

'The proper memory for a politician is one that knows what to remember and what to forget.'

JOHN MORLEY.

Get Tough

With
**UNOFFICIAL
STRIKERS,**
says **WILSON!**

This Government Won't Defend Your Freedom

AS FREEDOM goes to Press before the general elections take place we do not know whether "Britain's Choice" is Sir Alec or "L'Ami du Peuple"—Harold Wilson.

If the Tories are returned, well, things will proceed very much as they have during the past 13 years, for there is no reason to suppose that they will carry out their election promises—for as the Labour speakers have pointed out, if the Tories didn't do these things during the thirteen years they held an absolute majority, what reason is there to suppose that they are either capable or willing to carry them out now!

If the Labour Party is returned, as we expect they will, with a large majority, then one can imagine that for a time at least there will be a flood of goodwill and support for them from the radical section of the community, with a corresponding falling off of political interest in the minority movements. This happened when Labour was returned to power in 1945. It is true that it also coincided with the ending of a long-drawn out war, but in our opinion war weariness was not the explanation for the political apathy that followed the Labour victory.

The only positive thing that emerged from the last war was a greater sense of social justice at all levels of society not only in this country but throughout the so-called civilised world. Some of us would also point to the technological "explosion", which probably would not have taken place but for the all-demanding exigencies of war and wholesale destruction. We are not saying however that the price paid in human lives and misery can in any circumstance be justified by the positive results that emerged. The anarchists uncompromising opposition to the war itself, and the public declaration of their internationalism on every possible occasion is on record in black and white* for there to be no misunderstanding of what we are now saying.

The characteristic that distinguished the second world war from the first was, apart from the fact that it had with few exceptions the unconditional support of the Left, the absence of the kind of chauvinism which normally keeps the massacre going. Not only did nobody have the illusion that it was another "war to end wars" but everywhere governments were being pressed to promise reforms in return for support of the "war effort". To put it crudely, if the voice of Churchill symbolised the "war effort" that of J. B. Priestley symbolised the price that the underprivileged demanded for their sup-

port. It was unfortunate that Priestley preached reformism and not revolution, but be that as it may, the electoral landslide in favour of the Labour Party at the time of Churchill's personal triumph as "the man who won the war" is significant in itself as well as of the "mood" prevailing in the country. This "mood" which, as we have said was coupled to a demand for the recognition of a greater social justice was manifest in country after country in Europe (who remembers now, and how many young people know, that communists were members of the Italian and French governments after "liberation") as well as in the colonial world.

★
HOW was it then that within less than ten years Britain and those countries that had swung to the political Left were once again lumbered with governments of the Right? The complete answer is probably complex and cannot be given in general terms. But is it not part of the answer that when at the end of the war the people in the various

countries voted into power the government that represented their mood, they also unwittingly abdicated their power to implement their demands by direct action? It is the whole contradiction of so-called democratic government that it can ever be government by the people for the moment a party takes office it also takes over (and to our knowledge no would-be government has declared that it would refuse to) the coercive machinery of the State which is designed to give it the power to impose its policies on the people. Theoretically Parliament could be representative by considerably increasing the number of its members and making them responsible to, and dependent on, those who have elected them, and not the Party Whips and the Treasury respectively, but in those circumstances no government with executive powers could function or survive for very long, assuming that its policies depended on a parliamentary majority vote. The political "tragedy" in post-war France (where no government survived more than about six

months) is only a tragedy if one believes that parliamentary democracy is a practical possibility. In Britain where it is customary to proclaim the "sovereignty of parliament", while burying one's head in the sands of parliamentary impotence and futility, not only are millions of Liberal voters literally disenfranchised, but also when it comes to the question of forming a government the "elected representatives" of at least half the voters are invariably excluded. To say that Parliament has the powers to protect the public interest and curb any excesses by governments when all they need is a majority of one Parliamentary vote is at best wishful thinking and, in a country which boasts of being "the mother of parliaments", sheer hypocrisy.

★
THE origins of government coincide with the need of a privileged minority to protect itself from the growing, concerted demands of the dispossessed, exploited and hungry majority. Governments made the

laws legalising privilege as well as disposing of the forces of coercion to impose "respect" for them. The "evolution" of government and the "tempering" of the Law is of relatively recent origin and the result both of the internal struggle, within the developing ruling class itself, the inevitable pretensions of the politicians and the law-makers and enforcers as a power unto themselves, as well as the pressures from organised Labour and the innumerable social pressure groups which are both an embarrassment to, as well as, in a sense, the creation of, the organs of mass communication. What it is important to realise, is not that today an anarchist would-be victim of a brick-planting charge by a policeman can set in motion a full-scale public enquiry whereas in the last century a hungry worker could be hanged by the neck for stealing a sheep, important though that may be, but that today most people unthinkingly believe that the Law exists to protect Society from its enemies!

Continued on page 3

Last week, the dockers' union leaders reported back to a delegate conference at Transport House the revised offers of pay increases by the employers. The terms were that the offer of 12/6d. a week for time-workers and 3½% for piece workers would be an interim settlement and that this would include an increase in the fall back money from £7 16s. 9d. to £9 per week. Dockers are demanding a 25/- for time-workers and 5% increase for piece-workers.

It seems that union leaders, including Mr. Cousins of the Transport & General Workers' Union, were quite willing to settle for this arrangement and they spent a considerable amount of time trying to convince the delegates. As Mr. Cousins said "but they (the delegates) did not have a great deal of confidence in the employers".

One thing that Mr. Cousins has achieved has been the postponement of any possible strike threat until after the General Election. This must have been uppermost in his mind and now there will be yet another repeat performance of going back to the employers next week, followed by another delegate conference for the union leaders to report to on October 20th.

If strike action is decided on then, four weeks notice of termination of the agreement has to be given, followed by a further two weeks of strike action. This brings us into December. At one time it looked as though the strike notice would expire two or three days after the election. So much for Mr. Cousins delaying tactics, by which I am afraid the dockers delegates have been taken in and which no doubt have been somewhat of a relief for the Labour Party.

This latest lengthy conference seemed at one time, as if it would result in a demand for action, but the union leaders were saved by a proposal that negotiations should be continued. This was passed by the delegates on a vote of 47 to 23 in favour.

I am certain that the men who stopped work on 192 ships in London, Liverpool and Hull on the day of the

NO MORE DELAYS—ACTION NOW!

conference were in favour of taking action for their demands and did not want any more delays. About 1,000 of these men marched to Transport House to demonstrate their determination to gain their full demands. They showed that they had more faith in a withdrawal of labour than more negotiations.

Sir Andrew Chighton, chairman of the Port Employers has said that they are determined to stand firm over their offers. The employers, no doubt, remember the criticism they received in 1962 when they agreed to settle just before the strike notice expired.

Another major embarrassment to Mr. Cousins would have been if the dockers had taken strike action just after a return of a Labour Government. If this happened I am sure Mr. Cousins would do his utmost to come to an agreement and it would probably serve to show how strongly the sympathies of the delegates lay with the Labour Party.

There have been reports that if demands were not won, then an unofficial work-to-rule would be organised. Tilbury dockers have already published an unofficial pamphlet, entitled "Guide for Working-to-Rule", copies of which have already been sent to other ports. A docker from Tilbury said, "We have waited long enough. If union officials won't act, the rank and file will. But strikes are out. A work-to-rule is a much better weapon to employ and I am sure we will get the support of all dockland."

Another Tilbury worker said that if action was taken it would be "suddenly". He said, "Mr. Cousins is touring the Royal Docks today. If he bothers to come to Tilbury to find out what is wrong for the dockers, we shall tell him his job is to get on with the wages claim and keep politics out of it."

At the Royal Group of Docks, Jack Dash, the communist chairman of the

unofficial liaison committee, has not shown very much interest in the pamphlet and said that his committee wanted to examine the work-to-rule tactic further.

There is obviously widespread support in the docks for unofficial action to gain demands. Already there have been too many delays while union officials have kept to procedure. Methods of action should be decided upon. In fact these need not be uniform and one group

of ports could assist others who feel that it is necessary say for a total withdrawal of labour for tactical reasons.

Political pressures for one form of action as opposed to another should be ignored. Different methods might suit different docks. It is the rank and file who know and should decide, not the political parties of the Left. Dockers have waited long enough, now is the time to organise and to take action.

P.T.

Election '64

THREATENING clouds did not keep away supporters of the "Vote for the Crocodile" campaign from Trafalgar Square on Saturday, 10th October. There were about 500 people in the square, most of them somewhat sceptical at the beginning as to the wisdom of such a 'carry-on', but by the time the clouds burst and put a stop to the entertainment the crowd had caught the mood and seemed to be enjoying themselves.

The programme went off without a hitch although these were hardly any rehearsals, and not until the last moment did we know who was taking part. There was a jazz-band, (a real joy to listen to in such surroundings), a morality play, Bob Davenport singing folkstongs and there was guitar-playing by a French comrade. Donald Room gave a satirical electioneering speech and Philip Sansom, wearing a mask, splendidly impersonated Sir Alec Home. The 7 ft tall papier maché crocodile was carried on the plinth together with other animals (the skunk, rat and pig) representing cabinet ministers in whose honour the morality play was performed. The theme of the play was that history never changes for Mr. Everyman, who

received sloshy custard pies in the face as his just reward for his work, sacrifice and devotion.

Many copies of "Freedom" and "Election Guyed" were sold and people seemed eager to lay their hands on anarchist literature. There is a deficit of £25, as we had to pay for the amplifying system and the jazz-band. The police were terribly suspicious and as they could not find sufficient pretexts for making arrests they contented themselves with bullying little children who ran around happily with yellow "Vote for the Crocodile" balloons.

J.R.

HELP!
The Anti-Election Campaign is deeply in the RED!
PLEASE HELP—like with money!

ANARCHY 44

DISCUSSE S

TRANSPORT

ANARCHY is Published by Freedom Press at 2s. on the first Saturday of every month

Controversy

All these letters were held over from our last issue through lack of space. Sorry, couldn't help it! And more next week.

Fed up with it all!

DEAR COMRADES,

Please allow me some space for a few comments to both P.H.'s and S. E. Parker's articles.

I am a bit fed up with the same old controversy going on and on since Kropotkin's and Tucker's days. To denounce an individualist as an eccentric and anti-social element and, on the other side, to deny that an anarcho-communist is an anarchist at all (as did the unreadable and, I hope so, soon forgotten John Henry Mackay. God rest his soul!) is always very easy. One could nearly draw the conclusion that the only difference between marxist and anarchist factions is, that the anarchists only sneer at each other and still do not put the other side into a Siberian camp. Meanwhile neither theory has been put into practice, not for lack of enthusiasm of the few but for the apathy of the mass that FREEDOM still hopes to convince. So what is it all about? Whether I call myself a revolutionary egoist, an altruist syndicalist or an anarchist pluralist does not matter at all as long as I'm not going to act for myself as I want other people to act for themselves. This is not a matter of tactic (as the editorial on the Committee of 100—a masterpiece of self-righteousness—suggests that it would be only a question of the right tactic whether to kill or not) but a pure principle of self-respect. I cannot teach other people what I'm not going to do myself, here and now. The comrades who propagate—e.g. through FREEDOM—anarchist ideas are doing a good job (as long as they are able to recognise the difference between propaganda and preaching) because it is always a good job to keep alive a human ideal; but anarchists who are trying to convince people of something impossible are useless and sad.

I have read Mackay and Stirner, and

while I found the former simply boring, I like some parts of the latter very much. Indeed Stirner has written a profound analysis of the state and all the authoritarian ideas from Christianity till Socialism. But while I enjoy him for his deep distrust in all authority I cannot find any recipe how to live and to create anarchy, for that Union of Egoists is simply, in our time, an Utopia and not worth to discuss.

Sometimes I get the impression that anarcho-communists (people who, while not actually having read Stirner, have at least sneered at his work), are feeling themselves as a new elite of old-fashioned revolutionaries. Their hopes are the hopes of the 19th century; theirs is that brilliant dream of the Golden Age, of harmony and self-made food, of strong red-faced children and sun-burned smiling peasants (and some dirty Stirnerites hanging round and rushing for little girls after evening's folk-dances). Meanwhile the world goes straight in the opposite direction, anarchy becomes more impossible from day to day, but P.H. and his companions are holding up the flag for which so few have really fought. No misunderstanding; this flag is also mine; yet I cannot but realize that it never will lead the masses to a new and better world.

What rests to do in this world of Holy Books and bloody H-Bombs, of too many societies and too few anar-

chists, of too many frontiers and too few bridges lies in one's own fulfilment as a unique human being as well as an individual among other individuals. I am willing to give love and understanding and help to everyone who wants it and is able to use it for his own happiness, and to give me what I might need from him. Only individuals, not a class as a whole, can break off the barriers around them and change themselves, which is the only weapon to challenge our masters in this time of bombs and missiles. I have no wish to live for the happiness of a future race, I do not belong to a class, to a nation, or to mankind, but only to myself and all those whom I recognise as my brothers. Only when a new faith is preached in the streets and fields, a new faith in liberty and meekness, in non-violence and beauty, in love and joy, only when enough people realize that they have nothing to do but to do away with countries, and armies, with a socialist or an affluent society, only when all doctrines are left alone and all desire is directed to a life of love and fraternity, then anarchy shall once more mean more than a mere concept of a few theoreticians. Don't get me wrong: let's continue to work for the survival of this movement into the next century; but let's at last give up the old ideas of a gone world and direct our hopes to the heart of the seeking individual, not to the rational minds of a few scientists or the lost conscience of a class.

This new faith is not bound on theories and periodicals; but it is the only moral behaviour that might create an own value without imposing it on others; that might survive as a hope and a new flag of humanity into the barbarous world of the next generations.

JÖRG CHRISTIAN FAUSER.

Frankfurt, Sept 28.

Who really framed Christie?

DEAR FRIENDS,

Now that Stuart Christie has been sentenced, it is high time the masks, blinkers, and mouth gags were taken off, and the whole sordid affair thrashed out once and for all. Though the Anarchist Weekly is to be commended for sticking solidly behind Christie (in an attempt to gain a more lenient sentence) while the rest of the left-wing press was doing its nut or just quietly ignoring him, I feel an objective analysis should be made before the situation gets any worse.

Discussion on the subject should centre round the environment of Stuart Christie. Even well back into the nineteenth century Glasgow is general, and Clydeside in particular has had a record of left wing solidarity and revolutionary feeling. At one time during the First World War, when the Syndicalist District Committees in Glasgow were putting up staunch resistance to Lloyd George's "Austerity Programme", hundreds of thousands of workers thronged to the city centre to demand an end to the war, and had they marched only thirty

minutes on to the army barracks, all Glasgow would have been in revolutionary hands. No other city in this country has a libertarian record as long as Glasgow's. It is therefore small wonder that when the Amsterdam Anarchist conference rejected revolutionary violence, Glasgow turned a deaf ear.

Though the recently revived Glasgow Anarchist Federation has little links with the past (almost all of its support has come via the anti-bomb movement), it has inherited certain genetic features—the out-and-out demand for "revolution", the chalked up exhortations for "workers' soviets", leaflets (some under the pseudonym Scottish Federation of Anarchists) containing the gentle phrase: "Let the ruling classes tremble at an anarchistic revolution", and now, far more serious, the "Scots Against War" pressure group, which has already committed several acts of destructive sabotage. Your correspondent, Karl Walter is wrong when he implies that this tradition has been handed down from the older to the younger members. The converse is true; it is the older anarchists in Glasgow who are attempt-

ing to influence the young ones with a more sane and moderate approach.

Where, then, does the fault lie? One main source is the disillusionment and frustration which has arisen after six years of conventional but futile protest against nuclear weapons and the polaris submarine base. The Committee of 100 grew in the shadow of CND; anarchism has grown in the shadow of the Committee of 100; now violence, sabotage and revolution has grown in the shadow of anarchism. Failure to convince the general public by reasoned argument, has led to down and out sabotage by a tiny minority—surely a plunge deep into right wing territory.

Another fault lies within the Glasgow Libertarian movement itself; the Scottish Committee of 100, heavily in debt, has for some time not even the appearance of a libertarian framework. It has been run for the past two years by a tightly entrenched clique as a result of which most of the enthusiasm and initiative has been wasted because there is no feeling of participation or collective responsibility. Responsibility in the hands of a few leads to irresponsibility in the hands of many. Hence the growth and trend of the Glasgow Anarchist movement is symptomatic of a disease in the libertarian movement itself.

Other factors such as boredom and frustration have played a part. The lubricant which fires the imaginations oil that inflames the Mod. v. Rocker gang violence is not far removed from the lubricant which fires the imagination of the Glasgow anarchists. Only the uniform is different—a red and black neckerchief for a black leather jacket. Most of them have little knowledge at all of even the most famous anarchist writers; Kropotkin means about as much to some as a second-hand John Bloom washing machine, and though the older members are doing their best to provide them with literature and arguments, some of their actions will remain far distant from the realms of explanation, let alone justification.

This is the environment in which Stuart Christie's ambition was nourished. I put it to the Glasgow Anarchists that, insofar as I have no grudge against those who can logically and with sincerity justify their revolutionary opinions, and insofar as they can prove they are promoting the anarchist movement given these twentieth century conditions, their activities up till now have been childishly senseless, their motives (if any) obscure, and their projection of modern anarchism warped and falsified beyond all recognition.

The whole anarchist movement should be aware of this situation; if the Glasgow lot had really the courage of its convictions, why did they about turn and plaster the city with stickers reading: "Stuart Christie was a pacifist"? One supporter has been sacrificed already; how many more are going to suffer? Must the anarchist movement drag seventy years behind? Who really "framed" Stuart Christie? Franco—or the Glasgow "anarchists"?

Yours,

Edinburgh, Sept. 27. BILL JAMIESON.

PARTY PIECE

believe, wearing a C.N.D. badge) within the bored but approving audience. We were told why we should keep the wogs out, keep the bomb, deport the strikers and vote for this particular candidate, in the evasive, deceptive and hypocritical phraseology which is the traditional trademark of the skilled politician. Despite, or because, we refrained from what would have been pointless heckling, we were subject to the whispered abuses of the more intolerant of our neighbours. One deranged old lady kept referring to "the lad with the long hair who should be sent to Russia", and I assumed she meant Tina until pointed references were made about my beard and donkey jacket.

When question-time came round, which at these gatherings it frequently does, there was one rambling question, put to the speakers, which was received with enthusiastic yelps and which provoked a discussion as to who was the greatest living Englishman and the conclusion, that this must be Winston Churchill, was finally submitted by the chairman and received no objections. That there was no questions "from C.N.D." seemed to be a source of immense comfort and satisfaction to the platform if not to the mob.

Without warning all but us two suddenly shot to their feet and rendered a none-too-musical but hearty version of the national anthem. At this point the deranged old lady started to belabour my jacket with her handbag and informed us just what she considered to be a fitting doom for us and the likes of us. She was joined by a James Bond type, with a public school accent, who demanded to know why we had disappointed him by not joining in the debate. I told him just why we had not sought to perform for his amusement and just what social changes I personally would like to see put into effect; this in answer to other questions. The situation was rapidly becoming dodgy and I was bracing myself, if necessary, to thump James Bond in the stomach, and run like hell, but humour prevailed. We accepted their political literature and in return distributed anarchist stickers to those who would grudgingly accept and left with our Labour Party friend; who throughout had stuck with us as a firm but inarticulate ally.

We had intended to place stickers upon the candidate's cars but the presence of several large rosetted gentlemen proved us the cowards we are. We avoided the small potentially hostile crowd clustered around the anarchist posters in our office window and spent the money we had saved that night on small portions of greasy polythene-wrapped chips without fish.

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In defence of Nicolas Walter

DEAR COMRADES,

I should like to mention two or three matters as concerns the Christie case.

1. We have all accepted, it seems to me, the word of the Spanish authorities that Christie was a terrorist, when in fact he may well have been a saboteur. If Christie's mission had been to supply explosives to blow Franco sky high couldn't we echo an earlier FREEDOM editorial of "Too Bad He Missed" vis à vis Pratt and Verwoerd with the cry "Bad luck, Mate!"?

2. It seems to me that the Christie editorials in FREEDOM were open to criticism along the lines Nicolas Walter has adopted. If anarchists get the reputation for being liars our word will not be trusted. Will people murmur that the editorial on Oswald and Kennedy was just manufactured because anarchists should suspect right-wing conspiracies under every bed? [Let me emphasise that I'm quite sure there was a right-wing conspiracy in the Oswald case which has now become official.]

3. Should anarchists get personal over Nicolas when he criticises FREEDOM? Why the hell should he belong to some group? Maybe he considers himself more effective with an independent approach? I know I do.

4. If Nicolas Walter has to be lambasted over the Committee of 100 I should like the record to be evened up by mentioning Nicolas' excellent and influential articles in ANARCHY 13 and 14, together with informative articles on the Committee of 100 in FREEDOM, many letters to the Press and an article in the Guardian. Nor have his activities been confined to writing on the subject; Nicolas is certainly more often present at demonstrations of both a unilateralist and a libertarian nature than are most comrades.

5. I feel anarchists should know who is supposed to have started Christie on his path to prison. The name has appeared in the Press of his contact in Britain so the police already know it. I don't however want to mention the name in public though I would be willing to tell anyone in private. The name in question appeared in the Daily Mail on the Monday morning following the announcement of Christie's sentence. It is worth emphasising that it is the name Christie gave at his trial and that it would be mistaken to assume too easily that this person is partly responsible for Christie's fate. J.W.

Anarchist or Terrorist?

DEAR EDITORS,

The dropping of a line reversed the intention of my letter last week, so I trust you will allow space for the complete sentence.

And I referred to the Spanish Anarchists fighting in a good cause, though not specifically their own. Never!

Since 1907 the Anarchist's cloak has been on the hook and his dagger in the sheath—which does not mean that they are further out of his reach than those of any other citizen, but does mean that when used it is not essentially in the cause of Anarchism.

London N.6. 28 Sept. KARL WALTER.

Wasted Talent

Northern Libertarian Alliance, which is trying to get some unity of action out of militant left-wing groups in the North West, organised a meeting in Manchester during the weekend October 3rd/4th.

The most hopeful outcome was the number (about 30) of young people present at each of three sessions which dealt with the present fragmented state of the movement and the problems it faces.

There is a constant wastage of talent in this area owing (in part) to the lack of cohesion among individuals and groups.

S.W.F., I.L.P., Commonwealth, and others are trying to find a way to stop this. The problem is to find a job which we can do as a team.

With this in view N.L.A. will try to set up a centre in Manchester or Merseyside, or elsewhere, where printing (leaflets, internal bulletins) can be done for anybody wanting it, and activity discussed. J.P.

WITH SO MUCH EVIDENCE . . .

Continued from page 1

For the Law even today exists basically, as it did when they hanged the sheep rustler, to protect the sanctity of Property. And government exists to protect privilege. If it is maintained by the supporters of the Labour Party that a Labour Government is opposed to privilege, then their first task should be to shear the privileged class of their wealth for the benefit of everybody. No elected government could or would do this (after all the Labour Government in 1945 when it nationalised the bankrupt Railways and Mines, *compensated* the former owners so generously that they (or their heirs) are better off financially than when they were actually running these industries!). And even those "revolutionary" governments which worm their way into power or are mistakenly swept into power on the tide of popular revolt, often accompanied by widespread expropriation, either compensate the former owners or, when they don't, set about creating a new privileged class. For the whole point about government is that it can justify its existence only where the people are divided and antagonistic. "Divide and Rule" is the bread and butter of government. In Russia the aristocracy and the bourgeoisie were stripped of their privileges and power; (those who escaped with their lives sold their children's rank and titles to the highest bidders in the salons of Western Europe and the United States). The Bolsheviks soon set about creating a new privileged class to protect their privileged status from the simple demands of bread and freedom from the people.

WITH so much historical evidence to demonstrate that government, by definition, is organisation in the interests of a privileged minority, why do even radical people fall for this threadbare political confidence-trick? In part it is the cocksureness of youth in thinking—as we all have in our time—that it is an easy matter to change society overnight if one tackles the problem *con brio* and is not as stupid as

one's elders! In part it is the defeatism of the older generation, who should know better, but who having found their economic and social niche in society as it is, are then satisfied to vegetate into old age and accept a starvation State pension (without protest if they have children or savings to draw on) critical of the egoism of the young to their dying breath!

But whereas the mistakes of youth can be corrected by experience, the conservatism that comes with age cannot, because there is no future other than recollecting the past (assuming it seems worth recalling).

So the generation that has the experience to warn the young of the political pitfalls and put them on the right road has given up the struggle and is more or less respectably sinking into its grave (a "benefit" we can all enjoy under the National Insurance Scheme) while the young, lacking the political experience, as well as in most cases, the voice of political experience, will have this week invested their political idealism with that old established firm of wholesale socialists (Managing Director: Harold Wilson. Secretary: George Brown)—the Labour Party.

MAY we, who sympathise with the young and their problems, offer them some useful advice? And it is not to do like their fathers and mothers 20 years ago when they voted a Labour government into power and thought that they had done their bit for socialism, and left the Labour politicians get on with it. If socialists are as yet unwilling or unable to get rid of all governments, then the least they can do when they have one which professes to be socialist is to continually go for it with more and more demands for better working conditions, a larger share of the economic cake of production, and more social justice. For government, whether conservative or socialist, will only serve the people when the people show them that they have the power in numbers and determination to demand what they want of government and get it by their own efforts.

WE DON'T BELIEVE IN MONEY, BUT . . .

THE last thing an anarchist paper should be expected to do is to continually remind those among its readers who, as anarchists themselves or just sympathisers, value the work done by FREEDOM, that this work cannot be continued, let alone expanded, without money! We may all passionately desire to abolish money, but just as each one of us, nevertheless, has to face realities as they are today, and ensure that at the end of the week we have the money for the rent, milkman and for the various services we call on and need in our daily lives, so FREEDOM PRESS has to face the bills that come in if we are to go on sending out our propaganda, and go on maintaining what has become a kind of information centre and Clearing House for the multifarious activities of the anarchist movement in general, which strictly speaking as a publishing group are outside our province. We mention this and the fact that in the course of the year FREEDOM has been the venue for all kinds of appeals for money for good causes and for projects and

publications with which we, as a group, sympathise, more or less, not in any carping sense—indeed we are delighted that FREEDOM should fulfil the dual role of being both an anarchist propaganda organ as well as an effective channel of communications within the movement itself.

It may well be argued that this is one of the roles of an anarchist paper, and of course we would agree without hesitation if the comrades who took this fact for granted also took for granted that they had a financial responsibility so far as FREEDOM is concerned! Apart from being disappointed by the absence of the Groups and most of those who we look upon as comrades, from the weekly lists of contributors to the "Deficit Fund", we are surprised that those who look to FREEDOM to publicise, and thereby help them in their activities, should not see that it is as much in their interest as ours to contribute to guarantee the solvency of FREEDOM.

THOUGH we have more readers this year than last, and as at

THE GENERAL ELECTION is over in Britain but elsewhere fun and games continue. It was held in Japan that the Olympic sign was not copyright so 'Made in Japan' is stamped on the bottom . . .

FIFTY-SEVEN East Germans voted with their shovels that they did not wish to remain citizens of East Germany. Thousands of French Canadians voted by their absence that they did not wish to remain loyal citizens of Her Majesty (who refused, however, to walk the plank). Prince Peter of Greece endorsed the Committee of 100's view of Queen Frederika but King Constantine returned from his honeymoon to endorse the views of Henry Brooke and ex-Sergeant Challenor in this particular . . .

MEANWHILE, BACK at the Royal Academy, the case of ex-Sergeant Challenor was being viewed. The theories were aired that Challenor was framed, that the underworld had set up a fund to 'get' Challenor but witnesses averred that his behaviour was no different from any other policeman; that he behaved like an N.C.O., that he was like a Nazi; and that his behaviour differed according to a new recruit, from that taught in the police college . . .

SANE POLICEMEN in Mississippi were arrested by the FBI on a charge of depriving Negroes of their rights. The FBI was investigating the loss of right to live of three civil rights workers. The cases are said to be unrelated. The officers under arrest are alleged to have beaten up six negroes arrested on various charges. One negro arrested for drunkenness was so severely injured that he was in hospital for five weeks. Eighteen members of Congress asked the President to step up Federal protection in Mississippi "Law and order is clearly not being maintained" they say. There is not protection afforded those engaged in civil rights activities. A witness at the Challenor enquiry, a native of Barbadoes, said that he went to the police station to arrange bail for a girl. Challenor told a room full of policemen, "We will have some fun with this coon." Challenor said he wanted to search him and began emptying his pockets. Three or four officers then held him and Challenor struck him in the face . . .

TEN MENTALLY NORMAL policemen in Bristol, Connecticut, are suspended concerning an alleged midnight shift burglary ring. Six of the men have told State police investigators that they stole from merchants to augment their weekly wage of £32. The alleged thefts had been going on for seven years. Bristol has 59 men on its force and the suspensions have brought a state of emergency to the department. A Detective-constable was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment at Clerkenwell, London on charges of corruption. Notice of appeal was given and he was released on bail. He was described as 'most conscientious' and 'a first-rate officer'. A policeman was sent for trial on a charge of stealing a little girl's teddy bear at Newcastle-on-Tyne. Superintendent Frederick Burdett said at the

last week's "Financial Statement" our income from sales and subscription renewals showed an increase over last year of £200 (£1,767 as against £1,560) our financial position was summed up last week with the word "Help!" compared with the corresponding week last year when it was "Better!" and for the simple reason that last year at this date not only had you our readers found us 324 new subscribers (as against 211 this year) but had also contributed £802 to the Deficit Fund compared with last week's grand total of £595. So whereas at this time last year our deficit of £844 was nearly covered by the Deficit Fund, this year's Deficit of £822 is not covered by £230 odd.

A mere bagatelle, we agree, and an amount which some of our readers could cover without batting an eyelid. The fact is that they don't and we, the publishing group, can't. Obviously a few hundred pounds will not stop us publishing FREEDOM. What it does mean is that so long as we cannot cover the cost of what we actually publish, we cannot think



Challenor enquiry that on the night of the Greek demonstrations he said to a fellow superintendent, "He is either drunk or must be mental!" (referring to Challenor's noisy behaviour). Replying to a lawyer appearing for the other superintendent, Burdett said that although he used the words that Challenor was either drunk or mental he had no reason to believe that he was drunk or mental. In fact he knew he was not drunk. It was just a phrase he used to convey the "out of character behaviour" of Challenor at the time. If he thought that Challenor was "sick of mind", he would have made his views known very forcibly . . .

A MAN who spent a week in jail because of a police mistake is to see his solicitor to discuss legal action against the police. He was arrested and accused of breaking and entering and theft. Another man made a confession and he was released. At Enfield, members of the anarchist group accused of fly-posting. Anti-election material appeared in court before Mrs. McLeod, the local Conservative candidate's wife. They objected to her presence on the bench but were overruled. Jack Stevenson was said by a policeman not to have been seen putting up posters, it was submitted that Stevenson was physically incapable of sticking up posters by reason of polio after-effects but nevertheless he was fined £2. Bristol court-room was barred to long-haired (allegedly beatnik) spectators when a case was heard regarding a raid on a public house for "reefers". It was disclosed that policemen disguised as "beatniks" had been keeping watch on the public-house for weeks . . .

THE "DAILY WORKER" reported that 10,000 prisoners would be amnestied to celebrate East Germany's fifteenth anniversary of her liberation from West

Germany and her incorporation into the People's democracies. This includes some anti-Communists arrested for political acts. In West Berlin, it is reported that 1,200 political prisoners in East Germany have been freed since July. A Polish writer with U.S. citizenship has been arrested under a 1946 decree covering "He who disseminates . . . draws off . . . or conveys written materials . . . which contain false information that would cause material harm to the Polish state, or could detract from the authority of its chief institutions . . . is subject to a sentence of imprisonment for a period of not less than three years."

EULOGIC DE VEGO who was Mayor of a small town near Valladolid in Spain in 1936, being a Republican, went into hiding from the Fascists. In 1944 his wife became pregnant by him; to avoid gossip, since the father was thought to be dead, the baby girl was born in another town and brought up by friends. Last week, the daughter, now twenty, married, and on her certificate declared Eulogic as her father. The clerk noted the apparent discrepancy and informed the police who visited the house and told Eulogic he need have no fear he was now a free man . . .

IN EDINBURGH the expurgated version of *Fanny Hill* was the subject of an obscenity charge. The manager of a Welsh firm of publishers resigned when he found that the manuscript of a Welsh-language novel of a minister's adulterous relationship with a young girl had been sent to the printers against his advice. An adjudicator at the National Eisteddfod said of the novel that so far as he knew there had never been "such a description in Welsh of the sex act as in this book" . . .

ACCORDING TO THE *Daily Sketch* a Labour manifesto sent out in Hornsey, London may contain a diamond worth £40 which was discovered by a Labour councillor to be missing when she posted the manifestoes. A pirate broadcast was heard in the South-East London and North-West Kent area (broadcasting on the BBC-TV wavelength after close-down) which referred to a leaflet claiming that people have no control over any government.

DIPLOMATS FOUGHT their way into a blazing wing of the British Embassy in Moscow to rescue a portrait of the Queen and—says the *Daily Sketch*—"the diplomats who saved the Queen's portrait also saved beer mugs."

JON QUIXOTE.

FILM REVIEW

M15's Secret Weapon

TO describe "Goldfinger", the latest James Bond/Ian Fleming film as a comic fantasy—too fantastic by half—and at times it is comic, sometimes deliberately, sometimes not. Yet there is a more sinister side to the work of Ian Fleming.

The long queues outside the cinema, it seems to me, represented the same

attitude as the electoral queues. People will vote as they will go and see James Bond. The sinister thing behind this seemingly harmless behaviour is that the hero of "Goldfinger" is an entirely unreal person and the electoral figures are without the warmth of the average human being.

The heroes are unreal and dull, yet they provide an escape from the dreary lives of most people. Admiration is given to people lacking genuine human characteristics. Men are supposed to identify themselves with the modern image of British virility, and I'm sure many do, and the shiny, shallow, sexless ones who troop into the cinema are given a feeling of strength and belonging.

As a sociological phenomenon the James Bond/Ian Fleming success suggests a huge number of people are in need of this sort of escapist fantasy in order to identify themselves with modern society. Entertainment divorced from life is simply a narcotic and the James Bond dream world claws in many willing addicts.

of expanding our activities—which would include expanding the paper. And how can we make any headway with our propaganda in competition with the growing daily, hourly barrage of mass communications for the Establishment, and the millions of pounds invested annually in brainwashing the public to accept false values which are good business for some but leave the public as unhappy and more frustrated than ever, if we are obliged for financial reasons to whisper where others shout. That we have to face prejudice hostility and indifference in putting over our ideas is something we must accept as part of our *raison d'etre*. We should not, however be starved of the means for propagating anarchism as well. And there are many comrades and sympathisers who could help but don't. This appeal is directed above all to them. It is also an opportunity to thank those who never forget the financial problems we face week in week out.

FREEDOM PRESS GROUP. [P.S.—Since writing the above we have seen this week's much healthier "Financial Statement" which we feel deserves the caption "Much Better!"]

The film is about a bad man who illegally steals gold. He is thus a criminal. There is nothing wrong with hoarding gold, it seems, there is nothing wrong with being a criminal as such. The trouble with Goldfinger is that he is not a State criminal, whereas James Bond is. In this post-Profumo Britain it is indicative that the hero conquers the machinations of the bad man by way of the bad man's female confidant. Once British heroics consisted of sailing the seas now sexual victory is the status symbol. This would not be so bad if the hero with the sexual prowess were anything but a member of M.I.5, because it has always been an idea of mine that the penis had little to do with M.I.5., they have rather less worthy weapons. J.W.

POLICE AND 'KEEP LEFTERS' UNITE AGAINST FREE SPEECH

ANTI-CONSCRIPTION DEMO DISRUPTED

George Square, Glasgow, Saturday, October 10th.

Between 50 and 60 members of Glasgow YCND, Scottish Committee of 100 and Glasgow Anti-Conscription Group, marched from Bridgton Cross to George Square. On arrival at George Square we found about 200 teenagers waiting for the announced free speech demo. Ian Sutherland of the West Glasgow Committee, who had earlier issued leaflets calling for free speech in the Square, tried to stand on a bench and make a speech. He was quite vio-

lently pulled down and pushed aside. He was followed by Roger Baker, also pulled down and Mike Malet of the Dundee Anarchist Group. The huge mob which by this time had risen to about 300 young people were shouting at the Police, and there were cries of 'Sit'. The crowd moved across the Square nearer to the main road where Ian Sutherland again attempted to speak from the plinth of a statue. He was warned by a police inspector that he would be nominated as organiser (he was not)* and charged. At this point

about 20 members of YCND and West Glasgow Committee of 100 sat down and an enormous wall of shouting teenagers gathered round them. Ian Sutherland spoke from the ground, shouting against a rowdy heckling group of 'Keep Left' supporters. Some of the sitters shouted at the other young people to have some guts and join them. None had the nerve to do so. We then abandoned the sit-down and moved to North Hanover Street, where permission for a meeting had been granted. Again Ian Sutherland attempted to speak but the screaming 'Keep Lefters' completely drowned out his words. Both he and Joe Embleton, secretary of the Anti-Conscription Group gave up. Before another speaker could reach the platform, John Robertson, recently expelled from the YS, and a member of the SLL, jumped up and backed by a Gorbals YS banner, began screaming about returning a Labour Government. A massive Scottish Committee of 100 banner was unfurled and the 'Trots' attempted to push it down. They came off worst.

Ian Sutherland put one of their banner-holders in a vice grip, nearly breaking his neck, while Joe Embleton and Roger Baker non-violently hurled Robertson down the steps. He looked round, gave a little snarl observed that his health was in danger... and ran. The police isolated the 'Trots' from the crowd (now about 500 and the meeting was able to continue in silence and good order. The anarchist speaker was particularly well received and Ian Sutherland closed the meeting with the slogan which seems likely to be the mainstay of the campaign... Conscription? Not Bloody Likely. We intend to keep up the success. Anti-Conscription is going to become a really big issue with Glasgow's youth.

West Glasgow Working Group
Scottish Committee of 100,
126, University Avenue, Glasgow.

*Ian Sutherland is tickled pink and revelling in his newly-bestowed power. In this morning's Scottish Sunday Express he is described as "their leader".

ANARCHIST FEDERATION OF BRITAIN

Co-ordinating Secretary: Tom Jackson, 10 Gilbert Place, London, W.C.1.

London Anarchist Group

"Lamb and Flag", Rost Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2. (near Garrick and King Streets: Leicester Square tube), 7.45 p.m.
OCT 18 Alan Albon.
The Problem of Women
OCT 25 Schleim Fanaroff on:
Another Look at Reich
NOV 1 Frank Hirschfeld on:
The S.P.G.B.

Notting Hill Anarchist Group

Secretary N.H.A.G., 5 Colville Houses, London, W.11.

REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND GROUPS

Birmingham Group

Peter Neville,
12 South Grove, Erdington, Birmingham, 23.

Bristol Federation

Irregular meetings—enquiries to c/o Martin Howells, 7 Richmond Dale, Clifton, Bristol 8.
Meets Sundays (weather and circumstances permitting), 3.30 p.m. on the Downs (Blackboy Hill).

Dundee Group

Contact Rod Cameron,
6 Westfield Place, Dundee.

Edinburgh Group

Enquiries to: Douglas Trueman, 13 Northumberland Street, Edinburgh 3.
Meetings every Monday, 7.30 p.m. All welcome.

Glasgow Federation

Enquiries to Ronnie Alexander, c/o Kennedy, 112 Glenkirk Drive, Glasgow, W.5.

Hayes and District

Contact Mike Wakeman,
12 Hoppner Road, Hayes, Middlesex.

Manchester Group

Meetings alternate Tuesdays. Details from Graham Leigh, 5, Mere Close, Sale, Cheshire.

Merseyside Federation

Enquiries: Vincent Johnston's, 43 Millbank, Liverpool 13.

Tunbridge Wells Group

Meets 1st and 3rd Thursday in month at J. D. Gilbert-Rolfe, 4 Mount Sion, Tunbridge Wells, Sussex, 8 p.m.

Tyneside Federation

Enquiries: Dave Wallace, 64 Belford Avenue, Horsley Hill, South Shields, Co. Durham.

PROPOSED GROUPS

BRADFORD

Anyone interested in Anarchist discussion group and folk-singing contact Sid Frisbee, 100 Bierley House Avenue, Bierley, Bradford.

Watford-Herts

Anyone interested get in touch with Ian Roxborough, 44 Tanners Hill, Abbots Langley, Watford.

2nd Friday at Brian Leslie's, 242 Amesbury Avenue, S.W.2 (Streatham Hill, Nr. Station).

3rd Friday of each month at 8 p.m. at Donald & Irene Rooun's, 148a Fellows Road, Swiss Cottage, N.W.3.

Wimbledon S.W.19, Last Saturday of each month. 8 p.m. Phone WIM 2849.

Knockholt, Nr. Sevenoaks, Kent. Every six weeks. Next meeting, Sunday 25th October, 2.30 p.m. at "Greenways", Knockholt. Phone: Knockholt 2316. Brian and Maureen Richardson's.

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★ STAR LETTER

DEAR SIR,

I should like to comment on a few of the points made against voting in the General Election in FREEDOM in recent weeks.

(a) I do not accept that by voting I shall be giving up any power to anyone, nor do I see how I shall be supporting the system. I do not have freedom from the law government regulation, etc., so I can hardly give it up. I do not believe that widespread abstention from voting would lead to a devolution of power to local groups and so on, it might more easily lead to totalitarianism, c.f. the E.T.U. In local elections polls as low as 10% are recorded, notably in some London boroughs, yet the council's concerned show no sign of collapsing or of deciding to devolve their powers.

(b) I do not believe that all politicians are utterly corrupt and interested only in their own power and prestige. Probably all power does corrupt but this is equally true of power arising from a person's functional role. For instance, someone possessing knowledge or skills on which other people are reliant is in

a position of power. Can most of us say we have never been tempted to use this sort of power for our own ends. Possibly politics attracts more humbugs and hypocrites than other pursuits but I think there are in all parties people who are as sincere as most people.

(c) Whilst I would agree with the writer of the article "Room at the Top" (Sept. 19th) that the Labour Party Manifesto offers reform rather than radical change, I think that reform is worth having. The Tories of course also offer reforms but less of it. I accept that the choice is between more reform and less reform.

Whilst Comprehensive Education will not turn every local authority school into a Summerhill it is surely a step in the right direction. Mr. Wilson has stated that in the first few weeks a Labour government would raise the old age pension to a level substantially above national assistance level. This could hardly mean less than about seven pounds per week. It is, one would think likely, that a Labour government would abolish the death penalty although I must admit this is not in the manifesto. These are, I think, important issues even if not radical ones.

(d) Whilst real change can only take place if the people who are to carry out the change really want it and hence it cannot be imposed from above or the centre, nor indeed do I want it to be, nevertheless the initiative of individuals or groups can be frustrated by authority. Hence it is surely better to have a government and a local council with a more progressive outlook than one with a less progressive outlook. I believe that there are more people in the Labour Party both in and out of parliament, who are humane and liberal and progressive than in the Tory Party. Whilst I do not think parliament alone can change society I do think it can be an instrument of change. On the other hand I accept that parliament is too remote to be a truly democratic body but I think that many of the criticisms which can be levelled against parliament can be levelled against all committees.

Finally, in order to avoid abuse and being imputed with views I do not hold, I claim to be neither an anarchist, a Socialist or a Liberal. I believe in the

abolition of money and the right of everyone to take from the product of the community according to his needs. I believe in the right of the individual to freedom from interference by other individuals. I believe in the right of the individual to freedom of initiative in his work and hence in workers' control and in the right of anyone not to work if they so choose. I believe in the right of each individual to discover his

own moral standards for himself and hence that parents have no right to impose their own standards on their children. I believe that no individual should have power over another. I think at least some of the above could be achieved by act of parliament for instance the abolition of money. Could someone tell me why not?

MICHAEL WOOLSCROFT.
Cheltenham, Oct. 3.

BEHIND THE TUBE STRIKE PUBLIC SERVICES CUT

Over the years, the wages of workers who operate certain essential services for the community, have been falling behind those of the average industrial worker. These nationalised services which have not been de-nationalised by the Tories, even with all their talk about private enterprise, are now being run without an adequate staff to ensure a proper service for the community.

A few months back it was the busmen, who argued that more money would have to be paid in order to attract new employees. Then later it was the postmen. Collections were withdrawn, mail was delayed and although the postmen have since received a pay increase, this has not brought the much needed men to the G.P.O. so far.

Now London Underground services are to be cut at rush hours and in the early morning due to the staff shortage. London Transport say they are short of 100 guards for the trains. At the moment the two unions involved, the National Union of Railwaymen and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen have accepted these cuts, with compensatory payments of from 1/6d. to 6/- a day for those who have to move to a new depot.

FINGS

Social Engineering

Be the architect of your environment, not its victim. "Social Engineering" course. Sessions every Wednesday, 7 to 9 p.m., 13 Prince of Wales Terrace, London, W.8. All welcome. Admission 5/-.

Film Society

Last season made a loss of £30. Organisers would appreciate any help. Send to Guthrie McKie, 30 Muswell Road, London, N.10.

Nursery

Urgent. Freethinking nursery required as soon as possible for twenty-month-old daughter of student couple. Camden Town or Tottenham area. Graham Clark, 29 South Villas, N.W.1.

Walden, anyone?

Thoreau may have lived in the wild woods on his lonesome but Tony (20) cheated off. Eight roomed house of character partly in need of repair. Sited half-mile from road in 100-acre wood. Some land cleared. Possible eviction proceedings only drawback. Interested males/females please write Tony Reeder, "Wood Lodge", Hintlesham, near Ipswich, Suffolk.

Pen Pal

Girl of 15 wants to correspond with another girl.
Gillian Ettor, Via Cesar Battista 8, Massalombarda, Ravenna, Italy.

Christie

The Edinburgh Anarchist Group is holding a full-scale inquiry into the Stuart Christie affair. Research to result in booklet. Letters, documents, newspaper reports, information, etc. Please send to Bill Jamieson, 13 Northumberland Street, Edinburgh, 3.

If you think

that your 'fings' are worth inclusion in this column let us know.

FREEDOM PRESS PUBLICATIONS

SELECTIONS FROM 'FREEDOM'

Vol 2 1952: Postscript to Posterity
Vol 3 1953: Colonialism on Trial
Vol 4 1954: Living on a Volcano
Vol 5 1955: The Immoral Moralists
Vol 6 1956: Oil and Troubled Waters
Vol 7 1957: Year One—Sputnik Era
Vol 8 1958: Socialism in a Wheelchair
Vol 9 1959: Print, Press & Public
Vol 10 1960: The Tragedy of Africa
Vol 11 1961: The People in the Street
Vol 12 1962: Pilkington v. Beeching

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GEORGE BARRETT

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Journey Through Utopia cloth 16/- paper 7/6
Neither East Nor West paper 7/6

MUCH BETTER! (?)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT 10th OCTOBER 1964

Week 41		
EXPENSES: 41 weeks at £70		£2,870
INCOME:		
Sales & Sub. Renewals:	£	£
Weeks 1-40	1,767	
Week 41	102	
		1,869
New Subscriptions:		
Weeks 1-40 (183)	211	
Week 41 (8)	10	
		221
Sales Omitted from		
Sept. a/c	7	
		2,097
		DEFICIT £773

DEFICIT FUND

Wolverhampton: J.K.W.* 2/-; J.L.* 3/-;
Hayes: An. Group* 2/6; Brickett Woods:
J.R.-6/6; Capel Curig: H.D. 5/6; Los Gatos,
Calif.: per A.D. (picnic 20/9/64) £35; S.
Hobart: R.C. £3; Oxford: Anon.* 10/-; E.
Rutherford: A.S.* 7/-; Cheltenham: L.G.W.*
£1; S.E.16: A.S. 2/4; Vancouver: G.S. 14/10;
Hartford, Conn.: H.G.A.* £2/18/9; Knock-
holt: B.R. £1/1/-; Chelsea, Mass.: J.M.
£1/3/-; Surrey: F.B.* 5/-.

TOTAL £47 1 5
Previously acknowledged £595 14 10

1964 TOTAL TO DATE £642 16 3