

# Free Wales— from Westminster

## It's only Money

BY THE TIME these words appear in print, the Government will have taken steps to save the £. Whether they devalue, increase the bank rate again, impose swingeing income, purchase or sur-tax; increase tariffs, restrict imports, cut social service or armament spending; cut their own salaries or those of the police and armed services it is not known. All one can do is guess. Experts in economics are easily come by, every bar-parlour contains at least one, the Government have several on their payroll.

Someone once called economics 'that dismal science'. True economics is no place to go for a laugh as one once said of Henry James but to some, economics bears the same relation to life as does theology. It has the same pre-occupation with misty symbols, the same involvement with intangibles as do the doctrines of transubstantiation and the Eucharist.

It has its priesthood (the economic pundits), its godhead (the £), its salvation (stability of the economy), its sacrifices (hard work), its redemption through good works (more production), its redemption through grace (confidence in the £), its Ten Commandments or its 39 articles (the Prices and Incomes Policy), its hidden mysteries (financial juggling); the Temple (the Stock Exchange), its tithes (taxes).

In the same way that the doctrines of the Church have been accepted without question so economics have the same air of infallibility. It would therefore seem that asking an anarchist his ideas on theology (saving the presence of our brethren in *partibus infidelium* — the Catholic anarchist) is as ludicrous as asking his economic plans.

To proclaim oneself an atheist (or even an agnostic) on the question of economics gives rise to serious question-

ing but an anarchist can only view the proceedings with a cynical detachment. After all it's only money!

England was once described as an island of coal surrounded by fish. True the coal has become less gettable and the fish have become scarcer, or so they tell us but the sea has yielded up natural gas. The £ may be in a bad state but people still go on working, factories go on producing, farms go on growing stuff. These little pieces of paper are meant merely to facilitate the exchange of goods and services, they now only serve to complicate it.

We have even got full employment and a crisis and there are those economists who tell us that a certain percentage of unemployment would aid the economy. Not the economy of the unemployed of course. 'The economy' seems to have assumed a personality of its own. Maybe it's the economists who should be unemployed.

Roughly there seem to be two ills which may affect the economy, inflation and deflation or depression. The solution to inflation (which we're suffering from now) is disinflation—not as one would think 'deflation'. Rule by the Labour Party seems mainly to lead to inflation, or the cost of everything rising so high that wages never catch up; the other lot believing as they do in deflation believe in cutting back social services, in a little under-employment as an incentive in the economy, and before you know where you are you're in a depression and wages never catch up with the cost of living.

There are those, and they will probably write letters to the editor later, who believe in printing more money, increasing the national dividend, taxing land values or some other complicated simplicity but by and large, the abolition of money would save a lot more trouble than it appears to create. JACK ROBINSON.

NOW THAT Mr. Gwynfor Evans has ousted Labour in Carmarthen in the bye-election caused by the death of Lady Megan Lloyd-George a new member comes to Parliament who professes to hold 'in his deeper political philosophy a belief in a form of syndicalism and workers' control'.

The programme of Plaid Cymru contains an argument for regionalisation and decentralisation. They want Home Rule and independence from England. They believe that the country's wealth, 'coal, iron ore, steel, tin and water', is being removed to England with disastrous effect on their economy. Their countryside is ruined, their men are forced to emigrate for lack of jobs yet they claim that Wales could be entirely self-sufficient. They want to control their own affairs. They also wish to revive a co-operative spirit where all assets would be owned in co-ownership. They would also wish to abolish the army and rely entirely on a small internal police force.

In other words this is as near as you would possibly get to anarchist ideas if they are modified by a desire for a basic governmental structure.

Plaid Cymru are of course nationalists, not the virulent type that wish to dominate the lives of others but more in defence of their own community. In Wales there is also a tradition of internationalism which may prove a corrective to the emotional garbage that is the driving force of nationalism.

That they feel rather desperately about being submerged is instanced by a recent letter in their newspaper, *Welsh Nation*, which asks 'are we intruders in our own land?'

For anarchists the emergence of any type of political movement which wishes to build a community based on regionalism and decentralisation should be of no less interest than it was to Bakuninism in the past.

That nationalism, in however mild a form, has its dangers, cannot be denied. But discussions on decentralisation sooner or later will give

an opportunity for anarchists in Wales to find a receptive audience. The squalls from the Communist Party that followed Plaid Cymru's victory in Carmarthen shows how insensitive they are to manifestations of regionalism. Mr. Bert Pearce, secretary of the Welsh Communist Party, said that 'Welsh Nationalist policies present no basic solution to Welsh problems. Carmarthen is a powerful challenge which only a revived and united Left movement can answer.' In other words, all genuine desires for decentralisation must be stifled.

By patient persuasion we can help these efforts for regionalism while opposing the nationalist ethos which can only end in tyranny and not in the Free Society that the people in Wales desire.

Added strength will be given to our analysis when it will be found that 'Evans the Parliament' will not be able to make headway in Westminster.

R.

## ANARCHISTS ABROAD

### GREECE

#### IN THE BLACK HOLE OF SALONIKA

A few weeks ago, two comrades from East London, left for a trip to the Middle East through Europe. Nothing was heard from them until the 15th of this month, when we received two letters post-marked Thessaloniki, Greece. The first, from John Webster, is as follows:—

YESTERDAY when we arrived all the peasants had driven into town to protest about the government not paying them enough for their farm produce. Workers joined them in sympathy. Vet and I went with them. After driving around the town in tractors 1,000 of them drove to the city centre where they protested and chanted Anti-State slogans, whereupon Vet and I detesting Fascists as much as anyone joined in. Then hundreds of troops and police started shelling the people with tear gas.

The workers defended themselves with sticks, iron bars, stones and bottles, literally anything they could lay their hands on. The police despite getting smashed about eventually broke up the crowd and there was a big tear-gas and bullet chase through the streets. Vet and I then decided to go across town where there was no fighting as we were already choking from the gas. In a reasonably quiet part of town (by that I mean there was no shooting) we came across some empty tear gas cylinders and decided to take them as souvenirs. Just as Vet picked one up (I had two in my pockets) a gang of gun-wielding coppers jumped us and nicked us. For some reason I was let go but Vet was held and charged with throwing the cylinder into a copper's face, which he definitely didn't do. When I saw him later at police headquarters he was pretty well shaken up and managed to tell me that he had been thrown around and kicked a bit. Before I was thrown out I saw three peasants receive beatings including an old man hit with a chair. In the morning I contacted the British Consul to see Vet. Vet said, when I saw him again, that people were beaten up and that he himself had been 14 hours without food and water in a filthy cell. Later in the day I went to the nick to make a statement and was kicked for nothing—the bastards!

Shit! The fuzzi in England are angels compared to this lot.

JOHN WEBSTER.

### MOVES TO FREE STUART CHRISTIE

Labour backbenchers are strengthening their demand for Foreign Office pressure on Madrid in the case of Stuart Christie, who at 18 was sentenced to 20 years in prison by a Spanish military tribunal for carrying arms.

Today Mr. A. Morris (Manchester, Wythenshawe) will lead a deputation to Mr. Padley, Minister of State, Foreign Office.

Christie submitted an appeal for clemency to General Franco on March 11. Last week Mrs. White, Minister of State, told the Commons that the British Embassy in Madrid had expressed the hope that the appeal would be sympathetically considered.

(The Times, July 18.)

### WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO HELP?

On the third day I was taken before the public prosecutor and my defence managed to get the charges altered to:—

1. Trying to injure and assault the police force.

2. A minor charge under a new law aimed at combating 'Teddy Boys' (big laugh). The sentence for these was two months jail or a £60 fine.

The police produced witnesses who could lie their way out of hell, but my defence did a good job and managed to get me off with 10 days' jail but I was able to buy my freedom for £11.

By the way there are six people still critically ill and about 100 more have received hospital treatment. The police and the government have blamed Communists for the trouble but the majority of people were Lambrakis supporters (Greek CND). Many of them were Anarchists, but did not know it. Nobody knows what Anarchy is out here, but there is room for a very strong movement, if somebody did some work.

JOHN VETTERLEIN.

### FRANCE

#### ON THE GREAT TREK TO PARIS

THE FIVE BRITONS marching from London to Paris against French atomic tests passed through Rouen to the village of Oissel on July 5. Here we were received by the mayor who spoke of war profits being made by people who knew each other and the killing being done by people who didn't. He was one of the five mayors who received us.

Next day we marched to Louviers, a town of about 15,000 inhabitants, which had been covered with anti-bomb posters. Here we were received by the mayor and an anarchist couple, the Desnoyers, who put us up. They have just produced an anarchist review *The Outsider*. By the weekend we had passed through Vernon and Mantes. Along the road people cheered us and clapped. Motorists waved and shouted encouragement and

many papers were sold, people often giving us extra money. Most of the French seem to be against the tests and there is a great feeling for peace.

The second last day took us to the outskirts of Paris and in the evening we had a meeting to decide what sort of a demonstration to have. The French smiled and said, 'You can be arrested tomorrow or Thursday, it is entirely up to you. You see, it is illegal to walk through Paris'.

It was finally decided that one of us should be available for a press conference and not be arrested, so I volunteered. On Tuesday, July 12, we walked through the western suburbs of Paris which are communist strongholds and the police did not trouble us. The march passed the 'Defense' which it was not legally entitled to and carried on to the Arc de Triomphe. Astonished Parisians watched the small band of four British and eight French proceed in bright sunshine down the Champs Elysées, unmolested. It seemed as if a precedent would be set. They were then asked by the police to turn down a side street, they refused. The police forcibly took down the banners and the group then sat down and were arrested and taken off to the Grand Palais police station. Violence was carefully avoided although the police drove a car at the sitting group to try and budge them. After a press conference about 25 MCAA supporters greeted our comrades when they were released five hours later. They were told that a similar repeated act would mean deportation. Although it definitely failed to achieve its stated aim the march gained good publicity, and did something to bring together two movements largely ignorant of each other. Personally it was valuable in extending our knowledge of the French political scene and the feelings of the French people.

I. R. MITCHELL.



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# IT'S DYNAMITE—Anarchist for the Nobel Prize

IT IS LOUIS LECOIN, the 74-year-old editor of *Liberte*, whose premises are in 'rue Alibert, 20, Paris, Xe'.

Among the 15 signatures proposing his candidature we read the names of Mme. Camus, Jean Cassou, Jean Paulhan, two former cabinet ministers, and Georges Montaron, the editor of *Témoignages Chrétiens*.

Needless to say, there are anarchists who disapprove of this move, and even more of Lecoin's lending himself to it with undisguised satisfaction. The same are also not very happy about his book of memoirs, *Le cours d'une vie*, published by Lecoin himself, and they would feel embarrassed, to say the least, if they read the special number dedicated to him by 'la Tour De Feu', where, following the lead of Pierre Bonjot, poetry and prose alternate in a dithyramb of glorification.

Had Lecoin been all his life a sticker for purity in anarchist theory and practice, had he been intolerant of any alliance and compromise, and had he put the pride of his lofty ideal above his will to further the anarchist cause and save anarchist lives, his present position would deserve little sympathy, but as his life has been a constant appeal to the better or less ugly feelings of people who were all but anarchist, the acceptance from such people of a token of respect and admiration is perfectly in order.

Lecoin could easily have succumbed to the many enticements offered him, at the various stages of his career, by socialists, communists and others who were his friends and would have paid generously to have a man of his firmness of character, vitality, and contagious enthusiasm, to join their ranks. But he never did, and this kind of integrity is

admirable enough.

He first made history in October 1910 when, as his regiment was ordered to go and break a railway strike, he refused to obey. He had already spent three months in prison, allegedly for assaulting a policeman, in fact simply for having been caught with pocketful of subversive literature. This time he was given only six months, but two years later he was sentenced to five years' imprisonment for organizing an anti-war meeting. So, when the First World War started, he was already in jail. All political prisoners were then released in order to celebrate the occasion, but he and his friend Ruff were not. Released in November 1916, they were both arrested again for printing and distributing a pacifist leaflet. Apart from another short spell, Lecoin was not to know freedom until the summer of 1920.

In 1921 the news reached Paris that Sacco and Vanzetti had been sentenced to death. The pages in *Le cours d'une vie* devoted to Lecoin's efforts to save these two, to the gigantic movement of indignation and protest which he set in motion, are among the most moving and inspiring in the book. He did not leave a single stone unturned, asking even the Pope to intervene. All in vain. The two martyrs were electrocuted on the night of August 23, 1927. Soon after, at a rally of the American Legion in Paris, Lecoin, disguised as a war veteran, managed to gain admission, and, at the very start of the ceremony, he stood up shouting, 'Long live Sacco and Vanzetti' to a bewildered assembly.

His campaign for the release of Ascaso, Jover and Durruti, whose extradition had been asked by the Argentinian Government, was crowned with

success, and so generally were his efforts to save from expulsion other political refugees such as Camillo Berner.

Then came the Spanish civil war, and he was foremost in the Free Spain Committee, responsible for sending across the Pyrenees lorry-loads of clothes, food, hidden weapons and ammunition. This committee became later the French section of the SIA (International Anti-fascist Solidarity), and it started a paper with the same name, which soon attracted the Government's attention, and was eventually suppressed for its pacifist tendencies when the Second World War was impending.

The Second World War started, and Lecoin was in jail again for a leaflet calling for immediate peace. Famous men and women had signed it, including Alain, Victor Marguerite and Jean Giono, but not all of them, not even the majority, took their share of responsibility when they were called to book. Lecoin never for a moment contemplated apology or retraction, and so, again except for a short spell, he spent this other world war in captivity, partly in France and partly in Algeria, partly in prison and partly in internment camps.

Restored to freedom, after a little time to recover his health and to find his bearings in a changed world, he founded the magazine *Defense de l'Homme* (still going strong under the editorship of Louis Dorlet), and one of his first appeals was for a general amnesty and the immediate liberation of all political prisoners, many of whom were his ideological enemies.

Later he gave himself body and soul to the cause of the Conscientious Objectors, for whom it was a question of obtaining legal recognition and removing the threat of unending imprisonment

and re-imprisonment. The weekly *Liberte* was founded mainly for this purpose, and there followed a struggle between Lecoin and his friends on one side, and the Government, the Army and the Bureaucracy on the other. A climax was reached when, to put a stop to the Government's dilatory measures, Lecoin staged a hunger strike which lasted 22 days, and ended with Lecoin's being on the brink of death and the Government's capitulation.

He who lived this life is a man of courage and perseverance, a man of action, even of heroic action. Also his ideas and positions are remarkably sound. His motives, however, are not deeply analysed in his book, and this lack of self-analysis and of conscious complexity may account for the firmness of his convictions. His readiness to knock at any door, without ever being put off, may be a reaction to his having been sent to beg by his mother when he was a child and she had not enough to feed her family.

I admire Lecoin, and I should like to think that, had there been more men like him in the anarchist movement, its influence would now be much greater and its reputation higher. Yet I feel that his personality is not altogether free from that quality of brashness and cheekiness which sticks to anybody who moves a bit too often in full view of the public eye. Those who hold that publicity can hardly be avoided in our days, and that anarchists, far from condemning it, should make use of it to the movement's advantage, can only rejoice at Lecoin's candidature to the Nobel peace prize and warmly wish he gets it.

8.7.66

JOHN GILL

## Just for the Record

A NUMBER of circumstances which

I won't bother to enumerate prevented my sending in a report on last year's Washington Action Project (August 6-9, 1965). Nevertheless even at this late date certain facts seem significant enough to warrant the attention of FREEDOM readers. The main point is that the Washington police were absolutely vicious. One demonstrator, an anarchist named Michael Itkin, was beaten until he passed out. When he regained consciousness he discovered that his shoes had been removed and the clubbing had broken a toe. He had gone limp in front of a police van. On recovery he witnessed the police snuffing out cigarettes on the bare arms of the protestors. None of the subsequent accounts of that project which I've read mentioned any of this, but Mike's veracity is unquestionable. Another anarchist, Ben Morea, related that the police locked up the civil disobedients in vans and left them there for over an hour, while the outside temperature was 110° in the sun. As the arrestees were taking turns putting their mouths up to the tiny vents to breathe, the police broke pellets of ammonia against the grates and taunted the occupants as to whether or not it was hot enough for them inside. Later on there were two court-appointed attorneys ostensibly defending the demonstrators. According to Ben one of the lawyers started off by screaming, 'They should get life! They should be kicked out of the country!'

At one point he heard the other lawyer rebuking a participant, 'Don't come too close. I might get a disease from you.' So much for Washington justice.

Even better excuses are at hand for my not sending in a report on this year's March 26 Fifth Avenue Parade, but I won't go into these either. Suffice it to point out that a red and black flag was carried on the streets of New York City for the first time since the Spanish Revolution. As a matter of fact I've been reliably informed that buried away among the official NYC Regulations for parades and assemblies is an express ban on any combination of red and black on flags or banners. This dates from the McKinley assassination, but the fuzzi have long forgotten all about it, what with the Marxists passing us by in Dallas, etc. (Maybe some of the comrades who are always so busy condemning my non-violence should shoot or get off the pot.) Be that as it may, the anarchists had planned to strut on down Fifth Avenue behind a flag measuring about three feet by five feet, mounted on an eight foot pole, and carried by a comrade who is well over six feet and better than 250 pounds. Unfortunately the best laid plans of mice and anarchists gang aft a-goofer. (Conversely the best planned lays frequently bomb out also.) The first spot we decided to gather at was idiotic, but we worked our way up to an imbecilic one a few blocks away, losing supporters in the shuffle. When it came our turn to feed into the parade, the comrade with the flag set out exactly as planned but the rest of us were trapped behind a phalanx of nonviolent counsellors who locked arms to hold us back. Meanwhile thousands of students poured in

from all sides behind our flag. Hell, I figured, if us anarchists can't even push our way past a few pacifists we might as well give up. So we gave up. (I'm seriously considering a renunciation of anarchy in favour of chaos.) However when the wind caught that flag as it rounded the corner into Fifth Avenue, let me tell you it was a thrilling sight—even to someone standing immobilized and disgusted a half block away. By the time my companion and I managed to get into the Fifth Avenue march the flag was at least three blocks ahead of us. We dropped out of the parade and ran along the sidewalk until we caught it, a tactic which was adopted by a number of others evidently. On the other hand a goodly number of anarchists never even came close. One contingent manoeuvred its way out of the DuBois Club and into a conglomeration of Zionists. (Are you sure Bakunin started out like this?) Had everything gone off smoothly a total of 50 or 60 anarchists might have been able to form a separate unit in the parade. But at least one small segment of us were privileged to march down Fifth Avenue behind the most magnificent flag that ever happened.

R.S.C.

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## Anarchist Federation of Britain

c/o Freedom Press, 17a Maxwell Road, London, S.W.6.

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'Lamb and Flag', Rose Street, off Garrick Street, London, W.C.2. (Leicester Square tube) 7.45 p.m. All welcome, Sundays.

Public Meetings every Sunday Hyde Park, 3 p.m.

### OFF-CENTRE LONDON DISCUSSION MEETINGS

3rd Wednesday of each month at Jack Robinson and Mary Canipa's, 21 Rumbold Road, S.W.6 (off King's Road), 8 p.m.  
3rd Friday of each month at 8 p.m. at Donald and Irene Room's, 148a Fellows Road, Swiss Cottage, N.W.3.

### REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND GROUPS

ABERDEEN GROUP. Meets at the Adelphi 2.30 p.m. every Sunday. Correspondence to M. Day, 29 Springhill Crescent, Aberdeen.  
ARLESEY GROUP (N. Herts., 5 Beds). Meetings on first Friday of month. Correspondence to Peter and Maureen Ford, 102 Stotfold Road, Arlesey, Beds.  
BELFAST. Contact Peter Stringer, 7 Duffy Street, Belfast, 13.  
BEXLEY ANARCHIST GROUP. Correspondence to Paul Wildish, 2 Cumbrian Avenue, Barnebush, Kent.  
BIRMINGHAM ANARCHIST GROUP. Correspondence: Martin Bragg, 5 The Drive, Hunton Hill, Erdington, Birmingham, 23. Sales and Committee of 100: Gordon Casner, 27 Upper Gungate, Tamworth, Staffs. Peace Action Centres

Project: Paul James, 50 Windermere Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, 21. University of ASTON GROUP. Dave Massey, 2 Station Road, Elworth, Sandbach, Cheshire.  
BRISTOL FEDERATION. Enquiries to Ian Vine, 7 Richmond Dale, Bristol, 8.  
CARDIFF ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Mike Gownley, 36 Whitaker Road, Tremorfa, Cardiff.  
COVENTRY ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Richard Vaughan, 19 Sandhurst Grove, Radford, Coventry, Coventry 28146.  
DUNDEE GROUP. Contact Bob and Una Turnhill, c/o Doctors' Residence, Stracathro Hospital, by Brechin, Angus.  
GLASGOW ANARCHIST GROUP ONE. Correspondence to Robert Lynn, 2b Saracen Head Lane, Glasgow, C.1.  
GLASGOW ANARCHIST GROUP TWO. Meets 11 Balloch Street every two weeks. Contact Joe Embleton.  
HARLOW ANARCHIST GROUP. Enquiries to Keith Nathan, 12 Shawbridge, Harlow or John Barrick, 14 Centre Avenue, Epping.  
ILFORD LIBERTARIANS. Regular meetings and direct action contact 212 Vicarage Road, Leyton, E.10.  
LEICESTER ANARCHISTS. Correspondence, Peter Gibbon, 22 Fosse Road Central, West End, Leicester.  
LEWISHAM, LONDON, S.E.13. 61b Granville Park. Meetings 2nd and 4th Thursdays.  
LIVERPOOL ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Gerry Bree, 16 Faulkner Square, Liverpool, 8.  
NEW HAM LIBERTARIANS. Contact Nick Shenker, 122 Hampton Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7.  
NORTH-WEST ESSEX. Meetings on the first Saturday of each month at 7.30 p.m. at Robert Baritrop's, The Old Vicarage, Radwinter, near Saffron Walden.  
NOTTING HILL PROVOS. Meetings for dis-

ussion and action at 4 p.m. each Saturday at the London Free School, 26 Powis Terrace, London, W.11 (off Talbot Road).  
ORPINGTON ANARCHIST GROUP. Knockholt, Nr. Sevenoaks, Kent. Every six weeks at Greenways, Knockholt. Phone: Knockholt 2316. Brian and Maureen Richardson.  
OXFORD ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact H. G. Mellor, Merton College, Oxford.  
PLYMOUTH ANARCHIST FEDERATION. Contact J. Hill, 79 Underlane, Plymstock, Plymouth, Devon.  
READING ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Alan Ross, 116 Belmont Road, Reading, Berks.  
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NORTH WEST ANARCHIST FEDERATION. Regional Secretary: J. Bromley, 44 Doncaster Avenue, Manchester, 20. Buxton: Chris Berrisford, 10 Byron Street, Buxton. Chorley: Alistair Rattray, 35a Devonshire Road, Chorley, Manchester. Mike Mitchell, 3 Bakewell Road, Droylesden, Manchester. Meetings every Tuesday 8 p.m. Lord Nelson, Chapel Street, Salford. Merseyside: Barbara Renshaw, 4 Clarence Road, Devonshire Park, Birkenhead, Rochdale: Ian Heywood, 16 Mansfield Road, Bamford, Rochdale. Stoke-on-Trent: Bob Blakeman, 52 Weldon Avenue, Weston Coyney, Stoke-on-Trent.

### EAST LONDON FEDERATION

WALTHAM FOREST ANARCHISTS. Contact Lionel Donnelly, 322a Hoe Street, Walthamstow, E.17. Meetings every Thursday at above address.  
WEST HAM ANARCHISTS. Contact Stephen Higgs, 8 Westbury Road, Forest Gate, E.7.

### WEST LONDON FEDERATION

WEST LONDON FEDERATION. Monday, July 11, 8 p.m. 'The Anchor', Faling Broadway. Discussion meeting.  
WANDSWORTH LIBERTARIANS. Correspondence to Christine Hutton, 15 Broughton Street, London, S.W.8.  
FULHAM ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact top floor, 31 Ongar Road, S.W.6.

## VIETNAM

Dear Editors,

Far from being a 'crude analysis' of your correspondent B. McGrath calls in the June 25 issue of FREEDOM Jeff Robinson's article 'The Opiate of the People' was an unusually clear-headed statement of the obvious truth about political movements: they are all ruthless, all prepared to sacrifice the individual in the name of some ideal, and all really interested in nothing but power.

B. McGrath, urging us to support the National Liberation Front, writes that 'Anarchism in a concrete real situation of intolerable oppression involves making common cause with those taking concrete action against that oppression.' Full stop. Not a word about what sort of action that may be, or about the real motives of the people taking it. What if the 'concrete action' happens to include the most barbarous torture? What if the real motive is simply lust for power—power to be used for dominating and exploiting others?

If B. McGrath really believes that the NLF is opposed to oppression in itself, and not just to American oppression, he is politically extremely naive. If, however (as part of his letter suggests), he merely regards the NLF as a lesser evil than American oppression, his analysis is not very penetrating. The root of all political evil is the lust for power, and all political movements are corrupted by that lust. There is no essential difference between them, and therefore no valid reason for supporting one movement against another.

Bristol, 7

FRANCIS ELLINGHAM.

NORTHOLT ANARCHISTS. Contact: Jim Huggon, 173 Kingshill Avenue, Northolt, Middlesex. Meetings first and third Wednesday of the month at Jeannie's, 6 Epsom Close, Northolt Park, Middlesex, at 7.30 p.m.

SOUTHALL ANARCHIST GROUP. Get in touch with Roger Sandell, 58 Burns Avenue, Southall, Middlesex.

## PROPOSED GROUPS

FELTHAM, MIDDLESEX. Anyone interested get in touch with P. J. Goody, 36 Norman Avenue, Hanworth, Middlesex.

SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE. Get in touch with Eric Harrison, 2 Cottage, Aylesmore Farm, Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire.

TYNESIDE SYNDICALISTS. Address c/o Michael Renwick, 122 Mowbray Street, Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 6.

KEIGHLEY ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Robert Halstead, 27 Woodlands Rise, Haworth, Keighley, Yorks.

## ABROAD

AUSTRALIA. Sydney Anarchist Group. Public meetings every Sunday in the Domain at 2 p.m. Group meetings every Monday at 8 p.m. in the Cellar, 72 Oxford St., Sydney.

DANISH ANARCHIST FEDERATION. 52 Mandevej, Soborg-Copenhagen, Denmark.

VANCOUVER, B.C., CANADA. Anyone interested in forming anarchist and/or direct action peace group contact Derek A. James, 1844 Grand Boulevard, North Vancouver, B.C., Canada. Tel: 987-2693.

U.S.A. VERMONT/NEW HAMPSHIRE. Discussion/Action Group, anyone? Contact T. R. Jackson, Corinth, Vermont.



Morrison... the Factory for... Factory is run on the... of workers' control, we feel... very concerned about the whole matter. Because of this, we are printing the following article by someone who has worked at the Factory for Peace.—Eds.

**TO TRY** and understand why Walter Morrison was sacked while sick, it is important to know the background of what has happened at the Factory in the last two years. Why his job was not kept open for him, knowing what a tough job it is for a man just off the sick to get a strenuous manual job, it is difficult to imagine why the Factory took the decision contrary to the principles on which it was founded. Even the Employers' Federation recommends that a sick man's job be kept open for him.

**THE HUMAN PROBLEM**  
It is difficult enough trying to make a 'go' of a workers' control enterprise if it is submerged within a capitalist economic system, but add to this a policy of recruiting people into such a Factory without regard for their commitment to the cause of peace and freedom and their 'technical contribution', it becomes impossible.

Until five months ago no 'personnel selection committee' existed, and people were taken off the street indiscriminately, providing their age did not entitle them to a 'man's wage'. Since then they have brought in friends and relatives and, with the exception of the new manager to be, have ignored people's commitment to 'principle'. Colin Johnson pinpointed this failure and said so at his interview. Without wishing to overstate the obvious, every study ever done in comparing democratic and autocratic groups shows the necessity of matching the attitudes of the group leader with those of the group if it is to function at all. As J. A. C. Brown in his 'social psychology of industry' points out, you cannot have a democratic group unless both sides are democratic by 'nature' and previous experience.

It is the ultimate folly to fill the Factory with people of the wrong kind unless, of course, McAlpine is autocratic or a pseudo democrat!

This stated policy of recruiting cheap labour was put to me very forcibly by the Director and Works Foreman Bob Carruthers when I did one month's voluntary work there last summer. 'I will be honest with you (he is). I would prefer to have two boys instead of paying a man a full wage. The end result of this policy is that 10 out of the 19 workers in the place don't give a damn about workers' control, peace, or anything else except their pay packet at the end of the week'.

One young chap recently spent two days making 'chivs' for his brother and friends in a Glasgow 'rip and run' gang. One of the weapons, fabricated out of sheet metal and spot welded together complete with 'barbs', is in Walter Morrison's possession and he was the one who attempted to talk sense to these 'wild ones' who have now been used by McAlpine to throw him out.

**THE GREAT OPPORTUNITY**

It might be thought that the policy of 'cheap labour' was dictated by the purely economic need to survive. This is not a satisfactory explanation as the 'capital shortage' now facing the Factory is a result of this policy and caused by it. A quick look at the history of the Factory will convince anyone of this fact.

After being set up to produce general sheet metal work, they had given to them a set of designs for night storage heaters, from a highly paid member of a competitions design staff. The design has good artistic appeal and won 'industrial design council' approval and, from a production point of view, had the advantage of being easily made and not requiring high cost 'presses' and other machinery. All it needed was 'low cost' general purpose sheet metal equipment and low cost

pneumatics to power the assembly and finishing sections. The designs had years of development behind them and from then on the way forward to large profits was open and unobstructed providing that the talents of the people working in the Factory were harnessed. All that had to be done was to apply what Kropotkin referred to as the 'inventiveness' of working men, which is the last form of creativeness left open to the shop floor worker.

The procedure from then on was simple: (1) Build a prototype and test it. (2) Prepare the production plan. (3) Prepare the sales plan. (4) Produce and sell. In short they had a head start on all the other small firms in the industry and if this had not happened the 'shoddy' sheet metal work would have soon put the Factory into bankruptcy.

**SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY**

The first service one must give is to produce a good quality heater at the right price. It is fundamental to understand that the only way a worker can serve the community is by the quality of what he produces. This should have presented no difficulty within the Factory, as from a production viewpoint the heater is nothing more than a 'tin box full of bricks with insulation around them'. However they are now overstaffed and the profit margin on each heater is far too low despite its high price.

The selling side presented great difficulty, so it was farmed out to a group of pressure salesmen called 'Benson, Hill & Scott'. They masquerade as 'central heating consultants to the public', and sell heaters for £32 to £35 installed. The Electricity Board charge £24 to £26 for them and the same heaters leave the Factory at £18 10s. (I joined the sales team for three days and could not stick it.)

However the selling side of it is now out of their control and they are faced with the task of producing.

This is no great difficulty requiring some kind of genius; on the contrary, all that it requires are a couple of workers with training in production engineering and low cost automation techniques, who can involve the other workers in a joint process of creative innovation, inventing new ways and methods of doing work, and evolving a highly efficient production line, in which the workers decide the manning of machines and the day-to-day progressing of the work and all of the other things that affect them most directly. The 'motto' of any worker in such a Factory should be 'work smarter not harder'. People's talents can be developed by involving them in the process of technical change, which makes the work interesting and gives it purpose, otherwise they are substitutes for low cost general purpose robots which are already on the drawing board in the USA.

There are about 10,000 small businesses the size of the Factory that are struggling for an existence and at least 2,000 of them will survive. Despite the blood, sweat and tears of the mainly 'one man bands' who run them, none of them have the advantage that a truly Workers' Control Factory has. For only by active participation of the workers will the brains and full energies of the many be realized instead of the brains and efforts of the few.

**THE FUTURE**

Therefore, after making allowances for the usual problems of launching a new product in a developing market, the application of new methods, tools, jigs and fixtures and low cost pneumatics, has been laboriously slow. They have taken 15 months to do one half of what should have been done in the first six months, and the end result is that the debt has not yet been cleared off, all as a result of not getting committed people with technical know-how in. If this change had taken place it would have shown itself on the balance sheet by

SHORTLY AFTER Mrs. Indira Gandhi left Moscow airport after failing to get any support in recalling the Geneva conference, but getting a promise of £357 million Russian aid, the flags were taken down and the band sent home. Then Mr. Harold Wilson arrived on his Vietnam peace mission.

MR. ARTHUR GOLDBERG, American Ambassador to the United Nations, believes that there is now greater understanding in the Vatican 'of the great efforts of the United States to achieve peace and assure self-determination to the embattled peoples of South Vietnam.' Mr. Goldberg was explaining the bombings in Hanoi and Haiphong to the Pope. He said, 'The pilots were carefully trained for this mission. It was conducted in daylight and good weather. There were no casualties in the civilian population areas of Hanoi and Haiphong. What civilian casualties there were were minuscule. I repeat minuscule. I have told this to everyone I've spoken to.' (Unless American usage is different, the word 'minuscule' refers to 'small' in the sense of small lettering as used in the 7th century. A bad Latin translation?) Cassandra in the *Daily Mirror* refers to the Americans as 'the greatest word-torturers in the world and they are unrivalled in using six words where one will do'. He refers to Robert McNamara's usage of the word 'escalate'. Now Cassandra refers to his usage of the word 'facility' to denote oil dumps, docks, supply bases or any other target.

THE MIRROR prints a story of a blonde stranded in battle. She was a correspondent for *Paris Match* who was left behind with other correspondents in 'No Man's Land'. The blonde took her hat off so as to be more readily picked up by the American helicopters. One hundred and eighty five Vietnamese died in the last line of the story.

DR. MARTIN BAX, of the Medical Association for the Prevention of War, is reported to have said that soldiers find it difficult

to kill attractive women, so it was odd 'that women in the services are put into uniforms to make them look as much like men as possible'. By doing this we are throwing away a possible anti-war weapon. 'It is very difficult,' Dr. Bax said, 'for men to attack people who remind them of their own culture images. Thus aggression can be lessened if opposing forces looked like each other's ideal. In Vietnam the Americans should look like Buddhists and the Vietcong should strive to resemble the gatefold girls of the centre pages of the *Playboy* magazine.' One practical way to make wars less likely would be to treat soldiers as abnormal people who needed to be studied and helped. Dr. Bax wanted to see a research group doing this. 'Medals should be given for cowardice in the field not valour.'

POLICEMEN'S TRUNCHEONS used on historic occasions were on view at Sotheby's. An 'attractive truncheon used in 1848 to break up a Chartist rally at Kennington, one issued in 1830 for anti-tithe riots in the 1830's, a black-painted one used in Torquay Bread Riots of 1860 and another was issued for Fenian riots at Woolwich Arsenal. They are now collectors' pieces'.

POLICE IN CHICAGO, aided by the military, broke up riots, killing two negroes. Fifty-five people were injured in a demonstration by farmers in Salonika.

THE TUTOR-ORGANIZER at Hull prison said that mailbag-making was gradually being replaced as prison work by the manufacture of protective nuclear clothing for NATO. Because, he said, the suits are safe for only two years, their manufacture will 'probably provide work for a long time to come'.

THE JUNE ISSUE of the *Catholic Worker* carries a long article on 'The Last Indian War', an account of the State of Washington's attempts to deprive the Nisqually tribe of Indians of their fishing rights, granted under a treaty with the Federal

**-Daily Mirror**  
Government in 1854. The behaviour of the State police is described. 'They were like animals that smell blood. Their whole treatment of the Indians was cold, premeditated, cruel; whereas the Indians' reaction was normal in the face of a situation where their peaceable legal test was being used as an excuse to terrorise them.' Anyone who wishes to aid the Nisqually Indians should send donations to Mrs. Janet McCloud, c/o The Survival of the American Indians Association, P.O. Box 719, Tacoma, Washington, USA.

ABOUT 3,000 PEOPLE have died in a famine in the Lesser Sunda Islands caused by a six-month drought. A doctor from the islands is in Jakarta to demand the dismissal of the Governor. The United States Secretary of Agriculture said that the world would run out of food in twenty years unless agricultural production was raised to meet the population growth. A drop was expected in US 1966 food shipments owing to a combination of smaller sowings and poor spring weather.

DAVID IRVING, author of a book on the Allied bombing of Dresden, states that 25,000 people died and 35,000 were missing after the bombing, not as high as estimated, dead 35,000 to 200,000. For a while he had us worried. Eight nurses were murdered in Chicago, allegedly by a sailor who had tattooed on his arm 'Born to raise hell'.

MR. ARTHUR J. GOLDBERG, the US permanent representative to the United Nations, has proposed that treaties on space exploration should be made that say: 'Planets shall be free for exploration and use by all States. No State will be able to appropriate a planet by claiming sovereignty, or by use of occupation or other means. States exploring planets shall avoid any harmful contamination and planets shall be used only for peaceful purposes.'  
JON QUIXOTE.

**Provos**

WHILE I would like to take issue with Charles Radcliffe on the 'Provos in London' article he wrote, and particularly on their plans for the police in Amsterdam, I must confine myself to arguing on facts involved and not principles.

Bernhard de Vries did not categorically say that Provos were against violence, he said that some Provos were advocates of non-violence and that some saw no wrong in using violence. It is perhaps because Charles Radcliffe and others can only see movements in terms of those we experience in Britain that he is blinded to the fact that the Provos have no doctrinaire policy and consist of many amorphous groupings. The common denominator among Provos is their dislike of authority.

Perhaps the discussion in the Mahatma Gandhi Hall would have been more profitable if those who argued had been more articulate in their questioning of Bernhard de Vries, had not themselves delivered long speeches, had been more willing to actually listen to his replies without continually interrupting, and had been a little more understanding of the difficulty he was experiencing with the actual interpretation of English. There was an incredible amount of intolerance shown by some of the audience who, one would have thought, would have realised the difficulty the speaker was having in understanding their arguments, and putting across his own, purely from the language point of view. I am not a 'glowing liberal'... I do not need my 'battered ego' to be inflated, because it is not battered and there are many other ways of inflating it if it were so, but I do see something alive and exciting in what the Provos are doing and saying... and I feel that an emotion of jealousy was apparent at the bottom of many Provo critics' minds. I think Charles Radcliffe hit the nail on the head himself with his last sentence, 'There is, in the long run, perhaps rather more we should be envying about them than criticising'. Bernhard de Vries pointed out that several in the hall were hide-bound with out-dated theories, and unable therefore to even expand their theories let alone begin putting them into practice. I agree with his analysis.

On the question of the Provos learning from our experience—it may well be that they have chosen the long way round in not taking all that we say we have found from our experience, but, in the end, surely, what we are saying is that people everywhere must experiment for themselves, experience for themselves, and become alive in order to control their own lives without the machinery of the state.  
It may be that it is felt in England

**LETTERS & Controversy**

that the Provos have very limited objectives. They do not profess to have other-wise. We must remember that the Provos are working in the context of Amsterdam. The fundamental about the Provos is that they see opportunities for actual change and wish to take them in order to make their lives more pleasant. It is the old argument of the chicken and the egg—revolution or evolution—and the Provos are aware of this.  
London, S.W.10 BRENDA JORDAN.

**Just as Bad**

Dear Readers,  
For David Weick's information, my view that the Vietnam Communists would behave as vilely as the Americans if they possessed the same weapons and it were to their military advantage is based mainly on actual Communist behaviour when they have been in the physical ascendancy (Hungary, Tibet, for instance). My information that the Vietnam Communists already widely use torture, etc. comes from those liberal magazines and newspapers that report American and South Vietnamese atrocities. Also (Weick please note) I was mainly talking about the Communist leaders. I don't doubt that there are decent rank and file Vietcong but, doubtless, there are decent rank and file American soldiers, so what does that prove?  
There isn't the slightest doubt in my mind that the Vietnam Communists would use napalm and Lazy Dog, would stage a bloodbath if they were victorious, that the Chinese Communist leaders are only too pleased to see drug addiction, race riots, etc., in the West (why should they personally dispatch opium to the drug racketeers if it gets there anyway?), and that Communists, like capitalists, will do any vile and stinking act that furthers their power-political and economic ends. Leaving out 'conjecture' when writing about Vietnam would (seeing as the Americans already possess napalm, etc., and the others don't) result in articles not far removed from Communist propaganda. Or is that what David Weick wants? Whichever it is, I suggest that Weick reads, say, George Orwell or some 'Selections from FREEDOM' so he can get wised up about Communism. He might then see that there is no difference in

principle between authoritarian regimes, only in degree of (and necessity for and opportunity for) application. South Africa's rulers brought in apartheid because, in the circumstances, it best serves their interests. Wilson and crew do not introduce apartheid in Britain because they don't regard it as necessary. If ever they do, they will! All politicians and leaders are the same when the chips are down.  
London JEFF ROBINSON.

**Mother—substitute**

Dear Friends,  
I have, at last, been successful in finding a mother-substitute, so, please, cancel the lines in the Contact column. It was my hope to find someone with an anarchist outlook, and I have found just such a person—although she has never heard of Bakunin, Kropotkin and Malatesta. She is an unmarried mother from Somerset, with a bouncing 8-month-old boy.  
Listening to her story of the various indignities, which she was forced to put up with, one cannot help feeling that conditions for the unmarried mother in Scandinavia are far, far superior to conditions here. And it was not all achieved through governmental 'benevolence'.  
Vigorous campaigning by mothers (married and unmarried) helped to create the necessity for sensible legislation. Suppose that the married ones here are too 'superior' in status to join forces with the single mother.  
Fraternal greetings,  
Box 31.

**Still Slipping!**

FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
WEEK 28, JULY 16, 1966:

Expenses: 28 weeks at £80:	£2240
Income: Sales and Subs.:	£1709
DEFICIT:	£531

Lewes: R.G. 7/6; Oxford: Anon\* 5/-; Beckenham: N.G. 8/-; Wolverhampton: J.L.\* 3/-; J.K.W.\* 2/-; London, S.W.15: I.P. 3/-; Canberra: P.K. 2/-; Arlesey: P.F.\* 10/-; Northolt: Anarchist Group 4/-; Morecambe: R.D. 3/6; Cheltenham: L.G.W.\* 10/-; Manchester: R.C. 10/-; London, W.11: M.G. 2/6; Bridgewater, Mass.: R.H. 15/6; Sale: G.L. 3/-; Reading: A.R. 3/9.

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# Brown's Brain Child Cuts Teeth

WITH THE SECOND reading of the Government's Prices and Incomes Bill now going through Parliament, we are a step nearer to the enactment that will put legal restraint on the trade unions. The legislation, which aims to put teeth into Mr. Brown's voluntary system, will place labour at a considerable disadvantage when negotiating wage increases.

The Bill will apply not only to straight wage claims, but also those that relate to 'terms and conditions of employment'. When a union puts in for a wage increase, the appropriate Minister must be informed. Failure to comply with this could mean a fine of £50. When an agreement has been reached, the employer must notify the Minister within seven days. The unlikely failure to comply will mean a fine of £50.

Although an agreement might have been reached the Bill states that 'the award or settlement shall not be implemented until after the expiration of a period of 30 days'. After studying the award, the Minister can then refer it to Mr. Aubrey Jones's Prices and Incomes Board. During this period of investigation, the award cannot be implemented for up to three months. In the unlikely event of the employer paying out the increase while the settlement is before the PIB, he can be fined up to £500. A fine of the same size can also be levied on any trade union which takes any form of direct action to enforce its

## Contact Column

This column exists for mutual aid. Donations towards cost of typesetting will be welcome.

**War Office?** Would anybody who owns or has access to a military-looking vehicle please contact Box 37.

**Country Cottage.** (Furnished.) Offered rent free to competent do-it-yourselfer, preferably with family, in return for 'doing it'. West country. Minimum period of two years. Box 36.

**Accommodation Wanted** in country near London for active man with invalid wife. Small income. Also any job considered. Open to genuine suggestions. Must move to help wife's health. Box No. 35.

**Accommodation Wanted.** Urgently. Poet seeks poet-cheap room in West London. Otherwise responsible person. Box 33.

**Violence of the Law.** Meeting to discuss recent developments. Called by Douglas Kepper (ILP). Sunday, July 24, 3 o'clock, Peace News, 5 Caledonian Road, London, N.1.

**Centenary Lectures NSS.** July 22. Freethought and Social Work. Peter Fryer and Kerstine Richards. August 5. Freethought and the Arts, Blakeston, Calder, Cotes. Meetings 7.30 p.m., Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, W.C.1.

**French Camp.** Hitch-hiking companion wanted. July 23 onwards. Valerie Clarke, 58 Holmwood Road, Enfield.

**Protest March.** To Mexican Embassy to demand release of Socialist militants. Sunday, July 24. Start Marble Arch, 2.30 p.m.

**Event.** Would all those interested in participating in a lunatic event please contact Box 007.

**Summer School.** Committee of 100—July 23/30 on 'The Scope of Libertarianism' at Aylesmore Farm, Warwick. Cost £3. Register by 10/- deposit to 13 Goodwin Street, London, N.4.

**Tapes wanted.** Loan of tapes of poetry readings, meetings, protest songs, etc. Postage will be repaid. J. Barns, 144 Park Estate, Toftwood, Derham, Norfolk.

**Wanted.** Support for London market project. Cash and/or loan of van. Box 34.

If you wish to make contact...

claim. This system of early warning, and fines for failure thereof, not only applies to the claims negotiated nationally by the union executives, but also to those made at local level by shop stewards and area officials. The wages negotiated at national level form the main part of most workers' wage packets. On top of this there are piece-work rates, bonus and plus rates. These are mostly negotiated by the shop stewards and area officials at local level. This type of payment is referred to as 'the wage drift' against which the Government's Prices and Incomes Policy will be mainly aimed. It is not so likely that a top union official will be fined as a shop steward.

### HELP THE LOWER PAID?

One of the reasons why many trade unionists accepted an incomes policy was because they thought it would help the lower-paid worker. In fact the Government's own 1964 Election Manifesto made this very point, saying: 'Unlike (my italics) Selwyn Lloyd's notorious and negative "pay pause", Labour's incomes policy will not be unfairly directed at lower-paid workers and public employees; instead, it will apply in an expanding economy to all incomes: to profits, dividends and rents as well as to wages and salaries.' But it has not worked out like that. In the two major conflicts threatening the incomes policy, it has been two groups of lower-paid workers who have had to take on the Government, namely the railwaymen, who backed down at the last minute, and the seamen. While these workers have suffered under the policy, judges, doctors and MPs have received well above the 'norms'.

Employers and their investors have not done so badly either. For the first quarter of the year, profits were up 5.4%, dropping to 4.1% in the second. Dividends, however, only went up 1.7% in the first quarter, improving to 2.6% in the second. The figures for June show gains of 5.9% in profits and 3.7% in dividends.

With full employment, the workers' bargaining power has been increased. In the early fifties, employers tended to give in to demands and to pass the increase directly on to their customers. Now this has changed, for with the increase in international competition, profit margins are getting smaller and because of this situation, the State has come to the assistance of the employers. The continual inflation of the fifties has given way to a more planned economy of the sixties, with the State and big business acting in a closer partnership. It seems that the incomes policy, or rather the voluntary part of it, has not achieved its aim. This week's rise in the Bank Rate will mean a drastic squeeze on credit. It is a return to the orthodox economic policies of the Treasury.

### UNEMPLOYMENT

The new restrictions and other measures such as the Selective Employment Tax will no doubt lead to a higher level of unemployment this winter. This in turn will reduce the bargaining power of the workers and measures such as a reduction in the 'norm' from the present 3-3.5% to 2-2.5% will be easier to implement. The Government might even go the whole hog and have a complete wage standstill.

For political reasons, the Government does not want a too high a level of unemployment, but it has

ment rate of 10%, which Belgium and Italy had, was not 'sufficient to subdue the workers enough to stop the wage-price spiral'.\* So it is important to the present-day capitalist system to have the backing of the State with an incomes policy and legislation to enforce it.

These lessons are especially important to Anarchists. They illustrate the role that the State is playing in an effort to make the present system a more viable one. It illustrates the class structure of our society and, although it is extremely unlikely that the levels of unemployment will get very high, it is still the producers who have to make the sacrifices. What the State and big business would like is a labour force that will take what is handed out to it. The legislation to put teeth into the incomes policy is tailored for this purpose.

With a few exceptions, union executives are backing the Government's policy and for workers to rely on these union executives and their friends in Parliament would be a disastrous mistake. Mr. Cousins, now once again the leader of the T&GWU, has shown this, for he is not against an incomes policy as such, but wants productivity agreements. However, this type of agreement often means the end to protective practices, an increase in the mobility of labour, leading to a general tightening up all round. All this in return for an extra one per cent or two.

### A LINK-UP

The only effective opposition to the plans of the State-big business set-up is from workers in their place of work. It is their wages and job conditions that are threatened and it is at this point that the real struggle will take place. But for this to be effective, there must be some co-ordination, for workers struggles are usually isolated. This pattern must be changed and a link-up must be established, with shop stewards' committees having contacts with one another, not only on an area industrial basis, but also with other industries. A start has been made in this direction, but it still has a long way to go.

Is this struggle to be just a defensive one in an economic sense or will it develop into a conscious movement against the present political-economic system? Surely this is the direction in which we, as Anarchists, would like to see it develop. What Anarchists have said in the past about the State is more and more being proved right. The State is taking to itself more power, seeking to introduce legislation which threatens the right to strike and which, in itself, further erodes the liberty of the individual. Anarchists should fight this and assist workers in their struggle against the plans of the State to fetter the trade union movement.

P.T.

\*Incomes Policy, Legislation and Shop Stewards by T. Cliff and C. Barker.

## Arrests in Spain

ON AUGUST 3, 1966, Jesus Gonzalez Quesada, Mariano Nuero, Antonio Nogues and Manuel Fernandez Montesinos, will appear in front of the Tribunal of Public Order in Madrid. In the same trial sentences will be passed against Buiria, Pallach and Piquer (at present, these three men are abroad).

Also awaiting trial is Arcadio Gonzalez Alonso, arrested in Ponferrada (Leon) for distributing propaganda, in which the Asturian miners were called upon to demonstrate on May Day. He is now in prison in Madrid.

# Freedom For Workers' Control

JULY 23 1966 Vol 27 No 23

## Grand to be back

FRANK COUSINS has just come back into office at the right time. Provincial busmen employed by private companies want to know what he is going to do about their recent wage claim. To date the private companies have told the busmen to go to hell, they were not prepared to talk cash at all, not even on the proposed 3% which local authorities have offered.

It has been past practice for local authorities and the private companies to be in line on their wage awards to busmen. On this occasion the private companies want to talk about restrictive practices and part-time labour first.

This could put Frank in the hot seat, in view of his earlier calls for more productivity and shoulders to the wheel stuff. Evidently the bus employers want this productivity caper signed on the dotted line before parting with the cash. Once you start talking productivity the employers not only want pound for pound but a few extra pounds to them as make-weight.

What a fantastic situation, provincial busmen fighting on two fronts, with the local authorities and the private companies plus the PIB hovering in the background waiting to pounce. I suppose it is difficult, private company busmen and local authority busmen don't pay the same price for their food or their rent or clothes, hence the attempted differential. Surely joint action by ALL provincial busmen to establish equality is not so impossible.

### THE CINDERELLA'S CINDERELLA

HOSPITAL ANCILLARY STAFF have had enough, they have seen how other workers, by taking direct action, have achieved part of their demands, and now they also feel this is the only way forward for them.

All they want is an increased London allowance which would bring them into line with other hospital staff who re-

ceived improved allowances last October. Negotiations broke down on June 17.

Nurses have always been Cinderellas in the wages struggle, but the ancillary staff, porters, kitchen staff, etc., are even worse off.

The hospital governors claim that the allowances were fixed by the Whitley Council and they have no power to vary them. Are they suggesting they would?

We can rest assured that in the new proposed crisis measures by the government, hospitals and education will be one of the hardest hit, the increased bank rate will certainly force them to tighten their already meagre budget.

### OUTLAW 'LABOUR ONLY'

BUILDING TRADE WORKERS are forced to adopt new tactics in their fight against 'labour only' contractors. In the past, building trade workers have struck work to force these pirates off the building sites, but now that a recent High Court ruling declared such action illegal, new tactics will have to be employed.

George Lowthian, General Secretary of the AUBTW, is calling for a public inquiry into all aspects of building. 'Labour only' contracting is on the increase in the building industry and the AUBTW is calling for the outlawing of such contractors. 'Labour only' contractors can offer better rates than the main contractors due to lower overheads. The AUBTW policy now is to negotiate terms from the main contractor at least as good as that paid to contract labour. If necessary the AUBTW would be prepared to strike to obtain these terms. George Lowthian will not find the rank and file lagging in such a fight, if 'labour only' can be priced out of business. On the question of negotiating directly with the pirates, this could prove very dangerous. Once you negotiate this means recognition. BILL CHRISTOPHER.

## Factory for Peace

Continued from page 3

about £1,100 less on wages, £800 extra on tools and capital equipment, and £300 extra on wages and salaries for the organisation and planning of production and the manufacture of certain jigs.

It is interesting to study the other firms making 'heaters', in particular the firm 'Heatstore' who prove that the small firm can hold its own against the big battalions. At its main English factory it employs 36 workers on the shop floor and can produce 4,000 heaters per week, thus producing one in four of all the heaters produced in Britain. With low cost automation they have produced in one week with twice as many people what the Factory produced last year. If anyone is inclined not to believe this they should consult the trade journal, the 'Electrical Manufacturer' and remember that Heatstore have more office staff than workers on the shop floor.

McAlpine forecasts that next year there will be £5,000 'clear' profit from the production of 8,000 heaters. Now I would predict that, given the present downward trend in heater prices continues, even this slim profit margin of £1 per heater may disappear.

### THE MANAGER

The real drawback to the policy of 'cheap labour' is that there is a great poverty of human resources within the Factory. McAlpine has persistently refused to ask people to join, via the correspondence columns or adverts in the left wing and technical press. He has deliberately picked those people who are living products of an autocratic school and work environment, for the simple reason they will do as they are told without thought or question.

His years as an Army Officer and Town Council Committee-server have not worn off to any great degree and it is just

not possible for him to tolerate opposition in any form. Anyone can pay lip service to the ideals of industrial democracy but the crunch comes when one has to do things with other people. His commercial manager, Jim Kelly, will openly admit that he is an autocrat to work with after two years of 'painful' association with the men. This then is the reason for the accumulation of workers fundamentally opposed to workers' control, as he can only operate successfully within such an autocracy accepting group.

The foregoing will help to explain why Walter Morrison, the campaigner for the things that matter within the Factory, got the sack while not there to defend himself.

One can respect a man who knows himself, and has the courage to say to a man in public, 'Listen, we cannot work together. I want you to go and if you don't go, I am going to ask the lads to sack you'.

But who can respect someone who hides under the cloak of non-violence and by a sly and cunning manoeuvre does someone down and tries to justify it.

Some people would say that McAlpine is a bourgeois careerist bent on using the ideology of non-violence to serve his own personal ends. There is an element of truth in this, but the main fault can be put down to inexperience of life and trying to run to the new society with lots of factories instead being content to create friendship and fraternity within one factory.

'Let not ambition mock their useful toil' — Gray's Elegy. It should also explain why Harry Smith, the religious pacifist and HNC electrical engineer, left the Factory in protest.

It should explain Stuart Christie's emotional reaction to the Factory.

It should explain why the best worker in the place and pacifist Walter Wein left in disgust. ALAN A. PARKER.