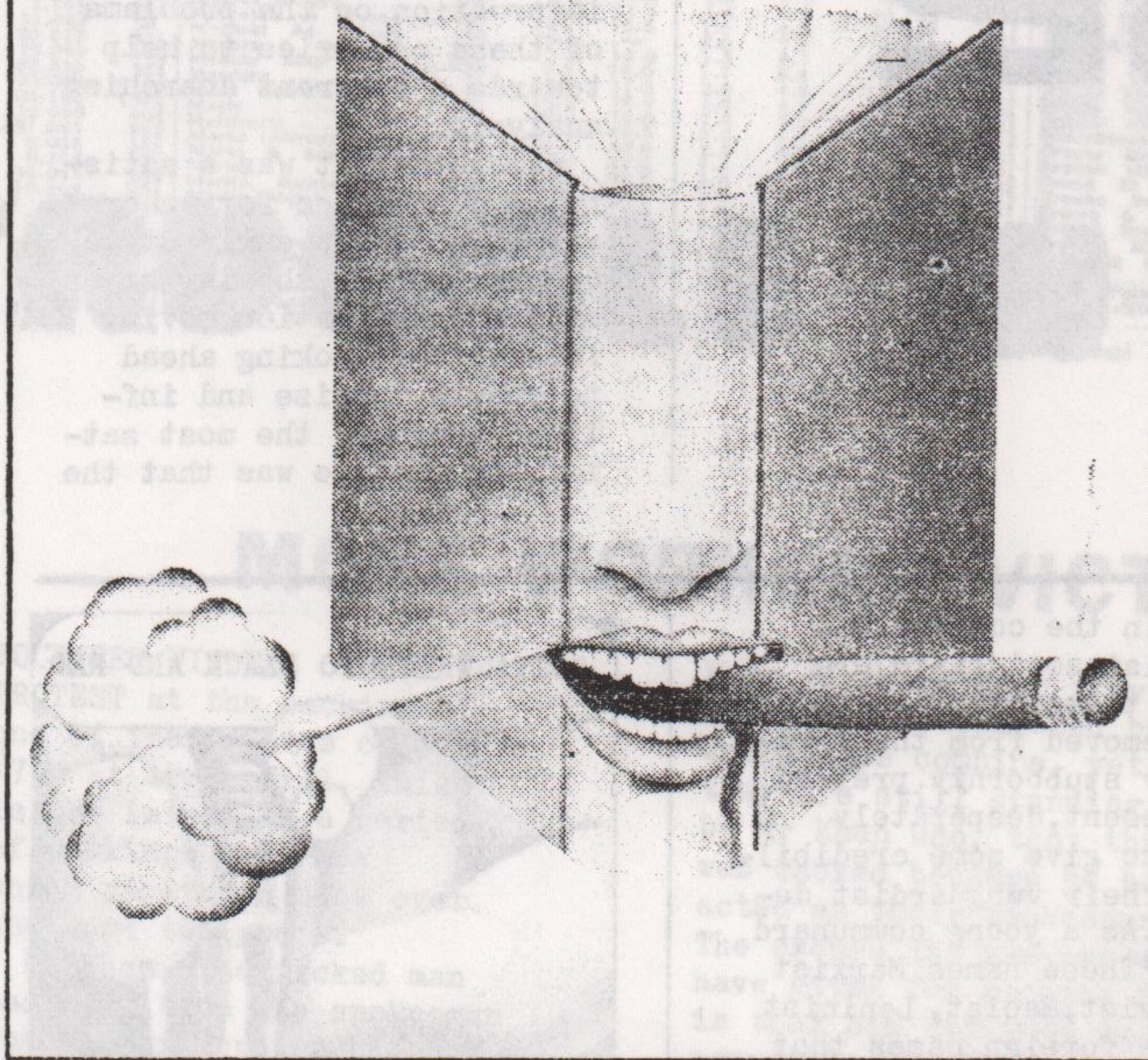
Interviews, arranged by telephone, are held in groups, conducted by a specious salesman, who talks of big money and easy work, and a chance of meeting people.

Applicants work on a basis of £8 commission for each successful interview, but if things are not going too well there is a basic wage of £18-£25 per week to fall back on (this figure seems to vary with different people's account of the interview). Applicants are expected to do two days training which is unpaid, while it is their own responsibility to stamp their insurance cards. This is quite legal, but at £3-00 per week employees no doubt fail to stamp their cards and run the risk of working uninsured and future stamp repayments.

With the aid of samples and diagrams the salesman goes into his patter. Applicants then write out in long hand a dozen pages of script the salesman has delivered. If it is already not apparent the applicant realises that he is a trainee encyclopaedia salesman. Applicants are given a few tips on finding 'ripe' couples for the sales talk-'look for men in well paid manual jobs, who read the Sun and the Mirror but not the Telegraph or the Guardian, and have families with young children and smart looking houses.

After the training the new staff are sent out on the job. The hours are long and successful interviews few. The promise of £50 per week soon fades. The basic wage is just as chimerical; this is at the discretion of the manager who is continually trying to maximise profits and hours and minimise wages. The new staff either find they have the gift of the gab or more likely leave within a short time. Talking to ILS applicants a picture emerges of a 50% drop out rate within the first week, while only 10% last more than

## An Encyclopædia of Conning



3 weeks. Advertising, interviewing, and training go on all the time, providing a constant supply of sales fodder.

The same style of operation is used on the public, they are conned from start to finish and quite a few fall for it. The salesmen operate in teams (four temps and one full time salesman). An area is chosen and calls made in the afternoon. Occupants are assured that they are not salesmen but merely conducting an opinion survey. If the occupant shows interest, an appointment is made for the evening; the salesman retreats leaving the occupant to feel that for once his or her opinion is being sought. Details of age, family structure and occupation are taken and appointments are only kept with young couples with children and well paid manual jobs.

In the evening the salesman calls back and fills in a questionnaire, the questions so simplistic as to be obvious. This is merely dressing and is soon discarded. If the couple show an interest in child education, the salesman produces a sample volume of the encyclopaedia and launches into his patter, explaining that it costs £189. There is also a scheme for pre-school books at £24, a problem answering service at £178-total package deal cost of £391. The couple are asked certain questions, if, in the future they could afford the scheme, would they buy it. These questions are asked on the level of opinions. If the salesman gets a positive reply he proceeds to put a proposition to the family, to give them all the books, a two volume

dictionary and a career chart plus a wooden book case, all free. But in return he wants two things, a letter of recommendation for advertising purposes and for the couple to sign up for the problem answering service at £5 a month for 35 months.

So from the start, the whole thing is a 'Con'. The young couple is asked to spare 5 minutes to fill in a short questionnaire and then, if they show interest as most parents would about their children's education, the salesman demonstrates the books at great lengths, forgetting all about the opinions he is supposed to be after and when the couple are mesmerized with the smooth chat, he offers them over £500 of goods free and quickly signs them up to pay £5 a month for 3 years.

The con is plausible at first sight, but the truth is that firstly, although the retail value of the books is over £500, they are printed by the milliom, and to use a few hundred for advertising purposes will cost the company very little, so the £500 is only a figure on paper with no real money value. Secondly, the £5 per month is probably the sort of cost that the books and information service will cost at 'wholesale prices', so this offsets any cash loss to the company. So, the company is giving away precisely nothing. Lastly, by law letters of recommendation must come from genuine owners of the product, so the firm would give the books away anyway, so why charge

this £5 per month which adds up to £178?

Another sign of ILS's smooth but deadly line is the order form itself. The space where the couple sign is headed, 'This document contains the terms of a credit-sale agreement. Sign it only if you want to be legally bound by them'; but the statutory notice about the cancellation of the order, which complies with the new law, is only printed on the two duplicate copies, neither of which is left with the couple, and the salesmen are specifically asked not to show it the couple. The other feature of the form is the need to give the names and addresses of two relatives-if anyone tries to do a 'moonlight', there is someone else to winkle the money out of. The whole form is a cleverly put together legal document which ties the people to an agreement which was usually signed in the heat of the moment when the carrot of £500 worth of free encyclopaedias is dangled in front of them.

So, if you are a forked-tongued, super smooth salesman with the ability to con the public, ILS needs you, but if a man comes to your door asking you to spare 5 minutes to fill in a questionnaire, look-out, he may be an ILS man.

Ex-encyclopaedia salesman.

p.s. The same method of selling is used by many firms, including deep freezers, double glazing and many more.

### 16 Situations General

YOUNG PEOPLE 18-30. IN a rut? Earn big money with an American Company. Must be able to start immediately. Ring Sue-01 234 5634.

A1 STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE wanted for interesting outdoor work. £50 a week can be earned for a few hours work a day. Ring 01 789 9431 and ask for Julian.

THE FIRST 30 PEOPLE TO RING 01 579 2147 will be given the chance to earn big money. R

BREAD FOR HEADS. Don't let long hair stop you working. Clean, outdoor work with big rewards. Ring 06 213 5798

Experienced  
Polythene Bag  
Machine Setter

side of one of our International Trouble Shooters! Driving Lessons if you have no licence! A Company



# WHERE WE STAND

## song

### Anarchist Syndicalist Alliance

### Solidarity For Ever

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

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

#### THE CLASSLESS SOCIETY

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

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

#### DIRECT ACTION

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

#### PROPERTY AND EXPLOITATION

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

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

We demand the destruction of the property relations of existing society, property relations which lead individual workers to talk about 'my factory' when they

don't even own the grime beneath the benches. Property relations which enable big corporations to throw thousands of workers out into the street at the whim of a economic system that promotes the existence of wealth and poverty side by side, dependent on a pool of unemployment.

#### SOCIAL RECONSTRUCTION

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

#### INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION

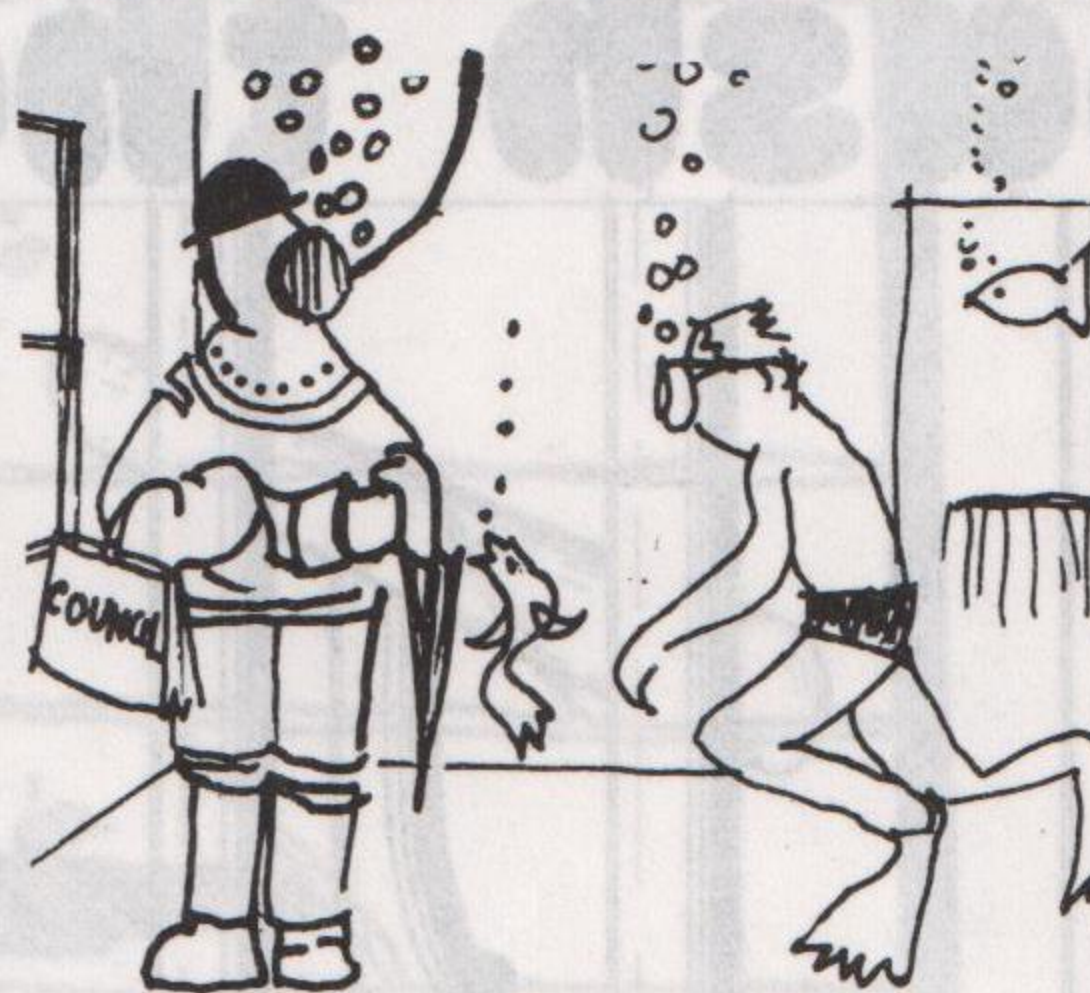
The reconstruction of industry begins and ends at the place of work. It begins with organisation and ends with workers' management via rank and file direction of working hours, conditions and what is produced, for the good of society as a whole. As seen from the present set-up, the job gets done in spite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

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

As the geographical groups confederate to this end, so will the industrial syndicates controlling and coordinating the whole economy of society. With production thus freed from the greed of those who now control our lives

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

Today we must combat the authoritarian encroachments of the state and capitalism. We must combat those who seek to mystify us, and fight those who would have us chained to the benches of their ideologies. Not with idle threats and empty minds, but with the strength of a working-class united in full understanding of the aims of the free society, building now through our words and actions the new society in the shell of the old.



#### Knock it off

MRS KATHLEEN CREAMER of Abbots Langley, Herts, has a problem - damp in the bedroom of her five-years-old council house has ruined the furniture and carpets. The walls stream with water that strips off the wallpaper.

Mrs Creamer called in the man from the council to complain about the problem. His advice was simple - lay off sex. He told Mrs Creamer: 'You should not engage in any excessive physical activity which could lead you to perspire. That will cause condensation.'

So be warned, if you have a condensation problem in the home, tie the old man's pyjama cord to the bedrail and send for Mrs Whitehouse, not the plumber.

(Tune: "John Brown's Body")

When the Union's inspiration  
through the worker's blood  
shall run,  
There can be no greater power  
anywhere beneath the sun.  
Yet what force on earth is  
weaker than the feeble strength  
of one?  
But the Union makes us strong.  
Chorus

Solidarity for ever  
Solidarity for ever  
Solidarity for ever,  
For the Union makes us strong

Is there aught we hold in common  
with the greedy parasite,  
Who would lash us into serfdom  
who would crush us with his might  
Is there anything left for us  
Is there anything LEFT for us  
but to organize and fight?  
For the Union makes us strong.

It is we who plough the prairies;  
build the cities where we trade,  
Dug the mines and built the

workshops; endless miles of  
railway laid.  
Now we stand outcasts and  
starving, mid the wonders we  
have made;  
But the Union makes us strong.

All the world that's owned by  
idle drones, is ours and ours  
alone.  
We have laid the wide foundations;  
built it skyward stone  
by stone.  
It is ours not to slave in but  
to master and to own.  
While the Union makes us strong

They have taken untold millions  
that they never toiled to earn,  
But without our brains and  
muscle not a single wheel can  
turn.  
We can break their haughty  
power; gain our freedom when  
we learn  
But the Union makes us strong

In our hands is placed a power  
greater than their hoarded gold.  
Greater than the might of armies  
magnified a thousand fold.  
We can bring to birth a new  
world from the ashes of the old  
For the Union makes us strong.



# new tactics needed

The Tories are not the only ones to imprison dockers. Let's look at the record of the Labour Party. Within a few days of taking power in 1945, they had sent conscript troops into the docks to break a ten week strike against a wage cut.

In February 1951, portworkers were offered a rise of 2s, bringing the minimum to 21s a day. Discontent with this offer and dubious of its acceptance by the T&GWU led to a strike on Merseyside and at Manchester. Few men in London came out. On February 9th, seven London and Merseyside members of the Portworkers Committees were arrested. Their homes were searched without a warrant, and they were charged with conspiracy to contravene Order 1305, a wartime measure forbidding strikes, framed by the Churchill Government.

The accused were committed to the Central Court where the Attorney-General, Sir Hartley Shawcross, tried his best to get them heavy sentences. While a demonstration of dockers massed about the Old Bailey, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty on one major count and Shawcross dropped the remaining charges.

When the five dockers were arrested by the Tory government for defending their jobs, various groups on the left were calling for a 'General Strike' to secure their release. It goes without saying that we as Anarchist Syndicalists

would have supported the strike if it had been called. However the prospect of a general strike with TUC bureaucrats in control doesn't fill us with joy. The lessons of 1926 have to be learnt by the working class. When this situation arises again in the future we must let the bureaucrats control and sell out like they did in 1926.

We would advocate, rather than a general stay-out strike, alternative action such as mass occupations of factories or on the other hand rolling strikes. Recently we have seen the tactic of factory occupation and sit-down strikes used in Britain for the first time in years. These were of course to resist the threat of Redundancy or in support of wage claims. However there is no reason why this type of action should not be used instead of following the general strike pattern.

Another type of strike action that could be used to bring the Government to its senses is the rolling strike which means that different sections of workers withdraw their labour at different places and times. The workers on strike would be supported by those in work by a levy on the workers movement as a whole. If strike action of this kind were called it must be under the full control of rank and file committees.



## HYDE PARK 3

Early in June three men were arrested and charged with sedition, then at a later hearing with treason-felony (under the Act of 1848), and committed for trial at the Old Bailey. One of them, Mike Callinan, is a fellow-libertarian who spoke for the S.W.F. (Syndicalist Workers Federation) in Hyde Park and elsewhere for many years.

Comrade Callinan's wife Nancy has been harassed by the Social Security since the his arrest, to a degree amounting to persecution, especially as Mrs.

Callinan has four children to care for.

Comrades Callinan, Quinn and Marcantonio are being denied bail and would appreciate all solidarity and aid-letters, gifts, etc.

### Letters and Gifts

Please send to each man separately.

110305 Mike Callinan

110281 Lou Marcantonio

110280 Stan Quinn

Addressing the letter or parcel,

Name and prison number,

c/o H.M. Prison,

Jebb Avenue,

Brixton,

London, S.W.2

### Donations

To the Treasurer.,

Mrs. Nancy Callinan

59, Brondesbury Villas,

London N.W.6

## INDUSTRIAL NETWORK

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

### Railway Workers

P.J. Goody

5, Grafton Close,  
Hounslow,  
Middlesex.

### Teachers

M. Bashforth,

23 Needwood Close,  
Wolverhampton.

### Women Workers

J. Marsden

c/o 218 Upper Brook St.,  
Manchester.

### Warehousing

R. Lees

6, Coniston Ave.,  
Oldham,  
Lancs.

### Road Transport

c/o 3, East Medway,  
Shoreham Beach,  
Sussex.

### Postal Engineers

Peter Guest

101, Rock St.,  
Pitmoor,  
Sheffield.

### Urban and Regional Planning

D. Bell

24, Windsor Rd.,  
Manchester 9.

### Students

Ramsay

c/o Students Union  
Salford University  
The Crescent,  
Salford.

### Building Workers

Dave Coull

126 Calabria Road,  
London N 5

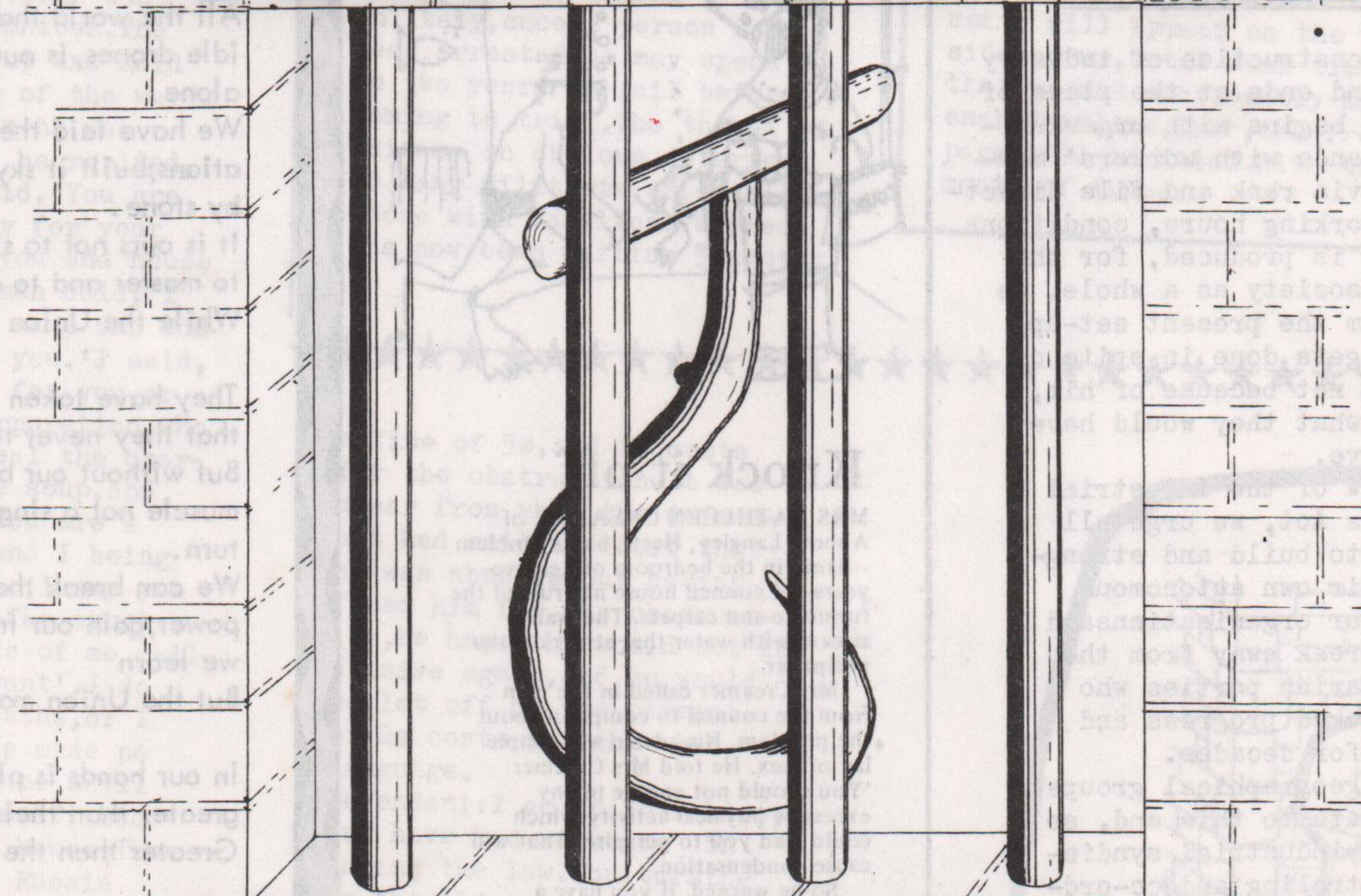
### Engineers

T. Jones

29 Eskridge St.,  
Salford 7.

**STOP PRESS**

# break the law - smash the act!



# solidarity is strength!