Anarchist Weekly @

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LIVING WITH BOMBS

THE NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR has now entered its eleventh month. In The Times of April 24, William Norris sent a grim report of the bombing of civilians by what were claimed to be British bombs. He said, of his feelings, after seeing young girls cut in half by shrapnel and children mutilated beyond recognition, 'It is not a pleasant thing to be ashamed of one's own country. Today, I am very ashamed.'

I know how he feels.

This article was the first, I believe, of a spate of articles concerning the civil war and speculations on the extent of the role being played by Britain in helping the Federal Government to overcome the Biafran resistance. A Foreign Office spokesman later com-THE NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR has

Foreign Office spokesman later commented that 'Britain has not supplied napalm or poison gas to Nigeria'. Jolly good show! The importance of this statement lies in what was not denied.

The obvious complicity of Britain in such a brutal and inhuman war places the mass-media in something of a

the mass-media in something of a quandary. Loyalties and principles be-come locked in a seemingly inextricable battle. One cannot be too critical of involvement in foreign affairs by oil companies who are a vital source of revenue to the papers themselves, of government policy because of political affiliations, or of the manufacturers and workers who produce the arms and am-

workers who produce the arms and ammunition, without whose sales the economy of the country would collapse. The only vehicle to have resolved the conflict completely is the Daily Express which carried, on April 29 last, an article which was bitterly critical of Britain's involvement in the brutal murder of defenceless civilians, blamed the entire civil war on Harold Wilson and the Labour Government, and stated categorically that Britain should not categorically that Britain should not get 'involved with foreign wars in

general, and with this war in particular'.

general, and with this war in particular'.

Was this really the Express I was reading? What of the Arms Economy, the export drive, Britain's role in world affairs, The Communist Threat? What of the 'grey face of unemployment' that was going to strike us all down should we dare to reduce the sales of arms abroad? Had the sight of decimated babies in those photographs the Express never dares print sickened even those hardly souls in their glass cage?

On Wednesday, May 1, everything returned to normal. The Editorial Column faithfully reported—under the heading 'Export Triumph' the success of the British Society of Aerospace Companies, dramatic success, in fact, of our missile and aircraft industries. I companies, aramatic success, in fact, of our missile and aircraft industries. I had not realised until this moment that we had a Missile Industry. As the writer so clearly puts it: 'This wonderful achievement is the result of painstaking research, aggressive salesmanship—and vast investment'.' vast investment.'

For those among us who feel we can-not resolve the problem in true Express tradition, and cannot find the slightest solace in gutter-catharsis, the conflict

remains.

I refuse to lay the blame for the deaths of babes with the present Government because it is my firm belief that the same Government is virtually powerless to do anything about it. They are themselves controlled by forces that can bring pressure to bear upon them from proceedings. We remain in the many continents. We remain in the bloody hands of a few hundred business-men whose commitment to the blind acquisition of wealth—nearly always the result of some personal inadequacy— necessitates their being unmoved as their triumphs of superb technical endeavour knock the shit out of humanity.

PRODUCTION FOR PROFIT

THE MOST POPULAR arguments against immigration are that there are not enough jobs, houses, schools or hospitals in the country for the people

are not enough jobs, houses, schools or hospitals in the country for the people already here.

Why is there not enough work? Surely the point of work is to produce the needs of the people. If there are more people in the country (through immigration or a high birth-rate) more necessities of life will have to be produced.

To produce these extra needs surely more work will have to be done—and so there should be more jobs.

Why are there not enough houses, hospitals or schools? Surely these are basic necessities of life which should be produced by those who are working—or the half a million or so unemployed. Why are so many people at work producing Rolls Royce cars, luxury villas (to be occupied by rich people only during holidays), letter opening machines (for people who are too lazy to open them), electric socks (to keep the feet of rich golfers warm)—while we are so short of houses, hospitals and schools.

Is it not wrong that so much money should be spent and so many people employed in advertisements encouraging us to gorge ourselves sick with chocolate Smarties when people are starving?

employed in advertisements encouraging us to gorge ourselves sick with chocolate Smarties when people are starving?

People who blame shortage of necessities in this country on immigration must ask themselves why people are unemployed when they could be producing hem, and why so many who are imployed are producing unnecessary usuries.

It is because things are produced for profit and not necessarily for need. Under

the present system a firm has got to be able to make a profit out of what it produces otherwise it will go bankrupt. To be able to make a profit it has got to sell the product. And to sell the product people have got to be able to afford it.

So while millions of poor people in the world NEED food, and thousands in the content of the

the world NEED food, and thousands in this country NEED houses, they cannot AFFORD them. So any firm which produced houses or food that were needed would go bankrupt because not enough people could afford to pay for them.

But rich people can afford to squander their money on things they do not really need. Therefore firms can produce these luxuries because they can sell them to rich people. You cannot blame firms for producing luxuries when poorer people lack necessities because, under the capitalist system, production for profit rather than need is the only way they can survive.

is also more profitable for them to spend as little as possible in wages. This means the workers have less money to spend and cannot afford so much—so less

Lower production can also be more profitable by keeping the price up—as is demonstrated when farmers burn crops or dump tons of grain at sea while

or dump tons of grain at sea while people are hungry.

Is it too idealistic to suggest production for profit be abolished, and instead that all the people in this country capable of working (including the unemployed and the immigrants) start producing things that are necessary—such as houses, hospitals and schools?

M.P.

Vive les Etudiants!



PARIS after the battle: Overturned cars were used as barricade. Note the slogan on a shop shutters: Vive la Revolution.

This follows ten days of militant action by the students. Considering that the Communist hierarchy has previously denounced the students as Anarchists, Trotskyists and Maoists, this action is as much bowing to public sentiment as the sudden capitulation of the French Government. The Sorbonne is to be reopened and cleared of the hated combat police and the release of all students was promised for today

The antecedents of this struggle go back to January 26 of this year. On that day 40 members of the Nan-terre University anarchist group marched into the faculty hall with comical posters ridiculing the police. The porters attacked the anarchists The porters attacked the anarchists but were defeated. The authorities called in the police; one thousand students fought back and attended a protest meeting. The movement thus launched has grown ever since. The students are determined to get rid of the uniformed and plainclothed police that haunt the faculties.

On May 3 a great meeting was called at the Sorbonne by the extreme left. The rector appealed to the police to dislodge the students. As the student protest grew, the Government stepped in and closed down the Sorbonne and Nanterre University, which were occupied by the combat police. The students organised quickly and brilliantly to the universities from reoccupy hated police. As many as 15,000 students and sympathisers fought in street battles until the capitulation of the Government.

One of the demands of the students was that Danny Cohn-Bendit of the Nanterre anarchist group should not be deported to Germany.

TEN MILLION WORKERS were called out on strike in France in support of the student demands. This follows ten days of militant action by the students. Considering the students of the students Joseph Carroll, in the same paper, on the same day, imputed he was a Trotskyist. Margot Lyons in the New Statesman said he was a 'Maoist' ringleader, the Observer said he was the leader of the 'anarcho-Maoists'. More to the point was Mandrake in the Sunday Telegraph who said amonest the students were who said amongst the students were many tendencies — Marxists, two many tendencies hinds of Trotokyiete, Maoists, Anar-chists, Castroists, situationists. On March 22, they invaded the admini-strative offices of Nanterre University and demanded the right to hold political meetings'. The subsequent 'Movement of March 22' was led by Danny Cohn-Bendit and no doubt attracted others than anarchists.

Tuesday, May 7. Ten thousand Tuesday, May 7. Ten thousand students had taken possession of a vast circle round the Arc de Triomphe, their red and black flags massed on either side of the unknown soldier's tomb, singing the 'International'. The police kept out of the way. General de Gaulle declared that he would not tolerate any further student violence.

The students declared that they were ready for a dialogue on three conditions: withdrawal of the police forces from the Latin Quarter; re-lease and immediate amnesty for the imprisoned students; reopening the Sorbonne and Nanterre. Four hun-dred and thirty-four demonstrators were that day under arrest. The police that day restored D. Cohn-Bendit's residence permit (but only for a short period).

Wednesday, May 8. Strong police forces still occupied the Sorbonne and the student union delivered an ultimatum to the Government. If the demands were not met they would 'liberate' the Sorbonne. Mongeneral changed his tune and said: The Government is ready to take the steps necessary for the adaptation of education to the modern world'. M. Pierre Sudreau, of the Party of Modern Democracy, said in the French Assembly that extremists had been trained in at two anarchist camps.

May 9. The Ministry had been trained in street fighting

Thursday, May 9. The Ministry announced that until calm was restored the Sorbonne will remain closed. The students declared that as soon as they reoccupied the Sor-bonne they 'would take over the premises and hold discussions day and night on the problems of the

university'.
Friday, May 10. The industrial unions (Communist and Christian) have thrown their lot in with the

students and called for a general strike on Monday. Beyond Paris the movement is now supported all over France. Several thousand young pupils marched through Paris with placards: 'Tomorrow we shall have the same problem'.

Saturday, May 11, saw the decisive battle and the defeat of the Government. There was ferocious fighting, barricades were set up by highting, barricades were set up by the students and cars were upturned to form a barrier. It was a night of the barricades which the capital had not witnessed since the Commune days of 1870. After a burried conference with General de Gaulle, M. Pompidou, the Prime Minister, announced the concessions. The student unions were not overswed. The dent unions were not overawed. The union described the concessions as 'extremely interesting' but they would wait till Monday to see if their comrades were to be released.

From all reports the population of the Latin Quarter was solidly backing the students. They showered debris over the police and water over the students to minimise the effect of the chlorine gas grenades. The demonstrators were themselves issued with a leaflet on how to protect themselves against tear They took an anti-flu pill before demonstrating and one when the grenades started flying; carried lemon-soaked handkerchiefs and smeared bicarbonate of soda around

The brutality of the police horrified all reporters. Photographs seen in London, but unavailable to this paper, showed policemen clubbing students on the ground, blood streaming from their faces, But the students also fought back, kicked gas grenades back to the police, and the police had to protect their faces from thrown stones with what looked like fencing masks.

The French Government is desperately trying to cope with the revolutionary situation forced by the students and now supported by the working class. The general strike is called on the tenth anniversary of called on the tenth anniversary of de Gaulle's assumption of power, on the day that the Vietnam 'peace talks' were to provide him with added glory. The adulation in Sun-day's British Press was an indication of the treatment he was to be given and still got without a reference to the upheavals!

The students will also have to fight off the dubious embrace of the Communist Party and all those who are now climbing on the bandwagon. But their cool determination hither-to to force their just demands is an inspiration to us all!

JOHN RETY.

ANARCHY 87

The Penal System

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Lafern. Borrowdale, Carriage Drive, Frodsham, Cheshire.

THE PARIS REVIEW, 30 Bedford Square, London. INSTANT POETRY, Spike Hawkins.

Better Books, London, W.C.2. THE LOST FIRE BRIGADE, Spike Hawkins, Better Books, London, W.C.2. ARCH DUKE, Jim Dukes. Freedom

Bookshop. PIMOT, Paul Buck. Latimer Press, 56 Parliament Hill, N.W.3.

There is a singular pleasure in handling the 'small' magazine.

Produced in isolation on the cheapest paper to the rhythm of the turning duplicator and the panting wife, they are the cottage industry of the arts in that, unlike painting, they cannot be enhanced by physically moving them to a sociallybetter background or, as with a musical score, they cannot provide the material for the artistry of others.

They are the end product of one man's emotional fulfilment, where single pennies pay for stencils and personal labour is the only method of production and distribution. Here, on the stencilled pages, are the culmination of the silent hours of composition when the battle for a single verb can usurp the mind to the exclusion of wars and the black dialogues of ideological hatreds and the only enemy is the shopkeeper, bland or indifferent, who, of his charity, will allow the poet to lay his tatty sheaves among the valiant dead on the small poetry shelf

If these magazines are of no aesthetic value they will lie dust among dust until the bailiff throws them into the waiting waste bin but should their song escape the ignomy of public indifference then other men with greedy hands will compute the economic value of the rare treasure that they do not understand And here they lie before me to be reviewed. Six magazines that range from the stencilled sheets of Areeba and Away to the gloss mass culture of The Paris

Of the Paris Review one can wilfully dismiss it by quoting the third line of Allen Ginsberg's poem City Midnight Junk Strains 'The gaudy poet dead' by adding that they have been enbalmed within these well printed pages but at 6s. for 200 pages who dares complain.

Pimot by Paul Buck is, so the shy little girl in the avant-garde bookshop whispered to me, an anagram of the first half of impotence and this long poem, that is technically so well produced and so pleasantly illustrated by Liz Gardiner, is a gentle hymn to an erotic hour that its climax in the frustration of failing to achieve its purpose.

This is Paul Buck's first work and rumour has it that it may become the script for a twenty minute film. One hopes not. For before us lies the vision of those long grasses and the moon loved by the cigarette industry in their cancer for kulture campaign films, but we wish it well, we wish it well.

Spike Hawkins is a poet ready to tread water in the deep end of the Poet as a Public Figure. With the wayward urchin look of a youthful Rolling Stone he bids fair to become the terror of the poetry reading circles in that his presence outshines his performance. Yet is welcome, for the Town dearly needs another vandal to mock the Art Establishments. Spike Hawkins Instant Poetry is no more than that. A small bag containing pieces of cards with isolated words and phrases printed on them, they are there to be picked out at random to form an instant poem to take its place with painting by numbers, while Spike's The Lost Fire Brigade

makes pleasant browsing and one can gauge its contents by quoting in full one of its poems 'Leak. From The Flag | Fled The Traitor | on his way to TRAIT'

Jim Dukes's magazine Arch Duke can only be judged as a corporate effort, for its pleasure lies in its production. collage of known poems and disenchanted advertisments, it spells the hands of Ted Kavanagh and Anna Blume in its layout and printing yet, as one turns the pages, the mind is tossed back and forward in time without any desire or sense of commitment and herein lies the enjoyment of this magazine.

But of them all I will carry the flag for Areeba and Away. With typing errors altered by hand and a cover that is literally individually drawn and coloured, so very badly, by hand, it must by the four people concerned. Never rising beyond a substandard Dylan Thomas at its best with William Empson at his worst, it even offers to those of our comrades who puke at the mention of poetry a few lines in John

truly be accepted as a labour of love

Lafern's The politician's daughter: A little girl with golden tresses | caresses a plastic rose | whilst sitting high on a polished chair, | Daddy she said as she looked at a book / Daddy daddy what is anarchy? / My teacher said it was something rude. | Anarchy my dear is chaos | replied her father loud and clear. | She moved off to the window to watch the pigeons | to see flying free, | She also saw some soldiers and a policeman / moving off in the smog of the factories | -near the offices of Dow. | She saw a thousand lorries | a traffic jam | and a million faceless people. | Daddy come quick and look I've found chaos | perhaps I'll soon

ARTHUR MOYSE.

WEEK BY WEEK

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

PLANS for a British 'Alcatraz', maximum security prison for 120 'dangerous' prisoners on the Isle of Wight, are to be changed. The prisoners will be dispersed between several prisons.

Mr. Enoch Powell refused to give further information about the famous

Police with dogs were called to Essex University where 150 students broke up a meeting addressed by a chemical warfare expert, Dr. T. A. Zuch of Porton.

Mr. Callaghan has said he has no power to deport Mr. Tariq Ali unless there is a court order for his deportation. A Bill was introduced into the Com-

mons by Mrs. Joyce Butler similar to the Race Relations Bill, to end discrimination against women

'Voluntary' apartheid for Wolverhampton was suggested by Mr. Frank Wadsworth, a Tory councillor, who proposed separate housing estates for Negro and Asiatic immigrants.

THURSDAY, MAY 9

Students are to receive only half the grant increases recommended by the Brown Report.

Students threatened to occupy the Sorbonne

vietcong and South vietnamese days faced each other across a no-man's-land in the Chinese quarter of Cholon. More than 2,000 Vietcong have died in and around Saigon according to US spokes-

Eighteen men, among them the three Kray brothers, were arrested yesterday in a series of raids by more than 100 detectives. No charges were made.

A man under police supervision escaped in his pyjamas from University College Hospital. Six men overpowered the policeman guarding him, and he fled FRIDAY, MAY 10

Mr. Cecil King launched an attack on Harold Wilson, calling on the Labour Party to give Britain a fresh start under a new leader.

The Conservatives made sweeping gains in borough elections in England and Wales. Labour lost 32 boroughs, 16 of them in London.

Soviet troops in Poland were moving less than 35 miles from the Czechoslovak frontier.

The first stage of the poverty protest march on Washington began today. It includes a contingent in wagons drawn by mules.

SATURDAY, MAY 11

The pound fell sharply yesterday, shaken by the statement of Mr. King and the Government's election defeats.

Riot police, armed and equipped with round shields confronted about 20,000 student demonstrators in the Boulevard St. Michel. Barricades, of cans and pavingstones, were set up.

Students in Essex University marched in protest at the rustication of three of of their fellows.

The Student Power movement in England issued its first manifesto. "Student Power" means the ability of the students' bloc to inflict, if necessary, sanctions of sumctent magnitude to force its opinions to be heeded.

De Gaulle offered concessions in efforts to appease the rioting students.

Connolly Centenary Rally was held in Trafalgar Square.

MONDAY, MAY 13

The first tent dwellings for the poor people's march were set up on the banks of the Potomac.

Police were withdrawn from the Latin Quarter, and the Sorbonne was to reopen. A Mothers' Day March through Washington was led by the widow of Martin Luther King.

find | anarchy?

The rusticated students of Essex were supported by forty members of the staff, who have threatened to resign if the punishment is not rescinded.

A general strike began in France today for 24 hours.

A group of coloured Londoners have planned to start their own police force.

A petition signed by 1,000 people liv-

ing in the Lea Valley has been sent to Mr. Heath and Mr. Powell supporting the views of the latter.

Three busloads of students travelling from Holland to join the Bonn demonstration against West German Emergency Laws were stopped at the border, but six students outwitted the guards and reached their destination.

A.W.U.

We're Moving

Road. Whilst we are waiting to move into our new home at 84b we are temporarily staying above Express Printers at 84a Whitechapel High Street, E.1. Details as follows

Editorial office open Monday, May 21, 2-7 p.m. Telephone: BIShopsgate 3015.

New temporary address:

c/o Express Printers,

84a WHITECHAPEL HIGH STREET, (entrance Angel Alley),

WHITECHAPEL, E.1.

(Underground: Aldgate East. Exit: Whitechapel Art Gallery. Turn right on emerging from station.)

Temporary opening times from May 21: Tuesday-Friday, 2-6 p.m. Editorial office open Monday, May 21,

2-7 p.m. Telephone: BIShopsgate 3015.

Anarchist Federation of Britain

AFB ANNUAL CONFERENCE. Can a group The London Fed will be organising this year's Conference (unless any other local group comes forward at once) possibly July/August.

LONDON FEDEMATION OF ANARCHISTS. c/o Libra House, 256 Pentonville Road, London, N.1. Business meetings first Sunday of the month. For details apply to LFA.

LEWISHAM. Confact Mike Malet, 61B Granville Park, Lewisham, London, S.E.13. Phone: 01.832 880.

ANARCHIST GROUP, Get into FINCH'S PORTOBELLO ROAD) ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact: Pamela Pearce, 385 Latimer Road, W.10. Meetings every Wednesday evening

at Finchs.

KING'S CROSS GROUP, c. o Libra House, 256
Pentonville Road, London, N. I.

S.W. LONDON LIBERTARIANS. Contact; 14
Clapham Court, King's Avenue (Acre Lane end),

OFF-CENTRE LONDON DISCUSSION MEETINGS

3rd Wednesday of each month at Jack Robinson and Mary Canipa's, 21 Rumbold Road, S.W.ö (off King's Road), 8 p.m. 3rd Friday of each month at 8 p.m. at Donald and Iren Robum's, now at 13 Savernake Road, London, N.W.3 London, N.W.3. 3rd Friday of each month at Dennis Fen's, 314 St. Paul's Road, Highbury Corner, N.1 (above

REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND GROUPS

AND GROUPS
ABERDEEN ANARCHISTS meet lst and 3rd
Wednesdays of month at M. Dey's, 142 Walker
Road, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at Liz Smith's,
3 Sinclair Road. Correspondence to either address.
ABERDEEN ANARCHIST FEDERATION (SWF
tocal group, Folk Song Workshop and Committee
of 100, Collater Climbing Club). Contact lain
MacDonald, 15 Cotton Street, Aberdeen
BEXLEY PEACE ACTION GROUP. Enquiries
to 150 Rydal Drive, Besleyheath, Kent.
BIRMINGHAM LIBERTARIAN AND ANARCHIST GROUP. All anarchists, syndicalists,
individualists, etc., please contact Geoff and
Caroline Charlton, 32 Swindon Road, Edgbaston,
Birmingham 17 (near Portland Road). Note new
address.

address.

BOLTON. Get in touch with Les Smith, 22 Grosvenor Street, Bolton, Lancs.
BOURNEMOUTH AND EAST DORSET ANARCHISTS. Please contact John McCain, 14 Milton Road, Bournemouth (B'm'th 22279) or Tim Deane, Juliet, West Moors, Wimborne, Dorset (Ferndown 3588).

BRIGHTON. Get in touch with Niek Heath,

Flat 3, 26 Clifton Road, Brighton. Poetry readings Fish Market Hard, 2 p.m. every Sunday. Regular anarchist meetings every other Thursday. Next meeting: Combination, West Street, 2 p.m. BRISTOL ANARCHISTS. Contact Susie Fisher and Adam Nicholson at 15 The Paragon, Bristol, 8. CROYDON and area Libertarians alternate Fridays from April 26, 35 Natal Road, Thornton Heath, Croydon. EDGWARE PEACE ACTION GROUP. Contact: Melvyn Estrin, 84 Edgwarebury Lane, Edgware,

Midds.

HERTS, Contact either Stuart Mitchell at South
View, Potters Heath Lane, Potters Heath,
Welwyn, Herts OR Jeff Cloves, 46 Hughendon
Road Marshalswick, St. Albans, Herts.
Meeting at Jeff Cloves' place, May 24, 8 p.m.

A Surprise.

IPSWICH ANARCHISTS. Contact Neil Dean, 74
Cemetery Road, Ipswich, Suffolk.

KILBURN, LONDON. Contact Andrew Dewar,
16 Kilburn House, Malvern Place, London,
N.W.6. Meetings 8 p.m. every Tuesday.

LEICESTER PROJECT. Peace/Libertarian
action and debate. Every Wednesday at 8 p.m.
at 1. The Crescent King Street, Leicester. action and debate. Every Wednesday at 8 p.m. at 1 The Cressent, King Street, Leicester. NORTH SOMERSET ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Roy Emery 3 Abbey Street, Bath, or Geoffrey Barfoot, 71 St. Thomas Street, Wells. NOTTING HILL, Please get in touch with John Bennett and Marilyn Paddy, Flat 4, 88 Clarendon Road, London, W.11 Tel: 727 9745. Meetings every Monday at 7 p.m. ORPINGTON ANARCHIST GROUP. Knockholt, Nr. Sevenoaks, Kent. Every six weeks at Greenways, Knockholt, Phone: Knockholt 2316. Brian and Maureen Richardson. READING ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Alan Ross, 116 Belmont Road, Reading, Berks.

ESSEX & EAST HERTS FEDERATION

Three-monthly meetings. Groups and individuals invited to associate: c/o Keith Nathan, 138 Pennymead, Harlow, Esses, Group Addresses—BASILDON, M. Powell, 7 Lingcroft, Basildon,

BASILDON, M. Powell, 7 Engerott, Basildon, Essex, BISHOPS STORTFORD. Vic Mount, 'Eastview', Castle Street, Bishops Stortford, Herts, CHELMSFORD, (Mis.) Eva Archer, Mill House, Purleigh, Chelmsford, Essex, La Centre Avenue, Epping, Essex, HARLOW, John Deards, 184 Carter's Mead, Harlow, and/or Geoff Hardy, 6 Redricks Lane, Harlow, Essex, Monthly meetings in 'The Essex Skipper', The Stow, Harlow, LOUGHTON, Group c/o Students' Union, Loughton College of Further Education, Borders Lane, Loughton, Essex

MUCH HADHAM. Leslie Riodan, High Street, Much Hadham, Herts.

NORTH EAST ESSEX. Peter Newell, 'Maybush'.

Maypole Road, Tiptree, Essex. Group meets first

Monday in each month, 7.15 p.m. at 91 Brook.

Road, Tolleshunt Knights, Tiptree, Essex.

NORTH-WEST FEDERATION

NORTH WEST ANARCHIST FEDERATION. CHORLEY ANARCHIST GROUP. Secretary: Kevyn Lynch, 6 Garfield Terrace, Chorley,

LIVERPOOL ANARCHIST PROPAGANDA GROUP AND 'HIPPY' MOVEMENT. Gerry Bree, 16 Faulkner Square, Liverpool, 8. Meetings weekly. 'Freedom' Sales—Pier Head, Saturdays, MANCHESTER ANARCHIST GROUP. Secre-tary: Dave Poulson, 9 Boland Street, Fallowfield, MERSEYSIDE ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Pete Duke, 16 Devonshire Road, Liverpool 8 Meetings 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month

SOUTH WALES ANARCHIST FEDERATION

CARDIFF ANARCHIST GROUP. All correspondence to:—Pete Raymond, 90 Albany Road, Roath.

MERTHYR TYDFIL ANARCHIST GROUP.

Correspondence to Huw Rowlands, 16 Cromwell

Street, Methyr Tydfil.

SWANSEA ANARCHIST GROUP.

J. Ross, 111 King Edward's Road,

Brynmill,

Swansea Weekly meetings, 'Freedom' sales and

action projects.

STUDENT GROUPS

EAST ANGLIA UNIVERSITY GROUP (Anarchists and Peace). Contact Dave King, 219 Earlham Road, Norwich.

LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY GROUP. Contact
us at the Bookstall in the Students Union Entrance Foyer every Friday lunchtime.
LSE ANARCHIST GROUP. c/o Student Union,
London School of Economics, Houghton Street,
W C ? W.C.2.
OXFORD ANARCHIST GROUP, Contact Steve Watts, Trinity College
SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY GROUP. Contact
Dave Jefferies c/o Students' Union, Sheffield.
SOUTHWARK COLLEGE (New Libertarian
Front). Contact Dave Biggs, Room T/7.
SUSSEX UNIVERSITY ANARCHISTS. For
details contact Francis Jarman, 16 Charlotte
Street, Brighton, BN2 1AG. LIBERTARIAN TEACHERS'

ASSOCIATION

Meetings—discussions—activities. Contact Peter Ford, 36 Devonshire Road, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

PROPOSED GROUPS

EDINBURGH anarchists contact Konrad Borow-ski, 13 Northumberland Street, Edinburgh 3, Tel.: WAV 7459. Tel. WAV 7459.
TAUNTON LIBERTARIANS. Contact Jill and John Driver, 59 Beadon Road, Taunton, Somerset. Meetings alternate Friday evenings.
ELTHAM (Libertarian/Peace Action). Contact Terry Liddle, 83 Gregory Crescent, S.E.9.
LANCASTER AND MORECAMBE ANAR-CHISTS. Interested in forming a small but dedicated group? Contact Terry Ann Higgins and Phil Woodhead, 6 Beecham Street Central, Morecambe.

EAST LONDON. Contact Ron Bailey, 128 Hainault Road, Leytonstone, London, E.II.

LEY 8039.

PORTHCURNO. Will D.R. (Press Fund, April 27) and any other comrades in Cornwall please contact Arthur Jacobs, 76 East Hill, St. Austell. We already bave a nucleus for a group and

need more support.

EXETER UNIVERSITY. Contact Dick Hardwick, c/o Devonshire House, Stocher Road, Exeter.
LLANELLI: Contact Dai Walker, 6 Llwuynnendy
Road, Llanelli, Carm Tel: Llanelli 2548FIFE LIBERTARIANS. Contact Bob and Una
Turnbull, 39 Stratheden Park, Stratheden Hospital,

ABROAD

AUSTRALIA. Federation of Australian Anarchists, P.O. Box A 389, Sydney South. Public meetings every Sunday in the Domain, 2 p.m. and Mondays, 72 Oxford Street, Paddington. Sydney, 8 p.m.

DANISH ANARCHIST FEDERATION, Gothers-

DANISH ANARCHIST FEDERATION, Gothersgade, 27, Viborg, 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.
USA: VERMONT. New Hampshire Anarchist Group. Meets weekly — discussion, individual action. Contact Ed. Strauss at RFD 2, Woodstock, Vermont 05091, USA.
SWEDEN. Stockholm Anarchist Federation. Contact Nadir, Box 19104, Stockholm 19, Sweden. SWEDEN: Libertad, Allmäna Vägen 6, Gothenburg V.

SWEDEN: Libertad, Allmäna Vägen 6, Gothenburg V.

TORONTO ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact R. Campbell, 219 Toryork Drive, Weston, Ontario, Canada. Weekly meetings.

BELGIUM: LIEGE. Provos, c/o Jaeques Charlier. Il Avenue de la Laiterie, Sclessini-Liege, Belgium EAST AFRICA. George Matthews would like to make contact. Secondary school teacher from UK. PO Box 90. Kakamega, Kenya.

USA. James W. Cain, secretary, Insurgency Anarchist Association, 223 Fourth Street, Cloquet, Minnesota 55720, USA.

GROUP-CTREASON. Australian Anarchist, c/o Melbourne University Union or Paddy Evans. c/o the same.

MELBOURNE. Get in touch with Bob Hopkins, 34 Dorritt Street, Carlton, Victoria 3053, Australia. Public meetings at Yarra Bank, Melbourne.

Objectivity is probably nearly always impossible to achieve. All we can do is to accept, with a block of salt, a lot that we receive via the mass media, and attempt to keep a balance of the truth within our minds. Which leads me to ask Godfrey Featherstone what he means by saving: 'Bernard Fall, whose books are generally the most reliable on Viet-Who says his books are the most reliable? If most 'authoritative' sources do, then he should say so. (Then, in turn, we could question their 'authority'.) If the writer has been to Vietnam and has discovered more truth in Fall's books than in those by any other author that he knows of, then he should again say so, and his claim would be more acceptable. As it is, it seems (once again) that a 'reliable' source is one that conveniently agrees with one's own point of view

I took part in the March 17 Grosvenor Square demonstration because it was directed against the position of the United States in Vietnam. I was not demonstrating for a communist victory. The position (experienced again and argued over before last week's West German demonstration) was this (and indeed, remains this). We can demand sectarianism on these demos organised by other groups, and can then appeal to other groups and individuals to support our position. It seems to me that in this case the result will be either (a) a small and irrelevant turn out, or (b) a big turnout, because these 'other groups' could re-concile their point of view with ours.

On the other hand, we could join these other demonstrations, but in sufficient numbers and with unmistakable proclamations (which even the Daily Express will be unable to avoid noticing) to announce our point of view. I recognise the validity of both sides in this argument, and it is for the individual, of course, to decide. But until we do organise demonstrations that all anarchists can support (and which will not be guaranteed ineffectual), our best course of action is surely to join with our friends on the streets. (It was ironic to hear the argument of some anarchists on not participating in the West German demonstration, who said their 'line' would not get across, and they would be lumped in with the VSC. However, they had just marched from Aldermaston

MOVING FUND

Target is £500.
Received to Date—£400 18s, 2d.

PREMISES FUND

Target is £1,000 per year.
Pledges received to date—£398 18s. 0d.
Pledges honoured to date—£318 16s. 7d.

Keep it Coming!

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Estimated Expenses: 19 weeks at £90:

Income: Sales and Subs.:

nd Subs.: £1,528

DEFICIT: £182

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TOTAL: £52 10 2
Previously Acknowledged: £296 18 9

1968 Total to Date: £349 8 11
Balance B/F: £182 0 0

TOTAL SURPLUS: £167 8 11

Gift of Books-Aberdeen: J.M.

LETTERS

under the banners of, and lumped with, CND!)

Why is it 'stupid self-delusion or deliberately dishonest pseudo-romantic bullshit' to say that the anarchist's place is with the people when they come out to challenge the police and authority? Godfrey Featherstone believes that 'the people' referred to amount to no more than .00033. Surely even more reason to show our support for them. I am sure John Rety never intended anyway to deceive us into thinking that The People, en masse, were rising in genuine revolution. And surely it is the anarchist's place to be with whoever they are, when people are out on the streets confronting. questioning, and refusing to accept, the power of the state. (And the writer does not deny that this is what has been happening.)

Our position is imperfect; which position isn't? And we do not agree with everything our friends have to say, but we know what we are against.

The writer goes on, quoting the Guardian on the March 17 demonstration: '(But) there were also a clearly visible minority determined to be vio-What of it? Mr. Featherstone knows very well that not all anarchists are pacifists, but proceeds, like an angry grandfather, to reprimand some of us for going to the event, as if, had we realised that violence was going to be used, we would (and certainly should) not have taken part. I dislike violence as much as the writer, but to fail to see that what policemen (all policemen) support is violence, is to be positively naive. All authority is founded on the ultimate sanction of violence; the state is violence. Policemen guarding an embassy are there with their subtle message: we do not believe in violence, unless try to attack the executors of evil that I am protecting. Theirs is the strength, based on force, to begin with. They are already in the position of authority, of And understanding is acceptance. Of course I understand that the copper is only 'doing his job'. Without needing to draw further parallels, so were most German soldiers just 'doing their job'. Good, or no, intentions aren't enough. At least, not when you happen to be the guardian and representative of the perverted elite of a warfare state.

And it really isn't a question of us

And it really isn't a question of us being 'proud' for having helped to create a situation in which demonstrators and policemen were injured. Surely the government which drops inflammable petrol jelly on innocent civilians is responsible for damages incurred in a protest against their action.

Of what use was the demo? It created a climate of opinion among those who were once so frustrated at the uselessness of political protest, that maybe things could be changed. The press reports were unfavourable, but if we took into serious consideration their 'advice' and bullshit ravings, even CND would have packed up years ago. (Now that violence has appeared, note their

DERRY AWAKE!

the result of weeks of hard work to

make the public aware of the chronic

housing shortage. Its foes are numerous. Our friends will be found in the ranks

of the common people. Our present task

is to convert their moral support into

active support so that maximum pressure

can be brought to bear at local, govern-

We are fighting to create a healthy

proper home and suitable employment.

Where people would not be forced to

live in sub-human conditions, and ex-

ploited in such a way as to make their

weekly wage lower than that received on

the social services. We can win if we

We must ask 'who are our enemies?'

There are others also who remain

We must expose those who are letting

We must carry our struggle into the

off flats at rents which even the idle rich

would not pay. Many are 'respectable' and powerful, but nonetheless are para-

streets, hold protest marches, pickets and

public meetings. We must get our printed

word into the homes, so as to gain the

moral, financial and active support of our

fellow citizens. We must use this bulletin

to expose the Rachmanists, some of

whom had us removed from the public gallery of Derry Guildhall on March 29.

Our enemies are losing confidence.

They are all those who have a vested

interest in maintaining the status quo.

apathetic. We must arouse them.

ment and Westminster level.

remain united.

admiration for these fine, decent types who walk from Aldermaston to London—why, they're almost normal!) I would like to see favourable press coverage (or would I?—if the press supported us, something would be wrong), but I think we pay too much attention to pandering to them and Commissioner Gilbert.

But all this does not mean that I am against non-violence. I can recognise situations in which the employment of violence would be positively harmful, and if verbal debate can lead to a settlement amicable to lovers of freedom, then I will support it. I take an undogmatic standpoint. The particular situation demands its own solution. It is a non-code which overcomes the irreconciliation of revolutionary anarchism and non-violence.

Long live the revolution!

Worcester Park, Brian Boreham.

This letter has been cut. We are giving space to Godfrey Featherstone in our next issue to reply, after which this correspondence is closed—EDITORS.

Are They Anarchist?

Dear Comrades.

The first thing is that I'd like to endorse the proposals and evaluations made by Bob Blakeman in his letter to Freedom last week. Secondly, I feel that it is my duty as a student of Chinese affairs to point out that the same comrade falls into the very tempting trap of taking at face value a Chinese text which uses the expression 'Wu jengfu zhe' [anarchist], when describing the actions of a minority not following the high road of Mao Tsetung's thought. It is significant to note

from the text of Comrade Blakeman's article that anarchism is most frequently linked with criminality, which shows I think that the word is used in the Matthew Arnold sense rather than the Kropotkin one.

It is indeed a tender thought that we may have today a situation where 'for the first time since the Spanish Civil War anarchism as a mass movement is a serious threat to a government'. Unfortunately I cannot help but think that this is indeed no mass movement at all, but merely the spontaneous activities of a disillusioned, disruptive minority.

Yours faithfully,

Leeds, 6 P. BILLINGSLEY.

Sweet and Hairy

Dear Comrades,

G. Featherstone is too sweet-natured and good-hearted for this world altogether. A policeman is a kind of trained fighting man, a sort of specialised soldier. He is paid to take risks and maybe get hurt. The State will look after him if he is harmed. He knows this pre-umably when he joins the police force.

On the other hand I. R. Mitchell is too hairy-chested. 'These people,' he writes of the police, 'have no claims on our humanity, their lives count for little.' In other words they are sub-human. Now if anyone said this of a black man he would be rightly denounced. How can one possibly say of any human being that he has no claims on our humanity, and his life counts for little?

The future in this country looks extremely grim to me. Statements of this kind are symptomatic of a decline into barbarism.

> Yours fraternally, ARTHUR W. ULOTH.

Wilson Demo in Birmingham

ANARCHISTS, CND, Vietnam Solidarity Campaigners, students, Communists, Indian Workers' Association members and Biairans, all picketed Birmingham Town Hall during Harold Wilson's visit to the city on May 5.

That day the Indian Workers' Association had called for an anti-racialist march in the city centre which was attended by over 1,000 people of all races.

As the march moved off there were chants of 'Enoch, Enoch' from Colin Jordan and a group of Nazis including an Irishman shouting 'Send them back', but apart from that there was little hostility and the march was greeted with smiles and thumbs-up signs by a group of West Indian and white warehousemen in one of the buildings it passed.

In spite of the good humour of the demonstration, it evidently scared the police who could not have seen a demonstration of similar size in Birmingham for some considerable time.

The result was that the march was confronted with a police cordon backed up with horses and motor-bikes which attempted to prevent marchers from reaching the Town Hall where Wilson was speaking.

There was a period of confusion in

They are trying to 'divide and rule' us.

They tell us to 'cool down'. But if we

do, the terrible conditions will remain.

Let our answer be, Build us homes or

Father and mother with six children,

Accommodation: 2 bedrooms and kit-

chen, rent 14/6 per week, not including

Landlord referred to these flats as 'luxury type'. Said, 'As long as you don't

Three families on the premises. Ceiling

poor. Twelve rats caught a week. Hall

used at night as toilet by outsiders. Floor

of flat above has no boards and is padded

cases will appear in our next issue.

This is not an isolated case. Future

We, the Members of Derry Housing

Committee, regard this Council as repre-

senting primarily the interests of property owners and business speculators, and not

the interests of the broad mass of the

The formation of this committee marks the beginning of a mass movement away from the false political leaders and

against the exploiting capitalist class, who

leave in their wake a trail of human misery, degradation and decay that runs through many generations of working-

EDITORIAL

electricity. Thirty years on housing list.

A CASE FOR OUR DOSSIER

ages 14 to 11 years.

waiting for a home,

see the daylight it's OK.

with telephone books.

THE WAY FORWARD

class families in our city.

people of Derry.

community where everyone may have a Present dwelling 4 years condemned. Still

which different groups of police were simultaneously telling people to keep on and off the pavement. However the march eventually split up and demonstrators reached the Town Hall individually.

Inside the Town Hall, in spite of the fact that admission was by ticket only, Wilson was guarded by 50 police and the security arrangements did not prevent some heckling. After Wilson left to jeering the police immediately moved in to disperse the crowd without giving anyone time to move. Demonstrators and sight-seers were both pushed by police, the nastiest incidents occurring in a side street away from pressmen where a group of Indians who were already walking away were barged and elbowed by groups of policemen (with PC 128 distinguishing himself).

In view of recent events the fact that a 1,000-strong anti-racist demonstration could be organised is extremely encouraging, particularly as the demonstrators presented an alternative to racism with their call for working class unity. It is also encouraging to note that police behaviour has not gone unobserved. Aston University Students' Guild is to hold an inquiry and the local Civil Liberties group has protested to the Home Office. ROGER SANDELL.

Two passages from the committee's statements, read in the Council Chamber on Friday, March 29. For generations the rulers of Derry have been elected on a basis of 'status' and religion. They foster religious differences to divide the workers. The present council consists of businessmen to whom the interests of the people always take second place. Not one representative of the workers sits in the Guildhall! The 'opposition' for decades has been based on religious difference, and not class difference, the real situation.

The interests of the Unionist and Nationalist businessmen converge. They drink together, Protestants and Catholics, when formerly this was taboo. There is no effective opposition.

The only way decadence can be overcome is by organising the workers in an effective opposition. This is done by developing a mass protest movement, against the housing conditions, job insecurity, unemployment and low wages. Attempts to split the protest movement have failed so far. Our movement is an expression of the will of the people, divorced from any political party

divorced from any political party.

The final phase will come with the election of workers' representatives to the local corporation and to central government. With a workers' council in the Guildhall, local government in the city would reach maturity, the housing crisis would be resolved and measures taken to alleviate unemployment.

This can be achieved, People of Derry, by standing fast in your demands for justice, equality and workers' power.

Summarised from 'Reality', bulletin of the Derry Housing Action Committee.

More about Walls

A LETTER in the Guardian from David Smith of Leeds accuses the press of distorting the recent incident involving Patrick Wall and his wife:

FIFTH COLUMN

When this incident was first reported in the 'Yorkshire Evening Post' (May 3) Mrs Patrick Wall was reported to have said that 'she had been kicked slightly on the shin' and that she had fallen down. In spite of this slight misadventure, Mr. and Mrs. Wall were both quoted as saying that they had enjoyed the meeting. By Sunday morning the not usually over-hysterical 'Observer' was saying that 'an MP's wife was kicked to the ground and trampled by rioting students.'

The 'violent scuffles' so expertly recorded for posterity by the newsmen's cameras, resulted from the over-enthusiastic attempts of members of the Conservative Association to conduct Mr. Wall in a direction which was the opposite of that which the main body of the students had in mind. Considering that the students' action was clearly unorganised, I was personally very impressed by the lack of violence, and by the restraint shown by individuals in the crowd.

So the punch-up I commented on last week did not take place—I hope Leeds readers will not accuse me of being a press agent or fascist hyena.

Meanwhile the university authorities have made their contribution to *free speech* by banning meetings involving outside speakers.

Fascist Bastards

IN FRANCE the students have won a clear victory—by the use of violence. According to a number of accounts the people in the Latin Quarter sympathise with the students and during the recent riots gave them physical assistance. They poured water on the students—to reduce the effect of the tear gas—and dropped flower pots on the police.

Le Monde and the English papers gave numerous examples of spectacular police brutality. But then the police of Paris and the CRS have a reputation second to none. One demonstration by Algerians in the early sixties—which began as a non-violent march—ended with the deaths of between 60 and 250. In another, 11 people were killed when the police drove demonstrators down against the closed gates of a Metro station.

Even light-hearted frolics to celebrate the end of exams—the English equivalent is called a rag—tend to be met by the Paris police with the sort of charges which the London police indulged in at Grosvenor Square.

The police in France are hated and feared—violent clashes give them the opportunity to show how brutal they are. Of all police forces the French have earned the title fascist bastards.

Thus violent demonstrations in France are not as likely to antagonise ordinary people as they are in Britain. The argument against them seems weaker. But I am sure that violence is not the way forward—even in France.

Provocation ?

A FURTHER EXAMPLE of press reaction to Easter Monday has been sent to FREEDOM by a reader. Under the headline ANARCHEASTER the Wolverhampton Express and Star commented:

However honest and law-abiding the organisers are, they will be joined on the streets by people whose aims are at best only distantly related to their own; a rag-tag of anarchists and others whose protest is against everyone and everybody and who are only too delighted if they can provoke violence.

The interesting word is provoke. The writer clearly wants to suggest that vicious anarchists are likely to encourage other demonstrators to be violent. The non-violent actions of the Committee of 100 by contrast were deliberately calculated to provoke a violent response by the police.

The intention was to illustrate to those not involved that the police as cogs in the state machine were hostile to the real interests of the people. Also of course to concentrate attention on the Bomb and to establish that large numbers of people could effectively disrupt the state machine by non-violent action.

Now that conventional politics have become so utterly discredited; now that there is a mood of militancy among certain sections of the student population; now that the hippy scene has faded away; is it time for a new Committee of 100?

WYNFORD HICKS.

The Revolutionary Answer

have again shown the tremendous swing away from the popular sup-port they enjoyed in March 1966. They now only control three major cities-Hull, Swansea and Stoke. In London, many Labour strongholds fell to the Tories, while the Liberals' showing was very poor.

Of course, this defeat was expected. There is no doubt that this Government has become most unpopular in a very short time. However, although unpopular, there is no big swing to the Tories. It appears that many stayed away from the polling stations because there was no alternative party to support. In Scotland, the Nationalists offered

Contact Column

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

Australian Comrades! Bronwen Lee, c/o Jansen, 48 Kyre Avenue, Kingswood, 5062, South Australia (forwarding address only), English comrade (girl) hitching around Australia wants to meet local comrades.

Walk-on at Upper Heyford USAF base with 'Green Beret', 'ACT' and various other leaflets at approx. 2.30 p.m., Sunday, May 26. Transport from Oxford. For details contact Chris Reeve, 12 Richmond Road, Oxford.

Libertarian Teachers' Association. Open Meeting for discussion of provisional 'aims and objectives' statements. 7.30 p.m., Tuesday, May 21, 1968, Housman's Bookshop, Caledonian Road, N.1.

Workers against Powell! Meeting Friday, May 31, 7.30 p.m., Bromley Public Hall, Bow Road, E.3. Poster parade Saturday, May 25, at 3 p.m. Meet at corner of Chrisp Street and East India Dock Road, E.14.

'Risinghill: Death of a Comprehensive School'. Posters advertising Leila Berg's book-for display on school or college notice-boards. Please enclose 6d. stamp. From Libertarian Teachers' Association, 36 Devonshire Road, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

Anarchist Symbol-useful for stickers/ painting walls. Suggestions please. One colour (i.e. outline, not red/ black) to Peter Neville, 12 South Grove, Erdington, Birmingham 23.

Intellectual Vaudeville is an 'Ode to Wilhelm Reich' in two acts. For a copy send \$2 to Detroit Drama Workshop, 19211 Tracey, Detroit, Michigan

Flat wanted for two girls and two kids. Tired of being discriminated against by rotten landowners because of Prefer Islington/Canonbury/ Highbury area. Contact Barbara or Julie at 'Peace News', 5 Caledonian Road, N.1. Phone: 837 4473.

Loving foster home is wanted for boy (3½ years), pacifist family, Box No. 9. Whitsun weekend camp. Manchester and Liverpool anarchists are having a weekend camp at Whitsuntide, near Llangollen, details from Ron Marsden, 9 Boland Street, Manchester, 14. Family with four children urgently seeks

furnished house out of London. Write 655 Fulham Road, S.W.6.

Hitch to Turkey, or thereabouts. July/ August, Box No. 10.

North Wales. I wish to contact anarchists in North Wales. Peter Gibson, Marine Laboratory, Menai Bridge. Anglesey.

Porton Demonstration. Saturday, June 1
—Meeting at Salisbury Market Square, followed by march to Porton. June 2-Leafletting. June 3-Disinfectant Ceremony. Information from M. Dukes, 25 Cranbury Ave.,

East Anglia. If you're near Ipswich, call on us. We stock all Freedom Press publications, and have FREEDOM and and Anarchy regularly. Orwell Books, 44 Upper Orwell Street, Ipswich,

If you wish to make contact let us know.

THE LABOUR PARTY'S crushing this alternative and increased their defeats in the local elections support, but for many electors there was not much to choose between any of the candidates and so many councillors were successful on very

slender polls. A Guardian leader said: 'In the city of Manchester, for example, fewer than a third of the electors thought it worthwhile to record their votes. At that, the turnout was slightly better than last year. But the smallness of the poll-as over most of the country-only proves again both the apathy towards local government and the disillusion with both the great parties.' In Islington only 22% of the electorate voted and gave the Tories a victory, where previously they had not held a seat.

The Labour Party came to power and the electorate had high hopes of them. After 13 years of the Tories, they were ready for a change. However, the Labour Government only carried on with a Tory policy but, and this is important, with a much firmer hand. They, unlike the Tories, were not scared of the trade unions. They were prepared to bring in legislation against the very people and organisations who had put them in power. The wage freeze, the squeeze, devaluation, the general failure of the Government to deliver the goods, and the reaction against it because of the high expectations when first elected, are the reasons for its defeat. No doubt Enoch Powell's speech added slightly to the Tories'

NO ALTERNATIVE

I think, however, that the Government had no alternative than to carry out the policies it has, given the economic situation it inherited from the Tories. This is no apology, on my part, for their policies, but a statement of fact. For unlike others on the 'Left', to me, as an Anarchist, there seemed to be no alternative to their policies. Mr. Gunter warned of State intervention (see FREEDOM, 11.4.64), when he said 'for we can only live in a competitive world as long as we trade in the things the world wants and at the right prices'. He also said that if they won the next general election, a Labour Government would give the 'roughness of hard leadership'.

In 1964, the Labour Party was strongly favoured to win the General Election. Their programme was not a revolutionary manifesto, but one to gain votes from a wide section of the public. It was practical and could be carried out within the existing social, political and economic framework and this is what they have done. The trouble is that illusions die hard and although the Labour Party was formed by the trade union movement, once they worked within the existing capitalist framework, they were doomed. Governments must govern and a Labour one has proudly proclaimed that it will do just that. In order to achieve this, it must carry out the policies that suit the system of which it is part. When these policies are tough, and tough measures are needed to regain competitiveness, then the electorate becomes disillusioned and apathetic.

To blame the Government, or to demand a new Prime Minister, as Mr. Cecil King has done, misses the point and only keeps the protest within the accepted framework of the system. Whatever government had been elected, it would have had to carry out either the same measures, or very similar ones, in order to solve the economic crisis in which

British capitalism found itself. This is what the Government is

doing, and in so doing it takes reactionary, totalitarian measures, which in turn push the Tories further in that direction. For no matter what label the two major parties display, their aim is to weaken and tie down the working class and labour movement of this country. So far, the Labour Government has succeeded in this. It is carrying out the task of solving the economic crisis into which the system had fallen. The measures taken by the Government, legislation, wage freeze, squeeze, devaluation, productivity ments etc., can solve the problems of capitalism, but at the expense of the working people.

Of course, the average worker feels betrayed and let down. The trade unions, the traditional organisations for the defence of their interests, are not performing this task. They have given in all along the line and there is no guarantee how far they will go, rather than put up a struggle. Despite all the promises of a bright future ahead, for many it will be low wages or unemployment. The reorganisation of the system necessitates it. Others might get increased earnings from productivity deals, but in exchange for intensive work-study schedules, there will be the giving up of 'restrictive practices'. In other words, it will be all go, all day.

IT WANTS CIPHERS

The low vote in the local elections indicates that many of the electorate think that, whichever Party they voted for, nothing would really change. This view is being increasingly taken by young people, but just not to vote is no answer, unless the action is a conscious one. How many of the non-voters or those who voted for an Independent or Communist in protest, are aware of an anarchist alternative? How many people do we reach with our propaganda? The answer is 'not very many' as we are reluctant to go out on the streets and make our ideas known. Many may feel self-sufficient, that because they are anarchists that is enough and that the social, political and economic measures taken by governments do not affect their position. But, while governments exist and the centralised authority controls, all individuals are in danger. The State does not want individuals, it wants ciphers.

It has always been important that, as anarchists, we should make our ideas known as much as possible. It seems even more important that we do this now, that we get out into the streets, that we organise meetings, demonstrations and make our propaganda so that the reactionary ideas of Powell are combated and the totalitarian methods of the Government are defeated.

We have to reach people, to talk, to argue and to show that the governments and centralised authority are not necessary in running man's affairs. Employers, State or private, are not necessary in the production of our needs. Capitalism is based on greed and competition, under which the full and real needs of people will never be satisfied. Workers can organise and carry on production and do it better than all profit-hungry employers. THE ONLY ANSWER TO THE PRESENT SYSTEM IS REVOLUTION.

WE GO TO PRESS ON MONDAY. LATEST DATE FOR RECEIPT OF MSS., LETTERS, MEETING NOTICES IS THE MONDAY IN EACH WEEK OF PUBLICATION.

For Workers' Control

MAY 18 1968 Vol 29 No 15

THE BOSSES' VOICE

was held in Liverpool, in support of the Liverpool busmen, who earlier had agreed to stay out on strike.

Over 2,000 people, representing the busmen, the National Union of Seamen, Lucas and CAV, Fazakerley Tenants, Speke Tenants, Communist Party, International Socialists and Merseyside Anarchists attended the march, and about half the demonstration stayed for the meeting at the Pier Head afterwards.

Amongst the speakers was Eric Heffer, MP, who believed the Prices and Incomes policy was operated in a way that did not keep prices down, but was designed to keep down wages.

Liverpool City Council (led by ex-MP Alderman H. Macdonald Steward), could have paid the increased wages to the busmen, if they had wanted to. 'But they had deliberately chosen not to pay,' declared Mr. Heffer, and said that 'the whole responsibility remains with the Government, and they are saying the same in relation to rents' (rising all the time, irrespective of promises by various political parties).

Mr. Simon Fraser, secretary of Liverpool Trades Council and LP, said: 'The Government are partly to blame, and the Prices and Incomes Board are partly to blame, but the greatest blame of all lies with Liverpool City Council.'

The meeting ended by passing the following resolution: 'This meeting of trade unionists held on May 1, 1968, in support of the busmen's strike, call on the City Council to enter into negotiations immediately with the two unions involved, the negotiations to be based on three points:-

1.-£1 11s. bonus to be incorporated in basic wage;

2.-Negotiations to begin immediately for higher basic rate based on productivity; and

'3.—Schedules existing on March 11 will not be altered until consultation has taken place with the Trade Unions.

A representative of Speke Tenants' Associations presented the tenants' case

LETTER

May Day Committee

Dear Editors,

I would like to thank your organisation, and you personally, for helping to make the May 1 Demonstration a success. More than 2,000 workers and students participated-many with the banners of

their own organisations, Our May 1 objectives were:

1. To demonstrate against the Government's reactionary policies.

To re-establish May 1 as Workers' Day.

3. To show public opposition to the racialist sentiments unleashed by Enoch Powell.

* It is fair to say that we were at least partially successful in achieving these objectives, but in the present dangerous political situation the Socialist movement cannot afford complacency. There must surely be a continuing campaign against racialism, against Fascism, and against the policies of the Government which are

responsible for the present situation. It would be a tragedy if the energy, devotion and enthusiasm shown on May 1 should now become fragmented. I have therefore taken the responsibility of calling a meeting of all who took part in the May 1 Demonstration, to see if it is possible to continue this united activity against the common enemy-capitalism.

10.5.68

Yours fraternally, JOHN LAWRENCE, Chairman, London Workers May Day Committee.

the offices of the Liverpool Echo (Merseyside's only evening paper) because of the negative attitude and lack of interest shown by the paper regarding the Tenants, Busmen, Seamen, Dockers, and in fact anyone who challenges the State.

About a hundred people headed by red, and red and black banners and posters declaring 'The Echo echoes the voice of the bosses' marched to The Echo offices, where there was a picket and shouts of 'We want the truth' and 'Eeeay-adio, we won't buy The Echo'.

Representatives of the busmen, tenants, and seamen went inside the building to see the editor, whilst outside demonstrators and fuzz grew impatient. A copy of The Echo was burned and a few minutes later the fuzz moved in to break us up, after telling us that our comrades had seen the editor.

The Guardian called this 'the most colourful incident of the day' and gave the credit for the appearance of a letter in The Echo by a busman to the Merseyside Anarchists and IS. The Echo of course failed to mention the incident, and the following day ran headlines 'Why? Why? Why? Are they on strike?' followed by an article slamming the busmen. The Echo once more echoing the voice of the bosses.

PETE DUKE (on behalf of Merseyside Anarchists). .

Arunde **Workers Win**

DON'T THINK THERE'S any doubt about it the unions have won the day at Roberts-Arundel. That's what comes of using direct action and shopfloor solidarity.

The Arundel management has now accepted and, at long last, signed an agreement recognising Shop Stewards, Trade Unions, and normal industrial practices. This, and the defeat of the Heywood Crane management last month on a similar issue, is a victory for the militancy of Stockport's working men.

The cost to the strikers is incalculable! In terms of worried wives, empty insurance cards, exposure to wind and weather, it has left a mark on these Stockport strikers. During the dispute some have died, others retired, and more still have had to find fresh jobs. Of the 69 blokes left to carry the can, 12 will be taken back on May 13, the rest will

get national assistance if they're lucky.

The cost of the strike to the firm is said to be about £11 million.

SCABS SACKED

Six of Arundel's non-union scabs got their cards and coppers this week! This was a result of the agreement with the unions. It is reported that they feel they've been let down by the bosses. Other scabs sacked of late were even hard-necked enough to complain to the unions, when they found they couldn't get work because no trade unionists would work with them.

But even scabs have their admirers! One local boss has offered secretly to pay the sacked six. Which would mean that their dole will be made up into a living wage until they find jobs. A sugar-daddy for the scabs! Let the unions see to it that the unemployed strikers don't go short on NAB.

Why the sudden settlement? Opinion up here has it that the Arundel bosses faced with local strikes, persistent picketing, and a national blacking campaign, had had to decide whether to pack up and get out, or seek a settlement with the unions. Result a win for the workers and north west militants who fought with the Stockport strikers.

NORTH WEST WORKERS.