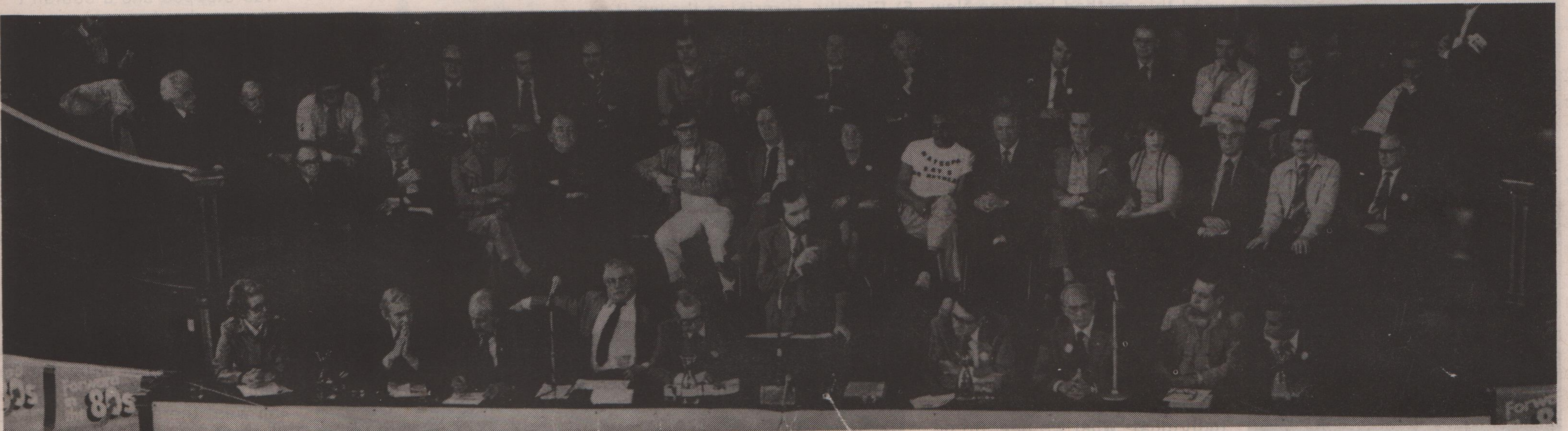




Issue Number 5 30p

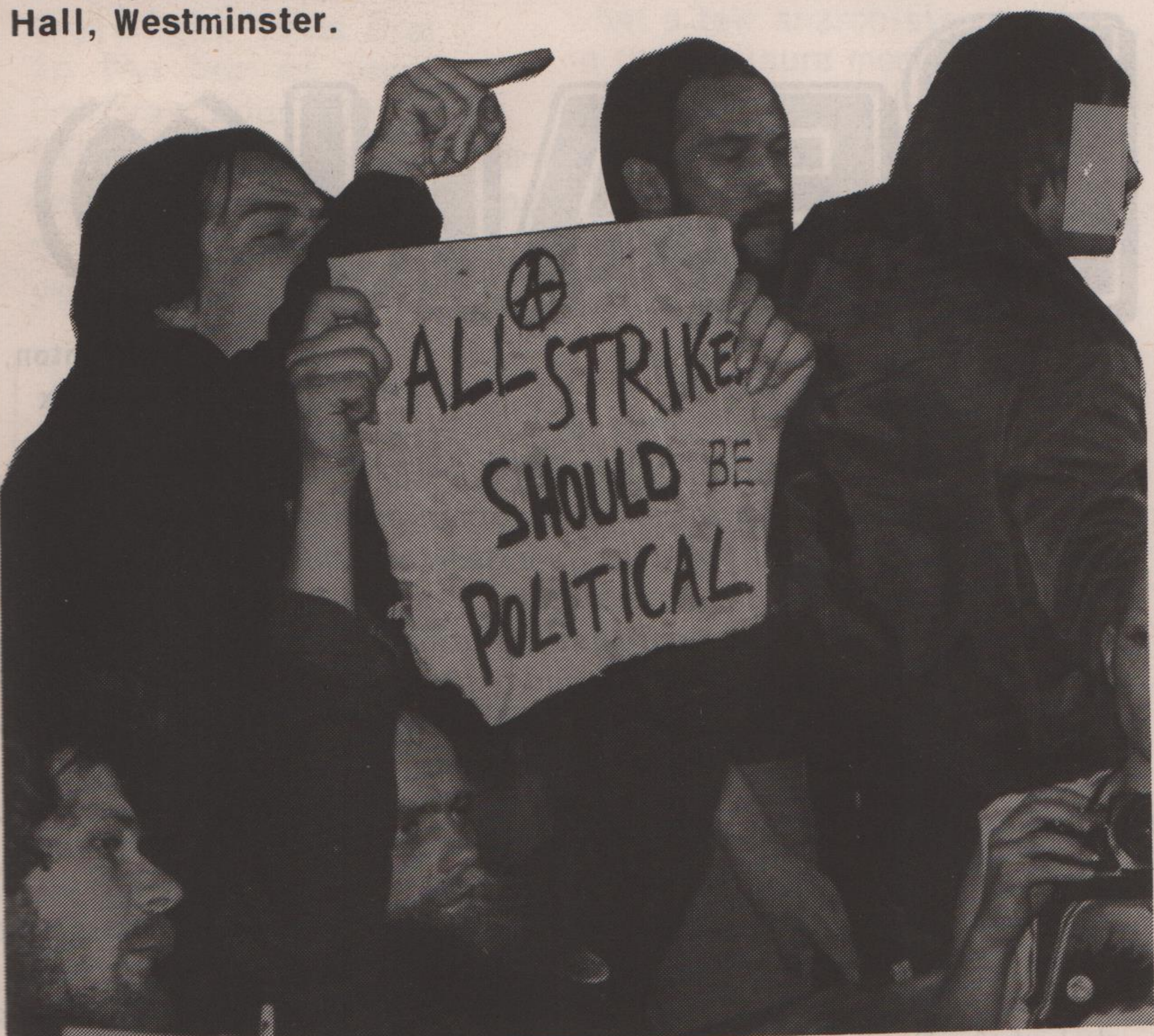


'YOU ARE THE BOSSES!'

Action! What action? Deserted by the usual cover of strikes, the ugly powerseeking figures of the Trade Union hierarchy rallied the bureaucratic faithful.

Not an attack on anti-worker policies, but a sulky whimper at being carved out of government. At the Westminster meeting the point had to be made. You are the bosses.

After the disruption of the TU rally in November and the heckling at the 'Debate of the Decade', perhaps we should have realised they would be prepared for us this time. It was their so-called 'Day of Action': in London a series of thinly peopled strolls, culminating for the most part in the rally in Central Hall, Westminster.



Poorly attended, the meeting was dominated by a phalanx of bureaucrats and Labour Party demi-Gods, sitting behind the platform. Bored apparachiks, come to hear the adulation of the masses - except it wasn't

all adulation.

As soon as we'd taken our seats (they ought to have them permanently reserved for us) we were surrounded by beer-guts in arm-bands. What gave us away? Some comrades blame the green

hair, but personally I point the finger at our leaflet headed: 'Smash the Unions and the left, Smash the Bosses and the State, Proletarian Autonomy for the Social Revolution!' (just rolls off the tongue). You should have seen the faces of the loyal Trade Union members as that was handed out. People read it with faces of total bewilderment.

We had come to heckle, but never really got started. The stewards were dying to jump in at the first shout but the Chief Steward held them back: 'Leave 'em Fred, we can wally 'em on the way out...' Eventually a group to our left started heckling (I think this was a SOGAT group protesting about some union sell-out), and we started as well. This was when the stewards waded in.

It was not simply a case of them removing us. They were extracting their revenge and enjoying it. In their efforts to ensure a free press stewards broke some cameras, including a couple from the Tyranny. Outside the hall we were set on more systematically, tables were overturned in the mælee. Luckily our injuries were just superficial (bloody noses, bad

bruising etc). One of us appeared to have suffered an attempt to rip his legs off as he was held for the police.

Anyway, fortunately there were no arrests and as the battered few made their way down the stairs a herd of police pushed past us up the stairs. Inside the meeting dragged on. Interminable monologues by indistinguishable Labour stagnation speakers, driving the audience away until at the end the Hall was practically empty.

It was good to see what we did so well represented in the national press. Of course it was just used as an opportunity for union-bashing, but it's probably the nearest we'll ever

get to sympathetic coverage. We heard later that individuals within the Hall had been sickened by the actions of the stewards and had actively attempted to stop them. They were prepared to be considerably more sympathetic to what we had to say as a result.

The platform had represented the alternative government, waiting in the wings. All they were interested in was removing the Tories. Is it surprising they were so violent? What we desire is autonomous working class action - free from the manipulations of the left, unions the bosses and the state. Come along next time, if there are enough of us they won't be able to avoid a dialogue.



Another Blow Against The Proletariat



Welcome to the column that half the readers can't read, and the other half won't. Well, folks, here's some good news. For, believe it or not, Xtra! has recently sold the 50,000th copy of the last issue.*

But this is no time for complacency. Just because we're producing the liveliest, brightest, most varied and readable paper around DOESN'T mean we should start getting big headed. No, that would never do.

After all, there is still some room for improvement. Not much, I grant you, but some.

You see, at present we can only afford to come out about once every seven weeks - you could say we're sept-weekly. (Or for that matter, septic.) We'd like to go monthly - but that requires money: YOUR money.

Think about it. You are reading a paper which campaigns for the abolition of money. And, at the rate inflation's going up, it looks like we're going that way anyhow. If you've got any of the stuff - it'll be worthless soon anyway. So why not send it to us?

We'd just like to thank Myk in passing for the generous £50 donation. Any more offers?

Now for all the old usuals: copy artwork, ideas, suggestions, slagging-off (but only if it's destructive, chaps) etc., are welcome. (see issue 1 to 4 for details) *

XTRA! is typeset, published, printed and distributed by Xtra!

An Xtra! Structureless Tyranny Production.

Our address is:
Xtra!
182, Upper Street
Islington
London N1.

FARE-DODGING

XTRAS

Here's just one of the letters we received in response to our 'fare-dodging' article. We hope it's useful...

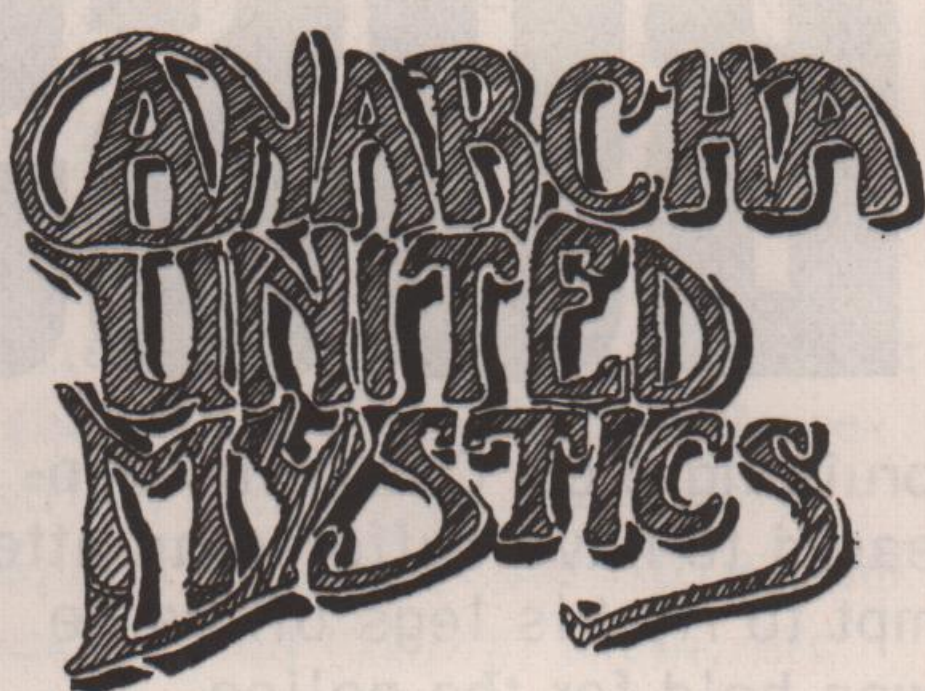
- 1) the old well-worn method of buying the cheapest ticket at one end and paying the minimum fare at the other has now been made obsolete - it's still far too expensive.
- 2) An alternative to the season ticket method if you're travelling fairly regularly between two stations is to get a return from A to B and another from B to A and use them alternately. Provided you keep the tickets in good condition and don't flash the date you can use them until you're caught. Then you can run for it! A friend of mine used this method between New Cross and Islington for about 8 months until a barrier man tore one of his tickets in half, fortunately without looking at the date.
- 3) Several London underground stations have emergency stairs which bypass the ticket barrier - these can be quite useful if you're feeling energetic and want to avoid hassles.
- 4) My one criticism of all these methods is that they individualise the struggle which should really be collective. Fare-fight was a good idea but I suspect that even that left too much to the isolated courage of the individual. What we need to do is spark off a kind of commuter

rebellion! With everyone refusing to pay their fares and supporting each other in so doing the BR and LT robber barons would soon be brought to their knees. It's a matter of putting on a few demonstrations and getting on speaking terms with the faces you meet in the train everyday. In the end it's only this kind of solidarity-building that will pay off. You can't expect the average housewife/husband, loaded down with kids and shopping, to go scooting through ticket barriers all the time.

5) Finally, surprising though it may seem, there are intelligent

and human life forms masquerading as British Rail and London Transport staff. I should know - I used to be one. Despite their anti-passenger conditioning most of them don't give a fuck about their job. They're just as bored as the rest of us. If you talk to them as people, explaining why you think public transport should be free etc. etc. you can build up quite a friendly relationship as well as get away without paying. This does not mean you take advantage - if you treat them like idiots they'll quite justifiably clobber you.

A word of warning. What I've



MYSTICAL ANARCHY AND THE
YOGA OF REVOLUTION

Working with us are Nucleus, White Panthers, Polytantric, Squatters Anonymous, Albion Free, Transitional Anarchist Organisation, Anarchy in Action, Warp and lots more, om. A.U.M. is the colour of you. Some of us at A.U.M. (All Ultimately Meaningless) seek to understand the Mysterious, some seek enlightenment, others are into music, some into philosophy, some just to have a good time and one

to just get out of order (is that you or me?). Me? I'm into the good times - Fuck all this New Age shit (man). Whatever you're into (so long as you have loads of money) come to see us and vibe it up. Come and watch us bitch and argue and attempt, pathetically, to "get it together". Maybe see you sooner or later om.

EXPEDITION VIA THE HIMALAYAS

On September 21st 1980 the A.U.M. coach is going overland to the Himalayas and the all inclusive price London to Delhi is approx. £180. The coach has shower fridge, cooker, sink, etc. We shall take more people to Greece for approx. £35 where we stay together for a week on a beach and then the coach goes on to India and the rest return to London. As room is very limited, if you want to be sure of a place please contact us now. The expedition will be taking the A.U.M. Band, theatre etc. to the East. For more details please ask for the free brochure.

UNDER the headline "Crisis (for the rest of the left)", the anarchist newspaper Xtra reports on the Debate of the Decade last month.

The report says "Yes, we had come to destroy the meeting."

It would be funny if it wasn't disturbing in its tone: "As far as I can remember the meeting voted to throw us out, but all the stewards stood around in the aisles and made no moves..."

"The reaction of the rest of the audience was typical of the weaknesses of the left as a whole. They were angry at having their meeting disrupted, yet they were so passive..."

And if that sounds distinctly reminiscent of the attitude of Young Nazis, past and present, what is one to make of the long letter, allegedly from a member of the National Front, praising Xtra for its coverage of the NF.

...and
from
Labour
Weakly



Brighton,
Sussex.

Sir,

In a recent article about syndicalist methods, you referred to 'The Beano' as an 'anarchist (semi-) agitational paper'. Although this was only said in passing, I feel that as a dedicated fan club member I ought to paint a more accurate picture of our beloved rag.

Undoubtedly the most anarchist agitational bent in 'The Beano' is displayed by Dennis the Menace and his dog Gnasher. But their behaviour is not sparked by intelligent political consciousness, but by the survival instinct as laid bare in 'Lord of the Flies'.

This is one of the two directions in which anarchy might develop; gradually blooming from the ontological bud of human development, or suddenly - as our present way of life is violently overthrown - leading to the world we glimpsed in 'Jubilee'. What Dennis shows is that we all have these basic instincts, but some are better at controlling them than others. Those who cannot should be given a few good 'whacks' of the Pavlovian variety and left gradually to come to terms with themselves, or suffer accordingly.

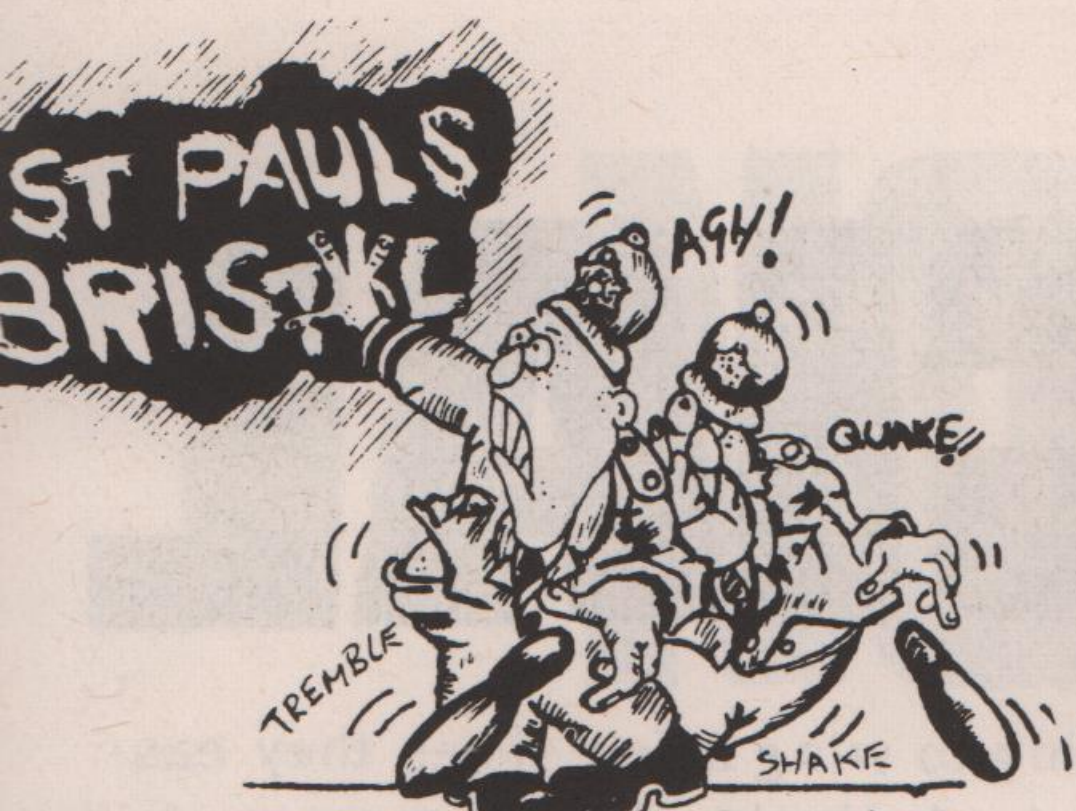
Have you a vision of an anarchist future? and is it because you feel our present system too blind, capricious and cruel? If so think of the vicious existence you may be headed for.

Yours gnashingly

A. Non (Col.)

APOLOGY....

Xtra! regretfully announces that, owing to industrial action by the printing union NAG, this issue has been restricted to 12 pages. We have had to curtail many regular features, such as our Fashion Page, Tips for Stockbrokers, Eating out Guide, Gossip Column and our Colour Supplement on the Queen Mother's 90th Birthday (or whatever age the old hag happens to be). All this work irretrievably ruined and gone to waste - thanks to some BLOODY RED TROUBLE-MAKERS. Let's not mince words - these OVERPAID LOOTS with their subsidised council houses and Rolls Royces have brought this country to ruin. Face facts, Adrian, we can't afford all these foreign hostages here - we didn't ask them to squat in our best-loved embassies did we? And then that idiot Carter trying to rescue Tito's left leg while he's having a heart transplant - I mean, where's it going to end? And these burks ringing up Capital Radio phone-ins and rabbiting on for hours on matters they know nothing about until finally they get cut off in mid-



BRISTOL THE AFTERMATH

Forty-two people charged, increased police presence and a parliamentary sub-committee makes a day trip to the area. This is the aftermath to the St. Paul's revolt.

Since April 2nd, the police have been rounding up 'suspects'. Some 'identified' in retrospect by photos taken at the time. Some just picked up anyway. At least twelve boys with nothing to do with the events are said to have been kept in cells for over 24 hours.

The police have since made pious statements about their 'good relationship with the people of St Paul's' (Chief Constable, Avon and Somerset Constabulary). The Sun printed a

picture of friendly bobbies holding hands with smiling black kids.

But the day trip was a fiasco that could only fool parliament. Local people treated it with contempt and stayed away, leaving an audience outnumbered by the press.

The MPs left, blaming their lack of success on the 'organised' boycott. They left unanswered questions about police harassment, bad housing and the low success rate of immigrants in getting council housing or a decent education.

St Paul's is the only area in Bristol with selective schooling. The kids who fail the eleven plus are sent to 'comprehensives' in other districts.

One man asked why, after 21 years in Britain, his 24 year old son had been refused entry to visit him. The MPs evidently saw one man's problems as irrelevant.

Recently a Bristol official was quoted as saying that 'St Paul's was receiving more money than any other district'. But when you realise the biggest development in the area is a multi-million pound motorway link, it's not hard to see where the money's going.

There are no facilities. Not even a library or a public toilet. All St Paul's has got is a sense of community - if they don't support themselves, no-one else will.



A Pastoral Scene from St Paul's

'ABILITY TO PAY'

'Disclosure of information by firms - must be a good thing? Well, we can demonstrate the real nature of exploitation, we can show up all the bosses' divide and rule tactics; it can't do any harm'.

But what I want to show in this article is the way the Disclosure of Information clauses (17-21) of the Employment Protection Act (1975), has played into the hands of management. So much so, that these sections of the Act are unlikely to be repealed by the Tory government. (Mind you, if I'm proved wrong by the time you read this don't bother reading on).

These sections force firms to give the unions any information they ask for, which relates to collective bargaining. It's not quite as simple as that as there are a number of qualifications. Disclosure of Information was originally introduced in the infamous Industrial Relations Act (1971).

To some of us the role of trade unions will be obvious: from the way they bolster the system, channelling the anger, dissipating discontent. However I want to look in detail at one particular area of 'recuperation' (that is, capitalism turning opposition into something that helps it, to the uninitiated).

Even before the Act began its life some employers could see the arguments for disclosure. If the company's performance was widely available, it was felt, this would encourage 'identification' and 'responsible attitudes'. However it was only after the Act that the virtue of giving information to unions was widely appreciated.

and from 'International Socialism'

Finally could we have an 'autonomous current' in Britain as the editors quoted above are hoping to develop? I think it unlikely. Certainly one of the preconditions is a total demoralisation within the revolutionary left. That we have not seen in Britain, and if the alternative is the politics of Italian autonomism we must redouble our efforts to make sure that never happens.

...oh yeah!

times as many applications to the Central Arbitration Committee (which deals with disputes) as, for example, the Transport and General. Even though these unions have 'trust' positions and better access to information, they are quicker to seize the opportunity.

Moss Evans has already indicated (in an accountancy firm's House Journal) that the T & G intends using the provisions of the Act, they're just slower on the uptake.

Incidentally the unions gain nothing significant for their co-operation. They can't get information from employers' associations and if a firm does not want to disclose something it can (usually successfully) plead its operations would be commercially harmed.

One nasty way the Act is being used is to preserve 'differentials'. Middle class unions demand details on other workers' salaries in order to preserve their own position of privilege. An example is the way the Institute of Journalists (IoJ) tried to get information on Daily Telegraph Printworkers' wages.

To conclude a rather rambling argument. What we are seeing is the closer identification of management and unions. Together they are coming to form a new style 'corporatist' management, much on the lines of the Soviet Union.

You remember union leaders saying they had 'seen the books' and that the enterprise was unable to 'afford' such and such a claim? Well as unions become more and more involved in the 'ability to pay' arguments, we shall see far more of this. What is more it will only be the tip of the iceberg, as union negotiators tailor their claims to fit 'corporate policy'. What price 'freedom of information'?

...and Tombolas to our Right

Four days after Mayday, the working classes of Nottingham, well OK 200 of them, flocked to the local trades council may-day march and 'celebrations'. I skipped the march, partly 'cos I didn't fancy the embarrassment of helping 'organised labour' parade its powerlessness to the masses and anyway I had a stall to put up. 'Stalls in a semi-circle round the beer tent', at least the trades council had its priorities right.

Speeches. Labour councillors. MPs etc. Fortunately the sound system was so bad you couldn't hear much. 'Massive fightback...labour movement must...recent local election results...this is the most reactionary government since...' since they were in power?

We were sandwiched between the Labour Party roll-a-penny and tombola on our right, and on our left, Militant. The main feature of the Militant stall was a large cartoon of Thatcher which you could pay 5p to throw darts at. No wonder the Labour Party is worried about infiltration, soon this lot will be challenging for control of the Tombola stall.

Other groups are more interesting though. Asian Youth Movement selling some excellent grub. Maoists doing brisk trade in imported Mayday badges and amazing that anyone would want to sell Stalin books. National Abortion Campaign, Health and Safety workshop.

CND - this complete with a circle of long-haired people sitting on the grass. I tell you, the best parts of the '60s are on the way back.

We were probably the busiest stall, thanks to the badge box. Most people were buying 'help the police - beat yourself up'. A sign of the times. Our local MP bought a copy of 'The Dispossessed', Ursula Le Guin's anarchist sci-fi book. But I don't hold out much hope of conversion - even if he did buy a 'tell me your official secrets' badge as well.

There was one trade union stall - local government workers. With the trades council lorry, borrowed from the co-op, blaring out the most outrageously sexist and tuneless country and western crap it's hardly surprising people didn't want to identify as trade unionists. Sam tried to do our ears a favour, but couldn't find the right wires to pull out of the sound system.



Marx—"What Can Autonomy Give The Workers That We Can't?"
Maggie — "Unlicensed pleasure"



XTRA-JUDICIAL

A look at resistance inside...

When you get sent down it's a defeat, but it's not the end. Cons do their bird their own way, and if you start telling others how to do theirs they're likely to mug you off, often with good reason. But 'doing it my way' is often the theme tune of the most out and out parole punter. Plus there are ways of talking to other cons about it which won't just piss them off. One thing is for sure, if you don't resist in prison at all you'll end up being a lot more personally damaged then otherwise.

If you're doing a long stretch it may be that escape is the form of resistance (talking about it all the while can be a get out from day to day resistance in the nick). I don't want to say much about escape because you end up giving more away to the otherside, something which holds me back from saying many things about resistance inside.

What can be said is that since the Mountbatten report following the Blake escape, it has become very difficult. To my knowledge there hasn't been a success in the modern maximum security nicks with all their gadgetry, one element of prisons for which there is always more money. My own view from escapes in other countries, is that the only ones which work are mass escapes from which some will get away.

What holds this up is grassing of course, which itself goes with parole. Parole has become the key form of control in nicks. It is discretionary (unlike remission), it is the carrot. This doesn't mean that everyone who gets parole is a parole punter. Not at all. In some cases in fact lively 'troublemakers' have got it, just so the nick can get them off their backs. In this the administration of each prison can develop it's own set of interests. But the reality of the effects of the parole system is something you can't ignore. If you realistically decide that

you've got no chance of getting it, don't apply for it. It can have a fine liberating effect. You've put yourself outside their processes.

That is the key to 'defensive' resistance. The point is to stop them getting inside your head. By and large they don't have the time and individual screws don't know how to do it, unless you make the move that lets them. Those moves are not just getting completely caught up in the parole business, it's also through their use of drugs. There are times when the use of depressant, controlling drugs is by force. Resistance has got to be from the mass of other prisoners as happened at Gartree a couple of years back, one of the finest incidents of mass resistance in nicks for years. The same goes for straight-forward beatings, where initial resistance started the first Gartree riot in '72, the Parkhurst riot, and the destruction of Hull in 1976.

But in many cases they get the opportunity to use drugs as a form of control as when someone voluntarily opts for valium. This has its own dynamic, and if the medical mob want it they can fast get a grip on you. So if another con is talking about taking it, try and stop it.

Dat to day resistance means having a good time, at the screws expense or in a

way which totally excludes them. Screws usually want jam on it. They fuck you around and then really get the needle when you give them a total blank in other situations. It means making space for yourself outside their routines and what they lay on.

In workshops the struggles are, in all sorts of ways, very similar to outside. Obviously you're going to do as little work as possible while still getting enough 'wages' to stop you having to ponce all the while. If the wages or conditions are getting really shitty there may be a strike. The feeling for that has got to be there. You can't make it, but once it's there you've got to think tactically just as you would on the out.

Some workshops are joke shops. They put you there when they know they're going to get no work at all out of you, and the production is not important to them. Other shops are profitable and they take them seriously, sometimes imposing penalty clauses. In these instances you can really get them in the bollocks. You've got to know when to up the stakes, and how to stop all the flannel, and ensure that you're not put in a situation where the nick can say it's nothing to do with us, it's the home office' or some other mob you can't confront directly.

The most important thing in strikes and all mass prison struggles is unity. Like elsewhere the tactic from the agents of repression is divide and rule. A familiar and depressing response to proposed confrontations is 'I'd do it, but you've got all those nonces and grasses'. There are nonces and nonces, and there are also a lot of loners who are dismissed in this way who are the best when it comes to trouble. The national PROP sit-downs and strikes of '72 did change a lot of things. The running was made by not by people with big 'names', but often in short term wings and by short timers.

There is a converse cop-out in which all people with big names are called 'plastic gangsters', though rarely to their faces. This too is often a libel on well-known long termers. For effective resistance there have to be people who are consciously aiming for unification and who don't join in this kind of verbal bullshit. Verbal as a whole is invariably bullshit. In most long term nicks, verballing screws is just a gesture which screws can take forever because they know it's not going to come to anything. It's usually an expression of weakness.

Another thing that's like outside is you fight when you've got a chance of winning. Sure there are no ultimate victories inside, and the price for success is often individuals being ghosted out of the nick and victimised in a block in some other nick where they've got no support. But you can choose your battles sometimes and take into account the real balance of forces that exists inside nicks. Like in the newest and 'model' nicks you can take it for granted they don't want any trouble that can get out of hand, because they've invested a lot there. So you can push for more, and when they try regaining some ground, cutting back what you've got, it should not take all that much to push them back.

Sometimes it can be done with just a concerted spate of alarm bell pushing. When you've had the heavy mob running

from wing to wing a few times they easily get the bollock ache. Sometimes it can come to a sit down and here we've seen that the state can up the stakes as in the recent screws riot in the Scrubs where, out of the blue, the MUFTI squad of organised terror smashed it up. The response to this from the outside may have helped put the Home Office on the defensive about this, quite rightly.

In many situations there is a need for outside support. The social democratic campaigns run by PROP over events at Hull and the Scrubs have been very successful at what they set out to do through Public Enquiries and backing from 'prominent' people. There is though, a more important need for local support groups around each prison, which can mobilise support information and direct action when something goes off inside the jail.

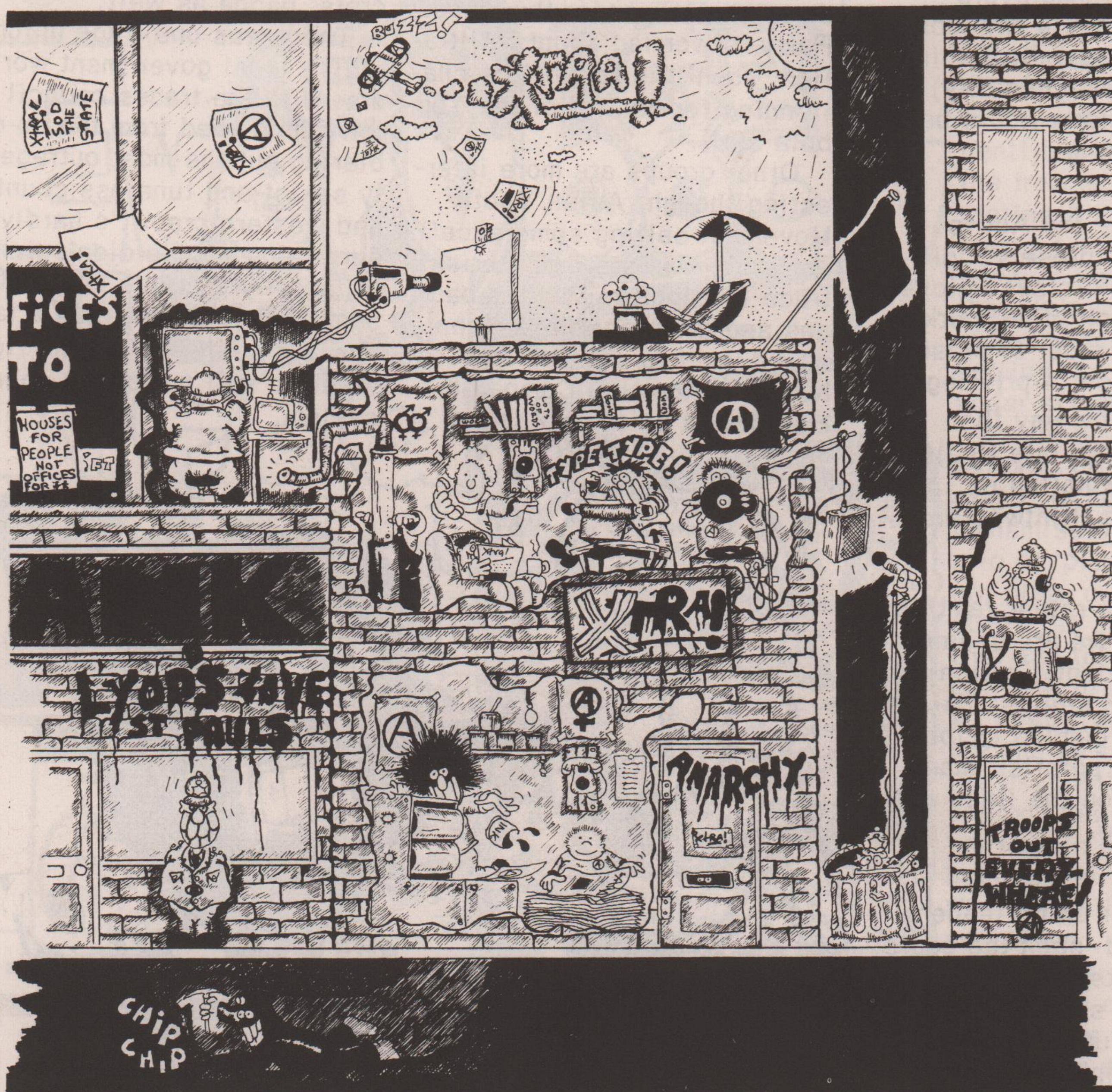
Still from that there are also clear lessons on what to do inside when it comes to sit-downs. Don't let individuals be picked off or volunteer as spokespeople. Keep it solid, and don't let it collapse, better to give it up as a decision you've made so you all go in together.

The most difficult unification to make is between different prisons, even though cons circulate from one nick to another. The reality is that as a threat there is always somewhere like Wandsworth, which exists in part as a deterrent nick. It is very rare that you can get any kind of action in one nick about what's happening in another like Wandsworth. It can happen and people in the cushier long term nicks should remember that if they are relatively cushy it's because of the fights of others who might well now be in blocks elsewhere. In all this outside help is needed too. The most important local groups initially are those around really bad nicks like Wandsworth, Strangeways, Winchester, Dartmoor and Parkhurst for example.

A national prisoners support organisation can help with that unification, but it will only be worth anything when it is built on real base groups for each prison. Base groups which aim to mobilise ex-cons, which have good links inside, can transmit news rather than opinions. Without this such an organisation will end up consisting of social democratic personalities and professionals, which is what I believe has happened to PROP, though as I said it has done some superb things within these bounds.

I have stressed mass struggles in prison. Individual protests are unlikely to succeed, though they can and often should win support. I'm thinking of hunger strikes for example, which made the added mistake of relying on the non-existent 'conscience' of the Home Office, or some amorphous public opinion. Force-feeding was a horror story, but Roy Jenkins pulled a clever stroke when he ruled this out because it means now it really does come to death.

There are ways of hurting them without necessarily hurting yourself. Like I said at the beginning, organised protest is only one form of resistance and not always the most important. Even riots are not organised in the sense of being plotted and the whole notion of ring-leaders is just a fiction of repressive bourgeois ideology and an opportunity for selective viciousness. But I'm talking about resistance which is more every day, where you make the space for good talking, for pulling strokes, having a laugh at their expense. I'm not going to talk about 'stroke-pulling I have known' because that's just a giveaway, and besides which you come up with your own. You can gild the cage, but imposing your own life-style on the place is not like that.



Xtra! is looking for office space somewhat on the lines of the above. Ideally, we'd like a shop-front, basement, rooms for offices and living space (Buckingham Palace would do) - all for absolutely free. We live in hope, still if you know where we can get our hands on something like this, quite cheaply, just drop us a line.

BEATRIX

WAS

HERE

THOUGHTS ON TORNESS

An attempted occupation of the Torness nuclear reactor site in south-east Scotland, over the weekend of May 3rd-5th, attracted about 150 demonstrators. But there were several hundred police (with 3000 on call), with helicopters, dogs, and cars and jeeps equipped with flashlights that turned night into day.

The event was a new development in the anti-nuclear movement in Britain: there was no central direction, this implying the need for, and the guarantee of autonomy (in food, transport, ideas, decisions, etc) for the groups and individuals taking part; and the event was openly advertised as an attempt to occupy the site and cause as much damage as possible. It was an attempt to attack nuclear power directly, as against the hierarchically controlled, media oriented, symbolic actions promoted by such organisations as Friends of the Earth, and the newly formed Anti Nuclear Campaign.

In the circumstances it's not surprising that the only damage done was a few cuts in the outer fence (soon mended), and that there were 27 arrests on breach of the peace charges. The resistance of those arrested was quite successful since the police had declared their intentions of holding them until the rest of the de-

monstrators went home; but the threat to destroy the cells and the refusal to go unless everyone was released ensured that this intention wasn't carried out.

Clearly the 'occupation' was a failure in terms of its original aims, since the damage caused was negligible. But the price the authorities paid was a security operation which probably cost more than any damage we could have hoped to do.

The question now seems to be whether to abandon attempts at direct action on a large rather than small group scale (which means either ineffectiveness, or organising into small commando groups, which may suit some people, but isn't going to mobilise that many); or whether to continue, making use of our strength - autonomy, flexibility, mobility - and their weaknesses - inflexibility, ignorance of our exact plans, reliance for security on expensive hardware. One idea that has been put forward is to hold Torness Alliance meetings (every six weeks) near the reactor site during the summer. Meanwhile the next meeting of the Alliance is in Oxford, Sat. and Sun. 7th-8th June.

Ecology and Anarchism
Box 1000, 182 Upper St.

No houses? No coronation! was the slogan of the Amsterdam squatters in the days leading up to the coronation of the new queen, Beatrix. At the beginning of March the dutch authorities had used tanks to remove barricades from the Vondelstraat. In response to this provocation the squatters announced they were planning numerous 'actions' against the coronation on 30th April.

The 30th was chosen for several reasons. Firstly the coronation meant the attentions of both the national and international mass-media would be focused on Amsterdam giving a unique oppo-

rtunity to publicise their struggle. Secondly in Holland 30th April is a day of 'National Unity'. A day of action would therefore unite all those who were opposed to nationalism, the state and the bosses. Thirdly the royal couple had insulted the badly housed by having two mansions restored for their own personal use at a cost of several million guilders.

Walls throughout the country were covered with stickers and slogans saying: 'NO TO MONARCHY, YES TO ANARCHY' and for the first time in Holland posters signed by 'the autonomists' appeared calling on people to 'come to Amsterdam armed with helmets, etc.'

Tension mounted and at the end of April Amsterdam became host to a several thousand-strong force of police.

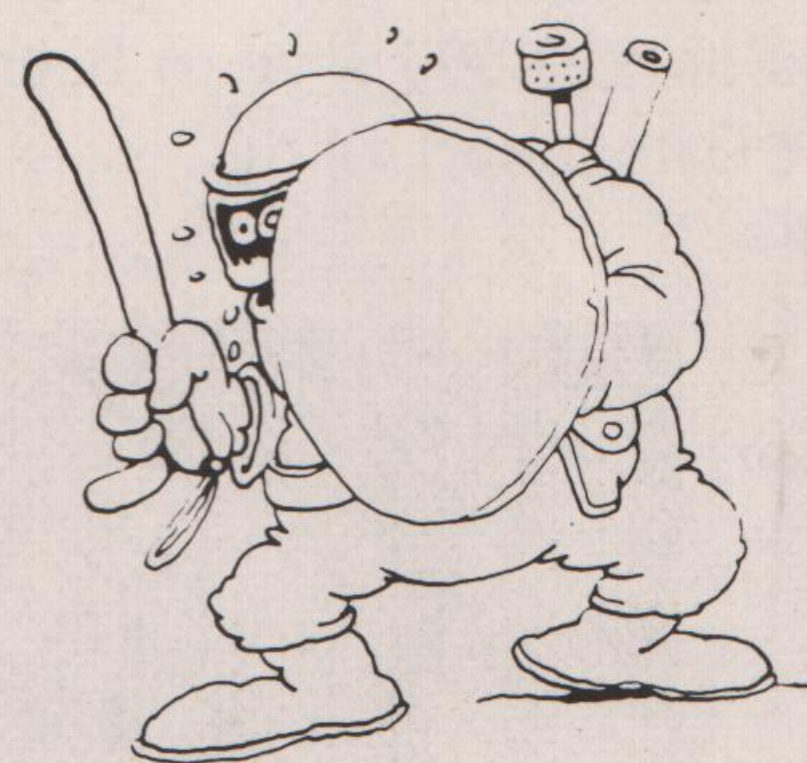
9.AM: The ceremony begins on the Dam Square, the main square in the town where the Royal Palace stands.

10.AM: A group of squatters occupies a building in the Kinkerstraat, about two miles from the Dam. The deputy mayor sends in the M.E. (mobile police units) who are greeted with a hail of bricks. Several hundred people come to the aid of the occupiers and barricades go up in the street. Worried by the turn of events the authorities order the M.E. to withdraw at about 11.30 AM.

11.AM: In the meantime the official ceremony continues on the Dam, where the assembled multitudes are unaware of what's happening in the Kinkerstraat. Someone lets off a smoke bomb and is arrested immediately, along with a couple of journalists who are taking photos. A few minutes later members of the royal family appear on the balcony of the Royal Palace. They find it almost impossible to make themselves heard against a background of whistling and booing from people in the crowd.

While all this is going on the TV is showing the first pictures of the events in the Kinkerstraat. In addition, the squatters' pirate radio is broadcasting a continuous live report of the events, which is being relayed by both local and national radio stations. This results in thousands of people pouring onto the streets and making their way towards the Jonas Daniel Meijer square, where the anarchists have already assembled.

2.PM The Jonas Daniel Meijer square and surrounding streets have been stripped of their paving stones and the barricades have gone up. The word goes round: 'Everyone to the Dam!' From every direction columns of demonstrators march towards the Dam. Thousands of demonstrators marching behind black flags with the police who have orders to stop them reach-



ing the Dam at all costs. The ceremony, now in the Nieuwe Kerk (New Church) continues to the accompaniment of ambulance sirens. The fighting is extremely violent and yard by yard the demonstrators edge towards the Dam.

3.PM: The pigs are forced to abandon the Blaambrug, a bridge they'd been ordered to hold at all costs.

4.PM: The head of the demonstration comes to about 300 or 400 yards from Dam. Police vehicles are in flames. The authorities are afraid the police cordons protecting the Dam will give way. One pig, seeing himself surrounded, takes out his revolver. Finally, reinforcements arrive from other towns, complete with tear-gas grenades, which the demonstrators throw back at them. For the first time in Holland the police use 'B' gas (as used in N. Ireland) which causes vomiting.

They even try to blow the demonstrators off their feet with low flying helicopters.

5.PM: The ceremony comes to a close in the New Church and the Priests, politicians, princes and ambassadors beat a hasty retreat while fighting rages all around. The planned 'triumphal' tour of the town by Beatrix and her clowns is called off. In the town itself there's a general riot. Shops in the centre are broken into and goods liberated. This goes on until 2.AM the following morning. The end result: the whole town centre torn apart, the damage estimated at

several million guilders; 80% of all police vehicles out of action (smashed up, burnt etc.); at least 40 arrests; several hundred injured demonstrators and police.

Rioting also occurred in other parts of the country, notably in the Hague, Arnhem, Groningen and Leeuwarden. In just one day 220 different buildings were occupied in 20 different towns.

Although the Bourgeoisie had expected a few 'problems' on the 30th, the extent of the rioting took it completely by surprise. Fighting on the streets between several thousand people and the police is of course something the 'tolerant' dutch state cannot tolerate. There have been several immediate responses to the events. The Right has launched a campaign in the media to justify the use of fire-arms by the police. The left, meanwhile has called for a stronger and better equipped police force.

Both sides are united in attacking the 'anarchists and autonomists' who no longer respect the rules of the democratic system. Both sides fear the growth of an extra-parliamentary opposition that will have nothing to do with the jiggery-pokery of politicians and their parties. Consequently a massive witch hunt is now under way to find those 'responsible for organising everything'. Of course, it's the anarchists who are bearing the brunt of repression.

Apart from this immediate wave of repression the tendency for those who no longer 'play the game' to be 'criminalised' (a process already well developed in West Germany) has been greatly reinforced. This affects not only radical groups but also the whole of the squatters' movement, especially since the latter is becoming more and more radical.

Although squatting is still completely legal in Holland, the past few months have seen systematic attempts by the police to crush the squatting movement, especially since squatters are no longer content to occupy old and dilapidated buildings but are now helping themselves to newly built luxury flats and offices. This new strategy is all the more unacceptable to the system since it forms part of a struggle which is clearly anti-capitalist, against speculation and against property.

The squatters movement is not homogeneous (it's a mass movement comprising of several tens of thousands of people) but in the big towns it is particularly well organised and highly efficient. In Amsterdam, for example squatters have their own local advice centres in over 20 districts. They have their own cafes, their own law centres and several free radio stations. They're all in permanent contact with each other by telephone which means they can mobilise quickly in the event of an emergency.

Although several political parties and small groups have tried to influence the movement, in general the squatters are suspicious of authoritarian organisations. Libertarian practices, on the other hand, are rapidly gaining ground.

Fireball on politics

What do they mean by MONETARISM anyway?

Well, are YOU better off as a result of the Budget? Nor am I. But then, when has any recent Chancellor even Claimed that the Budget would make the mass of people better off? Oh no: 'sacrifices have to be made ... two years hard slog ... we're laying the foundations of a strong economy ... jam tomorrow ... we've never claimed it would be easy (except when were in Opposition)...'

And then the newspaper headlines/Editorials (the two are becoming increasingly hard to tell apart) would tell us that, at long last, Chancellor Callaghan/Jenkins/Barber (remember him?)/Healey/Howe (who?) was beginning to Face Reality, Tell the British Nation the Truth, that we've (that's you and me, darlings, not Daily Mail leader-writers on £20,000 a year) been Living Beyond Our Means, that The World Doesn't Owe us a Living.

Of all the above phrases, perhaps the most amusing/irritating is the one about 'telling the Nation the Truth'. An awful lot of people claim to know The Truth about this economics business. The only snag is, there seem to be an awful lot of different truths floating around at present.

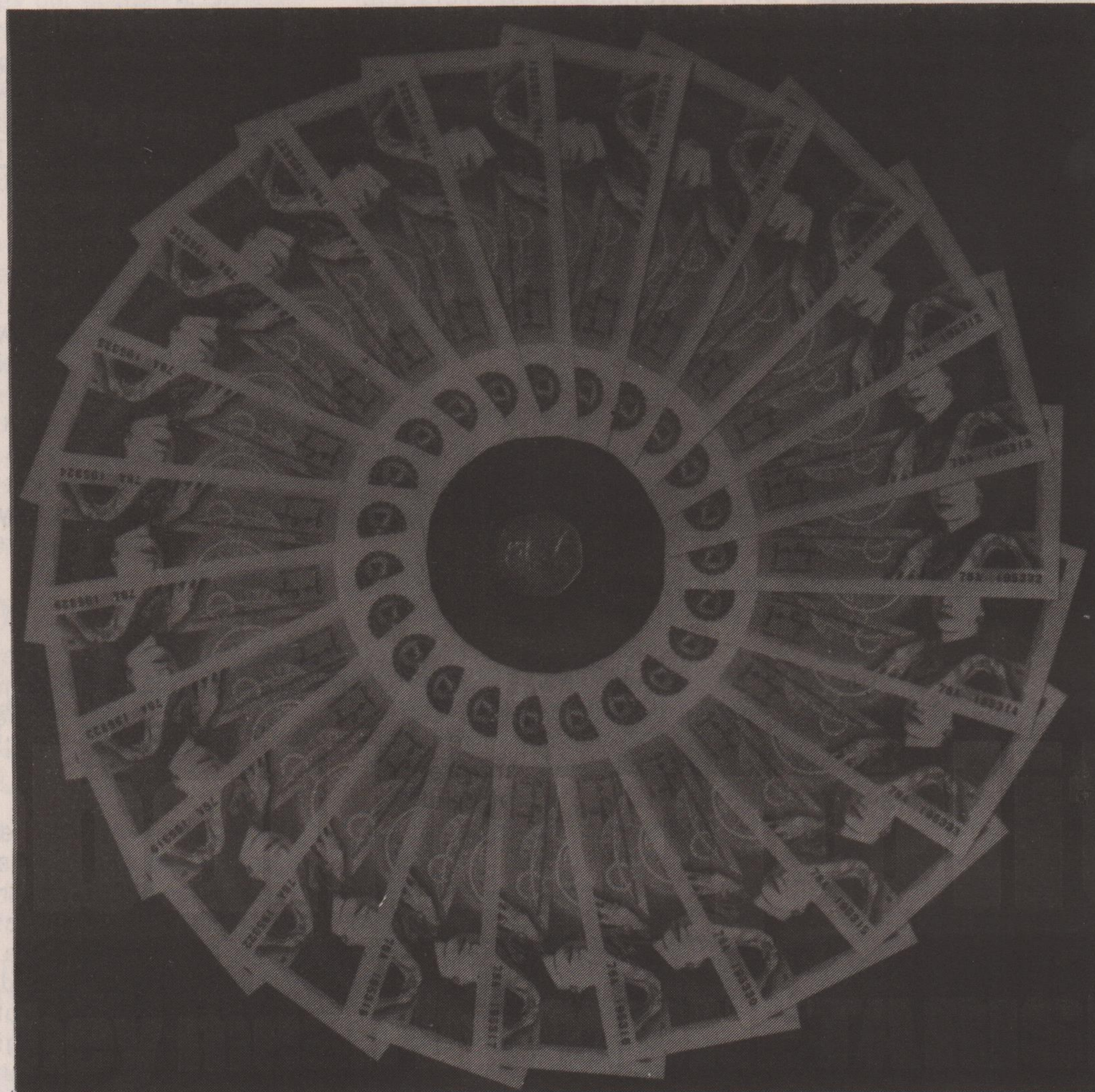
Take Monetarism for instance. This whole subject seems to have become totally obfuscated by its proponents and opponents, to the extent that most 'debate' no longer centres on the actual topic in question, but rather on what has come to be associated with it, eg Professor Milton Friedman. Most of the Left appear to regard this man as a Fascist Beast of the first order. If so perhaps they were taken aback when they saw him on TV: small, grinning friendly if argumentative. What a disappointment (still, he WAS American; couldn't conceal that, now could he?).

But back to the central issue. What, then is monetarism? Take a deep breath, relax, and expunge all thoughts of Sir Keith Joseph, unemployment, Chile/Fascism, M3, the Thirties etc from your mind. 'Monetarism; then, consists of the simple proposition that the cause of inflation - and the sole cause, at that - is excessive growth of the stock of money in the economy. Or, put another way, if the amount of money in the economy increases faster than the amount of goods, then their price will inevitably rise. In other words, the goods.... well, it should be abundantly clear by now. If it isn't, you haven't been paying attention; in which case come and see me after class.

Truth

There you are. Didn't hurt too much, did it? Now, I am not going to fall into the authoritarian trap of saying that such a proposition is The Truth (although I might just mention in passing that it IS, and that anyone who disagrees with me is an ignorant fool who should be publicly horse-whipped and forced to read Socialist Worker for the rest of his/her life). Not on your nelly, mate. Mind you, it is an undeniably seductive proposition, isn't it? Rather like the one about two and two making four. In which case: why is monetarism such a dirty word on the left? Probably because most of its exponents hold very right-wing views, so that monetarism has become associated with all kinds of fabulous monsters and hideous legends.

So let us debunk a few of the myths surrounding monetarism. Strictly speaking there is no reason why a lefty should not be a monetarist.



After all, being a monetarist simply means accepting a direct link between money supply and the rate of inflation. It does not follow that one should necessarily disapprove of inflation. In fact many progressives see inflation as a way of bringing about social change. Well, if you happen to be a monetarist progressive you should be able to decide exactly what rate of inflation you want. All you need do to achieve this is to increase the money stock at a rate of X% above the level of output to achieve X% inflation (but always remember to allow for a time lag of 18 months to 2 years).

Myths

Another myth - perhaps the most potent of all, at least as far as the Labour Party is concerned - is that public spending cuts are the only way to contain the growth of the money supply. This is because, the argument goes, the only reason why the Government prints more money is that it is a means of filling what is technically referred to as the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (or PSBR, as we economists groovily call it). Yes, darlings, but there are other ways of filling the deficit. One way is taxation - which needn't necessarily affect the masses as the rich could afford to pay more. An-

other way is simply borrowing money from the outside banking system. This could be from private individuals or from the International Monetary Fund.

So am I arguing in favour of monetarism? Not really. It's simply that facts are facts. To accept that the world is round is not to 'argue in favour' of its roundness; and if right-wingers also say it's round this doesn't detract from its validity.

And acceptance of the realities of the capitalist world (oh dear, that sounds a teeny bit left-wing) doesn't necessarily lead to right-wing prescriptions (though in my case I suppose it does).

Havoc

Monetarism seems to be causing havoc in the Labour Party at present. The trouble is that the Government's economic policies are in many ways similar to those of the last Labour Government. When Denis Healey was Chancellor, hardly a week could go by without him boasting toothily about 'my monetary targets'. Now he pops up on Milton Friedman's 'Free to Choose' TV series, noisily denouncing the former's 'Saatchi and Saatchi type simplistic films'. Actually, I have to admit grudgingly that Healey did extremely well. Watching him alongside poor, furtive, well-mannered Geoffrey Howe, rudely interrupting and blatantly refusing to heed appeals 'not to bring this down to party point scoring', it was difficult to realise that it was the quiet, bespectacled Tory who was in charge of the economy and not the irrepressive, rumbustious Healey. It is this confident, thrusting aspect of Denis, coupled with his air of experience and worldliness which will, I am certain, en-

sure his inheritance of the Labour Party's leadership when Jim finally decides to call it a day.

However, he'll inherit a lot of trouble as well. For the Labour Party, never exactly enthusiastic about monetarism, is likely to become even more hostile as unemployment soars and the cuts bite. Why, even Jim Callaghan has started making noises about the dangers of monetarism. He recently (on Weekend World) denounced it all as a 'gimmick', claiming that when he was Chancellor back in the Swinging Sixties 'M3 hadn't even been invented' (and when he was Chancellor...he resigned). Indeed, Jim went further, calling for increases in public expenditure. I hardly think Healey would be keen on that. Healey's main theme seems to be that monetarism is OK providing that it's a Labour Party type, not a Conservative one. What's the difference? Ah, Labour's is more 'compassionate' (more income tax, more money for the Arts Council).

Not that the Tories are at one on the subject either. A lot of the more clear-headed ones realise that the Government's policy of monetarism, coupled with its restrictive policies on economics, is leading towards plummeting profits and zero (or even minus) growth. Like the statist Labour Party left-wing, they are terrified of 'deindustrialisation' (a subject unto which I hope to deal with another time). And it is true that a certain amount of inflation is vital to capitalism.

Some Xtra! tyrants have urged me to 'come out in favour of abolishing money'. I suppose that would provide a good alibi for shop-lifting or fare-dodging - 'sorry guv, I can't pay; they've abolished money - didn't you hear the news this morning?' And, without the infernal stuff in existence I suppose there'd be no danger of it increasing too fast. On the other hand, if money was abolished we'd have to be living in a perfect world - and what pray, would I be able to write about in this column under such circumstances?

CAMPAIGN FOR THE ABOLITION OF MONEY

CHAPTER THREE: BANANAS AND THEIR ACQUISITION

Method A (Scene: A street, not too far away from where you are reading this)

CHILD (pleadingly): Mummy, I want a banana, please.

MOTHER (of 'strained' appearance, holding a shopping bag): No, I'm sorry, but I can't afford anymore.

Method B (Scene: A patch in a 'primitive' society - somewhere)

CHILD (casually): Mummy, I want a banana, please.

MOTHER (seated, quietly humming a song): Well, (smiles) don't just stand there looking at me! Go and pick some!

HAS MANKIND, AT THIS STAGE OF MODERN CAPITALISM, REACHED THE PINNACLE OF HUMAN CIVILISATION? WHY NOT THINK ABOUT A SOCIETY OF FREE ACCESS.

green is the grass...

FREE SUPPLY

Drug abuse or use for psychological effect is made illegal, but is it justified? Drug addiction has been said to be a person lumping all his/her problems into one - obtaining the drug.

A person does not usually go straight to heroine - although many start on prescribed barbituates. Therefore 'soft' drugs such as Cannabis and Amphetamines can be said to be a medium for drug addiction.

Many people use soft drugs during adolescence, most grow out of it. Then drugs are used occasionally for fun, perhaps as escapism, perhaps in memory of adolescence.

Drug addiction is a symptom of inability to cope with this society. Any society where Rules of property divide people with a 'this is mine, this is yours' attitude had to be uncaring. The rift is more than just materialistic. Property divides people and paranoia, violence and authority thrive. Drug addiction is a symptom of our society, not a disease of the individual.

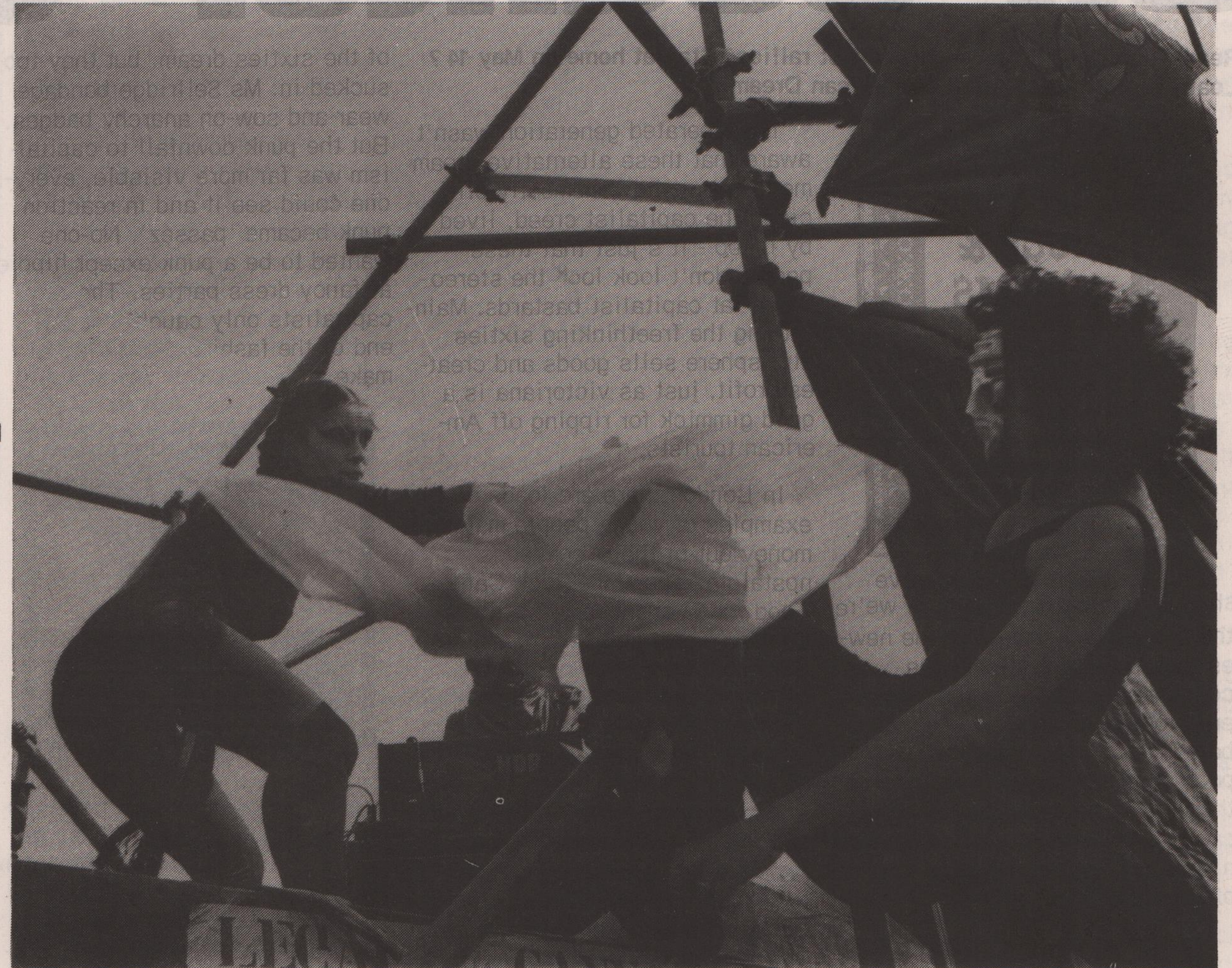
Drugs can be used by individuals to their benefit, when they know what they're taking and the effects. In western society we are brought up to alcohol and after a few trivial drunken and unpleasant experiences, learn to cope with it, just as people in the Opium fields learn to cope with a much more addictive and dangerous drug.

Opium and heroine have a disastrous effect over here. But alcohol had a drastic effect on those not used to it - such as the American Indians.

People have learned to cope with drugs they have grown up with and are used to. Drugs should be used, not people used by drugs. Barbituates of varying strength and duration are prescribed to all those with problems, most of which could be solved by love and care.

Doctors don't have time to deal with individuals, so instead they prescribe downers. These don't solve any problems, they are more likely to submerge them. In the same way prison authorities fill troublesome prisoners with barbituates when they become angry and frustrated at the way they're being treated. Inside or outside prison the treatment for mental upsets is the same.

Barbituates don't just hold back the casualties of our society by state conspiracy, it is more subtle than that. Drugs which tranquillise are allowed. If any drug were to threaten the state it would be suppressed. Not just hindered as Black Market drugs are now, but stamped out. They could quite easily do it they wanted to, but sadly drugs ensure the naturally rebellious rebel in a controllable way. Soft drugs are



the safety valve on boredom and frustration.

As well as this drugs are also produced not so much to help people as to make profits for drug companies. Doctors learn about drugs through advertising and representatives on commission. Health is controlled by advertising.

In a free society drugs will be used not as a means of escape, or to centralise problems by becoming addicted, but as a means of broadening the mental outlook.

HOT HASH



These have been tested. If you don't think that dope is a potent hallucinogen, and you have about ten hours to spare, then go ahead. Do not proceed if you've not tried dope before, unless you have a wise and trusted friend to advise you.

The best thing to use is some nice, light, crumbly hash. Moroccan or Lebanese is best. You will need about 1/4 ounce, which, if you are on good terms with your dealer, won't set you back much more than a tenner.

Do NOT use grass or black hash. The effect is just as devastating without slinging in that oily lump which just arrived from Asia. Very good dope is best smoked.

If you think that £10 is too much for a one-off, then you are more fucked-up than I thought. Last time we made these goodies, between ten and twenty people were totally zonked for the entire Saturday night. You feel pretty good when you wake up, too. Works out at about 75p each. Beats LSD for value.

OK. We'll take it in easy stages. I assume that when you get your dope home, you will first smoke a little to make sure that it works.

We shall presume that it works, and that you are moderately, but not excessively stoned. The excess comes later.

Now you have to get things together....

- 1) Equipment: oven, bowl, saucepan, shallow, heatproof dishes.
- 2) Delegate the least stoned to do the shopping.
- 3) Crumble up the entire 1/4oz. and put it safely (away from errant Rizlas) to one side.

Now the recipes. I know that you're stoned, but only a cretin could mess this up. Don't rush.

Put things where they can't be knocked over. Be together.

Chocolate Shortbread

- 6 oz. margarine
- 3 oz. brown sugar
- 5 1/2 oz. plain flour
- 3 1/2 oz. desiccated coconut
- 3 tablespoons cocoa powder
- 3 oz. plain chocolate

Cream the margarine and sugar together until it's well blended. Then sling in the flour, coconut and cocoa. Mix well. Sling in half of the pre-crumbled dope. Mix thoroughly.

Press the mixture firmly into a greased heatproof dish.

Bake in a moderate oven (350 F - Gas mark 4) for half an hour.

Set a timer because you're stoned.

While the mix is cooking, grate up the chocolate.

When the shortbread is nearly done, (ie smelling good, and not burnt) scatter the chocolate on top and return the dish to the oven until the chocolate is melted.

Remove from oven, spread chocolate evenly with a knife, and allow it to cool. As the shortbread cools, it will go harder, so don't worry if it seems too soft and crumbly at first. If you can avoid eating it until it's just warm to the touch, you won't have it crumbling all over the place.

Hold on to the other half of dope - you'll need it for the recipe in the next issue of Xtra!

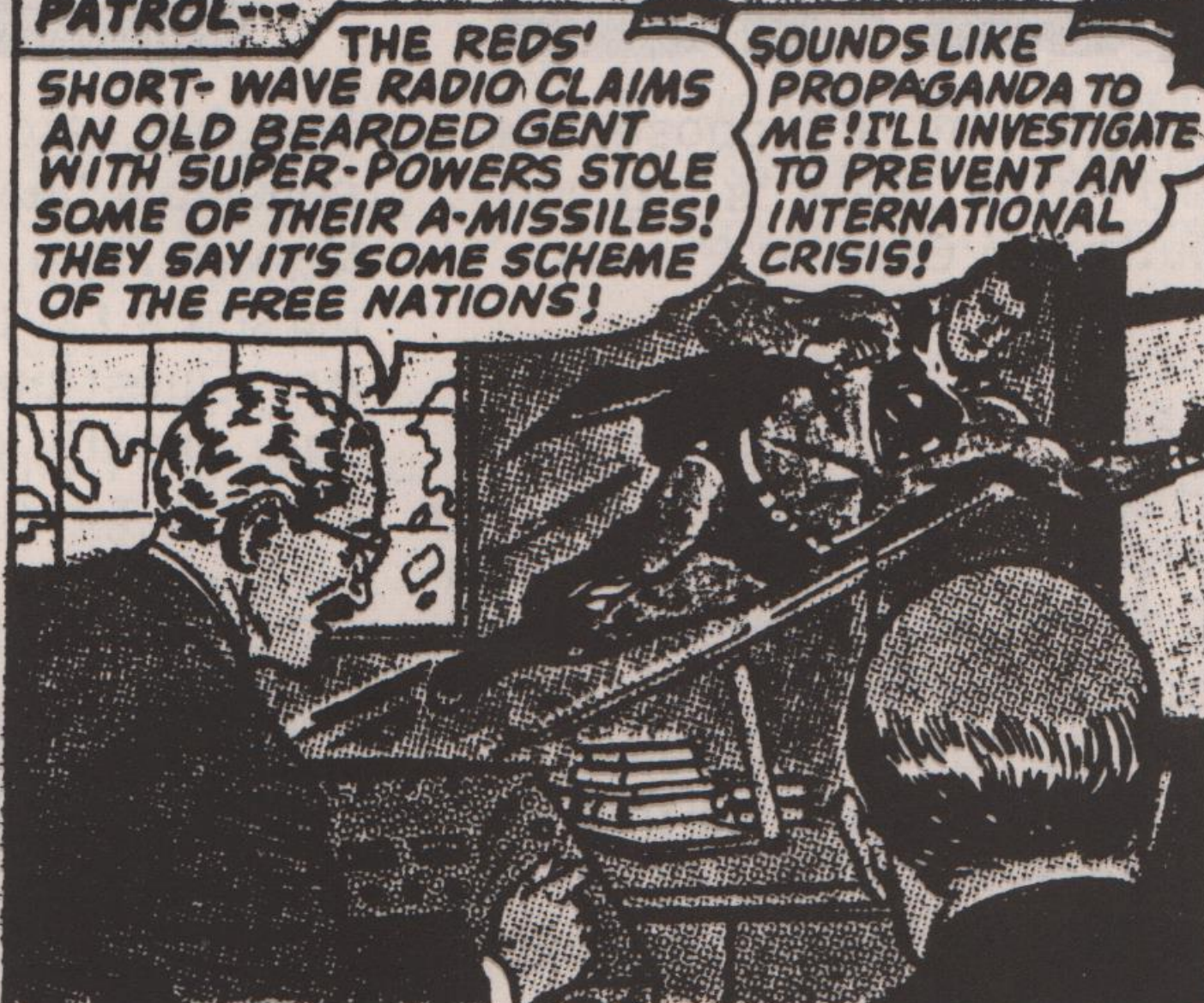
And the Lord spake unto mankind saying:
'Ye shall obey me, the Lord God, and deny yourself, and thus shall ye find it easy to obey your masters, no matter how cruel, and oppressive, and so shall all rulers profit from the lies of religion'.

sounds like propaganda..

SHORTLY, THE DISGUISED FORMER PHANTOM WHIZZES HIGH ABOVE SCREENING CLOUDS...



A LITTLE LATER, AS SUPERMAN VISITS A BRITISH SECURITY AGENCY DURING HIS WORK PATROL...



SOON, IN IRON CURTAIN TERRITORY...



SWIFTLY, SUPERMAN RETURNS THE STOLEN MISSILES...



On Counter-Culture...

Read Time Out? Go to all the leftist rallies? Stay at home on May 14? Loath capitalism? Hate the American Dream?



I do but we've got a massive shit heap in our own garden, we're the biggest consumers of the newest brand of capitalism - the counter culture. We're the blinkered fools who think we're not being exploited. But we're just putting money into the pockets of the new 'subtle and improved' capitalists - not top-hatted men of ninety, but jean-infested people of twenty, thirty or forty.

These are the people who in the laid-back days of the sixties sought equality, liberty and the anti-capitalist dream (hallucination?), set up 'underground' supplies of what their liberated generation wanted - alternative magazines, alternative record-shops, clothing shops, eating places etc.

Slowly as the liberated generation got older and liberalised (sticking to their old principles of course, but we've got to think of the kids now and the car, and the stereo and the....) The purveyors of the alternative culture became more and more entrenched and began to make large profits out of a gullible and 'non-exploited' market.

The liberated generation wasn't aware that these alternative dream merchants, who vehemently criticised the capitalist creed, lived by it too - it's just that these people don't look like the stereotyped fat capitalist bastards. Maintaining the freethinking sixties atmosphere sells goods and creates profit, just as victoriana is a good gimmick for ripping off American tourists.

In London there are loads of examples of young people making money out of their 'comrades' nostalgia. The Hard Rock Cafe, Food for Thought, almost all of Camden Town and Covent Garden exists to feed the trips of the gullible consumers who think they are dealing with profit-sharing workers' co-ops and getting 'value' for money.

Naturally £4 for a second-hand shirt, or 35p for a loaf of wholemeal bread is cheap, but costs are less for these people. Just ask next time you buy something at a 'hip' establishment how much it cost in the first place and who pockets the difference. The answer would have Milton Friedman jumping for joy. If wholemeal

**RADIO
194**

bread doesn't make a good profit why has Wonderloaf invented wholemeal bread for mass consumption?

In the late seventies punks recognised the hypocritical nature

of the sixties dream, but they too sucked in. Ms Selfridge bondage wear and sow-on anarchy badges. But the punk downfall to capitalism was far more visible, everyone could see it and in reaction punk became 'passez'. No-one wanted to be a punk except hippies at fancy dress parties. The fat capitalists only caught the tail end of the fashion and failed to make a fast buck

TimeOut

**Preview Offer
'The Brood'**

Details Page 52

Voucher 1

Punk, however, revitalised the counter-culture market. The new youth rebellion brought new commodities (and profit) to a market that was becoming sterile (and potentially unprofitable). New rebellious poses had to be fed and it was the capitalists of the sixties, still young, in touch with and trusted by the younger people, who were their feeders.

Virgin records, that trustworthy supplier of obscure records by Dylan, Beefheart or Country Joe and the Fish, synonymous with run down shops, headphones and people with long hair, have opened Megastores with security men and TV, Space Invaders and the Human league.

Who gains from this increased efficiency? Not the record buyer, or the Virgin assistants, but Richard Branston and his fellow

directors - some alternative. It's funny too to hear John Peel doing adverts for the Virgin money men, another figure of the alternative establishment reaping his financial benefits. I suppose Virgin will sign up the Clash soon to 'turn rebellion into money' (their quote).

Time Out is another left biased firm that doesn't practice what it preaches. TO offers a lot - left biased news (and detective) service, the most comprehensive what's on guide in London and fairly reasonable arts criticism. But these are the journalists and editors who work for the magazine, not the people who gain the profit from the wide circulation and advertising.

XXXX set up and owns the magazine, he gives his journalists free editorial control, good wages and plenty of perks with the job (paternity as well as maternity leave is one), but this guy knows which side his bread is buttered. If he hadn't set up an 'alternative' circulation magazine he couldn't possibly have got in on the money market. Another sign of TO's profit before principles is the as yet not cleared up mystery as to why they took their printing to Tralee N.Ireland (coincidentally?) during the first few weeks of the NGA's action.

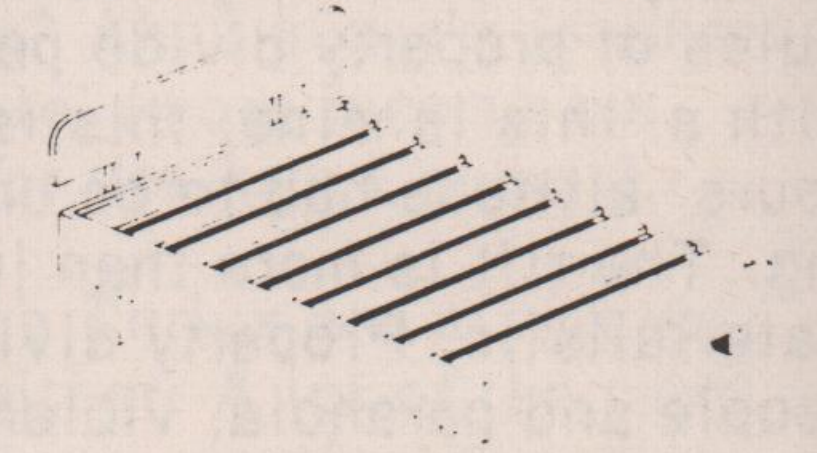
Other more traditional industries have adopted their own ways to jump in on the alternative bandwagon. Community radio and radio-phone-ins (freedom of speech - with a seven second delay), have thrived in the last ten years, not because of some philanthropic

gesture on the part of the radio directors, but because someone going berserk on a live phone-in (and the expectation of this) keeps people listening to the programme - adverts and all.

Law centres and 'radical' lawyers have been set up to defend and help local people who get a tough deal from the law. But these people get their legal aid payments by going along with the existing laws, win or lose the case that's all that matters. They should be using their ability to question change and eradicate laws, instead of pandering to the present system.

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The cinemas, sociologists, psychologists, the Church, the Mafia and many other industries have adapted themselves in the past ten years, but their economic structures have remained the same, it's just the style of advertisement and consumption that have changed. Che and Zapata are alive and well and selling jeans and shoes in Kensington.

...And State Culture

'We need more money for the Arts', 'Young people should be encouraged to take more interest in the Arts', 'the Government must step in to save the Arts from collapse'. How reasonable these common phrases sound; who could disagree? Well, I do for a start.

Let's start with the central phrase. 'The Arts'. How dreary, how monolithic, how respectable, how MISERABLE it sounds! I'm listening to Radio 1 'Talkabout' programme while typing this: twenty minutes into it and I've already lost count of how many times the pernicious phrase has been uttered. (And we've got Norman Singed Bum, or whatever his name is, the Minister for The Arts (next stop the Ministry for Truth?) blathering on about what 'a bargain' the Arts are. Yes folks, it's money money money all the way.)

But in reality, 'The Arts' do not exist. We have artists, musicians, playwrights, and we have works of art, pieces of music and plays. Some are good some are bad. To lump them all together under a banner like

'The Arts' is as ludicrous as the phrase 'the people think...'

As ludicrous, yes, but regrettably just as widespread in everyday language. It's all part of destroying the concept of individualism. Just as individual human beings can be submerged in a lathery phrase like 'the People' or 'the masses', so individual instances of creativity can be smothered and labelled under the all-embracing, statist term 'The Arts'. And then a small number of Eton-and-Oxford educated £25,000 a year bureaucrats can decide whether Your 'Art' is 'worthy'. Yes? OK, here's some lovely money then (after all, that's the highest art form of all, isn't it?); we'll give you plenty of publicity and make sure you're given nice notices - the final accolade is to be told that you've made a big contribution to the British Arts (in

the same way, I suppose, that Adolf Hitler made 'a big contribution to German Fascism').

And if you're judged as 'not worthy'? Well, you're obviously not 'valid': you're not contributing to the 'betterment of The People's minds' (ie making sure they don't use them - after all, it might tire them out, poor dears). And without the Arts Council, who could survive? How could Beethoven, Shakespeare, Orwell, John Lennon, Bernard Shaw - bugger it, this is getting elitist - the Clash for that matter, then - how could they have managed without good notices in the Press and the personal stamp of approval from Sir Roy Shaw (chairman of the Arts Council, for the benefit of our culture-starved readers)?

The fact that they did destroys at a stroke all the condescending crap about artists 'needing' to become yet another nationalised industry - run by the few for the benefit of the

few, but paid for the many. I remember hearing dear old Melvyn Barg (the unthinking person's Culture Expert) on Any Questions a few weeks ago, nasally giving his all-purpose solution to every pro-

blem: fling more money on it. Then came along a question (how inevitable, given that Sir Roy Shaw was on the panel as well): what do we do about The Arts? No prizes for guessing his answer to that one.



NO MASTERS, NO GODS

Why is anarcha-feminism the cause of so many arguments among anarchists?
One of the biggest rifts in the anarchist movement lies between those who emphasise personal politics and those who do not. The question of feminism is the most heatedly argued of all.

On the one hand there is the argument that feminism is a narrow viewpoint, divisive in its tendency to place the 'blame' on men while ignoring the class struggle. At the same time it is seen as having aims which can easily be conceded by those who rule.

On the other hand it is argued that in every sphere of life women are treated as inferior, that this can only be fought by women, that a revolution in personal terms can in itself shake the foundations of a rigidly hierarchical society.

The 1970s are supposed to have been the years of the feminist movement. It is certainly true that it grew in numbers, influence and strength at this time.

So what does this prove? It proves firstly that increasing numbers of women are beginning to challenge their rigid roles in society, they are prepared to fight and they are prepared to find solutions that by-pass the system.

At the same time a number of principles have emerged. Firstly there is no question of setting up a hierarchical womens' movement - women of all people are aware of the penalties of being trapped at the bottom. Secondly only the oppressed can fight the oppressors. Thirdly the extent to which you can take control of your life is ultimately linked to your success in uniting with others.

These principles are essentially libertarian, but they raise some important questions in the minds of the unconvinced.

The most frequent question asked

is whether women are any more oppressed than men. I'm not going to fall into the trap of arguing this point - in the end it's irrelevant. But it has to be recognised that women are oppressed differently to men. Men are not wives and mothers, men are not on the whole as badly treated as workers.

But surely some women have important roles in the system? Yes. It's also possible to start from the poorest of working backgrounds and end up rich and powerful. This does not mean there's no oppression of women, or of the working class. It doesn't mean, either, that the answer is to make the competition in society 'fairer'. It merely emphasises that oppression is an extremely subtle thing. It rests on playing people off against each other. Middle v working class, men v women, middle class women v working class men.

Anarchists accept that only the oppressed can fight oppression. So feminism obviously raises a problem. If women are oppressed as women, then only they can fight their own struggle and this will to some extent necessarily involve fighting men. Yet in order to overcome oppression as a whole we have to cease fighting each other.

This is why the idea of women-only meetings, centres and newspapers is so often attacked by male anarchists. It is understandable, but not very understanding. The idea is that women need to gain confidence in themselves in themselves as individuals and in groups. It is a perfectly natural part

of uniting against oppression. No anarchist can genuinely object to the Principles behind single sex meetings.

But the feminist movement is not sacred. Many feminists do deserve criticism from anarchists. When feminists cut themselves off from everything except the womens' struggle, when they refuse to see women can be wrong, when they allow tactics - like women-only meetings - to become ends in themselves, they are helping neither women nor anyone else. More important those feminists who simply see all men as 'the enemy' will never do more than reinforce the oppression that exists throughout society, because they are continuing the divisions that ensure oppression remains viable.

Despite these failings feminism is still a vital part of the anarchist struggle. If struggle is to be spontaneous and autonomous, it necessarily means that different sections of society will perceive the fight in terms of their own position. It is only through genuine grievances that people start to become conscious of exploitation at all, it is at the next stage that a consciousness of the generality of struggle and of the need for solidarity can be developed. No-one absorbs the idea of revolution overnight.

This is where anarcha-feminism comes in. And there is a vast difference in emphasis between anarcha-feminists and their feminist sisters. It is a mystery why this is ignored. Just as anarchist workers disagree fundamentally with the rank and file of 'workers' parties', so anarcha-feminists recognise the limits of their common struggle with other women. It is just as ridiculous to ask an anarcha-feminist about her attitude to Margaret Thatcher, as it is to ask an ACA member about how s/he feels about Len Murray.

But anarcha-feminism is not simply a half-way house between anarchism and feminism. It is a feminist approach to anarchism. It is not enough to say that anarchism necessarily involves combatting the oppression of women, making a specifically feminist section superfluous. The truth is there are even fewer women anarchists than there are women in 'workers' parties'. This is not because women are being brainwashed into the womens' movement, either.

The womens' movement simply offers women more encouragement and opportunity for involvement than the anarchist movement. But while it is important for male anarchists to take this into account, no-one, feminists least of all, wants an anarchist movement that makes concessions to women - it is precisely because women want independence that they must have their own groups too.

In fact the whole of the left is beset with arguments about feminism. But with the rest of the left it is hardly surprising. Feminists act autonomously, they challenge petty, hierarchical chains of command, they ignore uptight, authoritarian central committees, they refuse to let men make decisions for them and recognise that the top echelons of any organisations are always predominantly male.

But why does the anarchist movement have these arguments? Anarcha-feminists cannot challenge a hierarchy that doesn't exist. And if it does then anarchists of all people must accept that it should be challenged. If anarchists cannot live alongside feminists as equal partners in struggle then they are not only turning their backs on an important dimension to revolution, they are also acting as rigidly as the forces they aim to destroy.



Oxford Anarchist Conference

Our prayers have finally been answered: The Oxford Anarchist Conference (June 21st-22nd). Held at Ruskin Collage (that's a bit up from the bus station on my map) it will begin at 11am. Accomodation (bring sleeping bags) and a creche are available. If you're going, give Tony a ring on 0865 43520.

Timetable of Events.

Saturday 21st June.

11.00am Introductory plenum.
12.00am Lunch - supplied by the very wonderful Uhuru Collective.
1.00pm Plenum: on Industry & Organisation. to read out discussion papers and explain them.
3.00pm Workshops: on Industry, Anarchists in industry, Anarchist Organisations etc.
4.30pm Afternoon tea.
5.30pm Concluding plenary session.
8.00pm ANARCHO BOP! (hopefully with bands & disco)

Sunday 22nd June.

11.00am Start - plenary to arrange workshops.

THEN Workshops on : libertarian education
Ireland
Anarcha-feminism
Ecology & anarchism
Propaganda techniques
Violence/non-violence
the libertarian press
Nuclear power.
Men against sexism

1.30pm Lunch
2.30pm More workshops on above topics
4.30pm tea
5.30 Concluding plenary.



January 1975

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The person who actually invented the idea and coined the term hierarchy (hierarchia) was the Pseudo-Denys who wrote some influential tracts in the second half of the 5th century. He was most insistent upon obedience to one's superior and believed that the guarantee for 'harmony and order' lay in the proper distribution of power downwards by the hierarchs.

So the next time a policeman/soldier/teacher/bureaucrat/worker/revolutionary says 'I'm only acting under orders' just tell them about Pseudo-Denys..

The Revolutionary Power of Music?

Modern music should be seen for what it is: a disruptive force eroding slowly but steadily the very foundations of a society which attempts to capitalise on its boom.

To fustify such a sweeping statement it is necessary to define the terms music and society. The last fifty years have brought no new Einsteins, no revolutionary scientific or artistic breakthroughs - the list of barren entries could fill a page. But the one notable exception is the live cult that can loosely be termed 'music'.

The structure of this cult has no parallel in Western culture, dating back millenia to the bacchanalian orgies of the early Greeks. Or even further back to the very origins of tribal society, where art, politics, religion, and life are an undifferentiated continuity, with the shaman or visionary communicating his experience via ritual dance and song.

The term 'music' describes such phenomena as 'Beatlemania', the great pop festivals - Woodstock, Glastonbury etc - mods and rockers, and more recently, skins and rockabilies, the free festival movement (dating from the squat by the now defunct White Panthers in Windsor Park), the bands and their followers, and lastly an industry busy packaging and selling the revolution to the under sixteens.

'Society' or 'system' (terms beloved by anarchist theoreticians) is nothing more than the transmission of the basic scenario or 'plot'. The basic Western plots can be seen to operate in the story of Adam and Eve and they are repeated for millenia in a virtually unchanged form; from Oedipus through the murders of Shakespeare, the psychological jealousy-possession-domination formulae remain constant and are behaviourally transmitted to every Western child by his parents and school, later reinforced by propaganda.

Music is counterpropaganda and attacks the scenario by rejecting the established world view and substituting a new philosophy at the most impressive level. A generation brought up on 'Universal Soldier' (Donovan), 'They've got the guns, but we've got the numbers' (Doors), 'Why don't

you just fade away' (the Who), 'Why can't we go as three' (Airplane), '21st Century schizoid man' (King Crimson), 'No future in England's dream', (Sex Pistols), 'Do the Robot' (the Saints), is beginning to be aware of itself as an emergent force.

The so-called alternative society of the sixties and seventies was music-derived and based on bands who were prepared to break the law and get busted for it. Like Global Village Trucking Company, who got done playing the Prince of Wales Crescent in 1972. Each

time they were pushing the barriers of repression further away. Many members of the music scene have been seduced away from revolutionary activity by country houses and bank accounts. This is unfortunate but not tragic. They have given way to more outspoken groups and would probably give everything to be back at the centre of the action.

We can take the Plastic People's statement a little further: the notes that are played today, shall crack the walls of tomorrow.

Kristoff Kalinka.

Distribution

Xtra!'s distribution outside London is awful. It's difficult for a young paper to get widely known. What we need is feedback from our readers. We're publishing this list for several reasons. Firstly if you can't afford to subscribe you can see where to get single copies from. Secondly, hopefully, you can tell us what Bookshops you know that would be prepared to stock us, but aren't yet. Thirdly, hopefully, we can check to see if these bookshops are actually selling us, or just burying us under SWs. Remember if you think you can flog a few, just drop us a line.

ABERDEEN Boomtown Books.
BATH 1985 Community Bookshop.
BIRMINGHAM Peace Centre.
BELFAST Just Books.
BRADFORD Forth Idea.
BRIGHTON Public House, Solstice.
BRISTOL Chapter and Verse, Forever People, Pie in the Sky. Full Marks,
CAMBRIDGE Grapevine.
CARDIFF 108.
EDINBURGH First of May.
HANLEY STOKE The Other Bookshop.
HULL Socialist Books.
LANCASTER Single Step.
LEEDS The Corner Bookshop.
LEICESTER Blackthorn Books.
LIVERPOOL News from Nowhere.
MANCHESTER. Grassroots.
MILTON KEYNES Oakleaf Books.
NEWCASTLE Days of Hope.
NOTTINGHAM Mushroom.
NORWICH Freewheel.
OXFORD EOA
SOUTHAMPTON. October Books.
STOCKTON Green Balcony Shop.
YORK Community Books.

Bookshops

There are too many pictures of cops in XTRA

I bought XTRA by mistake

XTRA got me interested in life, but now I'm bored again.

The readership raves

XTRA is better than the usual lefty trash.

I really enjoy XTRA. But how about printing some pics of Durutti?

In 50 years XTRA could be as important as the Labour Party. We must start building now.

XTRA keeps me aware of things like the NF, prisons and nukes, it's only then that I realize how doomed we all are.

XTRA needs to criticize itself more, only then will the numbers follow...

Everybody Needs Xtra! Ideas

~don't think you're any exception~

A subscription for twelve issues costs £4, £5 overseas and £8 for institutions.

You can also subscribe for as many issues as you want. But please remember to include something for postage.

Send your money to XTRA!, Rising Free, 182 Upper Street, Islington London N1.

Your name.....

Address.....

Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to 'A little Bit'.

INFORMATION

IF YOU WANT INFORMATION INCLUDED ON THIS PAGE, OR YOU WANT SOMETHING CORRECTED, JUST DROP A LINE TO XTRA! 182 UPPER ST, ISLINGTON, LONDON N1.

NOTICES-EVENTS

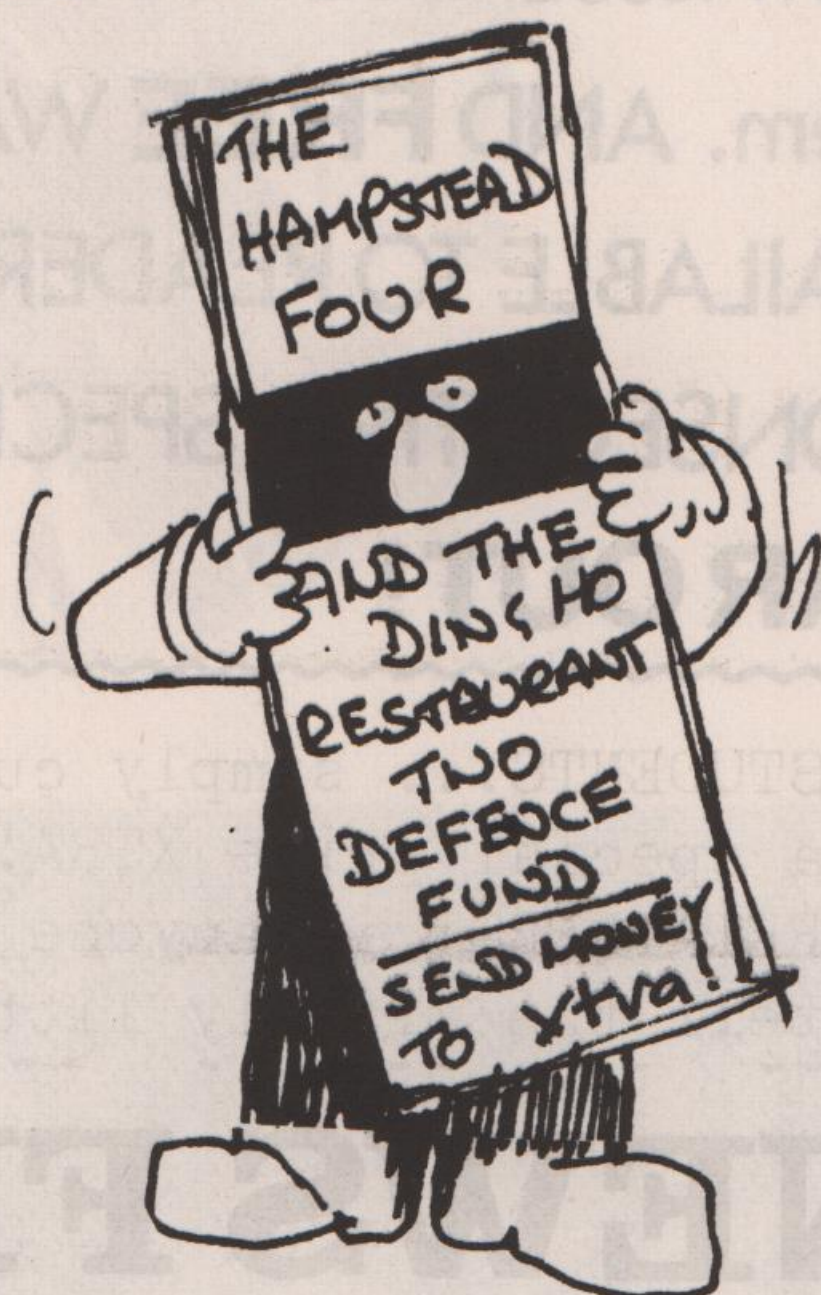
REMEMBER Bristol T Shirts (SML) £2.95, posters (20"x30") 75p 'St Paul's Bristol, 1980' plus photo. Discount for bulk orders. SAE for our current lists. Sleeping Partners (screenprinters) 100 Whitechapel, Liverpool 1. (Tel:051 708 7466).

ANARCHIST Feminists Contact the basement in Rising Free, 182 Upper St, London N1. Nearest Tube - High-bury Islington. Come and visit us on Mondays or Wednesdays 10am-6pm, or write to us, Box 33, above address.

THE Norwegian Syndicalists (NSF) are appealing for funds on behalf of the Chilean workers who are attempting to rebuild the Chilean Anarcho-Syndicalist Movement. Donations should be sent via the Manchester DAM branch, Box 20 164-166 Corn Exchange Building, Hanging Ditch, Manchester M4. NOTTINGHAM, July 3rd, (8pm), there is a mutual aid public meeting on 'Working Collectively' - to be held in the International Community Centre.

ANARCHA-United Mystics (AUM) hold regular open meetings every Thursday night from 8pm in the bar at the Halfway House Pub (directly opposite Camden Town Tube). We hope to be at most of this year's free festivals

in our big blue bus and to provide a bus service from London. Come in for a chat!



INFILTRATE

Are you bored with your present political life? Are you seeking something with zest, which provides countless hours of amusement? Well a few of the behind the scenes types at Xtra! have come up with a scheme to while away those long hot summer months: out very own Labour Party Branch.

This paper has a thing about infiltration and the nastiness it can bring about. And a few of us have decided to join the local representatives of the 'Labour movement'.

The thing is we know they're a bunch of ossified, dogmatic turds, besprinkled with the odd soft cop. But we've only just realised how bad they really are. With another half dozen of us we could have our own branch.

Let's face it, if an obscurantist crew like Militant can achieve a sizeable presence in the Labour Party, just think what a few anarchists can do in their leisure moments.

If you feel you'd like to help us in our project of subverting the local clique and you live in London, just drop us a line. At least let's stir the bastards up a bit.

NEWSPAPERS

ANARCHISM LANCASTRUM Variable price, variable format, variable content, 24 Conway Avenue, Clitheroe Lancs. Their little black flags should be available on the NHS.

ANARCHIST WORKER Alan MacSimon 49A Leister Road. Dublin 6. irregular 15p Paper of the Irish 'Anarchist Workers Alliance'.

ANARCHY COLLECTIVE meets every Thursday from 7pm at: Little A Press, 3/1 Metropolitan Wharf, Wapping Wall, Wapping (22a or Wapping Tube). The magazine is coming out of temporary retirement and this new group is open to all who want to get involved. We would like to grow something more than a paper group, although the magazine will be the main point of our activity.

BLACK FLAG New larger size format as well as Phil Ruff cartoons. Still only 20p (the swine -) Published by Black Flag, Over the Water, Sanday, Orkney KW17 2BL

BREAD AND ROSES News Journal of the Anarchist Communist Association Irregular Box 2, 136 Kingsland High Street, London E8 2NS

BREAKOUT 'The Paper for Insiders' 25p A4 size, Produced by cons and excons for people on the wrong side of the law (i.e. all of us) 56 Dames Rd, Forest Gate London E7

CONTAMINATED CROW Irish anti-nuke paper 25p c/o, 60, Marlborough Rd, Dublin 4 or Belfast A Collective.

FREEDOM Anarchist Fortnightly 84b Whitechapel High Street. 25p The anarchist elderstatesperson. Internal debate and information. A4

INSIDE VIEW Local anarchic magazine, 17 Ashurst Close, Goring by C, Worthing Sussex.

LIB ED. A well produced and interesting magazine on libertarian education. It is available (30p) from Blackthorn Books, 74 High Cross Street, Leicester

LIBERTARIAN STUDENT 10p

ABERDEEN Libertarian Group. Contact c/o 163 King St.

ANARCHIST COMMUNIST ASSOCIATION national grouping of class struggle anarchists.

Contact Box 2, 136 Kingsland High Street London E8 2NS. Groups in various towns and contact with DAM elsewhere.

AUM c/o 6 Cedar Place, Bransgrove, Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 8BX.

BARRY c/o Terry Philips, 16 Robert St, Barry, S. Glam, Wales.

BELFAST anarchist collective c/o Just Books, 7 Winetavern St, Belfast 1.

BIRMINGHAM anarchists /anarcha-feminists meet Sundays. Contact Alison at Peace Centre 18, Moore St, Ringway, B'ham 4 (Tel:021 643 0996)

BRIGHTON Libertarian Socialist Group c/o SU, Falmer House, Univ of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton.

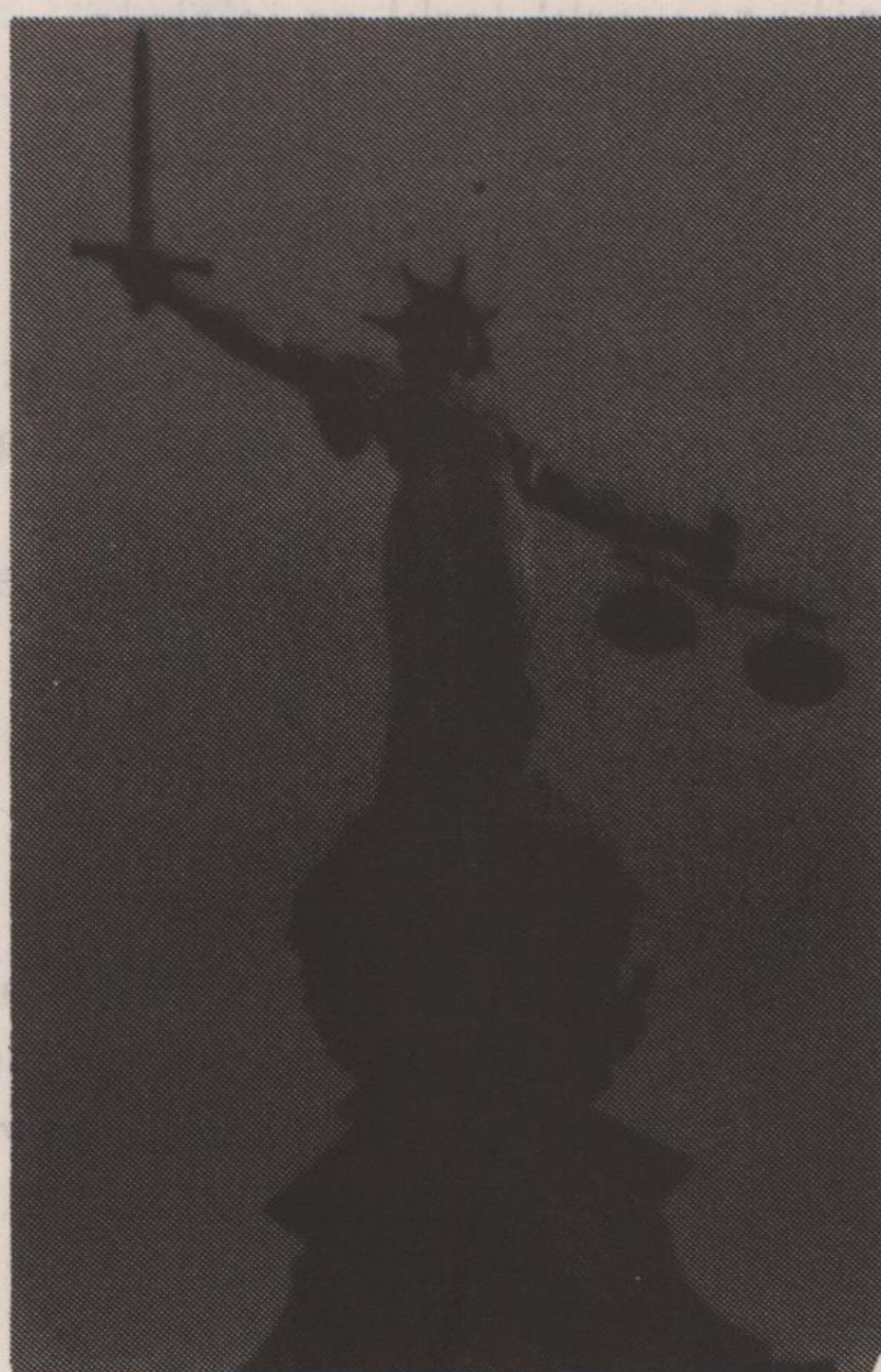
BRISTOL CITY 4 British Rd, BS3 3BW.

BRISTOL STUDENTS Libertarian Society c/o SU, Queens Rd, BS8.

CAMBRIDGE anarchists Box A, 41 Fitzroy St, Cambridge.

CANTERBURY Alternative Research Group. Contact Wally Barnes, Eliot College, University of Kent.

CARDIFF write c/o One-



available from the libertarian socialist group, students union, Falmer House, Sussex University, Falmer, Brighton OPEN ROAD International anarchist/anarcha-feminist news journal. Three monthly. Box 135, Station G, Vancouver, BC Canada. OUTTA CONTROL Belfast Anarchist paper (5p) c/o Winetavern St, Belfast BT1 1TQ

POISON PEN Just a small duplicated local magazine, produced by the Hastings Anarchist Group - Solstice addresse. Printing up to 500 and distributed free.

PEACE NEWS Anarcho-pacifist 20p Fortnightly. The paper for the arm chair vegetarian. 8, Elm Avenue, Nottingham. - 0602 53587 RESISTANCE available from Dublin Anarchist Books Collective (70p for 3 issues).

GROUPS-PEOPLE

O-Eight Bookshop, 108 Salisbury Rd.

COVENTRY John England, SU, Univ of Warwick.

DIRECT ACTION MOVEMENT national grouping of class struggle anarchists. Contact DAM, 28 Lucknow Drive, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire. Groups in various towns.

DUBLIN ABC Collective, 7 Marlborough St, Dublin 1.

EAST ANGLIAN Libertarians, Martyn Everett, 11 Gibson Gardens, Saffron Walden, Essex

EDINBURGH anarchists meet 8pm on 1st

First of May

45 Niddrie St

EXETER Anarch:

Univ of Exeter

shire House, S

Rd, Exeter.

GLASGOW anarchi

group. Initial

weekly meetings

further info cor

John Cooper, 34

burn Ave, Castle

GREENWICH AND BE

Syndicalist Group, John

Ryan, 47 Binsey Walk,

London SE2 9TU.

HASTINGS Anarchist

group. c/o Solstice,

127 Bohemia Rd, St Leo-

nards-on-Sea, Sussex.

(Tel:0242 429 537).

HUDDERSFIELD Anarchists

may like to join Holme

Valley Anti-Nukes Group,

c/o 8 Larch Ave, Thongs-

bridge, Nr Hudds.

HULL Libertarian Coll-

ective, 23 Auckland Ave,

Hull, West Humberside.

KEELE anarchists, c/o

SU, Univ of Keele, Staffs.

Weekly meetings. Non-

students desperately

needed.

KINGSTON anarchists, c/o,

13 Denmark Rd, Kingston-

upon-Thames. (Tel:549

2564).

LAMPETER Anarchist

Group. c/o A James, SDUC,

Lampeter, Dyfed, SA48 7ED

Wales.

LANCASTER Anarchist

Group, 41 Main Rd, Gal-

gate, Lancaster LA2 P.

LEAMINGTON & WARWICK

c/o, 12 Bath St, Leaming-

ton Spa.

LEEDS DAM Dave Brown, 30

Park Row, Knaresborough

(near Harrogate), Yorks.

LEICESTER Anarchist

Group, Lyn Hurst, 41

Briarfield Drive. (Tel:

0533 21250 -days- 0533

414060 - nights).

Bookshop, Blackthorn,

76 Highcross St (Tel:

0533 21896)

LONDON Anarcha-feminists, Box 33, 182 Upper St, Islington, London N1.

LONDON Workers Group, Box W c/o Rising Free.

LONDON West Anarchists, 7 Pennard Rd, W12.

MALVERN & WORCESTER area, Jock Spence, Birchwood Hall, Storridge, Malvern, Worcs.

MANCHESTER c/o Grass Roots, 109 Oxford Rd, M1. Soon to be changed.

MANCHESTER DAM, Box 20, 160 Corn Exchange Buildings, Hanging Ditch, Manchester.

MID-SUSSEX & SOUTH COAST anarchists, c/o Resources Centre, North Rd, Brighton, East Sussex.

NE Anarchist Federation, 16 Park Grove, Hull.

NORWICH Libertarian Socialist Group, 56 St Benedict's St, Norwich.

NOTTINGHAM c/o Mushroom, 10 Heathcote St, (Tel:582 506) or 15 Scotholme Ave, Hysom Green.

OLDHAM, Nigel Broadbent, 31 Cooke St, Failsworth, Manchester.

OXFORD Anarchist Group, c/o Danny Simpson, Exeter College, Anarchist Workers ditto. Anarcha-feminists c/o Teresa, Thorn Hill, 34 Divinity Rd.

PAISLEY (College) Anarchist Group, SU, Hunter St, Paisley, Renfrewshire.

PORTSMOUTH Caroline Cahm, 25 Albany Rd, Southsea, Hants.

READING Anarchists, c/o Shevek, Clubs Office, SU, Whiteknights Reading, Berks.

RHONDA & MIDGLAMORGAN Henning Andersen, 'Smith's Arms', Treherbert, Midglamorgan, Wales.

SCOTTISH LIBERTARIAN FEDERATION, Nina Woodcock, 74 Arklay St, Dundee (Tel:814541)

SHEFFIELD Anarchists c/o, 4 Havelock Sq, Sheffield S10 2fQ.

SOLIDARITY Libertarian Communist Group. Contact 123 Lathom Rd, E6.

SWANSEA Don Williams, 24 Derlwyn, Dunvant, Swansea.

SWINDON area. Contact Mike Groundswell Farm. Upper Stratton, Swindon, Wilts.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE Martyn Redman, Flat 5, 23 Milton Rd.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

LONELY HEARTS

DO YOU sometimes feel that your life lacks meaning and purpose? That this earthly life is not the be-all and end-all? That there is, in fact, something - or someone - Out There? In other words, are you looking for a Spiritual Dimension? Superstitious little nurd aren't you.

BORED, boring lonely SWP guy, 35, seeks boredom-loving female (18-20 preferred) into demos, riots, public meetings, TUC sub-committees - hopefully leading to relationship involving selling Socialist Worker, educating the masses and eventually REVOLUTION (or my becoming a Labour MP, whichever is the sooner). Physical appearance totally unimportant, but please send photo and vital statistics as I don't want anyone ugly. Dave, 14 Clapham Road, Hampstead.

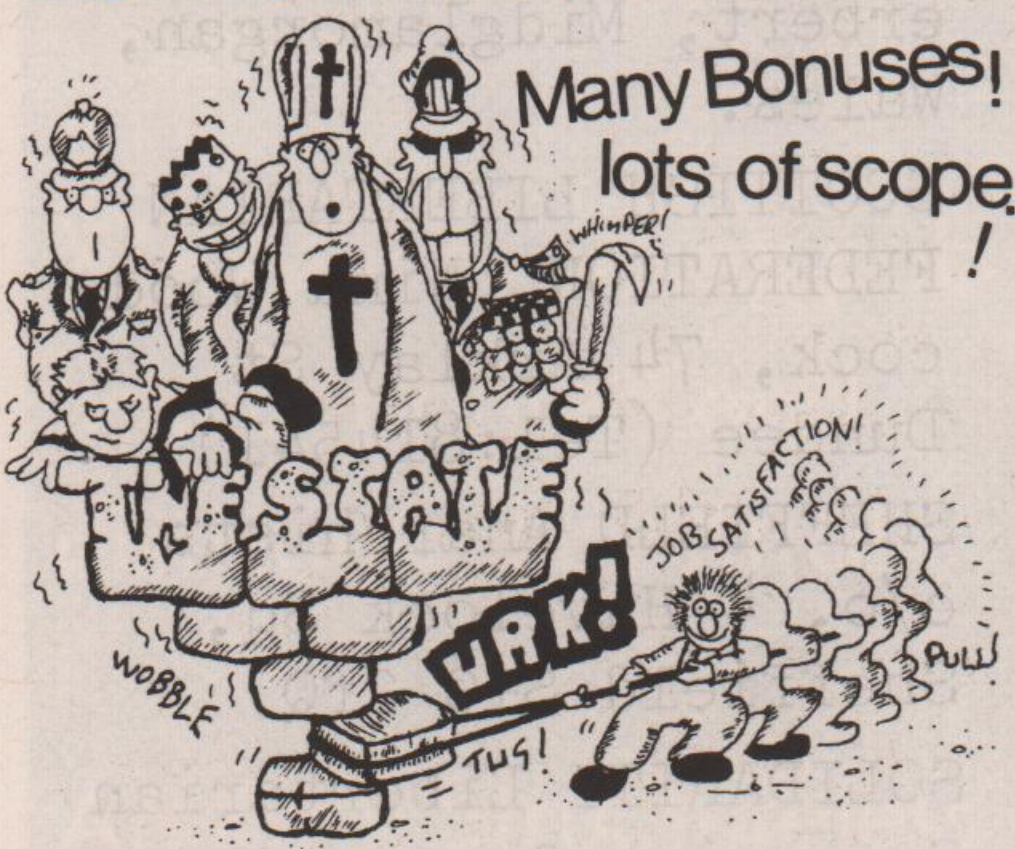
FILTHY rich, immensely talented, amusing, charming, arrogant, tedious, intolerable sexist, who quite inexplicably doesn't have any friends, seeks passive, mindless, fawning 'young lady' who enjoys being trampled on. Box 24

SITUATIONS VACANT

BRITAINS fastest-growing bimonthly Anarchist newspaper needs an Editorial Assistant. A person is wanted who can work in a non-hierarchical, democratic environment where everyone is treated equally. (By the editor). Duties include making the Chief Editor's tea; risking life and limb detecting (and occasionally planting) petrol-bombs 'editing' copy so that it is literate like (you should be able to spill) and conforms to our line; and proof reading.

A knowledge of Anarchist affairs is useful; active support for the IRA and Tottenham Hotspur is essential. At least 2 years experience working as a Trainee on a local Anarchist Community newspaper is required. You will be working with Anarchists of every walk of university.

BE AN ENEMY of the STATE



No experience necessary, apply now for job description. Box 2222

MEETINGS

The future of Xtra! Discussion group: all welcome. Conway Hall, next Wednesday at 7.30.

RECYCLING and other uses of large quantities of waste paper. Discussion group: all welcome. Conway Hall, next Wednesday at 7.30.

ORGANISATIONS

PROOF-readers Against the Nizis. Join the Grope which fights with a capital E.



MacDonalds Anonymous (MCANON) is a group of dedicated, caring people who want to help 'victims' and 'casualties' of excessive consumption of Macs to 'kick the habit'. Often people do not realise that they've become 'hooked' until friends of lovers notice the tell-tale signs: constant 'just nipping out for a couple of big 'uns and an apple-pie at the local' and returning late at night with the whiff of 'tasty, re-lish' on the breath, ever-more frequent visits to 'the little room' shaky (often rotting) teeth, etc. Be honest with yourself: do you know anyone like that? If so, apply to Philip O'Fish, MCANON.

LEGALISE MacDonalds Campaign (LMCC) gives you the Facts. FACT: Denmark legalised MacDonalds 10 years ago, and today consumption is lower per head than anywhere else in the world (except for the rest of the world). Why? you may ask. Well, you ignorant little arse, when it was first 'decriminalised', an orgy of hamburger consumption took place - then everyone grew sick (literally!) of the stuff. (Which just shows why it must be legalised - no-one will use it). And today the only people in Denmark who eat them are foreign tourists (and Danes). FACT: Fish and chips kill more people per year than do MacDonalds - and they're legal. They also kill more people than do Hydrogen Bombs. So join the legalise Hydrogen Bombs.... sorry, I mean MacDonalds NOW!

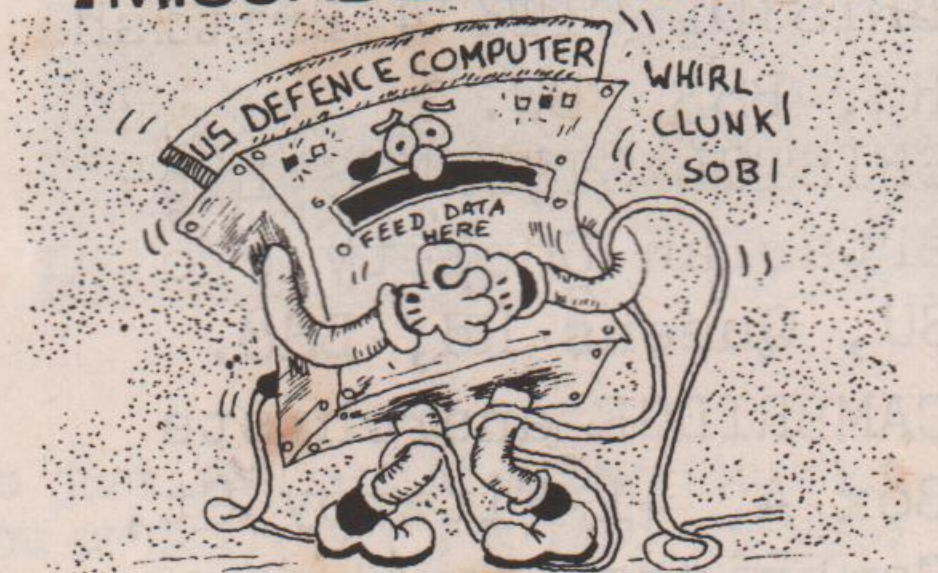
FOR SALE

COMPLETE set of principles. Unused but rather tarnished. Apply to Labour Party Headquarters, who'll sell at any price to anyone who can get us back in office.

COLLECTORS items! Complete set of Telephone Directories, South Logadon area, 1947-79. Mint condition, will deliver FREE to anyone within 100 yards. Fascinating reading. £500 - oh all right, here's a bargain just for you guv, as I like your face, £350. What! less? They cost me that much in phone bills in the last 30 years, oh all right £200. Are you trying to impoverish me oh OK £50. What d'you mean, they're of no conceivable interest to anyone oh well Friends of the Earth is a good cause I suppose we must save trees OK you can have them as a gift. Look you can't seriously expect me to pay you to take them away, oh OK here's £100 but hurry up and take them off me as at present I've no room in the house for anything else. Box GPO512.

WANTED

SYMPATHY FOR MISUNDERSTOOD...



Open up your heart, and send letters of hope to box 9.

BRITISH Rail Timetables South Logsdon-Norwood Junction 1930 to date. Must be in good nick: none of this 'underlining the 8.44 daily to work' lark! or initials, grubby fingermarks or 'helpful hints' for crosswords carelessly scribbled by your fellow-passenger who can complete the Tory-graph X-word in less time than it takes to sail round the world in a rather battered rowing boat without any oars - and for God's sake I will not tolerate toast-crumbs and marmalade peel (especially the SaveStore variety - absolute muck), let alone so-called Stork Margarine which anyone can tell from butter. No, I will only tolerate best quality Lurpak Danish butter on MY timetables, thank you very much - and a reasonable helping of mushrooms, fried eggs (not overdone) and a couple of slices of good quality bacon. God knows, British rail catering costs enough doesn't it? And I don't want none of your infuriating 'amendments' which obscure the original times and destinations. Your price paid (or not, as the case may be). Box BR125.

YOUR LIFE IS INCOMPLETE WITHOUT ARMCHAIR TERRORIST GUIDES TO THE CABINET & ARISTOCRACY

from issue 6 each XTRA! will have profiles on them. AND FREE WALLCHARTS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO READERS COLLECTING THREE CONSECUTIVE SPECIAL COUPONS. FAR OUT!

STUDENTS... simply cut out this coupon for a special price XTRA! (29½p)
RETAILERS: if anyone hands you this coupon tell the miserly little sod to get lost.

NEWS FROM... ...WORTHING

On May 16th there was a mayoral inauguration, and, being cynical anarchists that we are, we decided to attend this auspicious event (at which I wasn't present, 'cos I'd overslept). I arrived during the 'dignitaries' lunch break, then met up with Chris and Reich Fuhrer Carrol.

I'm going to keep things as short as poss, 'cos this letter's sapping up a lot of energy, but what this basically boils down to is that we tried to re-enter through the official front entrance, but we were told that there wasn't a meeting on, which we knew was a load of bullshit, so we went into a side entrance, and - Surprise Surprise! there was a meeting on!

We whispered on occasions, sometimes failed to stifle our laughter, at times applauded enthusiastically. Then after about half an hour the mace bearer came up and told us gruffly that the Mayor had told us to be quiet, and if we didn't then we'd have to go.

Now, if he hadn't said this so curtly - he spoke like we were shit; he wouldn't have addressed any of the other more mature citizens present like that - then I wouldn't have minded, but since I did mind, there was no way I was going to succumb to that bastard's demand. So in a tone unlikely to disturb the council meeting, I muttered my disgust at the uniformed gorillas' lack of democratic virtues, and gave him some nasty looks as well, which is the reason why he told me to go, and why I refused.

The smelly gorilla then tried to eject me forcibly, so I went to push him, but forgot to open my hand and punched him instead, well that's just about true?? He called in reinforcements to assist in my ejection, which was a bit pointless 'cos by then I intended to leave anyway, albeit whilst

still putting up a token struggle. Then the buggers threw the next of us out, someone who at the time of the 'affray' had been in the bog having a slash, and now returning demanded to know what was going on, only to be grabbed by the shoulders and slung out. I refused to leave the building because - and I stated this quite clearly - 'I want my Worthing Herald!' (With any luck this should get sympathetic coverage from the local twice-weekly).

At first they tried to shove me on, but I stood firm and in the end they gave it to me. On the way down the stairs, as they tried to bundle Chris and myself down and as we tried to stroll on in a dignified manner whilst shouting along the lines of 'You should have stayed in the SPG', the dirty gorilla stopped me and said 'Look I was a policeman for 26 years, and in the mornings I used to eat fucking cunts like you for breakfast!' Later we wondered if the council knew they were employing cannibals.

Now I'm bound to be biased in my version of the days events, but one of the councillor's wives present in the gallery said that the mace bearer and the town hall employees used 'unnecessary force'. Due to the disturbance we have now been banned from attending council meetings.

Sorry about the lack of astute and profound philosophical content of this letter - I'll try better next time.

STOP PRESS: The condition of President Tito of Yugoslavia was reported yesterday as being very grave