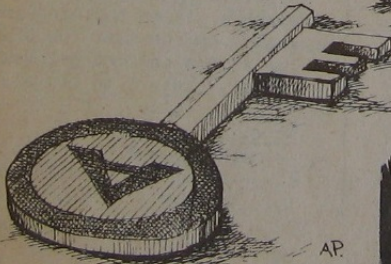


TREASON

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NO 5

P.O. Box 37 E. BRUNSWICK

NEWS & LETTERS



Please send "NEWS & LETTERS" to:
"The ASON", P.O. BOX 37, East Brunswick,
Victoria Australia 3057

Dear Comrades,

Thanks for your magazine Treason No. 4. It is always good to hear from brothers and sisters from a collective who are sincere and concerned about comrades who went a few steps further in a struggle than the rest would go. No-one is certain what is the correct struggle. Ever present changing conditions of times demands different methods - some of us are prepared for all out armed struggle, others remain pacifists, no matter how far they go if they are sincere to participate to change the world it is a noble cause. We are born free yet we wear chains, physical and mental. We the people have a right to destroy conditions that destroy us.

"I would like to see the name of the magazine changed ... it could intimidate the politically less aware people."

"... It is reactionary to print the box number of National Alliance, the article (in No.4)

said to contact the Alliance yourself... this is very bad, I know that this article is not meant to help the fascists but it could cause severe confusion among libertarian people,..."

-Sam

ITEM 1

Over the past year developments in POLAND have angered their Super Power the USSR. Large scale strikes have continued to cripple the industry and bureaucracy of Poland, leaving its leaders powerless against the trade union organisations. As one leader after another is replaced by the USSR in the hope of quelling the disputes and strikes, it is becoming increasingly obvious that the USSR will (as it has in Czechoslovakia and Hungary) resort to brutal force.

Note:

"Under Capitalism man exploits man under Socialism the reverse is true."

- POLISH Proverb.

how true!

ITEM 2

for the past few months (and perhaps for a few more yet) TV in China is getting its 1st real dose of Perry Mason with the "Gang of Four" trial.

NOTE! The pros and cons of Madame Jiang etc. are irrelevant. Here the point is that TV in China is being used as a tool for JUSTICE, and like REALITY is being sliced and sped up at 16mm/sec to keep pace with "SPEECH".

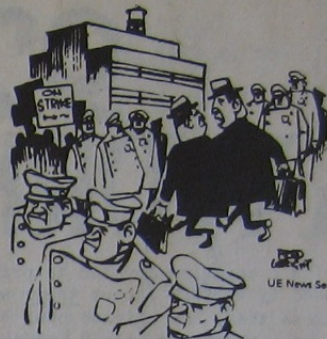
The Powers that be, in China are using the dictum,

"that which appears is good
that which is good appears."

EDITORIAL

Hello readers. We hope you like this issue cause we have put more effort in this time. We are aiming to produce a viable paper that ranks in quality as high as Anarchist papers produced anywhere. And of course we want to provide a forum for people who, (like us) see it necessary to abolish the State. We are genuinely interested in communicating with all the other (A) groups and also with new readers whose interest is new to our anti-authoritarian position.

TREASON will and can only be as good as its participants so please participate - remember "direct action" is the only course to fulfilling dreams and we think, that dream (Anarchy!) is worth that much.



UE News Service

"Now if we could only teach the cops to run the machines..."

COLLECTIVES

I want the revolution like
long hair round shoulders
And soft hands
To reassure me
I need the social upheaval
of calm voices
speaking honestly
I need themilitant struggle
of shared food
And gentle music.

The steady tom-tom beat
of smouldering resentment
And rich-men's malice
And their injustice to the
Landless
Breadless
Bedless
Victims

Pounds the harmony
from our conscience.
Replace those sights and sounds
With cascading waterfalls
And fresh baked scones.
Gather the apples
from our trees
And pile them in the cart.....
For the masses.
Enough to feed
four billion mouths.

Red Bingham

925 A WORKERS MAG

"925" is a magazine devoted to printing and encouraging writing. Produced by workers (about their work). 925 began in November 1978, and since then, has printed over 376 individual contributions, by some, 81 workers, in it's 7 issues. The occupations of the writers in 925 include: nurses/firemen/clowns/labourers/electricians/mechanics/welders/clerks.waitresses/draughtsmen/housewives, and unemployed (just to mention a few). The aim of 925 is to provide an "open area" where workers (through their creativity) can share information and their prejudices. Eventually, we hope to compile all the issues of 925 under one cover, entitled: "THE WORKS". In this way we hope to be able to produce a portrait of australia, as recorded by its workers, and not by some academic after a PH.D. The cumulative effect of 925, in the end result, is in effect a COLLECTIVE work; each worker adding to the total fabric of our society.

P.O.

— o ~ ~ o —

I'VE GOT A HOLE IN ONE

Brickies Labouring is:
going through five pairs of boots in a year
and having the taxman not believe you
because he gets eighteen months
out of his golf shoes.

a j

i'm no stranger
to hard work

more of a nodding
acquaintance.

d h

to some,
automation
is a situation comedy
to others
it's
situations vacant

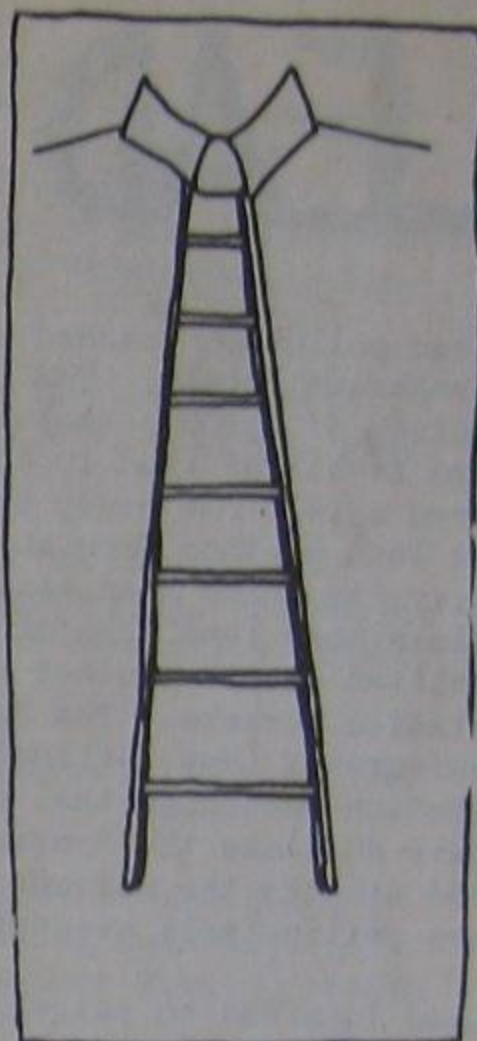
- 1 o

Bonnie

BOOK FAITH AND HORSE SENSE

academics are very practical;
when they are having their individual,
look alike house built;
they go to the library
and read up on "how to build houses"
and on the job sites
they become nuisances,
measuring everything with a tape,
correcting the tradesman,
whispering to wives and pointing.
after a time the boss gets jack of it
and adopts the jack principle
and takes his gang to another job.

a j



never drink black coffee at lunch,
it will keep you awake in the afternoon.

j c

TIS-PAN



Bonnie

sara is trying to cope
with the fact that
she is a lesbian
in an all girls school
where 90% of the staff
are female
run by a religion
that will refuse to accept her
if she ever makes it known.

- 1 m

LEAD IN PETROL

AN URGENT ISSUE!

Lead pollution (caused by car exhaust fumes) in Australia has reached dangerous levels. The University of NSW in May 1979 conducted a survey of 1,200 school children. They found that 20% of the children had levels of lead in their blood stream, greater than levels considered safe. The study showed that these levels, could only be related to lead emitted from automobiles. Dr. Frank Burden of Monash University has shown that homegrown vegetables in Melbourne contained 3 times more lead than shop-bought vegetables grown outside the metropolitan area. Another area of lead-poisoning is the effect on service station workers. The dangers were highlighted by Dr. Brooks of Massey University (New Zealand) who drew attention to the fate of 8 petrol station watchdogs that died of lead poisoning. They were found to have 40 times the "normal" levels. Lead poisoning affects the brain and attacks the nervous system and surveys have shown that children are particularly susceptible: the issue is URGENT!

Lead is added to petrol, as a cheap and easy way for oil companies, to meet the "octane rating" needed for "high performance" (speed and quick acceleration) cars. The companies who produce the lead, are owned by the oil companies, so it is only natural, that any threat, to their profits will be resisted. It is interesting to note, that the oil companies rank as some of the worlds largest companies: EXXON is the 2nd largest in the world; SHELL/Royal Dutch (3rd); MOBIL (5th); TEXACO (6th larges); BP (7th); STANDARD OIL (8th); and so on, with a combined annual world sales of \$218,360,000,000.



So it's not surprising that the recently completed "LONIE INQUIRY" into transport in Victoria (which, by the way, was headed by executives from BHP and GMH) recommended that more freeways be built and rail services cut; in effect forcing more and more people into cars; as the public transport system declines, through Government policy and practice.

But lead-free petrol, has another benefit; In the words of the oil companies themselves (printed in "PETROLEUM REVIEW", Vol. 25, page 103, 1975):

"Elimination of lead could have advantages to the motorist of increased life of exhaust systems, spark plugs, and engine oil, and reduction in both engine wear and combustion chamber deposits."

In other words, the wear and tear maintenance costs of cars to the average motorist would be less.

A Federal Government committee; the Vehicle Emissions and Noise Standards Advisory Committee (VENSAC) favour the introduction of lead-free petrol in Australia, because as the Sydney Morning Herald (2/9/80) reported (quoting GMH, FORD and TOYOTA representatives):

"...a change in lead-free petrol and catalyst emission control technology would result in an overall fuel saving on operation of vehicles."

Lead free petrol and catalytic converters would also reduce smog in the cities.

So it would appear that the only obstacle to LEAD FREE PETROL are the all powerful petrol companies themselves. It appears that not even Governments are able to oppose them. The NSW (Labour) Government put it in a nutshell:

"We have a choice, we can remove LEAD from petrol and help to ensure healthy air for ourselves and our children

or

we can keep adding LEAD to petrol and poison our air. LEAD may be good for oil refineries, BUT IT'S NO GOOD FOR US!!"

and if the facts are known, they're going to need all the help they can get: THE ISSUE IS URGENT!!!!!!

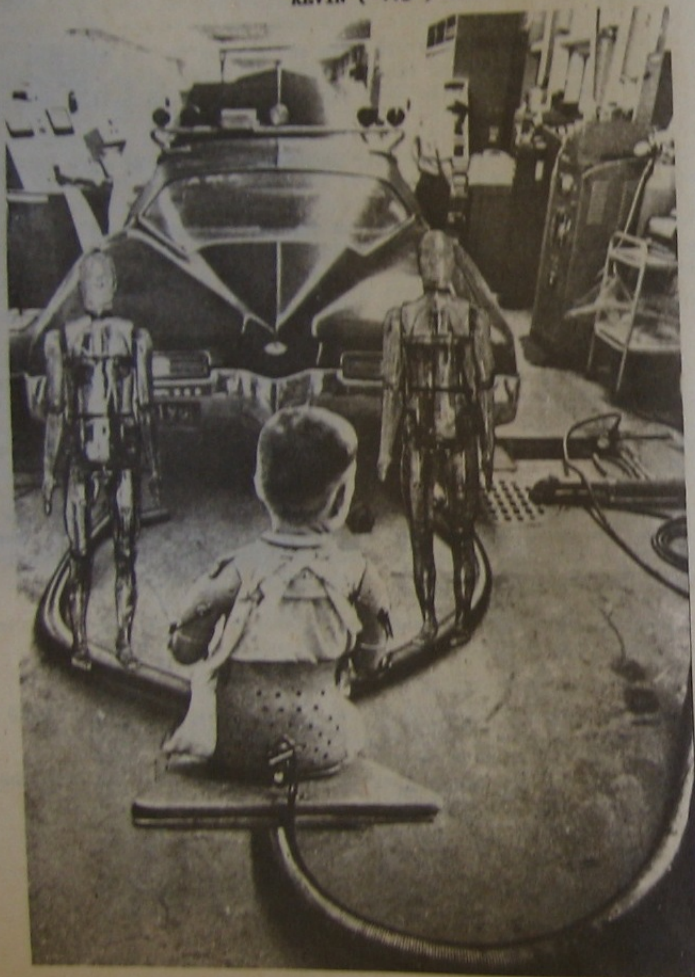
For further information contact:

1. DEVELOPMENTS, P.O. BOX 2430v GPO MELB 3001

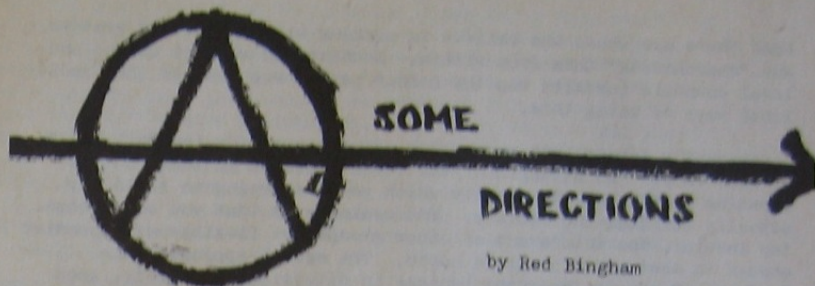
2. COMMITTEE FOR LEAD FREE PETROL, c/o FRIENDS OF THE EARTH,
366 Smith St., Collingwood 3066, ph(03)4198700
3. CLEAN AIR FOR CHILDREN, c/o TOTAL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE,
18 Argyle St., Rocks 2000 ph(02)274714

photos reprinted from DEVELOPMENTS No. 1

written by
KEVIN ("TTO") Wilson-wood.



Peter Lysiotis



by Red Bingham

Contrary to popular belief, anarchists do organise.... and because the emphasis is on democratic participation within the group the method of organisation has many strengths. A failure of anarchist groups reflects a fault in human nature itself - that is, that peoples' commitment is erratic, people sometimes don't consider the feelings of others and people sometimes don't want to take on responsibilities and workloads.

A certain amount of bossiness and bitching has to go on within the group in order to overcome these problems. This is basically a good thing because if you don't have some conflict and argument at the start of an enterprise then you probably have someone giving the orders. If you do have someone giving the orders then you risk having all the problems which go with leadership - a submissive group which lacks confidence in itself to function without the leader, a group where the inner circle are "in the know" and the outer circle largely ignorant, a group which develops factions which get increasingly hostile to each other and a group where issues have to be decided by a majority vote or the leaders ruling. If and when it gets to the stage of the leader imposing his or her wishes on the group then the group has serious problems with the "cult of leadership." The groups attitudes to the rest of society will then reflect this anti democratic attitude.

Policy will be something which the masses will have to accept " for their own good." The miserable excuse of efficiency, productivity and the general well being of the people will be used to stifle any criticism of the leader or the system.

How anarchist organisations differ.
The individual is sacred to anarchists. A popular slogan for anarchists is - "The revolution ceases to exist when it is necessary to sacrifice someone to it."

The anarchist groups and individuals differ widely in how we are to approach the utopia where power and wealth are shared equally. Some believe in completely rejecting the established system and creating their own systems (sometimes by revolutionary action.) On the other

hand there are those who believe in working within existing systems and "anarchising" them from within. Student and workers unions and local councils (usually via the Labour party) are some of the traditional ways of doing this.

I personally favour both approaches as necessary for the well being of democracy. The strength of the first approach is that you are creating a model of the society which you are trying to build, or actually building the society. The weakness is that you can become too insular, too intolerant of other groups not flexible or expansive enough to meet other people's needs. The second approach, the "reformist" one is important because in situations of crisis, good relationships between anarchists and other individuals and groups is of crucial importance. It is of positive value to all if all institutions are accessible to anarchists - so that we may be more successful in spreading our ideas.

The disadvantage is that by doing the "social democrats" work for them we will compromise ourselves and ultimately be swallowed up by the system. We will be bought-off by power, status and wealth. Furthermore we will be wasting our precious time in running a system which is at best trivial and meaningless and at worst hostile to the society which we are trying to create.

However to counter this argument one can say that if there is no anarchist influence or democratic ideas entering into institutions (institutions ranging from unions and social-democratic parties to the army and police) then they can only swing further to the right. I am not saying that anarchists can revolutionise these institutions from within but do not believe that if we let things get worse then people will become more left-wing. I think that we must try to combat any abuses of power wherever we find it and if we can prevent it spreading then we should do it by all possible means at our disposal. That means working with the people and resources to be found in institutions.

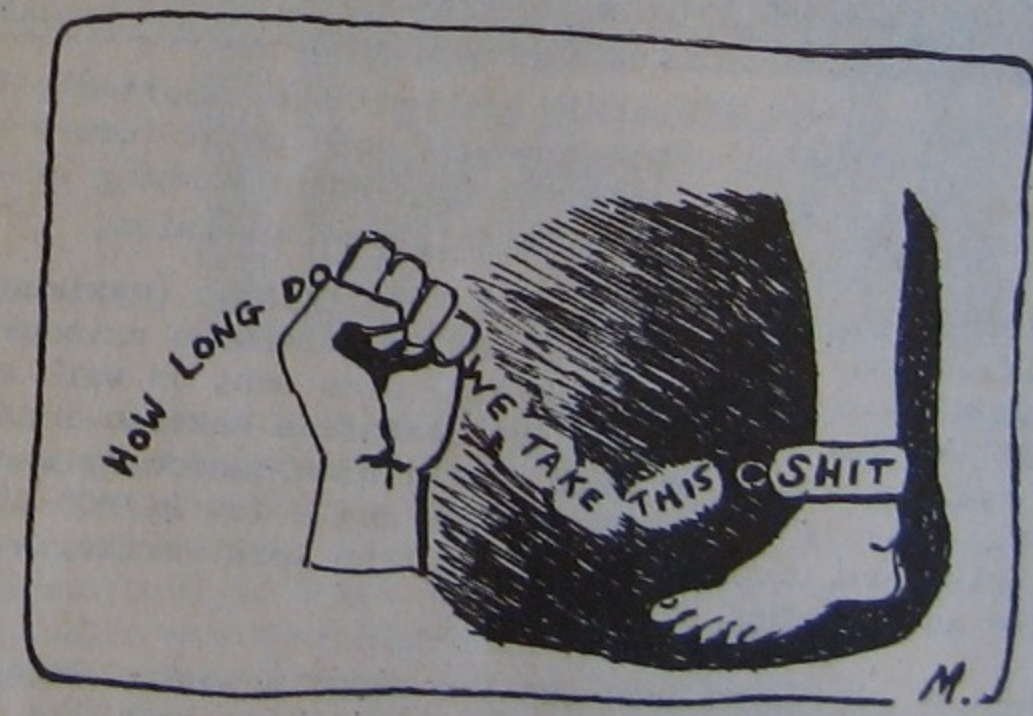
How then can we avoid being contaminated by the power-tripping and status seeking of the institutions? By realising that the primary role of anarchists is to create our own systems and that the secondary role of working within non-anarchist settings is situational. It depends on how big a threat a right wing takeover of the institution is to the community in general and anarchists in particular. Secondly it depends on how much it serves the anarchist movement by participating in it. If we maintain our belief in the equality and freedom of all individuals we will never be corrupted.

In fact Duncans response to the Liberals plans for a "sup max" was to reject this idea. Instead, he said that the government should build more minimum security institutions! As you can understand, prisoners in this State are being used as political footballs. The states plans for more jails should be resisted and exposed. The systems "remedy" to more delinquency, is more attraction and practice for it than to eliminate its root cause - human poverty and the frustrations of social powerlessness. Instead the poorer classes are becoming poorer and more powerless in face of the capitalist economic crisis. The state is obviously anticipating greater working class disobedience to the system, both in form of blind rebellion and possibly conscious political dissent.

If there is truth in rumours about the Fraser governments plans to bring back conscription, then the state certainly will require more lock-ups to deal with active resistance to its criminal plans and devices. Sadly, there has been virtually no outside support for the Yatala inmates actions. Prisoners, as members of the working class in it's most enslaved form, represent a potentially revolutionary force in society. The time is coming where all of the oppressed must unite against our criminal rulers or the future will be lost! As Kropotkin said long ago, jails only hold the small time crims, the big time ones rule society through organised violence and intimidation.

We are currently a long way off the anarchist goal of abolition of prisons and the state, this has to go hand in hand with the creation of society based upon equality and respect for individual freedom and needs to go beyond the mere expropriation of the means of life and production by the working class from below - it also requires greater proletarian solidarity to achieve these goals.

Michael B.

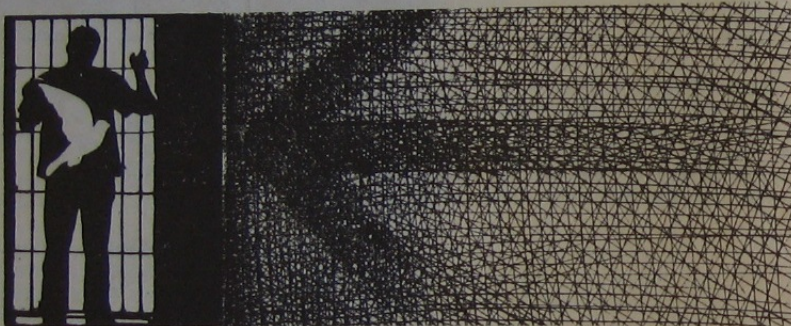


PAGE 4 CENTRE
-SPR-AD P.T.O
FOR PAGE 1

he had been the victim of repeated homosexual rape by both some other inmates and officers and couldn't handle it any longer. The deceased prisoner, when initially sexually harassed by a few other prisoners, asked the jail authorities to transfer him to another jail or at least a safer work area in the jail. His request was denied and totally ignored.

The same day of the inquest, about 90 prisoners began a work strike. Their demands included -

- * Flush toilet facilities in all cells to replace the buckets.
- * Power points in each room to enable internal air conditioning and the possibility of doing their own cooking.
- * The right to have legal representation when charged with infractions of prison discipline and the right to appeal against penalties dished out by visiting "Justices".
- * That interference with prisoners mail by the screws cease.
- * That the Prison bureaucracy drop its existing policy of refusing to negotiate in the event of prisoner disputes.
- * That there be an open public enquiry into the treatment of Yatala's isolation section prisoners.



Many prisoners in the isolation section have reportedly been brutally bashed by officers and had hoses of cold water turned on them. In fact the strike was partly prompted by the recent bashing of a prisoner in "S" and "D" (solitary and discipline) division.

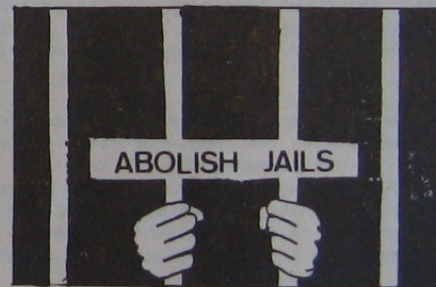
Most of the prisoners on work strike were "B" division (maximum security classification) prisoners. A few "A" division prisoners (medium to maximum security classification) also went on work strike. Initially the strike was prompted by the isolation section inmates hunger strike. All prisoners on work strike simultaneously went on a hunger strike. Some "A" division inmates and a few in "C" division (low security prisoners, trustees) while not on work strike, went on hunger strike in sympathy.

The most determined prisoners held out for about a week. Some of the most militant have copped short spells in isolation. The

Administration threatened to bring in riot pigs and the STAR (Special Task and Rescue) force to quell inmate dissent. Atmosphere in Yatala is pretty tense, with a large percentage of maximum security prisoners beginning to unite and resist the jails terrorist regime. This is happening against immense odds. The screws actively set prisoners against each other by such means as starting malicious rumours about certain prisoners, encouraging racism and sexual assaults. But an increasing number of prisoners are becoming wise to the officers lies and realising "shit, it's not the guy down the other end of the cell-block I should be fighting, it's those uniformed Nazis we've got to stand up to."

A friend of mine in Yatala, during a recent visit, said that if the States enquiry does turn out to be a "whitewash" of the jails oppressive conditions, the outcome could easily be similar to the violent riots which have occurred in numerous eastern state jails over the last few years. It's also widely feared that not only might the states R.C. enquiry exonerate sadistic screws from any legal reprisals but it seems very much on the cards that electronic surveillance will be installed not only in Yatala prison but also in the Adelaide jail, which is used to incarcerate short term and remand prisoners.

The Liberal government also wants to build more jails in this state and the possibility of a "super-maximum security" jail is being "looked into" by the state, probably modelled on the Katingal experiment in Long Bay. With the difficulty of longer term prisoners in obtaining parole, a hard core of really desperate men behind the walls is being created, coupled with the fact that the states "remedy" is likely to be increased authoritarianism.



The states bureaucracy, politicians and capitalist media seem largely unconcerned with any genuine prison reform. Duncan, who helped bring to public attention some aspects of cruel prison conditions has proved pretty wishy washy. After all does he seriously think the the inhuman conditions in S.A. jails have come into being in the last year or so? He was Labor attorney general in this state for several years before the A.L.P. got ousted and the conditions in S.A. jails were no better then! I didn't notice his concern for the problems of prisoners THEN.

BACKLASH AT YATALA

The South Australian 'Liberal' government has this year tightened parole eligibility for S.A. prisoners considerably. It has used the actions of 2 men to scapegoat the entire states prison population. The government aided by the capitalist media stirred up the hysteria following the discovery of the identity of the culprits of about half a dozen murders of teenage girls - the "Truro" murders. (Truro is where the bodies were found).

Both of the men responsible for their deaths were ex-Yatala inmates. (One is back in there - on protection - the other is dead due to a car accident). One had a prior conviction for rape and had been released on parole a few months before his original sentence had been completed.

And now every prisoner in S.A. jails is feeling the scapegoating and backlash (sic!). The courts are now more inclined to be harsher with penalties, fewer suspended sentences and more actual imprisonments for example. More recently, the S.A. government announced that it would hold a Royal commission into the jail.

This is obviously an act of political expediency, the decision being announced by the Liberal government just before the federal election. Several times before the government had rejected calls for an official inquiry. Despite repeated allegations in State parliament by ex Labor attorney general Duncan about bad treatment of some prisoners and corruption amongst prison officers. Duncan said that Yatala is being run by an unholy alliance of corrupt officers and a gang of inmate heavies.

Duncan said that sometimes younger prisoners are subject to both sexual and non sexual assaults by the inmate heavies. Duncan, however, who has been conducting his own personal enquiry into S.A. jails this year, made no mention of the allegations made by some prisoners about assaults on them by officers. Many prisoners in Yatala who have been assaulted by sadistic warders, have in the past written to the Ombudsman. Who has in turn referred their complaints back to the Prisons department!

The result in some cases, have been more bashings to attempt to silence and intimidate the prisoners. Late in September (an anonymous) Yatala prisoner gave evidence at the inquest of a 20 year old prisoner who was found hung in his cell in January this year. The prisoner who testified had a cell next to the deceased prisoner (he has since been transferred to another S.A. jail for his own safety). The dead prisoner had told the other prisoner the day before his death that he planned to commit suicide. According to the prisoner(s)

HONEST MILEAGE

THE BIKE

I'm pedalling gently uphill. The sun is beating down mercilessly upon my already windburnt arms and legs, but that's not what's occupying my mind.

The rustle of yellow dried grass. The smell of windblown dust. The visual clarity of the unwinding panorama, unimpeded by glass. The chirp of cicadas. Somewhere a myna calls.

I just realized that inspite of having toured over most of Australia during a number of years, I've never really seen anything whilst travelling, only glimpsed things flying past at image distorting speeds. Touring on a bike in a fairly leisurely fashion I am reminded of the reality of the environment in a sensual way; the car clouded memory was getting a little dim.

A Holden roars past. A blast of air knocks me as its blow wave hits. The stench of hot petrol assaults me, but that doesn't bother him in the Holden with his air conditioner on, windows up, leaving the environment behind at seventy mph and totally out of touch with his environment.

Rod, riding in front shouts back, "bloody maniac", and I agree. We are both aware of the limiting factors occurring with every increment in speed. The more you speed the more you lose. The car isn't self limiting, like the bike, it has subverted its original purpose of autonomous transport to a larger self maintaining and justifying purpose. It is now the basis for a socially destructive self propagating monopoly.

Jack in the Holden doesn't dig all that though, he's thinking about staying on the road, wrestling with the wheel.

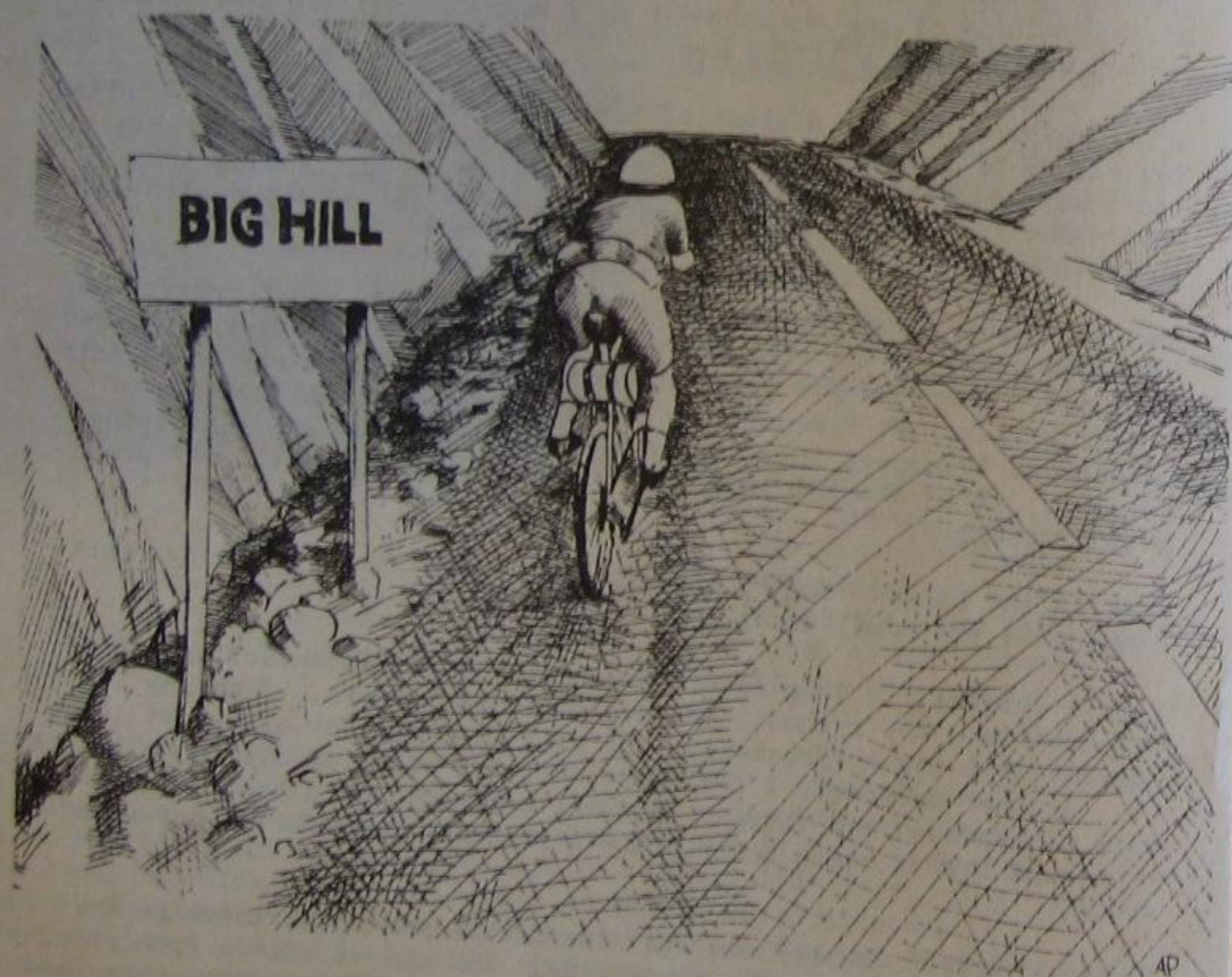
A hill arrives. I drop down a sprocket, quite automatically now my legs maintain the rythm. The music of the terrain. Cranking in harmony with the environment. The hill gets steeper as we get into it. Another sprocket, I feel like a little exercise and put a little more pressure on the thighs. Another sprocket. I'm beating hard now breathing like a steam train. The sign said 'big hill', they weren't wrong.

Climbing a hill usually has its rewards, because often there is the prospect of going down the other side. Its almost like a free ride. I say 'almost' because there is never a free ride in biking, there are

rewards for ones effort, but unlike the motorist who used up several thousand kilojoules in petrol (donated by generations of dinosaurs) the effort is honest.

A trickle of sweat tickles my temple as I put the bike into top gear effortlessly building up speed, the wind drying me the road becoming a living creature to harmonise with once again. I never cease to be thrilled with pedalling down a big hill: it always amazes me just how quickly a bike can go. Without pollution. Even manufacturing the bike is a fraction as costly as the motor car in spite of the many similar technologies involved. A lot of the assembly is done by hand.

It could potentially come from a cottage industry economy. I feel very much in tune with anarchist thinking in riding my bike. I mean, getting a bike must've been one of the most politically activating things I could have done, at least, it relates to so many important political issues, such as the environment, inequity in society, minimizing authority - and the use of our resources.



We're approaching the town now; the old bum's getting a little sore and it'll be good to have a shower; but first a drink - we've really earn't it. We've just done 65 miles, which is a fair trip since we're amateurs and aren't enormously athletic, but we all feel a sense of real satisfaction. It's a job well done. A craftsperson becoming involved in a job; the result relating directly to the task.

I ask myself, how many forms of transport engender a sense of accomplishment in the participation? What machine when used doesn't involve waste and pollution; and doesn't pander to the needs of authoritarian beauracracies. What when I use it doesn't compromise my ethics, but helps me practice what I preach?

I unload the small touring bag, stand back, and think. 'What a handsome machine'.

A P

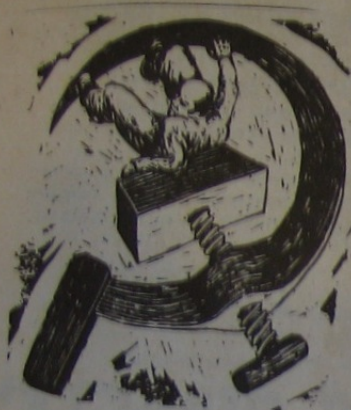
TOTTERING GIANTS U.S.A. AND THE U.S.S.R

Like its fellow superpower the United States, the U.S.S.R. has reached its peak and must now decline in terms of power and influence. Since World War II the superpowers rapid expansion has sowed the seeds of their own contraction. The Newtonian law of "for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction," has been demonstrated several times over the past twelve months. The revolution in Nicaragua has shown the World that the hold of the CIA and the U.S. multinationals is slipping in Latin America. The U.S. puppet regimes in Brazil, Chile, Bolivia and Argentina will, (it is reasonable to assume), be replaced by radical governments by the end of the decade.

Russia's stranglehold over its Eastern European puppet regimes is beginning to break up with the growth of workers' defence organisations in Poland and the growth of dissident movements and nationalist groups. The building of a reactionary, socially-stratified bureaucracy under the banner of "socialism" and relying on force, fear and threats in order to consolidate Russian Communist Party control fostered the growing opposition.

Where did the superpowers go wrong?

Both countries had revolutions. The American Revolution in 1776 was the first successful republican revolution (much more successful than the revolution launched by Oliver Cromwell's forces in England a century earlier.) The Russian Revolution was the first successfully anti-capitalist revolution. (Although as we have seen, it didn't stay that way.)



Well, in the case of the United States the American Revolution was from the outset, controlled by wealthy republicans... the "national bourgeoisie", in left-wing jargon. George Washington kept slaves. And even when slavery was abolished after the American Civil War, the triumphant bosses imposed a system of wage-slavery which was so effective that even today the American Labour Movement is weak and conservative. The American Capitalists were ruthless imperialists and almost completely annihilated the Red Indians before annexing Latin America and most of the Pacific region.

In the case of the Russian Revolution, the Bolshevik party's vision of a new and powerful Russia caused the Bolshevik leaders to retract promises of national self-determination and democratic rights and they used the very real fear of a counter-revolution by the White Armies as a reason for the ruthless suppression of democratic workers movements, regional autonomy and civil liberties. Afterwards, the devastated economy and the threat of "subversion" were the reasons given for Lenin's and Stalin's massive centralised bureaucracy, secret police intimidation of people and imperialism. One of the earliest examples of the imperialist nature of the Communist regime in Moscow was Trotsky's treacherous behaviour to the Ukrainian anarchist guerilla leader Nestor Mahknow whose officers went to a "peace conference" with Trotsky's Red Army and were shot. To this day the Ukraine is dominated by Moscow and those Ukrainians who are fighting for regional autonomy are harassed and jailed.

Red Bingham

BOOK REVIEW.

TOWARDS A CITIZEN'S MILITIA

NO. 1

published by Cienfuegos Press, U.K.

"Hours of debate have led us back to where we started - a free society is unlikely to be born from a coercive measure, and just as unlikely to be born of an oppressive authoritarian regime. If we choose physical force, our obligation to society, and to ourselves, becomes magnified a hundred fold to maintain and advance a theory and practice of social organisation that will never enslave, imprison, conscript or tax." - from the Introduction to Towards A Citizens Militia.

This book is subtitled "Anarchist Alternatives to Nato and the Warsaw Pact" and it is about tactics and organisational principles relevant to an Anarchist guerilla army fighting with popular support against a government widely seen to be repressive. It is not therefore, a handbook for "terrorism", or not by any reasonable definition of "terrorism" at least. Nor does the book contain instructions for making bombs in the bathtub. It claims to be a serious examination of military tactics as they apply to guerilla war and of the special problems which arise when that war is being waged by Anarchists.

Most of the book is technical, explaining the tactical principles involved in attacking an airfield, for example or ambushing a military convoy. Whether this sort of information is accurate or not is hardly something that this review can deal with, but it can be commented that parts of the book seem to take for granted a densely populated rural "peasant" background, of doubtful relevance to a country like Australia. Urban resistance is also covered, however. "Citizens Militia" does not give the sources for its information but I have read in the English paper "Freedom" that it is quite closely based on (of all things) a Swiss Home Guard training manual. Other sources of information are said to be armed struggle groups in Spain and South America, and the I.R.A. (It should be unnecessary to say that "Citizens Militia" does NOT recommend IRA-style pub-bombing etc. however...)

So much for the technical side. The ethics of armed struggle, and its relationship to other aspects of Anarchism is also discussed. For example, the book deals with the difficult question of "command" and "leadership" in an Anarchist army. It is insisted that delegated leaders are necessary, at least for combat situations. To quote - "People involved in armed struggle have little time for a summit meeting." The author does not pretend that this doesn't involve a compromise of Anarchist principles, and is even aware of the inherent dangers in using physical violence as a method for obtaining libert-

arian ends. In stressing the need to maintain popular support he or she comments, "The possibility exists that the guerilla unit may become a greater evil than the security forces."

The main value of this book to me is that it brings guerilla war into focus and enables me to form some idea of what it would actually be like. "Citizens Militia" makes it clear that armed struggle is a very grim business, not something you do for a joke. "Guerilla groups should always suffer less than 10% dead or wounded when they do not violate the principles governing their conduct of warfare....Do not abort the operation and withdraw unless the group receives casualties (that could survive) in excess of 40% of the combatants....Comrades sustaining massive head wounds, chest wounds involving the respiratory system or abdominal wounds of any type are unlikely to survive more



than an hour or two without surgery...." And so on. The methods the State will use to hunt and capture guerilla bands, and put down a rebellious population are also described explicitly. Probably the overall effect of the book will be to discourage irresponsible violence. In any case, it is a serious contribution to Anarchist writing and worth getting. Write to Jura Books, 417 King Street, Newtown, Sydney. Five dollars should easily cover the cost of the book plus postage. Or if you like write directly to: Cienfuegos Press, Over the Water, Sanday, Orkney, KW17, U.K. Remember that mail to an Anarchist bookshop is likely to be checked by police, so use a box number if you can and don't help them by putting your name and address on the envelope.

"THE EGO & HIS OWN" by Max Stirner

Of all contributors to Anarchist thought, Max Stirner (1806-1856) is probably the most controversial. He is the philosopher of extreme individualism, attacking not only Church and State but also the very notions of "society", "humanity", "justice" etc. insofar as they are regarded as superior to the individual. Many Anarchists are extremely hostile to Stirner (in Melbourne, for example, the Chummy Fleming Bookshop does not carry his work) because his individualism, or "egoism" as he called it himself, seems to them to have more in common with fascism or the right wing individualism of Ayn Rand than with any concept of social liberation. But Anarchists who stress that "social liberation" is just the sum of many individual liberations tend to have more regard for Stirner. It has often been pointed out that a society could be ostensibly "Anarchist", in the sense of "self-managed" or "run by workers councils", and yet repress deviant individuals as effectively as any State. (Ursula Le Guin's "The Dispossessed" is a well known fictional treatment of this possibility.)

To me Stirner's criticisms of "society" and the "collective" as such are particularly relevant here. In opposition to the concept of society Stirner introduces the concept of the "Union of Egoists". The union says Stirner, is an association which individuals enter for their own benefit and by their own will, and which they leave when they choose. In Stirner's words the union is an "incessant self-uniting" an "intercourse" between individuals.

When a union becomes a permanent association and its members work for the benefit of the association instead of the other way round, then the union dies and its corpse is called "society" or "community" etc. Also society is the "state of nature" into which we are born, and which is destroyed as the union develops.

There is more to Stirner than this but it is about time to let him speak for himself. All quotes are from "The Ego and His Own" written in German in 1844. The first quote could have been written by any Anarchist-Communist and I included it precisely to make that point.

"Bread is a need of all the inhabitants of a city; therefore they might easily agree on setting up a public bakery. Instead of this, they leave the furnishing of the needful to the competing bakers. Just so meat to the butchers, wine to wine merchants, etc.

Abolishing competition is not equivalent to favouring the guild.* The difference is this: In the guild, baking, etc., is the affair of the guild-brothers; in competition, the affair of chance competitors; in the union, of those who require baked goods, and therefore my affair, yours, the affair of neither the guild nor the concessionary baker, but the affair of the united.

If I do not trouble myself about my affair, I must be content with

what it pleases others to vouchsafe me. To have bread is my affair, my wish and desire, and yet people leave that to the bakers and hope at most to obtain through their wrangling, their getting ahead of each other, their rivalry - in short, their competition - an advantage which one could not count on in the case of the guild-brothers who were lodged entirely and alone in the proprietorship of the baking franchise. - What everyone requires, everyone should also take a hand in procuring and producing; it is his affair, his property, not the property of the guild or concessionary master."

"Let us therefore not aspire to community, but to onesidedness. Let us not seek the most comprehensive commune, 'human society', but let us seek in others only means and organs which we may use as our property! As we do not see our equals in the tree, the beast, so the presupposition that others are our equals springs from a hypocrisy. No one is my equal, but I regard him, equally with all other beings, as my property. In opposition to this I am told that I should be a man among 'fellow-men'. I should 'respect' the fellow-man in them. For me no one is a person to be respected, not even the fellow-man, but solely, like other beings, an object in which I take an interest or else do not, an interesting or uninteresting object, a usable or unusable person."



And, if I can use him, I doubtless come to an understanding and make myself at one with him, in order, by the agreement, to strengthen my power, and by combined force to accomplish more than individual force could effect. In this combination I see nothing whatever but a multiplication of my force, and I retain it only so long as it is my multiplied force. But thus it is a - union.

Neither a natural ligature nor a spiritual one holds the union together, and it is not a natural, not a spiritual league. It is not brought about by none blood, not by one faith (spirit). In a natural league - like a family, a tribe, a nation, yes, mankind - the individuals have only the value of specimens of the same species or genus; in a spiritual league - like a commune, a Church - the individual signifies

only a member of the same spirit; what you are in both cases as a unique person must be - suppressed. Only in the union can you assert yourself as unique, because the union does not possess you, but you possess it or make it of use to you."

"Revolution and insurrection must not be looked upon as synonymous. The former consists in an overturning of conditions, of the established condition or status, the State or society, and is accordingly a political or social act; the latter has indeed for its unavoidable consequence a transformation of circumstances, yet does not start from it but from men's discontent with themselves, is not an armed rising, but a rising of individuals, a getting up, without regard to the arrangements that spring from it. The Revolution aimed at new arrangements; insurrection leads us no longer to let ourselves be arranged, but to arrange ourselves, and sets no glittering hopes on 'institutions'. It is not a fight against the established, since, if it prospers, the established collapses of itself; it is only a working forth of me out of the established. If I leave the established it is dead and passes into decay. Now, as my object is not the overthrow of an established order but my elevation above it, my purpose and deed are not a political or social but (as directed towards myself and my ownness alone) an egoistic purpose and deed."

Both book reviews by J. T.



WHEN A MAN TELLS YOU THAT
HE GOT 'RICH' THROUGH HARD
WORK, ASK HIM WHOSE?

- DON MARQUIS



THE COMPUTER IS A
MORON!

PETER DRUCKER



CQ-OPERATION IS NOT A
SENTIMENT ——— IT IS AN
ECONOMIC NECESSITY !!!

C. STEINMETZ