# DIRECT ACTION

# POLL TAX DEMO

LONDON EMBANKMENT 12 NOON, MARCH 23



Square, thousands of people, sabotaged - lists went determination that says WE tax - let's now work to end unable and unwilling to pay missing, monies were the poll tax, demonstrated misdirected and energies yet another round of the their anger at this latest were sapped as the partyand most blatant attack on builders worked to destroy methods of direct action to their living standards. The the initiatives of the real demonstration turned violent militants. when police provoked and attacked the crowd, but For surely it is inevitable

council and courts, but by of us who have refused to Left who threatened to "name and the various strands of names". Because of swift reformism masquerading as action by people in APTUs to revolutionary methods which isolate grasses and ensure are designed to take the this didn't happen, no names were named.

tendencies of these people continued in other devious

bite out of our working class might, can be proud of our contribution to the class war and the fight to improve our lot.

ATTACK ON OUR LIVES

WONT PAY must be brought to this war. class war. We must bring our the struggle against militarism and the war in

the Gulf. people fought back, now. The poll tax must go! For just as the poll tax is not prepared to be driven And we have done it! Every an attack on our standard of England and Wales was felt, person across this island living here in Britain, the who has refused to pay and war in the Gulf is an attack Since then, anti poll tax who has used direct action on our very lives and the activists have been hounded, to prove his or her point lives of our class across not only by the police, has contributed to this! All the globe. Indeed, should the war be the ecological supposed comrades on the hide behind the Labour Party disaster predicted, it could mean the death of millions not even yet born.

> Just as we overcame the manipulations of the Left in the anti poll tax campaign and withstood the propaganda hurled at us by the media, we must now double our efforts to do the same again and organise a mass working class anti war movement.

#### GOT THE CHOP

Meanwhile, as the year

passed and the full impact another bill will land on of non payment across people's doormats and it Scotland (in its second and will join its predecessor. even more successful year), more attacks were made on The result? Chaos in local staffed or adequately funded in the first place, got the chop by councils across the country. Pleading alternative, the councils -Labour, Liberal and Tory alike - cut funding to Meals-on-Wheels, libraries, creches, day care centres, parks departments - but never shed one manager or

As the cuts became deeper,

A year ago in Trafalgar streets and estates were organisational might and We've almost beat the poll the councils and apologists for the Tories cried that it was the fault of non payers. But people have not been fooled. This campaign is growing. People have not paid and will not pay. Soon

> increasingly worried central government. Even the hardest nut amongst the Tories will admit that the poll tax is not working and that something must be done. The Prime Minister is waffling and will not commit himself either way - but we can be sure he will attempt to grab the credit for the abolition of this tax.

But we know the truth - it's all of us, united in our fight to defeat the poll tax that has made it unworkable.

# DIRECT ACTION

INSIDE POLL TAX WORLD BANK KRONSTADT GOD SQUAD

The Voice of Anarcho-Syndicalism No. 71 March 1991

# CLASS WAR



Direct Action Movement - International Workers Association

# No War but the class War action against austerity of our politics. In any measures, health and welfare case, we shall defend prisoners taken hostage as a

set up in September and is principles are: made up of members of Hackney Solidarity Group, 1) NWBTCW is an organisation the Anarchist Communist opposed to all sides in the Federation, Class War, current capitalist war in Wildcat, the DAM and various the Middle East. This class struggle anarchists and anti state communists.

They hold meetings in London and are keen to see other similar groups set up in military, Zionist or other parts of the country. Islamic, all states involved They will provide leaflets in the current conflict, and their bulletin (send an whatever their relative SAE and a donation) and are military strengths, are also willing to send speakers to help people set up their groups.

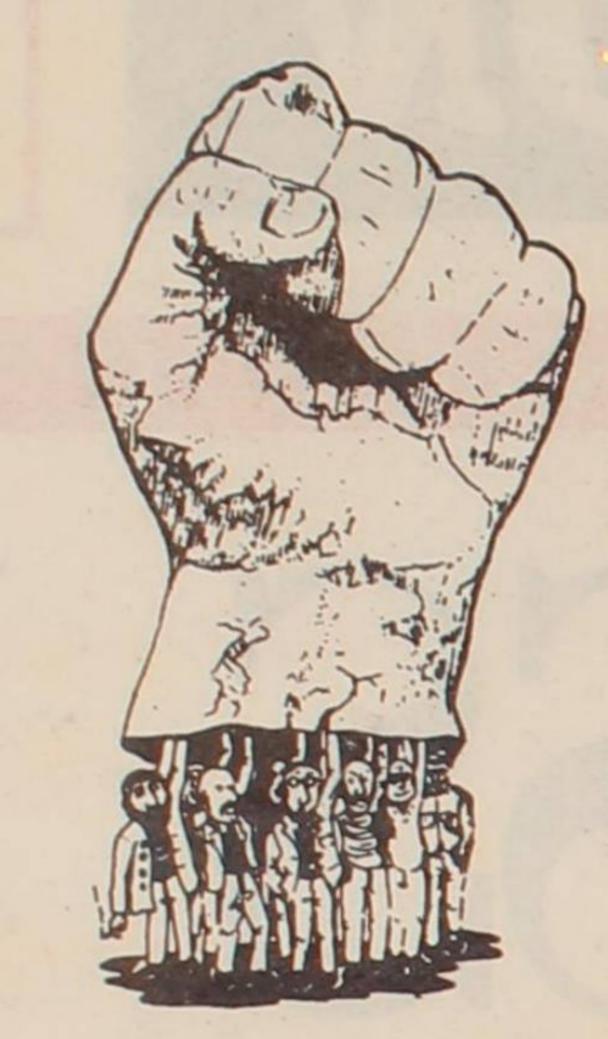
Comrades are encouraged to send news of actions, leaflets and press cuttings to them for inclusion in their bulletin.

No War But the Class War was No War But the Class War's

conflict is a battle between alliances of blood-stained capitalist mass murderers for profit, power and influence. Democratic or equally anti working class.

2) We are for the destruction of the morale and military capacity of all warring states by the escalation of the war of our class - the proletariat, the workers and dispossessed of

all countries - against the enemy class - the rich, the politicians and generals on all fronts, including the 6) We are home front.



3) We are for an immediate end to the war, to be forced on the opposing states by mass strikes and other forms of working class action.

4) We are for united 7) We will work with other international action against groupings and individuals to the war, on a class basis, the extent that they oppose the capitalists to stop are not simply trying to use plead with the gangsters of Westminster, Washington and Baghdad - we make it clear that they will not stop until we force them to stop. side in any way, but who London WCIN 3XX

resulting from the war

5) We support working class

organisations who spread illusions of the ability of capitalism to solve the problems of the Middle East, who promote sanctions instead of war, since sanctions are simply another is impossible. way of pursuing the war aims of the Western alliance, a way of starving workers to soften them up or those who NWBTCW is a propaganda nationalist opponents in the Middle East on the basis of "anti imperialism". We are against those who simply call for peace without taking the side of the class proletariat in the capitalism achieves peace, it uses it to attack the working class. We are against the Labour Party and its equivalents in other countries, as a capitalist party which has supported every war since its foundation and against all who support it in any

all sides in the war on a pacificm, or on calls for class basis, and that they their own specific politics. COUNTRY We may also work with genuine opponents of the war NO WAR BUT THE CLASS WAR who do not support either

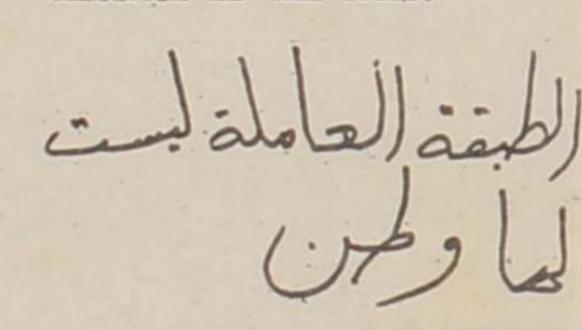
disagree with other aspects result of the war.

destruction international dictatorship of capitalism by the working class, and its replacement by an association of producers, a world without states, frontiers and wage slavery, a world where war

#### BASIS

West's group. Its activities are in the public domain. Its activities include producing propaganda attacking the capitalist war effort, participating demonstrations to attempt to radicalise practical, and to use them to defend opposition to war where not media exposing disinformation denouncing the war for what it is - a holocaust for

> IN ENGLISH OR ARABIC, OUR MESSAGE IS THE SAME:



being butchers. We do not our group as a "front" for THE WORKING CLASS HAS NO

One of the effects of the anti-militarist movement was Gulf War has been to give a not prepared to allow the boost to the movement of State to hold prisoner those those refusing compulsory like David who prefer to military service in several fight for their class rather European countries. In than their country. Spain, the anti-militarist

is in a The Military Judge in particularly strong position Zaragoza was deluged with given the already growing protest letters and the streets of Barcelona saw size of that movement. militant protest. Riot

police were called out three An indication of that times during the week! At strength came at the end of the end of that week the last year, when David Marin unprecedented decision was Lecina was arrested at taken to release David his place of work. The Marin, a clear victory for police made out to his the CVT and the antiworkmates that it was militarist struggle. something to do with drugs,

but the reality was that the Solidaridad State was seizing David due commented: to his refusal to serve in imprisoned because every time more people say NO to the Spanish Army.

the army they are saying NO David, a member of the to submission. Governments Barcelona Mercantile Union are established on National submission, and this Confederation of Labour movement could destabilise a (CNT), Spanish section of society created and the IWA, spent a week in the maintained by fear of the Modelo Prison, Barcelona. powers that be".

During this time every David Marin's release, then, pressure was put on the is an important victory, and Military Authorities, to let inspiration to all of us them know that the mass fighting militarism and anarcho-syndicalist and State power.

Watching interviews on happily justify "collateral television with troops and damage" to themselves. officers in the Gulf really

does reveal how the British Army reflects the class divisions of British society.

interviewed they class accents how "nobody well and when the "big push" enjoys war, but we're here to do a job" or some other such inanity. They don't the Gulf is a certain De La know what the fuck they're doing there, or don't care. trace his family roots back It's enough that someone has to the Norman conquest. wound them up and pointed them in the right direction ...

Obrera

Next come the fighter/bomber crews. Interviewed after returning from a sortie the excitement is visible on their faces. And they always seem to be the same cleancut middle class types. The kind that'll shed tears over oil slick but will quite

lass Consciousness

Lastly there's the higher officer ranks. As soon as sume Major or General opens mouth you centuries of privilege in the upper class accent that's prognosticating about how the war's going jolly (slaughter) will start. The British Army numero uno in Billiere, who can no doubt

US Army of course, like US society, has much less clear class divisions. In the "home of the brave and land of the free" the only entrance requirement for the ruling class is that you're a bastard and it's not necessary that you went to the right school.

a comorant floundaring in an That's not to say that the US Army is classless of

course. US blacks form about 11% of the population, but during the Viet Nam War they provided about 40% of the cannon-fodder. And Vice President Dan Quayle, whose wealthy family was able to pull strings so that he saw out that war safely in the National Guard, is now involved in sending another generation of the poor to die for someone else's

The old revolutionaries used

to say that a rifle was a piece of metal with a worker at both ends. The technology's moved on a bit, but nothing's really changed. The dynamics of capitalism still lead to war in 1991, just as they did in 1914 and 1939, not to mention that squalid, little affair in 1982. And like the revolutionaries of old, our message should be that it's time the guns were turned on the real ener-Percey Togilles

# The Smokescreen of Patriotism

"War is the health of the state", wrote Randolph Bourne. This is quite a profound statement. The state has always been the executive committee of the ruling class and its function is therefore to protect the interests of that class. This pertains no matter what political party is at the helm.

DIRECT ACTION NO71

At home, the state machine is used against striking workers in pursuit of a for themselves and families should the police prove to be inadequate.

#### LABOUR FAKIRS

When the Labour fakirs took the reins of government in 1945, within six days it poverty and unemployment. sent conscript troops into No! They were chanting in Surrey Docks in London to support of Galtieri, their break a ten week old strike against a wage cut.

months

later a

dock dispute national brought more than 43,000 strike. In both these cases took advantage by again sending conscript troops to break the strike.

A fair percentage of workers be a vertical war between so long as the working class is "legally robbed" by the captains of industry.

The horizontal war is war between so called nations. When diplomacy fails to solve economic problems, war of markets, trade routes and diplomacy political shadow boxing was all about.

#### SMOKE SCREEN

It's only eight years since But Kuwait is different. It the Falklands War. How is situated in the heart of patriotism created such a smoke screen then symbolic of all that happens during every war.

Then, the smoke screen of patriotism was applied on Argentina both sides. invaded the Falklands in British condemnation of Imperialism. British sailors with their redundancy notices in their pockets trying not to look redundant whilst the flag waving was

consoling themselves with the idea that they were being put to good use. Yes, the British government made sure of that.

going on were perhaps

On the other hand, the Argentinians were again demonstrating but this time not against oppression, great dictator. Once again the patriotic plague had permeated the masses. Who won the war? The working class lost it.

militant portworkers out on Now the present war in the Gulf is being fought and the as with many others, the allies condemning Saddam workers left their battle Hussein as a tyrant is to stations - their places of use yet another smoke screen work. The Labour government to befog the minds of working people.

The working class have no ownership or control over oil in this country or any now realise that the point other country. This is the of production is their department of the tycoons. fortress. There will always Our loved ones are fighting and dying for this the haves and the have nots department. Many troops are aware of this and only joined the army through frustration caused unemployment.

#### WORLD PEACE?

Ostensibly, the allies are engaged to protect Kuwait. continuation of the pursuit Significantly, they did not interfere in the Indonesian invasion and annexation of points by military means East Timor in 1975. They did and not utter a word about Goa in 1961 when India stepped on their doorstep. Nothing said about world peace being threatened.

> important oil fields. Kuwait was made a British Protectorate at the end of the last century, but not for its oil which no one knew about then, but for its geographical importance. This happened during the same time that Germany was becoming imperialist rival. Germany was planning to construct a railway through Turkey to the Persian Gulf. If this was completed it would have

been a rival to the Britsh controlled Suez Canal as a trade route. Kuwait would have been embraced by this but British imperialism put a spoke in this wheel to thwart Germany.

In time, oil was discovered near Kuwait, in Persia. Britain acquired control of the Persian oilfields and Kuwait remained a British Protectorate.

### TREACHEROUSLY

In the present dispute, Iraq claims that historically

### SEVERED

Gulf for oil control. What is catastrophic is that the

allies.

Kuwait is part of Iraq and conned into sacrificing has been treacherously their lives for oil they severed by Britain. Because will never see.

from an outlet to the Gulf Governments have engineered for its oil exports and wars which are reputed to. end all wars. They have failed for the cause of war is the pursuit of world markets. Wars will only end when a world market economy ends. Politics is not The allies claim they are designed for this.

To end crime, judges would become redundant. To end the market economy would make year war with Iran. Iran at politicians redundant. Let's the time was a threat to make this inevitable by organising a "Do It Yourself" movement now. Organise yourselves in an anti military and anti profit making movement to eradicate these monstrous twins. They are organised. To match them we have to be organised now. Form the embryo of a new society within the womb of the old.

working class have been R Lynn, Glasgow

# -Business as Usual

of this, Iraq is obstructed

hence the reasons for the

insists he is

and

Kuwait invasion. Saddam

pursuing humanitarian rights

and opposing a dictator,

conveniently forgetting that

they bolstered up the same

dictator during his eight

Western oil interests. Iraq

was not equipped to produce

war potential and so their

war potential, including

chemical weapons, were

supplied by the present

The US want a permanent

military presence in the

pursuing historical

geographical justice.

It's amusing to hear apologists for the Gulf War site Saddam Hussein's military machine and the need to neutralise it as a justification for this imperialist venture.

As everyone should know by now, that military machine was supplied and trained by the USSR and the West, including Britain. When the Iran-Iraq war started the West supported Iraq because at the time Iran was seen as the big threat to Western interests. When the USS Stark was "accidentally" the 37 sailors killed in the both sides! attack.

TRADE IN DEATH

At the same time the rich Gulf arab rulers, including 1987): the Emir of Kuwait, were bank-rolling Saddam Hussein "From the offices of the governments. Remember that because he was keeping National Iranian Oil Company next time you hear some Ayatollah Khomeini busy for (NIOC), appropriately enough politician sermonise on them. Ah, how the times change! (Or do they?)

Towards the end of the Iran-Iraq war the West supposed to have stopped Chieftain tank spares and Portugal, Spanish arms in furnishing arms for the other equipment from Valencia and hand grnades in slaughter and there was an companies like Plessey and Greece. He unloaded some of international ban on weapons. Land Rover, in spite of the them onto Iraqi army trucks sales to Iran and Iraq. supposed government ban. Needless to say Western arms companies ignored the ban When asked why the NIOC was on Iran. Now that's what I and continued the trade in, allowed to operate, Thatcher call death. Unlike Western said that closing it would capitalism,"

crippled by an Iraqi exocet governments, though, the 'lose business for British missile in 1988 the US arms companies showed no firms'. Money doesn't talk,

opposite the Department of 'international terrorism'. Trade and Industry, the

government quietly buried favouritism ... they supplied it swears, as someone once

We can do no better than The arms going to stoke up quote from the article the Gulf War is just one "Unholy War" in Direct instance of the disgusting Action number 38 (April international trade in death and destruction involving multinationals

Iranian government buys A ship skipper interviewed small arms, howitzer shells on 'News At One' described was and missiles. They also buy picking up US arms in in Saudi Arabia...then he went on to unload the rest international

### AITOGFTHER NOW?

case, and we know that

lawyers do not come cheap.

We believe, however, that

money raised for defendants

in Notts should be

distributed fairly amongst

all of them, not just those

with influence in Militant

or the SWP, but also the

majority of us who have had

to fend for ourselves. We

are all fighting the poll

hammer anti poll tax

defendants as hard as it

financial support.

and we all need

Twenty people were arrested Northampton on 1 October 1990 in protest at the council's threat to imprison a 74 year old man for non payment.

The Nottingham defendant is Gary Freeman, secretary of the Nottingham Anti Poll Tax Federation. The Nottingham Defence Fund offered him our support but this offer has been ignored.

year of opposition to the NDF by the NAPTF, the same people are now supporting a petition and appeal to raise £6000 for the defendants by the Northampton 20 Legal Defence Fund and the All Anti Poll Tax Federation.

It's a shame that support is defendants now that one of their own is involved (ie a member of Militant).

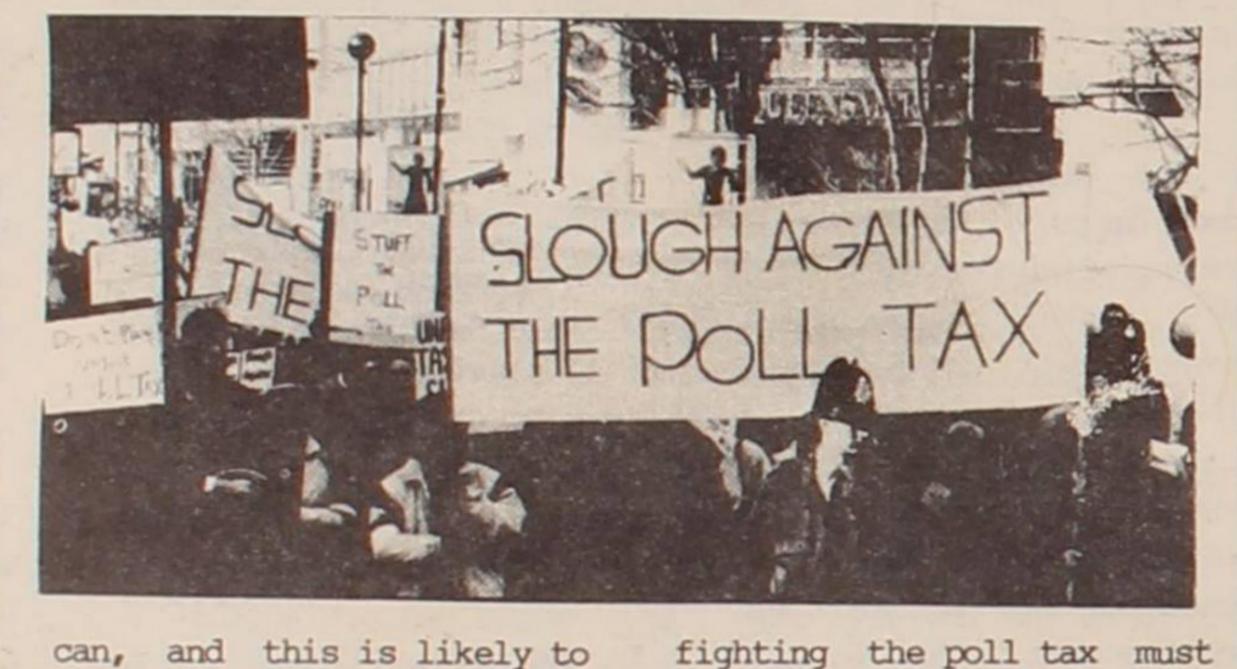
We wish the Northampton 20 It is ironic that after a every success with their

STRUGGLE ON

In spite of the indifference and misinformation put about

by the likes of Militant, independant Defence Funds struggle on. The Trafalgar Square Defence Campaign, the Avon and Somerset Defence Fund and the Birmingham Defence Fund have received the same lack of support for their defendants that we have, not to mention threats to grass up "trouble makers" The state has decided to "to the police.

People facing charges for



Most people are afraid of So our first line of defence bailiffs. Yet in reality is to shut them out. If they there are very few of them do get in, remember they can and their powers are only take goods that belong In Scotland anti poll tax been your gran, they can't touch

BEATING BAILIFFS

massively successful in it. And once you've told stopping every attempt at property. Each time they are legally allowed to use have tried to enter a house to take possession of goods them out. there has been a crowd of people outside to make sure For more advice, get in

limited.

activists have

they don't get in. There are touch with your local anti

STICK TOGETHER

stopping the bailiffs before

For example, Bishop Lydeard,

a village near Taunton, was

threatened by Roaches, the

local bailiffs, in August.

Half the village threatened

to take the day off. All the

sealed off by the community.

roads into the area were

They then made all drivers

identify themselves. The

Bailiffs never got anywhere

Leeds DAM/Leeds Class War

near the village!

more non payers in Scotland poll tax group. this year than last!

To beat the bailiffs we need to stand firm. To support Our best defence is sticking those on our streets or together. This means estate who are threatened and to spread this they even get anywhere near information as widely as a front door. possible.

#### DECEPTION

By law, bailiffs can not enter your home without your consent. However, they or a council representative may try to enter by deception, asking to come in so they can chat about your problems in paying the tax. Once they've entered, they can legally come in again at any time.

to you personally. So if you've got a receipt that says you've sold your TV to them that nothing in the house belongs to you, you 'reasonable force' to kick

The All British Anti Poll Tax Federation, as well as the Nottingham Federation, has made it clear that they are happy to see genuine, militant resistance to the NDF poll tax criminalised. They are afraid of working class initiatives outside of their control.

continue in 1991. It is

vital that people can take

action and demonstrate

knowing they will be

supported by the whole anti

poll tax movement.

be supported against the state just like people not paying it. We offer our unconditional support to them and whatever help we

We desperately need your donations. Please send cheques payable to:

72 Radford Road Hyson Green Nottingham

### Bailiffs Gone Bust

PAGE 4

High levels of non payment in England and Wales have caused two private firms to pull out of poll tax collection services.

Western

Union, which provided councils with collecting tills, ceased trading in the autumn. The following month Banking withdrew its Automation service to around 50 councils with less than a week's notice, blaming disappointing collection



# Revolting

Most Scots students haven't paid last year's Poll Tax. can with legal costs, fines, An NUS survey revealed that over 54% have not paid the instalments for 1989/90 and only 15.4% have paid some.

> The survey uncovered that the level of non-payment is increasing, with over 65% failing to pay this year's. When it comes to the Poll Tax students are definitely revolting!

Last 8 December 1000 anti

A week of trials and court

pickets will begin on 18

March. On 25 March there

will be a joint picket with

anti poll tax protestors who

are on trial after being

occupation of a sheriff-

during an

arrested

officer's office.

# Support Our Boys

view of people who oppose its "plausibly deniable" agents the nazis, a number of anti fascists have been arrested recently, and three relation to an attack on nazi firebomber Nicky Crane. They are:

Tony David (birthday 13 April), NT 1338, doing 4 years. Currently at HMP Blunderstone, Lowescroft, Suffolk.

David Phelan (b. January), NT 1337, doing 4 years at HMP Bisley, Woking, Surrey GU24 9EX.

Mark Malin (b. 7 December), NT 1335, doing 4 years at Verne, Portland, Dorset DT5 1EQ.

It is important that all DA

readers make an effort to send cards on the birthdays fascists stopped the British listed at at other times National Party (BNP) from holding a rally in a city such as May Day. Anyone centre pub in Glasgow. They prepared for a more long had to be rescued by police, commitment are currently in prison in supporting these prisoners but not before their heads should write to them. Groups felt a few bricks, bottles and placards. 27 anti may like to adopt one or fascists were arrested. more prisoners.

> Donations are also needed for the Anti Fascist Defence Fund at

APA BM 1734 London WCLW 3XX



Donations toward legal costs are badly needed.

Anti Fascist Defence Fund c/o West of Scotland NUS 90 John Street Glasgow

# Funding the Financial Farce

and banking have always been one of the central pillars of the capitalist system. They are a vital source of funding for investment. They facilitate the transfer of capital between various institutions, firms, departments etc. They make huge sums of money for themselves out of managing the money of ordinary people.

Perhaps their most important role is in maintaining currency stability and the of money, that lynchpin in the system of domination and exploitation.

#### ELITES

Just as national banks serve the interests of capitalism and the ruling class at on Tariffs and Trade and home, so the World Bank was interests of capitalism and the Bank has three major the elites of industrialised nations on a world scale.

The Bank's money comes from its 151 member countries in fluctuations. proportion to their wealth. contributor and Japan the industrial growth in the sosecond. Countries have votes called on the Executive Committee nations. in proportion to their contributions - thus giving 3) The expansion of markets. the advanced industrial nations a built-in control over policy.

Formed in 1946 (along with

Which country is Western

Europe's largest exporter of

sulphur dioxide pollution,

its largest manufacturer and

exporter of ozone destroying

CFCs, has more outstanding

European court on water and

air pollution than any other

EC member, is Europe's

largest importer of nuclear

waste and second largest

importer of toxic industrial

land.

Meanwhile...

wastes? Yes, you guessed it

this green and pleasant

recently revealed that

Labour Party Front bencher

Cunningham MP is a paid

Albright and Wilson.

and rabid right winger Jack

Greenpeace

pollution of the Irish Sea don't think so!

policy advisor to Messrs with lead, nickel, cadmium

In a newspaper advertisement Will Kneel Kinnock be

Greenpeace advised Mr launching an enquiry into

Cunningham that they were this effluent tendency in

charges against it in the



IMF, International Monetary Fund) the objectives:

> 1) To control the periodic crisis of capitalism such as recession and currency

The US is the largest 2) The promotion of "underdeveloped"

The World Bank has become one of the most powerful organisations in the world feathering its own nest GATT, the General Agreement while it, and the system it

DANGER!

copper, zinc and chromium.

prosecution the midst of the Party of

firm for the Sweet Smelling Rose? We

Effluent Tendency

displacement and ecological destruction world wide.

#### ARGEST BUREAUCRACY

(surprise, surprise) it has 7,000 employees which makes it the largest bureaucracy in that city other than the Federal government. It is reported to pay the largest salaries in the world - up to three times as much as the US government pays for comparable jobs. When its employees visit client states they stay in the chauffeur driven to and from local elite thus keeping them from seeing or being seen by the victims of their policies.

Central to the ideology of industrialisation. The well being of people, never mind wildlife and natural ecosystems, considered. The object of World Bank policy is to and provide them with huge profits whilst enforcing the dominant Western form of Development on the rest of the population.

To this end they provide huge sums of money for projects such as mines, hydro-electric schemes and industrial scale forestry. None of these schemes anything at all to end the poverty endured by so many in the so-called "Third World".

Some examples:

In 1980 the Bank loaned \$304 million to Brazil to build

an iron ore mine at Carajas, an 890 kilometre railway to transport the ore and a deep- water port at Ponte de Madeira. The Carajas Iron Ore Project threatens the lives of 10,000 native people and may devastate an area of the Eastern Amazon the size of France and Germany combined.

In 1985 the Bank loaned \$156 million to Indonesia for the But as interest loans rose Kedung Ombo Dam in central Java. More than 25,000 to be displaced as a result of the flooding. When the effected families refused to accept compensation offers the military moved in. Protesting locals were arrested and jailed "communist subversives". The Government expropriated the land but more than 1,500 families held out as the waters rose, clinging to their homes from boats.

In the early 1980s the Bank loaned India nearly \$200 million for "social forestry" but then ran into stiff opposition from the rural poor and landless. Villagers were not allowed onto common land after the forestry department planted eucalyptus plantations on them. In Karnataka state small farmers pulled up tree seedlings in exasperation claiming the eucalyptus would mainly benefit lumber interests. In addition, the fast growing trees were planted in semi arid areas where they made conditions worse by draining water and further exhausting already marginal soils.

The World Bank has provided \$450 million for the Indian heard of the World Bank. Yet Government to press ahead it is a vital part of both with a massive dam project the post WW II settlement in the Narmada River Valley. and the emerging "New World The project will drown over Order". 40 square kilometres of people, mostly tribal villagers.

It is estimated that as of 1989 1.5 million people were being displaced by World Bank funded projects.

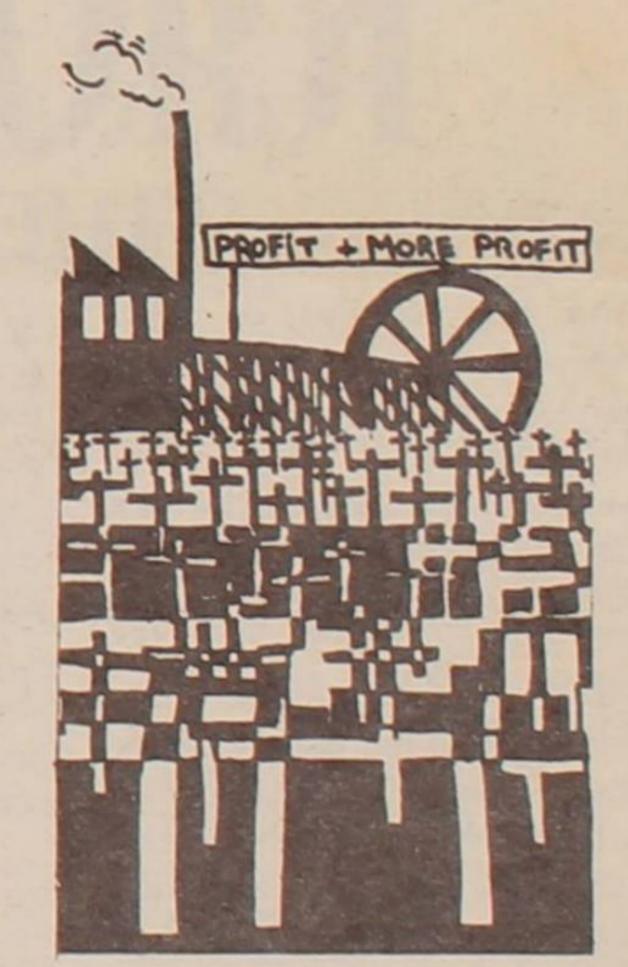
#### SPIRALLING INTEREST RATES

As a result of international banking policy in which the World Bank played a major role, countries of the "Third World" are in massive debt and face spiraling interest rates on repayment. In fact in 1989 \$52 million more was paid to banks in loan repayments than was received in the form of new From "Poison Pen"

loans and "aid".

We are talking here about deals made between the local elites and the international banking system - much of the money that was loaned went straight into government pockets or was spent on armaments. Little if any of it benefitted ordinary people.

it was the poor who were made to pay. The World Bank people in 37 villages were and IMF made further loans (including loans to cover interest on previous loans) dependant introduction of monetarist policies (cut internal slash expenditure, boost exports and open borders to international capital) which inevitably led to increasing poverty and repression. UNICEF estimate that in 1988 half a million children died as a result of debt-induced austerity measures.



It is quite possible that the majority of people in this country have never

maintain the local elites forest and drive out 90,000 When we hear of and see the miserable poverty which so many people on this planet are forced to live in, when we hear of and see the increasing destruction and pollution of the natural world and the extermination of other species, we are supposed to feel sorrow and pity. Maybe give something to charity.

> But what we really need to feel is anger - anger at the enforced nightmare which is capitalism and at the rich filth who skulk in the shadows conspiring its continuation



This was adopted on 28th 5. To liberate all political 9. To equalise the rations February 1921 by the sailors prisoners of Socialist Petropavlosk, and was workers, peasants, soldiers subsequently accepted by all and sailors imprisoned in the sailors, soldiers and connection with labour and workers of Kronstadt.

the general meeting of concentration camps. ships' crew to report on the situation in Petrograd this 7. To abolish all assembly takes the following "politodeli" decisions:

- 1. Seeing that the present majority peasants.
- 2. To grant liberty of speech and press to the workers and peasants, to the anarchists and the Left Socialist parties.
- 3. To secure freedom of assembly for labour unions and peasant organisations.
- 4. To call a non-partisan Conference of the workers, soldiers and of Petrograd, Kronstadt, and of Petrograd province no later than March 10th 1921.

- Battleship parties as well as all peasant movements.
- 6. To elect a Commission to "After having heard the review the cases of those representatives delegated by held in prisons and
- [political sections of the Communist Party existing in the Soviets do not express the institutions - a demand wishes of the workers and raised in the 1990 Eastern peasants, to organise European revolts] because no immediately re-elections to party should be given the Soviets with secret vote special privileges in the and with care to organise propagation of its ideas or free electoral propaganda receive financial support peasants manage with their workers and from the government for such purposes. Instead there should be established educational and cultural commissions, locally elected and financed by the

Government.

consumption].

- 8. To abolish immediately "Zagryaditelniye otryadi". [Police detachments officially created to struggle speculation, but actually would confiscate everything that the starving
- population, the workers included, brought from the country for their personal

- -THE PROGAMME of all who work, with the exception of those engaged in trades detrimental to
  - 10. To abolish the Communist Fighting detachments in all branches of the army as well as the Communist Guards kept on duty in mills and factories. Should such guards be found necessary, they are to be appointed in the army from the ranks, and in the factories according to the judgement of the
  - 11. To give the peasants full freedom of action in regard to their land and also their right to keep cattle on condition that the own means; that is, without employing hired labour.
  - 12. To request all branches of the Army, as well as our comrades in the military Kursanti (Cadet Officers), in our to concur resolutions.
  - 13. To demand that the press give the fullest publicity to our resolutions.
  - 14. To appoint a travelling commission of control.
  - 15. To permit free, artisan production which does not employ hired labour.

### KRONSTADT CRONOLOGY

23rd February 1921. Strike breaks out at Troubotchny Factory, Petrograd.

24th Feb. Zinoviev sends officer cadets against demonstration of starving Petrograd workers. 'Committee of Defence' set up by Bolsheviks.

25-28th Feb. More and more factories stop work in Petrograd.

Huge Putilov 28th Feb. work. factory Kronstadt from sent to Petrograd on factreturn and report to Kronstadt sailors. Crew of Petropavlosk pass 'Kronstadt Programme' motion.

1st March. Mass meeting in Kronstadt sailors, and citizens. garrison Kalinin, and Vassiliev (Chair of All-Russian Central Executive Kronstadt Committee, Commander, and Chair of Kronstadt respectively) speak against the Petropavlosk motion. The motion is carried.

2nd March. Delegate meeting of Kronstadt Soviet. Three representatives of Bolshevik power denounce new delegates and their programme and safety. Assembly forms Provisional Revolutionary counter Bolshevik threats. peasants. Delegation sent to see

3rd March. Moscow Radio denounces Kronstadt events as a White Guardist plot led by General Kozlovsky.

4th March. Petrograd Soviet Zinoviev and Kalinin, fresh from Kronstadt. Denounces Kronstadt's moves and orders them to surrender on pain of extermination. A minority of the Soviet protests.

into thrown relevance. Our comrades recognise this, and "Don't Mourn, Organise!" are organising a special commemorative conference.

The Kronstadt events were the conclusive proof that the 'Bolshevik Revolution' of 1917 was not and peasants' dictatorship of intellectual elite.

5th March. Petrograd Defence Committee issues ultimatum to Kronstadt: "If you persist we will shoot you down like partridges". Berkman, Goldman, Perkus and Petrovsky write to Zinoviev pleading for restraint.

PAGE 6

5-7th March. Strikes in Petrograd continue. Strikers sympathy with express Kronstadt sailors. lies Repression, confuse disorient workers.

6th March. Trotsky demands finding mission on 26th Feb, that Kronstadt garrison surrender.

> 7-8th March. Bombardment of Kronstadt begins. Attack across the ice by Red Army troops with guns at their rear fails.

> 12-13th March. Communists attack from South in white shrouds, sacrificing many hundreds of officer cadets. 16th March. Kronstadt attacked from North East and South at once.

17th March. Several forts taken and Bolsheviks break into city, slaughtering men, women and children. Orgy of revenge aided by Bolsheviks who had remained unharmed within Kronstadt, pointing out rebels for execution.

18th March. Bolshevik Govt. and Communist Party issue threats. Placed in commemorate Paris Commune of custody for their own 1871, drowned in blood by Gallifet and Thiers, just as Trotsky, Lenin and Zinoviev Committee of rank and file slaughtered the Kronstadt sailors and workers to workers, sailors and

18th March - April. Cheka secret police "disappear" many remaining Kronstadt soldiers and sailors. Official casualty figures for attack forces speak of meets and is addressed by 4,127 wounded and 527 killed. Around 8,000 rebels escaped to Finland. Figures for the Kronstadt casualties and those shot in reprisals after the defeat are

This March we commemorate The Kronstadt rebels lit a the 70th anniversary of the beacon of hope that shines crushing of the Kronstadt through the century and rebels by the troops of lights the way to a renewal Trotsky and Zinoviev. Given of revolutionary struggle the events occurring in the against the enemies of the Soviet Union at present, the material interests and Kronstadt rebellion is freedom of the working renewed class. We remember them, but Russian in the words of the slogan:

# Reading

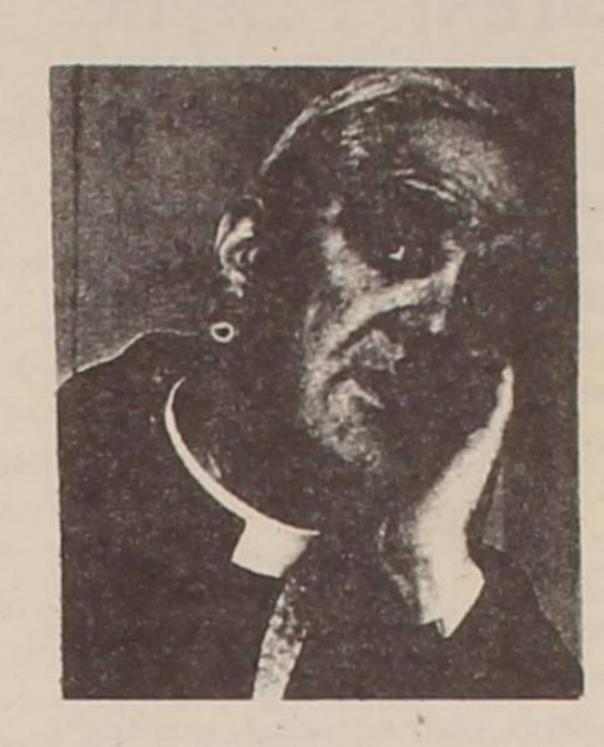
The Kronstadt Uprising, Ida 'Bolshevik' revolution at Mett. The Kronstadt Revolt, all, but a massive workers' A.Ciliga. The Russian revolt Tragedy, Alexander Berkman. progressively stifled and My Disillusionment in crushed by the creeping Russia, Emma Goldman. an Memoirs of a Revolutionary, Victor Serge.

# THE GOD SQUAD

The end of the world is nigh of Satanic child abuse have and we will all burn in been used by some Christians 'Evangelists' would have us believe, but then, they always say that don't they, so what's changed? In fact, over the past few weeks, media attention (in the rare breaks in coverage of 'Our Boys' in the Gulf) has been focusing more and more on these people: Billy Graham toured Britain last year; the 1990s have been proclaimed as the "Decade of Evangelism"; the new Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, is described as an evangelical; and late numbers have been growing, 1990 saw the launch of the with the 'child molester' Movement for Christian brush. Democracy, a group whose aim is to "put Christian values on the political agenda" and whose members include the The evangelicals say their anti abortion Liberal (?) MP David Alton.

At the same time allegations materialism and

to tar all Pagans, whose



#### KINGDOM OF GOD

aim is to convert the whole world to Christianity, society moral

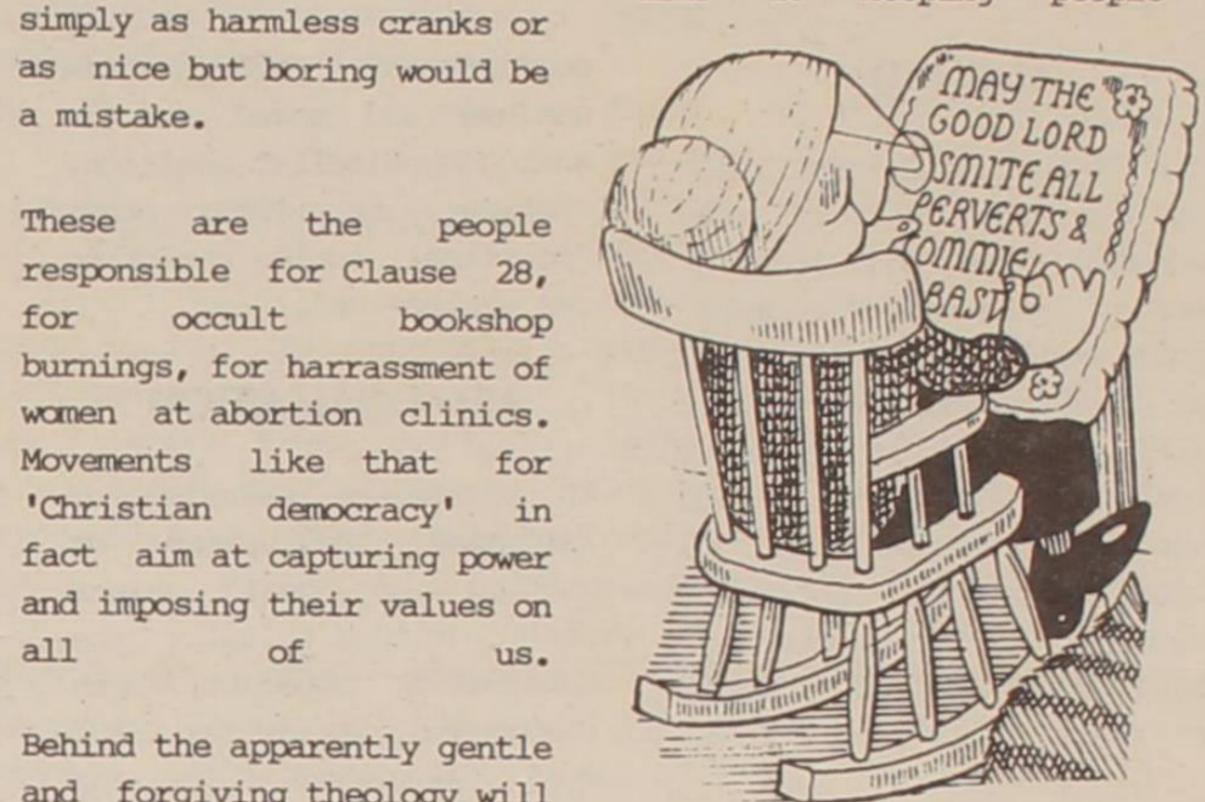
degeneration and thereby make the earth a better place to live, ready for the Kingdom of God. But to regard these evangelicals simply as harmless cranks or as nice but boring would be a mistake.

These are the responsible for Clause 28, occult bookshop burnings, for harrassment of women at abortion clinics. Movements like that for 'Christian democracy' in fact aim at capturing power and imposing their values on

and forgiving theology will be the violent state apparatus authoritarian regime, with jails filled with women who morality' while the bosses have had abortions, lesbians and gays, pagans and so profits and exploitation called blasphemers. Members goes unnoticed. of the 'Christian' anti

feminist group, the Campaign for the Feminine Woman, for example, have publicly stated their belief that human rights do not exist.

Linked to far right groups such as the Moral Majority in the USA and Conservative Family Campaign in this country, evangelism aims at keeping people



obedient and in their place, diverting attention to the issues of 'personal carry on making their If Free Market Everything is Pol, Leeds DAM

homophobia that keeps

which refuses to have gay

"family show". The state's

view of the family has

little to do with real

again Christians, by the way, include Rupert Murdoch, owner of the Sun and James Anderton, boss of Greater Manchester's Secret State Police). Both are bourgeois and fundamentally anti working class: the evangelicals talk of rejecting materialism

one branch of the extreme

evangelicals is another

(other self proclaimed born

Francoism

PAGE 7

while their friends and backers, the ruling class, keep their money. They whip up hysteria about Satanism ; and child abuse and the 'evil' of homosexuality while the real perverts walk free.

In the final analysis, the evangelicals are simply fascists (complete with Nuremberg style rallies) and whilst there may be no stakes in public squares as yet, they must be confronted and defeated in the usual way if they become a serious

division is the system of our true sexuality will attributing men power over remain capitalism's victim. women. This is enforced by institutions and culture at every level. The heart of this system is the traditional authoritarian family, which is used by our bosses as a free maintenance unit for their workforce and a supplier of future labour.

Capitalism has proved to be very adaptable and can easily incorporate threatening developments of into itself. However, the traditional family role has been so important in training and maintaining the working class, that deviation from it is a serious threat to the ruling class.

#### STEREOTYPES

For most people, sexuality is not something In the 1969 Stonewall riot, we have discovered and grown New York Lesbians and gay into, but rather an men finally fought back unquestioned acceptance of against routine police the heterosexual stereotype. harassment. Only since then This suit is worn by many has a movement emerged to but fits few. Hardly build pride in being gay, and anyone's nature fits neatly to ask what's so good about into just one mold and no being straight. It is one is naturally closed to movement that has achieved change.

That our sexuality is crush it. narrowly defined by the rigid family role is an In Britain, the latest moves

Capitalism in all its forms attack on our ability to in a deliberate and has grown strong by keeping discover and grow into sustained attack on free working class people divided people divided so that whatever we naturally are. sexuality is Clause 25. This by ignorance. others can rule. One of the Until we are entirely free is part of the Criminal corner stones of this to ignore the stereotypes, Justice Bill which, further



century, homosexuality has been considered by the state to be a deficiancy which must be cured or punished. much, so not surprisingly faces moves by the state to

allowed to pass, will

consenting homosexual acts,

legislation, is treated as

though it were alongside

rape and child abuse as a

96% of reported child abuse

traditional and heterosexual

family. Including homosexual

family as a model for sex

already the victim

threat to society.

occurs within

family feelings of love, support and acceptance, things that we all need. The state tries to impose its culture from above and would make clones of us all. say you may not be what you

threat to society.

As with Clause 28 (Local Government Act), Clause 25 is part of a sustained clampdown on deviation from homosexuality. Procuring the state's norm. If we an alternative to the TUC. allow it to pass, all we can expect is more of the same. Such legislature cannot be reversed by the Labour Party or the TUC but only by working class action.

Anarchosyndicalists advocate autonomous self controlled organisation and delighted to see that this is how the campaign against acts in this Bill is an Clause 25 has emerged. The attack on our ability to first meeting in Manchester choose, not a response to saw over 200 people with a violence. It will further marked absense of so called enforce the traditional revolutonary parties.

roles and build the We wholeheartedly support

the campaign but recognise that its bite will be limited without taking the struggle into the workplace, Ignorance is sustained by TV where our rulers need us and shows like Coronation Street where our class muscle is.

#### characters because it is a INDUSTRIAL NETWORKS

To organise in the workplace we must deal with the fact it can be one of the most homophobic places people have to go to. The unions we currently have are not interested in this or any of our needs so it is up to us to build a fighting organisation of our class This kind of culture and that will combat harassment legislature like Clause 25 at work and actively challenge divisive are. They are the real attitudes.

> The Direct Action Movement is helping to launch anarchosyndicalist industrial networks that will do the business and be

Anarchosyndicalists fight

for the day when people can develop fully as individuals without any limitations on how we grow and change. Capitalism cannot deliver this and so it must be destroyed. It is in our interests to rid ourselves of this yoke in the long run and to fight its excesses in the here and now. Defeating Clause 25 will be a step forward for freedom of choice and is everyone's fight.

Manchester DAM

When Tom Mann returned to

Britain in May 1910 an

identifiable syndicalist

movement already existed

(see DA 68), although its

influence was still minimal

and did not worry the labour

CO-ORDINATION

Mann, in the company of Guy

talk with the anarcho-

union confederation, and

when they returned began

publishing the 'Industrial

Syndicalist. This began in

July 1910 with a general

pamphlet called 'Prepare for

Action', attacking sectional

trades unionism and putting

industrial unionism as an

alternative to overthrow

The stated aim of the

"Industrial Syndicalist" was

to "create some sense of co-

ordinated syndicalist

presence...to establish a

dialogue between militants".

To this end a conference was

held in Manchester in

representatives from unions,

Trades Councils and

political groups. The latter

included militants from the

whole range of syndicalist

thought, from anarcho-

syndicalists to the IWW and

the Socialist Labour Party.

At this conference the

established. It was set up

as a propagandist body by

which syndicalists could

come into contact with a

wide range of working class

militants. There was some

dissent however, and it came

mainly from 'Dual Unionists'

syndicalists should not

remain in reformist trade

proposed that

SYNDICALIST

LEAGUE was

LS.E.L

INDUSTRIAL

EDUCATION

capitalism.

movement's leadership.

PART 3

### The Industrial Sydicalist Education League

#### ALDRED

by claiming that if they Bowman, visited Paris to syndicalists of the CGT resolved.

Anarchosyndicalists

parliamentary action was useless and moved to the anarchosyndicalist position, stating in 1912 that "political action was of no use whatsoever".

#### AMALGAMATION

It was on the question of reforming the unions or setting up "dual" unions that continued to split the syndicalist movement, both inside and outside the ISEL. Dual Unionists did make attempts to establish alternatives but these participate in the ISEL. remained small and isolated, However some, like Guy never moving beyond the revolutionary Aldred's Industrial Union of small group of activists who Direct Actionists, preferred created them. It also meant a dual union approach. that the bosses could easily Mostly, anarchosyndicalists identify the troublemakers

> Despite these doubts work closely with the ISEL advocates" by 'Industrial Syndicalist'.

### DEVELOPING

The main criticism levelled not set up a formal branch to develop ideas. Secondly, and syndicalists knew that they had to work within the broad labour movement to win workers over to their ideas.

In 1913 the ISEL did formalise its structure, leading to a split. However, by this time syndicalist influence was strong enough to maintain its influence within the working class.

#### THE STATE

The problems faced by the syndicalists of this time were ones that would be faced time and again. The reformist Trades Unions worked with the State to revolutionary working hand in glove to influence from spreading.

Before 1914 the unions were not as centralised or bureaucratic as they are now and the State did not have such a grip on all aspects of working class lives. Yet this was the time when changes were happening and the State began to recognise that unions could be used as a mechanism of control. This introduction of State "benefits", which, whatever liberals and reformists claim, were another method

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#### TODAY

of social control only to be

granted to the "deserving

Today syndicalists are faced

with an even more complex

world than that faced by our predecessors. There has been another 75 years of domination by social democratic unions over workers' organisation, and the task of building a revolutionary union movement in Britain is even more difficult. Yet the lessons of the past can be learned and the experiences of the first syndicalists used. There is no way we can reform the present unions from the inside and transform them revolutionary organisations. Their structure and bureaucracy are designed to prevent that. Equally, dual unions are not viable in industries with longestablished social democratic unions. A union federation with a handful of militants would be soon destroyed.

in the earlier period of British syndicalism as it came to terms with dealing with an advanced and organised reformist .union Anarchomovement. syndicalists did adopt a 'one foot in, one foot out' tactic, ie they remained inside the unions working at the level of the rank and file membership, while organising outside and constantly exposing the weakness of the unions in furthering working class advancement. To this end they hoped to use discontent within the rank and file to break away at an appropriate time to form a revolutionary alternative.

Both these tactics were used

Continued over

Tom Mann fudged this issue

adopted the position of being neither pro or antipolitical "the League would be neither Labour Party nor SDF, anarchist or any other body that was anti. Each would have the right to retain his own political views". At the conference this was never fully

did

industrial unions still retained the characteristics reformist structures as the small craft unions they replaced.

#### POWER

Anarchosyndicalists constantly criticised Mann and others who, although arguing for industrial unions, did not take on board the dangers of centralisation of power within the unions. They rightly foresaw the amalgamation of craft unions executive powers and so acting as a curb on militancy. They urged workers to "bear the burden of all responsibility of decisive action".

anarchosyndicalists were to and some were listed as persons "willing to speak as

at the ISEL is that it did and membership structure. This view fails to realise two important facts. Firstly, syndicalism was still a relatively new and developing theory and it was important for the different strands to work together and the left of the British labour movement was much less sectarian than today

discontent and feelings, syndicalist

### DIRECT ACTION NO71

SYNDICALISM (Cont'd)

#### VOICE OF LABOUR

syndicalists were becoming previously untouched. The the strongest current within regrouping after the 1913 the movement and their "split" actually saw the Labour', was increasing anarchosyndicalist position. sales. Their ideas were put into practice in 1914 when, The ISEL was an important after a bitter strike sold development for British leadership, building workers forum in which ideas were formed industrial Unfortunately, that same has been virtually ignored week war was declared and by labour historians, at the union's anti-war stance the time foreign meant that it came under syndicalists did admire and intense State pressure and recognise its importance for it folded.

Although both marxist and developed then are still liberal historians claim relevant today. that syndicalism reached its

further from the truth. Its ideas were crystallising and 1914 the anarcho-spreading into industries 'The Voice of strengthening of the

by their union syndicalism. It was the breakaway discussed and refined. union. Although British syndicalism both its ideas and its actions. The ideas

peak in 1912 nothing can be S.T., Manchester DAM-IWA

### MILITARY COVER-UP

#### British soldiers who have on arrival to hospital and killed unarmed civilians are Michael was seriously ill.

treated lightly in Ireland. The only soldier ever to The British army claims that to a halt less than a mile have been convicted of circumstances, Ian Thain, was released after serving a opened fire. couple of years and returned

#### NEGLIGENT DISCHARGE

David Holden, who shot Sinn Fein member Aiden McAnespie, was merely fined by his regiment for the 'negligent discharge' of his machine

Sinn Fein member Fergal Carraher and his brother Michael were shot by Royal Marines in the South Armagh village of Cullyhanna on 30 December. Fergal was dead

they failed to stop at a down the road. checkpoint and knocked down two soldiers before others

incident are clear that the brothers were stopped at the stopped in a pub car park before driving off slowly away from the patrol.

At that point a soldier called out a name and a second ran up to the car, knelt down and began firing it more determined. into it at close range. He was joined by a third FO'NKILL

soldier who also fired repeatedly into the car, which kept moving and came

The Marines are back on duty after the incident, having done only what they are paid Those who witnessed the to do - eliminate opposition to the British state. As a member of Sinn Fein Carraher checkpoint for about 10 was an opponent of the minutes and questioned. The British state. That his Marines therefore knew who opposition was unarmed does they were. They were waved not matter to our rulers and through the checkpoint and does not matter to their tame media.

> Hardly surprising that the armed opposition is as strong as ever, because does opposition, it merely makes

# — International Forum For Asia—

has

The International Forum on Although the denial of human Asia (IFA) has been recently rights and civil liberties established by individuals remains fundamentally a communal carnage throughout social consequences.

concern for workers and the peoples, affecting this have political and

from India by IFA to address and public meetings and seminars on the current crisis facing His first book "The Painful Transition - Bourgeois Democracy in India" recently been published and

universities, culminating in a major weekend conference in London the Indian Sub Continent. on 11 and 12 May, 1991.

The theme of the conference will be "South Asia - The Crisis and the Struggle for has already been praised as Fundamental Social Change". If you would like more information about the tour or conference or would like Achin Vanaik to speak at a meeting you organise, please

IFA needs to raise money to pay for Achin Vanaik's fares from India, to produce leaflets and literature etc. Please help by making financial donations. Please meke cheques payable to International Forum on Asia.

INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON ASIA C/O 43 West End Road Southall Middlesex UB1 1J0

INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON ASIA C/O 15 Trinity Crescent Edinburgh EH5 3ED

### STOP PRESS

John Perrotti, a member of the IWW imprisoned in Ohio, slashed his wrists recently after 20 days on hunger strike to protest at being put in an isolation cell. At present John is not in immediate danger of death but he remains in isolation, under suicide observation. For more infocontact Glasgow D A M.

Send letters of protest to:

Governor Voinovich, Statehouse, 77 South High St. Columbus, Ohio 43215, (tel: 0101 614 466 3555)



These awesome developments India; Beijing's Tiananman massacre of students and workers; the possible return to power of Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge regime; the mass brutalities inflicted by the military Burmese dictatorship are but a few examples of the debilitating crisis confronted by postcolonial societies in Asia.

demand a public response. In recognition of this need to create a discourse on Asia, IFA has decided to launch a month long programme of activities in the UK.

Achin Vanaik, a prominent Indian political analyst and activist has been invited and activists alike.

a seminal text by academics

#### SPEAKING TOUR

The national speaking tour will begin in Scotland in April and will move south stopping at some of the major cities and colleges

nationalism; nuclear disarmament and ecology; the rise of the women's movement and its demands; the current economic and political situation; the role of Japanese intervention in South Asia will be some of the issues raised at this conference.

Class, caste, communalism,

unions but should set up revolutionary industrial unions to act as an example to the working class. This were content to work both argument was to go on, and inside and outside the unions within. There was also disagreement

parliamentary and political syndicalists criticised the action, with some still refusal to take a definite arguing the need to win stand against political (ie political power through some parliamentary) action. As form of socialist party, as the unrest developed Mann, well as industrial control and others, came to the through industrial unions.

attempts were made to established trade unions, establish dual unions as looking towards a time when well as trying to change the they would break and the from opportunity would present itself for the formation of

over the question of From with the ISEL anarchoconclusion

revolutionary unions.

and, in tandem with the reformist union leaders, were able to defeat them.

The reformers, however, turned to amalgamation of established craft unions to form industrial unions. There were many successes and many small unions disappeared as bigger ones replaced them. The National Union of Railwaymen was created mainly through pressure from syndicalist

agitation. Problems still

### Building The Green Movement

by Rudolf Bahro

This is not an easy book. Firstly, it is a collection of essays written between 1982 and 1985 as part of the internal debate of the West people's German Green Party, Die Grunen. As such, it has many references to particular events and figures in German politics. Secondly, Bahro is a dissident Marxist (he left East Germany in 1979 after western religions only to be being released from prison), caught up in authoritarian who has taken on many of the arguments of "deep ecology". However, certain parts of the book certainly repay the effort.

Bahro was on the population. "fundamentalist" wing of Die Grunen, and many of the Surely the reasoning behind essays are defences of that the need for such communes position against the is to build new social "realos", or advocates of relationships in the here "realpolitik" (compromise and now so that people are with the system in order to prepared for a new form of get minimal parts of the programme implemented).

The final essay is Bahro's of "building the new world statement on his resignation in the shell of the old". from the Greens. The straw The organs of struggle we that broke the camel's back, set up today must reflect so to speak, was over the the way we want society as a Green's refusal to adopt a whole organised. They will position against all animal not be perfect, but their experiments; the "realos" had got a position of allowing experiments that might save human lives.

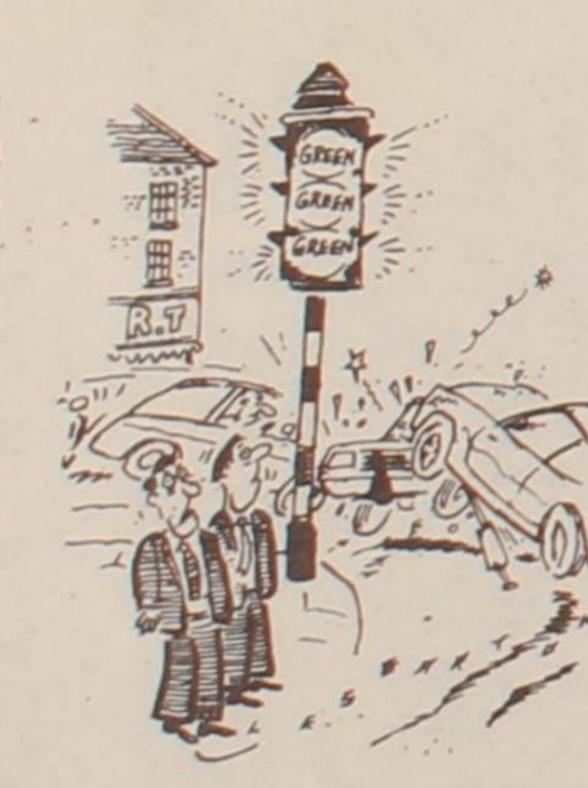
Bahro felt that whether human lives could be saved or not was not the question but the pivotal position of animal experiments in the "Big Machine" as he calls it, with shades situationism. interesting thing in his statement is that he says it "is the end of traditional party political existence for me altogether. At last I have understood that a party is a counterproductive tool..."

There is much in this book which correlates with anarchism; I can only wonder if Bahro has never seriously examined anarchism or whether it is his marxist background subconsciously ignoring it. The main thrust of his ideas is to build up an example of the new society in the present to act as a counterbalance to capitalism.

These would take the form of communes organised along libertarian lines and would, in the main, be selfsufficient. They would also have a "religious" aspect which Bahro writes about frequently in his book. He seems to be saying that However, how real would that

there should be a spiritual dimension to life in the communes and that we should pay more attention to psychological needs. However, his uncritical essay on Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh is certainly worrying. It is unfortunate that many of today's radicals have rejected alternatives from the east. The structure of all religions, with their emphasis on subservience to some sort of authority, pave the way for a passive

social relations in the new society. To me, this sounds suspiciously like the anarcho-syndicalist slogan main purpose must be to empower and enable their members.



"These environmentally friendly traffic lights are a really

There are many other similarities with anarchosyndicalist ideas in the book. For example, the new society can be brought about by a sort of general strike. And our survival is conditional on "freedom FROM

for "alternatives to the trade union movement". Given that West German trade unions are dead from the neck up, faithful copies of the same bureaucrat-ridden structures that have failed the British working class for decades, an alternative is deffinitely needed.

Bahro also proposes support

support be for a genuine revolutionary, capitalist alternative? needing to question their

system. Over the four years documented that is precisely happened.



existence as workers and of class struggle no longer being important on an industrial basis.

Here he is missing the potential of workers to disrupt the industrial system (which he sees as the main enemy) and to be politicised in the process. Further, anarchosyndicalists need to make it quite clear that we are not in the business of collectivising industry as it exists now. There won't be collectivised McDonalds or a Nuclear Power Station Workers' Collective. Their first act would be to convert to some socially useful production, if not shut down altogether.

issue with is his rejection of technology. While believe it is important to question technology and not take things for granted from so-called experts, I think constructive to talk in terms of appropriate technology or of technology that can be reproduced by the community using it. If we are to talk about reducing work to a bare transforming it into play which possible), then we need to make use of work-saving

Another point I would take

technology, like computers. Bahro is critical of the Green's role in Parliament but does not come to the obvious conclusion that these legislative bodies exist to co-opt movements like the Greens into the

is such a broad direction.

Bahro's experience with the

Green movement should come surprise to

anarchists. Any movement

coalition will lack a clear

PAGE 10

However, does this mean we write environmentalism or dismiss the ideas of people like Bahro? I think not. For many of them there is a painful journey ahead, reliving the mistakes of any new emerging movement.

Furthermore, as has been shown recently in the United States, there is a potential alliance between environmentalists The "Redwood against logging in the Pacific Northwest was launched by environmentalists in Earth First and workers in the Industrial Workers of the World. This alliance succeeded because it was based on an understanding that it is in the interests of workers to defend the environment.

Martin, Deptford DAM

Dear Direct Action,

are a number of Syndicalists working in the fields of health care and health provision, at the moment centered in London and South-east England.

Health provision is under attack from a number of directions at the moment: NHS from the Government's White Paper, and the additional burdens imposed by the bloodbath in the Gulf (increasing waiting lists); local authorities' responsibilities for the elderly and people with disabilities increasingly undermined by the Poll Tax and spending

We have absolutely no faith in the trade unions to lead any fight against these attacks or to do anything other than mouth rhetoric about the low pay of most healthworkers.

of workers' groups in each workplace, totally independent of the trade unions and open to all healthworkers management or fascists) of whatever union or job, with the immediate aim participation encouragement of, any fight against attacks on the

We believe in the formation

service we provide and on our living standards.



national federation of these workers' groups to form one organisation open to all healthworkers, revolutionary workers' organisation which through participation in fighting back today helps to "create the new society within the

We welcome contact from any healthworker who agrees with the above. At present, we can be contacted by writing

shell of the old."

Syndicalist Healthworkers c/o P.O. Box 761 Camberwell SDO London SE5

REVIEW: The Sans Culottes In This pamphlet shows the the French Revolution 1793 -1797; Edinburgh DAM, £1.

This interesting little pamphlet is a good, brief introduction important events of French Revolution that have had such a major influence for both good and bad over the last 200 years.

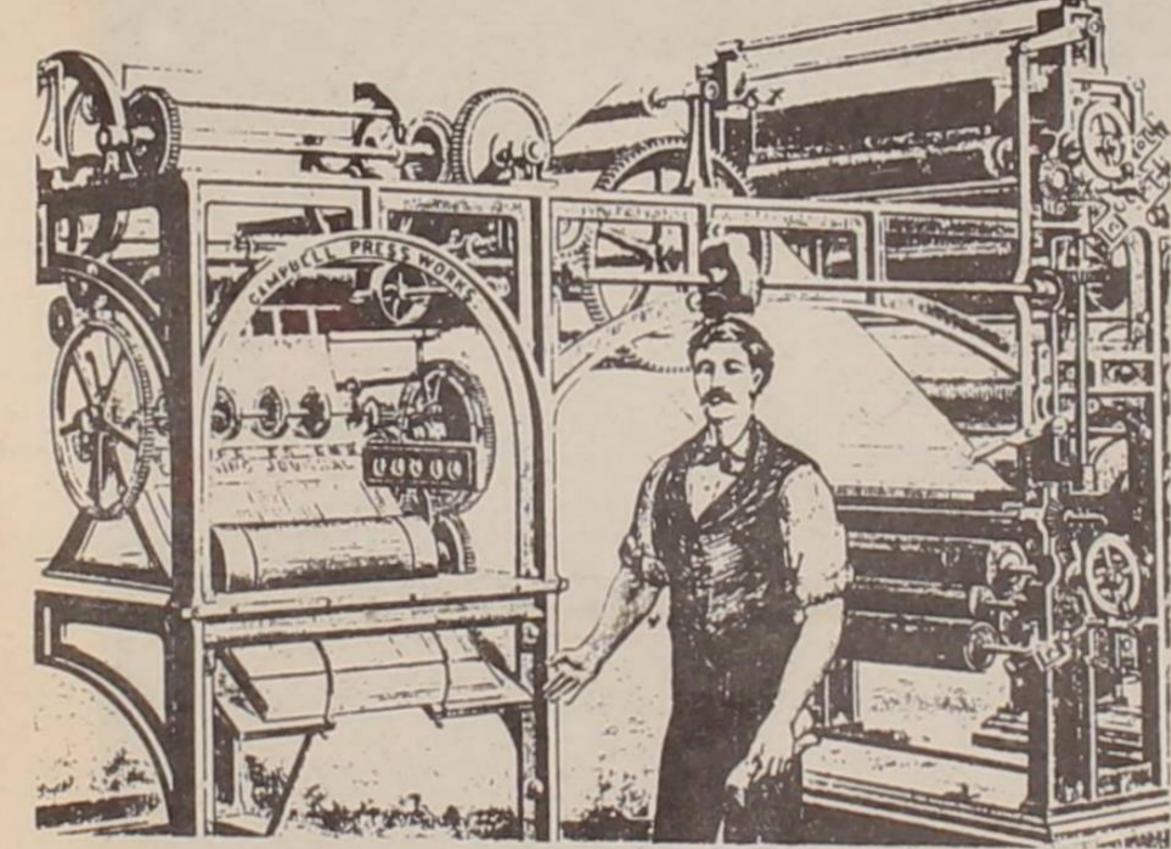
It concentrates on what is one of the most important syndicalists - the gradual emergence of primitive forms Republicaines of independant working class tionaires. organisations. Of equal importance were the new ideas about liberty, fraternity and equality that influence on the development of socialism, liberalism and anarchism in the 19th Century.

degeneration of the revolution, a pattern which was to occur again and again as the same mistakes of allowing the bourgeoisie to seize power and trusting intellectual elites were repeated.

On the positive side, we see radical ideas of groupings like the Enrages and the emergence of a, revolutionary women's movement in the form of Les

Essential reading for people wanting an insight into the roots of modern Western and opposition.

P, Doncaster



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If you support Direct Action and want to help it continue and prosper, one way you can show it is to take out a SUPPORTERS SUBSCRIPTION.

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Sand to: Da, PO Box 106, Rotherhem 860 1NW. Cheques payable to DAM.

Thanks to those readers who sent us donations this last month. We are extremely grateful for any donations we receive.

Direct Action has 'always been run on a shoe-string. Donations, large or small, make a real difference. So, if you've got some spare cash lying around you now know where to send it!



Deadline

Recently a group has been set up linked to Manchester DAM which is dedicated to reproducing pamphlets and articles of interest to anarchosyndicalists.

Trotsky Protests Too Much by E Goldman, 8 pages, 50p.

Evolution and Revolution by E Reclus, 8 pages, 50p.

The Direct Action Movement

Syndicalist Workers Federat-

ion and other groups and

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