

'BURN, KILL, PILLAGE, DESTROY PROPERTY!'

These are the sentiments of the most effective agitator since Mikhail Bakunin. This one man is responsible for the bombings of countless banks and the burnings of hundreds of college buildings throughout the United States. Many thousands of would-be revolutionaries count on his decision to guide them in their actions. Mao is an unknown pacifist, compared to this world-wide agitator. His name is a symbol throughout the world. Eldrege Cleaver? Tariq Ali? Daniel Cohn-Bendit? No! He is Richard Nixon, radical of the year.

This week's move of US troops into Cambodia blew the lid off the already hot youth and student movement. Colleges and entire cities in almost every state were torn to shreds by rampaging crowds as the announcement of the expanded war became the icing on the cake created by the persecution of Bobby Seale (Chairman of the Black Panther Party).

'BRING THE WAR HOME!' used to be the cry of the Weathermen (a violent faction of SDS), as they stormed the streets of Chicago last March. Now that has been amended to 'Bring the WARS home!' And so Nixon, not Mao, fulfilled Che Guevara's prophecy of 'One, Two, many Vietnams'.

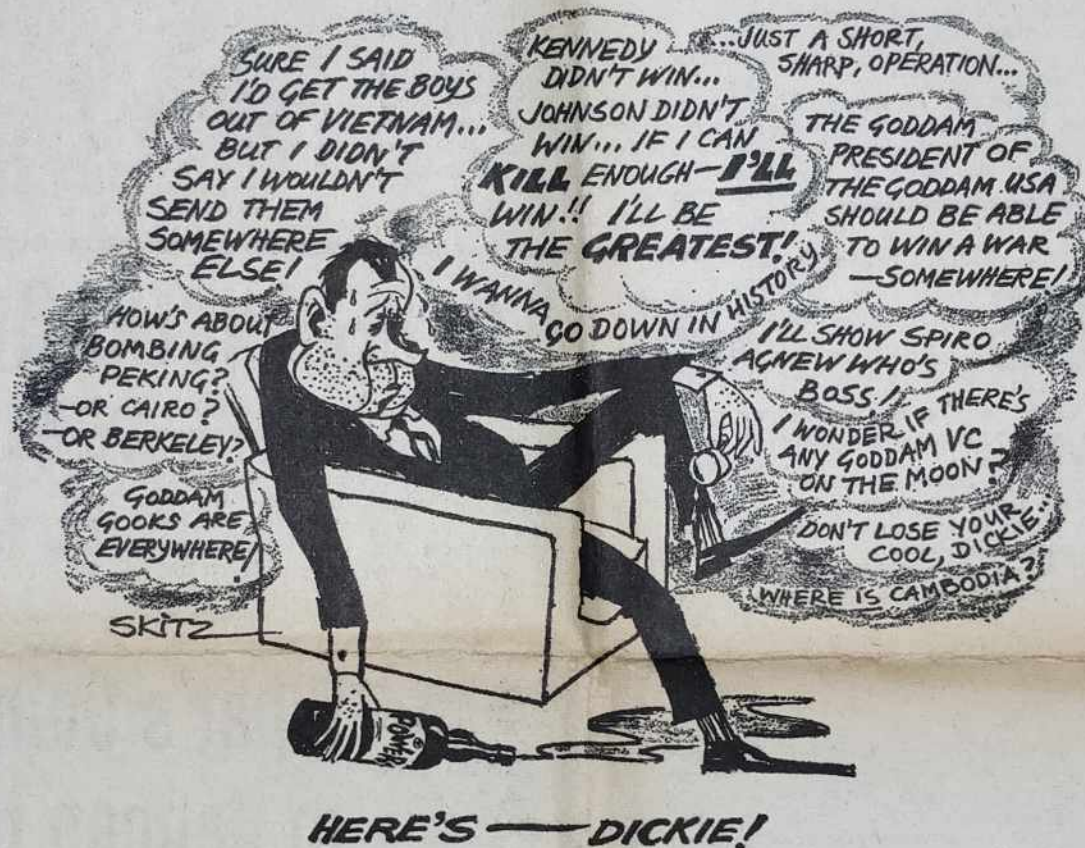
If you've ever talked with a typical American student, you know he is—despite what the British papers like to report—generally apathetic, self-centred, and apolitical. Most prefer to remain in their rooms enjoying nothing more than fucking and 'Doing their heads'. Only a rousing radical (named *Black Dwarf*, 'Man Of The Year'), a true revolutionary like Richard Nixon, could move them to fiery anger. Tricky Dick, while calling student radicals 'bums', secretly supports them. Not materially, of course, that would be too easily discovered and would arouse the wrath of the Silent Majority. Our boy Deadeye Dick is too smart for that. He insists on working from the inside. As a quick change artist (Spiro Agnew does not exist, he is really President Nixon in drag), he can be in two

NIXON IN THE RED

places at once, creating havoc in both. As master of the theatre, Nixon can raise a quiet crowd to a feverish pitch with only a few words or gestures. And as a comedian (a revolutionary must never lose his sense of humour) he can talk about the danger of 'America

the war in Cambodia. After the purge of the Black Panthers, the conspiracy trials, the Supreme Court appointments, and the My Lai massacre, nothing should shock us any more. This decision is simply an extension of the 'just a few more' philosophy that all govern-

After each failure, they simply repeat the plea, saying that the trouble was that last time they 'didn't get enough' (troops, years, police, clubs, taxes, etc., etc.) and 'this time we'll do it, all we need is just a few more. . . .'
The Cambodian people will fight



becoming a second-rate power', as the nation 'accept(s) the first defeat in its proud 190 year history'.

The President, who is secretly in the employ of the ICC (International Communist Conspiracy), has carried on a plan, initiated by his predecessors, that is guaranteed to bring revolution to the US.

No one should be shocked by

ments, but particularly the American Government, have followed since their birth. 'Just a few more troops and we'll end the war', 'Just a few more dollars in taxes will keep everyone healthy', 'Just a few more years and we'll be out of South East Asia', or 'Just a few more clubs and a few more police, and we will clean up our schools'.

and defeat the US, just as their brothers have done in Vietnam. Nixon knew this, of course. Why else spend the time, men and money to have the CIA overthrow a middle-of-the-road government and force the people to turn to the North Vietnamese as their only salvation to their new rightist government.

US economic imperialism is dying. Chase Manhattan Bank may open a Saigon branch, but, at the same time, their New York branch will be burning to the ground. American Blacks, Youths, Women, Gays, and other oppressed people, at home and abroad—led on by Chairman Nixon, are now fighting that which oppresses them. Property is no longer sacred in America and shoplifting becomes a revolutionary act. Young people adopt Charle Manson (of the Sharon Tate Murder Case fame) as their new hero as they extend four fingers in the sign of the bloody fork, to all authority. Students at the University of Wisconsin stole an Air Force fighter plane and bombed an ammo dump.

America (or Amerika, as Nixon spells it in his secret correspondence with the Kremlin) will soon no longer be able to maintain its internal security with its present police force. Already police stations have been bombed and snipings are too common to make the papers. The police in New York are threatening to strike unless they get adequate protection! The guards on commuter trains are asking for firearms so they can better deal with the passengers. The army will, and already has, have to be put into use at home. The bayoneted rifles of the army are already a more common sight on American campuses than are professors. More men will be unwillingly drafted and dissatisfaction within the ranks will increase a hundredfold.

American soldiers, riding a Cargo Aeroplane, flying to a forward combat staging area, cursed President Nixon, with the worst obscenities they knew. . . .

—*Evening Standard*, May 4.

'Dissent and discipline are mutually exclusive.'

—Army Judge after sentencing a serviceman to five years at hard labour for printing an Underground newspaper.

Finally, the entire system will collapse into joyous anarchy and Nixon will take off all his clothes, remove his short hair wig to reveal beautiful long blond locks, and dance joyously off into the sunset.

MIKE BOARD.

PILKINGTON'S glassmen now seem all set to sack the union of General & Municipal Workers. Feeling let down and lumbered, the Pilkington strikers are ready to resign from the union, if the bureaucrats who run it don't get their fingers out and make the strike official.

Last week the offices of the union in St. Helens were invaded by angry strikers demanding strike pay. Three hundred of them occupied the office, while others demonstrated in the street outside. Police moved in as windows were broken and papers hurled into the street.

This action followed a meeting of the men at which some of the strike committee suggested, amid cheers, pulling out of the union. They could now well finish up by joining the more militant Transport & General Workers' Union.

The 9,000 Pilkington men who have been on strike for over a month without union support, are clearly choked off. The strike, which involves six factories in St. Helens and two in Scotland, is over a call for a £5-a-week rise in the basic rate now, with a firm demand for a larger settlement to be fixed up later. Trouble also centres around an unbalanced dual bonus scheme and a grading system, which seems about as fair as a 'one arm bandit'.

COMPANY COCK UP

Strike-free Pilkingtons is one of those big family firms which doesn't know its arse from its elbow when it comes to dealing with a real dispute of this kind. First they refused to negotiate under

duress, then they offered a £3 interim settlement after the strike had spread to thirteen of the seventeen Pilkington factories in Britain.

A clear climb-down in face of a strike which has cost them over £2m. By then, however, the St. Helens lads had tasted blood, and all the pent-up passions of generations of paternalism burst like a boil through that North West town. In Wales the workers went back, but at St. Helens, where even the shop stewards recommended a return, the workers voted to stay out.

Late last week the firm tried another trick in announcing a £3.5m. bribe, aimed at isolating the strikers by paying an immediate £3-a-week rise to all their 11,000 employees not on strike. The 9,000 still in dispute will then be out in the cold. A crude attempt to split the men, which could lead to more pressure on the union at a time when the local branch official is already thinking of resigning.

No kidding, this Municipal Workers' Union is a real shocker. They tried to organise a secret ballot on the strike, but that now seems to have been dropped after evidence of ballot rigging by the union officials, possibly designed to get the strike called off. Even the *Financial Times* reckons the union 'must take the

blame for the breakdown in communications at Pilkingtons'.

A mass march was organised in St. Helens on May Day (May 1), with over half the lads turning out. Close contact has now been built up with Ford's Halewood plant, where some workers came out in sympathy the other week.

INDUSTRIAL WOODWORM

Pilkingtons has no militant tradition; a proud, fatherly, family firm that has played on the natural conservatism of these Northern workers for donkey's years. But now, as if by magic, this outward nature dissolves and the anarchic attitudes which always lurk beneath the surface find a positive outlet.

An instinctive distrust of authority and a constant search for a good fiddle are an essential feature of the mentality of the Northern working man. Like anarchist woodworm they go to work on the productive process, promoting organised scrounging schemes, clocking fiddles, piecework fiddles, machine breaking, interference with operation of the machine, and the deliberate destruction of good work in order to turn out a high level of work by the simple creation of bad work. Is it any wonder then, that such men, set in their quiet anarchic ways, can overnight go onto the offensive

PILKINGTON

its wider implications for the car industry, etc., is being conducted at a backyard level over the issues which most working men would see as being most important. Theoretical notions, like the State and capitalism, are left out of their considerations, and probably rightly so.

NORTH WEST WORKERS.

Postscript.—At a meeting at St. Helens today (Monday) two-thirds voted to continue the strike. Pilkingtons say that 8,000 workers are still on strike, but those in Scotland have resumed work.

Lorry drivers are coming out in support and are refusing to work with 'scab' labour. Engineering shop stewards will also be deciding shortly on whether to join the dispute.

N.W.W.

Freedom Pamphlet No. 1

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In other words, the battle, in spite of

I STILL LOVE going to the pictures even though television is so much more comfortable. The Savoy in Penzance is one of those cinemas from the 1930s which most market towns had for entertainment; a rectangular trunk of a cinema with no ornate decoration, but simple and cosy. During the Second World War in Staffordshire I was taken three times a week by a lonely left-at-home mum and watched everything from gangsters to cowboys. Since then prices have risen from 2s. 6d. for the very best seats to 6s. and 7s. 6d. In Burton-on-Trent I remember getting ice creams for 2d.—huge ones—which are now anything from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. for a quarter the size. Chocolate bars, at a shilling when we used to buy 3d. ones, milked from cheap African labour by benign and benevolent Quaker owners like Cadbury, Fry and Rowntree. Crisps bought for a song from farm labourers' hard potato graft are very highly priced when one thinks that just one or two potatoes are used in the average packet. Still, you can ignore the commercial criminals.

The film of David Herbert Lawrence's *Women In Love* was worth all the travelling hustle of some twenty miles—Cornwall is made up of scattered townships, a colony of villages. As far as any man could understand the mind of any woman, Lawrence seems to have done exactly that in his book, and Ken Russell's film has been justly true to the story.

The dialogue is Lawrence's. The visual creation is Russell's. Filmed in Derbyshire and Notts., mainly, where the book is set in the writer's own country, for Lawrence was born on the Derby-

Lawrence on Women

Notts. border in Eastwood, a typically mean mining town which, when I last passed through in a lorry, looked more opencast than underground—mining and countryside. His understanding of peoples' relationships and the need for identification with home—their village or town and its environment—are always described with accuracy; though his personal torment of dislike for mechanization and the mass of men, who have never had the opportunity to stand back and look at their own lives, their own surrounds, led him to dismiss and hate the everydayness of grinding work which led the workers to apathy and acceptance of their lot as manual labour. Fullstop! Lawrence had a yearning for the company of independent minds and had a hatred of censorship increased by personal experience with his paintings, seized as they were when on exhibition, and his book *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, which only passed from hand to hand in private or pirated/foreign editions. Hounded out of Cornwall because he was at home when most young men were at war in the trenches, he was aware of police and military activities against conscientious objectors, but simply stood his own personal ground, not being politically involved.

He had a sensuality of expression which often led him to worship the erect cock and the earthmother; but also left him so emotionally or phy-

sically exhausted, impotent as he might have been, that his understanding of society, his personal ideas of political and social change seemed more fascist than anarchist. But, for all this, his novels express the emotional feelings of men and women, and the physical feel of the landscape he lived in. His essays on Derbyshire; his letters (published in paperback) and his books have descriptions which bring the very places to life. *Women In Love* and *Sons and Lovers* have his own early life story within them, and that of the countryside he was brought up in. The film reveals two sisters, Gudrun and Ursula, to be thinking of sex and men—the experience of men rather than the experience of marriage.

One is a sculptor, the other a teacher. They observe the men with an air of hope and envy, though as young women of the early twentieth century they had considerable freedom compared to most unmarried women of that time. The local colliery owner's son and his friend, an inspector of schools, are the men in question; and the journey of these people and their friends is one of sexual and social progression and some freedom of choice. Unlike *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, the sexuality is expressed in vague spiritual terms rather than simple physical ones. Instead of having a good fuck the partners couple to the words of 'and soon he was a perfect hard flame of passionate desire for her' but even the spiritual

descriptions have a sensuality which few writers seem able to realize; and just simply saying they 'had a good fuck' becomes very boring and loveless. As for his attempts to become involved in the miners' lives, Lawrence merely describes the lock-out of miners by the colliery owners, without taking sides, in *Women In Love*. He, once at least, sent a message and poems of support ('Let Us Be Men', 'O Start A Revolution', 'Either You Fight Or You Die') to one group of Durham miners. In a letter to Charles Wilson of Willington, County Durham, he wrote:

'Here are three scraps of a sort of poetry which will perhaps do as a sort of message. I've done a book of such poems which I shall publish later but you may as well start in with these three bits. I read with shame of the miners' "hampers" and the "fund". It's a nice thing to make them live on charity and crumbs of cake, when what they want is manly independence. The whole scheme of things is unjust and rotten, and money is just a disease upon humanity. It's time there was an enormous revolution—not to install soviets but to give life itself a chance. What's the good of an industrial system piling up rubbish while nobody lives. We want a revolution not in the name of money or work or any of that, but of life—and let money and work be as casual in human life as they are in a bird's life, damn it all. Oh

it's time the whole thing was changed absolutely.' (December 1928.)

—The Complete Poems of D. H. Lawrence (2 vols.)

As for Lawrence's poems, most people either hardly know them at all or think them minor. I believe them to be the equal in importance to Walt Whitman's. Here is a Lawrence ballad which might serve as his epitaph—*Red Herring*.

My father was a working man / and a collier was he / at six in the morning they turned him down / and they turned him up for tea / My mother was a superior soul / a superior soul was she / cut out to play a superior role / in the god-damn bourgeoisie / We children were the in-betweeners / little non-descripts were we / indoors we called each other you / outside it was *tha* and *thee* / But time has fled our parents are dead / we've risen in the world all three / but still we are in-betweeners we tread / between the devil and the deep cold sea / O I am a member of the bourgeoisie / and a serving-maid brings me my tea / but I'm always longing for someone to say: / 'Ark 'ere lad! Atween thee an' me / They're a bleedin' lot o' sods / an' I reckon it's nowt but right / we should start an' kick their arses for 'em / an' tell 'em bloody well fight.

When you've seen the film the book is good to read again, and his many other novels all in paperback now. Lawrence knew that women want sexually satisfying and sexual enjoyment just as much as men and more—so don't be afraid to make love to her, she may be waiting for just that. And don't be afraid to encourage him, he may be shy and want a woman to show him the way. We all need a little help from our friends.

7.3.70

DENNIS GOULD.

BOOK REVIEW

KILLING THE KILLERS

KILLING NO MURDER, by Edward Hyams. Panther Modern Society, 8/-.

IN 'KILLING NO MURDER' Edward Hyams tries to break through the artificial conspiracy of horror surrounding the assassination of political and establishment figures.

'Nothing could be more curious to a visiting Martian,' he writes, 'than the contrast between the complacency with which we read of a ruler massacring the ruled, and the horror we express when the roles are reversed.'

The book is dedicated to 'the memory of the twenty million war dead who, since the author's birth, have sacrificed their lives for the score of leaders who might, at the cost of their own, have saved them.'

Which seems a fair enough view and one to sympathise with. Until you remember that all leaders—with notorious exceptions—are simply front-men for a whole complex of political and economic authority, personifications of the faceless. Shoot one down and up pops another.

The author comes from Caesar to the Zionist gunmen, calling in Lincoln, Sarajevo and some weird psychological and mythological theories on the way. All entertaining, but so frustrating because all the time he refuses to accept the obvious.

At one point—discussing the 19th century Russian spate of tsar-kings—he nearly arrives. 'The lesson was clear; so long as there were heirs, so long as the monarchy itself continued to exist, it was useless to assassinate tsars unless

you went on to demolish, and replace the whole social-political system from the ground upwards.'

Exactly. And of course this doesn't go just for monarchy. All Authority has its heirs, it breeds on our acquiescence, and its offspring are all bastards.

He won't believe this and claims the Bolsheviks—the politicians who stole the 1917 Revolution from the people—achieved just such an upturn. But apart from a change of name the Russian Empire is the same game as before—the people down here and the rulers up there.

Still, we shouldn't kick the mule for not being a horse and he does acknowledge the anarchist viewpoint when he mentions the assassination of a French President in 1894, an untypically honest example as they go.

'Certain leaders,' he says, 'are put to death not for their crimes but, as representatives, for ours; the crimes being such only, of course, in the eyes of some anti-establishment movement.'

Just as individual assassination won't stop wars from breaking out, as the author hopes, so it won't in itself achieve what we are aiming at. Which is not to replace one face of Authority with another but to smash the monster completely.

But as part of the whole process of revolution it has an obvious role. It is a symbol and a decisive warning to our masters that they cannot hide forever behind the rhetoric and the trappings of power.

HARRY HARMER.

APRIL 26th DEMONSTRATION

THE Vietnam Solidarity Campaign would like to clear up some errors of fact in the press reports of the April 26 demonstration.

First, the demonstration was not 'taken over' by Black Panthers or 'diverted' to the Trinidad High Commission. In fact the demonstration was a united action in solidarity with the Indo-Chinese and Trinidadian peoples and was supported by a number of groups including VSC and the Black Panthers. There were discussions prior to the demonstration in which the route, including the march to the Trinidad High Commission, was agreed.

Secondly, the hostility of the police towards the demonstration was evident from the start. At the rally prior to the march the Ad Hoc Committee was denied the right to use loudspeakers and leafletting was arbitrarily prohibited.

Third, the main trouble with the police took place not in Belgrave or Grosvenor Squares, but at Speakers' Corner. Up to the time the march went to Speakers' Corner to disperse, the demonstration

had been cohesive. But as the demonstrators were dispersing, the police moved in, using, as the *Guardian* uncritically but correctly put it, the technique of 'snatch squads'. It was here that people attempting to defend themselves from unprovoked police attacks were arrested. The VSC is in full solidarity with

the militants arrested on Sunday and with the black people's organisations and strongly condemns the brutality and racist behaviour of the police on the April 26 anti-imperialist demonstration.

For further information contact VSC, 182 Pentonville Road, London, N.1. Telephone: 278 2616.

What's Going to Happen to the Ashes?

CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION has been aroused in cricketing circles by the decision to allow Heinrich Himmler's Concentration Camp XI (the all-Aryans) to play in England this summer. It is rarely in the thirties that we get a chance to fraternise with cricketers from Germany particularly now she is making a social experiment watched with interest by both cricketers and non-cricketers alike.

It is generally understood that cricket (at least as played in the civilized world) is a good, clean, healthy game and politics (as we know them in Britain today) is a dirty business. The two will not mix, and efforts by liberals and leftists to do this should be discouraged.

Mr. Himmler and the Aryan XI have a proper contempt for politicians—particularly of the left-wing persuasion. In their great work throughout Germany and particularly in Buchenwald—from which the majority of the team come—they have demonstrated what they can do to bring their country forward. Aryan principles are enshrined in the ideas of cricket. If the battle of Waterloo was won on the playing fields of Eton, the future battles of Germany will be decided on the playing fields of Buchenwald. These engagements for the team in England will allow Mr. Himmler and his team to sample the English way of life; a week-end at Cliveden has already been arranged.

When we find ourselves menaced by alien influences, such as baseball and communism—which with Mr. Hitler's help is being effectively knocked for six in Spain—it behoves us to put our own house in order and pursue a policy of non-intervention in the affairs of other powers.

The efforts by left-wing demonstrators to interfere with the quiet pleasures of cricket is typical of the thoughtless ignorance and denial of freedom to those practising the principles of Aryanization, National Socialism and cricket.

But enough of this political chit-chat, leave that to the long-haired intellectuals.

Barbed wire and guard dogs will take care of them.

Mr. Himmler's team is in fine form, they have already beaten a Rhineland eleven, the Synagoguers, a trade union eleven, and of course, a communist eleven. They are expected to tour Austria, Czechoslovakia and Poland before they take on the Soviet side. Many wickets will fall before their bowlers, they are in good shape.

By the way, Mr. Streicher, a leading batsman, has a unique bat; it is carved from a human shinbone, and the team has been using balls made of tanned human skin and filled with crematorium ashes. It is not known whether the MCC will sanction this.

JACK SPRATT.


Supplement Pamphlets

THE LAST ISSUE of this month's paper will include our second supplement pamphlet, printed in the same way as before. It will be of particular interest to our American readers, for the main subject covered is last year's SDS convention. James Cain retells this event, not without humour, and gives a first-hand account of the manoeuvrings and splits which took place. From this he draws some important conclusions for anarchists as a whole, but more particularly for those in America.

The issue will also contain a reprint of a section of 'Listen Marxist', published by the Libertarian Students' Federation and reprinted from the American Anarchist publication 'Anarchos'. It is entitled 'The Myth of the Party'. We feel that this adds weight to and reinforces the points made by James Cain in his article.

We should welcome orders from groups and individuals who wish to sell this supplement pamphlet as a separate publication. We feel that although the issue deals with events in America, it still has important lessons for students in this country and should be widely read. The usual sale or return terms are available.

EDITORS.



All correspondence to
Peter Le Mare, 5 Hannaford Road,
Rotton Park, Birmingham 16

ANARCHIST FEDERATION of BRITAIN

The AFB information office will produce an internal bulletin. Comrades interested in its production are to meet in York on first Sunday in June, Vanbrugh College, Heslington, York. All groups will be informed in detail. Address all letters to:

Peter Le Mare, 5 Hannaford Road, Rotton Park, Birmingham, 16. Tel. 021-454 6871. Material that cannot wait for the bulletin to be sent to R. Atkins, Vanbrugh College, Heslington, York. The Contact Column in 'Freedom' is also available for urgent information. Groups should send latest addresses to Birmingham. New inquirers should

write direct to them or to the AFB information office in Birmingham.

AFB REGIONAL GROUPS
There are now anarchist groups in almost every part of the country. To find your nearest group write to:
North West Federation: Secretary, Tom Howard, 163 Ryelands Road, Lancaster.
Cornwall: A. Jacobs, 13 Ledrah Road, St. Austell. (M, Ma, B.)
Essex & E. Herts.: P. Newell, 'Aegean', Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green, Colchester. (QM, FL.)
Surrey: G. Wright, 47 College Road, Epsom.
Sussex: E. Poole, 5 Tilbury, Findon Road, Whitehawk, Brighton.
Yorkshire: Martin Watkins, 3 Marlborough Grove, Leeds, 2.
Scotland: B. Lynn, 12 Ross Street, Glasgow.
Wales: c/o P. L. Mare (address above).
N. Ireland: c/o Freedom Press.
S. Ireland: Bill Dwyer, Island, Corner Merrion Road and Nutley Lane, Dublin 4.
University and Student Groups: c/o P. L. Mare. (Abbreviations: M—meeting; Ma—magazine; B—badges; Q—Quarterly; FL—free leaflets)



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Taken to the Cleaners

PLEASE SPARE a thought for Mr. Basil Samuel, the property tycoon who has just had to sack 600 workers.

In these days of cut-throat capitalism, one of Mr. Samuel's industrial interests—Achille Serre dry cleaners—has fallen on hard times. And just before Christmas the firm was forced to sell its chain of branches to rivals Sketchleys.

According to Achille Serre's managing director, P. E. Benton, the firm had not kept pace with the latest trends. 'Sketchleys saw the advantage of on-the-spot dry cleaning before we did,' he says. Until the takeover, cleaning handed in at Achille Serre shops was processed at a central factory in Walthamstow, north east London. 'The Walthamstow plant,' says Mr. Benton, 'was not viable as long as ten years ago.'

But while Sketchleys soared ahead with their up-to-date methods, Achille Serre strove to keep their factory open to safeguard the jobs of the 700 employees who worked there.

Last year, however, says Mr. Benton, the firm saw the writing on the wall. So they got together with Sketchleys during the summer and agreed to sell out their shop interests. Both firms knew at this time what the result of the closure would be—that Sketchleys would close the newly-acquired branches. Both firms also knew what the result of the closures would be—that the processing plant at Walthamstow would become redundant and so would its workers.

Yet this sad news was not released

until December 16 and before Christmas employees of as much as thirty years' standing were getting their cards. By the spring 600 will have got the sack.

But a shrewd Mr. Samuel—whose property firm Great Portland Estates owns the Walthamstow factory—has decided to hold on to the plant. Having said goodbye to 600 workers he now aims to take advantage of what he calls 'the hotel boom'. The boom is going to accompany the introduction of jumbo jets. All these booming hotels are going to need somebody to do their laundering and so Mr. Samuel has decided to go into linen replacement in a big way. The 100 workers remaining at the Walthamstow plant will be operating new labour-saving machines which wash napkins, scrub sheets and iron tablecloths.

With all that old-fashioned dry cleaning business and those 600 workers out of the way, Achille Serre can settle down to being a going concern again.

But then, whatever the firm had done to safeguard its 600 employees, they would have had to move sooner or later because it becomes increasingly likely that a motorway will be driven through the plant where they once worked. For the GLC aims to build Radial Route 6 running north from Hackney across the Marshes. Although the road is at the moment just a line on the map, when it hits Walthamstow its path will be limited to a narrow stretch of land between the Walthamstow reservoirs and Blackhorse Lane, where Mr. Samuel's factory is

situated. This means the back of the factory may well have to go.

Now fortunately for Mr. Samuel the new laundry plant is situated at the front of the factory. So if luck is on his side he could keep his booming business and get compensation for all that useless land at the back.

Some of the workers are taking their redundancy badly in spite of what the firm did to keep the factory going and some are even suggesting that the whole operation—including the shops sell-out—is just a way of making money for Mr. Samuel.

This possibility has been discounted by the management. The managing director said he hadn't even heard of

the road. The company secretary, interviewed separately, said he had heard of some road or other in the process of a routine land search but didn't think it would have much effect on the factory. It certainly had no bearing on recent events which could all be put down to Selective Employment Tax, the Labour Government and Achille Serre's failure to meet the challenge of the seventies.

Fortunately for the 600 workless there are plenty of factories in Walthamstow and a fair number of vacancies. But they'd better steer clear of Blackhorse Lane because the whole west side seems to have caught redundancy fever.

Eight hundred were sacked from nearby Micanite last summer after a takeover by GEC, and another factory—HTB—also shut shop. A Poplar firm mysteriously dropped out of an £180,000 deal to lease this latter factory from its owner. Perhaps they heard about the road. . . .

A CORRESPONDENT.

Building Workers' Charter and Paper

THE NATIONAL Building Workers' Conference at Manchester on Saturday, April 25, was well supported, with 287 delegates, representing 54 building sites and 63 union branches, filling the Co-operative Society's Hall.

The Conference was in two parts, with the first half devoted to the proposed Charter on which our campaign in the industry will be based. The Charter itself is divided into two sections, one dealing with short term aims and the other with the long term demands.

The first section concentrated on the recent agreement of February 2 and calls for a campaign of direct action on the sites against the strings and conditions which are being introduced by the employers. These include the introduction of penal clauses into the guaranteed week and the employers' attempts to absorb plus rates, many of which have been negotiated on the sites, into the new standard rates. For some, the February 2 agreement meant only a very small increase or even a cut in wages. In fact, the Charter demands the straight increase, with no qualifying clauses.

The second part of the Charter deals with the wages and conditions in the future and calls for a 35 hour week with a basic wage of £1 per hour.

In order to gain control of the unions, the Charter puts forward that delegate conferences should be policy-making bodies and that all TU officials should stand for election every three years. After discussion on a proposal for the floor, this period was altered to one year. Other long-term demands include 100% trade unionism and the nationalisation of the building industry.

Speakers from the floor supported the Charter, together with additions arising from the discussions. But the Charter as such is flexible and forms a basis on which to build a campaign. Its contents can be discussed at future conferences and debated in the columns of the rank and file paper, which was discussed in the second half of the Conference.

RANK AND FILE PAPER

Delegates supported the proposal for a paper which would not only propagate the aims of the Charter, but could also be used to mount a campaign to develop these aims. It would also provide the means of informing building workers, on a national scale, of the disputes and

negotiations taking place on other sites. This would produce a link-up in place of the present fragmentation.

A circular on the paper, issued by the organising committees, states: 'The paper shall be as widely representative as possible and shall be independent of any political faction or group influence. In order to safeguard this position, the publication, distribution and financing of the paper shall be the joint responsibility of established building workers' rank and file Committees operating in various parts of the country. These Committees will be guaranteed proportional space in the paper and they will in turn elect a sub-committee to arrange for circulation as well as the collection and writing of articles for the paper every month. The management and general running of the paper shall be the responsibility of a national Editorial Board. The national Editorial Board shall be elected by the supporting rank and file Committees.'

Although a lot of work has still to be done, a start has been made and an important step taken to produce a rank and file paper, which is so badly needed in our industry. It is needed to reach the branches and sites to combat the false and collaborating policies which all the unions are putting forward. It is needed to defeat the aims of George Smith and the Executive of the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers and Painters, who want to take over the other unions and to remove what little control remains in the hands of the members.

The Conference, organised by rank and file Committees from Manchester, Liverpool and London, gave building workers an opportunity to exchange ideas and discuss the problems which face our industry. It made one realise how varied are the issues and the interpretation of the last agreement. For instance, in Liverpool no employer dare operate the strings and conditions contained in that agreement.

More conferences of this nature should be organised on a regional scale, so that workers from London can meet those, from, say, Southampton and discuss common problems and action. A start has now been made and we have to develop and expand the activities of a rank and file movement in the building industry.

P.T.

LUDDITE SPANNER IN THE WORKS

SOME WEEKS AGO Power Station Superintendents were circularized by CEBG National HQ asking them to name the militants in January's strike attempt. Most of them had the sense to shut up and say they didn't know who they were, but at Berkeley the Superintendent named them and so they received a letter from HQ. (Perhaps the fact that both the Superintendent and the deputy are masons explains their actions, and also how the deputy got his job.)

Anyway, as you might expect, the letter included all the usual bit about don't do it again or you'll lose your job, 'repudiate your contract of employment' and all the rest in Sir Stanley Brown's statement in *Power News* (see *FREEDOM*, Vol. 31, No. 3), and also threatened the 'Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act 1871' which says that all workers in Electricity, Gas and Water Supply may not strike if so doing interrupts the supply—penalty up to three months with or without hard labour.

As the strike planned at Berkeley was mostly amongst maintenance men—due only to lack of support from operators—this did not apply as the supply would not be interrupted directly, but only by subsequent non-repair of the plant.

Anyway, the men concerned couldn't bring this letter up at the local advisory committee because they're not on it, and the unions can't bring it up at the District Joint Industrial Council unless the LAC bring it up first so the matter couldn't be discussed. Anyway after a little unofficial communication the management have withdrawn the letter completely to stop the fuss.

The above only has any real significance however when considered in relation to the Report of the General

Purposes Sub-committee of the Select Committee on Science and Technology in which Mr. E. S. Booth of the CEBG said that foreign material (in actual fact a spanner) found in the airgap of an alternator (at Aberthaw B) had led to a breakdown.

He also said that the presence of foreign material had 'without any shadow of a doubt been due to something beyond carelessness. Many is the milk bottle which has been found in the pipe after the plant has gone into service'.

Mr. Arthur Palmer (Labour MP, Bristol Central), chairman of the Sub-committee, said sabotage was too strong and he preferred the word 'malice'. In fact anyone who has seen a power station built, with men up to their necks in shit, welders welding up boilers, hanging upside down while all the pipes are preheated with giant gas rings, will be surprised not by the pipes with milk bottles in them, but by those which somehow remain empty.

However, the obvious implication of Mr. Booth is that the militants sabotaged the plant to help their strike to have more effect in January, and that's a pretty serious accusation. What happens next we don't know but you can bet your bottom mutual bank note that there's an investigation taking place to see if they can prove how the spanner got in the works at Aberthaw B, and if they do trump up some charges they'll get good press coverage in all the rags to prove how naughty men are trying to make poor innocent OAPs freeze to death and how we ought to lock them up, and bring back the fuzz, and cut their hair. . . . But we shan't let it go unanswered!

OUR MEN IN THE
ELECTRIC LIGHT WORKS.

IS FREEDOM AN ANARCHIST NEWSPAPER?

i.

Dear Comrades,

Re Peter Grafton's curious article 'The New Holy War'. I can't recall any 'clamour' in *FREEDOM* for the artist to get his hands soiled in front-line action. Nor do I remember 'artists (being) attacked for their lack of involvement in politics'. I would describe Comrade Grafton's posture as one of brave defiance against a non-existent attack.

Peter says that, for him, art is more important than anarchism. Fair enough. Every man must choose his own scale of values. But let him understand clearly that, since its foundation in 1886, *FREEDOM* has been an anarchist newspaper; that it is mainly concerned with social

issues (which he, no doubt, would call political); and that this is what the anarchist movement expects. An anarchist newspaper can include comment on the arts, provided this is kept firmly in its place. We can be sure that Peter would be annoyed if his favourite arts magazine were to show signs of developing into a revolutionary journal. So he should recognise that the issue is not 'Freedom of the arts'—which no anarchist has ever attacked—but the freedom for *FREEDOM* to be what it was always intended to be—an anarchist newspaper.

Yours fraternally,
DAVE COULL.

P.S.—For the record—I have never read Marx. I have never been a

member of any political party. My anarchism was learned in the best school of all—personal experience.

ii.

Dear Comrades,

I heartily support the sentiments of Ian Sutherland, when he wishes to see *FREEDOM* become more of a workers' newspaper. At the moment the space taken up by poetry, art criticism, etc., is completely out of proportion to the size of *FREEDOM*. This I believe is aimed at a philosophical and élitist anarchist clique. How can we hope to raise *FREEDOM* sales when the ordinary man in the street hasn't a clue what we are talking about? Why not print at the beginning of each *FREEDOM* what anarchism is all about, as one issue did in October 1968, then devote the rest to British and world news from an anarchist viewpoint (including of course, letters to the Editor).

In this way we do not presuppose anarchist ideas in the man in the street, and he is thus able to read it in a more understanding light. So

Letters

more news, more class-struggle politics, and less obscurantist (i.e. élitist) philosophising aimed specifically at an already converted anarchist audience.

Yours faithfully,
Nova Scotia, Canada PETE RIDLEY.

The Myth of Intelligence

Dear Comrades,

I was very interested in K. Perlo's article, 'The Myth of Intelligence', since it has pointed a paradox which has long puzzled me. Why do so many anarchists hate behaviourism and favour neo-freudianism? (I have even seen an advertisement in *FREEDOM* about an anti-



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behaviourist seminar.) For of course it is the behaviourists who say that intelligence is a myth and it is the quasi-mystical neo-freudians who are élitists. It is true that some so-called behaviour therapists are engaged in work that by anarchist standards is grossly immoral, but we didn't condemn the practice of medicine because some doctors worked in Hitler's concentration camps.

Perhaps most anarchists are not egalitarians. If they are, however, it seems to me that they should reject all the mystical soul shit, sometimes called psychology; acceptance of which leaves the door open to authoritarian theories of hierarchical social structures. If man is just what he seems to be, with no ghost inside him, call it psyche, soul, intelligence, what you will, then what possible justification can there be for regarding one man as better than another?

Yours fraternally,

Wells, Somerset GEOFFREY BARFOOT.

Springboks in Technicolour

SOME OF THE BEST stories to come out of a war are those which make people realise, in case they were beginning to forget, that the soldiers of both sides are ordinary men caught up in abstractions that slip into insignificance when their common humanity finds an excuse to assert itself. The most persistent of these myths apart from talk of troops refusing to fire at each other or discharging ammunition into the air on Christmas Day, seems to be the one about soldiers from both sides meeting in no-man's-land for a game of football or cricket after the day's fighting is over.

In a time of hard and dangerous confrontation between the forces of anarchism and authoritarianism (it's supposed to have happened during the Spanish Civil War as well), it would be this no-man's-land of objective values which would be left untouched out of respect by both sides. But in a niggling peacetime when the economic and military issues are almost completely uncontested it proves to be the area of mind and life which is the most vulnerable to distortion. The 'global village' of an all-inclusive commerce, culture and politics is well on the way to becoming a worldwide nursery in which no activity can claim immunity from the subjectivity of interested parties.

Obviously the South African Government is treating sport as an extension of politics, perhaps not in the positively harmful way in which Hitler used the Berlin Olympics to prove something, rather to prevent something about the social mixing of races being proved openly to the segregated peoples in their own country. It is not possible to claim that the old compartments in which different activities were thought to exist, and which in the past guaranteed them relative immunity, are still valid. But in opposing this situation, little thought

has been given as to whether demonstrations against one manifestation of apartheid could possibly affect the administration of the social policy of apartheid in the country concerned.

The segregation of whites and blacks in sport and entertainment is a very minor point for resentment among the majority of black South Africans. If any black man has picked up enough of his colonial master's heritage to be able to play cricket as well as him (and it's possible to find out what a hollow joke this is by asking any negro in this country what that would entail), then in leaving him out of their side the South Africans are cutting off a nose, which happens to be the wrong colour, to spite their own face. At least the Americans could never afford to pursue this policy (for the sake of international prestige, which goes to prove that the South African Government is more concerned with internal pressures); without their hungry boxers and penniless black athletes, and having to rely on the products of their high school system, they would be giving the Russians a walk over.

Presumably, if the demonstrations against apartheid in sport are successful, the South Africans would not only be able to field better rugby and cricket teams, they will have been forced to adopt the American public relations technique of having a 'token black' somewhere in their touring parties, and television shows and magazines too, perhaps. This surely, when they feel more secure in their economic tyranny, must already be the ambition of the South African politicians. It is encouraging that they aren't do this at the moment, and I don't think anybody should demand they improve their image to the world without being certain that this would necessarily involve a real social

improvement.

In an essay called 'The Limits of Altruism' (Hapt 18), A. W. Barnes, a white South African revolutionary still living in the country, makes the same point when, discussing liberal opposition to apartheid, he says that it 'presents in fact no opposition to the status quo at all but merely seeks to reform its image' . . . and 'Political practice arising from this state of mind shows itself at best as support for the liberation movements, or remains ineffectually strewing flour on cricket pitches'.

In our own country international sentiments are a peculiarly middle-class luxury, and student indulgence in politics (the vague dissatisfaction they feel with their existence) unable to solidify around any local necessity other than safer school crossings or better representation on academic committees. The protest against apartheid is a particularly flattering identification with 'virility in chains' and avoids acceptance of the true position of the revolutionary in this country who is considered harmless enough to be allowed to wander round with relative freedom.

The psychic horror which black people undergo in our own country, I sometimes suspect is far worse than that suffered by their people in other places. Here they are given the freedom of capitalism, and apart from the fact that most end up cleaning the streets, washing dishes or collecting the tickets on bus or tube, there is nothing to prevent them from becoming a landlord or factory manager or, if they are 'young, gifted and black', making their escape into colour-supplement-land.

Nothing at all to stop them—no laws, nothing that they can put their finger on. In the meantime, they lose even the consolation of being part of a community of slavery with its own kind of optimism

and culture, with something tangible to fight, and with time definitely on their side. Let's hope that when they do make it they don't just exchange the white capitalists for black ones. To quote A. W. Barnes again, talking about the kind of opposition to apartheid which only leads to 'the same old story in technicolour': 'This type of charity, of wanting to make formally available to others our own shoddy goods and empty culture, this is the first stage of altruism.' . . . 'Many leftists see no further than this racism. It becomes fetishized as the sole enemy.'

Anarchist thinking is protected from the void of internationalism mainly because, in keeping with its ultimate aims, it fastens upon the practical local issue—selfish local necessity, a sentiment we can trust, and internationalism simply a ramification outwards to a recognition of similar local necessities. It is only when internationalism appears to break with this necessity and becomes an ideal, an issue of conscience, an abstraction, that it begins to constitute a different kind of mental totalitarianism from the one it seeks to oppose.

Isn't it strange that two of the major international issues of the day, nuclear weapons and racialism, find almost total agreement among everybody from left MPs to communists. But let the anarchists do something tangible like take over a private square and turn it into a public one, or install a family in an empty council house, and they are left to do it by themselves. If some of the buses that will be going to Headingley, Edgbaston, and so on, could be diverted to central London to liberate, or at least cause a bloody nuisance in, one of J. Lyons' cafeterias, we would lose the support of the numerous organisations who are on the safest wicket since CND when they oppose other people's injustices. Because the bad-tempered cooks and sullen waitresses who have to work in one of these places are the slaves of our own economic system, the issues involved are more serious and the Prime Minister couldn't afford to give even tacit support to protest on their behalf.

If it was simply a question of the proposed demonstrations being an ineffective challenge to government (although this would be a pity when they promise to be the best organised series of protests in the year before the elec-

tion), it wouldn't be necessary to criticize them in this way; but there is the real danger that the South African Government, who must be giving plenty of thought to the problem of eradicating an appearance of injustice which causes them so much trouble abroad, will eventually give way just to get some peace and quiet. If they back down in the face of the cricket protests it will give some temporary relief to the liberal conscience in this country, but it would be naive for the rest of us to believe that their gesture would lead to a reappraisal of the social and economic policy of apartheid.

J.O.C.

Contact

Contact Column is for making contact! Use is free, but donations towards typesetting costs are welcome

New Zealand. Contact wanted with comrades. Write: Peter Baker, 5 Fog Lane, Manchester 20, England.

Merseyside Anarchists: Meetings 8 p.m. on first Sunday of each month at 172A Lodge Lane, Liverpool 8. Contact J. B. Cowen at above address.

Wednesday discussion meetings at Freedom Meeting Hall from 8 p.m.

Rutgers Libertarian Alliance. 'The Abolitionist', monthly. Send 16/- (\$2) to 2810 Spruce Street, Union, New Jersey, USA.

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Schools Libertarian Undergroup (SLUG). Write to Sylvia Lerner, 15 Chandos Road, Manchester 21, for details.

Surrealism & Revolution: New edition, with additional illus. by Jim Duke and afterword by Arthur Moysé. 7/6d. from Simian (Son of Coptic), 10 Gilbert Place, London, W.C.1 (or Freedom Bookshop).

Anarchist Ball: It's coming again. You have been warned. Watch this space for latest in balls.

Floodgates of Anarchy (Christie and Meltzer): Is it in your local library?

York Anti-Election Conference. May 16-17. Details c/o K. Nathan, Vanbrugh College, Heslington, York.

Peter Neville—A Re-statement of 'The Anarchist Position', A reply to critics (Sutherland, Coull and Smith). S.A.E. to Peter Le Mare, c/o AFBIB.

Going to Canada to Avoid the Draft? 'Immigration to Canada and Its Relation to the Draft and the Military.' Single copies free from the Montreal Council to Aid War Resisters, Case Postale 5, Succarsale Westmount, Montreal 215, Quebec, Canada.

Bristol Group. Anyone interested in getting a group going on a regular basis, contact: Alex Bird, 59 Belvoir Road, St. Andrews, Bristol.

Comrade seeks accommodation in Trowbridge, Wilts. area. Please write Box 01, Freedom Press.

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Manchester Anti-Election Campaign. Bill West, 16 Northern Grove, West Didsbury, Manchester 20. Meetings every Wednesday.

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York Group Need Speakers. Expenses and accommodation arranged. Write R. Atkins, Vanbrugh College, Heslington, York.

Urgent. Help fold and dispatch FREEDOM every Thursday from 4 p.m. onwards. Tea served.

Schools Anarchist Group in Gloucestershire? Contact Kate & Joe, 3 Withy Lea, Leonard Stanly, nr. Stonehouse, GL10 3NS, Glos.

Crisis in Shipbuilding

THE UPPER CLYDE SHIPBUILDERS have asked the Government for another £15 million to be used as financial guarantees for seven ships to be built by UCS. These are four on the order book and three still to be announced. The Government have been withholding a decision on the guarantee until they get assurances from the unions that they will co-operate in the UCS plan to reduce the work force by 3,500. The UCS seem to think that the only way that they can survive is to get more public money and reduce the labour force. It's obvious that they're after bigger profits and laying off men will give them a smaller wage bill and more in profit.

On 16.4.70 representatives from the crumbling UCS were flying to Hamburg to discuss with German employers the transfer of the 28,000-ton container ship 'Jervis Bay' which is being built at Fairfield's (UCS Govan division). At the moment 1,200 boilermakers have been on strike since 9.4.70. The 'Jervis Bay' is nearly twelve months behind schedule. The Overseas Containers, for whom the ship is being built, have threatened to get the ship towed away if it is not completed by May 14, and they are

also claiming £250,000 damages from UCS. This move by the UCS to get the ship transferred to Germany to be completed there, is definitely a move by the employers to try and break the strike by the boilermakers at the Govan division.

Another blow to UCS came from Yarrow, the UCS naval builder, that

BASQUES IN SPAIN

WOULD ANYONE who is interested please note that the Spanish Government is no longer asking for the extradition of the two Basques Echebarria (Ashford) and Perez (Brixton) who are held on remand on charges of petrol-bombing the Spanish Embassy in London.* They will be tried at the Old Bailey in the normal manner when their case comes up.

'Buzz'.

*Ref.: *Basques in Spain*: 11th Issue, 1970.

they were going to withdraw from the four-yard consortium and link up with other naval shipbuilders. This could be a move by the employers to speed up the redundancies of 3,500 of the labour force.

The crisis in the British shipbuilding industry is not only confined to the UCS. Harland and Wolff of Belfast, the chairman, had lost £3.7 million in 1969. The workers were blamed for this because they pushed the wage bill from £140,000 to £200,000. Cammell Laird on Merseyside have forecast losses on orders for 1970, 1971 and 1972.

The shipyard workers have had all sorts of so-called solutions rammed down their throats to try and solve the problem in the industry. Their union leaders have backed up all the productivity schemes that were going and all that has happened is that the employers' stick has got bigger and stronger to beat them into the ground.

ANDY MCGOWAN.

Anarchist Meeting Manchester

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**ANARCHISM
SYNDICALISM
& SOCIALISM**

Speaker: Philip Sansom

LETTER

THE OTHER LOVE

Dear Friends,

It is reassuring, no doubt, of GL to say that 'heterosexual pioneers of true sexual freedom have always stood by those who must ever remain a minority' but what on earth makes him think that in a truly free society homosexuals would be a minority? Let him consider the fantastic conditioning each child receives from before he can remember to be a man with 'normal' inclinations leading eventually to heterosexual mating, or to be a woman with similarly 'normal' inclinations with the same end in view. Let him think for a moment of what would happen to children of both sexes, dressed 'unisexually', reared by parents who dressed unisexually, and who shared, really shared, all household work, who were sent to the same school and taught the same things, that is not things appropriate on the one hand to a boy (soon to be man) or a girl (soon to be woman). Would the end result be as it is now, or not—one in twenty, or ten in twenty, or even more?

Granted that Arab, and Pathan, tribal society is not quite what one would call 'truly sexually free': nevertheless,

in many such tribes, the norm was, and for all I know still is (for things like that don't undergo fundamental changes in 25 years) for men to pair off more or less for life in homosexual partnerships, and to use their women solely as means of procreation. That no doubt deprived their women of human dignity: but in a truly sexually free society, would there not inevitably be the same result in the end, even though in all other respects, women are endowed with human dignity? I hate to use propaganda-type questions but must this not be so until men too can bear children?

My short point is that I do not understand why homosexuals should always and ever be a minority. Of course if bisexuals are not considered at all as homosexuals, it might then well be that both heterosexuals and homosexuals would be a minority in a truly sexually free society, the majority being bisexuals.

Yours faithfully,

'ANTINOUS'.

JUMP MY BROTHERS JUMP

Poems from prison
by Tim Daly

edited and introduced
by Adrian Mitchell

ANARCHY 110