



A paper of Revolutionary Obscurantism  
(R.O.) No. 2 April 1976.

# WE HATE TO SEE PEOPLE WASTING THEIR MONEY PAYING RENT

Scores of hundreds of people have been preparing themselves for the great battle. Awaiting the signal that the battle was on. But alas, it has now been postponed, perhaps abandoned. The battle between Glebe squatters and protestors against D.M.R. (Demolishers of More Residences), over the construction of the North Western expressway has been called off by the State government. The Minister for Transport Mr. Tim Bruxner stated recently that the North Western Expressway under construction by the Department of Main Roads is to be suspended.

In the Glebe area alone there are about forty houses which have been purchased (effectively resumed) by the D'M'R. Many of those nearest the threatening serpentine expressway whose ugly head rears over the hill at Fig Street, have been left empty for years, allowed to decay and be vandalised.

Squatters have moved in, in increasing numbers until only the most dilapidated and totally uninhabitable remain unoccupied. Some of the early squatters found houses which were almost intact. Later squatters have been prepared to put in a great amount of effort into restoring houses which were half demolished by vandalism. Some lucky latecomers have had squatter friends make arrangements with D.M.R. tenants (forced to leave) so that immediate transfer of possession took place thereby avoiding the usual damage to the house and disconnection of services.

Typical of many of the vacant houses is to find all windows smashed, toilet in fragments, doors, fireplaces and mantelpieces ripped out and gas, water and electricity disconnected. If the water pipes were copper they were sure to be ripped out.

So some squatters enjoy all home comforts, while others carry water from the taps of friendly neighbours, use kerosene cookers and at night carry on by candlelight. Apart from the wish to have water connected, those 'deprived' squatters have adapted themselves to their conditions and are content to live independantly of the electricity commission.

## WHY DO PEOPLE SQUAT?

There are many and varied reasons why people take to squatting. They may be consciously political, economic or convenience reasons (or a combination of these).

The political reasons range from simply opposing the expressway to more deep-seated reasons. One person may occupy a house in the pathway of the expressway, to prevent or at least delay demolition as a means of opposing the expressway, another may, while opposing the expressway, be expressing and at the same time satisfying hiser\* need for housing. Again others oppose the whole capitalist system. In squatting they feel they attack more fundamental issues than the building of a socially unacceptable expressway. They see it as an attack on the "sacred" private property "rights" (not to be

\* his or her



WILL THE REAL SQUATTERS P-O-L-I-C-E (PLEASE) OPEN THEIR UMBRELLAS? ONLY TWO SQUATTERS REMAIN (ON THE CHIMNEYS) AS THE POLICE AND THEEMAN'S THUGS CONTEMPLATE THE WEATHER.

confused with 'personal property'). And an attack on 'government' who conceive, execute and approve plans which inconvenience the many, to satisfy and enrich the few. i.e. expressways, supersonic flights and just about everything else.

They challenge the concept of rent. Why pay profit for occupying space? If houses can be left empty, houses can be rent free.

The squatters in Victoria St. agreed among themselves to pay into a common fund an amount of \$3 per week. This was *not* rent, but maintenance money. This distinction was clearly made. The idea of *rent* was abhorrent to all squatters, connoting profit and landlordism. Squatters wished to pay their way (free from

exploitation) in the upkeep of the houses. Some preferred not to pay into the fund but meet their own maintenance expenses in their own way.

There is mixed feelings among Glebe squatters about paying rent, one seccessfully negotiated a lease with the D.M.R. while another squatter's rent offer was rejected. Some are prepared to pay something "reasonable". One squatter expressed it this way "I don't want to pay rent but I'd like to pay for the rates, the garbage and those sort of things".

People on the dole, pensioners, students on allowances have good economic reasons for squatting. Down and outs find more comfort and less disturbance from police in a vacant house than on a park bench. The



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squatters include students, single mothers, part-time workers and unemployed. Among them there is an optometrist, university tutor and a technician, conventionally these are their occupations but being unconventional people, they are not much occupied with their 'occupations'. They are too busy doing other things, like living for instance. The optometrist, Ron 'retired' from his profession while squatting in Victoria Street, so he could spend full time in the exciting events that were taking place there at the time. He now earns his living at part-time work and play. Taxi-driving and coal sampling - (really shovelling coal) - is the work, candle-making the 'part time play for which he is paid. But most of his time can now be spent doing the things he likes: drawing, painting, silk screening, candle making, playing the guitar, organizing community fairs, caring for children at the Glebe Child Care Coop and other community activities.

Katrina is a part-time university tutor. Squatting allows her, likewise to do more of the things that give her life meaning and satisfaction. She makes leatherwork, beautiful handbags with decorative embossing, sandals, etc., she repairs and maintains her old car.

Allen, a technician, who has spent thirty three years working, thereby postponing all that time, those things he most wanted to do, has found by retiring early and squatting he can engage himself in the many projects he dreamed about. Building himself technological equipment like a solar hot water system, solar cooker and wind generator. He sees this type of radical technology as being both ecologically sound and a political act. Breaking the economic and technological grip of an outside authority (Electricity Commission, Gas Co. etc.), becoming autonomous.



KIPO

Squatters in the Darghan St. area are not organized into a solid group as they were in Victoria St. They act more independently of each other. Nevertheless, plans are ready for immediate mobilisation in the face of threat. However they do socialise together as a result of squatting and projects taken up by the squatters in the old historic mansion 'Lyndhurst' have brought people further together. These projects are the building of a cinema, and the regular showing of films and the setting up of an art room and a puppet workshop. A sound studio is now under construction where bands now rehearse to their hearts content without disturbing the neighbourhood. When completed it will have recording facilities along the lines of a radio recording studio. The large mansion which would otherwise lie idle is serving the function of a community centre at the most local of local levels for the street and around the corner. It has been initiated, set up and run entirely at a local level. More ambitious schemes are planned.

**WHAT IS ACHIEVED BY SQUATTING?**

First, at the personal level - apart from satisfying the personal needs of some people in difficult economic circumstances squatting has brought a political awareness to some squatters who were previously 'uninterested in politics'. For others, who in normal society are isolated, social relationships have been achieved with people who are more tolerant of the 'off beat', the social outcast and the rebel.

At the community level it draws attention to political and social questions. To specific political decisions such as the N.W. expressway and the social questions arising out of these decisions. Squatting often spearheads other forms of protest. Then there are general political questions such as lack of housing and community facilities, the plight of single mothers and pensioners. It brings into the public arena discussion of the fundamental contradictions of capitalism.

In the practical world you might ask what has been gained? Well, in that part of it known as Glebe, squatting has achieved permanent gov't. housing for those squatters who first settled on the then Church of England estate. (I'm referring to the 1974 wave of squatters). The group of women seeking accommodation for battered women were first to move into vacant houses, setting up 'Elsie' the women's refuge. Arising out of that squat came a gov't. subsidized tenure for the two houses (later transferred to a nearby house superior to those squatted in) as well as gaining a grant of \$24,000 for the year, a motor van and paid councillors. Squatting on the church estate publicised (once again) the callousness and hypocrisy of the church.

Shortly after 'Elsie' was started squatters took over another church property for use as a child care centre. The small house adjoined a vacant block of land which was used as an open sunny playground. Squatters swarmed over the place on an appointed weekend, clearing out the house and painting it in

bright colours. It now continues to operate on a self-managed basis by parents and single people. They now occupy the premises as rent paying tenants.

**FENCES A BARRIER TO COMMUNICATION**

One of the features arising out of squatting is the removal of fences in adjoining rows of squatted houses. Not very significant one might think. In Victoria St. where this was done people found benefits and a freedom beyond those anticipated. In Darghan St. Glebe, a row of six houses have removed their adjoining fences and they too have found this eliminates barriers. Barriers to communication.

It allows spacial freedom, freedom of movement and association with other people in a natural and spontaneous way. It enhances social interaction. (no more hanging over the fence). We became aware of how fences imprison us. To describe it is not enough - one needs to experience living in a group of houses without fences, it adds a new dimension to community living.

It seems that only by a new (or very old) relationship to property can residents agree to remove adjoining fences. In squatting occupiers have not assumed the 'private property' attitude to their backyards, alienating themselves from their fellows. Like the historical village communities they use the surrounding grounds in common.

As one writer has already said 'more can be done to house the homeless by half a dozen squatters than by a thousand well-meaning local councillors'. Hopefully squatting can be said to be as effective in other areas of political struggle.

**DONT LET HI-RISE BRING YOU DOWN.**

or  
**DON'T JUST TRY TO KEEP THE DEVELOPERS AT BAY; LETS GET RID OF THEM COMPLETELY.**

At a recent meeting of the Leichhardt Council, (March 2nd, Sydney), the Council was forced, by the level of public opposition, to partially back down on its plan to rezone most of the municipality as 'High Rise'.

After the Town Planner had refused to say whether flats would be built over 8 storeys, the council hurriedly passed an amendment to limit buildings to 4 storeys. However, no alternation was made to the proposed increases in population density for the municipality.

Many local people and groups, and a local newspaper, (The Leichhardt Local) had been actively campaigning against the proposed high rise. Posters and leaflets were circulated prior to the meeting saying 'This street is to be rezoned HighRise - Council will decide on March 2nd'.

When the meeting began, hundreds of people were unable to even obtain entry to the Council Chambers. (Most Government facilities are designed on the assumptions; (a) that not many of the constituents will want to attend, and (b) that, if they should actually want to, there is room for only a small enough group as to be, (hopefully), easily controlled. The actions of locals on March 2nd, demonstrate what can happen when people take matters into their own hands (instead of relying on 'representatives' to act on their behalf). Instead of sitting passively behind the public 'barrier', (why does the council need a physical barrier to separate it/protect it from its public?), the people occupied every foot of space in the chambers, - around the major and aldermen's desks, on the floor, etc. When it quickly became apparent that the council was attempting to carry on with 'business - as - usual', (it rejected motions to move its meeting to the main hall where everyone could hear and join in), some of the locals attempted to bring the meeting to a halt by noise and chanting. ('Either they agree to talk the matter over with us, or we don't let them have their bloody meeting at all!') However, not all the locals in the chambers would go along with this tactic, and the council was able to maintain a semblance of a meeting.

Meantime - and with representatives running our lives (or... living in this society... or... with all forms of gov't.), things are getting meaner all the time. - a meeting was being held downstairs in the main hall by the 800 people who couldn't gain access to the chambers. This was yet another attempt at self organisation by the locals. A motion was passed unanimously rejecting the proposed town plan and a delegation was sent to the chambers demanding the meeting be moved to the main hall. The delegation consisted of 3 ratepayers elected by the mass meeting. At first the council still wasn't keen on adjourning to the main hall, (I mean, as long as they're prepared to send a respectable delegation, we can still keep on bluffing!), but eventually, about an hour after the delegation made its demand, the council adjourned to the main hall. A couple of issues were

raised here; - firstly, why send a polite, small delegation when the relevant 'authorities' have already refused to talk to you? If *everyone* had moved into the chambers, and supported the locals already there trying to stop the meeting by noise; the council would either have had to adjourn immediately to the main hall, or give up, and admit they won't consult with their constituency, (and sit there till we let them leave!). Secondly, it was argued that the delegation should consist of *bona fide* ratepayers. This is a very conservative notion (only those with wealth should vote?); (a) any rent payer is also an indirect ratepayer - part of their rent goes to pay the rates; (b) everyone who lives, works, travels, etc. through an area is effected by the town planning of that area.

The subsequent meeting in the main hall was an exercise in 'letting our representatives speak for us'. Alderman Origlass, in acting as the 'People's Tribune', held the floor for over half an hour, opposing the plan. He received cheers and applause. Councillors for the plan were booed and were eventually forced to pass the amendment for a limit of 4 storeys. The public, as audience, asked question of 'their' council, on stage. And finally, when the councillors closed the meeting, people drifted off to meet again the next week.

At this next meeting, (Match 10th at Balmain), Origlass acted as chairperson and main speaker. (This is an unfortunate precedent - it allows for the chairpersons biases to determine and limit the range of discussion.) He and others argued for widespread petitioning of the council and/or higher authorities, (e.g. the State Planning Commission). He admitted the council had *already* refused to acknowledge several petitions already presented to it, yet he argued for presenting more.(?) Some people seemed to think there was something sacred in obtaining a 'representative opinion' through a referendum or a 'People's Poll'. Such knowledge is only of use if people are prepared to act on it themselves, not use it as a basis for appealing to the relevant 'authorities'. *Also*, instead of supporting people taking action *more* into their own hands - some of the results of which were seen at the council meeting the week before - some argued for going beyond the council and appealing to higher order authorities in the town planning hierarchy!

Others at this meeting (ALP supporters), argued, like David Mowbray's leaflet at the council meeting, that the ALP dominated council was not carrying out ALP policy, and what was needed was a return to this policy and for 'progressive' people to join the ALP! HELP! Others talked of a few of the 'on-side' experts getting together and preparing their own technical report on the town plan. Questions were raised about the importance of low-cost housing.



The only strategy which would allow for control over living conditions, the implementation of 'Representative' opinion, (and not merely it's collection!), low cost housing, etc. involves people setting up block committees - to do their own 'town plan' for their block, (any one can 'town plan' - you don't need experts), and to consult with other blocks (not a group of councillors in the pockets of developers and other business interests), for the whole municipality.

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'Rising Free' - Anarchist hourly. P.O. Box 92, Broadway, NSW 2007. Subscriptions \$3,50 (12 issues) - that's inflation folks.



# kid's co-op



The Glebe Children's Cooperative has been operating at 15 Mt. Vernon St. for about 2 years. It was begun by a group of squatters to cater for their own children, with a view to extending to other local families. Most of the original people have moved on but the spirit of the place is vital and there is no other such center in the inner city, so we continue to thrive.

We can handle about 20 children if they're not all full time, and at present we have about 10. Our feeling is that child care is best done by those who care about children, whether parents or not, whether trained in any way or not. Parents and volunteers fill the roster with 4-hour shifts, and we have bi-monthly meetings to discuss problems, plans, procedures.

Our financial outlay is minimal. We pay \$1.00 per day per child, and this covers the cost of rental and running expenses, mainly nappies and food. Most of our food is bought in bulk via a food co-op.

The membership fluctuates somewhat, as new people find us, children start at kindergarten, or people move. We have work days every so often, to try to keep up with the maintenance. Painting is done periodically, and sorting through accumulated junk, and replenishing the sand pit. Cutting the grass seems to be the hardest job, to judge by the frequency with which we do it! We have planted a lot of trees (the grounds are quite large) and a vegetable garden. With the kids in the paddling pool and sand pit, doing a shift on a sunny afternoon can be particularly enjoyable.

Our equipment is also minimal, the above two items being the staples for summer. We have recently joined the Reverse Garbage Truck, which will keep us supplied with materials; and a few strong wooden trucks and trains, books, some dolls and stuffed animals just about completes the list. Most of us have our ways of inventing games and occupations using next to nothing!

Visitors are welcome, and if anyone would like to join us, please come along anytime.

**YUGOSLAVIA:** Literally thousands of short-range transmitters run by "pirates" have sprung up all over the country. Programming may include anything from popular music to local gossip, and in some cases even anti-government propaganda. Part of the reason the underground stations have become so popular—and have by and large eluded authorities—is that they are loved by the people of the areas in which they operate. Covert alternative radio can easily be established in North America. Hopefully, "pirates" everywhere will run up the skull and crossbones against the capitalist ship of state.

**THE COMPANY AND THE UNION AT UNIROYAL** (News and Letters): They've got the Uniroyal plant on 12 hours a day, six days a week, even though there are still workers on layoff. The reason is to build up a stockpile for the strike everybody is expecting in the rubber industry (see related article). The union has done nothing about it. Work speed has been raised so often that the workers at the Detroit Uniroyal plant on the seventh floor sat down until the union told them to go back to work. Some workers were called back from layoff and told they would have to work for \$4 an hour instead of the \$6 an hour they got before. A grievance was filed and the company paid—directly to the union. None of the underpaid workers have seen a penny of it.

**SOLIDARITY WINS IN BOLIVIA:** 36,000 Bolivian tin, antimony, and zinc miners went on strike to protest the firing of 820 shoe workers. The workers at the Monaco shoe factory—Bolivia's largest—were fired for striking against layoffs and bad working conditions. After two days of the miners' strike, the Government gave in and ordered all laid-off and fired Monaco workers rehired and working conditions improved. As we say, an injury to one is an injury to all.

# may days

May Day was once more than just a quiet Sunday stroll with a few red flags and tacit police approval. May Day used to be a real show of strength from the workers movement, proof of their ability to organise and oppose class society. It goes beyond just surviving in the factories. Its direct action, a step towards totally destroying a society based upon keeping people apart (so as to better control them.)

But nowadays the official revolutionaries see fit to rally up their followers only on a christian holiday and the only thing celebrated is the workers subjection to another group of leaders/bosses. In these times we feel that it is not enough for the workers to merely defend the pitifully new 'concessions' gained by the trade union talking shop. It's time to make a complete challenge of the bosses rule and of the conventional T.U., Labor Party deals. If we want to create a new society we shall have to make it ourselves and not allow any more leaders or bosses to control us. It is the action of taking our own lives into our own hands and making our own decisions with our friends and comrades that is revolutionary and not some essentially minor change in the people who rule us (e.g. czarist bureaucrats or bolshevik bureaucrats, police, employers under labour or police/employers under liberal).

So we incite everybody to take control of their lives and march with us on the first of May from the Haymarket at 11 All enquiries to the Industrial Workers of the World, P.O. Box 2150, Sydney 2001.



THE STUDENTS AND WORKERS FIGHT!  
—THE UNION NEGOCIATES  
(PARIS MAY 68)



**A LIGHT SENTENCE FOR MURDERERS:** Last June the INDUSTRIAL WORKER ran the story of Mayday at Spencer Leathers in Milwaukee—where, due to company negligence, two workers died and 28 were hospitalized for hydrogen-sulfide poisoning. Ten months later, the Awful Majesty of The Law was (finally) visited upon the company. Sort of. For causing the deaths of two working people, and damaging the health of 28 others, the company was fined the enormous sum of \$1,000. In fairness to the judge, it was the maximum the law allowed him to impose. Of course there was never any question of the owners going to jail or anything. That's for the common folk. What would have happened to a worker who, through negligence, killed two bosses?

**POSSIBLE AND IMPOSSIBLE:** When we complain about our jobs being dangerous and unhealthy, one of the stock answers is "It can't be done any other way." This is especially true with dangerous chemicals. Complain that a chemical causes cancer, or hurts your lungs, and they'll swear on a stack of bibles that it's the only one that will do the trick and it can't be used any other way. Actually this is bull, most of the time. According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, one of the 14 most cancer-causing industrial chemicals in use today (that they know about, anyway) is MOCA (4,4 methylene bis 2-chloroaniline). The company claimed that there was no way of reducing exposure. The union—OIL, Chemical, and Atomic Workers, AFL-CIO—said fine; in that case we are demanding that there be no use of the chemical at all. All of a sudden the company came up with this process that allows MOCA to be used without exposure. More expensive than previously, but less expensive than giving up MOCA altogether. Technology advances only when we give it a little boot in the right direction. (Information from Survival Kit)

INDUSTRIAL WORKER OF THE WORLD  
Contact: Sydney Group I.W.W.  
G.P.O. Box 2150 Sydney N.S.W. 2001.



# inter national news



**BULGARIA:** Artur Scargill, British Marxist miners' leader, recently returned from a two-week holiday to Bulgaria. Here's what he found: corruption in state-owned shops and restaurants "that would have done credit to the Mafia"; massive overbooking by state agencies that kept tourists stranded for hours; a state-run voucher system of paying for meals that left holiday-makers hungry and out of pocket.

"It was a disaster," said Scargill. "I have no intention of ever returning."

"If this is Communism, they can keep it." (SOCIALIST STANDARD)

**MOSCOW:** The black market at Bronitsy, 55 miles from Moscow, has been shut by order of the regional legislature. While the market had operated with official sanction, it was well known in the capital for selling goods such as Western blue jeans and pop music records at outrageous prices. Guns or blue jeans?

**TATAR REPUBLIC, USSR:** The Russians are due to complete their Kama River industrial project (Kamaz) in March of this year. The project is currently two years behind schedule, but when finished the complex will become the world's largest truck-manufacturing center. It is estimated that trucks of between 8 and 11 tons will be coming off the assembly line at the rate of one every 90 seconds. Although the Russians were unable to interest "Western firms" in the construction, they have used a considerable amount of foreign assistance in design and supply of machinery.

Such a development requires a large amount of capital to be fixed in it, but where has it come from? Nearly every advanced Western country, as well as the Eastern European countries, has an interest in the Kamaz project. There are 40 US firms alone involved in the project, with contracts valued at \$400 million. To pay for all this, the Russians looked to the US Export-Import Bank and Chase Manhattan for \$322.9 million at 6% interest. (SOCIALIST STANDARD)

THANKS TO INDUSTRIAL WORKER (I.W.W.)



# ALTERNATIVE

## WINDMILLS

Solar energy is transformed into new forms when it reaches our planet. One form is photosynthesis - the process in which plants convert radiated energy of the sun to potential energy stored in both living and dead plants. Another form is that caused by thermal differentials in the atmosphere giving rise to winds, a kinetic form of energy.

Wind energy is one of the most convenient and readily usable means of harnessing the sun's energy into a form most useful to modern woman - electrical energy.

The age-old windmill principle is the technology best suited to the purpose. Windmill design is receiving a lot of attention, to improve efficiency in terms of aerodynamics, use of

## METHANE GAS

Bio-gas or methane generation is a very necessary part of soft technology energy systems as it can be stored and used whenever needed and is especially suited for cooking. Also the generator produces an excellent manure. It has problems though in a city environment, the main difficulty being, paradoxically, not enough shit. This could possibly be overcome by larger communal groups perhaps with 4 to 5 houses (more if possible) contributing. Visitors could be encouraged to leave a little something or fruit shop rubbish tins could be raided (not too much veggie's though, it makes good manure but isn't very efficient at gas production) a few local politicians could be invited around or maybe even an alternative night cart set up.

Technically, the hop Australian climate helps matters, also possibly excess heat/energy from your windmill could be fed through the generat-



## GLEBE GARDENING

Gardening, like bicycle riding, is a skill that you can only learn by doing, so the following information is much like telling the would-be cyclist where to put his feet, and which end of the bike to face. Seeing, however, that a bicycle can hardly be ridden when facing the back wheel, a few tips on home-grown vegetables might come in handy.

Let us suppose that you have a back yard in an inner suburb, attached to an old tenement house. You are not going to support yourself in food, but you think you might grow the odd tomato and lettuce. What to do?

First, get your soil. Most soils in the city are leached out, filled with cement dust, humus-poor, or in some way inadequate and though there are exceptions, your best plan is to invest in a bag of cow dung, a bag of mushroom compost, or a few pounds of blood and bone. Chicken shit is good too, but needs to be turned into the soil and left for a couple of weeks if you want to avoid burning your seedlings. The others can be dug into the soil and sown immediately.

While you are getting your compost, invest in a light hoe and a garden fork. Much better than a spade as a digging combination. And some seeds, of course.

That brings up the question of what to plant. Given that you are in fact, hypothetically at least, in a small Glebe back-yard, choose vegetables that can use a lot of compost and that give a consequently high yield. Beans, tomatoes, lettuce or peas are all good. So too are radishes. Other than that the old Yates Garden Guide, purchasable in the same plant shop you bought your seeds in, is a reliable source of information on what and when to plant.

Don't forget, finally, that all those wrinkled, leathery potatoes with the blue shoots coming out of them can be thrown into the out-of-the-way, weed-infested corners of the garden, covered lightly with soil and will give you some very fine white potatoes in a month or so. They grow virtually in anything and are generally bug and blight resistant.

And that brings up another point. A friend of mine once remarked that gardening, while seemingly a peaceful, teetotal sort of pastime, is in fact a blood sport filled with all the rage and fury of a bull-fight. The novice gardener's reaction to his first snail raid is instructive in this respect. You can of course use Defender on your snails, but if you wish to keep suspect chemicals out of your soil (a good idea) I suggest;

a. Go round at night with a bucket of water and a torch, picking the snails off your plants and putting them in the bucket. The squeamish can then empty the said bucket in the nearest public garden (or over your neighbour's fence if you don't like him, but make sure he lives on the other side of the street)

b. Put out saucers of beer - quite effective.

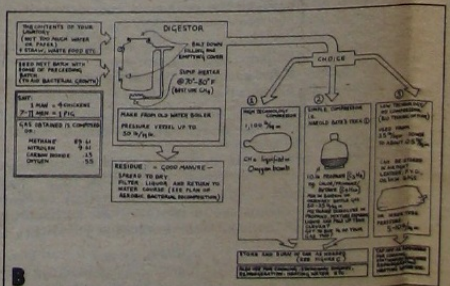
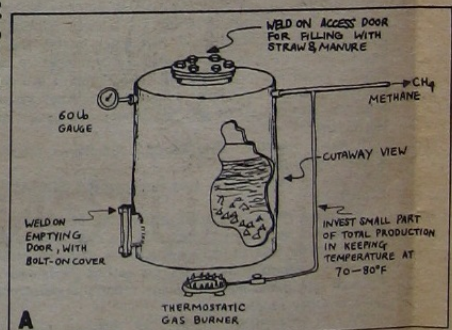
c. Leave a few earthenware pipes, old cans, or anything suitable around for the snails to shelter in during the day. They will, and you can then carry them down to the local public garden (or again across the road to your neighbour).

Other nuisances, such as bugs, aphids and various sorts of wilt and fungus can be fought with cigarette butts soaked in water, and sprinkled on. Or garlic water. The best thing for these however is to have such a vigorous soil that the plant simply out-grows the pest. And don't forget to encourage birds, spiders, lady-brids and centipedes, all insectivores of one sort or another. If none of these work, pull up the plants and start with a different crop.

Compost? Try a plastic garbage can with a clip-on lid (about four dollars) pointed with dull black paint and placed in the sun. This will take all your kitchen refuse and, if you are courageous, your better turds, and will turn them into an evil-smelling but fertile mess by the time the can is three-quarters full. Empty this onto your fallow bed and turn it in. Leave to mature a week, then plant. Length of process from kitchen to planting, three to four weeks. \*

There are many other tips that one could give about gardening but that would be a little like talking someone through their first bike ride, more a hindrance than a help. It is better just to leap out with your fork, your cow dung and your packet of seeds and see what happens.

\* There is an excellent publication on "How to Make Compost in 14 Days" It is 60¢ and available from Theosophy Bookshop in Castlereagh St. City. (eds)





# ALTERNATIVES

materials and versatility. We will briefly describe three different design approaches, confining ourselves to mills designed for generating electricity.

The amount of electricity generated by a wind generator depends on: 1) the energy in the wind, 2) the diameter of the propeller, 3) the size of the generator, 4) the efficiency of the system.

The actual power available from the wind is proportional to the cube of the wind speed, in other words if you double the wind speed you will get eight times as much power.

Power delivered by the propeller is proportional to the square of the diameter i.e. double the propeller size increases the power output by a factor of four.

One type of propeller design is the long slender aero-dynamically shaped blades resembling aircraft propellers.

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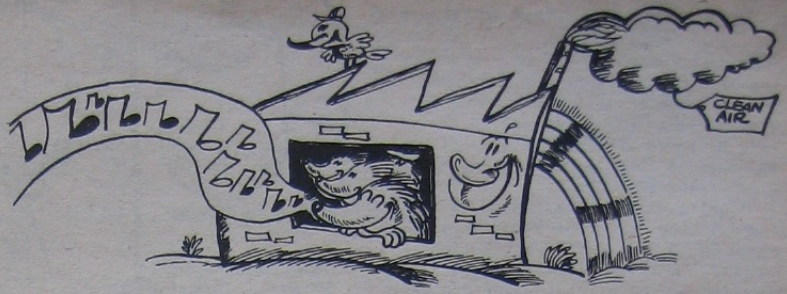
# GENERATORS

or to speed the process. Another idea is to have an auxiliary windmill to do the necessary stirring of the methane drum.

There are still a lot of problems with city methane generators and any one thinking of building one should have a talk with the people at an Autonomous House, at Sydney University. Good books to read are:

*A Homesite Power Unit: Methane Generator from Les Auerbach* 242 Cope Road, Madison, Conn. U.S.A. 06443 \$5.00 50pp.

This book gives a short description of the digesting process and equations for determining the size of a digester and its storage tanks. Also given are the details of the construction and the operation of a digester made from used components.



# OTHER SCENES

The way in which we are worked and controlled is fundamentally linked with the way in which work is organised. The bosses machines which swallow up our time and our strength are also and necessarily destroying the world. The mindless and isolated regime of the production line, intense racket and speed of the machines and the hierarchy of the shop floor with its division of people in order givers and order takers makes apathetic automatons of us all, the desire to control people and the desire to conquer nature are inseparable.

The people for whom the world is just a source of profit and ourselves just another set of statistics, will use our bodies, coopt our desires and repress our emotions. Pollution can be profitable, waste a necessity. The underlying features are domination and exploitation, to survive we must break out.

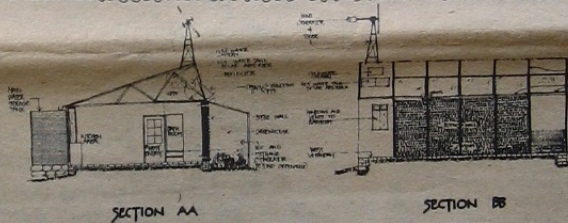
In this society we are forced into roles - tinker, tailor, soldier, sailor - industry is geared to suit this division of people into fragments - cripples. Our society in general, and work in particular, should be designed to facilitate the greatest possible development of the individual, giving us all within the framework of a social society complete control over the how and where and why of production. The basic tenants of capitalist industry - job discipline, centralisation and mass production should be seen as the ways in which a suicidal society controls people and retains power.

This basis must be challenged and new forms of society and industry developed. Small independent and inter-connecting communities in which everybody plays a part in all facets of life. Using renewable sources of power and recyclable materials. Organising for pleasure so we can be free from the drudgery of labour and the chains of property, so we can have time to live and grow.

It can be done now, it's the revolution of everyday life. Backyards look great with all the fences knocked down, methane generators only work with lots of people contributing. The materials are in the junk yards and the possibilities are infinite, street farming, solar heaters, food coops, window boxes and windmills but the pigs still try and charge you for electric power even if you make your own. The political and the social are one. The struggle between the old society and the new slowly emerging society, between class society (in all its forms) and the social revolution is a struggle to the death.

The old society just doesn't work, it requires huge amounts of energy and materials which is just fucking everything out. It has to have institutions designed to cripple people, cops in ya head and cops on the streets.

We are trying to move towards an integrated society where there are no bosses or workers, where the individual will find satisfaction in a communal society. Where the means of production will be the means by which we can be happy.



WHAT AM I DOING HERE WITH ALL THESE SODDY MACHINES!



# AUTONOMOUS HOUSE

During last year some 2nd and 3rd Year architecture students at the University of Sydney built an experimental autonomous house—a house self-sufficient for all of its energy requirements; supplying all its own heating and cooling; generating its own electricity supply; collecting and food supply and recycling all its wastes. There are precedents—early farmhouses in this country were almost totally self-sufficient, even if somewhat crude by today's standards, but the art of self-sufficiency died with the advent of cheap power authorities and cheap transport. Our autonomous house was to be the first one in Australia that gave its owners a comparable standard of living to present housing while still being self-sufficient. As the building process is often more important than the end product, so our experiences in building the autonomous house tell more about self-sufficient housing than the end product itself.

**Researching Self-Sufficiency**  
Our original starting point was the awareness of the damage that was being caused by conventional energy and power generation and the need to develop decentralised, more ecologically responsible energy systems, relying on natural systems—the sun, the wind, and recycling. Some of the most destructive environmental

changes in Australia have been caused by power authorities in the name of energy supply: the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric scheme, the loss of Lake Pedder, the damming of many of the cities rivers for a water supply, and the eyesore of high tension electricity towers across the landscape. We were concerned at being at the mercy of these power authorities, usually monopolies, which arbitrarily increase their costs and predict future energy squeezes. The morality of being tied to such fickle authorities who have such a blatant disregard for the environmental costs of their energy endeavours was questioned. The alternative we opted for is becoming known as low impact or soft technology. With these ideas as a basis a group of students in the Second and Third Year Design course at Sydney University researched the alternatives during the First Term of 1974. Information was gathered on similar work in the US and the UK (there didn't seem to be a fully autonomous house anywhere in the world).

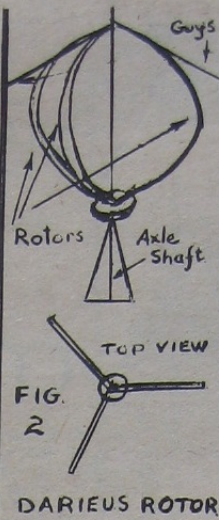
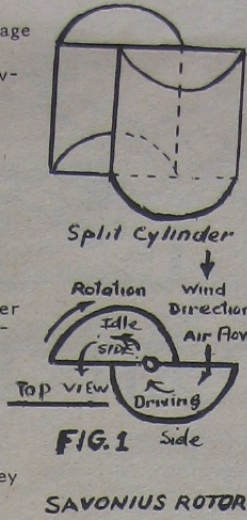
Alternative energy systems and the commercially available devices to achieve self-sufficiency were researched (a summary of which appears in August 1974 issue of AA). A number of problems became apparent from our research. Firstly, becoming self-sufficient was not as simple as plugging alternative energy devices into an existing house design; most houses are extremely poorly designed for energy conservation—self-sufficient houses often use specially designed walls, floors and roofs, particularly for space heating and cooling. Secondly, we had to alter our own extremely wasteful energy habits which had been nurtured on years of cheap fossil fuels. At the end of First Term a very comprehensive library had been amassed on the ways in which a more sensible house could be built. In addition to our concern with achieving autonomous energy supply, we became increasingly aware of the energy content of various building materials. We were also concerned with the need as architecture students, to build any design that evolved, since the designer and owner of any shelter should be involved in its construction. At the beginning of Second Term, 16 students continued with the programme to design an individual house for four students and to build this house as a demonstration of autonomous principles. **Designing the Autonomous House** Various plans were devised, and one was finally adopted to be drawn up for the local Council's satisfaction. As there were 18 designers (the students and two tutors) the overall design was kept essentially simple: a rectangular plan with the large side facing north; an open communal area for most of the floor area with a kitchen and shower/ablution facilities to the west. Private areas were to be divided off the main communal area or added as lofts into the roof truss system as the occupants desired. These internal areas were anticipated to cover 48m<sup>2</sup> while the whole house, including covered verandahs to the east and west and a greenhouse the length of the north wall, would be double that area (96m<sup>2</sup>).

For the heating and cooling of the house the Trombe-Michel wall effect was chosen for its simplicity and to enable us to test out the use of water filled beer bottles as a heat storage medium. The design called for the maximum use of natural ventilation with a large number of doors and windows that could be sealed to prevent excessive heat loss. A conventional flat-plate solar absorber water heater was decided on since these are well tested, documented and are completely satisfactory for heating 'rational' quantities of water. (At present hot and cold water consumption is excessive and it was anticipated that water consumption could be halved merely by judicious usage and that the solar absorber could satisfy all needs for temperature and quantity). We opted for a wind generator electricity system; using a conventional impeller and generator, with a conventional battery (lead/acid) batteries for storage. After much deliberation on the merits of an electricity supply we chose to use a 12 volt 300 watt model to satisfy only our lighting needs, although we noted that there would be an essential difference (except cost!) in using a 110 volt 3000 watt model, which would be sufficient to power all conventional appliances of a house. Two gardens were designed: an out-door vegetable garden, and a greenhouse for seedlings and hot house plants. The farming of fish and perhaps poultry was planned to supplement the vegetarian diet. To complete the food cycle a methane digester system was designed to convert all human and organic wastes into a nitrogen rich fertilizer and generate methane gas which is an excellent heat source for cooking (natural gas is 90-95% methane). The gas would be used in a specially designed stove and the fertilizer would be utilized in the gardens and in algae ponds for the fish and poultry food. Along with the drawing up of sketch plans a set of principles of construction evolved where the need for ecologically responsible materials was stressed (low energy content, recyclable, naturally occurring) as well as a need for loose fit and adjustment of design as we progressed.



They derive their efficiency by achieving high tip speed ratios which is the ratio of propeller tip speed to wind velocity. They require to be well balanced and horizontally pivoted so as to face into any changing wind direction.

A quite different approach is found in the Savonius Rotor (Fig 1) which has a vertical axis rotation in contrast to the horizontal axis rotation of the aircraft type propeller and the dutch windmill. Although somewhat crude and bulky in appearance compared to the slender elegant shape of the sculptured propeller, it has advantages. It rotates in only one axis (vertical) and catches wind from any direction. Short gusts from changing direction are no problem, they are converted to usable power. Whereas the weather-vane type mill



dissipates these gusts moving round, chasing the changes in wind direction. The Savonius is a slow speed mill but as it offers a large surface area to the wind it produces more power. This allows it to be geared to the alternator with a high step up ratio without effecting the restarting ability of the rotor. This rotor can be built by splitting a drum in two across its diameter and down its length. Another type of vertical axis rotor is the Darrieus rotor (Fig.2). Like the Savonius it rotates independently of the wind direction. It is very economical in its use of material, the blades being mere strips of thin metal. It is somewhat more efficient than the Savonius Rotor but has the disadvantage of not being self-starting.

Further reading: Energy Book, John Prenis, Running Press, 38 South Nineteenth Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103 U.S.A.

The main problem with alternative technology is that it does not have the expertise that the capitalist technology has. The problem can be solved however by knowing how one item attaches to another item and using one's own initiative in assembling the unit to make an assembly, the procedure can be utilized to not only make houses, but to make: methane gas generators, solar water heaters, water turbines, wind driven generators, building an a.c. generator from spare parts etc.

The minor problem is one of parts placement and relationships, vis-a-vis the window in relation to the door of a house, the alternator in relation to the motor of the a.c. generator etc.

**AN INTERNATIONAL LOOK AT RESISTANCE TO NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS**

**SWITZERLAND** - Opposition to nuclear power stations has been mainly of the 'please put it somewhere else' variety. But a lonely crusade is waged by Konradin Kreuzer and the Forum for Responsible Application of Science.

For further information: Anwendung der Wissenschaft (Basel). 4113 Fluh, Switzerland.

**JAPAN** - Memories of Hiroshima, Nagasaki and the Lucky Dragon are still fresh, and anything nuclear is suspect. When the nuclear ship Mutsu sprang a radioactive leak in September, 4000 fishermen prevented its return to its homeport. One of the most active organisations against nuclear power and pollution generally, is the Jishu Koza ('independent forum') Citizens' Movement, led by Jun Ui and Nobou Matsuoka. Mishu Koza, Koza, c/- Jun Ui, Faculty of Urban Engineering, University of Tokyo, Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, Japan.

**SWEDEN** - Local groups fought Sweden's first two power reactors, and lost. There is now a national campaign to prevent any more being built. Bjorn Gillberg's Miljocentrum (Environment Centre), an influential national organisation with 100 local groups has fought the issue all the way up the courts, only to have its final appeal thrown out.

A Gallup poll found that 60% of Swedes were against nuclear power, and 81% were prepared to reduce their energy consumption. Probably still more have turned against nuclear power after the recent discovery of three faulty pumps on the Ringhals I reactor. Milocentrum, Ullsaxvagen 14, S-752 48 Uppsala, Sweden. Phone 018-300000.

**HOLLAND** - Holland, Belgium and West Germany are partners in the plan to build a 300MWe breeder power station at Kalkar, in Germany but only 20km from the Dutch border. The Dutch government put a 3% tax on electricity to pay for it. The Stop Kalkar movement has mobilised citizens against the project. Several thousand people now refuse to pay the tax, and risk having their electricity cut off. 10,000 Dutch people went to Kalkar for a protest meeting on 28th September 1974. Many people in the Stop Kalkar movement also want Holland's two operating nuclear plants, at Doneward and Borssele, to be closed down.

In a recent public opinion poll, conducted on behalf of the electricity companies and subsequently leaked, 62% of those questioned considered that technology has not advanced sufficiently to let politicians decide on building nuclear power plants.

Stroomgroep Stop Kalkar, Herengracht 109, Amsterdam, Phone 020-226242.

**FRANCE** - Perhaps the main reason the French government 'needs' a nuclear industry is to provide it with weapons like these tested at Muroroa last year. So in France, pacifists and environmental groups line up together against the government's plans to have 55 reactors under construction by 1980.

Maps showing where the fallout would go if any of the reactors blew up have been distributed by: Le Comité Anti-Nucléaire de Paris, 15 rue du Commerce, 75015 Paris (Same address as Amis de la Terre).

Issue number 5 of *Pollution Non* (see page 16 for address) as a detailed and heavy attack on nuclear subjects, mostly in French, is distributed by J. Pignero, 12 rue des Noyers, Cricenon, 77390 Verneuil l'Etang.

**URANIUM IS THE ISSUE**

"A Westinghouse Electric legal representative said in an American court on November 3rd last year: "Maybe if the Labour government is thrown out in Australia in five weeks we can get uranium we thought we had." Westinghouse was being sued by other firms for breach of contract over promised uranium supplies. The Sydney Sun of Nov. 12th carried a report that President Ford had planned to visit Australia on his way to China. But said the report he cancelled it at the urging of his advisors because of fears that a political bombshell would be dropped in the meantime."

The left suffering from a glorious apathy, induced by the absurd notion that a Labor Government would create the Utopian Socialist dream drew disillusioned with the labour party leadership and finally came to accept the CIA involvement and interference in the Kerr Coup as typical and to be expected from imperialists and reactionary forces. The left, sadly, has very little considered analysis of the problems of energy and technology. Large technology perpetuates the power of the imperialists. The technology of uranium enrichment is still very crude and the impossible long storage periods required for atomic wastes must be seen as threatening the very survival of mankind as totally as the devastation by Atomic explosion that becomes possible by the increasing proliferation of fissionable materials.

The anarchist tradition provides an antidote to the insanity and the accumulation of centralist state power perpetuated by the Large Power Molochs.

Small energy inter-supporting systems such as solar power, methane gas production from waste and wind generation. Such alternatives soft and ecology-orientated can be used now as the simple technology is already available in hardware stores. The struggle against totalitarianism is inextricably tied up with the struggle to refuse the large power structure further power represented by uranium and fissionable material as the means to further perpetuate their global dominance.



**bike ride**

PROTEST AGAINST THE MINING OF URANIUM  
MAY 8TH - 18TH  
BICYCLE DEMONSTRATION / RIDE TO CANBERRA

- Either 1) Ride all the way to Canberra
- 2) Ride to Lucas Heights Vigil all w/end May 8/9.
- 3) Train to Canberra May 18th Return May 20 (concess. fare).



**UNDERCURRENTS**  
"Undercurrents" 50p. each  
Annual sub. \$5.50 (6 Issues)  
11 Shadwell, Uley,  
Dursley, Glos. U.K.

Twenty-five "radical vegetarians" had a "puke-in" at a McDonald's Joint in Michigan U.S.A. They ate the McDonalds mustard, etc. to induce nausea. In Stockholm one of three McDonalds was bombed. (Source A.B.C. 2JJ March 10th (approx. 1.30)

Rally: CIRCULAR QUAY 11AM MAY 8TH  
LEAVE 12 NOON

If you want to join us, please inform  
FRIENDS OF THE EARTH 6600227.  
Meetings every MONDAY EVENINGS 8pm  
at 423 Crown St, Surry Hills.



# LONDON SQUATS

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

It is difficult to estimate the number of squatters in Greater London, but an educated guess would put it at around 50,000 and growing daily. Although, in the main, the squatters are young and outside the normal (sic) nuclear family structure, there is an increasing trend among the ragged edge of the working class "straights", who are squatting because they have no choice; in particular those whom the various social do-gooders avoid, like semi-retired single men who like the comforts of the bottle.

In fact, very few people move into a derelict house purely out of political motivation. Thus, though many trendy liberals sympathise, they balk when it comes down to the actual dynamic of jimmying the security steel-plate from the front door and installing another yale barrel. Yet, surprisingly, or maybe not so surprisingly after all, the trendy media such as *The Guardian*, *BBC*, etc etc., have been rather vicious as well as slanderous in their attentions to the squatting scene, these past few years.

Without necessarily subscribing to the conspiracy theory, it surely must be more than coincidental to find periodic avalanches of articles, news reports, TV specials, detailing such squatter atrocities as the instance of an old pensioner being wheeled out of his own home, helpless against this cruel invasion, stories of honest people going on holidays, only to find on return that their house has been occupied by squatters. And where squatters have vacated a premises, they invariably have shat on the floor, destroyed the fittings and so on.

It is hardly necessary to refute such bullshit, everyone knows that squatters much prefer derelict council accommodation destined for demolition, as the legal position of the authorities is not as clear-cut as that of the private landlord. And anyway, to lump all squatters into one homogeneous grouping is nonsense, and *THE GUARDIAN* knows it. Originally the history of squatting in London shows squats like the highly organised, International Socialist led, Elgin Avenue battle, of which the outcome was that the Elgin Avenue squatters were officially rehoused by the Greater London Council. The situation now is different. The authorities are often baffled as there appear to be no leaders and no committees even to answer as spokespersons. The squatters just squat and refuse to enter into dialogue. This is very baffling to old Labour Party hacks who are in control of the borough councils where squatting goes on, such as Islington, Camden Town.

Some measure of victimisation of squatters is effected, almost privately, in refusal of public utilities such as water, gas, or electricity. Excuses are found to switch off or disconnect. This is only partly successful, however, due to the large amount of pro-squatter sympathy among the rank and file workmen whose unpleasant task it is to do the actual switching off. A quick show of strength, too, has worked, such as in the case of the Hornsey Rise gardens (housing commission-type estate which is now a gigantic squat) where about a hundred residents surrounded gas workmen who had come to take out the gas pipes. They were intimidated by the numbers, made token gestures and left without agro.

So, the squatting, like VD, is on the increase. The obvious catalyst is the abysmal shortage of accommodation, any accommodation, mainly due to the greediness of the landlords who are afraid to let out because of the Labour Party acts of parliament which increased the security of tenure and are converting to bed and breakfast type of accommodation in which the tenant has no rights at all. The withdrawal of utilities has backfired as a method of arresting the tide, because people are now re-connecting themselves "illegally" often after being shown how, by the workmen who disconnected it in the first place. The newspaper campaigns of hysterical ideology are not having much effect these days of bombs in the "tubes" and serious economic depression.

It is not surprising that the authorities are worried. The enactment of the Criminal Trespass Law in England giving the pigs the same sort of arbitrary powers as Summary Offences Act in New South Wales, is a direct result of the squatting epidemic in London. It is also undeniable that the Criminal Trespass Law will come in useful against political occupations. But that is another story.

LET'S STOP  
HERE!



justice is  
just-arse



The N.S.W. Government has finally agreed to hold a Royal Commission into the Prison system. They have yet to announce either the terms of reference, or the composition of the Commission. Groups such as the Penal Reform Council, (PRC), and the Prisoners Action Group, (PAG) are preparing submissions. Assistance is urgently required to index material on the events surrounding the Bathurst bashings, to recruit 60 people to watch the R.C. proceedings on a 2-people a day roster, to draw comparison between N.S.W. and other jail systems etc. The PRC has written a letter to all groups interested in Penal Reform, proposing the setting up of a collective body to which the Govt. could grant legal aid. The next meeting of the PRC will be on Monday April 12th at Humanist House, Shepherd St., Chippendale at 7.30pm; (or they can be contacted at Church Point Post Office, 2105.) There will be a speaker from the Rape Crisis Centre. The PAG, which has published 2 issues of an excellent new magazine "The Alternative Criminology Journal", (\$2. per copy), can be contact at P.O. Box 239, Cammeray, 2062. The ACJ and a collection of poems from 'Creek Expression Workshop' Yatala Labour Prison, Adelaide, 1975, called 'My Mind is not the Pruner's Property' are available from the PAG or the anarchist bookshop.

The Sydney anarchists have set up a prisoners support group to assist libertarian prisoners throughout the world, (see contact column).

In the January edition of the Legal Services Bulletin, there is an interesting article by John Basten raising questions about the severe restrictions being placed on Jim Staples since he was appointed a Judge. Basten criticizes the action of Moore the President of the Arbitration Commission. Address of Legal Service Bulletin: c/o Faculty of Law, Monash University, Clayton N.S.W. 3168.

The article on the Parramatta jail and the letter from PRC, (that the S.M.H. refused to print), are just two examples of the need for the complete abolition of the jail system.

CONTINUED TO LAST PAGE



FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

Victoria: 59 MacArthur Place, Carlton, 3053  
Phone: 347 6630  
N.S.W. C/- New South Wales Environment Centre,  
263b The Broadway, 2007 Phone: 02-660-0227  
Illawarra: P.O. Box 25, Warrawang, 2502  
South Aust. C/- 177 Payneham Road, St. Peters 5069  
Phone: 422870  
Tasmania: P.O. Box 1270, Launceston, 7250  
Queensland: P.O. Box 82, Paddington, 4064  
Cairns: C/- Cape York Environment Centre,  
P.O. Box 21, Edgell, 4879 FNQ  
Western Aust. 41 Broadway, Nedlands, 6009  
A.C.T. P.O. Box 1663, Canberra City, 2601  
New Zealand: P.O. Box 39065, Auckland West



A TWENTIETH CENTURY CHAIN GANG

Attached to Parramatta Jail is an \$11 million automated State Government laundry. The original planning of the laundry complex failed to provide any premises for accommodation - the intention being to use prisoners from Parramatta jail as a pool of cheap labor. However, the prison authorities decided that it wouldn't be safe to allow maximum security prisoners to 'work' in a factory which could easily be sabotaged.

So most of the labor pool for the laundry is brought from the minimum security jails at Milson Island (50 miles away on the Hawkesbury River), and Emu Plains. The prisoners from Milson Is. rise at 4.10a.m., breakfast at 4.30, catch a private ferry at 5a.m. to Brooklyn then a bus to Parramatta. It costs \$1,000 per week to arrange this transport alone. The prisoners receive \$14.40 for a 6 day week. The afternoon shift is staffed by the middle class 'prisoners' who are allowed to live at home, (but travel to and from work under supervision). They receive \$200 per week, (as would be expected the prison system strengthens class division).

There is no trace of 'corrective value' in this twentieth century chain gang. Yet the mass media continue to ignore both the use of non-union labor at below-award wages, and the uses to which 'public' money is being put.



The following letter was sent to the Sydney Morning Herald from Len Evers, of the N.S.W. Penal Reform Council. It was not printed.

Dear Sir,

Your report on a current TV programme on Long Bay Gaol (SM.H. 10/3) raises an old issue of Katinga, the infamous Concrete Tomb at Long Bay.

Mr. Coleman, the present Minister responsible for N.S.W. prisons now seeks to represent Katinga as an acceptable correctional institution by suggesting it as a proper place for notorious offenders such as Alan Baker and Kevin Crump to be "refrigerated" until death at last conveniently removes them as a public menace. Devil's Island was known as France's "dry guillotine". Is Katinga to become the N.S.W. "snap-freeze gallows"?

Of course, there will be those who would want to make the perpetrators of the Mrs. Morse atrocity suffer the most exquisite tortures the ingenuity of sadistic man devise. Thankfully they are in the minority. Most of us are much less vicious and prefer to be distinguished from the cruel and the heartless by more than the mere choice of victim. For the reason that most of us are not cruel and heartless the prospect of any human being buried alive in an artificially lit and ventilated hole in a giant lump of concrete for twenty-three hours a day strikes us as revolting.

Katinga is a beautiful name for a very ugly example of 20th Century barbarism. And just as the growth of public conscience has outlawed Breaking on the Wheel, the Bastille, Devil's Island and Alcatraz, so it will end Katinga too, sooner or later - despite all the cynical public relations efforts of Mr. Coleman and his associates.

## Editorial

In putting together Rising Free, we have tried, as far as possible to make it a NEWSpaper, for general readership. One that will hopefully be relevant and interesting to as many people as possible. We do feel that theoretical analysis is important and has its place, and to this end we expect to reserve the centre pages for theoretical articles on different topics relevant to anarchism. However, for the bulk of the paper's space there is a purpose we find much more important. That is, to give publicity to events which people might otherwise not hear about. Where people break out of the normal routine of their life, we will try to report their activities and their intentions, to help get support for people who endeavour to make life more fulfilling for themselves and those they live and work with. And to inspire others to take initiatives in their own lives.

So our aim is not to push a "line". Nor do we want to merely amplify the strange goings on of members of our own small clique. BUT, if we are to succeed in our aims we must have help from our readers. If you have any news that may make stories for the paper please get in touch with us - P.O. Box 92, Broadway N.S.W. 2007, or ring 660 5016. We need help in laying out, and in selling the paper, as well as news.

The Rising Free Collective welcomes any contributions - articles, cartoons, graphics, etc. or any assistance in either production or distribution of the paper.

All the material in this newspaper is free from copyright - reproduce at will rather than through or by intercourse.

Each block committee would consist of all the people on a particular block, (not just the 'ratepayers'). They would meet regularly to make decisions about all matters which effect their block. When matters arose which effected more than one block, (say the whole municipality), delegates, (not representatives), would be elected with specific instructions from their block committee. (Unlike the present system of representatives if the delegates fail to follow the instructions of their committee they can be recalled by a committee meeting.) The delegates would attend a federal assembly of all the block committees in the municipality. The block committees will be the policy-making bodies. The job of delegates will be to execute such policies, administer routine tasks, and communicate the policy of their committee to other committees or their delegates.

So far, by taking matters into our own hands, we have forced the council to partially back down. Lets go further form our own block committees - you and the other people who live on your block know what's best for the block - and make our own town plans.

**SQUATTING** - There are houses in Glebe and surrounding suburbs that are ready to be squatted in now! For further information regarding these ring: The Squatting Advisory Service 660 5016



## Anarchist Conference

MELBOURNE - EASTER WEEKEND - 16th - 19th APRIL

For further information write to Latrobe Anarchists, Latrobe University, Bundoora, Melbourne, Vict. There will be a pre-conference meeting taking place in Sydney at 130 Glebe Pt. Road, Glebe, on 11th April from 2p.m. to 7.30p.m. to discuss the 'Correct Sydney Line', fishing and political discussions. B.Y.O.L.

From a letter from a pensioner re Fraser's delay on pension increases:

It seems Fraser really enjoys picking on the poor. The poor and pensioners are a great embarrassment to the government, and the sooner we die of starvation and just get out of the way the better for the Libs.

In order to improve his image, Fraser should try existing on the pension rate for at least 3 months, and refuse dinner invitations during that period from his mates.

Also, after the delay of 3 months without increase, do we get the next increase 3 months later, or do we wait 6 months and so lose 3 months increase altogether.

A.M.

## Classified

### LANGUAGE EXCHANGE

A few people are interested in learning Spanish, Italian and/or Greek in exchange for English. We could translate articles (anarchist etc.) into English or from English, as well as talk. No money, no classrooms, no teachers! Contact Margaret or Brian, c/- P.O. Box 92, Broadway, 2007.

UN GRUPO DE COMPANEROS. TIENEN INTERES E APRENDER ESPANOL - ITALIANO - GRIEGO. A CAMBIO SE DARIAN CLASES DE INGLES, SIN PAGAR NADA. TAMBIEN SE DESEA PERSONA QUE SE PRESTE EN TRADUCIR ARTICULOS.

Contact Margaret or Brian c/- Box 92 P.O. Broadway, 2007.

ALCANI PERSONAE VOGLIONO IMPARARE ITALIANO, SPAGNONO E/O GREEKO INCAMBIO INGLESE. SI POSSONO PRADURE ARTICULI (ANARCHICA ETC) DAL ITALIANO IN ENGLISI, O DAL INGLISI IN ITALIANO, ANCHE PERERE CONVERSATIONE. NO SOLDI, SERIVERA AL SEQUINTI INDIRIZZO!

**VICTORIA STREET** - Mick Fowler, the last tenant of Frank Theeman's Victoria Street properties, has been khybered once more (and almost certainly for the last time) by the N.S.W. courts. He has been given till May 5th to get out. But it is unlikely that he will leave voluntarily when the bailiffs (and other's) arrive. meetings are held every Thursday at Mick's place, 115 Victoria St at 7p.m. Anyone wishing to go on the Victoria St. 'phone tree, so they can be told of Mick's imminent eviction and wish to be there to support Mick in which every way they can, should ring 660 5016 and leave their phone number and/or address.

### LIBERTARIAN PRISONER'S DEFENCE GROUP

has formed in Sydney, meets every fortnight, next meeting April 14th at 130 Glebe Point Road, Glebe at 8.30p.m.

### NEW PUBLICATIONS

PAPERS: Brisbane S.M.G. paper 'Libertarian' Price 40c; Sydney Feminist paper 'Mabel' Price 20c Issue no. 2; Sydney Anarchist paper 'Rising Free' Issues no. 1 & 2. 10c. BOOKS AND PERIODICALS: 'Red & Black' an anarchist journal Sydney - No. 6 50c; 'The Right to Be Greedy' - Theses on the Practical necessity of Demanding Everything. 75c; 'Without Hardware' C.R. Dalton Cases of treason in Australia - \$1.00c; 'Sydney's Burning' Ian Turner - Aust. History of the International Workers of the World. - 95c.; 'The Occupation of the Factories' Paolo Spriano - Italy 1920, \$4.00; 'Anarchy' - Masatesta's classical statements on organization. 30c; 'Workers Against the Monolith' Ian Birchall - The Communist Party's betrayal of the workers \$3.00; More Situationist material on order plus 'Complaints and Disorders' & 'Witches, Midwives & Nurses' etc. from Feminist Press U.S.A. and Newspapers from Madness Network News.

The above are available from Anarchist Bookshop, 130 Glebe Pt. Road, Glebe. People are asked to support the bookshop either by way of roster or donations.

### WHY NOT VISIT YOUR LOCAL ANARCHIST

Sydney Anarchist Group  
P.O. Box 92, Broadway, NSW 2007  
Woodstock Anarchist Party  
P.O. Box 250, Jamison Centre  
Canberra A.C.T. 2601.  
Self Management Group,  
P.O. Box 332, North Quay. 4000 QLD  
Adelaide Anarchists,  
c/o 25 Hart St., Semaphore S.A. 5019  
Melbourne Anarchists,  
P.O. Box 1045, North Richmond. 3121.  
Woodstock Anarchist Party,  
34 Kennedy Terrace, Launceston.  
Tasmania. 7250.