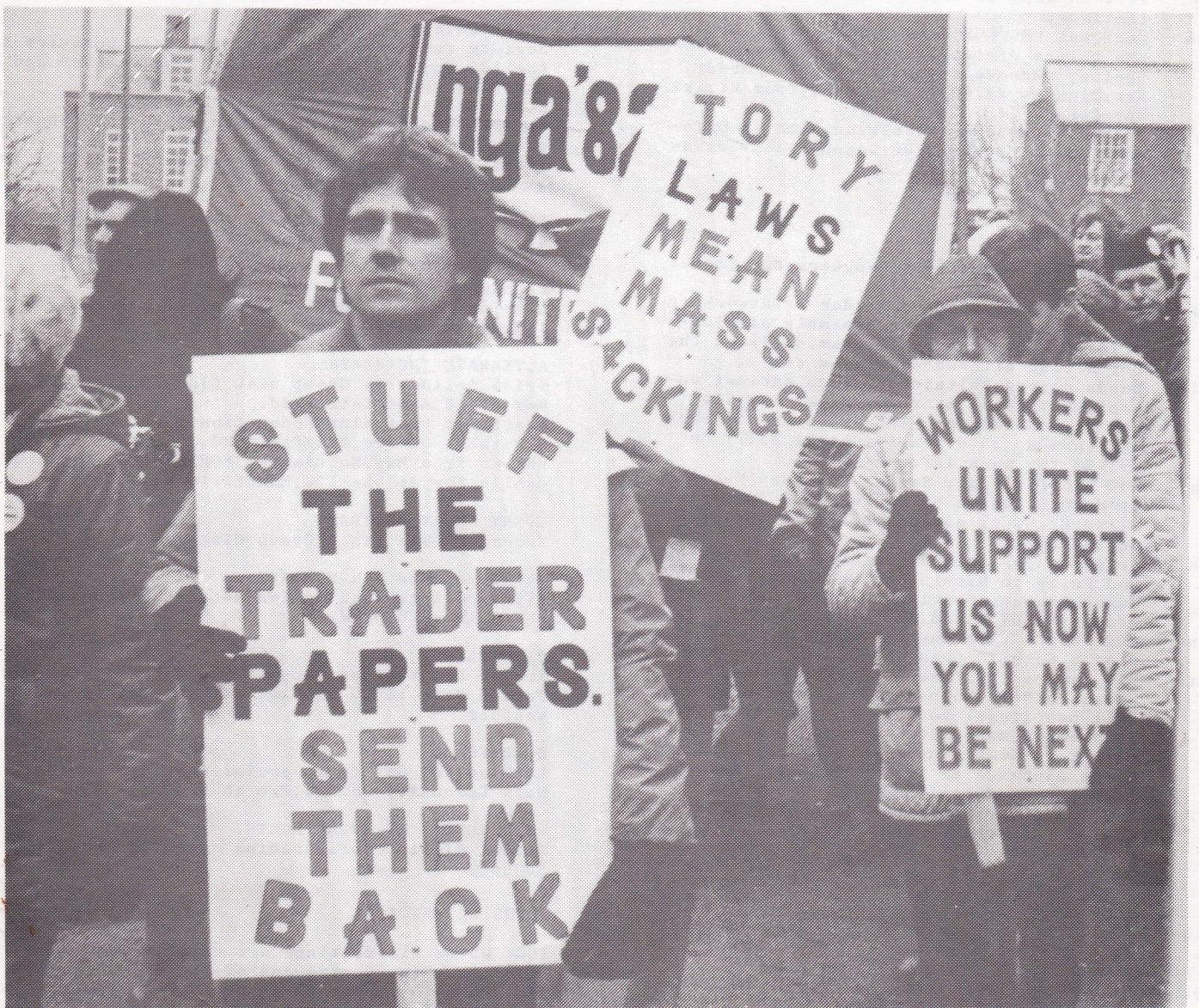


Nottingham Anarchist ★ News ★

No.13
April/May

10p

Support
the Trader
printers!



PUBLIC ORDER ACT · EVENTS
FULBECK · SPANISH CIVIL WAR

EVENTS

PLEASE please, please, check that these events are still happening before you go to them. NON accepts no responsibility for boring meetings, rotten nights out and Flat beer. Thank you.

APRIL

- Thurs 9th Anarcho Feminists starting to meet again, 12.00 at the women's centre, Chaucer St, contact Sally for details on 785492.
- Sat 11th Demo/March in commemoration of 1st anniversary of the bombing of Libya at Upper Heyford - contact NCND 472556.
- Thurs 16th Benefit for the sacked Trader printworkers at the Garage, St Mary's Gate. Attila the Stockbroker, Dinosaurs and Temps Playing, Tickets £1.50, £2.00 waged.
- Fri 24th Open meeting for Anarchist/Libertarian left on ways to improve links and communications.
- Sat 25th National CND/FOE demo, London, don't let the police dictate the route - oppose nuclear madness, oppose the Public Order Act. Tickets £3.50, £4.50 waged, from Hiziki Ouroboros.
- Sat 24th Protest against vivisection, Demo in Oxford: Tickets £2.00, £3.00 waged, coach leaves Salutation Inn at 10.30am.

MAY

- Fri 1st Mayday - International Workers Day. Social at the Boy's Club, 8.00pm.
- Sat 2nd "Mayday" march, Sacked Trader Printworkers is the theme this year. Assemble at Victoria Park, Snenton at 10.30am. Rally at the Boy's club afterwards, stalls ect....
- Sun 3rd Hands across Britain-campaign against unemployment (haha), starring Jimmy Saville and Glenda Jackson. Handshakes aren't enough-turn up to disrupt. Contact Sally on 785492 for more info.
- Fri 8th ANC benefit, Peggy Seegar and Ewan Macoll at student union on Shakespeare St, tickets £1.50, £2.50 in advance, £2.00, £2.50 waged, on the door.
- Sat 9th Irish hunger strike commemoration. March and rally in Birmingham, Coachs being arranged. Contact Nottingham Irish Solidarity group (NISG), box 8, 118, Mansfield Rd, NCND Craft fair, Congregational Centre, Castle Gate, 10.00am - 4.00pm.
- Fri 15th Sit down in Parliament Square to try and persuade MP's to be anti-nuclear. This demo will be illegal because our democratically elected, made laws to make it an offence to assemble near parliament. It's NOT a blockade as this might antagonise respectors of parliamentary democracy!!! Transport from Nottingham, contact Peace Action Network, C/O NCND, Kings St.

JUNE

- Fri 5th Public meeting on Anarchism and the welfare state. 7.30pm at the International Community Centre on Mansfield Rd.
- Sat 13th Picket of Durham Jail in support of Irish political prisoners. Contact NISG.
- Sat 27th Gay Pride March in London.

JULY

- Sat 12th NCND Peace Festival.

REGULARS

MONDAYS:

Volunteers meeting at 12.00 noon to organise the day to day running of the Women's Centre,

Folk Club at the Narrowboat (pub)

MONDAYS:

Volunteers meeting at 12.00 noon to organise the day to day running of the women's centre. At the Womens centre, Chaucer St.

ALSO: Folk club at the Narrowboat pub, Canal St.

TUESDAYS:

Wimmin for Peace, ICC, 8.00pm.

Trader Strikers Support Group meeting. TGWU offices, Mansfield road. 7.30pm.

First Tuesday of the month:
Hungry for Change, WEA, Shakespeare St.

Every second Tuesday:

Lesbian and Gay Youth organisation benefit disco. 'L'Amour, St James St, £1.

WEDNESDAYS:

Society for Mutual Aid and Self Help conspire at the ICC, 7.30pm. Come to discuss the weather and over throwing the state, ect....

ALSO: Jazz at the Old Vic, Fletchergate.

ALSO: Non Violent Direct Action, (NVDA). WEA, Shakespeare St.

ALSO: General running of the Wommens, centre, 7.30 at the W.C., Chaucer St.

ALSO: Picket in support of the Trader Strikers at the Nottingham Trader offices, Stanford St. 12 noon till 1pm.

THURSDAYS

Lesbian and gay Youth group working meeting. 118, Mansfield Rd. 1pm.

ALTERNATE THURSDAYS

Irish Solidarity Group meet (inc. 9th April) Box 8, 118, Mansfield Road.

Anarchist Communist Federation meet. c/o Box A, Rainbow Centre, Mansfield Rd.

NB: As from May, Nottingham ACF will be meeting publically at the ICC, Mansfield road.

EVERY FOURTH FRIDAY

Forest Fields Peace Group discos.

EVERY 2nd and 4th SUNDAYS

NVDA meeting, Peace Action Network. Meeting at the Rainbow Centre.

SATURDAYS

Trader Printworker Support Group Stall, St. Peters Gate. 11.30 an Onwards. Subject to weather.

SUNDAYS

Lesbian and Gay Youth social meeting. Queens Walk Community Centre, 2pm to 5.30pm.

LAST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH:

Animal Rights Confederation meeting. Contact 585666.

NOTES ON VENUES

ICC: Where all meetings are usually held. Find it on the Vic. Centre end of Mansfield Road.

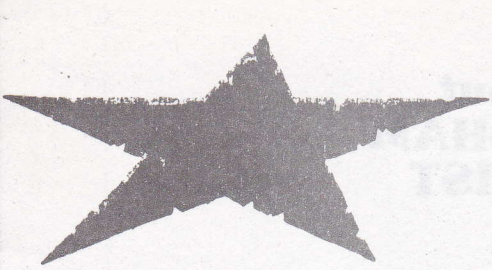
THE YORKER: A rather flash pub further down Mansfield Road than the ICC.

THEOSOPHICAL HALL: Somewhere on Maid Marian Way.

HYSON GREEN BOY'S CLUB: A place on Terrace street full of Trendy Lefties and no boys at all.

RAINBOW CENTRE: Full of grubby vegetarians.

WEA: Nottingham's palace of Prole Culture, near the Poly. Shakespeare Street.



TRADER

Trader dispute ~ printers fight on

The 90 Trader printworkers sacked by their union hating-boss Lionel Pickering, on December 4 last year (see N&N 12 - last issue) have been chalking up some important victories in recent weeks in their campaign to win back their jobs.

While the 24-hour picket outside their Heanor Gate plant continues, picketing has been extended to other Pickering plants - including those of the Leicester Trader Offices and the Langley Mill typesetting plant.

An attempt by Pickering to sabotage picketing - by slapping injunctions on key militants - backfired badly in a London court on March 18. The judge threw out the cases against 4 of the 8 he had summoned (leaving Pickering with a legal bill for several thousand). Against the remaining 4 he granted interim injunctions - that they must picket peacefully - but didn't ban them from secondary picketing.

Since this victory, the picketing has continued unabated.

A public meeting in Nottingham on Feb 26 saw the launch of a Nottingham Sacked Trader Worker Support Group. One of the first actions of the

group was to disrupt a Trader 'publicity of local businesses' tour by Emlyn Hughes, much to the annoyance of the Trader heavies and Hughes' bodyguards.

The printers have had to spend much energy battling with their own union (NGA) to keep the dispute official. The union has seemed set to back out on two occasions only to be won over by rank & file pressure (see elsewhere on this spread).

Pickering is evidently under intense financial pressure due to the actions of the printers and their supporters - he's having to offer ad space at massive reductions and pay a huge bill for the printing of his papers at plants down south.

Rumours are rife that he is set to try and return to the Heanor Gate plant to begin printing once more. If this happened mass picketing could begin in earnest...

The Trader printers have shown clearly that they have the strength and resolve to win this dispute. They shouldn't need to argue the case for support - it is bloody obvious. A victory for them is a victory for us all. Stand by the Trader printers!

Rich



Derby March against the Trader

On March 7th, a coach organised by Nottingham Trades Council went to Derby for a march in support of the 90 sacked Trader print workers.

We disembarked to cold, wind and rain in a Derby park and looked around at the relatively poor turnout of approximately 500 people. These were mainly NGA and Labour Party members with the usual spattering of Marxist-Leninist Parties and the very own anarchist section shambling around somewhere in the middle.

The public of Derby seemed on the whole bemused by us, but I heard a few supportive cheers from a few passers by. The march itself couldn't pass by the offices of the Derby Trader due to the

police changing the route at the last minute, so we made up for it by inventing some interesting chants about Lionel Pickering and a pole sharpened at both ends.

The march (which I'd like to point out was organised by rank and file strikers) finally ended up in a rally at the Town Hall which was very inspiring (if you ignored the ramblings of David Bookbinder) featuring speeches from Rank'n'File Wapping strikers, and one from Ron, the Trader's F.O.C. (the so-called Raving madman) which got the crowd really worked up. Let's go for it!!

Phil Hedgehog

* A front page story of the Derby Trader contained a character assassination of the F.O.C. with the headline "F.O.C. is a raving madman".

Local actions in Nottingham

Since the Trader printworkers were sacked, activists and strike supporters in Nottingham have been impressively quick off the mark with local actions. As well as supplying contingents to boost numbers at pickets of printworkers at Breaston, Huthwaite and Langley Mill, activists in Nottingham have also been involved in other anti-Trader activities.

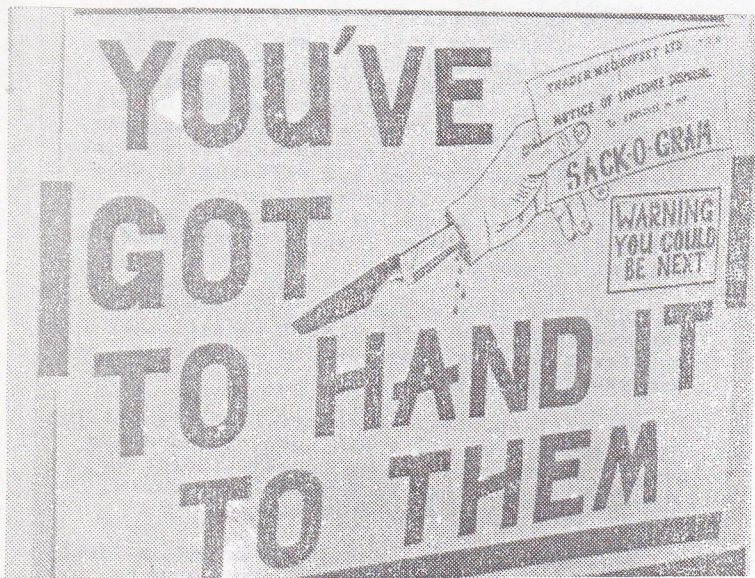
These include a phone blockade - which had a limited amount of success - a concerted campaign of sending Traders back to Pickering as "unsolicited mail". In Derby, the amount of Traders being sent was so great they are now being thrown away without being franked, but in Nottingham the Post Office still accepts them. Also every Wednesday from 12 - 1pm for the past three weeks there has been a picket mounted by the Support Group of the Nottingham Trader Office in Stamford Street near Hounds Gate. These are the same offices

NEWS ★

that one bright soul spray painted with the slogans "Strike Back" and "Bosses are Bastards", well done that comrade!

Plus on a publicity front a stall set up on Saturday March 28th with placards, leaflets and stickers plus T-shirts and badges for sale. This received a lot of support (& donations) from the public and will become a regular event.

Phil Hedgehog



The role of the NGA

Direct action will win!

Four weeks ago NGA officers visited on the Trader workers intending to tell them that the dispute should be wound up. Faced with the Chapel's unanimous support for its continuation they had no choice but to offer further support, to be reviewed four weeks hence. As we go to press, NGA officers have pledged a further seven weeks, subject to a National Council ratification, which will again be reviewed after that time.

Certainly this has given the printers breathing space. Worry over NGA backing has diverted the most active printers from the vital work in hand, and had sowed doubt with consequent effects on morale.

It seems ironic that when we're called on to "defend the unions" as the "representatives of the working class" here are NGA members not only having to battle against a millionaire, but against the indifference, even opposition of "their" union.

A case in point is NGA hostility to any action against the unionised plant currently involved in printing the Trader, at Welshpool. The owner has other unionised plants and the situation for the NGA is therefore 'delicate', involving a risk to that recognition they do enjoy. But what is the point of recognition if the balancing act renders you ineffective? The NGA did ask for the Trader not to be printed at Welshpool, but threat of action sent them Uriah Heep like away.

This is an old, old story. The Trade Unions were long since incorporated into the capitalist system. The thing upsetting union leaders most, when faced with Thatcher's open hatred of them, is that they no longer enjoy flash 'offices in Whitehall'.

The Mayday Trader March

"Support the Sacked Trader Printworkers" is one of the major themes of this year's May Day march which will be on Saturday 2 May this year. The other major theme is the tired old Labour anthem "Defend Jobs and Services".

This year, with the Trader dispute, it is extremely important to shake up the Trades Council March. We must all mobilise people to be there to change it from a timid, small amble through the streets of Notty, to a large colourful and noisy show of strength and solidarity.

March details will follow. Keep your eyes open!

Rich

The Nottingham Support Group

The Nottingham Trader Sacked Printers Support Group has been in existence for a month now and is open to all people who wish to provide practical support for the strikers.

The support group organises extra bodies for pickets, publicising the dispute and carries out fundraising activities.

We meet every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm at the Transport and General Workers Union offices on Mansfield Road, near Forest Road. Please come and show your support.

P. Hedgehog.

The lessons are clear from this dispute, from Wapping, from Silentnight and even from the Miners' strike that workers have to find ways of bypassing union bureaucracies and rule books. Establishing direct control of the dispute, and direct contact between themselves and other workers and supporters, and developing structures that encourage widespread participation (against the select professionalism of Union practice) that can unleash the creative potential of all those involved. That is what we mean by Direct Action. Only through Direct Action can we all defend ourselves from the bosses' onslaught. And only through Direct Action can we build up the confidence and competence to go on the offensive.

The Trader workers never harboured illusions about the attitude they could expect, and from the start have sought to make this dispute one for and by the rank and file. Their experience shows us that it is not always easy but that is the direction which we must all take.

Rob



NEWS ★

Police reclaim the night

On March 5th there was a "Reclaim the Night" march, by women, through Nottingham. About 200 - 300 turned up, even though it pissed it down.

Unfortunately our "Reclaim the Night" turned out wetter in more ways than just the weather. The Organiser had co-ordinated the whole thing with the Police, and, as I understand from a "helper" - alias steward, the Police had insisted on a change of route.

Seems a bit weird that for something so strong and defiant, and for once women taking control on the streets, that we have to ask the police first if we can do it!!!

And then to follow them around about town like sheep, at 7 o'clock at night when it's half dead. The helpers "were very helpful" . . . to the police. They stopped any initiative or alternative ideas from people on the march, from doing anything or going anywhere that the police said we couldn't.

At one stage they did lose control as the march went round a roundabout twice on Maid Marion Way. Any other attempts to stray away from the shepherds were quickly stopped.

We have never had the right to march. With or without the Public Order Act. They've broken up marches before it came in and will do so afterwards. Even if there has been permission sought from the male power that holds up and together the shitty patriarchal system in which we live. We all know the police's attitudes to violence against women - stay at home. Their own track record of violence to women speaks for itself - remember Jackie Berkley*, Cherry Groce and Cynthia Jarrett. The police, the state and male violence are all aprt and parcel of the same shitty system. The only permission we need i from ourselves - are we going to permit these bastards to get away with it?

*Jackie Berkley was raped by police.

Cat.

Silentnight strike over

Early in February the Silentnight strikers (see NEN no.12) decided they had no choice but to end the dispute they had been fighting over the last year.

Although they received help & solidarity from many people, the withdrawel of strike pay by the union (F.T.A.T.) last summer made the situation impossibly difficult.

When F.T.A.T. finally withdrew it's support for the strike earlier this year, making it unofficial, this proved to be the final blow.

Although only a small union, F.T.A.T. could have given the strikers far greater support than it chose to. Once again, working class people were defeated not by their own lack of solidarity & determination, but by the inadequacies of the Trade Union Movement.

At an 'end of strike' benefit in Nottingham one of the visiting strikers told the audience "Our struggle is over in a sense, but we continue to support other workers in struggle. And if there's a strike near you, you must do the same."

LAURA BIDDING

Shell-go to hell!

During the month of March, Nottingham Anti-Apartheid Group held a series of weekly pickets outside the SHELL garage on Mansfield Road. These pickets were to show opposition to SHELL's collaboration with the South African Government and the system of Apartheid.

SHELL invests heavily in the Apartheid economy, including coal, metals, chemicals, gas, candles and forestry, as well as oil. SHELL S. A. fuels the military and police and also helps South Africa to break the oil embargo imposed on it by producing countries, by selling oil to traders who ship it to South Africa; and by handling and refining it when it reaches there. SHELL also operates in Namibia, and by supplying some 20% of the military's fuel, helps support South Africa's illegal occupation there.

SHELL treats its black workforce badly. Many workers live in miserble conditions, and few blacks have any chance of reaching management positions.

The Anti-Apartheid Movement (AAM) is calling for a boycott of all SHELL products, and for people to put pressure on Local Authorities and institutions not to buy SHELL products, and to sell their shares in SHELL.

Also AAM is urging people to write to SHELL's chairman (sic), Peter Holmes, Shell Centre, London SE1 7NA, to tell him what they think of SHELL's racist policies.

Jimi



Banner put up by locals at Fulbeck in Lincolnshire, in protest at the plans to consider dumping nuclear waste near the village. (See page 7)

DONT DUMP ON FULBECK

WEDNESDAY 25th FEBRUARY

It is now a year since NIREX (Nuclear Industry Radioactive Waste Executive) decided that Bradwell, Elstow, Fulbeck and Killingholme could be suitable sites for the construction of a low level nuclear waste repository. NIREX's final choice depends on the results of a programme of test drillings which is scheduled to be completed by April. To mark this anniversary, a blockade was mounted at Fulbeck to prevent drilling contractors going onto the site in the morning.

At 7.00am a ragged line of about sixty people carrying placards stood across the main entrance, with the pale, February sun shining across frosty fields doing little to keep everyone warm. NIREX's "beads to the Tory natives" public relations exercise has backfired badly. Opposition to NIREX has only broadened and deepened as local protest groups discover more about the nuclear power industry. One campaigner told me: "We've found out a lot that horrifies us; when Fulbeck is over, we're going to go on campaigning against nuclear power." Many people believe that the disused military airfield at Fulbeck has already been chosen, because NIREX have bought several houses in the area. In desperation, NIREX have looked around for a personality to make their grubby operation look 'nice', and have retained Angela Rippon to appear locally on April 14th.

Only the main entrance to the site was covered, but some contractor's vehicles still attempted to use it, and as the blockade continued, more people began to realise that the best way to slow them down was to sit

down in the road. The MOD police greatly outnumbered the demonstrators and there was plenty of shoving and dragging, but no arrests. At 8.00am everyone dispersed as planned. Coverage in local media was good, with several local people being interviewed on TV.

From a caravan permanently sited opposite the main entrance to the airfield, NIREX's activities are monitored 24 hours a day.

Help is needed with keeping this watch. For this and other Fulbeck details, contact Pat and Bas Hewis, Newark 992627

Bob



Despite heavy policing, there were no arrests as local residents blockaded the NIREX contractors at Fulbeck on February 25.

No nuclear dustbins anywhere

"The Safety of Radioactive Waste Disposal" may seem a contradiction in terms, but in fact it was the title of a lecture given as part of Trent Polytechnic's "Open" programme, on March 2nd. The subtitle was "the scientific basis for assessment", but while the science presented was near to 'O' level standard, the public relations were more sophisticated.

The speaker was Dr. David Hodgkinson, a Nirex (governmental radioactive waste agency) Project Manager. His brief must have been to tell us all that radiation is safe, Nirex know what they are doing, and we must trust him. In support of his case he showed us slides:- what nuclear waste looks like (why! it looks just like rubber gloves! how domestic and cosy!); what radioactive waste would be like three million years after burial (not quite sure where they got their evidence here); and what a cube of nuclear waste looks like next to a cube of fossil fuel waste when both are placed on top of the Houses of Parliament (lovely!).

There was a short question time at the end. "What could be done if buried waste was found to be leaking?" "We could dig it up." "But wouldn't that be even more dangerous?" "Oh yes. Any more questions?"

Radioactive waste is a product of the nuclear industry, weapons and energy, which the modern state finds invaluable in maintaining its control. It is capital-intensive, not subject to the desires or demands of working

people, and calls for a high amount of centralisation and security. This talk, presented as an impartial scientific lecture, was in fact a piece of disgusting government propaganda. One human error, one road accident, one machine failure, one miscalculation, and the earth and its inhabitants could be poisoned for the foreseeable future.

The audience were mainly students, maybe tomorrow's nuclear engineers. What was perhaps most alarming was the uncritical acceptance with which they listened to this shit. Despite his best efforts, Hodgkinson totally failed to convince me that the nuclear industry is infallible.

Radiation will not be safe after the revolution. We cannot collectivise the nuclear power stations. NOW is the time to join with the people of Fulbeck and all the other nuclear dustbins, and say "No more" to Nirex.

Chris



ANTI-DUMP CAMPAIGNERS PROWLING ROUND FULBECK AIRFIELD CAMOUFLAGED AS BIG BLOBS OF MUD...

SMASH THE PUBLIC ORDER ACT

NCCL Public Meeting

On 1st April the new Public Order Laws came into power. These restrict any right of protest we had left. The police can determine where we demonstrate, how many of us can be there & for how long we can stay.

On 14th Feb. a conference was held at the Hyson Green Community Centre to discuss the new clampdowns by the state. Four workshops were put together, each dealing with a topic relevant to the new laws:

1) Implications for the Labour Movement:
Very few people turned up from the rank & file which is surprising as the right to picket has been severely curtailed. The police can confine any static demo in terms of location, duration & numbers if there are more than 20 people there.

2) The Act & the Black Community:
The Incitement to Racial Hatred Law should be treated with the cynicism it deserves. Two ideas came from this workshop as to the reasons behind the introduction of these particular regulations by the govt.:

a) The State will use this as a sweetener so we are more willing to accept the rest of the laws. (e.g. by introducing a law which appears to give more protection to the black community they could hopefully slip in the rest of the bill either unnoticed or hope we will regard the gain as worth the loss of a few of our rights? - Typissed)

or b) The State will use its full force to push down hard on the black community by twisting the law to meet its own racist requirements.

3) The Legal Framework:
This workshop argued for positive legislation by suggesting we look for loopholes in the laws. It was submitted that a legal framework be constructed, & NCCL buffers set up between police & demonstrators so as to make full use of what few rights we have left. Prior arrangements with the forces of law & order were proposed to the audience, obviously causing much controversy amongst libertarian comrades!

4) Campaigning Groups; A Strategy for Activists:
This was more of a discussion group than a workshop, concentrating on how to build a strong campaigning group. Motivation was a problem brought up, & how large single issue groups like CND will respond to the Public Order Laws pushing them about. Stewards are bad enough! People who don't as yet feel able to defy the State should form themselves into affinity groups so as to develop the bravado necessary. The new laws certainly keep up the traditional role of the oppressive state, Lack of people from the Labour party on past Public Order marches only re-inforces our distrust of the leadership of the left.

If we don't organise NOW & fight back we lose all hope of change or revolution.
No negotiation, no compromise, agitate don't vegetate!

Love WELLY xxx

April Fool?

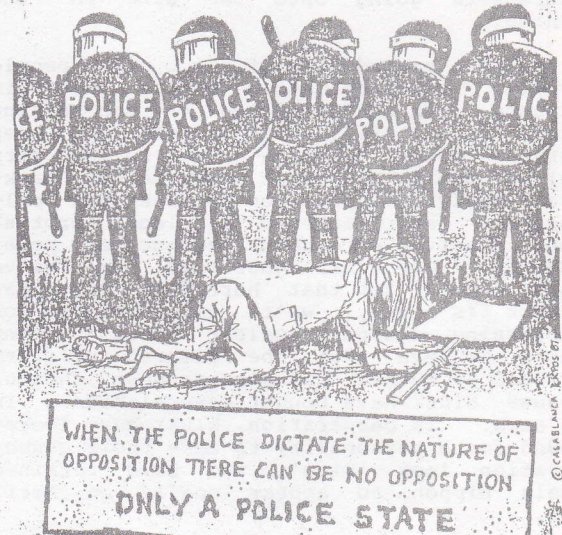
On Wednesday April 1st - April Fools Day - about 20 people gathered at St. Peters Gate (near Marx & Sparx) to show opposition to the enforcement of the Public Order Laws. It's no joke that these new laws will greatly curtail what little civil liberties we have left.

Although it fairly pissed it down with rain, we had banners & flags & placards, & gave out leaflets. We did have some competition at first from a member of the God Squad - that horrible little man with the orange placard - but with a megaphone we could shout a lot louder than he could abuse people, so he eventually cleared off.

Despite the weather we had a fairly good response, although it was obvious that a lot of people were unaware that the new laws even came into force today, let alone what they are about.

Jimi

WHO CONTROLS OUR STREETS?



The Saturday After....

IT WAS THE SATURDAY AFTER THE WHOLE OF THE PUBLIC ORDER ACT BECAME LAW, AND SO WE DECIDED TO JOIN THE THRONGS OF PEOPLE (ABOUT 1,000) WHO WERE CHALLENGING IT BY MARCHING ILLEGALLY THROUGH THE STREETS OF LONDON.

The Nott's @ turned up too late to witness the first acts of violence at the start of the march in Malet Street. The police had moved in and snatched anyone they saw as organisers - and anyone whose face they didn't like - by the end of the march only one steward was left.

Yours truly caught them up at the South African embassy as they past the picket. We sussed out the route via a passing police helicopter. Thanks, though many were advising the flier to jump.

Police brutality reared it's ugly head, as we tried to force away through the sandwich of coppers. Joined with the fact that it pissed it down, tensions were high to say the least. There was a wonderful lack of papersellers.

After much ado about the route of the march and much shouting of "SCUM" at the furriers and jewellers, we were eventually heard into Speakers Corner, Hyde Park. Expecting at least a speaker or rally (no, I'm not a member of the Labour Party) we were lovingly entertained by an ad hoc motley collection of musicians. Wringing wet but adorable with it. Maybe we should have brought the party poppers too?

Though the march was left with thirty one missing at the end (due to arrests) we proved we have got the strength left to fight state legislation. But the problem still remains of how to stir people so as to braek out of the police cordon and truly say we've won the right to walk the streets we live on.

Little was seen of CND, which is a shame as the new laws brought in are almost certainly going to be used to at least alter the route of the Anti-Nuke stroll on April 25th.

Welly WONTY.

STOP PRESS

IT NOW SEEMS VERY LIKELY THAT SOMEONE HAS BEEN ARRESTED & CHARGED UNDER THE NEW PUBLIC ORDER LAWS WITH "ORGANISING AN ILLEGAL MARCH" & "DISOBEYING THE POLICE". WATCH THIS SPACE FOR MORE DETAILS.

EIGHT

Victory for the Wombourne 12

people and we need to choose a more positive direction. And end to self-addressed windy speeches on windy wet demos! Concerted action for self-defence and attack now!

Dave B.

After the Wombourne Tory councillor Brownhill had spewed his poison about "gassing 90% of gays" -- and had been applauded for doing so by fellow councillor and good Labour man Jack Greenway -- 12 women and men went to his house to protest. They were nicked under Section 5 of the Public Order Act and kept on remand for seven days (For more details of this part of the story, see N&N 12).

A "Wombourne 12 Defence Campaign" soon got moving in Nottingham and in London. What was the best way to express meaningful support for the individuals who had already been through the judicial grinder and were now threatened with further reprisals from the Court? What would be the best form of resistance to the increasing violence against Lesbians and Gays which the state feeds on and which Brownhill embodies?

It was decided to get as many people as possible down to Seisdon Magistrates Court for the days of the trials. A really good benefit gig was held at The Garage on February 18th to help raise funds -- the night livened up even more when it was announced that all charges against the 12 had been dropped! Whether or not this was due to the pressure of people having got organised may never be known. (or to the fact that the fabricated charges would n't have stood up). In any case, the Courts would still hear our anger.

On Monday 23rd about 70 of us went down by coach and minibus from Nottingham to Wombourne, where we all joined with 400 others from Manchester, Leicester, London, Wolverhampton and other outposts of the decaying Empire.

At first the mood was angry and lively -- just as it should be in fact -- but soon people got fed up as we lost the point of the exercise. "To Brownhills!", the cry went up. But no. Instead we trudged round the hamlet, stopped outside the cop shop and gave each other speeches. This was because the RCP (this month's all-embracing scapegoat) tried to run the show and everyone else let them. Just one example -- those chanting other than the "official" slogans were asked by stewards to seek permission first. Well, just another -- when pressure built to visit Brownhill it was diffused by the RCP (Revolutionary Communist Party) saying it was too far to walk. So we stood around for another hour when the house was ten minutes walk anyway.

It was good that people organised and went down to Wombourne but next time we need more

PUBLIC ORDER (again)

One particularly nasty aspect of the Public Order Bill is that it will be used to divide us even further. There will be the nice respectable protestors who will be only too happy to go along with it (and whom the police tolerate happily); and there will be the fringe lunatic elements like us, who insist on our right to protest against repression in ways that make sense.

April 25th is CND demo day. It is also a test of the P.O.A. CND are being told to change the route of their march. As of writing, we don't yet know whether they will comply with police demands. But for everyone who cares about our right to protest effectively, whether against nuclear weapons and power or against any other aspect of state oppression, we say: **MARCH THE ORIGINAL ROUTE! OPPOSE NUCLEAR WEAPONS! REAL PROTEST, NOT POLICE PROTEST. ALONE WE ARE SHEEP, TOGETHER WE ARE STRONG!**

Chris

REPTILLIAN INVASION EXPOSED

6 March at the YMCA saw a meeting organised by Nottm CND with a panel of politicians invaded by various 'others'

The meeting was called by CND to confront the various political parties with question of nuclear disarmament. 45 minutes into the meeting a man toward the back of the hall rises and addresses the panel with the shocking denunciation that these politicians were in fact 'reptilian beings from outer space'! He unfortunately had little time to elaborate further as instantly a pair of ominous looking individuals burst forward wielding sci-fi ray guns, dressed in riot gear and dragged the young man away. As he screamed for help it seemed he had managed to throw down several leaflets to inform us all of his cause.

The leaflets he left behind were in fact printed by the Forest Fields Womens' Section of the World Liberation Front who say they are part of 'The Resistance'. The Resistance so far seem to be an elusive bunch who are waging an exciting campaign against "the Idle Rich, Big Businessmen and ALL Politicians" who, they say are lizards come to take over our world. Hope to see more of 'em!

(F.F.W.S) W.L.F.



A street demonstration on St. Valentine's Day on the Market Square in support of the Wombourne 12.

Spanish Civil War: 50 Years On

For a little while on the 25th April, what for most of us had been just something we'd read about in the history books took on life, with the reminiscences of three men who'd served in the International Brigades. These Brigades were formed by volunteers from all over the world to go over and fight in the Spanish Civil War.

The three speakers were Frank Ellis, Lionel Jacobs and Walter Gregory, author of 'The Shallow Grave: a memoir of the Spanish Civil War'. The meeting took place at the Central Library, the library also having produced a book list which is well worth checking out. The auditorium was full to capacity, late comers having to stand at the back. The importance of the Spanish Civil War was stressed, both in its being the first big was against the Fascists, but also its importance for socialists and members of the labour movement in Nottingham at the time. Support from the Nottinghamshire area was apparently quite strong - a part of history which I'd certainly never been told about at school.

The Spanish Civil War ran from 1936 to 1939. It began when some generals in the Spanish army staged an attempted coup against the Republican government - with the support of the Spanish Fascists (the Fallange), the Monarchists and the Church. Anarchists reacted immediately. It was the prompt action of anarchist workers which defeated the generals locally and saved much of Spain for the Republic. But the anarchists went much further than just opposing the uprising. They saw this as the opportunity for revolution, and in many areas carried out full scale expropriation and collectivisation of the land and factories.

The role of the so-called 'democratic' nations in letting the Fascists get to power was highlighted clearly by the speakers. The British and French governments pursued a policy of 'non-intervention' during the Spanish Civil War; in other words, doing sod all. Naturally the Fascist governments of Germany and Italy only payed lip-service to 'non-intervention' a state of affairs obvious to all at the time. These governments didn't just supply arms, food and fuel to their fellow right-wingers in Spain, but actually sent over full army divisions and aircraft squadrons. So much for non-intervention!

The courage of those who'd fought in the International Brigades was obvious to all - if the speakers themselves were modest about their own bravery. And tribute should also be made to the memory of those who gave their lives in the struggle against Fascism.

But the politics . . . The important political lessons of the Spanish War were ignored. The role of the anarchists was pointed out by the speakers, but political analysis was virtually non-existent. At times you would have thought that the Spanish people had fought only to establish some sort of Labour government, not to build a revolutionary socialist society. What happened in Spain wasn't just a civil war, but a revolution. For a time, we had a glimpse of what the anarchist society would look like. Some sections of the anarchist movement

in Spain can, and should, be criticised for the mistakes they made. But their constructive achievements should also be recognised. Their biggest mistake was to believe that the struggle against Fascism took priority. The Communists had different ideas.

One of the speakers pointed out that the only country to supply the anti-fascist forces in Spain was Stalin's Russia. This was certainly true. But he neglected to point out that alongside arms, Stalin's other export was the Communist secret police.

The Communists effectively decided to sabotage the anti-fascist struggle in Spain rather than let an independent revolutionary workers' movement take control. The armaments sent by Russia had to get by the Fascist naval blockade, but this was nothing compared with the blocks put up by the Communists themselves to stop weapons reaching forces in Spain outside of their own control. The degree of support from Russia gave the Communists increasing influence with the government and socialist groups in Spain. This gave them the opportunity to remove their opponents within the Republic. The anarchist militant Camillo Berneri was only one amongst the many whom the Communist secret police murdered. The Communists eventually crushed the anarchist working class in Spain more effectively than any Fascists. The Fascist victory only set its seal on this process.

Another speaker implied that there were few anarchists left in Spain (which is simply nonsense), and to cap it all went on to say that "Spain is better off without them." All I can say is that compared with what the Labour Party has managed to come up with in Britain, or the Communists in Russia, the lessons of the last fifty years have been lost on some socialists.

The Spanish anarchist movement never died, despite the military defeat in 1939 and the bloody repression under Franco which followed. Guerilla struggle and underground organisations continued in Spain throughout all the long years of Fascist rule. The C.N.T. - the Spanish anarcho-syndicalist union - is still the fourth largest there. One of the biggest blocks to the anarchist movement in the country after Franco's death has been the fact that whilst all the other unions and political groups regained their premises and property with the return to democracy, the Spanish state have refused to do the same for the anarchists. No matter what its political colour, any State, and the ruling class, realises who its main enemies are.

If you are interested in reading more, here's a brief list of books which can be found in the Central Library, the number refers to the library's class mark system:

- Gerald Brenan: The Spanish Labyrinth (946.08)
- Raymond Carr: The Spanish Tragedy (946.081)
- Franz Bolloten: The Spanish Cockpit (946.081)
- B. Bolloten: The Grand Camouflage: the Communist Conspiracy in the Spanish Civil War (946.081)
- George Orwell Homage to Catalonia (946.081)

Gareth

ANARCHO-NICE-ISM...



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CONTACT "NICE ANARCHISTS FEDERATION" (NAF) FOR FURTHER DETAILS

The Moderate Labour Party Jumping on the Blandwagon

An exciting and dynamic new political party has been launched in Nottinghamshire, that's all set to radically alter the face of politics in the region.

At least, that's how the scab Evening Post has been greeting the launch of a new (and currently little known) outfit, by the inspiring name of the Moderate Labour Party (MLP).

A handful of UDM officials and ex-Euro MEPs have got together with some tired old ex-councillors to launch a party that aims to combat "extremism" in the Labour Party and rekindle a decent, middle-of-the-road, no-nonsense democratic socialism.

They identify support for nuclear disarmament, gay and lesbian rights and anti-racist work as vote losers, and hope to unite "decent moderate people all over Britain behind their crusade "against the Marxists".

Apparently, many local Labour Councils are: "Marxists regimes operating under the cloak of the Labour party -- dedicated Hard-Left faceless people with wierd ideas meeting to discuss ways of disposing of increased taxes and rates to finance their way-out schemes."

The MLP plan to field 25 candidates for Nottingham City Council, and 30 in Mansfield in the May elections. They then plan to build the party nationally, to field an MLP candidate in every seat "where there is a militant Labour candidate". They say: "The MLP is not making the error of launching nationally and perishing locally. It prefers to build from the grass roots upwards." This belief comes not from an interest in grass-roots democracy -- it simply exposes the fact that they haven't the resources, money or support to do it any other way...

Their symbol is a dove with a rose in its beak -- though they totally reject everything the peace movement stands for. Their early policy statements include some great phrases that bode well for the future: "No person can become a saint by relying on the sins of others", and even more stridently, "No one party can be right about everything".

Maybe the prospective MLP MPs (two of whom have fled the ranks of the SDP/Liberal alliance) are just too stupid to realise that the only victory they can possibly hope to achieve is to ensure a tory majority on local councils in the region. Maybe -- given the amount of difference with the Tories on most policies -- they don't really care.

The only reason that the Evening Post is interested in promoting the MLP in the region is because any split in the anti-tory vote locally will increase the standing of the Tories and so help the political objectives of the Post.

But surely, these people can't be fleeing the same Labour Party that we all know? The party whose leader

has already back-tracked on unilateralism even before gaining power? The leadership of which totally refused to support the striking miners or the sacked printers? Can it be the same party who told the Tories they hadn't been oppressive enough, quickly enough over the Zircon B satellite affair? This is the party that will do nothing to protect the interests of working people if it ever scrambles its way back to power.

Right-wing shits in the Labour Party have always pointed to "reds-under-the-bed" to justify all manner of selling out and backtracking. But in Spring 1987, post Liverpool City Council, with Neil "I'm a reactionary" Kinnock at the helm, and Dennis "I only open my mouth to change feet" Healey at his right hand side, talk of a Marxist take-over of the Labour Party rings ever more hollow.

So what interest does all this wrangling for power hold for us as anarchists?

This episode shows clearly the futility of trying to battle for change within the Labour Party. For every reactionary power-seeking party bureaucrat that throws in their lot with the MLP, there are 100 left behind in the Labour Party itself.

It is only when splits like this occur that most of us see publicly the kind of politics that these people have held -- as Labour officials -- for years.

It's clear that any militants battling in the Labour Party spend nearly all their energies banging against the unyielding block of the right-wing, and little of their energies moving forward.

Of course, as anarchists, we'd happily see the flagship of the MLP sink without trace (with all the rats on board), but we totally reject the assertion that the launch of a new soft-Labour Party means we should all rally to the tattered flag of the old-Labour Party to combat them.

Change will come not through winning over a radical Labour Party leadership any more than it will come through one of the 57 Trot varieties of the "people's vanguard".

Real change will come through revolution. And that revolution will be forged by the people themselves when we have rejected both the Parliamentary road-to-nowhere and the self-appointed leadership of the Hard Left.

Let us leave the battles within the Labour Party to the headbangers of Militant and their ilk. There is more pressing work to be done.

Rich



January 21, 1987

THE MODERATE LABOUR PARTY

● A dove and a rose... the emblem of the new Moderate Labour Party

Candidates ready to fight...

Manfield District Council — 30 candidates.
Ashfield District Council — 15 candidates.
Newark District Council — 12 candidates.
Baseston District Council — 20 candidates.

NEW DAWN FOR MODERATES...

Labour support from all over the UK. The doyen of the group, Ex-Euro MP Michael Gallagher, says with conviction "After 10 years of being deselected from the..."

The same thing, of course, has been happening to Labour councillors and, to a lesser extent, to MPs, all over the country. Nottingham, for example...

ing relationship with the Liberals and a less than honest approach to the electorate by the SNP. "The an..."

"It might not seem too important on the surface," he says, "but the point is that the day they introduced the restriction processes made in the Labour Party stopped..."

"They convinced our policies," by the M Party co-General I it is out- feelings people w Mrs The bus do n to run either locally." Mr Ga there ha infiltrat Party b that th strongly that a General itself ap ties — and the

Reclaim the vegetables

Unlike myself you may be a vegetarian. I'm not - and make no bones about it - but I do enjoy eating vegetables and there are a good number to choose, from Aubergine to Leeks and Parsnips to Turnips. And as the bourgeois-commercial market has come to terms with the growth (sic) in vegetarianism and alternative diets so has the range of vegetables in right-on supermarkets and enlightened greengrocers similarly widened. However, whilst you may be able to buy - at extortionate prices - "delicacy" items such as Calabrese, Chicory or Kale don't kid yourself for one moment that the provision of these relatively obscure vegetables has anything to do with widening consumer choice. It hasn't: Because although commercial growers may be prepared to put out chemically treated, inorganically-grown "specials" along with their standard fare of

farmers rich enough to be able to vote Tory each election and never buy a bike.

Now clearly we all have to compromise from time to time but we do need to be aware that there are a large variety of vegetables (No, not the cabinet) which have been conveniently set aside by the commercial growers since, in strict profit-and-loss terms, they are not viable. Some of the vegetables are I would point out from gastronomic experience, amongst the most wholesome, tasty and different foods this side of the Galapagos Islands. If you have a patch of garden or better an allotment (always called a Garden in Nottingham if you want to consolidate your working class credibility) why not have a go at growing Salsify, rightly referred to as the "vegetable Oyster"



or Scorzonera, known as Black Salsify. They are both easy to grow, similar to parsnips, and require only a long growing season to reach proper maturity. If you search around you'll be able to get seeds easy enough.

Another one is Kohl-rabi, a member of the brassica family of vegetables and which originated in Eastern Europe. It has a turnip-like base out of which grow green leaves which can be cooked like spinach. The base itself is gorgeous diced and added to stews and casseroles or just cooked plain. Finally, in this selection why not grow your own Kale. It was very popular before the last war and is resistant to most pests and diseases. Dwarf green curled is to be recommended giving an abundance of tightly-curled green leaves which are so naturally tasty after cooking by the steaming method.

Well, that's a few for starters and next issue I'll introduce you to a few more as well as giving tips on how to get hold of a garden (remember?). In the meantime get digging and good growing.

Cyril Chives

PASSIVE SMOKING



quick and artificially produced, fertiliser-soaked, insect-sprayed, unnatural vegetables, they aren't doing it to give us a real and full choice. They do it as part of good Thatcherite marketing practice: put on a few loss-leaders in order to con the well-meaning, healthy-diet conscious vegetable eater to continue buying the unhealthy, bland, factory-farmed fodder which doesn't always give the eater as much as it promises in terms of vitamins and nutrition. It certainly does keep

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support for the sacked Trader printers.

COME ALONG AND GET INVOLVED!

Portraits of Anarchist Women

Translated from the French anarchist fortnightly *Le Monde Libertaire* 26.2.87.

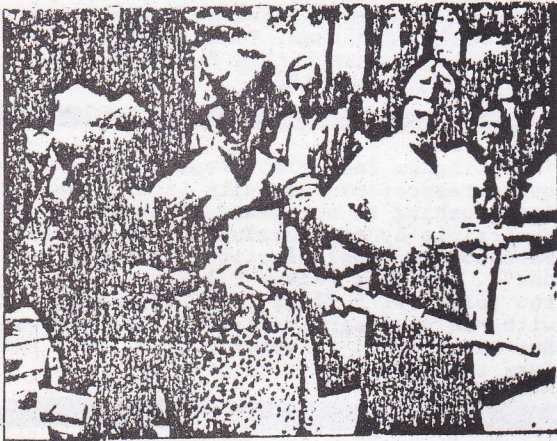
De Toda La Vida (All Our Lives) is a film documentary made by two American students, Lisa Berger and Carol Mazer, in 1985. The film presents nine women who lived and participated in the period of history we are concerned with here (The Spanish Revolution). They were not all part of the 'Mujeres Libres' (Free Women) movement. But they are linked by their adherence to the libertarian movement. All were or still are in the C.N.T. I have drawn out of this documentary a portrait of five of these women and of their most significant areas of involvement. I just hope that I have not distorted their lives or their thoughts too much.

DOLORES

Dolores Prat now lives in Toulouse, having been born in Ripoll, in Catalonia, of a poor and very catholic family. After a year at convent school, of which she has very painful memories, and a year at state school, she started work in a textile factory.

She tells her story: "In 1919 there was a great strike throughout Catalonia . . . it was then that I began work, I was fifteen. My father planned for me to continue my studies to become a school teacher or to buy me a small shop. I did not want to spend my life with children, or to see myself selling food instead of sharing it out . . . there was so much poverty.

"Then I told him I wanted to go to the factory so I'd be able to protest. And there I joined the C.N.T., because they were the true revolutionaries.



LOLA

Lola Iturbe also started work when very young, in the textile industry in Barcelona. Born to an unmarried couple, she suffered a great deal from this. Social pressure, full of catholicism and moralism, made her a rebel as a child. It was in libertarian circles that she met with the warmth and respect she was waiting for. From that time she began to study and to come to know anarchism.

"One of the most exciting events before the revolution took place on May Day in Barcelona, at the book festival. For the first time the book publishers 'Tierra y Libertad' (Land and Liberty) had a really big stall. Young women were there, selling the pamphlets of Doctor Lazarte and demanding sexual freedom. You can imagine what such words could represent at that time. It was the first time that anarchism was going out onto the streets, not as something violent but as a cultural thing . . ."

With her comrade Juan Manuel Molina, she produced the anarchist theoretical review 'Tierra y Libertad' and in 1974 she wrote a book in Castillian, 'Woman in the Social Struggle'.

"We must maintain the memory of the thousands of women who were executed during the war. I remember one of them called Soledad Amoros. When the fascists told her she was to be executed she asked if she could go back to her cell for a few minutes. She dressed and put on her make-up and when she came out into the courtyard she shouted 'Comrades, they are taking me to my death, long live freedom!'

"That's why I wrote the book, so that these women would not remain anonymous. As it is, few of these women have been mentioned in the numerous works which comrades have written about the Spanish anarchist movement, apart perhaps from Soledad Gustavo and Teresa Claramunt. As a reaction to this, I wanted to speak of the others who are less known about but for all that had no less importance for the history of the movement."

FEDERICA

Federica Montseny was one of the outstanding figures of this revolution. She was one of the anarchist ministers who participated in the government. And she was in fact the first woman in Spain to be appointed a minister (Ministry of Health). The daughter of anarchist militants, she tells of how, at the start of the century, her mother used to leave to make the round of conferences with three comrades and of how thousands of pamphlets and reviews which her parents edited used to go out from her house.

She also talks of the achievements which she was part of when she was a minister: the creation of places for children and elderly people to live in; training centres, in particular to help prostitutes to escape their environment; legalisation of free abortion.

PEPITA

Pepita Carpena spent her adolescent years in this period. Becoming part of libertarian youth, the question of women's emancipation very quickly led her to participate in the activities of *Mujeres Libres*. Through this she met Mercedes Comaposada and Lucia Sanchez Saornil, two of the women who founded this movement. By completing her education, that of a young girl who was almost illiterate, these women were enormously important in her life. She talks about those three years of struggle and revolution which gave her so much, and despite the war, the bombardments and the comrades who died, she is still inspired by memories of that time. Three years which each counted for her as ten. Three years which she would have regretted not to have lived. Pepita now takes part in the work of C.I.R.A. at Marseilles.



ISCUMBAGS

Scumbags of the Year (1)

Nottingham City Council declared its support for the Trader Strikers but has a funny way of showing solidarity. Yes, they are still advertising with the Trader.

They should perhaps take a look at Derbyshire City Council who have an admirable policy of not wasting ratepayers money. Seeing as Pickering cannot guarantee the full production or distribution of the Trader because of the strike, the council refuse to spend money on ads in a paper that isn't reaching people.

Still, our City Council managed to worm their way out of boycotting the Evening Post so we shouldn't be so surprised about them letting the Trader strikers down as well.

Scumbags (2)

This goes to those lowly beings who stole the hatstand from the benefit for N&N at the Yorker. A stupid, mis-timed piece of sticky fingeredness which cost us a tenner deposit. When we find the culprits they will receive a painful lesson in @ justice involving a baseball bat & a pair of garden shears.

SPANISH WOMEN - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

SARA

Sara is the daughter of an anarcho-syndicalist militant who left for the front in 1936. She was then seventeen. Wanting to be useful to the revolution she went on her father's advice to her area's revolutionary committee and took on responsibilities there. The macho attitude of certain militant comrades towards their companions and towards women who wanted to escape their traditional role led her to participate in the activities of Mujeres Libres. She then became aware that political argument is not enough and that it is necessary to raise people's consciousness and to educate oneself.

"At first, when Mujeres Libres was set up, I did not agree with them because I thought that to win the struggle you had to fight together, men and women side by side. And that seemed the natural thing for me, I did not see the reason for a women's organisation.

"Then a conference for Free Women was announced. I went there and I heard three male comrades ridiculing Mujeres Libres as they went in. 'What have these women come to do? Hold a conference? Who do they think they are?' That affected me very deeply. And, when the conference ended, I argued violently against them and in favour of the debates, I let loose all the angry resentment I felt towards comrades who only regarded us as mothers of servants."

CAROLINA (Beziers Group of the French Anarchist Federation)

Mujeres Libres (Free Women): "It's objectives were the emancipation of women and of the proletariat. Mujeres Libres did not want to be an organisation of an elitist minority but meant to be a mass organisation of women. At the height of its success it had 20,000 affiliates." Carolina.

C.N.T.: Anarcho-Syndicalist Union.

C.I.R.A. (International Centre for Anarchist Research).

We hope to show the film as soon as we can get hold of a copy.

Perhaps the Labore Party ought to run courses on getting peoples names right. Everybody in the @ group knows the L.P. candidate for Nottingham East is Sharon Atkin. The Labore Party think she's Karen Atkinson or Charlotte Atkins. Or perhaps it's just a ploy to disguise the fact that their candidate is a nasty piece of work who supports the eviction of homeless people in Lambeth. (Puts a whole new meaning on Doing the Lambeth Walk).

One of her latest moves is to support the continued eviction of a squat in Brixton. This squat was run by single unemployed people to provide a creche for kids. Obviously not the sort of thing a would be M.P. could possibly condone

You may have thought that May Day was a day of International Solidarity, a day when working class people all over the world leave their sectarian party allegiances at home & rejoice in the common cause of labour. The Nottingham Trades Council don't think so. Not for them their solidarity with workers in South Africa, Nicaragua, Ireland, Soviet Union or Indonesia - for them it's the slogan "Defend Our Jobs and Services" which will head their "May Day march" - & that slogan just happens to be one used by the Labore Party in local elections a few days later.

But even worse than this cynical use of an international workers day for narrow Labore Party gain is the fact that those morons who imposed the sloga don't actually want to organise any activity around May Day - they'll leave that to those people who are committed to Internationalism. A word of advise to all Labore party hacks & fellow travellers - if you aren't prepared to work to implement the decisions you make don't make them. This kind of revolutionary socialism has killed the Labour Party. See you at the funeral.

Nottingham Anarchist Group must be becoming quite respectable wot with Labore party activists rushing to our cause. This magazine carries an article by one hopeful L.P. candidate in the forthcoming local election. (Can you guess which one?). & at the recent C.A.P.R. street meeting the colourful @ flags (striking large black ones with red A's) were carried by another candidate. But honest guv, we won't reveal your names for less than a couple of pints.

Mansfield Road these days plays host to the ongoing fly-posting war between the RCP (Revolutionary Communist Party) and the SWP (Socialist Workers Party). those darlings of the Marxist-Leninist/Trotskyist Opportunist Left.

One day RCP posters go up -- the next day SWP posters go up on top of them. Next day RCP posters are lovingly plastered on top of the goey mess. All very childish I'm sure you'll agree -- but I suppose it keeps them occupied and off our backs.

However, one Anarchist -- slightly the worse for drink -- saw one RCP poster advertising the 'Preparing for Power' Conference -- which featured a picture of the tyrant Lenin. Seized by revolutionary fervour, the comrade tore the poster down and began doing an alcoholic pogo on the tyrant's face. At that precise moment a member of the RCP staggered out of a nearby chip-shop and delivered the best rhetorical question in British history: "Haven't you got anything better to do that jump up and down on Lenin?"

REVIEWS



With Extreme Prejudice

WITH EXTREME PREJUDICE, An investigation into Police Vigilantism in Manchester. Martin Walker (Canary Press) £3.50 (Available from Black Raven Bookstall).

The story begins with a student demonstration at Manchester University in February 1986 against a public meeting being addressed by the then Home Secretary Leon Brittain.

It shows how Manchester Police planned well in advance to smash the students protest -- and inflict as many injuries as possible.

It clearly details the events on that fateful evening -- and then moves on in grim stages to show how a campaign of intimidation was unleashed against two of the students, Steven Shaw and Sarah Hollis. The clear aim of the campaign against them was clearly to frighten them into keeping quiet about what had happened. It was when this failed that the violence against them erupted.

The book readily explains the role of a police force in a crumbling capitalist country like Britain. It shows how officers draw ranks to protect guilty colleagues. It demonstrates with clear examples the cult of machismo and the love of violence rife in all police forces. And finally, it explodes the myth that it possible to campaign for an "accountable police force" of any sort within the current system.

Since the book came out, Manchester police have announced that they want to charge Steven Shaw with wasting police time. This is their final desperate attempt to finally break him. Steven has been forced to leave the country -- in fear of his life. His fear, as you will see from the book, is well founded.

Throughout its pages it has a sense of anger and outrage and a determination to continue the struggle against this system. Read this book, if you have any illusions left about our friendly boys in blue, expect to have them shattered once and for all.

Rich

Vote Labour and Still Die

VOTE LABOUR AND STILL DIE HORRIBLY

THAMES VALLEY ANARCHIST PAMPHLET, 20p from T.V.A. Box 19, 17 Chatham St, Reading.

Yes, yet another pamphlet attacking the Labour Party! What a joy to read even more bad jokes about Neil Kinnock's disgusting pseudo-socialism. Seriously, this pamphlet is rather good and well worth getting hold of.

The pamphlet is in two sections, the first being a rather over-the-top rant about Labour's past hypocrisy and the impossibility of the "Parliamentary Road to Socialism". While the second section contains a much more accessible imagined argument about the issue of Voting Labour "without illusions" and the issue of voting altogether.

Its analysis seems to be grabbed from a number of sources, from classic anarchist to bits nicked from the Situationists. It isn't a pamphlet designed for the average Joe/Joan Labour voter in the street, it seems to be targeted for the disillusioned Militant/SWP member.

Not the best by a long shot, but cheap, cheerful and worth having.

Phil H.



Black Raven Books

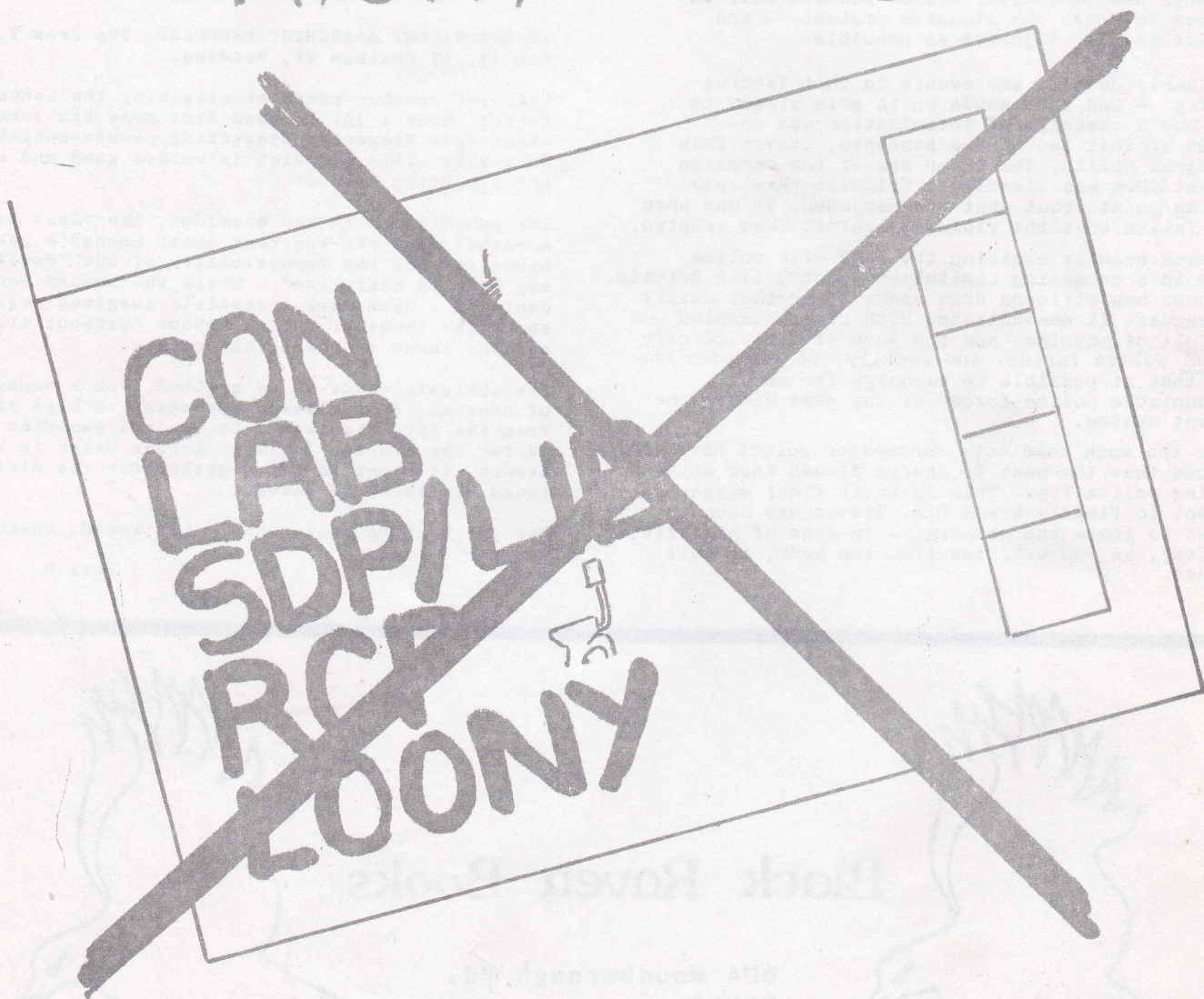
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